

Our Nevada Iowa

May
2026

Housing is a Pillar

Learn more about
economic development
and its role in our community

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The Buzz

5TH ANNUAL PIZZA PIE LOOZA THIS MONTH

It's Pizza Pie Looza month in Nevada for the fifth time, and we have our fingers crossed for good weather as there is much in store for everyone at this year's first two-day event at SCORE on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9!



Make no mistake, this event is going to rock, literally! The Friday evening rock concert is a new feature and will include headliner band Fuel, along with Diamante and Pretty Uncommon.

Saturday will include the usual activities, an early morning RUN, free kids' games from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., free-stage music from 1-5:30, and a new Pizza Pie Looza Mixed Madness softball tournament. Then, of course, the traditional evening country concert will fill the evening with headliner Chris Cagle and openers Alex Miller and The Boys.

Along with all of that, we have a record number of food vendors signed up for this year! Some of your favorites from past events will be joined by newcomers, bringing you all kinds of treats and eats and pizza and/or pie-themed specials. If you want nothing else but to enjoy some food trucks, you'll want to visit SCORE park Friday evening and/or Saturday! Most of the vendors plan to be present both days.

As always, the Pizza Pie Looza committee, which serves on behalf of The Nevada Foundation, knows we can't put on an event of this scale without the support of many business sponsors. We thank each and every one of those sponsors, which are highlighted online at pizzapielooza.com/sponsors/. Go to that page and click on the sponsors' logos to learn more about them.

The website, pizzapielooza.com, is also a great place to see all of the vendors (click on their logos to find out more about each of them), and to see the schedule of events. Most importantly, the website is a great place to purchase your tickets online for one or both nights of music on the big stage. You can also purchase tickets in town at RE/MAX Concepts, 1124 6th St.

Make plans now to join us in kicking off Nevada's 2026 "Event Season!"

ON THE COVER: Shown are the first homes under construction in the Northview Subdivision in northwest Nevada. These homes are built by Sage Homes.

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CONTACT US

Email us at communitynewsletter@nevadacubs.org or mbarker@cityofnevadaiaowa.org

ABOUT OUR NEVADA

Our Nevada is a monthly joint publication between the City of Nevada, Nevada Community School District, Story County Medical Center, Story County, NEDC, and Main Street Nevada.



Our Mission —

THE NEVADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NEDC) CULTIVATES ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY. THIS LEADERSHIP FOSTERS OPPORTUNITIES, PARTNERSHIPS AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Economic Development celebrated in May

Early this month, communities across the country recognize Economic Development Week (May 4-8). The week presents an opportunity to reflect on the work happening behind the scenes to help communities grow and thrive. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. Economic development looks a little bit different in every community.

In Nevada, economic development, through the Nevada Economic Development Council (NEDC) has included working with the City and other partners to attract new businesses and industries, grow existing businesses in our community, and especially, because of the two aforementioned initiatives, the NEDC is helping to attract more jobs and people/families to the community, all of which help grow the community's tax base and keep smaller local businesses thriving.

In our cover photo, which shows one of the new housing subdivisions, Northview, the NEDC has also worked to support a variety of housing growth for the community.

Finally, we love getting involved in projects that enhance the livability and enjoyment of residents, i.e. the Nevada Field House, and we love supporting and assisting with events that draw people to the community either to live or visit, but always with the goal of increasing the visibility and patrons for our local businesses.

In Nevada, thoughtful economic development ensures we remain a community where businesses want to invest, families choose to live, and future generations can succeed.

THE PILLARS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

These interconnected pillars drive economic development in our community.



Business Retention & Expansion—Supporting the businesses that already call Nevada home. Regular business visits to stay attuned to what our businesses are experiencing and celebrate their milestones.



Workforce Development—Attracting, retaining, and developing talent. A dedicated Workforce Committee coordinates efforts and supports attainable housing to encourage employees to live and build their careers in Nevada.



Housing—Ensuring accessible and attainable housing options, especially for our workforce. Working in partnership with the City of Nevada, the NEDC has helped support housing development projects that have added 327+ new lots and units. One example of housing progress is single-family construction in the north part of town, by 2nd Street and S Avenue (cover page).



Quality of Life—Investing in amenities, childcare, and community well-being. By connecting local partners and resources, NEDC supports community enhancements and events that help make Nevada a welcoming place to live, work, and raise a family.



Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development—Encouraging small business growth and innovation. Small Business Grant pilot program, in partnership with the City of Nevada, along with support from Main Street Nevada.



Downtown & Community Development—Strengthening the heart of our community. Partnerships with Main Street Nevada and the City of Nevada, include board engagement and event committees to support a vibrant and connected community.



Marketing and Business Attraction—Each of these elements plays a vital role in creating a resilient and vibrant local economy. Targeted marketing efforts, regional partnerships, and business outreach initiatives to attract new investment and highlight Nevada's strengths to prospective businesses and residents.



Meet Courtney

NEW MAIN STREET NEVADA DIRECTOR

Courtney Sisson is proud to be serving as the new Executive Director of Main Street Nevada, a community that has always held a special place in her heart. Originally from Nevada, Courtney spent part of her childhood in Florida before making her way back to Iowa, where she truly feels at home.

A wife and mom of three, Courtney brings a background in small business ownership, including running a cleaning company and managing her Airbnb. She also has extensive experience in event planning, from community gatherings to special celebrations, and enjoys creating spaces where people can connect and celebrate their community.

Courtney loves meeting new people and hearing their stories. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, camping, and being outdoors, as well as exploring charming Main Streets, coffee shops, and ice cream stops along the way.

She credits her grandparents, Wayne and Sharon Halverson, for inspiring her values. They showed her that even a quiet life lived with kindness and generosity can leave a lasting impact, something she hopes to carry forward in her work every day.

JUNE							JULY						
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AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Market Calendar

2026

5:30 pm - 8:00pm | K Avenue between 6th & 7th Streets

facebook.com/MainStreetNevadaDowntownMarket
market@mainstreetnevada.org

Public Service Recognition Week

Celebrated the first full week in May since 1985, Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) is a time set aside to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees. Throughout the nation and the world, public servants use this occasion to educate others about the work they do and why they have chosen public service careers, as well as the many ways government services make life better for all of us. Follow along on our Story County social media platforms throughout the first week of May to learn more about some of our public servants!

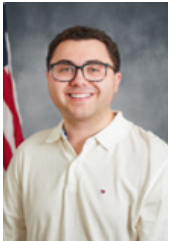
We asked some of our wonderful Story County staff to share WHY they chose county government as their career path:



Kasey Wirtz, Motor Vehicle Supervisor – Treasurer's Office: "I chose to work in county government because it gives me the chance to serve my community directly and be a part of providing essential services that improve residents' overall quality of life."



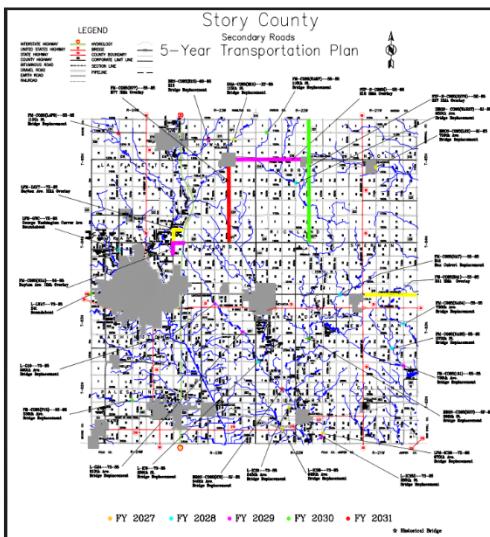
Anna Henderson, Director of Animal Control: "When I first started out in county government I was following my passion for animal welfare. Eventually the different roles I've held at the Story County Animal Shelter allowed me to build meaningful relationships and positive impacts throughout the community. It's what kept me here and continues to drive my work."



Bryce Garman, Communications Assistant – Board of Supervisors Office: "I chose county government because it gives me a sense of pride and community. I love being able to share the positive programs and services Story County has for their residents. Bringing a sense of connection between our citizens and their government is why I love what I do."



Wendy Schmitz, Service Coordinator – General Assistance: "I chose a career in county government because I wanted my work to have a direct, tangible impact on my community. Every day I get the chance to help solve real problems for people who may be at risk of having their utilities disconnected or being evicted, and that sense of purpose keeps me motivated."



Five-Year Secondary Road Construction Program

The Story County Secondary Road Construction Program is updated each year at the same time the budget is approved by Story County. This usually occurs during the first part of the year. You can view the adopted program online at <https://www.storycountyiowa.gov/854/Budget-Construction-Program>.

Are you signed up to receive road closure notifications? As we move into the summer season, make sure you get signed up! Go to <https://www.iceasb.org/roads/county/story> or scan the QR code.



Story County buildings and offices will be closed Monday, May 25, 2026, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Regular hours will resume Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 8 a.m.

Fraudulent Invoice Scam

Story County officials have been made aware of a scam involving fraudulent invoices falsely claiming to be from various Story County departments, boards, and commissions. These invoices are not legitimate and are being used to attempt to collect payment from residents.

If you receive an unexpected invoice or payment request claiming to be from Story County, do not send payment. Verify its authenticity by contacting the appropriate county office directly.



Kennedy LaVille Thoren,
DNP, ARNP, PMHNP-BC

An Insightful Approach to Mental Health Care

How Pharmacogenomic Testing is Expanding Options at Story Medical Clinic – Nevada

Mental health care is not one-size-fits-all, and at Story Medical Clinic - Nevada, a new approach is helping providers better tailor treatment to each individual patient.

Through the introduction of pharmacogenomic testing, Kennedy LaVille Thoren, DNP, ARNP, PMHNP-BC, is bringing an additional layer of precision to mental health care in Story County.

Pharmacogenomic testing examines how a person's genetics influence the way their body responds to certain medications. Using a simple cheek swab performed right in the clinic, the test provides insight into how a patient may metabolize common psychiatric medications — helping guide more informed treatment decisions.

"It's not a magic answer, and it doesn't tell us exactly which medication will work," LaVille Thoren explains. "But it gives us valuable information, especially for patients who have tried multiple medications without success or who are very sensitive to side effects."

Easing Frustrations

For many patients, finding the right mental health medication can be a frustrating process of trial and error. Pharmacogenomic testing helps reduce some of that

uncertainty by offering data that can inform medication selection and dosing — ultimately improving the likelihood of a better outcome.

This service is particularly beneficial for individuals who may feel stuck in their treatment journey or hesitant to try new medications after difficult past experiences.

Another Tool

While pharmacogenomic testing is a key advancement, it is just one part of the broader mental health services offered at Story Medical Clinic. LaVille Thoren provides comprehensive psychiatric care for both children and adults, with patients ranging from age five through adulthood. Her practice continues to grow, reflecting an increasing demand for accessible mental health care in the community.

A major advantage of these services is their integration within the

primary care clinic. Because mental health care is co-located alongside traditional medical services, providers can identify concerns during routine visits and connect patients with support quickly and seamlessly.

“If something comes up during a visit, we can help make that connection right away,” LaVille Thoren says. “That accessibility is really important — it helps reduce barriers and makes it easier for people to get the care they need.”

In addition to her current work, LaVille Thoren is expanding her expertise by pursuing certification in perinatal mental health, with a focus on supporting individuals during pregnancy and the postpartum period — an area that is often underserved despite being one of the most common times for mental health challenges.

Fostering Connections

As services continue to evolve, LaVille Thoren remains focused on both innovation and connection.

“Ultimately, this work is about relationships,” she says. “It’s about understanding each person’s experience and helping them find a path forward that works for them.”

By combining personalized tools like pharmacogenomic testing with compassionate, accessible care, Story Medical Clinic is helping ensure that patients in Story County have more options — and more confidence — in their mental health journey.

To learn more about mental health services at Story Medical Clinic—Nevada, visit storymedical.org/mentalhealth.

News & Notes

STORY MEDICAL HOSTS MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Story Medical recently hosted a Mental Health First Aid training session, bringing together more than a dozen participants for an interactive, full-day course focused on strengthening mental health awareness and response across the community.

Facilitated in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, the training equips participants with the skills needed to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. Story Medical plans to continue offering opportunities for education and engagement as part of its broader mission to support the health and well-being of the communities it serves. Watch for details on upcoming sessions at www.storymedical.org.



WORK AT STORY MEDICAL

If you are looking for a new career in a friendly work environment, look no further than Story Medical. We are always recruiting and currently have a number of clinical and non-clinical positions open.

Learn more about what is available and fill out an online application at storymedical.org/careers.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

You can keep up with all that is happening at Story Medical by following us @StoryMedical on Facebook, X and Instagram!



History Day at Nevada Middle School

Fifteen Nevada 8th-grade students qualified for the State History Day contest at the District History Day competition held on Wednesday, March 25, at Central College in Pella.

Students who qualified for the State Contest are Elsie Sorem and Lauren Kooistra for their exhibit "The Price of Pink"; Lola Cox and Josie Potter for their exhibit "The Global Mission to Restore the Ozone Hole"; Liam Lynch for his exhibit "Battle of Normandy"; Britain Moyer for her exhibit "Let Me Love, Too"; Lila Penner for her website "Elizabeth Blackwell, the First Woman Doctor"; Ethan Happe and Cooper Salz for their website "Battle of Okinawa"; Jayden Thiphasouk for his documentary "The Secret War"; Cati Durr, Lyla Kunze, and Harper Weig for their documentary "American Internment Camps"; and Kinnick Culbertson and Lucas Goodwin for their performance "Teddy Roosevelt."

Seven students also were finalists in their category: Danny Golden and Ellah Merrigan ("Fred Korematsu") in group documentaries; Chloe Jensen and Rozlynn Leckenby ("The Glowing Girls") in group exhibits; Grant Haley and Braden Smalley ("The Assembly Line") in group exhibits; and Kevin Zavala ("The Magic of Revolution") in individual exhibits. Thirty-three Nevada 8th-graders competed at the District History Day event.

The National History Day program has been part of the Nevada Middle School's eighth-grade curriculum for 26 years. The program uses history to challenge students to improve their research, analytical, and communication skills. All eighth graders complete in-depth research projects on a subject of their choice related to the designated theme for the year. This year's theme is "Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in History."

Working individually or collaboratively, students can choose to design an exhibit, produce a documentary, create a slide presentation, develop a website, present a performance, or write a historical paper that explains their topic and its significance in history. Evaluation emphasizes the use of primary sources and in-depth research, as well as the ability to draw conclusions and analyze information. Students share their work at an annual Local History Day Fair at Nevada Middle School, where several projects qualify for the District Competition.

Other National History Day competition levels include State and National events. This year's State Contest was held at the Scheman Building at Iowa State University on April 27. The National Contest is scheduled for June 14-18 at the University of Maryland. Since 2010, ten NMS students have qualified for the National competition,

including Paige Plate, Hanna Bell, Madison Huynh, Rebeka Bell, Elyse Clough, Katelyn Khounsourath, Gwendolyn Zrostlik, Abbigale Holm, Lillian Frideres, and Kye Smith.

Nevada Middle School students join more than 500,000 middle and high school students who participate annually in the NHD program in various competitions. National History Day has affiliates in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, South Korea, China, South Asia, and Central America. The top students from all 50 states, D.C., U.S. territories, and international schools are invited to compete in the National Contest.

Currently, Nevada's NHD program is directed by Abby Stephenson, eighth-grade history teacher, who participated in History Day when she was a student at NMS.

BID OPPORTUNITIES

Nevada CSD has surplus items available for public bid.

1. Southbend Gas Stove
2. Food Warming Unit
3. Food Serving Unit w/ sneeze guards (2)

Sealed bids are due to the NCS District Office at Gates Hall by 9am on May 15, 2026. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Bids should indicate item(s) bidding on, name, address, email, and phone number. Winning bidders will pay in full prior to removal from premises, will remove within 24 hours of notification, and will be responsible for their own loading.

For more information, including photos, visit <https://bit.ly/NevadaSurplus>

2026-2027 School Year Registration

On May 18-22, registration will be open to sign your children up for the 2026-2027 school year!

REGISTRATION RESOURCES

Registration Website: <https://nevada.powerschool.com/public>

New families to the district - send an email to registration@nevadacubs.org to get started.

Immunization and Health Screening Requirements

<https://bit.ly/4vfcuXq>

Building Handbooks

<https://www.nevadacubs.org/parents/handbooks/>

Supply Lists

<https://www.nevadacubs.org/parents/supply-lists/>



Free Summer Meals!

Breakfasts and lunches are available at no cost to children 0-18 this summer!

Open to the public - you do not have to be a NCS student to get a free meal. Bring your kids, grandkids, etc. Any child ages 0 through 18 eats free! Adults can eat for \$5.

All meals are served on site and must be eaten on site. No grab and go options are available.

Monday-Thursdays June 15 - July 23 (closed July 4), NHS Cafeteria

Breakfast - 8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch - 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

PLANNING AND ZONING

GIS - GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF NEVADA

In the early 2020s, the City of Nevada began working with its consulting engineers to develop a GIS system for the City. GIS technology integrates location data (where things are) with descriptive information (what things are like there), that helps City employees and the public visualize and analyze data in a geographic context. Prior to having this capability, knowledge of many underground elements within the City relied on physical maps and longtime employees who "just knew" where things were.

After much "ground work," the City was ready in early 2026 to introduce these tools to the public.

QUICK LINKS:

- FAQs
- Planning and Zoning Commission
- Comprehensive Plan (PDF)
- Rental Code, Guidelines for Landlords

GIS—Helping City workers and available to residents, too

Utilizing the services of ArcGIS Online, City employees and those working on projects within the City are able to look at detailed information to help make better decisions about work being done and how that work might impact existing infrastructure.

GIS stands for Geographic Information System, and it includes mapping and data analysis technology that can help in all kinds of planning and project endeavors.

Residents can also access much of the City's GIS. Find out what's available to you via a link on our website at: cityofnevadaiaowa.org/GIS or use the QR Code shown here.



Here are some of the ways GIS will be useful to our City:

A. Utilities App — utilized to see the location of underground water mains, storm pipes, storm culverts, sanitary gravity mains, sanitary force mains, manholes and more.

B. Sanitary Utilities App — utilized to see underground pieces of the Sanitary Sewer System.

C. Sanitary Utilities Dashboard — a more in-depth look at the City's Sanitary Sewer Gravity Main system. Did you know the City has 210,836.45 linear feet of main in its

Sanitary Sewer system? (as of March 17, 2026)

D. Nevada Cemetery App — Residents have access to this program under the Cemetery Department page. It helps city workers see where all existing gravesites are located, measure distances between gravesites, etc.

E. Water Utilities App — a more in-depth look at the City's Water Mains system.

F. Stormwater Utilities App — a more in-depth look at the City's Storm Water Mains system.

G. Zoning Editing Application — a color-blocked map that outlines the City's current zoning.

H. Water Utilities Dashboard — a more in-depth look at the City's Water Utilities Main system. Did you know the City has 266,632.07 linear feet of main in its Water delivery system? (as of March 17, 2026)

I. Stormwater Utilities Dashboard — a more in-depth look at the City's Stormwater Utilities Main system. Did you know the City has 154,777.87 linear feet of stormwater main? (as of March 17, 2026)

J. Nevada Tree Inventory — used to find out where trees are located in our community, and in some cases, the kinds of trees planted in each location.

New Building and Zoning Official named

Mike Sauer of Nevada began work April 2 as the City's new Building and Zoning Official.

He said he looks forward to the challenges of a position that is vital to the City's operations.



Mike is a 1993 graduate of North Linn High School and 1997 graduate of Iowa State University.

"I think I'm going to like getting out and interacting with residents," he said of his new position. "I kind of did that with my previous job, but I was always working in people's houses, so this will

be different from that."

Mike has been employed since 2003 with One Hour Heating & Cooling in Ames as an HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) technician. "I learned a lot on the job," he said.

Mike already holds some of the State of Iowa licenses needed for his new position, and will now focus on the training and any other licenses he needs.

"I like the challenge of learning something new. The HVAC industry itself is always changing and has changed a lot just in the last five years. And it was always challenging, but I believe if you don't want to learn something new, you might as well call it a day. These challenges keep your mind going."

Mike has lived in Nevada for 21 years. "Honestly, I'm really excited to be able to work in town," he said.

When he's not working, Mike's pastimes include writing, bike riding, and watching sports, like football and basketball and the Cyclones and Chicago Bears. Mike's family includes his wife, Sarah, who is a para-educator at Central Elementary School, and their son, Thomas, who will graduate this year from Nevada High School.

For people who will need to contact Mike and work with him on City projects, Mike said, "I'm open to questions, open to listening, open to communicating. I'm pretty easy going, but I'm all about following the rules and codes. I'm definitely a 'by the book' guy."

**City offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.
City offices will re-open on Tuesday, May 26, at 8 a.m.**

Library News

Adult Craft Night: 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 4

Registration Required

This month we will be springing into planting with a decorative wall hanger. There will be options to customize your hanger to match your aesthetic! Wear appropriate clothes for modge podge and acrylic paint. As always, you may bring snacks to enjoy as you craft.

Coffee, Coloring and Conversation: 8:30-9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 7 @ Renn's Cafe

Soma Yoga: 6-7 p.m. on Monday, May 11, in the library meeting room
Registration Required

Class taught by Tina Schmidt, a \$5 suggested donation benefits the Friends of the Nevada Public Library.

Movies at the Library: Friday, May 15, 10:30-Noon

Let's "spring into planting" by watching "Funny Farm" starring Chevy Chase! Popcorn will be provided. Bring any other snack or beverage to enjoy.

Library will be closed on Monday May 25 for Memorial Day

Craft and Chat: Thursday, May 28, 10 a.m.-Noon in library meeting room

Bring a current craft project to work on and enjoy chatting with others while you work.

Note: There is no children's programming in May — no toddler time, no teen lounge, no TALES, no STEAM lab.



Music at the Mansion planned for June 13

The annual Music at the Mansion, two-band free event on the lawn of the historic Evergreen Lane property, 1204 H Ave., will be held on Saturday, June 13, from 4-9 p.m.

This year's event will feature opening band, Vivace, followed by headliner, Bad Friends. People wanting to attend should bring a lawn chair/blanket to sit on the lawn. There is no other seating provided. This event is free, but there will be vendors selling food and other treats on site. This

year's vendors include The Wobbly Pin, Chocolaterie Stam with gelato, Cellar Winery, and Smokin' Critters BBQ.

The Nevada Public Arts Advisory Commission will have a display on the lawn from 3-5 p.m. for viewing.

Monetary donations are graciously accepted during Music at the Mansion by the Nevada Community Historical Society, whose members usually pass a hat to collect donations during the event.

Serve your City

The City could not run efficiently without the efforts of those who serve as volunteers on our Boards and Commissions, which include: Board of Adjustments, Board of Appeals, Historic Preservation Commission, Library Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Public Arts Advisory Commission. These volunteers are community-minded people, willing to give of their time and talents to make our community better for everyone who lives here.

If you are interested in serving on one of these Boards/Commissions, please take a moment to fill out an application form, which can be found at: cityofnevadaiaowa.org/government/boards-commissions/application.

Flushing hydrants takes place in May

The City Water Department will be flushing hydrants in May. Because of line flushing, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water or lower water pressure. The discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt and air. It does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration after crews have flushed your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your home by running all faucets with cold water for a few minutes. If you have questions, please call the Water Department at 515-382-2074.

Community Band gearing up for 2026 season

Nevada is fortunate to have its very own Nevada Community Band. Formed in 1999 as a Leadership Nevada initiative, the Community Band performs a summer concert series from June to early July. Concerts are on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the City Hall campus. Bring your lawn chairs and join us for an evening of entertaining music.

This year's concert season starts on Tuesday, June 2. The remaining concert dates are June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30 and July 7. On July 4, a small group of musicians will participate in Nevada's 4th of July parade. Our June 30 concert will feature patriotic music and be performed at Josephine Tope Community Auditorium. The regular season concludes on July 7 with the Nevada Community Jazz Band.

The Nevada Community Band always welcomes new band members to join. The emphasis is on the community aspect of the band. Starting on June 1, rehearsals are held on Monday evenings in the Nevada High School Band room from 7-8 p.m. Music is chosen that will entertain the audience and be true to the rich tradition of community bands in Iowa. If you want to join the Nevada Community Band, please contact Wade Presley at pres64@gmail.com.

Area students ready to enjoy field-trips to the Camelot

RESIDENTS CAN ALSO ENJOY FREE SHOWINGS OF SOME MOVIES

A \$1,500 grant from Alliant Energy, combined with contributions from two anonymous donors, will bring the magic of movies to the historic Camelot Theater admission-free for elementary and middle school children in the Nevada, Colo-NESCO, and Collins-Maxwell school districts this year.

Camelot Theater Foundation members Melissa Sly, Ann Kurtenbach, Nancy Thompson, and Jalene Hornbuckle, worked together to prepare and write the grant application. Their hope was to receive funds so that every student could celebrate the end of this school year with a trip to the Camelot Theater for a movie.

"The Camelot holds so many memories hosting movies for decades," said Thompson. "We are hoping that school children will embrace the Camelot and become excited about going to the movies!"

As an added bonus of the grant, up to 350 community members may attend the evening showings of three of the movies on Fridays in May for free. These include the two Disney/Pixar movies, "CARS" on May 8 and "Finding Nemo" on May 29, and the Universal movie, "How To Train Your Dragon Live Action" on May 15. Just bring money to enjoy great treats at the Camelot concessions stand!

The end-of-year movies will begin on Friday, May 8, with 170 students from Collins-Maxwell elementary school in the morning and 112 Colo-NESCO elementary students in the afternoon attending "CARS" (Swank).



On Friday, May 15, the Nevada middle schoolers will enjoy the movie, "How to Train Your Dragon."

On Friday, May 22, Collins-Maxwell and Colo-NESCO middle school will come to the theater for the movie "Wonder" (Lionsgate).

On Friday, May 29, the last group, Nevada Central Elementary, with 619 students, will see "Finding Nemo" (Swank), during two showings.

"Special effects will be added to the elementary movies, so they will experience movies that they may have already seen in new and exciting ways," Hornbuckle noted.

This won't be the first time the Camelot has welcomed students for movies during recent years, but it is the first time an Alliant grant has helped make it possible free of charge for students and the community. Because two of the movies were Disney/Pixar and more costly, it was great that these donors could pay the difference to help bridge what the grant covered and the total cost.

The Camelot Theater Foundation is also still very focused on fund-raising activities to purchase a new computer system for the theater, and they are hoping to raise some funds with the evening showing of the Disney/Pixar CARS movie by offering raffle tickets and other activities to win prizes.

"We'll also have a photo booth with a real car decorated like one of the movie

characters," Hornbuckle said. "You can pose for photos with it right outside of our historic downtown Camelot Theater! What a fun, free movie night awaits all of you who come to the theater on Friday, May 8!"

The free evening movie, "Finding Nemo" on May 29, will have fun prizes with their spinning Wheel of Wonder game, including movie character stuffed animals, Fawcett Family Aquatic free day swim passes, South Story Bank beach balls, and Nemo stickers donated by Dr. Dugger of McFarland Eye Clinic.

Residents are encouraged to watch the Nevada Camelot Theater's Facebook page for more information about the fund-raising activities and the movies coming up!

RESIDENTS NEEDED TO PLAN FOR SPECIAL 4TH OF JULY

Help is needed on all fronts to plan for a very special 4th of July celebration in Nevada this year. It is, after all, the country's 250th birthday!

If you are interested in being part of a committee that can help tie all the events together and make the parade even more spectacular than ever, please reach out ASAP to Mayor Ryan Condon: MayorCondon@cityofnevadaio-wa.org or call Marlys Barker at City Hall, 515-382-5466.

Former Nevada Mayor to be honored Memorial Day

Lynn Lathrop, who served as Mayor of Nevada from 2013 to 2017, has been selected as this year's Grand Marshal for Memorial Day services.

Lathrop came to Nevada in 2008, working as an engineering manager at Burke Marketing. He retired from that position in 2014, but remained active for several years on various community boards.

Lathrop quit high school in Central City Iowa in 1969, to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. After all his basic training and preparation, he served in Vietnam at Da Nang as a fuel analyst chief and a chief flight line safety officer. His main job was aircraft fueling and safety. He was also a machine gun operator.

After a year, Lynn got an honorable discharge from the military due to a knee injury that occurred when a rocket exploded on the flight line. But 10 months later, he re-enlisted for more training in infantry light weapons.

He was deployed to Hawaii and served as fuel analysis chief and chief flight line safety officer.

Eventually his knee injury worsened and he finished his second tour with another honorable discharge on March 23, 1973.

Lynn was honored in September of 2022 by the local American Legion, of which he is a member, with a Quilt of Valor, which he said meant the world to him.

He shared that he is honored to be chosen as this year's Grand Marshal. Congratulations Lynn!

Lynn Lathrop, pictured here, is being honored as the Grand Marshal for this year's Memorial Day Observance in Nevada on Monday, May 25.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, MAY 25

9:30 a.m. — Flag Raising at Administration Building on 6th Street, with introduction of new military enlistees

10 a.m. — Procession to the City Cemetery

10:30 a.m. — Approximate time of Ceremonies at the City Cemetery (starting after all in procession arrive)

Lunch — The American Legion Auxiliary is hosting beef burger lunch at the Legion Hall following the ceremony. Cost is a free-will donation.

Set-Up Help Needed

The Avenue of Flags will be put up on Saturday, May 23. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Coop gas station on Lincolnway at 6:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served at the American Legion to all helpers once set-up is completed.

Flags will come down at 4 p.m. on May 25. Volunteers are also needed to help with this work.



World-War II Vet celebrates turning 100

On April, 15, 2026, Don E. Williams, pictured, celebrated his 100th birthday with family and friends at Story County Senior Care, where he resides. He recently was given a US Flag that was flown over the White House on Jan. 29, 2026. This flag was requested and given by The Honorable Senator Ronald H. Johnson.

Don is an Army Veteran who served in the Pacific Theatre during WW II in 1944 and 1945. He served in the Emergency Response Command in association with the Philippine Scouts. This time period was critical in liberating the Philippines and transitioning them to their independence.

After the war, Don returned home and married Helen Ackerman on Oct. 6, 1948. Together they raised seven sons. Don was a dairy farmer until his first retirement, but then had a second career of working 30 years for Longview Farms in Story County until his second retirement at age 93.



RUN series announced for this year

Runners United Nevada (RUN) has announced four races for its series in 2026.

Pizza Pie Looza 5k/10k will happen on Saturday, May 9; Story County Freedom Run 5k will happen July 4; Hickory Grove Trail Run takes place Aug. 8; and Lincoln Highway Days Dash 5k will happen Aug. 29.

Sarah Gilchrist is the current president of RUN, which is an organization that was initially formed in August of 2017, with the hopes of connecting those who like running to do more of it together.

RUN became an official non-profit organization in May of 2018, hosting a race or two, and then announced in February of 2020 its first four-race series.

Some of the races have changed a bit since the inception, but the patrons who come to the races have held strong. "We draw on average about 150 per run with the Pizza Pie Looza race becoming our largest draw in the past few years," Gilchrist said.

She believes the spring run is great for

people who need that springtime goal. The May race also culminates RUN's youth running club season, and helps those in the group's adult training program to experience a race early on.

Those making plans to come back, or start a new activity this year by committing to a race or races, will want to save the following information:

Pizza Pie Looza 5k/10k - Earlybird registration (with lower entry fee) goes through April 30. All participants must register by May 8 at 5 p.m. The race will take place at 8 a.m. at SCORE Park on May 9. Proceeds from this race will be given to a trail enhancement project in Nevada.

Story County Freedom Run 5k - Earlybird registration goes through June 18. All participants must register by July 3 at 5 p.m. The race begins at 8 a.m. at Billy Sunday Field on July 4. Proceeds from this race will go to the Nevada Fireworks Fund and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Hickory Grove Trail Run - This is a newer race that benefits the Nevada High

School Cross Country Team and offers a scenic run. The race will be held Aug. 8 at 8:30 a.m. Check-in will be at the Hickory Grove Park Beach House.

Lincoln Highway Days Dash 5k - Earlybird registration goes through Aug. 13. All participants must register by Aug. 28 at 5 p.m. The race will take place Aug. 29 at 8:30 a.m. at the SCORE Park. Proceeds from this race will go toward a trail enhancement project in Nevada.

For more information and/or to register for one or all of these races, go to runnevada.org.

The 10-member board of RUN is always excited to see regulars from year-to-year, people who love the small-town race atmosphere, and they welcome newcomers. "We also like people to know that we're always open to new ideas from people, and also love to know of people who want to volunteer to help with anything we're doing," Gilchrist said.

You can reach Gilchrist or another board member by email: runnersunitednevada@gmail.com with questions.



Postal Customer

Calendar of Events

CAMELOT CONCERT

May 1, 7:30 p.m.
Leaving, TX, and Brother Trucker

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

May 2, 9 a.m.
Renn's Cafe, 1001 6th St.

NEVADA COMMUNITY CUPBOARD OPEN

Every Saturday, 10-11:30 a.m.
1110 11th Street
Provides food for those in need

CAMELOT CONCERT

May 2, 7:30 p.m.
'80s tribute: Legends of Rock

CAMELOT LIVE SHOW

May 3, 1 p.m.
Circus of Bubbles

HARMONY CLOTHING CLOSET

Every Monday, 4-7 p.m.
1122 6th Street
Provides free clothing. Donations may be dropped off at this time.

BINGO AT LEGION

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.

NEVADA FOOD AT FIRST

Mondays & Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, 1036 7th St.
Find out more, set up delivery: <https://nevadafoodatfirst.com>

NCS D SCHOOL BOARD

May 4 & 18, 6:30 p.m.
Gates Memorial Hall

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.
Story County Admin. Bldg.

LEGION AUXILIARY SPRING LUNCHEON

May 4, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
American Legion Post
Chicken casserole, salads, desserts, \$12 per person

SENIOR CENTER WOMEN'S COFFEE

Every Wednesday, 9 a.m.
Senior Center, 1231 6th St.

SENIOR CENTER MEN'S COFFEE

May 7 & 21, 9 a.m.
Senior Center, 1231 6th St.

STORY MEDICAL BOARD

May 7, 11:30 a.m.
Hospital Board Room

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY BOOK SALE

May 8 & 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Nevada Public Library"

AMERICAN LEGION FISH FRY

May 8, 5-7 p.m.
American Legion Post
Alternate choice of tenderloin sandwich. Adults \$15, Children \$8

PIZZA PIE LOOZA

May 8, 5-10 p.m.
May 9, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
SCORE
See page 2 for more details

PIZZA PIE LOOZA 5 & 10Ks

May 9, 8 a.m.
SCORE
Sign-in 7:30 a.m.

SENIOR CENTER POTLUCK

May 11, 11:30 a.m.
Senior Center, 1231 6th St.
Bring a dish to share. A short program begins around 12:15 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

May 11 & 25, 6 p.m.
City Hall

FINAL DAY OF SPRING OPEN BURNING SEASON

May 15

STORY MEDICAL OPEN HOUSE

May 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Hospital Board Room

NCS D GRADUATION

May 17, 2 p.m.
High School Fieldhouse

MEMORIAL DAY SET UP

May 23
See page 14 for details

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

May 25
See page 14 for details

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY MEAL

May 29, 5-7 p.m.
American Legion Post
Beef enchiladas. Adults \$15, Children \$8