the GREAT BASIN SUN
Looking Beyond Local
GreatBasinSun.com SECTION B The Week of October 23, 2026

Celebrating Nevada: 162 Years of Statehood



The first official Nevada Day Parade held in Carson City, 1938. Photo courtesy of the Nevada State Museum.



Previous years Nevada Day Parade. Photo courtesy of Visit Carson City.

By Jesse Bell

Nevada is turning 162, and Carson City is getting ready to throw a party. The annual Nevada Day celebration brings families downtown for a parade, live entertainment, and a weekend of festivities honoring the Silver State. For generations of Nevadans, it has become a familiar fall tradition, a chance to gather with friends and neighbors and celebrate the place they call home. But the state's birthday wasn't always such a big occasion.

Before we delve into the splendor that is the largest statehood parade in the nation, let's take it back to the beginning. Long before the floats, marching bands, hot-air balloons, and crowds lining the streets of Carson City, Nevada was a young territory on the verge of becoming the 36th state in the Union.

Nevada officially became the 36th state on Oct. 31, 1864, in the middle of the Civil War. The timing was significant; President Abraham Lincoln was seeking to strengthen the Union, and Nevada's admission helped bolster support for his administration and the proposed 13th Amendment. Nevada's statehood during the war also gave rise to its official motto, "Battle Born," a reminder of the circumstances surrounding its entry into the Union. The Silver State had achieved statehood, but an annual celebration would take considerably longer to take hold.

In 1891, a bill was signed marking Oct. 31 as a judicial holiday. Courts closed for the day, and communities including Virginia City and Reno marked the occasion with festivities and parades. Elsewhere, however, Nevada's birthday passed with considerably less fanfare. Admission Day was not yet an official state holiday, and between 1891 and 1914, few communities were recorded as holding formal observances. In 1908, the newly organized State Federation of Women's Clubs in Reno passed a resolution calling for legislation to make Admission Day a legal holiday, but the effort produced no immediate results.

It would take another 25 years before the state gave its birthday broader recognition. In 1933, the Nevada Legislature passed a bill designating Oct. 31 as Nevada Day and establishing it as a discretionary holiday. In 1939, Nevada Day became an official state holiday. The first official Nevada Day Parade was held in Carson City in 1938, beginning a tradition that has continued annually, with only a three-year pause during World War II. Over the decades, the parade has grown into a statewide celebration, often described as the largest statehood parade in the nation.

In 1998, Nevada voters supported moving the observance of Nevada Day from Oct. 31 to the last Friday in October, creating a three-day weekend for the annual celebration. The Nevada Legislature passed the change in 1999, and it took effect in October 2000. The adjustment allowed the state to maintain Oct. 31 as the anniversary of Nevada's admission to the Union while giving residents a dedicated weekend to celebrate.

Today, the Nevada Day Parade showcases the state's history, diverse cultures, and proud traditions through marching bands, floats, equestrian groups, historic displays, and community organizations. Generations of Nevadans gather in Carson City to celebrate the place they call home, from the state's mining roots to its modern-day communities.

The 2026 parade theme, "Pumpkins, Pioneers and Tall Tales," brings a distinctly Nevada flavor to this year's festivities, which will take place throughout the weekend. Festivities begin on Saturday, Oct. 31, with hot-air balloons near Carson Mall, inflating at 6 a.m. and launching at 8 a.m., weather permitting.

The parade starts at 10 a.m. in downtown Carson City, featuring more than 200 entries. Other highlights include the World Championship Single Jack Drilling Contest at 10:30 a.m. on Curry Street, the Nevada Day Pow Wow, live music, vendors, and family activities. The annual beard contest begins at 2 p.m. at McFadden Plaza, and the Governor's Mansion will host an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Visitors can also explore the Nevada State Museum and Nevada State Railroad Museum, along with additional walking tours, special events, and train rides throughout the weekend.

Nevada Day is an opportunity to celebrate the place we call home and mark 162 years of Nevada statehood in scenic Carson City. Whether you're taking in the sights and sounds of the parade, discovering a new favorite local vendor, or learning something new about the Silver State's history, there's plenty to enjoy throughout the festivities. Just be sure to dress for all four seasons; you never know which one you'll get.

Who Pays for Nevada's New Power Grid?

Regulators are sorting out how the costs of serving large new electric customers should be divided

By Rachel Dahl

For the past two weeks, Great Basin Sun has looked at Nevada's growing demand for electricity and the large industrial customers driving much of that growth.

The next question is fairly simple – who pays for it?

Not just for the electricity a customer eventually uses, but for the power plants, transmission lines, substations, transformers and other equipment that may have to be built before that electricity ever reaches the property.

That question is now part of NV Energy's Integrated Resource Plan case before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada.

NV Energy is asking regulators to approve a standard Large Load Electric Service Agreement, or LLESA, intended for customers requiring very large amounts of electricity.

The proposed agreement is one attempt to establish how those customers commit to taking service and how costs associated with serving them are recovered.

There are really two different costs involved in delivering power, the first is producing or purchasing the electricity itself, and the second is getting enough electricity to where it is needed.

A large industrial project may require a new substation, transmission improvements, transformers, line extensions or even additional generating resources. Some of those facilities may serve primarily one customer. Others may eventually become part of the larger electric system.

PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff has recommended that commissioners reject NV Energy's proposed standard large-load agreement in its current form and instead open a separate proceeding to develop a more comprehensive framework for serving large customers.

If commissioners decide to approve a large-load framework now, staff has proposed additional protections, including a separate customer class, additional accounting and cost true-ups, and a process for establishing the order in which large customers receive service.

Those are recommendations from regulatory staff, not decisions by the Commission.

NV Energy disagrees with rejecting the agreement.

In Oct. 6 testimony, the utility asked commissioners to approve a large-load agreement, with whatever changes the Commission determines are appropriate, while a longer-term tariff for customers of this size is developed.

NV Energy also presented an illustrative calculation showing a possible generation contribution of about $4 billion under one large-load scenario.

The figure is not an approved charge, nor does it represent a final bill to any particular customer. It is an example used in the regulatory proceeding to demonstrate how costs associated with adding generation for very large loads might be addressed.

The underlying concern is what happens if a utility builds infrastructure in anticipation of a large customer and the project is delayed, built at a smaller scale or never built at all.

Conversely, infrastructure paid for initially to serve a new customer can sometimes become part of a system that serves other customers over time.

Regulators are now being asked to determine how those costs and risks should be allocated.

The issue has also reached the Governor's Office, with Gov. Joe Lombardo issuing an executive order in September establishing what he called the Nevada Standard for Responsible Data Center Development.

The order applies specifically to data centers seeking state tax abatements and requires those applicants to enter into a Nevada Community Support Commitment.

Among its requirements, the order says a data center receiving a state incentive must bear the cost of serving its electric load so that other utility customers do not carry those costs. The specific mechanism and terms are left to the Public Utilities Commission.

The order also directs the Governor's Office of Energy to develop a "Responsible Speed to Power Plan" by Dec. 31 identifying facilities needed to serve anticipated large loads through 2036 and identifying points in the existing process where power delivery is delayed.

Cost is only one side of the problem. For some large industrial customers, the other issue is time – how long it takes to study a proposed load, design the necessary improvements and build enough generation, transmission and substation capacity to serve it.

Some Northern Nevada industrial projects are already proposing their own generating facilities while they pursue longer-term utility service.

Continue reading on page B-4.

COMMENTARY

Nevada is Enhancing its Pro-Business Reputation

By Randi Thompson

Competition is the engine of America's free-market economy, pushing businesses to innovate, adapt, and pursue new opportunities. States face the same competitive pressure as they vie for investment, jobs, and entrepreneurs. Those willing to adapt and create clearer, more business-friendly environments stand to reap economic benefits for decades to come.

Every state takes its own approach to creating a business environment. States like New York and California have become known for high costs, taxes, and layers of regulation, factors that make it harder to grow and operate a business. In California alone, roughly 1,250 corporate headquarters left the state on net between 2011 and 2021, with many relocating to lower-tax, less-regulated states such as Nevada.

Even states long considered business friendly aren't immune to this competition. Delaware has been the country's most popular corporate destination for incorporation for decades, but a growing number of companies have begun looking elsewhere amid concerns about the state's corporate legal environment. In 2025 alone, 18 companies proposed leaving Delaware, with 13 seeking to reincorporate in Nevada.

Delaware's corporate laws once gave the state a powerful competitive advantage in attracting businesses. But that advantage is no longer guaranteed, and as other states adapt, businesses are increasingly looking for alternatives.

Their loss is Nevada's gain. Nevada is seizing this opportunity to strengthen its pro-business environment and make the state an increasingly attractive home for companies. When states compete, lawmakers have an incentive to reduce uncertainty, provide clear rules, and pass policies that allow businesses to thrive. The states that seize this opportunity and adopt pro-business legislation will attract more investment, business, and jobs.

As a small-business advocate, I've seen firsthand what a lack of certainty can mean from both the ownership and advising sides. For a Fortune 500 company, uncertainty can delay a merger or major transaction. For a small business, it can be the difference between keeping its doors open and closing them.

Nevada policymakers have taken concrete steps to provide businesses with greater legal clarity and certainty. Assembly Bill 239 strengthened Nevada's corporate framework by refining protections for directors and officers, reinforcing statutory rules, and reducing reliance on evolving judge-made standards. Lawmakers also advanced Assembly Joint Resolution 8 (AJR 8), a proposal to amend the constitution to establish a business court to resolve complex corporate disputes.

Clear, understandable rules give businesses greater confidence to invest, expand, and grow. That predictability is



File Photo

especially important for small businesses, which often operate on razor-thin margins and have less capital to absorb unexpected costs, including litigation. While small businesses accounted for just 20% of business revenues in 2021, they bore 48% of business litigation costs. Money spent navigating costly litigation is money that can't be invested in hiring, expansion, or growth.

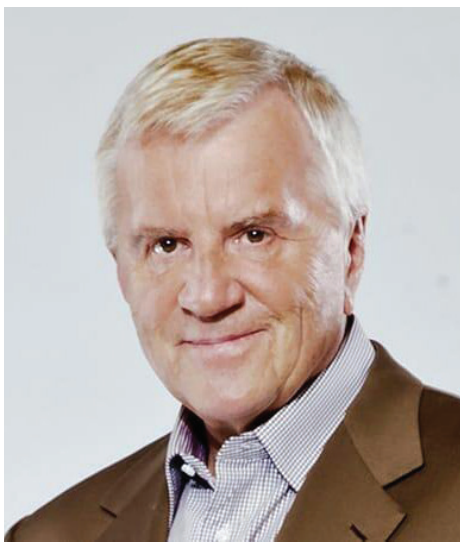
By streamlining dockets and bringing specialized expertise to complex commercial disputes, a business court can help reduce costs and give businesses greater confidence in how disputes will be resolved.

Nevada has already shown that it is open for business by offering greater clarity and predictability. Lawmakers should continue building on that progress. When states compete to create better business environments, businesses, workers, and consumers all stand to benefit.

Randi Thompson is a small-business owner who previously served as the National Federation of Independent Business' Nevada state director for more than 12 years, advocating for small business at the Nevada Legislature.

Who's Looking Out for Nevada?

Each week in this space we do a review of one of the shows from Sam Shad's Nevada Newsmakers – this week we take a look at the two-part interview with the famous political strategist, Sig Rogich.



Sig Rogich. Photo Courtesy of UNLV.

By Rachel Dahl

There is a point in Sam Shad's two-part conversation with Sig Rogich when the discussion comes down to a question about water.

Who would you want negotiating on the Colorado River?

Shad was recalling Rogich's support for Harry Reid in his final Senate campaign against Sharron Angle. Here was a Republican political strategist backing a Democratic senator, and the explanation involved something considerably more consequential than which team would get to celebrate on election night.

Nevada needed somebody at the table who could deliver.

Out here, where a community's future can turn on water, access to land, or a decision made by people who have never driven through the place, that is a language we understand.

You can argue politics all afternoon. Eventually, somebody has to make sure the town has water.

Rogich has plenty of political convictions. Anyone listening to these interviews will come away with a clear understanding of that. He argues forcefully for teaching the history of socialism and communism, praises Joe Lombardo, criticizes Democrats, and offers opinions on everything from California government to the national press.

But the part that stayed with me was his account of working with people whose politics differed from his own.

Rogich recalled opposing Mike O'Callaghan in the 1970 governor's race. Four years later, he said, O'Callaghan hired him to run his reelection campaign.

Think about the judgment required on both sides of that arrangement.

A governor had to see value in somebody who had worked against him. A political operative had to recognize something worth supporting in a man he had tried to defeat. Both had to get beyond the previous election long enough to consider the next job.

Rogich described O'Callaghan as a governor who considered what made sense for Nevada rather than what served either political party.

That is a useful standard. It also requires considerably more work than checking the letter after somebody's name.

We have become awfully efficient at sorting people. Republican. Democrat. Conservative. Liberal. Once the sorting is finished, we can save ourselves the trouble of listening.

Except the business of governing remains unfinished.

A county still needs a workable budget. A school still needs teachers. A business still needs enough certainty to hire somebody. The people responsible for those things have to make decisions in a world where the available choices rarely arrive in tidy ideological packages.

Rogich's explanation of his support for Reid belongs in that practical world.

He recalled conversations with Republican Sens. Orrin Hatch and John McCain about what Nevada stood to lose without Reid's influence. He described his own decision as a calculation about the state's interests.

People can disagree with that calculation. Crossing party lines does not automatically make a decision wise, any more than staying with your party automatically makes it foolish.

What matters is whether you can explain your choice in terms of the people you are supposed to serve, and accept scrutiny of the result.

That same obligation surfaced elsewhere in the interview when Rogich discussed public spending.

His question was straightforward: What did the money accomplish?

There ought to be a clear answer. When government appropriates money, somebody should establish what success looks like, who is responsible, and when the public will learn whether it worked.

Those questions belong to everyone who pays the bill.

In a small business, the distance between a decision and its consequences is usually short. Buy equipment you cannot afford, hire without enough revenue, or repeatedly pay for work that never gets finished, and the consequences eventually arrive at your own desk.

Public institutions need that same clear connection between promises, spending, and results. Approving the appropriation is only the beginning of the responsibility.

Then there was O'Callaghan's relationship with the press.

Shad brought up the former governor's reputation for calling reporters early in the morning when he disliked their stories. Rogich recalled getting an even earlier call himself.

As a publisher, I found that exchange particularly interesting.

An angry telephone call can still be a conversation. A public official can challenge a story, explain a decision, supply a missing fact, and answer another question. A reporter can listen, check the evidence, correct an error when necessary, and stand by accurate reporting.

That exchange takes some backbone on both ends, but so does governing alongside people you opposed in the last election.

What I heard beneath the arguments in Rogich's interview was an expectation that people remain capable of doing business with one another and that somebody ultimately answer for the work.

Nevada has room for fierce political disagreements. We also have communities whose needs will outlast every campaign.

When the election is over and the signs come down, somebody still has to sit in those seats. I want to know whether they came prepared to look out for Nevada.

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EVENTS

Worth the Drive: Chasing the Hunter's Moon



Hunter's Moon glows orange as it rises above the treetops. Photo courtesy of BBC Weather.

By Doris Rodriguez

Howdy, neighbors, eyes to the sky!

Nights are getting long, the air has a bite, and a Hunter's Moon is climbing over the sagebrush. From Oct. 23 to 25, Nevada offers ghost stories, night trains, and haunted landmarks. Grab a flashlight, some ear warmers, and someone brave to ride shotgun.

The Nevada Northern Railway's Haunted Ghost Train leaves Ely Oct. 23 and 24, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., with ghosts, zombies, and aliens along the route. Costumes are encouraged.

Then, follow the Hunter's Moon west to Elko, where the Chamber's Ghost Tours run downtown Saturday, Oct. 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. Stops include ghost stories, wine, and appetizers. A Veteran Resource Fair is also set for Saturday in Elko.

Farther west along the moon-chasing route, Winnemucca businesses, the library, and Humboldt General Hospital offer trick-or-treating on Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. Buns and Blankets runs from noon to 3 p.m. at Riverside Park, and The Pig BBQ hosts a free trunk-or-treat from 5 to 9 p.m.

Turn south, and Tonopah's Downtown Spook Festival and Haunt takes over Union Plaza Friday and Saturday with family games, entertainment, vendors, and a haunted house. Friday from 5:30 to 7 p.m., the free Town Trunk or Treat lines up at the Tonopah Volunteer Fire and Ambulance facility.

Farther east beneath the Hunter's Moon, Cathedral Gorge State Park hosts the ninth annual Battle Born Trail Run Saturday. That evening, rangers lead a three-mile Full Moon Hike on Juniper Draw Trail from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The hike is free; park entry is $5 per vehicle for Nevada residents.

Down the road in Caliente, the pumpkin patch at Caliente Community United Methodist Church is open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday hayrides run from 3 to 5:30 p.m., with free hot dogs and cocoa.

Let the moon pull you west to Fallon, where the Rotary Club's Halloween Bingo Bash runs Friday at the Pennington Life Center. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo starts at 6 p.m., and the event ends at 9:30 p.m. with food and a 50/50 raffle. Lattin Farms' Fall Festival runs Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

South of Fallon, riders can camp at the second annual ADVRON Moto Rally at Walker River State Recreation Area from Thursday at 1 p.m. through Sunday at 11 a.m.

Follow the moonlight into Virginia City and Gold Hill. Friday's Haunted Stories and Spirits at the Gold Hill Hotel begins at 8:30 p.m., followed by five cocktail-paired ghost stories from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Mr. Mackay's Tricks and Treats at the Mackay Mansion starts Friday at 6 p.m. for ages 6 to 11. Saturday's "The Spirits Made Me Do It" Saloon Crawl runs on C Street from 1 to 5 p.m. for ages 21 and older. The All Hallows' Eve Victorian Ball runs from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Fourth Ward School Museum for ages 21 and older, with doors at 6:30 p.m.



Gold Hill Hotel. Photo courtesy of Virginia City.

"A Before Halloween Ghost Hunt" runs from 7 to 11 p.m. at Miners' Union Hall for ages 18 and older. The Virginia City Haunted House opens Oct. 25 at the VC Freight Depot, running from 6 to 10 p.m. The Virginia & Truckee (V&T) Pumpkin Patch Express still leaves the 1870 depot at 11:20 a.m., 1:20 p.m., and 3 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Friday adds a 5 p.m. dusk train.

Down the mountain in Carson City, the Nevada State Museum hosts a free Halloween Block Party Friday from 5 to 8 p.m., including admission to the Haunted Ghost Town and Mine. Fright at the Museum runs Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. in the old Mint's basement.

Authors Stephen and Sharon Provost present "Nevada Nightmares" Friday at 6:30 p.m. at the Foreman-Roberts House. Admission is free for Carson City Historical Society members and $10 for regular attendance. The Carson City Ghost Walk leaves McFadden Plaza Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Dark Prison Haunt at the old Nevada State Prison runs through Nov. 1.

Across the state, the Hunter's Moon shines on Pahrump's Pumpkin Days at Ian Deutch Memorial Park. Hours are Thursday from 3 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $7, or $10 for a weekend wristband. A costume parade is Saturday at 4 p.m. Saturday's Monster Dash 5K starts at 8 a.m., with check-in at 7 a.m.

Follow the moonlit road southwest to Boulder City, where Chautauqua's "Spark of a New Nation" features Paul Revere Friday at 6:30 p.m., Martha Washington Saturday at 2 p.m., and Alexander Hamilton Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Boulder BOOlevard offers free treats downtown Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. The Halloween Express leaves the Nevada State Railroad Museum at 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Drive safely and check your events as you roll out. Times can change faster than a shadow in the moonlight.

Great Basin National Park Celebrates 40 Years



Lehman Caves. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.

By Sydney Trainor

Great Basin National Park is celebrating 40 years Oct. 23, and part of the party is underground. Free cave tours, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, and talks about the park's history will give visitors several ways to join the anniversary festivities.

The celebration also marks the completion of the Lehman Caves lighting restoration. Visitors can see the results for themselves on a free tour, while those curious about the work behind the lights can hear from the people who helped design and install the system.

Free tickets will be available at the Lehman Caves Visitor Center beginning at 8 a.m. Pacific time on a first-come, first-served basis.

Grand Palace tours depart at 8:30, 9:15, 9:45, 11, and 11:30 a.m., with afternoon tours at 3:30 and 4 p.m. An accessible tour at 10:30 a.m. will visit the Gothic Palace only.

There is plenty happening above ground, too. The Oct. 23 program begins with presentations at Baker Hall from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Visitors can then head to the patio in front of the Lehman Caves Visitor Center for talks from 1 to 1:45 p.m.

At 2 p.m., a ribbon-cutting ceremony behind the visitor center will recognize the completed lighting restoration. Refreshments will follow, and a second round of presentations at Baker Hall runs from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Baker Hall, located outside the park in the town of Baker, will host speakers throughout the morning and late afternoon. Their subjects range from how the caves formed to how the park has shaped life in the surrounding communities.

Louise Hose and Harvey DuChene begin at 9:30 a.m. with the story of Lehman Caves' formation. At 10 a.m., Evan Bowen will explore the use of light detection and ranging (LiDAR) technology in caving.

The next three speakers will take visitors through the lighting restoration, step by step. Rod Horrocks will explain the system's design at 10:30 a.m. Kirsten Bahr follows at 11 a.m. with a look at removing the old electrical equipment, and Gretchen Baker will discuss installing the new lights at 11:30 a.m.

Park history fills the afternoon program. At 3:30 p.m., Jeanne Sharp Howerton will discuss how Nevada's first national park came to be. Dave Tilford follows at 4 p.m. with an insider's account of the effort to establish Great Basin National Park.

Gary Perea will examine the park's effects on local communities and their economies at 4:30 p.m. James Woolsey wraps up the presentations at 5 p.m. with a cultural history of the park's influence on people connected to it.

Parking will be very limited, so visitors are encouraged to share a ride.

Horsemanship for Heroes Gala Highlights Support for Veterans, First Responders



A rider carries the American flag on horseback. Photo courtesy of Horsemanship for Heroes.



2025 Gala attendees. Photo courtesy of AJ Photography.

By Nancy Chapman

A Reno nonprofit that uses horses to help veterans, emergency responders, and their families was the focus of an Oct. 10 fundraising gala celebrating its new location.

Horsemanship for Heroes held its third annual "Stetsons & Stars: The Future's So Bright!" event at its facility at 6505 Bonde Lane in Reno. The evening featured dinner and live entertainment, with fundraising to support the organization's equine-assisted programs.

Founded by two retired U.S. Army combat veterans, Horsemanship for Heroes offers equine-assisted psychotherapy and learning intended to help participants build resilience, self-awareness, and personal growth. Its services are provided at no cost to veterans, emergency responders, and their families.

The nonprofit offers an eight-week program with weekly 90-minute classes focused on working with horses.

Horsemanship for Heroes is a Premier Accredited Center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH International). The organization relies on donations and volunteers to support its work.

More information about the nonprofit and its programs is available at horsemanship4heroes.org.

MADE HERE

Orvis Gets $1.6M in Rural APRN Grants



Two University of Nevada, Reno Orvis School of Nursing students talk with a patient. Photo courtesy of University of Nevada, Reno.

By Doris Rodriguez

Rural Nevada stands to gain more nurse practitioners who can diagnose, treat, and manage care closer to home through a new and separate investment in advanced nursing education. The Orvis School of Nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) has received two grants totaling nearly $1.6 million to support advanced-practice students and help rural health clinics and hospitals train them.

The nearly $1.6 million in awards is separate from the $3 million grant announced earlier for bachelor's-level nursing students at the university's Lake Tahoe campus. The $1.6 million funding is split into two grants that focus specifically on advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). Eligible APRNs include nurse practitioners who can diagnose conditions, prescribe treatment, and provide primary and mental health care with greater independence than registered nurses.

"This investment recognizes that preparing advanced practice nurses for rural Nevada takes more than educating students. It takes strong clinical partnerships, committed preceptors, and resources for communities that are helping train the next generation of providers," said Stephanie DeBoor, senior associate dean at the Orvis School of Nursing and project director for the grants.

The first portion includes $638,000 for the Nevada Advanced Practice Nurse Fellowship for Rural Health. This will provide academic and living stipends to at least six students pursuing dual certification as family nurse practitioners and psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioners. Recipients will commit to five years of rural practice after completing their education.

The second award, the $947,000 Nevada Rural APRN Capacity Expansion Program, targets the clinical sites themselves. This funding is intended to help rural and tribal health care organizations obtain equipment, resources, and preceptor support so they can host advanced-practice students. A new online portal will give preceptors access to training materials and tools.

"Rural clinicians know their communities and understand what it takes to provide care in those settings," DeBoor said. "We want to work alongside those partners to make it easier for them to serve as clinical educators and to give students meaningful experiences that prepare them for rural practice."

For people served by critical-access hospitals and rural health clinics in Humboldt, Lander, Pershing, and nearby counties, the grants could make it easier for local facilities to train and eventually employ nurse practitioners.

The school is seeking rural and tribal partners interested in hosting students or supporting preceptors. Organizations can contact aprngrants@unr.edu for more information.

SBDC Offers Cash-Flow Class

By Doris Rodriguez

If you run a business in rural Nevada or are considering starting one, you can get free, hands-on help next month to better track your money.

The Nevada Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is hosting a free online lunch-and-learn called "Money Mapping for Money Success" on Nov. 5 from noon to 1 p.m. Anyone in Nevada can join, and you don't need to be an SBDC client. The class is open to both current business owners and those planning to start one.

The class will show the difference between financial statements and real cash management. Organizers say many owners use budgets or reports but still struggle to see where money goes. This session will help you find those leaks, understand your cash flow, and feel more confident about your finances.

"It is not to show you where you have already been. It is about where you are going!" the event description states. The goal is to help reduce money stress so owners can focus on growing their business. Topics include cash-flow management, daily business operations, and tips for startups or those still planning.

Presenter Kim Rae has 48 years of experience in public and private accounting, taxation, cash-flow management, business management, and mentoring. She has owned several businesses, including an accounting and tax practice that served over 400 clients, and later worked as controller for the Topol Group of Companies in Reno.

Her work included the Lakeridge Tennis Club, Lakeridge Golf Course, apartments, and related properties. She also worked as financial director for Bristlecone Family Resources and as treasurer for the Carson City Tigersharks swim team.

Since the session is online, business owners and those planning to start a business in Humboldt, Lander, Pershing, and other rural counties can join from home or work without needing to travel to Reno or Las Vegas. Nevada SBDC also offers free, confidential one-on-one advising across the state.

If you live in Humboldt County or nearby northeastern Nevada communities, the closest rural center is at Great Basin College in Elko. The Churchill Entrepreneur Development Association also has rural centers in Fallon and an office in Ely. These centers can help with business planning, financing, cash flow, marketing, and more.

Sign-ups are free and available at nsbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events.

For questions, contact the Nevada SBDC training team at training@nevadasbdc.org.

Continued from page B-1- Nevada's Power Grid.

For rural Nevada, much of the physical infrastructure needed to serve the state's growing electric demand will be located outside its largest cities.

NV Energy's current planning includes major transmission projects crossing Churchill, Lyon, Storey and Washoe counties, while proposed and existing generating facilities throughout Northern Nevada are increasingly part of the discussion over how future demand will be served.

The PUC will begin its Phase II evidentiary hearing in Docket 26-05007 at 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 26. Commission Chair Hayley Williamson is the presiding officer. Hearings are scheduled to continue through Oct. 29 at the Commission's Carson City hearing room, with a video connection to its Las Vegas office and live viewing through the PUC website.

The Commission is expected to consider the large-load agreement along with other portions of NV Energy's 2027-2046 Integrated Resource Plan.

Ultimately, commissioners will be deciding more than how Nevada produces enough electricity, they will also be deciding how the cost of building the system to deliver it should be divided.

Next in the Powering Nevada series: Waiting for Power – what happens when a large industrial customer needs electricity before the grid can deliver it?

Four Nevada Agricultural Producers Receive Nearly $350,000 in USDA Grants

Staff Report

Four Nevada agricultural producers will receive a combined $349,138 in federal grants to expand their markets, increase production and develop new ways to sell their products directly to consumers.

USDA Rural Development Nevada State Director Alida Ceballos announced the awards Oct. 14 through the agency's Value-Added Producer Grant program, which helps farmers and ranchers increase revenue by processing, marketing and selling products beyond traditional commodity markets.

Three Nevada ranches and one indoor farming operation received funding.

Perigo Hay & Cattle in Ely received the largest award, $150,000, to expand its ranch-raised Black Angus beef operation. The family-owned ranch will use the funding, along with matching contributions, to retain and finish additional cattle for processing and sale as packaged beef.

Brough Ranch Beef in Wells received $89,000 to increase production and marketing of its American Wagyu and Angus beef and beef jerky products. The multigenerational ranch will also contribute matching funds.

Big Dipper Sunrise Ranch in Wellington received $60,138 to expand production and direct-to-consumer sales of its range-fed beef products, including beef jerky. The family-owned ranch operates along the Pine Nut Mountains.

702Greens in Las Vegas received $50,000 to conduct a feasibility study and develop business and marketing plans for expanding its indoor-grown microgreens subscription program.

Ceballos said the awards mark the first time in more than four years that Nevada producers have received funding through the program.

The Nevada awards are part of more than $26 million in Value-Added Producer Grants recently announced nationwide by Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins.

The grants are intended to help agricultural businesses capture more of the value of what they produce, rather than relying solely on wholesale commodity sales.

Applications for the federal program are generally accepted between January and May, depending on funding availability. Additional information is available at rd.usda.gov.

Nevada Seeks Input on Statewide Trails Plan



Sunset in Water Canyon. Photo Courtesy Nevada Trail Finder

By Sydney Trainor

Nevada residents and visitors have until Nov. 30 to share how they use the state's trails and what improvements they want through an online survey for Nevada's first statewide trails plan.

The Nevada Division of State Parks and Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation are seeking public input to help guide trail development, access, and management across the state. The Statewide Trails Plan will address a range of recreational activities, including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and off-highway vehicle use.

Survey participants can describe how they use Nevada's trails, suggest improvements, and identify places where additional connections or recreational opportunities are needed. Their responses will help the agencies identify ways to improve existing trails, connect communities, expand access, and protect natural resources.

"Trails connect communities, create opportunities for people to explore Nevada's public lands, and provide access to the outdoors for people of all abilities and interests," said Janice Keillor, deputy administrator for Nevada State Parks. "This plan is an opportunity to look at how we can build a more connected trail system that serves Nevadans and visitors for generations to come."

The planning effort also considers the role trails play in local economies and the experiences they offer people traveling throughout Nevada.

"Trails are a cornerstone of Nevada's outdoor recreation experience, supporting local economies and allowing visitors to experience the incredible diversity of our state's landscapes," said Denise Beronio, administrator for the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation. "A statewide plan will help us better understand the needs of trail users, identify future opportunities, and ensure Nevada continues to offer world-class outdoor recreation experiences."

The survey is open to both residents and visitors through Nov. 30, 2026. Scan the QR code below to complete the survey.