GOING DOWN IN HISTORY

Nevada State Prison named to National Register of Historic Places

By Geoff Dornan
gdornan@nevadaappeal.com

T he old Nevada State Prison on Fifth Street has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service made the announcement Friday, pointing out NSP is older than Nevada's statehood, having been opened as the territorial prison in 1862.

"That's an extremely important milestone in the development of the prison as a destination for Carson City," said Mayor Bob Crowell.

Supervisor Lori Bagwell, who retired several years ago after a career at the Department of Corrections, also touted the prison's potential as a tourist attraction.

"I think Carson City will be so pleased when it becomes the best visitor attraction in the United States," she said.

Assemblyman P.K. O'Neill of Carson City, who shepherded through legislation enabling the conversion of the prison into a tourist attraction, said the news is excellent for both the capital and the state.

"I give credit to Pete (Livermore)," he said. "I know he's smiling down on us."

Livermore, who began the push to make NSP an historic tourist attraction while an assemblyman, died last year.

"It's been a long time coming," said City Manager Nick Marano. "A lot of people put a lot of hard work into it and we're just very grateful the prison got the recognition it deserves. I'm looking forward to the rest of America discovering this history that's here."

The historic period established by the National Register focuses on the period from 1862-1867 when the state "created a prison complex with administrative practices that treated prisoners as patients who could be rehabilitated through labor."

The prison began as a resort established by Carson City founder Abe Curry in 1861 as the Warm Springs Hotel. The state bought it for a prison on the following year and operated it until 2012 when it finally shut down.

"It is another reason for visitors to enjoy Carson City," said Bonni Hannaman, Carson City Chamber of Commerce director. "It is more pride for Carson City's historical attractions."

Glen Whorton, former director of Corrections and head of the prison preservation group said the historic designation "legitimizes the history of the facility."

He said it also gives his organization the leverage to apply for grant money from a number of federal agencies.

"This is a significant development for this town," he said. "We've had many incidents at our schools. The community deserves this commitment."

The grant will pay the salaries and benefits for three permanent school resource officers for three years. After that, it goes away but Furlong said the conditions of the grant require Carson City continue the program into the future after that.

Because it commits the city and school district to a permanent program, accepting the grant will require approval from both the district and the Board of Supervisors.

Furlong emphasized "we did not go after this grant so we could arrest more kids."

"I really anticipate that we're going to arrest fewer juveniles," he said.

Sheriff’s office receives grant to expand school officer program

By Geoff Dornan
gdornan@nevadaappeal.com

Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong on Friday announced a $375,000 federal grant he says will expand and make the School Resource Officer program full-time and permanent.

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Dream It/Do It event: Just ‘Do it together’

By John Barrette
jbarrette@nevadaappeal.com

Western Nevada College President Chet Burton said Friday the state faces a good but large and looming problem regarding a need for skilled, modern manufacturing workers.

"It's a good problem to have, but it's a huge problem," Burton told a group of mostly high-tech industrial executives and skilled workers' training personnel. He was at a Manufacturing Day breakfast in Carson City urging everyone to cooperate tackling the problem: "We've got to work in lock step."

Burton said collaboration is key, touting as an example school districts and community colleges, including his own WNC and Reno's Truckee Meadows Community College, working together. Other speakers at the breakfast in the Governor's Mansion Annex picked up on the collaboration theme, painted a picture of burgeoning industrial movement into the region, and said make or break time is at hand regarding fashioning

PREP FOOTBALL: WEEK 6 SCORES

Carson 17, Damonte Ranch 14
Douglas 21, Manogue 19
Lowry 40, Dayton 0
Milk of Human Kindness

Carson Middle School capped the Week of Respect with an anti-bullying assembly Friday afternoon with Brian Williams from Think Kindness of Reno. The kids were taught to curb bullying with kindness and were given a presentation on global acts of kindness.

MANUFACTURE

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the proper workforce. Burden said a decade ago he was with IGT (International Game Technology) in Reno. He said the firm grew quickly from 40,000 machines in a given period to 130,000, someth- ing that grew to over 21,000 in manufacturing workers. He said growth in the manufacturing workforce needs now in the region. And he other speakers mentioned the Tesla-Panasonic decision to locate in the Reno area, but indicated that’s just the tip of the iceberg.

“If we get our ducks in a row;” Burden said, it can “change the whole dynamic” here and across the state.

Ray Bacon, executive director of the Nevada Manufactur- ers Association, echoed Burden’s remarks on collabor- ation, traced the wonderful story of Nevada on training skilled industrial workers until recently, and said modern training in STEM knowledge (science, technology, engi- neering and mathematics) must help workers reach the high level of all the other tools in industry’s tool belt.

Bacon traced various new training programs available that weren’t available when he was in manufacturing, among them a manufacturing technology one (MTI) program in Carson City. It’s going to turn out its first certified graduates soon, he said, adding the MTI program is a col- laboration involving WNC, the local school district and the Carson City Library.

George Gussak of Dream It Do It, the organization host- ing the Manufacturing Day breakfast at the Governor’s Mansion Annex Friday morning.

Selected Stocks

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Western Nevada College President Chet Burton talks at a Manufacturing Day breakfast at the Governor’s Mansion Annex Friday morning.

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