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MESQUITE MONTHLY

Your Local Source For Mesquite Business, People & News

JUNE 2025 | VOL. 5, NO. 6

FREE



Write it Up!

Mesquite author Terri Fitzsimmons' life lessons have inspired her to become an author.

SEE STORY PAGE 8

VV Boys Volleyball Wins State Title, PAGE 4 | Community Calendar, PAGE 13

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Your Local Source
For Mesquite Business,
People & News

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NEWS AND NOTES

TIM MCGRAW TRIBUTE SLATED AT CASABLANCA

Dust off your cowboy boots and head on down to the CasaBlanca Showroom on Friday, June 27, for a night of unforgettable country hits. For over a decade, Vegas McGraw has been captivating audiences far and wide, and now it's Mesquite's turn to experience the thrill!

He'll have you singin' along to mega-hits like "Don't Take The Girl" and gettin' your groove on to "I Like It, I Love It," plus a whole heap of other chart-topping favorites that'll have you feeling like you're dancing under a summer sky.

This electrifying tribute to the one and only Tim McGraw has taken the nation by storm, wowing crowds in 47 U.S. states, plus Australia, Mexico, Canada, and the Virgin Islands!

Grab your tickets now and get ready for a country good time!

It's gonna be a night where the memories are made and the good times roll!

Ticket prices range from \$47.85 to \$58.75. Must be 21 or older. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m.

'7 SUMMERS' A MORGAN WALLEN TRIBUTE SCHEDULED

The high-energy Morgan Wallen tribute band "7 Summers" is bringing their electrifying show to the Virgin River Events Center Stage on June 13.

Hailing from Sacramento, California, they've quickly become a top tribute act, capturing Wallen's signature blend of country, rock, and Southern swagger.

Get ready for spot-on renditions of hits like "Whiskey Glasses," "7 Summers," and "Sand in My Boots," plus fan favorites that will have you singing along.

Experience the incredible vocals

and musicianship that make "7 Summers" a must-see for all Morgan Wallen fans.

Ticket prices range from \$41.90 to \$47.85. Must be 21 or older. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m.

YOUTH DODGEBALL LEAGUE KICKS OFF ON JULY 1

The City of Mesquite Athletics and Leisure Services department has scheduled a youth dodgeball league that will run from July 1-22 in the Mesquite Recreation Center gym Number 2.

The deadline to join is June 25 and you can register at the Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road or online at mesquitenv.gov.

The league plays on Tuesday nights. Ages 7-8 will play at 5:15 p.m.; ages 9-10 at 6:15 p.m.; and ages 11-13 at 7:15 p.m.

Cost is \$25 for the full season or \$8 for a nightly drop-in fee.



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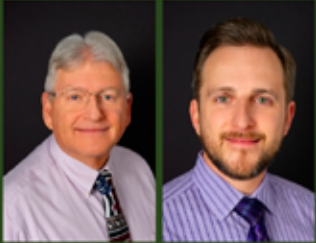
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The Virgin Valley High boys volleyball team won its first 3A state championship on May 13. (Submitted photo)

VVHS boys volleyball wins first 3A State title

By Breven Honda

The path to winning a high school state championship is never straightforward, let alone easy.

In 2022, Virgin Valley High School created its first boys volleyball team.

Three years later, the Bulldogs found themselves in their second straight NIAA 3A State Championship looking to avenge last year's loss to Boulder City. Virgin Valley also lost to Boulder City earlier in the season on April 10. Both losses came in straight sets.

However, on May 13, Virgin Valley overcame a strong Boulder City team to earn its first boys volleyball state championship in school history. The Bulldogs won the thriller in a full, five sets, 25-18, 15-25, 25-23, 18-25, 15-7.

"It was amazing," Bulldogs coach Kourtney Tobler said. "We went into the season thinking we had a pretty good shot at it. So, to really have that moment and realize it, it was incredible.

"I don't really know how to describe it, but it was a dream come true. We really wanted it, and so to have it truly happen for us, it was incredible."

The crucial part of the match was the opening set when the Bulldogs won by seven.

"That was huge, and that was one of my goals," Tobler said. "We talked about like, 'First set needs to be ours.' We need to come out and dominate right away, send a message for momentum. Volleyball is a big game of momentum, and I knew that first set was going to be really important. Our boys came out with a lot of energy. They wanted it, and they played really well in that first set, and it was the perfect start for us."

Then, despite losing the second set, they get the advantage once again in the third set, winning in tight fashion.

Tobler said winning the middle set continue to push momentum in favor of the Bulldogs.

"It felt like we had just been back and forth the whole set," she said. "I knew it was important. I knew we needed that to go into the fourth (set). I do think that third set was kind of a turning point, because there is the off chance that, oh, 'You flipped out one set and, came out with a lot of

> See **VOLLEYBALL**, Page 6

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Volleyball

continued from Page 4

energy and then couldn't sustain it." That was my fear. But when we won that third (set), I knew we had a good chance at it."

Despite facing a large deficit early in the fourth set, the Bulldogs never let up, utilizing a time out to build some momentum heading into a fifth and final set.

On a side note, Virgin Valley had not played a five-set match since March 31 and April 3 in back-to-back matches.

However, getting that mentality to play a five-set match during the season, ultimately benefitted the team come the state championship.

"We did pull off wins on both of those five setters, and I do think that made a difference for us at the end there," Tobler said. "It's hard to be in that situation if you've never have because it's a lot. It's a lot of playing, you're tired, there's a lot of momentum change and energy change."

By the time Virgin Valley clinched its state championships the celebration was one to remember.

"It was just pure bliss, like it was everything to us," Tobler said. "I just love this group of kids so much. We had been on a roller coaster of a year, and a lot of ways it had not gone the way I thought it would. As much as we had a lot of success, there was disappointments throughout the season, for sure. And so that moment was literally everything."

The Bulldogs had all seven of their hitters recording a positive hitting percentage as three seniors recorded double-digit kills. Reece Leavitt led the way with 15 spikes while Bryant Denninghoff and Destry Tobler both recorded a dozen kills.

Leavitt also added three aces.

"Boulder City was incredibly well trained defensively," Coach Tobler said. "They were just a really good defensive team, good blockers, good diggers, so we had to have the offense.

"Because they weren't able to

focus on one of our players and try to shut them down, because as soon as they did, we could go to another one, and it just made it so we were diversified and could come from anywhere with our offense. That for sure, made such a difference."

In addition to the success offensively, the Bulldogs defense showed up as five players recorded at least 10 digs. Leavitt had a team-high 22 digs.

Junior Aiden Muniz had 19, Destry Tobler recorded 18 digs with junior Dallin Moeai and McKay Mulitalo recording 13 and 10 respectively.

The team also stamped their strong defense with eight solo blocks and 10 block assists from 13 total blocks.

"That's something we've been working on all season, and we naturally are an offensive team. The boys are just dominant hitters, but defensively, it has taken some work and practice, for sure, to convince them that defense is fun and is worth getting better at. All season, we've been slowly getting better and better. You've got to play defense. We grew a lot in that area all season just being able to dig and transition hit."

Being able to win a state championship in three years after being born takes every player to buy in, which is what Coach Tobler got.

And as those three years, the talent continued to grow into being a perennial threat each year.

"I feel so grateful because from the moment we started the program, we just had boys show up, and they showed up and they fell in love with the game, and they want to play it all the time," Coach Tobler said. "And so, these successes really speak to that. Their love and passion for the game, that's how come we've been able to be successful right from the get-go. Not very many people can do that. It takes a while to build programs and it's a testament to just their love and determination.

"It's exciting to be a part of history. It's exciting to build something, and they've really taken some pride in that."

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New Mesquite local enjoys her time as an author

By Breven Honda

Every road in life is never the same. Sometimes it's hard. Sometimes it's easy.

Terri Fitzsimmons, who moved to Mesquite at the beginning of the year, has experienced the ups and down that life has brought.

For more than two decades, until Fitzsimmons reached the age of 40, she was living in her "Dark Ages."

She did not drive a car yet and was in the middle of going back to school at Mt. San Jacinto College, learning with students nearly half her age.

However, those negatives turned into motivation as she earned her doctorate and graduated with honors.

Now, she is continuing to enjoy her time in town.

"I've been telling everybody I've got a sore throat of all the great things about this town," Fitzsimmons said. "When we first came out here to visit in September of last year, the people here, I've never met so many friendly, helpful people.

"I've never been to Sedona. That's on my bucket list. But I feel like I'm in the vortex where I'm just happy. Everything about this town, there's so much to do. It's just wonderful. I like to say it's my utopia."

June marks six months since Fitzsimmons moved to Mesquite, the fastest growing city in Nevada.

Fitzsimmons has been able to adjust nicely to her new lifestyle by getting involved with various community groups.

"I've joined the recreation center where I exercise five days a week," she said. "I found a meditation class, a couple of book clubs. And of course, my dream home. I've got a whole meditation area, a courtyard and the view."

In addition to getting her feet wet in Mesquite, Fitzsimmons comes to town as a published book author, writing novels, memoirs and stories based on historical events.

She has a couple of books based on her experience dealing with the Camp Fire in 2018. The Camp Fire impacted parts of Northern California, primarily in Butte County, taking down the city of Paradise, including Fitzsimmons, just weeks before Thanksgiving.

"I lost everything, and even to this day, has been so traumatic to me that I had nightmares for ages trying to flee the town with flames chasing after me, you know, being on the school bus," Fitzsimmons said. "And of course, I had to go into therapy.

"All my life, I've always journalized, and when I



finally went in for counseling, my therapist read my journals, and he says, 'Oh my gosh, these need to be published.' You need to get out there. You're a counselor. You need to help out other victims of the fire."

As a result, taking the advice from her therapist gave her the inspiration to write two books based on her traumatic experiences living through a fast-moving wildfire.

Her first book she wrote was, "Phoenix Rising From the Ashes." That book was then followed up by a sequel called, "Smoldering Embers of Paradise." Both books came out within a year of the fire.

"When we go through an experience, we've got a choice," Fitzsimmons said. "We can either be a victim and tell our victim story for the rest of our life. 'Oh, poor Terri, she was in a fire, poor Terri.' Or I've got a choice to turn the experience to make me into a dryer. So why I called my book, 'Phoenix Rising From the Ashes,' is because I am the true Phoenix. Who was I before the fire is buried there."

Being right in the middle of the Camp Fire gave Fitzsimmons the chance to change her outlook and who she was.

"I used to be a very materialistic person," she said. "I had tons of beautiful jewelry and antiques and titles and awards. I hid behind this fabulous wardrobe. When everything is taken from you, you change. You have to.

"I remember the day of the fire; we walked into Walmart and came out with a plastic bag of \$126 that was all I owned in the world. That was the defining moment of my life that I had to change. So, the universe was telling me, 'To let go.'"

Since writing those two books based on the 2018 wildfire she endured, she moved to Oregon where she publicized her books at book signing events, despite the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Although Fitzsimmons did not have the same interaction as she did both before and during the pandemic, she still felt the impact the book had on others.

"I had people in tears, and I couldn't go very far because COVID set in," she said. "It was changing people's views

of themselves and helping out women to not be victims, to change what they've gone through. I keep telling everybody, 'I'm old, so you can't get through life unscathed, but it's how we reframe our experiences and reframe what happens to us in the past.'

"People are loving what I'm saying, because I don't care if it's an earthquake, a fire, a divorce, whatever it is, you've got a choice of how you react."

Living through that fire has given the opportunity for Fitzsimmons to inspire others.

In addition to her writing books, she worked with special education students. Fitzsimmons helped those earn their high school diploma, including women or kids on Indian reservations.

"It's never too late to make a difference in the world," Fitzsimmons said. "I've got a total passion for this. And since the fire, I'm lit."

Fitzsimmons is currently working on a book, called "Expressive Arts," a memoir with 22 chapters by 22 different authors, including herself.

"They're all about helping women out through emotional experiences, and cover is so beautiful," Fitzsimmons said of the upcoming. "It's using expressive arts to get through trauma. We use a traumatic experience that we do for half the chapter, and the other half is the tool that we use to get out of it, you know, to work through it. And mine, of course, was the fire."



Course Schedule – Fall 2025

Mesquite Campus

140 N. Yucca St. Mesquite, NV 89027 Phone: 702-346-2485

		Course Title	Time		Instructor
Monday					
AC 102B	87106	Intro HVAC Electrical Theory/Applications	5:00 pm – 7:30 pm	8/25 – 12/8	Paul Chandler
HIST 100 ¹	89788	Historical Issues & Contemporary Society	5:30 pm – 7:20 pm	8/25 – 12/8	Keith Cooper
MATH 120E ²	85940	Fundamentals of College Math– Web Remote	5:00 pm – 6:50 pm	8/25 – 12/11	Carol Dobson
Tuesday					
CLS 155	85534	Phlebotomy	5:30 pm – 7:50 pm	8/26 – 12/11	Sulinda Myers
EMS 108B	90162	Emergency Medical Technician Training LEC	5:00 pm – 8:20 pm	8/26 - 12/11	Kennedy Alexander
EMS 108B L	90163	Emergency Medical Technician Training Lab	8:30 pm – 10:00 pm	8/26 - 12/11	Erik Brinkerhoff
ENG 101 ¹	89821	Composition I	5:30 pm – 7:50 pm	8/26 – 12/9	LeAnn Campbell
NURS 130	86704	Nursing Assistant Lab	4:00 pm – 7:30 pm	8/26 – 12/9	Donna Seifert
PHO 101	90125	Beginning Photography	5:00 pm – 8:30 pm	8/26 - 12/9	Cynthia Delaney
PSY 101	89634	General Psychology	6:00 pm – 8:50 pm	8/26 – 12/9	David Taylor
Wednesday					
AC 102B	87106	Intro HVAC Electrical Theory/Applications	5:00 pm – 7:30 pm	8/27 – 12/11	Paul Chandler
MA 104B	88479	Intro to Medical Assisting	9:00 am – 10:50 am	8/27 - 10/19	Jessica Dycus
MA 107B	88486	Medical Assisting Techniques I - Lab	9:00 am – 2:50 pm	10/20 - 12/12	Fran Sherrill
MATH 120E ²	85940	Fundamentals of College Math	5:00 pm – 7:50 pm	8/25 – 12/11	Carol Dobson
NURS 130	86703	Nursing Assistant Clinical	4:00 pm – 7:45 pm	8/27 – 12/11	Donna Seifert
Thursday					
AC 116B	87136	Copper Fundamentals	5:00 pm – 9:00 pm	8/28 – 10/19	Bill Ennis
CLS 155	85535	Phlebotomy	5:30 pm – 7:50 pm	8/26 – 12/11	Sulinda Myers
COM 101	89895	Oral Communication	5:30 pm - 8:20 pm	8/28 – 12/11	LeAnn Campbell
EMS 108	88479	Emergency Medical Technician Training LEC	5:00 pm – 8:20 pm	8/26 - 12/11	Erik Brinkerhoff
EMS 108L	90163	Emergency Medical Technician Training Lab	8:30 pm – 10:00 pm	8/26 - 12/11	Kennedy Alexander
NURS 130	86703	Nursing Assistant Clinical	4:00 pm – 7:45 pm	8/27 – 12/11	Donna Seifert
Friday					
MA 104B	88479	Intro to Medical Assisting	9:00 am – 10:50 am	8/25 - 10/19	Jessica Dycus
MA 107B	88486	Medical Assisting Techniques I - Lab	9:00 am – 2:50 pm	10/20 - 12/12	Fran Sherrill
Online					
CLS 155	85530	Phlebotomy Lecture	Online	8/25 – 12/14	TBA
MA 107B	88483	Medical Assisting Techniques I - Lecture	Online	10/20 – 12/14	TBA
NURS 130	TBA	Nursing Assistant Lecture	Online	8/25 – 12/14	TBA

¹ This class will be taught at the CSN Mesquite Center and shared with the CSN Nellis Center utilizing video conferencing equipment.
² This class will be taught at the CSN Nellis Center and shared with the CSN Mesquite Center utilizing video conferencing equipment.
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Senior Games recaps soring season, being early prep for fall

By Breven Honda

A couple weeks after the conclusion of the 2025 Mesquite Senior Games spring season, the Board of Directors got together to recap an unforgettable slate filled with fun, hard work and commitment from participants, volunteers and the event directors.

“We do After Action Reports on each of the events and that’s done by the event director,” Senior Games President Sandy Tudor said. “We went through to see what we had done well and where we needed to improve. We did pretty well overall and everybody was pretty honest. Nobody sees these except the board members.

“One of the best things, and just about everybody commented on it, although most of the event directors, are board members, but having the truck has been invaluable.”

Last summer, the Mesquite Senior Games bought the box truck and through the end of 2024 and into the early months of this year, the board has been focused on getting the truck ready to be in use for the spring season.

Within the truck, the Mesquite Senior Games put in the things that either they need or think that need. Tudor said there were a couple times when event directors forgot something or needed something but realized that specific item needed was in the truck and they could walk a few steps away.

On the flip side, Tudor mentioned that there were some improvements that the Mesquite Senior Games needs to make.

“You can’t ever get everything perfect,” she said. “We went back and looked at the people that had come to the to the spring volunteer get together. Then we looked at the people that actually volunteered and there were some discrepancies in there, like some people came to the party and



then we never saw them again.

“So we need to do a little better job with our with our volunteer database, and make sure we’ve got, we’ve actually got enough volunteers, and we can always use more.”

On the Mesquite Senior Games website, there is an ongoing volunteer signup sheet under the “Volunteer” section.

As the offseason begins before the fall season begin in October, Tudor and the board will do all it can as the temperatures rise in town.

“The first thing we’re doing is we’re figuring

out what our charity, or charities we are going to choose,” she said. “I’ve asked (the board) to come up with what they want to do for a donation or donations, because we do that every year. I think it was two years ago, we did the Senior Center. We gave money to their respite program, and we gave some to the historic society.”

Registration for the fall season will begin as soon as this month. There will be three events: men’s softball, golf and bowling. The Mesquite Senior Games originally scheduled a pickleball event but was unable to due to one taking place



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FINANCIAL FOCUS

Avoid these common mistakes to protect your retirement

By Ron Bird

Your 401(k) is one of the most powerful tools for building a secure retirement—but only if you use it wisely. A recent Kiplinger article, *Eight 401(k) Mistakes That Could Tank Your Retirement*, outlines some of the most common (and costly) missteps investors make. Here's how to avoid them and stay on track for your future.



1. NOT KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROTH AND TRADITIONAL 401(K)S

Both traditional and Roth 401(k)s offer tax-advantaged growth and employer matching, but they're taxed differently. Traditional 401(k) contributions are made pre-tax, lowering your current taxable income. Roth 401(k) contributions are made after tax, allowing for tax-free withdrawals in retirement. Understanding the difference can help you make better long-term decisions.

2. FAILING TO ADJUST YOUR SAVINGS AFTER A JOB CHANGE

Switching jobs often comes with a pay raise—but that doesn't always lead to smarter saving. A 2024 Vanguard study found that 55% of job switchers reduced their lifetime 401(k) savings by \$300,000 by not increasing their contributions after a raise. If your income increases, your savings should too.

3. FORGETTING ABOUT OLD 401(K)S

There are an estimated 29 million forgotten 401(k) accounts holding more than \$1.6 trillion. Don't lose track of

your retirement money—especially when tools like the Department of Labor's upcoming Retirement Savings Lost and Found database can help you locate old accounts.

4. IGNORING HOW YOUR MONEY IS INVESTED

If you're automatically enrolled, your money might be sitting in a default fund that doesn't match your risk tolerance or goals. Consider target date funds that adjust as you age, and regularly review your investments and fees. High fees can quietly eat into your savings.

5. SKIPPING THE EMPLOYER MATCH

If your employer offers a 401(k) match and you're not contributing enough to earn it, you're walking away from free money. This is one of the easiest ways to boost your retirement savings—without increasing your effort.

6. NOT UNDERSTANDING VESTING RULES

Matched funds from your employer might not be fully yours until you've worked there for a set period, typically three to five years. Know your company's vesting schedule before making a career move.

7. WITHDRAWING FUNDS TOO EARLY

Early withdrawals can lead to penalties, taxes, and a big hit to your future balance. While loans and hardship withdrawals are options in emergencies, they should be a last resort.

Bottom line? Your 401(k) is a long-term investment. Treat it like one—and your future self will thank you.

This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to give specific legal advice. Ron Bird is an Owner / Agent of Financial Concepts Retirement Planning, LLC and can be reached at 702-346-7025

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To have your event listed in this calendar, please e-mail mesquitemonthly@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.

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.

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.

Preschool "Ready for Kindergarten" 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.

Summer Perler Bead Club: 2:30 p.m., These colorful beads are arranged on plastic pegboards

to form patterns and then fused together. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

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

A Gathering of Artists: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. A group of artists who enjoy spending time with each other. All art forms and meeting of like-minded people. Tamara S Reese, 808-489-1171 or cptweese@yahoo.com.

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.

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.

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.

Teen Crafternoon: 3-5 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. 1st N. St. Participate each week in fun, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math activity. 702-346-5224

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.

Fused Glass Drop In Group: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery glass studio classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to class students and experienced fused glass crafters. Group size limited to 10 participants. Walk-ins only. \$10.

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

Celebrate Recovery Group: Dinner 5 p.m., Group 6 p.m., 830 Hafen Lane (First Baptist Church). Celebrate Recovery can help you find peace in your life. It's a safe place with no judgement. Call Dave at 847-997-6868 or visit www.crmesquite.com

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, JUNE 5

Navigate the Stars: 11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Explore how astronomy has played a crucial role in understanding space.. 702-346-5224.

Introduction to Stained Glass: 5-8 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Join in a four-week hands-on class where you'll design and craft a beautiful stained glass piece. \$175 fee. Register at Mesquite-FineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited. Classes on June 5, 12, 19 and 26.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

Cricut Design: 10:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. The library's Cricut machines will be available for use. All supplies provided. Registration required. 702-346-5224.

Fused Glass Drop In Group: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery

> See CALENDAR, Page 15

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Trusting a good and gracious God

By Pastor Chris Wall

I am happily and proudly a Christian. I have built my entire life on the truths taught by Christ and am glad to affirm His teachings—both the ones that most people readily accept, like caring for “the least of these,” and the more difficult sayings, such as His claim that He is the only way to have a right relationship with the Triune God.



I believe in and proclaim the entire counsel of God as found in Scripture. This includes the parts that I struggle to comprehend due to my limited, finite understanding, as well as the parts my sinful nature resists (yes, even pastors wrestle with such things). Long ago, I resolved to assent to the teachings of my faith as laid forth in Scripture and framed in the historic creeds, even when those teachings challenge my fallen will.

One struggle that all people must face is the so-called “problem of evil.” You don’t get a free pass just because you’re not a theist of any kind. Everyone must grapple with the presence of evil—its origin, its persistence, and, perhaps more pressingly, whether there is any restoration, vindication, or purpose behind it.

For Christians, this presents a unique challenge because we affirm that God is both all-good and all-powerful. The common objection goes something like this: “If God is all-good, then He must not be all-powerful, since evil exists. If He is all-powerful, then He must not be all-good, for He allows evil to per-

sist.” It’s a challenge worth addressing.

Let me respond with a few thoughts. First, even if Christians were mistaken about the nature or power of God (spoiler: we’re not), that would not disprove His existence. One would still need to offer a more compelling and persuasive explanation for the existence of reality itself—consciousness, morality, reason, and so on.

Second, the Christian worldview—whether or not one personally likes it—does provide a meaningful framework for understanding evil. Evil is allowed for the sake of growth, glory, and greater good. It is permitted so that humanity might grow in ways we otherwise could not. It is for God’s glory, even though He hates evil. And it is allowed for a greater good—one that may not be fully understood by us but is known in the perfect wisdom of God.

Finally, I would simply point to peace. Suppose, for the sake of argument, that the atheistic worldview is correct—what good does that do me? What harm does it do me to believe otherwise? After all, if life is ultimately meaningless, why should anything matter? However, when I acknowledge that there are things beyond my understanding and beyond my control, and when I rest in the truth that God is loving and gracious, I experience profound peace.

I pray that you, too, would place your trust in a good and gracious God—with your soul and with your life.

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.instagram.com/mesquitebaptistchurchnv)”

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Calendar

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glass studio classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to class students and experienced fused glass crafters. Group size limited to 10 participants. Walk-ins only. \$10.

Teen VR Party: 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Use virtual reality tech, play games, eat snacks and more. 702-346-5224.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Dragonfly." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-9964 or christinepicior@gmail.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Pottery Wheel Class: 9-11 a.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. For ages 10-12. Students learn to create a mug and bowl on the pottery wheel. Fee is \$50 for three sessions.

Travel to the World of Mo Willems: 10:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Ages 0-5. A special Mo Willems storytime with books, songs and crafts. 702-346-5224.

CC Family Services: 10:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Learning Center Building. 702-346-5224.

Health and Wellness 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.

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

Summer Movie Night: 6 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center pool, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Start with swimming from 6-8 p.m., then free feed from 8-8:30 p.m. followed by a movie under the stars. Free for the whole family. No registration necessary.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Flag Wind Chime Workshop: 1-4 p.m. Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Learn how to make a patriotic wind chime. \$50 fee includes instruction, use of tools and equipment and firing fees, glass. Participants must have taken the beginners class or have prior fused glass experience.

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

MONDAY, JUNE 9

Vitalant Blood Drive: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Schedule an appointment at www.bloodhero.com and enter code MESQUITELIBLV.COM or call 877-258-4825.

iPhone Photography: 10:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Learning Center Building. Learn the tricks to taking great photos on your

iPhone. Call 702-346-5224.

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, JUNE 10

Android Phone: 10:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Learning Center Building. Learn the tricks on using your Android phone. Call 702-346-5224.

Techsmart Tuesdays: 11:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Class is focused on cybersecurity and AI. Call 702-346-5224.

Popcorn & Movie: 3-4:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Travel to Peru with Paddington! Bring pillows and blankets to make a comfy spot to enjoy the movie. 702-346-5224.

Warrior Women of Mesquite: 5:30-6:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Learning Center Building. Group discussion for those affected by cancer. Info: 702-346-5224.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Fire station groundbreaking: 9 a.m., 1105 Horizon Blvd. Come out to celebrate the groundbreaking of new fire station No. 2.

Unlocking Literacy with

Environmental Print: 10-11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. This interactive workshop for ages 3-5 helps families harness the power of environmental print. 702-346-5224.

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

Beginner Fused Glass: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Learn the basics of fusing glass in this four-week class. No previous experience necessary. \$175 fee includes instruction, use of tools and equipment, kiln use, glass for four projects. Sign up on MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited.

Adult Trivia Night: 4:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Join in to display your general trivia knowledge. 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 858-254-1214 or email swtinsd@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

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.

Teen "Zine Scene:" 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Explore the art of zine-making and ex-

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press your voice. 702-346-5224.

Adventure of the Missing Color: 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Join Science Heroes on a mission to turn science into an adventure. 702-346-5224.

Teen Gay-Straight Alliance: 4:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Join LGBTQIA+ teens and allies and have fun, being supportive, learn more about local resources and make the community stronger. 702-346-5224.

Introduction to Stained Glass: 5-8 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Join in a four-week hands-on class where you'll design and craft a beautiful stained glass piece. \$175 fee. Register at Mesquite-FineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited. Classes on June 5, 12, 19 and 26.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

Canyonlands Healthcare: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Canyonlands Healthcare Community Healthcare Workers offers resources, information and support. Info: 702-346-5224.

Adult Cardmaking: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Exercise your creativity by making two unique greeting cards. Info: 702-346-5224.

Stained Glass Drop-ins: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. You must know cutting and soldering. Tools and equipment available. Glass

and project materials available for purchase. Deb Sweeney, 951-775-5912 or debssweeney95@yahoo.com

Crafternoon: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Bring your creativity and enjoy making different crafts. 702-346-5224.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Daisy Jane." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-9964 or christinepicior@gmail.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Pottery Wheel Class: 9-11 a.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. For ages 10-12. Students learn to create a mug and bowl on the pottery wheel. Fee is \$50 for three sessions.

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

Learn and Play: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Babies, toddlers and preschool. Books, singing and other activities. Info: 702-346-5224.

Apple iPhone: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. Come and learn the tricks to using your iPhone. Info: 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "September 5." Call 702-346-5224.

Fused Glass Drop-in Group: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts, Classroom 2,

Bldg. E, 156 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to class students and experienced fused glass crafters. Group size limited to 10 participants. Walk-ins only. \$10 fee. Call Pam Jacobson at 303-910-4542.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

Virgin Valley Artists General Meeting: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Fine Arts Center classroom, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. The public is invited to attend.

Travel Planning Workshop: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Get help each step of the way in planning your next trip. Info: 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

AARP Driver's Safety Class: 11 a.m. - 3 p.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.

Super Secret Spy School: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Come explore the secret world of spies! Info: 702-346-5224.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Beginner Fused Glass: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Learn the basics of fusing glass in this four-week class. No previous experience necessary. \$175 fee includes instruction, use of tools and equipment, kiln use, glass for four projects. Sign up on MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com. Space is

limited.

3D Pen Coloring: 3-4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Join for a fun evening of drawing in 3D. A 3D pen extrudes heated warm plastic from the nozzle. Free. Info: 702-346-5224.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Library closed: Juneteenth.

VVAA Awards Ceremony: 4-6 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Awards for the June exhibition, Life is Movement. Free and open to the public.

Introduction to Stained Glass: 5-8 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Join in a four-week hands-on class where you'll design and craft a beautiful stained glass piece. \$175 fee. Register at Mesquite-FineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited. Classes on June 5, 12, 19 and 26.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

Desert Doodlers: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., Share your flare for doodling. Walk-ins only, bring your own supplies. Contact Joyce Redweik at 951-805-3759 or joyceredweik@gmail.com.

Fused Glass Drop-in Group: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts, Classroom 2, Bldg. E, 156 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to class students and experienced fused glass crafters. Group size limited to 10 participants. Walk-ins only. \$10 fee. Call Pam Jacobson at 303-910-4542.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 21

First Responders Charity Golf Tournament: 6 a.m., Conestoga Golf Club, 1499 Falcon Ridge Parkway. 6 a.m. registration, 7 a.m., shotgun start. Support a great cause with 40 percent of fee going directly to the Mesquite First Responders charity. To register, call Kenny at 775-385-5925 or email kenny@eagleslandingmgmt.com

Pottery Wheel Class: 9-11 a.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. For ages 10-12. Students learn to create a mug and bowl on the pottery wheel. Fee is \$50 for three sessions.

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 "Last Breath." Call 702-346-5224.

LEGO Challenge: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Get a theme and 30 minutes to build. Info: 702-346-5224.

Cricut Club: 3-4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. The library's Cricut machines will be available for use. All supplies provided. Registration required. 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie

is "Last Breath." Call 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

Adam Leighton Magician: 11:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Magician Adam Leighton will amaze with clever wit and sleight of hand.. Info: 702-346-5224.

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

Popcorn & Movie: 3-4:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Travel to Peru with Paddington! Bring pillows and blankets to make a comfy spot to enjoy the movie. 702-346-5224.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Cooking with Young Children: 10:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Workshop promotes healthy eating.. 702-346-5224.

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

Beginner Fused Glass: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Learn the basics of fusing glass in this four-week class. No previous experience necessary. \$175 fee includes instruction, use of tools and equipment, kiln use, glass for four projects. Sign up on MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com.

Space is limited.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

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.

Game Time with PBS Kids: 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Inspired by Lyla in the Loop, families create own card games. 702-346-5224.

Introduction to Stained Glass: 5-8 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Join in a four-week hands-on class where you'll design and craft a beautiful stained glass piece. \$175 fee. Register at MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited. Classes on June 5, 12, 19 and 26.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

Canyonlands Healthcare: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Canyonlands Healthcare Community Healthcare Workers offers resources, information and support. Info: 702-346-5224.

Crafternoon: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Bring your creativity and enjoy making different crafts. 702-346-5224.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Peppermint Poppies." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-9964 or christinepicior@gmail.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

Learn and Play: 3 p.m., Mes-

quite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Babies, toddlers and preschool. Books, singing and other activities.. Info: 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Fused Glass Drop-in Group: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts, Classroom 2, Bldg. E, 156 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to class students and experienced fused glass crafters. Group size limited to 10 participants. Walk-ins only. \$10 fee. Call Pam Jacobson at 303-910-4542.

Children's Sensory Sensitive Movie: 1 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. For ages 0-17 and their caregivers.. 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

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

TUESDAY, JULY 1

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Beginner Fused Glass: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Learn the basics of fusing glass in this four-week class. No previous experience necessary. \$175 fee includes instruction, use of tools and equipment, kiln use, glass for four projects. Sign up on MesquiteFineArtsCenter.com. Space is limited.



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