

The Comstock Chronicle

Vol. 39 • No. 3

Friday, January 16, 2026

\$1



Resident Artist Program in Silver City 2025 Year in Review

Article on page 8 • Guest Contributor: Quest Lakes

Dayton Community Stands with Kellen



Article via DHS Booster Club on page 2. Photo: GoFundMe

Joe Sbragia, aka Dayton Mayor, Laid to Rest in the Family Plot



Article by Laura Tennant on page 9. Photo credit: Julie Minor

THE Comstock Chronicle

Newspaper of Record for Storey County, Nevada

Interim Editor
Alexia Sober

editor@thecomstockchronicle.com

Advertising/Asst Editor
Steph Norby

advertising@thecomstockchronicle.com

News Reporters
Julia Moreno-Fritz
Jenna Goldberg
Luke Branson

Design Services
Terri DeLaRosby

Columnists
McAvoy Layne
Laura Tennant
Jeff Headley
Chris Pattison

Printer
Steve Crouch
R&S Optimum Offset

The views of the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Comstock Chronicle.

Copyright 2025. All rights reserved by The Comstock Chronicle and its contributors.

Advertising Sales
advertising@thecomstockchronicle.com

Dayton Valley Dispatch, LLC (ISSN 08969353) is published weekly on Fridays & owned by

The Comstock Foundation for History and Culture

Subscription Rates
One Year \$90

Digital subscriptions available
TheComstockChronicle.com

The Comstock Chronicle
P.O. Box 530
Virginia City, NV 89440

Letters to the Editor Policy

- Letters may be edited for length, spelling, grammar, and accuracy.
- The Comstock Chronicle will not publish letters determined to be libelous, plagiarized, or in poor taste.
- Anonymous letters are unacceptable, but anonymity may be requested.

Dayton Community Stands with Kellen

via DHS Booster Club

Jan. 6: Our hearts are with you Kellen Kranjcec. Kellen Kranjcec is a student at Dayton High School who recently collapsed and had to be resuscitated while practicing basketball at Dayton High School. He was careflighted to the hospital, and he is in good condition now, but will be flown to Stanford for further care. No family or community can ever prepare for something like this.

Kellen is a valued and cherished part of the Dayton High School family, and his parents are both dedicated members of the Lyon County School District. They have given so much to our students and our community. We stand strong with them and Kellen. In moments like this, we are reminded of the strength, compassion, and unity that defines Dayton.

As Kellen and his family navigate the days ahead, we stand beside them with hope, love, and unwavering support.



Kellen Kranjcec

If you would like to help, please consider donating or posting your well wishes. GoFundMe page: gofund.me/9e8085975

We are One Town. One Team.

Jan. 14: As of last night, Kellen's GoFundMe total is \$16,996.

To our understanding, Kellen is home and doing well. At this time, it is unclear when he and his parents will return to school, as this is a life-altering adjustment for the entire family. We are beyond proud of our leadership students for

taking the initiative to start the GoFundMe, and we are deeply grateful to the Dayton High School staff and first responders. Without their quick actions and care, the outcome could have been very different. We also recognize that this event was not only difficult for Kellen and his family, but also for the students and staff who were present that day. Moments like this cause all of us to pause and take inventory of our own lives. We strongly encourage anyone who may be struggling to reach out for support. The DHS Booster Club and Dayton High School have a list of resources available to help.

We are incredibly grateful to this community for its unwavering support and are truly honored to witness how compassionately and responsibly this school and community came together during such a difficult and frightening event.

FRAUD ALERT FOR STOREY COUNTY RESIDENTS!

Storey County Government Affairs

If someone calls asking for money and claims to be the Storey County Sheriff's Office or any other Storey County department, it is likely a scam.

Do not share personal or financial information over the phone.

If you have questions, call the Storey County Sheriff's Office directly at 775-847-0959.



VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED IN DAYTON, NV
775-230-7111 | NPCAUTONV.COM

**BUMPERS - SUSPENSION - TIRES & WHEELS
LED LIGHTING - WINDOW TINTING - RUNNING BOARDS
TONNEAU COVERS - PERFORMANCE PARTS - EXHAUST
INTERIOR ACCESSORIES - EXTERIOR ACCESSORIES
TRAILER SERVICE & REPAIR**

CORRECTION:

In our Jan. 2 and Jan. 9 editions, reporter Luke Branson was mistakenly identified as Luke Bryan. We regret this error.

By the Numbers

PINE NUTS

By McAvoy Layne
The Ghost of Mark Twain



I've never liked numbers, probably because they remind me of how random my life has been. As an example, by the time I was thirty I had attended three different colleges and held thirty different jobs. By the time I was seventy I had been married five times, and coincidentally they all had the same first name...Plaintiff.

As a morning radio announcer on Maui I was invited to occasional one-year-old birthday parties, and at one of those parties I delivered a particularly long-winded celebratory speech before asking, "So where is our birthday boy?!" Whereupon a toothless octogenarian walked up to me, gave me a hug, and accepted my gift of diapers. I was at the wrong party, and not the first time either...

In my twenty years in radio I wrote and produced over one thousand commercials, most of them bad. I remember the owner of the first Mexican restaurant on Maui coming to me with his concern, "I'm worried the locals might wrongly assume that our food is too spicy." I assured the gentleman I would assuage that fear, and I did, with one fateful line, "Our food is not too hot!" They were out of business in a week, and my advertising agency, "McAvoy Layne and Associates" was right behind them. (We never had



any associates.)

In my 1,000 cruises into Emerald Bay on the Tahoe Queen and the Dixie, there was one I would like to forget. I wasn't actually onboard when it happened, but the crew could not wait to tell me all about it...

I used to keep a can of Frosty White Hair Spray up in the wheelhouse in case I had another engagement as Mark Twain

when I disembarked. We used to marry people on those paddle-wheelers, usually on a Saturday, my day off. Well on this particularly windy Saturday the bride to be went up into the wheelhouse to make last minute adjustments and happened to spy, "Hair Spray" but failed to read the fine print, "Frosty White." So she grabbed that fateful can, closed her eyes, and battened down the hatches.

Well, there were no mirrors up there in the wheelhouse, so having no idea what she had done, out she went. The crew told me they had to stuff napkins in their mouths to keep the laughter down, for the groom thought she turned into her mother up there in the wheelhouse. Furthermore, the crew took great delight in advising me, "And she's looking for YOU!"

So you see why I don't like numbers? In a thousand cruises into Emerald Bay, the one where the bride turned into her mother is the one I remember most, and I wasn't even onboard when it happened. No, I'm done with numbers. Did I ever tell you about the time Loni Anderson came up to me on the poop deck and...oh but I see I'm running out of space...another time.

Nail-biter in Nixon

By Luke Branson

The VCHS Muckers won a close game against rival Pyramid Lake Lakers on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

"Pyramid Lake is a very fun basketball environment," said Head Coach Clint Hess. "Both teams' fans are very into the game and involved, which makes it tough on the kids to an extent, and sometimes it bothers us, but the last few years it has not, and we've been able to come out of there with wins."

It was a close game throughout, and the Muckers went into halftime with a six-point deficit.

The boys rallied together and had an impressive 27-point third quarter, giving themselves a chance to secure the win.

"We battled - we never gave up," said Hess. "We were down for 90% of the game; we were losing, but we stayed close enough to make a run in the final minutes and close it out."

After a hard-fought, physical fourth quarter, the Muckers captured their second league win of the season with a final score of 65-61.

Looking ahead to the long-awaited matchup against Smith Valley, Hess says the game was, "a great energy and confidence boost".

Top performers of the night were Luke Branson and Derek McCoy, who finished with a

combined 45 points, and Layton Huxhold with 15 points.

The whole team played hard, too.

"Our younger kids stepped up when they needed to," said Hess. "We had three freshmen on the court at one point. That was very good to see."

As for the girls' game, they had a tough matchup against the three-time defending state champion Lady Lakers.



King's Corner

By Jeff Headley

Anger is one of the first things we ever do well. The moment we're born, we announce our displeasure loudly—at the lights, the cold air, and the general surprise of being here at all. It's not subtle. It's not polite. But it is honest.

That first protest is, in its own way, an expression of anger. And while we like to think we outgrow it, the truth is we mostly just learn better places to use it. The anger that begins in us at birth tends to stick around, popping up in traffic, at kitchen tables, and in conversations that were supposed to be calm.

Every person knows what it feels like to be angry, whether it's righteous fury or the quiet irritation of discovering someone finished the coffee and put the empty pot back on the burner like that solved the problem. What we don't always realize is how much anger affects our bodies, our minds, and our souls—and occasionally anyone within arm's reach.

Why do we become angry? The sources are many: frustration, injustice, personal offense, or even small inconveniences that arrive on the wrong day at the wrong time. A red light when you're late. A comment that lands wrong. A tone of voice that presses just the right button and then leans on it. Often, anger grows out of unmet expectations or a sense of helplessness. We feel we've been wronged, and that feeling demands a response. Left unchecked, though, anger can slide into resentment, bitterness, or words we immediately begin trying to edit in our heads.

Still, anger itself isn't the villain. It's a natural human response, and sometimes a useful one. Righteous anger has fueled reforms, movements, and long-overdue changes. Anger at

injustice has pushed people to speak up when silence would have been easier. But uncontrolled anger—especially when it's driven by pride or personal grievance—rarely produces anything worth saving.

Managing anger starts with understanding it. When we recognize our triggers, we gain the chance to pause instead of react. A deep breath, a step away, or a moment of silence can prevent words and actions we'll wish we could retrieve later. Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is not say the thing that just came to mind.

I once had a "spirited discussion" with my father, Mark King. I'd told him about something I'd experienced, and he said he didn't believe it.

"Are you calling me a liar?" I asked, my voice gaining volume and urgency—because nothing calms a conversation like raising your voice.

He looked at me and said gently, "Oooh, look! The hairs on the back of your neck are standing straight up. And the red ones are even higher!"

There was no coming back from that. I laughed, and my indignation collapsed on the spot. Humor has a remarkable way of sneaking past our defenses and turning on the lights.

Laughter and forgiveness play a powerful role in dealing with anger. Holding onto it is like carrying a heavy load—it wears out the person carrying it far more than the one it's aimed at. Forgiveness doesn't mean pretending nothing happened or excusing bad behavior; it means deciding anger doesn't get to run the household.

Across cultures and generations, spiritual and philosophical traditions warn against unchecked



anger and praise patience and restraint. Choosing understanding over wrath isn't weakness. It's strength with a sense of proportion.

The Bible says it's fine to be angry but warns, "In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry." Anger, when expressed honestly, is meant for the moment. But anger that's bottled up simmers. It boils. We're a lot like tea kettles that way. The fire underneath us is inevitable. If the spout gets clogged, eventually the kettle explodes. But if the steam is released properly, the kettle sings—and singing, while sometimes noisy, is far preferable to cleaning up a mess.

When my dad was quite young, he and his mother were living on the second story of a large, old apartment building. Their kitchen had a wood stove. Once, while she was outside, he opened the stove, and the cold ashes spilled all over the floor and onto the laundry she'd just washed. Hearing her coming back in, he ran and locked himself into the bathroom. She demanded he come out but,

knowing what awaited, he rattled the key and said it wouldn't unlock. That he was stuck. Eventually she went away from the door and all became quiet.

After a while he could hear quite a noise outside. He stood on the toilet, looked out the small window, and saw a crowd around a fire truck that was extending its ladder. He could see his mom standing in the gathering. Curious, he unlocked the bathroom door and went downstairs. He stood next to her for a few minutes but she didn't notice.

Finally, as the ladder extended upwards, he asked her, "What are they doing?"

She looked straight at him and replied, "They're trying to rescue you!"

What happened next I think we could call righteous anger.

Jeff Headley is pastor of the Dayton Valley Community Church, and a storyteller who blends humor, honesty, and hope. His weekly column reflects on resilience, grace, and the surprising ways faith shows up in ordinary life.

Sunday, Jan. 18 • 10:00am

"Follow The Leader" • Jeff Headley



**Dayton Valley Community
Church of the Nazarene**

407 V&T Way - Dayton, NV - (775) 241-7167 - dvccn.com

From Dayton Dust to the Governor's Desk

By Chris Pattison - Proprietor of The Odeon, Dayton



Governor Charles H. Russell

Not everyone buried in the Dayton Cemetery started out famous, but one of them sure ended up that way.

Meet Charles H. Russell, born in 1903, who grew up surrounded by the same sagebrush and stubborn wind that still define our Nevada home. Like many Dayton kids, he started small, no silver spoon, just grit, education, and that classic Nevada determination.

After teaching in mining towns and working his way through the ranks, Charles eventually found himself in Carson City... but not as a miner, or a rancher, as Nevada's 20th Governor.

From 1951 to 1959, Governor Russell led the Silver State through a time of growth and modernization. He was known for his calm

leadership, integrity, and ability to bridge the old Nevada, ranches, mills, and mining, with the new Nevada of highways, schools, and opportunity.

And when all was said and done?

He came home.

After his years in office, Russell returned to the place that shaped him, Dayton, where he was laid to rest among the pioneers and dreamers who came before him.

So next time you walk past the old cemetery or glance toward Carson City's dome glinting in the distance, remember: one of our own once sat behind that desk, proof that even from a small town like Dayton, you can help shape the future of an entire state.

VCHS Receives Donation for Auto Shop Program

Submitted by Comstock Aerie 523 Fraternal Order of Eagles



Storey County School District Director of Business Services Kristen Chandler and HR Specialist Tom Thompson holding the initial Aerie 523 donation check. Photo credit: Aerie 523

The Storey County School District has restarted a very successful high school auto shop program that is very skillfully organized and taught by Casey Hudson. Aerie 523 has made

an initial \$250 donation to help purchase welding consumables such as MIG wire and welding gas - Aerie 523 is planning long-term support for the auto shop program.



If you need something gone, we can make it go away.

- WHOLE STRUCTURE DEMOLITION
- WHOLE HOUSE & ESTATE CLEANOUTS
- GARAGE, SHED & STORAGE UNIT CLEANOUTS
- INTERIOR JUNK REMOVAL
- PROPERTY CLEANUPS

CarsonDemo-llc.com

CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE!

(775) 800-9090

Licensed and Insured

Your locally owned and operated, licensed A-13 Demolition Contractor #94790

The **ODEON**
the-odeon.com



Stop in for a drink or two and say hello!

It's always a party at The Odeon

RENTAL OPTIONS:

- **Basic Upstairs Rental - \$800**
Enjoy private access to our upstairs event space and restrooms. Great for casual events, meetings, or DIY gatherings
- **Upstairs + Bar Staff - \$1,000**
Everything in the Basic Rental plus professional bartenders to serve your guests from our upstairs bar (beer, wine, and canned cocktails available).

* Prices include table and chairs set-up and clean up

ADD-ON OPTIONS:

- Bartender (each additional): \$150

Call us for more details!

THE ODEON • 65 PIKE ST., DAYTON • (775) 882-4692

SPONSORED CONTENT

Restoring the Land That Built a Legacy



Part 3 of the the Comstock Chronicle Series: “From Gold to Green—The Evolution of the Comstock”

Part 3 of this series will run for 4 weeks.

By Rob Dyer, Comstock Inc.

Drive down the winding road from Virginia City to Gold Hill on a cool morning, and it’s easy to imagine the ghosts of the Comstock’s past: ore wagons rumbling, the clang of steel on stone, the distant hum of hoists pulling wealth from the depths of the mountain. But look closer today, and you’ll see something new: green slopes where tailings once lay, creeks running clearer than they have in generations, and signs of life returning to ground that once bore the weight of the West’s first great mining boom.

This is the modern face of the Comstock, a landscape being restored, not exploited.

And much of that work has come from the long-term reclamation and remediation efforts led by Comstock Mining, a proud subsidiary of Comstock Inc. (NYSE: LODE).

When Comstock Mining began its operations in the 2000s, the company inherited more than a mining district; it inherited a responsibility. The land along Gold Canyon and American Flat carried the legacy of more than a century of mining, with its benefits and its scars alike. Mercury residues, unstable tailings, and erosion had accumulated over decades, long after the original bonanza had ended.

Rather than turning away from that legacy, Comstock Mining turned toward it. The company invested heavily in



Four mule deer stand alert on the slopes of American Flat, where wildlife continues to thrive among the region’s rugged terrain. Photo Credit: Rob Dyer

reclamation, removing legacy tailings, regrading historic mine sites, and reseeding native vegetation across thousands of acres. They improved drainage systems to prevent sediment runoff, restored water channels to healthier flow patterns, and helped stabilize the steep terrain that once fueled both fortunes and floods.

It’s a story that many longtime residents have witnessed firsthand. Hills that once looked barren now show hints of sage and rabbitbrush. Runoff that once carried heavy metals now moves clean through restored channels. Wildlife, too, is returning: hawks circling above American Flat, wild horses grazing the shoulders of old mining roads, even the occasional coyote trotting

through a patch of reclaimed ground.

This is more than environmental restoration; it’s cultural restoration. Each project honors the ground that built Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City, ensuring that the Comstock’s future is as valuable as its past. The land that once yielded gold and silver now yields something just as important: stability, safety, and stewardship.

For Comstock Mining and its parent company, Comstock Inc., reclamation isn’t an afterthought; it’s the foundation. The same mindset that drives today’s recycling and decarbonization technologies across the Comstock family of companies began right here,

with the commitment to restore what was once taken. It’s a philosophy that ties together the company’s entire mission: extracting value without leaving harm behind.

Perhaps the greatest sign of progress isn’t what you see, but what you don’t. The dusty plumes of the old days are gone. The roar of unchecked runoff after summer storms has quieted. In their place stands a more resilient landscape, proof that Nevada’s most historic mining region can also lead in responsible land management and sustainability.

In the end, restoration on the Comstock isn’t about erasing history; it’s about extending it. Every reclaimed acre, every reseeded slope, every cleared streambed adds another line to a legacy that began more than 160 years ago.

Because the Comstock story has never been defined solely by its minerals, but by the pride of those who worked this land and the responsibility of those who continue to care for it today.

**Next Month — Part 4:
“Mining the Future: How Innovation is Redefining the Comstock”**

How new technology, data, and environmental design are transforming mining into one of Nevada’s cleanest and most forward-looking industries.

LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA
NOTICE OF JOINT APPLICATION AND
NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026
10:30 a.m.
Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 East William Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE TO
Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Parties will appear and otherwise participate in the prehearing conference either in person or remotely. Members of the public can access the prehearing conference at the time noticed herein either in person or via the Commission's live stream link on its website at <https://puc.nv.gov>.

Participants may appear and otherwise participate in the prehearing conference remotely via Microsoft Teams. Participants should provide the email addresses for each member of their organization who intends to participate via Microsoft Teams to Commission Administrative Attorney James Newcomb at jnewcomb@puc.nv.gov no later than TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to formulate and simplify issues involved in this proceeding and set a hearing and procedural schedule. At the prehearing conference, the Commission may take any action authorized by NAC 703.655.

The Commission is not responsible for providing clerical or administrative assistance or materials to parties during Commission proceedings. If such assistance is necessary, parties must make other arrangements for this type of assistance.

The joint application is available for public viewing at the Commission's website: <https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the offices of the Commission: 1150 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148.

A person must request in writing to be placed on the service list for this proceeding to receive any further notices in this matter.

By the Commission,
TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada
1/5/26

Publication date: 1/16/2026

On December 31, 2025, Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("NPC") and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("SPPC" and collectively with NPC "NV Energy") filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") a joint application, designated as Docket No. 25-12027, for approval of their Undergrounding Management Plan ("Plan") for 2026-2028.

This notice serves only to notify the public that the Commission has received the above-referenced filing. It is the responsibility of interested persons to review the filing and monitor the proceedings to determine their desired levels of involvement based on how this matter may affect their unique situations. The details provided within this notice are for informational purposes only and are not meant to be an all-inclusive overview of the filing. The Commission may consider and adopt alternative proposals not contained within the filing but which are related to the subject matter of the filing and supported by substantial evidence.

NV Energy filed the joint application pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"), Chapters 703 and 704, including, but not limited to, NAC 703.535.

NV Energy states that the joint application sets forth NV Energy's proposal to continue the existing Plan, established in Docket Nos. 22-08018 and 18-05027, which includes a process by which NV Energy addresses requests by local governments that the companies underground certain existing overhead distribution facilities whose relocation is not governed by an existing local ordinance or franchise agreement. Specifically, NV Energy states that the Plan continues the framework approved in the prior dockets wherein it set out an eligibility criteria, a transparent funding-allocation methodology, and a 50/50 cost-sharing construct between the utility and local government. The Plan allocates up to \$15 million by NPC and up to \$5 million by SPPC for investment over the period 2026 to 2028 in underground projects.

Interested and affected persons may file petitions for leave to intervene pursuant to NAC 703.578 through 703.600 electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the Commission's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026, at 12:00 P.M.

A person who wishes to participate as a commenter may file written comments pursuant to NAC 703.491. A commenter is not a party of record and shall not take any action that only a party of record may take. Pursuant to NAC 703.500, only parties of record are entitled to enter an appearance, introduce relevant evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, make arguments, make and argue motions and generally participate in the proceeding.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to NAC 703.655, the Commission has scheduled a PREHEARING CONFERENCE in this docket to be held as follows:

Resident Artist Program in Silver City

2025 Year in Review

Guest Contributor: *Quest Lakes*

At the beginning of the new year, the Resident Artist Program in Silver City would like to express sincere gratitude for the many gifts artists shared during 2025.

In September, the duo Kantu Inka gifted a free, public concert featuring the folkloric music of the Andes, co-hosted by the Resident Artist Program and the Silver City Preservation Society. The audience members at the Silver City Schoolhouse responded enthusiastically to the beautiful music, clapping with the beat and tapping their toes. An Andean musician and composer, Carlos Ocampo of Kantu Inka is proficient on zampoña, quena, bombo, charango, and guitar. Julie Lozada Ocampo is a national board certified Spanish teacher who plays zampoña and percussion for Kantu Inka. Since 2003, Kantu Inka has been teaching culture through music with an emphasis on the Andes and Perú. They have shared their music with thousands of students in K-12 schools, and at universities, libraries and dozens of other venues.

Sandy Imperatori's plein air painting group came to Silver City again, a treat they've given the community several times over the last decade. This year, their annual retreat at nearby St. Mary's Art Center in Virginia City included artists and photographers from Mexico, Maine, California, Delaware, Washington, Illinois and Nevada. It was our pleasure to welcome them to Silver City and to see them with their easels and cameras, capturing scenes of the town's landscape and historic homes. Sandy is an award-winning California artist who was the owner of the fine art gallery The Artworks, and a former Senior Art Director

of award winning publications including Kansas City Magazine and Touring Times Magazine.

Multi-talented artist and writer Scott MacLeod, who has relocated from the Bay Area to Austin, Texas, came to Nevada again this year. In October Scott gave an illustrated talk at the Silver City Schoolhouse about his recently completed, 240-page catalog documenting decades of his creative activities in the U.S. and Europe. The catalog, titled "Serious Projects", includes color photos of artwork he created and gifted to the community and/or Program during his 2016 residency with us. Scott donated copies to the local library, the Resident Artist Program, and St. Mary's Art Center, and later generously shared it online as a free ebook. He also donated copies of his many other new publications to the Program (we might now have a complete collection of Scott's books of fiction, nonfiction and poetry)!

We had a very welcome visit to the Program's off-grid cabin from David Lee and Jan Lee this fall. Now splitting their time between Spain and their home in Oregon, the couple were on their way back from the annual Cliff Notes Writing Conference in Utah, where Dave and his son, Jon Lee, were among the conference presenters. David Lee, Utah's first and longest serving Poet Laureate and professor emeritus at Southern Utah University, dedicated his 2019 collection of poems,

Mine Tailings, to the community of Silver City. He has given free, public readings of his poetry at the Silver City Schoolhouse many times since his first residency in 2016.

In other good news, this year the Program gratefully received the loan of "Lady in the Bath", an artwork by Tamara Burnet and Fred Swanson. "Soapy", as she's affectionately known, is now installed near the Program's off-grid cabin.

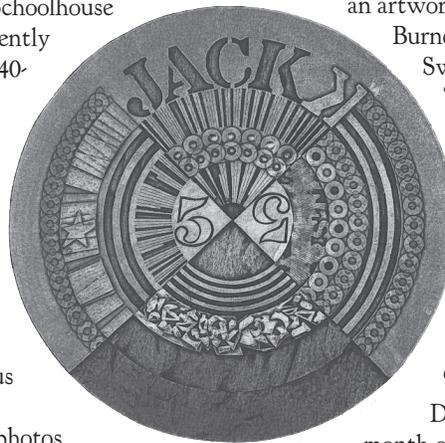
During the month of October, a tribute exhibition dedicated to the memories of Nevada artists Galen Brown and Jim McCormick was on view at Sierra Arts Foundation's gallery in Reno (the housing for our visiting artists, McCormick House, was designed by artist and UNR professor Jim McCormick in 1972).

The show, titled "Layers of Re-iteration", was brilliantly curated by Candace Garlock and Frances Melhop. It included art by Galen Brown and Jim McCormick, alongside art by members of the Printmakers' Conspiracy group. Nine outstanding Nevada artists - Anne Hoff, Bobbie Ann Howell, Candace Garlock, Carole-Ann Ricketts, Carol Brown, Frances Melhop, Lynn Schmidt, Nolan Preece and Rachel Stiff - created "their own pieces, inspired by their memories of these two influential figures." In addition to a gorgeous catalog for the exhibition, Frances Melhop has created a hardcover book to complement the show. The show

was a priceless gift to the friends, family and fans of Galen Brown and Jim McCormick.

What is the Resident Artist Program?

The Program includes a unique house (McCormick House) where award-winning visual artists, writers and musicians from around the world have stayed, and an off-grid cabin where visiting artists can read, write or simply take in the mountain views. McCormick House, designed in 1972 by UNR art professor Jim McCormick, is surrounded by several acres of privately owned land with hiking paths that follow naturally occurring wildlife corridors. Visiting artists stay for up to several months in exchange for offering free public performances, exhibitions, workshops, poetry readings, etc. in Silver City, a historic Comstock town, and other communities in the Northern Nevada region. The Program was featured by Nevada First Lady Kathy Sisolak in her statewide program called "The First Lady Presents...", and was selected for inclusion in the "First Lady Presents" inaugural exhibition at the Nevada Governor's Mansion in 2021. Program director Quest Lakes' essay and photos about the Program were published in Nevada Humanities' Heart to Heart series, and included in Nevada Humanities' Heart to Heart exhibition in Las Vegas. In 2022 the Program organized and co-hosted Silver City's first poetry festival, featuring then Nevada poet laureate Gailmarie Pahmeier, Utah's first and longest serving poet laureate David Lee, and Virginia City poet Shaun Griffin, who is currently Nevada's poet laureate. The Resident Artist Program in Silver City was co-founded by Theo McCormick and Quest Lakes in 2015.



Joe Sbragia, aka Dayton Mayor, Laid to Rest in the Family Plot at Dayton's Historical Cemetery

By *Laura Tennant*

As many Dayton people know, one of our most revered Dayton, Nevada Italian natives, Joe Sbragia, passed on during heart surgery at Stanford on Nov. 1, 2025. Word of Joe's untimely death spread fast; Stony and I got word from Danny Howard, another Dayton native who lives in Maui. Joe's death was nothing but shocking since we had recently seen him at a Sutro Tunnel event and luckily had a photo taken with him.

Joe was laid to rest on Monday, Dec. 1, at the Sbragia family plot at the Dayton Cemetery with more than 50 long-time friends gathered to bid him a final farewell. After this heart-felt ceremony and a variety of fun memories of this man, who was considered "the Mayor of Dayton," the man who stood up for this town at Lyon County meetings affecting his hometown of Dayton, the memories of Joey, continued to flow! And Dayton history of his time and era filled the air when Dayton's old-timers, who grew up with Joey, shook hands, hugged and told stories of Dayton when it was still a small town and often lamented about how the area has changed way too much.

And while I am at it, this is a good time to go way back in time to when the Sbragia's first arrived in Dayton. I have known the Sbragia's as long as I can remember, I was lucky enough to document their history for a historical series that the Mason Valley News was publishing in 1996 called "Lyon County Reflections" and the article contains wonderful old-time family photos.

"The Baroni's and Sbragia's: Fulfilling the American Dream"

Unfortunately, the three large pages of the Italian families' history, along with old black and white photos in the Reflections' article, is too long to publish here, but if anyone wants a copy, it will be available at the Dayton Museum.

Joey's parents were Albert and Alda (Baroni) Sbragia. It was 1955 when I met Alda Baroni Sbragia, Joey's mother, when she was a new immigrant to America and lived on the family ranch on the Carson River around two miles east of the Dayton Bridge. Dayton Valley Road did not exist, so the ranchers on the river used the bumpy dirt road that today is Quilici Road to get to and from their ranches. Lifestyles were different then. They had to drive on the old road to get to the bridge and cross the river



Joey Sbragia near his work site where he kept his backhoe.

Photo credit: Julie Minor

to Dayton and beyond.

Minnie Heidenreich was driving her green 1952 Ford car and we were bouncing along on the roadway and stopped next to a cream-colored farmhouse surrounded by cottonwood trees. Minnie mentioned that she wanted to see how Alda was doing and in a few minutes, Alda and her eldest daughter Alberta opened the screen door and walked outside to the car. Alda began speaking with her lovely brown eyes flashing and her hands telling a story to Minnie. I realized that Alda could not speak English and that seven-year old Alberta would translate.

Minnie and Alda chatted for a while with Alberta's help and it was just a neighbor to neighbor conversation and I loved it. This was life in Dayton then, basically simple despite the hardships. We could never understand today.

Some of Alda's relatives had settled on the ranch almost a Century before. Albert and Alda were married in 1948. By then, Dayton had become a melting pot, settled by people of different ethnic backgrounds. Many immigrants who came West on the 49er Trail were prospectors, but, before long, the valley, with a river running through it, was recognized as an potential oasis. The industrious immigrants brought the sagebrush land to life, tilling the soil to plant potatoes, beets, carrots and other row crops.

By the turn of the Century, 27 of 28 farms and ranches located east between Dayton and Weeks were owned by Italians and, one of

these first farms on the fertile Carson River belonged to Dante Baroni, who arrived around 1900. Dante and Giuseppe (Joseph) Sbragia were partners in the Baroni Ranch. Alda's husband Albert settled in Dayton after he served in the U.S. Army as a translator during World War II. After Albert settled in Dayton as a partner in the Baroni Ranch, he decided it was time to get married, so, he returned to Italy, courted and married Alda, and they returned to Dayton from Lucca, Italy. According to Alda, Lucca was a beautiful, clean city, and like many Italian women, Alda was disappointed and cried at the look of the Nevada State Capitol.

Later, during the interview for Lyon County Reflections when Alda was nearly 80 years old, she said: "We were married in Genoa in January 1948 and came over on a ship and I really just wanted to go home."

However, as much as she missed her family and homeland, she was always at Albert's side until his death in 1978; also, carefully mothering their three children, Alberta, Nancy and a son, "Joey," to all of us who knew him and watched him grow up. Meanwhile – being an entrepreneur and always keeping his eye on Dayton's surroundings – in 1955, Albert learned the Nevada Department of Transportation was moving the old U.S. Highway 50 that ran through Dayton to its present alignment. Albert sold his interest in the Baroni Ranch and bought property adjacent to the new highway. He built a new building and opened the Dayton Inn or the "DI" as we have always known it. The Dayton Inn opened as a bar, restaurant and gas station at the corner of U.S. 50 and Dayton Valley Road. It became a booming business with Albert in charge and Alda preparing scrumptious, original Italian food, while Joey served customers pumping gas and tending service station chores. This bar was the site of many local social functions, including several political battles and even a gun fight. Joey said: "We opened in 1956 – the roof was not even on – he was selling beer anyway." Like his Dad, Joey too never missed a beat when it came to business.

Also lucky for the DI, one of the hottest times in Dayton was the filming of the Misfits in 1960, and often, the scenes were shot on the highway in front of the Dayton Inn: "During

...Cont'd on page 14

Storey County Fire Protection District Seeks Public Input on 2026 Community Wildfire Plan

By Julia Moreno-Fritz

The Storey County Fire Protection District is developing a 2026 Community Wildfire Protection Plan aimed at reducing wildfire risk and improving preparedness across the county.

The plan, known as the Community Wildfire Protection Plan or CWPP, will identify areas at risk for wildland fire, recommend hazardous fuels reduction such as vegetation thinning, and help prioritize funding for wild-

fire mitigation projects. It will also include guidance for homeowners on reducing fire risk and incorporate community input on local values and priorities.

The Fire Protection District has contracted SWCA Environmental Consultants to develop the plan



in collaboration with municipal, state, Tribal, and federal land management agencies. A draft of the CWPP is expected to be available for public review in late spring 2026, with final adoption anticipated by summer 2026.

Residents are encouraged to

participate by completing an anonymous community survey and attending a public information session from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, at Piper's Opera House in Virginia City. Community input will help ensure the plan reflects local conditions and priorities.

See our website for the Wildfire Protection Plan details.

Update on Dec. 31, 2025, Death Investigation

Lyon County Sheriff's Office

On Jan. 6, 2026, the Lyon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) received a preliminary investigative briefing from the Carson City Sheriff's Office regarding the death of an arrestee that occurred on Dec. 31, 2025.

Notification of next of kin has been completed, and the decedent can now be publicly identified as Dean Allan Hendricks, a 75-year-old resident of Dayton, Nevada.

In late December 2025, the Lyon County Sheriff's Office received information indicating that Hendricks had previously been convicted of a sexual offense against a minor in Kitsap County, Washington, and had never registered as a convicted sex offender as required by law. Members of the LCSO Sex Offender Task Force contacted Kitsap County authorities and confirmed that Hendricks was convicted in 1982 of Indecent Liberties with a Minor, a charge analogous to Nevada Revised Statute 200.366(b) - Sexual Assault of a Child.

At approximately 2:15 p.m. on Dec. 31, 2025, members of the LCSO Sex Offender Task Force contacted Hendricks at his residence in Dayton. Hendricks confirmed his identity and acknowledged that he had never registered as a sex offender in Nevada. He was placed under arrest at 2:16 p.m. and handcuffed behind his back. The arresting deputy then escorted Hendricks inside his residence to collect his required medications before placing him in the rear seat of the patrol vehicle for transport. Transport



Dean Allan Hendricks

began at 2:31 p.m.

At approximately 2:53 p.m., the arresting deputy arrived at the Silver Springs Substation, located 21.5 miles from Hendricks' residence. The purpose of the stop was to change Hendricks' restraints from handcuffs worn behind the back to waist restraints for the remainder of the transport. Stopping at the Silver Springs Substation during transports is a common practice within the Lyon County Sheriff's Office due to the lengthy travel distances from Dayton and Fernley to the Lyon County Jail in Yerington.

Upon arrival at the substation, the deputy exited the vehicle and immediately opened the rear door to advise Hendricks of the plan to change his restraints. At that time, the deputy discovered Hendricks

was unresponsive and not breathing. The deputy immediately removed Hendricks from the vehicle, began lifesaving measures, and requested emergency medical assistance and additional backup within one minute of arriving at the substation.

Central Lyon County Fire Department personnel arrived on scene within approximately six minutes and took over lifesaving efforts. Despite these efforts, Hendricks was pronounced deceased at 3:23 p.m.

The arresting deputy was equipped with a body-worn camera, which was activated and recording throughout the entire contact with Hendricks, including the transport.

Preliminary investigative findings indicate no evidence of foul play, no violation of law, and no violation of Lyon County Sheriff's Office policy. An autopsy was conducted by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office; final results are pending.

Pursuant to the Regional Critical Incident Investigation Protocol, the Carson City Sheriff's Office is conducting the independent investigation into this incident. The investigation remains ongoing.

As additional information becomes available, updates will be released in a timely manner.

Jeffrey S. Miller
Central Commander
Lyon County Sheriff's Office

Fatal Traffic Accident on Mason Pass Road

Lyon County Sheriff's Office

YERINGTON, Nev. — On Jan. 9, 2026, at approximately 8:49 p.m., the Lyon County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a single-vehicle rollover on Mason Pass Road between Yerington and Smith Valley.

Deputies, along with personnel from the Yerington/Mason Valley Fire Department, arrived

on scene and located a vehicle with four occupants, three of whom were juveniles. First responders initiated life-saving measures on one individual and provided medical assistance to the remaining occupants.



An 18-year-old male was pronounced deceased at the scene despite resuscitation efforts. A second occupant was transported by medical helicopter to Renown Medical Center for advanced treatment. The two remaining occupants were taken to South Lyon Med-

ical Center for additional care.

The Lyon County Sheriff's Office is conducting the investigation. No further information is available at this time, and updates will be provided as the investigation progresses.

Commander Ryan Powell
Southern Area Commander
Lyon County Sheriff's Office

Lyon County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit Seize Drugs, Firearms in Fernley Operation

Lyon County Sheriff's Office

Fernley, NV – The Lyon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Special Investigations Unit served search warrant on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026, as part of an ongoing narcotics and firearms investigation in the Fernley area.

The investigation began earlier this month and resulted in the issuance of a residential search warrant through the Justice Court of Canal Township. On Jan. 8, 2026, investigators executed the warrant at a residence located in the 1100 block of Wild Cherry Drive in Fernley.

Prior to the execution of the search warrant, LCSO deputies conducted a traffic stop involving the primary resident of the home. During the stop, Lyon County Sheriff's Office K9 Blady was deployed and conducted a free-air sniff of the vehicle and provided a positive alert for the odor of narcotics.

During the subsequent search of the residence and property, investigators located suspected controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, and multiple firearms. Among the items



Jacob Allen Hetzler

seized were suspected methamphetamine, concentrated cannabis products, psilocybin mushrooms, and evidence of drug use and distribution. Investigators also located firearms and firearm components, including items believed to be unlawfully possessed under Nevada law.

During the search, investigators seized multiple firearms and firearm parts, as well as controlled substances and drug paraphernalia. As a result of the investigation, 39-year-old Jacob Allen Hetzler was arrested and booked into the Lyon County Jail on multiple felony charges, including possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), possession of a controlled substance (psilocybin mushrooms), possession of

concentrated cannabis, manufacture or possession of a silencer, altering or obliterating the serial number on a firearm, and unlawful possession, purchase, transport, or receipt of an unfinished firearm frame or receiver.

Hetzler's total bail has been set at \$31,140.00.

The investigation remains ongoing, and additional charges

may be forthcoming pending further analysis and review.

Anyone with additional information related to this investigation is encouraged to contact the Lyon County Sheriff's Office or submit information anonymously through Secret Witness.

Jeffrey S. Miller
Central Commander
Lyon County Sheriff's Office



Visit
www.thecomstockchronicle.com
for the January 2026 Lyon County
Senior Center Menus

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

LEGALS

APPLICATION FOR WATER NO. 94820

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 17th day of November 2025 Hiatt Land & Development Co. Ltd., a Nevada limited liability company, formed 9/2/1997 of Fallon, Nevada made application to the State Engineer of Nevada for permission to change the point of diversion and place of use of 0.066 c.f.s., 47 a.f.a., a portion of water heretofore appropriated under Permit 77614. Water will be diverted from an underground source at a point located within the SE1/4 SW1/4 of Section 36, T20N, R22E, MDB&M, or at a point from which the SE corner of said Section 36 bears S 70 degrees 15 minutes 16 seconds E, a distance of 3,229.74 feet (approx. 1.3 miles SE of the intersection of US Hwy 80 and State Route 439, McCarran, NV). Water will be used for quasi-municipal purposes from January 1st to December 31st of each year. The existing point of diversion was located within the NW1/4 NW1/4 of Section 15, T19N, R21E, MDB&M, or at a point from which the W1/4 corner of said Section 15 bears S 32 degrees 57 minutes 49 seconds W, a distance of 1,575.29 feet. Water was used for quasi-municipal purposes from January 1st to December 31st of each year.

Chris Thorson, P.E.
Acting State Engineer
CT/mh

Date of first publication: 12/26/2025
Date of last publication: 1/16/2026

APPLICATION FOR WATER NO. 94821

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 17th day of November 2025 Hiatt Land & Development Co. Ltd., a Nevada limited liability company, formed 9/2/1997 of Fallon, Nevada made application to the State Engineer of Nevada for permission to change the point of diversion and place of use of 0.008 c.f.s., 6 a.f.a., of water heretofore appropriated under Permit 87298. Water will be diverted from an underground source at a point located within the SE1/4 SW1/4 of Section 36, T20N, R22E, MDB&M, or at a point from which the SE corner of said Section 36 bears S 70 degrees 15 minutes 16 seconds E, a distance of 3,229.74 feet (approx. 1.3 miles SE of the intersection of US Hwy 80 and SR439, Storey County, NV). Water will be used for quasi-municipal purposes from January 1st to December 31st of each year. The existing point of diversion was located within the NW1/4 NW1/4 of Section 15, T19N, R21E, MDB&M, or at a point from which the W1/4 corner of said Section 15 bears S 32 degrees 57 minutes 49 seconds W, a distance of 1,575.29 feet. Water was used for quasi-municipal purposes from January 1st to December 31st of each year.

Chris Thorson, P.E.
Acting State Engineer
CT/mh

Date of first publication: 1/2/2026
Date of last publication: 1/23/2026

**NOTICE OF PASSAGE
BILL 147 ORDINANCE 25-335**

TITLE: An ordinance amending Storey County Code Chapter 6.04 Dogs, to reduce licensing fees, update policies and procedures to reflect current standards and more humane practices and encourage increased public compliance with dog licensing requirements.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bill 147 Ordinance 25-335 was adopted and passed on January 6, 2026, during the Storey County Commissioners Meeting, at the Storey County Courthouse, Virginia City, Nevada.

VOTE:
AYE: Chairman Jay Carmona
AYE: Vice-Chairman Clay Mitchell
AYE: Commissioner Gilman

A copy of Bill 147 Ordinance 25-335 has been filed with the Storey County Clerk located in the Storey County Courthouse, Virginia City, Nevada, and is available for inspection by all interested parties.

ATTEST:
Jim Hindle
Storey County Clerk

Jay Carmona
Chairman of the Board
Storey County Commission
Publication dates: 1/9/2026, and 1/16/2026

APPLICATION FOR WATER NO. 94830

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 17th day of November 2025 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Nixon, Nevada made application to the State Engineer of Nevada for permission to change the place and manner of use of 3.87 a.f.a., a portion of water heretofore appropriated under Claim 3 of the Truckee River Orr Ditch Decree. Water will be diverted from the Truckee River at a point of non-diversion located within Derby Dam being within the N1/2 SW1/4 of Section 19, T20N, R23E, MDB&M. Water will be used for wildlife purposes (cui-ui and Lahontan cutthroat trout) as decreed. Water was used as decreed.

Chris Thorson, P.E.
Acting State Engineer
CT/mh

Date of first publication: 1/16/2026
Date of last publication: 2/6/2026

**ENTERTAINMENT
CALENDAR**

Visit our website for the updated Entertainment Calendar! www.thecomstockchronicle.com

LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Storey County Public Works, as Owner, invites and will receive proposals (bids), including any and all addenda, for the Virginia City Fairgrounds Improvements project via electronic submission to DOWL's PlanetBids portal: <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/48213/portal-home>.

Bids will be accepted up to 10:00 AM on Friday, February 6th, 2026. Bid results will be made available on PlanetBids and by request.

The Project consists of Water distribution improvements including approximately 915 linear feet of 8-inch water distribution main (C900 PVC), 401 linear feet of 2-inch water service line (HDPE), 15 linear feet of 1-inch water service line (HDPE), one 6-inch fire hydrant assembly, one 2-inch backflow assembly, one 2-inch water meter assembly, one 8-inch flush valve, and a tie into the existing water main. The tie in will be completed by using an 8-inch hot tap and expander.

The Project includes the construction of 540 square feet of asphalt pavement for two ADA compliant parking stalls and 1189 square feet of portland cement concrete for an ADA compliant path to the Virginia City Fairgrounds. Accompanying the parking stall and path will be an installation of concrete steps meeting IBC and ADA requirements.

The Project also includes the addition of a new NV Energy service connection with the addition of feeder wiring, power distribution panels, sub panels, servicing an entertainment stage, new food truck(s) with power connections using various receptacle combinations, and ancillary house power loads for toilets and minor facilities.

The Engineer's Opinion of Probable Construction Costs of the project is \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. The Public Works Project No. is ST-2024-431.

A pre-bid conference will not be held.

Documents may be examined, downloaded, and printed (at bidder's expense) online via the DOWL PlanetBids portal: <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/48213/portal-home>. For questions regarding this project, and for complete contract requirements, contact: Keith Karpstein, P.E, kkarpstein@dowl.com; 775-284-7898; DOWL; 5510 Longley Lane; Reno, Nevada 89511.

Publication date: 1/16/2026

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REVISE TARIFF

On December 31, 2025, Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Sierra") filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") an application under Advice Letter No. 688-E, designated as Docket No. 25-12030, to implement new tariff Net Metering Rider-Solar Powered Affordable Housing Systems Schedule No. NMR-SPAHS that allows for qualifying multi-family affordable housing properties to operate solar-powered affordable housing systems pursuant to section 36 of Assembly Bill 458 (2025).

This notice serves only to notify the public that the Commission has received the above-referenced filing. It is the responsibility of interested persons to review the filing and monitor the proceedings to determine their desired levels of involvement based on how this matter may affect their unique situations. The details provided within this notice are for informational purposes only and are not meant to be an all-inclusive overview of the filing. The Commission may consider and adopt alternative proposals not contained within the filing but which are related to the subject matter of the filing and supported by substantial evidence.

Sierra filed the application in accordance with the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") Chapters 703 and 704, including, but not limited to, NRS 704.100, Section 36 of AB 458 (2025), NAC 703.390, and NAC 703.400.

Interested and affected persons may file comments or petitions for leave to intervene pursuant to NAC 703.578 through 703.600 on or before WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026.

A person who wishes to participate as a commenter may file written comments pursuant to NAC 703.491. A commenter is not a party of record and shall not take any action that only a party of record may take. Pursuant to NAC 703.500, only parties of record are entitled to enter an appearance, introduce relevant evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, make arguments, make and argue motions and generally participate in the proceeding.

The application is available for public viewing at the Commission's website at: <https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the offices of the Commission: 1150 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148. A person must make a written request to be placed on the service list for this proceeding to receive any further notices in this matter.

By the Commission,
TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

1/5/26

Publication date: 1/16/2026

Page 11 Sudoku Answer

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

Page 11 Crossword Answer

S	K	I	M	P	E	L	F	D	O	N	A
O	W	N	E	R	L	E	U	D	I	N	A
L	A	T	T	E	M	E	N	I	D	I	O
N	O	R	W	A	Y	D	O	R	O	T	H
O	A	R	A	I	D	E					
T	U	G	R	O	L	L	E	C	L	A	I
O	N	E	S	M	U	C	K	T	I	L	T
N	I	C	E	A	G	A	I	N	S	T	A
Y	O	K	E	L	E	Z	R	A	P	A	L
A	N	O	M	I	E	A	K	I	N	R	Y
M	I	K	A	E	L	A	C	A	N	A	D
A	T	O	L	L	R	A	M	F	I	E	L
M	E	T	E	S	G	P	O	A	R	E	T
A	M	O	S	H	E	N	T	Y	R	O	L



Equipment is beginning to arrive for installation at Comstock Metals' new industrial-scale facility in Silver Springs. Photo credit: Comstock Metals

Comstock Metals Advances Major Recycling Facility in Silver Springs

By Rob Dyer

Article sponsored by Comstock Inc.

Comstock Metals has reached another major milestone toward opening its large-scale solar panel recycling facility in Silver Springs, following the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection's recent approval of its permits.

The facility is now fully permitted and marks a significant step towards commissioning the region's first industry-scale, zero-landfill recycling facility for end-of-life solar panels. Once operational, the plant will be capable of processing more than 3 million panels each year, recovering valuable metals like aluminum, silver, and other critical materials that would otherwise end up in landfills.

"This approval keeps our project right on schedule and positions Nevada at the fore-

front of responsible clean-energy recycling," said Dr. Fortunato Villamagna, President of Comstock Metals. "We're proud to be developing this solution right here in our home state."

The Silver Springs facility is already generating local benefits. Construction, equipment installation, and site development have brought new jobs and contracting opportunities to Lyon County, with additional full-time positions expected once the plant begins operations later this year. The company anticipates steady hiring across operations, maintenance, and logistics as the site scales up.

Comstock executives say the project not only strengthens Nevada's leadership in

renewable energy but also helps protect local land and

LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS LEGALS

RED DOG ROCKERY WALL REPAIRS

Storey County will be accepting sealed bids for the above referenced project "PWP-ST-2026-144 Red Dog Rockery Wall Repairs" Bids must be received by no later than Wednesday January 21, 2026, at 2:00 PM (14:00 hours) local time. Bids received after this date and/or time will not be accepted and will be returned unopened to the sender. Bids must be clearly marked on the outside envelope. Electronically transmitted bids will not be accepted. Storey County reserves the right to reject any bid or to accept the bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the county. Bids will be opened and read aloud at 2:10 PM (14:10 hours) in the Slammer Storey County Courthouse Conference Room at 26 South B Street, Drawer D Virginia City, Nevada 89440.

Project Description: Supply all necessary labor and material to install structural hillside repairs as per Lumos & Associates Project Drawing and Specifications dated June 2025 titled Permit / Bid Set. Work consists of steel columns, soil nails and shotcrete.

There will be a Required site inspection on Thursday January 15, 2025 @ 10:00 AM PST.

All interested parties should contact Mike Northan mnorthan@storeycounty.org or projects@storeycounty.org to request a bid pack. This is a prevailing wage project subject to NRS 338. All interested parties must be qualified to bid on this project pursuant to NRS 338.1379 or NRS 338.1382.

Publication date: 1/16/2026

water by keeping hazardous

materials out of landfills. By processing panels in a responsible manner as Comstock Metals does, the facility ensures both environmental accountability to anyone installing solar panels in Nevada or elsewhere in the country, and economic investment stays in Nevada. Comstock Metals was founded in Silver Springs, Nevada, but making

the US and the world a better place.

"This is about turning today's waste challenge into tomorrow's economic opportunity," said Corrado De Gasperis, Executive Chairman and CEO of Comstock Inc. "We're building the foundation for clean industry, new jobs, and a stronger Nevada."

JOE SBRAGIA, from page 9

the phone booth movie shoot, we got \$100," laughed Joey, adding: "the parking lot was full of cars and they (the movie directors) wanted them moved. Dad said it would cost them a round of drinks every time the customers had to move their cars.

Today, sadly, Dayton will miss the omnipresent Joey at the town

meetings, at the Dayton Inn and miss his fabulous sense of humor. Joe once posted a sigh at one of their properties and I quote:

KEEP OUT

TRESPASSERS WILL BE VIOLATED.

"Very funny, Joey," said Stony, who knew him since he was a boy.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
	19				20			21	22				
			23				24						
25	26	27		28		29		30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39			
40					41			42		43			
44				45		46				47			
48					49		50			51		52	
				53		54			55		56		
57	58	59	60					61			62	63	
64						65	66			67			68
69							70			71			
72							73			74			



SWITCH & GET
\$25

Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: **GZ590**



Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

SUDOKU



**Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

SPECIAL OFFER

1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

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

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Sudoku Answer on Page 13

© StatePoint Media

Crossword Answer on Page 13

THEME: WINTER OLYMPICS
ACROSS

1. Pinch to save
6. Brownie
9. Lady, in Madrid
13. Proprietor
14. Romanian money
15. Iraqi money
16. Coffee shop order
17. *Before 1998 only they played Olympic hockey
18. Spring to mind" or "Spring into action," e.g.
19. *Most decorated country in Winter Olympics
21. * ___ of Hamill Camel fame
23. *How Olympic Athletes from Russia were designated in 2018, acr.
24. Assistant
25. ___ of war
28. Sushi wrapped in nori
30. Oblong cream puff
35. Singles
37. Manure, e.g.
39. Soil for cultivation

40. Bon Jovi hit "Have a ___ day"
41. "Encore!"
43. Don't go
44. Bumpkin
46. Poet Pound's first name
47. Rodeo Drive tree
48. Sense of alienation and isolation
50. Similar
52. Toast option
53. *Misha, 1980 Russian Olympics Mascot was one
55. Samuel Butler: "Spare the ___ and spoil the child"
57. * ___ Shiffrin, most decorated U.S. alpine skier
61. *Overall Olympic curling medal leader
64. Bikini ___ in the Marshall Islands
65. Zodiac sign
67. Pasture
69. Boundary lines
70. Government Printing Office
71. Rocky ridge
72. Singer Tori
73. Farm layer

74. *1964 and 1976 mountainous Olympic location
- DOWN
1. Honda CR-X del ___
 2. *Michelle ___, most decorated U.S. figure skater
 3. Enthusiastic about
 4. Part of MGM
 5. From the 1930s, e.g.
 6. Abounding with certain trees
 7. Bruce ___ of karate fame
 8. Fundus, pl.
 9. Aeneas' lover
 10. "Don't bet ___!"
 11. Lye formula
 12. A in "M*A*S*H"
 15. Do like Tarantino
 20. Pleasant smell
 22. Schiller's "___ to Joy"
 24. Real ___ of Seville
 25. *Margot Robbie's "olympic" role (2017)
 26. "For better or worse"?
 27. GEICO's mascot

29. *Olympic toboggan
31. Speech defect
32. Place for worship
33. *2026 Winter Olympics location
34. Mother Goose creation
36. Give an impression
38. Michael Douglas' dad
42. Nigerian money
45. Slanderous statements
49. Snake-like fish
51. Dairy choice
54. Frustration, in a comic book
56. Grocery store section
57. Cass Elliot, a.k.a. ___ Cass
58. Big-ticket ___
59. Japanese zither
60. Saloon selections
61. Colloquial "Follow me!"
62. Widely hunted ruminant
63. Kind of sax
66. King Kong or Donkey Kong, e.g.
68. Penn.'s neighbor

comstock METALS

SOLAR PANEL RECYCLING

Zero Landfill, Zero Waste

Serving The Nation And The World

Milestones Are To Be Celebrated With Community Partners

**FOUNDED IN
SILVER SPRINGS**



**PROUDLY
NEVADAN**

Where to find the Comstock Chronicle

DAYTON
Dayton Shell
The Odeon
Dayton Area Chamber
Gold Ranch
Casino Restaurant

VIRGINIA CITY/
SILVER CITY
Virginia City Station
VC Visitor's Center
VC USPS box
Silver City USPS box

Your Storey & Lyon County Newspaper



The Comstock Chronicle

ADVERTISING & PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES DESIGNED FOR LIFE ON THE COMSTOCK

- Business & Legal ad options for every budget
- Classified ads available
- Birth, graduation, and wedding announcements
- Obituaries
- Print a photo of your best friend in the local newspaper just because you can.
- Advertise with us and your wildest dreams might come true!

CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ABOUT YOUR AD TODAY!

email editor@thecomstockchronicle.com or visit www.thecomstockchronicle.com/advertise-with-us/