



Barbara Ellestad

David Magley, president and COO of the North American Premier Basketball league, announced on Oct. 31 that Mesquite will be home to a professional basketball team with play set to begin shortly after Jan. 1. The Rising Star Sports Ranch barn will host 16 games through the end of the league season in April.

SPORTS

NAPB and Desert Dogs, a league in progress

By Lou Martin
 MLN

Who would have ever thought that they would see professional basketball in Mesquite! Well it is the Holiday Season when special things do happen.

It's been two months since Dave Magley, president of the newly formed North American Premier Basketball League announced that the league was placing a team in Mesquite. The announcement came at a meet and greet hosted by the Rising Star Sports Ranch Resort on Oct. 31.

Shortly thereafter, a name was chosen using local community input. The Nevada Desert Dogs were born and Mesquite had a professional basketball team.

But names do not make any business

venture successful, it takes for sight and vision. It seems Magley has covered all his bases to insure that dreams can happen.

In a recent interview with Mesquite Local News, Magley said, "We are just beginning. We have two teams added for next season plus a possibility of two teams in Mexico. We are an international league and will bring great basketball to the communities we serve."

League play will begin on Dec. 31 when the Albany (New York) Patroons face tipoff against the Rochester (New York) RazorSharks. Following the initial opening, games will follow almost daily, when teams called the Kansas City Tornados, Kentucky Thoroughbreds, Yakima

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ENTERTAINMENT

New Years festivities on tap

By Teri Nehrenz
 MLN

The year 2017 is drawing to an end and folks are getting ready to ring in the New Year. When it comes time to do that on Dec. 31, there are several choices around Mesquite where you and your friends can say good-bye to the old and bring in the new.

You can begin your New Year's Eve with a great New Year's Eve Brunch at the Eureka. From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. folks can enjoy the variety of dishes available and a glass of champagne. The cost of the buffet is \$19.99 per person with a Gold Club Card, \$21.99 without. After the buffet you can work off those calories in a variety of different ways.

Season's Ultralounge is open at the Eureka on New Year's Eve from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. featuring DJ Juan and Doll Face.

You can pop, hip-hop or rock your way into the New Year in the CasaBlanca's Skydome Lounge with Radio Rave. Radio Rave is a high energy pop, rock and hip hop dance band that not only covers those genres of music, but also blends them together for a truly unique musical experience.

From classic acoustic rock hits to the most current dance club tracks, this multi-talented group of three females and two males perform this music with a style that's all their own.

The vocals and musicianship of Radio Rave are exceptional and stem from an impressive professional background. From years of touring and recording with internationally known artists, performing in all of the major Las Vegas and

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Holiday display



Lou Martin

Mesquite gets into the holiday spirit with displays such as this.

GOVERNMENT

Healthcare rankings show gradual improvement

By Megan Messerly
 The Nevada Independent

Nevada has been gradually making improvements to its health-care system over the last few years, but a couple of end-of-year health-care rankings show the state still has a long way to go.

The most noticeable improvement to health care in Nevada is the reduction of the state's uninsured rate, which plummeted from 27 percent in 2013 to 15 percent in 2016 after the implementation

of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). That dramatic drop was aided by Gov. Brian Sandoval's decision to opt the state into an expansion of Medicaid allowed under the federal law.

The state has also taken steps to address its physician shortage with the opening of the new UNLV medical school and looking at opportunities to expand residency programs in the state to better train and retain doctors in the state. The governor has also prioritized addressing the state's mental health

needs and the opioid epidemic.

With an eye toward further improvements in the state's health system, Sandoval was wary of congressional attempts this year to repeal the ACA without a viable replacement. He joined a bipartisan group of other governors multiple times over the course of the year to call on Congress to pass some sort of bipartisan health-care reform.

Congress's decision to repeal the indi-

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Eve

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California casinos, television and movie sound track credits, as well as music degrees from the distinguished LA College of Music, Radio Rave collectively brings diversity and creativity to each show.

If you happen to be more of a bootscoot-n-boogie type then the Virgin River's River Lounge has just the band to help you ring those cow bells at midnight.

The Randy Anderson Band is a country-variety band and has been a staple in Las Vegas for many years. Randy Anderson Band plays the best of new and traditional country music, as well as oldies and classic rock.

The admission in both the Skydome lounge and River Lounge is free to the public; you must be 21 or older to join the fun. Shows begin at 8 p.m. Visit the website www.casablancaresort.com for more information.

If a smaller, experience is your thing, try out the "Best New Year's Eve Party in Town" at the Stateline Casino. Cash drawings will be held every hour with an additional midnight drawing for \$2,017. Entertainment will be provided by Most Wanted. The games begin at 8 p.m., cash drawings begin at 9:30; visit their facebook page for more information. For the "Ultimate Interactive New Year's Eve Bash," where you call the shots with your Rock-n-Roll requests; The Eagles, Aerosmith, Bob Seger, Doobie Brothers, Def Leppard, The Rolling Stones, AC/DC, Neil Young, Van Halen and much more. DJ Jimmy Z will be spinning the hits between band sets. It will take place at the Casablanca Showroom, beginning at 9 p.m.

All reserved seating, includes party favors, champagne toast and dance floor! Must be 21 or older.

Visit www.casablancaresort.com to reserve your spots. Tickets on sale now!

Now that you know what's available in Mesquite, have fun saying good-bye 2017 and hello to a brand new year.

Healthcare

continued from Page 1A

vidual mandate, the least popular portion of the ACA, is expected to further destabilize Nevada's health-care market, leaving more questions than answers to come in 2018.

Until then, read on for takeaways from a number of recent reports on the status of health care in Nevada and where the state stands headed into the new year.

DRAMATIC DECREASES IN UNINSURED RATES

A recent report from the Commonwealth Foundation found that, although Nevada has made significant gains in health care over the last three years under the Affordable Care Act, it still has a long way to go when it comes to catching up to other states.

Nevada's rate of uninsured, non-elderly adults dropped drastically between 2013 and 2016, from 27 percent to 15 percent. That includes an 11-point drop in the uninsured rate for white adults, a 19-point drop for black adults, a 12-point drop for Hispanic adults and a 12-point drop for all other adults.

The rate of uninsured low-income adults also saw a 19-point percentage-point drop between 2013 and 2016. Nevada expanded its Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act in 2014 to offer coverage to all individuals making up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level.

Nevada's percentage of uninsured children also fell significantly from 2013 to 2016, from 14 percent to 6 percent. The rate of uninsured low-income children dropped from 20 percent to 9 percent over that time frame.

Still, Nevada hasn't seen significant gains in terms of the percentage of adults who forego health care because of the cost. About 17 percent of Nevadans went without health care because of costs in 2013, compared to 15 percent in 2015 and 16 percent in 2016.

And Nevada still lags behind the national average in almost every category. The Commonwealth Foundation ranked Nevada 41st in overall access to care, with the state exceeding the national average for percentage of uninsured adults and children and adults who went without health care because of cost.

The state did, however, exceed the national average in one category. Between 2013 and 2016, 13 percent of Nevada residents had high out-of-pocket medical spending compared to the national average of 14 percent.

HIGH NUMBER OF DRUG DEATHS, VIOLENT CRIMES AND LOW GRADUATION RATES

Nevada ranks 32nd in the nation overall for how it performs in several categories of behavioral determinants influencing health quality in the state, according to a recent report from United Health Foundation (a not-for-profit foundation arm of the health insurance company UnitedHealth Group.) The state ranks 49th for lowest high school graduation rates (71.3 percent of students), 42nd for number of drug deaths (20.8 per 100,000) and 32nd

for physical inactivity (24.7 percent of adults).

The state performed better than a majority of states in four behavioral categories, though. Despite its "Sin City" reputation, the city came in only at 20th for excessive drinking (17.6 percent), 15th for binge drinking (15.8 percent) and 20th for smoking (16.5 percent). It also had the eighth best obesity rate of any state (25.8 percent.)

However, the state ranked near the bottom for its high violent crime rate — 678 offenses per 100,000 in the population — coming in at 48th. It also ranks 44th for poor mental health days and 39th for poor physical health days.

Other areas that Nevada ranks 40th or below in: suicide (40th), underemployment rate (48th), unemployment rate (44th) and access to vegetables (47th). The state is in the top 20 states for: seat belt use (9th), neighborhood amenities (14th) and income inequality (19th).

NEVADA RANKS WELL BELOW NATIONAL AVERAGE ON HEALTH POLICY DECISIONS

The same report found that Nevada ranks 43rd in terms of its health-care policy decisions, which looks at its rate of immunizations and funding devoted to public health.

Nevada ranks in the bottom half of states in every immunization category except for children, where it came in at 24th. The state ranks 39th for number of vaccinations for the human papillomavirus (HPV) in females, 33rd for adolescent immunizations, 32nd for Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Tdap) immunizations, 29th for meningococcal immunizations and 26th for HPV vaccinations in males.

Like the Commonwealth Fund report, the United Health Foundation notes that Nevada's uninsured rate is significantly improved, decreasing from 13.8 percent in 2016 to 11.9 percent in 2017. But the state still ranks 44th for still having a high number of uninsured individuals.

To top it off, the state ranks 46th for access to primary care physicians (107.9 per 100,000), 30th for mental health providers (190.7 per 100,000) and 29th for dentists (52.9 per 100,000). It performs better than most states in preventable hospitalizations, coming in at 14th. It's overall "clinical care" ranking is 35th.

Nevada comes in at 2nd for least number of salmonella cases and 8th for infectious diseases, outperforming most other states. It also ranks 6th for number of children in poverty, about 11.4 percent.

The state falls somewhere in the middle of the pool of states for chlamydia (27th) and occupational fatalities (27th). For air pollution, it comes in at 43rd.

Overall, all those factors contribute to the state ranking 35th in terms of overall health outcomes. Nevada ranks in the bottom half of states for: frequent mental distress (45th), frequent physical distress (40th), cardiovascular deaths (40th), diabetes (31st), and premature death (30th).

This story was first published on The Nevada Independent website. Those interested can email contact@thenevindy.com.

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NAPB

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Sunkings (Washington), Vancouver Knights (Canada), Ohio Cardinals and finally, on Jan. 13, the Nevada Desert Dogs tip off against the Knights.

Nevada Desert Dogs has a kind of local ring to it. "We chose Mesquite as their home because of the great input and effort by the Rising Star," Magley said. "The Desert Dogs are a league-owned team, but we are not in the business of owning teams and hope to rectify that as soon as possible."

The Desert Dogs will be coached by Paul Mokeski, a 12-year NBA veteran with the Cleveland Cavaliers and at the University of Kansas.

He has invited 21 players for tryouts currently under way in St. George.

"I'm positive his final roster of 10-12 players will bring an exciting brand of basketball to Mesquite and Nevada," Magley said.

The league had 18 combines in Canada and throughout the United States

and held a draft in Chicago to select two players for each team. The Dogs selected Luke Cochran, 6-foot-10 out of Sonoma State (California), and Anthony Strickland, who played for the Western New York team in the Premier Basketball League.

The players trying out come from colleges throughout the country and include some with international experience.

The team recently announced on its Facebook page (North American Premier Basketball) that Slim McGee, a 6-foot-11 player from Missouri Southern, has joined the squad.

Let's hope that Magley's flight time, miles equal to flying around the world 3.5 times and 75,000 miles driven, are fruitful here in Mesquite. Initial ticket prices will run \$15 to \$50 for first row seats with season tickets available at a discount.

It should be a great avenue for a night out for families and seniors in our community. MLN will do a preview of the opening game and announce the team's roster after the first of the year.

POLICE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORT

Editor's note: The following was taken from the pages of the Mesquite Police Department blotter from Dec. 17-23.

DEC. 17

Wanted person: An officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for an equipment violation; the adult male passenger was arrested for a warrant.

Stolen vehicle: Officer took a report of a stolen vehicle. Information obtained and entered into NCIC.

Reckless driver: Officer responded to a report of a reckless driver at a Riverside Road apartment complex. Upon arrival witnesses reported a male who appeared highly intoxicated, stumbled to a green Honda with no license plates and drive away. The witnesses stated the vehicle hit a parked vehicle, before driving off. During the investigation the vehicle was located, and the driver was arrested for DUI.

Theft: An officer took a report for a retail theft at a West Pioneer Boulevard department store.

Suspicious vehicle: Officers were called to the intersection of East First North Street and Sandhill Boulevard for a suspicious vehicle. Upon arrival Officers observed an unregistered RV. The owner was inside, he became irate, uncooperative and attempted to flee; when he was stopped and taken into custody for misdemeanor and traffic offenses.

Suspicious person: Officers arrived to a suspicious situation. The reporting person stated two Hispanic males were kicking a door and trying to get into unit D103 through the window. Officers responded to the area and spoke to two males at that location. One of the males was in violation of his probation and was arrested. Two other people were reported to have fled the scene prior to arrival.

DEC. 18

Hit & Run: Officers responded to a hit and run accident on Mesquite Boulevard. The vehicle involved in the accident fled the scene. The vehicle was later located by officers. An investigation is ongoing.

Lost property: An officer responded to a male adult who had lost his backpack. The male also needed medical assistance, and an ambulance was requested.

Traffic accident W/O injury: Officers responded to the South Roundabout at Falcon Ridge Parkway, reference a minor traffic accident. Information was exchanged, a citation was issued, and a report was completed.

Citizen assist: Officer spoke with a citizen regarding issues with actions at a local park. Officer advised to avoid the other and document any issues which may occur in the future.

Theft from vehicle: Officers responded to a call of a return a phone call only. The RP stated she returned to Utah and realized four pieces of luggage were taken from the rear of her truck and it happened in Mesquite. Officer took a courtesy report.

Lost Property: Officer responded to Mesquite Police Lobby to assist assistance recover their lost property.

Weapon offense: Officers responded to a North Sandhill Boulevard gas station for an alleged weapons offense. Officers reviewed the surveillance coverage of the incident. No weapons were observed or located.

Trespassing: An officer responded to a West Mesquite Boulevard casino for a report on an intoxicated female who was refusing leave. The female was later arrested for trespassing.

DEC. 19

Theft from vehicle: Officers responded to an Eldorado Road business for a report of a theft from a vehicle. The vehicle belonged to an employee who left his vehicle unlocked. Minor items were discovered missing.

Trespassing: Officers responded on a trespass violator at a West Mesquite Boulevard casino.

Stolen Vehicle: Officer responded to a Mesa Boulevard residence reference a stolen vehicle. A report was completed and the investigation is ongoing.

Property damage, non-vandalism: Officer took a report of property damage. Offender was issued a citation with a mandatory court date.

Lost property: Officer took a report of lost property.

Vandalism: Officers responded to an East Old Mill Road apartment complex reference property damage. An information report was completed.

Phone harassment: Officer spoke with citizen regarding harassment. Advised to block phone number or change number. Officer also advised to document any contact if a TPO is needed.

Agency assistance: The detectives were informed about a male in Independence, Missouri that could or maybe would be involved in a possible violent

> See BLOTTER, Page 5A

Statistics supplied by Mesquite Police Department. Disclaimer: These names were reported in the Mesquite Police Department's arrest report released Dec. 25. Persons should be presumed innocent until convicted in a court of law.

Belback, Douglas
St. George, UT
12/19/17
Defrauding an Inn Keeper

Belback, Melissa
St. George, UT
12/19/17
Defrauding an Inn Keeper

Bell, Keving E
Mesquite
12/21/17
Hit and run, unattended vehicle
Driving w/o valid DL
Driving on sidewalk
Unsafe turn
Failure to maintain travel lane

Bixter, Sara E
Las Vegas
12/21/17
Jail housing agreement

Bruse, James L
Post Falls, ID
12/17/17
Disturbing the peace/fighting
Stop on signal/elude police
Unregistered vehicle
No proof of insurance

Bute, Robin K
Mesquite
12/23/17
Failure to appear

Chilson, Jeffrey T
Buffalo, NY
12/19/17
Trespassing

Diaz, Jean Pierre T
Mesquite
12/22/17
False information/obstructing
Seatbelts required

Gonzales, David J
Henderson
12/18/17
Contempt of court

Female juvenile offender
Mesquite
12/19/17
Purchase/consumption by minor

Hernandez, Nacali R
Colorado Springs, CO
12/22/17
Fugitive from justice

Hughes, Sharece A
Mesquite
12/20/17
DUI
No proof of insurance
Due care/decrease speed

Johnson, Randy
Colorado Springs, CO
12/22/17
Fugitive from justice

Koja, Devin S
St. George, UT
12/20/17
Possession of controlled substance x2
Petit larceny
Trafficking a controlled substance

Kuta, Kaylee A
St. George, UT
12/22/17
Failure to appear
Trespassing

> See ARREST, Page 5A

POLICE CALLS

Many calls that the Police Department receives are not always included in the blotter, as they are under investigation or a synopsis is not received. To show the amount of work our PD does do, we are including a weekly roster of stats. This week, there were 161 total incidents in the blotter:

- Agency assistance 5
- Alarm 9
- Animal pick up 6
- Assault/Battery 1
- Citizen assists 4
- Civil matter 4
- Controlled substance problem 1
- Dead body 1
- Domestic trouble 1
- Domestic violence 1
- DUI 2
- Fire 1
- Found property 2
- Fraud 3
- Graffiti 1
- Hit & Run 3
- Identification check 2
- Intoxicated person 2
- Juvenile problem 1

- K9 search 4
- Keep the peace 3
- Lost property 3
- Mental person 1
- Miscellaneous CAD call record 3
- Missing person 2
- Nuisance or minor problem 1
- Parking problem 2
- Person on foot 5
- Phone harassment 1
- Property damage, non-vandalism 2
- Reckless driver 1
- Recovered stolen vehicle 1
- Sex offense 1
- Stolen vehicle 3
- Suspicious person 25
- Suspicious vehicle 4
- Theft 8
- Theft from vehicle 2
- Traffic accident w/o injury 6
- Traffic problem 5
- Traffic stop 7
- Trespassing 5
- Unknown problem 2
- Vandalism 1
- VIN number inspection 4
- Wanted person 3
- Weapon offense 1
- Welfare check 4

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OPINION

Time to reopen Ash Springs to swimmers

The Lincoln Country Record reported that the popular swimming hole at the Ash Springs hot springs north of Alamo was shut down because of possible safety hazards.

Someone had noticed a child playing near a wall of rocks that looked as if it might collapse any moment and a local law enforcement officer brought it to the attention of the Bureau of Land Management.

Victoria Barr of the Caliente BLM office told the newspaper, "The structural instability as well as bank erosion and undercutting has caused a concern for public safety."

The report said the repairs might move slowly due to the presence of two federally protected fish — the Pahrana-gat roundtail chub and the White River springfish.

"The amount of time needed for repairs is uncertain at this time, but Barr thinks it could be, 'weeks at this point,'" the paper recounted. "She said their

plan is to go through an official closure, and then start a collaborative planning process with the stakeholders and other federal agencies. 'We anticipate public meetings,' she said, and when those meetings get scheduled, will be able to inform the public."

Lincoln County Commissioner Adam Katschke said, "We miss having it open, especially the businesses in Alamo and Pahrana-gat Valley."

Those "weeks at this point" have turned into four and half years. That report was published in July 2013 and the ol' swimming hole remains closed to this day, testimony to the glacial pace of the federal land agencies that control 85 percent of the land in Nevada.

The Las Vegas newspaper reported recently that a BLM official said the agency is nearly finished with a draft environmental assessment for the site, but she could not predict when it might be made available for public scrutiny. So, paper-work has been pushed, but no dirt.

Local residents are said to be anxious to see Ash Springs reopen, but are concerned about how well the BLM would manage the popular tourist site if and when it does.

The paper quoted nearby land owner Cody Whipple as saying he and others would like to see the site turned into a small resort with fees collected for upkeep and repairs. He said the BLM is not in the resort business.

A group called Friends of Pahrana-gat Valley has stated they would like to create some soaking pools next to a fenced natural area where swimming would be prohibited to protect native plants and fish. Their plans include changing rooms, boardwalks and trails, improved restrooms, a paved parking lot, picnic pavilions, a playground and courts for basketball and sand volleyball.

According to a Sunday editorial in the Las Vegas newspaper, the man in charge of the BLM, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, commented to the paper

recently about the lengthy closure of Ash Springs, "This is exactly why the federal government needs to clean up our act. I'm not in the business of locking the public out."

Zinke said Ash Springs will again be open and chided his agency for taking so long to resolve the issue. "We need to work with local communities and be better neighbors ..." he was quoted as saying. "Local voices hadn't been heard and people rightfully get upset when they get locked out."

Perhaps a few of Zinke's minions who would like to continue in their cushy, well-paid government jobs should pay heed to what the boss just said.

Whatever happens, it should be sooner rather than later for the benefit of the local residents and potential tourists who would help spur local businesses.

Frankly, the BLM should consider turning over the property to the state, county or a local entity — nonprofit or for-profit. — TM

In media we trust

There is only one private enterprise sanctioned in the Constitution. It comes in Amendment I: "Congress shall make no law ... prohibiting the free exercise ... of the press." Newspapers are given the absolute right to circulate opinions in print without censorship by government.

The press has a duty to shoulder this awesome responsibility with the utmost care and deliberation. They not only distribute opinion, but also facts—critical information—told fairly and clearly so we citizens can be the decision makers we need to be to contribute our part in sustaining the republic.

In oppressive governments, the press is not independent, but rather operated by the government, disbursing only what government wants publically seen. Quashing what the press is able to print puts citizens in jeopardy.

We need look no further than the events in 1930s Germany. The lack of an adversarial press caused millions of ordinary people to either comply or turn a blind-eye while their government exterminated millions of humans simply because they were not like themselves.

A strong push-back from the press may have been able to avoid the Holocaust. The Russian government has ruled its media for a hundred years. By doing so, the government has been able to direct wealth and power into the hands of only a few, keeping the masses from achieving their natural potential.

The consequences of a regulated free press are dire.

Many of you are not reading a traditional print copy of a newspaper, and that is fine.

TERRY DONNELLY COMMENTARY

The news industry is struggling to find its place in an electronic age. I'm certain that they will eventually stabilize their commercial way. So, I'm going to concentrate on the fact that the news media are the champions of truth regardless of the format.

The Washington Post is one of our largest, most popular, most vocal, and most established publications. It is unique because it operates within our government district and reports about government doings. It was established in 1877 and has won 47 Pulitzer prizes, second only to The New York Times's 122. They earned a whopping six Pulitzers in 2008, one less than the NYT's record seven in 2002. It, along with the Gray Lady, are national treasures.

When newspaper reporters are mentioned, the names of Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward often come to mind. These two novice reporters along with their editor, Ben Bradlee, and Post owner, Katherine Graham, got hold of a minor story in 1972 and stuck with it, digging deeper, keeping the public up to date, and ended up two years later finishing the job by exposing a corrupt president, forcing him from office. Just prior, in 1971, the Post, along with the NYT, fought for and won the right to publish the "Pentagon Papers" that were discovered to show the government was lying to us about the Vietnam War.

Both of these stories are shining examples of the media at its best. But, it is not in successes that we find proof of how devoted the press is to the American public. In their effort to get news printed, they not only work hard, but work fast. News becomes stale if left to steep. We all know that haste makes waste and media are not immune from this axiom. We can read any edition of any paper and generally around page two or three, below the fold, there is a list of corrections that needs to be made from the previous edition. Many are minor but some are doozies.

In 1980 the Post hired a young, promising reporter, Janet Cooke. She was a rising star in the company. On September 28, 1980, a story titled "Jimmy's World" was published under Ms. Cooke's by line. It was the story of an eight-year-old boy who, she reported, was a third-generation heroin addict.

Ms. Cooke spent weeks researching and following leads about the boy she kept hearing stories about in the streets. She finally finished her work and published the moving story of the youngster, already deeply scarred with needle tracks in his arms. It was an amazing story and on April 13, 1981, Janet Cooke and The Washington Post won a Pulitzer for her efforts. Immediately, problems in the story started to surface and soon Ms. Cooke admitted she had fabricated the story. Jimmy was an urban legend.

This was an epic fail by the newspaper. As soon as possible, Ms. Cooke was fired

> See DONNELLY, Page 5A

What evidence is pertinent in Bundy-BLM trials?

Pardon us plebs, but we are a tad bit confused about just what is admissible evidence in the Bunkerville standoff trials.

This past week, about a month into the second of three scheduled trials, the judge declared a mistrial because the prosecution had failed to timely turn over potentially exculpatory evidence to the defense.

Federal Judge Gloria Navarro listed six instances in which prosecutors willfully withheld evidence — including information about an FBI surveillance camera, documents citing the presence of snipers, certain maps, FBI logs, threat assessments that showed the Bundys weren't violent and internal affairs documents detailing possible misdeeds by the Bureau of Land Management agent in charge, who was later fired.

The judge ruled the material might have been useful in shaping a defense for the protesters who showed up at Cliven Bundy's ranch in April 2014 when BLM agents attempted to impound 500 head of his cattle for failing to pay \$1 million in grazing fees and fines for two decades.

According to press accounts, Judge Navarro noted FBI log entries said "snipers were inserted" outside the Bundy home, though prosecutors previously denied any snipers were posted and now say they were unaware of the FBI log showing otherwise. Ignorance is no excuse, the judge chided.

Curious. In an earlier trial, Judge Navarro kicked defendant Erik Parker off the witness stand for trying to mention where a BLM sniper was positioned. He was not allowed to continue his defense.

During that trial the judge had granted a sweeping prosecution motion to bar arguments about the defendants' "state of mind," such as whether they were provoked by the government's massive show of force.

She ruled that defense could not mention nor show video or audio depicting the arrest of Cliven's son Dave Bundy in which he was wrestled to the ground; nor any recordings showing the tasing of son Ammon Bundy or a BLM agent grabbing Cliven's sister Margaret Houston from behind and throwing her to the ground; nor any testimony or opinion about the level of force displayed by law enforcement; nor references to Bundy's grazing, water, or legacy rights on the public lands; no references to infringements on First and Second Amendment rights; and no mention of the punishment the defendants faced if convicted.

It appears some of the very things not allowed in evidence at an earlier trial are now grounds for a mistrial because the defense was not provided documentation.

To add further to the contortions and



THOMAS MITCHELL
COMMENTARY

machinations of this case, just days before the judge declared a mistrial the prosecution filed a motion similar to the one granted in the prior trial. It asked the judge to not allow the introduction of "evidence or argument at trial that relate to instigation/provocation, self-defense/defense of others, entrapment, justification for violent self-help, impermissible state of mind justification, and collateral attacks on the court orders." The motion said presenting any of this to the jury would amount to jury nullification.

In this trial Cliven Bundy and sons Ryan and Ammon, as well as self-styled militia member Ryan Payne, face charges that include obstruction of justice, conspiracy, extortion, assault and impeding federal officers.

Faced with armed protesters during the cattle impoundment, agents released the cattle rather than risk a shootout.

"The law does not permit the defendants to expand the legally cognizable defense of self-defense against a law enforcement officer by incorporating instigation and provocation," the latest motion states. "To do so would eviscerate the well-recognized elements of self-defense. Defendants, rather, seek to introduce evidence of instigation and provocation to obtain jury nullification. Jury nullification is illegal."

Rather than slap a lien on the Bundy ranch and cattle or freeze the ranch's bank accounts, the BLM instead chose to send in an armed force to oversee the rounding up of Bundy's cattle by contracted cowboys. The operation has been estimated to have cost \$3 million. Once the cattle were corralled and off the grazing range, there was no hay to feed them and reportedly no one willing to take the cattle.

Additionally, withheld documents reportedly included statements that no threatened desert tortoises were ever found to be harmed by Bundy's cattle, the reason the BLM tried to limit his grazing in the first place.

A hearing in the case is set for January. Unless the judge decides to dismiss the charges, a retrial is slated for late February. What evidence would be allowed?

Thomas Mitchell is a longtime Nevada newspaper columnist. You may email him at thomasmtnv@yahoo.com. He also blogs at <http://4thst8.wordpress.com/>.

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Blotter

continued from Page 3A

act. Information passed onto the FBI

Trespassing: Took report of trespass at a Mesa Boulevard casino.

Fraud: Officer was called to a West Pioneer Boulevard department store to investigate fraudulent activity. A Patron purchased items. The next day took the same type of items off the shelf and returned them. Investigation is ongoing.

Domestic trouble: Officers conducted a domestic violence investigation. The male half was later arrested.

Theft: Officers responded to a North Sandhill Boulevard restaurant for a report of customers who could not pay for their meals. A male and a female were issued citations for Defrauding an Innkeeper and released with a court date.

DEC. 20

Traffic accident W/O injury: An officer responded to a single vehicle accident. During the investigation the driver was arrested for DUI.

Property damage, non-vandalism: A vehicle was struck with a golf ball traveling on a public road near a golf course. No injuries were reported.

Theft: Officer responded to a report of a theft at a local department store. One male subject was taken into custody for theft and drug possession charges.

Wanted person: Officers contacted a male subject with a warrant out of Mesquite Municipal Court. The male was arrested for the warrant and for shoplifting.

Hit & Run: An officer responded to an intersection reference a hit and run accident with property damage. Upon arrival, the officer documented the damage and subsequently located the driver and placed him under arrest.

Traffic problem: A driver ran into a light pole. The driver contacted police and an officer completed a report.

DEC. 21

Graffiti: Officer responded to a city park in reference to a report of graffiti. Officer documented the graffiti and investigation is ongoing.

Theft: Officer responded to a report of a theft at a local department store. One male subject was taken into custody for theft and drug possession charges.

Wanted person: Officers contacted a male subject with a warrant out of Mesquite Municipal Court. The male was arrested for the warrant and for shoplifting.

Fraud: Officer responded to the Police Department for a report of a fraud. Officer took the report and investigation is ongoing.

DEC. 22

Identification check: An officer responded to an East Pioneer Boulevard casino for an identification check on a female. The female had a felony warrant out of Mesquite and was arrested.

Controlled substance problem: Officers located and conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle involved in drug activity. One female and one male were arrested on felony warrants and one female was cited and released for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Dead body: Officer responded to a Southridge Drive residence reference a dead body call. A report was taken on a deceased female.

Fraud: An adult female used counterfeit money at an East Pioneer Boulevard casino. The investigation is ongoing.

Theft: Officers responded to a residence for a report of a stolen iPhone. The investigation is ongoing.

Mental person: Officers responded to a Lavender Lane residence on a report of a mental person. Officers were unable to locate the person who fled prior to their arrival.

Traffic stop: An officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for several traffic violations. One of the adult passengers was not wearing a seatbelt and obstructed the investigation. He was arrested for obstruction and no seatbelt.

DEC. 23

DUI: An officer conducted a traffic stop on a motor vehicle for a traffic violation. Officer observed evidence the driver may be impaired. A DUI investigation was conducted and the driver was arrested for DUI alcohol.

Stolen vehicle: Officers responded to an East Pioneer Boulevard casino in reference a stolen vehicle. The vehicle was taken by individuals passing through Mesquite. An investigation is ongoing.

Traffic accident w/o injury: An officer responded to a two vehicle collision, with no injuries.

Arrest

continued from Page 3A

Larson, Craig A
Mesquite
12/23/17
DUI

Porterfield, Teresa A
Ely
12/18/17
Trespassing

Puff, Daniel G
Mesquite
12/17/17
Failure to appear

Ramirez, Leonardo
Mesquite
12/19/17
Domestic battery

Ramos, Jose E
Littlefield, AZ
12/20/17
Contempt of court

Riding, Steven M
Littlefield, AZ
12/20/17
Petit larceny

Contempt of court

Rodriguez-Torres, Ramon
Mesquite
12/17/17
DUI

Rothleutner, Jeffrey A
Mesquite
12/19/17
Open & Gross lewdness
Under 14

Ruvalcaba, Mario C
Mesquite
12/21/17
Open container of alcohol in vehicle

Sanders, Heather
General Delivery
12/22/17
Possession of Drug paraphernalia

Valdez, Jesse E
Mesquite
12/17/17
General probation violation

Williams, Earl J III
Las Vegas
12/20/17
Contempt of court

is in failure that we can see how much we can trust our media. News gets published that isn't accurate every day, but it is not done with malice.

We can and need to trust that the press is on our side. The media may be enemies of those in power, but they are not the enemies of the people. Indeed, they are all that stand in the way of tyranny.

Terry Donnelly is a retired teacher now living in Mesquite. He taught in public schools in Kentucky, Michigan, and Colorado. He was an adjunct faculty member instructing teachers and teacher trainees at Michigan State University, University of Colorado, and Adams State College in Colorado.

Christmas on the road is customary in military life

The holiday season is a time when millions of Americans get to take a break from the stress of their daily lives and devote their attention to their faith, their family, and their friends.

For the men and women who serve our country as members of the military, however, the call of duty often means having to spend the holidays overseas and away from their loved ones.

As I spend this Christmas with my family, celebrating the arrival of our third child and first son, John Dominic, I think back to when I had to spend the holidays away from family and friends.

When I was serving in the U.S. Navy in 2006, I was deployed in Iraq and unable to return home for Christmas that year. We did our best, and great effort was undertaken, to try to replace the usual Christmas experience, including having local nationals dressed as Santa Claus and having access to an extra-nice meal. But of course, the reality was that we were still in a war zone and our efforts could not come close to replicating the real thing.

A few years later I was again serving overseas during Christmas, this time in Italy. Along with other service members without families (I was still single at the time), we banded together and created our own little Christmas with fellow officers and friends.

Each experience was different, but neither was home. As much as my fellow service members meant to me, and as much as we all appreciated the support and strength we were able to draw from each other and from the generous people stateside who sent us Christmas letters and care packages, there was simply no substitute for getting to spend that time with my loved ones back home.

I think back to those years I was away often, especially around this time of year.

ADAM LAXALT
COMMENTARY

But I think even more about those who are going through that same experience right now. I cannot imagine missing the birth of any of my children, and yet there are those stationed abroad who miss the birth of their sons and daughters every day. We cannot begin to understand the sacrifices our heroes make to keep our country safe. The men and women of our armed forces are tough, courageous, and committed beyond belief.

This holiday season, I hope you will join me and my family in taking some time to appreciate the sacrifice of those who wear our country's uniform and do whatever you can to send Christmas cheer their way. It is impossible to explain the general feeling of loss and loneliness our men and women overseas experience, especially at Christmas time. Sometimes a holiday letter from a stranger or a package of Christmas cookies can help ease the sting. I am still grateful today for the packages and letters we received from our loved ones, as well as the complete strangers who took time to pack and send Christmas care packages to those of us overseas.

Please keep our services members, those stationed in combat zones as well as those on safe but still far-away assignments, in your thoughts and prayers, as you experience Christmas at home and in your own country. We owe our freedoms to their bravery and we should never forget how much they give up in order to keep our country safe.

I wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, and a safe, happy holiday season.

Adam Paul Laxalt is Nevada's 33rd Attorney General and a candidate for Nevada Governor.



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VIRGIN VALLEY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Directors of the Virgin Valley Water District (District) held a Public Hearing on proposed increases to water rates and System Development Charges (formally known as impact fees) at the District's regular meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.



The Board approved the increases unanimously with Nephi Julien, Barbara Ellestad and Ben Davis voting for the increases. Board members Richard Bowler and Travis Anderson were absent.

Donnelly

continued from Page 4A

and the Pulitzer was returned. But the real issue here is how the Post handled its embarrassment. This retraction wasn't buried below the fold. This retraction/apology ran on the front page with over 17,000 words. This column is about 900 words. The Post's retraction was nearly 20 times longer.

The Washington Post did not hide in the shadows or make excuses. They owned up to their mistake and promised to continue to try their best to earn the public trust. It

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December 28th - 30th

**Earn 100 points for Light Up Beads
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TRAVEL



Ash Springs, located in Lincoln County near Alamo, has a number of petroglyphs that are hundreds of thousands years old.

Tom Garrison

Petroglyphs guide Ash Springs

By Tom Garrison
Special to MLN

I dare say most of us love a good archeological adventure story. After all, Raiders of the Lost Ark was a huge hit. A feature in all such movies is deciphering some ancient writing. If you enjoy playing an amateur archeologist interpreting ancient symbols, you might want to examine the rock art (petroglyphs) at Ash Springs Rock Art Site in Nevada.

My wife Deb and I enjoy viewing and trying to understand rock art and our latest adventure took us to Ash Springs.

Rock art is etched into rock faces by pecking, abrading or scratching, or a combination of these techniques. What

does it mean? Ceremonial and sacred knowledge?

Perhaps marking game trails? Designating territory? Astronomical markers pertaining to phenomena such as solstices? Today it is difficult to understand the meaning of most rock art. That does have a positive side in that we can use our imaginations to attribute meaning. In any case, treat rock art for what it is, cultural artifacts. Do not touch or deface rock art you come across.

Let future generations enjoy it as you do.

Ash Springs Rock Art Site is on a hill overlooking Pahrnagat Valley near the town of Ash Springs. The community has a population of about 150 with ranching the principal industry. The

site is on Bureau of Land Management managed land in and there is no fee or permits necessary for this hike.

This area of intriguing landscapes is a Mojave Desert scrub environment with Joshua Trees at the higher elevations. It is also the home to bighorn sheep, coyotes, bobcats, kangaroo rats and many species of lizards and birds.

The lucky visitor may also catch sight of golden eagles and great-horned owls. A large jack rabbit scurried away while we wandered the petroglyph site.

The earliest inhabitants of the Pahrnagat Valley were part of the Southern Paiutes. They lived in or traveled through the valley from around 6,000 years ago. Dating rock art is difficult, but we can safely assume the petroglyphs are hundreds to thousands of

years old.

We left St. George on an early December morning and headed south on Interstate 15. About 30 miles past Mesquite we left the interstate via the Gledale exit (exit 91) and headed northwest on Highway 168.

After traveling 23 miles the road intersected Highway 93 and we turned north (right) onto Highway 93. Another 41 miles and we reached Alamo, the big city (population 1,080 per the 2010 census) just south of Ash Springs.

The unsigned dirt road turnoff to the petroglyph site was 6.6 miles from the can't miss Sinclair gas station with the large American flag in Alamo. We made a sharp right (east) turn onto a

> See SPRINGS, Page 2B



Tom Garrison

The view of Pahrnagat Valley to the west from the low hills of the site were impressive

EVOLVE PEST CONTROL'S MUSICIANS OF THE WEEK



Elsa Whipple

Elsa Whipple is an 8th grader at Hughes Middle School. Elsa is a member of the Jazz Band and the Advanced Band. Elsa has been playing both the Alto and Tenor Saxophone for three years now. She also participates in other school clubs and athletics such as Honor Society, Basketball, and Volleyball.

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64/40	66/40	66/39	64/39	64/37	61/38	69/43

PET OF THE WEEK

ZADER

Zader was turned in to shelter with his house mate Gandy when their owner moved and could not take them with her. He is 6 years. He is a bit shy due to the changes in his life but he is a very friendly and mellow cat. He is a large gentleman and just loves to be petted and sit beside you. He is learning to come when called. Beautiful coloration.



OTHER ADOPTABLE CATS-

Cats—Gandy- Male 4 year old Siamese. Shy but friendly

Dogs—Noel- medium size pit/hound/beagle mix. Super friendly and loving. Lots of energy

Comet- male border collie/lab blend. Shy but learning to trust. Loves walks and being with people.

All animals adopted from the shelter will be spayed or neutered prior to leaving shelter and receive one-year rabies vaccination and city license. Ages are approximate. The City of Mesquite Animal Shelter located at 795 Hardy Way is open for adoptions from 11am until 1 pm, Monday through Saturday, Sunday 1-3 p.m. Please call 702-346-7415 during these hours to speak to the front desk. Animal Control officers may be reached by phone or voicemail at 702-346-5268.

MESQUITE LOCAL NEWS (702) 346-6397

Springs

continued from Page 1B

dirt road. (If you miss it, easy to do, the turnoff is .2 miles south of the Shell gas station in Ash Springs.)

The turnoff is nearly a U-turn, then the road leads east for a bit and then southeast. Within .1 mile we encountered a barbed wire gate blocking the road. We opened the gate, drove through, and closed it behind us. After another .1 mile we came to fork in the road. Stay to the left and park in the area next to the left fork with a rusty sign-in register.

Those coming from Las Vegas can take Interstate 15 north, then onto Highway 93 north at exit 64. After that, follow the directions above.

The trailhead elevation is 3,593 feet with less than a 100 feet elevation change spread over less than one mile—no lengthy steep sections.

The temperature was in the mid-60s as we began our trek. Somehow the typical blue Utah sky followed us to Nevada—a beautiful day.

From the sign-in register the route heads northeast, then north, then west, and finally loops back to the trailhead. There is not an established trail.

Look for metal diamond shaped route (with arrows) markers and petroglyph site markers (with numbers) attached to lengths of rebar stuck in the ground.

There are 18 markers, many of them damaged—and we found them all.

The petroglyphs, on about 60 boulders, are mostly abstract—circles, rectangles, and complex designs—with some human and animal images. Most of the boulder surfaces are deeply eroded and some of the rock art barely visible.

We did find several interesting abstract designs, a couple of well-preserved big horn sheep, and some vaguely human shapes. The view of Pahrnagat Valley to the west from the low hills of the site were impressive.

We wanted to end the adventure with a trip to Ash Springs springs. Unfortunately, public access has been, and remains, closed for several years.

The easy hike was less than one mile round trip and took about an hour with many photo stops.

Put on your sleuthing hat and head to Ash Springs for an enjoyable outdoor adventure. Who knows, maybe you will decipher the Ash Spring petroglyphs.

An avid hiker for more than 25 years, Tom's latest book, *Hiking Southwest Utah and Adjacent Areas, Volume Two* was (September 2016) awarded 2nd place in the non-fiction category of the League of Utah Writers published book contest.

It is available at Amazon.com and the Desert Rat outdoor store in St. George. He can be reached at: tomgarrison98@yahoo.com.

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Sometimes a New Year's fitness resolution may be impossible to maintain. So it may be worthwhile to tone it down.

Submitted photo

'Healthy' resolutions worth giving up

StatePoint

While most New Year's resolutions are well-intentioned, sometimes they look better on paper than in practice, actually doing more harm than good. Here are five so-called "healthy" resolutions worth giving up in 2018, as well as better solutions.

Resolution 1: I'm going to take up permanent residence in the gym. Working out is an important piece of the weight loss puzzle, but moderation is key. Studies suggest that too much exercise can lead to a number of issues like hormonal imbalance, fatigue, insomnia and even depression. Many people also report experiencing a drastic increase in appetite after extreme bouts of physical activity, which can lead to overeating and negate the weight-related benefits. Plus, if you exercise so intensely that you're injured or sore for days, it will be difficult to sustain this otherwise healthy habit.

Resolution 2: I'm saying goodbye to fats completely. Fatty foods have gotten a bad rap. The reality is there are good fats and bad fats. In humans, fat helps support normal growth and development, provides energy, allows for proper cellular function, provides protective cushioning for organs, and helps with absorption of certain vitamins. Bad fats are found in foods like meat, butter, lard, cream and trans fats (found in baked goods, fried foods and margarine) and can increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. Aim to replace these with good fats, which are associated with a decreased risk of chronic disease. Good fats include plant-based oils like olive and canola, avocados, nuts, seeds, and dairy, since these also offer the nutrition your body needs.

Resolution 3: I'm going to skip breakfast to cut calories. According to The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, if you're skipping breakfast, you're doing something wrong. Research shows breakfast helps support brain function, energy and mood. And research suggests that people who eat breakfast consume fewer calories throughout the day, weigh less and have fewer risk factors for heart disease. Just a few reasons to load up in the a.m.

Resolution 4: I'll just crash diet to lose the weight. Crash diets don't work and many people who do them end up just gaining the weight back.

"Sustainable weight loss should not involve hunger or deprivation," says Mandi Knowles, dietitian for South Beach Diet. "Your weight loss efforts should include sensible changes that are easy to follow."

Find a weight loss plan that's convenient and lets you know with confidence that you are losing weight the healthy way. Plans like South Beach Diet teach portion control through a low-carb, high-protein approach with meals delivered to your door.

Resolution 5: I'm going to stop snacking. Snacks can account for more than a quarter of one's daily calories. But if you munch on nutrient-dense foods (high in vitamins, minerals and fiber and low in calories), you're more likely to maintain a healthy weight, according to the "National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey." So, snack wisely.

For more weight loss tips, visit palm.southbeachdiet.com.

In the new year, ditch extreme diets and exercise schemes. You'll find more success with sustainable health and wellness habits.

MISSION

DACEN COX

In September, Elder Dacen Cox returned from his Missouri, Independence Mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints, then left to attend BYU Idaho in Rexburg. Cox is home and will report his mission on Sunday, Dec. 31 at 1 p.m. in the Whipple Chapel located at 100 N. Arrowhead. He is the son of Kurt and Ronya Cox of the Mesquite 6th Ward.



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Dec. 28, 1908: C.M.Peterson and wife of Moapa are spending the holidays here (Littlefield) and buying land. Mr Peterson has a house in Moapa that he intends to bring here and put up to live in.

Dec. 28, 1912: A goodly number of our townspeople (Bunkerville) spent the day in Mesquite yesterday having different kinds of sport. A game of ball between the married and single men was played. The married won. There will be a rematch tomorrow in Bunkerville and we are sure the single men will win this one.

Dec. 29, 1910: A marriage licence was issued by Co Clerk Woodbury Dec 24 for Mr. Henry M. Adams of Bunkerville and Miss Eunice H Guber of Santa Clara.

Dec. 29, 1910: Abram Woodbury of Mesquite sold out a load of honey here (Overton) last week. He and Stephen Bunker and others from Bunkerville made a trip to the salt mine before returning home.

Jan. 3, 1911: Dudley Leavitt is out again after a severe illness. his wife is also much improved in health.

Jan. 3, 1911: The town seems dull now that the holidays are over.

SENIOR CENTER MENU

Thursday, Dec. 28: BBQ chicken, potato salad, spinach, corn on the cob, WW bread w/apple butter

Friday, Dec. 29: Fish & Chips, three bean salad, coleslaw, peaches

Monday, Jan. 1: Closed

Tuesday, Jan. 2: Turkey w/gravy, stuffing, mixed vegetables, yams, carrot cake

Wednesday, Jan. 3: Roast beef & gravy, red potatoes, green salad, fruit cocktail

Flag football squad heads into break after big win

By Bob Snell
MLN

The Virgin Valley High School flag football team headed to the holiday break on a high note after disposing of visiting Mojave High of North Las Vegas, 41-0, Friday night, Dec. 22, inside Evan Wilson Stadium.

The Lady Bulldogs rolled up 425 yards of offense and played stellar defense while improving to 5-3 overall. The loss dropped the Lady Rattlers to 1-7 on the season.

Virgin Valley will not play again until returning back to school the second week of January after a week off for semester testing followed by a two-week hiatus for all Clark County School District schools for Winter Break.

The Lady Bulldogs jumped in front quickly against Mojave scoring touchdowns on their first two possessions.

Julia Ramirez opened the scoring with a four-yard touchdown run followed by a four-yard scamper by Katie Zuniga to put Virgin Valley up 13-0 after one quarter of play.

The Lady Bulldogs added two more scores in the second period. Nikita Es-

kelsen broke free for a 27-yard touchdown run and quarterback Kallie Graves threw a 12-yard scoring strike to Madison Cheney to put VVHS up 27-0 at halftime.

Virgin Valley tacked on two more scores in the third quarter on a four-yard TD run by Zuniga and a one-yard run by Ramirez to extend its margin to 41-0.

The Lady Bulldogs piled up 351 yards on the ground led by Eskelsen who had 86 yards on eight carries and Ramirez with 84 yards on eight attempts.

Graves, who completed 6-of-11 passes for 64 yards, rushed for 55 yards on five carries while Emily Teerlink had 48 yards on seven carries and Zuniga 30 yards on four attempts.

Cheney was the leading receiver for VVHS with three receptions for 42 yards.

Macee Bundy had five flag pulls to lead Virgin Valley's defense while Nataly Serna had four pulls and also intercepted a Lady Rattler pass.

The Lady Bulldogs return to action on Jan. 9 when they host Boulder City in the Sunrise League opener at 4:30 p.m. at Wilson Stadium.

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Christmas not just carols, hymns

Those who love to sing and hear Christmas carols and hymns know many of them by heart. We can rattle the first stanzas of them off one right after another without missing a beat.

But most people don't know the other stanzas to the songs, if they even know that there are other stanzas. For example, did you know that there are actually four stanzas in "Jingle Bells" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"?

If you're like me, you love the nostalgia and sentimentality of Christmas hymns such as "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing", "What Child Is This", and several others.

Yet, what often goes unnoticed is the theological richness of the other stanzas of these hymns.

Few things are more joyous than the first stanza of "Hark! The Herald", especially for Charlie Brown fans. But the hymnwriter, Charles Wesley, takes us to some profound depths too.

The second stanza describes exactly who the "newborn King" is: "Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!" These words richly proclaim through music what John 1:14 declares, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Jesus is God



TRAVIS LAUTERBACH
RELIGION

who came to be with His people as man. The third stanza explains what He came to do: "Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth." Jesus came to defeat death, opening the door of eternal life to all who believe in Him.

In the second stanza of the hymn "What Child Is This", the writer, William Dix, proclaims how this salvation comes. "Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!"

We don't often think of nails, spears, or crosses when singing Christmas music. However, this stanza is a reminder of why Jesus came. He came to take away the sins of the world through His death on the cross and resurrection.

CALENDAR

How involved have you been in city government this year? If you've never been involved, perhaps you would like to make it your New Year's resolution. On Tuesday, Jan. 2, you'll have your first chance to give it a try by attending the City's first **Technical Review Meeting (TRM)** of 2018.

Technical Review Meetings are held bi-weekly, the week before City Council Meetings and are designed to give city council members an opportunity to discuss detailed planning and technical issues. The meetings provide the council with information, the opportunity to identify particular issues and resources to understand proposals associated with the planning and development of your community before passing those agenda items on to regular City Council Meetings.

Attending regular TRMs provides community members with an understanding of how City Council decides to spend your dollars. It gives the public a chance to identify concerns, research agenda items and give your opinion, via public comment, on the decisions your City Council makes about your community.

Some of the agenda items for Tuesday's meeting will cover the bid for the Airport Sewer Line Extension Project and consideration of approval to authorize a seven year Airport Use Agreement with Mespeck LLC with the option for a 10-year renewal to lease "Ground Lease" for Hangar No. 10.

You'll have the chance to hear the quarterly report from the Clark County School District Associate Superintendent, the chance to see the presentation of awards for the Parade of Lights winners and to the C.E.R.T. team leader; you can even witness the proclamation of National Radon Action Month in Mesquite.

Getting involved in your city government gives council members a chance to hear your input on the growth and development of your community.

For more information on what's happening at the bi-weekly TRMs check out the city's website www.mesquitenv.gov and click on meetings and agendas. For information on when TRMs and City Council Meetings are scheduled, check out the community calendar each week in the MLN.

The first **Brown Bag Luncheon** at the Mesquite Fine Arts Center

Don't forget to send all of your 2018 events to terin.bbm@gmail.com so community members know what's going on which can help increase attendance at your meetings or events.

THURSDAY, DEC. 28

Mesquite Motorman slated Jan. 12-14

Car enthusiasts can look forward to Mesquite Motorman coming Jan 12-14. You can show off your classic automobile or browse around the many that are displayed at this continually growing event.

The event is open to all years, makes and models of classic vehicles from cars to special hot rods.

Competitions are scattered throughout the event. From slow drags to burnouts, you won't want to miss the fun.

Classic cars will be on display at the

Crochet Club

Where: Mesquite Library, 121 W. First North St.

When: 2:15-3:45 p.m.

Info: 702-346-5224

FRIDAY, DEC. 29

Randy Anderson Band

Where: Virgin River's River Room, 100 E. Pioneer Blvd.

When: 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

Radio Rave

Where: CasaBlanca's Skydome Lounge, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd.

When: 8 p.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

The Everly Brothers Experience

Where: CasaBlanca Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

SUNDAY, DEC. 31

Champagne Brunch

Where: Eureka Casino

When: 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Info: www.eurekamesquite.com

Randy Anderson Band

Where: Virgin River's River Room, 100 E. Pioneer Blvd.

When: 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

Radio Rave

Where: CasaBlanca's Skydome Lounge, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd.

When: 8 p.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

Vegas Limit-All request live New Year's Eve Party

Where: CasaBlanca Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd.

When: 9 p.m.

Info: www.casablancaresort.com

MONDAY, JAN. 1

Happy New Year

City offices, Recreation Center, Senior Center & Library CLOSED

TUESDAY, JAN. 2

Brown Bag luncheon

Where: Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd.

When: noon

Info: 702-346-1338

Technical Review Meeting

Where: City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Info: www.mesquitenv.gov

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3

Virgin Valley Democrats Meeting

Where: Highland Estates, 555 Highland Dr.

When: 5:30-7 p.m.

Info: www.mesquitenv.gov

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Pastor Travis E. Lauterbach

Worship Service	Sunday	10:30 a.m.
<i>The Lord's Supper is celebrated the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month</i>		
Bible Study	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.
Midweek Advent Service	Wednesday	5:30 p.m.
Women of Life	Thursday	10:00 a.m.
Bible Study	Thursday	3:00 p.m.

The mission of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to preach, teach, and witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the Sacraments, and give glory and honor to the Triune God.

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