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MESQUITE MONTHLY

Your Local Source For Mesquite Business, People & News

MARCH 2026 | VOL. 6, No. 3



TEAM BUILDER

Tracy Fails had a year to prove himself as police chief. Now he has the job permanently.

SEE STORY PAGE 12

INSIDE: Senior Games Kicks Off Season, PAGE 10 | Community Calendar, PAGE 13

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For Mesquite Business,
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NEWS AND NOTES

DONKEY JAMBOREE SLATED FOR MARCH 21

The annual Donkey Jamboree is scheduled March 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Donkey History Museum, 355 W. Mesquite Blvd.

The free event is sponsored by the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue, which will provide donkeys for visitors to interact with.

Live music will be provided by the Mesquite Blues Band. Those attending will get to tour the museum and even pan for real gems. Veterans can add their names to the Wall of Heroes.

Peaceful Valley owners Mark and Amu Meyers will also be in attendance, along with mascot Prospector Pete.

BBQ DINNER BENEFITS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mesquite Community Education Foundation is hosting a Beach

BBQ dinner on March 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Virgin Valley High School student center.

The dinner will include pork barbecue, macaroni salad, rice and dessert. Cost is \$25 for individuals and \$40 for couples.

Presale drive-through meals are also available at \$15 per person and \$70 for families. There will also be raffle prizes and entertainment.

The nonprofit MCEF gives out scholarships to Virgin Valley High School graduates to help students in furthering their education. Its goal is to provide scholarships to as many Virgin Valley High students as possible. Those interested can call 702-344-8145 or visit www.MesquiteCEF-Scholarships.com.

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR T-BALL, COACH PITCH LEAGUE

The Mesquite Athletics & Leisure Services Department's deadline

for sign ups for T-Ball and Coach Pitch youth baseball is schedule for March 7 with league play running from March 23 through April 16.

T-Ball is for youths ages 4-5 and coach pitch for ages 6-7. Games are on Mondays and Thursdays. Cost is \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members.

To register, visit the rec center at 100 W. Old Mill Road. Call 702-346-8732.

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS SET FOR MARCH 4

Mayor Jesse Whipple will give his vision for the upcoming year during his State of the City Address on March 5 at City Hall, 15 E. Mesquite Blvd.

Residents are encouraged to view the address online by going to the city website www.mesquitenv.gov under the Meetings and Agendas tab.



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Virgin Valley's Ava Noel, right, guards Fallon's Kortnie Simper in the girls basketball state finals on Feb. 21 in Fernley. (Photo by John Baker/Fernley Reporter)

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VVHS girls basketball team reaches state title game for second straight season

By Breven Honda

A year ago, the Virgin Valley High School girls basketball team suited up for its first state championship game in more than three decades.

This season, the Bulldogs capitalized on a strong group of returning players and made another run to the state title game.

However, as was the case 12 months earlier, Virgin Valley was unable to capture its first 3A State Championship, falling to Churchill County, 65-51, in Fernley — nearly seven hours from campus.

"You're facing basically a home crowd," Bulldogs coach Koko Davis said. "Even though it was in Fernley, Churchill is 30 minutes down the road. We were definitely up against it with the crowd.

"Bottom line, when it comes down to it, we've got to execute better. I've got to do better as a coach and make better adjustments. They were just better than us that day."

Virgin Valley struggled from the field, particularly by not attacking the basket consistently.

"We relied too much on the perimeter, the 3-point line," Davis said. "It wasn't falling for us in that game. I wish we would have attacked more and gotten to the basket a little bit more."

Despite the offensive struggles, sophomore Hannah Waite led the Bulldogs with 21 points. Senior Ashley Anguiano was the only other Virgin Valley player in double fig-

> See **STATE**, Page 6



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HEART WALK



The annual Mesquite Heart Walk drew a record 375 people to walk the 3.8 miles from the Mesquite Recreation Center to Mesa View Hospital. It was the 22nd year of the event. (*Mesquite Athletics & Leisure Services photo*)

State

continued from Page 4

ures, finishing with 10 points.

In the state semifinal, Waite paced the team with 34 points in a 76-65 victory over Fernley on its home court.

“She’s really good at mixing it up,” Davis said of Waite. “When she has to distribute and make the team better, she does that. When she has to put the team on her back, she does that.”

“She basically takes what the defense gives her most of the time, and it’s a blessing for us. She makes everybody else on the court better.”

In the semifinal win, Virgin Valley received balanced scoring throughout the lineup against the Vaqueros, building a 50-25 halftime lead before securing the 11-point victory.

“We had other players stepping up in that Fernley game so they couldn’t just key on Hannah,” Davis said. “Senior Hayden Owsley had a big game, junior Ava Noel had a big game — they couldn’t just focus on Hannah.”

The Bulldogs also had to overcome the loss of one of their top scorers, sophomore Raia Davis, who suffered a torn ACL in the regional

championship victory over Boulder City on Valentine’s Day.

“The hard thing about Raia going down was she worked so hard to get back,” Davis said. “She worked her tail off to stay in shape and to get back, and then to hurt it right at the doorstep of getting to state.”

“The girls rallied around her. I felt like there was still a good vibe.”

Even without the injured sophomore, Virgin Valley enjoyed strong support throughout the weekend at Fernley High School.

The Bulldogs boys basketball team also competed in the state tournament, narrowly losing in the semifinals. Still, both Virgin Valley teams supported each other in all three games, providing what Davis described as “sixth man” energy.

“The bleachers were full behind us,” Davis said. “It was nice to have all the fans and the boys’ side up there, too. It was a good atmosphere. I love the turnout, especially with how tough it was to get up there.”

Virgin Valley finished the season 22-8, highlighted by a perfect 14-0 record to win the 3A South League title.



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FINANCIAL FOCUS

Turning tax season into a financial reset

By Ron Bird

By March, many people in Mesquite are in the middle of tax season. They're gathering documents, meeting with their preparer, or getting ready to file. While February is often focused on preparation, March can be a good time to step back and look at the bigger financial picture. Taxes aren't just about what happened last year. They can also reveal patterns, missed opportunities, and smart adjustments that can improve the months ahead.



- Retirement contributions – Increasing contributions early in the year can provide both tax benefits and long-term growth.

- Investment positioning – Tax efficiency matters just as much as performance, especially for retirees or those nearing retirement.

- Income timing strategies – Coordinating withdrawals, Social Security, or other income sources can influence overall tax exposure.

These decisions are often more effective before December, not after.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF SPRING CLEANING

Spring cleaning usually means closets and garages but March is also a perfect time for financial organization.

Consider using this month to:

- Update beneficiaries on accounts and insurance policies
- Review estate planning documents
- Consolidate old retirement accounts
- Revisit your long-term goals and timeline

These steps don't always feel urgent, yet they can be some of the most important pieces of a well-designed financial plan.

LOOKING BEYOND APRIL 15

The most effective financial strategies are proactive, not reactive. They happen throughout the year, through thoughtful planning, regular reviews, and small course corrections along the way.

March is the bridge between last year's taxes and this year's opportunities.

A LOCAL REMINDER

Living in Mesquite offers a unique lifestyle. One that often

> See **FINANCE**, Page 11



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WHAT YOUR TAX RETURN IS REALLY TELLING YOU

Your tax return is more than paperwork, it's a snapshot of your financial life. It shows:

- How income is structured
- Whether withholding or estimated payments were accurate
- Opportunities for deductions or credits
- Potential tax exposure in retirement

Instead of filing and moving on, March is a great time to pause and review what the numbers are saying. Even small insights can lead to meaningful changes before the year gets too far along.

PLANNING AHEAD WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME

One of the biggest advantages is timing. The year is still young, which means there's room to make adjustments that could impact next year's tax outcome.

Some areas worth revisiting include:

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Mesquite Senior Games' 25th Anniversary spring season begins

By Breven Honda

Let the fun begin.

The 2026 spring season — also the 25th anniversary of the Mesquite Senior Games — begins this month.

Over the next eight weeks, competition will be on display as participants chase first-place finishes or simply enjoy time with friends, no matter the event.

"I'm really excited," Mesquite Senior Games President Sandy Tudor said. "We've got our 25th anniversary on the T-shirts. The shirts are green. It seems to be a color people like, although last year they loved the tie-dye."

For those still considering participating, registration remains open until approximately one week before each event. Visit the Mesquite Senior Games website and click on the "Events" tab for more informa-

"This is not a hardcore hike. This is a 'Let's take a stroll and look at the floral-type hike. So, we do restrict it to either tennis shoes or hiking shoes.'"

SANDY TUDOR

tion.

There are several additions to this year's schedule, while other events remain the same.

The first two events bring some changes with the inaugural darts competition and the return of tennis. Darts kicks off the schedule March 3 at the Elks Club, while tennis and table tennis take place that same weekend.

Although table tennis remains in its usual spot, the tennis tournament is typically held later in the spring season rather than on opening weekend. That scheduling shift created a challenge for participants who compete in both

sports.

"We're kind of limited on when we can have events," Tudor said. "We didn't realize that most of our table tennis players were also tennis players. Hopefully, we didn't keep anybody from being able to participate in one because they were in the other. One of the things we'll do is ask about any conflicts when we do a survey at the end of the event."

Tudor said participant feedback plays a key role for her and the Board of Directors when planning each year's schedule, reinforcing a two-way communication process.

As registration opened in Febru-

ary, one event nearing capacity is the two-day bowling tournament set for March 14-15. The first day features men's, women's and mixed doubles competition, followed by men's and women's singles on the second day.

After mentioning in the February issue of the Mesquite Monthly that the Senior Games needed new leaders for the fitness hike, Tudor found volunteers for the March 18 event.

Nick Werth and Janice Hase have stepped up to lead the four-mile walk and have already surveyed the course.

"We reached out to both Sun City, which has a hiking club, and the Recreation Department, which also has a hiking club," Tudor said. "These guys said, 'Sure, we'll do it.' They've already gone to the area

> See **GAMES**, Page 11



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Games

continued from Page 10

and made sure it's suitable for hiking."

The course is considered easy, but Tudor, Werth and Hase recommend participants wear closed-toe athletic or hiking shoes and bring food and water to stay fueled and hydrated.

"This is not a hardcore hike," Tudor said. "This is a 'let's take a stroll and look at the flowers' type of hike. So we do restrict it to tennis shoes or hiking shoes."

Next on the schedule are pickleball (March 20-22) and target pistol (March 27), followed by the women's softball tournament at the end of March.

Target pistol is part of another scheduling change this year. In the past, it has been held simultaneously with the shotgun sports event at neighboring venues. However, with a new local location for

target pistol, organizers moved shotgun sports to the following week.

"Normally, we've had them at the same time because they were at neighboring venues," Tudor said. "But this year, we're able to have target pistol locally instead of in Hurricane, Utah, so we didn't see the need to keep them together."

"The other thing is Purgatory Clay Shooting Range in Hurricane is hosting our event on Friday, April 3. On Saturday, they have their version of a national qualifier. They'll be there the Saturday and Sunday after us, which is why we scheduled it that day — so we could piggyback on some of their participants."

This year's women's softball tournament will also serve as a qualifying event for the Silver State Games in Nevada.

As of Feb. 23, 31 teams had registered — already an increase from

last year, largely because of its qualifying status.

"Some of them are in cold-weather climates and haven't gotten to play," said Tudor, who is coordinating the softball tournament. "Others are from California and that area, so they play all the time. Everybody's excited."

With many participants traveling from outside the area — including beyond Las Vegas — strategically scheduling multi-day events benefits not only the Senior Games but also the local economy.

"We always do pickleball over a three-day period so the women play first, then mixed, and then the men play the third day," Tudor said. "Part of what that does is keep them all in town. If we've got people coming from Las Vegas, they'll stay at the hotels here."

"That helps the tourism industry, which is part of what we're trying to do."

Finance

continued from Page 8

centers around retirement, recreation, and enjoying the next chapter. With that comes the importance of making sure your financial strategy supports the life you want to live, not just today, but years down the road.

Taking time to review, reset, and plan ahead can make the rest of the year feel more intentional and far less stressful when the next tax season arrives.

Don't let another year pass without a clear financial plan. Call today to reserve your complimentary tax strategy session.

This article is for informational purposes only and not intended as specific tax or legal advice. For personalized guidance, please consult a qualified tax professional. Ron Bird is an Owner/Agent of Financial Concepts Retirement Planning, LLC and can be reached at 702-346-7025.

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Fails gets interim tag removed, becomes new police chief

By Breven Honda

On Feb. 10, a historic day arrived for the Mesquite Police Department with the swearing-in ceremony of its new police chief, Tracy Fails.

City Clerk Julie Goodsell administered the oath, officially removing the interim tag and naming Fails the next police chief of the Mesquite Police Department.

"It was nice to get past that interim stage so we could focus on making improvements and running the department," said Fails, who was joined at the ceremony by his wife, brothers, daughters and grandchildren, as well as fellow officers and firefighters.

A significant portion of Fails' interim period stemmed from the Mesquite City Council's search for a new city manager, ultimately hiring Rebecca Lynn Schrupp in early December.

One month later, during the Jan. 27 City Council meeting, the council ratified Fails as police chief. Councilmember Karen Fielding made the motion, and Councilmember Bill Ennis seconded it.

Four of the five councilmembers voted in favor, with Mayor Pro-Tem Pattie Gallo abstaining.

Prior to the vote, councilmembers and members of the public spoke in support of Fails.

"After watching Tracy Fails over the last year, my thoughts have changed," Councilmember Fielding said. "I've seen him bring the department together and improve morale. I've seen him initiate policies within the police department. With that being said, I wholeheartedly support Tracy Fails as our new police chief."

"I have worked directly under two previous police chiefs," said Quinn Averett, captain of the Mesquite Police Department. "I have never seen the unity that we've had this past year under the leadership of Tracy Fails. You're going to see some amazing things from your police department in the coming years.



"Your police department is in good hands. Your city is going to see good things."

After the vote passed, Fails expressed his excitement about officially stepping into the role.

"I am very happy to move past this interim position and let our department continue to heal and move forward," he said. "We have great people working for us, and we're very fortunate to have all of them. I'm excited to be their leader as we move ahead."

Fielding referenced policy changes that have already made an impact. Fails said encouraging involvement throughout the department has been key to that progress.

"Everybody needs to feel like their voice is being heard," he said. "We've developed committees within the department for problem-solving,

suggestions and improvements.

"It gives more people an opportunity to have their voices heard, and I think that's very important."

As he settles into the role, Fails is focused on moving the department forward.

One major priority is expanding the force.

"We need to expand," said Fails, who has nearly 30 years of law enforcement experience, including 26 years with the Mesquite Police Department. "The national average for police officers is 2.5 per 1,000 people. That's the goal. Almost every agency is close to two. Mesquite is well below that.

"We have roughly 24,000 residents, not counting visitors, and we're at 31 officers, which is well below the average. Expansion is critical for us.

"We need more officers who

have the opportunity to investigate crimes. We need detectives. We need specialized divisions — traffic, a drug task group. There are a lot of issues that need to be addressed, and we don't have the staffing for it.

"It would be very beneficial to the city and the community to have more officers to dive deeper into crimes and get more results."

Despite current staffing challenges, Fails emphasized the advantages of serving in Mesquite as the city continues to grow.

"Mesquite is a smaller community, so we're a little behind other places, but our community is excellent," Fails said. "There are a lot of positives. Working here means you're more involved with the community. The community really supports the officers. We get positive responses on most of what we do."

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. No class the first two weeks of August. 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. No class the first two weeks of August. 702-346-5224.

Tyler's Drawing and Creativity Class: 2-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., Classroom 1, Building B. Bring your creative side and join Tyler and friends for a good drawing experience. No need to sign up. Just show up. Cost is \$10 per class. Call 702-346-1338.

Teen Coding Club: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Have fun learning to code at your own pace. Call 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.

Beginner Fused Glass Class: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., Classroom 2, Building E. Four-week class.

Learn the basics of fusing glass. No previous experience necessary. Cost is \$175 and includes instruction, use of tool and equipment. Call Pam Jacobson at 303-910-4542 or email pam.jacobson74@gmail.com

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. No class the first two weeks of August. 702-346-5224.

Kids' Artsy Crafts: 4:00-5:00 p.m., Unleash your inner artist at Kids' Artsy Craft Club. Inspired by great artists, we'll explore fun and different ways to create art. Suggested for ages 5 - 12. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

Mesquite Rotary: 5:30 p.m. Meets every Wednesday at 150 N Yucca Street - Building 7, Suite 26. (Willow Street side). 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. No class the first two weeks of August. 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. No class the first two weeks of August. 702-346-5224

Meditation Class for Beginners: 6-7 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Class for those who are curious about meditation but don't know where to start. Members \$20, non-members \$25. 702-346-1338.

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. No class the first two weeks of August. 702-346-5224.

Bereavement Group: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Mesquite Library Resource Center, 121 W. First North 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.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

What's Happening Mesquite: 8-9:30 a.m., Cinnamon Cafe, 555 Highland Drive. Hear from chamber members as they share quick, three-minute updates. Register by calling 702-346-2902.

Explore Stained Glass: 10 a.m.

- 2 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Must be experienced in cutting and soldering. Materials to make one cactus, including pot and rocks. \$45. 702-346-1338.

Mesquite Animal Shelter Expansion Grand Opening: 10 a.m., 795 Hardy Way. Ribbon cutting ceremony. Pets are invited.

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.

Genealogy Workshop: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Resource Center. Learn about genealogy and family heritage. 702-346-5224.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Cricut Craft Club: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Resource Center. Join in for a fun project. All supplies provided. Registration required. 702-346-5224.

Stained Glass Drop In: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. \$10 per session. 702-346-1338.

Teen Sewing Class: 3-5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learn the basics of machine and hand sewing. Registration required. Call 702-346-5224.

First Friday Family Art Walk: 4-7 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Celebrate art, community and culture with this free event. Call 702-346-138 or visit mesquitefineartscenter.com.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Bluegrass concert: 2-3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Live concert featuring Marina Pendleton. 702-346-5224.

Apple iPhone Class: 2-3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Resource Center. Free class on learning all about your iPhone.

> See CALENDAR, Page 15



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Connecting Our Community With Christ

Sunday School All Ages	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	6:00 p.m.

Pastor Bruce Whisenhunt
A Southern Baptist Fellowship

Nursery and Children's Church Available

702-346-2698 | WWW.CCCMESQUITE.ORG | 233 NORTH SANDHILL BLVD., MESQUITE

Mesquite Lutheran Church

BIBLE STUDY Sunday 8:30 a.m.	SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 a.m. <i>Weekly Communion</i>
--	---




450 Turtleback Rd. • 702-346-5811
MesquiteLutheran.org

Pastor David Constien
An LCMS Congregation. Learn more at www.lcms.org

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Mesquite United Methodist Church

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Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.


What's Happening?
Find out at umcmesquite.org

Pastor Malakai Pahulu

420 West Pioneer Boulevard, Mesquite | 702-346-4663

NON-DENOMINATIONAL HOME CHURCH SERVICES

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The kindness and affection of God

By Pastor Chris Wall

"But when the kindness and affection of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not by works which we did in righteousness, but according to His mercy, through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by His grace, we would become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7, LSB)



Have you ever been a recipient of true kindness? I speak not of the mere kindness that holds open a door or compliments the outfit you chose that day (though such kindnesses are most welcome); rather, I speak of a kindness that is otherworldly—one we might rightly call supernatural. Such kindness, as we see in the verse above, is inherently linked to affection.

Notice this carefully: Paul tells us that this kindness appeared. It is not abstract, sentimental, or vague benevolence floating somewhere in the heavens. The kindness and affection of God appeared in history—most fully and finally in the person of Jesus Christ.

Yet here is the presupposition we rarely confront: we assume that to show over-and-above kindness, the receiving party must have done something for us. But that is not intrinsic kindness; it is reciprocity—give and take, a "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" arrangement. What Scrip-

ture envisions is something altogether foreign to fallen human instinct.

For what does Christ say in the Gospels? What benefit is there if you show kindness only to those who can return it? Even the worst of sinners can accomplish that. There is nothing supernatural in reciprocity. Rather, true kindness flows from an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the grace we ourselves have received from God—a kindness extended even to those who have wronged us.

Our response may be: they do not deserve it. But observe the passage again. We are saved not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy. Kindness, affection, mercy, grace—none of them begin with us.

The fact that we woke up this morning is sheer mercy; the fact that we possess health, provision, or stability is an outflow of His kindness. This is often called common grace. But Titus speaks of something deeper—saving grace: not merely sustaining mercy, but regenerating mercy; not merely provision, but the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This kindness does not merely improve our condition—it makes us new.

So we must ask: how do we respond? Do we love and worship God as He is worthy? And because His kindness was not earned, will we extend that same mercy to others?

May we know His kindness—and show it; for He shows it abundantly to us.

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).



First Baptist Church
Serving God by Serving You

Worship Services:
Saturday 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 9:00 A.M.
Youth and Children's
Classes 9:00 A.M.
Bible Studies weekly

830 W. Hafen Lane, Mesquite, Nevada 89027
702-346-7061 • www.fbcmesquite.com

Calendar

continued from Page 13

Call 702-346-5224.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Boots." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-996 4 or christinepicior@gmail.com

Rock'in with Rod: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. The ultimate Rod Stewart tribute show featuring Martin Andrew. Admission \$25-\$35. Visit mctnv.com.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

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

MONDAY, MARCH 9

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, MARCH 10

Stained Glass Drop In: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. \$10 per session. 702-346-1338.

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

Techsmart Tuesdays: 4-4:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Learning Resource Center. Navigating Cyber and AI together. Call 702-346-5224.

Warrior Women of Mesquite: 4-5:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Learning Resource Center. Group discussion for those affected by cancer. Call 702-346-5224.

City Council meeting: 5 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regu-

lar meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

MFA Photographic Society Meeting: 5:30-7:30 p.m., STEAM Center, 312 W. Mesquite Blvd., Suite 116. Open to the public and free of charge. Just show up and have a passion for photography. Call Randy Bauman at 615-483-5549 or rrdiversions@gmail.com.

Beach BBQ Dinner: 5:30 p.m., Virgin Valley High Student Center. MCEF fundraiser. BBQ pork, mac salad, rice and dessert. Raffle prizes and entertainment. \$25 individual, \$40 couple. Pre-sale drive through pickup \$15 individual and \$70 family. Visit MesquiteCEFSScholarships.com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Red Cross Blood Drive: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Schedule an appointment by going to redcrossblood.org and enter code MesquiteLibNV or CALL 800-236-3274.

Mesquite Chamber Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd. State of the City address by Mayor Jesse Whipple. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Call 702-346-2902.

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

3D Pen Coloring: 3-4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. A fun evening of drawing in 3D. Free and open to the public. Info: 702-346-5224.

Mesquite Republican Women: 5:30-7 p.m., Mesquite Veterans Center, 840 Hafan Lane. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month. Call 858-254-1214 or email swtinsd@gmail.com. Call 702-346-2902.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Mystery Book Club: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st
> See CALENDAR, Page 16

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Calendar

continued from Page 15

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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Medicaid Application Assistance: 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Canyonlands community workers offer assistance with Medicaid applications. Call 702-346-5224.

Anyone Can Paint: 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Barbara Thomas provides instruction. Call 702-346-5224.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Spirited Horses." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-996 4 or christinepicior@gmail.com

Denim & Diamonds: 6 p.m., Holiday Inn Resort Ballroom, 333 N. Sandhill Blvd. Mesquite Showgirls' Mardi Gras style fundraiser. Dinner, live music, dancing raffles and silent auction. \$85 donation. For tickets, call 702-420-4494.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Get Smart with Art: 10-11:45 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Birch Trees. Free, space is limited. Call Wendy Douglas at 435-230-4748 or email redsalt-dough@yahoo.com.

Family Craft: 11 a.m. - 1:15 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st

N. St. A fun craft for the family. Call 702-346-5224.

Mixed Media Workshop: noon - 2 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Wood burning and water color. All materials provided. \$50. 702-346-1338.

Learn and Play: 3-3:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Families can join for a fun story time. Call 702-346-5224.

Ozzy Osbourne Tribute Show - Crazy Train: 8 p.m., Virgin River Events Center, 100 E. Pioneer Blvd. The ultimate Ozzie Osbourne touring show. Must be 21 or older. Tickets from \$41.90 to \$53.30 includes fees. Purchase tickets at virginriver.playmesquite.com

Rat Pack Tribute: Eureka Casino Resort ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd. Experience the glamour of 1960s Vegas with the Rat Pack Tribute Show. 21 and older. Tickets \$35. Visit eurekaemesquite.com.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Fused Glass Bunny Workshop: 1-4 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Participants must have taken the beginner class or have prior experience. \$75. 702-346-1338.

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

Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Performing is "Dealt a Straight." Call 702-346-5224.

Oscars Watch Party: 3:30 p.m.,

Eureka Casino Resort ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd. Dress to impress and make it a night to remember. Free event. Seating is limited. Reserve your seats by visiting eurekaemesquite.com.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

Travel Workshop: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Start planning your next trip. 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

3D Adult Print Class: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learn about 3D printing. 702-346-5224.

Adventure 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.

AARP Driver's Safety Course: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Mesquite Senior Center, 102 W. Old Mill Road. Classroom course. \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Bring your membership card and driver's license.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Trivia Night: 4:30-6 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Come out and show off your general trivia knowledge. 702-346-5224.

Business After Hours: 5-7 p.m. Eureka Casino Resort sports book lanai. Enjoy a free business gathering for Chamber of Commerce members to network and socialize. Call 702-346-2902 for details.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Virgin Valley Author Club: 10:30 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Local authors discuss their craft. 702-346-5224.

Artists Reception: 4-6 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Birch Trees. Awards ceremony and artist reception. 702-346-1338.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Stained Glass Drop In: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. \$10 per session. 702-346-1338.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Miss Luna Moss." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-996 4 or christinepicior@gmail.com

Candle Making Class: 6 p.m., Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd. Join in a hands-on candle making class where you'll blend custom scents and our your own candles in a keepsake jar. Must be 21. Tickets are \$45 per person. Visit eurekaemesquite.com.

Guys and Dolls: 7 p.m., Mes-

> See CALENDAR, Page 17

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Calendar

continued from Page 16

quite Community Theatre, 15 N. Yucca St., Performed by the Virgin Valley Theatre Group. Tickets \$15. Visit mctnv.com.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Intermediate Pottery Wheel Class: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. First of six classes. \$160. 702-346-1338.

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.

Donkey Jamboree: 11 a.m., Donkey History Museum, 355 W. Mesquite Blvd. Meet donkeys from the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue. Free admission. All ages.

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

Cricut Craft Club: 2-3:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Learning Resource Center. Join in for a fun project. All supplies provided. Registration required. 702-346-5224.

Guys and Dolls: 2 and 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 15 N. Yucca St., Performed by the Virgin Valley Theatre Group. Tickets \$15. Visit mctnv.com.

LEGO Challenge: 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Kids get

a theme and 30 minutes to build. Info: 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

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

Children's Sensory Movie: 1-4 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is TBD. Call 702-346-5224.

Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Performing is "Robin Mingo." Call 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Stained Glass Drop In: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. \$10 per session. 702-346-1338.

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

DIY Craft: 10:15 - 11:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Come out for a Do It Yourself project. Call 702-346-5224.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Create and Connect: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library. Free Makerspace program. Registration required. Free. Info: 702-346-5224.

Y.A. for A Book Club: 4:30-5:30 p.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.

Palette and Pour Party: 5-7:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Theme is "Just Hangin." Cost is \$35. Contact Christine Picior at 435-229-996 4 or christinepicior@gmail.com

Guys and Dolls: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 15 N. Yucca St., Performed by the Virgin Valley Theatre Group. Tickets \$15. Visit mctnv.com.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Logandale Trails Junior Ranger Day: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Logandale Trails picnic area. Fun family friendly activities. For details email KSorom@blm.gov or call 702-515-5076.

Dungeons & Dragons Club: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Space is limited. Sign up at customer service desk. Info: 702-346-5224.

Intro to Pyrography: noon-2 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Call for details. 702-346-1338.

Guys and Dolls: 2 and 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 15 N. Yucca St., Performed by the Virgin Valley Theatre Group. Tickets \$15. Visit mctnv.com.

Learn and Play: 3-3:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Families can join for a fun story time. Call 702-346-5224.

Kenny Metcalf - Tribute to Elton John: 8 p.m., CasaBlanca

Resort Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd. Metcalf has the voice and appearance of Elton John when he was young. Tickets \$35.36 to \$58.75, includes fees. 21 and older.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Performing is "Jim-Jam." Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Book Bingo: 2:30-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Play bingo, win books. Info: 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Stained Glass Drop In: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Open to students and experienced stained glass crafters. \$10 per session. 702-346-1338.

Book Swap Club: 1-2 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Bring a book to discuss with the group, then swap it so others can discover their next read. Info: 702-346-5224.

Mesquite Nevada Patriots: 2:30 p.m., Veteran's Center, 840 Hafan Lane. Guest speaker is TBD. Regular meeting first Tuesday of the month. Call 702-613-4660.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Mesquite to Moapa Democrats: 6 p.m., The Meeting Spot, 312 W. Mesquite Blvd., Suite 103. Guest speaker TBA. Officer elections will take place. Meeting also on Zoom. For more information, email mesquite2moapadems@gmail.com.

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PUZZLES

THEME: THE OSCARS

ACROSS

1. Traction aid
6. Freddy's street
9. Reach a high
13. Italian bowling
14. Entrepreneur Gary Vaynerchuk's alias, Gary _____
15. Jolly good one
16. Parallel grooves
17. Many, many moons
18. "Take it back!"
19. *"Song Sung Blue" Best Actress nominee
21. *Movie with most 2026 Oscar nominations
23. Make a seam
24. Vampire's tooth
25. Tai's partner
28. South American monkey
30. Naphthenic acid + palmitic acid
35. Pilot's stunt
37. Forbidden, to a baby
39. Vampire of Greek mythology
40. Italian wine region
41. Not Astroturf
43. Alpine lift
44. Sports figures, e.g.
46. Cantina pot
47. Email folder
48. Not vivid and bright
50. Nessie's abode
52. *Jamie Foxx won for his role in this 2004 biopic
53. Eagle's nest
55. Unreliable newspaper
57. *2026 nominated film with Stone and Plemons
61. *Chloë Zhao's nominee
64. Newton or Stern
65. Romanian money
67. Star-crossed one
69. To the point
70. a.k.a sodium hydroxide
71. Novelist Zola
72. Formerly, formerly
73. Aye-aye
74. "He _____ it like it is"

DOWN

1. Not NBC or ABC
2. Reluctant
3. Pantyhose hue
4. DNA and RNA, e.g.
5. Cups and saucers
6. 20-20, e.g.
7. *"One Battle After Another" Best Actor nominee
8. High IQ society
9. *#7's nominated co-star
10. "Anything _____?"
11. Wing-shaped
12. K to Romans, pl.
15. Like athlete's foot
20. Behind on rent, e.g.
22. Night spot
24. At last
25. Necklace fastener
26. Popular garden perennial
27. I to Greeks, pl.
29. *2026 nominated Benicio del _____
31. Benatar and Morita
32. Fly in _____, or a reminder of the past
33. Tarzan's swing rope
34. *Fictional table tennis champ
36. *Nominated "F1" star
38. Nobel Peace Prize capital
42. Sacrum, pl.
45. Communicating with spirits event
49. Hawaiian flower garland
51. *Inspiration for #61 Across
54. Pep gathering
56. Lawn ornament
57. Angler's hope
58. _____-friendly
59. Needlefish, pl.
60. Brewer's kiln
61. Color wheel elements
62. Like fairytale stepmothers?
63. Be a snitch
66. Payment for an eye
68. Hi-_____graphics

CROSSWORD

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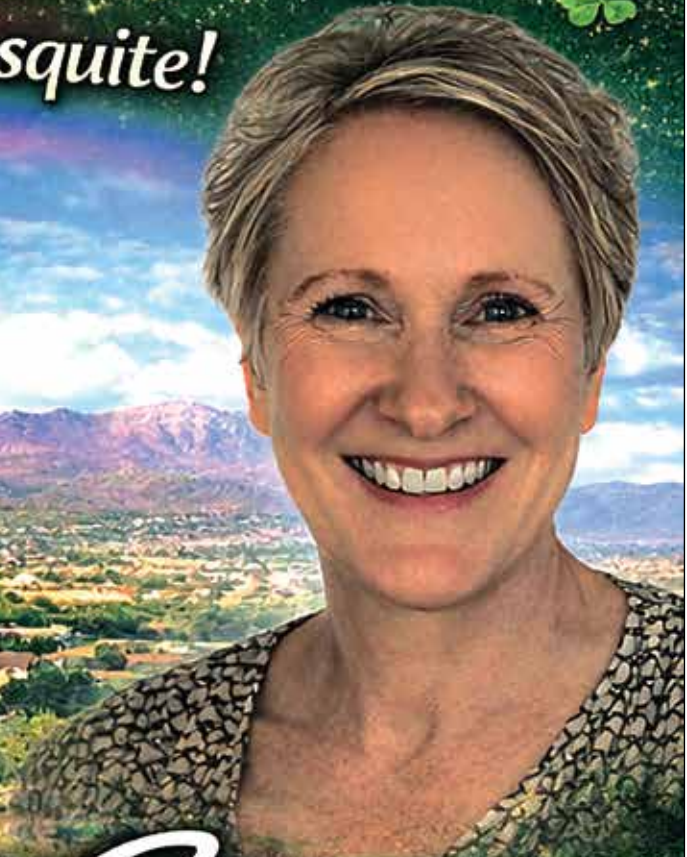
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L	L	A	F	E	L	L	A	V	E	C	E
P	E	A	K								

6	2	7	4	3	1	5	9	8
1	8	5	2	6	9	4	3	7
3	9	4	8	7	5	1	6	2
9	4	1	3	5	7	2	8	6
8	5	3	1	6	2	9	7	4
2	7	9	6	8	4	3	1	5
7	6	2	5	1	9	8	4	3
5	3	9	6	4	8	7	2	1
4	1	8	7	2	3	6	5	9

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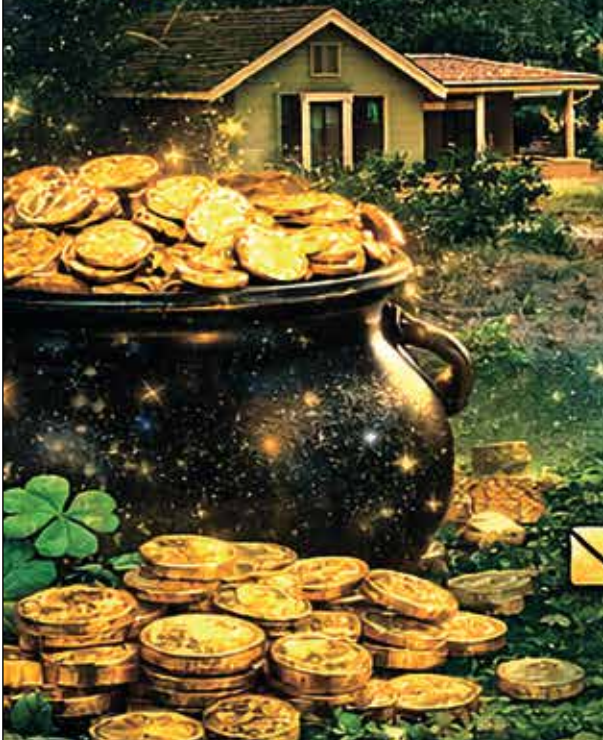
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