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MESQUITE MONTHLY

Your Local Source For Mesquite Business, People & News

NOVEMBER 2024 | VOL. 4, No. 18

FREE

Mesa View Regional Hospital celebrates
20 years providing health care in Mesquite.

SEE STORY, PAGE 10

Happy Anniversary



INSIDE: Mayor's Column, PAGE 4 | Virgin Valley High Golf, PAGE 6

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For Mesquite Business,
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NEWS AND NOTES

LADIES NIGHT OUT SLATED FOR NOV. 8

Mesquite Lumber Ace Hardware has scheduled its annual "Ladies Night Out" event at its back parking lot on Nov. 8 between 5-7 p.m.

The event will feature a crafts fair, food trucks, raffles and more.

The event is free and open to the public. Mesquite Lumber Ace Hardware is located at 102 W. Mesquite Blvd.

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE HOSTED BY VVAA

The Virgin Valley Artists Association has scheduled its annual Christmas Boutique from Nov. 4 through Dec. 27 at the Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd.

Shop for one-of-a-kind gifts created by local artists.

The Christmas Boutique is open daily (except Sunday) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours on

Dec. 6 during the annual Parade of Lights.

Those interested can call the Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery at 702-346-1338.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER OFFERED

The Mesquite City Managers Office — Senior Services Division has scheduled a free Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 27, at the Mesquite Senior Center, 102 W. Old Mill Road, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All residents from Mesquite, Bunkerville and the surrounding areas are invited to attend.

To-go meals are available from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a limit of six meals per person. Those seeking more than six meals need to schedule in advance.

Thanksgiving is a time for people to gather in unity, count blessings

and express gratitude for health and family.

Those seeking additional information can call 702-346-5290.

ORIGINAL FILM PREVIEW SCHEDULED SEPT. 7

The original film "A L'il West O' Here, Long Road Home" will take place Nov. 7 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Mesquite Community Theater, 150 N. Yucca St.

The film is the brainchild of Ray Haste, "the local singing cowboy."

Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$30 for reserved seating and are on sale at the theater box office, open Tuesdays and Thursdays between noon and 3 p.m., and one hour before the performance.

A guest review of the screening will follow the showing.

The screening is sponsored by Kelly Mulligan of Mesquite Pet Sitting LLC.

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FROM THE MAYOR

Small businesses just a part of 'retail apocalypse'

By Al Litman

Over the past few months I have talked about why small businesses fail. It's very difficult when you have a small business, and can be just as difficult for major ones also.



In the past decade or so, we have been experiencing what is termed as a "Retail Apocalypse." It refers to the numerous closings or near closings of a number of large businesses all across the country.

Many have been in business for more than a 100 years. Of course, we might remember Montgomery Wards, K-Mart, Fed Mart, and Sears.

I am asked constantly why certain businesses don't come to Mesquite. There are a number of reasons, such as population, age of consumers, income levels in the community, lack of a good location, a limited workforce and more.

Mesquite has a very low unemployment rate, and there are numerous businesses looking for qualified workers. So where is the problem?

One, of course, is the large number of retired folks in the city. Just look at how fast Sun City is growing. Granted, there are a number of residents who live there and still work, either part-time or full-time.

An example of our limited workforce was demonstrated with the arrival of Crown Cork and Seal, one of the worlds largest manufacturers of aluminum cans and packaging supplies.

In order to fill their vacancies, many employees were recruited from other businesses in Mesquite,

and a number had to be brought in from out of town.

Of course, they posed another problem, where do you live? I believe that will be solved with the upcoming construction of a number of apartments that should soon be built.

We also, believe it or not, have a substantial population under 18, and still in school. They should be our future workforce, but we graduate less than 200 students a year, and many either go to college, or are not prepared for anything other than entry level positions.

When we remove mothers with little children, who might work, but can't afford child care, the little that there is, our workforce is very, very, small.

Just the other day, a resident asked me why we don't have certain businesses in Mesquite. I want to mention some of those and their status.

Probably the worst business is the restaurant business. In the past year or so, the following have either closed entirely, cut back drastically in units, or are hanging on by filing Chapter 11 in order to reorganize. TGI Fridays, Outback Steakhouse, Applebees, Boston Market, Red Lobster, Cracker barrel, Denny's, and Hardee's.

There are many more I didn't mention, but I know are in financial trouble. In the retail field there are far more than I could have space here for, but as an example, Stage Stores. Remember when they were in Mesquite?

Bed, Bath, and Beyond, Tuesday Morning, Party City in St. George, and Sears Hometown, in Mesquite. Stein Mart, GNC, 24 hr. Fitness, Hertz Rent A Car, Revlon Cosmetics, and hundreds more were in various states. JC Penny is hanging

> See MAYOR, Page 6

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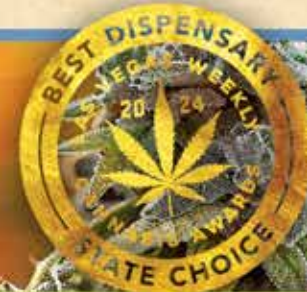
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VVHS Girls Golf places third at State; Llewellyn is the state-runner up

By Breven Honda

On Oct. 15-16, the Virgin Valley High School girls golf team wrapped up its 2024 season at the NIAA 3A State tournament at Dayton Valley Golf Course, which is about 25 miles south-east of Reno and close to 500 miles away from campus.

However, that did not stop the Bulldogs from finishing the season strong. Virgin Valley ultimately finished third in team competition and 12 strokes back of Truckee for second place.

Head coach Braxton Bingham said he felt pretty good about his team as it was a tale of two days with mother nature bringing an obstacle in the final round.

“It was a tough course. We had tough conditions that second day to go up against,” Bingham said on Oct. 17. “It was a 20-degree difference from day one to day two, and raining and cold on that second day. But our girls ended up shooting really well. We had several girls that shot the best that they’ve shot all year during the state tournament, so I felt like our team did really well.”

Leading the way for the Bulldogs was Abi Llewellyn, who shot a 2-under 70 for the lead after 18 holes.

However, she struggled a bit in the second round with an 8-over 78 and settled as the state runner up.

Ultimately, Bingham said Llewellyn

> See **GOLF**, Page 8

Mayor

continued from Page 4

on, but may also go under in the coming year. So, what is the solution?

Even the experts don’t know, but I do know, if we want to prevent more businesses in Mesquite from closing, we need to eat there, or shop there, and spread the word to those who shop or eat, to stay as local as

possible.

As residents, we also need to find out exactly what we have in Mesquite, as many small businesses do very little advertising and promotion. I often read in social media where someone wants to know the location of a business that has been here for a long time.

Al Litman is mayor of the city of Mesquite.



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Golf

continued from Page 8

gave it as much as she could, not only in the state tournament, but in every match.

“She shot really well on that first day and gave her a really good shot at taking it the second day,” Bingham said. “Just wasn’t able to finish out some holes. She struggled a little bit, but she played really, really well. I was really pleased with her. I’ve always been very proud of her performance as the season goes on.”

The opening round 70 was not even her best score of the season. Earlier in the season, Llewelyn shot a 68, leading to a regular season individual title.

Bingham said to see her finish as the state runner is a testament to her commitment.

“Abby’s one of those that she is always the first one to show up at practice, last one to leave,” he said. “She works hard every single day, and it’s good to see that hard work pay off, especially at the state tournament, the

end of the season with the highest stakes.”

Also having a productive state tournament was Davie Slack, who went 94-91 across both rounds.

Bingham said she continues to grow and improve every year as her performance at the state tournament was no different.

“I think Davey has progressed a lot this year compared to last year, and even here before,” Bingham said. “She shot really, really well for both days of state, and I know that she is going to continue to shoot well. I know we have her coming back next year.”

Rounding out Virgin Valley’s team scoring was Isabella Jaehn and Lexie Walker. Jaehn went 102-106 while Walker improved 11 strokes from one round to the next.

Bingham said both performances stood out because of the obstacles each player had to overcome from inexperience to the weather being in play.

“Lexi’s performance was really good on that second day,” Bingham said.

“I was really pleased with the ability to be able to shave 10 strokes off from the first day to the second day. That’s something you don’t see every day. And I was really pleased with her to be able to tough it out, especially during that rainy, windy day. It was, it was good to see her improve.”

“Isabella, for her, being a freshman, shooting that low, that always gives us, as coaches, a little bit of excitement looking for the future.”

The Bulldogs had some momentum heading into the state tournament. Virgin Valley was fueled both individually and as a team in the 3A South Regional tournament the week prior.

As a team, Virgin Valley finished second in team scoring. The Bulldogs were 24 strokes ahead of Coral Las Vegas and finished 49 strokes behind Boulder City, who went on to win the 3A State title.

Not only did Llewelyn finish as the runner-up at regionals, but Slack ended up two spots behind her in fourth

place.

“That was definitely a high, high peak for her,” Braxton said of Slack. “I know that she felt confident coming into the state tournament knowing that she’s able to compete with these girls, and she was able to show that at the state tournament”

Overall, it was a memorable season for the Bulldogs in 2024, so much that Bingham cannot wait for next fall to come around.

Bingham said the hard work his players put in is a big reason for the success this year, as well as in the years to come.

“I was really pleased with how much improvement we had from the first tournament on to the state tournament, to the team as a whole, and that gives me a lot of confidence and excitement moving forward in the next couple years,” he said. “It’s always exciting for a coach to see some girls come out and they start at the bottom, basically, and work their way up to the that state level.”



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Mesa View Hospital celebrates two decades of growth, hardship and community

By Breven Honda

On Oct. 3, more than 300 people came to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Mesa View Hospital inside its lobby.

It was an evening showing gratitude to the hospital's workers as well as local community members and organizations for their contributions over the last two decades.

Robert Fuller, who is the Mesa View Hospital Director of Business Development, said the event was a meaningful experience as Mesquite's first responders, public officials and community organizations, such as the Rotary Club, were in attendance.

"I was extremely pleased to see the support, the outreach of support that was coming from our community, from the city, from fire and rescue, from rotary, Chamber of Commerce, so many different portions of our community," Fuller said. "To see their support for celebration of the 20 years at the hospital in here, it was very uplifting. It was impressive."

The anniversary event planning committee of 14 people, including Fuller, started preparing in March.

As the event logistics were coming together, the Southern Nevada Symphony provided musical entertainment, and a raffle capped off the night with a ceremony.

Fuller said all 14 committee members were able to step in and play a huge role in making the anniversary celebration a success.

"I was impressed with the way our directors and staff pulled together when they came to where there was a need, they were there, whatever it might entail, even blowing up balloons or anything that needed to be done. It was a great team effort," he said.

During the ceremony, Fuller and the planning committee recognized



10 people who have been working at the hospital since the beginning in 2004.

Those people are Dr. Jarrod Johnson, Chief of Staff; David Howell, Plant Operations Director; Bart Bill, Engineer, Plant Operations; Vilma MacAlintal, RN, Med Surg; LaRene Woolstenhulme, RN, ICU; Roger Silva, Director of Imaging and Radiology; Cyndie Hanson, RN, Med Surg; Julie Smith, RN, Emergency Department; Monica Tor, Chief Financial Officer; and Maryann Rzana, Admissions Registrar.

"I just think it's a reflection to their commitments," Fuller said of the 10 people who have been working at Mesa View Hospital since the beginning. "They're all very dedicated individuals who do a great job. They also take a lot of pride.

"I think the reason our facility looks so good, for example, is Mr. David Howell. He's our director of plant and operations, and he takes so much personal pride in keeping this facility looking almost as good as it did the day it opened. People like Roger Silva in radiology, who seems to have the personality who make it their own. So, the hospital has been extremely fortunate to have people like that."

Through the years, Mesa View Hospital has had to endure some challenges before the highs of celebrating the last two decades.

The biggest challenge was the economic recession from 2007-09.

"When the hospital was built, Mesquite was labeled as the fastest growing small city in America," Fuller said. "In the United States, it

was around 14% somewhere in the yearly growth. Now, Mesquite was named the fastest growing city in Nevada, as of last July.

"But we lost ground when the real estate correction hit. So, we've seen growth, then we've seen declines in growth where we had the Oasis Casino torn down. We estimate close to 1,000 families that left the community because of their lack of work.

"It was such an economic downturn across the board. It wasn't just in parts of the community; it was all over the country."

However, the population growth subsided in any challenges, outside the COVID-19 pandemic, which put a toll on workers, including at Mesa View.

> See MESA VIEW, Page 15



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Mesquite Senior Games fall season underway

By Breven Honda

During the fall season, October was the busiest month for the Mesquite Senior Games, with four events on tap.

Bocce, men's softball, pickleball and golf encapsulated the month of October for the Mesquite Senior Games with a lot of success despite some uncomfortable weather uncertainties, especially the heat still being in play.

"It's been going great," Mesquite Senior Games President Sandy Tudor said on Oct. 22. "We've had good participation. We've had fairly good weather, although the first week of softball, it was still 105 and those guys were dying. But other than that, it's gone very well."

The men's softball event, which was Oct. 4-15 due to the varying age brackets, was played not only with a lot of fun, but also with some close competition.

Tudor said the energy was high as tiebreakers had to be implemented in the 50-55 age bracket.

"In the 50-55s, those teams were so evenly matched that," said Tudor, who was also the event director for the softball event. "We do a round robin, but with an odd number of teams, there were eight teams. Everybody didn't get to play everybody because they only played four games and then we do the elimination tournament.

"They were so evenly matched



that we couldn't do head-to-head for first place, because everybody didn't play everybody. So, we ended up having to go to runs allowed and then runs scored, to come up with first, second and third place, because three of the teams were all 3-2. So, it was well matched."

A few days before the first men's softball tournament got under way, the bocce event kicked off the fall season.

Like softball, competition was also

high as there were a full 14 teams of four participating at the Sun City Recreation Center.

One of the bocce awards given by the Mesquite Senior Games is the casino award for getting all four of their team's balls to the pallino, or the white ball.

"Bocce went really well," Tudor said. "We gave out plenty of casino awards. We had a lot of people scoring those."

As everyone participates during

this fall season, it gets them out one last time before the calendar flips to the new year.

Tudor said everyone has enjoyed getting out and participating in these events.

"They love these events. They play because they're fun," Tudor said. "Our goal, our mission statement is to keep seniors, those over 50 happy and active. And we're doing a great job of that. They're having fun, which is the goal, more than anything else."

In addition to the participants enjoying their time, whether it is on the diamond or on a court, the volunteers and the Mesquite Senior Games Board of Directors have done their part to ensure the participants have a great time.

Tudor said every aspect of helping goes a long way to making each event successful.

"We've got, in fact, I'm looking right now, we've got six volunteers here doing everything from scoring to working the concession stand," she said while at the pickleball event. "So, everybody has stepped up well at all of the events."

One of the new things that will enhance the assistance of the event directors and the volunteers in the near future is a new box truck, which the Mesquite Senior Games got a few months ago.

Since then, the box truck has been

> See GAMES, Page 15



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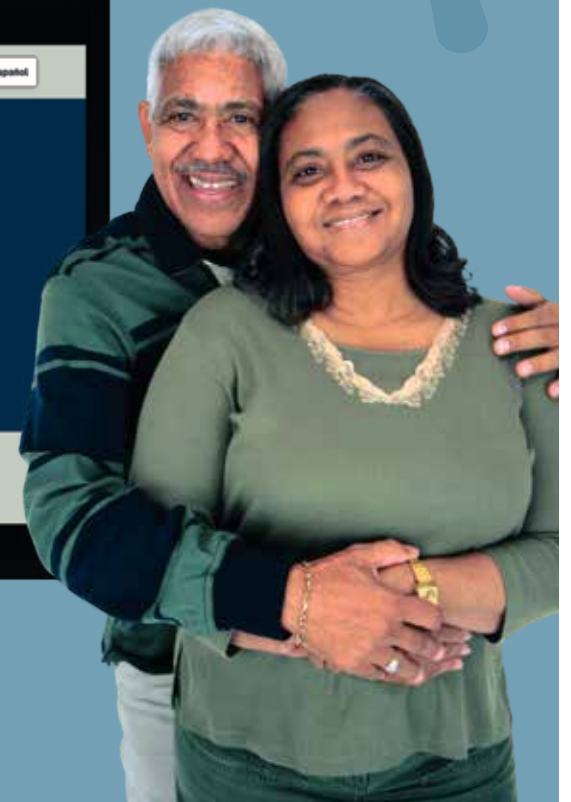
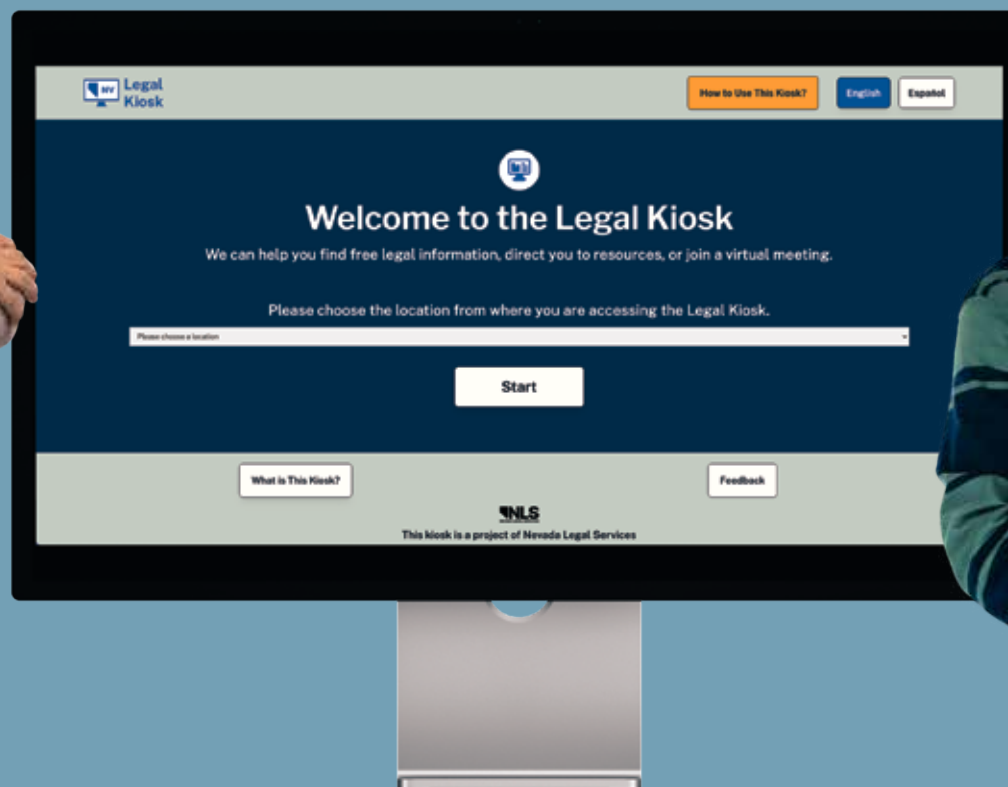
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Nevada Legal Kiosk Project provides free legal info kiosks at libraries statewide

Mesquite Monthly

Nevada Legal Services (NLS), who works to strengthen the community by ensuring fairness and providing equal access to justice for low-income Nevadans, has announced the expansion of the Nevada Legal Kiosk Project — since launching statewide in summer 2023 with 22 kiosks, the project has added four Legal Kiosks in four new library sites.

A kiosk is located at the Mesquite Library,

The user-friendly and free Nevada Legal Kiosks are in libraries throughout the state and are designed to be a portal for Nevadans to provide greater access to the civil legal system for seniors and others lacking adequate access to technology.

At a Legal Kiosk, community members can find free legal information and forms, locate legal aid and community resources, print documents, and attend online meetings and remote court hearings.

“The feedback has been tremendously positive,” said Susan L. Myers, Esq., Nevada Legal Services’ Director of Litigation and Project

Manager for the Nevada Legal Kiosk Project. “We communicate regularly with the libraries and their staff, and the consensus is that this free access to legal information and resources is filling a gap. Expanding legal kiosk sites to additional libraries was the natural next step to assist even more Nevadans.”

The Nevada Legal Kiosks provide curated and up-to-date information on topics including housing issues, divorce and custody, protection orders, guardianship, health care and financial powers of attorney, debt collection, Social Security, and veterans’ resources.

Nevada Legal Kiosks are available at 26 library locations statewide. All Nevada Legal Kiosk sites are free and open to the public during individual library branch hours, available in English and Spanish, and complete with printers and scanners.

For a complete list of Nevada Legal Kiosk sites and for additional information, visit www.legalkiosks.com/projects/nevada. For additional information on Nevada Legal Services and to learn more about additional legal resources, visit www.nevadalegalservices.org.



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Games

continued from Page 12

worked on, both inside and outside, with some improvements still needing to be made. The outside included getting a new wrap and the Mesquite Senior Games logo, in addition to the city logo as well.

The truck even made an appearance at the pickleball event and caught the attention of everyone in attendance.

“We picked it up over the weekend,” Tudor said of the truck. “It looks really good.

“They love it, and the fact that we haven’t loaded it yet because we just got it back, and we’ve got to do a little bit of work in the back, but, yeah, every everybody loves it.”

The truck will definitely have a presence during the upcoming spring season.

Before the spring season comes along, there is still the December bowling event at the Virgin River Lanes.

The event is scheduled for Dec. 7 as registration opened up on Oct. 15. The theme for the event returns to a Christmas theme of “Santa’s Helpers” after last year paying an ode to the late Jimmy Buffet.

In addition, Tudor said 32 people registered on the first day with limited spots due to the space at the Virgin River Lanes.

“I don’t think we’re full, but we’re really close to being full already because there’s a limit based on the size of the bowling alley, as to how many people we can have,” Tudor said. “So, I think we’re very close to being maxed out on bowling.”

Tudor said event director, Toni Gans, has already designed the shirts and the flyers have been made.

The logistics behind the event make it a great way to cap off a hard-working year.

“It’s awesome. The fun thing about bowling is a lot of people, dress up,” Tudor said. “So, it’ll be a good event, a great way to end the year.”

Mesa View

continued from Page 10

Fuller said going through the pandemic a few years ago, especially in a community where the average age is 62.3 years old, was a challenging task, but one that his hospital was not going to succumb to.

“I think that we’ve got a great staff right now. It’s been tough,” said Fuller, who has been working at Mesa View since 2012. “Post-COVID and even during COVID in healthcare as well as other industries. It’s been tough to maintain staff due to a lot of other pieces moving, but without the staff that we have, we couldn’t. There’s the quality of care, the caring spirits they have.

“That’s what makes any healthcare organization successful, because it’s about people. It’s about human to human and caring for each other.”

Having that philosophy goes a long way in the success of a busi-

ness, especially in healthcare.

For the next two decades and beyond, Fuller expects Mesa View Hospital to continue to grow as a result of technology getting better and the Mesquite population continuing to increase under the direction of CEO Kelly Adams.

“We know we’re going to be adding on new services in the future, such as oncology infusion, more advanced cardiology, full time, those types of things,” Fuller said. “I would imagine in the next 20 years, the hospital will be needing to add another more and add more medical office space around the hospital. The kinds of things that are in the sketching, in the conversations of, what do we do? How do we do it? When did we do it? That’s all the detail.”

Mesa View Hospital will continue to honor its 20th anniversary for the remainder of the year and into early 2025.

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FINANCIAL FOCUS

Medicare open enrollment in full swing

By Andrew Bird

Medicare Open Enrollment for 2025, running from October 15

to December 7, allows beneficiaries to review and adjust their Medicare Advantage (Part C) and Prescription Drug (Part D) plans. This year, significant changes are coming, mainly due to provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act aimed at lowering healthcare costs.



One of the most impactful updates is a new \$2,000 out-of-pocket spending cap for Medicare Part D. This cap, a dramatic reduction from previous spending limits, is expected to benefit those with high medication costs. Once beneficiaries hit \$2,000 in prescription drug spending, any additional drug costs will be fully covered for the remainder of the year, reducing financial strain for those with extensive medication needs. Furthermore, a new payment plan will allow beneficiaries to spread these out-of-pocket expenses across the year, providing more financial flexibility for those managing higher-cost prescriptions.

Changes also affect Medicare Advantage plans. Many of these plans include updates to their formularies, copays, and provider networks. Beneficiaries will also receive a mid-year notification of any unused supplemental benefits—such as dental,

vision, or hearing coverage—to encourage maximizing these benefits before they expire. Additionally, Medicare Advantage plans are expanding access to mental health services by allowing more licensed providers, such as addiction and marriage counselors, to participate. These expansions aim to improve the availability and accessibility of mental health resources, which have often been limited for Medicare enrollees.

Medicare is also adjusting prior authorization practices for certain procedures. This year, Medicare Advantage plans will need to publish data on the impact of these requirements on care delivery, enhancing transparency and potentially leading to fewer administrative delays in the future.

Beneficiaries should carefully review their Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) to understand the specific cost and benefit updates that might affect them in 2025. For beneficiaries, these updates highlight the importance of carefully evaluating healthcare coverage options during the open enrollment period to ensure cost-effective and comprehensive coverage for the coming year.

Andrew Bird is an owner/agent with Financial Concepts Retirement Planning LLC, who specializes in Medicare & Insurance services and can be reached at 702-346-7025 or by email at info@fcrpinsurance.com. We do not offer every plan available in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) to get information on all of your options.



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Mesquite DAR chapter honors local PD as service project

The Daughters of the American Revolution was officially founded on Oct. 11, 1890. One of the founders, Eugenia Washington, stated, "We want a society founded on service."

So, each year on or about Oct. 11, "each chapter is encouraged to do perform a meaningful service project around their community."

They take a variety of forms from picking up trash, stuffing gift bags for a women's shelter, making cards for Veterans, cleaning up headstones, or helping to re-

store old homes.

This year, Virgin Valley chapter participated in something new, Salute to service to "spotlight the service of active-duty military, veterans, and first responders."

Eight members of our chapter thanked and honored the Mesquite Police Department for all the wonderful things they do to keep our city safe. The group presented them with cookies, water, and a big thank you card. This happened Thursday, Oct. 10 at 1 p.m.

Veteran's Party slated Nov. 9 will have country/western theme

The Mesquite Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution along with the Mesquite Poker Boys are presenting their fifth annual Veteran's Party, this year themed "A Country Western Jamboree."

This year's event will take place Nov. 9 from 2-4 p.m. at the Virgin River Events Tent.

It will feature live country music,

buffet, cash bar, silent auction and more.

Tickets are \$25 per person and are available at the Mesquite Fine Arts Center.

Western attire is encouraged.

For information for this event, please contact Cindy Conti at (215) 453-3832 or email cwahl2@msn.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To have your event listed in this calendar, please e-mail mesquite-monthly@gmail.com or call 775-316-2335.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Ages 0-5 Storytime: 10 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. A wide variety of books, songs and participatory activities will be shared for young children and their parents. Music will be a strong component. 702-346-5224.

Coloring for Adults: 1-2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join for a relaxing session of coloring intricate and meditative designs of various artists. 702-346-5224.

Tyler's Drawing and Creativity Class: 2-4 p.m. Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. \$10. Every Tuesday, bring your creative side and join Tyler Roylance and friends for a good drawing experience. No need to sign up, just show up. Call 702-346-1338.

Homework Help Available 3:00-5:00 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Ages 0-3 Toddler Storytime: 10-10:30 a.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Babies and toddlers enjoy songs, nursery rhymes, stories and fingerplays with their favorite adult. This program introduces kids and parents to language-enrichment activities and emerging literacy skills. 702-346-5224.

Homework Help Available 3:00-5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Watercolor Intermediate: 9 - 11:30 a.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Char Lange watercolor class, limited to 20 participants. Cost is \$10 per classroom, pay at the class. Call 702-346-1338.

Ages 3-5 Preschool Storytime: 10-10:30 a.m. Includes stories, songs and more to build literacy skills and help children develop

a love for books. Activities also include Kindergarten Readiness skills such as cutting, tracing, and doing worksheets. 702-346-5224.

Watercolor Beginners: 1-3 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Char Lange watercolor class, limited to 20 participants. Cost is \$10 per classroom, pay at the class. Call 702-346-1338.

Kids' Artsy Craft Club: 4:30 p.m., A new art technique is taught every week, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St., 702-346-5224.

Homework Help Available 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Mesquite Rotary: 5:30 p.m. Meets every Wednesday at the Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. For more information, call 725-253-0288 or email RotaryClubofMesquiteNV@gmail.com

THURSDAYS

Al-Anon Family Groups: 10:30-3:30 a.m., 150 N. Yucca St., Suite 35A. Al-Anon Family Group is back with weekly meetings.

Coloring for Adults: 2:30-3:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join for a relaxing session of coloring intricate and meditative designs of various artists. 702-346-5224.

Toastmasters: noon - 1 p.m., First Baptist Church, 830 E. Hafen Lane. Toastmasters meet each Thursday at noon. Contact Mike Young at mkyoung@ix.netcom.com for details.

Teen Crafternoon: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Teen programs operate under the principles of HOMAGO: Hanging Out, Messing Around, Geeking Out. Refers to spaces and learning activities that allow for flexible, hands-on experimentation, collaboration and tinkering in areas of professional interest. All supplies provided. 702-346-5224.

STEAM Activities for Kids: 4-5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W.

> See **CALENDAR**, Page 19



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Sunday Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
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Peace in a political season

By Chris Wall

It's often said that one should avoid discussing religion, politics, and intimate relationships in public. As a pastor, I find that these are the topics people most want to discuss—perhaps it's just part of the job. And as for avoiding religion? I can't say I'm much of a fan of that advice. My Christian faith is the most meaningful part of my life and is naturally at the center of how I approach every conversation.



Around this time of year, though, people aren't just talking about politics with their pastor; they're discussing it with everyone. Driving around town, my eyes are assaulted by political signs of every color, party affiliation, and size. (Seriously, though—should there be a maximum limit per street corner?) As you read this, we're either right at the election or just past it, and depending on the results, you might feel relieved or maybe even more stressed. With that in mind, let me share a few thoughts that I pray can help bring you some peace during this season.

First, politics do not define who you are. If you are a Christian, your identity is found in Christ. He is the source of our strength and hope. All our peace and confidence rest in Him—not in the White House.

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Philippians 3:20, "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." We are called to live as citizens of God's Kingdom, with values that transcend any political party or figure.

For those who aren't Christians,

I pray that you find your identity in Christ. Placing all your hope in human leaders who will say anything to gain power is a sad way to live. We all need something greater, something truly secure—and Jesus Christ offers that solid foundation.

Simply put, instead of fretting over who wins the presidency, the Senate race, or any other political position, let's focus on what matters most: loving our families, serving in our churches, and reaching out to our communities.

These everyday actions of faithfulness are where real impact is found. Jesus taught that the greatest commandment is to love God and love our neighbors (Matthew 22:37-39), and this is where our true influence lies.

The second thought I want to highlight to give you hope is that God is in control.

Yes, even when it seems like those in power go against His commands, I believe that God is working all things according to His will and for His glory (Ephesians 1:11). Proverbs 21:1 tells us that "the king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes." No matter who is in charge, God is sovereign, and He guides leaders in ways we may not understand.

If you haven't placed your faith in Christ as Lord and Savior of your life, consider doing so today. Jesus promises eternal life to all who repent and turn to Him (John 3:16). For those who already trust in Christ, rest assured that "all authority has been given to Him" (Matthew 28:18). You can find peace not only in this political season but in every season of life because of His authority and love.

Chris Wall is the Pastor of Mesquite Baptist Church (750 W. Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite, NV, 89027)—Additional resources can be found at "mesquitebaptistchurchnv.com" and on YouTube and Instagram at "[mesquitebaptistchurchnv](https://www.youtube.com/mesquitebaptistchurchnv)"

Calendar

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1st. N. St. Participate each week in fun, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math activity. 702-346-5224

Homework Help Available

3:00-5:00 p.m.

FRIDAYS

Family Storytime: 10 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. A wide variety of books, songs and participatory activities will be shared for young children and their parents. 702-346-5224.

Bereavement Group: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. This is a group headed by Mesa View/Virgin Valley Hospice. 702-346-5224.

SUNDAYS

Al-Anon Family Group: 3 p.m., Mesquite Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside Drive, Suite A. Al-Anon Family Group is back with weekly meetings.

THURSDAY, NOV. 7

Genealogy Resource Guide: 11 a.m. - noon. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Info: 702-346-5224.

Virgin River Coalition: noon, city hall chambers. The Virgin River Coalition's Mission is to Develop strategies, identify partnerships, facilitate implementation and evaluate progress.

A Lil West O' Here, Long Road Home: 7 p.m., Mesquite

Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Screening of an original film by Ray Haste, the "local singing cowboy." Tickets \$20 for general admission, \$30 reserved seating and available at theatre box office.

FRIDAY, NOV. 8

Cricut Designer Space: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Leaning Resource Center. Come out and create some crafts with cricut. 702-346-5224.

Card Making: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. 702-346-5224.

Ladies Night Out: 5 p.m., Ace Hardware back parking lot, 102 W. Mesquite Blvd. Craft fair, food trucks, raffles and more.

Palette & Pour Party, Season of Color: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. \$35. Registration required. Call Dottie M. Golden at 831-246-0226 or email dottiegolden112@gmail.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 9

Honoring Our Veterans: 8 a.m., Veteran's Park, 501 Hillside Drive. Pre-parade morning program with Mayor Al Litman.

Veteran's Parade: 10 a.m. Regular parade route

Get Smart with Art: 10 a.m. - noon. Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. A free class for ages 8-14. Explore different elements of art, mediums,

applications and techniques. Call Wendy Douglas at 435-230-4748 or email redsaldtough@yahoo.com

Family Craft: 11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Join for an artful craft or project that incorporates dexterity, imagination and fun. Call 702-346-5224.

Cowboy Poetry: noon - 2 p.m., Pavilion, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Join for cowboy poetry after the Veteran's Parade in conjunction with the VV Heritage Museum.

Veteran's Party A Country Western Jamboree: 2 p.m., Virgin River Event Tent, 100 E. Pioneer Blvd. A tribute to the veterans of Mesquite to raise funds for the Veterans Center. Live country music, buffet, cash bar, silent auction and more. \$25 per person, available at the Mesquite Fine Art Center.

Apple iPhone Class: 3-4 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Leaning Resource Center. Free class covering topics as sending photos, security settings, updates and other troubleshooting tips. 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, NOV. 10

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is the original "Ghostbusters Frozen Empire." Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, NOV. 11

Library closed for Veterans Day.

T.A.P.P.S. Salute to Veter-

ans: 2-3 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. TAPPS will bring top-tier musicians in from Las Vegas. 25 reserved seats for \$35, general admission \$30. All proceeds go to Trumpeters Alliance to Perform Patriotic Services. Tickets available at the box office.

Virgin Valley Amateur Radio Club: 6 p.m. Fire Station No. 3. The club meets on the second Monday of each month. For more information, please go to our website at: www.vvarc.net

TUESDAY, NOV. 12

Brown Bag Cultural Series: noon - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Clark County Poet Laureate 2025 Ashley Vargas will present "Storytelling and Poetry." Free to the public.

City Council meeting: 5 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

Mesquite Fine Arts Photographic Society Meeting: 5:30-7:30 p.m., STEAM Center, 312 W. Mesquite Blvd., Suite 116. Speaker is award-winning photographer Shirley Smith to discuss iPhone photography. Call 702-346-1338.

Warrior Women of MQ: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Group discussion for those affected by cancer. Call 702-346-5224.

> See CALENDAR, Page 20



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Calendar

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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13

Beginner Fused Glass Class: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, Classroom 2, Bldg. E, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. First of four-week class (Nov. 20 and Dec. 4 and 11). Learn the basics of fusing glass. \$175 includes instruction, use of tools and equipment, kiln usage and glass for four projects. Sign up online at MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

Book Bingo: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Play bingo, win books! Info: 702-346-5224.

Adult 3D Pen Coloring: 3 - 4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. Come learn about 3D pen coloring. Info: 702-346-5224.

Republican Women's Club (for men & women): Doors open at 5 p.m., Meeting 5:30-7 p.m.,

Mesquite Veteran's Center, 840 Hafan Lane, Meetings the second Wednesday of each month. For information: call 530-966-5363, email hrbsue@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

Mystery Book Club: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Pick up this month's selection from the customer service desk and read it prior to the meeting. Then join in the discussion. Call 702-346-5224.

Blood Drive: 2-6 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Schedule at www.donors.vitalant.org with code 89027. Call 877-256-4825.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

Red Cross Blood Drive: noon - 5 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Schedule at www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

Palette & Pour Party, Nutty Chipmunk: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. \$35. Registration required. Call Dottie Golden at 831-246-0226 or email dottiegolden112@gmail.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

Kids in Clay Program: 9 a.m. - noon, Pottery studio, Bldg. D, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., For ages 8-12. Registration required. \$5 fee. For details, call Kathleen Birkholz at 702-443-4878.

Virgin Valley History: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. In partnership with the Virgin Valley Heritage Museum, explore different historical aspects of the local area. 702-346-5224.

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "Challengers." Call 702-346-5224.

Cricut Craft Club: 3-4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Leaning Resource Center. Come out and create some crafts with cricut. 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "Challengers." Call 702-346-5224.

Fused Glass Drop In: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Registration is not required. Call Pam Jacobson, 303-910-4542 or email

pam.jacobson74@gmail.com.

Live Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Come out and listen to The Boomers. Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, NOV. 18

Virgin Valley Artists Association General Meeting: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd.

American Sign Language: 4:30-5:30 p.m., Mesquite Library Learning Center, 160 W. 1st N. St. 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

AARP Driver's Safety Class: 11 a.m., Mesquite Senior Center, 102 Old Mill Road. \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Call 702-346-5290.

City Technical Review meeting: 2:30 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20

Digital Memories Preservation Lab Workshop: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Mesquite Library Learning Center, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learn how

> See **CALENDAR**, Page 21

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Calendar

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to digitize your old memories. Free and open to the public. 702-346-5224.

International Cinema (Film Discussion Group): 2-3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join to discuss (in English) a different film each month. Pick up a copy of the month's selection at the Customer Service Desk. Call 702-346-5224.

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

DIY Craft: 10:15-11:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. A different craft each month. Sign up required. 702-346-5224

Molina Medicare: 1-2 p.m., Mesquite Library Learning Center, 160 W. 1st. St. Find the best plan for you and discover extra benefits and savings 702-346-5224

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

Palette & Pour Party, Autumn Stroll: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. \$35. Registration required. Call Dottie Golden at 831-246-0226 or email dottiegolden112@gmail.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 23

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

Children's Movie: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come out for a movie geared toward children ages 0-17 and their caregivers. Call 702-346-5224.

Palette & Pour Party, Autumn Stroll: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. \$35. Registration required. Call Dottie Golden at 831-246-0226 or email dottiegolden112@gmail.com

Yellow Brick Road: 8 p.m. - 1 a.m., CasaBlanca Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd. Yellow Brick Road has been bringing rock music

ROCKIN' NEW YEAR'S EVE



The CasaBlanca Showroom will host multimillion-selling hard rock band Buckcherry will headline a concert bill with Las Vegas-based rock band Otherwise on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Must be 21 or older to attend. Tickets may be purchased online at casablancaresort.com. All ticket sales are final, no refunds or exchanges. For more information, visit the CasaBlanca website or call (877) 438-2929.

to the "lounge scene" since 1997. 21 and older. Free admission.

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

Sensory Sensitive Children's Movie: 1 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come out for a movie geared toward children ages 0-17 and their caregivers. Call 702-346-5224.

Live Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Come out and listen to Valley Strings Quartet. Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, NOV. 25

Book Bingo: 2:30-3:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Play bingo, win books! Info: 702-

346-5224.

TUESDAY, NOV. 26

Book Swap Club: 1-2:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Info: 702-346-5224.

City Council meeting: 5 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27

Community Thanksgiving Dinner: 11 - 3 p.m., Mesquite Senior Center, 102 W. Old Mill Road. Annual free Thanksgiving Dinner sponsored by the City of Mesquite City Manager's Office- Senior Services Division. Call 702-346-5290.

THURSDAY, NOV. 28

Library closed for Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, NOV. 29

Library closed for Family Day

Lights On! A White Christmas in Mesquite: 7-9 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St., Suite 22.

SATURDAY, NOV. 30

Lights On! A White Christmas in Mesquite: 7-9 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St., Suite 22.

SUNDAY, DEC. 1

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is TBD. Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, DEC. 2

Junk Journal Club: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mesquite Library Learning Center, 160 W. 1st N St. Learn about junk journaling and trade supplies and techniques. Call 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, DEC. 3

Mesquite Book Club: 10-11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Pick up this month's selection from the customer service desk and read it prior to the meeting. Then join in the discussion. Call 702-346-5224.

Brown Bag Cultural Series: noon - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Program Shannon McConnell NASA and Space Exploration. Free to the public.

Android Phone Class: 10:15 - 11:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, Learning Center 160 W. 1st. N. St. Get the most out of your Android smartphone. Call 702-346-5224.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4

Digital Memories Preservation Lab Workshop: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Mesquite Library Learning Center, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Learn how to digitize your old memories. Free and open to the public. 702-346-5224.

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