



Community Development Department

108 E. Proctor Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701
(775) 887-2180 – Hearing Impaired: 711

Date: October 30, 2017

To: Redevelopment Authority Citizens Committee
Meeting of November 6, 2017

From: Lee Plemel, Director

Subject: Christmas Ornament Theme Selection for 2018-2020

RECOMMENDED RACC MOTION: I move to approve the following Christmas ornament themes:

2018: Wungnema House
2019: WNC Observatory
2020: Stewart Indian School

DISCUSSION:

Since 2003, the Carson City Redevelopment agency has annually created Christmas ornaments based on historic buildings in the City. These ornaments are sold for \$10 (slightly above production costs) to local retailers, which then resell the ornaments to the public. Supervisor Lori Bagwell has taken on the task of coordinating ornament production over the last few years.

Redevelopment staff is seeking approval of the ornaments for the next three years, as noted in the recommended motion above, based on suggestions from community members.

2017 Roberts House ornaments are currently available in participating retail stores.

If you have any questions regarding the Redevelopment special event applications, please contact Lee Plemel at 283-7075 or lplemel@carson.org.

Attachments:

- A. Information on the three recommended ornament subjects



ORNAMENT LISTING

YEAR	BUILDING
2003	Nevada State Museum
2003	Laxalt Building
2004	St. Peter's Church
2005	Bliss Mansion
2006	Capitol
2007	St. Teresa Church
2008	Governor's Mansion
2009	St. Charles Hotel
2010	V&T Depot
2011	Presbyterian Church
2012	First United Methodist Church
2013	Civic Auditorium
2014	Carson City Central School
2015	Nevada State Prison
2016	Brougher-Bath Mansion
2017	Roberts Foreman House

Proposal:

2018: Wungnema House

2019: WNC Observatory

2020: Stewart Indian School

Wungnema House

[back to Mills Park Page \(https://www.carson.org/government/departments-g-z/parks-recreation-open-space/parks-and-open-space/mills-park\)](https://www.carson.org/government/departments-g-z/parks-recreation-open-space/parks-and-open-space/mills-park)



This 1,000 square-foot house was built just on the outskirts of Carson City in 1948.

Burton Wungnema, with the help of his father, Earnest Wungnema, and then pregnant wife, Pearl, used the stone from his father's fourteen quarries in Brunswick Canyon to build this home for his family. Pearl raised eight children in the home.

The house was built during the war and they couldn't get lumber, nails, or glass because of the shortage. That is why only half the upstairs was built. The windows, now removed, were from the Catholic churches in Brockway, Lake Tahoe, and Truckee, California. Earnest and Burton, while building the churches, purchased the windows because they were not made with frosted glass and the church was going to return them.

The fireplace was made from stone in Arizona. The face is cut stone of clouds and lightning and is the emblem of the Water clan of the Hopi Nation. The hearth is wonder stone. The boards on the ceiling were milled using the same dies used to build the original ceiling. Wungnema is a Hopi name for grow, as in growing corn.

Burton and Pearl came from Arizona as teens, met in Carson City, and married in 1947. They are both Hopi Indians. Pearl is in the Sun clan and Burton the Water clan. Burton passed away in 1956 and Pearl continues to live in Carson City.

This home is representative of the wonderful mason work done in the churches and homes built by Burton and his father around Lake Tahoe from 1925 to 1955. 20

The Wungnema House is administered by the Foundation for the Betterment of Parks and Recreation and is available for small group meetings and events.

Following are views of the inside of the home (decorated for a dinner party/silent auction held during the holidays):



Living Room Fireplace



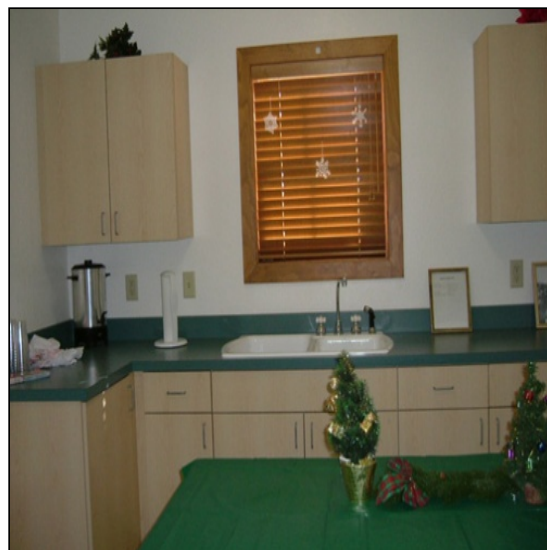
Living Room (facing north)



Living Room (facing south)



Dining Room



Kitchen



Stairwell



Upstairs Bedroom (facing north)



Upstairs Bedroom (facing south)

For more information, please contact the
Carson City Parks and Recreation Department
(775) 887-2262

or

Jo Saulisberry, President of the Foundation for the Betterment of Parks and Recreation
(775) 841-5570



Jack C. Davis Observatory

The Jack C. Davis Observatory is open to the public and provides a research-level facility for WNC students and the community. The observatory is located at 2699 Van Patten Avenue on the northern end of the Carson City Campus.

Wishing on a Star . . .

The Jack C. Davis Observatory at Western Nevada College in Carson City is a premier place in northern Nevada to get "up close and personal" with the moon, stars and planets. With both interior and exterior telescopes, and perched on the eastern edge of the Sierra Nevada mountains, the Davis Observatory is the place to be for astronomical happenings, planetary walks, and informative classes that keep students, scientists and the community on the edge of the latest technological advances.

. . . Dreams Can Come True

It took the vision of WNC faculty, the work of community volunteers, and the generous donations of individuals, businesses and non-profit organizations to create the Jack C. Davis Observatory. Named for the founding president of Western Nevada College, the Davis Observatory's First Light on May 15, 2003, featured a lecture by astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the Moon, and visits by hundreds of well-wishers.



[Jack C. Davis Observ](#)

[Observatory Web C](#)

[Western Nevada Astronom](#)

[Observatory Weather !](#)

[Saturday Night Star F](#)



Stewart Indian School History

The Stewart Indian School is listed on the National Registrar of Historic Places





For ninety years, Stewart Indian School fulfilled a federal commitment to pursue Native American education in Nevada. Located three miles southeast of Carson City, the school grounds encompassed 240 acres. The school opened on December 17, 1890 with 37 students from local Washoe, Paiute and Shoshone tribes and three teachers.

In 1888, the Nevada Legislature passed a bill that authorized the sale of bonds to purchase land for an Indian boarding school. Once purchased, the land was conveyed to the Bureau of Indian Affairs who established the boarding school to train and educate Indian children with the ultimate goal of assimilation. The campus opened with a capacity for 100 students and included a Victorian-style wood framed dormitory and school house. As enrollment increased, new buildings included shops for training, a hospital, and a recreation room. A Virginia and Truckee Railroad stop was established by 1906 to deliver supplies and facilitate transporting students to and from the school. By 1919, 400 students attended the school. During the next 16 years, students learning stone masonry from their teachers, including Hopi stone masons, constructed over 60 native stone buildings.

Student curriculum included classes in reading, writing, and arithmetic but focused on vocational training in various trades, agriculture, and the service industry. Classes offered for boys included ranching and farming, mechanics, woodworking, painting, and carpentry, while girls attended classes in baking, cooking, sewing, laundry, and practical nursing. Much of the school's basic needs were supplied by students' products or fulfilled by their newly acquired skills. Vocational training remained the school's principal focus until a shift to academics occurred in the late 1960's. The school closed in 1980 due to federal budget cuts and earthquake safety issues with the masonry buildings.

The State of Nevada acquired the campus through several transactions during the 1990's and is now used by the State for classes, training, and agency offices, including the Nevada Indian Commission located in the former Superintendent's home. The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California established the Stewart Community on much of the former school's land where they also occupy some of the buildings.

Today, the Stewart Indian School is listed on the National Registrar of Historic Places and the Stewart Indian Cultural Center is to be established in the former Administration Building. Memorabilia from the former Stewart Indian School is currently displayed at the Nevada State Museum's Under One Sky exhibit.