



March 18, 2019

To the Board of County Commissioners,

The Registrar of Voters has confirmed that Deborah Ann Chicago who resides at

1805 Brunetti Way, Sparks, NV 89431

- ☒ Meets the below requirements
- ☐ Does not meet the below requirements

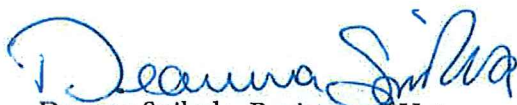
Namely, the applicant:

Actually, as opposed to constructively, resides at the physical address listed above, which is within the boundaries of Assembly District 30;

Is a registered member of the Democratic Party;

Is at least 21 years old and a qualified elector pursuant to Section 1 of of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada

The applicant does not meet the above requirements for the following reason(s)


Deanna Spikula, Registrar of Voters


Date

NEVADA ASSEMBLY SEAT DISTRICT 30 APPLICATION OF INTEREST

(Note: This document and accompanying materials will become public record as part of the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners March 26, 2019 meeting.)

Only complete applications will be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration.

General Information

Applicant Name: Deborah Ann Chicago
Physical Address: 1805 Brunetti Way
City: Sparks, Nevada **Zip:** 89431
Mailing Address: Same As Above
Best Contact Phone Number: (775) 356-5852
Email Address: DACHicago@Exceedcorp.com



I certify, by signing below, the following:



That I actually, as opposed to constructively, reside at the physical address listed above, which is **WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES** of **Assembly District 30**;

*You can verify that you live within the boundaries of Assembly District 30 by referencing this map:
https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Districts/Reapp/2011/Final/Assembly/ASM2011_District30_11x17.pdf*



That I am registered as a member of the **Democratic Party**;



That I am at least **21 YEARS OLD** and a **QUALIFIED ELECTOR** pursuant to Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada;



That there is no legal condition, status, or other matter which would prevent me from taking the oath of office as a Nevada Legislator or from holding such an office.

March 18, 2019

Signature

Date

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Along with this application, you may attach information regarding your background and education such as a letter of interest, a resume, or a statement of qualifications. (For example, you may include information about political activities, community work, and memberships in various organizations.)

SUBMITTING APPLICATION

Your completed application may be submitted by email to Dana Searcy at dsearcy@washoecounty.us or delivered in-person to the County Manager's Office, 2nd Floor, Room 201, Washoe County Administrative Complex, 1001 E. 9th St, Reno, 89512 by **5 PM, March 19, 2019.**

Deborah Ann Chicago
1805 Brunetti Way
Sparks, NV 89431
Home: (775) - 356-5852
Work: (775) - 848-9959
Fax: (775) - 358-7955
Email: DACHicago@Exceedcorp.com

Avalon School of Real Estate – Real Estate Pre-Licensing Certification –

Pre-Licensing, Real Estate Economics, Real Estate Finance, Essentials of Real Estate Investment, Real Estate Brokerage, Real Estate Appraisal, Real Estate Sales & Marketing 101 for Real Estate Professionals,

Real Estate Property Management.

Texas A&M Engineering University Forensic Science Academy – Foundations for Forensic Photography

The American Probation and Parole Association – Characteristics of Effective Partnerships, Enhancing Community Supervisions for Hardcore Drunk Drivers

United States Small Business Administration, SBA Office of Entrepreneurial Development – Crowd Funding

Center for Domestic Preparedness – FEMA – Department of Homeland Security – Instructor Training Certificate (WMD and CBRNE), Standardized Awareness Authorized Training Program, Train-the-Trainer, Instructor

The Nevada Department of Public Safety Investigation Division – Nevada Threat Analysis Center – Intermediate II Terrorism Liaison Officer, Basic Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) Course.

Northern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center Board of Governance Members - Basic Terrorism Liaison Officer Training,

State of Nevada - Fusion Liaison Officer Basic Course.

State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services – Office Laboratory Assistant

West Virginia University Extended Learning and Homeland Security Programs – AWR-126W Forensic Epidemiology: Joint Training for Law Enforcement and Public Health Officials, AWR-128W Hospital Emergency Management: Concepts and Implications of WMD Terrorist Event, AWR-127W Crisis Preparedness Planning for School Administrators, AWR-124W WMD Incidents on Campus: A Comprehensive Guide.

New Mexico Tech Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center – Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents Awareness Level Training Course, Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incidents.

Agra-terrorism & Community Preparedness - (NPHW)

Emergency Management Institute – FEMA – Basic Instructor Certificate, (IS-00907) - Active Shooter: What You Can Do, (IS-00029) – Public Information Officer Awareness.

Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE), Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), Information Sharing Council and the Foreign Service Institute's Office of the Executive Director for Management Instructional Support Division (FSI/EX/ISD) of the United States Department of State - Core-Awareness Training Information Sharing Environment

Reno Tahoe International Airport, Bomb Appraisal Officer Program - Washoe County Sheriff's Terrorism Liaison Officer Volunteer Program

Office of the United States Surgeon General and the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps – IS-700, An Introduction to the National Incident Management System.

National Center for Biomedical Research & Training Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education Course – eCDLS (eCore Disaster Life Support)

Emergency Management Institute – FEMA - NIMS ICS 100, NIMS ICS 200, NIMS ICS 300, NIMS ICS 400, NIMS ICS 700, NIMS ICS 800.

IS-00007A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance, IS-00029 Public Information officer Awareness, IS-00139 Exercise Design, IS-00200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents, IS-00200.B ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents, IS-00230 Principles of Emergency Management, IS-00235 Emergency Planning, IS-00240 Leadership & Influence, IS-00241 Decision Making & Problem Solving,

IS-00242 Effective Communication, **IS-00244** Developing and Managing Volunteers, **IS-00288** Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management, **IS-317** United States Department of Homeland Security (CERT Program) Introduction to Community Emergency Response TMS **IS-00800.A** National Response Plan (NRP), an Introduction, **IS-00890.a** Introduction to Inter-agency Security Committee, **IS-00546.12** Continuity of Operations Awareness Course.

Washoe County Health District Medical Reserve Corps- Tier 3 responder

Washoe County Leadership Academy, Essentials of Personal Effectiveness Program, Coaching The Experienced Driver 4 + 2 Course,

Essentials of Train the Trainer Program and Train the Trainer Certification.

Sparks Police Department – Designated photographer, marketing team member, amongst other Internal/External duties of the Department

Sparks Tribune and the Ahora Newspaper – Press – Writer/Photographer

Washoe County Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Mobile Auxiliary Response Team, Citizens Homeland Security Council, Citizen's Emergency Response Teams – 01/2000 to 05/2013

AlertId National Partnership "PILOT" Program – Washoe County Sheriff's Department, Las Vegas Metro Police Department, Center for Missing and Exploited Children

Exceed, Incorporated – 02/01/2002 to present

Exceed, Incorporated is an Independent entity that is utilized in manners regarding Electronic News gathering, Electronic Field production, freelance photographer and newspaper, internet and newsletter writer. Experience working within an Incident Command System (ICS), various marketing opportunities, fund raising opportunities and networking collection scenarios as they occur; ethical standards and exemplary conduct is necessary throughout with any contact and involvement with the community, the Federal Government, State of Nevada, City of Sparks, City of Reno and Washoe County. My focus is establishing and maintaining effective working relationships within the public, community organizations, the news media and governmental representatives when engaged as an independent press representative. We utilize all sources of media communication in-order to disseminate correct information in a manner that the public and/or target audiences will understand.

Washoe County District Health Department - (08/01/1994 – Retired 05/13)

From 08/1994 until 07/1997 assigned to the Daybreak daytime respite program for caregivers of frail elderly and/or disabled family members. Duties included but not limited to organizing public relations, media coverage of program events and donations to the program from community resources.

From 07/1997 to current, I have worked in various public health's clinical programs within the Community and Clinical Health Services Division (CCHS). My leadership involves the processes required in implementing change and utilizing my skills to motivate others in gaining the foresight to embrace the necessary changes. I have served on several external and internal teams of various committees in a leadership role of medical disaster, H1N1, Flu Pods and various Emergency Management exercises.

KRNV 4 Reno/NBC Affiliate - (01/01/1994 - 01/01/1998) - Master Control/Engineering

Position encompassed providing on-air switching and playback for all programming and commercials for the station. Reviewed and approved local and national commercials/spots for on-air broadcast. Scheduled, monitored, recorded and timed daily satellite feeds including local programming, show promos, news feeds and network interrupts of the broadcast system. Extensive knowledge of Sony Beta cart BTS routing system, editing 1", BETA, 3/4", S-VHS and VHS. I was the producer, scriptwriter and talent organizer for the City of Reno, Parks & Recreation Department production of the Corporate Challenge promotional video utilized for their public outreach program. Extensive knowledge is required of rules and regulations in the broadcast field and an FCC License is required.

Education

Avalon school of Real Estate, Reno, NV

National Broadcasting School Broadcasting (Journalism), Salutatorian of Class

Honors & Activities

VIP Woman of the Year 2013-2014 National Association of Professional Women for Outstanding Excellence and Dedication to Her Profession and the Achievement of Women.

Recognized by Reno Tahoe International Airport, Bomb Appraisal Officer Program as a Washoe County Sheriff's Terrorism Liaison Officer for their Security Training and Exercises.

United States Presidential Volunteer Award for 2009 and 2010

Child Abuse & Neglect the Donna Legg Award for "Outstanding Public Service in the Public Health Field"

Nominated for L'Oreal Paris "Woman of Worth" Award by Points of Light Institute and Hands-on Network, Program Coordinator of Marketing in 2007 and 2010

Nominated for "Woman Role Model" for Nevada Attorney General, Frankie Sue Del Papa, Reno, Nevada, 2001

Award for the "In Appreciation for your Outstanding Contribution to the Corporate Challenge" by the City of Reno, City of Sparks Mayors and Washoe County Commissioners, Reno, Nevada – (please see reference letters regarding this event)

Woman of the Year for 2000 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Reno, Nevada, 2000, featured on six billboards throughout the community and featured in event programs for the next year event.

Sparks Tribune (English) Newspaper and Ahora (Spanish) Newspaper as of June 2002 published several newsworthy articles of various topics and events within the community.

ONE HUNDRED ONE NORTH CARSON STREET
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701
OFFICE: (775) 684-5670
FAX NO.: (775) 684-5683



555 EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 5100
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101
OFFICE: (702) 486-2500
FAX NO.: (702) 486-2505

Office of the Governor

February 14, 2018

Deborah Chicago
1805 Brunetti Way
Sparks, NV 89431

RE: **Appointment to the Nevada State Infrastructure Bank**
Term: 2/19/2018 to the Pleasure of the Governor

Dear Ms. Chicago:

Congratulations on your appointment to the Nevada State Infrastructure Bank for the State of Nevada. I truly appreciate your commitment to serve Nevada and your fellow citizens.

The official commission, signed by me and Secretary of State Cegavske, is for your records. Accompanying your commission is an oath of office, which must be executed before a notary public or any other authorized official (as required by NRS 281.030). This oath must be signed and returned to the Secretary of State's Carson City office and a copy to the Governor's office before serving your term.

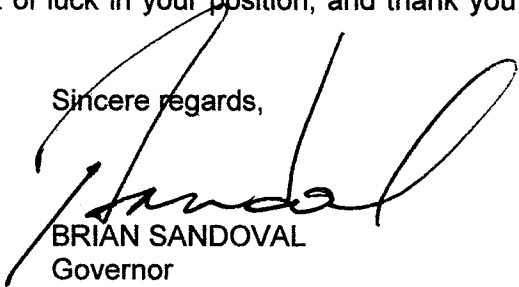
Please visit our website at [http://gov.nv.gov/boards/boards\(1\)](http://gov.nv.gov/boards/boards(1)), print the "Ethical Standards" form and submit the signed form to the Nevada Commission on Ethics. While on our website, I encourage you to review the Nevada Ethics in Government law NRS 281A and NAC 281A. Failure to file any required documentation may result in fines and/or removal from office.

In addition, please familiarize yourself with Nevada Open Meeting Law. The Open Meeting Law is codified in Chapter 241 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. The Attorney General's office also publishes an Open Meeting Law Manual, and can be found at www.ag.state.nv.us.

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please contact Nikki Haag at (775) 684-5682. We wish you the best of luck in your position, and thank you for agreeing to serve the citizens of Nevada.

*Thank you for
serving Nevada.*

Sincere regards,


BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

Enclosures



To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greetings:

KNOW YE, That reposing special trust and confidence in the loyalty, integrity, and ability of, Deborah Chicago, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, Governor of the State of Nevada, by the Authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws thereof, do hereby

APPOINT AND COMMISSION

DEBORAH CHICAGO

A MEMBER OF THE

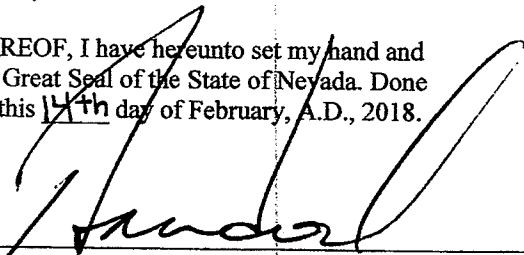
NEVADA STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

FOR THE STATE OF NEVADA

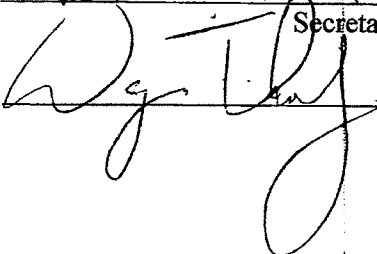
This appointment is made pursuant to the laws of this State (Assembly Bill 399); and I authorize the appointee to discharge, according to law the duties of said office, and to hold and enjoy the same, together with all the powers, privileges and emoluments thereunder appertaining for the term beginning February 19, 2018 and ending at the Pleasure of the Governor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nevada. Done at Carson City, Nevada this 14th day of February, A.D., 2018.





Governor of the State of Nevada
By the Governor:


Secretary of State of Nevada


Deputy



February 17, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Deborah Chicago for any career she may pursue. Ms. Chicago has been a valued member of the Washoe County team for 18 years, demonstrating a deep commitment to public service, with a drive for going the extra mile with everyone she encounters in life.

I had gotten to know her well when she volunteered for three years to lead our organizational countywide Corporate Challenge team involvement that lead to the cities and the county working together. She not only used creative marketing skills to get employees from our 3,000 person organization involved, but also organized teams, insured that people showed up where they were needed, and pulled together all the recognition and celebratory events at the conclusion.

In her other pursuits, she is a very talented Investigative Media representative and has a FEMA Instructor certificate, she serves as a dedicated member of our community's homeland security and citizen corps Smart program, and volunteers her time to advance the issues of safety and security throughout our region.

I have valued her as an employee, as a volunteer, as a citizen and as a woman of dedication, I support her efforts to contribute in whatever way she may wish to pursue.

Thank you for your consideration.

Katy Simon, ICMA Credentialed Manager

Washoe County Manager

775.328.2077 (office)

775.232.7077 (wireless)

775.328.2037 (fax)

ksimon@washoecounty.us



SPARKS POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Where Community Comes First"

STEVE KEEFER

Chief of Police

July 27, 2010

To Whom it May Concern:

Deborah Chicago has volunteered at the Sparks Police Department as a Citizens' Police Academy Volunteer over the past nine years. Deborah was an asset to the police department and was always cheerful and willing to assist with any task or duty. In addition, Deborah was a quick learner and she was motivated and interested in learning and improving her skills.

Some of Deborah's accomplishments while volunteering at the police department are as follows:

- Helped assist "The Knock-N-Talk" Program from 1997-2001.
- Volunteered to work Booths and Traffic Control during Community Events since 2001.
- Recipient of the 2009 United States Presidential Volunteer Award
- Designated as the Department's Photographer for Updating Photos on Department Website and Calendar Projects from 2009-2010
- Served on the Marketing Committee from 2009-2010

Deborah is organized, efficient and has an excellent rapport with people of all ages. Her communication skills, both written and verbal, are excellent. I feel confident in saying that she is capable of handling any situation with thoughtfulness and maturity.

In summary, I highly recommend Deborah for any position or endeavor that she may seek to pursue. She will be a valuable asset for any organization.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

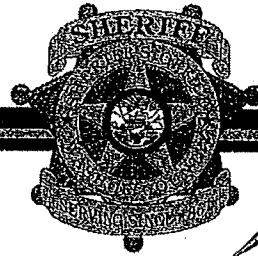
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Keefer", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Keefer
Chief of Police

SK/dy

S WASHOE COUNTY **SHERIFF**

Dedicated Service in Partnership with our Community



Dennis Balaam
Sheriff

October 26, 2006

**AAUW Educational Foundation
Career Development Grants
PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243-4030**

I've known Deborah Chicago professionally for several years. She is a long time Health Department employee with whom I have dealt on various occasions. I first met Ms. Chicago when we helped coordinate the Corporate Olympics. At that time, I noted that she was good to work with, she was a good motivator and she also had excellent organization skills.

She later joined the Citizen's Homeland Security Council (CHSC). Ms. Chicago has a keen interest in current Terrorism trends and history. She has since volunteered for various functions associated with CHSC. She later joined the Citizen's Emergency Response Team (CERT). This organization is the "all hazards" response arm of our local emergency management strategy. Both volunteer organizations take up a great deal of time, yet Ms. Chicago continues to stay involved in these important groups. She currently holds FEMA ICS-100, 200 and 700 Certifications.

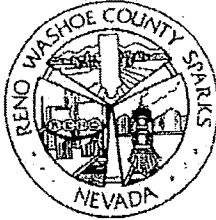
Ms. Chicago also holds press passes from various local law enforcement agencies. She has journalism skills and writes well. She writes for the Sparks Tribune and has written articles for the local Latino newspaper "Ahora".

Ms. Chicago is an avid sports person, having shot competitively in Trapshooting. She has stayed involved in the City of Sparks Recreation Department and has been involved in parks planning.

As noted, Ms. Chicago has established and maintained effective relationships within the community. She does a lot for her community and has shown that she can motivate and complete special projects. I'm proud to submit this letter of recommendation for Deborah based on her many accomplishments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Lopey".

**James Lopey, Assistant Sheriff
Washoe County Sheriff's Office**



DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

September 27, 2006

AAUW Educational Foundation
Career Development Grants
PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243-4030

Dear Madams,

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Debbie Chicago, an applicant for your 2007-2008 *Career Development Grants*. I have known Debbie throughout her 11 years of employment working as a Community Health Aide here at the Washoe County District Health Department.

Debbie's goal is to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services/Management. I feel she is an excellent candidate for this field of study due to her passion for public service and the dedication she demonstrates for the vulnerable and underserved populations.

Debbie's career at the District Health Department has been in the human services field. For the past 8 years her primary assignment has been in our Family Planning, Teen Health and Podiatry Clinics, and she assists in our Immunization Program as needed. Previous to these assignments, she spent 3 years working in the Daybreak Program, a daytime respite program for caregivers of frail elderly and/or disabled family members.

Debbie is an outstanding employee. She brings numerous talents to the workplace with one of her most outstanding being her incredible customer service/human relationship skills. She uses them daily in her interactions with patients, peers, and supervisors. She has an energetic personality, is always positive and upbeat, and is kind, sensitive and continually helpful. She is charismatic with ages and personality styles, and gives all her patients the very best care and attention. Her wisdom and insightfulness lends an extra level of skill and abilities in the workplace.

Debbie is intelligent, competent, conscientious and a hard-worker. She strives for new challenges and opportunities and continually volunteers for, or creates, new projects.

She is an excellent problem solver and stays calm even in the mist of a hectic clinic. She is flexible, well organized and completes all assignments thoroughly and timely.

She operates with integrity, and is a strong team player and excellent mentor of new staff. All of these positive attributes make her a natural motivator and leader.

Debbie has outstanding computer skills. She has been one of the lead staff in our transition from paper to electronic medical records. She independently wrote the instruction manual for the nurse practitioners and Community Health Aides who use the system. She has used her computers skills to assist her supervisor on numerous program related projects.

There is no doubt that Debbie has made a wealth of contributions to women and children in the capacity of her job here at the District Health Department: she has served thousand of patients over the years and has no doubt made a lasting impression on many. Additionally, she has a passion for serving humanity and works for the greater good of society. I feel that Debbie has tremendous untapped potential that would blossom with a degree in Human Services/Management; no doubt she would continue to serve in the human services field. She would be an outstanding choice as a grant recipient.

Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter of recommendation. Best of luck in your selection process.

Sincerely,



Wende Latham, RN, MSN
Assistant Division Director
Community and Clinical Health Services

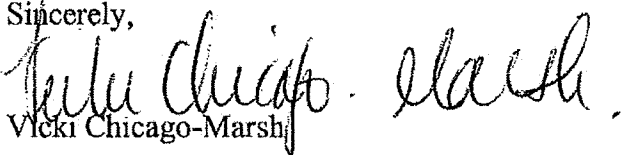
30 August 2005

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in reference to Debrorah Chicago. I have known Debbie since 1978 when we were both in school. I have known her as first a friend, then in the professional world, now as a sister-in-law. Debbie is very professional, ethical, and meticulous, possessing a great rapport with people from all walks of life. She has written articles for local newspapers, as well as providing press coverage for various local events. I had the pleasure of working with her on a fund raiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, where she was bestowed the honor of being chosen "Woman of the Year" for all of her accomplishments in the community.

Debbie has been a great motivating force in my life, always positive and willing to listen and offer positive feedback. Debbie has worked with me on various media events sponsored by the Police Department, as well as serving as a member on Department Committees. Because of her desire and willingness to get involved in the community, as well as organizing charitable media events, Debbie is an excellent choice for any position requiring those skills.

Sincerely,


Vicki Chicago-Marsh

November 18, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

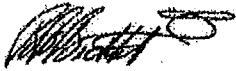
I am pleased to write this letter of reference for Deborah Chicago, whom I have known for over a year. Mrs. Chicago was a student of mine as a volunteer member of the Washoe County, NV Citizen's Homeland Security Council, which is sponsored by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

I know Mrs. Chicago to be a dedicated worker for many years with the Washoe County District Health Department and she is a staunch community servant. As many have done following the attacks of 9/11, Mrs. Chicago sought opportunities to contribute to Homeland Security in the Reno/Tahoe area. She is also a talented independent journalist.

Mrs. Chicago is someone who I would be pleased to have as a colleague in many endeavors. She follows through with assigned tasks and strives for excellence. Mrs. Chicago gets along well with her superiors and subordinates. I recommend her for any position to which she may apply.

Should the need arise, I may be contacted at: 820 Oriole Way #66, Incline Village, NV 89451; 775-833-0181.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bart Bechtel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bart Bechtel (CIA Retired)

Debbie

From: Scott [kabscott@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2004 11:12 PM
To: dchicago@iliketorock.com
Subject: Letter of reference

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased and honored to present this letter of reference for Deborah Chicago, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for over a year. Mrs. Chicago volunteered, attended and successfully completed the Washoe County Citizen's Homeland Security Council training course in 2003. She received specialized training in The History of Terrorism, International & Domestic Terrorism, Recognizing the Threat & Surveillance Detection, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Response & Recognition of Hazard Materials and Disaster Preparedness.

I know Mrs. Chicago as a conscientious person, dedicated to her profession and continues to strive for perfection. She has served Washoe County well in her position with the County Health Department. 9/11 effected Mrs Chicago very deeply, as it did with many Americans. Mrs Chicago sought the Washoe County Homeland Security Council, and the rest is history. She has also attended each monthly In-Service Training class, presented to keep Homeland Security Council Members updated on what's happening locally and around the world. A trait in Deborah that is immeasurable. In her spare time, Mrs. Chicago is an independent journalist.

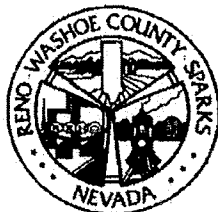
I am be proud to have Mrs. Chicago in my "little" circle of knowledgeable people in the field of Homeland Security. I know she will serve professionally, and with complete devotion to whatever position she is assigned to. She has my complete support. Mrs. Chicago participated in each class, gat along well with her peers and instructors alike. I highly recommend her for any position to which she may apply.

If you have any questions, or would like to contact me, here you go: 9951 Northup drive, Reno, NV 89521; 775-745-2897.

Sincerely,

Scott Kabrin (USAF Retired)
Program Coordinator/Instructor
Washoe County Citizen's Homeland Security Council
Reno, NV 89512

11/30/2004



DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

July 25, 2001

Washoe County District Attorney
Domestic Violence Division

To The Attention of the Office Manager:

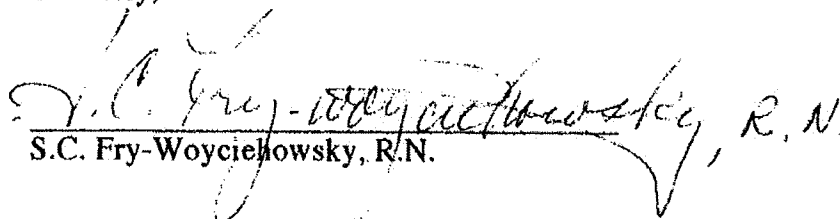
I have worked with Debbie Gnibus at the Washoe County District Health Department since 1994. However, I have worked more closely with Debbie since 1998 when she and I served on our domestic violence education team.

The domestic violence education team had two major goals to meet in 1998. Our first goal was to educate staff on domestic violence and the attending issues. The second goal was to develop policies and procedures to handle victims of domestic violence in the workplace and in the context of our clinical clients.

Debbie was first brought into the team as an advisor with an expertise in public relations and equipment management. In working with Debbie I recognized that her abilities and knowledge were more extensive in that she knew the major issues related to domestic violence. She also knew community resources and individuals who were experts in the domestic violence arena. Debbie assisted in coordinating two education programs for Health Department staff. She helped with organizing the written materials and the video record of the training. After the initial training Debbie developed policy and protocol for recording and documenting evidence of domestic violence. Debbie trained staff in the use of our Polaroid camera. The training included the visual documentation of domestic violence through photographs but also the coordination of the photos with written documentation. She demonstrated knowledge of the equipment, the process of photographing and documentation, but most of all she recognized the human element of the process in that she was calm and reassuring to those she trained--often commenting that "sure you can do this and try this angle again." When Debbie assisted with clients who were victims of domestic violence she again was reassuring and demonstrated great patience in getting correct photos and encouraging victims to talk and relate events that were still haunting in their intensity. I relied on Debbie to give me a "heads-up" on clients because often she seemed to have a radar recognition of the signs of domestic violence.

Personally, I believe that Debbie has the traits that would make her a good investigator in that she has the instincts and training to recognize aspects of domestic violence. She has determination to see the job completed. Debbie, also, has the ability to work with minimal supervision and she is creative.

Sincerely,


S.C. Fry-Woyciehowsky, R.N.



PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT

January 31, 2001

To whom it may concern,

I have had the pleasure of working with Debbie Gnibus on a couple of different projects and I have found her to be a highly competent individual. Both of these projects have been above and beyond her normal work duties and they demonstrate her desire to make a difference in the community.

I would recommend Debbie for any position that requires a significant amount of energy and dedication. She brings a work ethic and personable demeanor that will certainly be a credit to any employer.

I think Debbie is a credit to our community and I am happy to be considered a professional reference for her.

Sincerely,

Brian Bessette, CPRP, MPA
Recreation Superintendent

BB/rr



WASHOE COUNTY

"Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service"



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

1001 E. 9th STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 11130
RENO, NEVADA 89520-0027
PHONE (775) 328-2000
FAX (775) 328-2037

September 5, 2000

Ms. Debbie Gnibus
District Health Department
Washoe County
P.O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520

Dear Debbie:

Congratulations on the Corporate Challenge program being awarded a Silver Star by the Truckee Meadows Tomorrow organization. The program is certainly deserving of the community recognition it will receive at the October 6th *Accentuate the Positive* luncheon and reflects very well on Washoe County since you play a leadership role with that organization.

I truly appreciate your involvement in Corporate Challenge and the positive impact it has on both Washoe County's employees and our community. Thanks for your continuing commitment.

Again, congratulations and I look forward to seeing you at the event.

Sincerely,

Katy Singtaub
County Manager

Cc: Barbara Hunt



DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

October 1, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

Deborah Gnibus has been employed by the District Health Department in the Division of Community and Clinical Health Services since June 12, 1995 as a Community Health Aide. Although I have not worked directly with Ms. Gnibus, I have had enough interaction with her to know that she is an energetic, outgoing person with a "can do" attitude who has been able to enlist others to assist in the successful outcome of the many projects she has initiated.

Ms. Gnibus' most notable project was organizing the first ever Washoe County Corporate Challenge in the spring of 1998. She conceived the idea; obtained approval from all the appropriate authorities; contacted the highest levels of the County and the two Cities to obtain necessary resources; and enlisted volunteers who could do the most to make the project successful. Due to her efforts, 200 County employees from various County Departments participated in the Corporate Challenge's 40 events.

Most recently, Ms. Gnibus successfully arranged with Reno Disposal, Sierra Pacific Power Company and other businesses to get public service announcements about the Life Preserver Campaign, an initiative to immunize persons with diabetes against influenza and pneumococcal disease, included in their mailings.

Ms. Gnibus' success in these and other projects demonstrates her perseverance, creativity, initiative, energy and ability to work with people.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hunt, RN, MPA
Director, Community and Clinical Health Services

Law Offices of
William M. O'Mara
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

WILLIAM M. O'MARA
Nevada and California Bar

311 E. Liberty Street
P.O. Box 2270
Reno, Nevada 89505
Tel. (702) 323-1321
Fax (702) 323-4082

September 11, 1998

Kathy Carter
Public Affairs Director
Washoe County
P.O. Box 11130
Reno, Nevada 89520

Re: Debbie Gnibus

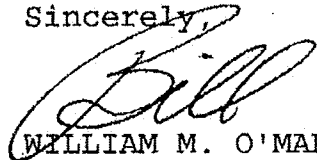
Dear Ms. Carter:

I have known Debbie Gnibus in a professional capacity for approximately three years. She recently volunteered to help me with the media for my campaign for District Court Judge.

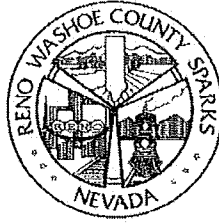
Debbie Gnibus is knowledgeable, thorough, creative and personable. She is very pleasant to everyone, but firm in getting her assigned tasks completed. She is prompt and sets an excellent example for others working with and around her. Debbie knew who to talk to at the various media departments to get the shots, spots and then finalization. Her creative suggestions were used and incorporated.

I found Debbie Gnibus to be helpful, professional and courteous in everything she did for me.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM M. O'MARA

WMO/vw



DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

September 29, 1998

To Whom It May Concern,

This is a letter of reference for Deborah Gnibus who has worked as a Community Health Aide (CHA) with the Washoe County District Health Department for 3 years. Deborah began her career in the Daybreak Program which is an adult day care specializing in care of clients with Alzheimer's Disease. Deborah's primary duties involved assisting the Daybreak clients with activities of daily living, ensuring their safety, and providing them with recreational activities. Deborah is an effective CHA, but in addition to her required job duties she has consistently gone above and beyond her job description in order to better her work environment.

During Deborah's time in Daybreak she assisted in obtaining entertainment for the clients. She solicited and acquired donations from a pet supply store for fish and supplies so that the clients would have a fish tank; she enlisted the services of a clown to come and entertain the clients; she collected donations from Toys R Us for games for the clients use; she obtained donations for client Christmas presents and she convinced the Frontier Tours Bus Line to provide free client transportation to various field trips for our clients.

Deborah has past work experience with local television stations so she obtained media coverage for an open house held by the program to promote awareness of National Alzheimer's Week. Also, she was helpful in obtaining donations for equipment and supplies which were outside of the program budget. For example, she solicited the donation of a new refrigerator for Daybreak.

A little over a year ago Washoe County District Health Department's Community and Clinical Health Services (CCHS) Division transferred the administration of the Daybreak Program to Washoe County Senior Services. At this time Deborah was reassigned to CCHS's Clinical areas. In the clinical areas Deborah is responsible for pre-screening clients for medical/nursing services. This involves performing heights, weights, hemoglobinalysis, dipstick urinalysis, testing vision/hearing and facilitating the flow of clients through busy clinics. She is responsible for some clerical duties and receptionist work at the Immunization Counter. She assists the Immunization Program with reminder calls to clients due for immunizations, passing out flyers to promote off site clinics, and acting as a receptionist at these off site clinics.

Deborah recently assisted the Immunization Program by initiating contact with Sierra Pacific Power Company, Reno/Sparks Sanitation and Nevada Bell and enlisted them in an educational campaign directed at informing diabetics of the importance of receiving Influenza and Pneumonia Vaccine. Deborah convinced these corporations to this print public service information on all of

their bills without a cost to the WCDHD. In addition, she enlisted the help of Channel 68 in running free public service announcements for this "Diabetic Campaign"

Again, in the midst of her new program duties, Deborah took the initiative to go above and beyond her job description to attempt to make a better workplace. She organized the county's first time participation in the Corporate Challenge. She assisted the planning committee to seek funding to sponsor the event. She arranged for the Treasurer's Office to be the custodian of the monies. She assisted in presenting the idea to the Board of County Commissioners and received a waiver for the free use of park grounds. She obtained participation of 22 departments within the county and about 200 employees to participate in the event. Her hard work paid off in a very successful event. Employee morale was boosted by the team work the employees experienced by participating. Additionally, she received acknowledgement from the Board of Health and County Manager, Katy Simon.

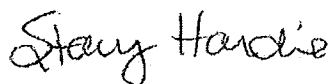
Because of Deborah's high level of enthusiasm and energy she has been requested to participate in several Health Department committees. She has been meeting with the ReCon (Resource Consolidation) group since February of 1998. She has assisted in preparing for the organization of periodicals in our resource materials area.

She has been a member of the MICE committee for morale improvement for employees. And finally, she has been assisting in the development of a Disaster Training Program for staff.

Deborah's co-workers describe her as "warm and happy go lucky"; she is also said to "always be willing to learn something new and to help out". I agree with these co-worker comments and must add that Deborah is always willing to accept helpful feedback and gives her best effort all she does.

It is my pleasure to recommend Deborah for the Public Information Officer Position. I believe that she would do a fine job.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Hardie".

Stacy Hardie, RN
Clinical Nursing Supervisor
Washoe County District Health Department

WASHOE COUNTY TREASURER

BILL BERRUM

NORMA BIVENS
CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER

LISA MITCHELL
ASSISTANT CHIEF DEPUTY

MELISSA LUND
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY

NANCY ANDERSON
DEPUTY TREASURER

LAURA DeMARANVILLE
DEPUTY TREASURER

JUDY MACMILLAN
DEPUTY TREASURER

August 12, 1998

TO: Kathy Carter
Public Affairs Director

FROM: Bill Berrum
Washoe County Treasurer

RE: SELECTION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Dear Kathy;

Welcome to Washoe County! If I may be of assistance to you at any time during orientation or after you've settled in, please give me a call.

To business at hand, I'd like to encourage you to give Deborah Gnibus some very serious consideration for the County's PIO position.

Although her experience and training has certainly prepared her for this role, it is her attitude, energy, and demeanor that impresses me. I still don't know how she could coordinate, promote, and support the County's Corporate Challenge entry and all the while remain calm, enthusiastic, focused, and positive. She recruited, delegated, gave direction, took suggestions, saw to the details, and organized a bunch of independent volunteers, constantly flashing that infectious smile, encouraging the participants, always giving away the credit...and did it all under budget.

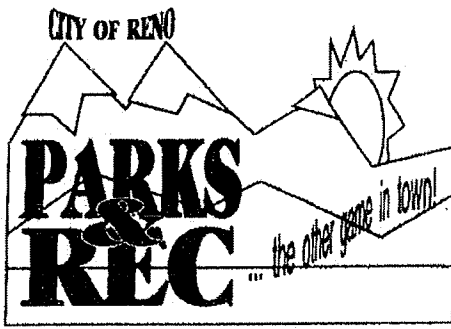
Debbie is bright, articulate, personable, and her media background has taught her how to size up issues and establish perspective. Add her proven ability to be a team player and her savvy of the political arena, I'd say you might have a very talented and loyal applicant right here in our midst.

Again, welcome to the County family and thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,



Bill Berrum



RECREATION DIVISION
P.O. Box 1900
RENO NV 89505-1900
(702) 334-2260
FAX (702) 334-2449

March 18, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

I have know Debbie for the past two years. During the first year she was an employee of KRNV Channel 4 and was involved with our Corporate Challenge event in the production of a promotional video. Debbie's work on this project was outstanding and the final product is a tool that is still used in our outreach program for new participants.

Since leaving Channel 4, I have continued to work with Debbie in conjunction with Corporate Challenge. She continues to demonstrate a high degree of loyalty and trustworthiness to her work and to her associates and carries out her obligations with vigor and resolve.

I feel very comfortable recommending Debbie to you. If I can provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Al Rogers
Recreation Superintendent



August 25, 1995

To whom it may concern:

Deborah Gnibus has been employed with KRNV an NBC Affiliate since May 18, 1994 in the Master Control/Engineering Department.

Deborah is a reliable hard working individual and should be considered an asset to any Television Broadcasting Industry.

Sincerely,

John Finkbohner
Operations Manager

JF;dag



REPLY TO:

☐ CAPITOL OFFICE
ROOM 4035
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 443-2407

☐ DISTRICT OFFICE
31 E. CHANNEL STREET
ROOM 440
STOCKTON, CA 95202
(209) 948-7930
FAX (209) 948-7993



SENATE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

SENATOR
PATRICK JOHNSTON

FIFTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
SERVING SACRAMENTO AND SAN JOAQUIN COUNTIES

August 6, 1993

APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING & COMMERCE
EDUCATION
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
CHAIR
INSURANCE, CLAIMS
& CORPORATIONS
NATURAL RESOURCES
& WILDLIFE
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT &
RETIREMENT
TRANSPORTATION

Doug Willis
Associated Press
925 L Street #320
Sacramento CA 95814

Dear Mr. Willis:

I was interviewed by Deborah Gnibus of Independent California News Service (ICNS) at Plymouth Square, a facility for senior citizens, on the occasion of presenting awards to people who assisted in responding to a fire that had taken place at the facility.

Richard Campbell of ICNS took several photographs of me and the award recipients at the ceremony.

The questions asked by Ms. Gnibus during the interview were both thoughtful and considerate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick Johnston".

PATRICK JOHNSTON
Senator, 5th District

PJ:lbq



ALAN S. COULSON, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S.

CARDIOVASCULAR AND THORACIC SURGEON

CALMONT MEDICAL CENTER, 2800 NORTH CALIFORNIA STREET, SUITE 15, STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95204

July 6, 1993

(209) 943-2500 • FAX (209) 944-2131

CARDIAC SURGERY

coronary Bypasses
aortic Surgery
intracardiac aneurysms
septal Defects
aberrations
aortic aneurysms

THORACIC SURGERY

lung Biopsy
thoracostomy
esophagectomy
thoracotomy
esophagectomy

ASCULAR SURGERY

aortic Endarterectomy
aortic Subclavian Bypass
aortic Aneurysm
aortic-femoral Bypass
aortic-aortic Bypass
aortic Aneurysm
aortic-femoral Bypass
aortic Aneurysm
aortic-femoral Bypass

ICNS News Service
1427 N. San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95202

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing a letter in support of Debra Gribus and Richard Campbell in their application for press passes. I have been working with these people for many years and they have been in the Operating Room to videotape open heart surgeries, carotid artery surgeries and other vascular procedures which have subsequently been shown on medical news releases in the local news programs and in particular, for the Medical Explorer program on local cable channels.

In the Operating Room they have conducted themselves with decorum and in a professional manner. The Operating Room is a very intense environment, where the slightest mistake can cause all kinds of problems. Over the years they have never yet had any problem whatsoever. I have been very impressed by their professional conduct, by their high standards and by their integrity and high ethical standards. They have worked on the American Heart Association press releases and again, conducted themselves with the utmost decorum around patients and in situations where there is a lot of stress.

I have no hesitation in recommending them for press passes and for use in all manner of news collecting scenarios where ethical standards and exemplary conduct are necessary. If you need any more information, don't hesitate to call me.

Yours sincerely,

ALAN S. COULSON, M.D.

ASC/dcp

COPY



CITY OF STOCKTON

STOCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY HALL
425 N. EL DORADO STREET
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202-1997

June 4, 1993

ICNS News Service
1427 N. San Joaquin St.
Stockton, CA 95202

To Whom It May Concern:

In my capacity, as Arson Investigator for the Stockton Fire Department, I have on occasion dealt with Debbie Genbus and Richard Campbell in their capacity as a video news service ICNS. They have always been very cooperative and helpful.

Several times I have received unsolicited news footage from them on incidents they filmed of our fire department in action. The videos have been beneficial to our training division and to me in helping to determine fire origin and develop arson suspects. At fire scenes they conduct themselves in a professional manner and although aggressive, do follow department orders and restrictions.

**MARTY GALINDO,
ARSON INVESTIGATOR, SFD**

MG:ldv

September 4, 1989



To Whom It May Concern:

During the 1989 California State Fair, Debbie Gnibus interned in the State Fair Media Center. Her ability and willingness to work with the Media Center staff and Fair management made her a valuable asset to the State Fair team.

Debbie's willingness to execute any task asked of her reflected her enthusiasm to learn. Debbie helped in making press calls, keeping the media aware of upcoming State Fair events and press conferences. She was also instrumental in escorting visiting press around the fairgrounds, helping camera crews set up their shots and offering ideas to reporters.

The State Fair Media Center involves a great deal of phone answering. Although Debbie didn't start her internship until the first day of the fair, she learned quickly how to deal with the media and answer their questions promptly. When Debbie didn't have answers to specific questions, she made sure to ask to appropriate staff person.

The State Fair Media Center valued Debbie Gnibus's time and effort. We would highly recommend her for future employment with your organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luanne Morikawa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luanne Morikawa
MEDIA CENTER DIRECTOR



KTXL-TV40

KTXL MEMORANDUM

SACRAMENTO • STOCKTON

TO NATIONAL BROADCASTING SCHOOL

FROM Bill Kreutzer

Atten: Patrick Martin

DATE Aug. 21, 1989

SUBJECT Interns

I wish to thank you for suppling two interns
for the Engineering Department of KTXL-TV.

Deborah Ghibus and Neal Daugherty are working out
fine and the Engineering crews that work with them
report that they are progressing in the operations
of the Master Control areas.

Bill Kreutzer
Chief Engineer, KTXL

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bill Kreutzer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

...to be viewed as automatic front-runners — but a loss to a challenger in the primary could produce a tossup battle between two non-incumbents in the November general elections.

Or an incumbent could win a tough primary, but suffer enough political damage to become an easy target for the chal-

gets past those primary foes, Washington faces a strong challenge from Democrat Joe Carter, who has strong party backing.

Washington has been under fire because a Sparks charter school that he had headed failed to maintain worker compensation insurance coverage.

The attorney general's office filed a

Assemblywoman Sandra Tiffany, R-Las Vegas, faces a challenge from a determined former GOP assemblyman, Bob Wong.

Wong thinks he'll win, while Tiffany thinks she will step ahead to the general.

See **Primary** page 7A

Nation: page 8A
FAA delays
requirement that
charter flight
passengers be
screened

Sunday Morning:
page 1C

Calendar: 2A
Police blotter: 7A
Crossword: 7A
Weather: Back page

"The Republicans
made a very
big deal about it
during the Clinton
administration."

— Larry Noble
 Center for Responsive Politics
 on major GOP donors being
 invited to stay in the Lincoln
 bedroom at the White House

More on 8A

Today in History

On this date:

- In 1896, a prospecting party discovered gold in Alaska, a finding that touched off the Klondike gold rush.
- In 1915, a mob of anti-Semites in Cobb County, Ga., lynched Jewish businessman Leo Frank, whose death sentence for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan had been commuted to life imprisonment. Frank, who had maintained his innocence, was pardoned by the state of Georgia in 1986.
- In 1969, 248 people were killed as Hurricane Camille slammed into the Gulf Coast.

Friday's Lottery

Daily 3:
 1 8 1

Fantasy 5:
 1 2 20 21 30

Saturday's Lottery

Daily 3:
 0 4 9

Fantasy 5:
 36 28 29 3 30

Super Lotto:
 19 3 4 11 1
 meganumber 1

Weather in Brief



Today: Sunny and hot.

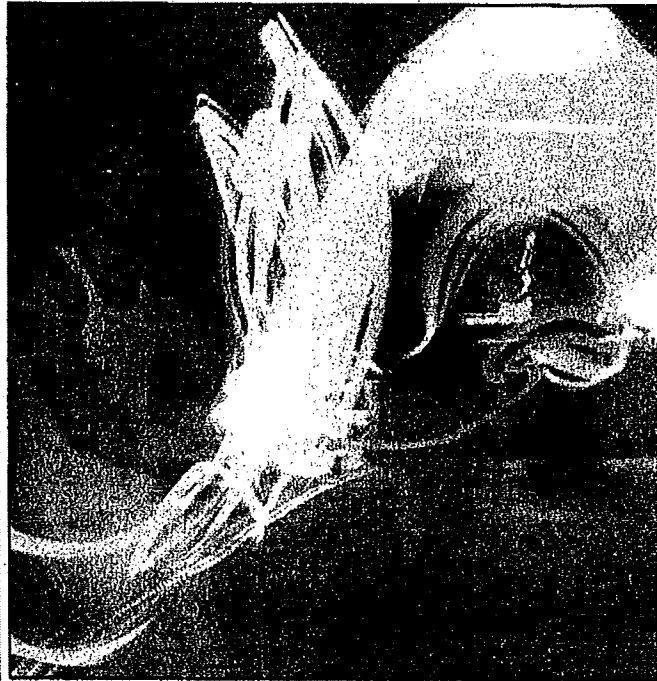
Welcome to the club

Raves: Peace, love and drugs?



Ravers dance to the mix of music 'spun' by a DJ at a recent party at Pig Rock west of Pyramid Highway north of Sparks. The rave was posted on an Internet message board devoted to the popular dance parties. Below: Dancers use glow sticks, lasers and neon to create stimulating visual effects, or 'eye candy.'

Tribune photo/ Andrew Hellman



Law enforcement says drugs are a problem, but ravers say its about 'peace, love, unity and respect,'

BY DEBORAH GNEBUS
 Special to the Tribune

Drawn by throbbing dance music, dizzying light shows and an atmosphere that encourages unconditional acceptance, young people are entering raves by the score.

Raves — dance parties — may be run legally or illegally, inside empty buildings or out in the open. Whatever the setting they all share certain characteristics — loud, fast techno music and special effects including light shows, pyrotechnics and smoke or fog.

The rave scene originated in England and Spain, but has spread quickly through the United States in recent years. Although raves were not originally intended to serve as a nexus for illicit drug usage and sales, the culture surrounding the events has created a favorable environment for those activities.

With it has come the use of "club drugs" — a general term utilized for a number of illicit drugs, primarily synthetic, that are most commonly encountered at nightclubs and "raves." Our community is seeing an increase of rave parties and the usage of the club drug Ecstasy.

See **Raves** page 7A

nends establishing Nevada suicide prevention program

sons per 100,000 residents in 1989, the most recent statistics available. That rate was more than twice the national average of 10.7 persons. The state has had the nation's highest suicide rate for 10 consecutive years.

In addition, a state education study found earlier this year that one in five Nevada schoolchildren contemplates suicide every year and one in 11 attempts

combat high suicide rates. The county does not have its own accredited 24-hour suicide hot line.

"The northern part of the state has good programs," O'Connell said. "We have to do a better job."

She said Clark County Commission members simply are not aware of the severity of the problem. O'Connell has met with the county commission and

approved a resolution calling for Clark County to adopt a suicide prevention plan, establish a 24-hour hot line and provide suicide prevention training programs.

The statewide suicide prevention coordinator would work with a Clark County-based suicide prevention trainer, who would implement the prevention

Raves

from page 1A

Attendees at a rave can number into thousands, and admission varies widely from the occasional free party to more than \$60. Raves are advertised on the Internet (different site message boards), word-of-mouth or by advertisements that range from simple black-and-white photocopies flyers to elaborate full-color artwork.

A local rave was held this past Saturday night at Pig Rock just off of Pyramid Highway. Information regarding this event was obtained from the renaraves.com Web site.

The participants and the environment were a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere and the spokesperson for the event was a DJ named Lung.

Lung described the rave scene as a loud, hard-beating techno music atmosphere that creates a good environment for participants to dance, meet people and be within a family community that fosters support and a sense of belonging. Participants come to hear the DJ. One of the best female DJs in the business is Lickerish, according to Lung, who said she does awesome spinning with non-stop energy that makes the participants dance until their feet hurt.

Asked about the drug scene at the party, Lung said about 10 percent of the participants were under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. He said he was aware of only two girls under the influence of the drug Ecstasy, and the participants had unlimited use of the bar, which served alcohol.

Lung provided a short history of Ecstasy, saying it originally was utilized in the 70s and 80s for marriage counseling to help couples become sexually aroused. The "hug drug" or "feel-good drug" reduces inhibitions and anxiety and enhances the senses.

Last Saturday also was the first of many tactical operations that the Washoe County Sheriff's Task Force will be doing at these types of events. WCSO reported eight citations, seven arrests, four

under the influence and two driving under the influence/drug-possible (Ecstasy) usages arrests.

"There are remarkable and frightening parallels between the country's experiences with cocaine and Ecstasy, especially in terms of the way generations have embraced a drug based on peer acceptance," said Steven J. Paasert, president of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America. "Too few teenagers recognize the real risks of this drug. In many respects, this is the rave generation's cocaine."

According to Victoria, who asked that we not use her real name, is 17 years old. She is in the residential drug treatment program at SageWind and serving probation.

"I started using Ecstasy at the age of 12 and continued using it regularly until I was 15 years old," Victoria said. "I loved the way it made me feel; it gave me awareness of all my senses in a way you would not feel otherwise."

Victoria called the rave scene a community within a community, adding that Sparks and Reno offer few other entertainment options for her generation.

"It's a security blanket for us," Victoria said. "In my experiences 9 out of 10 kids in a nightclub, a rave or any party for that fact, are under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol."

She said Raves are a good thing if you don't want to see the kids get into gangs or crime.

"At this point in my life now, I wouldn't go back into the drug or the crime scene, even though it was worth it for the learning experience," Victoria said. "I don't condemn a person for their using, but I don't condone it either. I know now that life is very valuable and has a lot more to offer me in the future."

Victoria also said club drugs are widely available in our community — something that is born out by experience, although no local agency is keeping statistics on them yet.

"SageWind is seeing an increase in experimental and problematic use of Ecstasy with adolescents and young adults in the community," said Andrea

Wilson, a SageWind counselor. "Clients report Ecstasy is currently readily accessible; whereas, two years ago they reported difficulty in obtaining this substance."

"This not only indicates an increase of ecstasy use with our younger generation, but also indicates an increase in high risk behaviors with our younger generation," she concluded.

Nationally, the numbers are remarkable. US Customs confiscated 750,000 pills in 1998, and in 2000 it was 9.3 million pills. The DEA confiscated 11,722 pills in 1994 and 1 million pills in 2000.

The National Institute for Drug Abuse reported that only 7 percent of teens aged 12 to 18 years utilized the drug Ecstasy in 1997-1998. In 2001 Ecstasy use among the same groups was 12 percent.

Emergency Room Reports for Ecstasy and the GHB drugs for 1997-1998 were 800 cases; for 2000 they numbered 4,500 to 5,000 cases.

Partnership for a Drug-Free America reported the current market of Ecstasy users — consisting of 2.8 million teenagers — has potential to double.

Those numbers have gotten the attention of law enforcement, which has responded by stepping up both enforcement and prevention efforts.

The Las Vegas Metro Police Department uses a method of "ticket profiling" wherein detectives are able to where reservations and profile tickets purchased by individuals that match the travel itineraries of previous suspects. One such ticket profiling resulted in the largest MDMA/Ecstasy seizure in Nevada history. The seizure confiscated nearly 34 pounds of the drug with a street value of approximately \$750,000.

Locally, Washoe County Sheriff's Deputy Donald Gil is hosting a number of free parent-based workshops on club drugs. This training will be extensive and will cover many of the popular drugs currently being used today, such as Ecstasy, GHB, Ketamine, Rohypnol, etc.

Gil said Ecstasy is becoming the drug of choice for many young people — largely because it is well marketed. It is a cute pill that doesn't need to be snorted, smoked or injected.

The age groups for Ecstasy appear to be from about 8th grade through college, he said, although older people do use it.

Gil also said there is a strong connection between Ecstasy use and 'raves.' Vick's Vapor Rub applied over the face and a gas mask or painter's mask placed onto the face are popular methods of intensifying the high of the drug. Other items that are utilized are baby pacifiers and lots of lollipops; these items are utilized because of the intense grinding of the teeth.

The most common symptoms from Ecstasy use are depression and sleeping problems, according to Gil. Among users of Ecstasy their motto is if you ingest Ecstasy over the weekend then the user will have a Black Monday and a Suicide Tuesday.

Gil made his first Ecstasy arrest one year ago involving college students and started to become aware of the problem in our county. His main goal right now is to educate parents so they know what to look for and become more involved with what is going on with their children and the community.

The scary thing to Gil is the fact that the police know very little about these drugs, and he suspects parents know even less.

"I am pleased with Deputy Gil's work to address the growing problem of club drugs in our area," said Sheriff Dennis Balaam. "This agency will be both proactive and reactive in our response to illegal drug use at these types of parties."

"While enforcement will address those using, the key is helping to educate parents and the community of the dangers involved in using drugs like Ecstasy. We will continue to conduct informational classes on this topic for parents and the community, it's a great partnership."

"It's a security blanket for us."

— Victoria
former raver

"Clients report Ecstasy is readily accessible..."

— Andrea Wilson
drug abuse counselor

Fingerprint helps FBI suspected Reno bar

Associated Press
RENO — FBI agents and Reno police arrested a 19-year-old woman Friday in the attempted robbery of a bank last month thanks to a fingerprint on a note she allegedly handed to the bank teller.

Quana Kaymarie Sala, Reno, faces one count of attempted bank robbery in the attempt July 23 at the Bank of America branch office south of downtown at 1830 South Virginia Street.

Sala allegedly handed the teller a note that read, "They want \$3,000 or they will kill the little boy," the FBI said. She fled the scene when a branch manag-

er telephoned FBI Las Vegas. Knowlton, Jerry Hooper print on the match chair finger.

Sala was there and there boy in agent John says Sala the note or handing it.

Sala has history b immediate Victoravich

Nevada trooper inj mail bomb settles v

Associated Press
CARSON CITY — Ken Gager, a Nevada Highway Patrol trooper named by a mail bomb in 1993, has reached an out-of-court settlement in his long legal battle with the state.

Gager lost his left eye and a portion of his left arm and suffered other extensive injuries in the blast at his home.

He returned to work but then filed two lawsuits claiming he was the victim of discrimination by the state Department of Motor Vehicles, which oversees the Highway Patrol.

Gager called the agreement "a win-win deal" that protects his retirement benefits.

Deputy Attorney General Stephen Quinn said Thursday the settlement "is good for Mr. Gager. It's what he wanted for his financial security. The department has always been willing to

work some special future.

Under the will get \$2 chase and retirement him a 20-being pens retire in a.

In addition will give G retroactive amounts to

Gager's mail bomb home in September Robert Col. victed and in prison.

Prior to Gager had stop of Col. of Collins' linking his and burgis

If you would like information about the offered by Deputy Gil, call the Washoe County front desk at 328-3350 and leave him a rr

Deborah Gnilbus can be contacted at gnilbu

Primary

from page 1A

election in her bid to move up to the Senate after five terms in the Assembly.

Democrats seeking the Senate District 5 seat include state Board of Education member John Hawk and Sharon Gobol. Tiffany sees Hawk as the likely winner in the Democrats' primary because of his strong party support and active campaigning.

In Senate District 8, there's a GOP primary pitting Assemblywoman Barbara Cegavsky, R-Las Vegas, against attorney Tom Christensen. And pool contractor Ed Portello faces businessman Kristen Hansen in the Democratic primary.

In Senate District 9, veteran Assemblyman Dennis Nolan, R-Las Vegas, is up against former casino regulator and gambling industry lobbyist Richard Bunker. The winner will face Democrat Terry Lamuraglia in the general election.

Eleven of the 21 state Senate seats are up for grabs, and the balance of power in the Senate

seats are up this election cycle.

Hettrick said GOP candidates have a chance in races for the seats that are being given up by retiring Assembly members Joe Dim, D-Yerington, Bonnie Parnell, D-Carson City, and Roy Neighbors, D-Tenopah.

In other Assembly races, the District 2 race in Las Vegas has produced controversy because of "Mormon bigot" stickers that were put on political signs of Republican candidate Gern Mabey. That prompted the GOP incumbent, Assemblywoman Merie Berman, to distance herself from the incident by offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the culprits.

In the Assembly District 15 race in Las Vegas, former Lt. Gov. Lonnie Hammargren is running against former Assemblyman Lou Tooman for the Republican nomination. The incumbent, Assemblywoman Kathy McClain, D-Las Vegas, is up against challenger Ron Tanner Jr. in the Democratic primary.

In the Assembly District 28 race in Las Vegas,

Mercury

from page 1A

a lot of money to bring coal-fired power plants, possibly as much as \$80 billion. However, her research indicates that the benefits may not be worth the expense.

"Mercury is considered a global pollutant because, when it turns into a gas, it will land far from where it was emitted," Gustin said.

For example, mercury in mill tailings in Nevada can get into the air and come down in Minnesota, which has no mercury deposits of its own, and end up in fish there. Although the United States and many other industrialized countries have substantially reduced mercury uses and releases in recent decades, these reductions are not yet reflected in the air, soils, water or fish.

Although the amount of mercury the U.S. contributes globally is small (about 3 percent), it still contributes more than it receives. Approximately two-thirds of domestic mercury emissions are transported outside our borders. However,

mercury deposition that occurs in the U.S. come from domestic, human-made sources of pollution, according to the EPPA.

But Gustin's second paper, "Unraveling the Role of Natural Ecosystems in the Biochemical Cycle of Mercury," suggests that natural source emissions are actually much higher than previously thought in certain areas. She calls these mercury sinks.

"Everybody focuses on man-made sources of mercury, but there are natural sources and sinks of mercury that we need to consider in order to know, if we spend billions of dollars scrubbing up emission from a coal-fired power plant, whether it will make a difference or not."

Gustin said politics could decide whether the money is spent, but the science is not adequate to ensure that the expenditure will make a difference.



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24 Marikoba tree
25 Nobel Prize-winning nun
26 Reach
28 Pottery bit
31 Childhood melody
32 Food wrapping
33 Kind of neckline
38 Wolfed down
39 Truce talks
40 Rustic hotel
41 Vandal
42 Set as the table
43 Minir
46 Jung contemporary
47 Snapshot taker
48 A-frame
51 Chan rejoinder
52 Old customer

DOWN
1 Actor — Bridges
2 Malcontent
3 Descartes' name
4 Patella
5 Humor
6 Reprimand
7 Goal
8 Coalition
9 More recent
10 G. Robinson
11 Playground gear
12 Pitchfork parts
16 Actor — Lugosi
21 Fresh, as attitude
23 Europe's "boor"
20 Nursemaid
27 "Swan Lake" costume
28 Feds (hypth.)
29 Not hollowed out

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45 Champi glasses
46 Soften

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Identity theft on the rise in Washoe County

BY DEBORAH GNIBUS

Special to the Sparks Tribune

Identify theft — the criminal misappropriation of another person's identity — is the fastest growing white-collar crime in the United States. The perpetrators of this crime consider this a "faceless" crime and their targets are the financial institutions, retail stores and the Internet.

If you think you are safe from this crime because your wallet or purse stolen has never been stolen, think again. There are numerous ways these thieves obtain information about you. Anyone can buy your Social Security number from a Website or obtain information about you from public birth records and online genealogy files.

Thieves also have used such methods as filing a change of address and obtaining your mail at the new address, digging through your garbage container — known as "Dumpster diving." The clerk who processed your application at the cellular phone store or an unscrupulous employee who has access to your personal identification information could be selling your information to a major fraud ring or using your information to perpetrate this fraud themselves.

The state of Nevada has been placed second on the National Federal Trade Commission list for identity theft, said George A. Mitchell, Reno senior resident agent for the U.S. Secret Service.

Washoe County Sheriff Detective John Gyles investigated 37 identity theft cases in the first 10 months of 2002 — about one a week. The Sheriff's department investigates only those cases that involve residents or crimes that occurred in the unincorporated areas of the county.

A majority of local cases are reported to the Reno and Sparks police departments and are not reflected in these numbers.

Sixty-eight percent of the crimes reported to the WOSO actually occurred out of state, but the victim is a Washoe County resident. Generally, these cases are forwarded to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction where the incident occurred, although in some "high-dollar" cases federal authorities become involved.

Of the 82 percent of identity theft crimes that occurred within Washoe County, half were reported and forwarded by an out-of-state law enforcement agency. In those cases, the crime occurred here, but the victim a resident in another area.

Crimes committed in Washoe County against local victims constitute the final 16 percent. The suspect in 80 percent of these cases was related to or an acquaintance of the victim.

"The U.S. Secret Service along with the state, local and federal law enforcement agencies are committed to investigating identity theft crimes in our community and seeing that those individuals responsible for the identity theft crimes are arrested and prosecuted," said Secret Service Agent George A. Mitchell.

When identity theft occurs in our community as many as 10 agencies could become involved in the investigation and prosecution. They are: the state and local law enforcement agencies; the U.S. Customs Service; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the U.S. Postal Inspection Service; the Immigration and Naturalization Service; the Federal

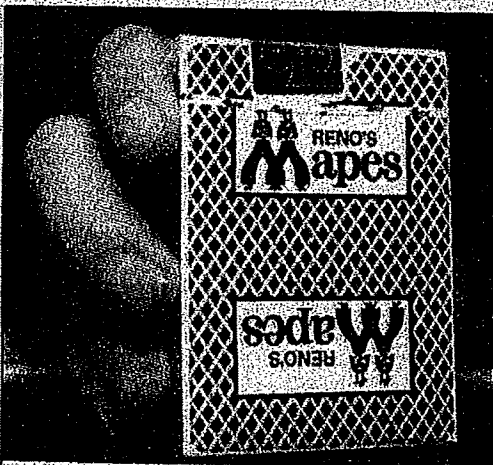
See Theft page 7A

Mapes on sale



Gloria Looney of Grass Valley, California examines the engraving on a sterling silver fork from the Mapes Hotel. Hundreds of antique collectors and dealers attended Saturday's event at Lightning Auctions in Sparks. Below, memorabilia included an unopened deck of cards.

Mapes collection on the block



BY MARTIN GRIFFITH

Associated Press Writer

SPARKS — Hundreds of rare items belonging to a pioneer Reno family — including guns, furniture and Marilyn Monroe memorabilia — were sold at auction Saturday.

Bidders paid a total of about \$300,000 for the items during the auction at Lightning Auctions, said company spokesman John Chedester. More than 400 bidders from around the country participated.

Many of the more than 600 items belonged to the late Charles Mapes Jr., who built the former Mapes Hotel along the Truckee River in downtown Reno. He was an heir to his family's ranching and banking fortune.

Among other family heirlooms, a silver oyster plate used by Marilyn Monroe during filming of "The Misfit" fetched \$1,000 and tusks of the second largest elephant ever bagged sold for \$39,000.

Also auctioned off were a mahogany furniture set for \$12,500, two Sovres table lamps for \$8,000, a black rhino shoulder mount for \$6,200, a silver sterling Tahoe Regatta trophy for \$6,000, a Winchester 12-gauge shotgun for \$2,800 and a 1980s Roll slot machine for \$2,300.

"Where else can you find such a unique collection in one

See Auction page 7A

Casinos major anti-Question 9 funders

Campaign supporting marijuana initiative has raised more than \$1.25 million

Associated Press

CARSON CITY — A Washington, D.C.-based organization has poured \$1.25 million into a campaign to legalize possession of up to 3 ounces of marijuana in Nevada, far outpacing opponents of the ballot question.

Three major Nevada casino-hotel corporations provided most of the funding for opponents of Question 9, on Tuesday's ballot as a proposed constitutional amendment.

The latest report from Nevadans for Responsible Law Enforcement, pushing Question 9, showed virtually all its funding came from the Marijuana Policy Project in Washington, D.C.

Nevadans for Responsible Law Enforcement also reported spending \$1.1 million.

The Committee to Keep Nevada Respectable, which is trying to defeat the marijuana petition, reported getting

\$143,800 in contributions in the August-October quarter — half of that from the Venetian megaresort on the Las Vegas Strip.

Other big contributors included casino-owning Park Place Entertainment and Boyd Gaming, for \$26,000 apiece; and Sunbelt Communications, which contributed \$10,000.

The Committee to Keep Nevada Respectable spent \$128,265. Of the expenses, \$107,000 went to FPG Advertising and \$20,000 went to Rogien Communications for consulting.

A group called Nevadans Against Legalized Marijuana collected \$6,325 and spent \$6,225. The major contributor to this group was Stop DUI, which gave more than \$5,000.

The Coalition for the Protection of Marriage, which is supporting a ban on gay marriages in Nevada, reported it collected \$351,468 since the primary election in September. At that point it had a balance of \$523,231. In its latest report, the coalition said it spent \$730,201 since the primary.

The figures were in campaign finance reports filed this week with the Nevada Secretary of State's office.

State Sen. Joe Neal, D-North Las Vegas, the Democratic candidate for governor, reported he collected \$24,396 in his campaign and has spent \$20,362.

Neal's campaign report shows he received \$1,000 from the Nevada Senate Democrats, \$2,000 from Sen. Harry Reid's Searchlight Leadership Fund and \$1,000 from state Sen. Bob Coffin of Las Vegas.

Clark County Commissioner Erin Kenny, Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, collected \$376,568 since the primary election. She had a balance before the primary election of \$400,804. She reported her expenses since the primary at \$729,506.

Lt. Gov. Lorraine Hunt reported receiving \$270,515 since the last report filed shortly before the primary election. She said she had \$53,699 left at that time. She spent \$315,820 since late August on her campaign.

Assemblyman John Leo, D-Las Vegas, running for state controller, said he collected \$59,876 during this reporting period that should be added to a balance of \$45,865 he had shortly before the primary election. Leo reported he spent \$46,576 and has \$49,264 left.

mes Sierra wildfire bill

es to develop with Sen. Ron den, D-Ore., and Republicans the Senate Energy and Rural Resources Committee. Feinstein said she was close securing a bipartisan agreement with Sen. Larry Craig, R-Ide, that would have sacrificed trees to reduce fuel loads make 7 million acres of forests near urban areas safer from fires.

I think the Sierra Club did it to be honest with you. There's just real opposition," Feinstein told reporters after a speech to an environmental conference last week at Lake Tahoe. Feinstein said the Sierra Club made it impossible for her to alter the support she needed from Democrats to cut off aid and force a vote.

So the effort kind of cooled," she said. Chris West, vice president of the timber industry's American Forest Resources Council based in Portland, Ore., said Feinstein was partially right. But he puts the blame more squarely on Democratic leaders.

From our perspective, the reason nothing moved in the state that was workable was the use of Daschle. It was all about party politics," West said. Craig, chairman of the Senate committee on forests and public lands, offers a similar account of the Senate's refusal to alter his amendment to a funding bill for the Interior Department that still needs congressional approval.

Theft

from page 1A

Bureau of Investigation; the Internal Revenue Service; the Social Security Administration; and the U.S. Secret Service.

Brian Sullivan, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada said, "As federal prosecutor of the White Collar and Economic Crimes section, the United States District Attorney's office top priority is to prosecute individuals involved in identity theft. My mission is to prosecute cases of identity theft for which there is enough evidence to proceed forward."

"Penalties for identity theft are sometimes harsher than the penalties for other types of fraud. As the assistant U.S. attorney for Nevada, I cannot emphasize enough to the public: Guard your personal history information, especially your Social Security number very cautiously and jealously. Protect your rights and educate yourself in identity theft fraud."

"I have noticed an alarming increase in the number of identity thefts that have had a direct effect on the victim (taxpayer) and the financial loss of Revenue to the IRS," said Richard Thode, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration Senior Special Agent.

Here are some examples utilized with identity theft and the taxpayer (hopefully, to increase your awareness of your social security number): An unidentified person or persons assume your name and Social Security number in an effort to become

genuinely employed in the year 2002. The employer will report the wages earned by the individual to the IRS at the end of the year. Normally the IRS will enter the wage information and cross-reference the information with the real individuals name and social security number. Due to the time span, it is most likely that the victim will not receive a report and assessment of increased tax liability until 6 to 12 months after.

The majority of TIGTA investigations are opened as a result of the victim contacting the IRS and stating they did not work or earn wages at a particular business, or in some cases the impostor filed a federal income tax return and received a refund before the victim did. In those cases, the real individual cannot file their income tax return.

Identity thieves don't discriminate against their victims because of their status in society, religion, race or ethnicity. Any U.S. citizen can become a victim of identity theft.

Credit card fraud accounted for 42 percent of identity theft complaints, followed by establishing residential and cellular phone accounts, utilities accounts, fraudulent loans and creating government documents. The thieves then disappear with a financial gain, leaving the victim with delinquent accounts, loans, criminal history and the personal and emotional violation. These identity thieves can devastate a victim's emotional, financial, as well as the victim's future well-being.

Among those in attendance was Gloria Mapes Walker of Reno, sister of Charles Mapes Jr. She said it was a tough decision to sell the heirlooms.

"There's so much emotion involved because of the family history," she said. "But there are just too many things to hang on to."

"It's wonderful that so many people want to have a piece of our family's history. I'm happy that they're happy," she said.

The Mapes family still wants to sell a 1902 gold leaf Steinway piano appraised at more than \$100,000, but not at auction, she said.

The Mapes family came West by covered wagon and settled in Reno in the 1860s.

Charles Sr., a rancher and founder of the Reno Rodeo, died in 1937. Charles Jr., who owned the Mapes Hotel, from 1947 to 1982, died in 1999.

The Mapes, which featured the famous Sky Room and the biggest stars of its time, was demolished on Super Bowl Sunday 2000. The Mapes also was the tallest building in Nevada at one time.

Assuming the early GOP votes went to Porter, a former state senator making his second bid for Congress, Herrera would have to make up the difference — and more — in Tuesday's balloting. And the new district is almost evenly divided between Democrats and Republicans.



Tribune/Debra Reid

ceramic cream pitcher with the Mapes Hotel insignia was sold at day's auction in Sparks.

of my collection. It will be in a lighted glass case in home. It not only has a connection to Marilyn Monroe but to Mapes Hotel," he said.

Charles Mapes Jr. was a big game hunter, and several of his best animal trophies were auctioned off Saturday.

The huge elephant tusks were

sold to an unidentified, absentee bidder from the Reno area. The \$39,000 price also included a photograph of the elephant and tusks from a smaller elephant.

"People who spend that much money don't want people to know who they are," said David Daniel of Lightning Auctions. "He'll probably display it."

The numbers didn't look good for Democrat Dario Herrera, a former assemblyman and Clark County Commission chairman running against Republican Jon Porter for the now seat that Nevada earned because of its big population boom during the 1990s.

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Should I stay at home or go away to school?
How much will it cost?
Can I get financial aid?

What kind of college is best for me?
Can I study in the field I have chosen?
How's the weather? The ski team?
What about social events?

Victims spend years compiling excellent credit records; then within a matter of days, or even a few hours, that status is ruined. Identity thieves will write bad checks; obtain credit cards; and use the victim's information whenever they are pulled over by

law enforcement for traffic violations without a license, building a litany of that the person did not commit. Now matters have just become worse for the victim — they now have a fraudulent criminal record along with their newly ruined financial history.

Protecting yourself from identity theft

- Don't carry all of your credit cards with you at all times, carry only the cards needed to conduct the day's transactions and keep all other credit cards in a safe place in your residence.
- Avoid using easily available information like your mother's maiden name, your birth date or the last four digits of your SSN or phone number when you create a Personal Identification number (PIN).
- Never carry your Social Security card.
- It is highly recommended that you never leave paid bills in your mailbox for the postal carrier. Always drop your mail off at the local postal facility and in a designated mail drop station located at their facility.
- The preventative step in mail fraud is to obtain a personal post office box. Use this post office box to receive your financial bills, your personal correspondence and all other items that involve your mail.
- Be aware and careful with all of your credit card receipts, purchase receipts, ATM receipts, anything of this nature. Remember to clean out your wallet and purse monthly for any of these items and retain these items for your records in a safe spot.
- Purchase an inexpensive shredder and use it to destroy any and all personal correspondence and financial information that is not necessary to retain for your personal records.
- Make a written inventory of all your credit card accounts, personal loan accounts, social security number and other important financial information, and keep this record in your safe deposit box.
- Request a copy of your credit report from the three major credit reporting agencies — Transunion,

Experian and Equifax — at least twice a year. Check your personal credit report for any fraudulent activity, mistakes that are listed on your credit report history and take action to correct the errors or misinformed information, in order for your credit history report to have the most current and accurate information available.

• If fraud is active on your credit report, make sure you report the activity and any losses immediately to your local law enforcement and all the appropriate banking institutions and credit card companies of your accounts and keep accurate records of your conversations, transactions and the individuals who you reported this crime to. This will limit your liability.

If you have been a victim of identity theft, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by contacting the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline by telephone: toll-free 1-877-IDTHEFT, and you can receive more information regarding Identity Theft by going online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft. And request a copy of ID Theft: When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name, a free comprehensive consumer guide to help you guard against and recover from identity theft.

If you are a victim of identity theft and as a result have had any adverse consequences with the IRS pertaining to the theft you can report this to:

TIGTA Hotline toll free number 1-800-366-4484 or contact TIGTA at our Web site <http://www.treas.gov/tigta>

Courtesy of U.S. Secret Service Resident Agent George A. Mitchell.

Crossword Puzzle

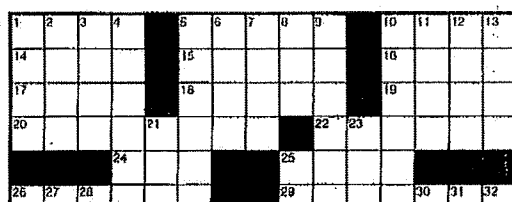
- ACROSS**
- Sharp turns
 - Fallback strategy (2 wds.)
 - Thailand, once
 - Corries pooh
 - Judith beloved
 - Strong desire
 - Mexican pot
 - Winter consolation
 - Manner
 - Became full-flavored
 - Wiped out a file
 - Down with a cold
 - Mo. expense
 - Boulders
 - Cake sometimes
 - Air-breather's organs
 - Quagmires
 - Grass-skirt accessory
 - Malt beverage
 - Doktrums
 - Behind, on a ship
 - Actress — Parow
 - Pantry item
 - Suite provider
 - Experimented with penes
 - Hatch
 - Prime-time hour
 - Even score
 - Offer more money
 - Songbirds
 - Hum
 - Strong-arm
 - Bangkok native
 - Not dressed
 - Unwanted sound
 - Grooful rhythm
 - Lean-to
 - Swamp critter
 - Blouse part
- DOWN**
- Climb sharply
 - Not in use
 - Four fluid ounces
 - Closing
 - Lurks
 - Handed-down stories
 - Among
 - "Racetrack" prefix
 - Filleted
 - Wild shrubs
 - Blanketed goddess
 - Screenwriter James —
 - Fix
 - Pangloss
 - shards
 - Thing in a law
 - Boat by a liar
 - Bangs
 - Stirling bulb

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



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- NBAer
- Shaqille —
- Make happy
- Send
- elsewhere
- Name
- Propeller arm
- "Man Flint"
- Mingling
- Legalize
- Pukely
- Hereditary
- Li doubted
- Not as crisp
- Pays for
- "No way" (hyph.)
- Ocean
- phononemon
- His
- Senor's coin
- Wheeling's
- river
- Hoot it
- It has a home
- price
- Extinct bird



Sparks' role within the larger Homeland Security operations system

BY DEBORAH GRUBBS

Special to the Tribune

Living lived in various places around the globe, I learned the value of preparedness and vigilance I have been through anarchy, floods, earthquakes, riots and terrorism. Some of my friends might hoddling by say I am over prepared, but to me, the alternative is not an option, said Bart Bechtel, retired CIA agent and volunteer for the Sheriff's Citizens Homeland Security Council.

It's a common notion that Sept. 11 2001 has forever changed the way Americans think and live. Everyone must now consider what Homeland Security emergency preparedness means on an individual, family, community and national basis. Sparks is no different.

Security

from page 1A

Recently the first group of CHSC volunteers completed about 10 hours of training in such subjects as Hazardous Materials, Disaster Preparedness, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Terrorism 101 & 102, and Citizens Response to terrorist incidents. This volunteer corps of citizens could be called upon to augment the county's emergency service missions. The corps could also help prepare the community by assisting in education, training, planning and preparations so that the entire community will respond appropriately to terrorism or other man-made or natural disasters.

The Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Red Cross in this effort. Sparks is the only city in Nevada that has a community emergency card will now take on additional training and become instructors

is the most significant transformation of the United States government in over a half-century. The Department of Homeland Security has a clear organizational structure with four divisions: Border and Transportation Security, Emergency Response, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Countermeasures and Infrastructure Protection. The nature of American society and the structure of American governance make it impossible to achieve the goal of a secure homeland through federal executive branch action alone, officials said. The administration's approach to Homeland Security is based on the principles of shared responsibility and partnership with Congress, state and local governments, the private sector and the American people.

"I learned the value of preparedness and vigilance I have been through anarchy, floods, earthquakes, riots and terrorism."

— Bart Bechtel
Retired CIA agent

resources, said Stephen W. Driscoll, Sparks Assistant City Manager. "This is certainly new territory for local entities and

for subsequent groups of volunteers. The Sheriff, together with Asst. Sheriff James Loyce and CHSC chairman Larry Martines, hope to train 300 volunteers by the end of this year. Loyce is seeking to expand the CHSC program to include a CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) to the Council.

"We've applied for grant funding to help finance the additional CERT program. The CERT members would be recruited out of the CHSC members and the CERT is a specialized program and these members would receive additional training and would, in theory, respond to terrorist events and/or disasters," Loyce said.

It's always a good idea to be prepared, officials said. As Sept. 11 showed, the consequences of terrorism can be far-reaching and diverse. The Department of

Sparks takes its responsibility to its citizens very seriously.

The city is training itself as quickly as possible to recognize and be prepared for possible terrorist — foreign and domestic — events in our community. We are working with the other local agencies to maximize our resources and to be ready to coordinate our efforts as needed to help the entire region if the time comes that those efforts are required," Driscoll said.

The Department of Homeland Security coordinates, simplifies and consolidates some government relations for state and local agencies. It coordinates federal Homeland Security programs and information with state and local officials. This department gives state and local officials a primary contact, instead of many on matters related to training, equipment, planning, exercises and other critical Homeland Security

and citizens avoid becoming victims.

"The City of Sparks has a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan in place," Driscoll said. "The plan includes operational guidelines that spell out how the city will react and respond to disasters or emergencies."

"The plan, which includes resource planning, operational guidelines and recovery processes, is extensive and the city's management and staff are constantly updating the plan for operational efficiencies," Driscoll said. "The city performs a comprehensive city-wide drill at least annually to fully test the plan. Additionally, the city sends key staff members to participate in other local emergency drills and training exercises. The City of Sparks takes its emergency preparedness seriously and can not over emphasize the

needs. It manages federal grant programs for enhancing the preparedness of firefighters, police and emergency medical personnel. It will set standards for state and local preparedness activities and equipment to ensure that these funds are spent according to statewide and regional plans. It will fill these preparedness missions, the Department of Homeland Security incorporates the Department of Justice's Office of Domestic Preparedness, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Domestic Preparedness Office, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Office of National Preparedness.

Many citizens in the community have decided to become active volunteers in the Washoe County Sheriff's Citizens Homeland Security Council (CHSC).

See Security page 8A

importance of emergency training as it directly affects the city's citizens, their safety and well-being."

There are steps that can be taken before and during times of disaster, including the following:

- Educate yourself about what you should have on hand in your home, school, workplace and vehicle in order to survive for a short period of time if a disaster strikes.
- Contact the Red Cross (775-856-1000) for disaster preparedness checklists.
- Take first aid training, including CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED).
- Have emergency supplies on hand and in good working order (such as radios, batteries, medications, food, bottled water, first aid kit).
- Have an emergency action plan for your home, school and workplace and practice the plan regularly.
- Stay alert and vigilant to unusual activity in your neighborhood and throughout the community, reporting suspicious activity or persons to local law enforcement. An alert citizenry is a major deterrent against terrorists and criminals.
- Consider establishing or becoming involved with a

more than doubling the credits utilities get for generating or buying power from solar sources. The measure also gives power companies more credit for buying electricity generated through a relatively obscure tire recycling process. A company is considering locating an industrial plant using the reverse polymerization process in Wells, in the rural northeastern corner of Nevada.

More ambitious energy legislation by Assemblywoman Chris Grunichigiani, D-Las Vegas, generated interest but no action on Friday. AB431 would create a four-year pilot program including new incentives to homes and businesses to use solar energy. Grunichigiani said it would help expand use and decrease the

See Energy page 8A

Calendar: 2A
Crossword: 7A
Weather: Back page

"Neighborhood Watch program

- Become familiar with your neighbors and any unique situations they may have. For example, they may have special medical needs or difficult transportation requirements.
- As the National Homeland Security threat level increases, increase your own level of awareness, becoming more observant.
- Recognize that at the time of a disaster emergency medical services and law enforcement may become overwhelmed and unavailable for an extended period of time.
- Don't panic. Be patient, be prepared.

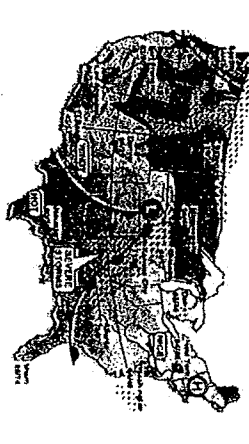
"Being prepared is something we can all do to help our troops now fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan to be less concerned about friends and family at home here in our country," Bechtel said. "Complacency for them is not an option nor should it be for us. We owe it to our troops military to shoulder some of the burden of protecting our freedom and liberty. May God speed them back home."

To volunteer for the CHSC, contact Larry Martines at clmart9353@comcast.net, or Asst. Sheriff James Loyce at jloyce@mail.com or washoe.rv.us.

own. Who may be hard to track down and dealing with the AWL on these lands. The bottom line is there is not enough money to do what needs to be done."

National Weather for May 4, 2003

For more information on the National Weather Service, visit us at www.nws.gov



AccuWeather 5-Day Forecast for Sparks

AccuWeather.com

Today	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
 A shower in the a.m., variable clouds.	 Mostly sunny	 A mixture of clouds with sun, breezy	 Mostly cloudy with a few showers, windy	 Mostly cloudy perhaps a shower, windy
55° - 70°	62° - 75°	60° - 70°	58° - 68°	60° - 70°

Nevada Weather

Sparks Altitude	Sparks Tomorrow	Sparks Today's weather
5,000 feet	5,000 feet	5,000 feet
High: 67°	High: 67°	High: 67°
Low: 35°	Low: 35°	Low: 35°
Through 5 p.m. yesterday: 0.00	Through 5 p.m. yesterday: 0.00	Through 5 p.m. yesterday: 0.00
Realized Temperature™	Realized Temperature™	Realized Temperature™



Mines

from page 1A

mid 1800s so the work to find all of these sites is a long process.