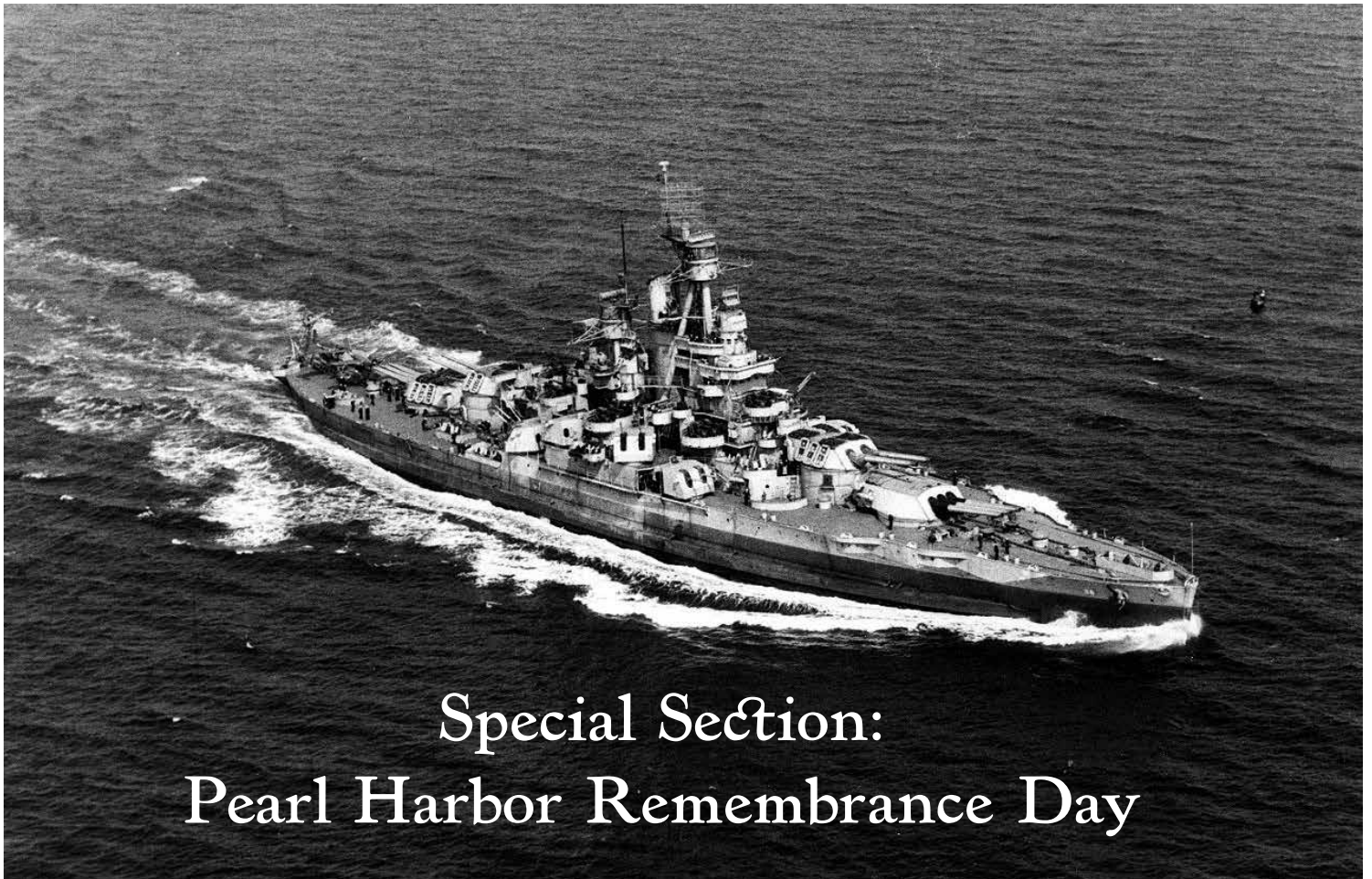


The Comstock Chronicle

Vol. 38 • No.49

Friday, December 5, 2025

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Pages 10 & 11. USS Nevada photo credit: Naval History and Heritage Command

Restoring the River



Story and photo by Steph Norby on page 12

Storey Traffic Signals



Article and photo by Julia Moreno-Fritz on page 3.

THE Comstock Chronicle

*Newspaper of Record for
Storey County, Nevada*

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Letters to the Editor Policy

- Letters may be edited for length, spelling, grammar, and accuracy.
- The Comstock Chronicle will not publish letters determined to be libelous, plagiarized, or in poor taste.
- Anonymous letters are unacceptable, but anonymity may be requested.

SILVER LININGS

A Note from the Editor

If you've felt the Chronicle getting fuller these past few months, you're not imagining it. Our community has rediscovered its voice—and with it, a renewed excitement to share stories, memories, journalism, art, and reflections from across the Comstock. Each week, more residents reach out wanting to contribute, and it has been a joy to watch this paper become a gathering place for local expression again.

At the same time, we face the familiar challenge of limited space. Because our advertising remains small, we are often unable to expand the number of pages needed to accommodate every contribution in full. Until our advertising base grows, we will need to share space, rotate features, and occasionally hold submissions for a later issue. This is not for lack of passion or interest—it is simply the reality

of printing a newspaper every single week.

To help make room for the many voices who want to be part of the Chronicle, the Editor's Note will now appear monthly instead of weekly. This allows us to dedicate more of our limited pages to community contributors while still keeping a regular space for reflection and connection.

We want to take a moment to thank the advertisers who make each issue possible. Their support keeps the Chronicle in print and in your hands. And we offer a special, heartfelt thanks to The Comstock Foundation for History and Culture, Comstock Inc., and Carson Demolition, whose continued funding has allowed us to rebuild, stabilize, and publish weekly as we grow back into the community newspaper our

Growing Together, One Page at a Time

region deserves.

Advertising is what allows us not only to print each issue, but to expand it—to add more pages, more features, and more room for the voices of Storey and Lyon Counties. With growth, we hope to reach even further into the east valleys and broaden our coverage for all who consider the Comstock part of their home.

To everyone who has submitted stories, photographs, research, poetry, or reflections: thank you. Your enthusiasm is the heartbeat of this paper. As we continue to grow, we'll do our best to honor every contribution and keep the Chronicle a place where our shared history and community spirit can thrive.

~ Interim Editor,
The Comstock Chronicle

HOLIDAY EVENTS CALENDAR

Visit our website for the updated Entertainment Calendar!

www.thecomstockchronicle.com

Sutro Event & Program Coordinator



HOW TO APPLY:

Submit a resume and a brief cover letter outlining your experience in tourism development, visitor engagement, event coordination, and community outreach to info@thesutrotunnel.org by **Dec. 8, 2025.**

We're hiring!

Seeking a passionate Event & Program Coordinator to bring the Historic Sutro Tunnel and Site to life as a premier living history park, driving heritage tourism in Dayton, Nevada.

Starting Dec. 2025.
Part-Time transitioning to
Full-Time by July 2026.

COMPENSATION:
\$20–\$22 per hour



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our living list of Toys
for Tots donation drop
off locations in Storey
County and Central Lyon
County, now through
Dec. 19 (some locations only
accepting through Dec. 17)

The AI Era & US

PINE NUTS

By McAvoy Layne
The Ghost of Mark Twain

Welcome to “The Wonderful Era of Artificial Intelligence.” If you’re like me, wanting to keep AI at arm’s length because we love eye contact and body language, well, to put it in New York City parlance, “Fuhgeddaboutit.”

You and I are not unlike Mark Twain, watching the Paige Compositor drive him into bankruptcy. Just when we think we are living in the information age, along comes a polymorphic chip to make us look dumb as clams, and not clams at high tide, but clams at low tide. “Look how small my scull has become!”

I can remember how smart I felt when I became the last person in the room to get my head around iambic pentameter. Now with AI I can rewrite the Constitution in iambic pentameter, and have it sung to me in Barbra Streisand’s voice.

And too, I’m sure you’ve heard about the sorrowful crime where a bad AI actor appealed to a grandmother for a little money for charity, and did it over the phone in the voice of her granddaughter. Yes, that grandmother is feeling mighty sick today, and not

wanting much to do with AI.

The Encyclopedia Britannica was a noble advancement, and the internet was another evolution in our intellectual development, but our transition from the internet era to the AI era is going to amount to a monumental sea change for all of us humans and humanoids. In fact, we are at a species-level inflection point, where it’s goodbye binary - hello poly, and human artistry can take a rest.

This transition can be most helpful in solving problems like climate change but can also be devastating if hijacked by bad dudes, and there are more than a few smart dudes out there wrapped in identity tribes and bound by shared grievances who are capable of weaponizing AI in its most fearful forms.

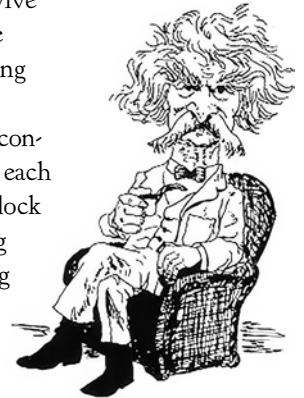
And too, soon enough, AI will be able to train itself at lightning speed, and when AI learns how to see, well, we had all better start looking for a place to hide, and even that will be a daunting challenge...

AI can help us bind healthy interdependencies and help us to see our world as the small planet it is, in desperate need of

constant care and stewardship. This 21st century is fast becoming an age in which we must collaborate universally in order to preserve our social fabric, and perhaps, preserve our very survival.

If AI enables us to see ourselves as one, that will justify its existence to be sure. But we should start tapping the brakes today to avoid unleashing a flood of catastrophic AI tsunamis tomorrow. I have faith in the talented technicians advancing artificial general intelligence, or A.G.I., the machine that can do anything the human brain can do. but as we say in Nevada, “Cut the cards.”

We will survive AI when (if) we learn to sing along rather than sing alone. So let us continue to remind each other that the clock we are watching while harnessing AI’s autonomous capabilities, is ticking...



Storey County and NDOT Complete Traffic Signals

By Julia Moreno-Fritz

Storey County, in partnership with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and major private-sector contributors Switch and Gray Construction, has completed installing traffic signals at this key intersection along USA Parkway to help ease congestion and improve safety in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRI-Center).

Traffic signals at Sydney Drive and USA Parkway are now operational and will allow safer left turns onto northbound

lanes, helping reduce traffic backups during peak commute hours.

“This partnership with NDOT represents a proactive step toward addressing the daily congestion challenges our workforce faces,” said County Manager Austin Osborne. “We’re focused on both short-term relief and long-term transportation planning for this vital economic corridor.”

The County has committed up to \$275,000—a 50% match

with NDOT—toward the cost of the temporary signals. Public Works crews have also installed additional signage throughout TRI-Center to promote safer driving speeds.

To enhance on-the-ground enforcement, the Board of County Commissioners approved a donation from Commissioner Donald Gilman to purchase two dual-style motorcycles for the Sheriff’s Office. The total cost was approximately \$40,285, with \$30,000 funded by the donation.

Storey County, NDOT, and the Washoe Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) continue to explore long-term solutions including alternative routes, expanded commuter options, and housing and transportation coordination.

“This project is an excellent example of regional collaboration in action,” Osborne added. “By working together, we can improve safety and quality of life for thousands of people who travel this route every day.”



King's Corner

By Jeff Headley

A Christmas-Season Retelling of Bret Harte's famous short story.

Roaring Camp was not the sort of place where good news happened. In 1850, if a gunfight broke out, nobody paused their card game long enough to notice—French Pete and Kanaka Joe once shot each other clean through right in front of Tuttle's grocery, and someone simply leaned over the bodies to pick up a dropped poker chip.

So naturally, when a crowd gathered outside Cherokee Sal's cabin one evening, the men knew this was something different. Nobody was yelling. Nobody was shooting. Nobody was cheating. They were whispering. And in Roaring Camp, whispering meant something extraordinary.

Cherokee Sal was the only woman in camp, and she was in rough shape—bringing a child into the world with no midwife, no doctor, and nothing but hard rock, harder men, and withered pine boughs for comfort. Even the gamblers felt uneasy. Sandy Tipton, who usually had an ace hidden somewhere on his person, forgot he was cheating and muttered, "Rough on Sal."

Inside that cabin, a miracle was attempting to happen in the least miraculous place in the Sierra Nevada.

"Stumpy," Kentuck said, nudging the man with the sort of tone one uses when volunteering someone else. "You've had experience with families. Such as they were."

Stumpy sighed, flicked the ash off his pipe, and stepped inside to help. The door closed. The entire camp sat down outside, and—for the first time—Roaring Camp waited quietly.

The moon climbed up the hill. The river hushed its roar. Even the pines held their breath.

Then it happened:

A cry.

Small. Sharp. New.

It sliced through the smoke, the murmurs, the moaning wind—and every rough miner in that clearing froze like he'd seen an angel. You could've heard a gold flake drop.

The men burst into cheers, and a few even fired pistols in the air, until someone reminded them that the mother was still in peril. But despite their good-hearted noise, Cherokee Sal slipped away within the hour, leaving behind a child and a camp full of men who suddenly felt more lost than usual.

They all looked at Stumpy.

"Can he live?" someone asked.

Stumpy scratched his chin. "Only female help in camp is Jinny the mule," he said.

Jinny was not flattered by the assignment, but she served with distinction. Within a few hours, Stumpy opened the cabin door and the men lined up single file to meet their newest resident. They filed in like miners approaching a gold weigh-in, hats off, voices lowered, something like reverence settling over them.

On the pine table lay a candle-box, cleaned up and lined with red flannel. Inside it slept a baby—small, new, and shining a little like the first ray of dawn slipping over a mountain ridge.

"Tiny thing," someone whispered.

"Barely bigger'n a derringer," another murmured.

Yet each man dropped something into the offering hat—gold flakes, a silver tobacco box, a lady's embroidered handkerchief no one asked Oakhurst the Gambler to explain, and even a Bible (suspected of being stolen, though the Lord

may have let that pass under the circumstances).

Then came the moment that changed the camp forever.

Kentuck—a man with the build of a mustang and the manners of one too—leaned over the candle-box. The baby grabbed his finger.

Kentuck froze. His weather-beaten face reddened like he'd been caught being kind.

"Well, I'll be," he muttered.

"He rasted with my finger... the little cuss."

But he said it softly, like a man saying a prayer.

Something shifted that night.

Something subtle.

Something holy.

You see, Roaring Camp wasn't Bethlehem, and these men sure weren't shepherds. But the way they gathered around that child... the way they fell quiet in his presence... the way that rough cabin glowed with lantern light and hope—it all felt strangely familiar. Like another night long ago when unexpected people found themselves kneeling beside a newborn who had no business arriving in such humble surroundings.

The camp improved almost instantly.

Roaring stopped roaring.

Men quit swearing near the baby.

They washed their faces. Some even washed their shirts. Tuttle's grocery imported mirrors because the men suddenly cared what they looked like.

They built the child a better cabin, then fixed up their own. Flowers appeared. Carpets. Clean floors. The kind of things nobody had bothered with because—well—what was the point?

But now there was a point.

They named him Luck because what else do you call a baby who makes a hard camp gentler, cleaner, quieter, kinder?

A child who brought peace to a violent place.

Light to a dark gulch.

Hope where hope had no business growing.

And in that rough mining camp nestled in the Sierra Nevadas, the men of Roaring Camp learned—almost by accident—what the shepherds learned long ago:

Sometimes God sends a miracle in swaddling clothes, into a place that deserves Him least, to change it most.

May this Christmas remind us that light still slips into dark places, grace still arrives in rough cabins, and hope is still born where no one expects it.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025 • 10:00am

"Men at the Manger - Jesse the Shepherd"

Jeff Headley



**Dayton Valley Community
Church of the Nazarene**

407 V&T Way - Dayton, NV - (775) 241-7167 - dvccn.com

Storey County Joins Dementia Friendly Nevada as 10th County in the State

by Julia Moreno-Fritz

Storey County has officially joined the statewide Dementia Friendly Nevada network, becoming the 10th county in the state to earn the designation. The effort, led by Storey County Health & Community Services Site Manager Sara Cannon, is aimed at improving awareness, inclusion, and community support for residents living with dementia.

Cannon, who was inspired by her own caregiving experience and a presentation from Casey Venturini, a program manager with the University of Nevada, Reno, saw how education and understanding can transform lives.

"Dementia doesn't mean life stops," she said. "With the right support, people can continue to live meaningfully and stay connected to their communities."

Cannon's work reflects Storey County's larger goal: to ensure residents and local organizations understand dementia not as a limitation, but as an opportunity to strengthen compassion and connection.

The first Charter Member meeting was held Oct. 16, and regular community meetings will begin Jan. 8 at 2:30 p.m. at Piper's Opera House. These gatherings will bring together residents, first responders,

businesses, and care partners to identify needs, share information, and strengthen community support.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, 1 in 9 Americans over 65 lives with dementia, and 64,000 Nevadans are currently affected.

Storey County earned the designation after a year of collaboration between Health & Community Services and the University of Nevada, Reno's Dementia, Engagement, Education & Research (DEER) program in partnership with the statewide Dementia Friendly Nevada initiative.

Cannon emphasized that the designation does not mean the County

is providing caregiving services. Instead, the County's role is to share information and connect residents with existing resources through DFNV, DFUSA, and partners such as Community Chest.

"This designation means we acknowledge dementia is a public health priority," Cannon said. "People living with dementia can live well, and our goal is to help create a community where everyone feels supported and included."

For information on Dementia Friendly Nevada – Storey County, contact Health & Community Services at (775) 847-0957 or visit Storey County's resource page.

Creation of the Odeon

By Chris Pattison - Proprietor of The Odeon, Dayton

The Odd Fellows who built our Odeon (1863)

Before Dayton had much of anything official, it had neighbors who showed up. In 1863, the Odd Fellows—Dayton Lodge No. 5—put their money, muscle, and ideals into a brick hall on Pike Street. They called it the Odeon.

Upstairs was their meeting room, the Three Links on the wall: Friendship, Love, Truth.

Downstairs? The saloon and billiards that kept the lights on. It wasn't fancy social club stuff; it was a practical safety net in a boom-and-bust town. If a miner got hurt, they passed the hat and paid the doctor. If a family lost a breadwinner, they brought wood, food, and dignity. When someone passed, they made sure there was a proper burial. No press releases. Just work.

The Odeon quickly became



Peter Ogden (d. 1852)
leader of the Grand United
Order of Odd Fellows.

Dayton's common room: dances, talks, fundraisers, vows, farewells, the kind of life moments

that stitch a town together. Those bricks weren't only laid to keep the wind out; they were laid to keep people in each other's corner.

So when you step through our doors today, you're not just walking into a bar. You're walking into a promise a handful of neighbors made to this place 160+ years ago: take care of one another, celebrate together, and leave Dayton a little better than you found it.

Friendship. Love. Truth. Still good rules to drink by.



If you need something gone, we can make it go away.

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- GARAGE, SHED & STORAGE UNIT CLEANOUTS
- INTERIOR JUNK REMOVAL
- PROPERTY CLEANUPS

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ODEON
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Stop in for a drink or two and say hello!



RENTAL OPTIONS:

- **Basic Upstairs Rental - \$600**
Enjoy private access to our upstairs event space and restrooms. Great for casual events, meetings, or DIY gatherings
- **Upstairs + Bar Staff - \$800**
Everything in the Basic Rental plus professional bartenders to serve your guests from our upstairs bar (beer, wine, and canned cocktails available).

It's always a party at The Odeon

ADD-ON OPTIONS:

- Bartender (each additional): **\$150**
- Post-Event Clean-Up: **\$150**
- Table/Chair Setup: **\$50**

A 50% deposit is required to reserve your date.

Call us for more details!

THE ODEON • 65 PIKE ST., DAYTON • (775) 882-4692

The Spark That Built the West: How the Comstock's Past Still Powers Its Future

Part 1 of 12 in the Comstock Chronicle Series:
"From Gold to Green—The Evolution of the Comstock"

Part 1 will run each week this month.

by Rob Dyer, Comstock Inc.

It's easy to take for granted the stability and fun of Virginia City today—the boardwalks, the laughs and chatter, the echo of boots on wood, the smell of pine and sage drifting over Mount Davidson. But 165 years ago, this hill roared with an entirely different energy that quite literally helped build Nevada and the American West.

When miners first struck the Comstock Lode in 1859, they didn't just find silver—they uncovered a force that reshaped technology, sense of possibility and the nation's economy. Silver from these hills bankrolled the Union during the Civil War, monetized San Francisco's rise, and drew miners, inventors, engineers, and dreamers westward. In its own way, the Comstock was Silicon Valley before there was one—where risk-takers, innovators, and fortune-seekers gathered to do whatever had to be done, and often, had never even been done before.

Yet what truly defined the Comstock wasn't just wealth that was created—it was **ingenuity**. The challenges of these mines pushed human creativity to its limit. The ore bodies treacherously deep, the grounds unstable, and the heat unbearable. To survive it, miners and engineers here invented entirely new ways of working underground. The square-set timbering system, devised by Philip Deidesheimer



in Virginia City, became a global standard for deep mining. The Sutro Tunnel, a feat of engineering precision, driven through solid rock, changed the world paradigm about drainage and ventilation. These were but a few of the world changing breakthroughs.

This was innovation born of necessity—and that spirit of practical ingenuity continues to define the Comstock today.

The echoes of that early enterprise still run through the DNA of the modern Comstock story. The original booms and busts left behind not only tailings and tunnels but also an incredible culture of resilience and reinvention. Generations later, the same hills that once produced silver now give rise to something even more valuable: **knowledge about how to restore, reclaim, and reuse.**

That's the story that Comstock Inc. carries forward. From the reclamation efforts that began under Comstock Mining to the decarbonization technologies of today, the company's evolution mirrors the arc of the region itself—transforming from extraction to innovation.

It's a transformation we can all appreciate because we've seen this land change before. Where the Bonanza Kings once dug for precious metals, today's Comstock companies recover metals like silver, copper, and aluminum from solar panels, capturing and reusing resources instead of exhausting them. The old mills gave birth to the industrial age; the new ones are helping build the circular economy.

For those who walk these streets every day, it's worth

remembering: the Comstock has always been about more than mining. It's been about solving the hardest, seemingly impossible problems. About finding light underground—sometimes literally, sometimes metaphorically.

That pioneering energy, the same drive that once fueled the hoisting engines and stamp mills, now powers new technologies aimed at elevating humanity and sustainably enabling our communities. And just as the Comstock Lode once proved the West could lead the world in industry, it may yet again prove that this same ground can lead the world in sustainability.

So, the next time you look across the canyon or hear the wind whistle through an old head frame, think of what was born here—not just a boomtown, but a blueprint. The Comstock Lode showed America what happens when determination meets imagination. Today, its descendants are showing what happens when innovation meets responsibility.

Because history has never sat still here for very long. It evolves—one discovery, one invention, and one new chapter at a time.

Learn more about Comstock Inc. and its mission to restore, reimagine, and reuse at www.comstock.inc.

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BEFORE THE NEVADA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NOTICE OF MODIFICATION TO EXISTING TARIFF

Reno Medical Transport, LLC d/b/a GMT CARE filed an application to modify tariff rates under Docket 25-11034. The Applicant has also requested interim authority. Persons with a direct and substantial interest in the filing may file Petitions for Leave to Intervene at the Authority's office. Such Petitions must conform to the Authority's regulations and must be filed on or before December 16, 2025. The full detailed notice of the application may be viewed on the Nevada Transportation Authority's website at <http://nta.nv.gov> on the "Public Notices" link or at the Authority's office at 3300 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 200, Las Vegas, NV 89102.

By the Authority,
 Amber Haggard, Administrative Assistant IV

Dated: December 2, 2025
 Las Vegas, Nevada

Publication date: 12/5/2025

STOREY COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE
PLANNING COMMISSIONER POSTING

Position: Storey County Planning Commissioner to represent Precinct 2 (Virginia City/Gold Hill). All interested parties must live within this voting district. Incumbent Planning Commissioner is eligible to request reappointment.

Letter of Interest: All interested parties must submit a letter of interest showing qualifications and reason for applying for the appointment. An official job application is not necessary.

Closing Date: This position will remain open until filled. Letters of interest must be received in the Human Resources Office located at 26 South B Street (PO Box 176), 1st Floor, Virginia City, NV, 89940. *Additional information about the position may be found at governmentjobs.com/storeycounty or call 775.847.0968.*

Tentative Appointment Date: Once a sufficient number of qualified candidates have applied, the Board of County Commissioners will consider letters of interest at an upcoming regularly scheduled meeting. Applicants may be asked to speak and should attend if possible.

Storey County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Posting dates: 11/24/2025 – Open Until Filled



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION FOR DEFERRED ENERGY ACCOUNTING ADJUSTMENT AND NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On November 14, 2025, Southwest Gas Corporation ("Southwest Gas") filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") its Annual Rate Adjustment Application, designated as Docket No. 25-11012, for authority to adjust: (1) the Variable Interest Expense Recovery ("VIER") Mechanism rates; (2) Unrecovered Gas Cost Expense ("UGCE") rates; (3) System Shrinkage rates for transportation customers; (4) Imbalance Commodity And Reservation charges used to calculate transportation customer excess imbalance charges; (5) General Revenues Adjustment ("GRA") rates; (6) Conservation and Energy Efficiency ("CEE") rates; and (7) the Contract Transition Adjustment Provision ("CTAP") rate.

This notice serves only to notify the public that the Commission has received the above-referenced filing. It is the responsibility of interested persons to review the filing and monitor the proceedings to determine their desired levels of involvement based on how this matter may affect their unique situations. The details provided within this notice are for informational purposes only and are not meant to be an all-inclusive overview of the filing. The Commission may consider and adopt alternative proposals not contained within the filing but which are related to the subject matter of the filing and supported by evidence.

Southwest Gas filed the application pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") Chapters 703 and 704, including, but not limited to, NRS 704.110 and NAC 701B.245, 703.535, 704.116, and 704.953 through 704.9718. Southwest Gas requests that certain information filed in support of the application receive confidential treatment pursuant to NAC 703.5274(2).

In its application, Southwest Gas further seeks an order: (i) finding that its gas procurement practices are reasonable; (ii) finding that its gas purchases were reasonable and prudent; and (iii) finding that, during the applicable test period, the transportation costs it first incurred and its management and performance of its previously contracted resources were both reasonable and prudent.

Southwest Gas proposes changing the Average Variable Interest Rate component of the VIER mechanism to a rate of (\$0.00047) per therm. Southwest Gas proposes changing the Accumulation of Deferred Interest component of the VIER mechanism to a rate of \$0.00460 per therm in Southern Nevada.

Southwest Gas proposes a UGCE rate of \$0.02684 per therm in Southern Nevada and \$0.01171 per therm in North-

ern Nevada.

Southwest Gas proposes a shrinkage rate of \$0.00004 per therm for high pressure service transportation customers in Southern Nevada and a shrinkage rate of \$0.00130 per therm for low pressure service transportation customers in Southern Nevada. In Northern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes a shrinkage rate of \$0.00093 per therm.

In Southern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes imbalance commodity and reservation charges of \$0.32344 and \$0.04697 per therm, respectively. In Northern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes imbalance commodity and reservation charges of \$0.30799 and \$0.40801 per therm, respectively.

In Southern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes: (1) a single-family residential GRA rate of \$0.09438 per therm; (2) a multi-family residential GRA rate of \$0.04625 per therm; (3) a General Gas Service – 1 GRA rate of \$0.02033 per therm; (4) a General Gas Service – 2 GRA rate of \$0.00465 per therm; (5) a General Gas Service – 3 GRA rate of \$0.01702 per therm; and (6) a General Gas Service – 4 GRA rate of (\$0.04569) per therm.

In Northern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes: (1) a single-family residential GRA rate of \$0.12159 per therm; (2) a multi-family residential GRA rate of \$0.08305 per therm; (3) a General Gas Service – 1 GRA rate of \$0.10285 per therm; (4) a General Gas Service – 2 GRA rate of \$0.03277 per therm; (5) a General Gas Service – 3 GRA rate of \$0.04057 per therm; and (6) a General Gas Service – 4 GRA rate of (\$0.01709) per therm.

In Southern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes a CEE rate of \$0.00676 per therm for sales customers. In Northern Nevada, Southwest Gas proposes a CEE rate of \$0.01003 per therm for sales customers.

Southwest Gas notes that pursuant to a stipulation in Docket No. 24-11005, its current Mesquite Expansion Area Infrastructure Expansion Rate will remain in effect until October 1, 2029.

Southwest Gas proposes changing its Southern Nevada CTAP rate from \$0.00082 to \$0.00047 per therm.

Southwest Gas does not propose any changes to the Southwest Gas Transmission Company Volumetric Charge in Southern Nevada.

Southwest Gas does not propose to modify the Move2Zero block pricing or thermal equivalent.

Southwest Gas states that the overall effect of the proposed rate changes is an increase in annualized revenues of \$5,500,970, or 1.27 percent, in Southern Nevada and an increase in annualized revenues of \$7,288,475, or 7.69 percent, in Northern Nevada. Under Southwest Gas's proposal, Southwest Gas states that the customer bill impacts are as follows:

continued on next page

LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS
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Southern Nevada Rate Jurisdiction Annual Average
Monthly Bills

	Under Current Rates	Under Proposed Rates	Change
Single-Family Residential	\$42.38	\$43.57	\$1.19
Multi-Family Residential	\$26.06	\$26.42	\$0.36
General Service – 1	\$79.64	\$92.39	\$12.75
General Service – 2	\$540.01	\$552.36	\$12.35
General Service – 3	\$2,280.48	\$2,451.17	\$170.69
General Service – 4	\$21,088.23	\$18,702.92	(\$2,385.31)

Northern Nevada Rate Jurisdiction Annual Average
Monthly Bills

	Under Current Rates	Under Proposed Rates	Change
Single-Family Residential	\$59.91	\$66.30	\$6.39
Multi-Family Residential	\$37.46	\$40.51	\$3.05
General Service – 1	\$113.44	\$121.95	\$8.51
General Service – 2	\$828.90	\$858.74	\$29.84
General Service – 3	\$4,503.93	\$4,478.32	(\$25.61)
General Service – 4	\$23,867.26	\$23,040.01	(\$827.25)

Interested and affected persons may file petitions for leave to intervene pursuant to NAC 703.578 through 703.600 at either of the Commission's offices on or before WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025.

A person who wishes to participate as a commenter may file written comments pursuant to NAC 703.491. A commenter is not a party of record and shall not take any action that only a party of record may take. Pursuant to NAC 703.500, only parties of record are entitled to enter an appearance, introduce relevant evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, make arguments, make and argue motions and generally participate in the proceeding.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to NAC 703.655, the Commission has scheduled a PREHEARING CONFERENCE in this docket to be held as follows:

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026
11:00 A.M.
Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE TO

Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 East William Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

And VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

The Parties will appear and otherwise participate in the pre-hearing conference either in person or remotely via Microsoft Teams. The Parties should provide the email address, title/role in associated business or organization, and business address for each person who intends to participate via Microsoft Teams to Administrative Attorney Adam Baker at abaker@puc.nv.gov no later than MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

Members of the public may view the prehearing conference in person at either of the Commission's offices or can access the hearing at the time noticed herein via the Commission's live stream link on its website at <https://puc.nv.gov>.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to formulate and simplify issues involved in this proceeding and to set a hearing and procedural schedule. At the prehearing conference, the Commission may also take any action authorized by NAC 703.655.

The Commission is not responsible for providing clerical or administrative assistance or materials to parties during Commission proceedings. If such assistance is necessary, parties must make other arrangements for this type of assistance.

The application is available for public viewing at the Commission's website: <https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the offices of the Commission: 1150 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148. A person must request in writing to be placed on the service list for this proceeding to receive any further notices in this matter.

By the Commission,
TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

11/20/25

Publication date: 12/5/2025



USAR-1009 USS Nevada

Photo credit: National Park Service

The USS Nevada (BB-36): The Ship that Wouldn't Sink

Guest Contributor: John Cassinelli

As a boy, I would often visit the Nevada State Museum at the old Mint in Carson City. Back then as we entered the Museum, one of the first exhibits seen was the Silver Service Set from the battleship USS Nevada (BB-36). The silver set includes 5,000 ounces of silver from the mines in Tonopah and includes a large punchbowl with 24 cups lined with gold from Goldfield mines, goblets, a tea set, and trays engraved with images of the Lahontan Dam, Virginia City, Tonopah, and Abraham Lincoln, who was President when Nevada became the 36th state. The silver set was presented to the Battleship at its commissioning on March 11, 1916, and was used on board the ship through WW2, including the bombing of Pearl Harbor. I had learned a little about the silver set in Nevada History class in school, but it wasn't until later that I learned of the interesting and unique story of the USS Nevada.

She was launched on July 11, 1914, in Massachusetts. The launch was well attended, including by then-Governor of Nevada, Tasker Oddie. The Nevada is the only ship in history whose hull number (BB-36) coincided with Her namesake

state's entry to the Union. The Nevada was the Navy's first of 12 "Standard Type" battleships. She was the lead ship of the two "Nevada Class" ships that included triple turrets, 13.5-inch thick armor plating, and oil in place of coal for 12 oil-fired boiler steam power plants. The geared steam turbines gave Her greater range than others of the time, over 9,200 miles.

During WW1, She was part of the "Bantry Bay Squadron" stationed in Ireland to protect the many supply convoys heading to Great Britain.

After WW1, She sailed to Brazil for a public relations stop in Rio de Janeiro during the Brazilian Independence Celebration in 1922. During that stop, the New York Times credited the crew of the USS Nevada with introducing the sport of baseball to the locals. Nicknamed the "Cheer Up Ship", in 1925 She again participated in a "good will" cruise, sailing to Australia and New Zealand, giving the Navy a chance to show off Her long-range trans-Pacific abilities.

On the morning of Dec. 7th, 1941, the USS Nevada was moored on Battleship Row just behind the USS Arizona (BB-39)

in Pearl Harbor. This positioned Her near the end of the row at the start of the Japanese attack. During mooring, only one of the 12 boilers is running for basic power onboard the ship. On that morning, a junior officer made the decision to relieve the boiler that had been running for several days, and ordered a second boiler to be lit. That decision proved to be historic.

As the bombing began, the USS Nevada, with two of her 12 boilers running, was able to just barely get underway, and made a run for the mouth of the harbor. She was hit with a torpedo and at least six bombs, but managed to stay afloat. Realizing if sunk She could potentially block the entrance to the harbor, She was intentionally beached at Hospital Point. Out of 130 Navy vessels in Pearl Harbor that day, there were eight battleships, 96 warships, and various destroyers, cruisers, submarines, etc. – the Nevada was the only one to get underway. In the process, She is credited with shooting down eight of the 29 Japanese planes downed in the attack, as well as rescuing many crewman from other ships including the Arizona.

After Pearl Harbor, She was taken to Puget Sound Naval Yard for repair, then sent back into the war. She participated in amphibious assaults including invasions of Attu, and Southern France. She was selected as the flagship of Rear Admiral Deyo for the Invasion of Normandy, making the USS Nevada the only battleship present at both Pearl Harbor and the D-Day invasion. During D-Day, She is credited with destroying 12 German gun placements, and 84 Panzer and Tiger tanks while off Utah Beach.

After Normandy, She led the strike at Toulon known as "Operation Dragoon". In 1944, She went to New York for gun barrel repairs, where they removed the guns from Turret One and replaced them with some very special armaments. The gun barrels from Turret Two of the USS Arizona were recovered, straightened, and re-lined, and installed on the USS Nevada. She then headed to Iwo Jima in 1945 in preparation of invasion. She provided gunfire support in both Iwo Jima and Okinawa, where She was struck by Kamikaze attacks, resulting in many casualties. After the war ended, She was stationed in

cont'd on bottom of page 11

A Day in Infamy

Guest Contributor: Johnye Saylor

We had been staying at my family's home in Honolulu. When guests came to visit one of our to do things was visiting the Arizona Memorial. It is a somber place to visit. Over 2,000 Americans were killed on Dec. 7, 1941, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. There is a sadness permeating the memorial. One does not hear joyfulness nor laughter from visitors. Such sadness in one of earth's most beautiful spots.

We had gone out to the memorial, on the transport boat. I always visited with a degree of trepidation. Over 1,000 sailors are entombed in the USS Arizona which sunk after the attack. Fortunately there were very few visitors that day which made what was about to unfold, so personal.

I had resided in Japan for several years. I found the Japanese people endearing. Their culture is one to be celebrated. The politeness of the people is universal. I am always in awe of their art and am an avid collector to this day. All this does not negate the fact that they attacked my country and we were adversaries in the early 1940's.

We had disembarked from the transport boat and began walking further into the memorial. Almost immediately there was an announcement over the PA system. All on the memorial were asked to remain respectful as a Japanese gentleman and family were boarding the memorial. He had been a survivor of his country's attack on Pearl Harbor and was coming aboard to express his sorrow for what he and his countrymen had done – 129 of his fellow pilots had perished in the attack.

The man and his family, accompanied by park rangers, walked into the memorial and the gentleman immediately began to cry. He was holding a bouquet of flowers, as were the rest of his small entourage. There was a Buddhist prayer shawl around his shoulders. He slowly walked to the edge of the memorial, deeply bowed and softly let the flowers slip from his fingers to the water below. All the while he was murmuring a prayer interspersed with his sobs. His family tearfully followed suit.

Those of us viewing this were all in tears. None of us had expected what was occurring and I know I was visibly struck by the moment.

Here was an elderly man expressing sorrow for what had happened decades prior,

when he was barely more than a boy. He had journeyed from Japan with his family to express the sorrow he felt. He was a diminutive man, apologizing for all those who had taken part in that horrible attack.

I have often reflected on that day. The courage it took for him to do an almost impossible task. At that small moment in time he had the character to do something very few others would or could ever do.

I have always felt that those of us at the memorial that day were privileged to have been there at that moment. Hundreds lay dead beneath our feet and here was one of the perpetrators, expressing, in the best way he could, how sad and sorry he was. At that moment he embodied all that is good about mankind. How many of us have that strength of character?

There is an old adage that says, "as long as one's name is spoken we are not forgotten". He deserves to be remembered. I don't know his name but he is certainly not forgotten.

So interesting that we, as humans, can forgive. We can forgive wars and hate. Quite remarkable. I believe this is singular to humans, in the animal world.

And to the four Nevadans who lay at rest on the Arizona, your sacrifice is not forgotten.

Elmer Yates

Eric Young

Richard Weaver

Robert Gill



cont'd from page 10

Tokyo Bay Japan for occupation duty.

The USS Nevada was decommissioned in 1946, and used for target practice in 'Operation Crossroads' at Bikini Atoll where She survived two nuclear detonations. She took bombardment from a dozen Navy ships

for nearly a week, yet still remained afloat. She was finally sunk by heavy gunnery and torpedo fire on July 31, 1948.

The USS Nevada survived Pearl Harbor, Normandy, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and other battles, set records for speed and endurance, held the record for the most times through the Panama Canal, and two of Her

crewman were among the first to receive the Medal of Honor in WW2. She now rests upside-down in 15,400 feet of water, approximately 75 miles from Pearl Harbor. Next time you visit the Nevada State Museum, visit the USS Nevada silver set, and think of the remarkable history of our state's Namesake ship!



Restoring the River: A Dayton Community Effort

Story and photo by Steph Norby

Central Lyon Fire Fuels Reduction crew members at Rolling A Open Space project

A major restoration effort is reshaping the landscape along the Carson River in Dayton – and strengthening the community partnerships behind it. Dayton Valley Conservation District (DVCD) and Central Lyon Fire have spent months working side-by-side to stabilize eroding riverbanks, reduce fire hazards, and bring native vegetation back to life.

The first major project was to clear and reshape 2,000 linear feet of riverbank within the Ricci Ranch and Pradere Ranch corridor between Dayton Valley Road and the Santa Maria Ranch community. Together, DVCD and Fire teams transformed an unstable, overhanging 1-to-1 slope into a safe and sustainable 3-to-1 slope, removing noxious weeds, planting 3,500 willows and placing thousands of large rocks to stabilize and strengthen the riverbank. The goal is to restore healthier, more resilient habitat for generations to come.

“As the river rises in the winter, sediment will deposit in it, more willows and other plant species will establish between the rocks, with the rocks there to help hold the bank together,” said DVCD District Manager Austin Lemons.

With riverbank construction nearly finished, the teams have now shifted their focus to another joint project in Dayton’s Rolling A Recreational Open Space.

After a controlled burn in January 2025, Central Lyon Fire Fuels Reduction Crew saw just how aggressively noxious weeds – especially tall Whitetop – were taking hold. The weeds were crowding out native plants and dramatically increasing future fire danger. In response, the department applied for and received a Nevada Fire Chiefs Association Risk Reduction grant to address the wildfire threat in the Rolling A cottonwood forest

and riparian area.

“We partnered with the Conservation District to also remove all the Whitetop,” said Central Lyon Fire Fuels Reduction Division Chief Shane Nollsch. “We’re doing the removal – we’re mowing all the Whitetop and the noxious species – then hopefully in the Spring, Austin [Lemons] will be able to come in and actually place an herbicide that will keep it knocked down.”

The 126-plus acre Rolling A project is funded through a mix of federal and state grants awarded in 2022, but securing the necessary permits from numerous agencies took years. After extensive planning and approvals, crews finally broke ground this fall, with full completion anticipated by June 2026, if not sooner.

Nollsch emphasized how broad the collaboration has been. “We’ve got the sheriff’s department that will be involved with helping us when we go to chip ... Lyon County has been huge, the parks department, the roads department ... so it’s a really, really good partnership for the whole community, which is really nice.”

Both DVCD and Central Lyon Fire are committed to reusing and repurposing materials from the project wherever possible.

“Some is going back on the ground as biomat,” Nollsch noted, “but the majority of it we’re actually giving to Community Roots, we’re gonna donate a whole bunch of the wood chips to them so they can use it for landscaping purposes... So this is a good way to get back.”

From riverbank stabilization to fire mitigation and habitat restoration, DVCD and Central Lyon Fire are making steady progress toward a healthier Carson River corridor—reminding us that conservation is truly a community effort.

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