

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

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NEVADA Sent from 'heaven,' nonprofit helps provide seniors shelter, security **1B**

SPORTS American Lyles is World's Fastest Man by narrowest of margins **1C** ▶

MONDAY
August 5, 2024

MUSTREADS



The Associated Press

NATION

■ A hurricane was expected to hit Florida, with "historic" rain in the forecast farther north. **6A**

■ Cooler weather was helping firefighters corral a third of a massive California blaze. **6A**

NEVADA & THE WEST

■ Added fees spur calls for transparency in the Las Vegas rental market. **1B**

■ Work begins Monday on the Maryland Parkway bus rapid transit line. **1B**

WASHINGTON REPORT

■ Americans are "getting whacked" by too many laws and regulations, Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch says in a new book. **4A**

■ The vice president's campaign launched "Republicans for Harris." **4A**

■ The judge in Donald Trump's federal election subversion case rejected the defense's bid at a dismissal. **4A**

SPORTS

■ Projecting the Raiders' 53-man roster. **1C**

OPINION

■ The Clark County School District doesn't seem to care about sloppy money handling. **10A**

WAR IN ISRAEL

■ The U.S. and its allies prepared to defend Israel amid what its prime minister called a "multifront war." **7A**

■ Yemen's Houthi terrorists struck a container ship in the first attack in two weeks. **7A**

WORLD

■ Ukraine intensified its long-range strikes, sinking a Russian submarine. **8A**

■ Renewed anti-government protests left nearly 100 dead in Bangladesh. **8A**



Sunny and hot
113 89

Almanac	11A	Opinion	10A
Comics	16C	Politics	4A
Classifieds	8C	Puzzles	15C
Lotteries	3A	Sports	1C
Nation	6A	Television	13C
Nevada	1B	Weather	11A
Obituaries	2B	World	8A

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Rachel Aston Las Vegas Review-Journal @rookie_...
Cesar Reyes, manager of Downtown Vintage Barbershop, cuts the hair of John Hasler while discussing the "No Tax on Tips Act" proposal.

Tipping scale back



Atomic Kitchen bartender Athena Young says legislation to stop the taxing of tips would benefit her and her child.

Those who earn gratuities believe tax on them unfair

By McKenna Ross and Jessica Hill • Las Vegas Review-Journal

ATHENA YOUNG has spent more than a decade developing her skills as a server. She knows how good she is now — because of the tips she receives while working at The Kitchen at Atomic.

If those tips weren't taxed, she said, she'd be better able to support herself and her child.

"I'm good at making tips. I'm good at serving. So for someone to take that away from me when it was pretty

See **TIPS** 2A

RJ INVESTIGATES

Retirees with 6-figure public pensions surge

'19 state law widens recipients' confidentially

By Eli Segall
Las Vegas Review-Journal

The number of retirees who took home six-figure annual payments from Nevada's government pension system nearly doubled in recent years.

But because of a 2019 state law, officials release less information about the recipients.

A total of 4,856 people received at

least \$100,000 in pension payments from the Public Employees Retirement System in fiscal 2023. That's up almost 90 percent from 2,562 such recipients in fiscal 2019, according to agency data. The overall tally of retirees who collect a pension from PERS also climbed during that period, though not as quickly.

See **PENSIONS** 2A

St. Jude's school will help victims of sex trafficking

By Ron Eland
Boulder City Review

Ideally, a school is more than just four walls, a ceiling and some windows. It's a place of learning, a place to feel safe, and a place to meet and bond with others.

This is what's planned for the school at St. Jude's Ranch for Children's Healing Center in Boulder City.

St. Jude's has teamed with the Clark County School District to offer what's believed to be the first school of its kind

See **SCHOOL** 5A



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SCAN TO STAY COOL

► **SCHOOL**

Continued from Page 1A

in the nation, serving those who have been victims of sex trafficking.

Construction of the school was recently completed with the remainder of the Healing Center expected to be finished this fall. That is when the students, who will live in group homes within the Healing Center, will begin classes.

Last month, St. Jude's CEO, Christina Vela, and the school's new principal, Amy Manning, discussed the progress of both the school and center and what it means to be the ones laying the foundation for other collaborations throughout the country to deal with the ever-increasing problem of sex trafficking.

"It looks exactly as envisioned, which means it's extra special to see it come to life," Vela said. "It's really beautiful. There was a lot of apprehension as to whether or not this partnership was really going to work. Is the school actually going to look as unique and creative as we hoped it would be? The answer is yes to all three questions."

Manning agreed, adding, "It's definitely the most beautiful school-related space I think I've ever seen. It's definitely not your traditional-looking school. There are so many windows and natural light. When we add the plants and water features, it will have a very Zen, calming space for the students."

Fostering sense of safety

According to a release from St. Jude's, the Healing Center is unique, from its ground-up residences, holistic treatment options, survivor advocates and trauma-sensitive design. It sits on 10 acres of land with a series of individual one-story homes that will mimic a neighborhood setting, with walking paths and extensive landscaping, designed to foster a sense of safety.

The Healing Center also will include therapy offices, a multi-purpose building, meeting space, library, computer lab, yoga and meditation room, and outside areas to encourage transformation through connection to nature.

Additionally, the school will have dedicated spaces for yoga, CrossFit and physical activity and some of the staff will be yoga certified and trauma-informed trained.



A rendering of the exterior of the new school on the St. Jude's Ranch for Children's Healing Center campus in Boulder City solely for youngsters who have been the victims of sex trafficking. The \$25 million school is due to be completed and opened this fall.

Manning has successfully hired a team of licensed teachers, counselors and support professionals. Each has begun extensive training, covering topics such as understanding sex trafficking, hearing a survivor's story, learning the school's core values and fostering a compassionate environment for students in foster care.

"We had 14 positions, and all 14 have been filled," Manning said. "There were qualities I looked for that were very specific to what I felt the students and staff would need. We were looking for very compassionate people who are looking to be open to a lot of training. They needed to be willing to think outside the box because this school will function differently than your typical CCSD campus."

Price tag nearly \$25 million

The Healing Center will feature six homes, three of which will have four bedrooms and the other three with six bedrooms. The smaller homes

will be for new arrivals who will later progress to the larger homes. At capacity, 62 children — most of whom will be court appointed or referred — could be housed.

To assist with these children, specialists trained to work with victims of sex trafficking have been hired. It's anticipated that all the students to begin with will be girls.

"There's nothing about our model or program that says we can't care for boys," Vela said, adding they anticipate all of their students coming from Nevada, most of whom will be in the program for a year.

This project comes with a price tag of nearly \$25 million. Through a variety of partnerships and donations both big and small, Vela said it is truly a group effort. The funding includes \$5 million from CCSD and \$4 million from Clark County. Donations include a \$2 million grant from the Engelstad Foundation and \$500,000 from both the Nevada Elks and Nevada Women's Philanthropy.

Vela and Manning are excited but understand the challenges considering the traumas these children have been through and the lack of trust most have in adults.

"In all honesty, it is a little terrifying," Manning said. "We want to do well, especially for the students. We know we're going to hit bumps in the road because it's never been done before. We don't have a model to go off of. It's also exciting because we get to do things differently and try new things."

"If at the end of the day, we can take all the falls and learn from them and make things better and then go and help others replicate this model, it's worth it. We need to help these young people, and I'm so glad St. Jude's is ready to take that step."

Ron Eland is editor of the Boulder City Review. He can be reached at reland@bouldercityreview.com or at 702-586-9523.

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