RURAL CONNECTIONS

SVVFD Balloonfest's Successful Return

The pancakes were flippin' and the balloons were flyin' at this year's Balloonfest in Sandy Valley. Presented by the Sandy Valley Volunteer Fire Department, Balloonfest offered a delicious breakfast, balloon rides, safety demonstrations, displays by community groups, a blood drive, a helicopter landing, and a visit by Metro's mounted unit. All of that, paired with gorgeous weather, made for a fantastic event. After taking a year off and moving to a new location at Peace Park, Balloonfest definitely came back with a bang, or, as a certain Clark County Fire Chief put it "I had a blast!"







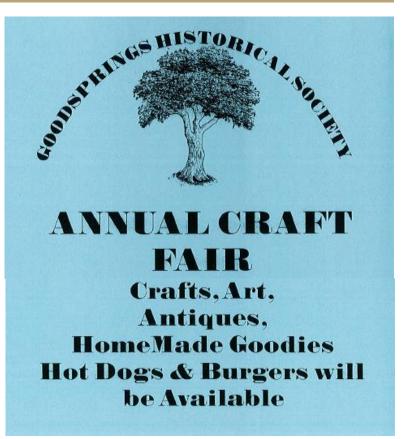






Goodsprings Historical Society to Host Annual Craft Fair

The Goodsprings Historical Society will be hosting their Annual Craft Fair on Saturday, March 17th at the Goodsprings Community Center and Park. The Fair, which will include crafts, art, baked goods, antiques and more, will go from 9 am to 4 pm. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be available for purchase. Take the short drive south of town to visit historic Goodsprings and you just might find that special something you have been looking for! If you are interesting in being a vendor, contact Jeri Pinkerton for details at 702–806–8660.



BINGO is Back at the Keystone Center in Sandy Valley

The competition was fierce at the Keystone Center in Sandy Valley on Saturday, February 3rd as a crowd of about 40 people gathered to try their luck at bringing home victory – and some fun prizes. BINGO hasn't been happening at Keystone for a couple of years now and from the smiling faces in the room it appears that the return is very welcomed. Come join the fun the first Saturday of every month at 6 pm.







Indian Springs Schools Staff Celebrated Reading Nevada Week With Some Outstanding Decorations







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Events for March – Southwest

- Wednesdays at the Sandy Valley School Gym Volleyball 4:30 to 6:30 pm, Basketball 6:30 to 8:30 pm
- Thursdays at the Sandy Valley Community Center Women's Yoga Circle, 7-8 pm, \$6
- Saturday, March 3 BINGO at the Keystone Center in Sandy Valley, 6 pm
- Monday, March 12 Sewing Class at the Sandy Valley Community Center, Microwave Baked Potato Bags, no previous sewing experience needed, come learn and have fun, 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 13 New Voting Machine Demonstration by Clark County Election Department at the Sandy Valley Community Center, 5:30 to 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 13 Sandy Mesquite Valley Development Association meeting at the Sandy Valley Community Center, 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 13 Sandy Valley CAC* meeting at the Sandy Valley Community Center, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 14 Mountain Springs CAC meeting at the Mountain Springs Fire Station, 6 pm
- Saturday, March 17 Sandy Valley Community Breakfast, 8 am to 10:30 am at the Senior Center, \$4.00 for the best pancakes & sausage or biscuits & gravy
- Monday, March 19 Craft class at the Sandy Valley Community Center 18 and over, string art!! 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 27 Goodsprings CAC* meeting at the Goodsprings Community Center, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 28 Red Rock CAC* meeting at the Blue Diamond Library, 7 pm

*CAC = Citizens Advisory Council

Special Second Sunday Celebration at Red Rock

Join featured artist Fawn Douglas and friends for a Celebration of the Nuwuvi and Inter-Tribal Friends on Sunday, March 11th from 11 am until 3 pm. The event will explore the connections between land and identity through Native American song, dance, story, and art.

11 am - Visitor Center - Craft projects for families. Craft projects for families. Craft art will include the woven stars (God's Eyes) and color your own petroglyph.

12 pm - Amphitheater - Introductions and stories of the Southern Paiute lands and why we protect them. The Southern Paiute Elders Group share Birdsongs and stories.

1 pm - Amphitheater - Introductions of the Pow Wow dancers and history of the dances. Inter-Tribal Pow Wow Performance. Local Native American dancers perform various dances.

For more information visit:

https://www.redrockcanyonlv.org/events/land-and-identity-celebration-of-the-nuwuvi-and-inter-tribal-friends/



Events for March – Northwest

- Weekdays at Indian Spring Elementary School After School Safekey Program. A recreational program for children in grades K-6. After school until 5:30 pm. Cost is \$6 per day per participant. For more information, call 702-879-3890 or stop by the Safekey room next to the elementary school playground.
- Tuesdays at the Indian Springs Community Center Knit, Stitch and Crochet is a great opportunity for knitters, crocheters and other fiber artists to gather and share their projects & talk over ideas, 10 am
- Wednesdays at the Indian Springs Community Center Coffee Talk: The doors will be open and the coffee will be on, so stop by for some good conversation, 10:30 am
- Thursdays at the Indian Springs Community Center The Pathway to Sobriety 12 Step Addiction Recovery Open Meeting, 6 to 7 pm, call 702–375–5758 for more information
- Saturday, March 10 High Desert Seniors Potluck at the Indian Springs Community Center, 2-4 pm
- Thursday, May 15 Indian Springs TAB* meeting at the Indian Springs Community Center, 6:30 pm
- Saturday, March 17 Opening day for Youth Baseball! Parade at 9 am, Tball at 9:30 am, Rookies at 10:45 am and Minors at 12:15 pm
- Thursday, March 22 BINGO at the Indian Springs Community Center, 18+, 7 to 9 pm
- Saturday, March 24 High Desert Senior Pancake breakfast at the Indian Springs Community Center, 9 –11 am
- Saturday, March 24 Youth Baseball! Tball at 9 am, Rookies at 10:15 am and Minors at 11:30 am
- Monday and Wednesday, March 26 and 28 Open Rec at the Indian Springs Community Center, 1 to 4 pm, children younger than 8 need to have an adult stay with them, \$1
- Tuesday, March 27 Movie and a Craft "Ferdinand" at the Indian Springs Community Center, 1 pm, \$1
- Thursday, March 29 Mt. Charleston TAB meeting at the Mt. Charleston Library, 7 pm
- Friday, March 30 Teen Movie Night at the Indian Springs Community Center "Justice League", ages 13 to 18, 5 to 9 pm
- Saturday, March 31 Community Easter Egg Hunt and free hot dog lunch at the Indian Springs Community Park next to the school, 12 to 4 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board



Community Partners







Spring Events and Activities in Northeast Clark County

Spring weather might be a bit late this year, but spring events in Moapa Valley are in full swing!

February 17th found 75 volunteers busily picking up trash and pulling weeds in the Logandale Trails area. BLM Weed Management Specialist Aleta Nafus spoke to the volunteers about the invasive Sahara Mustard plant, showed them what the plant looks like, the soils it prefers, and why it is so important to remove the weed now, before it takes over the trails system. Nafus explained that this weed has already moved into vast areas of southern Nevada, stating that they grow along Interstate 15, reaching heights of 3 feet or more. She said when you look at the desert and see thick patches of dark green plants, it is probably the Sahara Mustard as desert plants aren't 'that green'. The easiest way to remove them is simply to pull them up, put them in a trash bag and throw them away and volunteers were encouraged to remove the mustard plant wherever they find it.

Other volunteers picked up trash and cleaned campsites. Partners In Conservation (PIC) in partnership with the BLM, had written a grant to the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) who funds volunteer and educational events, so the supplies, materials, and pizza for lunch were partially funded through this grant. PIC also had a 'spin the wheel' for every bag of trash or weeds brought back. Every volunteer was a winner with frisbees, flags, and hats being the most common prizes.

Other events in Moapa Valley will be the famous area-wide yard sale on March 9th and 10th which is part of the bigger Moapa Valley Days celebration, organized by the Moapa Valley Revitalization Project. Other events that weekend will be a Cowboy Poetry Reading at the Lost City Museum, a Missoula Children's Theater performance of "Peter and Wendy" at the Moapa Valley High School, and the Moapa Valley Art Guild's Spring Art Show at the historic OLSHACS building. Details for all the above can be found here: <u>https://moapavalleychamber.com/</u>. Look for the 'Events' tab for locations, times, and other details.

Later this springs, PIC and the BLM are partnering for a fun day of activities at the Logandale Trails main trailhead. The BLM created a "Logandale Trails Jr. Ranger Workbook" which is being printed now. The day's activities will focus around the workbook and youth can get their Jr. Ranger badge by completing activities. And there will be lunch and goodies, so check <u>https://www.facebook.com/logandaletrails/</u> often for the exact date and time and bring your family for a fun day at the trails—a perfect way to celebrate spring in the desert!









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Events for March - Northeast

- Wednesday, March 14 Moapa Valley TAB* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- Tuesday, March 27 Moapa TAB* meeting at the Robinson Justice Court & Community Center, 7 pm
- Thursday, March 28 Bunkerville TAB* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board

Zephyr Performers Spring Concert – March 17th at the Old Logandale School (OLSHACS) at 7 pm. FREE Admission





Moapa Dace Semiannual Count Conducted

If you thought you saw people snorkeling through the streams of Moapa Valley late last month, you were right. They were staff from the US Fish and Wildlife Service performing the semiannual count of the endangered Moapa dace fish. They manually count every Moapa dace they see and this information helps scientists to understand the species current survival rates.





Events for March – Southeast

- **Tuesdays at the Laughlin Library** Club Tuesdays, a wide variety of crafts, art, games, stories, and STEM activities for ages 5-11, 4:30 pm**
- Wednesdays at the Laughlin Library Lego Club, Ages 5-11, 4 pm**
- Thursdays at the Laughlin Library AARP Tax Aide offers free tax preparation to anyone of any age, appointments are on a first-come, first-served basis, 10 am to 3 pm**
- Tuesday, March 6 Device Advice at the Laughlin Library, 11 am to 1 pm**
- Friday, March 9 & 23 Kids Craft Corner, 3 pm**
- Sunday, March 11 Tea at 3 at the Laughlin Library**
- Tuesday, March 13 Laughlin TAB* Meeting at the Regional Government Center, 1:30 pm
- Friday, March 16 & 30 Movie Matinees at the Laughlin Library, popcorn is provided, 2 pm**
- Wednesday, March 14 Master Gardeners at the Laughlin Library, 10 am**
- Wednesday, March 14 Searchlight TAB* meeting at the Searchlight Community Center, 6 pm
- Saturday, March 17 Saturday Readers Book Club, "The Indigo Girl" by Natasha Boyd, Laughlin Library, 11 am**
- Sunday, March 18 Origami Class at the Laughlin Library, 1:30 pm**
- **Sunday**, March 18 Metro Sgt. Briscoe will give a safety talk with tips to help increase situational awareness and for staying safe in the community, Laughlin Library, 2 pm**
- Wednesday, March 28 Adult Crafts at the Laughlin Library, 10:30 am**

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

Youth Fingerprint Art Creations from the Laughlin Library









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Rocky's Road: Journey of an Orphaned Burro

This is part 3 of an on-going series.

Rocky turned 4 months old on February 20th and continues to grow by leaps and bounds. He no longer gets any kind of formula since he has graduated to alfalfa and bermuda. Our horses eat alfalfa cubes and he is very curious about them and tries to nibble on them a little bit - but his teeth aren't quite ready for them yet. When we are home, he gets to run around the property. He likes to interact with the dogs and check in with the goats and chickens, but he loves to be close to the horses. When he gets a little bit bigger he will get to be out with them, but for now he just gets to visit with them through the corral panels. As with any young animal, he is doing a lot of exploring with his teeth - including our butts and legs! We are being good mama burros and helping him to understand that biting is not the way to get attention or make friends - but he sure is quick with those little chompers! He loves to "help" with projects around the ranch and is sure to make a project take twice as long as it would without his expert assistance.





Rocky came into our lives through the hard work of the staff and volunteers of BLM's Wild Horse and Burro (WHB) Program. The WHB Program was created to implement the Wild-Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act, passed by Congress in 1971 which declared wild horses and burros to be "living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West." There are many ways to get involved with the WHB Program.

Volunteers help promote adoptions of wild horses and burros and to educate the public about these amazing animals. There are many ways to volunteer, including helping with adoption events; mentoring new adopters; and conducting compliance checks to make sure newly adopted animals are in good care. Some volunteers perform counts and document the herds throughout the year. To find volunteer opportunities here in Southern Nevada, contact Tabitha (Tabby) Romero, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist at (702)515–5171 or tromero@blm.gov.

Another way to participate in the WHB Program is through adoption. Everything you need to know about adopting a wild horse or burro, along with some great information and photos, is listed in this brochure:

https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/wildhorse_adoption_brochure.pdf

There are also adoption events throughout the year in different parts of the country. https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro/adoption-and-sales/events One event that is right here in Nevada is the Northern Nevada Correctional Center Saddle-Trained Wild Horse Adoption. This program pairs inmates with wild horses for 120 days of gentling and training after which the horses are offered for adoption at events held 3 to 4 times a year. The next of these adoption events is scheduled for June 2, 2018 at the Carson City facility. More information about the program is available here: https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro/adoptions-andsales/adoption-centers/northern-nevada-correctional-center-horse-facility



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management