Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Cahlan Research Library

John Cahlan & Florence Lee Jones-Cahlan

John Francis Cahlan (1902 — 1987) was a third generation Nevadan whose family history in the state began in 1859. Graduating from UNR in 1926 with a major in journalism, Cahlan joined the Nevada State Journal as sports editor and later became editor. He moved to Las Vegas in 1929 and started a thirty-two year career with the Las Vegas Review Journal. Cahlan was news editor, sports editor, managing editor, and finally editor when he left the RJ in 1961. His affiliations were numerous and varied, from membership in the Heisman Trophy selection committee to the Society of Atom Bomb Watchers.

Florence Lee Jones-Cahlan (1910 — 1985) was from a prominent southern Nevada family. After graduation from the University of Missouri in 1933 she became a reporter for the Las Vegas Review Journal. She wrote for the RJ for forty years in various capacities and took only one break from the paper, from 1953-1963. It was during this time that she researched the history of Las Vegas; the research led to the 1975 publication of her book Water:a History of Las Vegas. Jones-Cahlan's service to the community and state was large and varied. She helped found the Service League and served on many welfare boards such as the Red Cross, United Fund, and Infantile Paralysis. She helped establish the City Library, ski facilities at Mt. Charleston, and the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Lorenzi Park. She served as a board member for the Nevada State Museum, Lost City Museum, the Nevada Bicentennial, and the Governor's Commission on Nevada History. Awards for Mrs. Cahlan were numerous and she was named by the RJ in 1975 as one of the ten most influential women in Nevada.

David Millman, Museum Director

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