

Pahrump Life

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

What Exactly is Pahrump Valley Main Street?

FEATURES

GLOBAL PIZZA HUT COMPETITION
GBC INAUGURAL TOWN HALL MEETING
LOOKING SHARP: STYLE & GROOMING TIPS
THE GYPZES OF WATER ROCK
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Notes from the Publishers

Another two months have passed, and here we are with the Jan/Feb issue of Pahrump Life. Hard to believe it's 2025. I was just getting used to writing 2024.

We have some great articles covering a lot of new territory for Pahrump. First is the Pahrump Valley Main Street Project, which is the cover story. Hopefully, we've answered many questions about this endeavor and given names of those involved so you know who to contact if you want to get involved, get questions answered, or want to learn more about it.

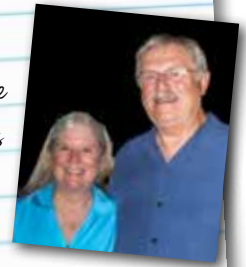
We've also included the media calendar, so if you want to contribute an article idea or write an article yourself, you can see when things are due. Remember, we only come out every other month, so timing is key for date-sensitive events and topics. Before writing or submitting anything, please contact Christine with content ideas. Interested in buying an ad? We're here to help. The magazine is free, so we support the magazine and survive by selling ads. We always enjoy supporting the local businesses. Contact Jim regarding advertising.

We sincerely appreciate all of our readers, advertisers, and our contributors. We've got a lot of great writers in this town and certainly many interesting topics to share with the people of Pahrump. We also want to thank Denise Fortin, our magazine designer. She works her magic on every issue, and we greatly appreciate her.

Looking back on 2024, it was a very good year. But I'm also looking forward to 2025. Things are changing around us, and we're not the tiny town we used to be. However, it appears to me we haven't lost that small-town charm and spirit.

We'd like to wish our readers a very Happy New Year. We hope you have a successful, prosperous, healthy, and happy 2025! We appreciate your support. Also, thanks to all of our contributors and advertisers. We couldn't do it without all of you.

For content ideas, contact Christine at Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com
If interested in buying an ad, contact Jim at Jim@PahrumpLifeMag.com
- Jim and Christine



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What Exactly is...

Pahrump Valley Main Street?

By Christine Butler

Many people in town have heard of the phrase Pahrump Valley Main Street, but how many really understand what it is? Our goal is to shed some light on the subject.

How Did it All Get Started?

In the late 1970s, a nonprofit organization was established in Washington DC with the goal of preserving and restoring the historical value of communities throughout the country. It is called The National Trust for Historic Preservation Program. This organization established Main Street America as a “community revitalization” program. In 2017, the state of Nevada established what they called the Nevada Main Street Program. They launched it under the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, known as GOED.

Pahrump became a recent part of this effort through the creation of the Pahrump Valley Main Street Project.

They have established a Board of Directors which is in the process of building a proposal for 2025. This allows them to seek grants from the GOED as well as other nationwide grant sources, to help fund the various projects.

Who are the Board Members?

The Board members include Karen McHale as Director of Pahrump Valley Main Street. With her experience in accounting, engineering/project management, and grant writing, she will be a valuable leader of the team.

Donna Corey who is the current Assistant Executive Director of Southwest Central Regional Economic Development Authority or SWCREDA, which is part of GOED, also sits on the newly formed Board of Directors of the Project. Her main responsibility is to assemble the team that will make up the new Main Street Organization.

Other Board Members include familiar names such as: Roy Mankins - SWCREDA President, Dr. Christopher

Salute – Director of Great Basin College Pahrump and President of the Community Arts Collective of Nye County, Dr. Tom Waters – Community Activist and Purple Heart recipient, and Arlette Ledbetter – Director of Pahrump Tourism.

Where Will the New Designated “Downtown Pahrump” be Located?

They have proposed starting a little north of Basin south on Highway 160 to Calvada. Then down Calvada to Pahrump Valley Blvd and down Highway 372 to Blagg. One of the challenges the team has to face is how to create a downtown area when you have a main highway through the middle of the town. They won’t be able to start at one end and go to the other. They will have to strategically plan it out.

There are several entities involved. The Main Street organization is a stand-alone entity. However, if they are dealing with land owned by the county, they’ll have to deal with the county. If the land is owned by the town, then they deal

“...there are many ways to attract people to come to Pahrump and spend some time. We need to get the people of the town to participate...”

with the town. If it's privately owned, they'll deal with the landowner. And if the land belongs to NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation), they'll work with them.

What are Some of the Current Ideas Being Considered?

They are considering four things for the first proposal.

First is building a 12' section of a love lock fence in the Rotary Garden on Calvada and a piece of iron art of a Purple Heart, since Pahrump is a Purple Heart Town. A love lock fence is “a fence or other public fixture that couples use to attach padlocks as a symbol of their love.”

Proceed with a beautification project at the intersection of Calvada and Pahrump Valley Blvd. They would work with the businesses located there to freshen things up by adding some color to the buildings and provide iron art or iron flowers that don't have to be watered and won't die in the heat.

Provide old fashion designed solar streetlights down Highway 160 on private land when desired by the landowner.

The welcome sign on Calvada and Hwy 160 can be beautified with iron cacti and other art to bring color to the area.

Karen mentioned that our town is not necessarily historic, but we do have the uniqueness of wild horses and burros, so perhaps iron replicas of them running would be appropriate. We are also in close proximity to Death Valley that can be highlighted in some manner. It would be nice to have some color in the middle of the desert.

Their goal is to create a welcoming place for photo opportunities as visitors enter Pahrump, and to express our

thanks to the purple heart recipients in our town and county. The County will not be paying for these changes, but they do have to approve the plans if it is on their property.

Where and When Will They Start?

The initial year plan is to do the low cost items first. The main Street grant must be in by April 2025. There are multiple other grants they will be pursuing as well. It is unlikely that anything will get completed before the summer or fall of 2025. There's a lot of planning and work to be accomplished. Whatever they can't fund or finish in 2025 will be moved into 2026.

They must create committees of

volunteers to participate as they are needed. They may have to expand their board of directors in the future, but they will cross that bridge when they come to it.

Karen said that Pahrump is too close to Las Vegas to be a destination town. We need to create something that will attract people to visit. One example is to create something to attract truckers so they will make this a stopping point along their way to their delivery point.

She feels there are many ways to attract people to come to Pahrump and spend some time. We need to get the people of the town to participate and offer suggestions and ideas. Since this project is a separate entity and not a part of the county's responsibility, Karen and her team will be depending on a lot of volunteers.

Their website is pahrumppvalleymainstreetnv.org, so you can follow their progress and find out how you can participate in this exciting new venture.



Karen McHale - Director,
Pahrump Valley Main
Street



Donna Corey - Assistant
Executive Director,
SWCREDA



Arlette Ledbetter -
Director, Pahrump
Tourism



Roy Mankins - President,
SWCREDA



Dr. Christopher Salute -
Director, Great Basin
College Pahrump,
President, Community Arts
Collective of Nye County



Dr. Tom Waters -
Community Activist and
Purple Heart recipient



Pahrump Life Magazine

2025 Media Calendar

Issue Date	Space Deadline	Copy/Article Deadline	Print Date
January/February	November 29	December 5	December 16
March/April	January 31	February 5	February 17
May/June	March 28	April 4	April 15
July/August	May 30	June 5	June 16
September/October	July 31	August 5	August 15
November/December	September 30	October 6	October 15

Pahrump Life Magazine publishes every two months. The Fraziers published the first issue in November of 2010. The Butlers took over in December of 2022. All materials and questions concerning ads should be directed to Jim Butler at Jim@PahrumpLifeMag.com or call 520-403-7007. Questions and issues relating to content should be directed to Christine Butler at Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com or call 520-403-8600.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Pahrump Life Magazine is a lifestyle magazine targeted to individuals and families living in and visiting the Pahrump Valley. We hope to inform and inspire our readers to go out and enjoy this charming town and surrounding area and to increase participation in all the cultural, charitable, and social events offered.

Our goal is to support the growth of local businesses, promote tourism, and strengthen our local economy by providing advertisers a vehicle to reach new customers and give editorial coverage about their accomplishments.

Pahrump Life focuses on positive, interesting topics. We hope our readers will always find an upbeat and welcoming experience. We endeavor to provide opportunities for new writers, photographers, and artists to have their work published.



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BJ Hetrick-Irwin and the Silver Tappers

By Marilyn McLeod

*E*xtravagant, brilliant, such talent, and so beautiful....

On December 8, 2025, the Nevada Silver Tappers put on a show that sparkled with glitter, glamor, sequins and more! It was stunningly beautiful. You had to see it to believe it!

This year the recipients of proceeds received from the participating audience went to the VFW Homeless Children's Fund and the Salvation Army Food Pantry to see that no child goes hungry this Christmas.

BJ Hetrick-Irwin began orchestrating these entertaining shows of talented ladies 33 years ago and the Silver Tappers have become known as the official Ambassadors of Pahrump ever since. Fund raising events, such as this Christmas celebration, have benefited many community organizations throughout the years. This year there were 30 - 35 dancers and just so you

know, the average age of these dancers is 78 years old! Incredibly talented, and at 99 years old, yes, BJ still dances. They had multiple fast costume changes, and the show proceeded like clockwork. It was well rehearsed and well presented. These women are immensely talented and not only that, but they also look like they are having a blast. The sisterhood of the Silver Tappers is a remarkable close knit group of women dedicated to bringing enjoyment to others everywhere they entertain.

The show was held at the Saddle West Hotel on Sunday afternoon, December 8. The Hotel's stage and theater fit the event quite nicely. The singers, the dancers, the bell ringers, and choirs were magnificent.... The dancers especially were the highlight of the day. They even had a ventriloquist perform. Sadly, this was the last show of the year for the Silver Tappers. If you couldn't make it this year, next Christmas is a must! But beware, the tickets sell out fast.



BJ and Dr. Tom Waters









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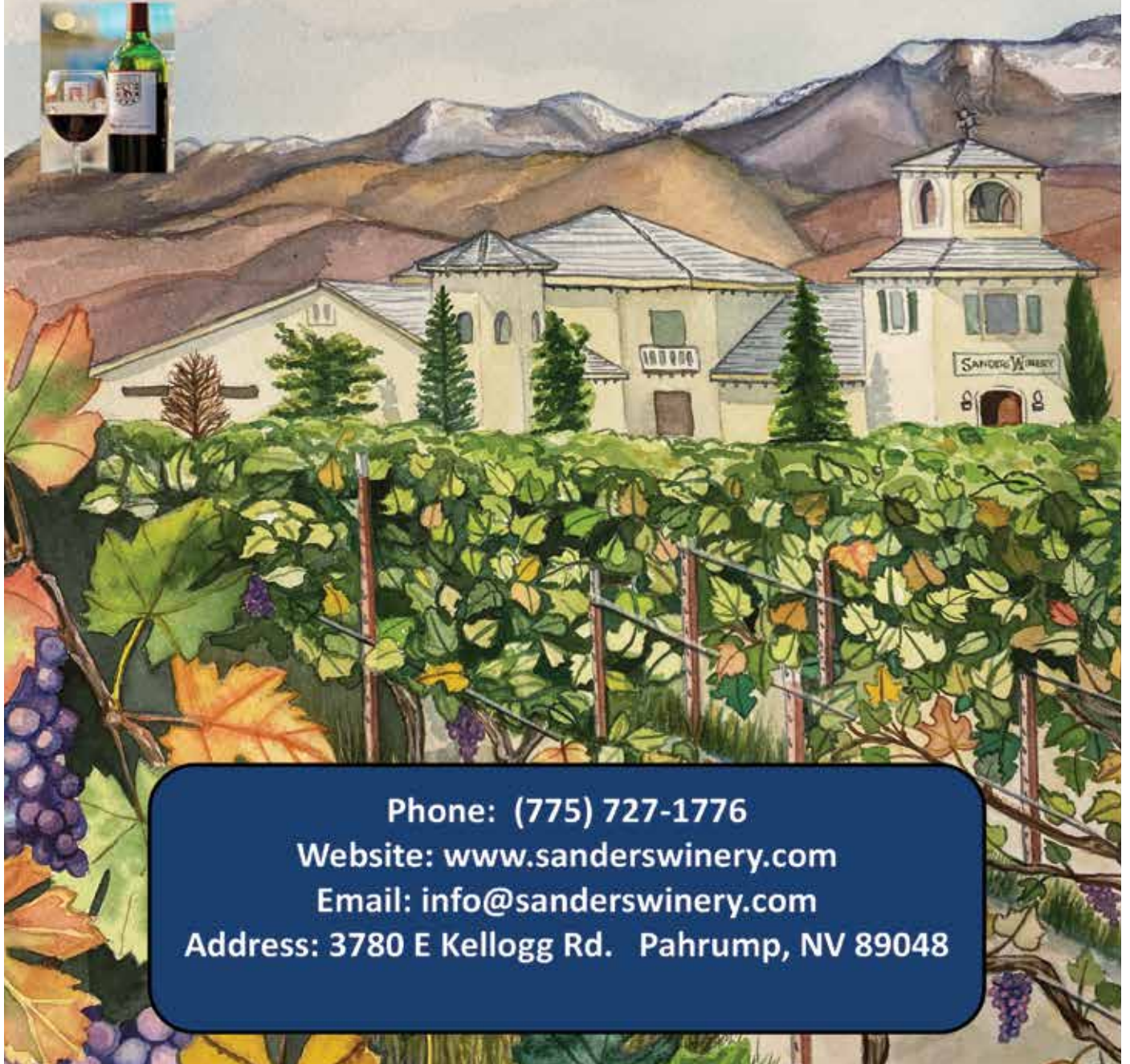


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Local Pizza Hut Participates in Global Pizza Making Competition

By Christine Butler

For the last four years, the Pizza Hut Corporation held the Global Pizza Hut Championship. This year it took place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and representatives from the Pahrump Pizza Hut participated. It's the company's way of intensifying learning about product quality and standards. There's a written test with multiple choice questions which is basically a knowledge test followed by a pizza making test. There are multiple steps each team must go through to compete.

They hold a contest between the cooks within each store. Our store has five cooks. The winner of this contest moves to the area competition. Our winning cook was Sam Ferguson. This was not her first time competing in this event. She moved on to compete

against Mesquite, NV and St. George, UT. Each contesting store sent their General Manager as well as the winning cook to the next level. Raileigh Browning is our local store General Manager. You may remember we did an article on her in the March/April 2023 issue discussing her becoming the General Manager at age 19. Although she was not the youngest to become a General Manager of the franchise, she was the youngest to be chosen as manager of the year.

Structure of the Competition

The competition started in May and went through July. There are several competitive levels of the event including Restaurant, Area, Region, Franchise/Organization, City, Nationals, and Global.

At the US state level, the participants

don't know what they are going to be making until the last minute. For example, they don't know if it's going to be stuff crust, hand toss, thin, BBQ sauce, buffalo sauce, regular, different supreme, custom, half 'n half or what.

At the national level they also don't know what they'll be making until they get there. When they reach the global level, they know what they'll be making, and everyone makes the same thing. Technical difficulties made it hard for Raileigh and Sam to get access to the contest information file. They ended up working with a flash drive to send the information. These technical difficulties did not make it easy. They felt like they were going into the competition blind.

A Sample of Some of the Challenges They Faced

Raileigh had to learn a new process to compete in her event. She had three



Sam Ferguson and Railiegh Browning

months to learn eight completely new methods, analyze pizza appearances, etc. in front of the judges. Contestants were given three minutes to review each pizza so had to go very fast. Any team that didn't have English as a first language or did not have an interpreter got five minutes.

Sam had to change her process as well. She was using unfamiliar tools. She had to attend a meeting when she first arrived to discuss the competition process. She realized during this meeting that things were very different than previous events. They were one of two countries, the USA and Canada, that didn't have the same practices as the

other countries. For example, the vegetables were mixed differently than the way our team does it. They only had 30 minutes to practice two rounds. They discovered time was very important at this event. Here in the states, time is not everything.

What do the Judges Look for?

They learned quickly that quality was the first issue. The dough could not be ripped or torn and mended. The cheese had to go on a certain way, every topping had to be exactly as the visual they were following. Sam's mind set was speed was a tie breaker.

Every country besides the US put on a lot of toppings. Here, they stick to specific standards. The specs determine how much of each topping goes onto the pizza. Other countries' specs are very different than ours and Raileigh and Sam had to adjust.

What were the Results?

This year the Pahrump team came in fifth place worldwide. This was the first time they didn't place first or second, but the judges did comment that their stuffed crust was the best they'd ever seen.

There were twelve countries competing including USA, Canada, UK, Guatemala, Indonesia, Bahrain, Philippines, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Honduras, Taiwan, and Egypt. The results were: First – Bahrain, Second – Guatemala, Third – Egypt, Fourth – unknown, Fifth – USA.



Pahrump support team

As a participant in the event, you don't find out where you placed while you are there. You eventually find out where you placed through research.

Final Thoughts

Both Raileigh and Sam enjoyed Dubai, however they wish they'd had more time to explore. They only had one day to themselves so had to pick one thing they wanted to explore. They chose to go to the Souk, which is the Arab version of a marketplace or commercial quarter. It's a major tourist attraction and lots to see and take in. They said they both were "drained" by the time they finished, but it was well worth it.

It's a rough trip. They left Las Vegas at 9:00 AM and arrived in Dubai twenty hours later. There's also a twelve hour time difference. But it was an opportunity to meet and mingle with global folks. They shared that more of the participants spoke at least broken English than they expected.

When they first arrived, they realized that many of the other teams were dressed alike. They were not, so they felt a little awkward. However, their team pulled through and presented them with team jackets. There are only ten of these special Pizza Hut jackets in the world. They wore them proudly.

They would have liked having more time to mingle with the other participants. They did however manage to become friends with the Taiwan representatives. Both said it was a wonderful opportunity, and they will cherish the adventure. It also gives them incentive to work hard and come back again next year.



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Focus on Family

Burning Our Boats in Marriage: A Commitment to Lasting Love

By Tim Sutton, Esq., Sutton Law & Consulting Group, suttonlawgroupllc.com

The phrase “burning the boats” originates from a powerful historical metaphor. In 1519, Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés famously ordered his men to burn their ships after landing in Mexico, ensuring there was no retreat. This radical act of commitment left only one option: move forward and succeed. In the context of marriage, “burning the boats” symbolizes removing the mental and emotional escape routes that undermine a lasting commitment. It means eliminating attitudes, behaviors, or habits that make divorce an option.

To build a successful and enduring marriage, we must identify and destroy these “boats.” Here are four key ones:

1. The Boat of “Just in Case” Thinking

Many enter marriage with one foot out the door, entertaining thoughts of “if this doesn’t work out, I’ll leave.” This mindset creates a safety net for failure rather than a focus on solutions.

How to Burn It: Commit to viewing marriage as a permanent covenant, not a conditional contract. Replace

“if” with “how”—as in, “How can we overcome this challenge?” Instead of contemplating escape routes, dedicate energy to problem-solving and growth.

2. The Boat of Comparisons

Comparing your spouse or marriage to others can create dissatisfaction. Whether it’s comparing your partner to a former relationship, a fictional ideal, or a curated social media version of someone else’s marriage, this habit fosters unrealistic expectations and resentment.

How to Burn It: Practice gratitude for your spouse’s unique qualities. Focus on building a marriage that works for you both, free from external pressures. Realize that no relationship is perfect, and healthy marriages are built through effort and grace, not comparisons.

3. The Boat of Selfishness

Marriage requires sacrifice and compromise. Holding tightly to individual desires, personal agendas, or an “I deserve this” mentality erodes the unity essential for a thriving partnership.

How to Burn It: Shift from a “me” mindset to a “we” mindset. Regularly ask yourself, “What’s best for our marriage?” rather than focusing solely on your own personal interests or gain.

Embrace small acts of selflessness, like prioritizing your spouse’s needs or working together toward shared goals.

4. The Boat of Unresolved Conflict

Sweeping problems under the rug or allowing resentment to fester creates a ticking time bomb in marriage. Avoiding conflict may feel easier in the moment but leaves wounds unhealed and trust diminished.



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Linda Wright, Co-Chair - 775-419-5715**

No one knows the exact cause of prostate cancer. Doctors can seldom explain why one man develops the disease and another does not. Research has shown that men with certain risk factors are more likely than others to develop the disease.

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How to Burn It: Commit to addressing issues with honesty, patience, and respect. Develop healthy communication skills, including active listening and expressing feelings without blame. Seek professional help if certain conflicts feel insurmountable.

The Reward of Commitment

Burning the boats in marriage requires courage and effort, but the rewards are profound. When you remove the option to give up, you unlock the potential for deep connection, trust, and growth. This doesn't mean staying in harmful or abusive situations, but rather dedicating yourself to making a good marriage better and a strong marriage unshakable.

Ultimately, burning the boats isn't about losing freedom; it's about finding freedom in commitment. It's the freedom to love fully, forgive deeply, and build a partnership that lasts a lifetime...and beyond!



1. See Luke 9:62 (KJV) – And Jesus said unto him, No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

2. See J.B. Haws, "Wrestling with Comparisons," BYU devotional address, 7 May 2019

3. See <https://www.churchofjesus-christ.org/study/manual/gospel-topics/marriage?lang=eng#p4>

stay STOPPED

*Staying in recovery
for life*



Shelley Poerio

The Importance of Human Connections to Recovering Addicts

By Shelley Poerio with Casey Jones

Happy and healthy 2025! We've survived another election – and perhaps this is what has motivated me to choose this topic as the first for this new year. It's really a continuation of the last article, but a bit of a pivot to view the key topics in it in a more social light. And one that further reinforces the importance of human connections in recovery.

I recently followed a TED talk by Johann Hari from June 2015. To summarize his main point and conclusion – in my own words – is that people will choose a more sober existence if they have healthier options, are not isolated, and have a sense of purpose that fuels their self-esteem and sense of belonging. I'll add my observation from experience that the transformation from active addiction to a sense of self worth

doesn't happen overnight – but behaviors, experiences and social context are essential ingredients toward a happier and healthier lifestyle.

Learning and adopting better life skills for the individual in recovery requires change – from hiding behaviors as an active addict – to being an open, honest, and socially connected person. Many of the topics we've covered in *Staying Stopped* are related to supporting and reinforcing the change from being an isolated individual to being a productive member of a community. The main ones are listed below:

- Having a sense of commitment and purpose
- Making and strengthening social connections
- Focusing on Others
- Avoiding falling back into unhealthy habits and behaviors
- Adopt a healthy lifestyle

Now we'd like to further integrate these topics into actionable changes those in recovery can make.

Having a Sense of Commitment And Purpose

Assuming responsibility for a job – as an employee or as a volunteer – is critical for self-esteem. Putting oneself in a position where others rely on your showing up, the work you do and the contributions you make to a team of people creates a context of interdependency. It also helps the recovering addict to perceive that they are necessary and that others depend on them. Living Free Health offers employment options through a café and a gym. In each of these venues, neighbors in recovery work alongside others and strengthen their sense of belonging. They also are essential to the operations' running and functioning as professional businesses.



Making and Strengthening Social Connections

Working in a group is one way to accomplish being better integrated into a healthy community, but there are many others. Volunteering to help neighbors in small ways can go a long way in terms of self confidence and self-esteem. Taking a neighbor's pet for a walk or an overnight stay if they need to be away is not only an act of kindness but a way to develop a friendship. Or helping someone burdened with too many packages or bags of groceries is a small but welcome gesture. Even kind words to a stranger in a market or other store (what a nice hat!) breaks down barriers – and makes both sides of the interaction feel positive. Pahrump is still a small community – so the chance that you will see that “stranger” again is high, and the next time names can be exchanged so you are no longer strangers.

Focusing on Others

This can be accomplished by initially, asking oneself this question before speaking or acting: “How will this be taken by the other person?” This will soon become a habit. It can also help to slow down reactions to perceived wrongs done by others; if you can ask yourself “why did they say or do that?” before jumping to a conclusion helps

further develop empathy for others. A side benefit is that by pausing and considering consequences is that it slows down knee-jerk reactions, gives one time to think, and even allows more “breathing room” to sense or hear what the other person is really trying to communicate – or is feeling. Maybe they just had a personal tragedy or are just having a difficult day. Empathy for others tends to help us develop empathy and patience for ourselves.

Avoid Falling Back into Unhealthy Habits and Behaviors

Just as the above strategy of focusing on others, embracing change toward being a better person involves self-reflection and analysis. And then changing to better behaviors that aren't self-destructive. Even simple things like procrastination (“I'll make my bed later...,” “I'll clean up the dishes later...”) can have a negative impact on larger areas in our lives that may really matter – such as following through on commitments to others. Being disciplined enough to do what needs to be done when it should be pays great dividends: it becomes a new habit and helps one feel more empowered and in control. Self-reflection can be by focusing on oneself objectively, accepting that there may be flaws and figuring

out better ways forward. The difference is that the focus on others emphasizes generosity, concern, and kindness; the focus on self is aimed at acceptance, patience, and striving for continual improvement.

Adopt a Healthy Lifestyle

By taking care of your health – the physical aspects of existence that are related to mind and body – you naturally will feel better and be able to address all the other aspects of being a happy and contributing member to your family and community. Getting enough exercise and rest and focusing on good nutrition form the foundation on which one can feel good and healthy enough to have a positive attitude toward the changes required to stay in recovery and to thrive.

A bottom line is that you must take care of yourself to have the energy and commitment to take care of others. And taking care of others – in action and deed – not only connects you into your community, but it also rewards one with a sense of self respect, well-being, and a feeling of belonging.

If you have comments, or ideas for next articles, please contact me at shelley@livingfreehealth.org.

Shelley Poerio is a Licensed Clinician, and author of “Rebalancing the Addictive Mind: Beating Addiction with Exercise and Nutrition.” She is also the CEO and founder of Living Free Health & Fitness, a 501(c)(3) organization that helps people stay in recovery through counseling, education programs, lifestyle changes and sober living. Shelley lives in Pahrump, NV and has been in active recovery since September 5, 2001. For more information: www.living-freehealth.org.

Casey Jones, MBA, is a consultant who has been a part of Living Free Health & Fitness since 2013. She has helped numerous emerging companies successfully achieve their goal to grow to better meet the needs of their customers and clients. Casey lives in Dallas, TX.



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Dr. Jaldeep Daulat is a Board Certified Dermatologist with over 32 years of Dermatology experience. He opened Mohave Skin and Cancer in 1984, balancing his life between Las Vegas, Laughlin, Kingman, Lake Havasu City and in 2017 expanded into Mesquite and Pahrump, Nevada with Mohave Dermatology. Dr. Daulat is trained to perform highly specialized microscopic skin cancer surgery known as Mohs. He has successfully performed well over 25,000 surgeries and reconstructions. Dr. Daulat has been an instructor and speaker and has given numerous dermatology residents the opportunity for hands on learning and practicing under his guidance.

Michael Roos, PA-C, is a skilled physician assistant. Mr. Roos is a **veteran**, serving as a medic in the **United States Army**, and has a strong commitment to medicine and his patients. His service includes tours in Germany, Iraq, Kuwait, and Oklahoma. Michael received his undergraduate degree in biology and later became a Physician Assistant. He trained in dermatology with Dr. Daulat and treated all types of dermatology conditions, ranging from acne, psoriasis, and autoimmune diseases, to surgical removal of moles, cysts, basal cell, squamous cell, and melanoma cancers. He has over 22 years of experience in cosmetic injectables and laser treatments.



*Se Habla
Español*

Nicholas Benites, PA-C, is an exceptional physician assistant practicing in the Las Vegas area for over 10 years, with eight years in dermatology. He is a **veteran**, having served in the **United States Army** for almost 20 years in both the **Nevada Army National Guard** and the **United States Army Reserve**. He is currently a major in the Army Reserve. Nicholas completed his medical training in the military's Interservice Physician Assistant Program. Nicholas treats various skin conditions from acne to skin cancer. He brings expertise from his work with multiple dermatologists and practices over the years.

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OUR VETERANS OUR HEROES

Charles Benson, SMSgt (E-8), US Air Force

Part 1

*By Charles Benson
Introduction by Dr. Tom Waters,
Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)*

*T*here is NO introduction required by Tom Waters so let's allow Senior Master Sergeant Charles Benson to tell his story in his own words. Here goes ...

I have been asked to write my "story" by Dr. Tom Waters, Lt. Colonel USAF (Ret), to be published in the Pahrump Life Magazine.

Is my "story" worth telling? I don't think so. I've done nothing spectacular or heroic and never made the news. I can't play an instrument, and I can't even sing, except in my car, alone, with a loud radio!

So why write this? It would be nice for my two children, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren to know my entire story, and I assume many more great-grandkids will come. Three of my grandsons are 14-15 and 16 years old!

My biggest accomplishment is being happily married to my lovely wife, Barbara, for the past 53 years. That marriage gave us two fantastic children, our daughter Jennifer and our son Daniel. We have five grandchildren and, so far, four great-grandchildren. We are equally thankful for all of their excellent health. So, now that I have told you about my major accomplishment, what can I say? My "story," I guess. I've decided to make it "by chapter" for ease of reading.

Cookeville, TN, 1946-1965

My name is Charles Benson. I am the oldest of four. I was born June 15, 1946 in Cookeville, Tennessee. I have two younger brothers still living in the same town we all grew up in and a deceased sister who lived and died there as well. We were born around two years apart in "1946-'48-'50-and '52.

Neither of my parents finished High School. They were children of the depression. Dad was born in 1922, and Mom was born in 1924. They quit High School because they had to go to work. My Dad was the youngest of eight



Charles Benson graduated high school in 1964

boys. He also had two younger sisters and one older. To my knowledge, none of the eleven finished High School. My mother was the middle of five children. Again, being children of the depression, they all quit school to work.

My father and three of his brothers served in Europe during WWII. Both of my mom's brothers served as well. My father was a sergeant and a Sherman Tank commander. He entered France at Calais on Day three of the Invasion. In the weeks that followed, he got seriously ill with a lung infection and pneumonia and was eventually evacuated to a military hospital in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He lost half of

one lung and spent almost a year in recovery before being discharged.

I have no idea what his brothers did. Nor do I know where my mother's two brothers served. Her oldest brother died of disease at age 14. From what? I don't know. I should have asked but didn't.

Now is when I need to interrupt my story for a moment to beg everyone reading this to please discover all you can about your family. Document it. Ask questions. Get dates and places. Once those family members are gone, it's too late to ask. You never know. I want my great-great-grandchildren to know that Barbara and I existed, who we were, what we did, where we lived, and where we were from.

According to Jewish tradition, everyone dies twice. I'm not Jewish, just quoting. The first time is when the heart stops beating, and the synapses in the brain shut down, like a city during a blackout. The second time is when the dead person's name is uttered, read, or thought of for the last time after fifty, hundred, or four hundred years. Only then is the person gone, erased from life on Earth.

I maintain my family tree on Ancestry.Com (subscription required) and Family Search.ORG (free). I don't want to be "gone, erased from life on earth," so think about it for your great-grandchildren.

None of my Grandparents were "well-off." They weren't even "comfortable." They scraped by their whole lives. My mom's Dad was a coal-shoveling fireman. His wife was a homemaker. My mom told me he started on steamships traveling the French Broad and Holston rivers that joined in Knoxville and formed the Tennessee River. He was away from home too much, and my grandmother was so jealous she made him quit and go to the railroad. Once again, as a fireman, and again, there was too much traveling. Once again, he stopped and took a fireman job at the PET Milk Company. It was close enough that he walked to work. He

"My biggest accomplishment is being happily married to my lovely wife, Barbara, for the past 53 years."

stoked the furnaces. It was hard work. He died at age 64, from what, I don't know. I don't know if he had retired or was still working. I failed to ask. I wish I had. They had five children. My mom was the middle child. The oldest boy died as a teenager. Illness or accident? I don't know. I failed to ask.

I was fortunate to have known all four of my Grandparents. Until age 10, my paternal grandparents lived maybe 100 yards from us, and I saw them almost daily. My maternal grandparents lived in Knoxville, Tennessee, and I did not get to see them but a few times before they passed away. All four were born between 1880 and 1894. My paternal Grandparents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in February 1954, and she passed away in July of that same year at the age of 69. I lost both of my maternal grandparents in 1956 and 1963 at ages 64 and 69. Three of my four grandparents died in their sixties. However, my Dad's dad lived till 93. Not bad for being born in a wagon train in Webb City, Missouri, in 1880 while returning from Kansas to Tennessee. They were going in the wrong direction! I wish I had asked why. I was around him until I entered the Military in 1965. I could have just asked. He was a farmer and sharecropper. They had 11 children. That was their retirement. That's what poor people did. They did what was necessary to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves and their family. Neither he nor his wife was well educated. I think he could write his name. I'm not sure. I failed to ask.

I grew up knowing all of my Aunts and Uncles. Some of my dad's brothers had gone to Michigan for work in the forties and fifties. Mom's brothers were

in Kansas, and her sister was in Florida. But there were always reunions, mainly in Tennessee. There were at least 42 first cousins born from 1932 to 1958. I was born in 1946, for some perspective. I had cousins 14 years older than me and 12 years younger than me. So, I knew and remember all of them. I graduated High School in 1964. I lived within walking distance from the Tennessee Technical University campus, and my Dad said he would pay all expenses if I went to that college. I chose not to.

I had a graduation night first date with a girl called Helen. We had known each other throughout High School but never got together. She was a tall, long-legged blonde and quite the looker! Anyway, we saw each other a lot for a few weeks after graduation. My folks had promised a trip to Daytona Beach, Florida, as a Graduation present. I had an older first cousin that I was to stay with. This created a real dilemma for me as I was heavily involved with Helen and hated leaving her for two long weeks. But I chose to go. After a week in Florida, I was missing Helen, so I came home a week early. I eagerly phoned Helen to let her know that I was back. Her Mom answered the phone, and I asked to speak with Helen. Her mom replied, "She wasn't there. Helen got married two days ago!" "Uhhh, OK," I said. I hung up and sat there, absorbing what I had just heard. It took a couple of minutes to realize that she had been using me to make her "real" boyfriend jealous enough to coerce him into marrying her. That hurt. The real killer was that I gave up a week in Daytona for her! That was my first lesson learning the difference between love and lust.



1959 Ford Skyliner

Nashville, TN, 1964-1965

Shortly after that, I moved some 70 miles away to Nashville, Tennessee. Hello, Music City, USA! I soon worked in a Cardboard Box Factory, making 10 cents over minimum wage at \$1.35 per hour. I rented a room from a dear elderly lady for \$15 weekly. I bought my first car - an all-black 1959 Ford Skyliner - financed for \$650. Life was good.

All was well until August 1965 when I had to report for my pre-draft induction physical, which I passed with flying colors! I had just turned 19 in June and was getting nervous about being drafted and ending up in Vietnam slogging through the jungle with an M-16 in my hands. My pal was in the Tennessee Air National Guard (ANG) and said, "I can get you in if you want." The only problem with that was that it was a 6-year commitment. When you are 19 years old, six years is a lifetime. Two years in the Army or six years in the ANG? It was a tough decision that I didn't want to make, but I had to, and soon! Soon after, I visited my family back in Cookeville and decided to talk with the Air Force recruiter. I asked my Dad to come with me. He was in the WWII Army and had also encouraged me to make a career in the military. This was late August, and the recruiters' first opening was in October! The

draft made a USAF recruiter job easy during the Vietnam era. So, I signed the papers, took the 9 October slot, quit my job, moved back home, goofed off for a couple of months, spent all my money, and left the car for my Dad to sell. It was financed, and I knew I could not afford the \$35 car payment per month.

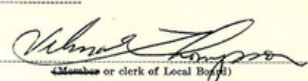
Dad drove me to the Bus station, and with my USAF-provided ticket, I boarded the bus and left for Nashville.

My first airplane flight on a 707 was to Love Field, Dallas, Texas. An Air Force sergeant met us and herded us to another flight to San Antonio. There were six of us from Nashville.

At this point, I need to include a disclaimer. The following are all facts that I remember. My description of the military organizations, procedures, and operations may be inaccurate. That was not intentional. I've been retired for a long time. The intent of my writing is as honest and factual as I remember.

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX, 1965

I arrived at Lackland AFB late afternoon in a US Air Force (USAF) blue school bus. I think late arrivals are planned. Let the darkness and fatigue contribute to the confusion. The arrival is just like everyone imagines it. If you were ever in the military, you know. If you haven't had the privilege, you've seen it in the movies. A sergeant called TI (Training Instructor) enters the bus and yells for everyone to "MOVE, MOVE, MOVE IT NOW, GET OFF THE BUS AND LINE UP OUTSIDE, NOW!" That "YELLING" slowly begins to taper off after about a week. At least it seemed less and less

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Basic Training shot line 1965

as the days went by, and I began to behave like they were training me to be. I was assigned to the 3703 Basic Military Training Squadron, Flight 1743. Basic Training then becomes just that. I got my haircut, lots of shots, uniforms were issued, and I learned to march. Marching was easy for me. I learned it in the Boy Scouts and qualified in the firing range with an M-1 Carbine. The M-16 would come later. It all becomes reasonably routine and predictable. March, march, march. You march everywhere, even to the Chow Hall, for all meals. I become indoctrinated, get military-minded, and start to feel proud of myself. I pull my shoulders back and hold my head just a little higher. Then, near the end, I finally got to wear my dress uniform for the first time. I march in my first parade. Everyone is in step and looking so pro-

fessional and disciplined. The days are predictable and routine - just more of the same. Basic Training is ending. I'm going to go on leave! See my girlfriend. I had one then, and she wasn't married! I was excited to reignite that spark of love, or was it lust?! Then, my orders finally arrived. What am I going to be doing? Where am I going to be stationed? My assignment was to attend the Lowry Technical Training Center (LTTC) at Lowry AFB, Aurora, Colorado, to receive training in the Offensive/Defensive Weapons Control Systems Operation/Maintenance career field.

I had yet to learn what that meant. I assumed I was going to be an airborne gunner. That is what I "thought" when I told the recruiter what I wanted. Like in the movies, you were shooting down enemy aircraft from a B-17 or a B-26. I had yet to learn what the real USAF was all about. Absolutely nothing! It was just what I had been indoctrinated with in Basic Training. I don't remember when I took the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT). It is now called the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) or something like that. It was probably in my senior year of High School. Recruiters visited high schools regularly during those days. It could have been in the recruiter's office or the Nashville induction center while taking the Draft Physical

"My assignment was to attend the Lowry Technical Training Center at Lowry AFB, Aurora, Colorado..."

or Basic Training. I am trying to remember. I do remember my scores. They were 95 in Mechanical. 90 in Electrical, 85 in Administrative, and 80 in General. I didn't think much of it then, but I'm sure that's how I wound up in Avionics (aviation electronics). So now I'm graduating from Basic and preparing to go home on leave and see my girlfriend. Basic Training can be very lonely. Lesson two was about to begin in the love/lust department. I was ordered to proceed directly to Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, Colorado, for Technical School Training. No leave!

Lowry AFB, 1965-1966

I arrived at Lowry and, guess what! Two more weeks of Basic Training. That means more marching everywhere. To the Chow Hall, Marching drills. More inspections, no going off-base, no going ANYWHERE. The two weeks pass, and Basic Training is finally over. I am now promoted to A3C (airman third class - one stripe). My base pay went from \$87.90 to 96.50. I am now classified as Personnel Awaiting Training Status (PATS) and assigned to the 3535 Student Training Squadron. I lived in one of the Original United States Air Force Academy (USAF) barracks. The USAFA was at Lowry from 1955, when it was established, through 1958,



M-1 Carbine firing range at Lackland AFB



Airman 3rd Class



Learning to use that buffer!

when the USAFA was being constructed in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

No school yet, just reporting to various work details around the base for another month or so. In pulling kitchen policing (KP) duty, I was washing dishes, refilling the milk machines, etc., and raking leaves, painting curbs, and learning how to use a floor buffer. Using a floor buffer was probably the first skill I and many others learned in the Military. There was plenty of time for me to take leave and brush up on my love/lust skills. But no! I was too valuable! I was needed! I needed to learn how to use that buffer! But all was not lost. I did learn how to play pinochle. During this “free” time, I learned why I was there. I was going to attend 18

7-11 Tube Tester



\$125 1955 Buick Special

weeks of fundamental electronics. I would then be allowed to take a two-week leave. I would then be taught how to operate, diagnose, troubleshoot, and repair the Weapons Control Systems (WCS) on an F4 Phantom II aircraft.

I had no idea what an F4 was! I knew even less about electronics! My experience in electronics was removing the tubes in my AM car radio (which I no longer owned), taking them into a 7-11, testing them in their machine, and buying a new one from the cabinet under the testing machine to replace the one that tested bad, reinstalling it in the radio, and reinstalling the radio in the dash. That did not take a lot of skill. I didn't know an ohm from an amp or a resistor from a capacitor. But I was about to learn.

The student pipeline, as it was called, was very long and busy in 1965-1966. The Lowry Technical Training Center (LTTC) was running six days a week with four six-hour shifts. The hours were 0001-0600 A shift, 0600-1200 B shift, 1200-1800 C shift, and 1800-2400 D shift. With a new class that starts approximately every four weeks. There were multiple classes per shift. We were organized into flights of around 40 to 60 airmen per flight. Numerous flights were marching to and from the school buildings daily. It was a hectic, congested

time, but very well organized.

It is now May, and as promised, I was granted two weeks' leave after graduating from Fundamental Electronics. My old girlfriend and I tried to rekindle the old flames that had all but burned out over the last seven months. We had drifted apart. I was seeing a couple of girls in Denver. She was dating as well. She was prepared to get married. I was not, with a gross pay of \$96.00 per month. It would be financially irresponsible for me to attempt that. We did part as friends. That is the best one could hope for.

There is one last thing to tell you in this chapter of my life. Florida was the only place I had visited. I arrived after dark at Lowry in November 1965. The next morning, I looked out the barracks window. After wiping off the frost inside the glass, I saw my first glimpse of the snow-covered Rocky



Airman 2nd Class

Mountains. What an awe-inspiring sight. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. If you have ever seen snow-capped mountains, you remember that first time. It is and will always be unforgettable to me.

I returned to Lowry and entered formal training on the Weapons Control system for the F4 Phantom II aircraft. Walking into a classroom and touching the actual WCS Radar System installed in the aircraft was awesome. None of us had ever seen an F4, but this was exciting. The system was classified. So, access was limited to the students and instructors. Other students attended other airplane radar systems but were not classified. They had to march to and from school carrying a bunch of bulky technical Manuals. We were not allowed to remove the books from the building. I felt privileged and unique to be chosen to learn this newest and most sophisticated system.

Upon my return to Lowry, I was promoted from A3C (airman third class - one stripe) to A2C (airman second class - two stripes). Monthly base pay went from \$96.50 to \$117.90.

I also discovered that my friend, a student ahead of me, had orders to remain at LTTC as an Instructor. He immediately purchased a new GTO and offered to sell me his 1955 2-door hardtop Buick Special for \$125. I gave him a \$10 deposit to hold it for a week. Hey, we were not rich. I only grossed \$96 per month. I called my dad! He sent me \$150 and said I would need a little more for Insurance, registration, etc. Now, I'm walking in tall cotton! Remember, I have a car, free time, and no books to study. Life was good. No more standing by the bowling alley, kicking the chain-link fence, waiting for girls to drive by and pick you up.



Denver to Illinois



Heading west on the Mother Road

In Denver, the ratio of girls to guys was 7 to 1!! There were plenty of pick-ups. To obtain gas money, I would drive by the on-base bus stop and pick up four guys waiting for the bus to downtown Denver. My fee was a quarter per person. I would drop them off downtown and pick up four more GIs waiting for the bus back to the base. I would do this four or five times and have a full gas tank!

Here is one last comment about Lowry, and we will move on. Have you ever met anyone born on the same day and year as you? I have, one time. One of my pals needed someone to blind date his girlfriend's friend. We went to the drive-in movie. I purchased a newspaper earlier when we stopped for gas before picking up the girls. Anyway, we swapped seats at the drive-in. It was his car, and I was with a stranger. While waiting for the movie to start, my date and I casually conversed. You have all been there. You know what I'm talking about, just getting to know each other. I casually picked up the newspaper, probably to move it, and noticed the date. It was Wednesday, June 15. So I said, "Hey, look at this. Today is my birthday." I had forgotten all about it. So she said, "I'll wish you a Happy Birthday if you wish me one." It was her Birthday as well! As it turned out, she was also born in 1946, the same year I was. We both had turned twenty. We hit it off very well after that. We continued to see each other at every opportunity, and it was a lot, until that dreaded day in mid to late August when we had to say goodbye. I left for Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada, and she departed for Omaha, Nebraska, to attend Creighton University, never to meet again. At this time, I would like to know if this will be the last of those

love/lust moments.

It's late August; I'm driving east on US 36, giving a fellow graduate a ride home to Springfield, Illinois. We graduated from the Technical School and were headed home on leave across the eastern plains of Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, and Springfield, Illinois. That's 852 miles in August, with no A/C or Cruise Control. We took turns and drove straight through, around 17-18 hours, with the trunk and back seat loaded with our military clothing and personal belongings, what little they were. We would get gas, hit the restroom, have a gas station snack, and keep moving. I dropped my friend off at his folk's house around 23:00 (11:00 PM).

I drove for another hour. I pulled over onto a truck "parking area" and slept in the car until daylight. I pulled into my parent's house late afternoon. It would help to remember that the interstate system only had spotty completions. So this and the upcoming trip to Las Vegas were on almost exclusive US Highways. After a couple of weeks' leave, I departed for Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, Nevada, in the middle of September 1966, using multiple US Highways to Oklahoma City. I then picked up US Highway 66 (Route 66) to Kingman, AZ. I'm living the good life.

Cruising Route 66 is like on TV, without the Corvette, the drama, and Nat King Cole!! Most of this journey was on two-lane roads, constantly having to pass tractor-trailers and slower cars. The accepted practice then was to find and follow a truck or car driving the same speed as you. You kept back far enough to allow faster cars to pass you safely, but you always used that car or truck you followed as your cruise con-



Heading west on the Mother Road

trol. You could match your speed with theirs. Once west of Oklahoma City, you could sometimes drive for an hour or more like this. It made long-distance driving much more manageable, not having to monitor your speedometer constantly. I also had a fellow graduate ride with me to Nellis. His folks drove him down from Virginia, and we headed out the next day. We made it to somewhere in western New Mexico and stopped for the night in some low-cost motel. I drove through Kingman, Arizona; turned right on US Highway 93, crossed Hoover Dam, drove into Las Vegas via Boulder Highway to Las Vegas Blvd, turned right, and arrived at Nellis late the following afternoon in the middle of September. No I-15 or CC-215 in those days. Man, it was hot! Remember, no A/C. I had just driven from Denver via Nashville to Las Vegas with the windows down! Could I do that again? Would I even think about it? I doubt it.

Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1966-1968

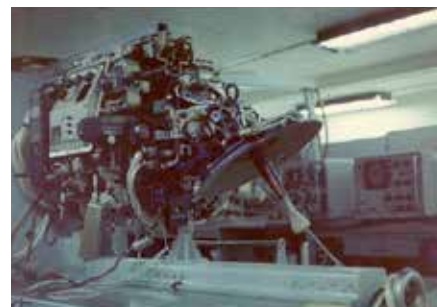
I am now in the real Air Force. No more marching! The jets take off and land day and night. Two men were assigned to a room in the barracks: a real job, a car in the parking lot, and in LAS VEGAS. Life was indeed good!

I was assigned to the 4525th

Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in the Tactical Air Command (TAC). I soon realized that there are two sides to my job. One is on the Flight Line, where my counterparts sit in the cockpits checking out the Radar. The F-4 is a front and back two-seat aircraft. They are operating the radar, diagnosing and troubleshooting the system, and trying to duplicate the malfunctions the aircrew described that happened during the flight.

They then remove the suspected component(s) from the airplane and bring them to the back shop to be aligned or repaired. The second half of the job was where I was assigned. We had a complete radar system in the shop, like the one installed in the aircraft. It was called a hot mock-up. I would remove our good component and install the suspect component that was brought in. I would then align or repair the faulty component and return it to the Flight Line.

I got the better of the job, and I was working in Air Conditioning! The radar would generate a lot of heat, and locating the mock-up in air-conditioned buildings was necessary. The Flight Line guys had to learn how to check out the system and determine its serviceability, whereas I had to do the same thing and diagnose the component down to the failed component. I



Radar Package in shop

then had to replace the failed component. Be it a transistor, resistor, capacitor, tube(s), etc, and then align it to a serviceable condition. In the long run, this training gave me a real edge over my fellow flight line technicians regarding system knowledge. It paid off well in my future assignments.

The USAF has four proficiency levels, at least in the Aircraft Maintenance skills. Those levels are 3-5-7-9. The 3-level is the apprentice, the 5 is the journeyman, the 7 is the supervisor, and the 9 is the superintendent.

I arrived at Nellis as a 3-level. I faced a lot of learning. My immediate task was two-fold. To acquire as much hands-on experience as possible and pass the Career Development Course (CDC) for this WCS Fire Control System I am beginning work on. The CDCs are like a correspondence course. At the Technical School, I was primarily taught the operational theory of how the System operated. My task was to learn how to check out the system and determine its operational serviceability. If it was not performing as required, it was now my job to learn how to diagnose, troubleshoot, repair, and correctly align the particular component I was working on at any given time. This was done primarily with an on-the-job trainer (OJT) assigned to train me to the five skill levels (journeyman). I don't remember exactly, but the upgrade training for OJT and CDC had to be completed sometime between 6 and 12 months. The difference between a 3-level and a 5-level is that a 5-level can complete repairs and alignments without supervision. The



Radar Package extended from fuselage



Radar Antenna

3-level must verify all of his/her work by a 5-level or higher. It is desirable for all concerned to obtain that 5-level as soon as possible. I could do my work without supervision, and my trainer could do his work without constantly monitoring me. My 5-level trainer was Bill C. We became lifelong friends, as you will later see.

One example of how OJT is so valuable is my first task in the shop: removing and replacing a rotary joint buried deep in the Radar Antenna. My trainer, Bill, was absent that day, so another 5-level told me to get the appropriate Technical Order (TO) Book and follow the written procedures that were provided for the replacement of the rotary joint. As I was asked to do, I obtained the TO from the safe and correctly signed it out of the safe. All of the TOs were classified. The various TOs were like owner manuals. They told you how things work and how to remove and install various sub-assemblies of a particular component. Remember, I am a brand new 3-level right out of Technical School. I had been on the job for a week. I started disassembling the Antenna for access to the Rotary Joint precisely as written in the TO. Step by step. I removed screws, bolts, washers, and nuts, along with other components that made up the complete Antenna. By the time someone decided to check on my progress, I had removed probably six or seven sub-assemblies neatly laid out on the table and maybe at least a hundred screws, bolts, nuts, and wash-



USAF THunderbird F-100

ers all combined neatly in one big pile.

Neither the T.O. nor any qualified shop personnel informed me that the assorted, different-size fasteners had to be separated and kept with the components I had just removed. It took one person, not me, three days to finish replacing the rotary joint and determining what hardware, from that pile I had made, went with which component during re-assembly. I shrugged my shoulders and spread my hands, stating, "I followed the TO step by step, exactly as written." I was soon informed that "the entire job should have taken 2-2 1/2 hours to complete." Shortcuts, bypassing much of the removals I had done, were known, and I should have been supervised better. It was just my ignorance and lack of supervision. I wonder if they learned anything. I sure did! Cover all your bases. Leave nothing to chance, and if something can go wrong, it will!

I also got to see the USAF Thunderbirds practice and perform numerous times. Nellis was their home base, and they flew the F-100 aircraft.

In 1968, it was announced that the Thunderbird would be converted to the F-4. One of my USAF goals was to apply for the Thunderbirds - the most prestigious job in the USAF. That was the airplane I was trained on! I was elated! But they removed the radar and used the vacated space to store luggage and assorted small ground equipment. I was heartbroken, but life must go on.

I also discovered what was described as a "Beer Bash" or "Beer Call." I am curious to know how much of the

USAF participated in this. I do know that every maintenance organization I was ever assigned to did! Depending on circumstances, they usually occur monthly or quarterly. It is a get-together with the senior staff (Senior NCOs and Officers), providing beer, burgers, and hotdogs for the subordinate NCOs and airmen. Usually, it takes place in a hanger or nose-dock. It is a casual and informal social event that allows the subordinate troops open and free access to their superiors to meet and greet. The seniors hear gripes from the bottom up, and they, in turn, get to pass down their thoughts on various issues. Everything, from maintenance issues, base facilities concerns, and sports discussions to the weather is open to discussion. If they still exist, they are an excellent way to communicate from the top down and the bottom up. It instills camaraderie, teamwork, and recognition, letting everyone know that we are all a team working toward the same goal. Keep 'em flyin'!

In October 1967, I was promoted to A1C (airman first class - three stripes)—finally, the top of the Airman



Airman First Class E-4



1963 Plymouth Savoy

rank structure. The next step would be to enter the NCO ranks. Not only did I get promoted, but I also went over two years in service. That was two pay raises in the same month! I went from A2C with under two years of service to A1C with over two years of service. My pay increased from \$128.70 to \$223.20 per month. I was still living in the Barracks and had a meal card to eat for free in the Chow Hall. Man, I was rich!! I still had my '55 Buick. Start a savings account? Nope. I bought another car! I added a '1963 Plymouth to my stable.

I need to move on, but one more car story. It is sad but true. In late 1967 or early 1968, one of my workmates had orders to Vietnam. He has a 1957 Oldsmobile 4-door hardtop, two-tone grey. It was a pretty car, but he didn't trust it and wanted to swap it even for my '55 Buick. He knew that I took care of my cars and felt that mine would take him and his wife and child to Minnesota to stay while he was in Vietnam. I thought it was a fair trade. I knew that there was nothing wrong with my Buick. The swap was made, and he and his family headed to Minnesota. A year or two later, I discovered that the Buick's differential failed in Utah. I felt awful about that. It's bad enough that I still remember it some 55 years later. I don't know his name. I never saw him again. I can only hope that he doesn't feel wrong about me.

Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 1968-1969

I turned 21 on June 15, 1967. My time finally came around, and I was issued orders to Thailand, departing on October 9, 1968. I did not volunteer. I was, after all, in Las Vegas! I turned 21 there. I was always broke. But what young airman wasn't?

I had no reason to leave the USAF except for my Cardboard box factory job. My fellow workers told me to never return to that factory under any cir-

cumstances. If I returned, I would be like them: "married, with kids, with a mortgage, car payments, and stuck in that factory the rest of your life." They told me to use my military training to further myself instead of spending the rest of my life stuck in a factory job, just like them. So, I reenlisted for four more years to be eligible for the Thailand tour. After taking some leave, I sold the cars, reported to Travis AFB, California, and departed on 9 October 1968 on World Airways to Bangkok, Thailand. I had visited Tijuana, Mexico, while at Nellis, but Thailand was a real culture shock. Stepping out of that airplane door in Bangkok into an oven of unbelievable heat takes your breath away. Not in a good "take your breath away" moment. But a real "can't breathe moment" takes your breath away. A few moments after you learn to breathe again, you realize you are soaked from head to toe with sweat. I do mean soaked. After you ask yourself, "How am I going to survive this?" the smell smacks you in the face, and once again, it takes your breath away. I am in no way trying to say it stinks. It doesn't. You are just halfway around the world, and it smells dif-



Bangkok Hotel



Boarding the C-130 Transport

ferent. It smells like Thailand: different plants, outdoor cooking, and open stagnant water in the ditches. I don't know what creates odor, just about everything.

We will soon be transported to downtown Bangkok to a military contract hotel. I, like all GIs, am assigned a private room. The Hotel's name was The ViengTai Hotel. Those of us going to Udorn Royal Thai Air Base were to wait three days for a C-130 aircraft transport shuttle run to get there. We were all young, in our late teens or early twenties. We were strangers in a strange land indeed with no adult supervision. We were on our own. The hotel had a restaurant. Three or four of us got along pretty well and had agreed to meet at the restaurant. All of us have some Thai money. Baht it was called. Twenty Baht equaled one dollar. I have no memory of how I obtained it. It must have been at the Air Base before departing for or at the Hotel. Like I said, I have no idea.

Beer was on the menu! That was the first order of business. So we ordered four beers and were pleasantly surprised that the hotel staff spoke good English. It shouldn't have surprised me. After all, Americans had been in their Country for quite a few years. I didn't think it out. I decided to order a steak. It was on the menu! It was a delicious meal. I had a few more beers and retired to my room. It had been a long, long flight. Jet lag reared its ugly head, and I was dog-tired. After a few hours of sleeping, the Hotel was air-conditioned. I woke up, immediately ran to the toilet, and barfed up the entire meal. It's just sensory overload. The

new beer was good; it was new food and spices in a strange land. Is water buffalo considered beef?

I overcame it, did two days of limited, cautious sightseeing, caught the C-130 shuttle, and arrived at Udorn RTAFB on the 12th of October. Udorn was located 51 miles south of Vientiane, Laos, in northern Thailand. I was assigned to the 432nd Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron. (A&EMS), 432nd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (TRW). I was in-processed, issued jungle fatigues and boots, was assigned a barracks, and started working.

My history preceded me, so I was again assigned to the shop, not the flight line - same duties as Nellis, only six days a week with 8-hour shifts. The barracks were two-story screened-in upper half of the wall. Inside was divided off with metal grey lockers, creating living cubicles for two people. Bunk beds, a desk and chair, a ceiling fan, and mosquito netting for the beds completed the living arrangements. I

"I turned 21 on June 15, 1967. My time finally came around, and I was issued orders to Thailand, departing on October 9, 1968."

went over three years of service that month, so my pay jumped to \$283.50. The toilets and showers were in separate buildings. The walkways between the barracks and shower facilities were raised wooden walkways. That was to avoid the standing water and mud. It was a real culture shock to shower with the house girl sitting on a stool next to you washing clothes. The shower stalls were not partitioned. There are just six or eight shower heads on the wall with controls beneath them. The toilet stalls were partitioned, but no doors. As with everything in life, I soon got used to it.

It rained a lot in Thailand. I could not avoid getting wet, really wet. I had to walk everywhere. I got used to wrapping my wallet in plastic, sticking it back in my pocket, and accepting that I would get wet. No one was exempt. We were all in it together. You accept it and get on with your daily life. Work was



Me on the left working in the Hot-Mock-Up



My Handlebar moustache mid-tour

relatively routine. I got into a rhythm and a routine. The year went by relatively fast. It is assumed that Thailand was safe and far away from the shooting war in Vietnam. Except for the aircrew, it mostly was. Udorn was attacked twice, plus one aircraft crash on the base with loss of life.

On 26 July 1968: shortly before I arrived, a team of 25 or more personnel equipped with automatic weapons attacked Udorn RTAFB, causing severe damage to a USAF C-141 and an F-4-D and killing one Thai security guard and the C-141 crew chief.

On 10 April 1970, six months after I had left at 14:00, a battle-damaged USAF RF-4C returning from a reconnaissance mission over Laos crash-landed at the base, destroying nine officers' quarter buildings, one officer's quarter's trailer, and a radio building and killing nine personnel on the ground.

On 3 October 1972: A group of seven guerillas attempted an attack, with three killed and one captured. One Thai security guard was killed.

I felt perfectly safe during my tour, but I always remained vigilant. I just never knew for sure. I never even thought about exposure to Agent Orange. I am now declared by the Veterans Administration (VA) 100% disabled due to congestive heart failure caused by exposure to that herbicide in



Two story Barracks on the right and the shower rooms and toilets on the left. The house girls are doing laundry.

Thailand.

I had taken an early out (discharge) and re-enlisted at Nellis before departing for Thailand, and I was eagerly awaiting my next assignment. I had requested a consecutive overseas tour (COT) to Europe - specifically England, Italy, and Germany. I received orders to Hahn Air Base Germany. I was thrilled. One of my main goals in the USAF was to see the world, or at least as much as possible.

I departed Udorn on time. I landed at the San Francisco Airport and obtained a Hotel room for the night. Most of America, especially California, in the late '60s, was not the nicest place to be in public in a military uniform. The hippies, draft dodgers, and peace-niks were prone to harass anyone in uniform. It was common practice to change to civilian clothes as soon as possible. I did so in an Airport restroom. The marine and army combat troops got the worst of it. They were often pulled from the field, loaded on airplanes, still in dirty combat fatigues, and dumped directly into San Francisco International. They were called names, spit on, called "Baby Killers," and worse. This did not happen to all returning military. But, in my opinion,

one incident was one too many. Sadly, there were thousands of occurrences around the country for way too many years. Those misguided folks were unfairly blaming the tools. I hope they still have a guilty conscience for their behavior. It is a stain on America that will remain for generations. The next day, I flew to Nashville. It was nice to see the family again. By this time, the next oldest brother was in the US Navy. He was also in aircraft Avionics and cruised to the Mediterranean on the USS John F. Kennedy CVA 67 Aircraft Carrier.

While this concludes Part 1 of my story, it is only the beginning. Please see Parts 2 through 4 in future issues of the Pahrump Life Magazine. I am excited with anticipation for you as you wait to read Part 2 of my story in the next issue. "See You There."

Also, please remember that YOUR story could appear in the Our Veterans, Our Heroes section to allow you to share your STORY with the Pahrump Life Magazine readers around the world. Contact Tom Waters (Air Force Veteran) or Christine Butler (Owner & Editor) to share your story with the readers.



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Why Having Antivirus Protection and Using Caution with Online Scams is the Best “One-Two Punch” Defense in 2025

By Josh Osborne

In today's world, being online is just part of everyday life. We use the internet to keep in touch with family, pay bills, shop, and even get health information. But, as useful as the internet is, it can also bring risks—especially from scams and viruses. In 2025, the best way to protect yourself online is by using a combination of antivirus protection and good old-fashioned common sense. Think of it as a “one-two punch” defense, giving you a strong way to keep your finances and information safe and secure. Let's look at why this approach is so effective and how you can use it.

Punch 1: Antivirus Software and Why You Need It

Antivirus software is a program you install on your computer that watches over your online activity and helps keep out harmful programs (often called “viruses” or “malware”). Think of it as having a security guard who watches for anything suspicious trying

to get into your computer.

Here's how antivirus software protects you:

- **Stops Viruses and Malware:** Antivirus programs are designed to catch and block things that can harm your computer, such as viruses, malware, or dangerous downloads.
- **Scans Files and Emails:** It checks the files you open, emails you receive, and websites you visit for anything unusual or potentially dangerous.
- **Updates Regularly:** Good antivirus software keeps itself updated automatically, which is important because cybercriminals are always coming up with new tricks. With regular updates, your antivirus program is always learning how to catch the latest threats.

Antivirus protection alone is not perfect, but it handles a lot of the technical side of keeping you safe. It's like having a security guard who does a quick check of everything coming in, even if you're not watching all the time.

Punch 2: Common Sense and Why You Need to Use It

While antivirus software is excellent at catching viruses and other dangerous programs, there are some tricks that only you can recognize. This is where common sense comes in.

Here are a few simple rules to help you stay safe:

- **Be Careful with Unexpected Messages and Emails:** Scammers often pretend to be someone you know or a company you trust. For example, they might send an email that looks like it's from your bank or a family member. If a message seems odd or asks for personal information, it's best to ignore it or call the person or business directly to check if it's valid.
- **Avoid Clicking on Suspicious Links or Downloads:** Some links or attachments can lead to dangerous websites or download harmful software. If you don't know the person who sent you a link or file, don't open it. If you're unsure, ask someone you trust for advice.

- **Double-Check Before Giving Out Personal Information:** No legitimate company will ask for your password, Social Security number, or banking information by email or text. If someone does, it's a scam.

Using common sense online is just like being cautious in real life. If someone seems suspicious or is asking for something private, it's okay to be skeptical.

How an Antivirus and Common Sense Work Together

Using antivirus software and common sense at the same time is the best way to stay safe. Here's why:

- **The Antivirus Catches the Obvious Dangers:** Antivirus software is excellent at catching known threats, like viruses or malware, that can harm your computer. It also has a good chance of stopping harmful emails and attachments from getting through.
- **Common Sense Catches the "Sneaky" Tricks:** Scammers today are clever and know how to create emails or websites that look real but aren't. By using your judgment, you can recognize scams that the antivirus might not catch.

Choosing the Right Antivirus Software

Not all antivirus programs are the same, so it's important to choose one that's simple and effective.

- **Pick a Good Brand:** Well-known antivirus brands like Norton, McAfee are popular but are very sales pitchy, want you to purchase more add-ons after the initial purchase, slow down your PC with bloated software and auto-run your credit card after a year. We recommend MalwareBytes as it's affordable, offers great protection and doesn't slow down your computer.
- **Look for Simple and Easy-to-Use Programs:** Some antivirus software is complicated, but many offer straightforward options with easy instructions. Look for software with a user-friendly design.
- **Keep it Updated Automatically:** Many antivirus programs can update themselves so you don't have to worry about it. Check with the company or ask for help setting up automatic updates.

Putting It All Together: The One-Two Punch

In 2025, the best way to stay safe online is to use both antivirus software

and common sense. Antivirus software provides the technical security that protects your computer and scans everything coming in. Meanwhile, common sense helps you avoid sneaky scams and risky websites. By using both, you're protecting yourself from both sides of online danger.

Here's a quick recap to help you remember:

- **Install antivirus software** to keep harmful programs off your computer.
- **Be cautious online** and watch for anything that seems suspicious or too good to be true.

Together, these two simple steps make the perfect "one-two punch" for keeping you safe online. With both in place, you can enjoy the benefits of the internet while staying protected from today's cyber threats.

Check back in Pahrump Life Magazine next month for another article.

Still Needing Some Help?

Still needing some help? For assistance here in Pahrump, visit our store and repair center for fast, friendly and affordable service and shopping. We're located at 1190 East Highway 372 (across the street from Pizza Hut) and are available via phone at: 775-990-8833. We're open Monday thru Friday from 9am-3pm.

About Josh Osborne

Josh has over 25 years in the tech industry. After many years of selling computers, software and offering seminars to educators around the country, he and his family opened a local retail and repair center in 2010 called Great Computer Deals. The store's steady growth is due to Josh and his staff's ability to communicate computer technology in a way that's friendly, affordable and easy to understand. Josh is a 15 year resident of Pahrump Valley with his wife Kristie and daughters Kaylee and Lily. Josh loves Jazz music, the gym and enjoys watching Mixed Martial Arts.





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Children's Church 10:30am

Sunday School 9:30am

6:00pm Sunday Evening
Service & Children's Church

Tuesday

3:00pm Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday

6:30pm Children's Missions & Youth Group

7:00pm Wed. Night Service

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Great Basin College Hosts Inaugural Pahrump Town Hall Meeting

A Vision for Growth and Success

By Dr. Christopher Salute

Great Basin College (GBC) made history this month by hosting its first-ever Town Hall in Pahrump, Nevada, setting the stage for a series of Town Halls planned across all campuses in 2025. This landmark event brought together students, faculty, staff, and community members to celebrate GBC's achievements, share updates, and outline an ambitious vision for the Pahrump Valley Campus.

A Commitment to Pahrump's Student Success

GBC reaffirmed its dedication to meeting the unique needs of Pahrump students through targeted programs and robust support initiatives. High-demand offerings in nursing, welding, paramedic training, and medical

assisting equip students with practical skills tailored to local workforce needs. Personalized advising, mentorship, and academic support programs help students balance academics with work and family responsibilities, improving retention and graduation rates.

Support services like the Student Success Center, DEI Club, and initiatives like the Community Food Pantry and Clothing Closet foster inclusivity and eliminate barriers to success. These efforts are complemented by a thriving Dual Enrollment program and partnerships with local schools, homeschool groups, and community organizations to engage non-traditional students.

Record-Breaking Enrollment Growth

GBC celebrated a 27% increase in enrollment over the past year, attributing this success to focused recruitment ef-

forts. Dual Enrollment recruiters, collaboration with Nye County Pathways, and outreach to underserved populations have played a pivotal role in attracting students. Community partnerships, like those with Living Free Café, Valley Electric Association, and Desert View Hospital, further strengthen recruitment and retention.

Celebrating Alumni Achievements

The event highlighted the impressive accomplishments of GBC alumni who have made significant contributions in their fields, from social work to environmental science, grant writing, and addiction counseling. Alumni like Ryan Dixon and Susan Gleed shared inspiring stories of how their GBC education propelled them to advanced degrees, impactful careers, and groundbreaking research.

Expanding Campus Infrastructure

Exciting updates about the Pahrump campus expansion were shared, including progress on a master plan and schematic designs for two new buildings. These facilities will provide state-of-the-art classrooms, technical labs, and healthcare simulation spaces to support workforce training and student success. Investments in advanced equipment for healthcare and technical programs underscore GBC's commitment to industry-ready education.

Partnerships Driving Economic and Workforce Growth

The Town Hall emphasized the importance of local partnerships in advancing GBC's mission. Collaborations with businesses like Golden Entertainment, Stagecoach Manufacturing, and Southwest Central Regional Development Authority ensure students gain practical experience while strengthening the Pahrump economy. The college continues to work



closely with Valley Electric Association and Nye Schools to connect graduates with local job opportunities.

A Vision for the Future

GBC's inaugural Pahrump Town Hall concluded with a heartfelt thank-you to the community, faculty, staff, and students who have contributed to the campus's success. Attendees were invited to share feedback and join in building a brighter future for the

Pahrump Valley Campus.

As GBC looks ahead to further growth and collaboration, its commitment to empowering students, fostering economic development, and strengthening the Pahrump community remains steadfast. Together, GBC and its partners are shaping an enduring educational legacy for Pahrump and beyond.



“GBC celebrated a 27% increase in enrollment over the past year,...Dual Enrollment recruiters, collaboration with Nye County Pathways, and outreach to underserved populations have played a pivotal role...”



Anthony's Top 3 Dos and Don'ts at a Barbershop

By Anthony Castillo

The barbershop has always been considered a sanctuary—a place to hang out, relax, and talk about sports—a true man cave. While barbershops haven't changed much in terms of the services they provide, the world we live in has evolved. To help everyone enjoy their barbershop experience, here are a few essential tips to keep in mind.

Don't #1: Be on Your Phone During the Haircut. Why?

Using your phone during a haircut often causes you to tilt your head down or laugh at something on the screen. This makes it difficult for your barber to maintain precision, forcing them to constantly readjust.

- **Best case scenario:** The haircut takes longer than necessary.
- **Worst case scenario:** You end up with a less-than-stellar haircut.

The solution: Keep your phone in your pocket until the cut is finished.

Don't #2: Show Up With Dirty or Bed/Hat Hair. Why?

Dirty hair can be oily, dusty, or knotted, making it harder for your barber to work efficiently. It can also dull their tools. Similarly, bed/hat hair prevents your barber from accurately assessing your hair's natural growth pattern.

- **Best case scenario:** A bit of water and effort gets the job done, but the haircut takes longer.
- **Worst case scenario:** Your barber needs to wash your hair, delaying your appointment and eating into the next client's time.

The solution: Wash your hair before your appointment and avoid wearing a hat.

Don't #3: No-Call, No-Show.

This is the ultimate no-no if you don't want to land on your barber's naughty list. While walk-ins used to be the norm, many shops now use a hybrid model with both appointments and walk-ins. Remember, most barbers are not salaried—they earn per client.

Unforeseen events happen, and that's understandable, but always call or text to cancel.

- **Best case scenario:** You cancel in advance, giving your barber a chance to fill the slot.
- **Worst case scenario:** You no-call, no-show, and your barber loses out on income.

The solution: Call or text to cancel your appointment. It's the courteous thing to do.

Do #1: Show Up On Time (or early)

Punctuality shows respect for your barber's time and for the other clients. Time is money in the barbershop business, and being on time benefits everyone.

- **Best case scenario:** You're in and out on time or even early.
- **Worst case scenario:** There isn't one if you're punctual!

Do #2: Have a Clear Idea of What You Want

Having a plan before your appointment is a game-changer. Bringing examples, such as pictures, takes the guesswork out of the consultation.

Here's what to think about beforehand:

- How short or long do you want your hair?
- How much time do you want to spend styling it each morning?
- **Best case scenario:** A clear idea saves time, and you leave with a haircut you love.

Do #3: Be Respectful and Courteous

A barbershop is a place to relax, catch up, and maybe have a great conversation. To maintain a pleasant atmosphere:

- Avoid foul language.
- Steer clear of controversial topics like religion and politics, unless you're sure it's appropriate.

Tip: If you feel compelled to discuss sensitive topics, read the room first.

- **Best case scenario:** Everyone feels comfortable, and you leave with a great experience.

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About Anthony Castillo

Anthony brings over 25 years of customer service experience, starting with his first job at In-N-Out and later working for the Nye County Sheriff's Office. Barbering has always been his passion, and after leaving NCSO, he trained in Las Vegas and has now been barbering

professionally for five years.

Sharper Image Barbershop combines traditional services with modern practices, focusing on quality, customer service, and lasting community relationships.

Anthony has lived in Pahrump for eight years with his wife, Elvia, and daughter, Gianna. When he's not barbering, Anthony is a movie buff, a fan of In-N-Out, and a die-hard sports enthusiast. Go Raiders!



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water wise



Solar Farms and Water Use

By Jacky Walker

At a recent Private Well Owners Association (PWOA) meeting in Pahrump, Kevin Emmerich, co-founder of the nonprofit Basin and Range Watch, explained how the existing Yellow Pine solar farm along Tecopa Road in Clark County has impacted the local ecosystem. His words tell us what to expect if all federally encouraged renewable energy proposals on Nevada's public lands move forward in the Pahrump Valley, Nye county's most populated area with one of Nevada's most-endangered water basins.

Emmerich, a desert field biologist and National Park Service retiree, and his group of desert conservationists are currently focused on "identifying the problems of energy sprawl and finding solutions that will preserve our natural ecosystems and open spaces." They study the local projects in a staggering sea of documents and acronyms the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has on its website for every proposed clean energy venture.

According to Emmerich, in clearing the land for Yellow Pine, 90,000 Mojave yuccas were removed, which made way for invasive weeds to take hold. Over 139 adult desert tortoises were relo-

cated, resulting in high mortality rate for them and for younger tortoises left behind to dodge trucks and bulldozers.

In addition, Yellow Pine construction removed old desert soil crust (estimated to be 100,000 years old in some areas) and hard dirt pavement which causes fugitive dust kicked up by winds, he added. Mitigation of the dust requires a large use of groundwater for dust control.

Emmerich explained that the Rough Hat Solar Project located adjacent to Yellow Pine in Clark County will cover 2,400 acres, cause the removal of 114 adult desert tortoises, bulldoze Mojave yucca and Joshua trees, cause significant dust, and use approximately 800 acre-feet of water needed for construction that will be pumped from Pahrump Valley Basin 162.

Emmerich further discussed the proposed Copper Rays Solar Project, which is in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) phase. This project will install solar panels on 4,400 acres very close to Pahrump neighborhoods. As with the other projects, the desert tortoise and biocrust will be disturbed, and Mesquite trees removed. There has been a downgrade to the visual disturbance with a plan amendment.

The actual water use for all proposed solar projects is unknown, although

unpublished *modest estimates* show each 3,000-acre project would likely use a minimum of 300 acre-feet (97.5 million gallons) per year for construction and 10 acre-feet thereafter for solar panel maintenance. BLM's assessment noted on the Copper Rays EIS says the project's adverse effects include "increased groundwater pumping beyond perineal yield from Pahrump Valley Hydrographic Basin 162, an overallocated basin."

"These solar farms generate power for California with no direct benefit for Pahrump," says Michael Fender of Citizens Against Nye County Solar Farm Projects who attended the Emmerich presentation. "They use our water, deplete indigenous wildlife and destroy native plants, increase the air temperature, and cause noise and dust pollution. Nothing about them improves our lives locally, they only take from us."

Power generated by solar farms get added to the power grid for use by participating energy utilities. Most of the proposed projects around Pahrump are targeting California use. Ironically, a Los Angeles Times article in early December described how California sometimes over-produces solar power and pays other states to take it while increasing costs for consumers.

After the Private Well Owners Association meeting, we asked Emmerich a few more questions about solar farm development in Nye County:

There are other places to construct solar farms in Nevada. Why do you think Pahrump is a hotspot for solar development and what alternatives or locations would be better?

Pahrump is the hotspot because one, they established an energy transmission corridor through there, and two, the Trout Canyon Substation was built to move power from a lot of projects. In our view, solar can go on rooftops, over parking lots, on old abandoned mine sites and on old agricultural fields. But we don't think other public lands are good places.

You've been voicing concerns about desert water depletion for decades. Based on your experience, how much weight do private citizen opinions impact the decisions of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)?

Surprisingly little. BLM makes decisions based on politics and the threat of litigation. They rarely will stop one of these projects based on public opinion. The BLM almost always says the state is responsible for water and mostly stays out of that issue.

Some would say the sacrifice of tortoises and vegetation for 30+/- years is worth the human comfort these solar projects will bring. Any comment?



Not worth it because solar panels don't care where they go and can generate power from just about anywhere. It was never worth it to kill wildlife, hurt local people and deplete groundwater. The BLM is just putting it in Pahrump because the solar developers don't want to pay for their own infrastructure.

How long will it take the areas scarred or destroyed by solar farms to recover after the solar farms are gone?

To recover like it was, hundreds of years. In the Pahrump Valley, the natural desert pavement took 100,000 years to form, and the small biological soil crusts take 100 years to grow half an inch. Old Mojave yucca clones can be 300 to 500 years old. We won't see it recover in our lifetime.

Nye Commissioners Actions

After the Yellow Pine Solar project was approved in Clark County, applications inundated adjacent Nye County for further solar farm development. In 2022, Nye County's Board of Commissioners (BOCC) placed a moratorium on solar farm development until some guidelines could be put in place.

In mid-December 2024, the BOCC reviewed a new ordinance for Special Use Permits that sets the requirements and parameters for commercial-scale solar farm development, including other forms of renewable "clean" energy generation. Renewable energy includes biomass, fuel cells, geothermal energy, solar energy, waterpower, wind, and battery energy storage systems. The 40-page ordinance repealed the previous County Code 17.10 in favor of the new standards.

With each special utility proposal, BLM applicants are required to go through any number of hoops to get approval, among them are multiple public hearing requirements, submitting a variety of impact reports (e.g. visual, noise, natural resources), a contractual development agreement, and stated benefits to the community. Nye's BOCC process could tack on additional time added to the BLM process as well.

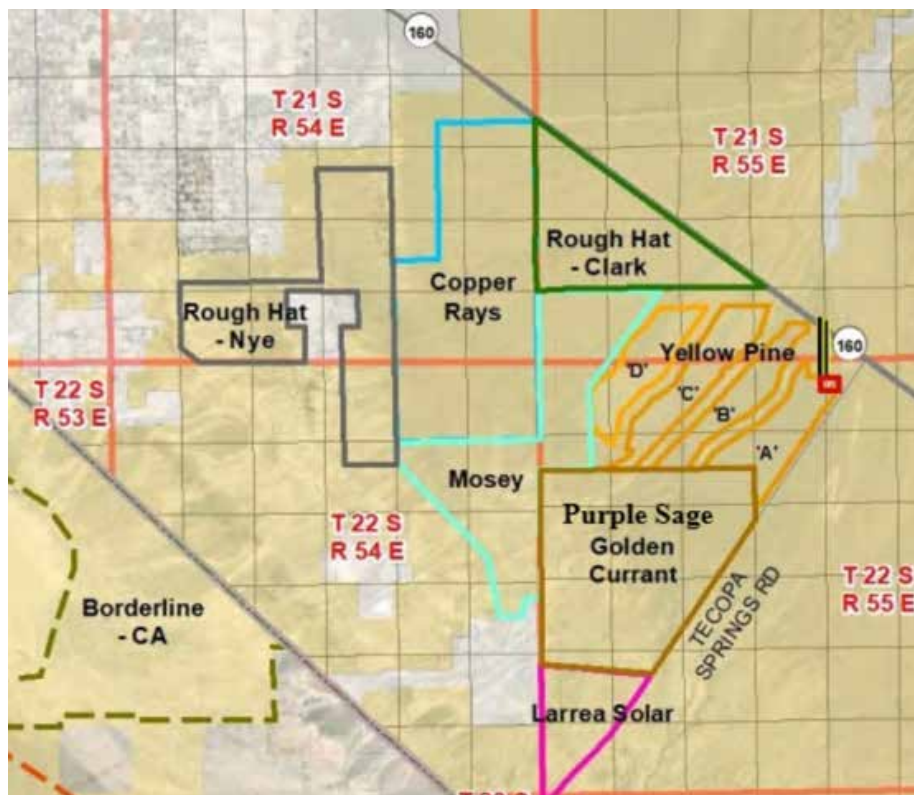
At the December 3, 2024, BOCC meeting, then-Commissioner Donna Cox voiced her hope that the new Trump Administration may curtail the push for renewable energy solutions and make the government's solar farm partnerships go away. Those of us relying on the water in Basin 162 will have to wait and see.

Learn More

Watch Emmerich's presentation to PWOA:
<https://www.facebook.com/100069437612355/videos/1091885739018606>

BLM-Public Involvement: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation>.

Western Solar Plan: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2022371/510>



Wells: The Private Well Owners Association is an educational nonprofit dedicated to preserving private well owners water rights, water conservation, and sustaining the rural lifestyle of the area. Monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of every month are free and open to the public. For more information visit <http://www.privatewellowners.com/>, or check the group's Facebook/Meta page.

Pahrump Valley Solar Projects:

Yellow Pine: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/81665/510>

Rough Hat: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2019992/510>

Copper Rays: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2019523/510>

Purple Sage: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2021533/510>

Mosey Solar: https://www.blm.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2024-10/BLM_NV_SNDO_Mosey-Solar-Project-Fact-Sheet.pdf

Larrea Solar: https://www.blm.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2024-10/BLM_NV_SNDO_Larrea-Solar-Project-Fact-Sheet.pdf



Yellow Pine water truck.

💧 The Private Well Owners Association meets at 10 a.m. in the Pahrump Valley Museum on the first Wednesday of every month. The public is welcome to attend and participate in water-related discussion.

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Youth Recognition



The Inner Machinations of the Pahrump Valley High Theater Department

By Isabella Hall, PVHS Student Journalist

The Drama Club has so many wonderful ideas and shows to perform. They enjoy their performances and make others happy to watch the show.

The Drama Club is an after-school program where students learn to act and use theater technology. They perform and practice in the auditorium after school and because they perform from 2:30 to 4:30, they have a small amount of time to practice on what they need to perform. Pahrump Valley High School has a Drama Club where others can enjoy their time acting as someone else and putting on a show for everyone to watch and enjoy. Although others may not be interested in seeing what the students have done, most people enjoy the shows the Drama Club kids create.

The director of the Drama Club, Dr. Audra Duvall, states, “Not everyone stays and it’s okay. Drama will take up all of your time and energy if you let it”. Duvall has loved teaching drama and being the director of the school’s Drama Club for several years. Duvall has many rules, such as understanding that theater has many superstitions that should be respected. Just because you don’t believe in something doesn’t mean you should disrespect it.

Talyn Blazon-Weesner is a student in the Drama Club. Blazon-Weesner is very passionate about the community and drama in general. Being in drama was a very strategic decision for Blazon-Weesner, as being in the club has enhanced her abilities in acting and performing. Drama Club has taught Blazon-Weesner valuable life skills and much more, like public speaking, creativity, and most importantly self-awareness. During prac-



Isabella Hall

tices, the Drama Club works as a team and gives each other feedback and the students avoid making hurtful or disrespectful comments to other classmates. Therefore, Blazon-Weesner shares, “It’s a privilege to be a part of such a dynamic and enriching community that celebrates the performing arts”.



Students working the newest technology provided by Nye County School District

Furthermore, Lyndon Steeno has a much different perspective on Drama Club. Since drama is Steeno's passion, he joined the club to have something to do after school. During school, Steeno finds it difficult to balance both drama and schoolwork despite still loving theater. Steeno believes that the environment in the Drama Club is different for everyone. In the classroom, it's a safe, comfortable space. Although some may have a different perspective on the atmosphere of the theater. Steeno states, "It's a heavy commitment. You have to practice for months and it's hard to balance with schoolwork". The club overall taught Steeno to be patient and have a good work ethic.

To conclude, Drama Club is a very fun club for everyone who enjoys theater. Others might not like it enough to ponder on whether or not to join but still might enjoy watching what the Drama Club has taken so long to create. To watch a show or play can be very enjoyable, especially since the club has performed so many shows. Those who participate in the shows can get attached to those around them, growing special bonds and friendships, particularly during the last performances. Once the last show is over, most of the cast and crew will cry because of how attached they are to the people around them and how hard they all worked

together to bloom an extraordinary show. Maybe one day, you will think about drama differently and join it. Hopefully, you watch a show and think about how long it took for them to

make such an amazing play. With that being said, make sure to congratulate those in drama or the director for their amazing performances and contributions to the school.



Actors performing the Winter Showcases Show as a collaboration with culinary arts and Great Basin College's Winter Oasis.



Striping for Cash

By Hannah Seastrunk

Hey there, I'm Hannah Seastrunk, the artist behind Striping for Cash. I'm from Pahrump, Nevada, where I've lived my whole life, and I spend most of my days doing what I love—painting, pinstriping, and turning ordinary objects into something a little more special.

So, how did I get here? Honestly, I didn't wake up one day thinking, "I'm going to be a pinstriping artist." I've always been drawn to art, but I didn't find a medium I truly loved until 2016. The first—and only—time I saw someone pinstripe in person, I knew it was something I needed to teach myself. At the time, I had no idea it would grow into something I could build a life around. I started experimenting with pinstriping because I loved the precision of it—the way a few brushstrokes can completely transform the look of a car, a motorcycle, a helmet, or even a random piece of glass. After years of practice, I knew this was what I wanted to do full-time, and that's when I started Striping for Cash.

Pinstriping is a unique mix of dis-

cipline and creativity. You can't just scribble and call it art—every line has to be intentional, smooth, and as perfect as possible. It takes a steady hand and a lot of patience. I work almost exclusively with automotive enamel, which is as rewarding as it is challenging. It offers vibrant, durable results, but there's little room for error—mistakes often mean starting over.

I do a little bit of everything: custom designs for cars and motorcycles, helmets, canvas paintings, and even murals. If something will stay still long enough, I'll paint it. Much of my work has a retro vibe, inspired by old-school pinstriping and sign-writing techniques, but I always try to add a modern twist.

Most days, you'll find me covered in paint, working on new pieces, or updating my Instagram ([@strippingforcash_customs](https://www.instagram.com/strippingforcash_customs)). Pinstriping and sign painting are often called "dying arts," but social media has made it possible for me to connect with hundreds of other painters who are keeping these traditions alive in a world dominated by vinyl.

As I continue this journey, I'm excited to explore new creative challenges and push myself further as an artist. If



Hannah Seastrunk

you'd like to see my work or discuss a custom project, please visit my website at [strippingforcash.com](https://www.strippingforcash.com) or contact me at (702) 659-4785.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about my story and my art. Here's to more paint, more pinstripes, and keeping this beautiful craft alive for future generations.







financial focus

with Jeffrey R. Dye



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Time for New Year's Financial Resolutions

Now that the calendar has flipped, it's time for some New Year's resolutions. You could decide you're going to exercise more, lose weight, learn a new skill, reconnect with old friends — the possibilities are almost limitless. This year, why not add a few financial resolutions to your list?

Here are a few to consider:

- **Reduce your debts.** It may be easier said than done, but if you can cut down on your debt load, you'll increase your cash flow and have more money available to invest for your future. So, look for ways to lower your expenses and spending. You might find it helpful to use one of the budgeting apps available online.
- **Boost your retirement savings.** Try to put in as much as you can afford to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. If your salary goes up this year, you've got a good opportunity to increase your contributions to these retirement accounts. And

once you turn 50, you can make pre-tax catch-up contributions for your 401(k) and traditional IRA. You might also want to review the investment mix within your 401(k) or similar plan to determine whether it's still providing the growth potential you need, given your risk

tolerance and time horizon.

- **Build an emergency fund.** It's generally a good idea to maintain an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Without such a fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-





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term investments to pay for short-term needs, such as an expensive auto or home repair.

- **Keep funding your non-retirement goals.** Your traditional IRA and 401(k) are good ways to save for retirement — but you likely have other goals, too, and you'll need to save and invest for them. So, for example, if you want your children to go to college or receive some other type of post-secondary training, you might

want to invest in a tax-advantaged 529 education savings plan. And if you have short-term goals, such as saving for a wedding or taking an overseas vacation, you might want to put some money away in a liquid account. For a short-term goal, you don't necessarily need to invest aggressively for growth — you just want the money to be there for you when you need it.

- **Review your estate plans.** If you haven't already created your estate plans, you may want to do so in 2025. Of course, if you're relatively young, you might not think you need to have estate plans in place just yet, but life is unpredictable, and the future is not ours to see. If you have already drawn up estate plans, you may want to review them, especially if you've recently experienced changes in your life and family situation, such as marriage, remarriage

or the addition of a new child. Because estate planning can be complex, you'll want to work with a qualified legal professional.

You may not be able to tackle all these resolutions in 2025. But by addressing as many of them as you can, you may find that, by the end of the year, you have made progress toward your goals and set yourself on a positive course for all the years to come.

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The GypZes of Water Rock

By Christine Butler

A new 501(c)(3) entity is being established in Pahrump in conjunction with Great Basin College and the newly formed Community Arts Collective of Nye County. It is called The GypZes of Water Rock, and their purpose is to reintroduce the lost art of pantomime to our community. They are currently waiting for their non-profit application to be reviewed. Denise Gholson, one of the leaders of the organization, says they want to give back to the people of Pahrump. They also want to keep the art of pantomime alive and introduce it to the younger generations who have yet to have much exposure to it. Their goal is to bring this skill back to life and encourage kids to try new things, to be empowered, and to be open to learning.

The group recently presented the pantomime version of one of Kristin's

books called GypZe Hollow. It took place at Great Basin Community college. The team made their own sets and provided dinner following the performance, which included Roasted Roots and Roosters (vegetables and chicken). The idea of bringing back the skills needed in pantomimes is to help the actors convey how they feel through body movements. Their goal is to give a voice to people who may have difficulty speaking or cannot speak at all. Pantomime is one way of accomplishing that. It's also fun and teaches people another way of communicating.

Kristin Swan is another group leader who is helping with the ongoing goal of reintroducing the art of pantomime. She has also written several books. Dr. Christopher Salute, Director of Great Basin College and President of the Community Arts Collective of Nye County, embraces the idea of introducing this type of art to the students at the college. They currently don't have

as many art classes as they'd like to offer. Promoting the arts in collaboration with the GypZes of Water Rock gives them that opportunity. It has become a part of the Old West Weekend celebrations, which are held on the first Friday and Saturday of each month at the college. This also allows the community to learn more about the college and the Community Arts Collective.

Denise's Special Gifts

Around the age of five she discovered she had special gifts. She also found out that she is a descendant of a Romanian gypsies. She was adopted at age 15 and went to an LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) home. At the time, she felt her birth parents were bad. Over time, she discovered that she had unique talents and was gifted. She can feel what people are feeling. She does read Tarot cards occasionally and has learned over time that they are not evil, but they can be used as evil. She



decided long ago that she didn't want to hide the unique talent that God gave her. So, Denise decided to put it to good use. She feels blessed and is excited that she's finally found her community. She wants to do everything she can to help the community. Her team is made up of five local people, all of whom are gifted in different ways. In addition to Kristin, they include Kristina, Tracy and Tamara. Denise and Kristin have worked together for a few years and are embracing working with other women who are like-minded. They've been working together for almost a year.

- **Denise Gholson** is a writer, narrator, marketer, chef and helping hand.
- **Kristin Swan** is a writer, director, performer, make-up/hair and guru chef.

- **Kristina** is props, wardrobe and Virtual Backdrop goddess.
- **Tracy** is chauffeur, stand in, gofer and snack queen.
- **Tamara Meringolo** is girl Friday, marketer, worker bee and cheer leader.
- **Maddie** is Make-up Artist Extraordinaire

The Bottom Line Goal of the Group

They will continue with GypZes of Water Rock and work with the College and the Arts Collective. Not only do they want to preserve pantomime, but they want the youth of Pahrump to learn new things in the creative and art environment. They want them to stretch their boundaries and have fun while doing so.



LIFE after 18



Life Happens

By Janet M. Nast
Life Skills Consultant, Speaker, Author
LifeAfter18.com

I'm sure all of you have heard that expression, "Stuff happens." And it's usually a negative thing, right? Well, I'd like to share my take on a variation of that phrase: *Life Happens*. What I'm referring to is the fact that we all make plans and then life gets in the way. In my opinion, though, this can be a very positive thing.

I like to believe that when life happens, that means a new opportunity. But we must all be able to recognize these unexpected situations as opportunities. That's not meant to discourage you; it's to encourage you to always think things through, ask questions, and learn to be flexible so you can make good legal and financial decisions, no matter what happens.

The reason I like to explore this topic is because I've worked with all kinds of people who've made solid plans and earned degrees in things such as Psychology, Marketing, Physical Therapy, Nutrition, English, History, Business, Economics, and even Fashion Design. You can bet I wasn't meeting these folks while working in

all those fields; most of them were all working happily alongside me as software trainers.

A lot of people will tell you *it's best to get a career in something you love to do* - like a hobby - and then "you'll never work a day in your life." While I believe there's some truth in that, life does happen and sometimes you learn that the thing you loved to do may not put food on the table.

For instance, my son, Alan, loved bugs. He was fascinated by them from the minute he could crawl and put them in his pockets. (*That sure made laundry interesting for me!*) He dreamed of growing up and becoming a "bug scientist." But then life happened! I became a single mom to him and his sister, which turned my financial decision making process into a choice between being able to feed us or save for their college education. Luckily, my son also had an interest in all things that fly, including jets. He ended up enlisting in the Marine Corps. They trained him to be an aviation technician, and he is now a supervisor of 20+ quality control aviation technicians and mechanics at Lockheed Martin.

Then There's my Friend, "Marty." She had Skills and a Plan.

Marty was always very creative; she loved drawing people and loved sew-



Janet M. Nast

ing her own clothes. She also has a very logical mind and great mechanical skills. That girl could imagine anything and then build it. Car engines fascinated her and so did her brother's erector sets. Since Marty lived in Flint, Michigan, logic told her she could find good opportunities in the automotive industry. However, after taking a class at the Flint General Motors Plant, she decided that was not such a good plan after all. The plant was too dark and dank, too dirty, too many on-the-job injuries... just not a place she could imagine going into every day of her life for the next 40 years. Yuk!

So, She Devised Another Plan!

Marty decided to go in a differently direction completely; she was going to become a rich and famous fashion designer. That meant going to college, then working in a fabric store and building a client base of wealthy women for whom she could design wedding dresses, party dresses and prom dresses. From there she would work in a bank so she could learn about business and finances. Hm, that sounded like a good plan to me. What do you think of



her revised plan?

Marty ended up by completing all the goals in her plan. She got the degree in fashion design at a small college in California, then she got hired at a fabric store in La Jolla, California and made beautiful dresses and gowns for all the lovely ladies. After two years she went on to work at a bank.

Then Life Happened

About two years into working for the bank, Marty made a huge (\$10,000) mistake on a customer's account. And that customer wanted her head on a platter. So yeah, Marty got fired on a nice, warm Friday afternoon. At that point, her entire life's plan just blew up in her face! She wasn't sure what she was going to do but she knew she had to get a job fast and she knew she couldn't afford to be picky because she still had to pay rent and make her car payment.

An Interesting Opportunity

As luck would have it, she and her husband were invited to dinner at his parents' house Saturday afternoon. When she sadly explained what had happened at the bank, her father-in-law asked,

"Hey, do you know anything about computers?"

And she replied, "Oh heck no!"

Now this is 1982 and computers weren't really a thing at that time. No one had them in their homes and PCs still hadn't shown up in offices. Most computers still filled entire rooms or entire floors in office buildings. So no, Marty and most other people didn't know a thing about computers in the early 80's.

But her father-in-law told her, *"That's OK, because we don't know anything either, but we're all going to learn together. Would you like to give it a try?"*

"Sure, why not," she said... "how hard could it be?"

Considering most people our age (the boomers) and older, really hoped we wouldn't have to learn computers, that was a pretty brave declaration. Truth be told we were all scared to death of them. And Marty had already had some issues with them. A few years earlier she had taken a class at the local junior college and ended up by dropping the class because she failed miserably at it. But she was now facing a situation where she needed a job, and it didn't matter which job.

She agreed to accept the offer in spite of her fears. Her first day was the following Monday. That was pretty cool when you think about it. When she walked into that new company, she had only been unemployed from 5:00 on Friday afternoon till 7:30 Monday morning.

Mitchell Manuals

Taking that job at Mitchell Manuals was probably the smartest thing Marty ever did in her life. It was a huge turning point because it got her into a ground floor position in the computer software industry. I mean, look how much it's grown from the early 1980's to now. That role gave her some great opportunities, the best one presenting itself when she saw what the trainers were doing. Mitchell was flying them all over the country where they not only got to meet and train a lot of great people, they also got to dine in some

"The first step is realizing that you must take the job that you need rather than holding out for the job that you want."

of the best restaurants in the entire country and explore some of the most fascinating towns and museums. Who wouldn't want to do that?

So, Marty started asking questions to learn how she could get promoted to the training position. And this is what they told her: take a speech class to learn how to be comfortable with public speaking and then complete Mitchell's newly-designed "Train-the-Trainer" program. Oh, and all this had to be done on her own time. In her opinion it would be so worth it!

Keep in mind that none of this had anything to do with Marty's great life plan, but she saw it for what it was: a great opportunity. Within six months she was promoted to Trainer and enjoyed that role and all its exciting benefits for a little over three years.



Life Happened Again!

During her time as a traveling trainer, Marty and her husband decided they wanted to start a family. When she was seven or eight months along in her first pregnancy, her doctor said, *"You can't travel anymore. Lugging training equipment and luggage through various towns and airports is too hard on your body and putting unnecessary stress on the baby."* Marty was getting exhausted anyway. But this made her stop and ask herself, "what was she was going to do after her baby was born?"

She didn't want to fly around the country three to four weeks every month and leave her precious baby girl home all the time. Her husband was going to be there, but she didn't want to miss first smiles, first steps or first words. Marty was the Mom and felt it was critical to bond with her daughter and ensure her well-being. But she didn't want to quit her job. She loved the company and loved the teaching. So, what's her next move?

A New Opportunity

Marty got to thinking and realized that customers were left with only a phone number to call for help if they had questions after class. There were absolutely no support documents. So, she thought, "wouldn't it be nice if these students had a good user manual for reference rather than having to stop and make a phone call anytime, they had a question?" Fortunately, her manager agreed.

All she had to do was write up a sample chapter or two along with a cost analysis and submit it before leaving on maternity leave. Easy peasy! Marty's boss loved the sample, agreed with the numbers, and decided to create the job of "documentation specialist." Marty could step right into it when she returned from maternity leave.

And that's how I became what is now known as a Tech Writer.

I was lucky and very grateful that I was prepared to take advantage of an opportunity that was presented when I needed it. I'm referring to my skills and



love of all things mechanical and my fascination with the logic and structure of good grammar.

Always be Prepared

A real common question I hear is, "when will I ever use all the stuff I learn in school?"

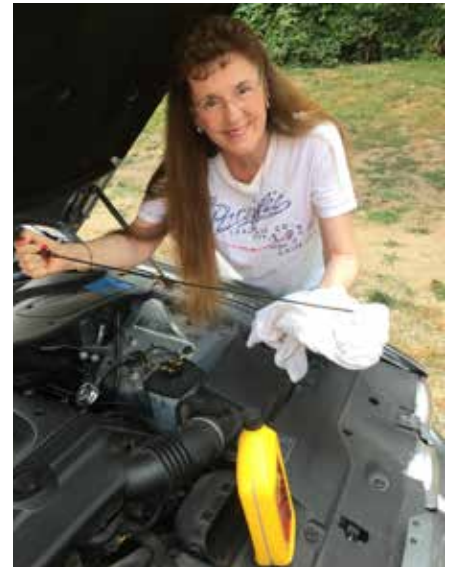
The answer is, "you never know." But wouldn't it be nice if an opportunity arises and you're prepared to take advantage of it?

My point is: life happens so you must be flexible, and you must be prepared. Learn all you can so that you can always be armed and ready to change gears when you need to. I mean, wouldn't it be sad if a great promotion came up for a new role in your company, but you can't take it because you turned down a free class your boss offered in management training?

"Ideal" Jobs Come and Go

I never did get back to that plan of becoming a fashion designer. Other than a little bit of sewing for my kids and a wedding dress or two for myself, it's become a blur in my rear view mirror.

Funny thing though, after writing for a few more years at Michell, I realized I really missed teaching. I guess I finally realized that my idea of the "ideal" job became writing, teaching and really trying to help people understand that most processes are actually



pretty simple, regardless of what the resident "experts" try to tell you. This realization prompted me to move on to a few other corporate training companies before finally landing at Blanchard Training and Development.

Blanchard gave me the ultimate opportunity to define the training role as I saw fit. That included not only writing user manuals for new software as it was adopted, but to also develop the necessary training programs, and then implement all of them for the next 17 years. It was a blast!

The other cool opportunity that came up was the option to become an author. And that was good thing, because life happened again!

Life Happened Again!

Through a series of unexpected and unfortunate events and situations, I was forced into an early retirement at the age of 57. I say "unfortunate" because one situation had my husband and I relocating to Washington State. While we landed in a beautiful area on the Kitsap Peninsula, I learned very quickly that all computer-related jobs were in Seattle. That would've been OK, but then I learned I would have a one-and-a-half hour commute into Seattle by way of ferry, or a four-hour commute by land. That put me in a position of not being able to find a full-time job close to home.

A lot of people would say, "oh, ear-

ly retirement is a good thing, isn't it? Afterall, isn't it ideal if one can retire at 55?" Well, yes and no.

That would be a yes if one had a lot of money saved up to replace their current income. And a no, if all your savings are tied up in a typical retirement account such as a 401k (which was my situation). In case you're not aware, one must be at least 59 ½ to pull money out of a 401k without having to pay all kinds of penalties in addition to the taxes. And one must also be 62 to collect Social Security. So, this really put me and my husband in a tough spot.

Another Opportunity Presented Itself

Lucky for me I wrote and published a book or two while I worked for Blanchard. Also lucky for me, I met a great tech guy, Dick Knuth, at one of those other corporate training companies. With his help, I was learning how to build websites in my spare time. I combined my skills as a training developer, with Dick's support and encouragement, to build a website based on one of my books. Which brings me to another great opportunity: turning these online classes into a 4H program for the kids here in Pahrump.

Moral of the Story

The thing you love and the things that you do may never coincide.



Your life plan or your ideal job may never change, or it may change multiple times. Neither scenario is right or wrong; it just happens. It's not unusual to find yourself in a position where you must make a decision that sends you off in a whole 'nother direction. My "ideal job" changed a minimum of three times in my professional career and none of them had anything to do with my plan or my college degree.

Remember, you may not recognize something as an opportunity when it presents itself. When I think back to 1982 and getting fired from the bank, I wasn't quite seeing it as an opportunity at the time. But then I got hired to work on a project that was the beginning of the personal computer era and well, that was amazing. When you consider that PCs hadn't been invented yet – so I couldn't have possibly studied that in high school or college – I'd say things worked out quite well for me.

Make a Flexible Plan and Keep an Open Mind

It's easy to get discouraged when all you see is a future filled with expensive college or trade school, or a tedious job in the fast food industry. So, what do you do when you don't really know what to do?

Start by making a plan. The first step is realizing that you must take the job that you need rather than holding out for the job that you want. Understand that in order to live comfortably and meet your obligations, you have to make the right decision rather than the easy decision.

Before you take that job, you need, take a closer look at what your strengths are and what you're good at. See if there are ways you can incorporate those character traits into the job you decide to take.

By the way, you don't just learn while in a classroom: you can learn all kinds of things on the job. Ask a lot of questions. Be flexible when your supervisor asks something extra of you. Always keep your eyes open for that type of free education. If you keep looking for-

“...you may not recognize something as an opportunity when it presents itself.”

ward, you'll recognize the opportunities when they present themselves.

One last thing I'd suggest: if what you love to do requires a college degree, consider taking your general education classes at your local junior college (it's much more economical) and keep working at a part-time job to pay your tuition as you go. That way you're debt-free, or close, at the end of each semester.

Most Important, Remember that Life Happens!

My New “Ideal” Job

My mission going forward is to empower teens and young adults with the essential skills and knowledge they need to thrive in the real world after high school.

From understanding how bank accounts and credit cards work to navigating important legal and social situations—like voting, interacting with law enforcement, or buying your first car—I believe everyone deserves a solid foundation for success. Equally important are mastering good spelling and grammar, building confidence in public speaking, and learning essential tech skills.

Many of these topics are covered on LifeAfter18.com, and I'm thrilled to introduce even more through my brand-new Life After 18 4H Club right here in Pahrump. This club is all about making these lessons engaging, practical, and fun. Let's prepare for the future together!

Please email me for 4H club meeting details: Jan@LifeAfter18.com and be sure to share this information with a friend.

Humorous Observations



By Tyler Ryan

Just a thought...

I feel so damn fortunate to have been born when I was.

As a Libra, I was born on October 7th, 1964, making me part of the last of what's known as the "Baby Boomer" generation at age 58.

I couldn't imagine being born at another time, nor would I want to.

I have an older brother and two older sisters.

While growing up in Southern California, all of us kids were fortunate to have enjoyed a middle-class upbringing.

This brings me to my present family, where I'm now a step-grandparent to two adult guys, one an actual chef and the other a Specialist in the U.S. Army.



With that said, I must confess that I feel sorry for them, mainly because they didn't experience a similar upbringing as I did growing up in the 1960s throughout the 1980s, as it was so cool remembering way back then.

In terms of pop culture, those guys, I feel, were cheated by the fact that they never, ever enjoyed the feel of watching a black-and-white motion picture or television show.

I can say with complete certainty that they can't name an Alfred Hitchcock movie, nor have they ever watched the Twilight Zone.

When I was growing up, the movie *The Birds* scared the hell out of me.

The movie *Lifeboat* was a riveting motion picture that they will probably not experience in their life.

I still watch both of them to this day. In terms of sports, I've enjoyed watch-

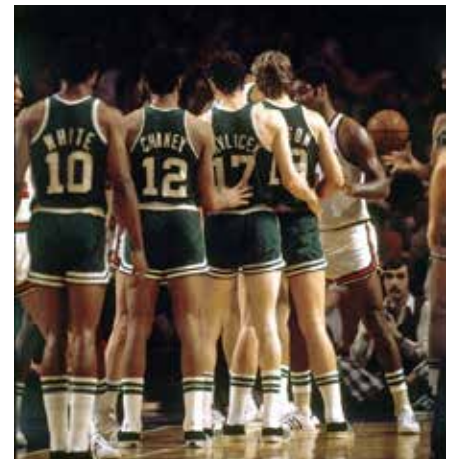
ing the best era of all of the games.

Even though I grew up in Southern California, my favorite team in the late 1960s and early 1970s was the Boston Celtics, who dominated the league with a man named Bill Russell, and Dave Cowens, playing along with John Havlicek, Jo Jo White, Don Chaney, etc.

Though they were NBA legends back in the day, my boys couldn't pick them out in a lineup at present, let alone Julius (Dr. J) Erving from the Philadelphia 76ers.

Those athletes were really something to watch.

In other sports back in the day, some of my favorite players were quarter-



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backs and receivers, including Kenny Stabler from the Oakland Raiders, Roger Staubach from the Dallas Cowboys, and Drew Pearson and Golden Richards.

Yes, obviously, I was a Dallas Cowboys fan way back when.

Does anybody remember those guys?

I don't know much about current players in professional sports nowadays.

You'd have to ask my grandsons about what's happening in that area, as they can tell you all about it.

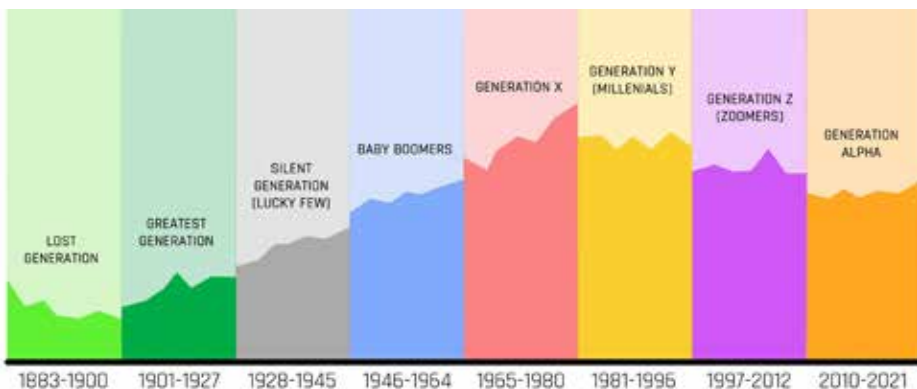
There are just too many sports and television shows that I could easily bore many readers by simply dropping the titles of 60s and 70s sports, movies, and television series.

Don't even get me started on music and sports, as I will save that for another time.

When my foot or legs begin to fall asleep, it's time to consider going outside for some exercise where there are a bunch of activities to engage in.

I'll do that right now.

Just a thought...



the Education Editorial



Dr. Christopher Salute

How a Fixed Mindset in Young People Can Hinder Learning

*By Dr. Christopher Salute
Director, Great Basin College, Pahrump*

Have you ever heard of a “growth mindset?” How about its evil twin, “Fixed Mindset?” These are phrases we hear so often in casual conversation. But what do they mean?

In the field of education, the concept of mindset is increasingly recognized as a major factor in determining young people’s success in learning. Developed by psychologist Carol Dweck, the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset refer to the beliefs individuals hold about their abilities. A fixed mindset assumes that intelligence, talents, and abilities are static and unchangeable. You were born with what you have and that is it. You’ll often hear someone with a fixed mindset say, “I just can’t do math...” or “I was never a public speaker.”

Conversely, someone with a growth mindset believes these attributes can be developed through dedication and hard work. You might hear someone with a growth mindset say things like “Hmm... I am not sure.... But I can try to find out,” or “I’m just starting out, so

I am still learning, but I am excited to see where this goes.”

While the latter encourages resilience, adaptability, and a love for learning, the former can often limit young people’s potential. Understanding how a fixed mindset hinders learning is essential for educators, parents, and young people themselves in overcoming these obstacles to growth and success.

So, what does a fixed mindset lead to? Let’s find out!

1. A fixed mindset leads young people to see failure as a direct reflection of their abilities.

If they perceive intelligence as fixed, they are more likely to shy away from difficult tasks, fearing that failure will reveal their limitations. This fear can lead them to avoid challenges that could have fostered growth, missing out on valuable learning experiences that arise when they step outside their comfort zone.

For example, a student with a fixed mindset who struggles with math might avoid challenging problems or advanced classes, viewing their struggles as evidence of inherent limitations

in math ability. Without the courage to confront and work through these challenges, they miss out on the chance to develop critical problem-solving skills that can benefit them in many areas of life.

2. Reduced Motivation to Learn and Improve

The belief that abilities are fixed also leads to a lack of motivation. For students who feel their talents are pre-determined, there is little reason to exert effort to improve. If they believe they’re “just not a math person” or “not good at sports,” they are unlikely to put effort into activities they perceive as outside their strengths. This attitude often leads to disengagement and minimal effort, reinforcing the cycle of self-imposed limitations.

Moreover, students with a fixed mindset might attribute success solely to innate talent rather than hard work. This can discourage them from putting in the effort needed to master new skills, whether academic, athletic, or social. In this way, a fixed mindset can hinder motivation and create a self-fulfilling prophecy in which students achieve less than they are truly capable of.

3. Difficulty in Adapting to Feedback and Constructive Criticism

Young people with a fixed mindset may struggle with constructive criticism. Rather than viewing feedback as an opportunity to learn and grow, they may interpret it as criticism of their inherent abilities. This defensiveness makes it hard for them to improve or adjust their strategies. Without the willingness to accept feedback, they miss out on opportunities to refine their skills and improve their performance.

In contrast, those with a growth mindset see feedback as a valuable tool for development, even when it highlights areas where they need improvement. For young people stuck in a fixed mindset, learning to value feedback requires a shift in perspective, helping them realize that feedback is an ally in their journey to self-improvement.

4. Stunted Resilience and Lower Persistence

A fixed mindset often correlates with lower levels of resilience and persistence in the face of setbacks. When students believe their intelligence or talents are fixed, they may feel disheartened after a failure or a poor grade, seeing it as evidence that they lack the ability to succeed. They may quickly give up or switch to easier goals to avoid facing repeated difficulties, limiting their resilience in the long term.

“Without the confidence to experiment or explore new ideas, young people may not fully develop their creative thinking skills...”

For example, a student struggling with learning an instrument might abandon it altogether if they see their difficulties as a reflection of a lack of natural talent. This pattern of giving up can eventually lead to a limited range of skills and experiences. Conversely, young people who believe they can improve through effort are more likely to push through initial challenges, developing resilience and perseverance.

5. Limited Problem-Solving and Creativity

A fixed mindset can also inhibit creativity and problem-solving skills. Because students with this mindset often avoid challenges and fear failure, they may shy away from exploring creative solutions or taking intellectual risks. Without the confidence to experiment or explore new ideas, young people may not fully develop their creative thinking skills, which are critical in today's fast-evolving world.

Students with a fixed mindset are also less likely to employ problem-solving

strategies that could help them in areas they find challenging. They may rely on memorization instead of understanding underlying concepts, limiting their ability to apply knowledge in new contexts. By embracing a growth mindset, students learn to approach problems with curiosity and resilience, helping them become more innovative thinkers and adaptable learners.

Encouraging a Growth Mindset in Young People

Fostering a growth mindset in young people is possible through intentional encouragement, strategies, and support. Educators and parents can help young people by praising effort over inherent talent, normalizing failure as part of the learning process, and encouraging persistence and resilience. Emphasizing the concept that abilities and intelligence can develop through effort can inspire young people to overcome limitations imposed by a fixed mindset.

For young people themselves, recognizing the benefits of a growth mindset can open new pathways to success. As they learn to see challenges as opportunities and failure as a stepping-stone, they can break free from the constraints of a fixed mindset and approach learning as an exciting, lifelong journey.

Conclusion

As we continue to think about what to teach our children in schools... perhaps we focus less on standardized testing... and facts that we can generate with Google and AI... and focus more on changing the mindset of the student... to problem solve rather than stand still.





Wills & Trusts

Financial Power of Attorneys *What Are They and Why Do I Need One?*

By David Bindrup, ESQ., CPA, LL.M.

A client recently came to our office concerned about his spouse, who was beginning to show signs of dementia. He was worried because she would often forget where she was going once she was out of the house and struggled to remember where things were in the house. Her increasing confusion was particularly difficult because she was the one who usually handled all of the bills and household expenses, and he wasn't sure where to take over or how. When he would approach her, she would bristle and brush him off, insisting she was just fine and could handle things on her own. She didn't want to go to a doctor, and she certainly didn't

want to admit there was a problem with her memory.

As we discussed these difficult and sensitive issues, we reviewed the Power of Attorney for Financial Decisions he and his wife had already prepared years prior.

In some cases, Powers of Attorney for Financial Decisions become active when a person becomes incapacitated. Incapacity under Nevada law is defined as "he or she, for reasons other than being a minor, is unable to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions to such an extent that the person lacks the ability to meet essential requirements for physical health, safety or self-care without appropriate assistance." (NRS 159.019)

In Nevada, capacity is typically de-

termined by a physician or psychologist, though some exceptions may apply depending on individual circumstances. This means that until you have a letter or certificate of incapacity issued by a physician or psychologist, it may be difficult for you to step in and act under a Financial Power of Attorney. This can cause a number of difficulties if you have a spouse or partner, mother or father, brother or sister, friend or neighbor who has capacity sometimes, but also struggles sometimes. Families, friends and lawyers spend millions of dollars in cases regarding capacity every year in the United States.

Another challenge during this interim time is that although someone may have signs of incapacity, others

may not be aware of it, or even worse- may be aware of it and take advantage of the situation. For example, having someone sign legal documents when the person signing the document may not understand what they're signing, or the consequences of what they're signing. In other cases, people may enter into contracts to purchase automobiles, make donations, investments or other financial decisions, without really understanding the circumstances surrounding those decisions. These painful and difficult moments can have repercussions that last the rest of a person's life, especially when an older person is dependent on a fixed or limited income.

So, What Do We Do?

1. Make a power of attorney for financial decisions now while you have the capacity to do so. Name people you know and trust to make these decisions for you, so that you don't have to rely on a county official or whoever steps in when you're unable to competently make these decisions on your own. Sometimes clients struggle with these decisions because they're not sure who they should trust. The sad truth is that when we make no decision, we are simply allowing someone else to make the decision for us. Decide who can help you on your own terms while you are able to, so that you do not have to worry about potential capacity issues in the future.



2. When you make a power of attorney, don't just download a form off the internet, pick up a legal form or turn to a paralegal. Go to a licensed estate planning attorney so that they can explain how the law works, and the potential consequences- positive and negative- of the decisions you are making. These decisions are too important to leave to the Internet, an unlicensed professional, or a jack-of-all-trades attorney. You need to know that the person you are relying on to explain and draft the documents has the experience and knowledge you need to count on when or if you become vulnerable.

3. Consider giving authority for your named agent (person authorized to help you in a power of attorney) now, so that they can help you when signs of dementia or incapacity first present themselves, instead of having to wait until a physician or psychologist declares you as incapacitated. While this is not always appropriate, depending on your relationship to the person you are signing, you have the opportunity to give authority so that they can step in as needed, even when you have the capacity to make decisions but may simply feel overwhelmed, tired or stressed out and want the help of a trusted friend or family member to assist you.

So often, especially in Nye County, we find that our elderly community is subject to deception or fraud. The best safeguard against this is arming yourself with the legal documents you need so that you can have trusted friends and family, whether in state or out of state, assist you when you need the help most. Make this the year that you decide to put necessary documentation in order so that you can protect yourself not only now, but in the future.

What happened to my client? Thankfully, he and his wife had given



David L. Bindrup, ESQ., CPA, LL.M. is a former Ernst & Young CPA and is also a Nevada CPA Attorney with an Advanced Law Degree (LL.M.) in Tax and teaches attorneys locally and nationally in the areas of estate planning, asset protection, business planning, and probate. David Bindrup Law Firm has been located in Pahrump for the last ten years. Free consultations are offered by appointment. Call 702-465-0888 to set up your cost-free consultation with a Nevada licensed attorney!

each other the authority to act for one another immediately, so he was able to step in and help put safeguards in place to protect his wife and their finances. This allowed his wife to keep her dignity and respect intact, as he was able to lovingly help her navigate what she could and take on the responsibility of the tasks which had become too difficult for her.

A simple financial power of attorney can provide a lot of help and support during these difficult times, especially as we age. Contact David Bindrup Law Firm at our Pahrump office (702-465-0888) and schedule a cost-free consultation to learn more about how a financial power of attorney works. As a special offer to Pahrump Life Magazine readers, **we are offering FREE financial power of attorneys through February 28, 2025.** Be sure to mention this article when scheduling your appointment.



New Physical Therapist in Town

Ovation Physical Therapy

By Marilyn McLeod

When I asked Stephen Schaefer how he became a physical therapist he said, “in my junior year of high school, I was having a lot of painful back spasms. When football started the next year, we had a physical therapist working with our team who looked at my back and put me on stretches and exercises, which I did exactly as he instructed for the next three weeks. After that I could run, jump, and play football with no back pain whatsoever. I was amazed that without X-ray’s or any pain medication, just giving me the right stretches could alleviate my pain. I fell in love with physical therapy then and I’m happier now as a physical therapist than I’ve been probably any other time in my career.”

Why Pahrump?

Having previously lived in Houston TX. (during the height of the COVID years) and without having any family or friends in that area Stephen and his wife decided to move closer to family who live in Las Vegas. They fell in love with Pahrump and the rest is history. Being in the Pahrump community is unlike any other place that they had lived, and they love it here.

When Stephen first moved to the area, he started asking residents about health care and consistently got the same response. The overwhelming theme was a need for higher quality, access, and service. In February 2024 it was decided that it was time to open a new physical therapy clinic. Ovation Physical Therapy opened on October 21st, 2024.

During 35 years in the physical

therapy world, which included previously owning PT practices and working with numerous fellow-trained orthopedic surgeons, Stephen felt that he could put his physical therapy experiences to work for Pahrump. Access was another recurring theme and so at Ovation Physical Therapy they pride themselves on getting new patients in within 48 hours of referral, providing their insurance has authorized care. Research has shown that early physical therapy intervention and movement following an injury or surgery can make a huge difference in the overall outcome. Stephen believes customer service should be a priority for every business. The entire staffing Team was hand-picked for personality, culture, skills, and customer service. They are the only locally owned and operated Physical Therapy Clinic in Pahrump.

OVATION PHYSICAL THERAPY

They live and work here and are active members of the community. When you become a patient at OVPT, they will be your therapist for life. That's why they also give back to the community in certain areas including the partnership with the VFW food bank in which their patients and staff help with the collections for needed items.

If you have not seen the new clinic you are invited to stop by to take a tour. The current staff of five includes two physical therapists. They all work together to ensure your visit to Ovation Occupational Therapy is a wonderful experience. Their PTs are Justin Graf, DPT, a diverse PT who specializes in hands, spine, balance, sports injuries, cardiopulmonary care/recovery; and is also certified in dry needling. Owner, Stephen Schaefer PT, MBA, has vast experience in general orthopedics and specializes in extremities (knees, shoulders, hips, ankles, elbows), as well as spine, balance, and sports. They are an outpatient orthopedic physical therapy clinic which means they treat all musculoskeletal areas including joints, tendons, muscles, fractures, cartilage, ligament, and all orthopedic problems, whether surgery was done or not.

They have extended hours from 6:30 in the morning till 6:00 PM on most days and some Saturday appointments are available as well. Working extended hours allows us to spend more time with each patient; and patients will see the same physical therapist each visit

from the beginning to the end of your care. When you're looking for physical therapy quality, access, and service give Ovation Physical Therapy a try.

What about Insurance Plans?

The largest obstacle for them has been getting on the insurance plans. It's been really hard to become a provider for a lot of insurance companies.

"...they pride themselves on getting new patients in within 48 hours of referral..."

With Pahrump being a rural area and in need of healthcare providers it's been really an eye-opening experience to see denials from insurance companies. Stephen has never encountered this barrier to access in other areas in which he's lived. He states it's frustrating that insurances lump Pahrump in with the Las Vegas coverage area. They don't seem to understand that patients and doctors don't want their therapy patients driving 60 miles to get to physical therapy; and with almost no physical therapy providers in Pahrump accepting patients with some insur-



“They have extended hours from 6:30 am till 6 pm on most days and some Saturday appointments.”

ances. He feels there is a serious access problem. There are enough patients to keep everyone busy and when the insurance panels are closed to new providers, that really hurts the folks wanting to access local care. That being said, he states, “we are in it for the long haul, and we’ll continue to press the insurance companies the best that we can.”

They are on several insurance plans like Medicare, Medicaid, Work Compensation, Attorney Lien, Commercial insurances, Government Plans, and cash pay. Some insurances include United Health Care, Optum, Aetna, Cigna, Silver Summit, most Government Plans; and pending Blue Cross/ Blue Shield.

You can contact Stephen at ***Stephen@ovationpt.com***, Phone 702-702-5564, or Fax 702-723-7213. They can also be found on Facebook at Ovation Physical Therapy and check their website at ***ovationpt.com***.





Recipe Box



Eggplant Lasagna Rollups

By Crystal Atwood

<https://naturalvibes-healthandwellness.com>

5 Servings

1 Hour

Ingredients

- 1 Eggplant (large, finely sliced length-wise)
- 1 tsp Sea Salt
- 1 1/2 cups Ricotta Cheese
- 1/2 Lemon (juiced)
- 1/2 cup Parmigiano Reggiano (finely grated, divided)
- 1/2 cup Basil Leaves (chopped)
- 1 1/2 tsps Oregano (dried)
- 3 tbsps Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- Sea Salt & Black Pepper (to taste)
- 2 cups Marinara Sauce (divided)

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 425°F (220°C) and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Sprinkle the eggplant with salt and let it sit for 15 minutes. Then pat dry thoroughly.
3. Place on the prepared baking sheet and cook in the oven for 13 to 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and lower the oven temperature to 375°F (190°C).
4. In a bowl, mix the ricotta, lemon juice, half of the parmesan, basil, oregano, oil, salt, and pepper.



5. Spread 3/4 of the marinara sauce into a baking dish. Scoop about two tablespoons of the ricotta filling onto the larger part of an eggplant slice. Roll to close and place the seam-side down in the baking dish. Repeat until all of the eggplant and ricotta is used up.

6. Top with the remaining marinara and the remaining parmesan. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until warmed through. Divide evenly between plates and enjoy!

Notes

Leftovers. Refrigerate in an airtight container for up to four days.

Serving Size. One serving is approximately three rolls and 1/3 cup of sauce. One large eggplant yields approximately 15 slices. An 8.5 x 11-inch (22 x 28 cm) casserole dish was used to make four servings.

Make It Vegan. Use blended tofu instead of ricotta.

Additional Toppings. Chopped basil.

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HOURS
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10am-4pm



Central Valley Baptist Church

"Where the Bible is Central"

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Service 11:00 AM
Fellowship following Sunday Service
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 PM
Pastor Loren Hefner

MONDAY

Non-Denominational Grief Share 3-5 PM

WEDNESDAY

Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 AM
Bible Study & Group Prayer 6-7 PM

SATURDAY

Non-Denominational Grief Share 1-3 PM



775-910-9995



3170 S. Blagg Rd.
Pahrump, NV 89048

centralvalleybaptistchurch.com



What's New at Desert Adventure Homestead?

By Christine Butler

It's been over two years since we first visited Desert Adventure Homestead, and the owners, Shár and Ed Thomas invited us back to witness the changes they've made. They have added a playground for the young and the young at heart. This includes playhouses as well. They feel blessed to have the property and want to share it with others, especially children who have never experienced a farm.

They are inviting families to visit and become a FOOE...which in this case means... a "Friend of the Farm." It's an excellent opportunity for children to experience what it's like to be on a farm. They have many animals for the guests to pet and feed, from sheep to goats, chickens to turkeys,

pigs to bunnies, and horses to ducks. And now is a good time to visit because they've had several babies born recently on their farm.

Riding the animals is not allowed. However, they do offer rides on some of their new playground equipment including slides, swings, a giant sandbox, a netted trampoline, and a lot of area for picnicking. At night, the playground lights come on and present a fairy-like atmosphere. What a great place to celebrate one's birthday or some other special event with friends. The purpose of their farm is to have other people enjoy it.

In addition to the farm animals and fun rides, they have a gift shop where, in addition to crafts, they sell jellies, date spread (with dates from China Ranch in Tecopa), homemade lard, pitch-perfect drums made from pro-

pane tanks, and some clothing like harem pants and skirts as well as tie dye-shirts, just for fun. Paintings are also available for sale.

A Second Reason for Having the Farm

Although Shár's main interest in the farm is to share it with children and families who have never had the opportunity to experience a farm, her husband likes to raise their own food. He and many people nowadays are concerned with all the additives put into processed food. He sells chickens that have not been processed nor riddled with chemicals. People are becoming increasingly concerned about their health and what they eat. He is concerned, as are many people, with what chemicals are being put in our food unbeknownst to us.



Come for a Visit and See What the Fun is all About

Although they do not have RV hook-ups, they do offer dry camping for those who want to spend the night on the farm. You and your kids can become real live farmers for a day or two. It would be a great experience. There are no charges, but they do appreciate donations to help feed the animals. Waivers must be signed to enjoy the property.

Another advantage of their location is the ability to participate in star gaz-



ing at night. They are outside the reach of any night lights from the town, and not far from Death Valley, so the star gazing is fantastic.

The Thomas's believe that if you are blessed with something, you should share it, and they are doing their best to follow that path. Someone once told Shár she was a swashbuckler (a flamboyant adventurer). When they called her that, she realized that is precisely what she is, and her husband moves right along with her.







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- You value second opinions from a doctor. When it comes to the documents that control everything you've worked hard to earn, second opinions are PRICELESS!
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Henderson Office
10424 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 101
Henderson, Nevada 89052

Las Vegas Office
9030 W. Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 210
Las Vegas, Nevada 89129

Pahrump Office
1321 S. Highway 160, Suite 8A
Pahrump, Nevada 89048

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tell us about your upcoming event! If you have an event that you'd like Pahrump to know about, please submit the details to us at Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com.

By Christine Butler

Voices of Change Stop Human Trafficking

January 11, 2025, 11:30 am - 4 pm
VEA Conference Center, 800 Hwy. 372

Soroptimist International Pahrump

Valley is sponsoring a FREE luncheon. Tickets are required. For more information, contact Linda at 503-309-6996 or SIPVPreselect@gmail.com.



Tumbleweed Tales - Poetry Roundtable

Jan. 16, Feb. 13, Mar. 19, 2-4 pm

Pahrump Valley Museum,
401 E. Basin Ave.

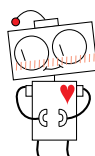
Poets share original poems, short writings, or those of favorite authors. Creativity is celebrated! Come join us; gatherings are free but we help Pahrump Valley Museum with a donation at the door. For more information, please email Judy Strickland at jbsbrooks@yahoo.com or text 775-537-5859.



Awkward Silence Annual Gala Event and Showcase

Saturday, January 18th 5-8PM
Bob Ruud Community Center
150 N Hwy 160

Join us for the first tech challenge 4-H Robotics Team's Annual Gala I introducing the new season. Free to attend - \$15 Dinner ticket



Mardi Gras

March 1, 2025, Doors open 4:30 pm,
Dinner 6 pm
Pahrump Nugget Hotel & Casino

Soroptimist International Pahrump Valley is sponsoring this event with live entertainment, live auction, dessert dash, silent auction, purse-a-palooza, 50/50.

Tickets \$75 per person or \$135 per couple. For more information contact Nancy Davis at SIPVPresident@gmail.com or call 702-289-6425.



Cocktails & Canvas

2nd Saturday of each month, 1 - 4 pm
Pahrump Senior Center
1370 W. Basin Ave

2nd Thursday of each month, 4 - 7 pm
Nevada Treasure RV Resort
301 W. Leslie St. Pahrump, NV 89060

Laurie McCaslin calls her monthly classes 'Fun Art' instead of 'Fine Art.' Each month, she teaches a different acrylic painting. Guided instructions are easy to follow, and traceables or templates are provided. Youth are welcome with an adult.

Reservations are required. To reserve your spot call Laurie McCaslin at 775-209-6200.



RECURRING EVENTS

Pahrump Community Choir

Every Wednesday, 6:30 - 8 pm
301 Oxbow Rd. Suite 14
www.Pvpac.org

Come sing your heart out! The rehearsal time is fun; you don't need choral singing experience. Many of our members haven't sung since high school, and some have never sung in choirs. We have enough members with expertise to help those who need more experience. For more information, visit www.pvpac.org or their Facebook page, Pahrump Arts Council.



Artesian Cellars Winery & Vineyard

Monday - Wednesday, 11 am - pm

Thursdays, 11 am - 9 pm

Fridays & Saturdays, 11 am - 10 pm

Sundays, Noon - 5 pm

1731 S. Hwy 160, Pahrump, NV 89048

Artesian Cellars offers diverse musical entertainment. Listen to music by local artists while you taste the delicious wines personally crafted by owner Tim Burke. The staff at the winery are welcoming, creating a warm home-town feel. There is indoor and outdoor seating. A special menu includes Charcuterie boards, flatbreads, personal-size pizzas, desserts, and more. In addition to music, classes are offered, such as wine pairing, wine and paint night, Funtastic Saturdays benefitting a local charity, and unique wine events for Wine Club members. For an event listing, visit their website, www.artesiancellars.com, or their Facebook page, Artesian Cellars.

Old West Weekends

First Friday & Saturday of Every Month

January 4 and 5th 2 – 6 PM

February 7th and 8th 2 – 6 PM

March 7th and 8th 2 – 6 PM

**Great Basin College, 551 E. Calvada
(702) 528-6797**

Fun for the whole family! Enriching activities include arts and crafts, music, dancing, book sales, food, and local vendors to shop from and network with.



Entry is free, and the event is open to the community. Great Basin's Open House is held every Saturday at 2 pm. Staff will be available to answer questions, and help you sign up for classes. For more information, call (702) 528-6797 or email christopher.salute@gbcnv.edu.

Biweekly Children's Choir

Every other Friday, 6 – 7:30 pm

**Pahrump SDA Church
477 North Blagg Road**

Open to all children ages 4 – 17. Learn basic music theory skills, new songs, and meet new friends. You do not have to be a church member and can join anytime. For more information, contact Shannon Sagert at 407-758-3254.

Readers in Training Program Spread the Word Nevada

**1065 American Pacific Dr., Suite #160
Henderson, NV 89074
(702) 564-7809**

Readers in Training is a program that provides books and early literacy resources to parents/guardians and their children from birth up to age 5 with books and early literacy resources. Spread the Word Nevada seeks families to participate in the Readers in Training program. For more specific information and an application, visit <https://spreadthewordnevada.org/readersintraining>.



Pahrump Community Library Renovations

701 East Street

The library will be closed from December 16th, until the renovations are complete in the Spring of 2025. Patrons will still be able to checkout digital e-books and audio books using the Libby app on their phones and digital devices. We have Kanopy, a new streaming service with over 30,000 things to watch for free. The Kanopy app can be downloaded to smart TVs, and most mobile devices and desktop computers. Learn a new language for free using the Rosette Stone database on our website. To use all of these services, you must have a library card. All fines for overdue items will be waived if they are checked out and due after our closing date. The drop box will be open on most days but will be closed from time to time if work is being done in that room. We can't wait to have a re-grand opening in the Spring!



Over the Hump Offroad Club

This group of trail riders in the Pahrump Valley is well-versed in hidden gems throughout the surrounding area. Join our private Facebook page for upcoming rides.



Nye County Dirt & Desert Riders

We are a group of like-minded people who like creating dust, exploring our beautiful deserts, and riding on countless trails. This group is for riders, friends of riders, and those who enjoy desert and dirt riding. Check out our Facebook page to see where we've been riding!

Pahrump Valley Chess Club

Every Saturday Afternoon

Noon – 3 pm

**Holiday Inn Breakfast Lounge
860 NV Hwy 160**

Whether a newbie or an expert, you and your family can join this free activity. Join

the Pahrump Valley Chess Club. It is open to all ages and all levels.

They also offer a free beginner's class. For information, call (775) 419-7552.



Kiwanis Club

See Days & Times Below

**Rubalcaba Mexican Restaurant
1500 Red Butte St., Pahrump, NV**

Kiwanis Club of Pahrump meets the first three Thursdays of every month at 6 pm at Rubalcaba Mexican Restaurant. Come find out what plans are in the works to help our community. Call Reva at 845-659-3814 for more information.



Community Partners of Pahrump

**4th Thursday of every month, 6 pm
The Salvation Army, 240 S. Dahlia St.**

Are you curious about what activities and events Pahrump's service organizations are doing? This is the place to find out! Representatives from local service organizations come together to spread the news about the events their group is hosting. If you want to discover what's happening or are interested in participating in these volunteer-led community service chapters, please join us! For more information, call Reva at 845-659-3814.

Pahrump Discussion Group

Every Thursday, 8:30 am

Pahrump Museum, 401 Basin Ave

We are a group of people who want to see a better world. We are not a political group. We meet every Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at the Pahrump Museum on Basin. The \$5 donation benefits the museum, and includes coffee, and cookies. There are many lively discussions on what's happening in Pahrump, the state, the nation, and the world. For more information, email Bill Newyear at bnewyear@att.net.

Volunteer Connection

Volunteer Connection is a listing of local organizations that need volunteers. We often hear people say they would love to volunteer, but don't know where to start. If your organization needs volunteers, please send a 40-80 word description to: Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com.

Ambassadors of Pahrump

The official Ambassadors of Pahrump (the Nevada Silver Tappers and Ms. Senior Golden Years, USA,) non profit 501(c)(3) organizations invite all golden ladies to join them in their sisterhood.



The tappers invite anyone who has reached the age of 50 years young to join them and learn to dance, get great exercise and have lots of fun. The Ms. Sr. Golden Years USA, Inc. invite any lady who has reached the golden age of 60 to join them in their pageant held in June at Saddle West Hotel & Casino. To join either group, no experience is needed. We are just ladies who devote our lives to the community of Pahrump wherever and whenever there is a need. You may join us by phoning the executive director at 775-727-7011 or 702-370-8852.

Clean up Pahrump®

CLEAN up PAHRUMP®, a chapter of Desert Pigs nonprofit, is committed to the removal of illegally dumped trash. Meeting every Saturday for 1 hour we clean up trash sites and roadside garbage; properly disposing of it. Come make friends, and do something beneficial for the community! Bring plenty of fluids and no politics-we supply the rest! For more information on volunteering or donating please visit us at www.cleanuppahrump.org or Facebook at CLEAN up PAHRUMP!



MLK Foundation of Pahrump

Martin Luther King Foundation of Pahrump, MLK, is a non-profit organization. Here in Pahrump, we focus on hosting events that provide

scholarship money for college or trade school applicants from our local Pahrump Valley High School. All our proceeds go to our graduating high school seniors. We are committed to our community and the future of our students. At this time, we are hosting an event to help replenish the funds we used for last years' scholarships recipients. We are holding our usual MLK Luncheon in January honoring Martin Luther King Day. We are looking for volunteers to help with event planning, decorating, ticket sales, fundraising, and so much more. Your time and effort is what is needed. Our monthly meetings are held on Monday afternoons and there are no dues for our members. For more information or questions send an email to MLKPahrump@icloud.com and please include Volunteer in the heading/subject line.



Nevada Outreach Training Organization

NOTO is the umbrella organization for the Pahrump Family Resource Center, No to Abuse, and the Nye County Children's Advocacy Center.



We offer assistance with applications from community and government agencies (SNAP, TANF, energy assistance, unemployment, etc.), assistance in obtaining necessary documents, referrals and connections with other community resources, and material goods. We offer court-approved parenting, co-parenting, anger management/impulse control, and life skills classes. We also run Nye County's only supervised visitation program, providing court- and

DCFS-ordered visitation services to Nye County residents, a weekly women's support group for domestic violence survivors, advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and elder abuse, material goods, and referrals for community needs assistance. We provide advocacy services to families referred by the Nye County Sheriff's Office in cases of child abuse allegations.

Volunteers can help by processing donations to NOTO, property maintenance, office work, and outreach events. If you would like help or want further info, please call Darlene at 775-751-1118, ext. 113, Monday-Thursday, 8:00 to 4:30.

Never Forgotten Animal Society

Never Forgotten Animal Society is a no-kill rescue. We are looking for animal-loving volunteers to help with quarterly yard sales and our second-hand store "Make An Offer Shoppe" located at 1050 S. Dandelion. We are largely supported by community donations. Any questions please contact Pat at 775-764-9070.



The NyE Communities Coalition

We are building healthy communities across Nye and Esmeralda Counties and we welcome anyone interested in helping! The coalition is made up of individuals, organizations and agencies that are focused on joining together in cooperative and collaborative efforts to increase prevention services and opportunities. The NyE Communities Coalition and partners always have volunteer opportunities. If you would like to help improve the quality of life in our community please contact us for current opportunities. To contact by phone 775.727.9970 or send an email to info@nyecc.org.



Nye County School District

Volunteers are needed to read with children offer tutoring in a variety of subjects, to offer mentorship in arts, writing, poetry, and math. You don't have to have a student enrolled to volunteer your time. Volunteers need to fill out forms in accordance to state law but anyone with a few hours to give, come on down! They'll hook you up with a school. For more information or to volunteer contact the NCSD Human Resources office at 775-727-7743, ext. 300 or email volunteer@nyeschools.org.



The Nye County Sheriff's Office Auxiliary Unit

The Nye County Sheriff's Office is looking for volunteers for our Sheriff's Auxiliary Unit in Pahrump, Amargosa, Beatty, and Tonopah. You can volunteer a minimum of 15 hours a month. You must be able to pass an FBI Background Check and must be available for day-time classroom training. For information about Neighborhood Watch, contact Harold Rubin-Smith at 775-419-9707 or on their Facebook page. Call Commander Al McMahan or Vice Commander Leia Martin at 775-751-4231. Applications are available at the Sheriff's Office, 1520 East Basin Avenue, at the Administrative Office in the Detention Center (next to the Court House), or online.



Pahrump Valley Lions Club

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world. The Pahrump Valley Lions Club is looking for new members to assist in efforts to aid the blind and visually impaired, champion youth initiatives, and strengthen the local community through hands-on service and humanitarian projects. The Club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Las Patronaz, 270 Dahlia St. For more information, call 775-727-9016.



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

The Pahrump Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will hold their annual Fund Raising Banquet at Pahrump Nugget on Saturday, November 12 at 5 p.m. The mission of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is to ensure the future of the elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. Banquet proceeds will support the mission to conserve, restore and enhance natural habitats, promote the sound management of wild elk, which may be hunted or otherwise enjoyed. The committee meets at the Pour House, 1101 NV-160, Pahrump the second Saturday of each month. Volunteers are welcome. For more information contact: **Dakota Evans 702-426-1684.**



RSVP Needs Drivers

Would you like to assist seniors and disabled persons in our RSVP Transportation program? RSVP provides door to door safe transportation for medical appointments, to pick up prescriptions or shopping. Drivers must pass a background check and will receive 40 cents per mile reimbursement for each & every round trip of a registered client. Please join us in helping our friends and neighbors. Call 775-751-5282 to Volunteer.



The Salvation Army Pahrump Service Center

The Salvation Army Pahrump Service Center is open five days a week from 8 AM to 4 PM and is always accepting new volunteers. We need the most assistance on our client-choice food pantry days, which are Tuesday and Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM. Volunteers will work with clients to check in, select food items, and load items into clients' cars. To apply please come to our office located at 240 Dahlia Street or call 775-751-6181



Silver State Chili Cook-off

If you like chili, networking, organizing, and helping a great cause we have opportunities for you to get involved. All of the proceeds of this event goes to support local charities. We are in need of individuals for organizing the judges, vendors, car show, chili contestants, entertainment, and purchasing supplies. For additional information call Kelli Sater at (775) 764-9377.



Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a new chapter in town and in the state of NV. This organization was started in 2014 and is based in Twin Falls, Idaho. This organization gets beds for kids. They are 100% volunteer-driven and donation-driven. They need funds for tools and materials to build the beds and volunteers to help assemble the beds and deliver them to children right here in Pahrump. For more information call Gary Bennett at 702-539-9685 or [gary.bennett@shpbeds.org](mailto:bennett@shpbeds.org).



Southern Nye County Search and Rescue

Southern Nye County Search and Rescue is a volunteer organization, our primary mission is to respond to and execute any search and rescue operations within Southern Nye County, NV and surrounding jurisdictions under the direction of the Nye County Sheriff's Office. Our volunteers, along with our local equestrian unit, assist and support many community events and provide on-going training programs to unit members.



Are you interested in becoming a member? For more information about our mission and services, please contact us at 775-727-5071 or searchrescue201@yahoo.com.

Tails of Nye County

Tails of Nye County needs YOU if you are a compassionate animal lover with some time to donate to improving the lives of Nye County's cats and dogs. We are a dynamic group of volunteers looking for help with cat transport to Las Vegas, trapping, fund raising, office help, and fostering kittens. Our organization is a registered nonprofit 501(c)(3) that is dedicated to helping the community with its growing community cat population through the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program which is the only humane, effective approach to care for a feral cat population. Cats are trapped, spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped and then returned to their outdoor home. Tails of Nye County traps and sterilizes an average of 1000 stray cats annually. We also offer dog and cat owners a low cost spay/neuter program based on their ability to pay. Please consider partnering with our organization to help end the suffering of homeless cats in Nye County. For additional information, please contact Denise Scherer at 702-306-3245.



West Star Ranch

If you love animals, West Star Ranch could use your help. We're always in need of folks to help with placing animals, light construction, help in the store, rescues, networking, and much more. For more information call 775-287-1436.



Places of WORSHIP in Pahrump

Apostolic Church of Pahrump

3190 S. Highway 160, #J (775) 419-3800
www.ApostolicChurchOfPahrump.com
 Pastor Anthony Liso

Calvary Chapel Pahrump Valley

1051 E. Mickey St. (775) 751-8000
www.CalvaryChapelPahrump.org
 Pastor John Gundacker

Calvary Chapel - Shadow Mountain

2491 Mount Charleston Dr. (775) 751-7623
www.CalvaryChapelShadowMountain.com
 Pastor Lonnie Biggs

Central Valley Baptist Church

3170 S. Blagg Rd. (775) 910-9995
www.BlessU2.com
 Pastor Terry Stone

Choice Hills Baptist Church

340 W. Mesquite Ave. (775) 751-1417
www.CHBCPahrump.com
 Pastor Carl England Jr.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

921 E. Wilson Rd. (775) 727-5342
www.ChurchOfJesusChrist.org

Wheeler Pass Ward

Bishop Jim Wulfenstein
 General Congregation Sunday Service 9am

Charleston Park Ward

Bishop John Toomer
 General Congregation Sunday Service 10:30am

Water Rock Branch

President Jaime Osorio
 General Congregation Sunday Service 12:40pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

5461 Manse Rd. (775) 751-7618

Manse Springs Ward

Bishop Timothy Sutton
 General Congregation Sunday Service 9am

Gamebird Ward

Bishop Joe Gent
 General Congregation Sunday Service 10:30am

Homestead Ward

Bishop Jeff Hammar
 General Congregation Sunday Service 12pm

Church of Pentecost

781 S. Woodchips Rd. (775) 727-6681
www.PentecostalsOfPahrump.com
 Pastor James Monroe

Church of the Harvest

1670 Vondell Dr. (775) 513-4950
www.ChurchOfTheHarvestPahrump.org
 Pastor Harold L. Davis Sr.

Covenant Lighthouse Church

921 S. Highway 160 #401 (775) 537-5555
 Pastor Pennie Rosco

Desert Church of Christ

2360 E. Calvada Blvd., #C (775) 751-1045
www.DesertChurchOfChrist.org

Faith Fellowship Church

2190 N. Blagg Rd. (775) 727-9183
www.FaithFP.org
 Senior Pastor Jim Huntington

Heritage Bible Church

3061 E. Heritage Dr. (775) 727-7220
www.HeritageChurchPahrump.org
 John Edgell or Bud Hawk

It is Finished Ministries

2301 Winery Rd. (702) 813-1490
www.ItIsFinishedMinistries.com
 Pastor Dennis Boylan

Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness

6131 Thousandaire Blvd. (775) 727-6077

Joy Divine Community Church

1161 S. Loop Rd. (775) 419-5266
www.JoyDivineChurch.com
 Pastor Vivian Chess, Pastor Jim Horvath

Living Word Church

1370 E. Matthew Ln. (775) 505-2626
www.LivingWordPV.com

New Hope Fellowship Foursquare Church

781 West St. (775) 751-1867
www.NHFPahrump.org
 Pastor Isaiah Hill

Oasis Outreach and Worship Center

1061 Second St. #A (775) 727-7227
www.OasisOutreachNV.AdventistChurch.org
 Pastor Peter Neri

Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Church

781 E. Gamebird Rd. (775) 727-4044
www.OurLadyOfTheValleyChurch.org
 Father Bruno Mauricci

Pahrump Seventh-Day Adventist Church

477 Blagg Rd. (775) 727-6655
www.PahrumpNV.AdventistChurch.org
 Pastor Peter Neri, Pastor Ryan Johnson

Pahrump Church of Christ

911 S. Lola Lane (775) 727-9218
www.PahrumpCOC.org
 Speaker Dave Miller

Pahrump Community Church

1061 E. Wilson Rd. (775) 727-5384
www.PahrumpCC.com
 Senior Pastor D. Keith Walker

Pahrump Valley United Methodist

1300 E. Highway 372 (775) 727-6767
www.PahrumpValleyUMC.com
 Pastor George Barcus

Primera Iglesias Bautista Pahrump

4180 N. Highway 160 (702) 275-8091
www.FaithStreet.com
 Pastor Juan Estrella

Redeeming Grace Church

741 Fehrs Way (775) 513-6009
www.RedeemingGracePahrump.church
 Pastor D. Joe Aja

Rock Vineyard Church

1370 E. Matthew Ln. (775) 751-8449
 Pastor Kenny & Kathy Simpson

Safe Haven Fellowship

920 Highway 160 (619) 246-7363
www.EnterTheBlessings.com
 Renee Wallace

Saved By Grace Lutheran Church ELCA

6341 S. Hawkins Way. (775) 751-8424
www.SavedByGraceELCA.com
 Pastor John A. Biggs

Second Missionary Baptist

3651 Homestead Rd. (775) 537-1587
www.2ndMBC.COM
 Pastor Daniel Collins

Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church

650 S. Blagg Rd. 308-458-8231
 Pastor Andy Safarik

Soka Gakkai International (Buddhist)

..... (775) 990-4132
 John Field

South Valley Baptist Church

7050 S. Homestead Rd. (775) 513-3444
www.SouthValleyBaptistChurch.com
 Pastor Doug Landers

St. Martin's in the Desert

Episcopal Church

631 W. Irene St (775) 419-9204
www.StMartinsInTheDesert.org
 Reverend John McClatchy
 Reverend Lola Culbreath
 Reverend Kathy Funk

Trinity Assembly of God

750 S. Big 5 Rd. #12 (775) 727-4514
www.TrinityChurchNV.com

Yakin B'racha Jewish Messianic Fellowship

2601 Hacienda St. (775) 751-6106
 2570 Idelwide (775) 406-8215
www.YakinBracha.org
 Rabi Paul Cohen



Pahrump Life

Pahrump's Largest Circulation Publication

We publish and distribute 45,000 magazines annually - the largest distribution of magazines per issue in our market! Your message can reach this market for less than 1/2 cent per issue. **Pahrump Life Magazine** is distributed to RV parks, motels, the Pahrump town office, various retail stores, real estate offices, restaurants, and to subscribers across America. The pass along readership of our magazine, and the length of time the issues are saved, make this an incredible value for your business. All ads are priced in full color.

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Pahrump Life Magazine

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Pahrump Nugget Hotel & Casino • Pahrump Rentals & Hardware
Pahrump Station Laundromat • Pahrump Valley Museum
Pahrump Wellness Center • Pizza Hut • Preferred RV Park • Romero's
Saitta Trudeau • Sander's Family Winery • Pahrump Senior Center
Shoshone Market • Smith's • Terrible's Road House • The UPS Store
Pahrump Tourism • Trish Rippie Realty • Pahrump VA Clinic
2nd Amendment Gun Shop

DINING life

Dining Life is a listing of local restaurants. Every attempt is made to maintain accuracy. If your restaurant is not listed or there is an error, please email Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com.

Asian

China a Gogo

150 S. Hwy. 160, #C12
775-727-1222

China Wok Buffet & Grill

580 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-9988

Chattai Bistro

421 S. Frontage Rd., #1
775-727-9988

My Thai

5020 Pahrump Valley Blvd., #3
775-751-5333

Ohjah Japanese Steakhouse

20 S. Hwy. 160, #110
775-727-9888

Panda Express

280 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-8822

Teriyaki Madness

240 Hwy. 160, #2
775-877-9670

Bars & Cafés

Pour House

Best Western
1101 S. Hwy. 160
775-537-1111

Golden Harvest Café

Pahrump Nugget Casino
681 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-6500

Jeremiah's BBQ

Coyote's Den Bar
3971 E. Kellogg Rd.
775-537-8670

Lakeside Café

Lakeside Casino
5870 S. Homestead Rd.
775-751-7770

Le Bistrot Caché

Authentic French dinner cuisine
O Happy Bread French Bakery
1231 E. Basin Ave., #7-8
775-455-0478

Moonshiners

Terrible's Road House
1750 S. Pahrump Valley Blvd
775-727-7777

Rhinestones Country Bar & Dance Hall

1700 Pahrump Valley Blvd.
775-877-5068

Shenanigans Pub

1330 E. Calvada Blvd
775-419-6367

Silver Spur Buffet & Café

Saddle West Hotel, Casino & RV Resort
1220 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-1111

The Hubb

3720 W. Bell Vista Ave.
775-764-1299

Bakery, Coffee & Snacks

Black Cow Coffee House

1266 E. Calvada Blvd #4,
775-419-6592

Java Junkies

Horizon Market
840 Hwy. 372
775-238-6848

Living Free Café

Featuring Java Junkies
2050 N. Hwy. 160, #400
775-505-3888

O Happy Bread French Bakery

1231 E. Basin Ave., #7-8
775-455-0478

Our Place

1401 S. Hwy. 160
702-742-8621

Pahrump Valley Roasters

301 Oxbow Ave
775-537-0700

Starbucks

Albertsons
200 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-0160

Starbucks

460 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-7572

Deli/Sandwiches

Jimmy John's Sandwiches

Pahrump Nugget Casino
681 S. Hwy. 160
775-505-6011

Living Free Café

Featuring Java Junkies
2050 N. Hwy. 160, #400
775-505-3888

Old West Market

5581 N. Hwy. 160
775-419-6114

Port of Subs

150 S. Hwy. 160, #C-6
775-751-6000

Subway Sandwiches

1520 E. Hwy. 372, #1
775-751-8400

Subway Sandwiches

Walmart
300 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-6777

Family Style

Denny's Restaurant

240 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-3828

The Grill Room

Mountain Falls Golf Club
5001 S. Clubhouse Dr.
775-537-6553

Irene's Casino

820 S. East St.
775-727-5211

Jeanne's Gourmet Hot Dogs

1401 Hwy. 160 & Loop Rd.
Jeanneshotdogs.com

Johnny's

90 Emery St.
775-727-3737

Johnny's To Go

4760 Pahrump Valley Blvd.
775-253-4521

Mom's Diner

1240 E. State St. #100
775-751-9929

Oscar's Place To Go

921 S. Hwy. 160, #402
775-727-3676

The Venue

Nevada Treasure RV Resort
301 W. Leslie St.
775-770-6640

\$5 \$10 \$15 Restaurant

Stagestop Casino
100 W. Stagestop Rd.
775-727-7300

Fast Food

Arby's

690 S. Hwy. 160
725-245-1120

Burger King

667 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-8080

Carl's Jr.

500 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-3700

Chipotle Mexican Grill

540 S. Hwy. 160
775-505-2418

Dairy Queen/Orange Julius

20 S. Hwy. 160, #109
775-751-2177

Jack in the Box

640 S Hwy. 160
775-727-3783

KFC

1540 E. Hwy. 372
775-751-6400

McDonald's

710 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-8765

Seemore's Polar Parlor

70 E. Hwy. 372 (at Blagg Rd.)
775-764-8242

Sonic Drive-In

350 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-0742

Taco Bell

571 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-7313

Indian

Pour House

Best Western
1101 S. Hwy. 160
775-537-1111

Italian / Pizza

Carmelo's

1440 E. Hwy. 372, #3
775-751-1660

Domino's

250 S. Hwy. 160, #B-6
775-751-3030

Farinata's Pizza

775-877-9400
1360 Hwy. 372, #3

K-7 Pizza

6050 Thousandaire Blvd.
775-727-9070

Little Caesars Pizza

70 S. Hwy. 160, #107
775-751-5556

Mia Ava East Coast Pizza

1971 S. Pahrump Valley
Blvd.
775-505-4434

Pizza Hut

920 S. Pahrump Valley Blvd.
775-727-7952

Tarantino's Pizza

Horizon Market
961 S. Linda at Hwy. 372
775-727-4992

Tower Pizza

3561 E. Kellogg Rd.
775-537-2211

Mexican/ Southwest

El Jefe's, #1

1560 E. Calvada Blvd.
775-537-6034

El Jefe's, #2

921 S. Hwy. 160, #101
775-537-6034

Johnny's

90 Emery St.
775-727-3737

Johnny's Taco Shop

1330 S. Hwy. 160
775-727-3733

LaFonda - Salvadorian & Mexican

1021 Gamebird Rd.
775-253-1604



If you know of additional Food Pantries in Pahrump, please email details to Christine@PahrumpLifeMag.com.

Faith Fellowship Church

2190 N. Blagg Rd775-727-9183

Friday, 9 a.m. sharp!

Food boxes are distributed via drive-thru. Please remain in your car and thank you for your understanding.

Great Basin College

551 E. Calvada Blvd.775-327-5210

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

New Hope Fellowship

781 West St.775-751-1867

Wednesday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

TEFAP and Commodities distributed during regular pantry hours.

Joy Divine Community Church

1161 So. Loop Rd.....775 -419-5266

Seniors: First Friday, 10-11:30 a.m.

Public: Every Friday, 10-11:30 a.m.

Lunch and pre-filled pantry food bags are served at the door.

Oasis Outreach

1061 E. Second St.775-727-7227

Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:15-7:15 a.m.

Please remain in your vehicle, we wave you up when boxes are ready.

Pahrump Community Church

1061 E. Wilson St.....775-727-5384

Monday, Thursday, Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Identification is required.

The Salvation Army

240 S. Dahlia St.....775-751-6171

Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. -2 p.m.

Golden Groceries: Tuesday & Friday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

All are welcome, ID and check-in required. Pantry lists limited to ONE visit per month for all programs.

United Methodist Church

1300 E. Highway 372775-727-6767

Monday, 9-11 a.m.; Tuesday, 4-6 pm

VFW Food Bank

4651 Homestead Rd.....775-727-6072

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Last name A-L)

2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Last name M-Z)

Veterans only, Military ID and proof of Pahrump residency required.



Maria's Taco Shop

Opening a Second Location

For many years the little taco shop located inside the Shell Winery convenience mart on the corner of Highway 160 at Winery Road (across from the Maverick gas station) was undoubtedly an excellent source of good, really good, fast food made hot to order and priced right!

Now there will s a second location opened in the Coyote Corner "convenience center" on Kellogg Road, not far from Sanders Family Winery. The exact address (for your google maps app) is 3971 E Kellogg Road, Pahrump, NV 89061

This location is conveniently situated inside the entertainment/bar area of Coyote Corner, which makes it easy to have a fresh margarita or icy cold beer while waiting for your order!

The prices are very fair for the high quality of their food. The menu is extensive and difficult to choose only one item! There were 12 things in the menu that I wanted so I guess I will just have to come back again and again!!!

The gaming machines, the stage, the many tables and chairs and the full bar make this a fun atmosphere to spend lots of time in. Entertain yourselves, you deserve it!

We are going back again tomorrow!!!
Ya, it's that good!

The phone number for Maria's taco shop at Coyote Corner is (775) 253-0148, but no reservations are ever necessary.

Hours:
Monday through Saturday:
10 am to 7:30 pm
Sunday: 10 am to 4:30 pm



DINING life

Mexican/ Southwest

Las Patronaz Mexican Cuisine

270 Dahlia St.
702-820-2281

Maria's Taco Shop

2301 S. Winery Rd.
775-751-0228

Maria's Tacos & More

Coyote Den
3971 E. Kellogg
775-253-0148

Roberto's

1541 E. Hwy. 372
775-990-4703

Romero's

290 S. Humahuaca St.
775-537-1800

Rubalcaba's Mexican Restaurant

1500 Red Butte St.
775-727-4225

Tacos Fiesta

1330 E. Fifth St. (off Hwy. 372)
702-579-5972

Tina's Tamales

361 Frontage Rd., #5
775-253-2634

Small Plates

Artesian Cellars

1731 S. Hwy. 160
775-600-7144
Sun.: 12 pm - 6 pm
Mon.-Wed.: 11 am - 8 pm
Thu.: 11 am - 9 pm
Sat.: 11 am - 10 pm

The Wine Down

250 Hwy. 160, #8
775-307-9463
Sat. - Sun.: 12 pm - 9 pm
Mon. - Fri.: 2 pm - 9 pm

Steak House

Stockman's Steak House

Pahrump Nugget Casino
681 S. Hwy. 160
775-751-6500
Wed. - Thu.: 4 pm - 9 pm
Fri. - Sat.: 4 pm - 10 pm
Sun.: 4 pm - 9 pm

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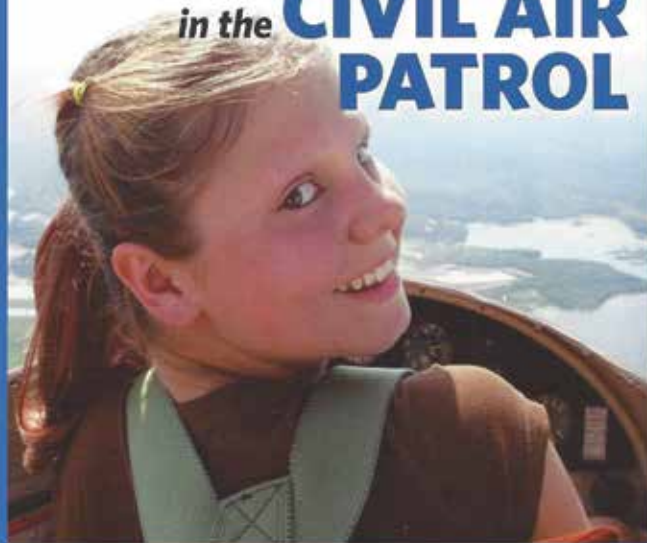
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Financial Advisor

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MOONSHINERS

LUNCH & DINNER MENU + SERVED 11AM-11PM

20% GRATUITY FOR PARTIES OF 8 OR MORE

STARTERS

- Fried Chicken Fingers** \$10.99
Plain or Buffalo Red Hot, with ranch. Add fries for \$1.99
- Chicken Wings (8)** \$12.99
Pit-smoked, then flash-fried, sealing in the flavor. Served with ranch, or try one of our sauces from the BBQ sauce bar.
- Moonshiner Minis (3)** \$11.99
Three small BBQ sandwiches. Choice of chopped brisket or pulled pork. Add fries for \$1.99
- Fried Mac & Cheese Bites** \$9.99
Our house-made mac & cheese, battered and fried.
- Onion Rings** *Choice of dipping sauce* \$7.99
- Road House Quesadilla** \$9.99
Grilled tortilla, jack & cheddar, with pico de gallo, sour cream and guacamole. Add chicken, pork or brisket for \$2.99
- BBQ Potato** \$10.99
Stuffed with your choice of BBQ pork, BBQ beef, BBQ chicken, or chili. Topped with cheddar and green onions.
- Chili Cheese Fries with onions** \$10.99



SALADS

- BBQ Salad** \$13.99
Fresh greens with your choice of BBQ chicken, BBQ beef, or BBQ pork, with cheddar and Parmesan cheeses. Topped with tomatoes, croutons, and red onions.
- Classic Caesar** \$9.99
Fresh romaine tossed in a creamy Caesar dressing, topped with Parmesan cheese and croutons. Add pulled chicken or pulled pork for \$2.99.
- Oriental Salad** \$10.99
Fresh cabbage, mandarin oranges, onions, fried noodles, with sesame seed dressing. Add pulled chicken or pulled pork for \$2.99.
- Chili Cup** \$5.99
Our hearty, homemade chili with beef.
- Soup & Salad Bar** ALL YOU CAN EAT \$9.99



ADD SOUP & SALAD BAR TO ANY ENTRÉE FOR \$5.99

PIT SMOKED BARBECUE

MOUTH-WATERING POST OAK SMOKED MEATS, SERVED WITH YOUR CHOICE OF TWO SIDES



- Pulled Pork** \$13.99
Smoked low & slow for 16-18 hours, then pulled, dusted and sauced. Choice of two sides.
- BBQ Brisket** \$15.99
Smoked low & slow for 16-18 hours, then sliced, dusted and sauced. Choice of two sides.
- Half Chicken** \$14.99
Smoked low & slow for 3.5-4 hours, then dusted and sauced and finished on the grill. Choice of two sides.
- Turkey Breast** \$12.99
Slice turkey breast topped with our house-made gravy. Served with mashed potatoes, an additional side and a cranberry garnish.
- St. Louis Style Ribs Dinner** \$21.99
Dusted with our Shiner Dust, then slowly smoked in our pit for 4-6 hours over post oak wood, locking in the flavor. Choice of two sides.
- Two Meat Plate** \$18.99
Choice of any two of our pit-smoked meats. (Ribs once only.) Choice of two sides.
- Three Meat Plate** \$19.99
Choice of any three of our pit-smoked meats. (Ribs once only.) Choice of two sides.
- PIT SMOKING ADDS A ROSEY CAST TO OUR SUCCULENT MEATS

SANDWICHES

SERVED WITH YOUR CHOICE OF ONE SIDE.

- Pulled Pork** \$10.99
Smoked low & slow with Texas post oak, topped with slaw, barbecue sauce and Shiner Dust.
- Chopped Brisket** \$14.99
Smoked low & slow with Texas post oak. Served on Texas garlic toast, topped with slaw, barbecue sauce and Shiner Dust.
- Smoked Turkey Club** \$11.99
Smoked turkey, bacon, lettuce, tomato, American & Swiss cheese, mayo, choice of bread.
- Grilled Cheese** \$8.99
Parmesan-crusted Texas toast, with cheddar, Swiss, American cheese.
- BLT** Served with one side \$9.99



SIDES

- Moonshiner Fries** \$5.99
Homemade with fresh cut potatoes, deep-fried and dusted with our Shiner Dust
- Cole Slaw** (vinegar base) \$3.99
- Potato Salad** \$3.99
- Mac & Cheese** \$3.99
- Green Beans with Bacon** \$3.99
- Corn on the Cob** (seasonal) \$3.99
- Baked Beans** \$3.99
- Mashed Red Potato with Gravy** \$3.99
- Onion Rings Upgrade** (with meal) \$3.99

BURGERS

1/2-POUND ANGUS BEEF BURGER. SERVED WITH YOUR CHOICE OF ONE SIDE.

- Grilled Cheeseburger** \$11.99
Flame-broiled with choice of cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, and pickle.
- Smashed Cheeseburger** \$12.99
Smashed on the grill, sealing in the flavor. Choice of cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, and pickle.
- BBQ Burger** \$14.99
Choice of cheese, bacon, onion straws, BBQ sauce, lettuce, tomato, onion, and pickle.
- Chili Burger** \$14.99
Grilled burger with choice of cheese and onions.
- Patty Melt** With grilled onions & Swiss cheese \$13.99



DINNER PLATES

CLASSIC DISHES FOR ANY TASTE.

- Salmon** GRILLED OR BLACKENED Served with two sides \$17.99
- Catfish** \$14.99
Farm-raised catfish fillet fried to a golden brown, served with two sides, tartar sauce & lemon.
- Baked Ziti** \$12.99
Ziti pasta with marinara & mozzarella, baked topped with ricotta, served with garlic toast.
- Chicken Fried Steak** \$15.99
Battered chicken fried steak in home-style gravy, with mashed potatoes and additional side.
- Porterhouse Steak** \$19.99
Grilled to your liking, with our house-made steak seasoning and two sides.
- Fish & Chips** \$14.99
Served with cole slaw, tartar sauce, and lemons.
- Liver & Onions** \$13.99
A Southern classic served with bacon, mashed potatoes and additional side.

BREAKFAST

SERVED 6AM - 11AM

DEUCES WILD

Two Eggs Any Style
Two Pancakes or Two French Toast
Two Strips of Bacon or Two Sausage Patties
\$7.99



FROM THE GRIDDLE

Pancakes Stack (3) **\$7.99**
Choice of bacon or sausage patties.

Belgian Waffle **\$7.99**
Add strawberries and whipped cream for \$1.99

French Toast **\$7.99**
Thick sliced toast dipped in cinnamon vanilla batter and fried to a golden brown. Choice of bacon or sausage patties.

Chicken Fried Steak **\$12.99**
Served with two eggs any style, hash browns, and choice of toast.



Road House Classic **\$8.99**

Two eggs any style, with hash browns. Choice of bacon or sausage patties, choice of toast.

Moonshiner Omelet (build your own) **\$10.99**

Choice of 3: bacon, sausage, ham, green pepper, onion, tomato, American, Swiss, provolone, cheddar, pepper jack, jalapeños. Choice of toast. Each additional item \$.75

Steak & Eggs **\$13.99**

New York steak, two eggs any style, with hash browns and choice of toast.

Ham & Eggs **\$10.99**

8oz bone-in ham steak, two eggs any style, with hash browns and choice of toast.

Breakfast Burrito **\$10.99**

Scrambled eggs, choice of meat, cheese, pico de gallo, hash browns.

Country Platter **\$11.99**

Biscuit & gravy, hash browns, two eggs any style, choice of bacon or sausage patties, and choice of toast.

Biscuits & Gravy **\$7.99**

Handmade buttermilk biscuits smothered in country gravy.

Cold Cereal **\$3.99**

Assorted flavors

Oatmeal / Cream of Wheat **\$3.99**



BREAKFAST SIDES

One Egg **\$1.49**

Toast (white, wheat, sourdough, rye) **\$1.99**

English Muffin **\$1.99**

Hash Browns **\$1.99**

Bacon **\$2.99**

Sausage Patties **\$2.99**

Biscuit & Gravy **\$3.99**

Sliced Tomatoes **\$2.99**

Substitute Egg Beaters **\$1.99**

DESSERT

OUR SCRUMPTIOUS DESSERTS ADD A SWEET FINISH TO ANY MEAL

Bread Pudding **\$8.99**

Cobbler **\$7.99**

Brownie Sundae **\$7.99**



BEVERAGES

Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Raspberry Iced Tea **\$3.49**

Coffee, Hot Tea, Hot Chocolate **\$3.49**

Milk, Chocolate Milk **\$3.49**

Juice (Orange, Apple, Tomato) **\$3.99**

FOR THE KIDS

FOR OUR PATRONS 12 AND YOUNGER

Hot Dog with Fries **\$6.99**

Ziti Pasta **\$7.99**

Topped with marinara and served with garlic toast.

Chicken Fingers with Fries **\$8.99**

A child-size portion of our mouthwatering chicken strips, served with a side of fries.



CONSUMPTION OF UNDERCOOKED MEAT, POULTRY, EGGS OR SEAFOOD MAY INCREASE RISK OF FOOD-BORNE ILLNESSES. PLEASE ALERT YOUR SERVER IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS.

Leo Blundo's



DINE IN / To-Go / CATERING CALL: 775-751-1660

OPEN NIGHTLY 4PM – CLOSE

FOR STARTERS

EVERYONE'S FAVORITE GARLIC BREAD

ARTISAN CHEESE BREAD SERVED WITH A SIDE OF OUR NONNA'S MARINARA.

FRIED MOZZARELLA

GOLDEN BREADED, CRISPY, GOOEY MOZZARELLA! SERVED WITH MARINARA.

BRUSHETTA

TOMATOES & OLIVES TOSSED IN OLIVE OIL & BALSAMIC ON TOASTED GARLIC BREAD.

CAPRESE

HANDMADE MOZZARELLA COMPLIMENTED BY LUSH TOMATOES, OLIVE OIL & BALSAMIC VINEGAR.

CHICKEN CAESAR

GRILLED CHICKEN, ROMAINE LETTUCE, CROUTONS & PARMESAN TOSSED IN OUR SIGNATURE CAESAR.

FRIED CALAMARI

LIGHTLY FRIED TO PERFECTION. THE ITALIAN STAPLE. SERVED WITH MARINARA.

ANTIPASTO

ITALIAN HAM, PEPPERONI, MUSHROOMS, ARTICHOKE, OLIVES & MOZZARELLA, OVER A BED OF GREENS SERVED WITH BALSAMIC.

NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

COKE, DIET COKE, SPRITE, RASPBERRY TEA, DR PEPPER, ICED TEA & COFFEE.

ITALIAN SPECIALTY DESSERTS

SICILIAN CANNOLIS

TUBE PASTRY SHELLS FILLED WITH RICOTTA SMASHED IN CHOCOLATE CHIPS. LG & SM

N.Y. CHEESECAKE

AN ITALIAN STAPLE. CREAMY & SMOOTH GOES GREAT WITH A CUP OF COFFEE.

DECADENT CHOCOLATE CAKE

WE ALL LOVE CHOCOLATE CAKE.

EAST COAST PIZZA & CALZONES

DOUGH IS MADE FRESH DAILY. OUR PIES ARE 14-16" PLEASE ALLOW 10-15 MINUTE FOR PREP.

CALZONES ARE STUFFED WITH MOZZARELLA & RICOTTA. ADD A HOUSE SALAD & BREAD.

EXCHANGE FOR EACH ADD'L TOPPING TO ANY PIZZA OR CALZONE

PEPPERONI, HAM, PINEAPPLE, SAUSAGE, GROUND BEEF, TOMATOES, OLIVES, GARLIC, ARTICHOKE, PESTO, SPINACH, PEPPERS, ONIONS, MUSHROOMS, JALAPENO & ANCHOVIES.

CHEESE

EAST COAST STYLE PIZZA.

AMERICANO

PEPPERONI & MUSHROOMS.

MARGHARITA

TOMATOES & BASIL PESTO.

MEAT LOVERS

SAUSAGE, PEPPERONI & ITALIAN HAM.

CAPRICCIOSA

ITALIAN HAM, MUSHROOMS, ARTICHOKE & BLACK OLIVES.

SUPREME

PEPPERONI, SAUSAGE, PEPPERS, ONIONS & MUSHROOMS.

FLORENTINA

RICOTTA, SPINACH, GARLIC & PARMESAN. ADD CHICKEN 3

ITALIAN CALZONE

ITALIAN HAM & SAUSAGE.

FLORENTINA CALZONE

SPINACH & PARMESAN CHEESE.

BUILD YOUR OWN CALZONE!

MOZZARELLA, RICOTTA & YOUR CHOICE OF 3 INGREDIENTS.



Leo Blundo's **CARMELO'S** BISTRO-PIZZA-FINE PASTAS

PASTAS

NONNA'S SPAGHETTI & HANDMADE MEATBALLS

THE TRADITION IN EVERY ITALIAN HOUSEHOLD. SOFT MOIST HOMEMADE MEATBALLS WITH MARINARA.

LUCA'S LASAGNA AL FORNO

A HELPING OF OLD FASHIONED LASAGNA. BOLOGNESE, MOZZARELLA, RICOTTA & BÉCHAMEL.

CAPELLINI ALLA PESTO

FRESH TOMATOES, GARLIC, FRESH BASIL PESTO, PARMESAN & OLIVE OIL ALL OVER ANGEL HAIR.
AVAILABLE W/O PROTEIN, ADD CHICKEN OR SHRIMP

SPAGHETTI MEAT SAUCE ALLA BOLOGNESE

FRESH GROUND ANGUS CHUCK SIMMERED IN OUR SIGNATURE POMODORO.
ADD SAUSAGE OR MEATBALLS

ALFREDO REGGIANO

FRESH CREAM INFUSED WITH REAL GARLIC, BUTTER & PARMESAN CHEESE.
AVAILABLE W/O PROTEIN, ADD CHICKEN OR SHRIMP

PENNE POMODORO & SAUSAGE

BRAISED HOMEMADE SAUSAGE OVER PENNE POMODORO. ROBUST & FULL FLAVOR.

BAKED ZITI

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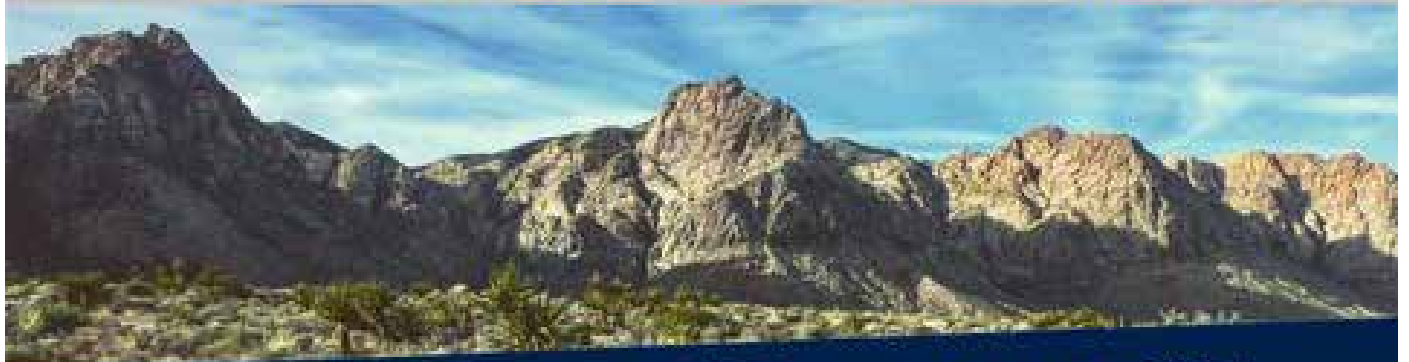
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It's time to start your moving calendar.

- ☐ Have a moving binder to store all the information you'll be getting and keeping your receipts for tax purposes.
- ☐ Contact your physician to get your medical records for yourself and your pet.
- ☐ Obtain your child's school records.
- ☐ Take a complete home inventory to know what you will take and what you'll leave behind. Take all give-away items to local charities.
- ☐ Contact 3-4 reputable moving companies to receive moving quotes. Make sure your quotes include all the services the mover is including. Get all the paperwork up front so you don't have any surprises. Never sign any blank or incomplete documents.
- ☐ Obtain boxes for packing.
- ☐ Start packing items you won't need right away first, such as off season clothing, dishes and pans. As you pack the items you'll need right away with "Open First".
- ☐ Obtain your change of address from the Post Office.
- ☐ As credit card bills come in, change your address so you won't miss a payment.
- ☐ Decide how to transport your pets. Check with your veterinarian.
- ☐ Decide the best way of transporting your plants. Check with your local nursery.
- ☐ Change the address on your magazines that you receive in the mail.
- ☐ Change your address with the Internal Revenue Service.
- ☐ Make arrangements to stop your newspaper deliveries.
- ☐ Discuss with your family about how this move will impact them.
- ☐ Get your vehicle serviced.
- ☐ Cancel your utilities including water, electricity, gas, internet and reconnect these services to your new home in your new location.

Now you're ready to greet your Big Day!

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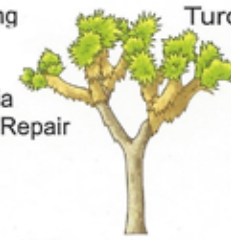
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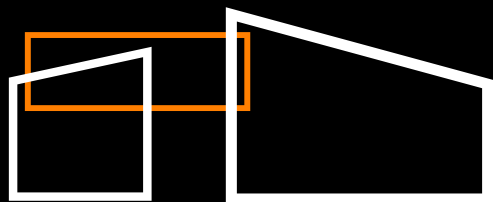


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