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MESQUITE MONTHLY

Your Local Source For Mesquite Business, People & News

MARCH 2024 | VOL. 4, No. 10

FREE



The Virgin Valley High flag football team won its third straight state championship.

SEE STORY, PAGE 12

Junior Nataly Martinez scores the first touchdown against Boulder City in the state championship game against Boulder City. Desert Damon photo.

INSIDE: Mayor's Column, PAGE 6 | Community Calendar, PAGE 15

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Your Local Source
For Mesquite Business,
People & News

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NEWS AND NOTES

CANCER WALK SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 16

The Mesquite March Against ALL Cancer is scheduled March 16 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road.

Come walk and show your support. There will be raffle items, live music and more. The event is hosted by the Mesquite Cancer Help Society.

Those interested can email WarriorWomenMesquiteNV@yahoo.com.

EASTER FIELD DAY SLATED FOR MARCH 23

The Mesquite Easter Field Day will take place on March 23 at the field next to the Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road, at 2:30 p.m.

The event brings children and seniors together and offers egg relays,

egg roll, sack race, three-legged race, egg jump, egg toss, bunny-bunny-rabbit, ribbons and gift bags.

All ages are welcome to attend.

The event is sponsored by the City of Mesquite, The Salvation Army and Mesa View Estates Assisted Living.

Also, Project Easter Bunny is seeking donations in building Easter bags for Mesquite youths.

The Salvation Army and Mesa Valley Estates Senior Living are accepting donations Easter candy, plastic eggs, Easter grass and small toys through March 18.

THE CIRCUS COMES TO VIRGIN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Come have fun at the Virgin Valley High School Student Center for a MCEF Scholarship fund-raising event on Tuesday, March 19, from 5-7 p.m.

There will be entertainment, in-

cluding the school Jazz Band performing along with Choir Notes and Mesquite Men's Choir. There will also be a silent auction.

Cost is \$150 for a table of six, \$45 for a couple and \$30 for a single ticket.

The event is sponsored by the Mesquite Community Education Foundation.

MESQUITE PD HONORS STAFF, VOLUNTEERS

The Mesquite Police Department recently held its MDP awards at the CasaBlanca Resort-Casino.

The winners were as follows:

Dispatcher of the year: Alexis Fawson; Correction Officer of the year: Officer Derek Shumway; Civilian Employee of the year: Brooke Whipple; Animal Control Officer of the year: Walter Dalton; Police Offi-

> See BRIEFS, Page 4

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Artists of the month:

PAM JACOBSON GLASS ARTIST

Art has always been a part of Pam's life. She took a multitude of classes in school, through college, and into adulthood, seemingly trying every art medium. Thirty years ago, she and her husband bought a house that had the perfect place for stained glass windows. She decided that instead of paying someone to make the windows, she would take a class to learn to make them herself, thus introducing herself to glass. She then moved into fused glass and was so taken that she immediately had to buy a kiln of her own, and she has been fusing glass ever since.



Pam retired from teaching in 2014

and moved to Mesquite with her husband, Alan, in 2016. Once here, Pam jumped right into an assortment of activities through Sun City and is currently the president of Glass Crafters (Fused Glass Club). She sells her wares at the Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, at local shows, and through her ETSY site.

HEIDI MIDDLETON CARD ARTIST

"For many years, I have been sewing and beading. Every day, I spend time on my hobby. I took private lessons for five years from a Russian Woman, Lana May, learning all the tricks of the beading trade. Quality is my specialty. I hope all those who purchase from me can wear a smile with their purchase



Briefs

continued from Page 3

cer of the year: Officer Jonny Gleave; Supervisor of the year: Sergeant Jordan Bundy

Retired dispatcher Ken Reber was also honored last night and presented with this year's Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication to the people of Mesquite during his 35 year career!

OFFICER ESPLIN PICKED BEST OF THE BADGE

Congratulations to Officer Matt Esplin for being awarded the Mesquite Police Department's Best of the Badge for January!

Esplin joined MPD in 2021 as a new officer and he has been a great addition to the team. Esplin always has a positive attitude with co-workers and the community, even on the most challenging days.

He led the department in traffic stops throughout 2023 and again

in January 2024. Not only is Esplin constantly proactively looking for criminal activity, but he also seeks out ways to serve the city in any way he can with compassion.

In just one of many examples of his hard work and caring for others, he recently dealt with someone who was having a mental health crisis. He went above and beyond what was expected of him, worked diligently to resolve their issues, and got the person help and resources when they needed it most.



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FROM THE MAYOR

Programs available to help people afford new homes

By Al Litman

A few weeks ago, I had several guests from Nevada Rural Housing Authority on my Monday morning video that I do weekly.

I brought them on because without a local television station, or radio, or for that matter, a local daily newspaper that is exclusive to Mesquite, it's really difficult to get important information out to the public.

I avoid social media for that purpose, especially Facebook for obvious reasons. There are so many programs offered by this agency that could benefit many of our residents or those wishing to move here, that I thought I would brief you on one this month, and more later on.

Home ownership has become just a dream for so many. With rising prices and interest rates, so many of our young, working people are priced out of the housing market.

They may have decent earnings, but the down payment is nearly impossible to obtain. With the average home price in Mesquite at around \$350,000, a normal down

payment would be \$70,000, and an additional nearly ten per cent in closing costs.

In fact I just read that 71 percent of millennials have saved zero towards a down payment of a home. When I look back, I recall nearly every one I knew was able to gather the down payment and closing costs for a home. It wasn't easy, but certainly not impossible, and we, and our friends were not financially well off.

However, there are programs available to assist prospective buyers in Nevada, and one of them is called, Home At Last.

The program has helped thousands of families of all ages since it started in 2006. It allows a generous income maximum, no first time buyer requirement, and customizable loan options.

Now, you may hear about loan programs that are not on the up and up, as the expression goes, but this is not one of them. It's the real thing. I won't go into details, but they offer FHA loans with 3.5% down, and others with zero down.

Of course, all borrowers must meet normal loan underwriting requirements for the type of financing being used to purchase the home. Down payment assistance provided by the

> See **MAYOR**, Page 11



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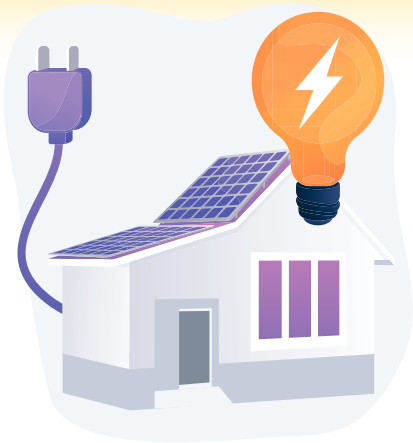
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Car dealership employees volunteer at senior center

By Breven Honda

February is a time of the year to show love, highlighted by Valentine's Day. However, love is not only directed to a significant other, but to those around you.

The employees at Ken Garff Mesquite Ford did just that the day after Feb. 14 by making the three-mile trip to the Mesquite Senior Center, showing care and love to the elderly residents.

Despite only planning this for a week, receptionist Nancy Tabbert as well as five associates were able to have a good time.

"We had a lot of fun," Tabbert said. "Ken Garff family believes in giving back to the community and I was challenged with finding a local community support place. So, I suggested the Senior Center.

"They just loved it. It was so much fun. I love interacting with them."

In addition to having a good time, they served lunch and dessert, including cupcakes and ice cream with chocolate drizzle.

Not only did Tabbert have a good time, but also each of the five associates who attended.

"They all came to me and thanked me for putting it together because we really enjoyed our interaction with them," she said.

More Ken Garff Mesquite Ford employees wanted to attend but were unable to do so.

That shows how committed the workforce values Ken Garff Ford has to the volunteer aspect of their work.

"We have a wonderful staff of employees here that are willing to give back," Tabbert said. "We did a project back in October that was great. We worked in Logandale with their food pantry and

> See GARFF, Page 14



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Mesquite Senior Games excited to begin spring games

By Breven Honda

The month of March is always a busy one for the Mesquite Senior Games as it marks the beginning of the spring games.

The first event marks the beginning of eight consecutive weeks of 15 different sports and activities.

President Sandy Tudor said her, and her eight other board members kicked off the spring games with Table Tennis on March 2 at the Mesquite Recreation Center.

"We're in pretty good shape," Tudor said. "We got off to a little bit of a slow start, but it's picked up quite a bit. We're getting people signed up for the rest of the events."

The bowling event, which is scheduled at the Virgin River Lanes, is already sold out, due to its popularity and the number of lanes available.

This year, bowling is separated into two days, one for three games

of doubles competition and the second for singles action. Check-in for both days is at 9 a.m. so all the participants are ready to begin hunting for strikes at 10 a.m.

Most of the sporting events, like bowling, are separated into five-year age divisions, beginning at 50 years old to evenly balance the competition. The top three in each age division of every sport will earn a medal.

In addition, every participant will receive a goodie bag, which includes a drink cozy, notebook and a notepad that has a magnetic strip to easily attach to the refrigerator or something similar.

Each sport is designed for not only the experienced, but also the first timers to emphasize the mission statement of the Mesquite Senior Games to "promote the health and fitness of anyone 50 years and better."

Tudor said participants need "absolutely no" experience. She added the two most important things people need to know about participating in any event.

"Our primary goal is to have fun, so we need them to have fun. We want them to meet new people, try new things and have fun doing it," Tudor said. "The second thing is it's about the camaraderie, the participation, more so than about winning."

"So, you do not need to be proficient in any sport to compete."

Before pickleball gets under way, both poker and the first of two fitness hikes are on March 12.

Although the hiking map is not completely finalized, people will have the opportunity to explore the unique terrain of Mesquite. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. near the Flying J Truck Stop near Lower Flat Top Road and West Pioneer

Boulevard by finding the Mesquite Senior Games Banner.

Poker takes place in the afternoon as action begins at 2 p.m. The format is no limit Texas Hold 'Em and there is a 40-player maximum for this tournament, which takes place at the Mesquite Veteran's Center, a new location compared to previous years at Sun City.

"We're so excited about the fitness hike that we're doing it twice," Tudor said. "The nice thing about poker is this year we're doing it at the Veteran's Center. They said, 'We've got poker players here from our facility,' so that's good."

The fitness hike, poker, pickleball and the basketball skills event begin a stretch of five consecutive days of at least one spring event taking place with hoops action on March 16 at the Mesquite Recreation Center.

> See GAMES, Page 11



We are always looking for volunteers. Please visit our website for volunteer opportunities.

2024 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Bowling	March 9-10	History Tour	March 25
Fitness Hike #1	March 12	Golf Events	April 2
Poker	March 12	Shotgun & Target Pistol	April 5
Pickleball	March 13-15	Softball Women's 50, 55, 60	April 6-7
Basketball Skills	March 16	Softball Women's 65+	April 9-10
Tennis Senior Challenge	March 18-22	Fitness Hike #2	April 12
Track & Field	March 23	Cornhole	April 20
		Bocce	April 22-25



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Scan to visit our website for more details

*Dates are subject to change.
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Games

continued from Page 10

The basketball event will include making as many free throws in 25 opportunities, hot shot for those to make as many baskets from various spots with differing point values in 60 seconds as well as a three-point shooting contest where participants shoot five balls from five racks. The first four balls of a rack are one point, and the final ball is worth two points.

“We’re looking forward to (poker) and then right after that, we have the pickleball and then basketball,” Tudor said. “Quite a few people signed up for basketball and most of them are doing all three events.”

The second half of March concludes with five days of tennis in addition to track and field and the history tour.

Tennis, which is making its return since 2019, is a culmination of a three-round minimum for participants to be in medal contention. Action from March 18-22 is from 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m. each day at Hafen Park.

Track and field consists of run, power walk, jump and field events on March 23 at Virgin Valley High School.

There are eight different running

distances from 50 meters to 5,000 meters, five different power walk distances from 400 meters (one lap around the track) to 5,000 meters, four different jumping events, such as long jump, triple jump and high jump, as well as five different field events, such as pole vault and discus.

The final event of March is the history tour, a non-competitive event for everyone of all ages to learn about the town’s past. Open to a maximum of 20 attendees, it is a 3-mile walk around town, which is followed by lunch in the garden of the Virgin Valley Heritage Museum.

In addition to people participating or volunteering in an event, or two, Tudor wants people to come out and observe the different events over the next two months as spectators.

“We’d love to have people to come watch some of the games,” Tudor said. “That’s one of the reasons I like having the events published in the paper so that people go, ‘Oh wow, tennis is going on, I might go and watch.’ So, I encourage people to come out and spectate and then maybe next year participate or volunteer because it looks like fun.”

Mayor

continued from Page 6

Home At Last program can be used to cover all or a portion of the down payment required for your loan, and even for closing costs.

Yes, there are program details such as income limits, debt to income ratio, minimum credit score, but no requirement to be a current Nevada resident to qualify for the program, but you must occupy the home as your primary residence within 60 days of closing.

Nevada rural housing has other programs to offer that I will bring up in the coming months. Nevada

Rural Housing Authority will soon be opening up their Hafen Village Apartments. I have previewed them, and they are beautiful and with many amenities for their residents.

Financially, you have to qualify for these units, and if you contact the Nevada Rural Housing Authority you can get the details. Drive by the complex located just past the Mesquite Veterans Center on Hafen Lane, and you can get the needed contact numbers from the posted signage.

Al Litman is mayor of the city of Mesquite.



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Bulldogs claim third straight 3A state title in dominating fashion

By Breven Honda

When the Virgin Valley High School girls flag football team secured their second straight NIAA 3A State championship last year, they had to pull off a dramatic comeback victory.

This year, as a No. 1 seed from the Desert League in the 3A state tournament, the comeback heroics were not needed as the Bulldogs utilized their strong defense from beginning to end, defeating Boulder City, the other No. 1 seed from the Mountain League, 28-6, on Feb. 20 at home.

"It's amazing. It never gets old," Virgin Valley head coach Joey Bowler said. "I think we've kind of set a tradition of winning for our program here. It feels great each time.

"I think we went in with a lot of confidence. We had that debacle in the state game last year where we had to come back and win. We told the girls, 'We don't want that scenario. We want to get ahead and stay ahead and not have to fight all the way.'"

After a first quarter without a single point, Virgin Valley found the end zone in the second, jumping out to a 15-0 lead entering halftime before adding their final 13 points in the third quarter.

Virgin Valley sophomore quarterback Davie Slack completed 15 of 25 passes for 187 yards and three touchdowns. She also added nine carries and a touchdown in the 22-point win.

"Davey really stepped it up," said assistant Robert Nelson, who coaches the offense. "We made a game plan going in. They changed their defense on us, and we had to adjust pretty quickly. She understood her role a lot better (this year) and when things had to change on the fly, she did a good job of stepping it up. I think she truly became a leader."

Slack found fellow sophomore Linita Kioa a game-high six times for 115 yards and two touchdowns, including for a 46-yard completion. She also added three tackles and a sack defensively.

"Linita is a baller. As a freshman, she saved our butts in that state game with her diving catch on her knees I think to tie it up," Nelson said. "She's a clutch player. She likes the competition. She likes it to be tight. She likes those big plays that she gets and it's infectious. When she starts going 'beast mode' as we call it, the rest of the team follows.

"She's been amazing on both sides of the ball. Her blitzing has been incredible this year. She's a special player."



The Eagles had no answer against the Bulldogs as they were unable to score until the fourth quarter on a deflected pass.

The Bulldogs, who defeated Doral Academy Red Rock, 59-6, in the quarterfinals and Moapa Valley, 27-12, in the semifinals, had four players record at least five tackles, led by senior Amparo Quirarte Aguilar and sophomore Denise Silveyra with six and senior Gentry Draney and junior Ari Easton with five. Junior Mercades Jordan added four tackles, including two sacks.

Easton also had two interceptions while Aguilar added two pass deflections.

"I felt like it should've been a shutout for the game that they played," said Bowler, who led his defense to allow just five points per game. "The touchdown, they even played that awesome, but it's been really good, and they've been tough all year."

The Bulldog defense recorded 11 shutouts in 23 games this season, including not allowing a point in six straight games and nine of 10 from Jan. 8 to Feb. 6.

Furthermore, the Virgin Valley offense scored 803 points compared to allowing just 124 on the defensive side.

"They'll be in the record books," Bowler said. "I think it's the second best. It's about 4.4 points a game, you're playing dang good in this flag. It's been a really tight, really good group. Their goal is not to let anyone score and they did a great job. Anytime you give up less than five points a game, you're playing great defense."

In addition, the home domination was not only prevalent in the championship, but the entire season, going a perfect 11-0 on their home turf.

Bowler said playing at home, including during the

playoffs, was the advantage they needed to secure a third straight state title.

"We like our home field like everyone else," Bowler said. "It's just a different field. The first (time) we saw that the number one seed would play the state game on their home field, we started on the girls said, 'Hey, do you want to play here at home? Do you want to play state here?' We started to drive that in, and everyone wanted to play here."

Everyone also means the coaches, not only Bowler and Nelson.

Bowler said his coaching staff has that same mentality to mentor the players and go out and achieve that state championship every year.

"If we did not have the coaching staff that we have, it's holistic" Bowler said. "We try to help each other. We wouldn't be where we're at without the coaches. There's no jealousy, there's no 'me', 'I'. It's 'we' and we work together to develop the program and we're good friends."

As the calendar now flips to the offseason, Bowler, including Nelson, has their eyes set on camp in the summer as they look to go for a four-peat next season.

Also...

Virgin Valley secured another winter sports state title in boy's wrestling in individual play on Feb. 16 in the 3A State Meet at Anderson Auto Group Fieldhouse in Bullhead City, Ariz. Senior Gunner Cortez was the champion in the 150-pound weight class going undefeated in his matches, including defeating his final opponent by fall at the 35 second mark.

In addition, fellow senior Ruben Silveyra placed second in the 157-pound weight class, losing in a tight, 5-4 decision in the finals.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To have your event listed in this calendar, please email mesquitemonthly@gmail.com or call 775-316-2335.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Ages 0-5 Storytime: 10 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. A wide variety of books, songs and participatory activities will be shared for young children and their parents. Music will be a strong component. 702-346-5224.

Coloring for Adults: 1-2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Join for a relaxing session of coloring intricate and meditative designs of various artists. 702-346-5224.

Homework Help: 3:30 - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

Sign Language Group: 4:30-5:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Explore the world of American Sign Language with an inclusive class, open to all skill levels. 702-346-5224.

TUESDAYS

Ages 0-3 Toddler Storytime: 10-10:30 a.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Babies and toddlers enjoy songs, nursery rhymes, stories and fingerplays with their favorite adult. This program introduces kids and parents to language-enrichment activities and emerging literacy skills. 702-346-5224.

Rotary Club: noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Email questions to Jake Noll, 916-813-9451.

Homework Help: 3:30 - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

WEDNESDAYS

Ages 3-5 Preschool Storytime: 10-10:30 a.m. Includes stories, songs and more to build literacy skills and help children develop a love for books. Activities also include Kindergarten Readiness skills such as cutting, tracing, and doing worksheets. 702-346-5224.

Homework Help: 3:30 - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

Kids' Artsy Craft Club: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., A new art technique is taught every week, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224.

THURSDAYS

Sunrise Rotary: 7:30 a.m. Meets every Thursday at CSN. Room 1. For more information, contact Deb Parsley at 702-420-4494.

Toastmasters: noon - 1 p.m., First Baptist Church, 830 E. Hafen Lane. Toastmasters meet each Thursday at noon. Contact Mike Young at mkyoung@ix.netcom.com for details.

Coloring for Adults: 2:30-3:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Join for a relaxing session of coloring intricate and meditative designs of various artists. 702-346-5224.

Teen Crafternoon: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Teen programs operate under the principles of HOMAGO: Hanging Out, Messing Around, Geeking Out.

Refers to spaces and learning activities that allow for flexible, hands-on experimentation, collaboration and tinkering in areas of professional interest. All supplies provided. 702-346-5224.

Homework Help: 3:30 - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. 702-346-5224.

STEAM Activities for Kids: 4-5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Participate each week in fun, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math activity. 702-346-5224

FRIDAYS

Celebrate Recovery: 5-8:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 830 E. Hafen Lane. Adult support recovery program for all your hurts, habits and hangups. 5 p.m. dinner; 6 p.m., meeting; and 7 p.m., sharing time. For information call, Dave at 847-997-6868.

SUNDAYS

Al-Anon Family Group: 3 p.m., Mesquite Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside Drive, Suite A. Al-Anon Family Group is back with weekly meetings.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Writer's Group: 5-6:45 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

What's Happening Mesquite: 8-9 a.m., Mesquite Elks Lodge, 545 Riverside Road. If you want to be "in

the know" about what's happening in Mesquite, this event is for you. \$15, include breakfast. Call 702-346-2902.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Beazer Homes Grand Opening: 10 a.m., 1486 Ridgemont Lane. Welcome to Gatherings at Ridgemont, a 55-older community nestled in the breathtaking landscapes of Mesquite. Refreshments served.

Card Making for Adults: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Take a class in card making at the library. Info: 702-346-5224.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Apple iPhone: 3-4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. Get to know the ins and outs of your Apple iPhone. Info: 702-346-5224.

Family Craft: 11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Join us for an artful craft or project that incorporates dexterity, imagination, and fun! Info: 702-346-5224.

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Featured

> See CALENDAR, Page 15

Almost, Maine

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Garff

continued from Page 8

we had so much fun with that one too. This company recognizes that there's needs in the community."

In addition to having a "fabulous" time with the seniors, the car company also made a \$2,000 donation to the Mesquite Senior Center.

Tabbert said this monetary donation will cover costs or expenses that do not come under the senior center's grant money that they receive.

"The senior center does not shy away from if a homeless person comes in and needs a meal and just can't afford it," Tabbert said. "Their grant doesn't cover that money. \$2,000 will help defray that cost as well as any other needs that they have. It's a real pleasure."

The giving back attitude also gives back a positive response to car customers in and around Mesquite.

Tabbert said the seniors who enjoyed their time with the Ken Garff Ford employees did not expect the hospitality and charitable work.

"I made sure that a lot of our seniors knew that we came from Ken Garff Ford, and they were just so shocked that we would send people out to do that," Tabbert said. "I think it was a wonderful way of demonstrating that we do give back to the community and I don't think our seniors knew that. I believe the senior center is one of those that is an unsung entity in our community, especially in a community that has demographics of primarily seniors."

Ken Garff Ford has quarterly events throughout the year, like these, for the employees to give back to the community. The next event is expected to take place sometime between April and June.

Understanding the importance of trusts in financial planning

By Ron Bird

Trusts serve as fundamental tools in comprehensive financial planning, offering individuals and families a structured and strategic approach to managing assets, preserving wealth, and ensuring the smooth transfer of assets to beneficiaries. Their significance lies in the multifaceted benefits they provide across various aspects of financial security and legacy planning.



while maintaining confidentiality regarding asset details and beneficiaries.

ESTATE TAX MITIGATION AND TAX EFFICIENCY

For individuals with sizable estates, trusts offer strategies to mitigate estate taxes. Irrevocable trusts, when structured correctly, can remove assets from the taxable estate, reducing potential estate tax liabilities. Furthermore, certain types of trusts provide tax advantages during the accumulation and distribution of assets. For instance, grantor trusts allow income tax obligations to pass through to the grantor, potentially reducing the overall tax burden.

LEGACY AND SUCCESSION PLANNING

Trusts are invaluable tools for establishing and executing legacy and succession plans. They enable individuals to specify how and when assets are distributed among heirs or beneficiaries, ensuring their wishes are carried out precisely. Testamentary trusts, activated upon the testator's passing, can support specific intentions, such as providing for minor children, charitable giving, or managing assets for the benefit of future generations.

In summary, the importance of trusts in financial planning cannot be overstated. These versatile instruments offer a multitude of benefits, including asset protection, probate avoidance, tax efficiency, and precise control over the distribution of assets. They play a pivotal role in securing financial legacies and ensuring the smooth transfer of wealth while affording individuals the peace of mind that their assets will be managed and distributed according to their wishes.

This article is for informational purposes only. Financial Concepts Retirement Planning does not offer specific legal advice. Ron Bird is the owner of Financial Concepts Retirement Planning and can be reached at 702-346-7025

ASSET PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

One of the key advantages of trusts is their ability to shield assets from potential risks and creditors. By placing assets within a trust, individuals can safeguard them from unforeseen financial liabilities or legal claims. Irrevocable trusts, in particular, provide a level of protection by relinquishing ownership of the assets, thereby reducing vulnerability to lawsuits or creditors' claims.

Moreover, trusts offer a mechanism for effective asset management. With a designated trustee responsible for managing and distributing assets according to the trust's terms, individuals can ensure their assets are managed prudently and in alignment with their goals and wishes.

PROBATE AVOIDANCE AND PRIVACY

Assets held in trusts typically bypass the probate process, providing several advantages. Probate, the legal process of validating a will and distributing assets, can be time-consuming, expensive, and subject to public record. Trusts offer a private and efficient alternative, allowing for faster distribution of assets



Mesquite United Methodist Church

"Welcoming, loving, connecting with Jesus"

**Sunday,
March 24**

**PALM
SUNDAY**

10:00 a.m. Worship

**Sunday,
March 24**

**Come to the Cross
CHOIR CANTATA**

4:00 p.m. Worship

**Holy
Thursday,
March 28**

4:00 p.m. Worship

**Good
Friday,
March 29**

4:00 p.m. Worship

**EASTER
SUNDAY,
March 31**

SUNRISE SERVICE

6:00 a.m.

**CELEBRATION
SERVICE**

10:00 a.m.

Holy Week



Calendar

continued from Page 13

movie is "Dumb Money." Call 702-346-5224.

Music Concert: 3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Featured "Clint Brill." Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

Blood Drive: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Schedule at www.donors.vitalant.com or call 877-256-4825.

Virgin Valley Amateur Radio Club: 6 p.m. Fire Station No. 3. The club meets on the second Monday of each month. For more information, please go to our website at: www.vvarc.net

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

Android Phone: 10:15- 11:15 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Learn how to use your Android phone. Call 702-346-5224.

City Council meeting: 5 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Blood Drive: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Schedule at www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767..

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

Chamber of Commerce luncheon: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Cinnamon Cafe, 555 Highland Drive. Business networking luncheon with open mic for members. Members \$30, non-members \$40. Call 702-346-2902.

Book Bingo: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Play bingo, win books! Info: 702-346-5224.

Republican Women's Club (for men & women): Doors open at 5 p.m., Meeting 5:30-7 p.m., Mesquite Veteran's Center, 840 Hafén Lane, Meetings the second Wednesday of each month. For information:

call 560-966-5363, email hrbsue@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Mesquite Mystery Book Club: 11 a.m. - noon. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Pick up this month's selection from the customer service desk and read it prior to the meeting. Then join in the discussion. Call 702-346-5224.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Burn a Bookmark Craft: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. With torch paste in hand, try to style your very own bookmark using fun woodburning techniques! Materials provided. Free and open to the public. Info: 702-346-5224

Mesa Ridge Pharmacy grand opening: 3-4 p.m., 340 Falcon Ridge Parkway. Refreshments served and raffle prizes available.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Mesquite March Against ALL Cancer: 9:30 a.m. - noon; Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Come walk and show your supports. Raffle items, live music and more. \$20 donation, includes t-shirt with pre-register. For details, email WarriorWomen-MesquiteNV@yahoo.com

Concert: 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Sean Gaskell and the Music of West Africa. Info: 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

Keith Zalinger, Mentalist: 1 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Keith Zalinger is a mind-reader, mentalist and hypnotist. Seating on a first come, first served basis. Info: 702-346-5224.

Concert: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come listen to the band "Dry Heat." Info: 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

Virgin Valley Artists Association General Meeting: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery,

15 W. Mesquite Blvd.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

City Technical Review meeting: 2:30 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

Library Card Holder Craft: 2-3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Make your own library themed tote bag. Info: 702-346-5224.

The Circus Comes to VV High School: 5-8 p.m., Virgin Valley High School, 820 Valley View Drive. Entertainment by the school jazz band, half notes and Mesquite Men's Choir. Sponsored by Mesquite Community Education Foundation. Price \$150 for a table of 6, \$45 for a couple or \$30 for a single. Tickets available at Danielle's, Mesquite Recreation Center or Virgin Valley High School.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

Adult 3D Pen Coloring: 3 - 4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Learning Center Building. Come learn about 3D pen coloring. Info: 702-346-5224.

Dixie Leavitt Neighborhood Meeting for Rezoning Purposes: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Teen Gay-Straight Alliance: 4:45-5:45 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join LGBTQIA+ teens and allies who are having fun, being supportive, learning about local resources and striving to make the community stronger. Call 702-346-5224.

Music Festival: 6-7 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Groups performing will be beginning orchestra and guitar, intermediate orchestra and guitar and advanced orchestra and guitar. Bring chairs and blankets for seating. Food trucks will be on site.

Gallery Artists Reception: 4-6 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Reception

for "Through Our Eyes" exhibit that runs through March 22 at the gallery. Special feature is student art displays.

Writer's Group: 5-6:45 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

Almost, Maine: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

DIY Adult Craft: 11:30 a.m. - 1 2:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. It's an amazing feeling to make something unique and creative, so going for a fun experience. There is a different craft each month and all supplies are included. Attendance is limited, so call or register at the customer service desk. Info: 702-346-5224.

Almost, Maine: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

Almost, Maine: 2 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

Children's Movie: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come out for a movie geared toward children ages 0-17 and their caregivers. Call 702-346-5224.

> See CALENDAR, Page 17



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
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Sunday Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	6:00 p.m.

Pastor Bruce Whisenhunt
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Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Wendy Swanson

420 W. Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite 702-346-4663 umcmesquite.org


Mesquite Lutheran Church

BIBLE STUDY Sunday 8:30 a.m.	SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 a.m. <i>Weekly Communion</i>
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Join us! Sundays at 11 am in the Mesquite Arts Center (W. Mesquite Blvd.)

The necessity of transcendent beauty

By Christopher Wall

In Christian apologetics (defending one's faith), there are various arguments for the existence of God, the reliability of Scripture, and so forth. One of the ways that Christians have historically argued for the existence of God is the reality of the three transcendentals: truth, goodness, and beauty. Not only their existence but also their objectivity.



In our day and age, many will argue that all three of these transcendent realities are merely subjective chemical reactions of the brain as we process the outside world around us and attempt to make sense of it and apply meaning to it.

If we have given up hope on the objective nature of truth and goodness, I am not sure what we are doing in this world. I have heard arguments that suggest morals are nothing more than social constructs allowing humans to function in societies, yet this has never carried weight with me since there seems to be uniform agreement about the inherent evilness and untruthfulness of certain actions and claims.

Furthermore, I find it rather curious that the same people who argue for the subjectivity of truth and goodness often are able to discern a lie and will tell me when they think my values are "morally reprehensible."

Needless to say, to dismiss the objective nature of truth and goodness is simply nonsense on its face. You may attempt to use all the philosophical jargon and musings you would like, but the apparent reality to the contrary is all too obvious to those of us who care about actual intellectual engagement.

What I find concerning, however, is that many realize the objective nature of truth and goodness and then give up ground on beauty. They see the merit of viewing beauty as subjective. How else will you account for the variety of preferences?

But when was the last time you looked at the mountains as the sun set and someone told you, "That is the ugliest thing I have ever seen."? Even if someone did say that, would you question your sanity or theirs?

Doubtless, you would question theirs. Why? Because there is an objective beauty to sunsets. There is no denying we all have preferences and will find certain things more desirable to our particular taste than others, but that does not negate the objective nature of beauty.

With this, I propose to you the greatest beauty is found in God. All beauty points upward. To know Christ as Lord and Savior because of His death, burial, and resurrection is the greatest beauty of all! Consider the beauty of Him today.

Chris Wall is the Pastor of Mesquite Baptist Church located at 742 W. Pioneer Blvd. Suite A. Additional resources can be found on their website "Mesquite Baptist Church NV.com," Facebook, and YouTube at "Mesquite Baptist Church NV"

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Calendar

continued from Page 15

Southwest Art Collection Dinner & Silent Auction: 5 -7 p.m., CasaBlanca Resort Cortez/ Stardust Room. Donated from the Trust of Drs. Ann & Mike Rice, late patrons of the non-profit Virgin Valley Artists Association. \$35 per person. Purchase tickets at Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., 702-346-1338.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Children's Sensory Sensitive Movie: 1 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come out for a movie geared toward children ages 0-17 and their caregivers. Call 702-346-5224.

Concert: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Come listen to the music of George Christost. Info: 702-346-5224.

Almost, Maine: 2 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

Book Bingo: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Mes-

quite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Play bingo, win books! Info: 702-346-5224.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

City Council meeting: 5 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Writer's Group: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come and discuss your craft with other local writers. Info: 702-346-5224.

International Cinema (Film Discussion Group): 2-3 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join to discuss (in English) a different film each month. Pick up a copy of the month's selection at the Customer Service Desk. Call 702-346-5224.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Blood Drive: 2 - 6 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Schedule at www.donors.vitalant.com or call 877-256-4825.

Almost, Maine: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20,

available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Book Sleeve Craft: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Come to the learning center and create your own protective book sleeve. Call 702-346-5224.

Blood Drive: noon - 5 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Schedule through www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

Almost, Maine: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Home Buyers Workshop: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Free program put on by the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America. Call 702-346-5224.

Almost, Maine: 2 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N.

Yucca St. Directed by Robert Craig, written by John Carioni. Tickets \$20, available at mctnv.com or at the Virgin Valley Arts Center box office one hour before the show.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Brown Bag Lecture: noon - 1 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Rachel Washington will discuss fun with costuming. Free to the public, reservations recommended. Call 702-346-1338.

City Technical Review meeting: 2:30 p.m., City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Regular meetings of the Mesquite City Council.

Arts Council Meeting: 5:30-6:30 p.m., Mesquite Arts Council Office, 150 N. Yucca St. Monthly board meeting of the Mesquite Arts Council. The public is welcome to attend. Call Gwen Olson at 702-346-2787 or email cgolsen47@yahoo.com

Mesquite Patriots Meeting: 2 p.m. (doors open at 1:45 p.m.), meetings held at the Veterans Center, 840 E. Hafen Lane. Special Guest, Tony Gray for U.S. Senate. Phone: 725-208-2661 or email MesquitePatriots@yahoo.com

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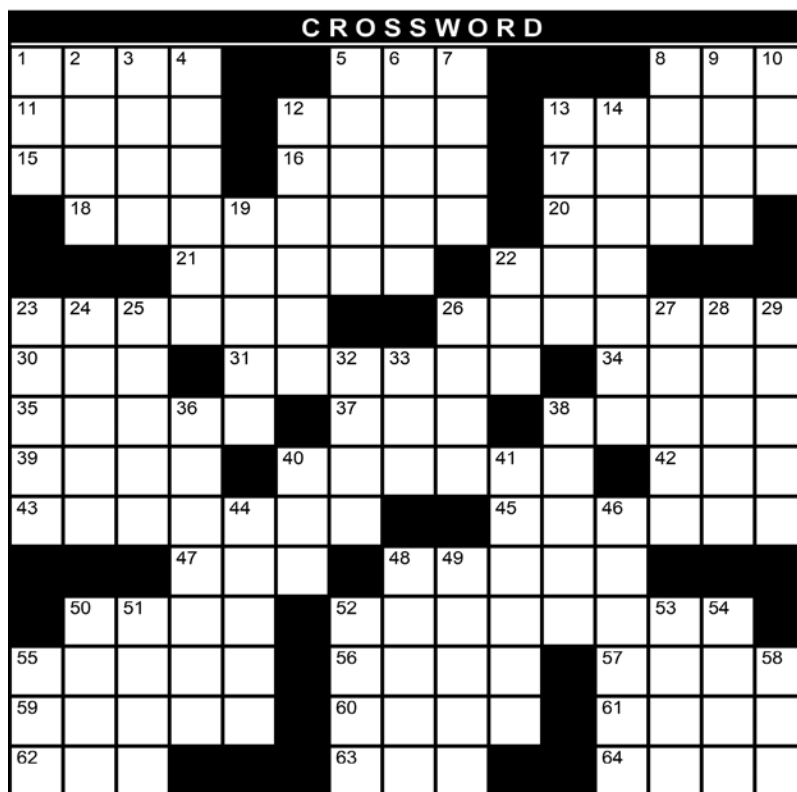
THEME: FASHION

ACROSS

1. Aggressive remark
5. Pampering spot
8. Wharton degree
11. Light bulb, in comic book
12. Burn to a crisp
13. Size option
15. Cameron of "There's Something About Mary"
16. Fabled racer
17. Take care of debt (2 words)
18. *He wore a white leisure suit on the dance floor
20. It can be pleasant or unpleasant
21. Buenos _____
22. Dove's sound
23. *She wore a white dress above a subway grate
26. Get house ready for living
30. Rap sheet acr.
31. Famous fictional canine
34. Brussels org.
35. Not Astroturf
37. Take the gold
38. Certain cigarette
39. Speed of object divided by speed of sound
40. Lord's subordinate
42. Ann Patchett's novel "_____ Canto"
43. Made by Bayer
45. Friskily
47. Long period of time
48. Repeat, in music
50. Cough syrup balsam
52. *She wore a meat dress
55. What cobbler does
56. Good's foe?
57. Muddy road grooves
59. Waltz, in France
60. White House "sub"
61. Red light action
62. Layer
63. Marching insect
64. Sports award

DOWN

1. Ebay click
2. Miners' passage
3. *Kim Kardashian exposed it on the cover of Paper in 2014
4. *Harper's _____, famous fashion magazine, launched in 1867
5. Fossil fuel rock deposit



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6. Fractions
7. Atlas stat
8. Egg salad ingredient
9. View from high-speed train?
10. High mountain
12. Uncontrollable movement disorder
13. Animal trail
14. *Singer who sported a cone bra
19. Viola da Gamba, pl.
22. Pool tool
23. Molten rock
24. Southern cuisine pods
25. Civil rights org.
26. Jimmy Buffet: "You got _____ to the left..."
27. Many iambs
28. Iron/carbon alloy
29. *Golightly of little black dress and sunglasses fame
32. Tchaikovsky's fowl
33. Bro's sib
36. *Nothing came between her and her Calvins
38. Loud noise
40. Car's unique identifier, acr.
41. Diamond on a sweater
44. Awaken
46. Rough
48. Type of juniper
49. Proclamation
50. Bluish gree
51. Billy Joel's "_____ the Good Die Young"
52. Bulgarian money
53. Glory prerequisite
54. Above
55. NFL's Lamar Jackson in 1923, e.g.
58. Done with "my little eye"?

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6	5			4		9		

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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.

Y	P	S	E	N	T	A	V			Y	L	P
O	P	S	T	E	C	I	V			E	S	V
S	T	R	U	L	I	L	E			S	D	S
		A	G	A	G	Y	L	A	D	V	L	
				O	N	G	S	E		N	O	E
Y	L	I	C	R	A		N	I	R	I	P	S
		B	E	L			S	V	A	H	C	O
		E	L	M	A		S	S	V	A	S	G
		O	A	T		N	A	S	S	I	E	A
		S	H				F	U	R	N	I	S
							O	O	C		S	
							A	V				
							P	A	V			
							S	M	A	L	L	
							M	B	A			

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

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