

PAHRUMP VALLEY TIMES

Nye County's Largest Newspaper

Friday, February 16, 2024

Vol. 57, Issue 14

\$1.00

Local



John Clausen/Pahrump Valley Times

See the cakes that brought in the cash

The 2nd Annual Cake Auction to benefit Nye County Cotillion made more than \$5,000. Organizers said attendance was lower than expected but the fundraising efforts paid off in the end. **A10**

Sports



John Clausen/Pahrump Valley Times

Trojans advance to semifinals

The first quarter ended with the Trojans ahead 14-3. In the second quarter, the Trojans had a hiccup where they were unable to score despite their defensive control over the Cougars. But Pahrump Valley pulled off the win with help from the whole team. **B1**



Pahrump Valley Times file

Guide to the rodeo

First time at the rodeo? We've got you covered with this schedule to the events this weekend at Petrack Park. The events kick off on Friday. **B2**

Weather

Extended Forecast

The National Weather Service's outlook:
Friday: Some sun, high of 65, low around 38
Saturday: Some sun, high around 66 and a low around 42
Sunday: Sunny, high 65, low around 44
Monday: Some clouds, high around 65, low of 47
Tuesday: Some clouds, high of 60, low around 47

Community..... A10
 Opinion..... A13
 Sports..... B1
 Classifieds..... B3
 Comics..... B5
 Variety..... B6



7 58551 00005 4

Rains force office relocations

County moves several government departments

By Robin Hebrock
Pahrump Valley Times

With the recent rains in the valley further damaging the already dilapidated building at 2101 E. Calvada Blvd., Nye County has had

to accelerate the shuffling of the offices formerly housed at that location. The Nye County Finance, Human Resources and Natural Resources offices, as well as the Nye County Water District and the town

of Pahrump's Ambulance Billing offices, have all been affected by the need to abandon the building and several staff members are consequently working from home.

Nye County Public Information Officer Arnold Knightly said the plan has always been to vacate the

rundown finance building, noting, "The recent atmospheric river rains just sped up the timeline for leaving that building."

The county is currently working on a remodel of the former planning, public works and building and safety offices, located at 250 N.

OFFICES | A6



Above, a Sassy Trainer client interacts with Zeus during a training session held this week. Right, Shadow and Griff are currently training in the Personally Trained Service Dogs program.



John Clausen/Pahrump Valley Times

Tynia Dickson is an Army veteran, certified service dog trainer and dog behavioral specialist who is striving to make people's lives better through the program, including the lives of her fellow veterans.

Nye grants \$20k to service dog program

Army vet starts training series to create a bond

By Robin Hebrock
Pahrump Valley Times

As a certified service dog trainer and dog behavior specialist, Tynia Dickson is well-versed in the positive impacts that these animals can have on a person's well-being but an untrained

dog can be a huge source of frustration. That's why, after having faced this problem herself and created a strategy to deal with it, Dickson started the Sassy Trainer.

Dickson is also an Army veteran and she understands that the unique struggles faced by former military service members can be eased by the companionship of a profession-

ally trained service canine. As part of her efforts, she has established the Personally Trained Service Dogs, or PTSD, program through which she aims to train veterans and their canines simultaneously, creating strong service dog teams.

"Our goal is to provide supportive and training services to veterans and their dogs with the goal of helping veterans achieve the

independence, stability and confidence that comes from being partners with a service dog," Dickson detailed.

To help boost her program, Dickson approached the Nye County Commission this month with a request for \$20,000 from the county's Veterans Services Fund. She noted that she also works with non-veterans as well but the funding

SERVICE DOGS | A3

Pahrump television station expanding its platform

KPVM TV 25 now broadcasting on Roku streaming services

By Selwyn Harris
Pahrump Valley Times

After more than 20 years on the air, Pahrump's sole television station is again expanding its reach in the valley.

KPVM TV Channel 25 founder and owner Vernon Van Winkle spoke to the Pahrump Valley Times

about what viewers and listeners of KACE Country Radio can expect as a result of now broadcasting on the Roku Channel.

Roku is an American public company which runs a streaming TV service supporting both advertising and subscription models on its platform.

All over the map

"Roku is gonna start on March 1," Van Winkle said. "Currently, we're streaming off my web page, so

KPVM | A3



Selwyn Harris/Pahrump Valley Times

Owned and operated by Vernon Van Winkle and his wife Ronda, a singer/songwriter, KPVM provides a look at what it takes to report the news in a small desert town.



GRAND REOPENING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 • 11AM-7PM



Service Dogs

Continued from Page A1

she was asking for was to be used exclusively for training five local veterans and their dogs.

"I estimate the cost - just in training, not including peripheral things - is around \$9,000 to \$12,000 to train a service dog," Dickson told commissioners at their Feb. 6 meeting.

As detailed in the backup information provided with the agenda item, the minimum cost to complete training, including food, treats, leashes, collars, vests and other items, is more than \$10,000. That cost, depending on various factors, can rise to over \$20,000.

The requested \$20,000 in county funding equals \$4,000 per veteran service dog team for five teams total, with the potential for in-home teams to be trained as well. The total cost for this training will range somewhere between \$54,000 and \$108,000 with the remainder of the expenses to be borne by Dickson's organization as something of an in-kind grant match, she explained.

"It's a great program," enthused commissioner Ron Boskovich, who attended a Sassy Trainer service dog graduation last year. "It's definitely needed."



Shadow is led around the training room by a Sassy Trainer client.

The need was made more than apparent by the testimony offered by one of Dickson's students that morning, disabled veteran Lynn Cartwright. Cartwright and her dog Emma have been working with Dickson for nearly a year and they'll be celebrating their graduation this March.

"What Emma does for me is, she carries my medicine and a lot of the things that I used to be able to carry, now that I can't," Cartwright said, noting that she had many physical limitations "What

Tynia has done for me has helped me be able to get out and about and get my things done without having to worry about my back hurting, my neck hurting... She has been able to put a bond between me and my dog... What Tynia is doing for our community is over and above. She is there 24/7 to help us, she will take calls, she will come and help assist, this woman is amazing."

Debbie Storts, paid client of The Sassy Trainer, said she may not be a veteran herself but she had made the trip to the meeting especially to vouch for Dickson and the PTSD program.

"I can't speak highly enough of what Othello has done in my life," a teary-eyed Storts stated. "I probably wouldn't be here without my dog."

She said Othello often assists her with mobility, yes, but she wanted to focus on what he has done for her mental health. "He also is emotionally supportive for me. On the days when I am having a bad day and I'm laying at home, feeling sorry for myself and there's no-one beside me, he's there. And I can only imagine with veterans, that would be even more significant. I can't think of a more worthy cause to spend some of those dollars," Storts asserted.

Dr. Tom Waters, a local veteran

who has watched as Dickson has grown her organization, threw his support behind the request as well.

"We have an Army veteran who has a passion for training dogs and whatever they need, whatever their need is, you name it, hearing, sight, it doesn't matter, she can train the dog for that person. That's why they are called personally trained service dogs, they are trained personally for that individual. For the veterans that are in need, I think everyone agrees this is a way of helping veterans," Waters declared.

The commission obviously agreed with this sentiment and the motion to approve the funding request, to be funded by the Veterans Services Fund, passed with all in favor.

This is the second round of funding provided by the Nye County Veterans Services Fund for the PTSD program. The first round was secured in 2018 with the help of Homeless Response of Nevada and with that \$16,000, Dickson was able to train four veteran service dog teams as well as four in-home support teams that were not originally part of the proposal.

For more information on the Sassy Training or PTSD program visit TheSassyTrainer.com or call 513-417-1334.

KPVM

Continued from Page A1

no matter where you are, you can watch it 24/7. We wanted to reach everybody in areas that want to hear our broadcasts, such as down in Laughlin and down in the Mojave Valley."

The big picture

Van Winkle also talked about how the expansion will affect the quality of service as related to viewing the enhanced broadcast by way of Roku's streaming service.

"It's a really exciting picture because it doesn't look grainy or anything like that." You don't have to pay for it because this is what they call subscription TV for free. I did a lot of polling and people who used to buy Dish TV or DirecTV, only watch about eight of the channels. Now, they can just watch them whenever they want for free.

It's a phenomenal way to watch TV for free and be entertained no matter where you are, or what you're doing. We have approximately 400,000 viewers in Las Vegas."

As a board member of the Nevada Broadcasters Association, Van Winkle noted that he would regularly speak with industry professionals who exalted his expansion efforts.

"They can't even air the content that we're airing," he noted. "They just say they wished that they could, because we're pulling eyeballs away and they don't like it because there's nothing they can really do. Our programming is so good in the sense of meeting a niche that hasn't been met, it's pulling eyeballs away from them."

Additionally, Van Winkle said that locating the streaming service is as simple as logging on to his website.

"You just click on the button you want to watch for KPVM," he said.

"There's 10 channels on there and we've got eight channels that are streaming now."

Teamwork

Van Winkle gave additional credit to his wife and business partner Ronda.

"We are both very pleased to provide this for all of Southern Nevada," he said. "We also have a new name for our news called the Southern Nevada News Network because people in Pahrump don't necessarily watch Las Vegas news and vice versa, so we're trying to put a good potpourri together for all of Southern Nevada that affects every everybody and everything."

After starting analog operations in 1997, as KPVM TV Channel 41, the station is now in its 27th year of broadcasting a variety of local and area programming in a digital format.

In Pahrump, the station's head-



L.E. Baskow/Las Vegas Review-Journal file @Left_Eye_Images KPVM 25 co-owner Vern Van Winkle is not shy about his politics while working in his office.

quarters are located at 890 S. Higley Road.

KPVM TV's secondary studio in Clark County is located in Henderson at 203 S. Water Street.

Van Winkle said those who have questions and concerns about content, advertising or otherwise, may do so by calling the station at (775) 727-9400.

Contact reporter Selwyn Harris at sharris@pvtimes.com or on X formerly Twitter: @pvtimes

THE FARMHOUSE

KITCHEN

GRAND REOPENING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 • 11AM-7PM

FREE GIFT FOR FIRST 50 GUESTS

SWIPE & WIN WITH YOUR TRUE REWARDS® CARD AND RECEIVE UP TO 50% OFF YOUR MEAL

GOLD TOWN CASINO

While supplies last. Limit of one gift per guest. Discount for dine-in at the farmhouse kitchen only. Must be 21 or older. Must be a True Rewards® member to receive discount. Management reserves all rights. See True Rewards Center for more details.