

the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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Silver spike marks new era for Victory Logistics District

New rail connection links Fernley industrial development directly to Union Pacific transcontinental network



Mark IV Capital, Union Pacific Railroad, PREMIER Design + Build Group, contractors and public officials gathered Aug. 20 along the newly designated Gavin Road for a Silver Spike ceremony. Photo by Rachel Dahl.

By Rachel Dahl

A silver spike driven into a new stretch of railroad track last week marked the completion of a major piece of infrastructure at Fernley's Victory Logistics District — and what developers and state and local officials described as the beginning of a new phase of industrial growth for the city.

Mark IV Capital, Union Pacific Railroad, PREMIER Design + Build

Group, contractors and public officials gathered Aug. 20 along the newly designated Gavin Road for a Silver Spike ceremony celebrating completion of the district's rail spur.

The new track connects Victory Logistics District directly to Union Pacific's transcontinental mainline, giving future manufacturers and other rail-dependent businesses access to the national freight network.

"This is much more than another

piece of infrastructure," said Stacy Reed of PREMIER Design + Build Group. "It creates an important connection to help position Fernley and Northern Nevada for continued industrial growth, new businesses, investment and jobs for generations to come."

The ceremonial spike itself was made with Nevada silver from the Rochester Mine, organizers said, giving the traditional railroad ceremony a distinctly Nevada twist.

Mark IV Capital President and CEO Evan Slavik said rail service has been part of the vision for Victory since the company came to Fernley in 2019.

"From the beginning, we knew that rail was the difference between an industrial park and a true logistics district," Slavik said. "Today, we now have that logistics district."

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Fernley adopts long-range sewer plan for future growth

By Rachel Dahl

Fernley has adopted a new long-range sewer master plan aimed at keeping the city's wastewater system ahead of aging infrastructure and future development.

The City Council voted 4-0 Aug. 19 to approve the plan, which updates a system last comprehensively reviewed in 2009 and lays out both immediate maintenance needs and larger projects that could be triggered by future growth.

The city's existing sewer service area covers about 14 square miles and includes approximately 93 miles of city-owned sewer main, 11 lift stations and the East Wastewater Treatment Plant, which receives all wastewater

generated within the system.

Owen Wurster of Shaw Engineering told the council the treatment plant currently receives about 1.42 million gallons per day. Its current capacity is 3.05 million gallons per day, with state planning requirements calling for design of an expansion once flows reach approximately 85 percent of capacity, or 2.59 million gallons per day.

Rather than relying solely on population growth estimates, engineers also reviewed tentative maps, active development applications and other known development interests throughout the city to project future demand.

The plan identifies approximately \$7.6 million in maintenance and repair

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Meet Fernley's new public information officer

Former reporter Francesca Carrera brings small-town roots and communications experience to City Hall

By Rachel Dahl

Fernley's new public information officer, Francesca Carrera, is only a few days into the job, but she has already been thrown straight into the middle of city business.

Carrera started work Monday. By Tuesday, Mayor Neal McIntyre had given her one of her first assignments: write his speech for the Silver Spike ceremony celebrating completion of the new rail spur at Victory Logistics District.

"I've never written speeches for other people," Carrera said with a laugh. "I've just done it for myself."

By Thursday morning, McIntyre was delivering her work before a crowd of business leaders, public officials and community members gathered alongside the new Union Pacific rail connection.

Not bad for a first week.

Carrera comes to Fernley with a background in journalism and communications. She attended Simpson University in Redding, California, where she worked as a sports reporter for the university before eventually moving into communications work.

She later earned her master's

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Captain’s Log — Star Date 12608.25

I’m in Winnemucca today and we’re getting down to the wire working to get all the papers to the printer by 2 p.m.

Up here we work in the old firehouse — it’s the coolest old building you ever saw but made of several thousand yards of concrete and is a veritable fortress. The wi-fi signal does not flow through the thick, impenetrable walls at all. Our computers and our phones are all functioning on the wi-fi.

Trying anyway.

Valiantly attempting to pierce the rock-solid walls and bouncing off them like an old-time superhero.

In addition to that challenge, the InDesign keeps shutting down. We have three designers working on three different papers and we’re all

back and forth on the group chat — proofreading and making last minute changes and then suddenly Jesse gets up from her desk because her program shut down mid-save. Then Jen chimes in from home, she’s trying to save some stories for me and Shania in the Lovelock folder, but her InDesign just locked up.

We ended up this week with two holes to fill in the Lovelock paper — Peggy’s sources didn’t come through so we’re filling those with fair stories for the Tri-County Fair. Which probably is fortuitous, we should have had those anyway.

Running these five papers across the central part of the state (soon to be six, just you wait!) has become so fun. Tony just walked through the

office muttering something about, “Where else can you have this much stress and this much fun all at one time.”

He’s been on cloud nine over the sports section — me too. I’m absolutely loving what he and Robert have pulled together and hope you’re loving it too. Make sure to drop us a note and let us know what you think and send any game/event tips you may have.

sports@rangemediaco.com

So, while we continue to build these papers and bring you all the local, community news you can use and enjoy and stand, we’ll always be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.
Rach

Continued from FRONT - SILVER SPIKE...

According to Slavik, the completed project includes more than a mile of new track built to Class I railroad standards, along with three runaround tracks serving approximately 100 acres of rail-ready industrial land.

He said the connection opens Victory to manufacturers that need direct rail transportation for raw materials and finished goods.

“The track is in the ground. Union Pacific is connected. It’s done,” Slavik said. “And we’re ready to serve the many manufacturers that will soon call Fernley home.”

Victory Logistics District has been under development for several years on the east side of Fernley. Mark IV has already constructed four industrial buildings totaling nearly 2 million square feet, along with roads and utilities serving a large portion of the development.

Slavik said the company is nearing completion of a four mile internal road loop and is also constructing a new fire station intended to serve the industrial development and surrounding area.

Mark IV has also been working on the proposed extension of Nevada Pacific Parkway to connect Interstate 80 with U.S. Highway 50, a project company officials say could reduce industrial traffic through central Fernley.

The company has also sold property near Interstate 80 to Maverik for a future fuel station and convenience store.

Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre said the rail connection represents more than completion of a construction project.

“While we may gather around a piece of infrastructure, we are really celebrating opportunity,” McIntyre said.

McIntyre said approximately 60 to 65 percent of Fernley residents currently work outside the city, many commuting west toward the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center and Reno-Sparks area.

He said attracting employers to Victory could allow more residents to

work closer to home.

“This is going to be a great opportunity,” McIntyre said. “With the increase in businesses, more job opportunities will be available for our citizens.”

He added that the completion of the rail spur sends a broader message to prospective employers.

“Fernley is prepared, Fernley is investing in the future, and Fernley is open for business,” McIntyre said.

Union Pacific Public Affairs Director Peggy Ygbuhay said the railroad operates nearly 1,200 miles of track in Nevada and employs approximately 400 people in the state.

She said Victory’s proximity to the railroad’s transcontinental route gives the district a strategic transportation advantage.

Union Pacific crews brought a locomotive onto the new spur for Thursday’s ceremony, allowing attendees to tour the engine following the program.

The railroad traces its western expansion to the Pacific Railway Act signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862.

U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei noted the long history of railroad development in Nevada and compared Thursday’s event to earlier ceremonial spikes marking important rail connections in the state.

Amodei praised the partnership between local government, private developers and Union Pacific.

“You could be anywhere you want,” Amodei told Mark IV representatives. “And you picked here, and you invested here, and your legacy will be here a long time from now.”

Tom Burns, executive director of the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development, said the importance of the project lies in combining transportation infrastructure with the energy capacity needed to attract modern manufacturing.

“Rail is only part of the story,” Burns said. “The Union Pacific rail spur is designed to work hand in hand with the energy infrastructure going alongside it.”

Burns said direct rail access can reduce freight costs for manufacturers

while opening Fernley to industries that could not previously consider the area.

He cited advanced manufacturing, battery production, aerospace, defense, metals and advanced materials as examples of industries that commonly depend on both reliable energy and freight transportation.

“It opens up the door to industries that simply could not be here before because they needed the rail to happen,” Burns said.

Slavik said Mark IV believes manufacturing jobs attracted by rail access could pay substantially more than conventional warehouse and distribution positions. He cited potential wages ranging from \$22 to \$28 per hour for some entry-level positions and \$35 to \$50 per hour for skilled trades, with some manufacturing jobs averaging \$70,000 to \$90,000 annually.

Those numbers represent the developer’s projections and will ultimately depend on which companies locate at Victory.

Slavik said the company intends to continue pursuing manufacturers and other major employers for the district.

“When we came here in 2019, we made a series of commitments to this community,” he said, pointing to the completed industrial buildings, roads, utilities, fire station project and now the railroad.

“What you’re seeing today is not just a promise made seven years ago,” Slavik said. “It’s a promise kept.”

The ceremony ended with members of the Mark IV team taking turns driving the silver spike into the track as Union Pacific locomotives stood behind them.

For Slavik, the milestone was also personal. He brought his wife and two sons, Gavin and Connor, to the development for the first time and revealed that two of Victory’s new roads have been named for the boys.

The company’s stated philosophy, Slavik said, is to build projects intended to last for generations.

“We’re proud to be your partner in the growth of this region,” he said. “And we’re just getting started.”

FEATURES

Fernley Community Foundation hosts sixth annual Fernstock with sold out dinner and free concert

By Robert Perea

The Fernley Community Foundation marked its sixth year of the FernStock Dinner and Awards Celebration last Saturday night with a sold out dinner at the Fernley Community Response and Resource Center, followed by a free community concert.

Originally started as a fundraiser for a community center project that was at that time still in its infancy, FernStock 2026 was held for the first time in the CRRC building that opened last year.

The event is hosted annually by the Fernley Community Foundation, and was intended as a tribute to the Woodstock Music Festival held August 15-18, 1969 in upstate New York.

The first FernStock event was held in 2019 as a concert at the Reno-Fernley Raceway, but the hot temperatures in a venue with no shade convinced Fernley Community Foundation Chairman Cody Wagner that while the idea might work, a nighttime event would be more successful.

After a year off because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the second FernStock and the first with an Awards Dinner was held at the Fernley Senior Center in 2021, but the concert again was held in a dirt lot behind the Senior



Jake's Garage plays while people dance in front of the stage during Saturday night's free concert at FernStock 2026. Photo by Robert Perea

Center.

Although the CRRC wasn't open last year, the dinner was held at the Senior Center with the free concert on the turf at the CRRC.

"This year was the first time we were able to host the both at the Community Resource & Response Center, which proved to be an excellent venue," Wagner said.

Oscar Aguilar, the Area Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley and his Boys

& Girls Club staff organized the hosting of the event and catered the dinner, with the help of Shining K Meats.

"Although our capacity was slightly reduced compared to our previous venue in the Senior Center, we were easily able to sell out the dinner with 150 attendees and raised about \$20,000," Wagner said.

He said the concert was made possible by Headline Concert Sponsors Polaris and IBEW Local 401, as well as the Fernley Convention & Tourism

Authority.

"For the first time, we brought in a 15-too LED screen for the back of our stage to assist with advertising, which gave the whole event a tremendous boost.

Wagner said. "Although official attendance numbers are difficult to estimate, it seemed to be the best-attended event we have ever hosted."

Awards for the individual and business donors of the year and the Lifetime Achievement Award were presented at the dinner.

Wendy Fagundes was named the Lifetime Achievement Award winner.

"Wendy Fagundes has been a rock for our whole community for many years," Wagner said. "Combining her personal financial contributions with everything she's been able to facilitate through her employer, Washington Federal Bank, she has made well over a \$10,000 impact for just our Foundation."

Fagundes also volunteers at almost every other volunteer-driven event around Fernley and is heavily involved with the Chamber of Commerce. She has served as Vice Chair of the Fernley Community Foundation for the past two years.

Wagner said HG Construction, the

Continued on PAGE 4 - FERNSTOCK...

Fernley weighs projects for 2027 CDBG cycle
Residents can still propose projects through Oct. 15

By Rachel Dahl

Fernley is beginning to narrow down how it might compete for a share of approximately \$2.9 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funding expected to be available to rural Nevada communities in 2027.

At its Aug. 19 meeting, the City Council reviewed three potential projects ranging from work connected to the city's water treatment plant to improvements at In Town Park and development of a new city strategic plan.

But none of those projects has been selected for funding yet.

The Aug. 19 hearing was only the second of three required public meetings in Fernley's 2027 CDBG application process. Residents and community organizations can still propose additional projects through Oct. 15. After eligibility is reviewed by the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the council is scheduled to rank and select projects at a final public hearing Nov. 18.

The final grant applications are due Feb. 19, 2027.

CDBG is a federal program intended primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income residents while supporting community infrastructure, economic development and planning.

Nevada's program is administered by the Governor's Office of Economic

Development. Fernley is one of 26 eligible rural jurisdictions competing for the anticipated \$2.9 million available in 2027.

Eligible projects can include improvements to streets, sidewalks, water and sewer systems, drainage, parks and public facilities; community planning; economic development; job training; removal of environmental hazards and certain nonprofit programs.

Fernley has received more than \$2.2 million through the CDBG program since 2002. Previous grants have helped fund Main Street beautification, phases of the Depot Community Center, downtown revitalization work, business counseling and training programs, community assessments and the Community Response and Resource Center.

The city currently has no open CDBG grants and is allowed to have as many as five open grants at one time.

City Grants Administrator Trisha Livingston said several ideas have been discussed since the first public meeting July 15, but some did not meet federal eligibility requirements. Three projects identified so far do meet the program's national objectives.

The first is environmental work connected with the city's planned Water Treatment Plant upgrade.

Fernley has already contracted with CDM Smith to design improvements to the plant, a process expected

to take roughly 20 months. The city intends to pursue federal funding for construction once the design is completed.

Because use of federal construction funds would require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, the city could seek CDBG money to pay for the required environmental review.

The estimated cost is \$75,000 to \$150,000. The project would benefit Fernley water customers, particularly low- and moderate-income households.

The second proposal combines a new community needs assessment with development of Fernley's 2027-2032 strategic plan.

The city's current five-year strategic plan expires this year.

The community assessment would examine Fernley's strengths, assets, needs and challenges and compare current conditions with where residents and city leaders want the community to be in the future. Those findings would then be used to develop a new strategic plan setting city goals, priorities and measures of progress for the next five years.

The estimated combined cost is \$125,000 to \$225,000.

The third proposal involves In Town Park, Fernley's oldest and most centrally located park.

The city is considering seeking CDBG money for a preliminary en-

gineering report examining parking and sidewalk improvements along the south and west sides of the approximately 4-acre park.

The work would not build the improvements. Instead, the engineering report would establish the design and groundwork needed for a later capital project.

The park has already been identified as a high-priority project in the city's Parks Master Plan. Staff estimated the engineering work at \$75,000 to \$125,000.

The council voted 4-0 to keep the three projects moving through the review process along with any other eligible proposals received before the deadline. No members of the public spoke during the Aug. 19 hearing.

The next step is eligibility review.

Project ideas must be submitted to the city by Oct. 15 so they can be forwarded to the state by the Oct. 16 eligibility deadline. City staff will then refine the eligible proposals and cost estimates before bringing them back to council Nov. 18.

At that meeting, council members will rank the projects and decide which applications Fernley will actually submit for the competitive 2027 funding.

No city funding commitment or matching appropriation has been approved at this point. Any required match would come back to the council later in the process.

Continued from FRONT - OFFICER...

degree through Grand Canyon University.

Having once been the reporter asking the questions, Carrera laughed about suddenly finding herself on the opposite side of the interview.

"This is so weird," she said. "I was a reporter, and now I'm going to be interviewed."

That reporting background may prove useful in her new role, which will put her in the middle of communication between City Hall, residents and local media.

Carrera grew up in Redding and describes herself as a "small-town girl."

Although Redding has grown considerably, she remembers it as a much smaller community and said that environment helped shape what she values.

"Small town is always what I'm used to and what I love," Carrera said. "I love community. I love the aspect that everybody knows each other."

That sense of community was one of the things that attracted her to the Fernley position.

"It does take a village," she said. "Whether that's a family or whether that's just living your life, it takes a village, and living in a community like this, it is your village."

Carrera said she is especially looking forward to getting to know Fernley residents and working closely with the mayor and other city officials.

"I'm very excited about this job," she said. "I'm excited to get to know the community. I've met some really cool people already."

One of her early priorities will be helping improve the city's communications with residents.

She is already learning the city newsletter process and expects to begin taking on broader public information duties as she settles into the position.

For local media, her arrival may also provide a clearer point of contact inside City Hall.

Carrera said she understands the importance of maintaining communication with reporters, even when the relationship between government and the press is not always comfortable.

That may come naturally to someone who has occupied both sides of the notebook.

For now, though, Carrera is still learning the personalities, processes and rhythms of her new community.

And if her first week is any indication, there will not be much time for easing into it.



Fernley's new public information officer Franchesca Carrera stands near the Union Pacific locomotive during the Victory Logistics District Silver Spike ceremony Thursday. Carrera started with the city earlier in the week and wrote Mayor Neal McIntyre's remarks for the event. Photo by Rachel Dahl.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quilt raffle to benefit North Lyon Fire Support Staff

Staff Report

North Lyon Fire District is holding a quilt raffle to benefit its Support Staff, with 100 percent of proceeds going toward training and safety equipment.

The patriotic quilt was handmade and donated by Karla Simmons, a member of the North Lyon Fire Support Staff.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20 and may be purchased at the North Lyon Fire District Office during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The quilt will also be on display during the district's Sept. 11 ceremony at Station 61 on Main Street.

The winning ticket will be drawn live on Facebook at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Continued from PAGE 3 - FERNSTOCK...

Business Donor of the Year, has also been a long-time financial supporter for the Foundation, sponsoring previous gold tournaments and FernStock events.

"They were instrumental in serving as the General Contractor on our Polaris Plaza project, helping us through a very difficult process donating many hours of guidance and expertise," Wagner said.

Harry and Sherryl Wheeler were awarded as Individual Donors of the Year.

"They recently topped \$3,000 through monthly membership contributions and continue to support multiple Fernley efforts around town to add to their extensive history of volunteer work," Wagner said.

In addition, Edrie LaVoie was recognized for her service on the Foundation's Board of Directors after deciding to not apply for another year on the Board, instead passing the torch of Board representation to her daughter, Michelle Trousdale.



David and Brittany Hall of HG Construction accepted the award as the Business Donors of the Year at the FernStock Dinner and Awards on Aug. 22. Photo by Robert Perea

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Wendy Fagundes was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Photo by Robert Perea



Edrie LaVoie was recognized for her service on the Fernley Community Foundation Board of Directors. Photo courtesy of Fernley Community Foundation



Harry and Sherryl Wheeler were presented with the Individual Donors of the Year Award. Photo courtesy of Harry and Sherryl Wheeler

Fernley Community Events

AUG 28

KARAOKE (21+)
8:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

AUG 29

TABLE TENNIS
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Fernley Branch Library
575 Silver Lace Blvd
775-575-3366

LOW COST MIRCOCHIP CLINIC
\$15 OR donate an unopened 10-pound bag of pet food
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
595 Silver Lace Blvd

FOOD TRUCKS, BREWS & TUNES
5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

SEP 1

TRIVIA NIGHT
7:00 p.m.
Frontier Fun Center
480 W. Main St.

MASTER PLAN 2050 OPEN HOUSE
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
695 E Main Street

SEP 2

Chamber of Commerce - QUARTERLY LUNCHEON
with Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony
11:30 a.m.
695 E. Main St.

SEP 3

TRIVIA (21+)
7:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

SEP 12

FERNLEY HEALTH FAIR & COMMUNITY WELLNESS
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
805 E. Main St.
775-204-4000

SEP 19

MAYOR'S FREE RECYCLING DAY
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Out of Town Park
ahomme@cityoffernley.org

POKER TOURNAMENT
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
\$75 Buy-In
5:00 PM
695 E. Main St.
(775) 360-2424



OBITUARY

Nadine Ruth Oberg-Futch
1932-2026



Nadine Ruth Oberg-Futch, of Fernley, Nevada passed away peacefully on August 7, 2026, at age 94. She was born July 30, 1932, in Shenandoah, Iowa, to Raymond and Helen Darlene King.

Mom will be remembered for her love of her family and friends. She loved the outdoors and enjoyed going camping with her son, Gary, and his wife, Dolores. Nadine loved the outdoors and there wasn't a rock that she didn't pick up and wanted to take home. Needless to

say, she had a lot of rocks.

In addition to Gary and Dolores Oberg, she is survived by her daughter, Brenda Troupe, and her husband, Kevin; two granddaughters, Jaimee Oberg and Chrystal Oberg; four great-grandchildren; and a brother, Johnny King. She was predeceased by her husband, James Oberg, and her oldest son, Terry Oberg.

A celebration of her life was held at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Eugene, Oregon on August 24, 2026.



Lyon County honors lifesaving teamwork

Staff Report

The Lyon County Commission recognized the honorable lifesaving actions of several per-sonnel during the Aug. 20 commission meeting as Sheriff Brad Pope presented lifesaving and meritorious service awards to local law enforcement officers and dispatchers for their actions during two emergencies in July.

Dispatchers Kyara Davis and Sarah Walker were honored for their response to a July 26 medical emergency involving a 53-year-old Dayton-area man.

At about 11:40 p.m., Davis received a 911 call reporting that the man was gasping for air, turning purple and had stopped breathing.

Davis immediately initiated emergency medical dispatch procedures, sent the call to responding medical personnel and began providing CPR instructions to the caller.

About 30 seconds after the medical call was paged, Walker created an assist call and dispatched Lyon County deputies to the scene.

Once Davis began providing CPR instructions, Walker took over Davis' radio traffic, allowing her partner to remain focused on guiding the caller through the lifesaving procedure.

Deputies arrived roughly two and a half minutes before Central Lyon County Fire Protection District personnel and took over CPR.

Among them was Deputy Benjamin Beck.

Off-duty Nevada Department of Corrections Lt. Kyle Day, who lived nearby, had recognized that his neighbor was suffering a serious medical emergency and had already begun CPR before Beck arrived.

Beck took over chest compressions while deploying an automated external defibrillator, with Day helping prepare and apply the AED pads.

The two worked together until paramedics arrived.

As emergency personnel prepared the patient for transport, he regained consciousness and was able to speak. Two days later, his family reported he was alert, breathing on his own and expected to be

released from the hospital.

Beck and Day were both presented with Lyon County Sheriff's Office Life Saving Awards.

Davis and Walker also received Life Saving Awards for what the Sheriff's Office described as extraordinary composure, efficiency and teamwork under pressure.

The second emergency came only five days later.

On July 31, Deputies Nathan Cooper, Dawson Feticc and Jeremy Patchen responded to a rapidly spreading residential fire in the 500 block of Yellow Jacket Road in Dayton.

When Cooper arrived, the fire had spread from one residence to a neighboring occupied home.

Learning that residents were still inside, Cooper entered the property despite intense heat and flames and located the elderly occupants.

During the evacuation, one of the residents went back inside the burning home in an attempt to rescue a family pet.

Cooper went back in after the

resident and brought the person out safely.

Feticc and Patchen arrived to find the residence actively burning and Cooper inside. Both deputies entered the home to assist with the rescue and help ensure the occupants and their fellow deputy made it out safely.

All of the occupants were evacuated without injury.

Pope presented Cooper, Feticc and Patchen with the Sheriff's Office Meritorious Service Medal for their actions.

Commissioners thanked the honorees for their willingness to act in dangerous and rapidly changing circumstances.

Commissioner David Hockaday said the deputies had gone "above and beyond" what most people would ever be expected to do.

"Taking the big risk like that is significant," he said. "I appreciate your work."

Commissioner Tammy Hendrix called the actions "fearless bravery."

FERNLEY SENIOR CENTER MENU

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Monday, Aug 31	Tuesday, Sept 1	Wednesday, Sept 2	Thursday, Sept 3	Friday, Sept 4
Pub Style Fish & Chips (Fries) Tartar Sauce Hushpuppies Corn Apricots 100% Fruit Juice	Porcupine Meatballs (brown rice, ground beef, tomato and onion) in sauce Whole Wheat Roll Smart Balance Lima Beans Peaches	Turkey Taco Salad Spanish Rice Broccoli Creamy Italian Dressing* Chantilly Fruit Cup	Lemon Baked Fish II Whole Wheat Bread Peas Brown Rice Tossed Salad Creamy Italian Dressing Grapes	Eggs Benedict Casserole (English Muffins, Cheese, Eggs, Canadian Bacon, Herbs & Hollandaise Sauce) Asparagus Mixed Fruit Orange Pineapple Juice

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COMMUNITY

Aaron Wilson joins North Lyon Fire Board

Staff Report

North Lyon County Fire Protection District has welcomed Aaron Wilson to its Board of Directors following his appointment to fill the remainder of the term previously held by Jay Rodriguez. Wilson was sworn in July 9 and will serve on the five-member board while voters ultimately decide who will hold the seat moving forward. Wilson and his wife, Michelle, are

local small-business owners raising their family in Fernley. He said his decision to serve grew from a desire to give back to the community his family calls home. As he begins his work on the board, Wilson said his first priority is to listen and learn, gaining a deeper understanding of the district, its personnel and the challenges involved in providing emergency services to a growing community.

Looking ahead, Wilson said he hopes to help position North Lyon Fire for the future through responsible financial decisions and long-term planning, while continuing to invest in personnel, equipment, training, staffing and facilities. He said those decisions must account not only for the district's immediate needs, but also for what Fernley and the surrounding area may require five, 10 and 20 years from now.

Wilson said he plans to approach the position with humility, common sense, transparency and accessibility, with the goal of strengthening the district while maintaining the trust of residents and taxpayers. **North Lyon Fire Board of Directors**
Chairman: Paul Murphy
Vice Chairman: Debbie Skinner
Treasurer/Secretary: Alyssa Roemer
Director: Christine Sullivan
Director: Aaron Wilson

Boys & Girls Club sees growing use of Fernley community center

By Rachel Dahl

The Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows is seeing growing use of Fernley's Community Response and Resource Center, with club officials reporting increased attendance, thousands of meals served and nearly 18,000 bus rides provided to local children. Mike Wurm, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, and Fernley Area Director Oscar Aguilar gave the City Council an update Aug. 19 on programs at the center and improvements being made to the property. Through a partnership with the Lyon County School District, the club offers a grant-funded 21st Century after-school program providing free care for children ages 6 through 12 who are still in sixth grade.

Since moving into the Community Response and Resource Center, the club purchased an 80-passenger bus and has provided nearly 18,000 rides for members traveling to and from school, Aguilar said. The center's kitchen has also allowed the club to expand its meal program. More than 14,000 meals were served during the school year, with another 8,000 meals served during the summer. The club also saw a sharp increase in summer participation. Aguilar said the program was serving about 114 members daily at the beginning of summer 2025. This summer, average daily attendance reached approximately 223 children. Summer offerings included specialty camps, soccer, Junior Giants baseball, field trips and a teen program that regularly drew 30 to 40 participants.

Special teen barbecues attracted as many as 50 to 60 young people. The club also partnered with the Michael Phelps Foundation to provide free swimming lessons to nearly 70 children. Because the Fernley swimming pool was unavailable, the lessons were held at the Churchill County pool. Club officials also updated the council on improvements to the Fernley property, including perimeter fencing intended to increase security while children are attending programs. Wurm said the fencing allows staff to better control access to the property and ensure that adults entering during program hours have completed required background checks. A new 60-by-90-foot asphalt area has also been added behind the building. Officials said the space will provide additional room for outdoor

programming and community events while helping reduce the dirt and mud children previously tracked into the facility. Possible future uses include basketball and other recreation, although club officials said they want to preserve the flexibility of the space for larger events. Council members also thanked club staff for their work during the recent fire, when the Community Response and Resource Center was used as intended as an emergency gathering and response facility. "We loved seeing that facility used," Wurm said. "That was one of the main purposes." The Boys & Girls Club plans to continue expanding programming at the Fernley facility as use of the center grows.

Fernley Church Directory

Summit Church
Silverland Middle School

Living Faith Church
110 Center Street

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church
625 Desert Shadows Lane

Grace Baptist Church
460 W. Main Street, Suite 108
gbcfernley.org

Crosswinds Assembly of God
3015 Farm District Road

Fernley Free Methodist Church
100 N. West Street

Fernley First Baptist Church
485 E. Main Street

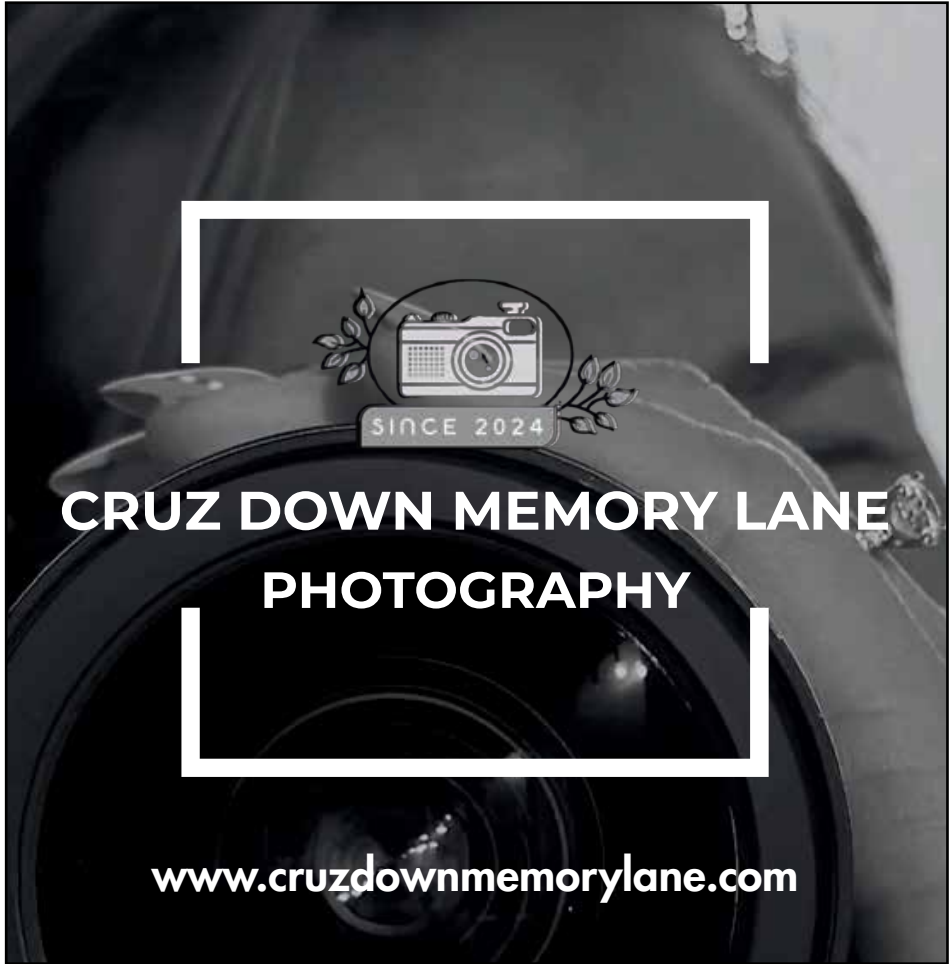
Calvary Chapel
875 Fremont Street

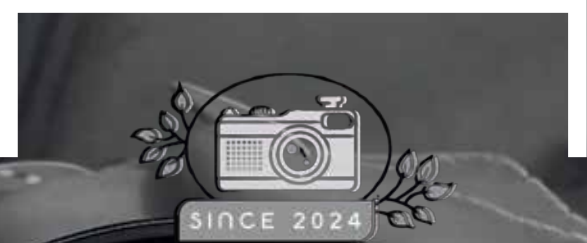
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
155 Hwy 95A South

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
290 N. West Street

Joy! Alliance Fellowship
www.facebook.com/JOYchurchFernley

Living Stones Church
868 Cottonwood Lane





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LOCAL AUTHOR, JOE DAHL



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Council adopts plan for future growth in South Fernley

By Rachel Dahl

The Fernley City Council has adopted a long-range plan guiding the future of approximately 10,000 acres in South Fernley, but some residents of the Highlands cautioned the city not to lose the rural character that drew them there in the first place.

The council voted 4-0 Aug. 19 to adopt the South Fernley Area Plan for land generally south of the Truckee Canal and east of U.S. Highway 95A.

The plan is the last of three area plans required under Fernley’s 2018 Comprehensive Master Plan for the

city’s major future development areas. Until an area plan was completed, development within those designated areas was restricted.

Acting Planning Director Treston Rodriguez emphasized that adoption does not rezone property or approve any specific development.

“This document is intended to serve as a long-range policy framework for South Fernley,” Rodriguez said. “It does not approve individual development projects or guarantee that development within the plan will occur.”

Future projects will still have to

go through the city’s normal development review process and meet applicable zoning, infrastructure and development standards.

The plan grew out of public workshops, stakeholder meetings, surveys and discussions with the Planning Commission and City Council. City officials said a recurring message from residents was to preserve the area’s rural character while improving roads, emergency access and infrastructure.

More than 5,000 acres are designated Rural Residential, intended for large-lot homes, agriculture, grazing

and open space. Other portions are designated for low- and medium-density housing. At theoretical full buildout, the land-use designations could accommodate as many as 19,443 housing units, although the plan does not suggest that development will occur at once or that all of that capacity will ultimately be built.

The plan also includes only about 157 acres of commercial property, envisioned for small neighborhood-serving businesses rather than big-box stores or regional shopping centers.

Continued from PAGE 11 - SOUTH AREA...

Continued from FRONT - SEWER...

projects needed to keep the existing system operating reliably.

Those include rehabilitation of the Rolling Meadows lift station, inspection of the city’s gravity sewer system, upgrades to the computerized SCADA control system and modernization of several aging lift stations.

One concern is that the city’s sewer mains and manholes have not undergone a broad systemwide inspection since 2008.

Wurster said aging manholes can fail and create deep sinkholes beneath streets, making inspection important before failures occur.

The East Lift Station is another critical piece of infrastructure. It carries roughly 70 to 75 percent of Fernley’s wastewater directly to the treatment

plant and is aging and in need of repairs.

The plan also identifies about \$44 million in larger capacity-related projects, but city officials emphasized those costs are largely tied to future development and would not all fall on existing ratepayers.

“If growth stopped today, those projects wouldn’t be required,” Wurster told the council.

Potential projects include improvements to the West Lift Station, expansion of the South Arm interceptor serving areas south of the Truckee Canal and eventual expansion of the wastewater treatment plant.

Engineers said those improvements would be evaluated as development occurs, with developers expected to fund improvements required to accommodate their projects.

The plan also highlights aging tran-

site, or asbestos-cement, sewer pipe in portions of the system. Wurster said the material is generally stable when left undisturbed but can deteriorate and fail as conditions change.

Councilwoman Felicity Zoberski raised another longstanding problem: the E-One grinder pump systems serving homes in Sage Ranch and Country Ranch.

Replacing those systems with conventional gravity sewer would require construction of entirely new sewer mains through the neighborhoods and a regional lift station, making it a multi-million-dollar undertaking.

For now, city crews replace approximately three to five E-One pumps each year at a cost of about \$5,000 each.

Councilman Joe Mendoza also questioned how the city will monitor growth between master plan updates instead of waiting another five years to

discover the system is approaching capacity.

Utilities Director Oz Henke said the city is evaluating newer SCADA technology that could provide ongoing flow monitoring and historical data. Engineers also said every proposed development undergoes a hydraulic analysis before sewer infrastructure is installed.

The plan is intended to be updated approximately every five years in periods of rapid growth.

Zoberski said wastewater infrastructure is easy for residents to overlook until something goes wrong.

“I think wastewater is undervalued because people don’t really think hard about it until there’s an issue,” she said.

The council unanimously adopted the plan as the city’s long-range guide for wastewater improvements, capital planning and future growth.

Meetings

Fernley City Council
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting Sept 2

Fernley Planning Commission
2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting Sept. 9

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9:00 a.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting Oct. 9

Lyon County Commission
1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Lyon County Administrative Complex, 27 S. Main St., Yerington
Next meeting Sept. 15

Lyon County Planning Commission
2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Lyon County Administrative Complex, 27 S. Main St., Yerington
Next meeting Sept. 8

Lyon County Library Board of Trustees
4th Tuesday of the Month at 9:30 a.m.
Locations rotate between the 5 county libraries
Next meeting Sept. 22

Lyon County School District Board of Trustees
4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
Locations rotate between each attendance area
Next meeting Sept. 22

North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Trustees
2nd Thursday of the month 195 E. Main St.
Next meeting Sept. 10

Fernley Swimming Pool General Improvement District
3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
300 Cottonwood Lane
Next meeting Sept. 15

LEGAL NOTICES

Case No.: 26-PT-0056, Dept. No.: 2

HANNAH E. WINSTON, ESQ. (SBN 14520), hwinston@sbwlawgroup.com
ALISON R. KERTIS, ESQ. (SBN 13875), akertis@sbwlawgroup.com
SBW LAW GROUP
3600 Mayberry Dr., Reno, NV 89509, 775-299-4051
Attorneys for Petitioners

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JIMMIE GENE ALLEN, DECEASED.
NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

AMENDED NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Dawn Pippo and Christine O’Brien, personal representatives of the Estate of JIMMIE GENE ALLEN, Deceased, will sell at a private sale, subject to Court confirmation as required by law, the following real property of the Estate:

DESCRIPTION OF REAL PROPERTY APN No. 019-383-27

The real property commonly known as 6305 Crumlish, Stagecoach, Nevada, 89429, the legal description as follows:

All that certain real property situate in the County of Lyon, State of Nevada, and being a portion of Lot 24, of RANCHO SUBDIVISION NO. 2, recorded on March 31, 1961, as Document No. 80293, described as follows:

Parcel 4, as shown on the Parcel Map for Eugene R. Saccone, recorded in the Official Records of Lyon County, Nevada on July 22, 1996, as Document No. 195564.

TOGETHER WITH all singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

Confirmation of the sale is set for hearing on September 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in Department 2 of the Third Judicial District Court, Lyon County Courthouse, 911 Harvey Way, Yerington, NV 89447. The hearing date is at least fourteen (14) days after the first publication of this Notice, and not later than one (1) year thereafter. Escrow shall close thirty (30) days after Court confirmation of the sale. Written bids or offers for the purchase of the property must be submitted to:

Jackie Mead, Global Real Estate Advisor
Sierra Sotheby’s
5301 Kietzke Lane, Suite 200, Reno, Nevada 89511
NV S.0197806, Jmeadrealstate@gmail.com

Written bids may be left at the above address or delivered personally to Hannah E. Winston, Esq. at SBW Law Group at any time after the first publication of this Notice and before the sale is made. The Estate reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to accept the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Estate, subject to any required Court approval.

The undersigned does hereby affirm that this document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED this 7th day of August, 2026.
SBW LAW GROUP
3600 Mayberry Drive, Reno, Nevada 89509
/s/ Hannah E. Winston
HANNAH E. WINSTON, ESQ.
ALISON R. KERTIS, ESQ.
Attorneys for Petitioners

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BUSINESS

1st Option Realty celebrates 10 years in Fernley

Local real estate company marks a decade of serving Fernley and surrounding communities

Staff Report

1st Option Realty marked its 10th anniversary Aug. 20, celebrating a decade of helping buyers and sellers throughout Fernley and Northern Nevada. The company, located at 40 N. Center St. in Fernley, invited clients, friends and community members to an anniversary celebration at its office with refreshments and an evening recognizing the relationships built during its first 10 years in business. “It’s with immense joy and gratitude that we mark the 10th anniversary of 1st Option Realty,” the company said in announcing the event.

Broker and real estate professional Dana Uhlhorn has deep ties to Northern Nevada and has lived in Fernley for nearly 20 years. His experience in the region also includes time in Incline Village, Carson City, Reno, Sparks and Lemmon Valley. The company emphasizes local knowledge and personal service, describing Uhlhorn as both a real estate professional and a familiar member of the community. That local connection has helped shape the business over the past decade as Fernley has continued to grow. Whether clients are buying, selling

or simply exploring their options, 1st Option Realty says its focus remains on straightforward advice, local experience and long-term relationships. The company thanked the clients, partners and community members who have supported the business over the years. The anniversary celebration offered an opportunity to look back at 10 years in business while also recognizing the growth taking place throughout Fernley. 1st Option Realty can be reached at 775-835-4321 or through its website at www.1stoptionrealty.net.



Dana Uhlhorn, photo courtesy of 1st Option Realty



Waste Management, Springs Area Chamber of Commerce and other community partners celebrated the opening of a new transfer station with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Photo courtesy of Springs Area Chamber of Commerce.

Waste Management opens new Silver Springs transfer station

Staff Report

Waste Management has officially opened its new Silver Springs Transfer Station at 2425 Almond Drive. The company celebrated the opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony joined by the Silver Springs Area Chamber of Commerce and other community partners. The new facility features an updated unloading design intended to

provide a cleaner and more efficient experience for customers while expanding local waste-handling infrastructure in the Silver Springs area. The transfer station is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is closed for lunch from noon to 12:30 p.m. The Chamber congratulated Waste Management on the investment and welcomed the new facility as an addition to the community.



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www.tcid.org or 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada. EOE.



LOCAL AUTHOR, LARRY NEEL



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REGIONAL NEWS

The Victory Project: Investing in Fernley’s Future



Register Now:
Gain Hands-On Skills with Western Nevada College at Victory Logistics District

Western Nevada College is providing new opportunities for individuals looking to gain hands-on skills and launch or advance their careers with short term classes. Join WNC for an in-person Basic Electrical (ELM 110) course this fall. This low-cost, hands-on electrical training class is designed to support training for careers in advanced manufacturing and related technical fields. This program is supported in whole and/or in part with federal and/or state funds provided by Nevada DETR.

- Learn basic electrical principles and safety
- Build skills needed for manufacturing, logistics, maintenance and industrial operations
- No prior experience required!

ELM 110: Basic Electricity
8/24 - 10/17 Monday & Wednesday, 5:30-8:15p
Workforce Training Hub at Victory Logistics
1740 N. Nevada Pacific Pkwy, Suite 100 • Fernley, NV

For More Information:
contact April Holman, Fernley Center Coordinator, at april.holman@wnc.edu or by phone: 775-546-1445.



The Victory Project: Investing in Fernley’s Future



Silver Spike Ceremony Connects Victory to National Rail Network

Thank you to Congressman Amodei, Mayor McIntrye, Governor’s Office of Economic Development Executive Director Burns and the more than 100 friends and neighbors who joined us for our Silver Spike ceremony!

We are proud to have completed another important milestone that brings more jobs, more opportunity and economic growth to Fernley.



LAW & ORDER

Arrest report

All information for the arrest report is provided by the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office and is considered by law to be public information.
All subjects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Aug. 17-23, 2026

JOHNNY LAWSON —Area: Fernley, Bail: \$102,500, Charges: Lewdness committed by person over 18 with child 14 or 15; Destroy or conceal evidence
ANTHONY LUCA — Area: Dayton, Bail: \$11,620, Charges: Court commitment; Possess Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams, 1st or 2nd offense; Use or possess drug paraphernalia; Criminal contempt
ELIZABETH HODGES — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,500, Charges: Violate stalking or harassment TPO; Violate domestic violence EPO, 1st offense
JACINDA PIERSON — Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, 1st offense
TOMMY LOWRANCE — Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0, Charges: Court commitment
CASANDRA HILL — Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$3,640, Charges: Possess Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams, 1st or 2nd offense; Use or possess drug paraphernalia
ROBERT WOLD — Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$4,202.65, Charges: Criminal contempt
GENE TERRY — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$18,955, Charges: DUI, 2nd offense; Duty upon damaging unattended vehicle or property; Drive with revoked driver’s license; Fail to decrease speed or use due care; Driver or passenger fail to report unattended vehicle or property accident
KELSYE CATES — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$0, Charges: Felony arrest for

violation of probation or conditions of suspended sentence
AMANDA CAGLE — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$1,255, Charges: Drive with revoked driver’s license; Operate unregistered vehicle, trailer, or semi
BRANDON SNELSON — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, 1st offense
Alexis Ventura — Area: LYSO, Bail: \$500, Charges: Disturbing the peace (Breach of peace)
MICHELLE JACKSON —Area: Fernley, Bail: \$1,745
Charges: DUI, 1st offense; Fail to maintain lane or improper lane change or use of signal; License plates improperly displayed; Open alcohol container in vehicle
YOBANNI CHAVEZ — Area: Mound House, Bail: \$400, Charges: Criminal contempt
KEVIN VANTASSEL — Area: Dayton, Bail: \$1,255, Charges: DUI, 1st offense; Civil basic speeding violation 1–10 MPH over posted limit
MATTHEW CORPUS — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,000, Charges: Prevent or dissuade reporting crime, causing prosecution or arrest
GREG BINGHAM — Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$68,640, Charges: Assault with deadly weapon (Enhanced/Violation of protective order); Coerce with force or threat of force (Enhanced/Deadly weapon); False imprisonment with deadly weapon; Injure or tamper with vehicle, damage \$250–\$5,000; Resist public officer
TRAMPUS BELL — Area: Fernley,

Bail: \$1,040, Charges: Assist other agency - hold; Criminal contempt - failure to obey court order
ALYSSAROSE MAIER —Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$30,000, Charges: Home invasion, 1st offense (2 counts)
MICHAEL THURMAN — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,590, Charges: DUI, 2nd offense; Driver disobey peace officer; Fail to yield at stop or yield sign or controlled intersection; Resident with non Nevada driver’s license
ANTONIO AYALA PAREDES — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, 1st offense
ROBERT WALTERS — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$25,780, Charges: Draw deadly weapon in threatening manner; Carry concealed weapon without permit; Own or possess gun by prohibited person; Failure to appear after bail, misdemeanor crime (2 counts)
STEPHEN WESTON — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,355, Charges: Assist other agency - hold
MARIAH MCDOWELL — Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$28,500, Charges: Burglary of a business, 1st offense; Contact with minor or mentally ill person, 1st offense; Create disturbance in school building; Trespass, loiter, or nuisance on or near school grounds
DANA CRAWFORD —Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$3,635, Charges: DUI, 2nd offense; Drive with revoked driver’s license; Open alcohol container in vehicle
SIOBHAN GOLDEN — Area: Dayton,

Bail: \$80,000, Charges: Residential burglary, 1st offense; Home invasion, 1st offense; Destroy property of another \$250–\$5,000; Attempt to exploit older or vulnerable person \$5,000+; Attempt to destroy or conceal evidence
WILLIAM RAY — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$2,425, Charges: Assist other agency - hold; Use or possess drug paraphernalia
MICHELLE CHILDERS —Area: Dayton, Bail: \$3,640, Charges: Possess Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams, 1st or 2nd offense; Use or possess drug paraphernalia
THERESA REHM —Area: Fernley, Bail: \$1,140, Charges: DUI, 1st offense
MARQUARIUS BOWEN — Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$102,500, Charges: Burglary of a motor vehicle, 1st offense; Residential burglary, 1st offense; Home invasion, 1st offense; Grand larceny of gun; Buy, possess, or receive stolen property \$25,000–\$100,000 or gun
SHIVKARANDIP SINGH — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,000, Charges: Prevent or dissuade reporting crime, causing prosecution or arrest
JOSE PARGA — Area: Fernley, Bail: \$2,030, Charges: DUI, 1st offense; Reckless driving w/disregard person or property safety, 1st offense
CHRISTIAN RODRIGUEZ — Area: Mound House, Bail: \$1,825, Charges: DUI, 1st offense; Open alcohol container in vehicle; Fail to decrease speed or use due care; Fail to maintain lane or improper lane change or use of signal



Andres Ruiz Lindo, photo courtesy of LCSO

California murder suspect arrested in Fernley during high-risk felony stop

By Robert Perea

The Lyon County Sheriff’s Office assisted in the arrest of a California murder suspect in Fernley on Aug. 24, according to the sheriff’s office. Detectives identified Andres Ruiz Lindo, 19, as the primary suspect in an Aug. 4 gang-related homicide in Marin County, Calif. that left a rival gang member dead. On Aug. 24, the Lyon County’s Special Investigations Unit and Novato detectives conducted surveillance in the 1300 Block of W. Newlands Drive. They saw Ruiz Lindo enter a vehicle in the parking

lot of the Super 8 Motel and conducted a high-risk felony stop before the vehicle left the lot. Ruiz Lindo was taken into without incident and booked into the Lyon County Jail on a charge of California Penal Code 187, felony murder, and is being held without bail. The Lyon County Sheriff’s Office thanked the Novato Police Department for its collaboration and urged anyone with information to contact the Investigations Division at detective@lyon-county.org or by phone at 775-463-6600, referencing Case No. 26LY03333.

Sex offender arrested on charge of lewdness with a child

By Robert Perea

A registered sex offender living in Fernley who had previously been arrested twice in the past two years was arrested Aug. 21 on a charge of lewdness with a child. Johnny Lee Lawson, 71, was booked into the Lyon County Jail on charges of lewdness with a 14- or 15-year-old child and destroying or concealing evidence. His bail was set at \$102,500. According to the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office, Lawson was arrested after he sent inappropriate messages and photos to a 14-year-old. LCSO said additional information was being withheld to protect the victim. Under Nevada statutes, lewdness with a child 14 or 15 years old is a Category B felony, and a conviction carries a mandatory prison sentence of one to 10 years and a fine of up to \$10,000. Lawson, a Tier III registered sex offender, was arrested twice in the past two years — on Feb. 6, 2025, and July 30, 2026 — on charges of violating sex offender registration requirements. In his social media Message of the

Week posted Aug. 21, Lyon County Sheriff Brad Pope said LCSO had identified a loophole that can prevent prosecution of sex offenders who do not register on time. As an example, Pope said if a Tier III offender fails to register by the required date and is later arrested for the violation, the offender is still required to complete the overdue verification because the offender must provide accurate information about where they live, work and can be located. “Once that late verification is submitted and processed by the State Registry, the offender is returned to a compliant status. If the State’s official record does not preserve the period when the offender was actually out of compliance, it becomes extremely difficult to later prosecute the missed-verification case,” Pope wrote. Pope said Lyon County prosecutors require a Certificate of Record from the Nevada Sex Offender Registry confirming the offender was out of compliance during the relevant period before they will prosecute the charge.

Pope said that means deputies can identify a violation, establish probable cause and make an arrest, but getting the offender back into compliance can leave the official state record without the documentation needed to prosecute the violation. Pope wrote that LCSO is proposing a standardized process allowing local law enforcement to promptly notify the State Registry when an offender misses a required verification, along with preservation of that historical noncompliance in the offender’s official registration record. In addition, he said Nevada currently imposes geographic restrictions on some offenders while they are on probation, parole or lifetime supervision, including restrictions involving locations primarily used by children. “We believe it is worth examining whether narrowly tailored protections should remain available in appropriate cases after correctional supervision ends when the individual remains subject to sex offender registration requirements,” Pope wrote. “Our staff has developed a formal leg-



Johnny Lee Lawson, photo courtesy of LCSO

islative concept proposal addressing these issues, supported by Nevada law, information obtained directly from the Nevada Sex Offender Registry, relevant court decisions, and examples from other states. We intend to provide that proposal to our legislative representatives for consideration.”

THE INSIDE VEER

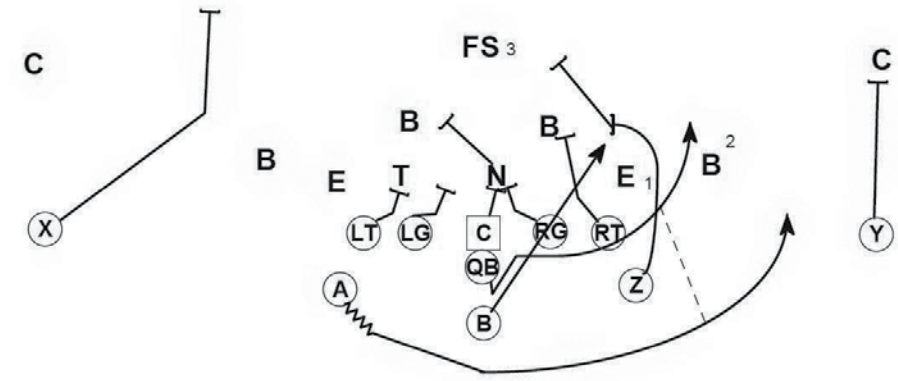
Life teaches more than college

By Robert Perea

I have only come here seeking knowledge
Things they would not teach me of in college
– The Police, “Wrapped Around Your Finger”

On my first day of work as a reporter back in the Dark Ages of 1993, my editor, Dave Sanford, told me to forget everything I had learned in college. I was obviously taken aback, having just spent seven years not just chasing a degree, but taking every class in the catalogue that I found interesting. Seeking knowledge was the reason I was in college in the first place.

It didn't take me long out in the real world to realize what Dave was trying to tell me. I have been lucky enough through the years to work either directly with or in close enough proximity to some of the best people in the newspaper business in Northern Nevada. At the Mason Valley News, Dave, his brother Jim and dad Robert are



all in the Nevada Press Association Hall of Fame, as is Laura Tenant, who I shared an office with in Dayton for a couple of years. When I was covering University of Nevada sports as a freelancer, I paid eagle-eye attention to everything Steve Sneddon did. As I've found, life teaches you way more than college. The Fernley High School football team found that lesson the hard way Friday night, suffering a tough loss in Bishop. They trailed on the score-

board most of the night, even though they got the better of Bishop on significantly more than half of the 100 or so plays in the game. But that's not how scores are kept in football, or in the real world. Coach Anfernee Sloan had a quick response when asked what he told his team. "Welcome to life, man" Sloan said. Driving back from Bishop with my broadcast partner Mike Nattress riding shotgun in the late hours

Friday night, I made an idle observation wondering what county we were in, having not seen the state line sign even though I noticed the mile marker numbers change. That prompted a discussion on Nevada counties, why Tonopah is in the same county as Pahrump, which is more than 2 hours way, but not Goldfield, which is 20 miles from Tonopah on the way to Pahrump and ended up leading to Mike going down a rabbit hole on Google. It was no painful lesson like the one the Vaqueros had to learn Friday, but it was another reminder that no matter what experience you have or what you might think you know, you will always learn more from life, than you do from college.

Robert Perea has covered news and sports in Northern Nevada since 1993. He has published The Fernley Reporter online since 2016, loves music, is a sucker for the pets who have adopted him, and is thrilled to be printing the Reporter.

Letters to the Editor

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Senior Sense by Sonia Hedrick

Nootropics: Science of the Mind, Part 2

By Sonia Hedrick

Surveys suggest that roughly 25 percent of America's 73 million baby boomers use nootropics to strengthen and maintain their cognitive abilities. As explored in Part 1, the term “nootropics” is mostly used by industry insiders. It describes a collection of often encapsulated plant-based remedies designed to stimulate and increase focus, alertness, memory and creativity. Depending on the manufacturer, nootropic supplements can contain between eight and 16 active ingredients. Although the substances included are believed to enhance brain health, blending complementary botanicals is thought to encourage each substance to target a different neural pathway, potentially increasing their overall effect. Let's look at a few components that appear again and again on the labels of various brands. Among the most common ingredients is Bacopa monnieri, also known as Brahmi. For thousands of years, this hardy wetland plant has played a role in Ayurvedic medicine, usual-

ly ingested as juice, paste or a boiled tonic. Historically regarded as a brain-health enhancer, today it is promoted for reducing symptoms of ADHD, lowering stress and anxiety, and improving memory retention. According to Review Scout, which is sponsored by Hi-Altitude Brands, distributor of Stonehenge Health Products, some studies suggest that Bacopa monnieri may also influence acetylcholine, a naturally occurring neurotransmitter involved in memory and other functions. Choline is another frequently found ingredient in nootropic stacks. Choline is a nutrient that normally enters the body through foods such as egg yolks, soybeans, legumes, salmon, cod, chicken and beef. Once chemically combined with acetyl groups derived through the body's metabolism, choline helps form the neurotransmitter acetylcholine. Naturally occurring acetylcholine plays a role in attention, memory, heartbeat, digestion, voluntary muscle movement and other bodily functions. The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition has published research sug-

gesting that choline supplementation may benefit people whose diets do not provide adequate amounts of the nutrient. Because acetylcholine dysfunction has been associated with Alzheimer's disease and myasthenia gravis, some advocates recommend choline-rich foods and supplements as part of an overall approach to brain health. Ginseng, another ancient remedy, is high on the ingredient list in many popular nootropic brands. According to research indexed by the National Library of Medicine, some studies suggest that ginseng may have beneficial effects on certain aspects of cognitive function. Researchers caution, however, that it is no quick fix. Ginseng and other nootropics may have cumulative effects, and some users report improvements in memory, learning and focus over time. Some research suggests these effects may be more noticeable in people experiencing cognitive decline than in healthy people seeking to enhance normal performance. Three cheers for lion's mane mushrooms! This fungus contains compounds being studied for possible

anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and neuroprotective effects. Researchers are also examining the relationship between gut health, inflammation and brain function, although much remains to be learned about how lion's mane may affect these systems. Finally, caffeine is listed as an ingredient in a number of nootropic products. For this application, the world's most widely consumed psychoactive compound is often paired with L-theanine. L-theanine, an amino acid found primarily in tea leaves, may help temper some of caffeine's stimulating effects while supporting alertness and concentration. This is only a small sample of the herbal medicines and other substances used in combination to create nootropics. Each ingredient, however, has one thing in common: all are promoted as having characteristics that may support brain health. Please see the final installment, “Nootropics: Science of the Mind, Part 3,” in the Sept. 11 edition of The Fernley Reporter.

Continued from PAGE 7 - SOUTH AREA...

Rodriguez said several medium-density residential areas were added partly in response to property-owner requests and discussions about creating additional housing opportunities for personnel associated with Naval Air Station Fallon. That higher-density housing was one of Councilwoman Felicity Zoberski's concerns. Zoberski said portions of Farm District Road still include farms and free-range cattle and questioned placing some of the plan's densest residential development near those properties. “We do still have a lot of agriculture towards the end,” she said. “I'm supportive of the map. I'm worried about that area.” Zoberski said once an area is identified for medium-density housing in the plan, it could become more difficult for surrounding residents to oppose that type of development later. Residents echoed that concern. Michael Barrow, who lives on a five-acre property on Desert Shadows Lane, told the council he moved to the

Highlands specifically for the rural lifestyle. “We live out there for a reason,” Barrow said. “We like our privacy.” He said he was concerned that vacant five-acre parcels near existing homes could eventually support significantly more houses and that paving roads such as Desert Shadows Lane could bring increased traffic through the Highlands. “You don't have to put neighborhoods on every vacant piece of land,” Barrow said. Resident Stephen Johnson said he understood that Fernley will continue to grow and supported planning for it but also raised concerns about impacts on existing Highlands residents and whether neighbors had received enough information about the process. City officials said at least 60 people attended each of the two public open houses held during development of the plan. Zoberski offered to meet with Highlands residents who had questions about how the new plan affects their existing property and zoning. Councilman Ryan Hanan stressed that the area plan itself does not change anyone's zoning.

“This is sort of a blueprint to say this is what we need and we want and we can do here,” Hanan said. He said each future project will still come before the appropriate city bodies, giving residents additional opportunities to comment. Hanan also acknowledged what he called one of Fernley's biggest problems: communication. The city meets statutory notification requirements by posting agendas, publishing notices and holding public meetings, he said, but that information still does not always reach residents. “There is some responsibility that lies on the public as well to be engaged, and I think there's a gap there,” Hanan said. “So, I'm hoping that we bridge that gap.” Infrastructure may ultimately determine how quickly South Fernley can develop. Much of the area is currently served by unpaved roads, and access across the Truckee Canal is limited. The plan identifies two potential canal crossing improvements and additional roadway connections aimed at improving both everyday circulation and emergency access. City planning documents warn that some existing roads

and bridges cannot adequately accommodate fire trucks, ambulances or large-scale emergency evacuations. Extending city water service will also require major improvements, including new distribution lines, pumping facilities and storage because much of the planning area lies outside the elevation range currently served by the existing water system. The plan adopts what it calls an “Infrastructure First” approach, calling for roads, utilities and public services to be available before or alongside new development. Potential funding mechanisms include developer contributions, impact fees, special districts, tax increment financing and state and federal grants. At full buildout, city consultants estimate development envisioned by the plan could generate approximately \$8.2 million annually in property taxes, although that figure is a long-range projection rather than expected near-term revenue. Zoberski reminded residents after the vote that the plan remains a “living document” that can be amended as conditions change. “They're not going to start building tomorrow,” she said.

PETS OF THE WEEK

SURVIVORS

Meet Loki (m), Cinder-Ella (f), Butterscotch (m), & Bart (m). They are one of the 3 litters that was abandoned in a field. Lovable, social and playful... these kittens are waiting for their furrever person/family. These kittens are fixed, vaccinated and microchipped. If you are interested in setting up an appointment to meet one please call and leave a message with your contact info and someone will get back to you asap! 775-575-0950 This number does not accept texts*



Precious Paws Society of NV | 1085 Aster Ln, Fernley, NV 89408
775-575-0950 | preciouspawssocietynv@gmail.com



PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Ponyboy...

Ponyboy is one of many dogs currently available for adoption. Last week Lyon County Animal Shelter was overcapacity and housing 69 dogs. A total of 35 dogs were either adopted, transferred or reunited with their owners last week. The shelter is still critically full. To meet Pony or one of the other dogs seeking a forever home, please contact the Lyon County Shelter at 775-577-5005 for more information or to schedule a meet and greet!



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- **McHoppers Brew Co.**
- **Desert Rose RV**
- **Black Bear Diner**
- **The Golf Club at Fernley**
- **Fernley City Hall Clerk's Office**
- **State Farm – Dan Glass Agency**
- **REMAX at the Golf Course**
- **The Parlor Barbershop**
- **The Boys & Girls Club**