

RURAL CONNECTIONS

A Monthly Newsletter Dedicated to the events and activities of Clark County's Rural Communities

Old Spanish Trail to be commemorated in Goodsprings

On February 11, 1830, Antonio Armijo led 60 men and 100 mules up the Goodsprings Wash to the Ojita de La Tortuga (little spring of the tortoise) as a part of his historic journey along the Old Spanish Trail. On Saturday, October 11th at 11:30 am a monument will be dedicated at the original spring site in Goodsprings to commemorate it as a part of the Old Spanish Trail. Everyone is invited to come join the celebration which will include a program and guided walking tours.

The following is a little bit about the history of the Old Spanish Trail adapted from an article by Goodsprings resident, Dr. Elizabeth Warren, that first appeared in the 2004 Summer Issue of "Pathways Across America."

Since 1776, travelers of all kinds had attempted to find a route between northern New Mexico and Southern California, but the topography was so difficult and the climate so extreme, that no one had been successful. Finally, in 1829 Antonio Armijo, a merchant from Santa Fe and appointed "Commander for the Discovery of a Route to California" by New Mexico's Governor, led 60 men on horseback and 100 pack mules to Los Angeles, CA. Armijo avoided the worst of the Mojave Desert by traveling south of Death Valley following intermittent streams and locating springs to support the party. He arrived at San Gabriel Mission in California with his group intact, although the men were forced to rely on mule meat during their final days on the trail. They had carried blankets and other goods by packsaddle, which they traded for horses and mules.

Armijo's return journey marked the first time a caravan made a round trip between Santa Fe and Los Angeles. The international trade between the United States and Mexico via Santa Fe would be enhanced by the commercial traffic between Santa Fe and the seaports in Los Angeles.

News of the opening of trade with California resulted in immediate commerce between Santa Fe and Los Angeles. With a few exceptions, pack trains made annual treks bringing woven Mexican products to California, which lacked sheep, and bartering them for horses and mules that were scarce in New Mexico.



People made use of the Spanish Trail for a variety of purposes, which over time led to the development of several main routes and numerous alternates. In 1830–1831, William Wolfskill and George Yount blazed a different route that followed the Colorado River to Needles and up the Mojave River to Cajon Pass, which was much favored by later travelers. Some trail users chose to trade with the Utes as far north as Salt Lake, and followed a path now labeled the “North Branch.” Part of the trail was used throughout the 19th century by Mormon pioneers and traders linking Salt Lake City to Los Angeles. The group of main trails and alternates together form the Old Spanish Trail.

Americans became aware of the trail with the publication of John C. Fremont’s Report of his 1844 journey from California to the States for the U.S. Topographical Corps. Fremont’s Report created a sensation in Washington, already struck with Manifest Destiny fever. People called the route by various names, but he called it the “Spanish Trail” in his report, and that is the name that has been used ever since.

Travel on the Spanish Trail diminished after the War with Mexico ended in 1848. There was no longer any need to link Santa Fe with Los Angeles by this difficult mule trail since other wagon–friendly routes to the north and south had been opened and were preferred by Americans emigrating to the west.

Popular and academic interest in the trail was only sporadically evident over the following decades. During the 1990s there was a renewed interest in preserving the history of the trail. In 1994, Colorado supporters founded the present Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA). This group teamed up with the Colorado delegates and senators from New Mexico, Utah, and California to push for the Old Spanish Trail to be included in the national trail system. In July 2001, the National Park Service concluded the Old Spanish Trail is “nationally significant within the theme of the Changing Role of the United States in the World Community and the topics of trade and commerce, during the period of 1829–1848.” Early in 2002, Senator Campbell introduced S 1946, the Old Spanish Trail Recognition Act. Congress passed the bill unanimously and President Bush signed the bill soon after.

Today, the Old Spanish Trail Association works to preserve and protect the trail, to educate the public about its history, and to promote respectful use of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. For more information including maps and tips for exploring the trail, visit: www.oldspanishtrail.org



Events for October – Southwest

- **Tuesday, October 7, 14 & 28** – Open Rec** at the SV Community Center, 4:30 – 6 pm
- **Every Wednesday** – Sewing group at the Goodsprings Community Center, 4 pm
- **Wednesday, October 1, 15, 22 & 29** – Adult/Teen Basketball** at the SV School Gym, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- **Friday, October 3** – Sandy Valley Senior Center General Meeting and Potluck, 1 pm, meat will be chicken and bratwurst.
- **Saturday, October 4** – BLM Clean Up in Sandy Valley – see details in the article below
- **Tuesday, October 7** – Free flu shots at the Sandy Valley Fire Station, 3 – 5:30 pm
- **Saturday, October 11** – Dedication of the Little Turtle Springs monument on the Old Spanish Trail in Goodsprings at 11:30 am, Program at noon and Walking tours at 1:30 pm at the Community Center
- **Tuesday, October 14** – Sandy Mesquite Valley Dev. Assoc. meeting at the SV Community Ctr, 6:30 pm and Sandy Valley CAC* meeting at the SV Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, October 15** – Mountain Springs CAC* meeting at the Mtn Springs Fire Station, 6:30 pm
- **Thursday, October 16** – Movie Night** at the SV Community Center, 5 – 7:30 pm
- **Thursday, October 16** – Typography posters at the Blue Diamond Library, 3:30 pm
- **Saturday, October 18** – Fall Festival at the Keystone Center
- **Saturday, October 18** – Everyone is welcome at the Sandy Valley Senior Center Pancake Breakfast, 8 to 10:30 am, \$3.50 for the best pancakes and sausage or biscuits and gravy.
- **Tuesday, October 28** – Goodsprings CAC* meeting at the Goodsprings Community Center, 7 pm
- **Wednesday, October 29** – Red Rock CAC* meeting at the Blue Diamond Library, 7 pm
- **Friday, October 31** – Haunted House at the Sandy Valley Fire Station sponsored by the Sandy Valley School STUCO and SVVFD, 5:30 pm, \$2

*CAC = Citizens Advisory Council **Contact Shawna at 702-723-5040 for more information



All volunteers welcome at the BLM Clean Up in Sandy Valley

When: Saturday, October 4, 2014, 8 am – Noon

Contact: Ryan Wallis, 702-515-5025

Where: From the intersection of Jade Avenue & Kingston Road drive south on Kingston Road for approximately 6.2 miles. The clean-up site and volunteer sign-in station will be on the right.

Wear clothes appropriate for working outside. Water, gloves, bags and tools will be provided or bring your own if you prefer. Children under 18 must have a signed permission slip or be accompanied by a parent/guardian to participate.

Events for October– Southeast

- **Through October 18** – Laughlin Parks and Recreation classes at the Spirit Mountain Activity Center. Classes include Baking, Dance, Sports and Crafts. Call 702-298-3413 for details
- **Saturday, October 4** – Children’s Craft at the Laughlin Library. 3 pm
- **Sunday, October 5 & 19** – Movie Matinee at the Laughlin Library, 1:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, October 14** – Laughlin Town Advisory Board Meeting at the Regional Gov. Center, 1:30 pm
- **Wednesday, October 15** – Searchlight Town Advisory Board Mtg at the Searchlight Comm Ctr, 6 pm
- **Saturday, October 18** – Spirit Mountain Quilt Guild at the Laughlin Library, 10 am
- **Saturday, October 18** – Movie in the Park “Hocus Pocus” at the Pyramid Canyon Day Use Area, 7 pm
- **Monday, October 20** – Kaleidoscope of Life art exhibit at the Laughlin Library, 1 pm
- **Wednesday, October 22** – Pumpkin Painting at the Laughlin Library, 4:30 pm
- **Saturday, October 25** – Halloween fun at the Searchlight Community Center, games, prizes and fun at the Halloween Party from 5 – 7 pm, Halloween Dance from 7:30 – 9:30 pm for ages 10 to 18
- **Wednesday, October 29** – Fall Festival at Bennett Elementary School in Laughlin, 5:30 – 7:30 pm, carnival style booths, costume contest, haunted house and hot dogs
- **Wednesday, October 29** – Costume Party at the Laughlin Library, 4:30 pm

Call for applicants to serve on TABs and CACs



Town Advisory Boards (TABs) and Citizens Advisory Councils (CACs) were created by the Nevada State Legislature to assist the Board of County Commissioners in an advisory capacity with the decision-making process in supplying public services to the unincorporated areas of Clark County. TABs and CACs also forward concerns and problems of residents to County staff and share important information with their communities. Every 2 years Clark County Commissioners appoint citizens to serve on TABs and CACs and it is time to recruit volunteers for the 2015 – 2017 session. If you are interested in serving your community, please consider applying to be a part of your town’s TAB or CAC. To apply or get more information, please visit www.accessclarkcounty.gov

Events for October – Northwest

- **Tuesdays** – Coupon exchange at the Indian Springs Community Center, 6 pm**
- **Wednesdays** – Coffee Talk social time at the Indian Springs Community Center, 10:30 am**
- **Thursday, October 2** – Mt. Charleston TAB meeting at the Mt. Charleston Library, 7 pm
- **Thursday, October 9** – Adult Game Night & Social Time at the Indian Springs Community Center, 6 pm, 16 years and older
- **Saturday, October 11** – High Desert Seniors Potluck at the Indian Springs Community Center, 3-5 pm
- **Thursday, October 16** – Indian Springs TAB meeting at the Indian Springs Community Ctr, 7:30 pm
- **Thursday, October 23** – BINGO at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7 pm**
- **Friday, October 24** – High Desert Seniors Halloween Dance and Costume Contest at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7 – 9 pm
- **Saturday, October 25** – Indian Springs Community Clean Up and Fall Festival, watch for mailers and posters around town for more information
- **Wednesday, October 29** – Kids Craft at the Indian Springs Community Center, 3:30 pm, Cost \$1**
- **Thursday, October 30** – Mt. Charleston TAB meeting at the Mt. Charleston Library, 7 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board **For information contact Teresa Hazel at 702-879-3890

Photos from the 2013 Indian Springs Fall Festival

Come join the fun this
year on October 25th!



Clark County's Neighborhood College Returns!

Have you ever wondered what goes on at the Coroner's Office? Or what an Animal Control Officer does in a typical day? Or how the Planning process works? Or how to play a more active role in your community? You can find out all about these things and much more as a participant in Clark County's Neighborhood College. The 8 week course will help you to learn all about the departments, services and functions of Clark County as well as other current events and local issues. Anyone and everyone is encouraged to apply. This was a very popular program several years ago and we are very excited to be bringing it back to the community! Guest speakers and facilitators will include elected officials, department heads, county staff (including Commissioner Liaisons) and other local leaders. Go to www.clarkcountynv.gov for details.



Neighborhood College 2014 is Accepting Applications!

Neighborhood College is a FREE education and awareness program designed by Clark County specifically for Clark County citizens.

Over a period of 8 weeks, participants will learn how their local government works, as well as how decisions are made about community issues such as transportation, public/neighborhood safety, and health and human services.

Graduates of the program are able to better partner with local government and play a more active role in their community.

Classes begin on October 22, 2014, and are scheduled on consecutive Wednesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155.

Participation in this program is limited.

If you are interested in being considered for the 2014 Neighborhood College, complete and submit the application by **5:00pm on October 14, 2014.**

If you'd like to complete an online application, please contact Tyrone Thompson at (702) 455-8593 or via email at tyt@clarkcountynv.gov.



Events for October – Northeast

- **Thursday, October 2** – Bunkerville TAB* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm
- **Monday, October 13** – Dream jar craft at the Bunkerville Library, 3:30 pm
- **Wednesday, October 15** – Teen Metal Embossing at the Bunkerville Library, 3:30 pm
- **Wednesday, October 15** – Free flu shots at the Logandale Fire Station 73, 6 – 8:30 pm
- **Wednesday, October 15** – Moapa Valley TAB* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- **Friday & Saturday, October 17–18** – 15th Annual Moapa Valley Car Show at Overton Park in Overton, visit <http://www.moapavalleychamber.com/area-events/moapa-valley-car-show> for times and details
- **Tuesday, October 28** – Moapa TAB* mtg at the Marley P. Robinson Justice Court & Community Ctr, 7 pm
- **Thursday, October 30** – Bunkerville TAB* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm
- **Friday & Saturday, October 31 – November 1** – Logandale Fall Festival at the Logandale Fairgrounds, visit www.logandalefallfestival.com for more information

*TAB = Town Advisory Board

Bluegrass, BBQ & Halloween Fun at the Logandale Fairgrounds



The Logandale Fall Festival will be held at the Logandale Fair Grounds on Friday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1. The event will include Bluegrass music performances, a BBQ cook off, great food, a craft show and a carnival midway. A very special Trunk or Treat that will wind in and out of the activities throughout the fairgrounds will take place Friday night from 7 – 9 pm and will also feature a cakewalk. Kids will be able to get in for free on Friday if they bring a non-perishable food item donation to benefit the Cappalappa Family Resource Center food pantry. Visit www.logandalefallfestival.com for more information, times and where to get your tickets.

Looking ahead...upcoming events around the County

- Friday & Saturday, November 7th & 8th – Moapa Valley Art Guild's 19th Annual Pomegranate Arts and Crafts Festival at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Logandale
- Friday & Saturday, November 14th & 15th – Annual Christmas Craft Bazaar at the Sandy Valley Senior Center. Funds raised support Senior Center and community activities throughout the year

HALLOWEEN HOLIDAY TRIVIA



- Jack o' Lanterns originated in Ireland where people placed candles in hollowed-out turnips to keep away spirits and ghosts on the Samhain holiday
- Halloween was brought to North America by immigrants from Europe who would celebrate the harvest around a bonfire, share ghost stories, sing, dance and tell fortunes.
- Harry Houdini Died On October 31, 1926.
- The ancient Celts thought that spirits and ghosts roamed the countryside on Halloween night. They began wearing masks and costumes to avoid being recognized as human.
- Tootsie Rolls were the first wrapped penny candy in America.
- Chocolate candy bars top the list as the most popular candy for trick-or-treaters with Snickers #1.
- Bobbing for apples is thought to have originated from the roman harvest festival that honors Pomona, the goddess of fruit trees.

