



Moapa Valley's First OHV Round Up a Roaring Success

On Friday and Saturday, November 14th and 15th, the Moapa Valley Revitalization Project's OHV Round Up was held. This first ever local event began on Friday night with registration and festivities at the Logandale Fairgrounds. It continued on into Saturday with self-guided rides through the Logandale Trails area, and a scavenger hunt that drew participants into various local businesses. The day concluded with great entertainment and a delicious dinner of brisket, potatoes, salad, and apple pie held at the Awesome Adventures facility south of Overton.

The OHV roundup was the brainchild of members of the Moapa Valley Revitalization Project (MVRP). Earlier this year, MVRP received a grant from the Nevada Commission on Tourism to advertise and promote Moapa Valley. Capitalizing on a recent designation as Clark County's first OHV-friendly community, the group organized an event with the goal of drawing OHV riders throughout the region to enjoy Logandale trails and learn about what Moapa Valley has to offer.

This year's event was the first of what is intended to be a semiannual event, with the next one planned for March 25 - 27, 2016. A GPS easter egg hunt is just one of the many fun events planned.



End of the Year Activities at the Lost City Museum

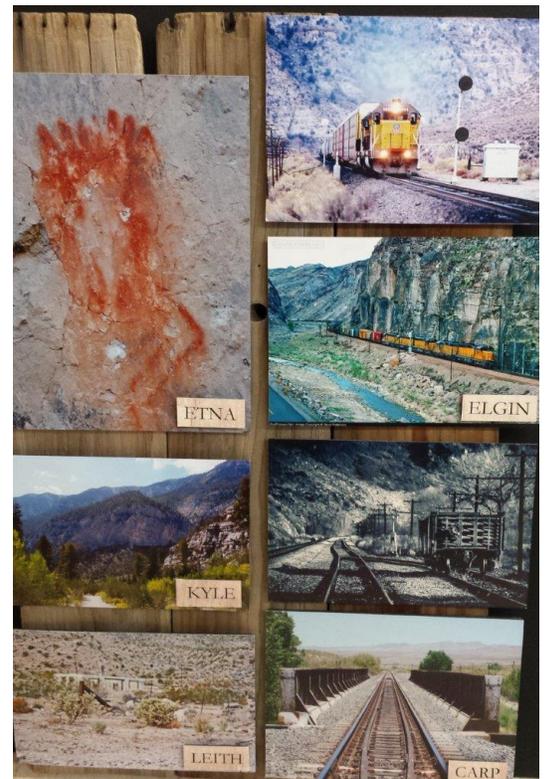
Lost City Museum hosted another successful Native American Day event on November 14th. There were Native American dancers, a singer, delicious Navajo tacos, and crafts people from Nevada, Arizona, and Utah. A crew from the Discovery Children's Museum also provided children's activities with Native American themes. Native American Day is on the calendar every year in early November, usually the weekend after the Moapa Tribe's Veterans' Powwow.

To celebrate the holiday season and to thank the year's supporters and visitors, on Saturday, December 5th the Docent Council hosts the Holiday Open House from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; one of the handful of free admission days offered during the year. Besides the interesting exhibits, there will be musical entertainment, cookies baked by docents and staff, and a raffle (drawing at 2:00 pm) with prizes from Moapa Valley and Mesquite businesses, and gift baskets assembled by the Docent Council. In addition, visitors will receive 15% off selected items in the Museum Store.

In December, Lost City Museum's curator and exhibit designer will install a new exhibit about Southern Nevada's Other Lost Cities. It will feature photographs and information about old mining and railroad areas and pioneer settlements. Visitors will learn about their origins and how and why they were abandoned, moved or changed.

The Lost City Museum is located at 721 S. Moapa Valley Blvd in Overton. It is open daily from 8:30am to 4:30 pm (closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day.)

Article & photos courtesy of Jerrie Clarke, Director, Lost City Museum



24th Annual PowWow held at Memorial Park

Beautiful colors, feathers, bells, drums, and singing filled the air near the Moapa Travel Plaza in early November as the 24th annual Southern Paiute Veterans Association (SOPVA) Powwow began. The Powwow took place at Memorial Park, an area adjacent to the Plaza near exit 75, Interstate 15. It was attended by members of nine bands of Southern Paiutes and hundreds of spectators.

Although the Powwow is held to honor Paiute veterans, it is also host to a dance competition with over \$10,000 in prize money to be won. Dancers and veterans come from all over the United States to participate and to watch. This year there were dancers from Idaho, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, California, and Nevada. One spectator came all the way from England specifically to watch this unique event.



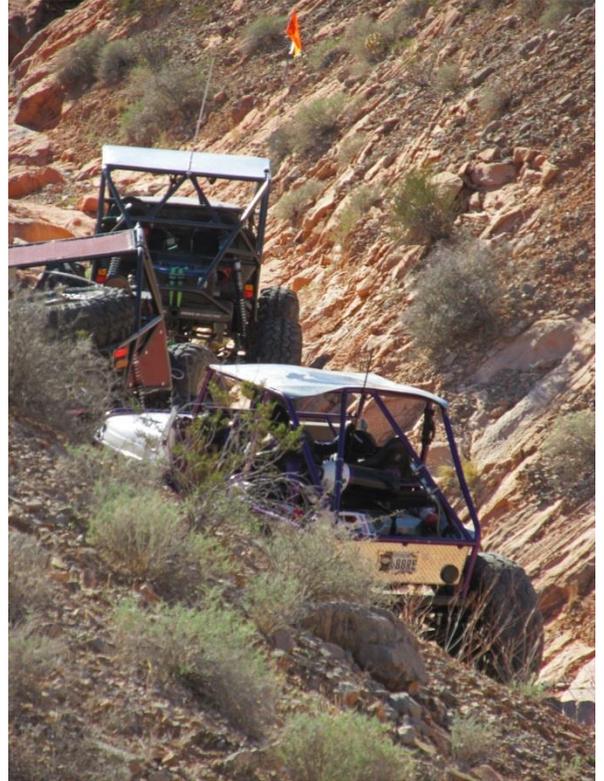
Article & photos courtesy of Maggie McMurray and the Moapa Valley Progress

Fun Filled Weekend with Hump N Bump & Pomegranate Festival

Moapa Valley once again hosted Hump n Bump, the 34th annual internationally known off-road event held at the visually stunning and ever-so-fun Logandale Trails on November 6th and 7th. The Las Vegas based Vegas Valley Four Wheelers (VV4W) plans and organizes this 2 day rock-crawlin' extravaganza which attracts participants from across the globe. Years ago, VV4W decided to hold their event right after the enormous SEMA (after-market equipment for vehicles including ATVs, 4X4s, jeeps, etc.) convention in Vegas, which was a smart move—after being indoors for days on end, many welcomed the chance to have some in-the-dirt fun before heading home.

Trails are available with varying degrees of difficulty and many require specific equipment and off-road upgrades, so there is plenty for the novice to the 'crazy' to enjoy! Other OHV enthusiasts enjoy riding non-event trails in the area and checking out all the rigs—from technical equipment to incredible paint jobs. Spectators clamor over red rocks for a great view of drivers maneuvering up and over rocky boulders and ledges. Each obstacle has trained spotters to assist the drivers and these volunteers spend hours sharing experience and knowledge so that all return back to base camp safely with thrilling memories to share.

This is always a favorite weekend for local businesses as the Hump n Bump and the Pomegranate Festival bring throngs of visitors to Moapa Valley. With this year being the 20th anniversary of the Pomegranate Festival, the Moapa Valley Art Guild wanted the biggest, best festival yet and that is exactly what happened. More vendors than ever, more art, more food, more entertainment, and more pomegranate jelly kept attendees busy and happy. Admission is always free so it is difficult to know exact attendance, but organizers estimate 6,000 folks spent much of 2 days enjoying the perfect fall weather and small-town ambiance as they shopped and visited up and down the corridors.



Events for November – Northeast

- **Mondays at the Moapa Valley Library** – ABC Kids: nursery rhymes, songs, dances and stories for ages 3–5, 11:15 am; Read with Me! Readers of all skill levels welcome for one-on-one, no pressure reading practice with our Teen Volunteers for ages 4 and up, 4 pm
- **Tuesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Circle Time: interactive songs, fingerplays and rhymes for ages 0–18 months, 11:15 am; Computer basics: learn the concepts of computer use, 3 pm**
- **Mondays and Tuesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tutoring/homework help for grades K – college: free assistance with homework in any subject as well as writing essays, resumes & applications, 2:30 pm
- **Wednesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Computer topics: learn about aspects of computer use at 11 am; Software, Internet & email Topics at 3 pm; Computer Logic 4:30 pm **
- **Thursdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tiny Tots: Fingerplays, songs, and stories. Ages 18–36 months at 11:15 am ; LEGO Quest: complete a challenge with LEGOs provided for ages 8+, 4 pm**
- **Fridays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Handcrafters; join crafting companions to share your knowledge and creativity, 10 am; Teen Space: Play games, watch movies and be creative, bring your own snacks, from 1:30 pm, Grades 6 –12; Story Hour: Drop off the kids after school for a variety of stories, jokes, science experiments and more. Ages 5–12. 4 pm **
- **Saturdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Game on: a group for anyone who likes games, focused on preteen and teen play 12 pm; Crafternoon: youth & adults can make a new craft every week at 2 pm**
- **Friday and Saturday, December 4 & 5** – Old Logandale School Historical and Cultural Society (OLSHACS) hosts the Festival of Trees. This fundraising event includes wreaths, bakery goodies, gingerbread houses, hand-made decorations and all things Christmas. Plus music, raffles, cupcake walks, and Santa! OLDSHACS is located at 3011 N. Moapa Valley Blvd; ¼ mile past the US Post Office on the west side of MV Blvd. 702–398–7272.
- **Wednesday, December 9** – Moapa Valley TAB* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- **Tuesday, December 29** – Moapa TAB* meeting at the Robinson Justice Court & Community Center, 7 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board **For details call 702–397–2690 ***For details call 702–864–2438

Come Join the Chorus at a Christmas Carol Sing-Along



The Moapa Valley Revitalization Project will host a Christmas carol sing-along as part of their Luminary and Christmas program. The event will be held on Friday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m in the Fire Canyon Gifts parking lot (formerly the Wild Horse Gallery). Santa will be on hand and refreshments will be served. This is a free event that everyone in the community can share in.

Little Britches season begins at the BJC Arena

The Southern Nevada Little Britches Rodeo Association started out their season with a double header at the Keystone Enrichment Foundation's BJC Arena in Sandy Valley on November 28th and 29th. The weather was a little bit chilly – but the rodeo excitement definitely wasn't! The competitors, who came from the Las Vegas Valley, Northern Nevada and Arizona, heated up the arena with their skills in events including goat tying, pole bending, team roping and many others. Rural Connections will keep you informed of upcoming dates so you can come out and see the competition in person.



Get into the Holiday Spirit in Blue Diamond



The Blue Diamond Library and the Blue Diamond Recreation Association are jointly sponsoring the Annual Holiday Storytime, Craft, and Caroling program on Thursday, December 17 starting at 3:00 pm. Dress warm and bring a flash light for caroling on a horse-drawn carriage around Blue Diamond village. Hot cocoa and pizza will be served.

Events for November – Southwest

- **Every Wednesday** – Sewing/craft group at the Goodsprings Community Center, 4 pm
- **Every Wednesday** – Adult/Teen volleyball from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm and Adult/Teen basketball from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Sandy Valley School Gym, \$2.00. People are welcome to come walk around the gym, too.**
- **Friday, December 4** – Sandy Valley Senior Center Potluck and General Meeting, 1:00 pm
- **Saturday, December 5** –Quilting at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 11 am to 2 pm
- **Mondays, December 7 & 21** – Coffee and Donuts at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 8 – 10:30
- **Tuesday, December 8** – Sandy Mesquite Valley Dev. Assoc. meeting at the SV Community Ctr, 6:30 pm
- **Tuesday, December 8** – Sandy Valley CAC* meeting at the SV Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, December 9** – Mountain Springs CAC* meeting at the Mtn. Springs Fire Station, 6:30 pm
- **Saturday, December 19** – Everyone is welcome at the Sandy Valley Community Breakfast, 8 to 10:30 am at the Senior Center, \$3.50 for the best pancakes and sausage or biscuits and gravy

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

Fun Challenges at the Benefit Sandy Valley Food Share Fund Raiser

On Sunday, November 29th, 24 horse and rider teams put their skills to the test in the annual Obstacle Challenge to benefit Sandy Valley Food Share. Obstacles included backing through a hay bale maze, braving the pool noodle “car wash”, and walking through the “graveyard” complete with cow skulls and skeletons. The event also included food, drinks, ribbons, prizes, raffles, and a silent auction. Although some of the horses preferred not to go anywhere near the dried sheep skins or walk through the kiddie pool full of plastic bottles, everyone had a great time spending time in the saddle on a gorgeous fall day. All proceeds from the event will benefit Sandy Valley Food Share, a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides food to over 150 families in the Sandy Valley area.



Events for November – Northwest

- **Wednesdays** – Coffee Talk at the Indian Springs Community Center, 10:30 am**
- **Tuesdays** – Take a break at the Indian Springs Community Center. Bring your own craft project, come play cards, or just get out of the house and come hang out ...Kids are welcome with a parent/adult, 4–7 pm
- **Saturday, December 12** – High Desert Seniors Christmas pot luck and Secret Santa Gift Exchange at the Indian Springs Community Center, ALL over 50 years of age welcome, 3 – 5 pm
- **Thursday, December 10** – Indian Springs TAB* Meeting at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7:00 pm

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

Winter Parking in Mt. Charleston & Lee Canyon

Lee Canyon (Hwy 156) is your best option. Open places include Lee Meadows, Sawmill Picnic Area, Bristlecone Trail for snowshoe hiking and various pullouts on Lee Canyon Road (Hwy 156) & Deer Creek Highway (Hwy 158). Roadside parking is **prohibited** between Lee Meadows and the Ski Resort in Lee Canyon (Hwy 156). Roadside parking is **prohibited** in Kyle Canyon (Hwy 157), except in designated areas, past the intersection of Hwy 157 and Deer Creek Hwy (Hwy 158).

Snow Play Safety Tips

- ❄ Consider wearing a helmet while sledding
- ❄ Make sure paths are clean and weather is good
- ❄ Never sled near roads or vehicles
- ❄ Avoid dangerous objects like large rocks and trees
- ❄ Be aware of others so you don't run into them! Sleds can reach speeds of up to 20 mph
- ❄ No sledding in areas with less than 12 inches of snow
- ❄ No snow play on private or "closed" areas

Information courtesy of www.gomtcharleston.com

If you would like to receive Rural Connections or would like to contribute community events, articles or photos, please contact Meggan Holzer at meggan@clarkcountynv.gov or 702-455-0341

Holiday Activities During December in Searchlight



Join your friends and neighbors at the Searchlight Community Holiday party on Sunday, December 13th. The event will take place in the Searchlight Community Center's Multipurpose Room from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will arrive during the party to greet the children. Other activities will include a coloring table, a raffle, and the crowning of Little Mr. and Miss Searchlight. Refreshments will be served.

Searchlight residents – untangle your lights, dust off your reindeer and get your wreaths ready for the community Holiday House Decorating Contest! The entry forms can be obtained at the Searchlight Bait Shop and Boat Storage, The Senior Center and the Community Center office, the Food bank and the Library. The deadline for turning in the entry forms is Friday, December 11th. Judging will take place on Saturday, December 12th between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 pm. The winner will be announced at the Holiday Party.



"Very festive, but I can't seem to find the door."

Christmas Songs Quiz

Can you figure out which Christmas songs these sentences represent?

1. The lad is a diminutive percussionist.
2. Decorate the entry ways.
3. Sir Lancelot with laryngitis.
4. ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
5. Exuberance to this orb.
6. 288 Yuletide Hours
7. Far back in a hay bin.
8. Frozen precipitation commence.
9. Oh, member of the round table with missing areas.
10. Boulder of the tinkling metal spheres.
11. Tranquility upon the terrestrial sphere.
12. Listen, the winged heavenly messengers are proclaiming tunefully.



Answers are on the last page

Laughlin Offers A Wide Variety of Activities During December



Laughlin/Bullhead Half Marathon Experience an early morning race – crisp, clear, with mild temperatures and visibility for miles. The Race delivers a challenging course, sights of Lake Mohave, running alongside the Colorado River, an opportunity to traverse the Davis Dam into Arizona and a brief off-road trail adventure through some beautiful desert landscape in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. It's an unforgettable experience where you'll run: Two States, Two Time Zones, One DAM Great Race! Race Expo on Friday December 4, 2015 – 12 Noon to 10:00pm on the D-Deck of the Colorado Belle Casino Resort. Race Day

Packet Pickup on Saturday December 5, 2015, 5:30 to 7:25 am on the lower level of the Laughlin Outlet Center in the food court. Runners using the Race Day Packet Pickup service should plan on arriving at least 45 minutes prior to their race. Bibs, chips & shirts will be handed out before the race. For more information visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/runlaughlin> or <http://runlaughlin.com/>

McKenzie's Rage At The River – Dec 11, 2015 – Dec 13, 2015, from dawn to dusk at the Laughlin events Park. SNORE (Southern Nevada Off Road Enthusiasts) is a family of off road racers helping to promote desert racing in and around the Las Vegas, Nevada area. At Laughlin's Rage at the River, the two-day race format is broken up into heat races divided by vehicle class, and has proved to be a hit with both the racers and spectators. Race format is side-by-side and starts every 30 seconds. The Laughlin race provides a crowd-pleasing spectacle as the 11.8 mile course offers a battle of high-speed terrain versus classic super challenging and deep ruts. Free spectator viewing.



Christmas Tree Lighting – In Laughlin, the annual tree lighting ceremony takes place on Sunday, December 6th at 4:30 pm at Mountain View Park on Needles Hwy. Festivities will include a visit by Santa Claus, performances by local school bands and chorus, and the movie, Arthur Christmas, will be shown on an outdoor screen. Hot chocolate, cookies and coffee will be served.

Ring In The New Year Laughlin Style! Come join the fun as the Laughlin hotel/casinos ring in the New Year with free champagne toasts and balloon drops at the stroke of midnight. Most properties offer live musical entertainment throughout the casino as well as superb dining specialties. In addition, from the Riverwalk, you can watch the dark sky above the Colorado River become a blaze of flashing color as fireworks usher in 2016!



Events for November – Southeast

- **Mondays** – BINGO at the Slim Kidwell Community Center in Cal–Nev–Ari, 6 pm
- **Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays** –Searchlight Senior Center: Walking at 9 am, Resistance Training at 10 am
- **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
- **Thursdays** – Yoga class at the Searchlight Community Center, 5 – 6 pm
- **Saturday, December 5** – The Searchlight Museum Guild will hold their Holiday party pot luck at the Searchlight Senior Center, 4:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, December 5** – Children’s craft at the Laughlin library, ages 5–11, 3 pm**
- **Tuesday, December 8** – Laughlin TAB Meeting at the Regional Gov. Center, 1:30 pm
- **Wednesday, December 9** – Searchlight TAB meeting at the Searchlight Community Center, 6 pm
- **Thursday, December 10** – Graham Cracker house building at the Laughlin Library, 4:30 pm**
- **Saturday, December 12** – Enjoy screenings of *Mabel’s Dressing Room* and *Madcap Mabel* by Rudy Cecera. A short introduction of silent film actress Mabel Normand will also be included.
- **Sunday, December 20** – Movie matinee at the Laughlin Library, 1:30 pm**

*TAB = Town Advisory Board **For more information call the Laughlin Library at 702–507–4060

“Journeys of the Soul” Art Exhibit at the Laughlin Library



Kathy Morton Stanion’s textured, abstract paintings incorporate recycled materials with the intent of creating beauty from objects once deemed useless. With a degree in visual communication from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Kathy has an extensive background in graphic and fine art. She recently painted 15 paintings for Carnival Cruise Line’s ship “Pride” and has been chosen to illustrate several magazine covers. She has been published in several magazines and had a piece selected from over 40,000 entries for inclusion in Print magazine’s 1989 Design Annual. Kathy’s work is collected and included in corporate and private collections around the world.

Her “Journeys of the Soul” exhibit will be on display at the Laughlin Library from Sunday, December 6 through Saturday, February 20, 2016.





Happy Holidays, Everyone!

Here we are at the end of another year and I am so thankful for all the great people I have met and the interesting things I have learned through the writing of this newsletter. And, not only have I reported on the events and activities throughout the year, I have gotten to participate in quite a few! There are just so many fun things to do and new things to try! Rural Clark County is truly special and I am so blessed to be just a little part of it.

From my family to yours – best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Meggan Holzer

Rural Towns Liaison

Rural Connections Editor/Writer/Photographer



Christmas Songs Quiz Answers

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Little Drummer Boy | 5. Joy to the World | 9. Oh, Holy Night |
| 2. Deck the Halls | 6. 12 days of Christmas | 10. Jingle Bell Rock |
| 3. Silent Night | 7. Away in a Manger | 11. Peace on Earth |
| 4. Noel | 8. Let it Snow | 12. Hark the Herald Angels Sing |