

NEVADA

MAGAZINE

August 1998

INSIDE:
Complete Guide
to Events & Shows

The BEST of Nevada

Readers name
their favorite beaches,
resorts, and scenic spots
in the Silver State

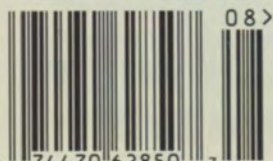
Unsolved Mystery

The strange
disappearance
of Roy Frisch

Diary of a Showgirl

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On the Cover:

Susan Wolford soaks up the views of Lake Tahoe. Photo by Larry Prossor

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12 Best of Nevada

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A 'Jubilee!' Girl

When Katherine McDonnell, a former dancer in "Jubilee!" at Bally's in Las Vegas, began writing a story about the backstage world of showgirls, her castmates at first were shy about sharing their experiences. "They all wanted to read it, but they all wanted to be anonymous," Katherine says. "I think they wanted to be sure that the story had integrity." Her friends soon loosened up, however. She laughs, "Later all I heard was, 'Hey, you didn't mention me!'"

Katherine's "Diary of a Showgirl" in this issue offers a peek into the glamorous life of Las Vegas production-show performers. She points out that dancers must be athletic, hard-working, and talented. Katherine says she felt "lucky and privileged" to be in the show. "Once I got into 'Jubilee!' I found I had gotten into a professional group who took their commitment to their art very seriously. That was a pleasure."

Katherine has held a number of glamorous jobs, not the least of which was events editor of *Nevada Magazine* in 1995 and 1996. She says the magazine post allowed her to fulfill her dream of being a performer who also wrote about the performing arts. Born in Washington, D.C., Katherine began dancing at age five. She attended the School of American Ballet in New York City and joined



McDonnell: Dancer and writer.

the Los Angeles Ballet. In the mid-1980s Katherine went to Las Vegas to audition for a show. She got a part but had to move to Reno: The show was "Hello, Hollywood, Hello" at Bally's (now the Reno Hilton). "My first reaction was, what's a 'Reno?'" she says. "When I first took the job, I didn't like it. I thought, 'What are these funky mountains? This isn't working for me.'" She left the show but returned two months later. "I grew to love Reno. And the dancer's life doesn't last forever, so I went to school." The show

closed in 1989, during her junior year at the University of Nevada, Reno, but she finished her journalism degree and signed on as *Nevada's* events editor. When she moved to Las Vegas in 1996, she decided to return to show business and joined "Jubilee!"

Last spring Katherine retired the sequins again and moved to Tucson, Arizona, where she's a fitness instructor at the posh Canyon Ranch Health and Fitness Resort. She maintains her showgirl physique by teaching aerobics and stretch classes as well as yoga and ballet. She continues to exercise her writing skills, too, penning stories for local publications. "Someday, I hope to be published nationally," Katherine says. "And I don't know if there's a book in me, but that would be nice." —Carolyn Graham

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Letters

Searchlight hot line and dude do's and don'ts.

Searchlight and the Red Phone

I work at the Searchlight Nugget and just read K.J. Evans' "Searching for Searchlight" in the May/June issue. The story tells it all, including the red phone that sits behind the cashier counter.

Ellie Shook
Searchlight

The Raiding Sheriff

I enjoyed reading K.J. Evans' story on Searchlight in the last issue, especially the part on brothel prostitution. One point of fact: R.E. "Butch" Leypoldt was first elected Clark County sheriff in November 1954 and not in 1956. It was the previous sheriff, Glen Jones, who reluctantly conducted the infamous raid on Roxie's in Las Vegas in April 1954. Jones, under investigation by the FBI and a county grand jury for his ties to crime figures and payola, lost the Democratic primary to Leypoldt, who



Patricia Milliren on the Searchlight emergency line.

pledged to close down all brothels in the county. Leypoldt was reelected in 1958. An account of the Roxie's raid can be found in *The Green Felt Jungle* (1963).

Guy Louis Rocha
State Archivist, Carson City

Laxalt and Clark

What a pleasure it was to read about Robert Laxalt in "A Man of Letters" by Richard Moreno in the May/June issue. I liked the anecdote about Laxalt still having the scrap of paper Walter Van Tilburg Clark gave him with names of books Laxalt should read. I hope anyone drawing up a short list of must-read authors today would include Robert Laxalt as well.

Barry Smith
Carson City

Dude Gets a Grip

After reading "Meanwhile, Back at the Dude Ranch" by Lin Anderson last issue, I'm ready to saddle up. Lin had some valuable advice: I'll always be cautious around anyone who tells me to pick up a cow chip.

Chris Johnson
Los Angeles, CA

Riding Trail in Caliente

Regarding the "Happy Trails" guide in the May/June issue, I would like to correct some of the information on our ranch, the Longhorn Cattle Company. Our mailing address is 953 East Sahara Avenue, Suite 9B, Las Vegas, NV 89104; phone 702-889-8844; Web www.longhorncattleco.com. We offer custom vacations, cattle drives, our Room and Board program, and the Longhorn Gambler package (a Las Vegas/ranch week with gaming classes). Transportation from Las Vegas is provided for cattle drives and the Longhorn Gambler.

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Note to Readers

This fall *Nevada Magazine* will be moving to new digs in the old Post Office and Federal Building in downtown Carson City. We'll tell you more about our historic quarters in upcoming issues. Meanwhile, please continue to send your letters, questions, and advice to **Nevada Magazine Letters**, 1800 Highway 50 East, Carson City, NV 89701-3202. Our e-mail address is editor@nevadamagazine.com.

Photographers: Announcing NEVADA MAGAZINE's 21st Annual Photo Contest!

The Great Nevada Picture Hunt

"We're looking for photos that say 'Nevada.'" That's what the judges will be thinking when they review the photos entered in this year's Great Nevada Picture Hunt—NEVADA MAGAZINE's 21st annual photo contest.

*This year you
have the chance to win:*

- Cash prizes • Lunch with the editors in Carson City
- A role in the Picture Hunt's traveling exhibit • The chance to be published in the Nevada Visitors' Guide
- And the satisfaction of showing the judges your personal, photographic view of the people and places of Nevada.

All sorts of subjects are welcome: people, ghost towns, special events, scenic landscapes, hotel-casinos, city life, rural life, water sports, and wildlife. The judges will be looking for the whole range of the Nevada experience.

Each photographer can enter up to seven photos in the Great Nevada Picture Hunt. There is no charge to enter, and the contest is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. Just be sure to send your photo-entries postmarked by **August 7, 1998**. Good luck!

The prizes: Picture Hunt cash prizes will be awarded to the top five winners: \$200 for first place, \$100 for second, \$75 for third, \$50 for fourth, and \$25 for fifth. Additional winners will receive the 1999 Nevada Historical Calendar. The overall winner will be treated to lunch with the editors in Carson City.



Peter Slingland of Reno won fifth place last year with "Bicycle Race"

Contest Rules

Photos: All photos must be unpublished and taken in Nevada. (Photos previously printed in local newspapers are eligible.)

Deadline: Postmarked by August 7, 1998.

Entry Form: The entry form below must be filled out, signed, and included with photos. All entries must be mailed in. Drop-offs will not be accepted at the magazine office.

How Many Photos: You can enter any combination of black-and-white prints, color prints, and color slides, for a maximum total of seven.

Labeling: Your name and address must be on the

back of each print and on each slide, along with title, location, and description.

Color Photos: Color prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14" unmounted. Transparencies must be 35mm slides or larger. If possible, please present slides in plastic sleeves (no metal or glass holders).

Black-and-White Photos: Prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14" unmounted.

Packaging: The smaller and simpler, the better. Maximum envelope size should be 12"x16" Only one photographer with up to seven photos per package.

For Return: When mailing in entries, you must enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to en-

sure your photos' safe return. (No pickups at the office.)

Judging: Entries will be judged by a panel of experienced photographers and magazine staff.

Permission: Contestants grant *Nevada Magazine* permission to print winning entries in the Nov/Dec '98 issue, and, if applicable, the Nevada Commission on Tourism permission to print the Tourism Award winner in the next year's state visitors' guide. Contestants also give *Nevada Magazine* permission to make reproductions of winning entries for a traveling art show, Web site display, and Great Nevada Picture Hunt slide-show presentations.

Entry Form: 21st Annual GNPH – Deadline: August 7, 1998

Number of Photos Entered	Name	
Color Slides	Address	Daytime Phone
Color Prints	City, State, Zip	
Black & White Prints	Social Security #	
Total Number (Up to 7)	Signature	

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Roadside Attractions

Gathering around the campfire, exploring The Attic, and jetskiing on Lake Mead.

Beatty Trading Post

BEATTY—At the **Lost River Trading Company** in Beatty, proprietors Larry and Vonnie Gray have re-created an 1860s atmosphere reminiscent of a time when a trading post was the only place to buy supplies.

The store, which opened four years ago, offers everything from purple bottles and Native American art to jewelry and horse feed. A large sign outside welcomes visitors in five languages.

The artwork at the trading post is diverse. Sandra Lee, whose work is shown throughout the Southwest, creates life-like snakes and lizards from fired clay and hand-paints them with exacting detail. Colorado artist Chris Mills presents dream catchers made from pine root burls, crystals, and beads. Local Shoshone and Paiute Indian artists provide hand-crafted pottery and baskets. The jewelry collection includes signed pieces by Zuni, Hopi, and Navajo silversmiths.

Antique junkies will find a 1902 stove that came out of a home in Tonopah, old



Larry Gray sells art, antiques, and other intriguing items at his Lost River Trading Company in Beatty.

bottles, purple glass, Depression dishes, and hurricane lamps.

The Lost River Trading Company is located down the street from the Exchange Club at the intersection of U.S. 95 and McDonald. The store is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call the store at 702-553-2233 for information.—*Mike Polak*

Campfire Nights

RENO—For folks who like to roast marshmallows and hear tales around a campfire, Washoe County's **Galena Creek Regional Park** again offers its popular campfire programs under the Sierra sky.

You can perch in the pasture around a big campfire and enjoy nature stories, slide shows, storytelling, games, theater, stargazing, and other adventures. Smokey Bear often makes appearances. The Friday-night programs, which usually begin at 8:30 and last about an hour, will run through August 21.

"Attendance records show that people really enjoy it," says Deb Snyder, a Galena Creek park ranger. "They come out to learn about natural resources or just to be entertained in a family setting." The programs are held at the Campfire Meadow at the grassy north end of the park, a pleasant place to stretch out on a blanket and

enjoy the events. During the day, visitors can explore the 420-acre park, which has picnicking and hiking. The park has a short, self-guided nature trail. Avid hikers can try the 9.2-mile Jones Creek-Whites Creek Loop, which begins inside the park and traverses the Mount Rose Wilderness Area. During Galena's Summer Naturalist Series, designed for visitors 12 and older, rangers lead hikes on the loop. Topics include geology, birding, and photography.

Galena Creek Regional Park is located seven miles west of U.S. 395 on the Mount Rose Highway (State Route 431). Call 702-849-2511 for park and program information.—*Lorna McDaniel*

A Tour of Mead

LAS VEGAS—Visitors can skip across Lake Mead while sightseeing with **Lake Mead Cruises Jet Ski Tours** on a new tour that blends history and geology with water recreation.

"It's like a really cool park ride, but you're doing the driving," says Dan Moran of Lake Mead Cruises, which also operates the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler.

With the wind rushing by, jetskiers bounce over the waves while touring a portion of the largest man-made lake in



Outdoor enthusiasts will jump at the summer activities offered at Galena Creek Regional Park.



Visitors can combine water sports and history on Lake Mead Cruises' new jetski tour of Lake Mead.

the United States. At key points, the guides round up the jetskiers to describe their surroundings, using a P.A. to relate facts about Hoover Dam and the area.

Before beginning the jetski tours, customers watch an eight-minute safety video in the pavilion at Lake Mead Cruises Landing, three-and-a-half miles west of the Alan Bible Visitors Center on Lakeshore Road.

Moran suggests bringing waterproof shoes (although sneakers are OK), suntan lotion, a bathing suit, and a camera. "It's only up to you if you want to get wet. The skis are so tough to tip over, you really have to work at it," Moran says.

Lunch is provided at the end of the tour at Lake Mead Cruises Landing. Tours are available through October 31. The cost, including transportation from a Las Vegas hotel, is \$169 for the jetski driver and \$89

Time Warp

LAS VEGAS—Fans of outdated fashions will revel in the selection of platform shoes, polyester pantsuits, and black-satin Western shirts at **The Attic** near downtown Las Vegas. The Attic specializes in what the owners call "phunky phasions" of the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, including bell-bottoms and bowling shirts.

Entering the store is like walking into a time warp where you could imagine, say, Austin Powers lounging on the zebra-striped sofa. The furniture and appliances are a trip, and the two-story shop resembles a swinging bachelor pad from the '70s. You'll find a large collection of old rounded-chrome toasters, hairdryers that look like robots from a '50s sci-fi flick, rotary-dial telephones, and metal lunch boxes. There are outrageous hats, hideous lamps, and a selection of clutch purses that were popular when Jackie Kennedy was First Lady.

Sophye Politis, who helps run the shop with her dad, Victor, says The Attic opened 10 years ago as an appliance store and just grew from there.

"We saw a big interest in the older appliances," she says. The lamps and toasters are rewired, and old sofas and chairs are reupholstered. All of the clothing is cleaned and sometimes altered to make it more sellable. On the weekends a DJ spins records—disco and other hits of bygone eras—on a small stage near the back of the shop. The only nod to the '90s is a small cafe, which serves coffee, espresso, and cappuccino, and a tattoo artist, who

works at The Attic by appointment.

The Attic, which has a huge inventory of clothing and appliances, also supplies movie props and even had a brief moment of fame: The shop was featured in a Visa commercial that premiered during the final episode of *Seinfeld* last May.

The Attic, at 1018 S. Main St. about a half-mile

north of the Stratosphere, is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and sometimes on Sundays. Call 702-388-4088 or consult its Web site at www.atticvintage.com. —Carolyn Graham



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The Attic has fashions, furniture, and appliances from the '50s, '60s, and '70s.

for the passenger. The cost without transportation is \$148 for the driver and \$68 for the passenger. Jetskiers must be 12 years or older. For group rates or more information, call 702-293-6180. —Roi Theiss

Carhops and Root Beer

A tradition continues at Bob's in Fallon. **By Gigi Orlowski**

"Car Hops Only," reads the sign above the counter at Bob's Root Beer Drive-In in Fallon. Carhops? Is this for real? Didn't carhops become extinct along with hula-hoops, home perms, girdles, and other relics of the '60s?

Within moments a bona-fide carhop appears holding a tray loaded with chili burgers, onion rings, and milkshakes. She attaches the tray to the window of a parked car, solid proof that carhop service is alive and well at Bob's Root Beer Drive-In.

Bob's may very well be, as its menu boasts, "the greatest little Root Beer Shack in the West." Their burgers are tasty. They make their root beer right on the premises. Their floats are served in old-fashioned, frosted mugs with generous dollops of vanilla ice cream. But Bob's is much more. This is no trendy, neo-retro burger stand. It's the real thing. And as one of the last of its kind, Bob's practically qualifies as a living museum.

"It's an American tradition, burgers and fries," says George Hansen, the Drive-In's owner for the past year. "And we're proud of our carhop service, too."

Located three miles west of Fallon on U.S. Highway 50, Bob's was built by Francis "Gunner" Signore in 1960. A retired Navy submarine gunner's mate, Gunner, who describes himself as "just a regular guy, with no schooling, no experience in business, no nothing," spent \$1,300 on the 3.5-acre property. Using second-hand lumber, 2x6 studs, and 15-cent metal plates from the newspaper office, Gunner hand-built the Drive-In for \$4,500. "This is still the original building and construction," says Gunner, pointing out the 1960 news items on the tin plates wrapped around the roof.

Although Gunner had built the Drive-In for one of his former submarine mates, his friend didn't take to the business, and it quickly reverted to Gunner. "Bob's was just a name I picked," says Gunner. "I wanted something that was easy to spell



Francis "Gunner" Signore built Bob's Root Beer Drive-In in 1960. The present owners, George and Sharon Hansen (center and center-left), and the Bob's gang prepare for another busy day in Fallon.



and remember. Besides, Francis' Root Beer Drive-In didn't sound right."

Gunner shut down his own drive-in in Davis, California, moved to Fallon, and went to work. For more than 35 years he and his wife, Zola, flipped burgers, whipped shakes, and served root beer in frosted glass mugs. After Labor Day they'd close up shop and travel the world, returning again in the spring to start their

annual cycle anew. Then last year, at age 74, Gunner decided to retire. In a simple handshake deal, George Hansen and his wife, Sharon, took over Bob's Root Beer Drive-In on April 4, 1997. "It took us 90 minutes to complete our transaction," says Hansen. "Gunner's from the old school of business. He continued to work here with us 12-, 15-hour days for several weeks. He wanted to see us succeed."

Originally from Saskatchewan, the Hansens came to Reno in 1990 to be near their daughter and son-in-law. "My first thought was, how can anyone survive here?" recalls Hansen. But he learned to appreciate the beauty of the desert and worked as a rodeo announcer and radio disc jockey in Reno. Hansen later worked in radio sales but was only too happy to leave it for life behind a grill and fryolator.

"When the news got out we bought this place, people came up to congratulate us. Everyone knew Bob's," says Hansen. "This isn't just a burger joint. We bought a little piece of history in Fallon, Nevada."

Gunner agrees. "Bob's is no billion-dollar outfit. It's a nickel-and-dime, mom-and-pop place. There's not many left like it."

Hansen has no plans to stamp his own personality on Bob's or change any part of Gunner's enduring enterprise. He continues to frost the same glass mugs in the freezer. The root beer is still made from scratch on the premises. Tuesday will remain 69-cent burger day. The carhops still offer car-door service. And all visiting dogs get ice cream for free.

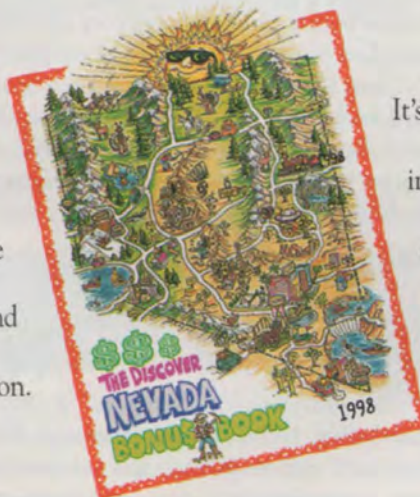
Bob's Root Beer Drive-In, 4150 Reno Highway, three miles west of Fallon. Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. from April 1 to Labor Day and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. from Labor Day through November. Bob's is closed December through March. Phone 702-867-2769.

Gigi Orlowski is a freelance writer from Del Mar, California. Although mostly vegetarian and lactose-intolerant, she finds Bob's Root Beer Drive-In impossible to resist.



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The Best of Nevada

The votes are in:

From beaches to buffets, here are the results of *Nevada's* reader poll.

By Richard Moreno

Imagine you're sitting at a quiet table in the Stratosphere's Top of the World restaurant when Wayne Newton begins to perform. The friendly waiter, who is from Laughlin, smiles and takes your order. You ask him the best place to take a photo, and he points north toward Valley of Fire.

Or imagine you're sipping a drink at Harveys' Top of the Wheel, enjoying the view of Lake Tahoe. Bill Cosby walks by, smiling at diners. You check your watch, purchased at Reno's Meadowood Mall, and decide to turn in early because you've got an early tee time at Edgewood.

In the March/April issue of *Nevada Magazine*, readers were asked to vote for their favorite vacation places, dining, entertainment, and other attractions in the Silver State. In some cases only a vote or two separated the contenders while in others there was a clear favorite. The following are the winners of the 1998 Best of Nevada reader poll:

Best Entertainer

No surprise here. In the southern part of the state, the Midnight Idol, **Wayne Newton**, reigned supreme. Newton has performed thousands of times in Las Vegas during the past 30 years, and plenty of readers have apparently caught his act. Popular illusionists Siegfried and Roy were

a close second. In the north, comedian **Bill Cosby**, a perennial Lake Tahoe performer, was an easy winner. Rural Nevada readers split their votes among a handful of entertainers including redneck comedian **Jeff Foxworthy**, Western singer **Michael Martin Murphey**, and cowboy poet **Waddie Mitchell** of Elko.

Best Lounge Act

In Southern Nevada, the **Sun-Isports** barely eked out a victory over veteran Las Vegas performers Keely Smith and Sam Butera. Singer **Sonny Turner** was the top choice in the Reno-Tahoe area. In rural Nevada, rocker **Louie Fontaine**, a former lead singer with Paul Revere and the Raiders, was an easy winner.

Best Revue/Long Running Show

Cirque du Soleil's "**Mystère**," a mind-bending ballet of acrobatics and illusions at Treasure Island, was selected as best long-running show in Southern Nevada. In the north, the top vote-getter was "**Smokey Joe's Cafe**" at Reno's Eldorado Hotel. The Grammy award-winning musical, which played on Broadway, spotlights the rock 'n' roll sounds of composers Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller.



Wayniacs named the Midnight Idol tops in the south.

Best Hotel/Resort



Silver Legacy was voted number-one northern resort.

Volcanoes, dolphins, and white tigers were a big hit with *Nevada Magazine* readers as the Mirage was voted the best hotel-resort in Las Vegas. **Harrah's Laughlin** was the winner in Laughlin, and the **CasaBlanca** was voted top hotel in Mesquite. In the Reno-Sparks area, the **Silver Legacy** was the best hotel-resort, edging out the Reno Hilton by just a few votes. At Lake Tahoe, **Harveys** outpointed Caesars Tahoe for bragging rights. The vote was tied for best rural Nevada resort, as readers picked both **Cactus Petes** in Jackpot and the **Carson Valley Inn** in Minden.

Best Place to Gamble

A Las Vegas institution, **Binion's Horseshoe Club**, voted the best place to gamble in Las Vegas, was a narrow win-



Tahoe was a clear choice for northern lake and scenery.



Readers' favorite southern hotel is no ordinary mirage.

ner over Caesars Palace. Harrah's Laughlin was the pick in Laughlin, and the Virgin River won in Mesquite. In Reno-Sparks, John Ascuaga's Nugget edged the Club Cal-Neva, the Silver Legacy, and the Peppermill as the best place to gamble. At Lake Tahoe, Harveys was chosen as best place to place a bet. Readers again tied when it came to voting for best rural Nevada gambling halls, with an equal number selecting Cactus Petes in Jackpot and the Station House in Tonopah.

Best Golf Course

The Desert Inn Golf Club and TPC Summerlin were the winners in the race for best Las Vegas golf course, and the Oasis Golf Club was the readers' choice in Mesquite. Lakeridge Golf Course was voted Reno's best links while Edgewood was the easy winner at Lake Tahoe. Readers selected the Round Mountain Golf Course, north of Tonopah, as the best rural links.

Best Thrill Ride

Some readers had a bit of fun with this category, offering votes for driving on Interstate 80 through Reno, driving 100 mph on Interstate 15 to Primm, and cruising up the winding Geiger Grade from Reno to Virginia City. Most readers, however, gravitated toward



The Manhattan Express offers the thrill of liberation.

Southern Nevada's high-flying speed rides, particularly the Desperado roller coaster at Buffalo Bill's in Primm, the Stratosphere's High Roller roller coaster and Bigshot catapult ride, and the Manhattan Express roller coaster at New York-New York. In the final tally, the Manhattan Express and Desperado tied for first.

Best Hiking Place

While votes in this category were scattered throughout the state, the winner was the 62,000-acre Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, which has more than a half dozen developed trails. Located 18 miles west of downtown Las Vegas, Red Rock Canyon offers multicolored cliffs of limestone and sandstone, seasonal waterfalls, and an occasional glimpse of bighorn sheep.

Best Place for an Adventure Vacation

Readers not only enjoy driving around Lake Tahoe—they also like to stop, hike, fish, and camp there. The "Lake of the Sky" was the winner by a landslide in this category.

Best Photo Spot



Shutterbugs liked the strange formations at Valley of Fire.

When it came to Kodak moments, Valley of Fire, with its memorable blood-red sandstone formations, was the choice for best photo spot in Southern Nevada. In the north, Lake Tahoe won handily, while there was a tie for best photo spot in rural Nevada between the historic mining town of Virginia City and the picturesque Minden-Gardnerville area.



At Great Basin National Park, Wheeler Peak and the Snake Range provide the setting for best rural park.

Best Park

Valley of Fire State Park, 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas, was Nevada's first state park as well as the readers' choice as Southern Nevada's best park. **Sand Harbor**, home of an annual Shakespeare festival at Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, was the selection in the north. In rural Nevada, readers overwhelmingly favored **Great Basin National Park** in Eastern Nevada with its glacier, bristlecone pines, and limestone cave formations.

Best Scenic Road

Selecting one scenic drive as the best in the whole state might seem difficult, but readers overwhelmingly voted for the road around Lake Tahoe, which includes portions of **U.S. 50**, **Nevada State Route 28**, and **California State Route 89**. Runners-up included **Highway 50**—the Loneliest Road in America—and a drive down the **Las Vegas Strip**.

Friendliest Town



The casino port of Laughlin was named friendliest town.

Competition was hot in this category as nearly everyone had a different opinion on which Nevada community was the most hospitable. In the end, **Laughlin** got the nod as the state's friendliest town.

Best Place to Ski

Readers named **Heavenly Valley Ski Resort** above the south shore of Lake Tahoe as the best place to ski, while the **Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort** at Mount Charleston, 40 miles northwest of Las Vegas, made a strong second-place showing.

Best Lake



Swimmers have buckets of praise for Lake Tahoe.

No contest in this category. In Southern Nevada, **Lake Mead** was the runaway winner, and **Lake Tahoe** garnered all but one vote as Northern Nevada's best lake. In the rural areas, **Pyramid Lake**, north of Reno, was the readers' choice.

Best Beach

The state's top two lakes had the top-ranked beaches. Readers selected **Boulder Beach** at Lake Mead as the Southland's best beach. **Sand Harbor** at Lake Tahoe was the favorite sandy spot in the north. **Pyramid Lake** edged out Walker Lake, Lake Mohave, and—no joke—Sand Mountain as the best rural beach.

Best Place to Enjoy Mother Nature

And the winner is—**Lake Tahoe** again. Readers obviously have a fondness for the beautiful mountain lake.

Best Place to Camp

Mark Twain, who accidentally started a fire there while camping in the 1860s, once described it as "the fairest picture the whole earth affords." Readers agreed and named **Lake Tahoe** as their favorite place to camp.

Best Ghost Town



Rhyolite's scenic aura made it the favorite ghost town.

The photogenic mining town of **Rhyolite**, four miles west of Beatty, was the overwhelming choice for best ghost town. Rhyolite, founded in 1905, was once one of Southern Nevada's most promising mining towns and had a population of more than 6,000 by 1907. The prosperity proved short-lived, and the town was dead by 1920. All that remain are memories and a few picturesque ruins.

Best Buffet

Las Vegas knows about the **LRio's** buffet, which has won nearly every Best of Las Vegas poll. Readers agreed and named it the best in Southern Nevada. In the northern part of the state, **John Ascuaga's Nugget** in Sparks was tabbed as having the best buffet, edging the Peppermill in Reno. Readers selected Carson City's **Piñon Plaza** as the best rural buffet.

Best Special Event

The **National Finals Rodeo**, which is held in Las Vegas each December, was the readers' pick for best Southern Nevada special event. In the north, it was a tie between the **Great Reno Balloon Race**, which takes place in September, and **Hot August Nights**. Elko's **Cowboy Poetry Gathering** in January and



The Great Reno Balloon Race tied for best event.

the **Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival** in Fallon, held in September, tied for best rural event.

Best Place to Shop

The way people shop changed when the **Forum Shops at Caesars** opened in 1992. Customers are entertained by the gods in animatronic splendor, so it's no surprise that readers selected the megamall as the best place to shop in Southern Nevada. In Northern Nevada, **Meadowood Mall** outdistanced its rivals, while the **J.M. Capriola** Western store in Elko was voted best rural shopping place.

Best Place to Take Kids



Kids enjoy the carnival whirl at Circus Circus Las Vegas.

The readers' favorite places to take their children were **Circus Circus** in Southern Nevada and **Lake Tahoe** in the north. **Virginia City** won in rural.

Best Museum

The Las Vegas **Natural History Museum** narrowly outpointed the **Liberace Museum** and the **Imperial Palace Automobile Collection** as the best museum in Southern Nevada. In the north, the **Nevada State Museum** in Carson City

won the most votes, and **Tonopah's Central Nevada Museum** was best rural.

Best Place for a Romantic Evening

Readers said the tallest building in Nevada is also the most romantic in Southern Nevada. The 1,149-foot-high **Stratosphere Tower's Top of the World** restaurant easily outdistanced its competition in this category. **Harveys' Top of the Wheel** restaurant at Stateline was chosen as the most romantic spot in the north. The **Mizpah Hotel** in Tonopah was the stuff of romance in the rurals.

Best Burger

By a wide margin, the popular fast-food chain **In-N-Out** was chosen as having Southern Nevada's best burger. In Northern Nevada, it was a dead heat between **Classic Burger** at Harveys at Lake Tahoe and **Juicy's** burger shops in Reno. The **El Capitan** in Hawthorne earned ground-chuck honors in rural Nevada.

Best "Sky's-the-Limit" Restaurant



The Stratosphere's lofty eatery topped two categories.

Readers said that the **Stratosphere Tower's Top of the World** restaurant is the best place to eat in Southern Nevada when money is no object. Meanwhile, **La Strada**, the gourmet Italian restaurant at the **Eldorado Hotel** in Reno, was the "sky's-the-limit" selection in Northern Nevada. **Fiona's** at the **Carson Valley Inn** in Minden was the choice for rural Nevada.

Best Themed Eatery



Voters liked the Southwestern thematics of Art Gecko's.

In the rapidly growing theme restaurant field, readers selected an unexpected winner, the **Voodoo Lounge** at the **Rio**, narrowly beating the well known **Hard Rock Cafe** and **Planet Hollywood**. The **Voodoo Lounge** at the top of the **Rio** combines a creative Caribbean theme with an outstanding view of Las Vegas. In the north, **Planet Hollywood** at **Harrah's Reno** tied with **Art Gecko's**, a Southwestern-flavored restaurant tucked into **Circus Circus Reno**, as the top choices.

Best Hotel Reservation Service

National Reservation in Las Vegas offers the best hotel reservation service in Southern Nevada while the **Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority's** toll-free hotel referral service (800-FOR-RENO) was the selection in the north.

Best Tour Company

Gray Line Tours, which offers visits to places ranging from **Hoover Dam** to **Lake Tahoe**, was the top choice in both north and south.

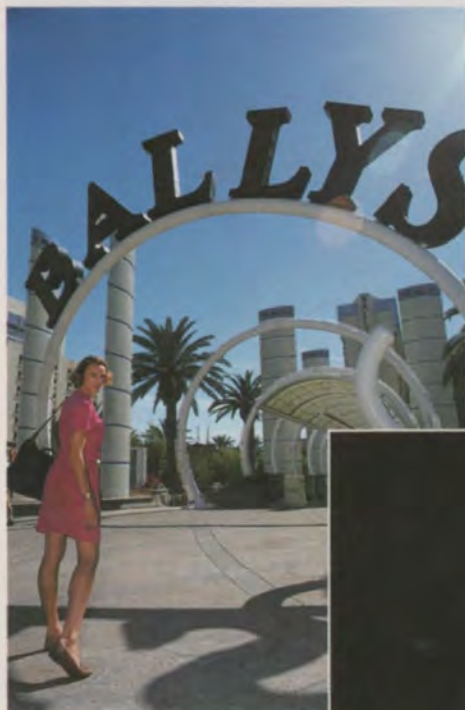
Best Category We Didn't Include

Readers suggested a wide variety of ideas for categories for next year's Best of Nevada poll, including happiest place, best sushi, friendliest casino, best doughnuts, and favorite watering hole. ▀

Richard Moreno is the publisher of Nevada Magazine.

Diary of a

Behind the glamour, the hard-working girls of "Jubilee!" just want to have fun. **By Katherine McDonnell**



The author's transformation into a "Jubilee!" showgirl begins at the Bally's entrance.

At right, Katherine (second from left) poses with her feathered friends. After warming up with a dance partner she retires to the dressing room for makeup.



As I stood on the elevator that would lift us up to the stage in the Jubilee! Theater, Kammy whizzed past, obviously late for the opening cue. The music started, and we all braced ourselves as the elevator-staircase rumbled upward. I crouched from the stair above to help Kammy juggle gloves and bracelets. The show must go on, and Kammy hit the stage missing only a necklace, crunching two fingers in one glove slot, and wearing the biggest smile out there.

As a cast member of "Jubilee!" I found that such rare mishaps added to the excitement of working in the long-running show at Bally's in Las Vegas. At the two-minute call, the mood backstage usually is like the storm before the calm. Dancers are frantic: "Was that 'two'? I'm not going

to make it." "I dropped my eyelash. Where's my eyelash?" Wardrobe personnel are dashing by: "Here are your shoes." "Don't forget your necklace." The exodus from the dressing rooms resembles a stampede of subway commuters, but on stage the audience sees only the polished product. That's part of the illusion and mystique of show business.

There's a tough side to being a Las Vegas showgirl—late nights, sore muscles,

weekly rehearsals—and a glamorous side, with gorgeous gowns and the thrill of performing before an audience. But when the high heels and false eyelashes come off, we're just regular folks. Backstage and on stage, we girls just want to have fun.

After 15 years as a featured dancer in

Showgirl



Katherine models her favorite gown, which was designed by Bob Mackie for the finale.

shows and ballet companies, I never imagined that I would be back working as a showgirl on the Las Vegas Strip. I had danced in eight production shows before "Jubilee!" including Donn Arden's "Hello, Hollywood, Hello!" at Bally's Reno (now the Reno Hilton), three shows for producer David R. Wright in Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas, and two shows with Emmy Award-winning choreographer Michael

Darrin at Lake Tahoe. I also traveled to France and Japan. I had retired my feathers a few years ago while earning a journalism degree at the University of Nevada, Reno. I moved to Las Vegas in 1996, and for a little more than a year I had the privilege of once again making a living as a dancer, this time in a prestigious Las Vegas show steeped in tradition.

"Jubilee!" opened at Bally's in 1981 as a prime example of the late producer Donn Arden's flair for spectacle and beautifully costumed girls. The show, which appears nightly except Friday and twice on Thursday and Saturday, takes showgoers on a historical journey during which Samson and Delilah wreak havoc and the *Titanic* sinks. There are tributes to Fred and Ginger and movie stars of the '30s and '40s as well as the Ziegfeld Follies.

The nearly 100 performers in "Jubilee!" comprise the largest cast in Las Vegas. They include 10 singing and dancing principals (as the featured performers are known), 74 dancers and showgirls, and three specialty acts. The female dancers are divided into covered dancers, principal dancers, and showgirls; the principals and showgirls perform topless.

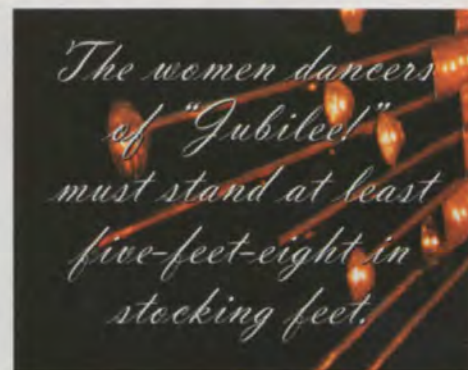
The women dancers must be pretty, at least five-feet-eight in stocking feet, and have a proportionate physique. My group or "line," affectionately called the tall nudes, danced topless. We privately referred to ourselves as the "backbone" of the show, knowing that the public comes to see the attractive girls with their tops off. "It's the way we make our living," one dancer told me. "Breasts are just part of the costumes."

The pecking order is dictated by salary. The nudes take home more than the covered dancers or the "boys," as the male dancers are called, but none of us earn as much as those outside the business think we do. One night a bartender from the casino asked me how much the dancers make. I said, "It's not as much as you think." "Is it between 60 and 80 thousand?" he asked. When I laughed and told him that we barely break 30, he was shocked.

A dancer's day is often long and exhausting. After I fell asleep at 1 or 2 a.m., my alarm typically rang between 7 and 8 a.m. I taught fitness classes in the morning and spent the afternoon cleaning house or researching stories. By 4:30 in the afternoon I would arrive at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to conduct two hours of rehearsals and classes as a staff member in the dance arts department.

Like most workers on the night shift, I spent much of my day watching the clock. Daily chores had to be completed before going to work in the evening.

During off hours, many of the "Jubilee!" dancers have additional jobs, raise kids, or attend university and community college classes. Kimberly Chapman, a covered dancer, teaches dance at UNLV. Scott Burrell is a dancer and contract carpenter, and his sister Ami, also a covered dancer,



earns extra money waiting tables. Eileen Ryans, a tall nude, keeps busy chasing her eight-year-old son, L.K.

"I spend more time with my son because of my hours. And it's healthier, quality time," Eileen says. "Most parents work till 6 p.m., and the kids are in bed by eight or nine. Me, I'm with L.K. from noon to six. And I'm not tired and stressed from the day's work."

At seven o'clock, six nights a week, the cast files into the 1,035-seat Jubilee! Theater for another day—make that night—on the job. For an hour the dancers get ready, starting with a 20-minute warm-up, and catch up on the day's news in the dressing rooms below the stage. While applying lashes and drawing lips, the 14 dancers in my line would gab about anything from the latest show-business gossip to pet training to the newest restaurants or hottest movies.

Speaking of pets, the girls have a mascot of sorts, known affectionately as the Pig. Like a piggy bank, the Pig receives a quarter every time a human error is committed on stage during a performance. This includes forgetting a cue or a costume piece or tripping over your own feet.

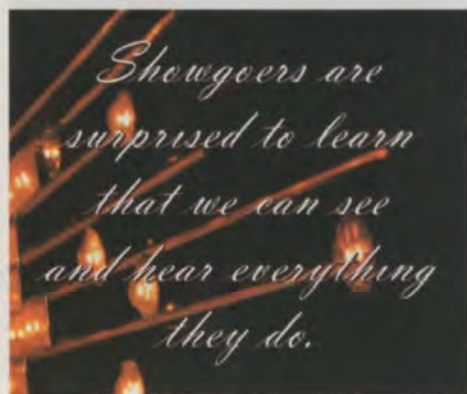
In six months the pig ingests about \$20 in change. When enough money is saved, the girls blow it on a big pizza party.

Major battles have been won and lost over "paying the Pig" no matter how obvious the mistake. The offender pleads, "I didn't forget. I just didn't go at the same time as everyone else." A debate then ensues about the grievousness of the error and how steep the fine should be. Is it worth two quarters? Someone pipes up, "No, that's a dollar." In retaliation, the guilty party may dump a penny at a time into the Pig's belly, unfortunately for the pizza-delivery guy.

At the two-minute call, the dancers clamber into position, and then the curtain goes up. Elevators carry dancers and sets from the basement to the stage and lower them at the close of the act.

I enjoyed watching the reactions of audience members as the feathered showgirls and colorfully costumed dancers arrived on stage. "Oh, wow! Look at the girls," I once overheard a woman in the audience say as the elevator reached the stage. "Honey, she can hear you," her husband whispered, adding a nudge.

Once the singing and dancing begins, the show generally hums along like a well-



oiled machine. The hour-and-50-minute spectacle has seven acts with four extravagant production numbers during which everyone performs. Each act is arranged into six or seven scenes and features a different line of dancers or singers. My favorite scene is the Cataclysm at the end of Act III, when Samson destroys the temple by pulling down its pillars. Every Donn Arden production has a spectacular destruction scene in which something burns or blows up.

To keep performances fresh, the dancers devise playful ad-libs to distract the others on stage. Tickling, funny faces, and occasional brushes with clumsiness keep everyone laughing. Sometimes audience members see the pranks and laugh along with the perpetrators.



As Delilah, Carey Hern wreaks havoc with Samson and occasionally overcomes a costume crisis.

One night Carey Hern's Delilah costume got caught on a pillow in the Royal Banquet scene of "Samson and Delilah," and she couldn't move to her next cue. The dancers nearby started giggling. "I was a freak!" Carey exclaimed later. "I just sat there. I was humiliated. Oh, and then I looked down into the audience, and one lady was just dying with laughter."

Sometimes the greatest show is the audience itself. Showgoers are surprised to learn that we can see and hear everything they do. The performers also enjoy seeing a variety of evening wear, choice of dates, tattoos, piercings, and unusual hair colors.

Some tips on audience etiquette: Don't yawn, don't fall asleep, don't put your elbows on the stage, don't make out with your date, and don't say anything you wouldn't want us to hear. At the same time, we love to see you clapping and singing along to favorite tunes such as "Dancing Cheek to Cheek" and "Stairway to Paradise."

If "Jubilee!" appears to be a seamless parade of dancers, sets, costumes, and mechanical wonders, it's the backstage crew that makes it happen. With more than 16 set changes, a mechanical breakdown—late elevators, misaligned staircases, computer problems—can affect the entire show.

That happened one night when the lights went out in the theater and other areas of the hotel. Without warning the monitors went out on the intercom system that pipes the on-stage sound to the basement. The stage and stairwells went dark, and the show stopped in silence. We waited for what seemed like forever for the music to begin again. Moments later the

lights and sound came back, and the show continued through the finale without incident—except that the spotlights stayed out, leaving the featured performers in the dark.

When they're not on stage, the dancers are in the dressing rooms. As you can imagine, any large group that is confined for up to six hours can go a little stir crazy. The girls' dressing room is like a sorority house. Dancers walk around half dressed and brush their teeth and wash their faces shoulder to shoulder. As the hour approaches midnight, the banter becomes more irreverent, like girls giggling at a slumber party.

The boys have their own ways to blow off steam. Between shows one Halloween eve, the boy dancers staged an elaborate drag show using their dressing room as a runway. The cast was invited for pizza and a scary Halloween preview featuring the guys in attire that ranged from a gypsy fortune teller to the evil Cruella from the movie *101 Dalmations*.

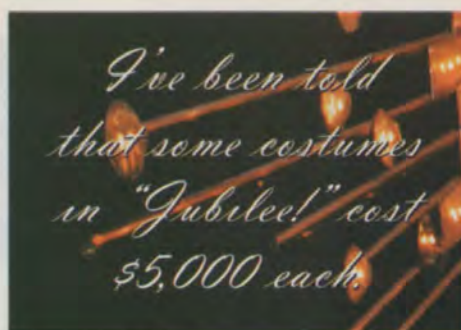
Frivolity aside, I found that working at "Jubilee!" was a serious commitment. Dancing in any production show is physically demanding. We had to negotiate 700 stairs and 10 costume changes per show. Such a show requires everyone's full concentration. When you're dealing with 20-foot-high staircases, props, three-inch heels, and moving scenery, every step is a potential hazard. If you're not careful, you can twist an ankle or slip through a gap in the stairs. My biggest fear was catching a heel on the stairs and tumbling head over heels down the staircase. Knock on wood, that has never happened to me.

Showgoers often ask about the hats and

the costume pieces strapped to our backs, known as backpacks. These beautifully decorated accessories weigh as much as 15 pounds. The hat I wore in Act I was adorned with ostrich feathers that reached four feet into the air. In fact, another of my hats was so tall that one night I forgot to duck and it caught on the sprinkler valves in a backstage hallway—the whole hat, feathers and all, came off of my head. I managed to wrangle the hat from the sprinkler with just enough time to make an entrance.

My favorite costumes, and the audience's, too, are the nudes' finale gowns, designed by Bob Mackie. Each is hand-picked for the dancer when she joins the show. I've never worn anything so elegant and glamorous. The floor-length skirts come in lavender, emerald, red, and blue. They are heavy with velvet and sequins, and our arms are draped with rhinestones. Price is not freely discussed, but I've been told that some costumes in "Jubilee!" cost \$5,000 each. Thus, the rules are: Don't sit, drink, or smoke while wearing any costume.

The grace and elegance of performing in a show like "Jubilee!" doesn't come easily. Professional dancers are schooled to expect the unexpected: busted high heels,



hats that cause neck pain, costumes that pinch and bind, glass on the stage from broken light bulbs, callused knees from kneeling on steel elevator tracks, breathing artificial smoke, or a partner who lifts on the wrong cue. It's hard work.

Last year Joan Lunden of ABC-TV found out just how hard it is when she strutted her stuff on the Bally's stage for a taping of her prime-time special, *Behind Closed Doors*. For one night, Joan joined the cast of "Jubilee!" as a Glamour Girl in Act I and as the Lady in Red in the finale. She was surprised how tough the assignment was.

"I have a newfound respect for all of you," Lunden told me during a rehearsal break. "You have an incredibly hard job."

Lunden said what impressed her most was how easy the dancers make their job appear. "I had to call on very specific mus-

cle groups—the glutes and inner thighs," she told me later in an interview from her New York home. "Intellectually I knew it was going to be difficult, but physically I had no idea."

Underneath the feathers and sequins, what we do is a profession—a chosen career. Some dancers study for 10 to 15 years before they land their first job. There's more to it than being tall and beautiful. Years of training, discipline, and conditioning go into becoming a dancer. As Lunden commented, "You have to want to do this."

During my time at "Jubilee!" I know that we wanted to have some fun, entertain ourselves and the audience, and pick up a paycheck on our way out the door. Through it all, when the curtain fell and the heat of the lights on my face began to fade, I found myself looking into the show-room and thinking, "There really is no business like show business." ▀

Katherine McDonnell, Nevada Magazine's former events editor, is a show-business veteran who was a dance teacher, performer, and writer while she lived in Las Vegas. She now resides in Tucson, Arizona, where she has retired her false eyelashes and is a freelance writer, dance teacher, and fitness instructor.

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The Disappearance of Roy Frisch

Was the Reno banker kidnapped by gangsters in 1934, or did he disappear on his own? The case of Roy Frisch remains one of Nevada's great unsolved mysteries.

By Phillip I. Earl

Roy J. Frisch, a prominent Reno banker, walked out of his home on the evening of March 22, 1934. He had told his mother and sisters he was going to see a movie. When he did not return by a late hour, his mother left the porch light on and retired for the night.

The next day Reno police began an all-points search for Frisch. He was scheduled to testify in federal court against two Reno crime bosses, and his testimony previously

elicited a wide search, no traces of the missing man were found. On that Thursday night in 1934, in what remains one of Nevada's great unsolved mysteries, Roy Frisch simply vanished.

Widely known as a politician and bank official, Frisch had grown up in Reno. He was a veteran of World War I and served as Reno city councilman and Washoe County assessor. Frisch had been the cashier at the Riverside Bank and a key advisor to its owner, the powerful financier George Wingfield, until the bank failed in 1932. At the time of his disappearance Frisch worked as an assistant to Leo F. Schmitt, the federal receiver for the Riverside and six other failed Wingfield banks across the state.

Frisch was a man of temperate habits. The *Nevada State Journal* in Reno noted, "He is considered a model citizen and business man. Associates said he never uses alcohol, gambles, or even smokes." He lived in the family home at 247 Court Street with his mother, Barbara, and two sisters, Alice and Louisa. Frisch's friends said he was devoted to his family.

On the night he disappeared, Frisch's mother was holding a bridge party, so he decided to go out. He changed into a suit. Leaving his car in the garage, he walked out the door at about 7:45 after telling his sister Alice, "I'm going to a show and will be home early."

Strolling downtown, Frisch probably went

two blocks east on Court to Virginia Street and turned north at the county courthouse. Then he would have walked past Wingfield's Riverside Hotel, site of the Riverside Bank where Frisch had observed the "laundering" of gangster money and swindled securities. After crossing the Truckee River bridge, Frisch presumably



Roy Frisch, a man of meticulous dress and habits, disappeared one night in 1934. Police speculated that "Baby Face" Nelson took the Reno resident for a ride.

turned east on First Street and walked two blocks to the Majestic Theater, where the movie *Gallant Lady* was playing. According to initial reports, the theater's cashier told the police that she hadn't seen Frisch, but the manager said he thought he had.

At 9:45 or 10:15 p.m.—accounts differ—Frisch was seen walking home. A friend, Harry B. Gorline, told detectives that he had met Frisch at the corner of Sierra and Court streets, next to the county jail. They chatted briefly, he said, and Frisch began walking up the little hill on Court Street toward his home, two blocks away.

When Mrs. Frisch found her son's bed empty the next morning, she called his office and friends. About noon she contacted the Reno police. Washoe County Sheriff Russell Trathen also was informed.

Frisch was called a "model citizen" who was devoted to his family.

had helped convict four New York swindlers. Had Roy Frisch been kidnapped and taken for a ride? Investigators speculated that gangsters—such as "Baby Face" Nelson, who frequently hid out in Reno—may have grabbed Frisch as he strolled between the courthouse and his home on Court Street. But despite sensational pub-

A search began within hours, and the papers carried Frisch's description:

Height—Five feet eight and one-half inches.

Weight—175 pounds.

Age—Forty-five years.

Carriage—Very erect.

Clothes—Dark suit, gray fedora hat, no overcoat, very narrow shoes.

Jewelry—Ring on third finger of left hand, no fraternal pins.

Hair—Brown, parted on left side, combed straight down on left side and straight back on right side of part.

Eyes—Blue-gray, no glasses.

Complexion—Very ruddy.

Frisch's mother said that Roy had been in good spirits that evening. Colleagues could find no irregularities in his accounts. His secretary said that Frisch had scheduled numerous appointments the next day and expressed no unease about his upcoming grand-jury appearance. Some of Frisch's friends, on the other hand, said he told them of his fear of being kidnapped or killed because of his testimony in the case of two well-known Reno gamblers, William J. Graham and James C. McKay.

Indeed, suspicion immediately focused on Graham, McKay, Wingfield, and their gangland associations. In the early '30s, Reno was a haven for criminals seeking refuge. Al Capone was rumored to have stopped in town, as were "Ma" Barker and her sons, George "Machine Gun" Kelly, "Pretty Boy" Floyd Kramer, and Lester Gillis, alias George "Baby Face" Nelson. Money from Midwestern bank heists was being passed across the tables of certain Reno casinos.

The city had a criminal element of its own in the personages of Graham and McKay, who had various business dealings with Wingfield. The pair owned the Bank Club, Reno's largest casino, in Wingfield's Golden Hotel. Wingfield had an interest in the Reno Securities Company, a Graham and McKay operation that ran the Stockade, Reno's notorious brothel district.

Graham and McKay also acted as local contacts in a nationwide wire-fraud scheme, which duped bettors out of winnings from out-of-state horse races and investors out of gains from insider stock trading. Wingfield's Riverside Bank was the conduit for cash, checks, and securities. As cashier, Frisch was the executive who oversaw the bank's operations, and in 1933 he had testified before a grand jury that indicted Graham, McKay, and others. Their arraignment was scheduled for April 2, 1934, and Frisch was to be the govern-

ment's main witness. Frisch also had been called to appear before a U.S. Senate subcommittee looking into the failure of the Wingfield banks.

Meanwhile, the police considered whether Frisch had wandered away during an attack of amnesia or had committed suicide. Possibly he had been paid to leave Reno forever.

However, Sheriff Trathen assumed that Frisch had been murdered. Two days after Frisch's walk to the movies, deputies drove southwest of Reno to examine a mine off Hunter Creek Road where tire tracks led to a shaft. Deputy Cliff Duclose was lowered down and found a bloody hat, but no body. Three pistol shell casings were found on the surface but could not be traced. At the Black Panther Mine north of town, deputies found empty pistol cartridges and bloody rags but considered the shaft's timbering too rickety to climb down.

A reward of \$1,000 put up by the Washoe County commissioners spurred the search. Members of Frisch's American Legion post and local National Guardsmen joined in, as did the Boy Scouts and university students on spring break. Reno police searched vacant speakeasies, abandoned since the end of Prohibition the year before, in Lincoln and Douglas alleys, but to no avail. The sheriff's men dragged the Truckee River

with chains and grappling hooks. Searchers looked in abandoned mines as far away as Virginia City.

One intriguing clue did emerge. Mrs. M.E. Nicol, a roomer at 225 Court Street, told detectives that at 8:30 on the night of March 22 she heard footsteps on her porch. When she opened the door, a tall man said he was looking for a certain address on Court Street. She said a dark automobile was parked at the curb.

Other tips came in. Sheriff Trathen and

In the early '30s, Reno was a haven for criminals seeking refuge.

two deputies made what the *Reno Evening Gazette* called "a flying trip" to Dayton to investigate two men who were driving a yellow car and acting "suspiciously." The two turned out to be unemployed miners who had stopped to sober up after a week's drunk.

On March 31, Reno police and federal agents searched some abandoned shacks near Fort Churchill, where lights and cars had been reported on the night Frisch disappeared, but found no evidence.

A headless body found in San Francisco Bay was examined at the request of Reno police, but the coroner determined that the body had been in the water for at least two weeks.

Reno police were given a mysterious



Frisch may have taken his last stroll past the courthouse and the Riverside in downtown Reno.

note on which the names of both Frisch and Washoe County District Attorney Melvin Jepson appeared. Frisch's name had been crossed off. Jepson subsequently installed heavy shades on his office windows. A police guard was placed on the home of Joseph Fuetsch, Frisch's assistant cashier at the Riverside, who was also scheduled to testify in New York.

As the police and volunteers continued the search for Frisch, Justice Department officials investigated reports that Baby Face Nelson and an accomplice, John Paul Chase, were in Reno at the time of the banker's disappearance. Nelson had stayed in Reno two years earlier following his escape from Joliet Prison in Illinois, and Graham had arranged for him to go to Sausalito, California, where he joined the Joseph Parento gang in running bootleg liquor. Nelson and Chase worked together guarding deliveries and became fast friends.

According to federal documents released in 1984, the F.B.I. later determined that Nelson and Chase in fact had been in Reno and left the city in the early morning of March 23, 1934—the first day of Frisch's disappearance. Agents reported that Chase met with Graham for an hour at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in San Francisco the following day.

Over the next eight months Nelson and Chase spent time at the Mount Grant Lodge on Walker Lake, 120 miles south of Reno, and at Walley's Hot Springs near Genoa. During that period they also made bank-robbing trips to the Midwest. On November 27, 1934, Nelson and Chase were involved in a shootout in Barrington, Illinois, that left two federal agents dead. Nelson was mortally wounded, and his body was found in a field near Miles Center, Illinois, the next morning. Chase fled west, spending time in Seattle and Helena, Montana, before being apprehended in Mount Shasta, California. Chase was found guilty of the murder of a federal officer and sentenced to life imprisonment. He was sent to Alcatraz.



Authorities believed Reno crime bosses Bill Graham (center) and Jim McKay (right) were behind the disappearance of Frisch, whose testimony had helped indict the pair. Here Graham and McKay pose with former heavyweight champ Jack Dempsey to promote a Reno prizefight in 1931.

Initially, Chase said that he knew nothing about the Roy Frisch case, but he changed his mind on July 13, 1935, telling agent E.R. Ramsey that he was with Nelson on the night of Frisch's disappearance. He said they drove up as Frisch walked along Court Street, and Nelson got out and forced Frisch into the car at gunpoint. They proceeded to a garage, and Nelson shot and killed Frisch. Chase later varied his tale. In one version he said Frisch,

Chase said Nelson forced Frisch into the car at gunpoint.

trying to escape as they drove through Sparks, fell out, injured himself seriously, and died in the back seat a few minutes later. Then they buried the body in a valley north of town, presumably near Spanish Springs. Chase pointed out the spot on a topographical map, but Ramsey was unable to find a gravesite or body.

Additional proof of Nelson's presence in Reno came in a 1935 trial in which four of the gangster's friends were convicted of

harboring a federal fugitive, Nelson, around the time of Frisch's disappearance. One defendant was "Tex" Hall, a Reno gambler and associate of Graham and McKay; the three men had been friends since their younger days in Goldfield. Also convicted was Reno garageman Frank Cochran, who was accused of hiding machine guns and bulletproof vests in his home and of warning Baby Face that government agents were waiting for him in Cochran's garage. Anthony Moreno, a San Francisco bartender, was another defendant. The *Nevada State Journal* noted: "Moreno, it was claimed, 'torched' out a car that Roy Frisch, Reno banker, took his last ride in—presumably with Nelson and Chase."

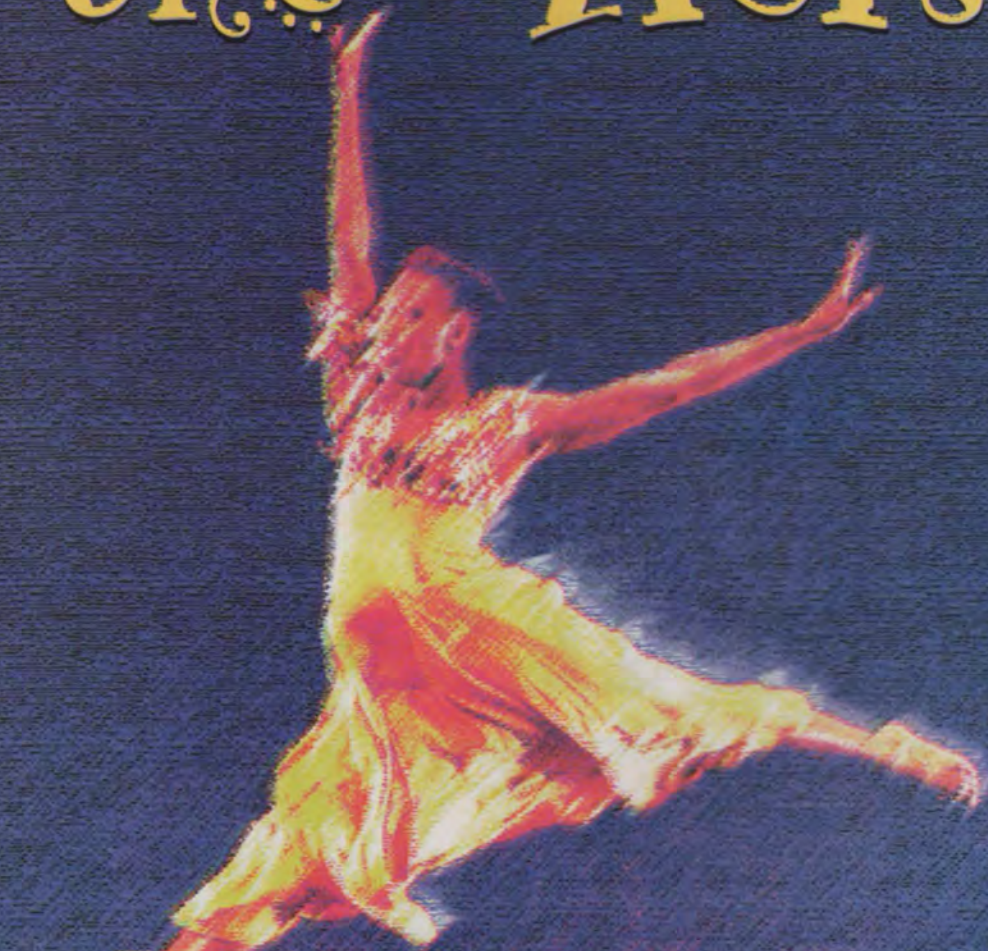
Chase himself was later brought to Reno to aid in the search but was of no help. Ramsey came to believe that Chase either feared reprisal or couldn't remember where Frisch's body had been stashed.

Graham, McKay, and a number of other defendants went on trial on June 4, 1934. In the indictment Roy Frisch was mentioned as an "accomplice" but was not charged. During the trial Joseph Fuetsch stated that he believed that Frisch had been taken off the street and killed. He also said that Frisch had once talked of suicide. Defense lawyers tried to show that Frisch was a key figure in the swindle. This trial and another ended in hung juries, but Graham, McKay, and the others were finally convicted in a third trial in 1937. About that time, Chase's stories led Reno police to renew their search for Frisch, but to no avail. In 1941, seven years after he disappeared, Roy Frisch was declared legally dead.

Following their appeals, Graham and McKay were sentenced to nine years in Leavenworth and fines of \$11,000 each. They served six years and were released in 1945. The pair resumed management of the Cal-Neva Lodge at Lake Tahoe and the Bank Club in downtown Reno. Jim McKay took any knowledge he had of Roy Frisch's disappearance to his grave when he died

(Continued on page 78)

Celebrating the ARTs



The month-long Uptown Downtown ARTown offers 200 art-filled events in Reno. By Jackie Shelton

Reno boasts an outstanding symphony, its own ballet and opera companies, and an array of visual and literary arts. Every summer they're all brought together for one grand celebration, Uptown Downtown ARTown. The festival takes over the city during the month of July, filling the streets with music, painters and easels, and artists of every form.

The festival, in only its third year, has been recognized nationally for its scope—more than 200 events orchestrated by 52

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Engelbert
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July 17 & 18



Kenny Rogers
July 31 & August 1

Natalie Cole
August 14 & 15

Paul Anka
August 28 & 29



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Crowds gather in Wingfield Park for a full schedule of dance and musical programs held during Reno's month-long Uptown Downtown ARTown festival.

cultural organizations. "This is one of the most comprehensive arts festivals I've ever seen," says Douglas Sonntag, director of dance for the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C. "That's a tremendous amount of programming."

During the festival you can pack a picnic or buy one from a downtown Reno

in July. (Remember to pack a blanket, because Reno's evenings can get a little chilly.)

Wingfield Park isn't the only place to find music, theater, dance, movies, or storytelling. There will be more than three dozen venues this year, including Meadowood Mall in the south end of town, Nightingale Concert Hall at the University of Nevada, Reno to the north, the National Automobile Museum, numerous art galleries and museums, and the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts.

"The name Uptown Downtown ARTown means that things are going on everywhere," says Karen Craig, the festival's executive director. "Wingfield Park is the hub of the festival, and it's great for a really beautiful outdoor experi-

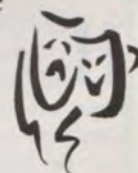
ence, but there are a number of other spaces that are just as wonderful."

A three-block walk from Wingfield Park will bring you to the Nevada Museum of Art, which will show works by Andy Warhol and Thomas Hart Benton. Stremmel Gallery will feature nationally known artist Peter Alexander, who has created a special

collection for the festival entitled "Reno." The Pioneer Center will present the off-Broadway touring show of "Tap Dogs" June 30 through July 2.

Jazz singer Cami Thompson will perform at Wingfield Park on the Fourth of July, and the Reno Philharmonic celebrates the Silver Legacy's third birthday

The festival fills the streets with music, painters and easels, and artists of every form.



with a free concert on July 24 amid the casinos on Virginia Street.

Since this is a community festival, at least 80 percent of the events will be free. "It allows people to experiment and try things with families that they might not normally do," Craig says.

Rancho San Rafael Park will host Chautauqua scholar-performers who will portray historical figures and then answer questions. From 6 to 9 p.m. on July 20-23 Chautauqua characters such as J.J. Rousseau, Isaac Newton, and Mohandas Gandhi will be exploring the millennium.

Children can "Discover the Arts" at the Wingfield Park Amphitheater on the



The Australian theatrical hit "Tap Dogs," a 90-minute tribute to the shuffle-staccato dance form, appears June 30-July 2 at the Pioneer.

restaurant (La Vecchia Varese, Planet Hollywood, and Java Jungle will have special takeout menus during the festival) and take the short walk to Wingfield Park on the Truckee River. There you can listen to live bands playing classical, rock 'n' roll, or jazz. Performances take place at Wingfield Park every weekday afternoon and evening

Truckee River. Kids split into two groups—one performs on stage with professional dancers, and the other sits in the audience and creates art inspired by the performance. Then they switch places.

The festival has come a long way since its inception in 1996, when members of the community and the City of Reno Arts Commission, C.I.T.Y. 2000 (Culture in the Year 2000), decided to celebrate the arts in Northern Nevada. The first festival drew 30,000 people. Attendance doubled the next year. With twice as many events this July, that number will surely increase again.

As you listen to the orchestra warm up on a warm July evening, as music lovers and the just plain curious stroll the river walk watching artists at work, you'll experience the arts in their true form.

Jackie Shelton is a Reno-based freelance writer.

ARTfull Calendar

Highlights of this year's Uptown Downtown ARTown celebration in Reno are listed by activity. Locations and other details can be obtained at hotel concierge desks or by calling the event's 24-hour hot line, 702-334-2536, or the Sierra Arts Foundation, 702-329-1324. The Internet address is www.artown.org. Events take place at Wingfield Park unless otherwise noted.

Music

Reno Municipal Band: Thru Sept. 30, Weekday concerts.

Sierra Nevada Master Chorale: July 1.

Rolling on the River Concerts: Fridays, July 3-31.

Jazz Singer Cami Thompson: July 4.

Quartet Erika: A Tribute to Duke Ellington: July 5.

Reno Pops Orchestra: July 5, Miguel Ribera Park, Neil Rd. and Nutmeg St.



Artists cluster on the brick River Walk near the Truckee River in Reno to demonstrate their crafts (top). Budding musicians and other talented youngsters will find several children's programs (center). Visitors can admire the paintings of Thomas Hart Benton (bottom) through August 9 at the Nevada Museum of Art.

Biggest Little Summer Night Music: July 6, 8, 10, 13-14, U of N, Reno.

Quartet Erika: A Tribute to the Gershwin Brothers: July 7.

Brach Thomson Piano Concert: July 8.

Youth Centerstage: For the Love of Jazz: Concert on July 9.

Reno Philharmonic: Pops on the River: July 11.
Quartet Erika: The Evolution of Jazz: July 12.

CeCe Gable, Clint Strong, and Friends: July 15.

Latin Jazz and Salsa Festival: July 19.

Reno Jazz Orchestra: Tribute to Stan Kenton: July 19, Peppermill.

Sierra Women's Ensemble: July 20.

Silver Legacy Birthday Celebration: Reno Philharmonic: July 24, Virginia St.

Quartet Erika: Jazz Standards and Originals: July 26.

For the Love of Jazz: July 31, Flamingo Hilton Reno.

Theater

"Shivering and Sighing" and "Street People": July 10-11, Bruka Theater.

"The Two Gentlemen of Verona": July 10-11, 15-18, U of N, Reno.

"Much Ado About Nothing": July 30-Aug. 1.

Dance

"Tap Dogs": June 30-July 2, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts.

Nevada Festival Ballet: "Ahimsa": July 16.

Nevada Festival Ballet: "New Works Project": July 17.

Opera

Nevada Opera's Youth Chorus: "A Midsummer Night's Dream": July 2.

Nevada Opera: "Opera on Broadway": July 18.

Film

Everest: Thru Jan. 4. Location: National Bowling Stadium Theater.

An American in Paris: July 7, Wingfield Park.

E.T.: The Extra Terrestrial: July 14, Wingfield Park.

Rocky Horror Picture Show: July 21, Wingfield Park.

North By Northwest: July 28, Wingfield Park.

Storytelling

Jesse Bowman Bruchac: Native American, Hispanic, and African Tales: July 6.

Tony Wallace: Especially for Children: July 13.

Great Basin Chautauqua: The Millennium: July 20-23, historical figures presented at Ranch San Rafael Park.

J.J. Reneaux: Ghost Stories: July 27.

Youth Events

Children's Discovery Programs: Theater, July 6; clay, July 7; photography, July 8; puppetry, July 9; dance, July 10; storytelling, July 13; cowboy poetry, July 14; harp, July 15; theater, July 15.

16; Chautauqua, July 17; storyboard workshop, July 18; young Chautauquans, July 21-23; African dance, July 28; banjo, July 29; jazz, July 30; folk dancing, July 31, Wingfield and Rancho San Rafael parks.

Discovery Day Camps: "Tomorrow's Cars: What Will You Drive?" July 8; "Museum Mystery: The Great Auto Caper," July 15; "Car Kicks: Cruisin' For Fun," July 29, National Automobile Museum.

Visual Arts

The Art of Gaming Exhibit: Open 24 hours at Harrah's Reno.

Artists on Exhibit: Karen Fenley, thru July 24, Reno City Hall; Grant Artists Exhibition, thru July 30, Sierra Arts Center; Sandi Y. Burke, July 1-Sept. 30, Heritage Bank; Hewitt C. Wells, July 5-31, Washoe County Library downtown; River Lounge Art Show, July 5, 12, 19, and 26, Holiday Hotel; "Reno": An Exhibit by Peter Alexander, July 9-31, Stremmel Gallery; Three Times Three, July 10-30, Sheppard Gallery.

Andy Warhol: Cowboys and Indians: Thru Aug. 8, Nevada Museum of Art.

On the Road With Thomas Hart Benton: Images of a Changing America: Thru Aug. 9, Nevada Museum of Art.

Roads, Rails, and Runways: Transportation in the Truckee Meadows, 1915-30: July 1-31, National Automobile Museum.

Sierra Watercolor Society Show and Sale: July 1-31, River Gallery.

Arts on the Green Show and Sale: July 17-18, Lake Mansion.

Artists-in-Residence

Art in the Park: Fridays and July 18, Painters at work.

Demonstrations by Artists: Sunday, Painters, potters, and basketmakers.

Walking Tours

Bricks and Stones: Humboldt Street: July 4, My Favorite Muffin restaurant, downtown.

Riverside Walking Tour: July 11, McKinley Park School.

Special Programs

First Thursday Barbecue: July 2, Nevada Museum of Art.

Reno City Seniors: Celebrate America, July 4.

Ice Cream Social: July 18, National Automobile Museum.

Ice Cream Social and Melodrama: July 18, Nevada Historical Society.

Great Basin Kite Festival: July 25, Mira Loma Park.

Western Night: Music, Cowboy Poetry, and Barbecue: July 25.

Empty Bowls Auction to Fight Hunger: July 25.

Uptown at the Mall

Entertainment at Meadowood Mall: Brach Thomson, July 1; Sierra Nevada Master Chorale, July 3; Cami Thompson, July 6; Abayomi Goodall, dance; Quartet Erika, July 10; Future of the World Choir, July 13; Lenz Trio, July 15; Clint Strong Quartet featuring CeCe Gable, July 17; Shiloh, July 22; Byrd House, July 24; Dixie Land Rollers, July 29; Nefron, July 31.

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SAM'S TOWN

Where Locals Bring Their Friends

News

VOLUME 1

LAS VEGAS, NV

NUMBER EIGHT

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The reason Sam's Town is the undisputed leader in attracting casino players both locals and visitors is simple. Official Nevada Gaming Control Board statistics confirm what locals already know: that on average, Sam's Town slot and video poker machines pay out more than machines in casinos on The Strip, Downtown, even Laughlin and Reno. More pay outs mean more chances to win, and more playing time.

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Sam's Town is home to more than great gaming and dining values. Facilities include a state-of-the-art championship bowling center, an enormous Race and Sports Book, the Western Dance Hall (which offers free dance lessons), and a huge western retail store.

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The breathtaking indoor park provides a relaxing environment to all the action. In addition, Sam's Town offers a beautifully landscaped pool area with a sand volleyball court.



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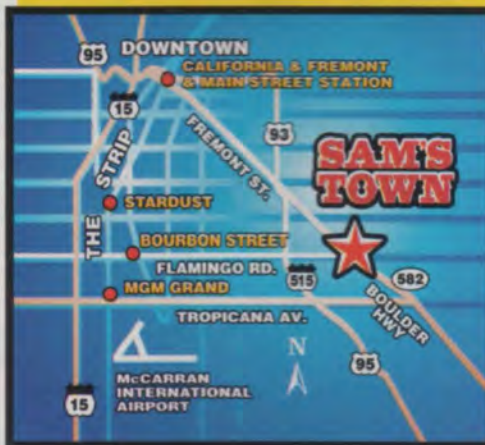
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Nevada Events

July and August events in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and Rural territories.

Nevada travelers will find a full schedule of summer events and Fourth of July celebrations throughout the state. Visitors to Las Vegas will find rodeo action during Hellsdorado Days, which this year moved from May to August. In Reno, the month of July is devoted to the arts, and Elko hosts the National Basque Festival. *Nevada Magazine* presents the following events listing for July and August, divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. Nevada's area code is 702.

Las Vegas Territory

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

Picnic Pops • July 4 • Holiday outdoor concert. Hills Park in Summerlin, Las Vegas, 792-4337.

Rockets Over the River • July 4 • A 22-minute fireworks display over the casinos. Laughlin, 298-2214.

U.S.S. Riverside Holiday Cruise • July 4 • Cocktail reception and cruise aboard the paddlewheeler to watch the fireworks. Riverside Hotel, Laughlin. Reservations needed, 888-REELWIN.

Water Festival and Fireworks • July 4 • Water slides and games, food booths, and fireworks. Virgin Valley Elementary School Park, Mesquite, 346-2974.

Damboree • July 4 • Parade, games, and food booths at city parks followed by fireworks festivities at the old Boulder City airport on Yucca Street and Nevada Highway. Boulder City, 294-1499.



Parades, Patriotism, and Picnics

Fourth of July celebrants chug down C Street in Virginia City during the town's Independence Day festivities. Community parties across the state offer parades, games, outdoor concerts, and traditional fireworks displays.

Las Vegas Music Festival • Aug. 4, 7-8, 11-15 • Sixth annual gathering of students to learn from guest classical musicians who will perform in concert at UNLV and other city locations. Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Hellsdorado Days • Aug. 5-8 • Rodeo, Western village, live entertainment. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 796-3557.

Harvest Festival • Aug. 28-30 • 19th-century village, hand-crafted gifts, costumed artists, food samples. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 707-778-6300.

PERFORMANCES

Utah Shakespearean Festival • Thru Sept. 5 • 37th season, plays will include "Romeo and Juliet," "All's Well That Ends Well," "King John," and "Taming of the Shrew." Noel Coward's "Relative Values" and Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" also will be presented. Auditorium Theatre, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, 435-7878 or 800-PLAYTIX.

Jazz Under the Stars No. 2 • July 3. Outdoor concert featuring Craig Chaciquico, Fatt Burger, and Kilauea groups. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 228-3780.

Lenny Graf in Concert • July 10 • Children's entertainer. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Denise Holland in Concert • July 11 • Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 565-2367.

"Crazy For You" • July 15-Aug. 1 • Outdoor presentation of the Gershwin musical. Spring Mountain Ranch State

Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY.

Henderson Civic Symphony • July 17 • Free outdoor picnic concert. Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 565-2367.

"Cuentos de la Familia" • July 17 • Children's program in English and Spanish. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Carl Grove Combo • July 18 • Music of the '40s and '50s. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Dance: Kathryn Kramer • July 22 at Charleston Heights Arts Center and July 24 at Reed Whipple Cultural Center • Program for children. Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Buddy Charles Jazz Concert • July 24 • Free outdoor picnic concert. Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 565-2367.

Booker T. Jones Concert • July 25 • R&B music. Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 455-8200.

Hawaiian Luau • July 25 • Live concert. Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 565-2367.

Michael Cooper • July 29 at Charleston Heights Arts Center and July 31 at Reed Whipple Cultural Center • Theater mask program for children. Las Vegas, 229-6704.

Henderson Civic Symphony • July 31 • Free outdoor picnic concert. Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 565-2367.

Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles • Aug. 1 • Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6704.

Young Artists Recital Series • Aug. 1, 8, and 15 • Performers aged 16-21, selected by audition, presented in formal concert. Reed Whipple Theatre, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Vegas Ventriloquist Gala • Aug. 2 • Vegas Ventriloquist Convention closes with a show featuring performances by

NEVADA MAGAZINE

presents

Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events and Shows is a special section of *Nevada Magazine*, the official guide to travel, recreation, people, history, and events in the Silver State. To list an event, please send information at least three months in advance to Events Editor Ann Henderson, 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101; 702-486-2433; fax 702-486-2789; e-mail ann@nevadamagazine.com. Subscription rates for *Nevada Magazine* are \$16.95 for one year, U.S.; \$22.95 foreign. To subscribe to *Nevada Magazine*, which includes Nevada Events and Shows, call toll-free:

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The Nevada Territories



To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into the following six territories:

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Reno, Lake Tahoe, Carson City, Virginia City, Minden, and other locales

Cowboy Country

Lovelock, Winnemucca, Elko, Wells, and other towns along Interstate 80

Pony Express Territory

Fallon, Austin, Eureka, and Ely along U.S. Highway 50, known as "The Loneliest Road in America"

Pioneer Territory

From Yerington to Pahrump, Tonopah to Beatty, and Pioche to the Extraterrestrial Highway

Las Vegas Territory

From the Strip to Boulder City and Lake Mead to Laughlin, Primm, Jean, and Mesquite

Indian Territory

Encompasses all of Nevada

professionals such as Willie Tyler and Jay Johnson. Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 737-1343.

An Evening of Jazz, Wine, and Art • Aug. 6 • Hills Park, Summerlin, Las Vegas, 228-3780.

Las Vegas All-Star High School Jazz Band • Aug. 7 • Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Rockfield Drive • Aug. 8 • Concert. Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 565-2367.

Carl Grove Combo • Aug. 8 • Jazz. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Nickel Creek • Aug. 9 • Bluegrass concert. Jaycee Park, Las Vegas, 229-6704.

"Little Shop of Horrors" • Aug. 12-29 • Broadway musical about outlandish plants with voracious appetites performed in picnic setting. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY.

Nevada Chamber Symphony • Aug. 14 • Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 565-2367.

Concert Fantasy '98 • Aug. 15-16 • Dance concert at 7pm featuring students of the Fern Adair Conservatory of the Arts. Performance by the younger students at 2pm, Aug. 15. Benefit for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Nevada. Cashman Field Theatre, Las Vegas, 458-7575.

Salamander Crossing • Aug. 16 • Bluegrass concert. Jaycee Park, Las Vegas, 229-6704.

Shaboom • Aug. 22 • Concert. Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 565-2367.

Altan: Traditional Celtic Music • Aug. 22 • Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 455-8200.

"Romeo and Juliet" • Aug. 28-29 • Nevada Dance Theatre performance. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6704.

EXHIBITS

Las Vegas: The War Years • Permanent exhibit of photographs and artifacts on Las Vegas' coming of age during the 1940s. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Material World • Thru July 15 • Exhibition presents the works of 16 photographers who traveled to 30 countries in order to document people and their belongings. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 382-3445.

Great Nevada Picture Hunt Winners • Thru July 26 • Exhibit of Nevada Magazine's 20th annual photo contest winners. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Mojave Messages • Thru July 26 • Impressions of the desert and poetry by Char Cruz. West Las Vegas Library, 228-4274.

The Civil War: A Nation Divided • Thru Aug. 8 • Prints and drawings by Winslow Homer, Currier and Ives, and others. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Porcelain Dolls • Thru Aug. 9 • Collection of porcelain portrait dolls by Pamela Buck and dolls from the 500 Years of Dresses series. Whitney Library, Las Vegas, 228-4274.

Willow Transformed: Baskets of the Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe • Thru Aug. 9 • Baskets made from 1900 to 1930. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Art and Photography Exhibits • Thru Aug. 29 • Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141.

Boulder City Art Guild Gallery • Thru Sept. 30 • Exhibit of paintings, pottery, and sculpture. Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 293-2138.

Lake Mead Scenery • Thru Sept. 30 • Juried exhibit of paintings depicting the scenery, wildlife, and flora of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Alan Bible Visitors Center, Boulder City, 293-2138.

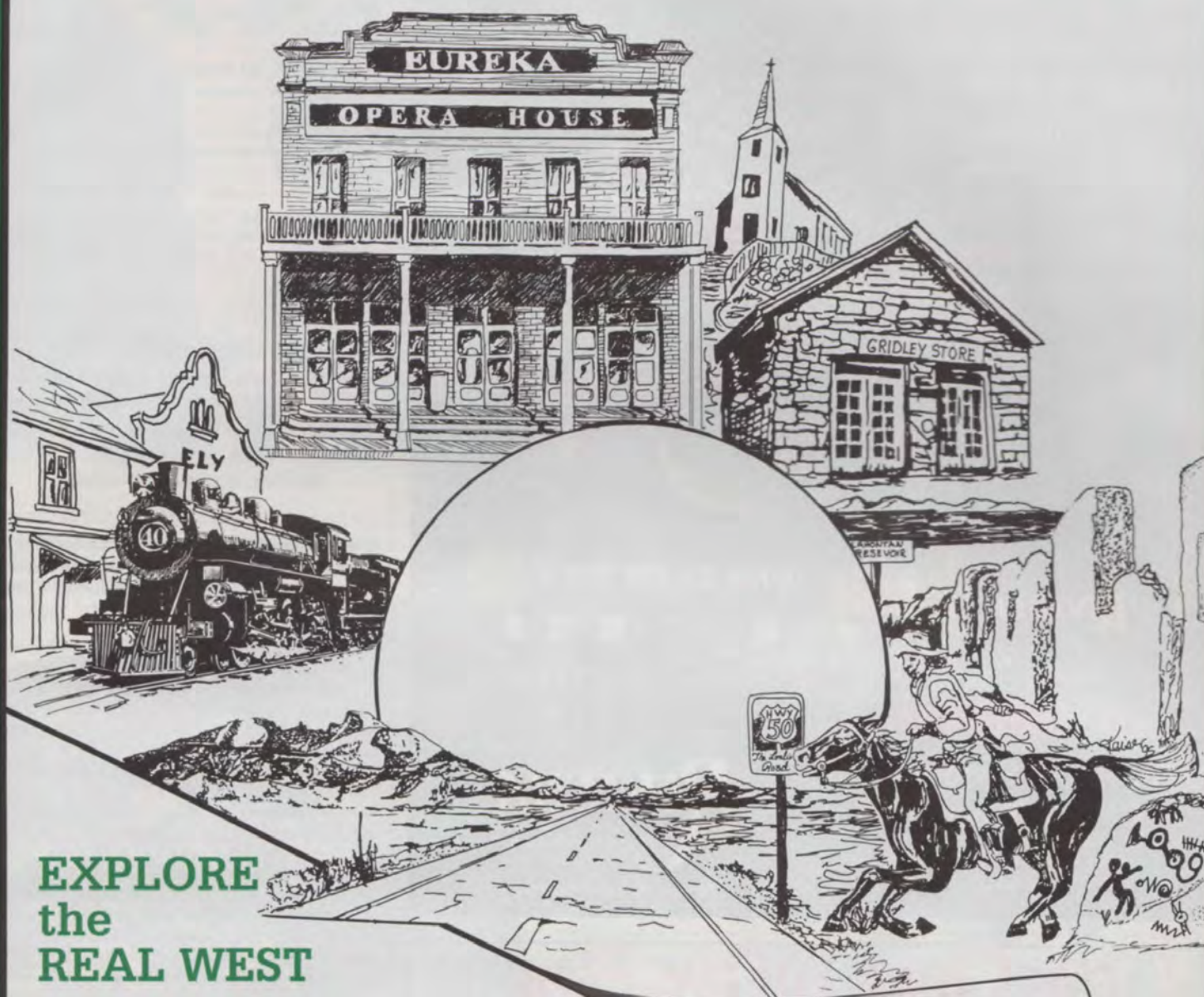
Mystery of the Dinosaur • Thru Dec. 31 • Exhibit of dinosaur eggs linked to scientific controversy concerning how and when dinosaurs became extinct. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 384-DINO.

Ogorek Auto Gallery • July 1-5 • Grand opening of auto memorabilia, models, and replicas. Proceeds benefit St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Boulder City, 294-7172.

Boulder City Art Guild Exhibit • July 22-26 • Works from 15 artists in all mediums. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 293-2138.



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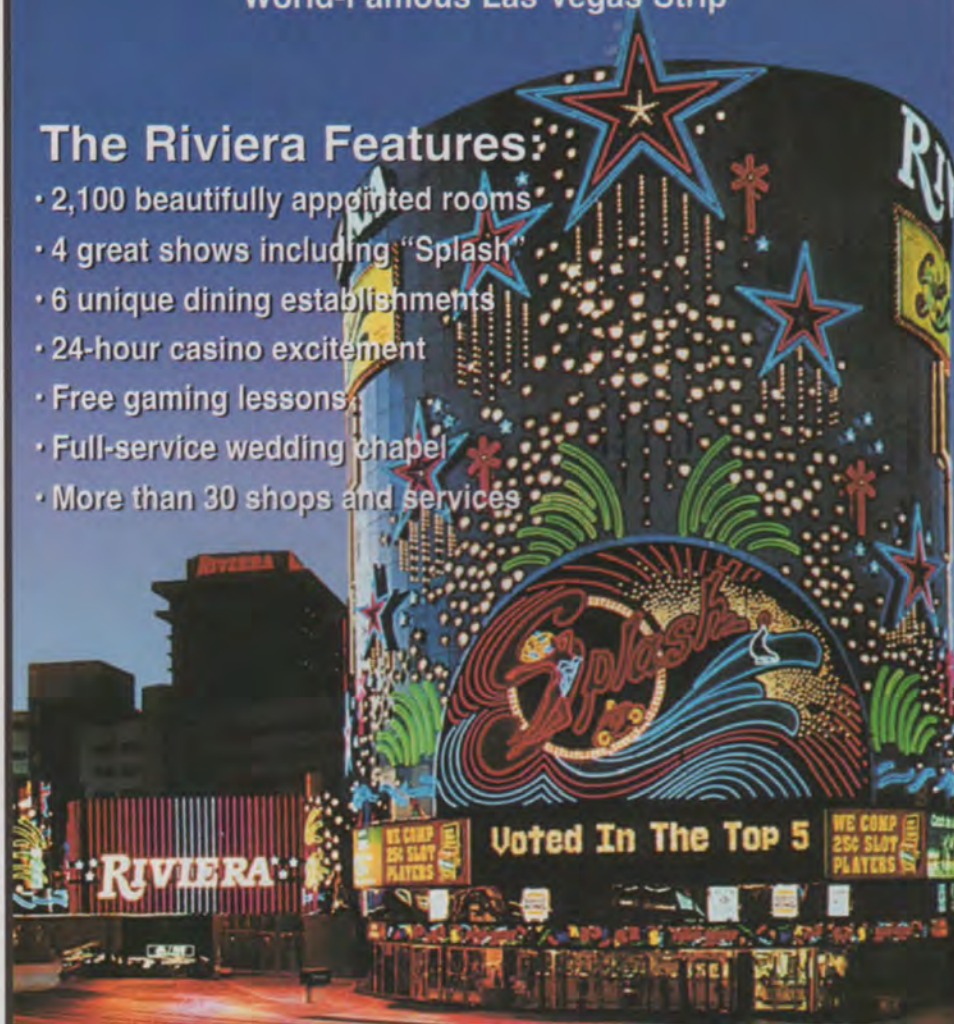
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Full Deck Art Quilts • Aug. 1-Sept. 13 • 54 art quilts representing a different playing card. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 382-3445.

Nevada Camera Club Competition • Aug. 11-Sept. 27 • First-place winners in the 15th annual event are exhibited. Whitney Library, Las Vegas, 228-4274.

SPORTS

Las Vegas Stars • The Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres plays July 1-3 v. Nashville Sounds, July 13-16 v. Fresno Grizzlies, July 21-24 v. Iowa Cubs, July 25-28 v. Albuquerque Dukes, Aug. 6-9 v. New Orleans Zephyrs, Aug. 11-14 v. Salt Lake Buzz, Aug. 27-30 v. Tacoma Rainiers, Aug. 31-Sept. 3 v. Tucson Sidewinders. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 386-7200.

Champions on Ice • July 3 • Olympic medalists such as Tara Lipinski, Michelle Kwan, Nicole Bobek, Surya Bonaly, and Oksana Baiul perform. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 474-4000.

Showboat Senior PBA Invitational • July 26-Aug. 1 • Pro bowlers compete. Showboat Hotel, Las Vegas, 385-9123.

Pro 8-Ball Open • Aug. 2-7 • Pro billiards series, \$75,000 purse. Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, 734-5110.

Junior World Freestyle Wrestling Championships • Aug. 7-10 • Athletes aged 17 to 20 from 60 nations will compete in Olympic-style wrestling. Buffalo Bill's Resort, Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas, 735-5695.

Las Vegas Silver State Cup • Aug. 16-22 • More than 700 figure skaters compete. Santa Fe Hotel, Las Vegas, 798-8345.

Broadway in the Park

Theatergoers can pack a picnic to see the Gereshwin musical "Crazy for You" on July 15-August 1 and the comedy about man-eating plants, "Little Shop of Horrors," on August 12-29 at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas.

American Legion World Series • August 21-25 • Baseball teams from 50 states and Puerto Rico compete in a 15-game double elimination tournament with the final game being televised on ESPN. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 451-2940.

Las Vegas Rollerblading Cup • Aug. 28-29 • Top 100 in-line skaters compete. Galleria Mall, Henderson, 798-8345.

GENERAL INTEREST

Fat Tuesday Pool Parties • Tuesdays thru Sept. 1 • Bands play poolside, food booths, entertainers. Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, 365-7111.

Antique and Collectible Fair • July 3-5 • Henderson Convention Center, 382-7043.

Summer Workshops • July 6-Aug. 10 • Three-week sessions in jazz, hip hop, drawing, and painting. West Las Vegas Arts Center, 229-4800.

Family Film Festival • Free children's movies: *The Phantom* on July 9, *Buddy* on July 16, *The Secret Garden* on July 23, *Black Beauty* on July 30, *Wide Awake* on Aug. 6, *Alaska* on Aug. 13 • Jaycee Park, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Wheeler Springs Nature Walk • July 11 • Short but rocky walk to explore the riparian area. Bring binoculars, water, and hat. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 18 miles west of Las Vegas. Reservations required, 363-1922.

Toy Train Operating Society Show and Sale • July 11 • Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Hall, Las Vegas, 644-5003.

Desert Survival Class • July 18 • Prevention, preparedness, and demonstrations. Bring a hat, sunblock, water, and a snack. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 18 miles west of Las Vegas. Reservations required, 363-1922.

Antique and Collectible Fair • July 16-19 • Belz Factory Outlet Mall, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

Las Vegas Gun and Knife Show • July 18-19 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 800-333-GUNS.

Antique and Collectible Fair • July 18-19 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 813-345-4431.

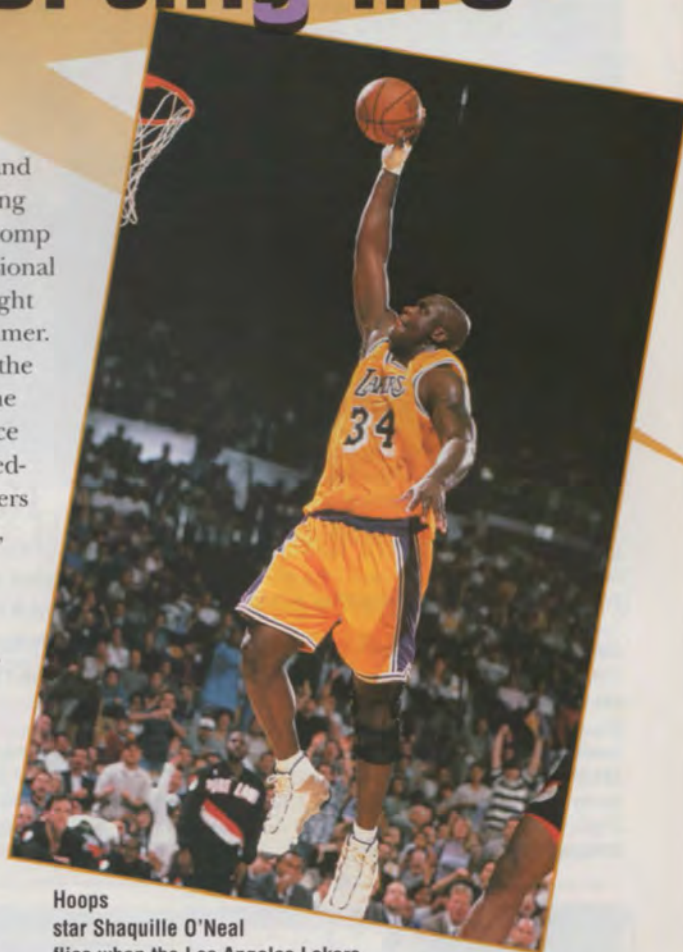
Bats and Caving • Aug. 1 • Area geology, cave formation,

the vegas sporting life

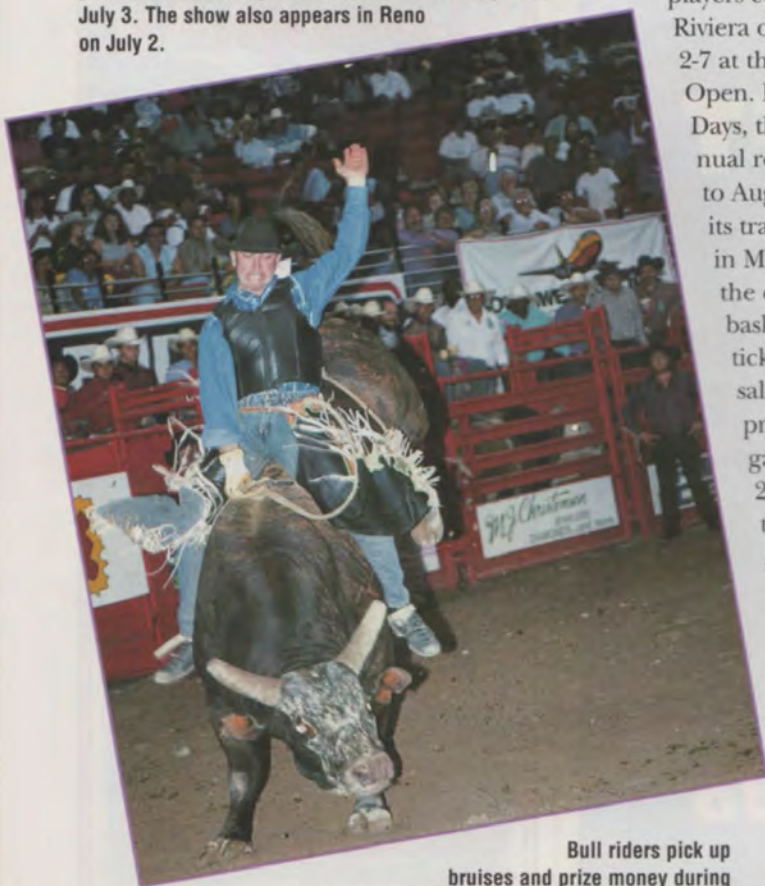


Olympians such as Tara Lipinski (above) and Michelle Kwan perform when Champions on Ice visits Las Vegas on July 3. The show also appears in Reno on July 2.

From the beauty and grace of ice skating to the toss and stomp of rodeo, professional sports take the limelight in Las Vegas this summer. The Las Vegas Stars, the Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres, face a tough summer schedule. Olympic ice skaters such as Tara Lipinski, Michelle Kwan, Ilia Kulik, Elvis Stojko, and Todd Eldridge are in town July 3 for the Champions on Ice exhibition. The Showboat Hotel is the place for bowlers during the Senior PBA Invitational on July 26-August 1, while players cue up at the Riviera on August 2-7 at the Pro 8-Ball Open. Helldorado Days, the city's annual rodeo, moves to August 5-8 from its traditional date in May. And for the early-bird basketball fan, tickets are on sale for the NBA pre-season game October 27 between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Utah Jazz.



Hoops star Shaquille O'Neal flies when the Los Angeles Lakers meet the Utah Jazz in an NBA pre-season game October 27 in Las Vegas.



Bull riders pick up bruises and prize money during Helldorado Days' pro rodeo action August 5-8.



The Las Vegas Stars satisfy the craving for summer baseball action.

safety, and bat facts. Moderately strenuous two-mile hike with rock scrambling. Long pants, water, snack, and flashlight needed. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 18 miles west of Las Vegas. Reservations required, 363-1922.

Wild West Gun Show • Aug. 1-2 • Henderson Convention Center, 565-2171.

Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens National Convention and Show • Aug. 13-15 • Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, 658-5417.

Gem Faire • Aug. 7-9 • Henderson Convention Center, 760-931-1410.

Antique and Collectible Show • Aug. 14-16 • Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

Piccadilly Antique Show • Aug. 15-16 • Henderson Convention Center, 813-345-4431.

Pine Creek Family Nature Walk • Aug. 16 • Three-mile round trip travels through ponderosa pines. Bring a hat, water, snack, and binoculars. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 18 miles west of Las Vegas. Reservations required, 363-1922.

American Indian Jewelry and Art Show • Aug. 21-23 • Henderson Convention Center, 520-526-9232.

COMING EVENTS

Chautauqua • Sept. 11-12 • Boulder City, 294-6224.

SCORE Las Vegas Primm 300 Off-Road Race • Sept. 11-13 • Primm, 298-3022.

Las Vegas Ironman 3 On 3 • Sept. 12-13 • Las Vegas, 259-1636.

Professional Bull Riders Competition • Sept. 18-20 • Laughlin, 298-2214.

Classic Car and Hot Rod Reunion • Sept. 25-27 • Laughlin, 298-2214.

Las Vegas Cup Hydroplane Races • Sept. 25-27 • Lake Mead, Las Vegas, 228-0222.

Handcar Races • Sept. 26-27 • Boulder City, 293-4857.

150-Mile Bicycle Tour • Sept. 26-27 • Las Vegas, 736-7272.

Harley-Davidson Mile-And-A-Half Tour • Oct. 3-5 • Las Vegas, 414-343-4518.

Bluegrass Festival • Oct. 8-11 • Logandale, 564-5455.



Helldorado Days

The Grand Entry kicks off the rodeo and Western village of Las Vegas' Helldorado Days, which this year has moved from its traditional May dates to August 5-8. Helldorado harks back to the 1930s as a community celebration.

Basque Festival • Oct. 11-23 • Las Vegas, 361-6834.

Las Vegas PGA Invitational • Oct. 14-18 • 800-556-5400.

NBA Pre-Season Game: Los Angeles Lakers v. Utah Jazz • Oct. 27 • Las Vegas, 474-4000.

National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 4-13 • Las Vegas, 731-2115.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

Fourth of July Cavalcade of Spectaculars • July 1-5 • Carnival, booths, entertainment, and July 4 fireworks. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680.

Uptown Downtown ARTown • July 1-31 • Summer arts festival featuring more than 150 different performances and exhibits citywide. Events include touring Broadway musicals, jazz concerts, ballet by the river, and a Thomas Hart Benton exhibit. Reno, 329-1324. (See pages 23-27.)

All-American Fourth of July Craft Fair • July 3-5 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Independence Day Pops in the Park • July 4 • Free outdoor concert-picnic by the Reno Philharmonic. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 323-6393.

Lights on the Lake '98 • July 4 • Fireworks launched over the lake from a floating barge. South Shore, Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.

Skyfire • July 4 • Entertainment and fireworks. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 332-3333.

Virginia City Celebrates • July 4 • Parade, picnic, fireworks. C Street, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Storey County Fair • July 10-12 • Mining events, parades, entertainment, pie-eating contest, exhibits. Miners Park, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Rock and Jock Festival and Craft Fair • July 10-12 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

The Big Easy • July 11-12 • Zydeco music and Cajun food. Downtown Reno, 332-3333.

Thunderbird Art Show • July 17-18 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews, and Blues Festival • July 18-19 • Third annual celebration with food, music, and beer

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tasting, Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 800-648-5966.

Wa She Shu It Deh Festival of Native American Arts • July 24-26 • Dance exhibitions, basketry, crafts. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 888-0936.

Ice Cream Social and Craft Fair • July 24-26 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Genoa Renaissance Faire • July 25-26 • Crafts, antiques, actors, jugglers, and rapier fighters. Antiques Plus, Genoa, 782-8144.

Silver Dollar Car Classic • July 30-Aug. 2 • Show and shine, poker run, custom ugly award, street dance, food booths and crafts. Open to all family-style cars. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-7410.

Tahoe Days Craft Fair • July 30-Aug. 2 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Hot August Nights • Aug. 5-9 • Cars and rock 'n' roll celebration with show and shines, cruises, nostalgia fair, drag racing, prom, sock hop, entertainment, and concerts. Reno-Sparks, 356-1956.

Jazz and All That Wine Festival and Craft Fair • Aug. 7-9 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Hot Valley Nights • Aug. 14 • 1950s-style ice cream social with vintage cars, music. Carson Valley Museum, Gardnerville, 782-2555.

Jammin' Jelly: Blues, Jazz, and Gospel Festival • Aug. 14-16 • Cajun-themed music and food. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 329-7469.

Main Street Event • Aug. 21-23 • Barbecue, live music, pancake breakfast, poker run, show and shine. Minden-Gardnerville, 265-2256.

Fajita Festival • Aug. 21-23 • Food, entertainment. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Reno Basque Picnic • Aug. 22 • Traditional food, dancing, ethnic competitions. Recreation Center, Sparks, 329-1476.

Nevada State Fair • Aug. 26-30 • Livestock exhibits, entertainment, carnival, games, agricultural exhibits,



Basque High Steppers in Elko

Dancers don traditional clothing and kick and twirl through the intricate moves of the competitive and exhibition dances during the National Basque Festival July 2-5 in Elko. Other events include a parade, dinner, Sunday Mass, games of strength, and contests such as sheephooking. The Reno Basque Picnic will be held August 22 at the Sparks Recreation Center.

cotton candy. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 688-5767.

Horizon Carnival and Craft Fair • Aug. 28-30 • Food, entertainment, crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

PERFORMANCES

Tap Dogs • June 30, July 1-2 • Australian troupe dances to

contemporary music. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 686-6600.

Warped Tour • July 4 • Concert with 20 bands. Boreal Ski Area, Soda Springs, 530-426-3666.

Summer Arts on Campus: Chamber Music • July 6, 8, 10, 13-14 • Concerts. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.



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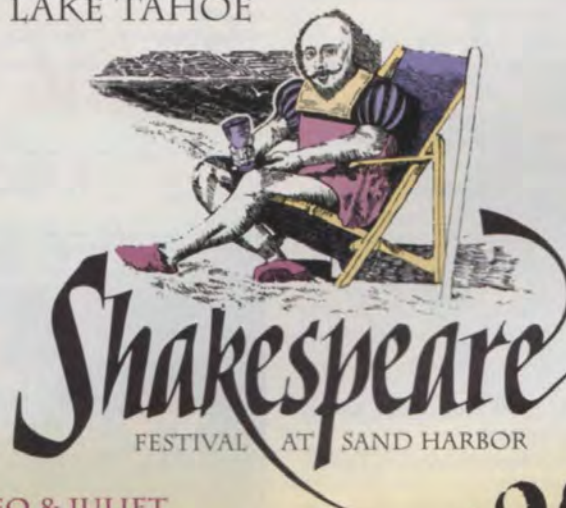
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Hot Summer in Reno

It is cool to wear swoop-winged glasses, poodle skirts, white sports coats, and strapless prom dresses during Hot August Nights, August 5-9, in Reno and Sparks. The event includes a parade, sock hops, and concerts and brings together lovers of '50s- and '60s-era cars and music.

Tuesday Potpourri Concerts • July 7-25 • Weekly concerts from Celtic to swing. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

Wednesday Classic Film Festival • July 8-Aug. 26 • Weekly movies with lectures. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

Thursday Night Jazz Concerts • July 9-Aug. 27 • Weekly jazz concerts ranging from Dixieland to R&B. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

The Drifters • July 10 • Concert featuring hits from the '50s and '60s. Benefit for RSVP. Community Center, Carson City, 687-4130.

Music at Sand Harbor • July 10-11 • Jazz played under the stars. Beach picnic setting. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 530-583-7625.

A Fringe Benefit • July 10-11 • Renaissance Projects presents "Dorothy Parker...Shivering and Sighing," about the 1920s writer and commentator, and "Street People," a drama which treats the homeless as people first. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 841-5960.

"The Two Gentlemen of Verona" • July 10-11, 15-16, 17-18 • Shakespeare's comedy about two men who fall in love with the same woman. Redfield Theater, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

"My Gun Is Pink" • July 10-12 • Murder mystery. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Pops on the River • July 11 • Reno Philharmonic concert. Wingfield Park, Reno, 323-6393.

Comedy With Altitude • July 11 • Tahoe Improv Players present skits based on audience suggestions. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4242.

Concert on the Green • July 12 • Cowboy sing-along and poetry. Town Park, Genoa, 267-3120.

Dance by the River • July 17 • Free ballet performance by the New Works Project. Wingfield Park Amphitheater, Reno, 785-7915.

"Curse of the Hanging Tree" • July 17-18 • Dinner and the annual performance of the play based upon an actual hanging in 1897. Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-2555.

Silver Legacy Birthday Celebration Concert • July 24 • The Reno Philharmonic performs under the stars. Downtown Reno, 323-6393.

The Lilliput Players at Valhalla • July 24 and 31 • Professional company performs the musical "The Little Prince" and Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." Tallac

Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival • July 29-Aug. 30 (dark Mon.) • The Bard's "Romeo and Juliet" and "Twelfth Night" are performed under the stars with the lake as a backdrop. Beach picnics are recommended. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 832-1616.

"Much Ado About Nothing" • July 30-Aug. 1 • Outdoor performance of Shakespeare's play. Wingfield Park, Reno, 841-5960.

"Private Lives" • Aug. 7-8 • Noel Coward's comedy. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.



Send in the Clowns

The Lyon County Fair and Rodeo in Yerington has plenty of curb appeal during its parade on Main Street. A rodeo, tractor pull, dances, and a demolition derby provide more entertainment at the fairgrounds August 12-16.

Reggae Sunday • Aug. 9 • Concert, craft booths, barbecue. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

"Picturing Dorothea: A Portrait of Dorothea Lange" • Aug. 14-15 • Drama on the life of photographer Dorothea Lange. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

High Desert Jazz Festival • Aug. 22 • Bands, food, drinks, workshops. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"Greater Tuna" • Aug. 29 • Comedy about the lives and characters in the town of Tuna, Texas. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

EXHIBITS

Focus on the Feminine • Thru July 2 • Painter Eve Paige's works address the cultural definitions of women. Sheppard Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.

Roads, Rails, and Runways: Transportation in the Truckee Meadows • Thru July 13 • Exhibit covers from 1915 to 1930. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Cowboys, Indians, and Westerns • Thru July 22 • Themed exhibit of 23 local artists. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 782-7629.

Porsche 50th Anniversary Exhibit • Thru Aug. 9 • National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Andy Warhol's Cowboys and Images • Thru Aug. 9 • Series of 10 serigraph prints by the artist resembling turn-of-the-century postcards of General Custer, Geronimo, and Annie Oakley. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

On the Road With Thomas Hart Benton: Changing Images of America • Thru Aug. 9 • More than 65 paintings, drawings, and lithographs produced by the artist during the 1920s and 1930s. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

1998 Nevada Biennial Exhibit • Thru Aug. 9 • Show that presents statewide juried competition of Nevada artists. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

OPEC: America Over a Barrel • Thru Aug. 31 • A 25th-anniversary look at the oil crisis and its effect on transportation. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Dream Weavers • July 2-31 • The works of the Great Basin Basketmakers. Artists Co-Op, Reno, 322-8896.

Group Sculpture Exhibition • July 10-30 • Free exhibit. Sheppard Arts Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-4046.

Antique and Collectibles Sale • July 11 • Carson Valley Museum, Gardnerville, 782-5863.

Arts on the Green Fine Art and Crafts Show • July 17-18 •

Arts and crafts presented. Lake Mansion, Reno, 329-1324.
Nature of the Carson Country • July 18-Aug. 8 • Photographer Larry Taylor featured. King Street Gallery, Carson City, 883-6016.

Abstracts, Stills, and Collages • July 22-Sept. 16 • Local artists exhibit. East Fork Gallery, Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 782-7629.

Children's Festival at North Lake Tahoe • July 26-27 • Entertainment and demonstrations. Topol Pavilion, Homewood, Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

Pacific Fine Arts Festival • July 30-Aug. 2 • Outdoor show featuring the paintings, photographs, ceramics, and jewelry of 40 regional artists. Ski Homewood, Lake Tahoe, 209-296-1195.

Incline Village Arts and Crafts Fair • Aug. 1-31 • Storytelling, face painting, and booths featuring the works of 65 artisans. The Village Green, Incline Village, Lake Tahoe, 530-546-2768.

Pioneer Days • Aug. 14-16 • Civil War period camp, living history performances, cannon fire demonstrations, 1860s style show. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 746-1660.

Carson Valley Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration • Aug. 15-16 • Food, entertainment and craft booths. Downtown Minden, 324-6435.

Pacific Fine Arts and Crafts Festival • Aug. 21-23 • Show featuring 50 regional artists and crafters. Ski Homewood, Lake Tahoe, 209-296-1195.

SPORTS

Sailboat Races • Thru July 15 • Laser Regatta Spring Series race Mondays and Beer Can Regatta Spring Series (open to all) race Wednesdays. Tahoe City Marina, Tahoe City, Lake Tahoe, 530-581-4700.

Champions on Ice • July 2 • Olympic medalists such as Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldridge, and Tara Lipinski perform. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 800-225-2277.

Stock Car Race • July 4 • Late-model cars race 150 laps on a high-banked paved oval course. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

Reno Chukars • The Western Baseball League pro team plays July 4-6 v. Bend Bandits, July 8-11 v. Tri-City Posse, July 24-26 v. Grays Harbor Gulls, July 28-30 v. Mission Viejo Vigilantes, July 31-Aug. 2 v. Pacific Suns, Aug. 7-9 v. Chico Heat, Aug. 18-20 v. Sonoma County Crushers, Aug. 24-27 v. Bend Bandits, Aug. 31-Sept. 2 v. Tri-City Posse. Moana Stadium, Reno, 829-7890.

Tahoe Fat Tire Festival • July 6-12 • Mountain bike racing, beer tasting, bike tossing, log pulling, and demos. Northstar Mountain Bike Park, Truckee, 530-581-1800.

Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship • July 7-12 • A field of 70 sports and entertainment celebrities such as Michael Jordan, John Elway, and Matt Lauer. Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course, Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.

Full Moon Hikes • July 9-11 and Aug. 7-9 • Guided tour to the top of the mountain for all ages and abilities. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

The Death Ride • July 11 • 128-mile bicycle endurance ride. Markleeville, CA, 530-694-2475.

Ride and Tie Equestrian Event • July 11 • Combines running and riding. Donner Summit at Norden, 530-426-9000.

I.P.R.A. Pro Rodeo • July 11-12 • Evening performances. Fairgrounds, Carson City, 831-1549.

Squaw Valley Mountain Run • July 25 • Runners compete over a 3.6-mile course that climbs 2,000 vertical feet. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-587-2480.

Open Wheel Spring Car Race • July 25 • Western States Championship. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

Way It Was Rodeo • July 25-26 • I.P.R.A. sanctioned rodeo, concerts, parade. Virginia City, 847-0311.

Waterski and Wakeboard Carnival • July 25-26 • Skiers and boarders compete. Tahoe Marina, Tahoe City, Lake Tahoe, 530-581-4700.

Wild West Hang Gliding Championships • July 25-Aug. 1 • Qualifying contest for U.S. World Team pilots. Washoe Lake State Park, seven miles north of Carson City, 883-7070.

Mid-Summer Stag Golf Tournament • Aug. 1 • 27-hole, one-day tournament at Empire Ranch Golf Course in Carson City. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

THE STARS SHINE

HUEY LEWIS & THE NEWS
JULY 9-11

DAVID COPPERFIELD
JULY 23-29

WYNONNA
AUGUST 12-15



TOM JONES
AUGUST 28-29

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Tevis Cup Ride • Aug. 8 • 100-mile horseback ride from Truckee to Auburn. Open to amateur riders who have endurance experience. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 916-823-7282.

Unlimited Late Model Stock Car Tour • Aug. 8 • Car race. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

Pyramid Lake Triathlon • Aug. 16 • Two races: one-mile swim, 25-mile bicycle ride, and six-mile run, or a one-half-mile swim, 12-mile bike ride, three-mile swim. Sutcliffe Marina, Pyramid Lake, 786-5531.

Western Modified Racing Assn. Championship Points Race • Aug. 28 car show at the Ormsby House, and Aug. 29 racing at the Silver State Raceway. Carson City, 885-2079.

American Heart Walk and Run • Aug. 29 • Fitness day includes a mini health fair, music. Wingfield Springs, Sparks, 322-7074.

Ross Branch Memorial Golf Tournament • Aug. 31 • Limited to 140 entrants. Washoe County Golf Course, Reno, 787-3020.

GENERAL INTEREST

Stateline Farmer's Market • Fridays thru Oct. 9 • Kahle Park, Kingsbury Grade, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 588-0271.

Visiting Artists Workshops • Thru July 31 • Intensive classes on painting, ceramics, and other mediums. Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, Lake Tahoe, 831-1314.

Sparks Hometown Farmer's Market • Thursdays thru Sept. 17 except Aug. 6 and Sept. 4 • Fresh-picked produce, cooking demonstrations, samples, crafts, food, entertainment. Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2291.

Carson Farmers Market • Wednesdays thru Sept. 30 • Fresh farm vegetables, fruits, and flowers, entertainment, and

Calling All Liars

Anything that floats is welcome at the Steve Owen Memorial Liar's Novelty Boat Race July 4 in Hawthorne. In the past, crafts resembling ice cream sundaes, desert islands, and a bicycle built for two have steamed—albeit slowly—across Walker Lake.

crafts. Third and Carson streets, Carson City, 687-7410.

Weekend Sun-Sations • Thru Oct. 3 • Weekend outdoor parties with music, entertainment, arts and crafts, and theme food booths such as Mexican, barbecue, and Cajun. Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890.

Locomotive Steam-Up • July 3-5 and 18-19 • Cars pulled by 120-year-old steam engine. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Car Show • July 3 and 5 • Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Squaw Valley Farmer's Market • July 5-Sept. 6 • Sunday sale of local produce and baked goods. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Wildflower Walks • July 8 and 11 • Easy two-mile loop to learn about plant names, uses, and habits. Bring water, snacks, and sun lotions. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, 831-0494.

Outdoor Film Festival • July 8-Aug. 19 • Free movies and picnic Wednesdays. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Elks Summerfest Carnival • July 9-11 • Rides, games, food. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 265-5863.

Birds of Prey • July 11 • Slide show and lecture. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 687-5678.

Wolf Howl Nights • July 11, Aug. 8 • Appreciation discussion about wolves, group howl, and howling contest. Animal Ark, Red Rock area north of Reno, 969-3111.

Great Gatsby Days • July 11 • Living-history programs, contests, crafts, ice cream social. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.

Beach Party Revival • July 17-18 • Classic car cruise, barbecue, entertainment by Papa Clutch and the Shifters. Crystal Bay Club, North Lake Tahoe, 831-0512.

What Is This Thing Called Love? • July 18 • An evening with Dr. Leo Buscaglia and poets C. Steven Short, Dennis Crabb, Vicki Hanes, and Denise Sloan. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.



Take Your Pick

Shoppers at the Sparks Hometown Farmer's Market have their pick of fresh produce on Thursdays through September 17 on Victorian Square. Cooking demonstrations, samples, crafts, food, and entertainment can be found at the market, which takes the week off on August 6 and September 4 due to other special events.

Ice Cream Social • July 18 • Free outdoor melodrama, craft fair, book signing. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1191.

Tahoe Rim Trail Excursion • July 18 • Hike from Spooner Summit to Marlette Lake, from where a bus will return hikers to Spooner Lake. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, 831-0494.

Biggest Little Llama Show in the West • July 18-19 • Fairgrounds, Carson City, 916-273-2568.

Stargazing at High Camp • July 23-25 • Ride the cable car to the 8,200-foot level for lectures on the constellations and the night sky. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

The Notorious Garlic Waiter Thang • July 26 • Music and garlic-laden food event to benefit Care Chest of Sierra Nevada. Texas Longhorn Bar and Grill, Reno, 829-CARE.

Stargaze: Sand Harbor • July 25 • Viewing conducted by Fleischmann Planetarium curator Art Johnson. Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park. Registration required, 831-0494.

The Basque People of Nevada • Aug. 1 • Slide show and lecture. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 687-5678.

Stargaze at Genoa • Aug. 1 • Viewing and lecture. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-2590.

Car Show • Aug. 1 • Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Locomotive Steam-Up • Aug. 1-2 and 15-16 • Cars pulled by 120-year-old steam engine. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Tahoe Rim Trail-Sand Harbor Overlook Hike • Aug. 8 • Rangers lead hike from Spooner Lake, followed by lunch at Sand Harbor Overlook and return via Marlette Peak. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park. Registration required, 831-0494.

Railroads of Nevada • Aug. 15 • Slide show and lecture. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 687-5678.

Great Gatsby Days • Aug. 15 • Living-history programs, contests, crafts, ice cream social. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.

Stargaze: Snow Valley Peak • Aug. 21 • Barbecue at Spooner Lake Park (bring your own), bus trip to Marlette, followed by a one-mile hike to Snow Valley Peak for a telescope viewing. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, 831-0494.

Stargazing at High Camp • Aug. 21-23 • Ride the cable car to the 8,200-foot level for lectures on the constellations and the night sky. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Stargaze • Aug. 29 • Lecture led by astronomers from the U of N in Reno. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 687-5678.

Alpen Wine Fest • Aug. 30 • Wine tasting to benefit the Jimmie Heuga Center. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

COMING EVENTS

"Victor Victoria" Starring Toni Tennille • Sept. 2-4 • Reno, 686-6600.

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off • Sept. 4-7 • Sparks, 353-2284.

Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 11-13 • 826-1181.

Virginia City Camel Races • Sept. 11-13 • 329-7469.

National Championship Air Races • Sept. 17-20 • Reno, 972-6663.

Street Vibrations • Sept. 17-20 • Reno, 329-7469.

Great Italian Festival • Oct. 10-11 • Reno, 786-5700.

Celtic New Year • Oct. 23-25 • Reno, 332-3333.

Nevada Day Celebration • Oct. 31 • Carson City, 800-NEVADA-1.

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals • Nov. 9-15 • Reno, 688-5750.

Sparks Hometown Christmas • Dec. 5 • 353-2291.

Cowboy Country

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

National Basque Festival • July 2-5 • Dance competitions and exhibitions, games of strength, parade, ethnic competitions such as sheephooking and *irrintzi* (yelling), music, Mass in Basque and English, festival dinner. Elko, 738-3873.

Pioneer Fourth of July • July 4 • Parade and celebration cosponsored by the Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center. Lions Park, Battle Mountain, 635-5720.

The Fourth in Jarbidge • July 4 • Parade, bingo. Town Hall, Jarbidge, 488-2311.

Freedom Fest • July 4 • Bicycle and running races, parade, barbecue, music, crafts and food booths, mud volleyball, fireworks. Scobie Park, Wendover, 664-3414.

Fireworks in Lovelock • July 4 • Rodeo Grounds, Lovelock, 273-0409.

Silver State Stampede • July 17-18 • PRCA rodeo, trail drive, kick-off party, parade. Fairgrounds, Elko, 738-3616.

Fifties Fever • July 31-Aug. 2 • Dances, parade, classic cars, poker runs, free concert by the Drifters. Downtown Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Frontier Days • July 31-Aug. 2 • Chili cook-off, street

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dance, softball tournament, car show, parade, music, cribbage, kids games, quintathlon, barbecue, talent show, horseshoe contests, watermelon eating, bicycle races, weight carrying, scavenger hunt, arm wrestling. Courthouse Lawn, Lovelock, 273-7213.

Jarbridge Days • Aug. 7-9 • Arts and crafts, music, dancing, barbecue. Town Hall, Jarbridge, 488-2325.

Elko Storytelling Festival • Aug. 14-16 • Elko, 738-4091.

Elko County Fair and Race Meet • Aug. 29-Sept. 7 • Horse racing, stock horse show, team roping, 4-H show, home arts and crafts, carnival, dances, parade. Fairgrounds, Elko, 738-3616.

PERFORMANCES

Swing in the Park • Aug. 1 • Swing band concert. Courthouse Park, Lovelock, 273-2082.

EXHIBITS

Independence Valley Photographers • July 1-Aug. 31 • Exhibit by Connie Satterthwaite, Linda Bunch, Tammy Mori, Tracy Mori, and Sharon Rhoads. Northeastern

Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

SPORTS

Open Golf Tournament • July 1-2 • Toana Vista Golf Course, West Wendover, 664-4300.

Trap Shoot • July 4 • Shooting Range, Lovelock, 273-1203.

Wells Golf Events • July 4, pre-fireworks scramble; July 11-12, two-man best ball • Chimney Rock Golf Course, Wells, 752-3928.

Ranch Hand Rodeo • July 4-5 • Ranch hands from Nevada, Oregon, and Idaho compete in working events. Rodeo Grounds, McDermitt, 532-8001.

Winnemucca Junior Rodeo • July 11-12 • Ages one to 15. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Grassroots Team Roping • July 17-19 • Competition for prizes and bragging rights. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

44-Hour Softball Tournament • July 17-19 • More than 90 teams compete around the clock. Sports Complex, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Land Speed Opener • July 22-25 • Six-mile straight track race against the clock. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

Wendover Raceway • July 26 • Straight track drag and go-cart races. Wendover Airport, 801-665-2563.

Good Times Street Drags • July 31-Aug. 1 • Racers compete on a 1/16-mile blacktop strip. Traders Way, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Wells Junior Rodeo • Aug. 1-2 • Children thru age 15. Rodeo Arena, Wells, 752-3264.

Lovelock Junior Rodeo • Aug. 8-9 • All rodeo events. Rodeo Grounds, Lovelock, 273-2968.

Wells Golf Events • Aug. 8-9, Birdzell Memorial Tournament and Aug. 22, senior citizen scramble • Chimney Rock Golf Course, Wells, 752-3928.

Nevada All-Around Working Cow Horse Championship • Aug. 8-9 • Western ranching event. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Wendover Raceway • Aug. 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 • Drag racing against the clock, go-cart racing. Wendover Airport, 801-665-2563.

Speed Week • Aug. 15-21 • This year's racing action celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Bonneville Nationals. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

USTRC Northwest Team Roping Finals • Aug. 20-23 • More than 2,000 teams compete. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

ATV Ride For Life • Aug. 22 • Vehicles ride for charity. State Line Casino, West Wendover, 664-2221.

GENERAL INTEREST

Humboldt Expedition 1864 • July 17-19 • Civil War living history re-enactment with North and South battles, living history presentations, 1860s style show, church service, costume ball. Pioneer Park, Winnemucca, 623-5704.

Arts and Crafts Show • July 18 • Silver Smith Casino, West Wendover, 664-2231.

Art in the Park • July 18-19 • City Park, Elko, 738-1553.

Superior Livestock Auction • Aug. 6-8 • Western ranchers buy and sell more than 70,000 cattle by video. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Wild Horse Kids Fishing Derby • Aug. 15-16 • Ages three to 17. Wild Horse Reservoir, 60 miles north of Elko on State Route 225, 758-6472.

Ducks Unlimited Dinner • Aug. 22 • Pershing County Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2631.

COMING EVENTS

Tri-County Fair and Stampede • Sept. 4-7 • Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Labor Day Corn Feed • Sept. 6 • Jarbridge, 488-2311.

Race to the Angel • Sept. 12 • Wells, 752-3540.

Cowboy Poetry Gathering • Jan. 25-Feb. 3 • Elko, 738-7135.

Pony Express Territory

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

Fireworks Train • July 4 • Steam-engine train ride, barbecue, fireworks. Nevada Northern Railway, East Ely, 289-2085.

Old Fashioned Fourth • July 4 • Street games, parade picnic, roping events, fireworks. Eureka, 237-5484.

Ely Shoshone Fandango • July 10-12 • Powwow, storytelling, music, arts and crafts, Indian food, hand games, horseshoe tournament. Shoshone Reservations, Ely, 289-3013.

All-Indian Stampede and Pioneer Days • July 17-19 • Rodeo events and powwow. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-1245.

Lund Pioneer Days • July 20-25 • Rodeo, concert. Rodeo Arena, Lund, 289-8877.

Bristlecone Art in the Park • Aug. 1-2 • Show and sale. Broadbent Park, Ely, 289-8877.

Eureka County Fair • Aug. 7-9 • Horse show, team roping, dance, dinner, crafts. Fairgrounds, Eureka, 754-2344.

Fantasy Classic and Antique Car Show • Aug. 14-16 • Poker run, barbecue, dance. Broadbent Park, Ely, 289-8877.

White Pine County Fair • Aug. 21-23 • Horse races, street

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dance, barbecue, Wild West Days sales and kangaroo court. Fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877.

PERFORMANCES

"John and Jesse: The Story of the Fremonts" • July 3 • Play traces the Fremonts' relationship through marriage and early explorations. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.

The Written Word • July 10 • An evening with novelist Erica Vital and poet Gailmarie Pahmeier. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.

Chris Byer • July 17 • Guitarist in concert. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.

Don Edwards • Aug. 21 • Guitarist in concert. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.

SPORTS

Silver State International High School Rodeo • July 1-5 • Champions from 37 states and four Canadian provinces compete. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-4764.

Funny Cars Race • July 11-12 • ET Series Race. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 423-0223.

Jackpot Shoot • July 17-18 • Perdiz Sport Shooting Range, Eureka, 237-7027.

Top Gun Twilight Race • July 25-26 • 250-mile desert race, four 60-mile laps. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 916-925-1702.

Larry Miller Roping Events • July 26 and Aug. 1-2 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-0330.

Nevada State Sporting Clay Championship and Perdiz Walk-About Shoot • Aug. 1-2 • Perdiz Sport Shooting Range, Eureka, 237-7027.

Off-Road Race • Aug. 14-16 • All classes SNORE event. Ruth, seven miles west of Ely, 289-8877.

Pro Modifieds and Diesel Drags • Aug. 15 • ET Series Race. Top Gun Raceway, 423-0223.

Mountain Bike Race: Claim Jumper Series • Aug. 22-23 • Cross-country endurance and downhill races for all classes. NORBA-sanctioned event. Austin, 964-2200.

Motocross Race • Aug. 29 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 267-5909.

GENERAL INTEREST

Steam Train Excursions • July 3-5, 11, 18 • Excursion through ghost towns, tunnels. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

Diesel Train Excursions • July 5, 11, 18 • Overviews of scenic Steptoe Valley. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

Horse Show • July 10-12 • Nevada Quarter Horse Association. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 575-7558.

White Pine 4x4 Rally • July 10-13 • Tours will cover scenic and historic areas. Ely, 800-496-9350.

Hidden Cave Tours • July 11 and 25 • Free guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site. Departs from Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Ethnobotany in the Great Basin • July 18 • Botanist Jackee Picciani will lead a field study of plants and native processing techniques. Visitor Center, Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

Ely After Dark and Sunset at Steptoe • July 24 • Wine and hors d'oeuvres served by candlelight during an evening train ride. Nevada Northern Railway, East Ely, 289-2085.

Little Creatures for Little Critters • July 25 • Lecture about the misunderstood world of insects. Visitor Center, Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

Horse Show • July 25 • Fallon Horsemen's Association. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-4740.

Hidden Cave Tours • Aug. 8 and 22 • Free guided tour of



The Bard at Lake Tahoe

Entertainers stroll among picnickers gathered to watch Shakespeare performed July 29-August 30 under the stars at Sand Harbor on Lake Tahoe. For 20 years playgoers have stretched out on the beach at Sand Harbor, consumed wine and elegant dinners (beer and KFC work, too), and watched plays such as this year's "Romeo and Juliet" and "Twelfth Night."

Hidden Cave archaeological site. Departs from Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Nevada's Best Stock Dog Trials • Aug. 21 • Fairgrounds, Ely, 728-4682.

COMING EVENTS

Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival • Sept. 4-7 • Fallon, 423-2544.

Louis Gibellini Single Jack Mining Contest • Sept. 5 • Eureka, 237-5484.

Eureka and Palisades Railroad Club Chili Cook-Off • Sept. 5 • Eureka, 237-5269.

Raildays '98 • Sept. 5-6 • East Ely, 289-2085.

Rock and Bottle Show • Sept. 5-6 • Austin, 964-2200.

Gary Short and Cindy Pearson in Concert • Sept. 11 • Eureka, 237-6006.

Ely Fall Fun Fair • Sept. 16-20 • Ely, 289-6323.

Great Basin National Park Photographic Workshop • Sept. 18-19 • Baker, 234-7270.

Silver State Classic Challenge Auto Race • Sept. 19-20 • Ely, 298-8877.

Frontier Days and Rodeo • Sept. 26-27 • Fernley, 575-4459.

Naval Air Station Festival • Sept. 30 • Fallon, 426-2880.

Pioneer Territory

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

Mason Valley Celebration • July 4 • Games, barbecue,

crafts, entertainment, fireworks. Mountain View Park, Yerington, 463-2245.

Pahrump Festival • July 4 • Barbecue, booths, fireworks. Community Park, Pahrump, 727-5658.

Caliente Independence Day • July 4 • Parade, kids' games, fireworks. Main Street and city parks, Caliente, 726-3132.

The Fourth in Beatty • July 4 • Parade, picnic, games, fireworks. City Park, Beatty, 553-2424.

Steve Owen's Memorial Liar's Race • July 4 • Anything that floats, which can include boats decorated like desert islands, banana splits, or submarines, compete in a 1/4-mile race. Event includes barbecue, jet ski race, crafts, fireworks. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 962-5253.

Jim Butler Days • July 24-26 • Celebration with mining events, parade, barbecue, dance, arts and crafts, carnival. Tonopah, 482-3558.

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo • Aug. 12-16 • Kids Day, rodeo, parade, tractor pull, dances, demolition derby. Lyon County Fairgrounds, Yerington, 463-2245.

Lincoln County Fair • Aug. 14-15 • Panaca, 725-3821.

Mineral County Fair • Aug. 20-23 • Carnival, exhibits, kids games, parade, stock-car race. Convention Center, Hawthorne, 945-5854.

Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow • Aug. 28-30 • Celebration of the dance and vision of Wovoka, Paiute messiah and originator of the 1890s Ghost Dance movement. Event offers dancers, food, arts and crafts. Pat Peoples Park, Yerington, 463-2350.

SPORTS

Caliente Grand Prix • July 4 • Motorcycle races. Caliente, 726-3132.

Back Alley Fights • July 18 • Professional boxing in an outdoor ring. Main Street, Yerington, 463-2481.

Claim Jumper Mountain Bike Festival • July 25-26 • Endurance and downhill races. Tonopah, 482-3859.

GENERAL INTEREST

Saturday Night Programs • July 4, Winged Jewels: Butterflies lecture; July 11, Moonlight Hike; July 18, Just Deserts, a lecture on the difference between North American deserts; July 25, Life Cycle of a Rock geology lecture; Aug. 1, Mining History of Eastern Nevada lecture; Aug. 8, Dutch-oven cooking demonstration; Aug. 15, stargazing • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 728-4460.

Museum and Historical Society Picnic and Auction • Aug. 15 • Barbecue, ice cream social, and white elephant auction. City Park, Beatty, 553-2424.

Classic Desert Nights Car Show • Aug. 15 • Show and shine, poker run, dance, and Old Timers Picnic. Joe Friel Sports Complex, Tonopah, 482-3558.

Nevada's Best Stock Dog Trials • Aug. 15 • Delmue Ranch, Panaca, 728-4682.

COMING EVENTS

Beatty Days • Sept. 5-6 • Beatty, 553-2424.

Pioche Labor Day Weekend • Sept. 5-7 • Pioche, 962-5544.

Yerington to Fallon Off-Road Race • Sept. 5-7 • Yerington, 916-925-1702.

Mineral County Rodeo and Bull-O-Rama • Sept. 11-12 • Hawthorne, 945-5854.

Pinenut Festival • Sept. 19 • Schurz, 773-2306.

Great Burro Races • Oct. 24 • Beatty, 553-2424.

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. Nevada's area code is 702.



Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in July and August.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This summer, Penn and Teller appear July 2-29 at Bally's in Las Vegas, the new revue "Broadway Showstoppers" opens July 3 at Harrah's Reno, and Foreigner plays August 28-29 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Showrooms often fill fast, so call for show times and reservations. Nevada's area code is 702.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Gold Strike Inn • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Country-western entertainment.

HENDERSON

Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.
Sunset Station • 547-7777: Sunset Amphitheater: Meredith Brooks, July 31; Robert Cray Band, Sept. 4; John Berry, Oct. 9; Club Madrid: Morris Day, July 24; The Fab, Thurs.-Sat.; Disco Inferno, Fri.-Sat.; Sunday Swing 2-6pm.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play at the hotel off Interstate 15 (dark Tues.).
Nevada Landing • 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands appear nightly except Wed.

LAS VEGAS

Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Sonny Charles and the Checkmates, June 30-July 5 (free concert); live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: Ambrosia, July 25; Dr. Hook featuring Ray Sawyer, Aug. 8.

Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: Louie Anderson, thru July 1; Penn and Teller, July 2-29; George Carlin, Aug. 6-26; Liza Minnelli, Sept. 1-6 (dark Sept. 3); Louie Anderson, Sept. 10-30.

The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts TBA.

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Saloon: Will Downing, July 10; Hal Ketchum, July 18; Rhett Atkins, July 25; Tracy Byrd, Dec. 9; Free concerts Monday night; bands play weekends.

Bourbon Street • 737-7200: Bourbon Street Lounge: David White, jazz piano nightly except Mon.

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: David Copperfield, thru July 20; Drew Carey, July 24-26; Wynonna/Steve McGrew, Aug. 5-9; Luther Vandross, Aug. 13-16; Howie Mandell, Aug. 20-23; Patti LaBelle, Aug. 28-30; Earth, Wind, and Fire, Sept. 3-6; David Copperfield, Sept. 17-Oct. 15. Bands play in La Piazza Lounge, Forum Lounge, and Cleopatra's Barge. Magicians perform in the Secret Pagoda and Sultan's Palace theaters at Caesars Magical Empire.

Casino Royale • 737-3500: Volcano Room: TBA.

Circus Circus • 734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts 11am to midnight.

Continental • 737-5555: Club Continental: Cook E. Jarr, Fri.-Sat. (indf.)

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "Broadway...off B'way!" musical revue



From Another World

Exotic costumes help create the fantasy theme of the Reno Hilton's production show "Aireus," where several colorfully costumed dancers balance orbs in a synchronized routine. The musical gets its name from Aireus, the ancient Norse goddess of flight, and the airborne concept is carried throughout the show in aerial gymnastics.

plays Sat.-Mon.; "The Debbie Reynolds Show" (dark Sat.-Sun.); "Kenny Kerr Show," the long-running Las Vegas female impersonator revue (dark Sun.-Mon.).

Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Showroom: Dennis Miller, July 2-5; Dana Carvey, July 23-26; Don Rickles, July 31-Aug. 2; Temptations, Sept. 4-6; Dennis Miller, Sept. 10-13; Starlight Lounge: Entertainment nightly.

Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse and Minstrel's Theatre Lounge: Dance music nightly; Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-11pm.

Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Casino Stage: Entertainment daily.

Flamingo Hilton • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Sunset

Ballroom: Kenny Rogers, July 3-4; David Gates, Aug. 15; Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" starring the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).

Four Queens • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045.

Gold Coast • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Kinda Dixie Jazz Band, noon to 6pm Mon.-Fri.; Phlash, thru July 19; karaoke nightly in the West Lounge; Gold Coast Showroom: "A Musical Tribute to Patsy Cline," thru Aug. 2; Tropical Splash, Fri.-Sat. (indf.); disk jockey Larry Taylor plays big band and pop, Tues. and Sun.

Golden Nugget • 386-8100: The Theatre Ballroom: Entertainment TBA; bands in the lounge nightly except Mon.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or toll-free 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Edwin McCain, July 1; X, July 3; Savage Garden, July 11; Leon Russell, July 17; Yes/Alan Parsons Project, July 25; Poolside parties and live music, 5-8pm, Wed. and Fri.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or toll-free 800-392-9002: Commanders Theatre: "Spellbound"; "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); entertainment nightly in the Court of Two Gators Lounge; Carnival Court: "Carnaval Fantastique," free outdoor gymnastic-dance show daily at 6:15, 7:45, 9:15, and 10:45pm, with an early show at 4:45pm Sat.-Sun. (dark Mon.).

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 730-3194: Lighthouse Showroom: "The Dream King" with Trent Carlini (dark Mon.); Dixie Dooley's World of the Unreal Magic Show, indf. (dark Mon.).

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.). Poolside luau, Polynesian revue, and buffet, Tues. and Thurs.

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Showroom: "The X-treme Scene," adult revue (dark Fri.).

Key Largo • 733-7777: Sand Bar Lounge: Bands provide live entertainment.

King 8 Hotel • 736-8988: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck

Man in Black

"American Superstars" at the Stratosphere in Las Vegas has added the persona of alien-fighting agent Will Smith, the singer also known as the Fresh Prince, to its lineup of impersonators. Steven Miller will perform Smith's songs, including one based on his movie *Men in Black*.

Showroom: Steve Wyrick: World Class Magician (dark Mon.).

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: The Emotions, The Ohio Players, and Zapp and Roger, oldies concert, July 18; Dancin' in the Streets: Temptations, The Supremes, and The Miracles, July 23-28; Pat Benatar, Aug. 7-8; Elvis in Concert (film reprise), Aug. 11-16; Alabama, Oct. 8-10; The NightClub: Louie Louie.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Showroom: "Imagine: A Theatrical Odyssey," production show; Nefertiti's Lounge: Live entertainment; Ra Nightclub: DJ nightly; concerts TBA.

Main Street Station • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: 777 BrewPub: Shufflaire, R&B band, Tues.; "Divine Divas," musical impersonators, Fri.-Sat.

Maxim • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.); entertainment in Muldoon's Room.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring David Cassidy (dark Thurs.); Hollywood Theatre: Carrot Top, July 2-15; Wayne Newton, July 16-22; Engelbert, July 23-29; Four Tops, July 30-Aug. 12; Tom Jones, Aug. 13-26; Rodney Dangerfield, Aug. 27-Sept. 2; Grand Garden Arena: Stevie Nicks/Boyz Scaggs, July 25; Back Street Boys, Aug. 7; Riverdance, Dec. 11-13; live entertainment in the Showbar Lounge, Brown Derby, and Gatsby's; Studio 54: dancing nightly.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs.); bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

Monte Carlo • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.); dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

New York-New York • 740-6969: Entertainment TBA; bands play in the Empire Bar and the Bar at Times Square.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Righteous Brothers, thru July 5; Willie Nelson, July 8-11; Glen Campbell, July 15-19; Frankie Valli and the Four

Seasons, July 22-26; Oak Ridge Boys, July 31-Aug. 2; Smothers Brothers, Aug. 4-9; Righteous Brothers, Aug. 10-25; The Golden Boys: Frankie Avalon, Fabian, and Bobby Rydell, Aug. 27-29; Little River Band, Sept. 4-6; Bourbon Street Cabaret: N.R.G./Sam Butera, thru July 5; strolling Orleans Parade Band (dark Sat.-Sun.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Loading Dock Lounge: Bill Haley's Original Comets, July 24, free concert; Krokies Karaoke, Mon.; bands play in the Palace Saloon.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: Impressionist Danny Gans (dark Mon.-Tues.); Alejandro Fernandez, Sept. 12-15; "Masquerade Show in the Sky," carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at noon Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.); Ipanema Piano Bar, Shutters Piano Bar, Voo Doo Lounge, and Cucina, Masquerade, Village, and Mambos bars have live enter-

tainment; Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub Wed.-Sun.

Riviera • 794-9301: Grand Ballroom: "Tony 'n Tina's Wedding," interactive theater, Aug. 29; Bobby Vee's Rock 'n Roll Party: The Shirelles, Freddy Cannon, Little Eva, and Johnny Tillotson, Sept. 5-6; Top of the Riv: David Brenner, July 17-18; Tommy Davidson, Nov. 6-7; Splash Theatre: "Splash," nightly; La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Count Basie Orchestra, July 21; Michael Franks, Aug. 11; Maynard Ferguson, Oct. 6; Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.); "Riviera Comedy Club" nightly; Le Bistro Lounge: Groups like Touch of Silk and Susan McDonald perform; Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Fri. and Sat. at 1am; bands play Tues.-Sun.

Sahara • 737-2515: Congo Showroom: Jackie Mason, June 29-July 19; Gallagher, Aug. 25-Sept. 7.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play

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A Name for Herself

Country-western star Pam Tillis has made a showbiz name for herself and is no longer just a chip off the Mel Tillis block. She headlines July 3 at the Eldorado in Reno.

9pm-3am; Roxy's Saloon: Entertainment noon-5am.

San Remo • 597-6028 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic," 8 and 10:30pm (late show for adults only), nightly except Mon.; entertainers such as Tim Ballard and Tommy and Louina play in the Bon Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Entertainment Tues.-Sat. in the Ice Lounge and nightly in the Atrium; Grand Ballroom: Entertainment TBA.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Don Burke Orchestra, Mon., indf.; "Pasion Mexicana starring Olga Breeskin," revue (dark Mon.); mariachi entertainment Tues.-Thurs. and Sun.

Silverton • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Opera House: Entertainment TBA; dinner music nightly except Tues.-Wed.; Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," production show (dark Fri.); Stardust Ballroom: Harry James Orchestra, Aug. 1; Tex Beneke and His Orchestra, Sept. 5; bands play in the Starlight Lounge.

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.); "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue 2 and 4pm daily except Sun.; Images Cabaret: Entertainment TBA; Top of the World Lounge: Bobby Dickerson (dark Mon.); L'Isles Bar: Caribbean and reggae music.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and Aug. 12-13); entertainment nightly in Captain Morgan's piano bar, the Hideaway Lounge.

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs.); "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri.; Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly; bands play in the Atrium Lounge; free

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Wildlife Walk that includes live birds and monkeys.
Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Bands play nightly.
Westward Ho • 731-2900: "Hurray America," starring Robbie Howard and Red Hot Mama and the Goodtime Jazz Band (dark Sat.).
World Trade Center • 369-5750 • Mediterranean Room: "The Michael La Rocca Show," musical revue (dark Sun.-Mon.); "Michael and Company," revue, Fri.-Sat.

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 535-5555: Bands play nightly.
Colorado Belle • 298-4000: "D" Deck: Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians; Boiler Room Brew Pub: Live entertainment (dark Mon.).
Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Wild at Heart, July 14-26; Perfect Choice, July 28-Aug. 9; Vincent Hall and The Vision, Aug. 11-16; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Aug. 18-23; Soul'd Out, Aug. 25-Sept. 13.
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Silver Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," musical revue (dark Thurs.).
Gold River • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Fantasy Theatre: "River Magic" starring Kati Chez and her exotic cats, (dark Mon.-Tues.); Cody's Saloon: Bands play nightly; Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club, Wed. thru Sun.
Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Bands play nightly.
Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: "Solid Gold" (dark Fri. and Sun.) and "Heartbeat" (dark Sun.) production shows thru Sept. 18; John Pinette, July 9-11; Kim Carnes, July 30-Aug. 1; Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater: Kenny Rogers, Sept. 12-13; Clay Walker, Sept. 19.
Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6847: Pavilion Theater: Swing Sisters: That Sentimental Swing, variety show, June 29-July 23 and Aug. 8-12, 17-20, and 24-27, ex-

cept for the following dates and shows: "Forever Plaid," July 7-13; Don McLean, July 18-19; "Bye Bye Birdie," July 27-Aug. 2; Back to the 1940s Speakers, Tuesdays at 1pm, free; Caboose Lounge: Swing and Latin dance contest daily at 5pm; Karaoke Madness, Mon.; bands play nightly except Mon.
Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Bellamy Brothers, July 30-Aug. 1; Little River Band, Aug. 14-15; Bill Medley, Sept. 24-26; Smothers Brothers, Oct. 22-25; Ricky Van Shelton, Nov. 3-7.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Theatre: Asleep at the Wheel, July 11; bands play nightly except Mon. in the Cascades Lounge; piano bar afternoons.
Rancho Mesquite • 346-4646: Live entertainment in the Wild Cactus and Scorpion lounges.
Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Red Boot Club: Big band dancing, Wed.; karaoke, Thurs.; dance contests, Fri.; live bands perform Fri. and Sat.; Casino Lounge: Bands play nightly.
Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Country music bands play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Entertainment in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.
Jerry's Nugget • 399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri.-Sun.
Texas Station • 631-1000: South Padre: Bad Company and Molly Hatchet, Aug. 7; Loretta Lynn, Aug. 8; Grand Funk Railroad, Aug. 29; Honky Tonk Lounge: Dancing to Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm; country, Mon.; Kroakies Karaoke, Wed.; Loveshack plays Thurs.-Sat.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA; Stage Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.; Carolee's Comedy Club: Michael Rapoport hosts guest comedians at Buffalo Bill's, one of three resorts at Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas, Fri.-Sun.
Primm Valley • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471.
Whiskey Pete's • 382-1212 or 800-367-7383.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Reunion, Aug. 6; Center Stage Cabaret: L.A. Party Dolls, Aug. 4-9. Bands play nightly in the Cabaret, Treasure, Waterfall, Bird, and Atrium bars.
Boomtown • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Bands like Gary and Sandy, Madison Avenue, and Shake, Rattle, and Roll play nightly.
Circus Circus • 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.
Club Cal-Neva • 323-1046: Entertainment TBA.
Comstock • 329-1880.
Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Eldorado Showroom: "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Music of Leiber and Stoller," Broadway musical (dark Fri.); Pam Tillis, July 3; Air Supply, July 24; Brew Brothers: Bands play nightly; piano music in Bistro Roxy Wed.-Sun.
Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950: Casino Lounge: Entertainment TBA.
Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022



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Illusionist Joaquin Ayala persuades a female victim that being locked in a metal chamber is no big deal. Ayala performs at Harrah's Las Vegas in "Spellbound '98," which also features the controlled-acrobatics team Human Design.

(U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play in the casino nightly. **Flamingo Hilton Reno** • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue; Nelson Rangell, July 17; Starvision 1998, July 24; Saigon Nights Concert, July 24-26; Spencer Davis Group, Aug. 6; Flamingo Outdoor Plaza Free Concerts: World-Class Rockers: Randy Meisner, Denny Laine, Carmine Appice, Nick St. Nicholas, Michael Monarch, Spencer Davis, and Rosilee, Aug. 7; Eric Burdon's Band, Sept. 19; bands play in the Showspot Cabaret; Terry Thompson plays at the Top of the Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Broadway Showstoppers" opens July 3 and rotates with the ongoing revue "Lipstick" (dark Thurs.); Phyllis Diller, July 2-5; Paul Revere and the Raiders, Aug. 6-9; Tower of Power, Sept. 3-6; Al Martino, Oct. 8-11.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Rose Ballroom: The Mavericks, July 2-3; Hot August Nights Prom, Aug. 6; Foreigner, Aug. 28-29; Celebrity Showroom: Lynn Anderson/Tony D'Andrea, thru July 8; Charo/Don Gavin, July 9-22; Bill Medley/Johnny Dark, July 23-Aug. 5; The Mamas and the Papas/Ross Shafer, Aug. 6-19; Christopher Cross/Sammy King, Aug. 20-Sept. 2; Lou Rawls/Glenn Hirsch, Sept. 3-16; The Lettermen/Mark Merchant, Sept. 17-30; bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Peppermill Showroom: Entertainment TBA; bands play in the Cabaret Lounge.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 359-9440: Side Track Lounge: Bands play weekends.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theatre: "Aircus," production show (dark Fri.); Outdoor Summer Concert Series: Alan Parsons, July 20; James Taylor, Aug. 4; Blues Music Festival: B.B. King, The Neville Brothers, and Dr. John, Aug. 13; Santana/Los Lobos, Aug. 21; Buddy Guy, Jonny Lang, Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Aug. 29; Collin



A Good Friend of Bob

Singer and guitarist Don Edwards appears August 21 at the Eureka Opera House in Eureka. Recognized twice by the Cowboy Hall of Fame for his music and knowledge of cowboy lore, Edwards recently appeared in his first movie, Robert Redford's *The Horse Whisperer*.

Raye/Patty Loveless, Sept. 18; Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.

Riverboat • 323-8877.

Silver Club • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Randy Travis, July 10-11; Engelbert, July 17-18; Kenny Rogers, July 31-Aug. 1; Natalie Cole, Aug. 14-15; Paul Anka, Aug. 28-29; Kenny Loggins, Sept. 5-6; George Jones, Oct. 2-3, Kenny Rogers, Oct. 16-17. Comedy Club: Catch a Rising Star opens in late July.

Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

CARSON AREA

Carson Nugget • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands like Stevie and the Stingrays, Impact, and Teaser play nightly.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play in the casino lounge.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Bands like Louie Fontaine, City Zu, and Suzanne Lee Price play in the Cabaret Lounge; Shannon Ballroom: Entertainment TBA.

Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands provide live entertainment nightly.

Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Live music and dancing Fri. and Sat.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Huey Lewis and the News, July 9-11; David Copperfield, July 23-29; Wynonna, Aug. 12-15; Tom Jones, Aug. 28-29; Clint Black, Sept. 18-19; Nero's 2000 nightclub presents live music at Caesars Tahoe; Cleo's Bar

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Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, May 1-4; Neil Sedaka, May 6-10; "Grease," Broadway play, July 1-31; Tony Orlando presents "Jukebox Dreams" with the Mighty Echols, Sept. 4-6; Don Rickles with Lorna Luft, Sept. 11-14; DazzleDance, Oct. 14-Nov. 30; Casino Center Stage: Nightly bands like Sidro's Armada and Sonny Turner.

Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883 (U.S. and Nevada): Emerald Theatre: "Tap Girls," musical revue; Llewellyn's: Ron Rose Sound.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); Grande Lake Theater: "Big River," Broadway musical, July 17-19 and 24-26; Little River Band, Aug. 1; "Secret Garden," Oakland Ballet, Oct. 3-4.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382: Cal-Neva Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Crystal Bar: Bands like Herb McQuay, Pam Nickels, and Larry Keyes play nightly.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 832-1234: Ciao Mein Trattoria Lounge: Entertainment TBA; Stage Bar: Live entertainment nightly.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

Cowboy Country

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Owl Club • 635-5155.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Comedy on Wed.

Holiday Inn • 738-8425: Piano bar, Tues.-Sat.; dance club, Thurs.-Sat.

Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Headliners TBA; Top 40 bands, Thurs.-Sat.

Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada).

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Danny Marona, June 30-July 12; Bobby Vee, July 14-19; Sons of the Pioneers, July 21-16; The Pendragons, July 28-Aug. 9; Danny Marona, Sept. 22-Oct. 4.

Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306: Bands often appear in Mr. B's Lounge at the Mill City casino on Interstate 80 between Lovelock and Winnemucca.

WENDOVER

Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Band on the Run, Perfect Choice, and the Lelands play nightly.

Rainbow Casino • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.

Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671: Jim's Bar: Live entertainment nightly.

State Line • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Stateliner Lounge: Ronnie Milsap, Aug. 13-14; Oak Ridge Boys, Sept. 25-26.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Bands like Midnight Riders, Memphis Exchange, and Best Friends play nightly in the casino lounge.

Pony Express Territory

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • 237-6006: Chris Byer, July 17; Don Edwards, Aug. 21.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-3111 ext. 47.

Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

Pioneer Territory

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3322: Entertainment TBA.

Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777: Bowling alley, entertainment.

Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP: Casino-lounge entertainment.

TONOPAH

Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.

Station House • 482-9777: Bands play nightly in the casino lounge.

YERINGTON

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R E N O

Soul Man From Wales

Tom Jones is the man when it comes to rock 'n' soul. **By Mike Weatherford**

One night when Tom Jones was appearing at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas last spring, he introduced two other performers in the audience—James Brown and Neil Diamond, who were sitting in separate booths. “They both got up and walked towards one another because they hadn’t met before,” says Jones. After the show, he recalls, “We got back to the dressing room and had a chat.”

It makes sense that the Welsh singer became the crossroads for the two other stars. Jones is half soul man and half matinee idol for women who like their middle-of-the-road ballads with an edge of raw sex appeal. No wonder Jones has been able to play Las Vegas for 30 years. He’s still packing the showrooms in both Southern and Northern Nevada, while many stars who were here when he first performed in 1968 have faded.

The singer, who turned 58 on June 7, was in his third year as a pop star when he was booked into the Flamingo on the Strip. Those executives more used to traditional saloon singers “didn’t know what to make of me,” he admits. “They thought I was a pop singer, trying to be a nightclub entertainer.”

While management may not gotten Jones’ act, they understood the kind of business he was drawing. “If you can fill a showroom, there are people coming through the casino in order to get there,” Jones says. He still has no trouble filling either the 600-seat Hollywood Theater at the MGM Grand—his current home in



Once a door-to-door vacuum salesman, Tom Jones made his own clean sweep with such hits as “Delilah,” “It’s Not Unusual,” and “She’s a Lady.”

Las Vegas—or the 1,500-seat Circus Maximus at Caesars Tahoe.

“Vegas is a mish-mosh of people,” he notes. “You go to most cities, you get the people from that city. In Vegas, the people are from everywhere. There’s no such thing as a Vegas crowd, because it can change nightly. You can have more real fans on one night, for instance. Another night you might have a lot of corporate people come in, or convention people.”

But Jones prefers to see that as a challenge. It’s perhaps a key to his longevity: He’ll work harder to convert the masses

than if he’s preaching to the choir in a one-night concert. “It doesn’t bother me if the show is filled with convention people, as long as I get to them,” he says. “It doesn’t matter to me when it is, but it’ll happen somewhere in the show. I will get them.”

His 30 years in Nevada showrooms are reflected in Jones’ song list, which runs from his 1965 breakthrough, “It’s Not Unusual,” to his cover of Lenny Kravitz’s 1993 hit, “Are You Gonna Go My Way?” In one set, you’ll hear him touch upon country (“The Green, Green Grass of Home”), ballads (“I’ll Never Fall in Love Again”), and his first love, vintage soul (“Take Me to the River”).

“The problem I’ve always had has been my versatility,” he says. “When I hear a song, I want to do it. If I like the song, I want to do it. Sometimes it doesn’t fit into what people might think I would do.”

Last spring, Jones was happy to have his 1971 “Live at Caesars Palace” album reissued on CD. Jones and his manager son, Mark Woodward (the singer’s real last name), are shopping an album of soul remakes he recorded a couple of years ago. Jones also has a gospel-flavored song called “The Vaults of Heaven” on the recording of the new Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, “Whistle Down the Wind.”

Jones always thinks in the present tense, and he isn’t one of those entertainers who likes to sit around and talk about the way things used to be when Las Vegas was smaller. “As far as I’m concerned, the big-



A shaggy-haired Tom Jones had four gold albums and a TV variety show in the 1970s. Twenty years later, showgoers can expect to see his trademark moves at the MGM Grand and Caesars Tahoe.

ger it is, the better it is," he says. "I have more fun here than I used to."

Bigger at least means a more reasonable schedule of appearances. The singer's least fond memories of Las Vegas are of two shows a night, which caused him to give up alcohol—no small sacrifice for a man used to high living. Jones says he cut it out completely during the era of two-show nights in Las Vegas because alcohol's dehydration only added to throat problems brought on by the desert dryness.

"I tried it the other way, but it didn't work," he adds with a laugh. "If you're going to do two shows a night for a month straight in Las Vegas, alcohol's got to go. My cousins would come out from Wales, where I was always known as a beer drinker. And my cousins said, 'If the boys back home could see you.'"

Show Notes

Tom Jones appears at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on August 13-26 and at Caesars Tahoe on August 28-29. Show time at the MGM Grand is 9 p.m. in the Hollywood Theater. Tickets ordered by telephone are \$53.70, in person \$51.70, which includes tax. Call 702-891-7777. Show time at Caesars Tahoe is 9:30 p.m. in the Circus Maximus Theatre. Tickets are \$36 and \$46, which includes tax. Call 702-588-3515 for reservations. ■

Mike Weatherford is an entertainment writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Photo: Ronald Koch

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Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. By Ann Henderson

Las Vegas Territory

Chi Chi: The Desert Inn on the Strip received a Four Diamond rating by the American Automobile Association. The award was given to the 715-room hotel and its Monte Carlo restaurant. Resorts are judged on their "skilled and attentive staff, high level of customer service, and top-of-the-line amenities and ambience." The Desert Inn recently completed a \$200-million expansion. The Monte Carlo is the only restaurant in Nevada to receive the designation.

Hard Rock: An \$85-million expansion at the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas will add 350 rooms, private bungalows, two more acres to the pool area, a health spa, four restaurants, a 5,000-square-foot nightclub, and new meeting capabilities. Visitors will find the pool area will have swim-up gaming, an outdoor performance area, and an open-air banquet facility.

Sammy's Stutz: A 1973 Stutz Blackhawk coupe owned by Sammy Davis Jr. has become part of the auto collection at the Imperial Palace on the Strip. The Stutz, a customized Pontiac Grand Prix, is powered by a 455-cubic-inch V-8 engine. Other members of the Rat Pack—Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Peter Lawford—also owned editions of the custom cars. Davis' is white with black leather seats and a walnut interior trimmed with 24-karat-gold plating.

Russian Treasures: The largest collection of historic Russian art objects seen in the United States goes on display November 7 at the Rio in Las Vegas. The exhibit, "Treasures of Russia from Peterhof," will consist of 13 galleries containing more than 1,150 priceless Imperial pieces from the 200 years of the Romanov dynasty and artifacts from the Russian Orthodox Church. The exhibit will be open daily from 10 a.m. to midnight through April 15, 1999.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Hot Rock: The Atlantis in Reno celebrates Hot August Nights, the city's vintage car and rock 'n' roll festival on August 5-9, with a Cruise of Champions with \$10,000 in prizes to be awarded for best original classic, restored classic, best paint, best truck, and other cate-



The Four Diamond rating awarded to the Desert Inn in Las Vegas by the American Automobile Association is a reflection of the hotel's \$200-million expansion. The DI's Monte Carlo restaurant also was honored.

gories. Other events include show and shines, free outdoor entertainment, and an attempt to set a new world's record in a hula hoop competition. A Reunion concert at the Atlantis on August 6 will feature two of the three original members of the Lettermen.

Stayin' Alive: The low-fat, no-fat, and veggie menu items in the Three Ring Restaurant at Circus Circus in Reno offer visitors a health-wise menu that is available any time of the day.

Award Reward: The Embassy Suites Resort Lake Tahoe this spring received the Four Diamond Award of the American Automobile Association. This is the sixth consecutive year the South Shore hotel has been selected by the travel service, which judges properties on such criteria as guest service, housekeeping, maintenance, security, parking, soundproofing, room decor, and furnishings. Embassy Suites opened next to Harrah's Lake Tahoe in 1991.

Goose Bumps: The Ultimate Rush, a 180-foot Skycoaster, is expected to open by August 1 at the Reno Hilton. The attraction is the sister to the Sky Screamer at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Up to three riders are hoisted to the top

of the tower where they pull their own ripcord. Then it becomes a case of drop, swing, and scream.

Smart Mother-in-Law: Because Rick Romero's mother-in-law insisted he play the \$40 she had given him for the slots, the Bay Point, California, man won a \$1.6-million jackpot at the Silver Legacy in Reno. Romero didn't feel like gambling after a big meal at the hotel's buffet but gave in to her persistence.

Funny Stories: The Silver Legacy in Reno opens the comedy club Catch a Rising Star in late July. "Catch" features established comedians and in the past has been a testing ground for the likes of Jerry Seinfeld, Billy Crystal, Dennis Miller, and Robin Williams. The Silver Legacy is building a theater for the comedy club, which will seat 200 showgoers.

Rural Nevada

Turtle Territory: Saddle West in Pahrump, 60 miles west of Las Vegas on State Route 160,

has opened an 80-space RV park. The facility offers travelers covered tables, utilities, cable TV, laundry, showers, and restrooms. When calling for reservations (800-GEDDY-UP), visitors can inquire about specials, discounts, and information on the Pahrump Harvest Festival, September 18-20.

Good Deals

The Right Way: Free gaming lessons are offered Monday through Friday at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Beginners receive instruction on blackjack, dice, pai gow poker, mini baccarat, and roulette at the casino tables close to the Palatium Buffet and Sports Book Bar. Novices will find instruction for games such as Let It Ride, War, and Caribbean Stud are available on request. After class, novices are guided to the low-limit tables where the pace is slower.

Evening Out: The Eldorado in Reno has dinner and show packages for the Broadway play "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller." The musical, featuring hits of the '50s and '60s, can be paired with four Eldorado restaurants. The package combines the early show at 7:30 p.m. with dinner at the Chef's Buffet for \$28.95, The Grill (steakhouse) for \$33.95, La Strada (Italian) for \$41.95, and Bistro Roxy for \$46.95. Package prices are \$5 cheaper for the 10 p.m. show. Beverages, tax, and gratuity are not included in the show deal, which is available Sunday through Thursday. Call 702-786-5700.

Freebie Alert: The Flamingo Hilton Reno offers two free outdoor concerts. On August 7 the World Class Rockers featuring Randy Meisner, Denny Laine, Carmine Appice, Nick St. Nicholas, Michael Monarch, Spencer Davis, and Rosilee perform on the hotel's plaza. Eric Burdon's Band closes the summer season on September 19.

A Free Ride: The MGM Grand and Bally's Monorail, which shuttles passengers between the two Las Vegas hotels, celebrated its third anniversary in June. The one-mile ride is free, and the monorail is open from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. daily.

Party Time: Weekends at the Ormsby House in Carson City through October 31 will have outdoor festivals with live music and food booths. Each event will have varying themes such as the blues music and barbecue on August 14-16 or the weekend featuring Hispanic entertainers and Mexican food such as tamales and tacos on September 11-13.

It's Guaranteed: Station Casinos, parent company of the Palace Station, Boulder Station, Texas Station, and Sunset Station hotels, guarantees a room at another Las Vegas hotel in the event all 2,000 Station rooms are sold out. The promise is good any day of the week, every week of the year, according to hotel officials.



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Shopping!

A Guide to Nevada's malls and shopping meccas.

By Carolyn Graham



Mall Guide

Las Vegas

Belz Factory Outlet World is the largest outlet mall under one roof in the United States. In fact, to explore each of the mall's 140 stores you'd better wear your walking shoes. The four-year-old mall on Las Vegas Boulevard, a couple miles south of the Strip, has undergone two expansions, including the addition of Off Fifth Saks Fifth Avenue outside at the south end of the parking lot. Inside stores include Spiegel, Levi's, Casual Corner, Reebok, Burlington Brands, and others that carry clothing, shoes, home decorating items, and casino logo merchandise. Belz also has two food courts, one of which has an old-fashioned carousel. Phone 702-896-5599.

The **Boulevard Mall** sprawls across 1.2 million square feet with 144 stores, making it Nevada's largest. The mall, which opened in 1968, is big but not over-



Shoppers have yet another chic eatery to try at the Forum Shops at Caesars: Chinois. The Asian-themed restaurant was opened last winter by Wolfgang Puck and wife Barbara Lazaroff (above), who also own Spago's at the mall.

whelming—the layout is easy to navigate. Anchor stores include Macy's, Dillard's, JC Penney, and Sears. The mall is located at Maryland Parkway and Desert Inn Road, two miles east of Treasure Island on the Strip. Phone 702-732-8949; www.blvdmall.com.

The **Fashion Show Mall** has always had glamour appeal due to glitzy anchors Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, Robinson May, Dillard's, and Macy's. The mall, next door to Treasure Island, has more than 130 stores and is known for its trendy eateries, including Sfuzzi, Dive!, and Chin's. The Fashion Show also has interesting specialty shops such as the Discovery Channel Store, Walt Disney Gallery, and San Francisco Music Box Company. Phone 702-369-8382.

Your shopping bags—as well as your senses—will be overloaded at the **Forum Shops at Caesars** with its 105 shops and 10 restaurants. The attractions—the "Race for Atlantis" IMAX motion-simulator ride, Omnimax theater, talking sculp-



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tures, and 3-D Cinema Ride—nearly overwhelm the opulent stores and restaurants. Shops include the Museum Company, Nike-Town, and Versace. Phone 702-893-4800.

Galleria Mall at Sunset in Henderson, across the street from the Sunset Station Hotel, is the Las Vegas area's newest mall. Neglected shoppers in the rapidly growing city of Henderson anxiously awaited the February 1996 opening of the mall, where they now enjoy Dillard's, Robinson May, JC Penney, Mervyn's California, and 130 specialty stores. Phone 702-434-0202.

Las Vegas Factory Stores is an open-air outlet mall south of Vacation Village at the far southern end of the Strip. Shoppers will find 41 stores, including Mikasa and Vanity Fair as well as other clothing and specialty shops. Phone 702-897-9090.

A focal point of **Meadows Mall** is its replica turn-of-the-century carousel, where shoppers can reward their weary children (and themselves) with a 50-cent whirl. Meadows Mall, at U.S. 95 North at Valley View Boulevard, is anchored by Macy's, JC Penney, and Dillard's. Phone 702-878-4849.

Laughlin

The **Horizon Outlet Center** in Laughlin has bargain shopping. The enclosed mall next to the Ramada Express on the southern end of Casino Drive has 55 outlet stores, including Geoffrey Beene, Wild Things, Mikasa (which has a nice view of the river), Bugle Boy, Levi's, and the London Bridge Candle Factory. The mall has a movie theater, food court, and covered parking as well as the Muddy Rudder Pub and Cecil's Market and Deli, both of which are open 24 hours. Phone 702-298-3003.

Reno

Meadowood Mall is Reno's largest with 130 stores, including anchors Macy's, JC Penney, and Sears. The mall, located at McCarran and South Virginia, recently added Sears and a food court, where offerings range from hot-buttered pretzels to fresh-squeezed juices. If you're shopping for a new sofa or lamp, you'll find Macy's Furniture Store across Virginia Street. Phone 702-827-8450.

Park Lane Mall at South Virginia and Plumb Lane is anchored by Gottschalks and has 77 stores, including Jay Jacobs, Hot Cats, Lin's Imports, and Frederick's of Hollywood. If you like to exercise while getting a leg up on your window shopping, Park Lane opens daily at 7 a.m. for its mall-walking program. Phone 702-825-9452. ▀

Carolyn Graham is Nevada Magazine's highly dedicated associate editor who logged many hours in the state's malls, all in the name of research.



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Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Black Canyon River Raft Tours • 293-3776.
Boulder City Historic District • Walking tour. 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.
Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum • 444 Hotel Plaza, 294-1988.
Boulder Dam Hotel • 1305 Arizona, 293-7731.
Hoover Dam and Visitor Center • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 294-3515, 293-8367, 293-8000.
Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess • 293-6180.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area • 601 Nevada Hwy., 293-8906.
St. Jude's Ranch for Children • Artifacts, tours, miniature car museum. 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

HENDERSON

Clark County Heritage Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.
Cranberry World West • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.
Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.
Favorite Brands Marshmallow Factory • Tours. 8203 Gibson Rd., 564-3878 or 800-234-2383.
Mountasia Family Fun Center • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.
Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Free factory tours. 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.
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Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.
Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Movie Museum • 733-2243.
Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators, 597-7777.
Flamingo Hilton • Wildlife sanctuary, 733-3111.
Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
Forum Shops at Caesars • Animatronic attractions, "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3D motion simulator. Caesars Palace, 893-4800.
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Grand Slam Canyon • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
Harley-Davidson Cafe • Motorcycle memorabilia. The Strip, 740-4555.
Harrah's • Free outdoor show. 369-5000.
Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
Horseshoe Casino • \$1 million on display, 382-1600.
Imperial Palace Auto Collection • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.
Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.
Las Vegas Hilton • Star Trek: The Experience, 732-5111.
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
Luxor • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand Adventures • Theme park, 891-7979.

Mirage • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.
Motown Cafe • Memorabilia and entertainment. New York-New York, 740-6440.
Mount Charleston • Recreation info., 222-1597.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
New York-New York • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue, 486-3511.
Omnimax Theatre • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
Rainforest Cafe • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 891-8580.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Rio • Free carnival-themed sky parade, 252-7777.
Sahara Hotel • Virtual reality Indy car racing, 737-2777.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster and Big Shot ride, 380-7777.
Treasure Island • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30 p.m., 894-7111.
Ultrazone • Laser-tag arena, 734-1585.
Wet 'n Wild • Water theme park, 734-0088.
World of Coca-Cola • Museum, Showcase Mall, 270-5985.

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and water sports, four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
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Colorado River Museum • Arizona Hwy. 95, 520-754-3399.
Del Rio Beach Club • Colorado River sightseeing boat tour, 298-6828.
Davis Dam • Self-guided tours, 298-2214.
Grapevine Canyon • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 298-2214.
Lake Mohave Resort • 602-754-3245.
Laughlin River Tours • Colorado River, 298-1047.
Ramada Express • WWII and 1940s museum, 298-4200.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars and river tour boat, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

Desert Valley Museum • 346-5705.
Si Redd's Oasis • Gun club, hayrides, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.

OVERTON

Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Pueblo culture, 397-2193.
Valley of Fire State Park • 397-2088.

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz at Whiskey Pete's; Ferris wheel at Primm Valley Resort, Primm, 382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Gallery • 297-1540.
Searchlight Historic Museum • 455-7955.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.
Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Seasonal, Mills Park, 887-2523.
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226.
Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour, 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.
Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit, 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours, Stewart St., 687-8616.
Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.
Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-1808.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395 S., 782-2555.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • Seasonal, 782-4325.
Mormon Station State Historic Park • Seasonal, 782-4325, 687-4379.
Walley's Hot Springs • 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Heavenly Aerial Tram • Stateline, 586-7000.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
Ponderosa Ranch • Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691.
Pope House • Tours daily except Thurs. thru Sept. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.
Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler • Tahoe City, 530-583-0141.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 530-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • Beach, cruises, boat rentals, 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • 10 mi. north of Reno, then 12 mi. on Red

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Rock Road to reach Animal Ark, 969-3111.
Earth Window Museum • Native American artifacts, 100 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.

Fleischmann Planetarium • Stargazing programs, U of N, 784-4811.

Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.

Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.

National Automobile Museum • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.

National Bowling Stadium • 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.

Nevada Historical Society Museum • 1650 N. Virginia St., closed through Dec. for remodeling, 688-1190.

Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.

Playland • Train, rides, picnicking, Idlewild Park, seasonal hours, 329-6008.

Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater • 334-2077.

Reno Hilton • Water golf, 789-2000.

Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Tours, 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665.

Sierra Arts Center Gallery • 200 Flint St., 329-1324.

Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.

Silver Legacy • Giant mining and laser shows every hour, 325-7396.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.

Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.

Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 574-0290.



A Peek at an Old Iron Horse

Visitors to the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City can ride on a train driven by a steam engine on select weekends throughout the summer. Motor car rides are available most summer weekends.

SPARKS

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Elephant mascots train in their arena, 356-3300.

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum • 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144.

Wild Island • Seasonal, off I-80, 359-2927.

VIRGINIA CITY

Assay Office Museum • 847-0777.

The Castle • Seasonal, 847-0275.

Chollar Mine • Tours, seasonal, 847-0155.

Fourth Ward School Museum • 847-0975.

Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 847-9394.

Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum • Seasonal, 847-0717.

Mackay Mansion Museum • 847-0173.

Mark Twain Museum of Memories • 847-0454.

Nevada Gambling Museum • Old gaming tables, devices, and other memorabilia, 847-9022.

Piper's Opera House • Seasonal, 847-0433.

Ponderosa Mine • Tours, 847-0757.

Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum • 847-0525.

Virginia and Truckee Railroad • Seasonal, 847-0380.

Virginia City Radio Museum • 847-9047.

Virginia City Tours • 786-0866.

Way It Was Museum • 847-0766.

Wild West Museum • Seasonal, 847-0400.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • 345-8668.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Park • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires, seasonal, 849-1825.

Davis Creek Park • 849-0684.

Washoe Lake State Park • East Lake Blvd., 687-4319.

Cowboy Country

ELKO

Jarbridge Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.

Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.

Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508.

Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

LOVELOCK

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 273-7213.

Pershing County Marzen House Museum • 273-7213.

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WINNEMUCCA

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • 623-2925.
Humboldt Museum • 623-2912.

Pony Express Territory

AUSTIN

Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

ELY/GREAT BASIN N.P.

Cave Lake State Recreation Area • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.

East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • Tours, 289-1663.

Great Basin National Park • Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.

Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Train rides on historic locomotives, seasonal. 1100 Ave. A. East Ely, 289-2085.

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.

White Pine Public Museum • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, 237-6006.

Eureka Sentinel Museum • 237-5010.

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • 30 miles west of Fallon at Silver Springs, 577-2345.

Sand Mountain • Unusual giant sand dune. 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.

Pioneer Territory

BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits, 553-2424.

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Beatty, 619-786-2331.

Rhyolite Bottle House Historic Site • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • Exhibits on history of the Hawthorne area. 400 10th St., 945-5142.

Walker Lake State Recreation Area • 945-5896.

PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Pahrump, 619-786-2331.

Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Cathedral Gorge State Park • South of Pioche, 728-4460.

Kershaw-Ryan State Park • South of Caliente, 728-4460.

Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207.

Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 962-5207.

Spring Valley State Park • 728-4460.

Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Eagle Valley Reservoir near the historic mining town of Pioche, seasonal, 728-4460.

TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.

Central Nevada Museum • Artifacts and photographs on Tonopah-area history, 482-9676.

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • 463-2245.

A Reminder: To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. Nevada's area code is 702.



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Lahontan Cutthroat Trout tee (right) features the state fish, and the Mountain Bluebird tee (left) offers the official state bird perched on a branch of the piñon pine, the official state tree. Both shirts are 100% preshrunk cotton. Trout tees (#TFISH) are printed on oatmeal-colored shirt. Sizes M, L, XL, \$15.95; add \$2 for XXL. Bluebird tees (#TBIRD) are printed on a sage-colored shirt. Sizes M, L, XL, \$15.95; add \$2 for XXL.

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Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information. If you plan to stop by a chamber of commerce (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday. Nevada's area code is 702.

Statewide Information

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 456-3838.

Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034.

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1252.

Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951.

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 294-3523.

Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 South, Exit 12, Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360.

Las Vegas C of C: 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616.

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711.

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367.

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445.

Mesquite Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902.

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2702.

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2160.

North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Dayton Area C of C: 15 Main St., Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.).

Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; 686-3030.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 530-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA



Las Vegas at Night

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96145; 530-581-6900 for visitor information.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936.

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 530-541-5255.

Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976.

Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591.

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 530-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE-4-U.

Virginia City C of C: Chamber of commerce is inside V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311.

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245.

Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135.

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091, 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada.

Jackpot Visitor Information: Box 627, Jackpot, NV 89825; 800-411-2052.

Jarbridge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbridge, NV 89826; 488-2315.

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; for information phone 273-7213.

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742.

Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540.

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862.

Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225.

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 964-2200.

Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720.

Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484.
Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-4556 or 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.

Fernley C of C: 485 Truck Inn Way, Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459.

Great Basin C of C: Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 90, Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302.

Greater Fallon Area C of C: 379 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544.

Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2069.

White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877.

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2, Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 372-5459.

Beatty C of C: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424.

Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129.

Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019.

Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-3453.

Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-6365.

Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490.

Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; 463-2245.

Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896.

Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST.

Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544.

Tonopah C of C: 301 Brouwer Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859.

Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah, NV 89049; for information phone 482-3558.

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 806 Holman Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 355-0600.

Indian Territory: Stewart Indian Cultural Center and Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1808.

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 619-786-2331.

Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7331 for park information.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907.

Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-4370.

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 363-1921.

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997.

Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520; 861-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071.

Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171.

Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127.

Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500.

Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 873-8800.

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Gaming Tournaments

A guide to hotel-casino tourneys.

Gaming tournaments are designed for players of all levels. Some hotels offer daily, weekly, and monthly tournaments—some of them free. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a list of gambling events during July and August. It is a good idea to confirm dates and times. Nevada's area code is 702.

Las Vegas Territory

Slots and Keno • July 12 • Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas, 800-225-4882.
An Affair to Remember Slots • July 12-15 • Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5410.
Jamaican Me Crazy Slots • July 12-15 • Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-765-2250.
Rock and Reel Slots • July 14-16 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
Adventures in Paradise Slots • July 19-22 • MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-9410.
Rock and Reel Video Poker • July 21-23 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
Video Poker • July 28 • Flamingo Hilton LV, 800-225-4882.

August Anniversary Slots • Aug. 2-4 • Riverside, Laughlin, 888-REELWIN.
Maximus Slots • Aug. 7-9 • Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-765-2250.
All Shook Up Slots • Aug. 9-12 • Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5410.
Safari Slots • Aug. 16-19 • MGM, Las Vegas, 800-929-9410.
Torrid Blackjack • Aug. 18-20 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
Summer's End Slots • Aug. 25-27 and Sept. 1-3 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Caribbean Slots • June 28-July 1 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Mini Slots • July 5-7 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1147.
Winners' Weekend Slots • July 10-12 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1147.
Bingo Blowout • July 11 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1147.
\$4,000 Slots and Poker • July 15 • Lakeside Inn, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 530-588-7777.
Great Train Robbery Slots • July 17 and 31 • Club Cal-Neva, Reno, 323-1046.

Keno Classic • July 17-19 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1147.
Slots • July 19-21 • Peppermill, Reno, 664-2255.
Over the Rainbow Slots • July 19-22 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Pai Gow Poker • July 24-26 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
\$1 Slot Marathon • July 26-28 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1147.
Silver Legacy's Third Birthday Slots • July 26-28 • Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-215-7721.
Craps • July 26-29 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Video Poker • Aug. 2-5 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Hot Slots • Aug. 9-10 • Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-215-7721.
Summer Classic Slots • Aug. 9-12 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Golden Dollar Slots • Aug. 16-18 • Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.

Rural Nevada

Summer Slots • July 19-21 • Peppermill, West Wendover, 664-2255.
Hot August Nights Slots • Aug. 26-28 • State Line, West Wendover, 664-2221.

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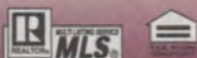
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Dining Directory

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to \$10 (\$), \$11 to \$20 (\$\$), \$21 to \$30 (\$\$\$), and more than \$30 (\$\$\$\$). To phone from out of state or long distance in-state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin/Flamingo Diner—298-5042. Deluxe sandwiches, New York steak, omelets, and malts and shakes. B, L, D, \$, major.

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin/Fruit Basket Buffet—298-5042. Buffet serving a variety of dishes including beef, fish, chicken. B, L, D, \$, major.

Imperial Palace Emperor's Buffet—731-3311. Carving station featuring roast baron of beef. B, L, D, \$, major.

Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet/Teahouse—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D, \$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop—794-9318. Deli-style restaurant. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Caravan Coffee Shop—737-2407. Crab legs, New York steak. B, L, D, \$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Casablanca—737-2407. Prime rib. D, \$\$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Sahara Buffet—737-2407. Variety of entrees including pizza, roast beef, turkey, ham. B, L, D, \$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Mary's Diner—454-8073. All-American cuisine and blue plate specials in a 1950s-style diner. B, L, D, \$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Smokey Joe's Cafe and Market—456-7777. 24-hour coffee shop in a market-style atmosphere featuring prime rib and two-pound dungeness crab dinner. B, L, D, \$\$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/The Great Buffet—456-7777. Variety of entrees and side dishes. B, L, D, \$, major.

Showboat Hotel/Captain's Buffet—385-9154. Seafood extravaganza, prime rib nights and steak and scampi buffet. L, D, \$, major.

CONTINENTAL

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin/Alta Villa—298-5042. Pepper-crusted fillet mignon, shrimp capellini pomodoro, linguini frutta di mare. D, \$\$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries, food from around the world. B, L, D, \$, no CC.

Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet—794-9400. International cuisines plus prime rib. B, L, D, \$, major.

ITALIAN

Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D, \$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano—794-9363. Vermicelli salsa bella vista, lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D, \$-\$\$\$\$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Papamios Italian Kitchen—454-8041. Choose your pasta and sauce with bottomless salad and a glass of wine. D, \$, major.

Showboat Hotel/Di Napoli—385-9154. Veal piccata, shrimp scampi, lobster fra diabolo. D, \$, major.

ASIAN

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D, \$\$, major.



The Flamingo Diner at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin serves nostalgia with its milkshakes.

Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw—794-9537. Entrees include pineapple duck, orange roughy with black pepper sauce. D, \$-\$\$, major.

MEXICAN

Sahara Hotel/Paco's Hideaway—737-2407. D, \$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Willy and Jose's Mexican Cantina—454-8044. Combination platters, enchiladas, fajitas, American specialties, margaritas. D, \$\$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin/Beef Baron—298-5042. Steakhouse offers steak, chicken, ribs, and select prime rib. D, \$\$, major.

Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D, \$\$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D, \$\$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Sahara Steak House—737-2407. Steak and prime rib, open all evenings. D, \$\$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Billy Bob's Steak House—454-8031. Entrees include 28-ounce ribeye steak, rotisserie chicken, fresh catch of the day, prime rib. D, \$\$, major.

Sam's Town Hotel/Diamond Lil's—454-8009. Mesquite broiled steaks, shrimp scampi, veal loin, king crab legs, smoked salmon. D, \$\$, major.

Showboat Hotel/Plantation Room—385-9154. Alaskan King crab legs, chicken pontchartrain, steak and lobster, and blackened catfish. D, \$, major.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

Carson Nugget/Bufet—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D, \$, major.

Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D, \$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 783-6650.

Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D, \$\$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. \$-\$\$, major.

Fitzgeralds Reno/Molly's Garden—785-3300. Omelets, prime rib, sandwiches, salads. Open 24 hours. B, L, D, \$, major.

Fitzgeralds Reno/O'Luck's Buffet—785-3300. Casino buffet restaurant, open daily. B, L, D, \$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple

pancake, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D, \$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. L, D, \$-\$\$, major.

Napa-Sonoma Grocery Co.—2309 Kietzke, Reno, 826-0595. Made to order sandwiches, quiche, salads, soups, chef's specials daily. L, \$, AE, MC, V.

Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D, \$, major.

Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Buffet with prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, chicken cacciatore. B, L, D, \$, major.

ITALIAN

Eldorado Hotel/La Strada—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees. Award-winning wine list. D, \$\$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Eldorado Hotel/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. Express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D, \$, major.

Eldorado Hotel/Chefs' Pavilion Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. Rotisserie chicken, mushroom ravioli, salad bar, prime rib. B, L, D, \$, major.

Eldorado Hotel/Bistro Roxy—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet dishes include Chilean sea bass with Yukon gold potatoes, creamed spinach, and roasted pepper relish. D, \$\$, major.

Eldorado Hotel/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D, \$, major.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$\$, major.

ASIAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$, major.

Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. \$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Clam chowder, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. \$, major.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Entrees include veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, escargot. D. \$\$, major.

Eldorado Hotel/Grill and Rotisserie—Reno, 786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb. D. \$\$, major.

Fitzgeralds Reno/Limerick's Pub and Grille—Reno, 785-3300. Scampi St. Patrick, Emerald Isle Herb Chicken, Erin Creme Filet. L, D. \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. \$\$, major.

Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. \$\$, major.

Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Entrees include medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken, seafood fettucine. D. \$\$, major.

BREW PUBS

Eldorado Hotel/The Brew Brothers—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecued shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. \$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. \$\$, major.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$\$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Steakhouse offers prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. \$\$, major.

Around the State

LOVELOCK: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$; major.

TONOPAH: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Hamburgers, steaks, seafood. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, ribeye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. \$, major.

WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Kentucky Fried Chicken Express—623-2588. L, D. \$. No cc.

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Green Springs Golf Course
By Dick Durreance

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Dancin' in the Night

"Hitz" gets down and boogies at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin.

By Wendy Miller

While many people compare Laughlin to "what Las Vegas used to be," the sunny little gambling mecca on the Colorado River boasts small-town friendliness (as *Nevada Magazine* readers noted when they named Laughlin "Nevada's Friendliest Town" in the Best of Nevada poll). But when it comes to entertainment, Laughlin's offerings are far from small-town. Big names such as Wayne Newton and Willie Nelson frequent the marquees, and production shows are becoming the norm.

One of the newest revues on Casino Row is "Dancin' to the Hitz," an ambitious 90-minute tribute to the music of the last six decades at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin. With talented singers and dancers, "Hitz" is an enjoyable blend of ballads and boogie and one of Laughlin's best entertainment values.

Earlier this summer the cast was led by Billy Hufsey, the singer and TV soap-opera star who appeared in *Fame* and *Days of Our Lives*. Hufsey's costar was Lynn Rose, a statuesque blonde with a knock-out voice. Hufsey and Rose are scheduled to return to "Hitz" this fall. During the summer their roles will be filled by singers T.J. Weaver and Donna Cherry. A former Miss California, Cherry has appeared in "Crazy Girls" at the Riviera in Las Vegas and lays claim to the title "The Woman With a Thousand Voices."

Also, the show's music will vary seasonally. This summer, when the younger California crowd hits the river, the show will emphasize more recent music. In

winter, when "snowbirds" fill Laughlin, the songs will lean more to the '40s, '50s, and '60s.

Two male dancers—Rick Kelly and Tony Anton—and four females—Chena Day, Paige Woodward, Kristen Aston, and Buffy Hornung—round out the cast. With 30 musical numbers, the show's producer, Las Vegas veteran Nannette Barbera, gives each cast member a moment in the spotlight. Barbera, known for her work as producer and choreographer of "Legends in Concert" at the Imperial Palace in Las Vegas, has the same duties in "Hitz," in addition to that of costume designer.

The show begins with big-band songs like Frank Sinatra's "I've Got You Under My Skin." The revue segues to '50s classics such as "Great Balls of Fire" and "Johnny B. Goode" with a video homage to *Grease*. The '60s return with a tribute to Motown, complete with bouffant hairdos and a Diana Ross impersonator.

The second half of the show boogies to

Donna Summer's "Last Dance" and other disco hits of the '70s. A salute to movie music includes "The Heart Does Go On" from *Titanic*.

All this shakin' goes on in the 325-seat Silver Bullet Showroom, which offers a good view from almost every seat. A tip: Showgoers who want to feel a part of the show should choose the free-standing tables and chairs between the stage and upper booths. Also, there are no reserved seats, so it's best to get in line early for "Hitz."

Show Notes

"Dancin' to the Hitz" appears nightly at 7:30 and 9:30 except Friday in the Silver Bullet Showroom at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin. Tickets are \$9.95 general admission, \$12.95 VIP seating, and \$4.95 for ages 12 and under. Call 702-298-5111. ▀

Wendy Miller is a freelance entertainment and feature writer from Lake Havasu.



"Dancin' to the Hitz" presents six decades of popular song and dance. Soap-opera star Billy Hufsey (above and top left), and Lynn Rose (center left) rejoin the cast this fall.

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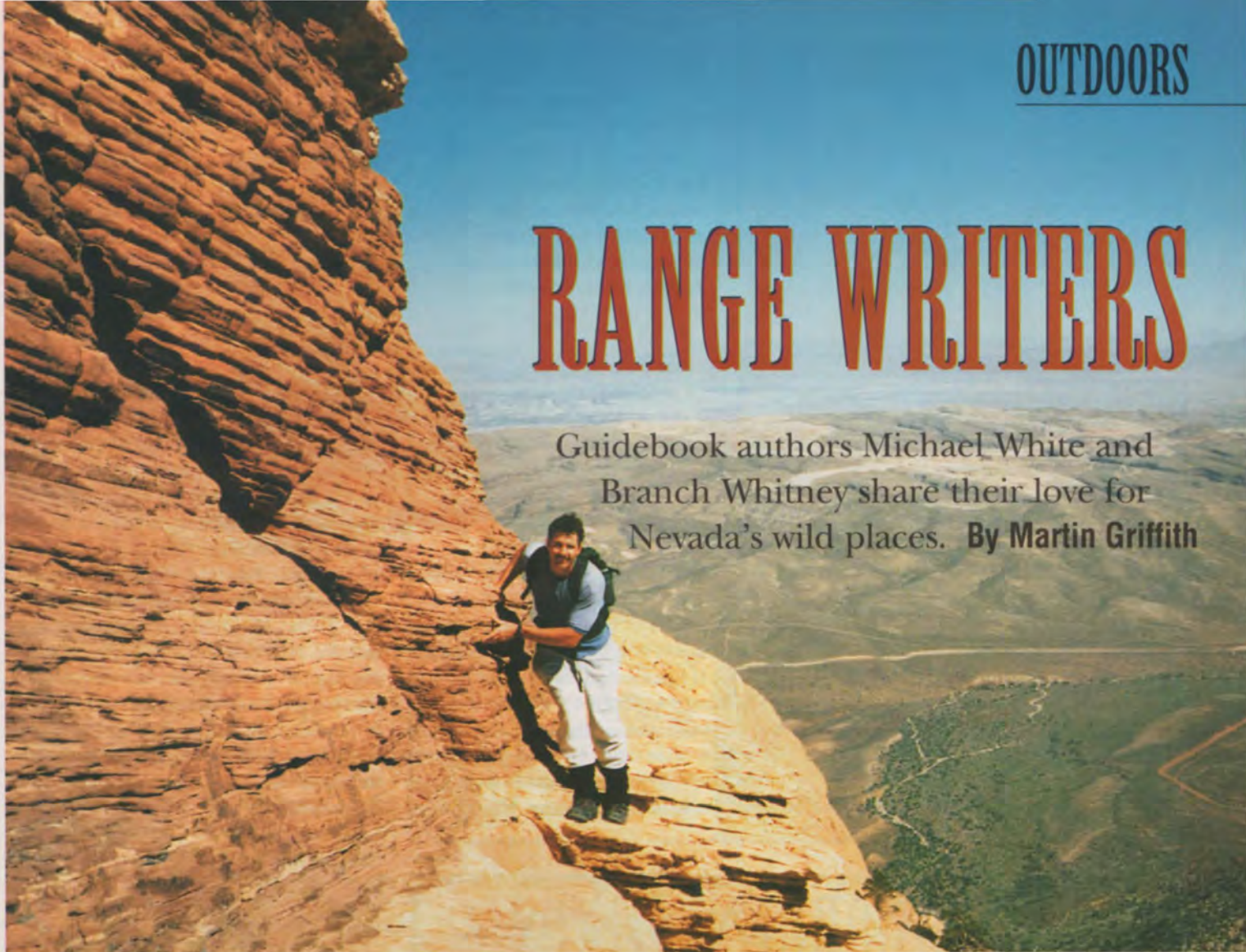
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RANGE WRITERS

Guidebook authors Michael White and Branch Whitney share their love for Nevada's wild places. **By Martin Griffith**



Branch Whitney, a former professional blackjack player, is a longtime hiker. Here he pauses on Rainbow Mountain in Red Rock Canyon high above Las Vegas.

When Michael White moved to Reno in 1976, he felt like a fish out of water. The Portland native missed the green of the Pacific Northwest and intended to stay only two years. "When my wife and I first came to Nevada, it was during a drought and we were wondering how many shades of brown can it get," White recalls.

Then he visited the Ruby Mountains near Elko. "Our second year here, I went on a backpack trip in the Rubies and thought, 'This is Nevada?' It looked more like the Sierra than what I thought about Nevada. Since then Nevada and its sunshine have grown on us, and we love it now."

White is helping others discover the charms of Nevada's high country. His guidebook, *Nevada Wilderness Areas and Great Basin National Park: A Hiking and Backpacking Guide*, covers the state's 14 U.S. Forest Service wilderness areas and Eastern Nevada's national park. Published last year by Wilderness Books in Berkeley,

White's hiking guide is the first to provide detailed trail information and maps for all of Nevada's 798,000-acre wilderness system, most of which was established in 1989. It embraces such scenic areas as the Rubies, Mount Moriah near Ely, Arc Dome near Austin, and Mount Rose near Reno.

At the same time, another avid hiker, Branch Whitney of Las Vegas, saw publication of his own guide, *Hiking Las Vegas: 60 Hikes Within 60 Minutes of the Strip*. Whitney's guidebook, published by Huntington Press of Las Vegas, focuses on Red Rock Canyon and Mount Charleston. It's the first hiking guide to offer detailed directions to virtually every major peak in the splendid 195,610-acre Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, which was created in 1991.

White, a Bible study leader, and Whitney, a former professional blackjack player, took no shortcuts. They walked every inch of the trails they describe and in the process discovered a world of grandeur, solitude, and incomparable



Michael White figures he hiked about 1,000 miles while preparing his guide to the Rubies, Arc Dome, Mount Rose, and other Nevada wilderness areas.

views. During his mountain tramping White found 57 day hikes and backpack trips that he describes in his book. Whitney's guide features 60 day hikes: 20 of them in the Mount Charleston area and 40 more at Red Rock Canyon.

White made 20 trips from his Reno home to ranges across Nevada in 1995 and 1996, pitching his tent everywhere from Mount Charleston to the Jarbidge Wilderness near the Idaho border. As he walked the trails, he talked into a tape recorder to preserve his observations. White wrote the book over successive winters with the help of transcribed notes. He says he divided the project into trips of a week or less to avoid being branded an "absentee father." He and his wife, Robin, a pediatrician, have two sons, David, 16, and Stephen, 12.

"It was a pretty monumental task since Nevada is so big and the wilderness areas



White's and Whitney's guidebooks appeared almost simultaneously. Together the two avid hikers describe more than 100 major wilderness trails in Nevada.

are scattered across the state," White says. "I visited each wilderness area at least once and several of them twice. I figure I logged close to 1,000 miles of hiking and 10,000 miles of driving on my Explorer. I wanted to give my readers enough first-hand information about every major and minor trail so they could make informed decisions about hikes."

The Seattle Pacific University graduate began writing hiking guides for Berkeley-based Wilderness Press after quitting his job as a Sparks engineering firm manager in 1992. He first coauthored a guidebook on Northern California's Trinity Alps. He has books in the works on Lake Tahoe snowshoe trips and Oregon wilderness areas. The veteran backpacker's treks have taken him to the High Sierra, Wind Rivers

in Wyoming, Maroon Bells in Colorado, and other Western scenic areas.

"I fell in love with Nevada wilderness areas," White, 46, says. "I've been backpacking since high school, and I've seen a lot of great areas of the West. Most people can't imagine how beautiful Nevada's backcountry is. Nevada's mountains are so different than what you would expect to find in the most arid state in the nation. Their lushness stands in marked contrast to the desert floors surrounding them." Among the



46-year-old White's most memorable experiences was a wildlife encounter in the Table Mountain Wilderness near Eureka. "I heard the bugling of elk during the fall rut and was lucky enough to see three or four males with their harems. It was a real thrill," he recalls. The sound connected White to a time when civilization as we know it did not exist in Nevada. He says, "I was probably born a

High Country Hikes

Between them, guidebook authors Branch Whitney and Michael White describe nearly 120 day hikes and backpack trips through the best of Nevada's high country. Trail quality is excellent in the Mount Charleston area but varies elsewhere, making the guidebooks' directions and maps indispensable. Hikers also can obtain maps of most Nevada wilderness areas from the U.S. Forest Service.

Following are some of White's and Whitney's favorite hikes, from north to south.

East Humboldt Wilderness: White says the 11.5-mile Boulders Trail in the East Humboldts south of Wells and east of Elko passes through some of the most spectacular backcountry in Nevada and is one of his favorites. It features beautiful alpine lakes, lush canyons, and some of the most brilliant wildflower displays in the Great Basin. The East Humboldts and nearby Rubies are White's personal favorites in Nevada because of their jagged peaks.

Great Basin National Park: Hardy souls visiting the 77,100-acre park near Baker will

want to make the four-mile climb up 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak, Nevada's second-highest peak. Others will want to take the easier trails to Stella and Teresa lakes and a classic bristlecone-pine grove.

Alta Toiyuna Wilderness: The seven-mile hike to 11,941-foot Mount Jefferson via the Pine Creek Trail passes through remote, lonely country south of Austin. Nevada's sixth-tallest peak offers exhilarating views spanning the width of Nevada from California to Utah.

Mount Rose Wilderness: The 9.5-mile Jones Creek-Whites Creek Loop Trail showcases one of the best things about Reno—its proximity to the mountains. Only 16 miles south of downtown Reno, the trail rises steeply from low forest to high, open terrain with uplifting views of two Carson Range sentinels towering 2,000 feet above: Mount Rose and Slide Mountain.

Red Rock Canyon: Relatively flat terrain makes the two-mile Lost Creek Canyon-Children's Discovery Trail ideal for beginners and families, according to Whitney. The trail follows Lost Creek, a permanent

stream, and features impressive sandstone cliffs and a seasonal waterfall. It's best to hike Red Rock Canyon, 18 miles west of downtown Las Vegas, between October and May because of the region's extreme summer heat.

Mount Charleston: Another relatively easy hike is the 1.5-mile, 1,000-foot climb from the Cathedral Rock Picnic Area to Cathedral Rock, with its views straight down to Mount Charleston Lodge and east to the desert floor. It's one of the most popular trails in the Mount Charleston area, 40 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

Red Rock Canyon: Experienced hikers from across the country come to Las Vegas to do the scenic hike to Bridge Mountain, and they don't leave disappointed, Whitney says. The hike takes a minimum of six hours and features a natural bridge and grand views of the Las Vegas Valley. Much of it is cross-country, as is the next hike.

Mummy Mountain: The 11-mile round-trip hike to 11,542-foot Mummy Mountain, the second-highest peak in the Mount Charleston area and 16th-tallest in Nevada, also is for more experienced hikers. The reward is views of Las Vegas and Lake Mead from nearly 10,000 feet above. Peaks in the Mount Charleston area have the greatest vertical rise of any in the state.

—Martin Griffith

century too late. I always felt I should have been part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition."

When he's not in the mountains, White often can be found at the Reno Christian Fellowship church, where he's a youth leader and Bible study teacher. A sense of awe about God's creation and a curiosity about what's around the next bend combined to draw him to backpacking. White, who also belongs to the American Hiking Society and the Nature Conservancy, says, "I really feel blessed to earn a living doing something I love so much."

Branch Whitney shares White's passion for Nevada's wild places. In part, the St. Louis native moved to Las Vegas in 1983 because of its proximity to the mountains. He climbed 11,918-foot Mount Charleston within two weeks of hitting town, and he has since hiked about 3,500 miles.

A man of varied interests, the 40-year-old Whitney also was drawn to Las Vegas by a dream of becoming a professional magician. "At one time or another I learned 1,000 sleight-of-hand tricks from magicians down here," he says. "I used to practice in front of the mirror for hours on end." However, he chose to stay amateur to keep magic enjoyable. Then in 1985 Whitney decided to try his luck as a professional blackjack player. He gambled at Las Vegas casinos over the next three years, winning about \$30,000 a year. He worked five years as a Circuit City salesman before quitting in 1993 to pursue his two loves: hiking and writing. He has written two books on how to win at gambling and a soon-to-be-published hiking guide that focuses on Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Valley of Fire State Park.

Whitney acknowledges his life is a lot more fun now. "You can make a living at blackjack, but it's not easy," he says. "You don't go in and win every night, and it's an emotional roller coaster. Imagine going in and losing \$500 just like that. Plus, it's not a healthy lifestyle. The cigarette smoke really got to me, and I started eating rich food at the casinos. I was up to 250 pounds, and I lost 80 pounds after I quit."

The Southern Illinois University graduate now is a bona-fide fitness enthusiast. He pumps iron four times a week at a gym and averages three hikes a week, including more than two dozen a year as a trip leader for the Sierra Club and Las Vegas Mountaineers. His girlfriend, Susan Murphy, a pharmacist and ex-marathon runner, is a frequent hiking companion.

Whitney began writing the Mount

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Nevada Hiking Trail Guides

Here is a sampling of recommended books on hiking in Nevada, including the guides by Michael C. White and Branch Whitney.

Nevada Wilderness Areas and Great Basin National Park: A Hiking and Backpacking Guide by Michael C. White, 1997. Wilderness Press, 2440 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704 (800-443-7227).

Hiking Las Vegas: 60 Hikes Within 60 Minutes of the Strip by Branch Whitney, 1997. Huntington Press, 3687 South Procyon

Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89103 (702-252-0655).

Nevada's Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Trail Guide by the Bureau of Land Management, 1991. Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Association, HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124.

The Hiker's Guide to Nevada by Bruce Grubbs, 1994. Falcon Press Publishing Company, Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624.

Hiking Great Basin National Park by Bruce Grubbs, 1998. Falcon Press Publishing

Company, Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624.

Hiking the Great Basin by John Hart, 1991. Sierra Club Books, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

Trails to Explore in Great Basin National Park by Rose Houk, 1989. Great Basin Natural History Association, Baker, NV 89311.

Hiking and Climbing in the Great Basin National Park by Michael R. Kelsey, 1988. Kelsey Publishing, 456 East 100 North, Provo, UT 84601.

Great Nevada Day Hikes by Richard Moreno, 1996. Nevada Magazine, 1800 Highway 50 East, Carson City, NV 89701.

—Martin Griffith

Charleston-Red Rock Canyon guide in 1996 after racking up 1,000 miles of hiking in the two areas alone. *Hiking Las Vegas* is the first guidebook to feature cross-country routes to Red Rock Canyon's peaks, which offer spectacular views of Las Vegas and Lake Mead. The book rates hikes by distance, degree of difficulty, and how easy it is to follow the trail. Whitney provides explicit directions with the help of diagrammed photographs.

"Red Rock Canyon and the Mount Charleston area are two of my favorite

things about Las Vegas," Whitney says. "About 30 million visitors a year come to Las Vegas to gamble, but they have no idea how great these places are. Few areas in the world offer such diversity of landscape and year-round hiking.

"You have the traditional, mighty peaks of the Mount Charleston area, and the beautiful sandstone formations, sheer cliffs, and natural arches of Red Rock Canyon. Red Rock is a world-class attraction. It's littered with blocks of sandstone and looks like it's from another planet.

You have red on white or vice versa, and it's beautiful in color, especially at sunrise and sunset."

Whitney and White did not expect what they found in Nevada's islands in the sage, and they won't forget what they saw: massive peaks dominating the landscape, deep canyons, dense forests, ancient bristlecone pines, colorful wildflowers, glacial cirques, sparkling lakes, abundant trout streams, and diverse wildlife, including golden eagles, elk, and bighorn sheep.



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PHOTO: MARY FREEMAN COLLECTION/CHURCHILL COUNTY MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

But the authors agree that what really sets Nevada's backcountry apart is its solitude and views that stretch forever. Crowds at most wilderness areas, especially Currant Mountain, the Grant Range, and Quinn Canyon, are light because they are located hundreds of miles from cities. As a result of the light traffic, no wilderness permits are required in Nevada. Another benefit of the areas' remoteness: exceptional air clarity.

"In the Jarbidge Mountains, I could see the Sawtooths [near Sun Valley, Idaho], and I figured they were 200 miles away," White says. "You see one line of mountains after another in Nevada, and some of the most unspoiled country in the lower 48. Plus, you don't see a soul on most hikes. You really get more of an honest wilderness experience in Nevada than other areas."

Whitney also can't get enough of high elevations. For his next challenge, he's gearing up for an all-day hike this summer over the three loftiest summits in the Mount Charleston area—not once, but twice. The double assaults of Griffith, Mummy, and Charleston peaks, all taller than 11,000 feet, will require 40 miles of walking and 10,000 feet of climbing.

"We're calling it the 'Torture Hike from



White stands above Liberty Lake in the Rubies. He notes that its remoteness helps keep the lake pristine.

Hell," Whitney jokes. "Susan and I did all three peaks in one day last year, and now we want to do them twice in one day. Part of it will have to be done at night." He adds, "I think our chances are good if the weather cooperates."

The couple celebrated last year's feat by climbing back up Griffith Peak with camping gear and watching Las Vegas' Fourth of July fireworks from the summit.

Whitney recalls: "Las Vegas is so bright that it was hard to see the fireworks, but it was a spectacular view of the city at night. You can't believe how peaceful Las Vegas looks from 10,000 feet above." ▀

Martin Griffith is a Reno journalist and avid backpacker who shares a love of Nevada's mountains. He plans to hike the 66-mile Toiyabe Crest Trail south of Austin this summer.

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The big black dog was ready to go back to sleep on the porch of the Red Dog Saloon, one of many Jarbidge buildings that are painted red.

WAY UP NORTH

Jarbidge residents live in splendid isolation
near the Idaho border.

Story by Carolyn Fox/ Photos by Larry Angier and Carolyn Fox

We came in the back door, the way friends do, having driven down from Idaho. We arrived in Jarbidge late in the day, but the town was wide awake. The Tired Devil Cafe was still open, and that's what I felt like. Don Atwood said, "C'mon in," and handed us a menu. He told us we had entered the famous Outdoor Inn, haven for hunters and fishermen. Since we were in Nevada, we ordered a big breakfast for dinner. I noticed the old swivel stools at the counter. Everything was neat and tidy. I perused the *Outdoor Inn Newsletter*: "Prime Rib Saturday Night," "Don't Forget Seafood Tuesday," and "the annual Fourth of July parade will be on the fifth." We were encouraged to start planning our float now.

After eating we wandered into the bar. "No Guns Allowed," said the sign over the door. The next thing that caught my eye was a life-sized sculpture of a muscular satyr—a forest god with legs and horns of a goat—grasping a poor young woman around her thighs. The satyr and bar, we learned, came from the old Golden

Nugget in Las Vegas. Someone had painted the satyr's lips red.

Our cameras caught Bill Therion's eye. He was sitting at the bar finishing a tall glass of water. He said he'd taken a lot of wedding photographs here in town. It was fun, he said, because he'd usually be included in the party. Bill told us about the time he was hiking with his camera and tripod. A storm came up fast, and he was afraid of being struck by lightning, so he took cover in an outhouse. Then he had second thoughts. What if he should be killed in an outhouse? His friends would never let him live it down. So he spent the rest of the storm hiding under a bridge with a wet raccoon. Bill sighed, "God, I love this place."

That night, at Don's suggestion, we camped north of town. We woke up late, but everything was still wet from the dew. It was late June, and spring was just arriving in these mountains 100 miles north of Elko.

Jarbidge was a late bloomer, a gold rush town with telephone service. The mining district was organized in the fall of 1909, but



Don Atwood serves as chef, waiter, and recreational advisor at the cafe.

the rush had to wait until the thaw next spring. Old photos show canvas tents along the creek. Jarbidge gets its name from the Shoshone word *Tsawhawbitts*, referring to a man-eating giant.

For the past 28 years Jack and Dot Creechley have run the bar and cafe and, up the street, the Red Barn Hotel. Dot told me that every Friday in summer the town is full of dudes and buckaroo gals relaxing after a six-day ride from the Cottonwood Ranch. There is live music, and all join in the Virginia reel if they haven't gotten too bowlegged.

As we wandered the town that morning, we noticed a sign directing us to a drinking establishment at the other end of town. "Red Dog Saloon, Thursday night, unescorted women 1/2 off bar prices, that a way."

After breakfast Sue Heil, one of Jarbidge's 40 residents, showed us the Community Hall. Inside, the back wall was painted with a mural surrounded with old-fashioned advertising similar to what we had seen at the Eureka Opera House, and just as grand.

Back out in the sunlight, down the street a young man was warming up his John Deere tractor while he stood beside it. In no time several townsmen gathered to chew the fat.

There's not much auto traffic in Jarbidge. Everyone rides on ATVs. In Jarbidge they call 'em "four wheelers."

We met Bill riding his four wheeler. He invited us to tag along on a trail ride that afternoon. We said we planned to take the road out at the south end of town. He warned us that it was still blocked by snow. Looking around, he added, "God, I love this place." ▀

Carolyn Fox and Larry Angier, roving photographers from Jackson, California, report that travelers can write or call the Outdoor Inn for more information on Jarbidge and community events: Box 260093, Jarbidge, NV 89826. Phone 702-488-2311. Fox notes that Jarbidge residents were given six-digit P.O. boxes so their mail wouldn't go to Jackpot.

Photos: Larry Angier (top left, middle right), Carolyn Fox (top and bottom right)



Our campsite. When the miners were here, the canyon was barren. But the trees grew back, and the area is part of Humboldt National Forest.



We met Bill Therion in the Outdoor Inn. Bill said that on his first night in Jarbidge the temperature was minus-38 degrees.



There's more conversation than traffic on Jarbidge's unpaved main street.

TWO-TIRED IN THE TOIYABES

Mountain bikers make tracks to Austin, Nevada's new fat-tire central.

By Jim Andersen

If ever there was a perfect fit, it would be the knobby tires of a mountain bike with the granite of the Toiyabe Mountain Range—where the rubber meets the road, so to speak.

Look at a Nevada map to see where that might best be accomplished—where you might find a Toiyabe Mountain town that can provide gas, lodging, provisions, mountain-bike parts, frozen cappuccino, stuff like that—and the obvious choice would be Austin.

Mountain-bike parts? Frozen cappuccino? In Austin?

Yes. Three years ago, Rick Crawford, a plumber by trade, took one look at the mountains around Austin, the valleys, old mining roads, and isolated wildlife trails. Without the benefit of any market research—or mountain-bike experience, for that matter—he promptly opened a mountain-bike shop called *Tyrannosaurus Rix* (T-Rix to those of us with less agile tongues). Crawford saw a dovetail between location and opportunity, and, once the market was created, between supply and demand.

"Everything just sort of came together for this particular enterprise," he says. "My folks had moved to this area, the Forest Service was looking to develop something related to mountain biking, and there was a good building available in a good location." With a shrug, he concludes, "There just didn't seem to be any reason not to do it."

So he attended the Bicycle Institute in Ashland, Oregon, acquired the building and bikes, painted a sign, and presto! T-Rix, an American Tale.

Well, almost presto. There was a little more to it than that, and it is ongoing.

Working with the Austin Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service, the chamber of commerce, and the Toiyabe Crest Trail



A pair of mountain bikers pause to soak up the views along the 24-mile Crest Cut-Off, one of Austin's six trails in the Toiyabes. The Crest Cut-Off is considered "challenging" with a top elevation of 8,934 feet.

Committee, Crawford has mapped out six well-marked trails (with six more in the works) and published a trail guide. Almost all of the present trails are "two-track,"

which is the mountain biker's term for "dirt road." That is somewhat of a drawback, as most devotees seem to prefer the single track of a path or wildlife route.



T-Rix owner Rick Crawford of Austin offers frozen cappuccino with his mountain-bike rentals.

That objection aside, the consensus of riders who have visited the area is enthusiastic. Spike Lacombe, an avid mountain biker from Pahrump who has ridden trails in Southern Nevada, California, Utah, and Arizona, says he finds the Austin area "challenging." Lacombe particularly noted the high elevations—up to 9,000 feet—

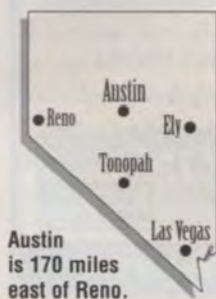
The Pahrump mountain biker says, "You're either struggling up or coasting down. It's terrific."

and the curious fact that flatness is nowhere to be found. He says, "You're either struggling up or coasting down. It's terrific."

His drummer is different than mine, for sure.

Not that I haven't ridden the trails; I have. But my particular bicycle was equipped with a large engine and a kick-starter, and even at that I made a lot of rest stops. The advanced trail, listed in the trail guide as the Crest Cut-Off, is truly, as Lacombe says, "challenging." About a third of the 24-mile track runs along the top

of the mountain range, which in profile resembles the pulse line seen in heart attack victims. I'll tip my helmet to anyone, whether astride a bicycle, motorcycle, ATV, or horse,



who remains upright from start to finish on that one.

At the opposite end of the scale is the Castle Loop, a pleasant 4.5-mile trail that embraces the best a summer morning has to offer. In between you'll find a variety of trails, including the original trails used by the Overland Stage and the Pony Express.

Historic artifacts in the form of stone buildings, walls, ruins, headframes, and abandoned mine shafts are everywhere. They are usually better left alone—better for the artifact, better for the shade-seeking denizens within, and almost certainly better for you.

The blend of scenery and history with the clean air and blue sky will clear your mind, guaranteed. I experienced it in 1974 and never left. Austin is the home of the slower pace, where bicycles belong.

However, since mountain biking involves human beings and wheels, racing is inevitable. Last year T-Rix offered both downhill and cross-country races in its AMBA-sanctioned Lost World Challenge, attracting 45 entrants who gained a sincere appreciation of the event's name.

The downhill course followed a pole-line road from the head of Marshall Canyon to the rodeo grounds just below

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Austin. It's a 4.5-mile track, and the fastest time was nine minutes and 13 seconds. That's averaging nearly 30 mph, on a bicycle, over rocks, through brush, and around disaster. I've never ridden the course, but I have peered down from the starting point, and all I can guess is that it must flatten out considerably toward the bottom. Near the top, there's no way something on wheels could go anywhere near that slow.

Although the racers might make a less-than-fit spectator feel like the low end of the food chain, there is a certain satisfaction to be had from sitting calmly in the shade with a cold one while the battered contestants try to catch their breath.

This year's race is certain to be bigger and better. It will be the second in a series of two NORBA-sanctioned races this summer, the first scheduled in Tonopah during Jim Butler Days, July 25-26. In Austin the races take place on August 22-23. The combined



Austin's trails are making a splash with racers, who can compete in the Claim Jumper Mountain Bike Festival July 25-26 in Tonopah and August 22-23 in Austin.

event is now called the Claim Jumper Mountain Bike Festival and is sponsored by the Central Nevada Mountain Biking Association, which Crawford helped

create. The group beckons bikers to "come enjoy the joy of dirt" near such Central Nevada towns as Austin, Round Mountain, and Tonopah.

The rest of the season, from May through October, weather permitting, the Toiyabes' mountain-biking trails provide a spectacular challenge to those who want to get away from it all. To those who aren't sure whether they want to get away from it all, or even whether mountain biking is for them, T-Rix also offers rental bikes from \$10 to \$40 per day in the perfect setting to find out. As they say in Nevada, what have you got to lose? ▀

Jim Andersen of Austin is thinking about trading in his bike for one that doesn't have a kick-starter. For more information about the mountain-bike trails and races in the Toiyabes, call T-Rix, home base for the CNMBA, at 702-964-1212 in Austin.

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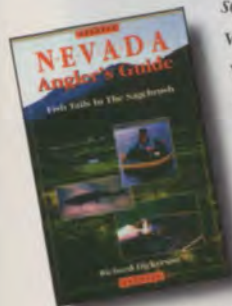
Nevada Bookshelf

New on the outdoors.

Nevada Angler's Guide: Fish Tails in the Sagebrush

by Richard Dickerson. Frank Amato Publications, Portland, OR 97282. 156 pages, \$14.95

softcover. Dickerson, a Reno writer and avid angler, reviews more than 500 fishable streams and 125 lakes and reservoirs in Nevada. Dividing the state by region and county, Dickerson describes the types of fish found in each place and offers details regarding directions, fishing seasons, and water conditions.



Guide to Fly Fishing in Nevada

by Dave Stanley and Jeff Cavender. David Communications, 6171 Tollgate, Sisters, OR 97759. 72 pages, \$14.95 softcover. Stanley and Cavender, both of the Reno Fly Shop, have written a guide to fly fishing in Nevada that will appeal to beginning and experienced "afishianados." The authors describe the types of fish found in the state and the best flies to use. The book spotlights more than two dozen fishing lakes and streams with detailed maps.

Rockhounding Nevada

by William A. Kappeler. Falcon Publishing, Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624. 176 pages, \$12.95



softcover. Kappeler, an experienced rockhound, writes about 94 Nevada sites where rock collectors can dig for everything from agates to opalites. Kappeler includes maps and advice on tools, visiting seasons, and transportation. This book will be a good resource for anyone interesting in rock hunting in Nevada.—Richard Moreno

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Roy Frisch

(Continued from page 22)

on June 20, 1962. Bill Graham died three years later, November 5, 1965.

George Wingfield never discussed the matter publicly and professed to be as mystified as anyone. He wrote to a former employee, "No one can figure it out and all we can hear is different rumors." Wingfield died on December 25, 1959.

As for John Paul Chase, he refused to testify before a federal grand jury in 1938.

He was transferred from Alcatraz to Leavenworth in 1954 and was paroled in 1966 after 31 years behind bars. He moved to Palo Alto, finding work as a janitor. He died there on October 5, 1973.

Even Frisch's friends tended to be reluctant to discuss his disappearance. Joseph Fuetsch, Frisch's assistant who testified in Graham and McKay's New York trials, once told this writer that he had no doubt that Frisch had been killed by Nelson and Chase, but he said he knew nothing about the location of the body. Fuetsch died last April.

Numerous theories about Frisch's fate



The Frisch family home. For years Roy's sister Louisa kept the porch light on for her brother.

have been reported over the years. Tom Majors, a prospector living near the Adelaide Mine near Winnemucca, said he had seen two cars and several men there on the same evening Frisch disappeared. The shaft at the abandoned mine, a Wingfield property, went down 400 feet, and there are rumors to this day that Frisch's remains lie at the bottom of the Adelaide.

Two years ago a story resurfaced to the effect that Frisch's body had been buried in George Wingfield's backyard overlooking the Truckee River. In 1934 Wingfield lived at 219 Court Street, two doors east of the Frisch residence. Detectives from the Reno Police Department investigated but were unable to get permission from the present owner to excavate. As a historian researching Reno's past, I recall being told of the body in Wingfield's backyard about 20 years ago, but I considered the source unreliable. I later heard the same tale from another source, but again kept it to myself.

At one time Howdy Wilson, who lived on Court Street in the 1930s, said that he had heard "some pick and shovel work" going on in Wingfield's backyard that night but knew nothing else. Frisch's sister Louisa was said to have known the story and often looked down on Wingfield's backyard from an upper-floor window.

However, Theresa Frisch, the widow of Roy's nephew Charles, said she had her doubts. After hearing Wilson's story, she told the *Reno Gazette-Journal* in 1996 that Louisa had kept the porch light on for years in the hope that her brother would return, as had her mother until her death in 1943. "It would have driven the family crazy if they thought that Roy was buried

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nearby," she said, "and they could see that yard every day."

Recently, Theresa Frisch told me that the family had not previously been aware of the story of Wingfield's back yard. She first heard the story in 1996, she said, and does not believe that there is anything to it. Louisa, Roy's sister, who died in 1994 at age 101, never mentioned it to her, nor did any other family members. Theresa Frisch said that, as far as she knows, Graham, McKay, and Nelson were responsible for Roy Frisch's disappearance. Other family members feel the same way, she said. Also, she said she does not think that Frisch had any part in the mail-fraud scheme.

Fifty years after Frisch's disappearance, on March 22, 1984, some friends and I met at 9:30 p.m. at the corner of Sierra and Court—the time and place Roy Frisch was last seen alive.

As we walked west on the north side of Court Street toward the Frisch residence, we saw no ghosts, nor did we hear anything. But we had a psychic with us. She said she perceived a long black car, perhaps a Buick, two men, one with a gun, and a third man being grabbed and hauled into the car. And there the story rests. ▀

Phillip I. Earl is curator of history at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno and the author of the "This Was Nevada" newspaper series.

Movie Time?

Part of the lore of the Roy Frisch case is that Frisch went to a movie, *Gallant Lady*, on March 22, 1934, the last night he was seen alive. However, it is possible that he simply may have gone walking in downtown Reno that evening. *Gallant Lady*, an 86-minute tearjerker starring Ann Harding and Clive Brook, was playing at 7 and 9 p.m. at the Majestic, located at First and Lake streets. Frisch didn't leave the house until 7:45 p.m., and for him to be seen walking back home at 9:45 or 10:15, he would have had to leave the theater long before the end of the 9 p.m. showing. (Perhaps the movie was too sentimental for his taste.)

The *Reno Evening Gazette* reported on March 26, 1934: "Efforts to determine definitely whether Frisch visited the Majestic theatre Thursday night have been fruitless. Statements of persons who say they saw him at the theatre are indefinite and officers are inclined to believe now that he never attended the theatre."

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Basque Road Trip



An intrepid team of researchers visited seven Basque eateries in four days. The verdict: Let's do it again.

By Steve Bass and Larry Errea

Just how many Basque meals can five guys from Bakersfield eat in one long weekend? Last summer we decided to travel to Nevada to find out. The lure was the 34th National Basque Festival in Elko over the Fourth of July weekend, but none of us really needed an excuse. The trip was more of a mission than a vacation.

Three of us are Basque, one is half Basque, and the other is married to a Basque, so we've all had more than our share of Basque food. We've also sipped enough picon punch to consider ourselves leading authorities on the potent potable and thus saw it as our duty to rate this American-Basque drink at each establishment. Our group consisted of Gracian Errea, nephew Larry Errea, J.B. Curutchague, who owns the Chalet Basque restaurant in Bakersfield, and Steve Bass, the lone *gringoa*, who is married to Gracian's daughter Judy. Later, Steve's son Greg would join our research team.

With noble intentions in mind, we left Bakersfield at six in the morning on July 3. We drove U.S. 395 northward along the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada, arriving in Gardnerville for lunch.

At noon we pulled up to the Overland Hotel for our first meal and first picons. Old-time Basque hotels like the Overland have an Old World charm that's hard to imitate. In most, a bar stands in the entrance, and entire families feel comfortable waiting there for dinner and conversing with other patrons. The food is hearty peasant fare, heavy on the meat and garlic. Large portions are common. Meals start with soup, bread, and salad and soon progress to vegetables, French fries, one or two entrees, and dessert. Wine is often included. For the real Basque experience, red wine should always accompany the meal.

The Overland's owner, Elvira Ceño, was

sitting on a stool in the cheery bar and greeted us in Basque: "*Nola zira?*" ("Hello, how are you?") After a visit and a picon punch, she led us into the dining room.

We ate lunch family style, passing the tureen of soup and platters of side dishes. A chilled bottle of red wine was included in the price of lunch. The soup had a chicken base of small pasta shells, onions, and tomatoes. We devoured the bread and side dishes of French fries, smoky pinto beans with stew meat, chorizo, carrots, potatoes, and celery. The green salad had hard-boiled eggs, purple onions, and tomatoes. For our entree we each faced two huge lamb shoulder steaks, griddle-fried and smothered in garlic.

Full, we declined the ice cream and coffee. It was the only time on the trip that Gracian didn't have dessert. While most of

The picon punch seems to have evolved into a uniquely American-Basque drink.

us were too full, Gracian, the smallest (145 pounds) and oldest of us, could be counted on to eat two or more desserts at each sitting. He became a sort of folk legend that weekend.

The bill came to \$12 per person. Elvira kidded that she hoped she had enough food left for her own family's lunch.

Before leaving Gardnerville we walked to the J.T. and the Pyrenees Bar to sample their picons (we didn't have time to visit the Carson Valley Country Club, another Basque restaurant). At the J.T., proprietor J.B. Lekumberry showed us the bar's ceiling—covered with paper money that he tosses up with a tack. There were even some \$100 bills stuck up there. We had

to wonder, how many picons had those people had?

Then we crossed the street to visit Juan and Michelle Leonis' Pyrenees Bar for more beverage research. Picon punch is a seemingly innocent concoction of a dash of grenadine, Torani Amer aperitif, soda water, a brandy float, and a twist of lemon. It is, however, extremely intoxicating. Picons are now rarely, if at all, served in the Basque Provinces of Spain and France. They seem to have evolved into a uniquely American-Basque drink and can be found at any Basque eating establishment in the West. Legend has it that the drink is named after a Sergeant Picon who, while in the French army, discovered the liquor made from a bitter root in North Africa. While most places have Picon brand aperitif, they usually pour the less expensive Torani Amer. (During our trip, one of us always served as the designated driver, whose duties included taking notes and recording each person's opinion. One should never drink, especially picon punches, and drive.) Our group then headed north to Reno. After registering at the Peppermill, we were joined by Greg Bass, who flew in from San Francisco to join our gastronomic quest.

That night we visited the Santa Fe, one of Reno's original Basque hotels. Situated near a railroad station, these hotels provided a refuge where Basque sheepherders could stay or converse with someone in their native tongue. The Santa Fe is located on Lake Street in the shadow of Harrah's. J.B. first visited the place in 1957, and it is still run by the same brother and two sisters he met then: Joseph, Anita, and Ole Zubillaga. Joseph has turned over most of the bartending to his son Phillip, but Anita and Ole still wait on diners.

Joseph quietly mixed our picons. We asked him what was for dinner. In a typically understated Basque fashion he replied, "Oh, something good, I think."

At the Santa Fe you eat family style at the long tables. You may be seated with another family or party, so don't be bashful—you'll soon be talking with people who were strangers just minutes ago. You also don't order. Anita or Ole simply start serving you heaping dishes of wonderful food.

They served us a white bean and barley soup, pinto beans with sausage and carrots, spaghetti with meat sauce, long-cut homemade French fries, and huge platters of pork chops. We had wine and more dry jack cheese than the entire table could eat. The cost was \$12.

Friday, July Fourth, found us cruising Interstate 80 to Winnemucca for lunch and Elko for dinner. Interstate 80 follows the old California Trail across Nevada. Armed with Harold Curran's book, *Fearful Crossing*, we were able to spot key points on the Donner Party's route while riding in air-conditioned comfort. Near Wadsworth we saw hillside terraces formed by ancient Lake Lahontan. We slowed down in Lovelock to look at the old false-front buildings near the railroad tracks. We

waited as the Fourth of July parade moved down the main street, a part of Nevada's small-town life most tourists never see.

As we turned down Bridge Street in Winnemucca, we experienced our only disappointment of the trip. The Winnemucca Hotel was closed for the Fourth. The hotel, which dates to 1866, is owned by Mike Olano and his son Mike Jr. We looked in the windows, hoping that someone would open the doors and let us in. We weren't alone, as a group of Basques from San Francisco joined us on the sidewalk. Later, we met Mike Sr. in Elko. He laughed good-naturedly and said, "We weren't there, were we? We closed so we could come to Elko." He invited us to drop in on Monday, but our schedule wouldn't allow it. Next year.

It was the same story at Winnemucca's three other Basque places—the Martin Hotel, Ormachea's Dinner House, and San Fermin Restaurante. So we bought some sourdough bread, cheese, salami, olives,

and a bottle of wine and sat down to lunch in the park near the rodeo grounds.

Elko was crowded with festival goers when we arrived that afternoon. After settling into our rooms at the Holiday Inn, it was off to Silver Street. The Star Hotel, Nevada Dinner House, and Biltoki are all located a few steps from each other on Silver Street.

The Star Hotel was our choice for supper. Owned by Miguel and Teresa Leonis and Severiano Lazcano, the Star was packed with locals and out-of-towners, but no one was a stranger. Miguel is an accomplished *pelota* (handball) player; we had seen him just the week before in Bakersfield playing handball at the Kern County Woolgrowers Association picnic.

After sampling Miguel's powerful picons, we sat down to eat family style. Tonight our feast included vegetable soup with leeks, excellent pinto beans with bacon, green beans with garlic, spaghetti with a light sauce, and home-cut French

Along Silver Street people were singing and dancing.



The team's stops included the Martin, Biltoki (upper left), and Louis'. The guys marveled when Miguel Saralegi balanced a 250-pound stone at Elko's Basque festival (center). Lower right: J.B. Curutchague, Gracian Errea, Steve Bass, and Larry Errea (from left) toast their trip.

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fries. We ordered steaks and lamb chops, but nothing could have prepared us for the servings—six huge lamb chops, 20-ounce top sirloins, and a T-bone that must have weighed a pound and a half, all smothered in garlic. Larry declared his T-bone to be the best he'd ever had. We ordered an excellent merlot. The cost for food was \$14 to \$17 per person. How could this be equaled? (We'd find out tomorrow night.)

After dinner we bumped into eight people from Bakersfield and, along with what seemed like every other person in Northeastern Nevada, drove up to the fairgrounds for the fireworks. Then we repaired to the Nevada Dinner House and Biltoki for more picon research. Everywhere along Silver Street families and groups were talking, singing, and dancing Basque folk dances. Occasionally we heard an *irrintzi*, a Basque yell or war cry, echo in the night, causing the hair on the back of our necks to stand straight out.

The next morning we had omelettes at the only Basque place not on Silver Street, the Toki Ona ("good place" in Basque). We'll try the Idaho Street restaurant for dinner next year.

After the parade, we went to the festival contests at the fairgrounds. Even though we weren't dancing, singing, lifting weights, chopping wood, or pulling in the tug-o-war, we worked up powerful appetites just watching Miguel Saralegi handle a 250-pound granite stone like a beach ball. He then lifted a 640-pound weight to his shoulder four times, balanced it on the back of his neck, and walked around with the weight perched on his shoulders!

Viewing this was all very exhausting, so we went to Biltoki, which means "gathering place" in Basque. While we waited for our table, we made new acquaintances and listened as someone sang in Basque. The singer, or *bertsolari*, made up the songs and melodies as he went along.

Seated, we noticed the huge portions of meats on surrounding tables. It looked as if we might match last night's volume. Could that be possible? On a neighboring table we spotted a lobster so large it could have crawled off the screen of a Japanese horror movie. Three of us had lamb roast, one a filet mignon, and one cod in white sauce. The vegetable soup, we all agreed, was the finest we'd had in Nevada. We also were served spaghetti with tomato sauce, mixed vegetables, and thinly sliced French fries cooked well done. Very good. The cod had been breaded and covered with a delicious white sauce. The filet mignon was about 15 ounces and smothered in garlic. It was the lamb roast, however, that set us all back in our chairs. On each platter, in a brown gravy with mushrooms, were six thick slices of lamb. One platter would have



Johnnie Aguirre mixes a picon punch at Biltoki in Elko.

Basque Eateries

Traveling gourmands can sample a number of Basque restaurants in Nevada. All are known for vast quantities of food and the potent American-Basque beverage, the picon punch. Nevada's area code is 702.

Reno has Louis' Basque Corner (323-7203) and the Santa Fe Hotel (323-1891), both near the downtown casinos.

In Carson City, the Villa Basque Deli offers breakfast, lunch, and chorizos (884-4451).

There are three Basque restaurants in Gardnerville (see "Land of Basque Proportions" by Heidi Hart, July/August '96): the Carson Valley Country Club (265-3715), J.T. Basque Bar and Dining Room (782-2074), and the Overland Hotel (782-2138). The Pyrenees Bar offers tapas (782-5459).

Winnemucca has four: the Martin Hotel (623-3197), Orrachea's Dinner House (623-3455), the San Fermin (625-2555), and the Winnemucca Hotel (623-2908).

Elko also has four: Biltoki (738-9691), the Nevada Dinner House (738-8485), the Star Hotel (738-9925), and Toki Ona (738-3214).

fed the three of us very comfortably. Cost for food was \$14 to \$18. A spicy zinfandel topped off the dinner.

Five meals down, and two to go.

Sunday we headed to the park for a Mass delivered in Basque, a sheepherder's bread auction, and a picnic lunch of pinto beans, New York steak, lamb steak, green salad, roll, wine cake for dessert, and a glass of red wine. The cost was \$12; we purchased two lunches for all of us to sample. Families shared their tables, and we met a possible long lost relative from Spain whose last name is Errea and hails from Gracian's father's hometown of Burguete.

At three o'clock we headed west for Reno. Having met Mike Olano at the Star, we knew he wouldn't be opening the Winnemucca Hotel that day, so we stopped at the Martin Hotel on Railroad Street in Winnemucca. At the Martin you enter through the mandatory bar and look into a parlor filled with Victorian furniture. There are hitching posts outside in case

the bronco you rode up on has four legs instead of four wheels. We sampled their picon punch. Then back on I-80 West.

In Reno we headed directly for Louis' Basque Corner on Fourth Street. Owned by Louis and Lorraine Erreguible, it is one of Nevada's best-known Basque eateries.

We sat with three students recently graduated from Stanford. While they asked J.B. and Gracian numerous questions about Basque customs and food, we dug into our meal of bread, green salad, vegetable soup with lots of celery, potatoes, leeks, cabbage, and tomatoes, pinto beans with sausage and carrots, and French fries. The first meat course on Sunday (it changes daily) was oxtails Bourguignon cooked with carrots and mushrooms in a wine sauce. We each had two lamb chops covered with garlic. Ice cream and a glass of wine were included. Cost was \$15 to \$17. It was the last Basque meal of the trip, so we ordered red wine and jack cheese to share with our new friends and students of Basque culture.

Now it was back to the Peppermill to sort through our notes and try to rate the meals and picons.

First, we were all glad that we had made the 1,600-mile journey. We had learned some history, met dozens of people, and ate wonderful meals. In addition, we were able to experience a piece of the past. With no Basque sheepherders coming to the United States any longer, festivals such as Elko's keep traditions alive.

Second, we didn't get to try all the Basque restaurants. We will complete our samplings in future trips.

The best Basque restaurant in Nevada? We found it impossible to make that distinction. Each place has a core of faithful followers, and each excels in a different way. Judge for yourself.

The best picon punch in Nevada? Again we're going to let the readers make their own call. As with all alcoholic drinks, folks should take beverages (especially picons) in moderation and be sure to have a designated driver.

In the end, we did take a certain pride in meeting our challenge—seven Basque meals in four days in three cities. Would we do it again? We've already made plans, plotted our route, and made reservations for this summer. If you happen to be in one of Nevada's Basque restaurants this July and see several fellows watching carefully as the picon is being mixed or taking notes in an old, food-stained notebook during dinner while the cook is laughing and calling them *txerriak* (pigs), come over and say hello. We'd like to meet you. ♡

Steve Bass and Larry Errea live in Bakersfield. They plan to take another Basque dining trip this July with an expanded research team.

White Pine Lunkers

Casting for big fish at Cave Lake and Illipah, two trout-laden reservoirs near Ely.

By Richard Dickerson

“Just missed a bite,” a fisherman calls across the lake. His voice carries over Cave Lake’s placid waters as the sun peeks above the Schell Creek Mountains. A splash in another part of the lake signals that someone has caught a fish. The angler’s reel sings to the rising sun.

Cave Lake is one of two distinctly different high-desert reservoirs that angling visitors will find near Ely in White Pine County. The second is Illipah Reservoir on the road to the ghost town of Hamilton. While many visitors come to Ely to ride the historic Nevada Northern Railway and explore Great Basin National Park, anglers also can enjoy these two excellent trout-fishing lakes.

Cave Lake State Park has two campgrounds, one with 16 sites and the other 20, that sit among the aspens and junipers 15 miles south of Ely. The lake is set in the Schell Creek Range. Higher up, elk and deer forage where scrub pine and mountain mahogany grow around rim-rock walls. In summer the mountains, trees, and water make a postcard-like setting where campers often linger longer than they had planned.

Trolling is a favorite tactic at Cave Lake, aided by the concrete boat ramp and floating dock (boaters must adhere to the



Cave Lake is one of two popular fishing holes in White Pine County where anglers are hooked on trout.

5-mph, no-wake rule). Shore casters get their share of fish, too. All the popular baits and lures work.

It is trout that lures anglers to Cave Lake. Most of the fish are rainbows and average about 11 inches long. Every year, however, a lucky angler will catch one in the 20-inch range. Also, a few reclusive and difficult-to-catch brown trout live in the 32-acre lake. The browns can get big—the state record brown of 27 pounds, five ounces was hooked here in 1984—but few are caught.

Illipah is another productive White Pine trout-fishing hole. Illipah Reservoir lies in a nearly treeless bowl of hills on the east side of the White Pine Range, 37 miles west of Ely. The turnoff, on U.S. 50 halfway between Ely and Eureka, also leads to the ghost town of Hamilton. A one-and-a-half-mile stretch of graded gravel road leads to the reservoir. Although the turnoff is well marked, sage-covered hills hide the reservoir from the highway.

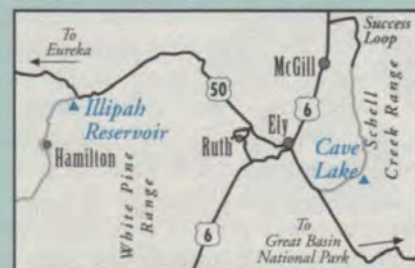
To local fishermen, Illipah is known for its large brown trout, but the reservoir grows a few big rainbows as well. Dale Elliot, a recently retired Eureka game warden, recalls checking several Illipah browns over five pounds during his 30-year career. One lucky angler recently took three browns over six pounds. The largest was 11 pounds, and all three took a Rapala lure. Brown trout spawn in Illipah Creek, but few reach the line-straining five- to 10-pound mark. Also, few anglers fool the big

browns. One needs dedication and skill to catch the old and wary brown trout.

Fishermen find plenty of Illipah rainbow trout, however. Rainbows willingly bite bait, lures, or flies. During a spring visit Reno fly fisherman Ron Privrasky discovered Illipah’s rainbows. From his pontoon-like kick boat, Privrasky landed two rainbows over 20 inches. While most rain-

Ely-Area Angling

Anglers can camp at Cave Lake State Park, 15 miles south of Ely, for \$12 a night. Small boats cannot exceed 5 mph. Call Nevada State Parks, 702-728-4467. Overnight camping is free at Illipah, 37 miles west of Ely, although there are no developed campsites. A Nevada fishing license and trout stamp are required. An annual license is \$51 for non-residents and \$21 for residents; a trout stamp is \$5. A one-day license is \$12 (\$4 each additional day) for nonresidents and \$7 (\$2 additional day) for residents; price includes a trout stamp. The limit at both reservoirs is five trout. Call the Nevada Division of Wildlife’s Elko office, 702-738-5332, for information about licenses and fishing regulations.



bows average about 12 to 15 inches, a few of the bigger models fall to hook and line every year.

"Illipah is a hidden jewel out in the desert. They grow some nice-sized fish," Privrasky says. He adds that at Illipah, "fly fishing is the only way to go." The southern portion of the lake—farthest from the dam—has thick aquatic weed beds by late summer. As a result, there are plenty of insects for trout to eat and fly fishermen to imitate. Midges, mayflies, damselflies, and dragonflies all can be found in Illipah Reservoir. Privrasky used sinking fly lines to get the flies down to the fish.

Overnight camping is allowed at Illipah, but the facilities are just above primitive. If you stay there, expect only picnic tables, fire pits, and vault toilets with cedar-fence wind breaks. There is no concrete boat ramp, but float tubes and kick boats can

"Illipah is a hidden jewel out in the desert," says Reno fly fisherman Ron Privrasky.

launch almost anywhere as can small boats on trailers and car-top watercraft.

Unlike Cave Lake, Illipah is sheltered by neither trees nor mountains. Visiting fishermen can expect the weather to be blustery. The windbreaks built around the campsites stand as monolithic proof that the wind blows at Illipah Reservoir.

Stream fishermen will find excellent fishing and scenery east of Ely in the Schell Creek and Snake ranges. Just east of Ely and Cave Lake, paved roads almost encircle the Schell Creek Range, but the streams are reached by graded gravel roads. Cleve Creek and Kalamazoo Creeks are two within easy reach of the pavement. Fifty miles east of Ely, the Snake Range includes Great Basin National Park, which offers good small-stream angling at Lehman and Baker creeks.

Of course, if anglers have a difficult time deciding which reservoir or stream to stalk the trout in White Pine County, they can always opt to hang up their poles and ride the train. ▀

Richard Dickerson of Reno has been fishing almost as long as he's been walking. His fishing stories have appeared in such magazines as Flyfishing, California Fly Fisher, and Salmon Trout Steelheader. His first book, Nevada Angler's Guide: Fish Tails in the Sagebrush, was published last year.



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