FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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Barber pleads not guilty of murder in shooting of ex-husband

By Robert Perea

A Fernley woman who claimed she shot her ex-husband in self-defense appeared in the Third Judicial District Court in Yerington on Aug. 4. Jaime Barber entered a plea of not guilty to a single count of open murder with the use of a deadly weapon.

Judge Leon Aberasturi read the charges against Barber, alleging that on or about Aug. 26, 2023, Barber did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought, deliberation, and premeditation, kill and murder Austyn Barber with a deadly weapon, namely a firearm, by shooting him in the chest at or near 1680 Andy Way in Fernley.

Barber, who was 44 at the time of the shooting, was arrested on Aug. 26, 2023. According to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office, deputies and medical personnel were dispatched at 6:17 p.m. to Jaime Barber's home. Barber told deputies that her husband, Austyn Barber, had broken into her home and attacked her, and that she had shot him and fled to a neighbor's house.

Austyn Barber suffered a single gunshot wound to his chest, and

life-saving efforts were unsuccessful.

Deputies from the Lyon County Sheriff's Office investigations division, along with Washoe County Sheriff's Office forensic investigators, responded to the scene to investigate. They determined that Austyn and Jaime, although going through a divorce, were still married and that both had a legal right to be inside the home.

At the time, Sheriff Brad Pope said there was no evidence that would lead a reasonable person to believe that Jaime was attacked or that her life was being threatened in a manner that justified the use of deadly force. Jaime was arrested and booked into the Lyon County Jail.

However, Jaime Barber was released from jail on Aug. 30, 2023, after the District Attorney's Office notified the Canal Township Justice Court that it would not be filing charges within 72 hours.

District Attorney Steve Rye said the DA's Office made the decision not to file the complaint within 72 hours to allow additional time for evidence and reports to be received before making a final charging decision.

Barber was rearrested in February

2025 on the charge of open murder.

In Monday's hearing, Judge Aberasturi said the charge of open murder carries a multitude of sentencing possibilities. He said if the jury were to return a verdict of guilty of first-degree murder, it would carry possible sentences of life in prison without the possibility of parole, life with the possibility of parole after 20 years, or a definite term of 50 years with the possibility of parole after 20 years.

The judge said if the jury found her guilty of second-degree murder, the two possible sentences are life with the possibility of parole after 20 years or a definite term of 25 years with the possibility of parole after 10 years.

In addition, he said that for the enhancement for the use of a deadly weapon, the court must impose a consecutive sentence of not less than one year and up to 20 years in prison.

"The court cannot grant probation if you're found guilty of murder," Aberasturi said.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Brian Haslem said the state is not seeking the death penalty in the case.

After Barber entered her plea of not guilty, Aberasturi said he would issue



Jaime Barber pleaded not guilty of one count of open murder in the 2023 shooting death of her ex-husband. Photo courtesy of Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

a scheduling order after the attorneys

When Aberasturi asked if bail had previously been set, Davies said Barber had been released on her own recognizance. With no other motions before the court, Aberasturi said the previously set conditions would remain in place.

Consultant says School District needs no major facility upgrades

By Robert Perea

None of Lyon County's schools are projected to reach their maximum capacity within the next three years or are in immediate need of major upgrades, but security upgrades are needed at some campuses, according to recommendations by the consultants working with the district to develop a 10-year Facilities Master Plan.

Scott Sowinski of Grace Design Studios, formerly Grace/Orcutt Winslow, presented the recommendations based on the firm's six-month studies of all of the district campuses and facilities, analysis of enrollment projections based on expected population and growth and the maintenance required on the district's facilities.

"These recommendations are provided to guide the board's future decision making," said Harman Bains, the district's executive director of operations. "It's not a requirement for the board to proceed in this way."

Sowinski told the District's Board of Trustees at their July 22 meeting that the recommended security upgrades are primarily focused on single point of entry, particularly at Dayton, Yerington, Fernley and Silver Stage high schools and Silverland Middle School. "(Those) are the schools that would need to have that occur so that they can be up to the standards of the rest of the district," Sowinski said.

As far as suitability and adequacy, Sowinski said they identified a culinary lab and classroom as a "high value item" at Fernley High School, recommended repurposing the small gym for additional classroom space and adding science lab and Career & Technical Education workforce learning upgrades throughout the district.

Sowinski said the final written report to be provided to the district will have a dashboard for each campus that shows the prioritization score, the enrollment, a Facilities Conditions Index and trends and recommended enhancement projects. The Facilities Conditions Index (FCI) is used in the building industry to represent the physical condition of a building.

"We will provide a document that will report all of this, and we will be engaging with the district again in the 2027-28 school year to keep the study going," he said.

In compiling the report, Sowinski



The Lyon County School District is finishing new flooring, paint and other renovations in preparation for the start of the new school year on September 2. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District

said the Grace team analyzed each building's maximum and functional capacity along with the demographics, suitability and adequacy and facility conditions.

Trustee Sherry Parsons disagreed that the small gym at Fernley High should be repurposed, saying the gym at Silverland is not regulation length and width and the school needs all three gyms because of the number of teams sharing gym space.

Bains said the Board can choose what it may or may not do with the recommendations

"They're recommending that gym may be overkill for that campus at the moment," Bains said. "Again, it may or may not be, but if you speak to Principal (Ryan) Cross, I assure you he's not

Continued on page8 - UPGRADES....

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US POSTAGE

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IN THIS EDITION

Inside Veer	2
Community	3
Announcements	
Fair Schedule	5
Rusinass	6

<i>Government7</i>	
Law & Order8	
Arrest Report9	
<i>Sports11</i>	
Pet O' the Week12	



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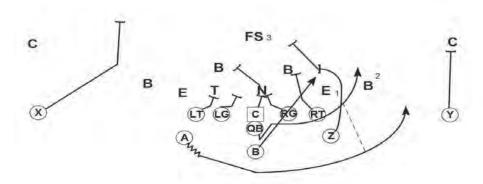
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



Old friends, new lives

I was walking between the baseball fields at the Terrace Sports Complex a few weeks ago, looking for the familiar Fernley orange and black to find where the High Desert Little League All-Stars would be playing when I saw a guy with a hooded sweatshirt with his last name on the back.

I recognized the last name as that of someone I worked with about 25 years ago, and as I got closer, he turned just enough for me to see the side of his face, immediately, I realized it actually was him.

"Are you Rob?" I asked.

"Yeah, and you're Robert," he said. I hadn't seen Rob since 2000, when we worked together at the Cal-Neva sports books in Carson City. I worked there part time as a second job when I was working for the Mason Valley News and Fernley Leader-Dayton Courier, out of the Dayton office.

We had a tight-knit group of guys, and one gal, that would hang out together away from work, often going out for what we jokingly called choir practice. Rob wasn't one of the ones who hung out with us very often because he was a younger pup who preferred the company of his girlfriend.

The casinos in Čarson Čity where we worked catered primarily to locals, which meant we got to know our customers pretty well, and it made going to work feel like hanging out with friends.

Rob and I reminisced for a few minutes about those old days, then got around to what we're each doing now, and he introduced me to his son, who is in high school.

As someone who had never lived in



the same place longer than four years until I was 47 years old, my life has been full of people I knew in a moment, and haven't seen since those moments passed.

I went to 13 different schools between kindergarten and high school graduation, and four different colleges, and other than family, there's no one in my life I've known longer than I've been out of college, and that was a person I met in college.

I often think about people I knew in the past, so running into one of them and catching up was a special treat.

Right off the bat, Rob said the first thing he thought of when he saw me was that I was always eating red licorice. The thing about Rob that always jumped out to me was his exuberance, and he showed that he hadn't lost a bit of it as he told me about his job and his son and asked about what I'm up to these days.

When you talk to someone you

ROBERT PEREA

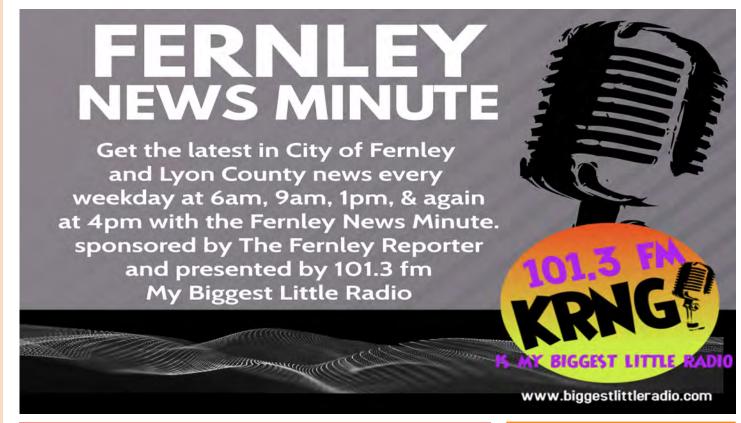
haven't seen in years, or in this case, more than two decades, it's funny what sticks. Not the deadlines we scrambled to meet or the bets we graded, but red licorice, funny moments with familiar customers, and memories that were seemingly long forgotten.

Rob's energy was the same as I remembered, maybe even more focused now, channeled into fatherhood and a career that clearly gives him purpose. Time has treated him well.

We didn't talk for long. The game was about to start, but I walked away thinking how cool is to run into an old friend living a new life.

In a world that moves fast and forgets easily, moments like that feel like a veer inside—an unexpected shift that reminds you of who you were, and maybe, who you still are.

Old friends, new lives. And sometimes, a little red licorice to bridge the years.



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Fernley Women's Golf Club

July 29 Game: Best 9

1st: Juneil Key, 29

2nd: (card-off) Bonnie MacQuarrie, 29

> Low Putts: Jana Garner, 31

Closest to hole #7: Bonnie MacQuarrie, 10'3"

COMMUNITY

City hosting planting event at Main St. Art Park August 12

Staff Report

The City of Fernley is hosting a Planting Day at the Main Street Art Park from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are invited to help plant new greenery including flowers, shrubs and trees while celebrating the new public art installations in the park. Previously, an asphalt walking path was installed, as well as metal flower sculptures and a sign. Three archways across the walking path are planned, along with three self-watering planters and six self-watering planters with attached benches. One planter was also purchased to be used across the street at the Fernley Depot.

The metal sculptures were made and installed by Twisted Steel. They include a 10-foot metal sculpture of a flower bouquet and two 5-foot metal sculptures of flowers and insects. A 9-foot metal flower bouquet and three 5-foot sculptures of flowers and insects were also purchased for installation at the Depot.

All the planned benches and planters will be made of concrete that will look like wood. Deputy City Manager Lydia Altick said an 8-foot by 8-foot tree planter donated by Trex is also planned.

The improvements were purchased using federal block grant funding.



Jim Moffit of Twisted Steel installs a sign at the Main Street Art Park. The city will be planting flowers, shrubs and trees in the park on August 12. Photo courtesy of Twisted Steel

Titus to speak to Fernley Republican Women August 19

Staff Report

State Senator Robin Titus will speak at the August 19 meeting of the Fernley Republican Women. Titus will give a quick update on the last legislative session and focus on the next cycle.

Titus serves in District 17, representing Churchill, Douglas, Esmeralda, Lyon, Mineral and part of Nye counties. She was elected in November 2014 and served four regular and five special sessions from 2015 to 2021.

The meeting is at 105 Lois Lane. A light meal will be served at 6 p.m. The public is always invited to attend.





Fernstock Dinner sold out; Community invited to free concert



Staff Report

Dinner tickets have sold out for this year's FernStock Dinner & Awards event on August 23, but the community is invited to the free concert starting at 7 p.m.

The dinner is being held from 4-7 p.m. at the Fernley Senior Center. The event is to raise money for the Fernley

Community Foundation and future buildings around the Community Response and Resource Center.

The free public concert will be from 7-10 p.m. on the event lawn behind the Fernley Depot, with Sorokas playing their old funk sound with a modern twist from 7-8:15 p.m., followed by the Heidi Incident from 8:45-10 p.m.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lyon County Fair & Rodeo begins August 14

Staff Report

The Lyon County Fair and Rodeo kicks off with Kids Night next Thursday, August 14 at the Lyon County Fairgrounds in Yerington, beginning four days of activities, contests, music, dancing and the annual Silver State Youth Livestock Show.

Gates open at 4 p.m. Thursday for Kids Night, with a carnival running until 10 p.m. The Silver State Livestock Show opens at 5 p.m., with performances on all four days. The Yerington Lions Club BMX Bike Race will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the pig scramble, mutton busting, and the Dare to be a Cowboy contest. A horseshoe contest also begins at 6 p.m.

On Friday August 15, the Silver State Livestock Show continues at 8 a.m. The fair opens at 4 p.m. with the carnival from 5-10 p.m., the frog jump contest at 6 p.m. and the Truck & Tractor Pull hosted by LL Productions at 6:30 p.m. There will be Dancing Under the Stars starting at 9 p.m. and a Hispanic band also playing.

On Saturday, the Fair & Rodeo Parade down Main St. The fair opens at 10 a.m., and the California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association Rodeo will begin at noon. Yerington High School basketball will be hosting a cornhole tournament also starting at noon, and the carnival will run from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday evening brings the Littlest Cowboy/Cowgirl Contest at 5 p.m., the Demolition Derby sponsored by the Yerington Fire Department at 6 p.m. and Dancing Under the Stars again at 9 p.m.

The fair wraps up on Sunday with a mud volleyball tournament starting at 9 a.m., motocross barrel racing at 10 a.m., a painting class at 10:30 a.m. and the carnival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Battle of the Badges fundraiser set August 13 for sister of firefighter fighting cancer

By Robert Perea

Firefighters from North Lyon Fire and deputies from the Lyon County Sheriff's Office will be competing in a Battle of the Badges fundraiser at the Black Bear Diner from 4-9 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13.

The fundraiser will be similar to the fire department's annual takeover of the Black Bear Diner for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation, where firefighters and deputies will be serving dinner and all tips will go to the family of Brandy Haas, who was diagnosed with triple negative breast

cancer in 2021.

The firefighters held a Stuff the Boot fundraiser on the 4th of July, where Fire Chief Brian Bunn said they had raised \$3,600 by the end of the parade. There is also a GoFundMe account and donations can also be made through the fire department.

Haas is the sister of North Lyon fire-fighter Josh Chandler. She had undergone chemotherapy, multiple surgeries and ongoing treatments and posted on social media that she is hoping to try an intensive integrative treatment center in Scottsdale, AZ.

We'd love to hear from you.

robert@fernleyreporter.com

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Tuesday, August 12

Southwest Penne & Chicken Zucchini Salad Garlic Bread Citrus Delight Wednesday, August 13

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Friday, August 15

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Nevada State Senator Robin Titus Minority Leader Robin.titus@sen.state.nv.us

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Judge Leon Aberasturi 775-463-6571 Ext. 2

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Saturday, August 16

8:00 a.m. Silver State Livestock Show10:00 a.m. Main Street Fair and Rodeo Parade

10:00 a.m. Fair Opens

12:00 p.m. Four Star - CCPRA Rodeo

12:00 p.m. YHS Basketball Cornhole Tournament

1:00 p.m. Carnival until 11:00 p.m.5:00 p.m. Littlest Cowboy / Cowgirl Contest

6:00 p.m. Yerington Fire Department Demo Derby

9:00 p.m. Dancing Under the Stars

9:00 p.m. Hispanic Band

Sunday, August 17

9:00 a.m. Livestock Buyer Sign up

9:00 a.m. Mud Volleybal

10:00 a.m. Fair Opens until 4:00 p.m.10:00 a.m. Motorcross Barrel Racing

10:00 a.m. Painting Class

10:30 a.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show

Buyer Lunch

11:00 a.m. Carnival until 2:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show

Auction

Thursday, August 14

Kids Night

4:00 p.m. Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m. Silver State Livestock Show
5:30 p.m. Lions Club BMX Bike Race Pig Scramble, Mutton Bustin,

Dare to be a Cowboy to follow

6:00 p.m. Horseshoe Contest

Friday, August 15

8:00 a.m. Silver State Livestock Show

4:00 p.m. Fair Opens

5:00 p.m. Carnival until 10:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Frog Jump

6:30 p.m. LL Productions Truck & Tractor Pull

9:00 p.m. Dancing Under the Stars

9:00 p.m. Hispanic Band



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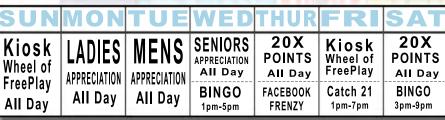
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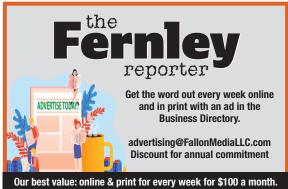






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GOVERNMENT

Library Board upholds decision not to remove book

By Robert Perea

At the July 22 meeting, the Lyon County Library Board of Trustees denied an appeal from a Dayton resident asking for a book to be removed from the library collection.

Dayton resident Fred Schroeder had filed a Request for Reconsideration for the book 'Me and Earl and the Dying Girl' by Jesse Andrews. After Lyon County Library Director Wynne Prindle decided that the book meets the requirements of the Library's Collection Development Policy and should be retained in the Young Adult Fiction section of the library, Schroeder filed an appeal of Prindle's

decision to the Library Board. 'Me and Earl and the Dying Girl' is a popular young adult novel published in 2012 about an awkward high school senior whose mother insists he befriend a girl with leukemia. The boy and his friend make a film for the girl.

The book has been challenged in school and public libraries across the country in recent years because of concern about sexually explicit content and vulgar language.

In his Request for Reconsideration, Schroeder objected to what he called "sexually explicit dialogue and pervasively vulgar references" on 13 different pages.

"Due to the vulgar language

and sexually explicit nature of much dialogue, I desire to have it removed from the library catalog, so children and young adults won't be exposed to it," Schroeder wrote.

In his testimony at the July 22 meeting, Schroeder said the book targets children and young adults by creating a funny high school story.

"Why is it necessary to have all this vulgarity and sexual language?" he asked. "It obviously targets our children and young adults. That's my opinion of why it's there."

Library Board member Patti Palmer suggested putting the book into a higher age range, where it wasn't available for 14and 15-year olds to read. Prindle said the library categories are easy, juvenile, young adult and adult, and young adult is ages 14 and older.

"To be frank, though, younger kids don't go in that section," she

Trustee Jan Schardt said when a child or young adult has a library card, their parent has to sign for it and it's their responsibility to monitor what their children read or watch. "So, I think that really, this is a moot point because of that," she said.

Schardt's motion to retain the book in the collection passed unanimously.





Meetings

Fernley City Council 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd. Next meeting August 20

Fernley Planning Commission 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 5 p.m. City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd. Next meeting August 13

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee 2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9 a.m. City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd. Next meeting August 8

Lyon County Commission 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. Lyon County Administrative Complex 27 S. Main St. Yerington Next meeting August 21

Lyon County Planning Commission 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 9 a.m. Lyon County Administrative Complex 27 S. Main St. Yerington Next meeting August 12

Lyon County Library Board of Trustees 4th Tuesday of the Month, 9:30 a.m. Locations rotate between the 5 county libraries Next meeting August 26

Lyon County School District Board of Trustees 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between each attendance area Next meeting August 26

North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Trustees 2nd Thursday of the month 195 E. Main St. Next meeting August 14





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LAW AND ORDER

Richards ruled competent; case sent back to Justice Court

By Robert Perea

Robert Matthew Richards has been ruled competent to stand trial for the murder of 25-year old Sara Filiatraut in March of 2024.

Third Judicial District Court Judge Leon Aberasturi accepted the reports of two doctors who concluded that Richards is competent to proceed to trial. During a hearing August 4, after announcing that both evaluations found Richards competent, Aberasturi asked if there was any argument, but attorney Kale Brock, representing Richards, said no and asked that the case be remanded back to Canal Township Justice Court for further proceedings.

Aberasturi explained to Richards that the case will return to Justice Court for a preliminary hearing, during which a Justice Court judge will determine whether there is enough evidence for the case to move forward in the judicial process. Richards also has the right to waive his preliminary hearing, in which case the matter will return to District Court where he can plead not guilty and go to trial, or plead guilty and face a substantial prison sentence.

The finding of competency means that the evaluations determined that the defendant understands the nature of the criminal charges against him; has an understanding of the nature and purpose of court proceedings, and that he has the ability to aid and assist counsel in his defense within a reasonable degree of rational understanding.

In June, Richards waived his right to a preliminary hearing in Canal Township Justice Court and Justice of the Peace Lori Matheus issued an Order of Commitment, sending the case to Third Judicial District Court, where the competency evaluation was ordered. He will again have the right to waive his right to a preliminary hearing.

Sara Filiatraut's father reported her missing on April 15, 2024. Lyon County Sheriff's investigators later learned she had not been seen or active online since March 21.

On May 23, 2024, her body was found in a pit in a remote desert location east of Fallon. The discovery of her body came after a deep technological dive into Sara's and Richard's devices by investigators, and a multi-agency search on the ground.

Richards had been arrested weeks earlier, on April 8, in an unrelated case alleging sexual assault and solicitation. Judge Matheus released him on his own recognizance under enhanced supervision. At that time, Sara had not been reported missing, and authorities had not yet connected Richards to Sara's disappearance.

Following the discovery of Sara's remains, investigators interviewed Richards on May 27, 2024. Court documents report that he admitted he had been with Sara the night of March 22 but claimed she left his trailer. A warrant was issued, and a multistate manhunt ensued. Richards was apprehended in Utah and extradited to Nevada last November. The Lyon County District Attorney's Office formally filed murder charges on July 25, 2024, following the conclusion that there was sufficient evidence to proceed.

He remains in custody with no bail.

Man charged with selling fatal dose of fentanyl files motion to withdraw guilty plea

By Robert Perea

A sentencing hearing for man who is being charged with selling the fentanyl that killed another man was delayed after he filed a motion to withdraw his guilty plea to a charge of second-degree murder.

Joseph Rose Tyler Maciel V was scheduled for sentencing August 4 in Third Judicial District Court. However, Maciel filed a motion on August 1 requesting to withdraw his guilty plea. During Monday's hearing, Judge Leon Aberasturi said Maciel filed the motion based on the performance of his attorney. He was being represented by public defender Kale Brock.

Maciel told the court he was requesting to change counsel and was attempting to get private counsel. Aberasturi said he was going to appoint conflict council.

"I'm finding there is a conflict because if in the motion to withdraw he's basing his motion upon the performance of his attorney, I certainly can't have him put on the evidentiary hearing," Aberasturi said. "It may turn out at the end he did everything right, but until I hold the hearing, and I believe there is recent case law that states with a motion to withdraw unless it's really finite ground, typically the court has to appoint conflict counsel."

Aberasturi said he is going to appoint the Department of Indigent Defense, which he said would probably take two or three weeks to get alternative counsel.

"If you're seeking to obtain private counsel, you can do that as long as you're not delaying the judicial process," Aberasturi told Maciel.

The judge told Maciel that he's going to go forward with the case once the Department of Indigent Defense appoints counsel.

"If you want to substitute in private counsel at that point in time, you need to let the court know, but I'm not going to delay sentencing out months and months," Aberasturi said.

Aberasturi said requests for new counsel typically come as part of an effort to delay trial but said he doesn't believe he could deny the request on the basis of the timing of the motion. "This isn't trial, this is sentencing," the judge said. "However the timing of it may be suspect, but I don't believe I could deny the request on the basis of the timing as it does not relate to trial being continued."

Aberasturi continued the matter to a status hearing at 2 p.m. on September 8. He also set an evidentiary hearing and sentencing on the same day as the status hearing.

He advised the district attorney's

office it needs to file a response to the motion filed August 1. If the new counsel file s an amended motion, Aberasturi said he would give the State additional time to respond to any specifics in the motion."

"And depending on how the motion goes, if I grant the motion there won't be any sentencing," he said. "However, if I deny the motion, I'm not going to waste any more time and going straight into sentencing, so everybody needs to be prepared on that."

Maciel was arrested April 24, 2024 on charges of distributing a controlled substance that causes death and fentanyl possession. On December 11, 2023, Lyon County Sheriff's deputies were called to a home in the 3700 block of Citrus Street in Silver Springs for a reported overdose. The victim, Michael Fernandez of Silver Springs, ultimately died.

In January 2024, toxicology test results revealed that Fernandez died of acute fentanyl intoxication. The Lyon County Sheriff's Office began an investigation into the source of the fentanyl that caused Fernandez's death. Investigators alleged that Maciel was the suspect who sold Fernandez the fentanyl and arrested him during a traffic stop on April 24, 2024.

When Aberasturi asked if the district attorney's office would have

any issues with witnesses being able to come back at a later date to testify, one person in the audience attempted to speak out.

"I can't keep doing this," the man said. "This is getting out of hand." Aberasturi responded that he wasn't going to start taking questions from the gallery.

"Let me just say, I appreciate where you're coming from, but if I create error by discussing and taking questions from the audience, I think they're going to be really unhappy years from now when the Supreme Court comes back and says Judge Aberasturi shouldn't have said that," Aberasturi said. "I just don't want to create any error on the record so that's why I'm shutting people down. I apologize, but I have to follow legal procedure in what I'm doing here today."

Haslem said Fernandez's family is concerned that Maciel is not in custody, especially since he arrived late to Monday's hearing. Maciel is out of jail on a \$102,500 bail bond.

"He did appear, albeit five minutes late, so I don't feel that I have adequate grounds," Aberasturi said. "If you want to file a written motion, I'll absolutely consider it, and then newly appointed counsel would need to respond to your motion.

Continued from page 1 - UPGRADES

going to say it's overkill. That's Grace Design's opinion and this board may or may not take it."

Trustee Darin Farr said the future of education isn't a traditional classroom and asked how easy it would be to redesign space into multipurpose classrooms. Sowinski said that would be something the district would consider when it came time to make facility upgrades.

"You would look at the modern

trends, like you're saying, so make your spaces where you can transform a classroom that's really only good for English or something like that into something that can then function for a lot of other multiuse spaces," Sowinski said. "Instead of going back and replacing it just as it is, now we can take a step back and say, "What does this campus need from a curriculum standpoint and adjust to those modern trends."

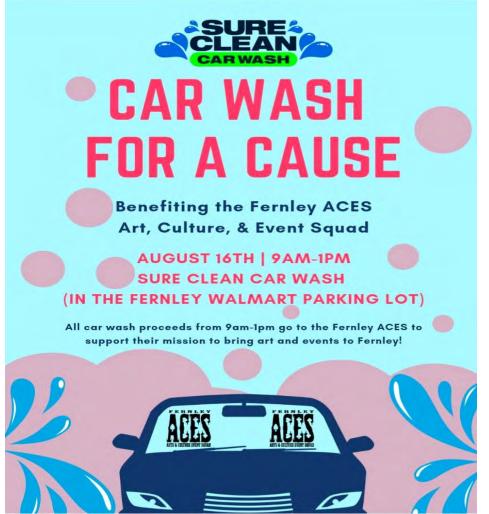
The report also laid out a plan for

how the district could extend the useful life of all of its buildings at a cost of \$9.5 million per year, and another that could achieve an FCI of 10% by 2039 at a cost of \$12.9 million per year. An FCI of 5-10% is considered fair, 10-30% is considered poor and above 30% is considered critical. The report states that once the FCI of a facility exceeds 65%, it may be financially imprudent to continue investing in the building. Bains told the Trustees the district is able to bond for \$10 million to \$15 mil-

lion per year for the next two to three years, with a substantial sum coming available in 2027/2028.

"The majority of our district's needs, with where our buildings sit age-wise, is in HVAC, boilers and roofing side of things," Bains said. "However, we're at a point where I think if the board so chooses to continue to fund those for the next two to three years, we will be set as a district for decades to come and in a very good position to actually start beginning to look elsewhere."





LAW & ORDER

Arrest Report

July 27 – August 3, 2025

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

Arresting Agency LCSO: 39 State: 5 YPD: 2 Tribal: 0

BUCHANAN, NICHOLAS ALLEN Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: None Charges: FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF PROBATION/ COND OF SUSP SENT; OPEN ALC CON-TAINER IN VEH

BUHER, ALBERT WILLIAM
Area of Arrest: Dayton
Bail Amount: \$33,345.00
Charges:
POSS SCH I, II C/S 42+ GRAMS; USE/POSS
DRUG-PARA; POSS/CONSUME MARIJ IN
PUB PLACE/MARIJ STORE/VEH; DRIVE
W/REV DRV-LIC; DSPL FICTITIOUS VEH
REG/PLATE/TITLE; OWNER - PROOF OF
INS REQ; OPEN ALC CONTAINER IN VEH

BUSCAY, HEATHER ANN Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$2,280.00 Charges: USE/POSS DRUG-PARA; USE OR BE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A C/S

CHURCH, MARVIN GENE JR Area of Arrest: Silver Springs Bail Amount: \$3,640.00 Charges: BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE, IST OFF; FALSE STMT TO/OB-STRUCT PUB OFF

COVERSUP, WILLIAM ERIC Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,555.00 Charges: DUI, (1ST); DRIVER FAIL TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

ELMORE, ANDREW BENNETT Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$5,000.00 Charges: DESTROY/CONCEAL EVI-DENCE; POSS SCH I, II C/S LT 14 GRAMS, IST OR 2ND OFF

FORD, DONALD RAY
Area of Arrest: Fernley
Bail Amount: \$316,440.00
Charges: BUY/POSS/RCV STOLEN PROP,
\$1200 BUT LT \$5K; CONSP ARSON, UNCLASSIFIED DEGREE; GRAND LARCENY,
\$1200 BUT LT \$5000; OWN/POSS GUN
BY PROHIBIT PERS; HABITUAL CRIMINAL (5-20 YRS); DISPOSE OF GARBAGE/
SEWAGE, (1ST); FAIL BY CONV PERS TO
COMPLY W/NRS 179C REQS; USE/POSS
DRUG-PARA; RESIST PUB OFF; DESTROY/
CONCEAL EVIDENCE

GEORGE, CHRISTOPHER STANLEY JR Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$640.00 Charges: DRIVE W/REV DRV-LIC GIURLANI, GRANT ALLEN Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$0.00 Charges: Court Commitment

HANCOCK, LEVI JAMES Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$2,250.00 Charges: DRIVE W/REV DRV-LIC; OWN-ER - PROOF OF INS REQ; OPER UNREG VEH/TRAILER/SEMI; OPEN ALC CON-TAINER IN VEH

HIGGINS, MATHEW LOUIS Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$3,640.00 Charges: UNLAW USE OF EMERG PHONE NUMBER (911); STALKING, (IST)

HODGES, ELIZABETH ANN Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$3,140.00 Charges: VIOL DOM VIOLENCE TPO

JONES, CECILIA DANIELLE Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: None Charges: FTA AFTER BAIL, FELONY CRIME; FTA AFTER BAIL, MISD CRIME

JUSTICE, COURTNIE MARIE Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: BATTERY

KRUPP, LEGION JAMES Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$2,500.00 Charges: CRIMINAL CONTEMPT

LEE, MERVIN ANTHONY Area of Arrest: Silver Springs Bail Amount: \$5,640.00 Charges: DOM BATTERY, IST

MAITA, PHILLIP EDWARD Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$2,500.00 Charges: DAMAGE PRISON, JAIL PROP, LT \$5K

MATHISON, JOSEPH ANTHONY Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$0.00 Charges: Court Commitment

MATRANGA, MATHEW DAVID Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,500.00 Charges: CRIMINAL CONTEMPT

MCCARTY, TYLER JAY Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$4,280.00 Charges: DOM BATTERY, IST; DRAW DW IN THREATENING MANNER

MEAD, RICHARD BROMLEY II

Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$2,115.00 Charges: PETIT LARCENY; BUY/POSS/ RCV STOLEN PROP, LT \$1200; TRESPASS, NOT AMOUNTING TO BURGLARY

MEADORS, DERRICK CHRISTIAN Area of Arrest: WCSO TO LCSO Bail Amount: None Charges: FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF PRO-BATION/COND OF SUSP SENT

MITCHELL, ASHTON RICHARD Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$2,500.00 Charges: CRIMINAL CONTEMPT

MORENO, DONNA LYNN Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: DUI, (IST)

MORGAN, SEAN MATTHEW Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$6,035.00 Charges: USE/POSS DRUG-PARA; WIND-SHIELD/WINDOW OBSTRUCTED; POSS SCH I, II C/S LT 14 GRAMS, IST OR 2ND OFF

MULDOON, JIMMY WOLFHART Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: DUI, (IST)

ORTIZ, CELESTINA RENEE
Area of Arrest: Yerington
Bail Amount: \$45,280.00
Charges: RESIST PUB OFF; FALSE STMT
TO/OBSTRUCT PUB OFF; OBT/USE
PERS ID TO AVOID/DELAY PROS OF
A/B FELONY; FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF
PROBATION/COND OF SUSP SENT; Assist
Other Agency—Hold; FELONY BENCH
WARRANT

OTTO, ALEX EDMOND Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$47,170.00 Charges: Assist Other Agency—Hold; DOM BATTERY, IST; RESIST PUB OFF; CRIMI-NAL CONTEMPT - FTO COURT ORDER (2 counts)

PATTERSON, JONATHON LAMAR Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: None Charges: FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF PRO-BATION/COND OF SUSP SENT

ROLLO, MARK THOMAS Area of Arrest: Storey County Transfer Bail Amount: \$1,115.00 Charges: FTA ON TRAFFIC CITATION

ROSAS, DEREK DANIEL Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$6,640.00 Charges: UNLAW USE OF EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER (911); RESIST PUB OFF

ROWE, KATHRYN MARGARETMARY Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$2,640.00 Charges: USE/POSS DRUG-PARA; Assist Other Agency--Hold

SANEMETERIO, TYLER SHANE Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: None Charges: FTA AFTER BAIL, MISD CRIME; FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF PROBATION/ COND OF SUSP SENT

SAUNDERS, AMELIA EMMA Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$15,140.00 Charges: DOM BATTERY, 2ND

SAUNDERS, SEAN PATRICK Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$3,780.00 Charges: DUI, (2ND); DRIVE W/REV DRV-LIC

SHOEMAKER, TAKODA JAMES Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$640.00 Charges: NON RES DRIVE WHEN PRIVI-LEGE SUS/REV/CANX

WALKER, DONAVAN LEEYOUNGBIRD Area of Arrest: WSCO Transfer Bail Amount: None Charges: FEL ARREST FOR VIOL OF COND OF PAROLE

WILCOX, PHILLIP MICHAEL Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$3,640.00 Charges: POSS SCH I, II C/S LT 14 GRAMS, IST OR 2ND OFF; USE/POSS DRUG-PARA

WILLIAMS, KALEB MATTHEW Area of Arrest: Mound House Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: RECKLESS DRIVING DISRE-GARD PERS/PROP SAFETY, (IST)

WITHNELL, KATELYN DU Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$2,140.00 Charges: USE/POSS DRUG-PARA; FTA AFTER BAIL, MISD CRIME

WOODING, CHRISTOPHER DANIEL Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$13,140.00 Charges: BATTERY BY STRANGULATION

ZUNIGA, ALECIA MAR Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$31,850.00 Charges: POSS SCH I, II C/S 42+ GRAMS; USE/POSS DRUG-PARA; POSS/CONSUME MARIJ IN PUB PLACE/MARIJ STORE/ VEH; OPEN ALC CONTAINER IN VEH

Fernley Church Directory

Summit Church

Silverland Middle School

Grace Baptist Church

460 W. Main Street, Suite 108 gbcfernley.org

Fernley First Baptist Church

485 E. Main Street

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church

290 N. West Street

Living Faith Church

110 Center Street

Crosswinds Assembly of God

3015 Farm District Road

Calvary Chapel

875 Fremont Street

Joy! Alliance Fellowship

www.facebook.com/JOYchurchFernley

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church

625 Desert Shadows Lane

Fernley Free Methodist Church

100 N. West Street

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

155 Hwy 95A South

Living Stones Church

868 Cottonwood Lane







This page is brought to the community through a partnership between Fallon Media Co. and Victory Logistics District, and is aimed at informing Fernley residents about local government, community development, and economic growth. Each week, we provide in-depth coverage of key issues shaping the city's future, fostering transparency, and encouraging engagement.

SPORTS

Local roots run deep on Vaquero football staff

By Robert Perea

Homecoming comes almost every day for the members of the Fernley High School football coaching staff. As the Vaqueros prepare to open the 2025 season next week at Douglas, a coaching staff that includes eight Fernley High School alums brings hometown pride to the field where each of them starred in their own high school careers and now hope to lead the current group of Vaqueros to their own glories.

"Every single one of the guys that have come back are all guys that have played at the next level and have accomplished a lot of things," said head coach Anfernee Sloan, a 2014 Fernley graduate. "Lots of guys that have done a lot for this high school that can kind of give back."

A 2014 graduate, Sloan is embarking on his fourth year as head coach. As a player at Fernley, he finished his career as the school's all-time leader in interceptions and among the leaders in tackles and was part of the 2012 team that ended Truckee's 41-game winning streak one game shy of tying the state record. He played at Eastern Oregon University before coming back to Fernley as a teacher and assistant coach, then became head coach in 2022.

Jake McCullar has served as defensive coordinator during Sloan's' head coaching tenure. A 1997 graduate, McCullar was part of two district championship teams and three teams that went to the state playoffs.

"When I played football here, it was small-town football, which was amazing," he said. "The town quite literally shut down and the stands were packed. It was nothing better. And I feel like post-pandemic, we're starting to get back to that."

McCullar said all of the most influential people in his life have been teachers and coaches and he always wanted to come back to Fernley to teach and coach.

"I want to give back to the people who helped me be successful and I want to give that to other kids," McCullar said.

Now, McCullar's son Brandon, who graduated in 2023, has joined the staff this season. Brandon McCullar wrestled in college at Concordia University in Wisconsin, but after two years, he was ready to come home and start coaching.

"I bleed orange and black, so it definitely hits heavy on the heart, coming back and getting to see people exactly where I was three or four years ago," he said.

Josh Paulman graduated a year ahead of Jake McCullar in 1996 and coached at Fernley from 2010-2013 before moving away for a job. Now he's back in Fernley and on the football field. Paulman is the school's all-time leader in sacks with 33 and played at Southern Utah University.

"Something I've wanted to do is come back and give to the program that gave so much to me," Paulman said. "I was able to go to college because of being here at Fernley and playing football."

Like Jake McCullar, Paulman remembers what seemed like the whole



Fernley assistant coach Brandon McCullar discusses pass coverage with a player during practice on August 1.

Photo by Robert Perea

town packing the stands every Friday night when he was in high school. "I think we're getting back to that," Paulman said. "I think Coach Sloan has a really good connection to the community. I mean, he's not that far off as a graduate himself."

The player who is second behind Paulman with the most career sacks in Fernley history is Thomas Chapin with 24 and a half. Chapin graduated in 2019 and is in his third year coaching in Fernley, after playing football at the University of Jamestown in North Dakota. His mother Diane has the most wins in state history as softball coach at Fernley with 682 and has won seven state championships.

"I have an immense amount of love and pride for not just Fernley High, just Fernley in general," Thomas Chapin said. "I think Fernley when I was born was maybe 5,000 people, and now 24 years later, we're pushing 30,000 people, so in a sense, I've almost felt like I've grown up with the community." Chapin didn't plan on teaching or coaching at all, but after graduating from college he was having difficulty finding a job until principal Ryan Cross offered him a teaching position. He took it as a stopgap, and now can't imagine doing anything else.

"It's all that pride and just the connection I have to this place and the things I got out of it," he said. "I want to be able to transfer that onto the kids that are going through it."

As accomplished as all those coaches were as players, the only member of the staff who won a state championship at Fernley is David Sisneros, something he doesn't hesitate to point out.

Sisneros was a junior on the Vaqueros 2019 state championship team and is in his first year coaching after playing at the University of La Verne in California, where he got a degree in kinesiology. All along though, Sloan said he's been waiting for Sisneros to finish school and come back home to coach.

"He's always told me he wanted to come back and coach, and I've just had him on my radar," Sloan said. "I've waited every ear and that last year came up



Fernley head coach Anfernee Sloan (far right) talks with his offense during practice on August 1. Photo by Robert Perea



Fernley assistant coach David Sisneros instructs a player on proper technique during practice on August 1. Photo by Robert Perea

and I reach out to him, and bang, bang." Sisneros said he wants to see the current players experience a state championship like he did.

"I want them to not wait as long as we did to get another one," he said. "I'm ready to give back what I've learned." Former players Jared Caul and Gabe Tollestrup are also helping out the program.

"We've got guys that value this community. Not just the high school, but

the community," Sloan said. "They're all very prideful of Fernley and they value the importance of making sure that this culture that we have established here, not just football, but athletics in general, is strong."

Meanwhile Jake McCullar sees the program heading back to where it was after a couple of years of struggles.

"I think we're getting back to Fernley football," he said. "It gives me goosebumps, because that's how it was when I played."







PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Cutie Pie Available for Adoption

Cutie Pie is available for adoption at Precious Paws Society of NV.
Cutie Pie is approximately 16 weeks old and is a Maine Coon mix. She is a very relaxed and gentle kitten.
Cutie Pie would be good around another non-aggressive cat or a calm Senior dog. Cutie Pie would do best in a low energy environment.
She loves attention and playing with



interactive toys. Cutie Pie is spayed, vaccinated and micro chipped. If you would like to make an appointment to meet Cutie Pie, please call us at 775-575-0950. Leave a message with your information and Barbara will call you back.

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

Adopt me!

PET OF THE WEEK

Now Available for Adoption

Meet our dog-of-the-week, Gronckle. Gronckle is a black and white, male, Pit Bull Terrier mix. Though his name is odd, Gronckle is an affectionate, loving, and playful young dog. And like most young males, he is brave. He is at the Lyon County Animal Shelter located in Silver Springs at 3705 Highway 50 West. If you would like more information on Gronckle, you can call 775-577-5005. This animal shelter services all on Lyon County, except for Yerington. They typically have lots of dog needing a wonderful forever home.



Lyon County Animal Shelter 3705 Highway 50 West in Silver Springs, NV 89429 775-577-5005

Donate. Volunteer. Adopt. Make a difference.







