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APRIL 2024 | Vol. 4, No. 11

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SEE STORY, PAGE 12

INSIDE: Mayor's Column, PAGE 6 | Senior Games, PAGE 10

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MESQUITE MONTHLY

Your Local Source
For Mesquite Business,
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NEWS AND NOTES

ANNUAL MESQUITE DAYS SLATED FOR MAY 1-4

Mesquite Days, which honors the establishment of the community in 1984, will take place with a variety of events from May 1-4.

The opening night on May 1 is Family Fun Night and includes a variety of events, games and food for all ages.

It takes place at the Old Mill Road ballfields from 5-8 p.m. and includes bounce houses, mechanical bull, tug of war, cornhole, live bands, police car race and fire department turnout race.

Food vendors include The Corn-dog Company, Great Basin Cooking, and Tacos and Salsa!

On Thursday, May 2, there will be a historical walking tour at 9 a.m., with participants meeting at the Virgin Valley Museum. The Founders Forum will take place from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the city council cham-

bers and the carnival will be open from 5-10 p.m. at the Mesquite Recreation Center west field, 100 W. Old Mill Road. There will be live music from 3-10 p.m.

On Friday, May 3, the carnival will be open from 5-10 p.m. with live music beginning at 3 p.m. Vendor booths will be open from 4-10 p.m.

The Mayor's Pancake Breakfast is scheduled at 7-8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, at Family Heritage Park, 100 N. Arrowhead Lane. Come out for breakfast before the annual Mesquite Days parade, which begins at 10 a.m. down Mesquite Boulevard.

The carnival runs from noon to midnight with vendor booths open from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. with live music from 3-10 p.m.

For more information visit www.mesquitenv.gov or [Facebook.com/MesquiteNVRecreation](https://www.facebook.com/MesquiteNVRecreation) or call (702) 346-8732

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT SLATED IN MESQUITE DAYS

The Mesquite Athletics and Leisure Services Department has for the first time scheduled a pickleball tournament during Mesquite Days.

The tournament will take place May 1-4 at the Old Mill Pickleball Courts, 49 W. Old Mill Road, and the Conestoga Park Pickleball Complex, 1509 Conestoga Parkway.

The tournament is intended to be an annual event during Mesquite Days. All play will be round robin, with specific bracket and match formats determined by the number of teams in the bracket.

Age levels will range from 14 to 90-plus. Costs vary per event, visit pickleballbrackets.com for more information and to register for the event.

There will be prize money for men's open doubles event and the

> See BRIEFS, Page 4

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GRAND OPENING



Alt Om Bling, which recently opened at 355 W. Mesquite Blvd., Suite C20, in The Brickyard shopping center, is a premier clothing and accessory company dedicated to offering a diverse selection of high-quality fashion pieces. A grand opening is scheduled April 11 from 2-4 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited to attend.

Briefs

continued from Page 3

women's open doubles event.

VIRGIN VALLEY ARTISTS GRAND BAZAAR SLATED

More than 40 artists are scheduled to participate in the Grand Bazaar at the Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., through April 26

See unique and original art from these local artists during this event

The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Those interested can call the gallery at 702-346-1339 or visit mesquite-fineartscenter.org.

FORMER RAIDERS GREAT JIM PLUNKETT TO VISIT MESQUITE

Join Raiders Legend Jim Plunkett

for Q&A at Eureka Casino Resort on April 25 at 6 p.m. for a free Q&A event.

Plunkett was the 1970 Heisman Trophy winner, Superbowl MVP and two-time Superbowl champion.

CORRECTION

In the Best of Mesquite special section that was distributed last week, the phone number for Matrix Electric was incorrect. The phone number is (253) 797-9797. The number listed, (702) 812-2789, was for Mesquite Moving and Cleaning.

Also, one of the categories, Convenience Store, wasn't published in the section. The winner was Maverick, 14 N. Sandhill Blvd., (702) 703-2098; and second place was Terribles, 810 W. Mesquite Blvd., (702) 346-2810.

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FROM THE MAYOR

Mesquite's growth headed in the right direction

By Al Litman

It seems that at least once a year or so, the subject of growth comes up. You don't hear much about it in large cities that have been established for many years, or those in close proximity to metropolitan areas, but you do when it involves young, rural communities. Mesquite is both; young and rural.



The issues experienced by small towns and rural communities are multiple, ever-changing, and unique to their place. Slow-growing and shrinking rural areas might find that their policies are not bringing the prosperity they seek.

Fast growing rural areas are facing increasing development pressures and resultant challenges, such as housing affordability and traffic congestion.

In addition, many rural areas are struggling with job and labor shortages, or other workforce development issues.

I believe that in order to foster greater resilience, small towns and

rural communities are identifying ways to strengthen their economies, in order to provide a better quality of life for its residents and enhance their local assets.

Mesquite, through its master plan for development, is doing just that. We are planning where development should or should not go, and where businesses can thrive.

We are encouraging policies that support walking, biking and public transportation, although a challenge in our hot summers.

Overall, I believe we are heading in the right direction.

In doing a little research into these subjects, I observed that some small cities are prospering, while many others are suffering disinvestment, loss of identity and even, in some cases, becoming modern ghost towns.

The question I looked at first was why some communities are able to maintain their historical character and quality of life in the face of a rapidly changing world, while others have lost the very features that once gave them distinction and appeal.

Most planners will tell you, and I'm sure you heard it before, if you're not growing, you are dying.

> See **MAYOR**, Page 11



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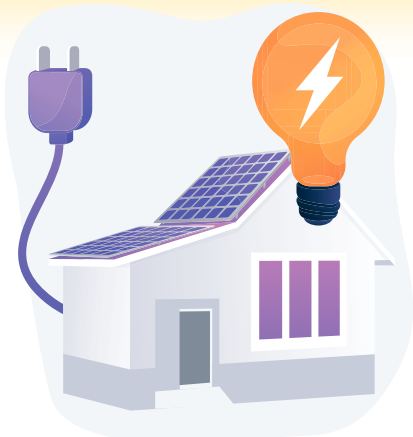
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New CasaBlanca CEO filled with optimism about renovations

By Breven Honda

From the words of new Chief Executive Officer at Mesquite Gaming Justin Moore, it is an “exciting” time to be part of the CasaBlanca Resort and Casino, no matter what niche a person has at one of the main resort-casinos in town.

In addition to Moore’s hiring on Jan. 18, more news dropped during this first quarter of 2024 as an announcement was made earlier this week regarding new renovations that has made the emotions from Moore and employees reach a high that has not been accomplished in a long while.

On March 4, the CasaBlanca Resort and Casino announced it will be making upgrades to its sports bar, gaming floor and showroom.

“This is something that when I was first pitched the idea, I thought it was a phenomenal idea,” Moore said Tuesday. “Getting the announcement out is really exciting not only for the city of Mesquite, but especially for our awesome employees and guests here at Mesquite Gaming and the CasaBlanca.

“They’ve really been looking forward to the day when we can reinvest into these buildings and provide them with brand new assets.”

The project, which is expected to go from May until the fall of this year, includes the addition of more than 200 new slots, new chandeliers and the ex-

pansion of its main bar as it is expected to cost nearly \$6 million.

The new showroom will nearly double its original space and the sound will be improved with fabric walls as the ceilings will have special acoustics.

Between the new center bar, sports bar and upgraded showroom, Moore envisions how much livelier the CasaBlanca Resort and Casino will be with these new changes.

“I’m excited to see the brand-new bar plus the showroom and how it adds energy to the casino floor,” he said. “The brand new bar is going to be in a location of the casino that has always been a little quiet and maybe less traveled. The new showroom is a great way for us to enhance the free entertainment experience that we currently give.”

“If you love music and free entertainment, that’s where you’re going to want to be. So, I’m really excited to see how our guests react to that whole new side of the casino.”

The group leading the construction project in Steelman Partners, a Las Vegas-based international architecture and interior design firm that has experience with hospitality and gaming upgrades, including at Harrah’s, Wynn and Caesars Entertainment hotels and casinos on the Las Vegas Strip.

As a result of the construction months,

> See CASA, Page 14



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Senior games achieves midway point of schedule

By Breven Honda

The 2024 Mesquite Senior Games have reached the halfway mark on the schedule.

After having nine events in March, the Senior Games have another eight events remaining in the month of April to conclude the spring slate.

Mesquite Senior Games President Sandy Tudor said the events that took place in March, such as track and field and pickleball, went well, despite a few obstacles.

"We've had obviously a couple of weather-related issues," Tudor said. "We had to postpone two days of pickleball because of the high winds a week ago.

"We had track and field on (March 23). It was a little hectic because Virgin Valley High School was having a softball tournament, and we were having track and field at the high school. So, parking was a bit of a challenge on Saturday, but other than that, it went really well."

However, during the track and field event, Virgin Valley High School girls track and field coach, Gary Hartman recruited his players to come out and volunteer.

"We have track and field athletes out there working with us and helping with the scores," Tudor said of the Bulldog student athletes. "There was one older woman who was struggling a little bit to finish her first running event. All the kids, there must have been 10 kids, ran with her and paced her. They ran at her pace and kept encouraging her so that was nice to see and fun to watch."

From table tennis to bowling, the first two events were a great way to kick off this year's spring games.

Tudor said the bowling event was nearly full for both days of singles and doubles action at the Virgin River Lanes.

"Bowling is bowling. We sell out every year. We had 88 people for doubles and 79 for singles. 88 (players) is the most we can have, so that was good," she said.



About a week after the bowling event, the tennis senior challenge made its return for the first time in five years.

Led by Duane Catania, the tennis event went smoothly as play commenced for nearly 20 competitors, lasting more than four straight days of two-hour sessions in the morning and the afternoon.

Furthermore, Tudor said one of the positive reactions she received came from a tennis player, named Howard, who was fascinated by the amount of time he got on the courts.

"I left Mesquite Wednesday afternoon and had no chance to say goodbye to all of you," Tudor said on behalf of Howard's letter. "I was most impressed with the way everybody got along, and you treat tennis as a gentleman and gentle lady sport. Also amazed how many diehard fans there are. My tennis friends in Vegas can't believe I played 120 games in two and a half days."

Tudor added that playing that much tennis was the

highlight of getting in a lot of action but does not take as much time while ensuring everyone enjoys themselves, like Howard admired.

"120 games in two and a half days," she said. "That's a lot of tennis for these people. I think we'll continue with the event next year. We brought it back this year for the first time (since 2019) and everybody who was there had a great time. The weather cooperated for the most part because it wasn't really hot in the afternoon."

Looking ahead, there are eight events that will round out the 2024 spring games this month that began with the golf events of long drive, closest to the pin and the putting contest on April 2 and will conclude with the bocce event from April 22-25.

Some of those events also include the women's softball and gun sporting events.

> See **GAMES**, Page 11



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2024 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Shotgun & Target Pistol	April 5
Softball Women's 50, 55, 60	April 6-7
Softball Women's 65+	April 9-10
Fitness Hike #2	April 12
Cornhole	April 20
Bocce	April 22-25

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Games

continued from Page 10

Tudor, who is coordinating the softball event, said it will reach capacity as the event is separated over a two-week span, depending on the age divisions.

"It'll be 34 (teams) because I had a commitment from a team that's playing and they were playing in Bullhead City over the weekend," Tudor said. "And they said, 'Of course we're coming. Well, I didn't know that.' So, I guess I have 34 teams. That's pretty much all I can take."

Taking place one day before the start of the softball event is the shotgun sports and the target pistol events, led by Jim Armstrong, at the Redcliffs Rifle and Pistol Range in Hurricane, Utah, near St. George and about one hour east of Mesquite.

The Redcliffs Rifle and Pistol Range is a new location for the shotgun sports and target pistol events after the Smoking Gun Club closed last year, resulting in these events being canceled during last year's fall schedule.

Armstrong, along with Marge Mongolo and Krista Kilpatrick, are part of the newest board members who will or have hosted an event during the spring games.

Mayor

continued from Page 6

So, how can communities both big and small grow without losing their character?

I'm not alone in trying to answer these questions. From everything I read, communities all over America are struggling to answer these questions. I've read about a lot of different communities all across the country, and came to some conclusions about why some communities succeed, and other fail.

Many communities have found ways to retain their small-town values, historical character, scenic beauty and sense of community, yet sustain a prosperous economy, and

Kilpatrick hosted the basketball skills event and Mongolo hosted the table tennis and the tennis skills challenge events.

Tudor said her newer board members have stepped up and filled in both within and outside of the events they host.

"It's been awesome," she said. "Marge and Krista have both have each taken on an event. Marge is our tennis queen and then Krista was the one who handled all of the track and field registration, forms and formats. So, it's been great seeing them take these events on and run with them and they're both very, very organized, which is obviously what these events need. So, it's been perfect."

For some of the events later in April such as bocce, cornhole and the second fitness hike, there is still some time for you to submit your name to participate.

As the final events to this year's spring schedule come, Tudor is hoping all the events go well.

"I think our expectation is that all of our events succeed, and the participants stay healthy," Tudor said. "We're trying to make sure everybody stays healthy and has a good time. Our goal is for these participants to enjoy it, to have a good time, to have fun and get some exercise and activity."

have done it without accepting the kind of cookie-cutter development that has turned many communities into faceless places that young people flee, tourists avoid and which no longer instill a sense of pride in residents.

Communities can grow by choice or by chance. Communities with a vision for the future will always be more successful than communities that just accept whatever comes along.

We have that vision, and in the next month's article I will elaborate on it further. We, as a mayor and council have developed that vision, we must follow through, and we will.

Al Litman is mayor of the city of Mesquite



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Donkey History Museum riding success, change as 10th donkey jamboree brings community together

By Breven Honda

The Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue organization is home to preserving the donkey wildlife all across the United States.

Including Mesquite, donkey conservation has been important to Steve Meyers, who is the Western States Regional Manager for the organization.

The organization's mission is to "provide a safe and loving environment to all donkeys that have been abused, neglected or abandoned and wild burros under threat of destruction."

Meyers has also begun to take over the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue organization from his parents.

"I grew up on the rescue and then, probably in the last two years, started taking on bigger and bigger roles for the rescue and then I recently stepped in to fill the regional manager shoes," Meyers said of the company his father, Mark, and stepmother, Amy, began about 25 years ago.

For Meyers himself, taking on the reins of the organization meant leaving his construction job.

He said his job to save donkeys was a risk that he was willing to take, especially for his father.

"It's just been so rewarding, I'm much happier," Meyers said of switching jobs. "I get to do something that I'm passionate about, that I care about. Like I said, I get to help preserve my father's legacy. So couldn't ask for a better career change."

Mesquite is one of 53 locations for the PVDR as there have a have nearly 3,800 donkeys under their care, while rescuing 675 donkeys in 2023 alone. The PVDR works throughout the lower 48 as it manages 5.5 million acres of wild donkey habitat.

As a result, it has become the world's leading donkey rescue organization.

Meyers said none of this would be possible with the efforts of his father, who remains in the organization as the executive director.

"This is this is my father's legacy," Meyers said. "If I was standing around my employees right now, they'd be rolling their eyes because I've said this ad nauseam. This organization is my father's debt that he will leave on the world. It'll be here long after he's gone. So, it's very important to me to continue his life's work."

After their work they have done all over the country, it was Meyers' father who wanted to build and have a donkey museum in Mesquite, which opened in November of 2022.

Meyers said his father enjoyed Mesquite because of its unique topography and the opportunity for



couples and families to stop at the museum.

"My father liked the overall pace of the town, plus with its proximity to the ranch that we have there and scenic," Meyers said. "Where it is, geographically, is really great. We get the traffic from Utah into Vegas from Vegas into Utah. So, it's been very successful because of that we also because it's a retirement community."

That community also includes the military veterans living in town, which is a second reason Meyers' father enjoyed Mesquite.

He said the military community, as well as the people in Mesquite as a whole led to having a piece of them in the donkey museum.

"We really wanted to have the war gallery be a focal point of the museum, so that's been really successful and really helpful for us," Meyers said. "We hound every veteran that comes in to fill out one of the cards that we put on a bulletin board. We've actually filled it up so much that we recently purchased a second bulletin board so that we could fill that one up as well."

"We respect and love the veteran community very much and just the overall community of Mesquite in general."

Last month, the Donkey History Museum in Mesquite hosted the 10th annual Donkey Jamboree in a community involved event.

The Mesquite Café Blues Band provided the music, there was fun for the entire family as the museum was filled with people so much that was only available for standing room only.

People had the opportunity to see donkeys, tour

the museum as well as meet Meyers' parents.

Meyers said their jamboree was a successful event, despite inclement weather.

"The turnout was incredible. I mean, it was packed," Meyers said. "The donations that we made that day had a serious impact. It was great to see that people were still willing to come out and support us, even with the bad weather. We had people come from all over the country just to come out for the jamboree."

This was the 10th jamboree event for the organization, marking a new milestone.

It has reached the point where the expectations are set when putting on an event like the jamboree, no matter the location.

"We recognize that it's become something that's expected by the local communities for us to have the jamboree," Meyers said. "It's important to us that we always put our best foot forward when holding the jamboree."

Meyers added that reaching Jamboree No. 10 also means having that optimism for the future of the museum and donkey conservation.

"It means that we're treading in the right direction, that we're doing things the right way," Meyers said. "It's a great feeling to know that the community supports us and that they believe in the mission. The more people we can get to believe in the mission, the more people we can get involved, the more mouths we can feed. The more money we can put into caring for these creatures have given so much to Americana."

"These creatures are very Zen and stoic to be around, so it's a blessing."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To have your event listed in this calendar, please email mesquite-monthly@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. Library closed on Feb. 19

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. Library closed on Feb. 19

Homework Help: 3:30 - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St., 702-346-5224. Library closed on Feb. 19

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. Library closed on Feb. 19

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

Family Storytime: 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.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. 702-346-5224.

Bereavement Group: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. This is a group headed by Mesa View/Virgin Valley Hospice. 702-346-5224.

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, APRIL 4

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.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Cricut Craft Club: 10:30 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Come out and create some crafts with cricut. 702-346-5224.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6


Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Featured movie is "The Color Purple." Call 702-346-5224.

Rock'in with Rod: 7-9 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St., Suite 22. Live from Las Vegas, Martin Andrew presents Rock'in With Rod, a Rod Stewart Tribute Show. General

> See CALENDAR, Page 15

COMING SOON TO MESQUITE COMMUNITY THEATER

Rod Stewart Tribute April 6	Mesquite Toes Spectacular April 12 & 13	Ms Senior Mesquite April 20	Patsy & Men of Country Music May 4
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Casa

continued from Page 8

Moore said there will be some obstacles the hotel will face, especially in terms of their usual day-to-day and week-to-week events.

“There’s going to be challenges of not having all of our assets like we’re used to, for example, not having the stage with entertainment in the center of the casino and probably moving a lot of slot machines around,” said Moore, who also oversees the Virgin River Hotel and Casino. “(We’re) trying to accommodate as we’re moving the puzzle pieces around inside the casinos. So, we’ll have to be patient for a few months, but we’ll get through it together.”

Once summer moves into fall, the CasaBlanca Resort and Casino will complete its necessary changes. However, the product at the conclusion of the project is what gives Moore and his fellow employees the belief and that optimism.

The first employees to hear about the repairs were the beverage team. From

there, Moore got the word out to all of his co-workers with positive reactions.

“They were the first to find out. That news was very well received,” Moore said of the beverage team. “I’m really excited for all of the employees here because it’s a sign of progress, it’s a sign of a new direction that we’re taking the company.”

Moore added a lot of his co-workers have been with the company a lot longer than the seven weeks he has been the CEO.

“Our employees that work here, most of them are very tenured people,” he said. “They’ve worked here for a long time, and these are going to be the largest projects that they’ve seen during the time that they’ve worked here. So pretty impressive to hear the comments that the team has been sharing with me and I’m really excited for them.”

The hotel is expected to remain open during construction for tourists and guests as the business has continued to remain high as work is about to begin in two months.

Navigating the upcoming tax filing deadline: Essential steps to take

By Ron Bird

As the tax filing deadline approaches, individuals across the country are gearing up to fulfill their annual tax obligations. With the deadline looming, it’s essential to take proactive steps to ensure a smooth and stress-free filing process. Here are some crucial tasks to complete before the upcoming deadline:



1. Gather Necessary Documents: Start by gathering all relevant documents, including W-2 forms, 1099s, receipts for deductible expenses, and any other income-related documents. Having these items on hand will streamline the filing process and help ensure accuracy.

2. Review Changes in Tax Laws: Stay informed about any changes in tax laws that may affect your filing status or eligibility for deductions and credits. Tax laws can undergo significant revisions from year to year, so it’s essential to understand how these changes may impact your tax situation.

3. Organize Your Finances: Take the time to review your financial records and ensure that they are organized and up to date. This includes tracking income, expenses, investments, and any other financial transactions that may affect your tax liability.

4. Maximize Deductions and Credits: Explore opportunities to

maximize deductions and credits to reduce your tax bill. This may include contributions to retirement accounts, charitable donations, education expenses, and other eligible deductions and credits.

5. Consider Filing Options: Evaluate your options for filing your taxes, whether it’s through tax preparation software, hiring a professional tax preparer, or filing manually. Choose the method that best suits your needs and ensures accurate and timely filing.

6. Don’t Procrastinate: Avoid the temptation to procrastinate and leave your tax filing to the last minute. Filing early can help prevent errors, reduce stress, and minimize the risk of missing the deadline.

7. Seek Professional Assistance if Needed: If you have complex tax situations or are unsure about how to proceed, don’t hesitate to seek professional assistance from a tax advisor or accountant. They can provide guidance tailored to your specific circumstances and help ensure compliance with tax laws.

In conclusion, the upcoming tax filing deadline presents an opportunity to take proactive steps to fulfill your tax obligations efficiently and accurately. By staying organized, maximizing deductions and credits, and seeking professional assistance when needed, you can navigate the tax filing process with confidence and peace of mind.

This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to give specific Tax or legal advice. Ron Bird is an owner of Financial Concepts Retirement Planning, LLC and can be reached at 702-346-7025.



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Calendar

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admission, \$25. Reserved seats \$35. Tickets available online at mctnv.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "The Color Purple." Call 702-346-5224.

Music Concert: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Come out and listen to "MQ Cafe Blues." Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

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, APRIL 9

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.

Virtual Author Series: 11 a.m.- noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Diane Foley and Colum McCann are the guest. Call 702-346-5224.

RDA Board Meeting: 4:45 p.m., City Hall chambers. A regular meeting of the Redevelopment Agency.

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

Cowboy Poetry: 5-6 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Cowboy Poets: Jim Parsons, Kathy Smith, Mitzi Bender, Farrel Bott, and Russ Westwood.. Call 702-346-5224.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Chamber of Commerce poolside luncheon: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., CasaBlanca Resort Casino, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd. Featured speaker TBA. Members \$35, non-

members \$45. Call 702-346-2902.

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.

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 Hafen Lane, Meetings the second Wednesday of each month. George Harris will interview candidates John Lee and Lt. Col Dave Flippo, both Congressional District 4 candidates For information: call 530-966-5363, email hrbsue@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

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.

Alt Om Bling grand opening: 2-4 p.m., 355 W. Mesquite Blvd, Suite C-20. A new locally and woman-owned store that is "all about the bling."

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Mesquite Toes Spectacular: 7 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. The Mesquite Toes presents "Shine." General admission \$15. Tickets available at Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, the MCT Box Office one hour before the show or online at mctnv.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

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.

Family Craft: 11 a.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Join us for

an artful craft or project that incorporates dexterity, imagination, and fun! Info: 702-346-5224.

Mesquite Toes Spectacular: 1 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N. Yucca St. The Mesquite Toes presents "Shine." General admission \$15. Tickets available at Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, the MCT Box Office one hour before the show or online at mctnv.com.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "The Holdovers." Call 702-346-5224.

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

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Lola's Lace Watercolor Workshop: 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. Lola will teach you how to paint lace with watercolors and offer ideas on how to paint ceramic pots and flower to place on top of lace. \$50 for members, \$70 for non-members. Registration recommended. 702-346-1338.

Virgin Valley Artists Association General Meeting: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

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.

Driggs Title Agency Grand Opening: 3:30 p.m., 754 W. Pioneer Blvd, No. 101. Come join in at the grand opening of new Mesquite title agency. Food and beverages will be served.

Paint Your Pride: 3:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Teen Crafternoon offers a place for creativity, socialization, gaming, crafting, and lounging for grades 6-12. Info: 702-346-5224.

Virtual Author Series: 5-6 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N. St. Xochitl Gonzalez is the guest speaker. Info: 702-346-5224.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

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.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Pioneer Dutch Oven Fundraiser: 6 p.m., Heritage Park, off Arrowhead behind the LDS Church. Come help raise funds to save Mesquite's historic buildings. Music performed by the high school jazz band. Silent auction. Adults \$20, children \$10, family \$60. Tickets can be purchased at Danielle's Chocolates and the Virgin Valley Heritage Museum.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Spring Festival: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Come out for a day filled with fun and sun. Rick Wall and the Outlaws perform onstage, along with 50-plus vendors and food trucks. No parking or entry fee to attend.

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "Funny Woman." Call 702-346-5224.

Cricut Craft Club: 3-4:30 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st St. Come out and create some crafts with cricut. 702-346-5224.

> See CALENDAR, Page 17



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Connecting Our Community With Christ

Sunday School All Ages	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	6:00 p.m.

Pastor Bruce Whisenhunt
A Southern Baptist Fellowship

Nursery and Children's Church Available

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Mesquite United Methodist Church
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Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
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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Get Reconnected With Jesus

Get reconnected with Jesus starting this Easter Season.
Join us on Sunday April 7, at noon and every Sunday at Valley Presbyterian Church, located at 350 Falcon Ridge Pkwy, Suite 702, Mesquite. The Evangelical Lutheran and Episcopal churches sponsor the Mesquite Episcopal / Lutheran Community.

A project of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada and the Grand Canyon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Everyone is invited and welcome.

The 'Lutherpalians' are coming to Mesquite!

Mesquite Episcopal/Lutheran Church

What do you call a church made up of Lutherans and Episcopalians (and friends)? Lutherpalians! The recently formed Mesquite Episcopal/ Lutheran Community starts meeting at Valley Presbyterian Church at noon on April 7.

We invite you to join us for worship and fellowship at Valley Presbyterian Church, 350 Falcon Ridge Parkway #702.

Since 2001, The Episcopal Church and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have been in full communion.

That means their clergy are "interchangeable." For the Mesquite community, a retired Episcopal priest from Grace Church in St. George will lead services once a month, and a New Promise clergy team member will take another Sunday.

"Lutherans and Episcopalians are family members who got separated during the ecclesiastical divorce we call the Reformation," said the Very Rev. Stephen Brehe, a retired Episcopal cathedral dean who has helped launch the joint community. "One sibling grew up in England and the other on the continent.

In the second half of the last century, we looked around and discovered that we were siblings with lots of common characteristics.

"We should get the family together. We retain our distinctive differences like brothers and sisters in any family. But we have so much in common, it makes sense to work and pray together, especially in smaller communities."

For more information, call Marty Pecoraro at 775-843-4173 or 702-344-5448 or email him at martii714@aol.com.

The church is a joint project of the Grand Canyon District of the ELCA and the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada. The community thanks Valley Presbyterian Church for sharing its worship and fellowship space.

Get reconnected with Jesus starting this Easter. Join us on Easter Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd. The Evangelical Lutheran and Episcopal churches sponsor the Mesquite Episcopal/Lutheran Community.

Brehe, recently retired Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Reno, will preach and celebrate the Holy Eucharist. All are welcome!

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or email mesquitemonthly@gmail.com for details.

Calendar

continued from Page 15

Ms. Senior Mesquite Pageant: 4 p.m., Mesquite Community Theatre, 150 N Yucca St. The Ms. Senior Mesquite pageant returns as ladies age 55-plus vie for the title. \$25 tickets can be purchased at the Mesquite Fine Arts Gallery or the Community box office an hour before the show.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Movie Matinee: 1 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Featured movie is "Funny Woman." Call 702-346-5224.

Music Concert: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Come out and listen to "M Hitt/M Rosetti. Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Earth Day - Hydration Station Event: 10-11 a.m., Mesquite Recreation Center, 100 W. Old Mill Road. Ribbon cutting ceremony for new "hydration stations: throughout Mesquite.

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

com or call 877-256-4825.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

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.

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, APRIL 25

Library Customer Appreciation Day: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Join us for Customer Appreciation Day for activities + giveaways + more! Call 702-346-5224.

Live Music Concert: 1-2 p.m.

Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Learning Center Building. Come out and listen to "Fusion Trio." Info: 702-346-5224.

Q&A with Raiders' legend Jim Plunkett: 6 p.m., Eureka Casino Resort (Town Square), 275 Mesa Blvd. Come out to hear from Jim Plunkett, former Raiders quarterback, Super Bowl MVP, two-time Super Bowl champion and 1970 Heisman Trophy winner. Free event.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

Cricut Design Space: 11 a.m. - noon, Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. St. Come out and create some crafts with cricut. 702-346-5224.

Blood Drive: noon - 5 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Schedule at www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

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.

Children's Movie: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Come out for a movie geared to-

ward children ages 0-17 and their caregivers. Call 702-346-5224.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Science is Everywhere: 1-3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Explore the wonders of the world through hands-on maker activities, engaging science experiments, and endless fun. Call 702-346-5224.

Music Concert: 3 p.m., Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st N St. Come out and listen to "Just the Two of Us." Call 702-346-5224.

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Book Bingo: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Mesquite Library, 160 W. 1st. N. St. Play bingo, win books! Info: 702-346-5224.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Mesquite Days: 5:30 - 8 p.m., Old Mill Baseball Park, 50 W. Old Mill Road. Family Fun Night. Bounce house, mechanical bull, tug of war, corn hole, live bands, police car race, fire department turnout race and more. Food vendors including The Corndog Company, Great Basin Cooking and Tacos and Salsa.

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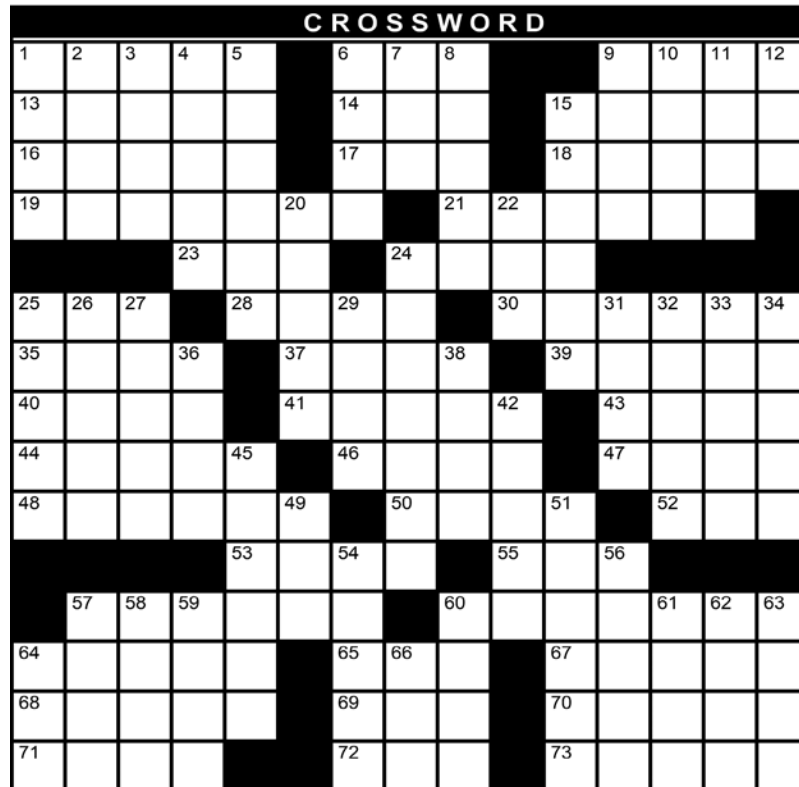
ACROSS

1. Swell up
6. Pendulum's path
9. Type of salmon
13. *Steve Miller Band: "I want to fly like an ____"
14. Simon & Garfunkel, e.g.
15. Popular winter boot brand
16. Ohio city
17. Lodge
18. Squirrel away
19. *Glenn Frey: "The pressure's high just to stay alive 'cause ____ is on"
21. *John Travolta in "Grease": "I got ____, they're multipliyin'"
23. Automated teller
24. Clarified butter
25. Bad-mouth, slangily
28. Stag
30. Tartans
35. "I'm ____ you!"
37. Commies
39. Monocot's alternative
40. Road's edge
41. Living room centerpiece?
43. Prefix meaning "left"
44. Deadly snake
46. Sasquatch's cousin
47. Court petitioner
48. Blood infection
50. Indian flatbread
52. Opposite of post-
53. Sound of impact
55. *Duran Duran: "Her name is ____, and she dances on the sand"

57. *The Beatles: "Take a sad song and make it ____"
60. *Elvis: "We're caught in a trap, I can't ____"
64. Relating to a mode
65. Scrooge's exclamation
67. Memory failure
68. Bouquet thrower
69. Number of candles on a cake
70. Musketeers' weapons
71. Picnic invaders
72. "Just kidding!"
73. Did, archaic

DOWN

1. *The Go-Go's: "They got the ____"
2. 100,000, in India
3. Cameron Diaz' Fiona, e.g.
4. Hula dancer's hello
5. These are held to be true
6. Miners' passage
7. *Tainted Love: "Once I ran to you, now I ____"
8. "Lord of the Flies" shell
9. Like the other side of the pillow?
10. Certain kind of exam
11. Not his
12. Antiquated
15. Protection from a sword
20. To death, in French (2 words)
22. ____ B vaccine
24. Manna from heaven
25. *Bon Jovi: "Tommy used to work on the ____"
26. Habituate
27. Spaghetti ____
29. *Don McLean: "Drove my chevy to the ____"
31. Pains
32. Frost over (2 words)



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