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The local GLBT news and information source for northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra

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Zoo closing: LGBTQ community to lose history



The Petting Zoo section at Sierra Safari Zoo on Gay Night



One of the parks tigers takes drink

Conservatives loud voices attack Library's choice of books for all



It was standing room only at the Spanish Springs Library for the Board meeting

The Washoe County Library Board's meeting lasted nearly six hours on April 17 with the board supporting its staff's recommendation not to remove from general circulation a list of books far right Republicans challenged. The board voted 4 to 1 in support of the staff recommendation to not reclassify.

During the heated six-hour meeting, members of Wake Up Washoe County called on trustees to reshelve or otherwise restrict children's access to books "they" found objectionable, although many of the challenged books are already filed in the library's Adult Section.

The group had requested 14 books be removed from general circulation because "they" found them offensive.

"It is a blatant propaganda for LGBT and trans [sic]," Darla Lee, a

see [Library page 2](#)

Northern Nevada Pride moves to September Truckee Pride added to six others

Northern Nevada Pride has long been associated with Artown on the fourth weekend of July. The past two years the temperature has soared over 100 degrees on festival day, despite being in the middle of the Truckee River's Wing-

field Park. This year Northern Nevada Pride Festival and Community Pride Parade will be moving from July to September 7.

"We had a lot of vendors tell us about the heat as well as many community members," Vonnie Allen, marketing director for Northern Nevada Pride told therenogaypage.com. "So the Committee looked at dates in September when weather can be cooler."

Reno's Great Balloon Race is also Saturday, September 7 as the sun rises and the University of Nevada Wolf Pack will be hosting Georgia Southern on Chris Ault Field at Mackay Stadium. At press time the game time has not been announced.

September 7 with

definitely be a long day with all the scheduled activities.

Northern Nevada Pride announced it is celebrating its 10th year (not counting the year of covid). The covid year, Northern Nevada Pride was virtual. This is



But Northern Nevada Pride, the largest celebration in the north, is not the only celebration of the Rainbow.

Residents in Elko, in far eastern Nevada, will celebrate Pride on June 1 at The Stage



see [Pride page 2](#)

Western Nevada LGBTQ+ and Friends Social set for Saturday April 27

Billed as the Western Nevada LGBTQ and Friends Social on Saturday, April 27 with the event set for Sassafras Eclectic Food Joint in Carson City as a fund raiser for the Nevada Capital City Pride celebration, Sassafration, in September.

The event runs from 2 to 5 pm at the restaurant located at 1500 Old Hot Springs Road in Carson. Tickets are \$25 for the event and includes lunch from: Cheese Pizza & Side Salad; Roasted Beet Salad; Thai Chicken Salad; Nachos Borrachos; Hamburger; or Cheeseburger (Veggie Patty available); Cold Sandwiches; Deli Sliced Pit Ham, Oven Roasted Turkey, Tuna Salad or Roast Beef. Served with your choice of bread and side. A soft drink is included. Alcohol or specialty drinks are available for an additional cost.

Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code or by click on this link: [WesternNVLGBTQ+ Friends Social](http://WesternNVLGBTQ+FriendsSocial.com).

Questions can be directed to WNVLGBTQ@gmail.com.

Sierra Zoological (formerly Sierra Safari Zoo) shut its doors abruptly on Monday March 11.

A press release issued by the Zoological Society said that a decline in revenues, steep increase in rent and constant vandalism from squatters, who moved in next door, were too much for the small zoo to absorb.

Sierra Safari Zoo was founded by three members of the LGBTQ community in 1989, Dale McDaniel (Zoola), David Dawson and Jimmie Martin.

Located about 10 miles north of Reno on Old Virginia Street, just south and west of the Red Rock exit, the park covered 4 acres serving the area for 35 years.

The first Gay Night at the Zoo, later to become "Family" Night at the Zoo, was held during the sixteenth reign of the Silver Dollar Court by Emperor Ray Martin and Empress Christy Love.

The annual event was a fund raiser for the Nevada AIDS Foundation Residence Program and the Biggest Little Fellowship, a local AA recovery group. Both group have ceased to exist since.

The highlight of the first Gay Zoo Night was the introduction

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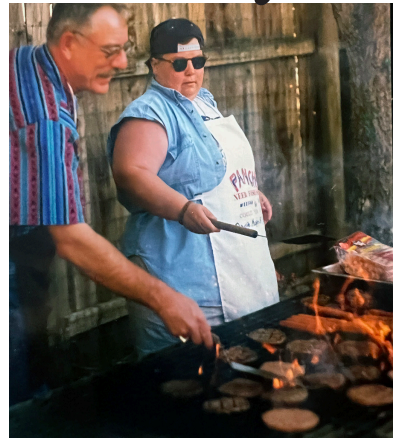
Coronation set for June 8

Reigning Empress Chelsea Tower-Jar, the Butterfly Empress of the Sierras, and the Silver Dollar Court (SDC) Board of Trustees have announced Coronation XLIX on June 8 at the J Resort in downtown Reno.

The annual event is the major fund raiser for the oldest LGBTQ+ non profit in the state of Nevada. SDC, as it is better known locally, has raised over \$2 million for local charities since its inception in 1976. This year's charities are Eddy House, NoNV Children's Cancer Foundation, Step 1 and OUR Center.

Coronation activities kick off with Voting at OUR Center on Tuesday, June 4 from 11 am to 7 pm. You must be a resident of

see [SDC page 2](#)



The BBQ at the fund raiser

Our Center throws party

OUR Center, Northern Nevada's LGBTQ Community Center will celebrate its eighth year of operation at its facility, 1745 So. Wells Ave. on Saturday April 27 from 2-4 pm.

The Center opened with a two-day celebration on April 29/30, 2016 with the purpose of demonstrating Reno could support and sustain a long term facility offering a safe place and LGBTQ programing.

When it opened it had a small Rainbow Shoppe, a Library, Art Space, Conference and Great Room, plus a Children/Teen space and an information center. Today many programs are offered at the Center and they are always looking for volunteers to man the information desk, maintaining the facility and help in general.

OUR Center has one paid employee, its Executive Director Stacey Spain and the volunteers.

Funding for OUR Center's operation and programs comes from community donations and the annual Northern Nevada Pride Festival.

Gay Men's Chorus concert

The Nevada Gay Men's Chorus is set for their next concert at Reno Little Theatre, 147 E. Pueblo, Reno on Friday, June 14 at 7:30 pm.

Gender Blemder Hit Song Mania, a Cabaret Review will be held in the Reno Little Theatre for the first time. The theatre has limited seating so tickets should be purchased in advance.

The concert will feature gender bending with male singers doing Pointer Sister, Madonna and Donna Summer songs or flipping the coin with female members singing George Michael or Michael Jackson hits. No matter who is singing what the night should be very entertaining as Nevada Gay Men's Chorus has been around since 2010.

Tickets for the inperson concert are VIP \$45 and general admission \$30 or senior/student \$25. The concert will be available to live stream for \$30 or seniors/students \$25.

Tickets can be purchased by going to [Nevada Gay Mens Chorus](http://NevadaGayMensChorus.com) tickets by clicking on this link.

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Door, 303 Third Street, Elko. The small festival gets underway at 11 am for five hours, featuring information booths, several vendors and entertainment. You can follow them on their Facebook page: [Elko Pride](#).

A new event will be held in Truckee, CA from June 3-9. The event is in the planning stages as organizers hope to have a small festival, parade, drag queen story time and more. Few details were available at press time, but you can follow them on Facebook at [Truckee Pride](#).

Gerlach, Nv located in central eastern Washoe County, about 107 miles from Reno, population 21, will host its annual Pride celebration on July 13. They have a full day of events planned.

The Rural Queer Action Fund will host the event starting with a light brunch at Joe's Gerlach Club. It will be followed with a parade down Main Street before heading to the Gerlach Community Center for a BBQ and discussions. The day will end with a Dance at the Community Center. You can follow Gerlach Pride on Facebook at [Gerlach Pride](#).

Sassabration, the Carson City Pride celebration, also sometimes referred to as Nevada Pride being in the state capital, will be held on September 14.

The day long event kicks off with a parade through Carson City starting at The Brewery Arts Center and moving north to Sassafras Eclectic Food Joint on Old Hot Springs Road, next to Carson Hot Springs. The festival opens at 11 am and features a number of information booths and vendors. Plenty of live entertainment will be available in Sassafras as well as on the outdoor Stage.

For more information visit their Facebook page: [Sassa-](#)

[bration/Nevada Pride.](#)

Winnemucca, the home of Armistead Maupin's *Anna Magrigal* from his book *Tales of the City*, will host its Annual Pride celebration on October 19 at the Winner's Inn, in downtown Winnemucca.

The celebration gets started with a parade, then a festival featuring vendors, music and entertainment.

In the evening *is the shouldn't be missed* drag show set for the ballroom at Winners Inn. Tickets for the show should be purchased in advance as seating is limited and the show does sell out.

You can follow Winnemuc-

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member of Wake Up Washoe County said in referring to the book *Zenobia July*, a book about a transgender coming out.

Lee also called the book a "grooming tool," repeating a decades-old homophobic fallacy that falsely equates the LGBTQ+ community with pedophilia.

Candace Powell, remarked on the books challenged, saying, "I reviewed the material in the agenda; and while I may not personally relate to the characters' experiences in these challenged books, I'm thrilled that they're available in our library for those who can relate to them and those who need these stories." She continued, "Not every book is written for me or for any one of us; but there should always be a book in the library for each of us."

In support of not changing the classification, Katie Stanton, who identified as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, tearfully asked trustees to reject the challenges.

"We are already isolated, we already are 'othered' on a daily basis. I'm asking you

ca Pride on Facebook at [Winnemucca Pride](#).

The Plumas County GSA who sponsors the annual Plumas County Pride celebration in Quincy is currently planning a festival for possibly this fall. A date has not been announced. You can follow Plumas County Pride on Facebook at [Plumas County Gay-Straight Alliance](#).

There has also been rumors that Lake Tahoe Pride was working on an event for June at the south end of the lake but nothing has been announced so far.

You can follow their Facebook page: [Lake Tahoe](#)

Library

not to remove the stories that represent our world," she said.

Library staff told trustees last December they would review each request, reading every book in its entirety and reevaluating whether they had been miscategorized.

"The library supports the individual's right to access ideas and information representing all points of view," Collection Development Manager Debi Stears explained.

Stears said staff ultimately rejected the challenges, finding that each book was already appropriately placed within the collection. What's more, she explained federal case law in 2000 prevents library staff from reshelving books based on community objections.

That year, a District Court ruled it was a violation of free speech protected by the first and fourteenth amendments to move children's book to the adult section.

At the meeting the agenda item for discussion on Drag Queen Story Time was tabled by the conservative chair of the Library Board Ginna Jacks and set for the May 15 meeting.

Pride

[Pride.](#)

In the newspaper's 31 year history there was no pride celebrations in 1993 when publication started. Now, there are eight Pride celebrations, a major accomplishment for the LGBTQ+ community. All the groups who organize these events deserve a big thank you for what they do. Send up the fireworks?

Zoo

From page 1

a baby ligar, named Hobbs (part tiger, part lion).

Attendees could get their picture taken with the little rare ligar, who became the face of the Zoo. The photo op with a baby animal continued for most of the zoo nights which also featured a BBQ.

Dawson was killed in an auto accident, McDaniel passed and several years ago, Jimmie Martin passed away, passing the zoo's management onto an animal aficionado and friend.

The zoo housed lions, tigers, farm animals, baboons, hyenas, birds, monkey, a sleuth or two, reptiles, an alligator named Elvia, and turtle. The zoo featured 40 different species.

The press release announcing the closing stated all the animals at the zoo have been relocated to other facilities.

There was an attempt to bring Zoo Night back just before the pandemic in 2019.

The zoo became a non profit organization in 1995 when McDaniels and Martin saw it as a way to get more people and the community involved in the zoo.

The zoo always relied on its volunteers for the operation of the facility. The zoo will be missed.

SDC

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the Silver Dollar Court Empire.

Wednesday, June 5, is the In-Town Awards and BBQ at 6:30 pm at [Carl's the Saloon](#), 3310 S. Virginia Street featuring a no host bar and free BBQ.

Thursday, June 6 is the Monarch's Reception at [OUR Center](#), 1745 S. Wells Ave Reno from 6-8 pm. A meet and greet and social. Light snacks will be provided.

Friday, June 7, is the Out-of-Town Show at the [5 Star Saloon](#), 132 West Street, Reno with door at 8 and Show at 9 pm. Tickets are \$20 at the door. All music is to be in MP3 format and is due by 8:30 pm.

San Francisco will host their annual party starting between 11-11:30 at Carl's-The Saloon following the Out-of-town show.

Saturday, June 8 kicks off with Hospitality at the [Virginia Street Brewhouse](#), 225 N Virginia, Reno from 11 am to 2 pm. Protocol is from Noon to 2pm or can be emailed to protocol@renosdc.org.

The Big event of the weekend, Coronation, *A Butterfly Soriee*, is a celebration of this year's reign and beginning of the next, starting at 6:59 pm with door at 6 pm. in the ballroom at the J Resort. Tickets are \$60. There is a discount for Seniors.

On Sunday, June 9, events of the weekend come to a close with Victory Brunch at the J Resort Ballroom at 11 am. Tickets are \$35.

The annual Las Vegas Dam Water Party is at Carl's the Saloon starting at 2 pm.

A weekend package is available for \$100. For tickets use the QR code below:

