Local Tributes to Troops Lost in Afghanistan

“God Bless America”

Above left: The Grid, Navy veteran Paul Picotte and his wife Tiffany set the table and are flying their flag at half mast for 13 days in honor of the soldiers who were killed in Afghanistan. Bottom right: VFW Post 1002, Lawton-Silva set a table in remembrance of the 13 soldiers. Left: At Malko’s on Maine Street, Gregg Malkovich rang the bell and his wife Laura led those in attendance, to raise a glass to all service members and their families, taking a moment to remember and honor the service members killed in Afghanistan. It’s worth noting that five of the 13 soldiers killed last week would likely have been drinking soda, if they were present for the toast, as they were underage at the time of their death.
From the Publisher

Captain’s Log – Lost at Sea

What’s it like to be all excited, thinking you finished the paper at 6 p.m. and then you realize you forgot four pages.

Excruciating. It is absolutely excruciating. Completely forgot four. Whole. Pages. Who’s running this ship?

It took a bit, but I just got them done, and it’s only 8:30 p.m., all is well. Except now I’m wondering what else I’ve forgotten. Like Tootles in Peter Pan, I’ve lost my marbles.

When the hell is she coming back… Leanna. It’s like that old Kenny Roger’s song, “Lucille.” You picked a fine time to leave me.

But, we’re making it though. We have Robert. And Jo. And Ginny. And Sammi. It’s a good little team and we’re changing the world.

Well… we like to think so, anyway. You don’t do something like start a local newspaper without hoping you can make things better. We got some love letters this week from a few of you. Thank you.

We also got some letters to the Editor!!! I’m so excited about that I used the forbidden exclamation mark. (Kelli) And super good ones, too. Keep writing and sending them.

And while you do, we’ll be right here...

...keeping you Posted.

Rach

The proofreading team tonight -- quite by accident. Justin P. Tracy, Michael J. Fischer, and James G. Hutcheson who earlier today were flying their MH60S “Seahawk” around the Nevada desert. What a sweet moment in time to meet you and have your help with the paper. Welcome to the team, temporarily. Fair winds... also, Malkovich in the background – he knows to check for headlines.

The Fallon Post

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Green Goddess is Going, Going, Gone – Don’t Miss Out

By Jo Petteruti

It’s coming to a close. The Green Goddess Farmers Market at the Oats Park Art Center, that is.

The season ends this Saturday, September 4, when the market will be held for the last time this season from 4:00-9:00 p.m. It’s an event not to be missed, and the Green Goddesses will be appeased by your attendance.

This market is an opportunity for small businesses and independent operators to show off their wares, and for attendees, it’s a shopping opportunity for unique, one-of-a-kind items and fresh-from-the-farm produce. The collection of talented artisans and growers is a shopper’s delight – and it’s not too soon to be thinking about Christmas.

Art Center Executive Director Valerie Serpa, Two Ravens Farm co-owner Jaime Sammons, and Amanda Hammond are the Green Goddesses who planted the seeds that grew this new farmers market in Fallon. The fruits of their labor, and that of their essential volunteers, are to be relished and celebrated one last time this year.

All evening long, market attendees can shop through a collection of 20 vendors, enjoy their favorite beverages or the evening’s cocktail special from the Lariat Bar, try tasty treats from the Five Star Indian Cuisine Food truck, and dance to the music of the Will Shamberger Band. Hammond created the cocktail recipe she calls the Apple on the Farm, for the fall. “It will be made with Frey Bourbon, apple cider, lemon, brown sugar simple syrup, and served on the rocks.”

The Art Bar, Art Center Galleries and Art Store will also be open from 4:00–6:00 p.m. Serpa said, “We have new art in the galleries too, including paintings by Julia Schwardron Marianelli, paintings, drawings, and textiles by Michelle Lassaline, and mixed media sculptures by Nate Clark.

Prior Green Goddess Farms Markets have provided attendees with an array of produce and anything else that grows or is made out here. Local farms that have attended include Lattin Farms, Two Ravens Farm, Pickin’ & Grinnin’, Yellow Petal Flower Farm, Fisk Farm Herbs, Desert Oasis Teff and Grain, and Desert Hemp Nevada. Local honey from Rau Bees, baked goods from One Bite at a Time and treats from Four Ducks Farm, hand crafted jewelry items from Makabet Designs, Desert Air Jewelry, and Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned, handmade scarves from Sage Adorned.

Yes Malam Press, and pottery from Good Livin’ Ceramics have also been available. Most of the vendors plan to be there for this last harvest-fest. There are expectations that produce should be available early in Fallon because it warms up early here. But Sammons said, “It’s a misconception that a lot of people have that the fruit and vegetables should be rolling in May - but they’re not. We don’t put seeds in the ground until May 15, so this last market is when growers will be really rolling in with tomatoes, peppers, melons, everything.”

Sammons discussed the challenges they faced this growing season. “We’ve had 109-degree temperatures, the smoke, the COVID issues, a short water season, and army worms that have been eating through green-leaf produce, especially the Hearts of Gold cantaloupes. Rick Lattin told me he hasn’t seen army worms in the valley for 75 years, and he lost a whole field of melons to them this year.”

The goddesses all agreed that all of the effort it took for the farmers market has been well worth it, making the market an overall success in their eyes, and with most feedback being positive. Sammons said, “We sell out of everything we have, and many other growers do as well. So we take that as a sign from a very supportive community.” Hammond said, “I have someone who doesn’t normally give compliments say ‘This is a really nice thing for Fallon to have.’ So, coming from someone who isn’t really quick to give accolades, I thought, maybe he really means it. I think it’s been a good thing, and our vendors have told us that they like this market the best out of all the ones they attend – it’s the nicest, and the most organized.”

When asked about next year, Serpa said, “We will evaluate how we did this year. We’ll look at what worked, what didn’t and what can we do better. The Art Bar morphed into something, then the Lariat morphed into something. So, we’ll work on what we can do to make the Green Goddess Farmers Market even easier and more successful. It’s the perfect place to be.”

Captions:

Fall produce assortments. Photo by Jaime Sammons.
Local COVID-19 Activity has Spiked

As of Thursday, Sept. 2, Banner Churchill Community Hospital was over capacity and staff there said they are working hard to care for the community. “I feel it would be helpful for the community to know how we are being impacted by the recent surge,” said Rob Carnahan, Chief Executive Officer at Banner in Fallon.

According to Carnahan, “Last week we averaged 14 hospitalized COVID patients per day when the week before that number was averaging around three or four. As a critical access hospital, our normal capacity is 25 patients...we are averaging 30 per day over the past few days and have as high as 34 patients. If we need to send patients to other larger hospitals in Nevada, we are finding they, too, are at capacity.”

Like most hospitals across the country, Banner Churchill is very busy. This includes COVID and non-COVID patients. Across the Banner system, 90 percent of hospitalized COVID patients are unvaccinated. Banner said in the media release that they strongly encourage people to get vaccinated right away. “The Pfizer vaccine is FDA approved and each of the vaccines is safe and effective,” according to the media release.

“We strongly encourage folks to get vaccinated right away,” said Carnahan. “The Pfizer vaccine is FDA approved and each of the vaccines is safe and effective. The more critically ill COVID patients we have, the less capacity we have for non-COVID emergencies, such as heart attacks, vehicle accidents, etc.”

Headquartered in Arizona, Banner Health is one of the largest nonprofit health care systems in the country. The system owns and operates 30 acute-care hospitals in six states: Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska, Nevada and Wyoming.

Local Statistics for COVID Cases

As of Thursday, Sept. 2, the 14-day moving average of COVID-19 cases is 14 new daily cases. There has been a total of 2,527 positive cases diagnosed in Churchill County since March of 2020.

The test positivity rate is at 12.8%, with 32,140 total tests having been given.

With 9,192 total vaccinations reported as completed, and a total of 18,284 doses reported as administrated, the county is showing 42.01% of the population 12 years and older has been vaccinated. There has been a total of 50 deaths attributed to the virus.

County Vaccine Schedule

Churchill County’s COVID vaccine and testing schedule for September has been posted online and can be found below. Due to shortages in Nevada, the county will not be offering rapid COVID tests this month. County will offer PCR tests which take a few days to get results back from the state.

No COVID services will be offered Fridays through Sundays or on Labor Day, Sept. 6. No appointments are needed for any COVID services at any location.

Those 18 and older may receive the free Moderna, Pfizer or Janssen vaccine and those ages 12-17 will receive the Pfizer vaccine.

September schedule:

- Mondays (Sept. 13, 20, 27) – Testing at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and vaccines at Pennington Life Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Tuesdays, Sept. 14, 21, 28 – Testing and vaccines at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Tuesdays, Sept. 14, 21, 28 – Testing and vaccines at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Wednesdays (Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29) – Testing and vaccines at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and vaccines only at Pennington Life Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Thursdays (Sept. 9, 16, 23) – Testing and vaccines at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and vaccines only at Pennington Life Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Thursdays, Sept. 30 – Testing and vaccines at Miner’s Road Public Health Site from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and vaccines only at Pennington Life Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Miner’s Road Public Health Site is located at 465 Miner’s Road off Highway 95 south in Fallon. The Pennington Life Center is located at 952 S. Maine Street in Fallon.

Please bring a photo ID. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Third Doses - Booster

Churchill County now offers a third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines to those who self-report as being immunocompromised at any of its regularly scheduled vaccine events. Those who want the third dose should match the dose type used with their primary vaccine series (if you got Pfizer earlier in the year, ask for Pfizer for the third dose) and wait 28 days after their second dose to be eligible for their third vaccine.

The third dose is only available for those who received the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines at this time. Please bring your vaccination card with you if wanting a third dose. If you can’t find your card, you may download it from WebIZ.

If you or someone you know is home-bound, or cannot access the vaccine site for whatever reason, please call (775)423-6695, option 2 to discuss alternative options.

For more information, visit banner-health.com or https://www.churchill-countynv.gov/816/COVID-19-INFO. The State Dashboard is available at https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/
Candidates in Town -- Sam Brown the “Voice of Nevada”

By Rachel Dahl

Political candidates are already making the rounds more than a year out from the 2022 election, travelling the state, getting to know voters, and making decisions about running for office next year. Last week Sam Brown, candidate for U.S. Senate, who will run against Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) as a Republican, visited Fallon, speaking at the Churchill Republican Women meeting.

On 9/11, when the Twin Towers were destroyed, Brown was a senior in high school. He is a West Point man and veteran who served as an infantry platoon leader in Afghanistan in 2008. He told the women’s club that his unit was providing support to another unit when they were ambushed. He suffered disfiguring burns over his face and most of his body, forcing him into a medical retirement.

Brown said he is taking on the machine and wants to be the “voice for Nevada.”

Growing up in small-town Arkansas, Brown knows humility and hard work. His dad worked for a dairy farm and was in the National Guard. “Service to country was one of the things Browns do,” he grew up hearing from his family. When he was 10 years old, a catalogue came one day in the mailbox from West Point. His dad sat him down and explained, with five kids there was no money for college, so he was expected to work hard in high school with the expectation to serve his country.

“Suffering is a part of the human condition,” said Brown, “which is different from a challenge. A challenge was passing Ranger School and getting my future wife to go on a date with me.” He suffered in the burn unit in Arizona where he was sent from Afghanistan. That is where his wife worked, and they met. She did eventually agree to the date. She retired in 2012, shortly after he received his medical retirement in 2011.

The couple moved to Dallas, where Brown worked in the private sector and began to get involved in politics to fill the vacuum left when his military life was over. They have two children – Roman who is 10 and Ester, age 8. With an MBA under his belt, finally the family decided it was time to choose the place they wanted to live for good. They love the outdoors, and when Brown had the opportunity to work for Amazon in Reno, they made the move. Working in the warehouse 10 hours a day, loading trucks, gave him the time to get his own business off the ground, processing pharmacy claims for VA clinics.

“As a husband, father, small business man, and veteran I just want to do the best I can,” said Brown. “I’m torn by how much damage politicians can do to our country.”

After much soul-searching, he decided he wanted to run for the Senate, but wasn’t sure how his wife would take that. “I’ve been waiting for you to come to that conclusion,” was her response. “You can do this,” she said, “you’ve been through the crucible.”

Brown doesn’t like the traditional idea of starting in politics with a local race and working up through the party ranks. “Ultimately, weak people have continued to recycle themselves through these elections and I can’t stand back and let my kids be represented by that type of person,” he said. “That other way encourages career politicians.”

He believes one of the biggest threats to the country right now is the damage politicians have done to the economy. He sees the threat from China, saying that country is dominant and assertive and has the ability to project power. The elite political class listen to special interests and the common citizen has no ability to deploy against the system. “We have a bureaucracy that creates, effectively, more laws than Congress does,” he said.

“Here I am, I’m running for U.S. Senate, asking for your support. I’m here to talk with you.” Brown will be in Fallon again this weekend for the Farm Bureau BBQ and encourages any questions or comments, “I want to hear from you where I can be a positive impact and ultimately represent us.”
Obituary

Peggy Staup Graham
March 8, 1934 - August 22, 2021

Peggy Staup Graham passed away on August 22, 2021, at the age of 87 following a brief illness.

Peggy was born on March 8, 1934, in Bradleyville, Missouri to Versia and Barton (C.B.) Staup. After living in Carmichael, California, she moved with her parents to Stillwater, Nevada. Peggy attended the two room Stillwater School during elementary through 8th grade. She attended Churchill County High School where she graduated with the Class of '52. After attending Business College in Reno, NV, Peggy was employed by 1st National Bank in Fallon.

On December 4, 1955, she married Robert Graham, and they made their home in Fallon. The house they bought in 1962 was the same house she resided in until her passing. Following her marriage to Bob, she started her career with the Churchill County School District. She was employed as the secretary/office manager to the Superintendent and School Board. Her remembrances of the changes she witnessed with office machines, accounting practices, and growth in the district was a history lesson. She thoroughly enjoyed the 34 years that she worked for the District. Many friendships made with office and teaching staff were lifelong. Peggy was an accomplished pianist and an excellent cook and baker. Her specialties of rocky road bars, pumpkin logs, cranberry salad, and any type of pies were always a welcome addition to any gathering.

Peggy enjoyed traveling. Several trips to Hawaii, Disneyland, various vineyards, and the Bay area are remembrances from family and friends.

Peggy is preceded in death by husband Robert Graham, father C.B. Staup, mother Versia Parsons, and step-father Clifford Parsons. She is survived by sister Joyce Miller, Hawthorne; brother Jim (Gail) Parsons, Carson City; 4 nieces Tealie (Randy) Oxborrow, Dee Anne Durbin, Shawna (Ryan) Ross, Vicki (Jeremy) Mackinder, 3 great nephews, Cameron Durbin, Nathan and Austin Ross, and 4 great nieces, Lauren Durbin, Teamarie Oxborrow, Abilene and Josie Mackinder.

Peggy was a very caring, compassionate and selfless person who earned respect from those who knew her. Her little animals were very special to her, and she managed to spoil each one of them. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

A private grave site service will be held at the Churchill County Cemetery. A reception will be held for family and friends on September 10, 2021, from 3:30 – 5:30 at the Oasis Community Church, 1520 S. Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada.

Donations can be made in Peggy’s name to Churchill Animal Protection Society or to the Churchill County Museum.

Arrangements are in the care of The Gardens Funeral Home, 2949 Austin Hwy., Fallon, Nevada.

In Memorial
Gary Ridenour
1948 - 2020

Missing You
(Author unknown)

We’re missing you a little more
Each time we hear your name
We’ve cried so many tears
Yet our heart’s broken just the same
We miss our times together
Things in common we could share
But nothing fills the emptiness
Now you’re no longer there
We’ve so many precious memories
To last our whole life through
Each one of them reminders
Of how much we’re missing you.

Love always,
Deb, Aaron, Sean (Marie) & family
& Wesley Ridenour
Family looks out for each other, and we look out for families.

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Community

Thank you!

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We have served as your local substance abuse prevention & wellness nonprofit for the last 20 years. We belong to the community and we’re here to help you!

Mental Health & Wellness Education

What we do:

Assess community needs

Collect & provide data

Youth leadership

Fund local organizations & programs

Substance Abuse Prevention Education

Learn more & become a member: ChurchillCoalition.com

Teen drinking is not a rite of passage!

Prevent Rx Abuse

Drop off old & expired meds:
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180 West A Street
Fallon NV 89406

(775)423-7433
90 N. Maine St.

Sponsored (in part) by SAMHSA and NV SAPTA

Do not provide alcohol to anyone under 21 years old.
Father & Son Mini-Me Contest Winners

By Ginny Bragg

The first impression upon seeing Daniel and Logan Chu is that it’s like looking at the same person many years apart.

Daniel, 35 and his son Logan, 6 are the winners of this year’s Father and Son Look-Alike Contest through Howieloo Photography.

The resemblance doesn’t stop with appearances. Daniel and Logan not only look alike, but have the same personality. During an interview about winning the contest, it was definitely a contest between the two to see who was funnier.

As Logan sat for an interview or, more accurately, “not sat at all the whole time,” he told a joke and asked about a hundred different things about The Post and if he could play on our computers. He was a riot.

Daniel is a driver for UPS and mom Kasey is home raising the new addition to the Chu family, baby girl Aubree. Logan says when he grows up, he would like to be a police officer.

Logan and Daniel do many activities together such as camping, reading, swimming and riding ATV’s. Logan says he loves to play PS4 Monster Jam and his favorite subject in school is math.

They had a great day together and got to do many exciting things like have pizza at Pizza Barn, get a candy bouquet from Dandelion Express, haircuts, trophies from Butts Up Duck and check out a cool police car.

The annual contest is sponsored by several local businesses. They are: Howieloo Photography LLC, Buttsup Duck Designs, LLC, Lori Crook-Independent Beauty Consultant, Pizza Barn, Dandelion Express Florist and The Fallon Post.
Nettie Rickerson’s Magic Hands

By Jo Petterutti

Magic hands working magic pencils, creating magical western-themed drawings with Cretacolor Nero Pencils for her Nettie Rickerson Art business. But, that’s just one of her many magical talents. She’s also been a teacher for 23 years, currently teaching kindergarten at LaHontan Elementary School, and is a Reiki Practitioner and jewelry-maker at her own Desert Sage Reiki business located in the Fallon Family Wellness Center. Those magic hands do stay very busy.

Rickerson started drawing with pencils when she was very young, and was always obsessed with horses. “My brother is a naturally talented artist and he helped me a bit even though he was eight years older than me. I liked watching him draw, and wanted to draw like him.” At one point while in college, she had thoughts about becoming an art teacher, but “my college time was getting down to the end, and I was done. I just wanted to graduate. I did take some art classes in college, and even had an art teacher that hated everything I turned in. She wasn’t super encouraging.”

She’s been a single mom, and didn’t have much time to spend on her artistry when her sons, now 18 and 24, were growing up. One of her favorite artists is Maria D’Angelo, who is a pencil artist known for her horse drawings. Rickerson said, “She has posted a number of YouTube videos where I picked up some new styles of shading from her. She also uses the Cretacolor Nero Pencils. Using those feels like you are drawing with a pencil but you get darker, more intense colors from them because they are oil-based charcoal – and while they don’t smudge like regular charcoals, they also don’t erase.”

Rickerson likes to build her black-and-white pictures in layers. “I do a lot of layers, so I start with my outline, then block in my shading, then add in five or six layers to achieve the colors and finish I want. I’ve even starting using solvent to soften the lines, so then I can add more layers.”

Her artwork will be on display through the end of October at the Churchill County Library located at 553 South Maine Street, and this is her first show. “I was always a little shy about sharing my art. But now that I do get to spend more time on my art, about 10 to 25 hours per drawing, I’ve gotten to the point where I like my drawings enough to sell them. I’m getting better about putting myself out there.”

She’s submitted some of her originals to the online gallery of the Reno Fine Arts Collective, founded by Kevin O’Keefe and Briana Dolan, who is also their Chief Content Officer. They have a pop-up gallery going on at the Chase Bank building in downtown Reno through September, where Rickerson’s work will be displayed.

“My work is a very different style from the artwork on display at the Collective. Mine are the only pencil drawings, and I was so excited to have my work accepted there. It’s been one of my goals to be in galleries and get my name out there.” After touring the Reno pop-up gallery, Rickerson said, “I was so impressed with the work as I walked through. I’ve seen some of it online, but the pictures just don’t do this level of artwork justice. There is such a variety of mediums and styles - paintings, sculpture, woodwork, jewelry, photography and clay pottery.”

The Collective’s next and biggest step will be the Reno Tahoe International Art Show launching next September at the Reno Convention Center, and Rickerson is hoping to have her work included there too. This show will draw interior designers, architects, and collectors from around the globe, as well as the local attendees.

Rickerson is also lined up for a show in Arizona, having submitted three drawings. The Mountain Oyster Club Contemporary Western Art Show and Sale, will be held on Sunday, November 21, and will feature original artistic works from more than 200 artists. “This one is a jury process where a committee (the jury) determines which pieces will be chosen for inclusion in the show. Up to three pieces can be turned in, but if I can get even one accepted, that would be great.”

Rickerson would like to expand her artistry by moving into color pencils. “I love color, and other mediums. I bought color pencils and am learning to use them. It’s a process. I would also love to learn to paint, as I’ve always loved water colors.” Rickerson’s artwork can be viewed from her Nettie Rickerson Art Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Nettie-Rickerson-Art-100886174684814/. A gallery of Rickerson’s Nero Pencil drawings can also be viewed on the Reno Fine Arts Collective website: https://www.nettie-rickerson.renofineartscollective.com/.
Local Government

Churchill County Offers RV Camping To Evacuees

By Anne McMillin

Churchill County has opened up 20 acres for RV camping and welcomes evacuees from the Caldor Fire.

Located at 485 Miner’s Road, signage will direct evacuees to the RV camping site from both the Sheckler Road and Highway 95 south entrances in Fallon. Proof of residency in the evacuated areas required for admittance. Those arriving will be asked to register and, based on RV length, be assigned a space number on the site. No tent camping is permitted.

Small, household pets (e.g., cats, dogs, birds) that can be contained are permitted. There is currently no accommodation for livestock.

The evacuation site will have water delivery, trash collection and a septic drain, but no power hook-ups.

Light poles are at the four corners of the property for night security and the Churchill County Sheriff will conduct regular patrols. A 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. noise curfew is in effect.

For questions, please call Churchill County Parks & Recreation (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at (775)423-7733. After hours call (775)427-6679 or (775)427-6644.

TCID awarded grant for Monitoring of Carson Division

By Robert Perea

The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District has been awarded a grant in the amount of $71,670 from the Bureau of Reclamation which will be used to help with conservation.

The grant was one of four WaterSMART grants totaling $252,433 to the City of Boulder City, the City of Henderson, the Moapa Valley Water District, and TCID to support water efficiency and conservation programs.

With the funds, TCID will install radios and data loggers at 25 meter sites within the Lahontan Valley (Carson Division) of the Newlands Reclamation Project. The project will provide monitoring of real-time conditions, which will result in improved water efficiency and is supported by the District’s current five-year Water Conservation Plan.

“With Lake Mead and the Colorado River currently experiencing water shortages, it is critical that we make a concerted effort to conserve the water we have,” Senator Jacky Rosen said. “I applaud the Bureau of Reclamation for funding these grants in Nevada and other western states in an effort to improve water efficiency and resiliency within communities.”

The Senate-passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which Rosen co-authored and helped pass, provides $400 million for WaterSMART Grants, which focuses on improving water conservation and reliability while helping water resource managers make sound decisions about water use.
New River Justice Court Report

By Ginny Bragg

New River Township Justice Court convened with Judge Benjamin Trotter presiding.

Vitoriano Pacheco was arraigned in Justice Court August 29. Pacheco was charged with Battery which constitutes Domestic Violence with Substantial Bodily Harm, a Category C Felony that carries 1-5 years in state prison and a potential fine of up to $10,000. According to the allegations, Pacheco struck his girlfriend in the face, breaking her nose. A status hearing is set for Thursday, September 2. Pacheco advised the court he will be retaining his own council.

James Pederson was arraigned August 29 on charges of Resisting a Public Officer on June 23, 2021. Resisting an officer is a felony, if a firearm or other dangerous weapon is used. Otherwise, the offense is treated as a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 6 months in jail and fines of up to $1,000. Pederson entered a plea of not guilty and a trial was set for December 10.

Jose Molina was arraigned on charges of Simple Battery on July 21, 2021. Simple Battery that does not cause injury is treated as a misdemeanor punishable by up to 6 months in jail and fine of up to $1000. According to the allegations, Molina struck Adrian Alaniz multiple times. Molina pled not guilty, and trial was set for Oct 1. Molina stated he will be retaining his own council.

Thomas Walla was arraigned on September 1 on charges of (1) Driving while Under the Influence, (2) Failure to Report an Accident to Law Enforcement, (3) Failure to Drive on the Right Half of the Roadway, (4) Driving with a Revoked Driver’s License while Under the Influence. Walla was appointed a public defender and status is set for September 2.
Courts

Report from 10th Judicial District Court

By Alicia Parsons

Tenth Judicial District Court convened August 31, 2021, with Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding.

Scott Alexander Brown did not appear for his scheduled arraignment. Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Wright Noel, counsel for Brown, stated that his client was involved in a traffic accident over the weekend which resulted in severely broken leg. Noel asked for a continuance on the case. Court Services staff reported that prior to the accident, Brown repeatedly violated the terms of his release by not checking in with Court Services nor showing up for testing when required. The hearing was continued until September 7, 2021, at which time the court will address Brown’s violations.

Stephanie Torres Herrera did not appear for sentencing on multiple cases. Upon her arrest, Herrera tested positive for COVID-19 and was released from jail as a result. The District Attorney’s office reported that Herrera was informed upon her release that she had a court appearance scheduled for August 31. Sentencing for Herrera was continued to September 7, 2021, at 9:30. Herrera also has recent arrests with pending charges in Justice and Municipal Courts.

Jesse Dalton Fritz appeared on sentencing violations. Proceedings were continued pending the resolution of an open case in Washoe County. He is to re-appear for sentencing on September 28.

Gordon Gary Tafoya (in custody) pled guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance, a First or Second Offense, a Category E Felony punishable by 1-4 years in prison. CCPD Jacob Sommer, counsel for Tafoya, stated that his client was knowingly in possession of methamphetamine. Judge Stockard sentenced Tafoya to probation, subject to enrollment and completion of Western Regional Drug Court.

Adam Michael Gibson (in custody) pled guilty to Grand Larceny of a Motor Vehicle, a Category C Felony punishable by 1-6 years in prison. CCPD Sommer, counsel for Gibson, stated that his client did take a running vehicle from Fallon Auto Mall and drove away. Sommer asked that his client be granted the opportunity to receive substance abuse treatment while awaiting sentencing. Assistant District Attorney Chelsea Sanford stated that Gibson came to Fallon; absconding from Iowa after being released on his own recognizance (OR) on other charges that include lying in wait to steal a van that was being serviced. Sanford told the court that Gibson has no ties to the area, no job or home, and asked that his bail remain at the current amount as Gibson presents too high of a risk. Judge Stockard agreed. Sentencing is scheduled for November 30.

Tracy James Lund (in custody) appeared on a sentencing violation, which alleged that his conduct as a probationer was not as good as required. CCPD Sommer stated that there was some confusion with the allegations and requested the case be continued for a week to resolve the issues and discuss a plea agreement. The hearing is set for September 7.

Codi Marie Garcia (in custody) pled guilty to a probation violation and was removed from drug court. CCPD Noel, counsel for Garcia, said his client got overwhelmed trying to juggle the cases between Churchill and Lyon counties, and she knew if she were released, she would keep violating. Garcia was sentenced to 14-46 months in prison with credit for 27 days. In March, Garcia pled guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance, first or second offense, a Category E Felony.
Cantaloupe Festival
Cantaloupe Festival

The 35th Annual Cantaloupe Festival and Country Fair was a huge success.

Top left: Fallon Theatre board members held a 5K fundraiser on Sat. morning.

Clockwise: the Will Schamberger Band, Cantaloupe Queen Cali Perez, the Quilters displayed a memorial to former members of their club, Friday night bands, Yellow Petal Flowers booth, Little Cowgirl/Cowboy contestants.

Saturday night band, Steven Christie, Suz Ellis roses, and Sam Malcolm local kid made good in comedy.

Photos by Denise Edgmon, Rachel Dahl, Sharlee Lipnicki, and courtesy Festival Committee.
Organizations

Cub Scouts Weather the COVID Storm as Scouts Should

By Rachel Dahl

The Fallon Rotary Club sponsors the local Cub Scout Pack 38, and recently heard a report from pack leaders Misty Thibodaux and Debbie Lund.

“We have a lot of fun,” said Lund, “Cub Scouts is there to help the boys and girls to promote character development and make them overall good citizens. We care a lot about these kids.” The group serves scouts from kindergarten to fifth grade.

According to Lund, this past 16 months has been extremely difficult. The club went from 56 boys to 18. The regular fundraising efforts bring in about $6,000 each year, and last year local Cub Scouts raised only $800. There are five boys who cannot afford the dues, so the club covers the costs at $200 per child.

“Those five kids are involved and they’re there every month working, so we aren’t going to turn them away,” she said.

The Cub Scouts learn “to help other people,” said Lund, and last year painted the animal shelter. They also held a bike rodeo in the West End parking lot and got to meet the local bicycle police officer. They toured the fire department and distributed food to low-income families and seniors.

Lund said that project was very successful, with scouts holding food drives and then organizing everything for distribution, setting it up like a store at the senior housing complex.

Additionally, they sponsor the flags for the Veterans Cemetery, and have participated in the Kindness Rock project – placing painted rocks at Laura Mills Park for people to find.

During COVID, the group got creative and held virtual, online meetings. Although not as fun as in person, they did get the chance to see each other’s pets which would not have happened at an in-person meeting.

Several of the scouts are bridging to the Boy Scout program through the “Arrow of Light” and Lund said the club continues to focus on loyalty to country and God and morals.

Steve Endacott, Rotary member who is involved in Boy Scout troop 1776, sponsored by Epworth United Methodist Church said his club is a beneficiary of the work done by Pack 38. “Not only do you send us great boys, but you also raise great parents.” Lund and Thibodaux think it is important that parents participate and that continues on through the Boy Scouts.

For more information on scouting or to join a local pack, contact pack38.fallon@gmail.com.

The Fallon Rotary donated $500 to Cub Scout Pack 38 recently. l to r: Misty Thibodaux, Debbie Lund, and President Priscilla Baker. Photo by Rachel Dahl
The annual Fallon Lions Club Labor Day Parade will be held this Monday, September 6.

The theme for this year’s parade is “Celebrating the Survival of the Pandemic.”

The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. from the corner of Taylor Street and Virginia Street (behind Churchill County Junior High School).

Entries are still being accepted and awards will be given out, including President’s Award, Best Use of Theme, Most Creative, Best Youth Group, Best Civic Group, Best Business Entry, Best Mounted Individual, Best Mounted Group, Best Antique Farm Implement and Best Automobile Entry.

Anyone with questions can call Barbara Hertz at 775-666-3068.

Fallon Lions Club
Junior Rodeo

September 3-6
Free Admission For All!
Churchill County Fairgrounds - 325 Sheckler Road

Monday, Sept. 6th, 2021
7 AM - 10 AM

Includes:
All You Can Eat Pancakes,
Sausage, Eggs, Fresh Fruit, Coffee,
Sandhill Dairy Milk

$10 Adults
$5 Children

At the Parking lot next to the Library
Fallon Chamber Holds Ribbon Cutting for JMAC Home Loans

Reno branch members Tera Coombs and John Harrigan, along with Branch Manager Don Coombs join local loan officer Kathy Mills and the Fallon Chamber Ambassadors for a Ribbon Cutting last week. See Kathy for home loans, both purchase and refinance in Fallon and surrounding areas. 775-900-3330 or Kathy.mills@jmachomeloans.com. The website is: Jmachomeloans.com/reno Conventional, FHA, VA, and non-QM.
Business Feature

Expression of Love - Lactation Specialist Suzette Benecke

By Rachel Dahl

While some little critters come out of the womb knowing exactly what to do, there are babies who for whatever reason do not take as easily to this natural, affordable, bonding feeding method that is breastfeeding. There are some moms who don’t take to it as easily, either.

For these situations, the Fallon community is lucky to have our very own Suzette Benecke, Lactating Specialist extraordinare to assist and support new families with what is a very special part of child-rearing.

Benecke is the only International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant in the area, completing her certification last fall. She started her business a year ago and has continued to grow as the world opens up after the COVID lockdowns.

Not unlike other businesses that had to adapt and adjust during COVID, Benecke said that she has learned how to do virtual consultations and uses Google Meet, which is HIPAA approved. Because of this new skill and the technology, Benecke is able now to meet with clients from remote areas of the state easily, without the added costs to them for her travel.

“COVID has opened the world to online visits,” she said.

Serving as a labor and delivery nurse at Banner Churchill Community Hospital since 2008, Benecke has worked in maternal child services since 1991. She recently began working at St. Mary’s in Reno and is still on tap at Banner to teach the prenatal breastfeeding classes.

She is passionate about the education she provides and encourages families to take advantage of her services, along with the resources at the hospital.

“So many women don’t have the support they need,” she said, “it’s such a shame.”

In addition to the virtual option, Benecke does provide in-home visits to Churchill County residents, as well as the outlying areas including Schurz and Fernley.

Importantly, lactating services should be covered by most insurance companies under the Affordable Care Act, however, Benecke said there is a resource she encourages families to try first. LactationNetwork.com will provide a free consultation and assess insurance and assist with getting prequalified for three visits – one before the baby is born, one after the hospital, and then a follow up.

According to the Surgeon General’s Call to Action to support breastfeeding, one of the most highly effective preventive measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself is to breastfeed. However, in the U.S., while 75 percent of mothers start out breastfeeding, only 13 percent of babies are exclusively breastfed at the end of six months.

- The potential benefits of breastfeeding are numerous but in a nutshell: Breastfeeding protects babies from infections and illnesses that include diarrhea, ear infections and pneumonia.
- Breastfed babies are less likely to develop asthma.
- Children who are breastfed for six months are less likely to become obese.
- Breastfeeding also reduces the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).
- Mothers who breastfeed have a decreased risk of breast and ovarian cancers.

According to the WHO only 38 percent of the world’s population exclusively breastfeeds, and suboptimal breastfeeding contributes to 800,000 deaths.

In Nevada, 81.8 percent of Nevada women initiate breastfeeding, but by 6 months of age only 21.7 percent of babies are still being exclusively breastfed, according to the Centers for Disease Control report card in 2017.

“I have always been passionate about helping families succeed with breastfeeding,” said Benecke, “and I really want to get the word out that I am here ready and willing to help.”

She can be reached at suzette@expressionoflove.biz, her website is expressionoflove.biz and her phone number is 775-235-2622.

There is also a Facebook group in Fallon called Lactation Station and Benecke encourages women to join her there for more support.
Churchill CSD Facing COVID Concerns

By Robert Perea

In a message sent to parents Wednesday, the Churchill County School District is asking that all students wear masks indoors, and issued a reminder that all adults are required to wear face coverings while inside school facilities.

According to the district’s message, since school started, there have been 294 students and staff members who have had to be quarantined because they received a positive COVID-19 test, they are symptomatic, or have come in direct contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19.

“We are taking these numbers very seriously. We have been diligent in our contact tracing in combination with quarantine protocols and other mitigation factors in order to keep our staff and students safe and informed,” the district’s message said.

In the message, the district said that “Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19 and the rise of positive COVID cases in our schools, universal indoor masking by all students, regardless of vaccination status, is highly recommended and encouraged. We also want to remind everyone that all adults are required to wear face coverings while inside school facilities.”

The district said its first priority is to protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households and support the continuation of in-person learning.

“Join us in masking up so we can keep our learners in school,” the message said.

Anyone with questions can talk to your school principal or reach out to Superintendent Dr. Stephens at 775-423-5184.

E.C. Best Students Working Together

CCHS Art Students Shining Already

Jaime Shafer’s art students jumped right into exploring their talents this year starting with Ecoprinting using local plants to print on scarves. Her 7th block students begun the year learning how to throw clay on the pottery wheel. Shafer’s students regularly win state and national art contests that she diligently assists them in applying for. Watch throughout the year as we celebrate their successes.
Oasis Academy -- Bighorn Bulletin

Buster’s Best for September

By Angela Viera

Each month students will be selected that exemplify what Buster, Oasis Academy’s Mascot, looks for in Oasis students. These are students that go above and beyond, show kindness, respect others and themselves, strive for excellence, and persevere even when tasks are difficult.

Kaitlyn Hert - Senior

After a non-stop junior year Kaytlyn Hert is excited to start her senior year at Oasis. Attending Oasis since she was in the fifth grade, Kaytlyn has excelled in both the classroom and in extracurricular activities such as the state champion softball team, yearbook, and Student Council. Outside of school she helps with her church group, AWANA, and volunteers in the high school youth ministry.

This last summer Kaytlyn also participated in the distinguished INBRE Research project with Western Nevada College Professors Dr. Gary Evett and Rochelle Bassen. “I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the biomedical research project with Dr. Evett. When I started the research with them, I had plans to become a Pathologist’s Assistant, so I was really trying to see if lab work was something that I would enjoy on a day-to-day basis. The lab research got me thinking about other careers in the medical field that I may enjoy, and I’m thankful to have had the opportunity to do the project. I HIGHLY encourage future students to participate,” describes Kaytlyn of the research.

Graduating in May of 2022 she will complete both her Associate of Arts from WNC and her high school diploma. Kaytlyn has already been accepted into College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas. She chose the school for their diagnostic medical sonography program with a cardiovascular track. They are the only school in Nevada to offer the program.

“Kaytlyn is an all around go getter. She is very inquisitive and has a knack for connecting with everyone. I know she will excel in her degree program in diagnostic cardiovascular sonography at CSN and throughout the rest of her career,” comments Andy Lenon, Oasis Academy Counselor.

From the Classroom: Eighth Grade Periodic People Lab

Students in Mrs. Rosario’s Eighth Grade Class learned more about the Periodic Table in a unique lab experience. She explains, “Students arranged Periodic People into a meaningful sequence based on patterns similar to the organization of the Periodic Table of Elements. Students used their arrangement to discover the gap in their sequence (the missing Periodic Person) somewhat similar to the process that chemist Dmitri Mendeleev used with the actual Periodic Table of Elements.”
Letters

Community Spirit
I wanted to say what a great job the reunion committee did with the Fallon/Churchill County Community Reunion – as always. What a special event to have in our community bringing so many classes together, young & old, with the chance to visit with so many special people.

We are lucky to have such a great event in our community.

Also what terrific local musicians and bands we have in our community which were on display at the Cantaloupe Festival – great music.

And along those lines please watch for the upcoming musicians, comedians and other artists that will be performing this fall & winter at the Fallon Theatre.

We just had four great bands play on a Tuesday evening, one from Las Vegas, two from Reno and one local band – great music and only $5 to attend. Then we had another great local band play for free the Friday of the Community Reunion.

Attendance at these performances has not been the best – we are hoping the community comes out to enjoy these bands, supporting both the bands & our historic theatre.

-Mike Berney

The Good Nevada Life
I am a long-time native of Fallon and sadly long gone living in California, until just recently. I am so happy to have returned home and each day, it seems

I am reminded of how good life can be in the Great State of Nevada. I could not resist writing to you after reading of your struggles with letters you have been receiving.

While living in the Bay Area, I was often prompted to write to the local paper, a Silicon Valley major institution with numerous national awards. I’ve been a forever subscriber as I believe most of the best ways we communicate is by written word. My last published letter in the aforementioned paper was altered without my consent, which completely changed the point I was making. It also made me appear to be a condescending, heart-less fool. I was mortified, embarrassed and then outraged.

When I reached the editor in person, he explained their policies were published on their web site, which we then read together. It stated no letters would be altered without prior contact with the writer. He stammered a bit after that and when I requested a retraction, he refused and from that point forward, no one from that newspaper would respond to me.

This became another reason why I could not wait to get California in my rear-view mirror as my beliefs never were compatible with the majority of the populace.

So, thank you Fallon Post for taking it on the chin in the interests of providing an honest and open pulpil for writer’s expressions. From this reader’s standpoint, you are another of the ever-growing reasons I am so happy to be back in the desert and among more like minded citizens. Home Means Nevada!

Sincerely;
-Martie Carlson

Speak For Yourself
I have read the article by Rachel Dahl concerning the mask-constitution debate before the commissioners last week, the editorial by Kelli Kelly, and the editorial by Brook Allen. I thought it prudent to speak personally to the commissioners rather than having the anti-mask-constitution-pounding-radicals speak for me as they attempted to do during the last commissioners’ meeting.

Whether you want to wear a mask or not didn’t seem to be the issue during the haranguing of the Fallon commissioners, but the blatant attempt to bully and threaten Fallon’s elected officials (who seemed, in my humble opinion, to be quite civil) into supporting the opponents’ constitutional agenda.

Before you attempt to speak for me perhaps you might want to know my opinion rather than assuming it is in line with yours. I am quite happy with the stand these officials have taken on masks, the convention center (which will most likely benefit local businesses), and the careful forethought given to loss of government revenue (again benefiting local citizens).

I want to thank the Fallon commissioners for their time, careful study of current issues, and for standing in the face of those who would usurp my constitutional right to my beliefs. Please have no fear of reprisal from the loudest voices in opposition. The silent majority is very quietly behind you.

Keep up the good work. You are more appreciated than you will ever know ... or hear.

Andrea Getto Caldwell

Churchill Transportation Trials - a message from the District
We want to thank parents and students for hanging in there with us this last week as we have worked on the bus routes and stops list. We understand your frustration, but want to assure you we are doing everything we can to get the list as close to final as we possibly can.

We know when it comes to your children there is nothing more important to you than making sure they arrive to and from school safely and you can be certain we will work tirelessly to ensure this happens. Every year our dedicated transportation staff has consistently gone above the call of duty and have worked long hours to ensure all students arrive at their destination safely. In spite of our best efforts, there is no denying the fact there will be route delays, late school bus pick-ups and late arriving students.

We kindly request your continued patience and understanding as we continue to make more changes as we look to be more efficient.

Monday was the first day of Kindergarten at Lahontan Elementary, which caused a bit of a back up.
Carol’s Book Review

A Woman of Intelligence: A Novel by Karin Tanabe

A well-off young mother and wife, overwhelmed by the kids and underappreciated by the husband, is recruited by the FBI to help investigate an old college beau who is a communist and Soviet agent.

It’s 1950s New York City and Rina decides to accept. That’s the set up for this historical thriller; complete with all the twists and turns of a classic spy novel. Recommended by two well-read library patrons.

Carol Lloyd is the Director of the Churchill County Library. She wonders why most of the woman’s head has been cropped off of the cover of this book.
Local Columns

High Desert Dirt – The Raven’s Rant

Q and A With Daniel Doty of Green Acre Compost

Nothing says romance like compost. Kevin knows the way to the gardening heart of his wife. Although the gardening season is winding down, we still have many chores around our farm.

We had a bulk compost delivery last week in order to prep new beds for garlic planting around Halloween. This is our second delivery from Daniel Doty, the owner of Green Acre Compost. We have been using it as a topdressing mulch for orchard trees, a refresher in my container plants and about 90 percent of it to continue enhancing the soil in our hardworking vegetable beds. Green Acre compost is made locally. Daniel is well versed in the gardening challenges we face here in our valley; he and his family have been farming mostly alfalfa here for many years. Also, if you’re lucky, delivery includes a visit with the ridiculously cute dog, Murphy.

Can you tell me a little about your backstory and how you got into the compost business?

I’ve always looked at ways to try and maximize farm production. Around five years ago, we began putting large amounts of horse and cow manure on our fields. Despite being great for the soil’s organic matter, the manure brought weed seeds and made it impossible to have a crop without spraying herbicides. I began researching the benefits of compost and was intrigued. Tired of my multiple phone calls and emails, our local agronomist referred me to a company in the Midwest that sold composting equipment and taught seminars. After attending a seminar in Missouri, I was all in.

What challenges soil wise do you think most farmers and home gardeners face here in Fallon?

The largest challenges with Fallon soils are the low levels of organic matter. A lot of areas in Fallon are below one percent organic matter. Organic matter relates directly to soil health and water storage.

Can you briefly describe how you make your compost? Including what’s in it? How can local green thumbs best use your compost?

The composting process takes between 10-12 weeks. We build two 6-foot high by 300-foot long windrows with all available feedstocks. Feedstocks include straw, alfalfa, oats, wheat, almond shells, sorghum Sudan, corn stalks, gypsum, and horse manure. During the first three weeks we measure and record the windrows temperatures, CO2 levels, and moisture. After three weeks, the windrows are combined and continue cooking for the next 7-9 weeks.

What have been the biggest challenges of the business so far?

The biggest challenge so far with the business is making Fallon aware of the product. Adding the sign on the highway and the website has helped a lot, but far referrals from former clients have helped the most.

You deliver compost locally and have spreading services available as well. How big is your delivery area?

For deliveries, I try to stay in the Fallon area. Deliveries range from 3-22 tons per truck load and spreading on fields is a 6-ton minimum.

Till or no till? And how often do you recommend customers refresh their growing plots?

No till is showing up in a lot of areas around the world and farmers having a lot of success. My family has implemented no till practices in our farm with moderate success. I think we have unique challenges in Fallon and I don’t think the exact formula has been figured out for our area.

What’s the best way to get in contact with you?

My cell is 775-771-4903 and the website is greenacrecompost.com.

Maliah’s Minute -- Cantaloupe Festival

This weekend was the most memorable weekend ever. It was Cantaloupe Festival time. This year, I was able to run around with my friends and have so much fun, and I really did.

The festival was open until midnight and me and my friends stayed until midnight. The ride we loved the most and the one we went on the most was the Hustle. You sit in the crown/cup shaped thing and it slingshots you around really fast then it stops and goes over and over again. At first it was scary, then it was really fun and one of the best rides. We also went on the swings, which go pretty fast and high. We walked around a lot and listened and danced to the music. It overall was an amazing weekend that I will remember forever.

Every year when August comes around, I start getting really excited for the Cantaloupe Festival. My favorite part about it is the rides, of course, but mostly the music. I love listening to all the talented singers in our small town. I really wish there were more festivals and carnivals that would come to town, so that way there would be more exciting things to do or look forward to doing. For the most part, I want something fun to do on the weekends. I love going skating and bowling, but I want one more fun thing to do like festivals, carnivals, or an arcade.

Maliah Harris is a twelve-year-old entrepreneur and goofy pre-teen with big opinions. She attends Churchill County Middle School and is the newest columnist for The Fallon Post.
Friday, September 3, 2021 — TheFallonPost.org — 25

Local Columns

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen

I am going to take a week off from telling you all about what I cooked recently. There are a couple of reasons for this hiatus, but the primary reason is: This last weekend, I spent a bunch of time doing fun things like attending the Cantaloupe Festival and scoring the second-highest rating in my fantasy football draft (Let’s Go ‘Loupe Style!) and not a whole lot of time cooking. Rather than pull a recipe out of a hat and build a story around something I really loved cooking that one time or that I would love to cook one day, I thought I would take some time to talk about fundamentals—specifically, what I have in my pantry.

### Taco Seasoning

2 T onion powder  
2 t garlic powder  
1 T kosher salt  
1 T chili powder  
1 1/4 t crushed red pepper  
1 1/2 t ground cumin  
1 t dried oregano  
1 1/2 t cornstarch  
1 t sugar

The conversation about a well-stocked pantry is actually quite involved. There are basic products that are staples for a nimble and efficient home pantry and if you exert a little care and thought in the things you keep in your pantry, you will be a much more prepared cook. It took years of experience and time cooking. Rather than pull a recipe out of a hat and build a story around something I really loved cooking that one time or that I would love to cook one day, I thought I would take some time to talk about fundamentals—specifically, what I have in my pantry.

Vegas. When we got back to town, Pip told me that before he even went home, he stopped to stock up on spices because after cooking with my spice pantry for a week he decided that he needed to up his spice game. A well-stocked spice rack (or cabinet) helps make cooking new recipes a delight instead of a challenge. Actively managing your spice collection ensures that 1. you are not buying a new container of spices every time you decide to try a new recipe, 2. You do not end up with duplicate spices, and 3. You are rotating through your spices to maintain freshness. A bonus is that you can easily mix up a custom blend of spices that will kick your chili, or your tacos, or your mine-strone up a notch.

Speaking of tacos… Neil got a craving this week for old-school, ‘80’s era, ground beef tacos in crunchy corn shells. In the interest of convenience, I bought a kit that included those nifty “stand-up” shells and included an unlabeled white packet of taco seasoning. That might have flown in my house in 1999, but (after using the packet) I realized that I just wasn’t satisfied with the flavor of the taco meat. In the end, I doctored up the mix so much that I should have just made my own mix in the first place. So at the end of this missive, I will offer a suggestion of where to start when mixing up your own taco seasoning and I will throw in a couple of extras for good measure. But first...

Here is a list of the spices that I always try to have on hand in Kelli’s Kitchen.

### The Basics

- Salt - I use Diamond Crystal—the texture is just the best. It crumbles easily between your fingers so you can use it course or fine as needed. Alternatively, use course sea salt in a grinder. Whatever you do, don’t limit yourself to iodized table salt.
- Whole Peppercorns and Grinder - Don’t settle for pre-ground black pepper. Do yourself a favor and get a grinder.
- Garlic Powder
- Onion Powder
- Cinnamon - be choosy with your cinnamon. A lot of cinnamon is not real cinnamon.
- Chili Powder - at least one though I could argue why a variety is better. I have basic chili powder, New Mexican chili powder, Californian chili powder.

### Ground Cumin

Ground Coriander

Ground Nutmeg - sometimes I like to be bougie and use whole nutmeg that I grate myself—it’s fun.

Dried Oregano - If I had to choose one variety, I would go Mexican Oregano.

Paprika, smoked and sweet (I use the smoked kind all the time).

Red pepper flakes - This is another one that I have multiples of… regular red pepper flakes are perfect for pizza... but Cobanero chili flakes rank #1 in my book.

Dried Bay Leaves

Cayenne & Chipotle Pepper

### For Italian or Mediterranean Cooking

Dried Basil

Dried Thyme

Dried Rosemary

Dried Mint

Dried Parsley

### For Fall Inspired Cooking (also baking)

Ground Cloves

Ground Allspice

Ground Cardamom

Ground Ginger

### For Indian Inspired Cooking

Curry powder

Turmeric powder

Ground Ginger

Garam Masala

Ground Cumin

Ground Cardamom

### Ground Cloves

#### Super Special Niche Spices

Saffron - it’s spendy but delicious

Vanilla Beans - same

Star Anise

Anything WHOLE (allspice, cloves, coriander, cardamom, etc)

With this collection, you will confidently be able to make your own spice mixes for chili, tacos, pumpkin pie spice, chai spice, and more.

Sourcing is important. If you are going to intentionally stock your spice cabinet all at once, consider buying from an ethical wholesaler or boutique spice shop. I use San Francisco Herb Company for bulk spices and Burlap & Barrel for specialty single-origin spices.

---

Kelli Kelly - Slinger of Produce. Slurper of Dumplings. Person of the Bean.
Bulletin & Legal Notices

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ON TO CREDITORS
2595
Stanley H. Brown, Jr., Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 13661
STANLEY H. BROWN, JR., CHARTERED
127 E. Liberty Street
Reno, NV 89501
(775) 337-8800
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ATTORNEY FOR Bob Getto,
Churchill County Public
Administrator, and
Administrator with the
will annexed of the Estate
of Doreen Joan Little,
deceased
IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT COURT
OF THE STATE
OF NEVADA
AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF CHUR-
CHILL
*****
IN THE MATTER OF
STATE DEOREN
JOAN
LITTLE, deceased
CASE NO. 21-10DC-0379
OF DEPT. NO. 1
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that Bob Getto,
Churchill County Public
Administrator, having
been duly appointed
and qualified by the
above-entitled Court on
the 3rd day of August,
2021, as Administrator
with the will annexed of
the estate of Doreen Joan
Little, deceased,

Creditors are required to file
their claim against the
estate of Doreen Joan
Little, deceased, within
60 days after the mailing
of this notice.

A copy of any claim filed is to be mailed
to the attorney for the estate
at the above address.

DATED this 31 day of
August, 2021.

STANLEY H. BROWN,
JR., CHARTERED
Stanley H. Brown, Jr., Esq.
Churchill County Public
Administrator and Ad

Executive Director

The primary responsibility of this position is to
ensure that the day-to-day functioning of the
Churchill Community Coalition is attended to in
a professional, ethical, efficient, and effective
manner. It will be part of the duties of the
Executive Director to ensure future grant
funding is obtained to maintain this
position and salary.

Please send resumes to
marybeth@churchillcoalition.com
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Photo By: Denise Edgmon