

RURAL CONNECTIONS

1st Anniversary Celebration Extravaganza!!

Okay, so that might be overstating things just a little bit – but it is the 1st Anniversary of this little publication and I am just thrilled about it! What started out as a little bud of an idea has turned into a blooming garden. The first issue was 4 pages long and I had to really search to find enough to fill those 4 pages. Each month it has grown a little more and this month we are up to 11 pages! That just shows how much great stuff is going on out there beyond the bright lights of Las Vegas. Community meetings, pancake breakfasts, potlucks, fundraisers, trips, parties, classes...but, what has really been fun to see are the unique events like Turkey Bowling, Stuffed Animal Sleepovers and Riding Lawnmower Races!

Over the past year I started two periodic features – “Rural Road Trip of the Month” and “Interesting Chapters in Clark County’s History.” This month I am introducing a third one – “Worth the Trip into Town.” It will highlight activities or destinations here in Las Vegas that are worth braving that traffic and hubbub of the city to enjoy.

On this one year anniversary, I would like to say THANK YOU! To the readers for spending a few minutes every month learning about our community or sharing a laugh. To all of the contributors – your input and support really make this newsletter a success. To the residents and community leaders – you love your communities...and it shows! Finally, to Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Brager – thank you so much for letting me pursue this crazy little idea I had.

Now, read on – there are so many wonderful things to see and do this month. Get out there and have some fun! And, send me your photos, stories, events or anything else you would like to share.

Sincerely,
Meggan Holzer
 Editor

You may have noticed that there is a different photo at the top of the first page of each issue. They are all photos I have taken in my travels and I try to find ones that are appropriate for the season. All 12 are shown on the right. Can you tell where they were taken? Look at the last page for the answers and a little bit about each picture.



Events for April – Southwest

- **Every Monday in April** – Volleyball at the Sandy Valley Community Center, 4 pm
- **Every Wednesday** – Sewing/craft group at the Goodsprings Community Center, 4 pm
- **Wednesday, April 1 & 29** – Red Rock CAC* meeting at the Blue Diamond Library, 7 pm
- **Wednesday, April 8, 15 & 22** – Adult/teen basketball at the Sandy Valley School Gym, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**
- **Saturday, April 11** – Sandy Valley Color Run presented by the Sandy Valley High School Student Council – see article below for details
- **Saturday, April 11** – Open Mic night at the Keystone Center, come share your talent and enjoy the talents of others. Food and drink available for donations. 6–9 pm
- **Tuesday, April 14** – Sandy Mesquite Valley Dev. Assoc. meeting at the SV Community Ctr, 6:30 pm
- **Tuesday, April 14** – Sandy Valley CAC* meeting at the SV Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, April 15** – Mountain Springs CAC* meeting at the Mtn Springs Fire Station, 6:30 pm
- **Thursday, April 16** – Movie Night at the Sandy Valley Community Center, 5:00 – 7:00 pm
- **Saturday, April 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, April 21** – Earth Day Story Time at the Blue Diamond Library, stories, songs and a craft, 3:30 pm
- **Saturday, April 25** – Bubblemania at the Sandy Valley Library, join us for some magical bubble fun and learn the science behind them, ages 3–5, 12 noon
- **Tuesday, April 28** – Goodsprings CAC* meeting at the Goodsprings Community Center, 7 pm

*CAC = Citizens Advisory Council

**Contact Shawna at 702-723-5040 for more information

Sandy Valley HS Student Council's Color Run



On Saturday, April 11th the Sandy Valley High School Student Council will present their first Color Run. Check in will be at the Trails End Store at 600 E. Quartz from 10:45–11:45 am and the race will begin at 12:00 noon. As the racers make their way (running, walking, skipping, dancing, etc.) west along Quartz approximately 1 mile to Peace Park they will be inundated with brightly colored powder resulting in a colorful, fun adventure. There will be food and games available for purchase at the park after the race. Note: the colored powder is completely safe and washable. Everyone is welcome to participate – including your four footed friends! Cost is \$5 per person. For info contact Terra Smith at 702-239-8000.

Sandy Valley Rodeo Kids Head to NLBRA Finals

When the 900 competitors arrive at the National Little Britches Rodeo Finals in Pueblo, CO this July, seven of them will be from Sandy Valley. Little Britches Rodeo is one of the oldest, continuing junior rodeo associations in the nation, with competitors ranging in age from 5 to 18. The goal of the organization is to develop character, self-reliance and good sportsmanship through competition in the great sport of rodeo. These kids give their all to the sport that they love and we wish them the very best of luck in all of their events. In the top row, left to right, are Bri Lynn Bentley, Emily Jory and Ty Snook. In the bottom row, left to right, are Dixie Timberlake, Blake Bentley, Shaylee Sharples and Hunter Gonzales.



Sandy Valley's first Farmer's Market a success

Offering a wide variety of products including fresh produce, homemade jams, natural soaps, chickens, eggs, jewelry, plants and other items, the first Sandy Valley Farmer's Market on Saturday, March 21st was a huge success! The next Sandy Valley Farmer's Market will be on Saturday, April 18th. The market will be held the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Keystone Center at 115 N. Miami. If you would like to participate, contact the Farmer's Market Coordinator, Amanda Hartung at 702-723-8054 or amandajhartung@gmail.com



Worth the Trip into Town: Touch A Truck

If you have kids that love cars, trucks or any other kinds of vehicle, then Touch A Truck is the place you should be on Saturday, April 11th! This annual event provides over 100 different vehicles for kids to sit in, climb on & experience all in one place. There are police cars, fire trucks, big rigs, military vehicles and many others. All of this fun takes place in the northwest parking lot of the Orleans Arena at the intersection of Cameron and Harmon. The event is open from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. From 9:30 am to 11:00 am is the “Horn Free” time for children with special needs and/or sensitive ears. To purchase tickets or for more information go to: <http://www.touchatruck.com/home.html>

TOUCH-A-TRUCK benefits Family to Family Connection a non-profit organization that helps to build stronger families by giving them the tools to provide a safe and nurturing environment for their children through parent education and community networking. The end result is healthy, confident children leading to a stronger community. Established in 1998, Family to Family serves more than 600 families per month offering various classes & support groups. The parent-participation classes help to build strong bonds between parents and their babies and provide training on key developmental areas including early physical, social and emotional issues. Classes are just \$5 or \$20 per month. For more information about Family to Family visit: <http://www.family2familylv.org/>



Family to Family Connection
TOUCH-A-TRUCK
 Saturday, April 11th, 2015

9:30-3:00pm

Orleans Arena

www.TouchATruck.com

Events for April – Northeast

- **Mondays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tutoring & Homework help: free assistance with homework, scholarships, college & job applications, writing & reviewing essays for grades K – college from 1 – 5 pm**
- **Tuesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Computer basics: learn the concepts of computer use at 3 pm**
- **Tuesdays** – Basketball Open Gym at the Moapa Valley High School, 8 – 10 pm
- **Wednesdays** – Women’s Boxing class at the Moapa recreation center, 9 – 10 am
- **Wednesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Computer topics: learn about aspects of computer use at 3 pm; Computer Programming – learn more about programming, game design & more at 4:30 pm**
- **Wednesdays at the Bunkerville Library** – Weekly Storytime: stories, songs and a craft, 2 pm, ages 3–5
- **Thursdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tiny Tot Storytime: songs & stories for ages 18–36 months at 11:15 am; LEGO Quest: complete a challenge using the LEGOs provided for ages 8+ at 4 pm**
- **Fridays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Baby Lapsit: Songs, fingerplays and Rhymes for babies 0–18 months; Teen Space: Play games, watch movies and be creative, bring your own snacks, from 1:30 to 3 pm, Grades 6 and up; Read with Me: one on one reading practice for ages 3+ from 3 – 5:30 pm; Creative Exploration Lab: hands on exploration of science, technology, art & nature for ages 6–11 at 4 pm**
- **Saturdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Game on: a game group for anyone who likes games, focused on preteen and teen play at 12 pm; Crafternoon: all ages welcome to make a new craft every week at 2 pm**
- **Thursday, April 2 & 30** – Bunkerville TAB* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm
- **Saturday, April 11 & 25** – Ewe & Eye Love to Knit and Crochet at the Moapa Valley Library, 10:15 am**
- **Wednesday, April 15** – Moapa Valley TAB* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- **Saturday, April 18** – Cover 2 Cover Book Club: fun discussion about a different book every month complete with treats & beverages at the Moapa Valley Library, 10:15 am**
- **Tuesday, April 28** – Moapa TAB* meeting at the Robinson Justice Court & Community Center, 7 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board **For details call 702-397-2690

It's Clark County Fair Time!

This year the Clark County Fair will be 5 days long and will include two rodeos, a concert by country star Jerrod Niemann, exhibits, rides, food and more!! For more information visit www.ccfair.com

Overall Fair Schedule

- Wednesday, 4/8 - 4 pm to 11 pm
- Thursday, 4/9 - 10 am to 11 pm
- Friday, 4/10 - 10 am to midnight
- Saturday, 4/11 - 10 am to midnight
- Sunday, 4/12 - 10 am to 9 pm

Carnival Hours

- Wednesday, 4/8 - 5 pm to 11 pm
- Thursday, 4/9 - 12 noon to 11 pm
- Friday, 4/10 - 12 noon to midnight
- Saturday, 4/11 - 10:30 am to midnight
- Sunday, 4/12 - 10:30 am to 9 pm

Concert - Jerrod Niemann

- Friday, 4/10 - 9:30 pm on the Plaza Stage



RZR Day Clean-Up at Logandale Trails

On March 21st, off-road enthusiasts brought their “toys with wheels” to the Logandale Trails for the RZR Day Clean Up. Roving reporter, Elise McAllister with Partners in Conservation, reports that the event was a total success with “Lots of people, lots of fun, lots of trash picked up—and some weeds pulled too!”



Events for April – Southeast

- **Mondays – Thursdays** – Open recreation at the Searchlight Youth Center, 3:15 – 5:15 pm
- **Mondays** – BINGO at the Slim Kidwell Community Center in Cal–Nev–Ari, 6 pm
- **Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays** – Activities at the Searchlight Senior Center: Walking at 9 am, Resistance Training at 10 am
- **Thursdays** – Yoga class at the Searchlight Community Center, 5 – 6 pm
- **Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays** – Activities at the Searchlight Community Center including exercise with the Wii, Genealogy, Card Making, Scrapbooking or bring your ideas to share, 8 am – noon
- **Sunday, April 4** – Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Scavenger Hun at Searchlight Park. Teenagers will do the scavenger hunt and kids from 2 to 11 will be divided into 3 groups for the Easter egg hunt. 12 noon
- **Saturday, April 11** – Kids crafts at the Laughlin Library, Ages 5–11, 3–4 pm**
- **Tuesday, April 14** – Laughlin Town Advisory Board Meeting at the Regional Gov. Center, 1:30 pm
- **Wednesday, April 15** – Searchlight TAB meeting at the Searchlight Community Center, 6 pm
- **Thursday, April 16** – Pitch, Hit & Run at the Searchlight Ball Park behind the Harry Reid Elementary School in Searchlight.
- **Tuesday, April 21** – Earth Day celebration at the Laughlin Library, learn about our planet through fun crafts and activities, 4–5 pm**

**For more information call the Laughlin Library at 702–507–6300



Laughlin River Run to be held April 22–26



Laughlin will celebrate the 33rd year of this exciting annual event as more than 40,000 motorcycle enthusiasts roar into town for the festivities. This is the largest motorcycle-oriented event on the West Coast. Activities will include stunt shows; motorcycle exhibits; custom bike shows; leather and motorcycle vendors; the annual Miss Laughlin River Run contest and the always-popular "River Run" to Oatman, Arizona, on historic Route 66. For more information, visit

www.LaughlinRiverRun.com.

Laughlin Hosts 11th Annual Town Fest

The weekend of April 2–4 marks the 11th year of Laughlin Town Fest, which takes place in Laughlin Town Center at the intersection of Needles Hwy and El Mirage. The theme this year is “Clowning Around”. There is no admission fee but there will be a charge for the rides, food and drinks. Saturday’s activities include a parade on Needles Highway from Las Palmas to Cal Edison Way beginning at 10 am. Parade Marshal Fr. Charlie Urnick, Laughlin Citizen of the Year for 2013–14, will wave to the crowd from an antique, horse-drawn stagecoach. The Mohave County Sheriff’s Office will demonstrate its canine unit immediately after the parade, and there will be stagecoach and horse rides available, as well as vendor and informational booths. Proceeds from the Town Fest will be combined with the revenue from the recent Oktoberfest for the purchase of a community tent. For information on parade entry or other Town Fest activity, call Lin Clark at 702-298-2222 or 702-245-3522 or lin@tv2klbc.com.



Article and photos courtesy of Julie Fairman

Garces Expedition Historical Marker Dedicated

On March 4, the Las Vegas Diocese of the Catholic Church, St. Thomas More Society, government officials, Indian representatives, school children, parishioners and citizens in Laughlin celebrated the 239th anniversary of the arrival of Father Francisco Garces in Nevada. Fr. Garces, a Catholic Priest and Explorer, was one of the first

Europeans to arrive in what would become Nevada – four months before the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. He was seeking a means of traveling between missions in Tucson and the coast of California. Fr. Garces is credited for giving the Colorado River its name, exploring and establishing the Mojave Trail and for being a great friend to the Indian Tribes of the southwest. The Mojave Indians served as guides as he traveled into California.

A prayer service, including a re-enactment of Garces’ entry into Nevada followed the ribbon cutting of the new state historical marker which is located on Needles Highway across from the SNWA conservation area in Laughlin. The location was pinpointed from Fr. Garces’ own diary.



New Programs at your Library in April



Get overdue fines and fees waived by donating canned or packaged food with the CVCCLD's "Food for Thought" Program! In celebration of National Library Week, the Las Vegas–Clark County Library District is teaming up with Three Square Food Bank, for its first-ever "Food for Thought" program beginning Sunday, April 12 through Saturday, April 25. The

program is a unique way to clear unpaid fines and build community by donating food to those in need. All donations collected will go to the Three Square Food Bank. For each consumable, non-perishable, unopened, canned or packaged food item a patron brings in to the library, the Las Vegas–Clark County Library District will waive \$2 toward patron fines to clear or reduce amounts owed. There is no limit to the dollar amount that can be waived. Donations will also be accepted from anyone wishing to contribute. Simply stop by any of the Library District's 25 convenient branches to take advantage of this offer. Clear your fines, help the less fortunate and see what's new at your library. National Library Week is a great time to see what's new at your local library. Visit your nearest library branch to find out more about what the library has to offer. For more information, call 702.734.READ or visit www.lvcclld.org.

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY? TELL A FRIEND!

The Las Vegas–Clark County Library District and The Mob Museum have teamed up to present "Love your Library? Tell a Friend!," a library card sign-up campaign that begins Wednesday, April 1 through Thursday, April 30, 2015. Just sign up for a free library card during the month of April, or if you already have a library card, Like Us on Facebook, and be automatically entered to earn a chance to win the Grand Prize of a Gift Basket from The Mob Museum, including a one-year Family membership. Library patrons who already



have a library card and want to visit The Mob Museum will receive an exclusive discount admission price of \$2 OFF offer to local Nevada residents. Simply show your LVCCLD library card at The Mob Museum's box office from April 1 through April 30, 2015, to receive the discount. (Note: All Nevada price types and levels from April 1, 2015, to April 30, 2015, only). The Mob Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 702.228.2734 or visit www.themobmuseum.org for more information and other special offerings and programming.

Events for April – Northwest

- **Tuesdays** – Bring Your Own Project at the Indian Springs Community Center, bring your craft project, couponing or anything else you need to work on, 5–7 pm**
- **Tuesdays & Fridays** – Evening Rec at the Indian Springs Community Center. Access to the Wii on the big screen TV, pool table, air hockey, basketball game, card and board games, 7–9 pm. **
- **Wednesdays** – Coffee Talk social time at the Indian Springs Community Center, 10:30 am**
- **Wednesdays** – Knitting & crochet group at the Mt. Charleston library, 12 pm
- **Thursday, April 9** – Game night at the Indian Springs Community Center, 16 years and older, come hang out with your friends and make some new ones, play games, chat, read or relax, 7–9 pm
- **Saturday, April 11** – High Desert Seniors Potluck at the Indian Springs Community Center – bring foods that mean Spring to you. 3–5 pm
- **Thursday, April 16** – Indian Springs TAB* Meeting at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7:00 pm
- **Saturday, April 18** – Indian Springs Spring Festival, games, activities and fun for the whole family at the Indian Springs Community Center, 12–3
- **Wednesday, April 22** – Kids Craft at the Indian Springs Community Center, We will be making a wonderful craft & enjoying a snack. 3:30 pm Cost \$1**
- **Thursday, April 23** – BINGO at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7 – 9 pm, Age 18 & older**
- **Saturday, April 25** – Indian Springs High Desert Seniors outing to Bonnie Springs. Bring your favorite picnic foods to share. 8 am to ? For info call 702–879–0833
- **Thursday, April 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

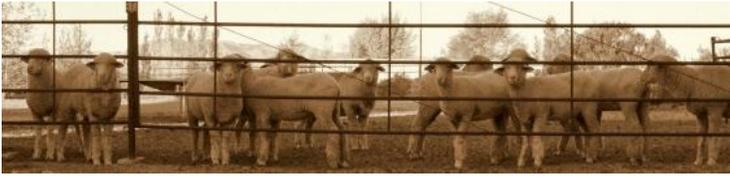
Volunteers Pitch in to Help Clean Up Mt. Charleston

More than 80 volunteers plus GO Mt Charleston Staff and Forest Service staff, including several clubs, families, and individuals, have continually worked to clean up the litter in the Spring Mountains. As of the end of February they had collected over 130 bags worth of trash in Lee Canyon, left behind by sledders and people playing in the snow. This is a voluntary, ongoing effort that helps keep the fragile mountain environment from suffering stress and deterioration with overuse and contamination in public spaces. If you would like to participate, visit

<http://www.gomtcharleston.com/>



Photo Answers from Page 1



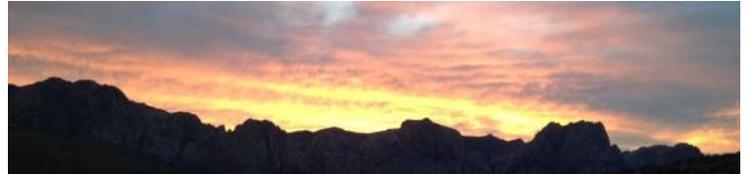
Rambouillet sheep in Sandy Valley anxiously awaiting feeding time - or wondering what that lady is doing with the camera!



Wild horses with a foal at Cold Creek



The Model T Club visited Goodsprings to help celebrate the 100th birthday of the Goodsprings School



Sunset over Red Rock after a Red Rock CAC meeting



Sunrise viewed from the Mt. Potosi Boy Scout Camp at Mt. near Mountain Springs



Early fall color by the creek in Cold Creek



Pumpkins painted by Indian Springs kids with assistance from volunteers from Creech AFB during the Fall Festival



More fall color in Cold Creek



Icicles hanging from a building at the Old Mill picnic area in Lee Canyon taken on a snow shoe outing



Winter clouds over Red Rock taken from Blue Diamond Hill on a holiday trail ride



Burros on the side of the SR156 heading up to Lee Canyon



Petroglyphs at Valley of Fire State Park

Thanks for a great year, everyone!

Meggan