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Holidays in Nevada

With this issue you can celebrate the season with made-in-Nevada gift ideas, a roundup of holiday performances and events, and new ways to decorate your home.

Cover Photo:

Marisa Bertolone-Smith, wearing a hat knitted by Katie Souza, hangs a holiday wreath at a log home in Gardnerville. **Photo by Matt Smith**



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we've got you covered

Ever find yourself asking, "Where is that?" after reading a *Nevada Magazine* story? Not anymore. See the map below for a snapshot of Nevada places featured in this issue. Familiarize yourself with our great state, then get out your red tacks and mark your next destination.

Treasures From Down Under

Hunting gemstones near **Denio**, **Petersen Mountain**, and **Ely**.

pg. 22

Holiday Chic

Reno designer adds the unexpected to decorating.

pg. 46

Winter Retreats

Snowbirds flock to **Mesquite**, **Primm**, and **Laughlin**.

pg. 12

Notable Nevadans

Don and Carol Shanks promote their beloved **Pioche**.

pg. 62



CONTRIBUTORS

AUDREY GREENE

From the moment she began her first diary at age eight, *Nevada Magazine* editorial assistant Audrey Greene knew that she loved to write. Now a senior in the Hank Greenspun School of Journalism at UNLV, Greene wrote items for **Up Front** and the books feature.

■ PG. 9 ■ PG. 59

MIKE HENLE

Las Vegas Mike Henle, author of *Through the Darkness: One Man's Fight to Overcome Epilepsy*, about his life with epilepsy, wrote "**Winter Retreats**." "I found the story about Mesquite, Laughlin, and Primm fascinating because of the unique personalities of all three," he says.

■ PG. 12

RACHEL GATTUSO

An aspiring novelist, Rachel Gattuso will earn her bachelor of arts in journalism from UNR in December. The author of "**State of Wine**" is still searching for the perfect pinot noir and believes "wine is about the company you keep, not the price you pay."

■ PG. 38



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—SAM BAUMAN

CONTEST

Your Photo Rocks

Gordon Graves of Caliente won the first Name the Rock Photo Contest sponsored by the Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce with "Dueling Grabazoids," taken southwest of Bennett Pass near Panaca. For more contest info: Visit More Nevada at nevadamagazine.com.



PHOTOS: JOE ROYER (TOP)

MUSIC

HO, HO, TAHOE

Captain & Tennille's new CD, "The Secret of Christmas," contains two songs, "Tahoe Snow" and "Christmas Star," that Toni wrote when she and Daryl lived in the Tahoe area. "I was walking on the Glenbrook golf course on Christmas Eve," Toni recalls. "It was snowing like inside those little globes, with perfect flakes coming down. 'Tahoe Snow' just popped into my head." The CD is produced by Retroactive Entertainment.



To read the lyrics and hear "Tahoe Snow":
Visit More Nevada at nevadamagazine.com





ANCIENT TRADITIONS

- The Lovelock Cave tule decoy duck is the Nevada State Artifact.
- 11 2,000-year-old ducks were found in 1924.
- The artifacts are now at the Smithsonian.

CULTURE

DECOY GOES TO WASHINGTON

Mike Williams, who works with the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe's cultural programs, taught himself to fashion ancient Lovelock Cave-style tule decoy ducks. He gathers the materials and prepares them as his ancestors did nearly 2,000 years ago. Williams recently shipped a painted and feathered decoy replica (above) to the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

COMEDY

Laughing in Las Vegas

Comedians Chris Rock and Jerry Seinfeld will headline the third annual Comedy Festival, **November 14-17 at Caesars Palace.**

The Las Vegas event will feature celebrity performances and the return of the Lucky 21, a nationwide stand-up competition. Festival Village is free and will offer karaoke, golf, an oxygen bar, live entertainment, food, drink, and vendors. Tickets are required for performers such as Rock, Seinfeld, Jamie Kennedy, and Nick Swardson.

Info: thecomedyfestival.com,

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—AUDREY GREENE



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Snowbirds flock to Southern Nevada's trio of warm spots

BY MIKE HENLE



When cold weather brings many northern states to a standstill, owners of businesses in Laughlin, Mesquite, and Primm wait at the front doors with open arms and countless activities for sun-seekers.

Snowbirds, a great many of them retirees, capitalize on Southern Nevada winter offerings—golf, tennis, hiking, motor sports, fishing, entertainment, inexpensive meals, five-star RV parks, and bargain hotel rooms. While those over 50 especially frequent these cities during the winter, there really is no set time frame to visit. Each destination offers year-round events that attract visitors, no matter the season.

Laughlin's rise from a bankrupt fishing village to a snowbird's favorite retreat is a Nevada success story. When Don Laughlin purchased a motel and bar on the site in 1960 for \$250,000, he saw that this part of the state, where California, Nevada, and Arizona come together, was the perfect spot for a gaming venture. Nestled along the Colorado River, the town named for him is an eye-catching combination of water and bright neon, with a backdrop of desert and jagged mountains.

Laughlin has a wealth of outdoor recreation, top-name entertainment, nine hotels with more than 10,000 rooms, and yearly stops by the Southern California Off-Road Enthusiasts (SCORE),



Colorado River, Laughlin

this season set for January 24-27, River Stampede Rodeo on March 27-30, and Xtreme Bulls, April 12-13. Top-flight entertainers include Charo, Hootie and the Blowfish, Mark Chesnutt, Deana Carter, The Oak Ridge Boys, Collin Ray, and the Bellamy Brothers.

Situated 89 miles south of Las Vegas off State Route 163, Laughlin thrives in the winter and does remarkably well when temperatures soar in the summer, drawing about four million visitors each year. For the 50-plus crowd, Laughlin hosts the ultimate promotion in January: Winter Break with its week-long list of events.

Among the thousands who come to Laughlin each winter is Brooke Hughes, a resident of Gardnerville. "It's nice to get away

from the snow and enjoy 70-degree weather in December," she says. "There's always something for the family to do, whether it's taking helicopter rides down the Colorado River, seeing the petroglyphs, or checking out all the classic cars at the Riverside."

Mesquite has emerged to become another Nevada winter hot spot. The Peppermill casino opened in the 1970s, and several other casinos followed in the mid-1990s. The city, 79 miles northeast of Las Vegas off I-15, now has more than 2,000 hotel rooms. Greenery breaks up the harsh desert, and a combination of waterfalls and palm trees gives the farming town a pleasant air.



LeAnn Rimes



Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas, Primm



Wolf Creek, Mesquite

Mesquite has six top-notch golf courses boasting incredible views and championship-quality layouts. Entertainment features the likes of Kenny Rogers, LeAnn Rimes, Lee Ann Womack, Randy Travis, Chicago, Larry the Cable Guy, Wynonna, and Bill Engvall.

In fact, entertainment has become such a vital part of Mesquite that Black Gaming—Las Vegas developer Randy Black owns CasaBlanca, Virgin River, and Oasis hotel-casinos—broke ground in April for the CasaBlanca Events Center. The 40,000-square-foot facility is scheduled for completion in 2008-'09 and will host concerts, events, and trade shows.

Country performer Randy Anderson

has played in all three of these Southern Nevada cities during his 25-year career. He says that Mesquite draws both Las Vegas and Utah residents, among others, during his gigs at the Virgin River Casino. "Once the entertainment center is built in Mesquite, I bet they will draw even bigger crowds considering some of the entertainment they'll attract," Anderson predicts.

Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas off I-15, was formerly known as Stateline, where a colorful bootlegger named Whiskey Pete McIntyre operated a gas station until his death in 1933. The area, once nothing more than barren desert, is now

a mini-metropolis of hotel-casinos and restaurants. Primm has more than 2,600 hotel rooms, two Tom Fazio-designed golf courses, world-class shopping at the Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas, and Buffalo Bill's Desperado, one of the world's tallest roller coasters.

After decades in Las Vegas with its Terrible Herbst gas stations and hotel-casinos, Herbst Gaming has focused on Primm and now operates Primm Valley Resort and Casino, Buffalo Bill's, and Whiskey Pete's (named after McIntyre). "We plan on 'Terriblizing' the I-15 corridor," says president Ed Herbst. The company intends to modernize gaming floors, update the player's club, and offer



Primm Valley Casino Resorts



Kenny Rogers

CONTACTS

VisitLaughlin.com
800-4-LAUGHLIN

VisitMesquite.com
877-MESQUITE

PrimmValleyResorts.com
800-FUN-STOP

VisitLasVegas.com
702-874-1360, 877-VISITLV

WinterBreak.us

facilities for truck drivers. The Herbst family has participated in off-road events for more than 30 years, and last November staged Championship Off-Road Racing (CORR), which is set for November 3-4.

Big-name entertainment also flourishes at Primm, where stars such as Willie

Nelson, John Michael Montgomery, Reba McEntyre, Chicago, and Dolly Parton appear in state-of-the-art showrooms.

Dale Dumond, a 13-year casino host at Primm Valley Casino Resorts, says visitors like Primm's casual style. "You don't have the hustle and bustle like you do in Vegas,"

he says. "People come out here to get away. It's affordable, and people feel as though they are part of the family."



PLAYTIME ON THE FLIP SIDE OF 50

A car rally and sock hop will highlight Laughlin's Winter Break, a festival of life aimed at the Baby-Boomer crowd, set for January 4-10 in the Colorado River town.

Last year the events drew an estimated 7,000 adults over the age of 50, with events such as the popular Polar Bear Swim, bingo and slot tournaments, healthy-cooking demonstrations,

and exercise classes. Live entertainment is complemented by trade shows, car shows, wine tasting, karaoke, singles functions, a chili cook-off, and fashion shows. A senior prom features the crowning of a homecoming king and queen. New this year, one lucky Winter Breaker will walk away with his or her "LifeDream" worth up to \$5,000, courtesy of Eons.com.

In Mesquite, the Senior Fall Classic Golf

Tournament is presented each November and the Mesquite Amateur Senior Golf Tournament is offered in May. The Senior Softball Winter Classic is held each December.

Primm's lineup of activities that retirees may enjoy includes shopping at the Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas, golf, and concerts with long-established stars such as Loretta Lynn, Eydie Gorme, and Steve Lawrence.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PRIMM VALLEY CASINO RESORTS (MIDDLE)

fun and fantasy

When the holidays come to Nevada, you can join a Christmas parade, skate, sing carols, nosh on cookies, or ride a polar express steam train. And, as the days grow shorter, millions of lights brighten the nights.

BY ANN HENDERSON

The lights on the tall Christmas tree in the MonteLago Village plaza act as a beacon at Lake Las Vegas during the holiday season. A barge on the shore holds a floating ice rink.



PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU



Bellagio Conservatory, Las Vegas



Rink on the River, Reno

Bellagio Conservatory & Botanical Gardens,
Dec. 9-Jan. 6, 702-693-7111, bellagio.com

Rink by the River Downtown Reno, Nov. 21-Feb. 24,
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Lighting of the Minden Gazebo & Tree, Minden, Nov. 30,
775-782-2444, visitcarsonvalley.org

Sparks Hometowne Christmas, Dec. 1. Parade,
entertainment, Santa, tree lighting, 775-353-2291, sparksrec.com



Minden Holiday Events



Sparks Parade

PHOTOS: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU (TOP), SCOTT SADDY (MIDDLE & LOWER MIDDLE), JOY ALDRICH (LOWER LEFT)



Venetian, Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS AREA

Fremont Street Experience & Fremont East, light & sound shows, vintage neon signs, events, & music, 702-678-5600, vegasexperience.com

Christmas Tree Lighting and Ice Skating, MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Nov. 16, 702-564-4766, montelagovillage.com

Fashion Show Mall, "Believe in Magic" opens Nov. 23, 702-784-7000, thefashionshow.com

Grand Canal Shoppes at the Venetian, opens Nov. 24, 702-414-4500, thegrandcanalshoppes.com

Magical Forest, Nov. 22-Dec. 30. Holiday village, trees, polar express train, 702-259-3700, opportunityvillage.org

Santa's Electric Light Parade, Boulder City, Dec. 1, 702-293-2034, boulder-city-chamber.com

Winterfest, Henderson, Dec. 6-9. Tree lighting, buggy rides, ice skating, parade, pony rides, snowplay, 702-267-2171, hendersonlive.com

Luminaria, Boulder City, Dec. 7. Music, lights, & program, 702-293-2034, boulder-city-chamber.com

RENO-TAHOE AREA

Parade of Lights, Gardnerville/Minden, Dec. 1, 775-782-8144, visitcarsonvalley.org

Christmas Parade of Lights, Virginia City, Dec. 1, 775-847-0311, virginiacity-nv.org

Christmas in Genoa, Dec. 2. Caroling, tree lighting, 775-782-8696, visitcarsonvalley.org

Silver & Snowflakes Festival, Carson City, Dec. 6. Tree lighting, caroling, 775-887-1294, eventsnevada.com

RURAL AREAS

Elko Festival of Trees, Nov. 27-29. Auctioned trees, wreaths, & gingerbread houses, 775-738-4091, explorelko.com

Sights, Sounds, & Smells of Christmas, Ely, Nov. 29-Dec. 1. Festival of Trees, auction, parade of lights, 800-496-9350, elynevada.net

Parade of Lights, Lovelock, Dec. 1, 775-273-7213, loverslock.com

Pahrump A-Pum-Pum Festival, Pahrump, Dec. 1-2. Parade, food, entertainment, 775-727-5800, pahrumpchamber.com

Wendover in Lights, Dec. 5. Lighting of the Menorah. Dec. 6, tree lighting, hot chocolate, cookies, 866-299-2489, westwendovercity.com

Christmas Tree Lighting, Fallon, Dec. 7. Santa, hot chocolate, cookies, carolers, 775-423-4566, fallontourism.com

Snowflake Festival, Elko, Dec. 8, parade of lights, music, dancing, theater, Santa, 775-778-9600, email: hayleys@frontiernet.net

Polar Express, Ely, weekends Nov. 23-Dec. 29, ride historic train to visit Santa at the North Pole, 775-289-2085, nnry.com

For more holiday events in Nevada, see listings beginning on pages 88 and 92



Ethel M Chocolate Wonderland, Henderson, Nov. 21-Jan. 1. Decorated cactus garden, 800-438-4356, ethelchocolate.com

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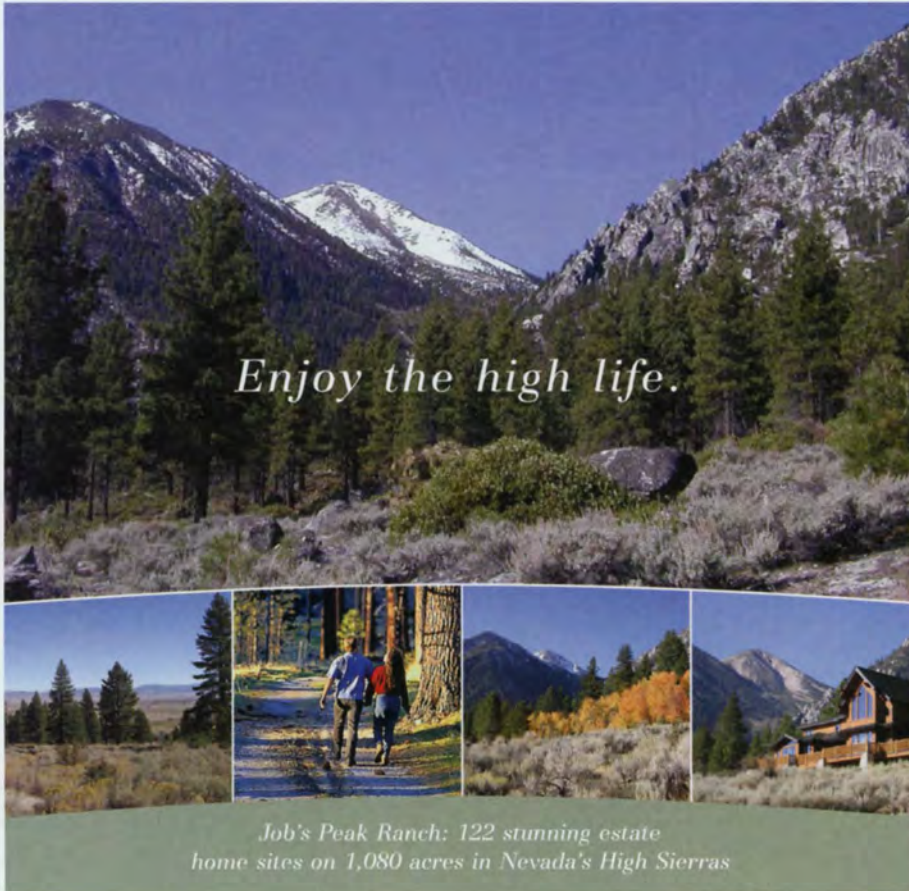
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Kim Nelson
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treasures from down under

Getting down and dirty in a quest for gemstones

BY PAULA RILEY

Murmurs of appreciation greet the stones Alan Felker displays in his gently cupped hands. "When I saw the glimmer in that bucket," he tells his fellow rockhounds, eyes crinkling with pleasure, "I about fell off my perch." The shimmer of a rainbow caught in hunks of precious fire opal is a just reward for a long drive and sweat-filled hours spent picking through clots of dusty earth.

Pine Forest Range (near Denio)

Precious Opal

Name comes from the Sanskrit *upala*, meaning precious stone. An opal's play of colors depends on the interference of light. Precious opals are commonly fashioned into cabochons, the shape shown here.



A BRIEF GEOLOGY LESSON

Nevada's a Gem

Following is a list of many of the semi-precious gemstones found in the Silver State:

Agate, amethyst, apache tears, beryl, black jade, blue amazonite, blue chalcedony, bloodstone, citrine, chrysoberyl, corundum, dumortierite, garnet, jasper, onyx, opal, smoky quartz, topaz, turquoise, and wonderstone.

Source: *Minerals of Nevada*, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, Special Publication 31 and University of Nevada Press, nbgm.unr.edu, unpress.nevada.edu

“..the colors burst like tiny rainbows...after that you are hopelessly hooked.”

FELKER IS PROFICIENT AT THIS TYPE OF HUNTING AND GATHERING, but virtually anyone can prospect for gemstones, natural bling of off-road adventurers. Before you set out, here's a brief geology lesson: Nevada does rocks like no other state. Nevada's upper echelon includes opals, garnets, and smoky quartz. To get your hands on some, start by acquiring basic knowledge, then gather a few supplies and seek a little help from your rock-loving friends.

The novice collector can find inspiration from the family-oriented Reno Gem and Mineral Society, an educational-social club with a focus on teaching basic identification, important because a stone's outerwear can disguise its inner beauty. Members such as Felker share success stories and hunting hints at regular gatherings. The club also organizes monthly field trips for collecting en masse, especially beneficial for beginners. Ernie Kastenbein, long-time member, says, "Specifics are what you get from others who have been there and done that." Norvie Enns, the club's shop director and an instructor, agrees. "Find someone who's already been there," he says, "and go with them." He favors the group approach, but adventurous

souls could take the indie route.

Several commercial opal mines and more than 200 private claims operate in Virgin Valley territory, the high desert of northwest Humboldt County, where prized black opals and many-hued fire opals result from silica and minerals deposited in the cavities of disintegrating buried forests. Opal hunters search for crusty tree-limb shapes or broken bits protruding from the pale dirt.

Michelle Blowers, a Californian who hunts in Nevada, says, "There is nothing like spotting that glint of color in the grey sand. Your heart leaps. You brush off the dirt...the colors burst like tiny rainbows...after that you are hopelessly hooked. There is no cure for opal fever but more opals."

Fees for digging at private opal mines can range upwards of \$100. Take U.S. 95 north from Winnemucca 28 miles to State Route 140, then north to Denio 70 miles. Virgin Valley, situated in the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge and containing mines such as Royal Peacock and Rainbow Ridge, lies west of Denio near the Oregon border.

In eastern Nevada, garnets, a type of feldspar, are abundant at Garnet Fields Rockhound Area—turn at the sign six miles west of Ely off U.S. 50. At the



Opal in the Rough

In Virgin Valley territory, opalescent silica and minerals replaced buried wood, resulting in prized finds for the persistent hunter.

HUNTING AREAS

Denio

Petersen Mountain

Ely

CONTACTS

Reno Gem and Mineral Society,
Sparks, 775-356-8820, renorockclub.com

Garnet Hill, Bureau of Land Management,
Ely office, 775-289-1800

Virgin Valley Opal history, fee-for-dig opal mines, and travel tips, goldnuggetwebs.com

Opal Mines

virginvalleyopal.com

royalpeacock.com

nevadaopal.com

bonanzaopals.com

opalqueen.com



Smoky Quartz

One quartz of a group that includes amethyst (purple), rose (pink), and citrine (clear yellow). Fine specimens make sparkling gems.



Garnet

January's birthstone, garnets have been used as gems by royalty and are most often faceted, as shown here.



top of Garnet Hill you'll find wheelchair-accessible restrooms, a picnic area, a few camping spaces, and plenty of parking. Admittance is free. Kick along the roadway to unearth crystals glowing like luminous red eyes in pale-colored rhyolite. Hunting is easiest following a heavy rain or after snowplows have cleared the road. Better yet, "Get away to where there haven't been too many people," says Enns, who has found 3/4-inch jewelry-quality garnets off the beaten path. You can try the southwest quadrant of the hill.

Mine tailings near the top of Petersen Mountain,

approximately 33 miles north of Reno, yield pale brown to black smoky quartz, a type of silica, ideal for displaying as is or cut and polished as gems. Distinctive flat sides and corners distinguish their crystal shapes from ordinary dirt and rocks. With a hand-held rock pick, rake a portion of the loose tailings toward you, then sift through it by hand. You'll need four-wheel drive, work gloves, a pick (or shovel), and a bucket. To reach Petersen Mountain, managed by the Bureau of Land Management, travel north from Reno on U.S. 395, continuing exactly 10 miles beyond

Garnet Colors Eastern Nevada's almandine specimens run deep red to brown or brown-black, while the spessartine variety appears brown-red to purple-red.

Pass Canyon One of many wild and rocky locales in the Pine Forest Range of northern Humboldt County is near Virgin Valley territory.

SOME FOLKS "DIG" SHOPPING



Where to Buy Turquoise You can skip digging for gemstones and go straight to the turquoise and gemstone jewelry in stores across Nevada. One such retailer in Reno is Michael & Son's, with a whole display case devoted to Nevada turquoise ranging from white to blue to green. There's even a bronze-brown, plus a new cut called "boulder," which dramatizes the earthy-colored matrix.

Owner-designer-jeweler David Lorenz could have his pick of any stone on earth, but Nevada turquoise remains his favorite, especially when it's set in sterling silver. He buys rough stones from local collectors and prospectors and carries cut stones sourced from lapidary experts.



Pass Canyon

"I can take a stone," he says, "and look at it and think of what to do," almost instantaneously. Owner for 23 years, he bought the business from his parents and expanded it threefold, including the addition of custom work and repairs for 10 other area retailers.

Also for Sale Lorenz stocks antique and modern Native American baskets by Washo, Paiute, and many Northern California tribal artisans, tule duck decoys, fetishes, and Hopi kachina dolls and pottery.



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Club Workshop

Mineral society members practice lapidary skills in the rock club's workshop. Judy Ekman (left) joins Jennifer Rhodes at the trim saw, while Norvie Enns, shop director (opposite page), works a cabochon of fire agate.

Hallelujah Junction. Turn east onto the unmarked dirt road, which will take you to a parking turnout at a gate near the top. Walk in to the tailings that have been dumped nearby. Beware of signs marking active mining claims, and do not trespass on them.

Most guidebooks and Web sites suggest necessary tools and safety measures for successful gemstone hunting. You should have sturdy boots, sun and wind protection, potable water, and a cell phone, although not all areas receive cell signals. Sites that charge fees for digging (fee-for-dig) might rent shovels and buckets; otherwise, bring your own tools. Don't go alone into the back country, and remember, collecting is forbidden in state parks.

DECORATE YOUR YARD WITH HANGING STONES

Rock Art Give a stone to an artist and what do you get? From Carol Foldvary-Anderson of Reno, "jewelry for the home and garden." Fashioned from Nevada agates, obsidian, or petrified wood specimens, her ornaments are wrapped with steel or copper wire and designed to hang indoors from a window or outdoors on the patio.

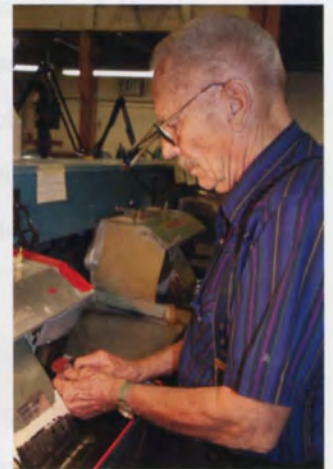
Multi-Media Award-Winning Artist An arts educator and advocate, Foldvary-Anderson looks to nature for inspiration. "I love the outdoors. I have acquired more rocks than one can imagine, and they are all special

Many Reno Gem and Mineral Society members learn to cut and polish gem shapes from their favorite specimens. Annual membership runs \$21, with classes in lapidary, silversmithing, beadwork, and wire-wrapping costing \$6 or less.

Don't despair if you come home with specimens good only for gracing your garden. Unlike with fishing, you get to determine the keepers. As Enns says, "I don't have to know what a specimen's mineral content is to think it's pretty." So what if your finds aren't precious gemstones? They might be any of the hundreds of collectible minerals native to Nevada, and before you know it, you might be hooked—and headed toward becoming a rockhound.

in their own unique way," she says. Foldvary-Anderson hunts for semi-precious gemstones and rocks in Nevada's back country. "It's about the unexpected, the discovery, and the history of the land where the stones are found," she says.

Foldvary-Anderson likes to work with unpolished slices of natural stone. Stones with distinct tops and bottoms, or those in the shape of arrow- or spearheads with sharp edges that grip the wire, work best for the wrapping technique that she has perfected.



WORTH A VISIT

Reno Gem and Mineral Society Craft Fair, November 3-4, Reno Town Mall, 775-356-8820, renorockclub.com

Rockhound Rendezvous, McDermitt's annual rock and mineral show, held in September, 775-623-5071, winnemuca.nv.us

WORTH A CLICK

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, sngms.com

Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, nbgm.unr.edu

Nevada mineral sites, greatbasinminerals.com

NEVADA ONLINE

Learn the traditional and mystical meaning of gems at nevadamagazine.com.



The artist notes a similarity between West Coast and East Asian views on incorporating the natural world into one's home, a sensibility she invokes with her stone art pieces.

Foldvary-Anderson's Real Nevada Rocks Jewelry and Gems of the Silver State ornaments are available in Reno at the Nevada Museum of Art gift shop (775-329-3333) and Wilbur D. May Museum (775-785-5961); in Carson City at Brewery Arts Center Artisans' Store (775-883-1976). For information, call her at 775-721-5338.

PHOTO: MATT SMITH (BOTTOM)

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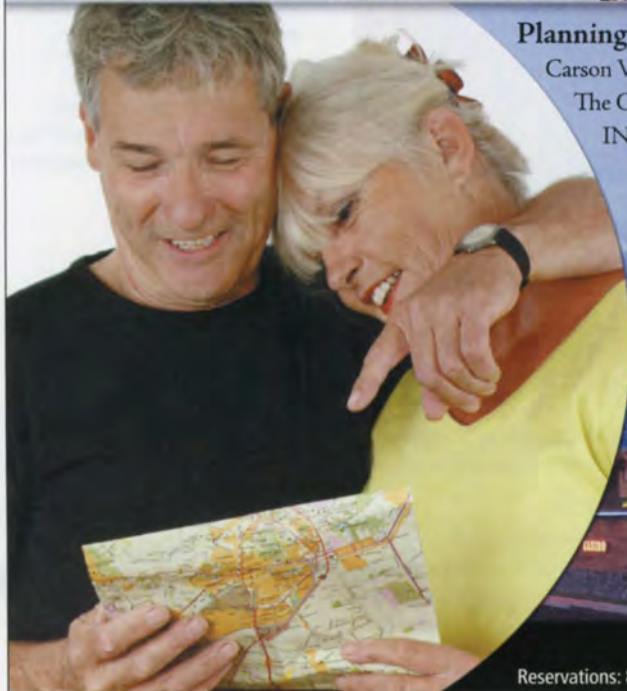
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Bread Basket

RUSSELL'S MERCANTILE Doug and Kim Russell of Russell's Mercantile in Minden fill decorated gift baskets with hot chocolate mix and freshly baked cinnamon buns, cookies, breads, and homemade jams and jellies. The couple and their children operate the bakery, gift shop, and café, which is open for breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday, and cater holiday parties (book early) in the Reno-Lake Tahoe-Carson City region. Customers also can order Thanksgiving and Christmas breads and pies. **How to Buy** 1685 U.S. 395, Minden, 775-782-0019



10

nevada gift ideas



When you buy your friends and family gifts this holiday season, it will surely come from the heart, but why not have it come from Nevada, too? Following are a sampling of Nevada items that might be perfect for Uncle Bob or Aunt Susie, whether it's a taste, scent, or even symbol, of the Silver State. All are "made in Nevada," of course, but some of the businesses are part of the official Made in Nevada association that promotes products manufactured and crafted in our state. Visit madeinNV.com for more information.



Heavenly Nevada

2 L.B.J. POTTERY Even after 25 years of working with clay, Lori Blum-Jackson of L.B.J. Pottery in Carson City is still fascinated by the variety of things she can make with it. A native Nevadan, Blum-Jackson began producing her innovative blue Nevada-shaped clocks after making one for the Carson City Lions Club charter celebration. She also makes custom tiles, jewelry, ornaments, and serving ware. **How to Buy** lbjpottery.com, 775-885-9597

Lovely Lavender

3 LAVENDER RIDGE Mike and Kristen Harris stock the shelves of their Lavender Ridge gift shop with soaps, oils, sachets, lotions, and herbs for cooking, all derived from eight varieties of lavender grown on their one-and-a-quarter-acre ranch, a 1920s farmstead in Reno. The Harrises also offer lavender cooking classes.

How to Buy 7450 W. 4th St., Reno, lavenderridgereno.com, 775-747-3222





Hot and Spicy

4 KILLER SALSA You can choose from original, hot, extra hot, garlic, fire-roasted, verde, and nacho-cheese salsas to make up a mixed six-jar gift pack from Fran Pritchard's Killer Salsa. The Gardnerville-based business, also known as Panchita's, has been selling its additive-free salsas in Nevada grocery stores since the early 1990s. **How to Buy** You can order salsa and find recipes for a variety of Southwestern and Mexican dishes on the Web site. killersalsa.com, 775-782-0048



Beef From the Range

5 HOME GROWN NEVADA Jim Smith and his wife, Tina, operate their third-generation ranch in Wellington, where they raise grass-fed beef and certified organic alfalfa hay, herbs, and vegetables. Their Home Grown Nevada products are sold at farmers' markets, but they can make arrangements for shipping quarter, half, and whole beef cuts. The cattle are raised with no hormones and no antibiotics, and the beef is custom cut and dry aged, Jim says. The meat is processed at Johansen's in Orland, California. **How to Buy** Great Basin Community Food Co-op, 271 Wonder St., Reno, greatbasinfood.coop, 775-324-6133; homegrownnevada.com, 775-465-2549



Christmas Candy

6 SWEETS HANDMADE CANDIES

You can order a chocolate truffle tree to decorate your holiday table from Sweets Handmade Candies. The tree comes in three sizes. Among the Sweets special gift baskets is the "Chocaholics," featuring fudge, truffles, nuts and chews, licorice, toffee and caramel corn, cream caramels, and peanut brittle. Owner Becky Cavender says she uses only Belgian chocolate, and she has a line of sugar-free confections at her two Sweets locations, in Reno and Truckee.

How to Buy sweethandmadecandies.com, 888-248-8840

Soap and Honey

7 SIERRA SNOW SOAPS When Gardnerville resident Michelle Latham named her business Sierra Snow Soaps, she picked an apt title. She and her family gather snow in the Sierra Nevada near Lake Tahoe to make their products in a cold-process method. She mixes other natural ingredients with palm, olive, and coconut oils and shea butter to create molded soaps, body scrubs, lotions, lip balms, and lotion sticks. **How to Buy** sierrasnowsoaps.com, 775-265-0598

7 JOY'S HONEY RANCH Leonard Joy, a retired Nevada bee inspector, produces wholesale honey and honey products for Joy's Honey Ranch in Reno. Milk and honey molded soaps are made of glycerin and beeswax and sold at seasonal farmers' markets and Reno stores, among them Napa-Sonoma, House of Bread, and Everlasting Health Center. Joy and his wife, Jackie, also make beeswax candles.

How to Buy 775-970-3568

Newly Minted

8 MARSHALL MINT In 1991 Hugh and Cynthia Marshall founded a private mint in Virginia City. Visitors can watch as custom-designed silver and gold medallions are manufactured. The mint and museum's display of gems and minerals is one of the largest collections in Nevada, and the shop offers nuggets, collectible coins, Black Hills gold, and gemstone jewelry. The Marshalls' popular Angel of the Day medallion series is shipped all over the U.S. The mint is open daily. **How to Buy** 96 N. C St., Virginia City, marshallmint.com, 775-847-0777

Wine List

9 TAHOE RIDGE WINERY Whether you're looking for a wine to give as a gift or to pour at your holiday table, you can find a white, rosé, or red from Rick and Kathy Halbardier's Tahoe Ridge Winery and Marketplace in Genoa. The tasting room offers complimentary wine sampling, and gourmet foods, gift baskets, wine accessories, jewelry, and books are for sale. Wine can be shipped to most states. **How to Buy** 2285 Main St., Genoa, tahoeridge.com, 775-783-1566, 800-783-1566



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Alyssa's Bakery, alyssabakery@gmail.com, 775-750-6433

Bradshaw Apples, 775-726-3373

Candles 'n Crafts, 775-783-3525

Country Cupboard, countrycupboard.com, 800-38-BEANS

Las Vegas Sweets, lasvegassweets.com, 702-399-0090

The Nevada Store, thenevadastore.com, 775-825-3318

V&A Honey, 800-996-4436

Wadsworth Ranching Co., highdesertnatural.com, 775-962-2242

Winder Farms, winderfarms.com, 800-WINDER-1

Wolf Pack Meats, cabnr.unr.edu/wpm, 775-857-3663



From the Farm

10

LATTIN FARMS Nothing says Fallon like Hearts O' Gold cantaloupe, but only Lattin Farms turns the town's prized fruit into **jam**. "The cantaloupe is an heirloom variety not grown much anywhere else," says owner B. Ann Lattin, who also recommends the raspberry-rhubarb spread. For another sweet sensation, try **Ray's Honey**—as in Gilbert Ray, who raises bees on Lattin Farms' property. "It's all natural. There's no heat or processing," Lattin says. If your sweet tooth isn't as persuasive as your tart one, Lattin Farms' **pickles** are for you. Handpicked farm-grown cucumbers are soaked for a month in a salt and vinegar brine before the pickles are put on the shelf.



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■ Flower Tree Nursery

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flowertreenursery.com
775-423-1113

■ Napa-Sonoma

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STATE OF WINE

A sampling of Nevada hangouts where you can sip and mingle with friends

BY RACHEL GATTUSO

More and more wine bars are cropping up in Nevada, and around the state the idea of relaxing with glass in hand is gaining popularity. Whether you browse through an Elko art gallery holding a bold cabernet, gaze at Tahoe's dazzling azure sipping a lavish Bordeaux, or relax at a perfect people-watching perch in Reno with a sumptuous Shiraz, you can take advantage of the good life in Nevada's own backyard.

Las Vegas Escape

In sun-beaten Las Vegas, Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino stands prominently with its distinctive red and purple exterior. But Rio's most satisfying red may be the expanse of foreign and domestic wines tucked beneath whistling slots at the cavernous Wine Cellar and Tasting Room. Among more than 50,000 bottles you'll find rare "cult wines" like multiple vintages of Napa Valley cabernet sauvignon. Wine flights dubbed "Spanish Inquisition" and "Tomato, Tomahto" help spark conversation in the catacomb-like environment. "The cellar is like being away from Vegas, although you know you're in it," visitor Sarah Louis says. "It's like an escape."

The Rio tasting room brings wine-country flavor to the desert. If you can leave your overstuffed couch, you might want to tour the wine-filled rooms, which include classics like a bottle of Madeira from—appropriately—Thomas Jefferson's cellar. If you'd rather sit tight, peek into the menu to inquire about Rio's plate of chocolate. Neither action will go unrewarded.



Your Reno Choices: Trendy or Quaint

Racks boasting the best and brightest labels of the industry line the walls at Whispering Vine Wine, lending the trendy Reno shop a feeling of convenience and choice.

"The people are what make us so successful," owner Curtis Worrell says. Stop in on a Thursday and pay \$15 to partake in a special tasting from a featured winery. Navigate through the crowd to peruse esteemed bottles—perhaps a David Bruce pinot noir—or a quirky variety, such as Super Hero Wine Company's InZINerator.

The event brims with wine and attendees, who meander outside when the weather is agreeable. Glass tables inside and patio furniture outside beckon comrades to slow down and take up a conversation.

"Thursdays are definitely our most popular nights," Worrell says. "It's packed."

It's no surprise that a second shop in Reno's Somerset community has debuted. In addition to the abundance of zinfandels, merlots, and chardonnays, the newer shop sells a rich selection of single-malt scotches.

Sandwiched between its sister coffee house and a saucy fashion boutique, Jungle Vino is smack in the middle of Reno's downtown redevelopment area, where the churning waters of the Truckee River can be heard from the patio.

"What makes us special is our quaintness," manager Matt Shaw says of the tiny bar. "We're right on the river, so we see the old, the young, and the restless."

What Jungle Vino lacks in square footage, it makes up for in wine. Patrons have the option to choose from featured bottles and labels chalked on the wall or scan the wine list. Shaw says the bar features several labels from the Sierra Foothills region.

Wine With a View

"We have a lot of fun up here," says Lake Tahoe's 19 Kitchen * Bar's cellar master, Troy Denkler. Decorated to appeal to the hip wine drinker, 19 overlooks one of the Sierra Nevada's most impressive views from its perch on the 19th floor of Harveys. "We have a fun, vibrant, energetic atmosphere," Denkler says. "And we are very proud of the French Bordeaux we carry."

CONTACTS

Wine Cellar and Tasting Room

3700 W. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas
riolasvegas.com,
702-777-7962

Whispering Vine Wine

3886 Mayberry Dr., Unit D;
7665 Town Square Way, Ste. 101,
Reno (two locations)
whisperingvinewine.com,
775-787-9463

Jungle Vino

246 W. 1st St., Reno
myspace.com/javajunglevino,
775-329-4484

19 Kitchen * Bar

U.S. 50, Stateline
harveys.com,
775-586-6777

Duncan LittleCreek Gallery

516 Commercial St., Elko
dlcgallery.com,
775-738-3426

WORTH A VISIT

The glass-walled, four-story wine bar at Mandalay Bay is a spectacle not to be missed by connoisseurs. It's inspired by a scene from 1994's *Mission Impossible*.

Aureole at Mandalay Bay

3950 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas
aureolelv.com,
702-632-7401





PAIRING POINTERS

Friends, food, and wine. That's Bernard Portet's "totem pole of importance" for any meal. "It's the wine that ties the meal and friends together," says the co-founder of Clos du Val, which has been producing Napa Valley wine for 35 years. The French native offers his advice on which brand to pair your particular craving with.

Appetizers: Ariadne, a pristine white, goes well with soft foods such as oysters, shellfish, and goat cheese. "The acidity wedges its way into the sweetness of the crab meat or fish," Portet says.

Entrées: Try Taltarni Brut or Brut Taché, two sparkling wines from Clos du Val's sister company, Taltarni Vineyards, in Australia. These will complement creamy food, such as mushrooms with risotto. Have a chardonnay with a fleshy food like halibut. With a beef dish, sip on a cabernet sauvignon.

Desserts: Drink a fruity wine like Coteaux du Languedoc rosé, from Clos du Val's other sister company, Domaine de Nizas, in France. "Many people like our cabernet sauvignon with chocolate," Portet adds.

Clos du Val participates in several Nevada wine events, including UNLVino and Lee's Wine Experience in Las Vegas. Visit closduval.com for more information, including gift-giving ideas. —MATTHEW B. BROWN

With an eight-page wine list, 19 gets serious when it comes to providing choice wines. The highly regarded First Growth (a classification reserved only for wines from France's Bordeaux region) Chateau Lafite Rothschilds and Chateau Haut-Brion attract customers to their full-bodied flavor. By-the-glass selections constantly rotate, providing visitors with a variety of labels.

Tahoe gleams like a gem below, and thanks to its successful fusion of classic wine and sleek setting, 19 leaves both the timid first-timer and the critical oenophile satisfied.

Elko's Perfect Blend

A clever pairing of gallery and wine bar, Elko has a pocket-sized triumph with its Duncan LittleCreek Gallery. "What we do here is a little bit different," partner Joan Anderson says. "People are telling us the place looks more like something you would see in California, or even Chicago."

Housed in a brick building, the gallery is a combination of old and new influences. Visitors will find a packed house on open-mic night, the second Friday of each month. Duncan LittleCreek breathes life into Elko's wine scene with about 50 varietals to pick from. Customers can relax with the black currant aromas found in cabernet, which Anderson says sells exceptionally well. Other top-selling wines at Duncan LittleCreek are chardonnay and Bogle zinfandel. "We make sure to let our guests try any wine they think they might like first," Anderson says.

A sense of hometown pride is usually found on display at the gallery, where contemporary art, including works by groups such as the Elko Boys and Girls Club, grace the walls.



Duncan LittleCreek Gallery, Elko

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CELEBRATING LIFE



PHOTO: JEFF HINDS



Master Craftsman

MIKE ELLIOTT

BY JOYCE HOLLISTER

When he was riding a fence line in Wyoming more than a decade ago, little did Mike Elliott know that one day he would be making fine Western furniture for clients around the country.

"I was working on the Rockefeller Ranch in Cody," Elliott says. "They had a full-blown woodshop. I started collecting odd pieces of wood when I was out fixing fences, and I'd bring them back and make something." His Western accessories and furniture sold readily at a local store.

It's been a dozen years since Elliott moved his fledgling Western Designs business to Minden, where he refined his style. He mixes found pieces—planks from tumbled-down sheds, fallen trees from canyons in the Eastern Sierra—with intricate inlays of exotic woods from Mexico, Africa, and the South Pacific and creates tables, dressers, frames, built-in bars, trunks, armoires, and cupboards.

The top of one of Elliott's console tables is a 120-year-old slab of Douglas fir from an old barn. Antique cattle brands and shoes from Elliott's horses decorate the surface, and the drawer is detailed with diagonal inlays. The hand-rubbed beeswax finish feels silky to the touch.

Mike Elliott used aged cedar and different hardwoods to create the bar-height table and chairs. He chose woods to complement the colors in the Frederic Remington print for the frame, decorated with horseshoes and rope.



CONTACT

Western Designs
westernfurniture.net,
530-495-1069

WORTH A VISIT

Lone Tree Gallery,
Minden. Artists' reception October 26 includes Mike Elliott, 4-9 p.m.
lonetreegallery.net,
775-782-2522

Sierra Design Studio,
Mammoth Lakes, California
sierradesignstudio.com, 760-934-4122



The table's top virtually dropped in his lap. "A guy with a pickup truck load of old wood pulled up to my house and said, 'You the guy who likes barnwood?' And I said, 'Yeah!'"

Elliott doesn't draw his pieces ahead of time, preferring to let the designs come to him. "They're somewhere in my head," he explains. Running his hand along the shelf underneath a coffee table, he says, "I usually play around with the bottom first and figure out the top I want to put on it. Then I start playing around with design details. Whatever I do on the bottom, I try to imitate on top—so it kind of plays off itself."

A trunk made of Nevada barnwood

features angular inlays of birch twigs and exotic hardwoods. Five- and 10-drawer dressers have thick log legs with the knots still protruding and drawer pulls fashioned from Western juniper or piñon pine. "I love to show the natural colors of various woods, and I admire the delicate variations of texture as I work with each material," he says.

Before building a custom piece, Elliott visits his clients' homes to see, as he puts it, "where it's going to live." And usually people who buy one piece will buy several. Elliott says, "People will call me and say, 'You know what we like, and you know what the house looks like. Just do something for us. We trust you.'"

Elliott, a certified gemologist, now lives in Coleville, California, eight miles from Topaz Lake on the Nevada border. He has been invited to exhibit his furniture four times at the annual Western Design Conference in Cody, at a special show in September at the Buffalo Bill Historical Museum, also in Cody, and at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in Wickenburg, Arizona.

Furniture making is more than just a business for Elliott—it's a passion. His pieces are comparably priced to that of any fine furniture, but he doesn't add up the hours he spends on a piece. "I don't want to know how little I make," he says, "so I don't do it."



Aspen log legs, Western juniper pulls, and inlays from hardwoods like olive, bloodwood, and wenge characterize Mike Elliott's Western furniture. The cupboard doors (left and right) have antique metal panels. The table (middle and bottom) features a 120-year-old barnwood top and spalted birch, teak, and Peruvian walnut as well as pine distressed with an ice pick and hammer. Opposite page: Elliott's barnwood trunks are lined with aromatic cedar.



PHOTOS: MATT SMITH

HOLIDAY



CHIC

Designer injects unexpected elements into his seasonal décor

BY LINDA FINE CONABOY

nevada living

WHEN IT COMES TO HOLIDAY DECORATING, you can be contemporary and chic or Victorian and traditional. You can do it yourself or recruit an expert—there are no boundaries, even if your mind's eye is bigger than your pocketbook.

Steven Craig, the owner of Briarwood Finer Flowers and Gifts in Reno who specializes in holiday décor, says you need not spend your entire holiday budget decorating your home. "The trick is to incorporate found items into the design. You can find things in the grocery store and around the house. Your yard holds the best inventory of stuff to use for the holidays—things like small cones and branches from evergreens, dried flowers, and even unusual rocks."

From the market, he picks up kiwi fruit, artichokes, and raspberries. He says with a little imagination you can avoid the mundane and add touches of the unexpected.

Recently, Craig departed from the conventional red and green when he decorated a mantelpiece and table top at his store. On the mantel, he mixed flowers, art pieces, and peacock feathers in shades of russet and burnished gold, and several objects of his own, such as the antique gold Chinese disk on the wall, the candlesticks, the ornaments, and the angel.

Other items came from a discount store. The stars and two wire-mesh towers, one in the shape of an obelisk and the other a dimensional rectangle, were sprayed gold. Craig likes to add a touch of whimsy, which he achieved by trimming and hollowing out large artichokes, spraying them gold, and

inserting votive candles in the centers. He also sprayed halved kiwi, adding a dust of glitter.

In the center of the evergreens, tipped with gold and copper paint, Craig used obaki anthurium as a focal point and surrounded the exotic flowers with the artichoke votives.

"These colors with the copper accents will go well in anybody's home, no matter what the color palette is," he says. "The look is both lush and subtle, and the use of the feathers gives that extra, unexpected 2007 punch."

Craig advises home decorators to stay within their color scheme. "Whether it's the mantel, the windows, the foyer, or the tables, make sure to use the same colors and components throughout so everything is tied together," he says. "But do combine things with different textures and feel."

Juxtaposition works wonders, too. Work from large items to small, tall to low, and "bring the eye up for a visual conclusion," he says. For example, the elements on the mantel are made more attractive by including the tall candlesticks.

"The best design comes from inspiration around you," Craig says. "And when you're ready to do it, decide if you want to be casual or contemporary. Or, do you just want to blow their socks off? It's up to you."

NEVADA ONLINE

Visit nevadamagazine.com for more decorating tips.



DECK THE WALLS

Ginda Jones, co-owner of Ralph Jones Display, is a holiday decorating expert.

Year-round, the Las Vegas business sells retail store fixtures, but between September and January the public can stroll through the company's showrooms filled with holiday decorations. Designers answer questions and offer advice. Jones offers these tips:

1. Display more than one tree. A traditionalist, Jones' formal tree bears her collection of gold globes, but in her den is the memory-laden "kids' tree" decorated with keepsakes. "They're good for the soul,"

Jones says of the candy canes, popcorn strings, and gift ornaments.

2. Know the measurements of the area you want to decorate, especially the ceiling height.
3. Take into account your holiday parties, which may have an impact on your design and timing.
4. Place a specially designed Christmas tree on the wall if you have a small home. For those with small children, "Sometimes we suggest putting a tree in a playpen and decorating it with garlands," Jones says.

5. Hang a decorated wreath upside down from your dining-room chandelier. "That way the centerpiece is over the table, rather than on it," Jones explains.
6. You can leave the decorating to the pros. Pre-lit trees on wheels are delivered and set up. After the holidays you bag the tree and roll it in the garage for storage.

—ANN HENDERSON

CONTACT

Ralph Jones Display, 2576 E. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, ralphjones.com, 702-382-4398

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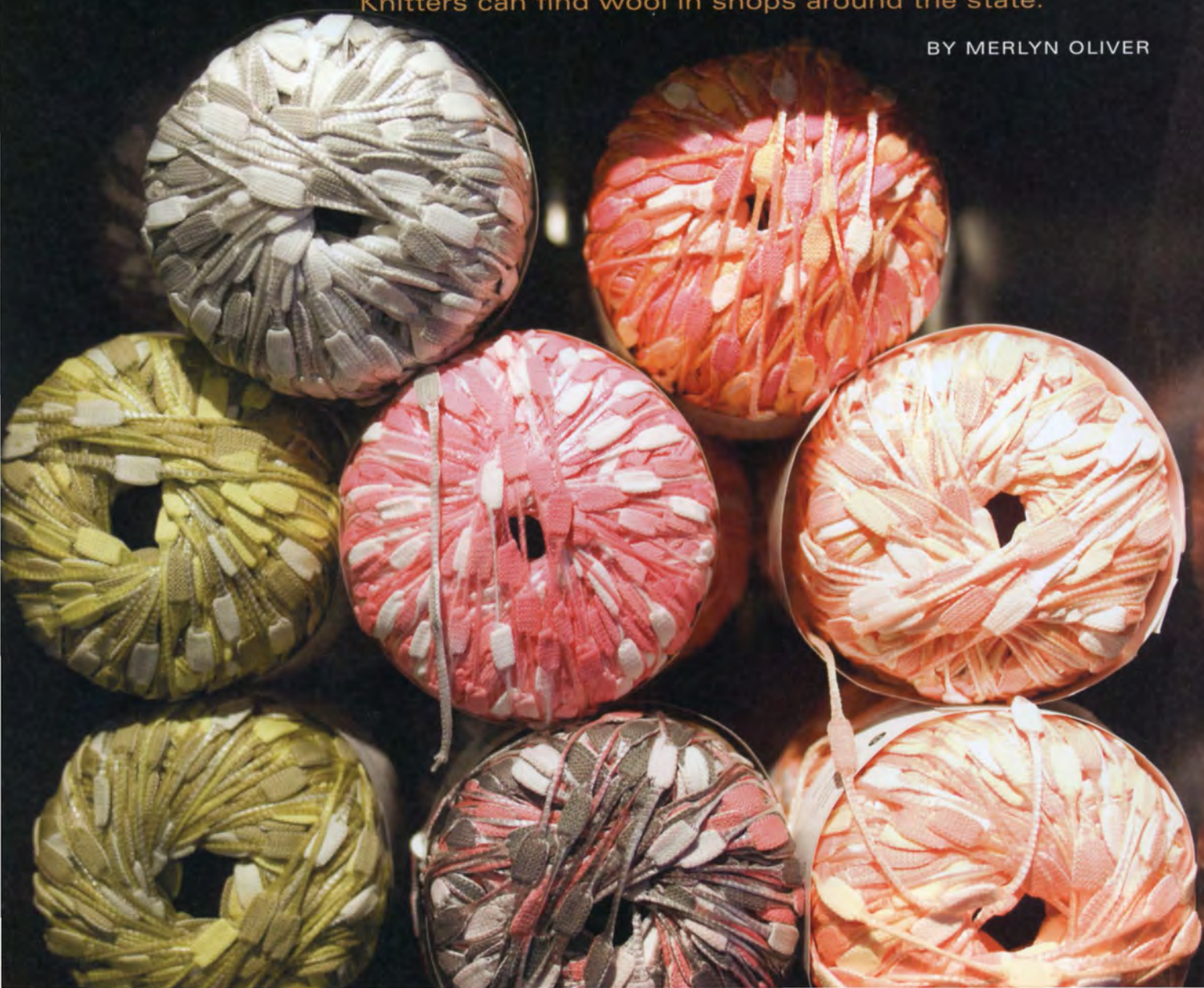
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WHOLE NINE YARNS

Knitters can find wool in shops around the state.

BY MERLYN OLIVER



THERE IS SOMETHING COMFORTING, even reassuring, about the smooth slick of a knitting needle and the feel of wool as you wrap it around polished wood. Time slows, muscles relax. As the soothing rhythm of knit, purl, and every combination thereof has fueled a renaissance of knitting across the country, Nevada has come into its own as a knitter's destination.

Shrug off a wintry Great Basin afternoon and walk into Jimmy Beans Wool in southwest Reno to finger some Rowan or Blue Sky Alpaca. Explore natural fibers at Deluxe Yarns, Etc., housed in a vintage '50s ranch-style house in the eclectic Vassar Street shopping district. Or, if you're along for the ride across one of Nevada's lonely highways, stop by Pioneer Yarn Company in Minden to pick up a project that will complement the dramatic landscape.

In Las Vegas, Gail Knits and Woolly Wonders anchor different parts of the city, both about 10 minutes west and east of the Strip, respectively. And if you are curious about who is knitting what in Nevada's great beyond, enter the phrase "knitting in the Great Basin" in your Internet search box to see artful close-ups of Elizabeth Zimmerman-inspired sweaters, socks, and felted clogs, along with insights about living in eastern Nevada from a blogger who used to knit in White Pine County and is planning a move to Reno.

BACK TO BASICS

People are going back to more traditional knitting projects, says Jeanne Giles, an employee at Jimmy Beans Wool. "People want to make family heirloom-type items, baby stuff, Christmas stockings, things they can pass down," Giles says.

Owner Gail Rhodes of Gail Knits in Las Vegas is seeing the same trend. "Nice wools are big. Exotics like bamboo are big," Rhodes adds. "Eyelash and glitz are not as big."

Felting is popular, and everyone agrees that socks are still going strong, especially when knitted on circular needles. The poncho craze is over, except for kids. Shawls are good, as are felted bags. "They're real easy and you don't have to worry about fit," Rhodes says.

Complex sweater projects knitted on smaller needles—sizes seven through nine—with lighter yarns, such as worsted and sport weight, are making a comeback, says Joyce Bivona, owner of Woolly Wonders in Las Vegas. "The serious knitters are coming out—the people who want to take their brand-new skill and really test it," she says. "The creative knitter is starting to really blossom."

Cherita Dujardin, co-owner of Pioneer Yarn Company, along with her husband, Wayne, is seeing a resurgence in lace knitting. "The more involved stitches, that's where the fun is," Dujardin says. "The funky stuff is winding down: the scarf craze, the huge needles."

DRIVEN KNITTERS

Traveling knitters are a big part of Nevada's yarn scene.

"Once you're a knitter, no matter where you go, the first thing you do is locate the yarn shop," notes Florrie Kersey, owner of Deluxe Yarns, Etc. Hotel concierges routinely call for directions. People in town for conventions stop by. And even though the Internet yarn business is booming, online shoppers still want to see the actual store.



Knitting is in style, as this brown-toned ribboned top conveys. Socks are big favorites, too. Below, knitter Deanna Ross holds Caroline Langdon's Nevada State Fair prize winner at Deluxe Yarns, Etc. in Reno. Opposite page: Socks are knitted on four needles, also known as double points (top left). A knitting group gathers at Gail Knits in Las Vegas (top right).



WORTH A CLICK Read the chronicles of an obsessed knitter in the heart of the Great Basin at knittinginthegreatbasin.blogspot.com



"We get tons of out-of-town people who have used our Web site before," says Laura Zander, co-owner of Jimmy Beans Wool. The Reno storefront recently doubled in size to keep up with her online orders.

Wayne Dujardin laughs at the number of RVers who whip into his parking lot like it's the last stop before the Forty-Mile Desert. "We had a lady come in," he says. "Her

husband was idling the RV out back. She said, 'We're about to drive the Loneliest Highway in America—he's driving, and I'm knitting.' She bought three projects."

Still, the best reason to knit may lie in the ritual itself. "It's creative, it's productive, it allows you to mentally recharge," says Joyce Bivona. "Plus, it's social. You can talk while you do it." Or not.

CONTACTS

Jimmy Beans Wool

5000 Smithridge Dr., #A11 (in the Smithridge Shopping Center), Reno
Best-selling yarn: Lorna's Laces sock yarn

Popular projects: Socks, lace shawls
What's fun: Anything by Lantern Moon (baskets, bags, needles)

jimmybeanswool.com, 775-827-9276

Deluxe Yarns, Etc.

138 Vassar St. (near Holcomb), Reno
Best-selling yarn: Cherry Tree Hill sock yarn

Popular project: Socks, either on double-pointed needles or the Magic Loop circular

What's fun: The Knit 'n Rip group, which meets twice a month

deluxeyarns.com, 775-348-0613

Pioneer Yarn Company

1687 N. U.S. 395, Suite 3 (near the junction of S.R. 88), Minden

Best-selling yarn: Anything by Noro; Touch Me by Muench

Popular project: Socks, using two circulars

What's fun: "Open Knits, Open Late" every other Friday night

pioneeryarn.com, 775-782-1221

Woolly Wonders

3421 E. Tropicana, Suite H (at Pecos), Las Vegas

Best-selling yarn: Alpacas, Noro

Popular projects: Classic patterns, socks

What's fun: Learning to spin
702-547-1661

Gail Knits

8450 W. Sahara, #112 (in the Lakes Pacific Business Center), Las Vegas

Best-selling yarn: TOFUtsies sock yarn

Popular project: Socks, using the Magic Loop circular needle

What's fun: Fall '07 *Vogue Knitting* (the Silver Anniversary issue)

gailknits.com, 702-838-7713

Some knitters say the relaxing attributes of the craft make it the "new yoga." Linda Kelley works on a circular needle at Deluxe Yarns.

Opposite page: Katie Souza's ski hats. Inset: Katie begins a new project as her mother, Judy, looks on.



Teen Spirit

When it comes to cold-weather hats, knitting is cool.

Davis Souza likes to knit. He also crochets. The 18-year-old freestyle skier makes hats, beanies, and headbands and has even sold a few for lunch money. Davis isn't embarrassed at all by his hobby. Why should he be? All the cool kids are doing it.

"I used to knit in class," says Davis, who recently graduated from Truckee High School. "I wouldn't get much grief. It's pretty accepted."

Among Tahoe's up-and-coming skiers and snowboarders, it's hip to knit. Teenagers—both male and female—have embraced knitting as a way to kill time while traveling to events, express their individuality, and save money.

Davis and his sister, Katie, 15, were intro-

duced to knitting four years ago on a road trip with four fellow members of the Alpine Meadows Freestyle Team to a competition in Park City, Utah. Their mother, Judy, an avid knitter who had just opened a knitting store in Tahoe City, was working on a hat. By the time they reached Utah, she had all six kids knitting.

On another road trip to Park City in February for the all-female Queens Cup, Katie and three other girls made matching hats. Most of the time, however, the teens aren't knitting team hats but their own, independent creations.

"You don't have to follow the crowd, you can do whatever you want," says Katie, a sophomore at North Tahoe High School.



Nonetheless, there are trends among the knitting skiers. Fluorescent colors are popular, along with floppy hats with ear flaps, pom-poms, and bills.

Of the 30 boys on the Alpine Meadows Freestyle Team, Katie says that almost all of them knit. While they may not be doing it to impress the girls—Davis said he started knitting because he got tired of spending money on hats—it may be an unintended side-effect.

"A lot of the girls think it's cool that boys knit," said Brittney White, 17, a freestyle team member who started the hobby in fourth grade. "The fact that they have the patience to learn is really cool."

—MELISSA SIIG

SOFTSHELL JACKET

Brand new to Arc'teryx's line, this softshell Griffon Jacket takes advantage of PolarTec 02 fabric with a high-loft fleece interior. Attractive, light, and flexible, the Griffon is perfect for a grueling ascent in the back country or a bluebird day on Tahoe's slopes. \$285, arcteryx.com



cold play

Outfit yourself with the hottest and hippest winter gear this season

THIS YEAR'S NEW WINTER WEAR combines versatility, functionality, and style to produce some of the coolest gear that snow has ever seen. Nevada winters showcase a variety of weather and terrain, not to mention a spread of outdoor activities ranging from back-country skiing to snowmobiling. We got the inside scoop on this year's up-and-coming gear and found that the hottest designers have raised the bar on innovative accessories, earth-friendly materials, and super-sleek designs. Even the kids can look good while they run and rollick. Check out individual Web sites to locate Nevada retailers and Internet distributors. —ANNE BERNARD



WOMEN'S GOGGLES

Giro's new line of eyewear is designed with the comfort of a Super Fit engineered frame and outriggers. The compact Lyric Goggles fit especially well on smaller faces and feature dual-density foam that works seamlessly with a range of helmet styles. The spherical lens and tight design allow for exceptional clarity and peripheral perspective. \$99.99, giro.com



DUALING TOPS

The rule of thumb during a Nevada storm day is layers, layers, layers. Arc'teryx provides a variety of over- and undercoats that will keep you warm and dry.

Emissary Zip Neck This pullover is made with fine merino wool, making for a snug and stylish midweight that fits comfortably under any shell and wicks away moisture even on the heaviest Sierra storm days. \$199

Stingray Jacket Redesigned this season, the Stingray keeps a body dry with Gore-Tex Soft Shell Fabric, a laminated powder skirt, and a helmet-compatible drop hood. Available in men's and women's styles. \$499, arcteryx.com





KIDS JACKET

For the ultimate in winter-weather performance, the Kids Infurno Jacket boasts a waterproof shell, draper-pile lining, and cold-weather detailing. Roomy cargo-style pockets leave plenty of room for provisions, and with the shell and liner made of recycled materials, rest assured that your love of Nevada's environment will be just as evident as Patagonia's. \$140, patagonia.com



BABIES JACKETS

Protect your little ones with this Baby Reversible Puff-Ball Jacket made of nearly 100 percent recycled materials. Weighing only 7.4 ounces and featuring a fast-drying shell with compressible insulation, the Puff-Ball allows for maximum mobility with minimum chill. Deluge durable water-repellent finish keeps babies dry while they rumble and tumble in snow, rain, or mud. \$80, patagonia.com



STEREO HEADGEAR

Add a soundtrack to everyday life this winter with Giro's Cowgirl Earphone Beanie featuring inlaid speakers in functional and trendy hats. This micro-fleece lined beanie provides advanced comfort and sound quality without sacrificing style. \$23.95, bulabula.com

KIDS EYEWEAR

Groms will love the feel of Chico Goggles, designed to sit snugly on kid-sized faces without slipping, pinching, or fogging. Fun colors and designs make the Chico an attractive accessory kids will actually wear. \$22.95, giro.com



KIDS HARNESS SUITS

Spyder has ingeniously incorporated a harness system into several kids products this year, including the Kyds Harness Suit. The design avoids the hassle of external straps with a fully integrated system. A stowable handle provides for convenient lifting when kids fall; a detachable sternum strap allows for total control when they don't. \$205, spyder.com



khe sanh revisited

Reno author plans a sequel based on his return to South Vietnam



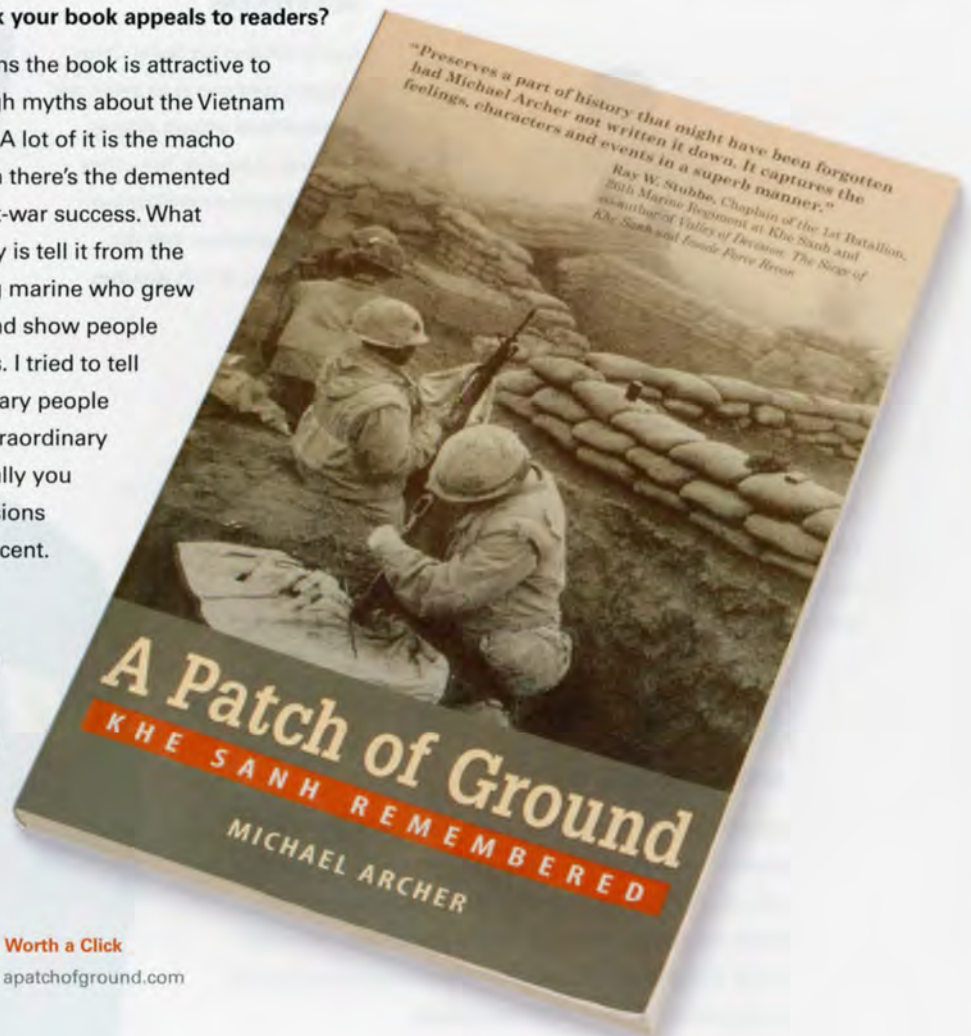
This December, along with fellow Vietnam veterans Bob Topmiller and Steve Orr, Michael Archer plans to journey to Khe Sanh, a place where he made friends—and lost them—in one of the most controversial wars in American history. Archer, from Reno and author of *A Patch of Ground: Khe Sanh Remembered*, will make his first trip back to the place he served as a U.S. Marine Corps field operator for 13 months in the late 1960s. Orr, from Gardnerville, and Topmiller have remained good friends with Archer since their experience together in South Vietnam.

The return trip will provide Archer with material for the *A Patch of Ground* sequel, which he intends to write after meeting other former soldiers at the site where his childhood friend, Thomas Patrick Mahoney III, died in battle.

Archer, who does temporary work for the Nevada Legislature, eventually wants to write a historical Nevada memoir or biography. In August, the author chatted with *Nevada Magazine* associate editor, Matthew B. Brown.

NM: Why do you think your book appeals to readers?

MA: One of the reasons the book is attractive to people is it cuts through myths about the Vietnam War and its aftermath. A lot of it is the macho *Rambo*-type stuff. Then there's the demented vet who can't find post-war success. What I tried to do in the story is tell it from the perspective of a young marine who grew up in the Bay Area—and show people who found themselves. I tried to tell anecdotes about ordinary people trying to survive in extraordinary circumstances. Generally you don't make good decisions when you're an adolescent. [Volunteering for the war]—something that might seem noble and exciting—can end up being a disaster. That's what happened to a lot of people in Vietnam, myself included.



Worth a Click

apatchofground.com

NM: I've often wondered how book authors stay so dedicated to a subject. How do you do it?

MA: I do tend to get tired of the subject matter, especially working on a sequel. Occasionally you hit a wall, but you get past it. Destiny has been pulling me along. Now [the sequel has] taken on a life of its own, and it's going to make one hell of an interesting story. It took me almost 30 years to get going on [A Patch of Ground]. I started writing from the moment I got back, but there was so much baggage. I think survivor's guilt is hugely underrated.

NM: Who are some authors that have inspired you?

MA: William Manchester's *Goodbye, Darkness: A Memoir of the Pacific War* was inspirational in giving me an idea to write *A Patch of Ground*. Throughout my life I've read everything [John] Steinbeck has written. I like J.D. Salinger's style, too. I like Robert Graves' *Goodbye To All That*. It's one of the best memoirs I've

ever read. I think I've taken some [style elements] from all those guys. Like most Nevadans, I've read Robert Laxalt's work. I find it beautiful.

NM: You have several speaking engagements each year. Where and to whom do you speak?

MA: I've lectured for two years. It's kind of a word-of-mouth thing. Professor Bob Topmiller, who teaches at Eastern Kentucky University and was our Navy Corpsman at Khe Sanh, got me started in Kentucky. I speak to several campuses there, and I spoke to a veterans group in Lexington this last time. I'll be speaking November 29 to a history class at UNR and later in the year to a U.C. Santa Barbara religious studies class. I've also been invited to lecture two history classes at Texas A&M University. Last year I spoke at the University of Delaware and Bentley College near Boston. I have the usual book tour places like Barnes & Noble. It's fun. I'm really having a great time.

MORE NEVADA READS



Nevada: Impressions, photography by Scott T. Smith. Farcountry Press, farcountrypress.com, 800-821-3879. 80 pages, 87 color photos, paper. All that is inherent to the Silver State is highlighted in this photographic portfolio—from blooming mountainsides to the cracked floors of dry lakebeds, and from the shores of Lake Tahoe to cityscapes of Las Vegas.



Monsters in the Woods: Backpacking with Children, by Tim Hauserman. University of Nevada Press, unpress.nevada.edu, 775-784-6573. 137 pages, 27 b&w photos, paper. This book tells parents

how to introduce their children—or “little monsters”—to backpacking. Hauserman knows the Sierra and can recommend appropriate backpacking trips for all age groups. The author is an experienced hiker and wilderness guide.



The Laws Field Guide to the Sierra Nevada, by John Muir Laws, author and illustrator. Heyday Books, heydaybooks.com, 510-549-3564, ext. 309. 366 pages, 2,800 illustrations, paper. If you have room in your backpack for only one guidebook, this one is a good choice. Its use extends beyond the Sierra Nevada and identifies aquatic life, spiders, and animal tracks.

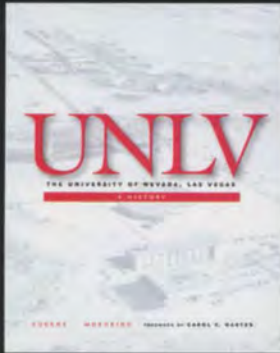
—Reviews by Audrey Greene and Wilma LaRocca

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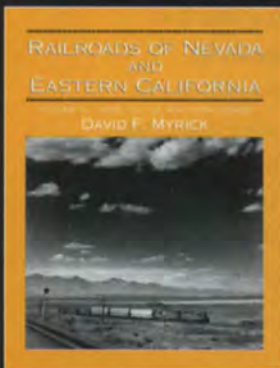
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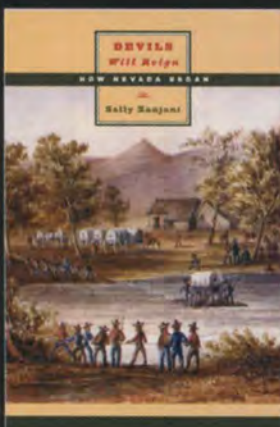
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Q&A

with Don
and Carol
Shanks



The rural Nevada activists haven't learned to say "No"

Don and Carol Shanks of Pioche describe themselves as "gross underachievers." Hardly. The couple is submerged in activities, projects, and committees that promote their rural economy.

They are involved with the Pioche and Greater Lincoln County chambers of commerce, Pioneer Territory, Silver State Trail, Lincoln County Golf Course, Pioche Heritage Plays, and Lincoln Communities Action Team. Pioche is located 175 miles northeast of Las Vegas.

The Shankses graduated from UNR, where they met. Don spent a year attending medical school before saying, "To hell with it. I'm going to give up being rich." He was a missile technician in the U.S. Army before joining the U.S. Bureau of Mines as a chemist. A Pioche native, Carol has worked as a lab technician, ski instructor, and substitute teacher. They raised their four children in Reno and have 12 grandchildren.

Nevada Magazine events editor Ann Henderson spoke with the Shankses in September.

Q Why did you move to Pioche?

C: My family owned the Stever's Store, and my dad asked us to come back for a year when my mother was ill. That was in 1989.

D: We ran the store for about five years, until 1995, during which time we became involved in the chamber, which led to our work with Nevada Commission on Tourism and Pioneer Territory.

Q What is the Pioneer Territory?

D: The Pioneer Territory is a region formed by the Nevada Commission on Tourism (NCOT) to promote our rural area. We use the coalition of about 15 communities to advertise everything we have to offer.

Q Don, you recently made an "honest" woman of Carol.

D: We were attending a tourism conference in Primm, and Larry Friedman of NCOT and his cohort, Teri Laursen, planned a wedding fashion show. Larry asked me to be in the show, told me there was going to be a ceremony, and that I was going to be the groom! After we modeled our clothes, I proposed to Carol.

C: He kneeled next to my chair and asked if I would remarry him. I said, "I guess we have been together too long now for me to turn you down!" At first I was totally shocked, then I started crying. Then everyone began crying. We had a real minister, the guy who drove the convention bus. I'm drying the roses from my bouquet.

Q What should people know about the Lincoln County Trails Coalition?

D: Congress mandated the Silver State OHV Trail. [The completed section] follows existing roads that are away from population centers. The project started when the Bureau of Land Management approached the Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce for our moral support and help, which we provided by forming the Lincoln County Trails Coalition.

There are now three trailheads, which are designed to have parking and visitor facilities. The trails run from the Oak Springs Summit on the south to Mount Grafton on the north. BLM is currently making brochures and maps of the trail system. We also are trying to get a separate trail system for mountain bikers.

Laws dealing with traveling on local roads have been changed to be more ATV-friendly, but we still need proper state legislation.

Q Explain the Pioche Heritage Plays.

C: Don and I have been active in the plays for about the last eight years. He has played the villain, the desperado's sidekick, and the sheriff. One year his role called for him to be onstage the entire time and never say a word.

The heritage plays consist of a melodrama and an original comedy based on local history. One of the town's favorites was about a local character, Ma Steward, who habitually wore six-shooters and dressed the part. She conned some kids by telling them where to dig for gold, and when the hole was deep enough, she put an outhouse over it.

It always made me unhappy that

Don got to be in the plays, and I, the thespian, had to play the piano for the melodramas. In the beginning, I did the choreography for the dance hall girls and participated as one of the Ladies of the Night. One night, I was kicking my leg during a can-can and tore a muscle. It felt like someone had kicked me. I was hopping around, and the audience was laughing hysterically, thinking it was part of the show.

D: Actually, we are not volunteers, we just never learned to say, "No." We never signed up for the plays. The director would come fetch us.

Q What did it take to create the Lincoln County Golf Course?

C: Keith [Carol's brother, who also lives in Pioche] and Maryanna Stever and Don and I had played in a golf league in Reno. Dick and Peggy Decker also enjoyed the game, and we discussed a course as a possible attraction. After a number of false starts, we jumped in with both feet.

For a Labor Day tournament in 2000, the course was prepared using existing plans and a little rural ingenuity. Marlin Chavis tied a tire on the back of his truck, lit it on fire, and burned the sagebrush where the course had been mapped out. Volunteers got the course ready for play.

D: The Deckers are the main driving force behind the golf course. Dick has made it his full-time job. All of us go down there weeding and hoeing.

C: And scooping rabbit poop! You have to go out almost every day. My grandson asked why we scattered dog food around.

Q What is life like in Pioche?

C: When we first came, we used to go out in the hills all the time. In those days, we only had the kids, the store, and the chamber. Now we've got the kids, the chambers, the LCAT, the territory, the trails coalition, the golf course, and the heritage plays. I run the chamber cottage information center, and I'm a substitute teacher at the elementary school.

One of our grandsons, Connor [age 13] has a serious illness, Batten's Disease, so I spend an hour to an hour and a half every day talking to him on the phone.

D: When I started thinking about this interview, I thought you would be a great writer if you can make an interesting story out of our rather ordinary lives.

We have had some accomplishments, but are probably both gross under-achievers. We look back and think, where did all the time go, and what if we had taken a few different turns? I have always heard that seniors don't have the mental capacity they once had but are supposed to have gained wisdom.

I used to doubt the latter statement, but having arrived at senior status, I know it to be true. But the wisdom is of the variety that Winston Churchill talked about when he said, "The U.S. always gets it right, after they have tried everything else first."

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For more of the interview with Don and Carol Shanks, visit nevadamagazine.com.



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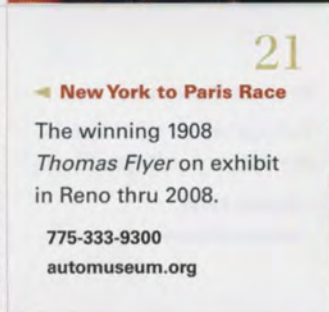
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PHOTOS: MICKEY COX (VETERANS POWWOW), SCOTT SADY (RENO ICE RINK)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>◀ Out of the Chute</p> <p>Las Vegas hosts fans Dec. 6-15 during the National Finals Rodeo.</p> <p>702-739-FANS unlvtickets.com</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Hanukkah begins</p> 
 <p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>◀ The Art of Nature</p> <p>Sharon K. Schafer's paintings & photos on display thru June 1 in Vegas.</p> <p>702-486-5205 nevadaculture.org</p>	<p>11</p> 
<p>16</p> <p>Polar Express ▶</p> <p>Visit Santa in Ely Sat.-Sun. after a train ride to the North Pole.</p> <p>775-289-2085 nnry.com</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>Gridiron Showdown ▶</p> <p>College teams meet Sat. in the annual Las Vegas Bowl.</p> <p>702-895-FANS unlvtickets.com</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25</p> 
<p>30</p>	<p>New Year's Eve 31</p>	

PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU (NATIONAL FINALS RODEO), SHARON K. SCHAFER (OWL)

december

W E D N E S D A Y

T H U R S D A Y

F R I D A Y

S A T U R D A Y

1



5

Parade & Buggy Rides ▶

Henderson celebrates Winterfest Dec. 6-9 with snowplay & ice skating.

702-267-2171
hendersonlive.com



6

Boxers Clash ▶

Undefeated: Mayweather vs. Hatton Sat. at MGM Grand in Vegas.

702-891-7777
mgmgrand.com

7



8

12

◀ **Magical Forest**

You have until Dec. 30 to see the winter wonderland in Vegas.

702-259-3700
opportunityvillage.org

13

Free Concert

The Squirrel Nut Zippers perform Fri.-Sat. at Red Rock Resort in Vegas.

702-797-7777
stationcasinos.com



14

◀ **Tchaikovsky's Classic**

Nevada Ballet Theatre's "The Nutcracker" runs thru Dec. 27 in Vegas.

702-895-ARTS
pac.unlv.edu

15



20

The Cuchi Cuchi Girl

Charo strums & sings Dec. 27-31 at the Riverside in Laughlin.

702-298-2535
riversideresort.com

21

Cirque City ▶

Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" is a big draw at Treasure Island in Vegas.

702-894-7111
cirquedusoleil.com



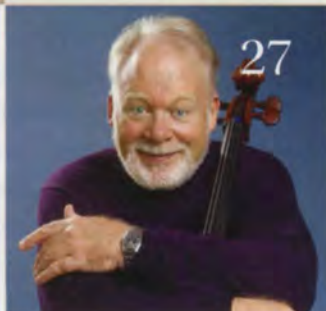
22

26

The World's Finest ▶

Musicians are in Reno Dec. 28-31 for the Nevada Chamber Music Festival.

775-348-9413
renochamberorchestra.org



27

28

Nevada Parties ▶

Communities across the Silver State celebrate New Year's Eve. Check events listings for details and contact information.



29

PHOTO: AARON MAYER (WINTERFEST)

abba-dabba-doo!

“Mamma Mia!” makes a lasting impression at Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas

BY ANN HENDERSON

When “Mamma Mia!” concludes its five-and-a-half-year Las Vegas run next August, the breezy musical, based on the music of Abba, will have been the longest-lasting Broadway production in the city.



NEVADA ONLINE

To read an extended version of this story, including more about “Mamma Mia!’s” lead performer, Carol Johnson, visit nevadamagazine.com.



What’s so special about a Greek island, a wedding, and a young girl’s search for her father (who could be one of three men)? Carol Johnson, who gives a powerful performance as Donna, the mother of the bride, has several theories about “Mamma’s” popularity.

“The producers are unwilling to cut the show to 90 minutes, [a shortened version] that would leave the audience feeling unfulfilled,” she says. “People don’t want the CliffsNotes, they want the whole [theatrical] journey.”

And, Abba’s music. “On some level you’ve heard that music before, and it triggers a memory.”

It’s true. There is a post-show musical hangover of such Abba hits as “Waterloo,” “Money, Money, Money,” and, of course, “Dancing Queen,” all played by a nine-member band.

The show’s strength also is the story, which Johnson says is somewhat Shakespearean. “There’s conflict; all eyes are on the wedding,” she says. “There is something so familiar with the experiences and relationships [the characters] have.”

Johnson understands the Bard’s flair for drama and comedy. She met her husband, Don Burroughs, while they were appearing together in the Utah Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City, located near the eastern Nevada border. Burroughs performs in the “Mamma” ensemble and understudies the roles of Sam and Harry, two of the prospective fathers.



PHOTO: JOAN MARCUS

The show opens with the bride-to-be, Sophie, played by Libby Winter, singing, "I Have a Dream." She wants a father to walk her down the aisle, so she invites three men to her wedding—one of whom could be hers. Her voice is mature and strong, which fits the role.

Sophie had discovered the paternity problem after perusing her mother's diary. She reads the 1979 entries to her girlfriends. "We rowed over to the island and..." Sophie explains that "dot, dot, dot" is what they called IT in the "olden days."

At the time, Donna was into spandex, platform shoes, disco, and her "girl group," Donna and the Dynamos. They are reunited during a scene where the back-up singers, Tanya (Vicki Van Tassel) and Rosie (Robin Baxter), try to console Donna with a

comedic "Chiquitita" that leads into their signature number, "Dancing Queen."

Donna is understandably upset over the appearance of her former lovers, particularly Sam. None of the men know they might have a daughter, and Donna herself is not sure which man fathered Sophie.

Johnson's toughest performance moment comes during her duet with Sam (Rob Sutton) in "The Winner Takes It All." "It's my ninth song of the evening," she says. The two also turn in a powerhouse rendition of "SOS."

As "Mamma Mia!'s" wedding scene unfolds, the three prospective fathers resolve the paternity issue by... Sophie and her fiancé surprisingly decide... And, Donna and Sam? Well, they...

SHOW NOTES

"Mamma Mia!" plays at Mandalay Bay through August. Show times are Sunday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 6 and 10 p.m., dark Friday. Tickets are \$49.50, \$82.50, and \$110, including tax. (mamma-mia.com, mandalay-bay.com, 702-632-7777)



Death Valley '49er Days

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Welcome the wagon train and desert trail riders as they arrive after days out on the back country desert trails.

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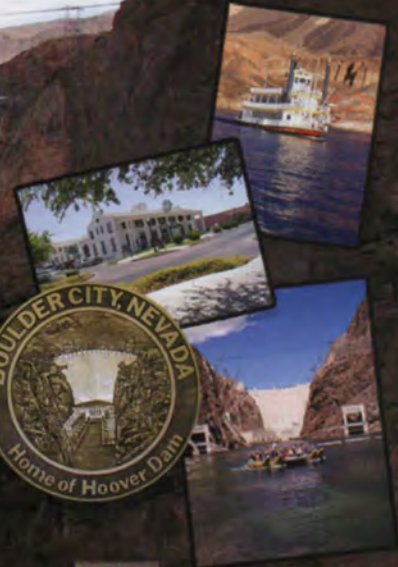


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BOULDER CITY

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www.bouldercitychamber.com

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november/december

Nevada Magazine's guide to Southern Nevada entertainment. All performances take place in Las Vegas unless otherwise noted. Call ahead to confirm details.

las vegas

ALEXIS PARK

Bobby B's Doo Wop Convention, Nov. 16-17
513-307-4429
dooowopstop.com

BALLY'S LAS VEGAS

ONGOING
Jubilee!, production show
Price is Right, game show
Backstage tour,
Mon., Wed., & Sat.
702-739-4111
harrahs.com

BELLAGIO

ONGOING
Cirque du Soleil's "O"
Dark Mon.-Tues.
& Dec. 3-18
702-796-9999
cirquedusoleil.com

BOULDER STATION

HEADLINERS
Hiroshima, Nov. 10
Marshall Tucker Band, Nov. 16
Tracy Lawrence, Nov. 17
The Yellowjackets, Nov. 30
Rodney Atkins, Dec. 7-8
Soulful Christmas w/Brian Culbertson, Gerald Albright, Nick Colionne, Jon B., Dec. 14
702-432-7777
stationcasinos.com

CAESARS PALACE

HEADLINERS
Jerry Seinfeld, Nov. 16-17
Bette Midler, Feb. 20, 22-24,
26-27, 29-March 2, 4-5, 7-9

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Comedy Festival,
Nov. 15-17
w/Chris Rock & Jerry Seinfeld

866-227-5938
harrahs.com

ONGOING

Celine Dion in "A New Day..."
Appears thru Dec. 15
877-423-5463
celinedion.com
Elton John in "The Red Piano,"
Nov. 2-3, 5
888-4ELTONJ
ticketmaster.com

CIRCUS CIRCUS

ONGOING

Free circus acts daily
702-734-0410
mgmmirage.com

EXCALIBUR HOTEL

HEADLINERS

Sylvia Browne, Nov. 1,
3-8, 10, Dec. 1-13, 15

ONGOING

Tournament of Kings
Thunder From Down
Under, male revue
Louie Anderson
702-597-7600
excalibur.com

FITZGERALDS

ONGOING

Larry G. Jones, impersonator
Country Superstars Tribute,
dark Dec. 11-26
702-388-2400
fitzgeraldslasvegas.com

FLAMINGO LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

George Wallace, comedian
Toni Braxton: Revealed
Second City, improv comedy
Society of Seven
"X," burlesque, adult revue
702-733-3333
harrahs.com

FOUR QUEENS

ONGOING

Harmik: Tom Jones tribute
702-387-5175
tomjonesclone.com

GOLD COAST

HEADLINERS

Latin Breeze, Fri.-Sat.
AZ One, Nov. 6-11
Jonathan & Music
Magic, Nov. 13-18
702-367-7111
goldcoastcasino.com

GOLDEN NUGGET

ONGOING

"Defending the Caveman,"
one-man Broadway show
Rich Little, thru April
702-386-8100
goldennugget.com

HARD ROCK HOTEL

HEADLINERS

Ozzy Osborne, Nov. 24
ONGOING
Beacher's Madhouse,
Nov. 24, Dec. 29
702-474-4000
ticketmaster.com

HARRAH'S LAS VEGAS

Wayne Newton, Nov. 22-24,
28-29, Dec. 1, 3-7, 10-15, 17-22

ONGOING

"Hats! The Musical"
opens Jan. 12,
musical comedy
Rita Rudner
Mac King, magic
Improv Theater
Marshall Sylvester, hypnotist
702-369-5222
harrahs.com

HOOTERS CASINO HOTEL

ONGOING

Bobby Slayton, stand-up comic



Bette Midler,
Elton John,
Caesars Palace

Mentalist Gerry McCambridge
866-807-4697
vegas.com

IMPERIAL PALACE

ONGOING

Legends in Concert,
tribute revue
702-794-3261
imperialpalace.com

LAS VEGAS HILTON

HEADLINERS

Earth, Wind, & Fire, Nov. 1-3
ZZ Top, Nov. 11
Trace Adkins, Dec. 6-8
Big & Rich w/Cowboy Troy,
Dec. 9-11
Brooks & Dunn, Dec. 12-15
Johnny Mathis' Holiday
Show, Dec. 21-22

ONGOING

Barry Manilow, Nov. 6-10,
14-17, 27-Dec. 1, Dec. 27-30
"Menopause: The Musical"
Laugh Out Loud w/the Scintas
\$250,000 Ultimate Game Show
w/Bob Eubanks, Chuck Woolery,
& Jamie Farr
702-732-5755
lvhilton.com

LIBERACE MUSEUM

ONGOING

Musical Tribute to Liberace
w/Wes Winters
702-798-5595, ext. 13
liberace.org

LUXOR

ONGOING

Carrot Top
Ronn Lucas
"Fantasy," adult revue
702-262-4400
luxor.com

MANDALAY BAY

HEADLINERS

Ron White, Nov. 3
Trans-Siberian
Orchestra, Nov. 18

ONGOING

"Mamma Mia!," Broadway
musical, dark Nov. 25

SPECIAL EVENTS

Latin Grammy Awards, Nov. 8

HOUSE OF BLUES

ONGOING

"Dirty: Rock Hard,"
adult comedy-hypnosis
"Keep it Funny"
w/Tim Gabrielson,
comedy magic

HEADLINERS

Provoked w/Henry Rollins,
Spoken Word, Nov. 9
Queen Latifah, Nov. 16
Social Distortion, Dec. 1-2
Motion City Soundtrack
w/Mae, Anberlin,
& Metro Station, Dec. 7
Reverend Horton Heat
w/Hank III, Dec. 29
702-632-7777
mandalaybay.com

MGM GRAND

HEADLINERS

Rodney Carrington, Nov. 1-7
CMT on Tour w/Sugarland,
Little Big Town,
& Jake Owen, Nov. 3
Howie Mandel, Nov. 8-14
David Copperfield, Nov. 15-28
Billy Joel, Nov. 17
Tom Jones, Dec. 6-19
Rodney Carrington,
Nov. 29-Dec. 15
David Copperfield, Dec. 20-31

SPECIAL EVENTS

Undefeated: Mayweather
vs. Hatton, Dec. 8

ONGOING

"KA," Cirque du Soleil
production, dark Sun.-Mon.
& Nov. 13
cirquedusoleil.com
"Crazy Horse Paris,"
adult revue
702-891-7777
mgmgrand.com

THE MIRAGE

HEADLINERS

Jay Leno, Nov. 2-3, 9-10

ONGOING

"Love," Cirque du Soleil
production, dark Tues.-Wed.
& Nov. 27-Dec. 12
cirquedusoleil.com
Danny Gans, impersonator,
dark Sun.-Mon., Thurs.,
& Nov. 23-24, Dec. 25-26
702-792-7777
mirage.com

MONTE CARLO

ONGOING

Magician Lance Burton
702-730-7160
montecarlo.com

NEW YORK-NEW YORK

ONGOING

"Zumanity," adult
production, dark Mon.-Thurs.
& Dec. 4-18
702-740-6969
cirquedusoleil.com

THE ORLEANS

HEADLINERS

Sinbad, Nov. 2-4
Neil Sedaka, Nov. 7-11
Donny Osmond, Nov. 15-18
George Carlin, Nov. 22-25
Bill Engvall, Dec. 13-16
The Original Family Stone,
Dec. 29-30

SPECIAL EVENTS

Holiday Celebration on Ice,
w/Clay Aiken, Nov. 6
Maxxis Endurocross, Nov. 17
Las Vegas Invitational, basketball,
Nov. 23-24
Andre Rieu & His Johann
Strauss Orchestra, Dec. 7
Larry the Cable Guy, Dec. 15
Las Vegas Classic,
basketball, Dec. 22-23
800-ORLEANS
orleanscasino.com



Sinbad,
The Orleans



NEVADA ONLINE

For more shows in
the Silver State, visit
nevadamagazine.com.



Earl Turner,
Harrah's Laughlin
"The Producers,"
Paris Las Vegas



NEVADA ONLINE

For more shows in the Silver State, visit nevadamagazine.com.

PALAZZO RESORT

ONGOING

Broadway musical
"Jersey Boys"
opens April 4
866-641-SHOW
venetiantickets.com

THE PALMS

HEADLINERS

The Pogues, Nov. 2
Brand New w/Thrice, Nov. 9
Maroon 5, Nov. 10
Alejandro Sanz, Nov. 20
Chris Cornell, Nov. 23
Jim Gaffigan, Nov. 24
702-942-7777
palms.com

PARIS LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

"The Producers,"
Broadway musical
Hypnotist Anthony Cools,
adult material
"Ooh La La," topless revue
877-374-7469
parislasvegas.com

**PLANET HOLLYWOOD
HOTEL/CASINO**

ONGOING

Stomp Out Loud,
dance & percussion
702-785-5000
stomponline.com
Hans Klok: "The
Beauty of Magic"
702-474-4000
ticketmaster.com

**V THEATER AT PLANET
HOLLYWOOD**

Fab Four Mania
"V," variety show
Magician Nathan Burton
Popovich Pet Comedy Show
Mesmerized, adult revue
702-932-1818
varietytheater.com

STEVE WYRICK

ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

Magician Steve Wyrick
702-777-7794
vegas.com

KRAVE THEATER

ONGOING

"Little Legends"
Lucky Cheng's, drag show
"Dirty Hypnosis"
702-836-0836

RED ROCK STATION

HEADLINERS

Average White Band,
free concert, Nov. 9
Squirrel Nut Zippers,
free concert, Dec. 14-15
702-797-7777
stationcasinos.com

RIO ALL-SUITE HOTEL

ONGOING

Penn and Teller,
comedy-magic show
Chippendales: The Show,
male revue
Tony n' Tina's Wedding,
dinner theater
702-252-7776
harrahs.com

RIVIERA

ONGOING

An Evening at La Cage,
impersonators
Crazy Girls, adult revue
Ice, Russian ice show
Riviera Comedy Club
Neil Diamond Tribute,
w/Jay White
Hypnotist Dr. Scott Lewis, Mon.
Barbra & Frank:
The Concert That Never Was
702-734-5110
rivierahotel.com

SAHARA

ONGOING

Matsuri, The Acrobatic Musical
Amazing Johnathan,
bizarre magic
Platters, Drifters, & Coasters
Trent Carlini: The Dream King
702-737-2515
saharavegas.com

SANTA FE STATION

HEADLINERS

Bonnie Tyler, Nov. 3
Peter White, Nov. 17
John Anderson, Nov. 16
Keith Anderson, Dec. 14-15
Kirk Whalum, Jan. 11
702-547-5300
stationcasinos.com

SOUTH POINT

HEADLINERS

Joe Diffie, Nov. 2-3
Roy Clark, Nov. 9-11
Trick Pony, Nov. 16-17
The Lettermen, Nov. 23-24
Jody Nix, Dec. 3-5
Deryl Dodd, Dec. 6-8
Susie Dobbs, Dec. 6-10
Jon Wolfe, Dec. 9-11
Woody Lee, Dec. 11-15
Blaine Gray, Dec. 12-13
Lee Brice, Dec. 14-15

SPECIAL EVENTS

Las Vegas Hunter-Jumper
Horse Show, Nov. 1-4
Bill Pickett Rodeo, Nov. 9-10
702-796-7111
southpointcasino.com

STRATOSPHERE

ONGOING

American Superstars,
tribute revue
Bite, revue
702-382-4446
stratospherehotel.com

SUNCOAST

HEADLINERS

The Las Vegas Tenors,
Thurs. thru Nov.
Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 2-4
John Davidson, Nov. 9-11
Legendary Ladies of Rock
'n' Roll w/Lesley Gore,
Shirley Alston Reeves,
Nov. 17-18
Marie Osmond, The Magic
of Christmas, Nov. 23-25
Jack Jones, Nov. 30-Dec. 2
Journey to the Heart w/
Jimmy Hopper, Dec. 2
702-636-7111
suncoastcasino.com

TREASURE ISLAND

ONGOING

"Mystère"
702-894-7111
cirquedusoleil.com

TROPICANA

ONGOING

Les Folies Bergere,
production show
Extreme Magic w/Dirk Arthur
The Comedy Stop
702-739-2411
tropicalanalv.com

VENETIAN

ONGOING

"Phantom: The Las
Vegas Spectacular"
phantomasvegas.com
Blue Man Group,
percussion theater
Comedian Gordie Brown
Comedian Wayne Brady
702-733-5000
venetian.com

WYNN LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

"Le Rêve"
Monty Python's "Spamalot"
702-770-7000
wynnlasvegas.com

GREEN VALLEY RANCH

Henderson

HEADLINERS

Chris Botti, Nov. 16
The Fixx, free concert,
Nov. 23-24
John Cafferty & The Beaver
Brown Band, free
concert, Dec. 8
Phil Vassar, Dec. 14-15
702-547-5300
stationcasinos.com
THE DISTRICT AT GREEN
VALLEY RANCH
Strolling Carolers,
Fri.-Sat., Dec.
702-564-8595
thedistrictatgvr.com

AQUARIUS RESORT

Laughlin

HEADLINERS

Mary Wilson, Nov. 24
702-298-5111
aquariuscasinoresort.com

COLORADO BELLE

DJs in the Boiler Room
702-298-4000
coloradobelle.com

GOLDEN NUGGET LAUGHLIN

Lounge entertainment
702-298-7111
goldennugget.com

HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN

HEADLINERS

Earl Turner, Oct. 27-Nov. 7
Louie Anderson, Nov. 17-19
702-298-8510
harrahslaughlin.com

RIVERSIDE RESORT

Laughlin

HEADLINERS

Mark Chesnutt, Oct. 31-Nov. 4
Vicki Lawrence, Nov. 7-11
Roy Clark, Nov. 13-18
Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 21-25
Big Band Dance w/Rusty
Davis Orchestra, Nov. 26

Lynn Anderson, Nov. 28-Dec. 2
Hawaiian Christmas, Dec. 4-18
"The Nutcracker," Dec. 20-23
Charo, Dec. 27-31
702-298-2535
riversideresort.com

TROPICANA EXPRESS

Laughlin

Eric Burdon
& The Animals, Dec. 22
The Temptations
Revue, Jan. 19
888-888-8695
tropicanax.com

CASABLANCA

Mesquite

Bill Engvall, Nov. 2
Travis Tritt, Dec. 1
Comedy Club & lounge
entertainment
702-346-7529
casablancaresort.com

CANNERY

North Las Vegas

HEADLINERS

Freda Payne's Tribute to
Ella Fitzgerald, Nov. 2-3
The Fab, Nov. 9
The Gin Blossoms, Nov. 10
The Detroit All-Stars,
Nov. 16-17
Cab Calloway Orchestra,
fall harvest dance, Nov. 23-24
702-507-5700
cannerycasinos.com

BUFFALO BILL'S RESORT

Primm

HEADLINERS

REO Speedwagon, Nov. 3
Herman's Hermits, Nov. 23-24
Juice Newton, Nov. 29-Dec. 1
800-FUN-STOP
primmvalleyresorts.com



"Phantom: The Las
Vegas Spectacular,"
Venetian
Neil Sedaka,
The Orleans

november/december

Nevada Magazine's guide to Northern Nevada and rural entertainment. All performances take place in Reno unless otherwise noted. Call ahead to confirm details.



Jewel, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno

reno-tahoe

CARSON NUGGET

Carson City
Lounge entertainment
775-882-1626
ccnugget.com

CARSON STATION

Carson City
Lounge entertainment
775-883-0900
carsonstation.com

CASINO FANDANGO

Carson City
Lounge entertainment
775-885-7000
casinofandango.com

CARSON VALLEY INN

Minden
HEADLINERS
Smokin' Aces, Oct. 30-Nov. 4
3 Blonde Moms, Nov. 9-10,
comedy
775-782-9711
cvinn.com

TOPAZ LODGE

Topaz Lake
Lounge entertainment
775-266-3339
topazlodge.com

ATLANTIS

HEADLINERS
Entertainment TBA
775-824-4467
atlantiscasino.com

BOOMTOWN

Verdi
Lounge entertainment
775-345-6000
boomtownreno.com

CIRCUS CIRCUS

Circus acts daily
775-329-0711
circusreno.com

ELDORADO

ONGOING
"Dancing Queen,"
the music of Abba,
thru Nov. 4
Spirit of Christmas,
Nov. 13-Dec. 27
Tony Orlando, Nov. 26-28
Paul Rodgers of Bad Company
& Queen, Dec. 30-31
775-786-5700
eldoradoreno.com

FITZGERALDS

HEADLINERS
George Pickard, thru Dec.
775-785-3300
fitzgeraldsreno.com

GRAND SIERRA RESORT

HEADLINERS
Diana Ross, Nov. 9
Jewel, Nov. 17
SPECIAL EVENTS
Fantasies in Chocolate, Nov. 2
"The Nutcracker," Dec. 7-8
775-789-2285
grandsierraresort.com

HARRAH'S RENO

ONGOING
Greg London's ICONS,
thru July 14
Impersonator
775-786-3232
harrahs.com

JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET

Sparks
HEADLINERS
English Beat, Nov. 3
Sheena Easton, Nov. 10
Charo, Nov. 16-17
SPECIAL EVENTS
Teton Gravity Research,
Nov. 2,
film festival
775-356-3304
janugget.com

PEPPERMILL

Lounge entertainment
775-826-2121
peppermillreno.com

RENO EVENTS CENTER

HEADLINERS
So You Think You
Can Dance Tour, Nov. 30
800-687-8733
silverlegacyreno.com

SANDS REGENCY

Comedy club
Lounge entertainment
775-348-2200
sandsregency.com

SIENA

Lounge entertainment
775-337-6260
sienareno.com

SILVER LEGACY

HEADLINERS
Peter Frampton, Nov. 2
Julio Iglesias, Nov. 9
War & Average White
Band, Nov. 10
Queen Latifah, Nov. 23

ONGOING

Catch a Rising Star
Comedy Club
800-MUST-SEE
silverlegacyreno.com

BILL'S LAKE TAHOE

Stateline
Lounge entertainment
775-588-2455
billslaketahoe.com

HARRAH'S LAKE TAHOE

Stateline
Little Anthony & The
Imperials, Nov. 3
Fog Hat, Nov. 10
Chubby Checker, Nov. 17



NEVADA ONLINE

For more shows in
the Silver State, visit
nevadamagazine.com.

Kenny Loggins, Nov. 23-24
800-HARRAHS
harrahs.com

HARVEYS
Stateline

ONGOING

"Party Girls" adult revue
The Improv, dark Mon.
775-588-2411
ticketmaster.com
harrahs.com

HORIZON
Stateline

ONGOING

TV's Magic Stars at the Horizon
775-588-6211
ticketmaster.com

LAKESIDE INN
Stateline

Karaoke, Wed., Fri.-Sat.
775-588-7777
lakesideinn.com

MONTBLEU RESORT
Stateline

HEADLINERS

Tracy Lawrence, Nov. 24
775-588-3515
montbleuresort.com

CAL-NEVA RESORT
Crystal Bay

Lounge entertainment
775-832-4000
calnevaresort.com

HYATT REGENCY LAKE TAHOE
Incline Village

Lounge entertainment
775-832-1234
laketahoe.hyatt.com

rural nevada

LONGSTREET INN
Amargosa Valley

Lounge entertainment
775-372-1777

STAGECOACH CASINO
Beatty

Lounge entertainment
775-553-2419
oasisvalleyhotels.com

COMMERCIAL HOTEL
Elko

Lounge entertainment
800-648-2345, ext. 498
commercialcasino.com

HIGH DESERT INN
Elko

Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.
775-738-8425
playelko.com

RED LION
Elko

Music during special events
775-738-2111
playelko.com

STOCKMEN'S HOTEL
Elko

Lounge entertainment
800-648-2345, ext. 498
stockmenscasino.com

EL CAPITAN
Hawthorne

Lounge entertainment
775-945-3322
elcapitancasino.com

CACTUS PETES
Jackpot

HEADLINERS

Tracy Byrd, Nov. 16-17
Grand Funk Railroad,
Nov. 30-Dec. 1
Lorrie Morgan, Dec. 28-29
800-821-1103
ameristarcasinos.com

HORSESHU CASINO
Jackpot

Lounge entertainment
775-755-2321
ameristarcasinos.com

SADDLE WEST HOTEL
Pahrump

Entertainment during
special events
775-727-1111
saddlewest.com

TONOPAH STATION

RAMADA INN

Tonopah

Bands during special events
775-482-9777
Email: tonopahsta@
frontiernet.net

MONTEGO BAY

Wendover

Lounge entertainment
775-664-9100
wendoverfun.com

PEPPERMILL

Wendover

HEADLINERS

REO Speedwagon, Nov. 2
Bill Engvall, Nov. 3
Crystal Gayle/
Lee Greenwood, Nov. 17
Oak Ridge Boys, Nov. 30
Collin Raye, Dec. 1
Wayne Newton, Dec. 8
Bellamy Brothers & Asleep
at the Wheel, Dec. 14
775-664-2255
wendoverfun.com

WINNERS HOTEL

Winnemucca

Lounge entertainment
775-623-2511
winnershotel.com

DINI'S LUCKY CLUB

Yerington

Music during special events
775-463-2868
dinisluckyclub.com



Wayne Newton,
Peppermill,
Wendover

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Eureka Opera House, 775-237-6006, P.O. Box 284, Eureka, Nevada 89316
www.co.eureka.nv.us

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Festival of Trees Nov 26-28, 2007
 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering Jan 26-Feb 2, 2008
 Snowmobile Rendezvous Feb 16-18, 2008
 Elko Mining Expo June 2-6, 2008
 ATV Jamboree June 23-28, 2008

Elko Convention & Visitors Authority
ELKO CONVENTION CENTER

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"The Nutcracker"

music's in the air

Fill your holiday season—and beyond—with classic song and dance.

BY MATTHEW B. BROWN

FOR THE NEXT NINE MONTHS, the magic number for Northern Nevada's performing arts scene is four.

Four Reno organizations—Reno Chamber Orchestra, Reno Philharmonic, AVA Ballet Theatre, and Nevada Opera—will host a number of events sure to stir lovers of the live performance. Not coincidentally, a few of the events coincide with the holiday season, when it's fitting for joyful music to fill the chilly autumn or winter air.

When *Nevada Magazine's* November/Decem-

ber issue hits newsstands around the middle of October, the foursome will have kicked off their respective seasons—including Nevada Opera's 40th anniversary performance—but a large portion of their 2007-'08 schedules take place from November on.

One of the larger events will be the Nevada Chamber Music Festival, presented by Reno Chamber Orchestra. Keeping with the theme of four, the fourth annual festival is four consecutive days and nights of chamber music, capped



with a special New Year's Eve finale. Twice Grammy Award-winning cellist Lynn Harrell will perform among many renowned musicians.

"It's the week between Christmas and New Year's, so no one is working," says Scott Faulkner, executive director. "The musicians come to Reno for a modest fee, rehearse like crazy, and enjoy the camaraderie. There is not another week during the year that all these musicians will be in the same city."

Theodore Kuchar, artistic director of the Nevada Chamber Music Festival and director and conductor of the Reno Chamber Orchestra, is the mastermind behind the chamber's season, which includes five different Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon performances. The concerts will feature world-known conductors and musicians, such as pianist Meng-Chieh Liu, who will appear in Gabriel Fauré's *Ballade* on November 10 and 11.

Reno Philharmonic, which will celebrate its own 40th anniversary next season, also offers an evening and afternoon showing of each performance. Typically it's Sunday

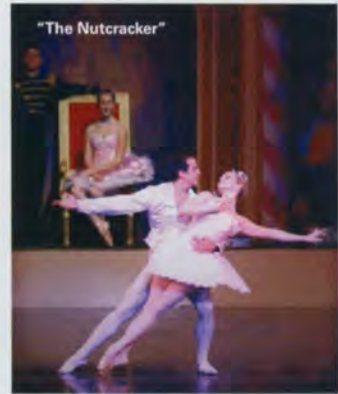
afternoon and Tuesday evening, with the exception of the November 17 (Saturday evening) and 18 (Sunday afternoon) program, featuring violinist Anne Akiko-Meyers participating in Samuel Barber's *Violin Concerto*.

In December, the AVA Ballet Theatre will present the holiday classic, "The Nutcracker." Reno Philharmonic joins with AVA and 120 of Northern Nevada's best dancers to tell the story of young Clara's adventures with her magical doll. AVA also performs "Cinderella" in March and "Vortex" in July.

The Nevada Opera, founded in 1968 by Ted and Deena Puffer, claims to be Nevada's oldest professional performing arts company. In addition to October's anniversary concert, Nevada Opera will entertain audiences with evening and afternoon showings of "Hansel and Gretel" (February 8 and 10) and "The Mikado" (April 11 and 13).

NEVADA ONLINE

Visit nevadamagazine.com for an extended listing of 2008 performances.



CONTACTS & EVENTS

(For ticket information, including pricing, place, and times)

Reno Chamber Orchestra

775-348-9413,
renochamberorchestra.org

Nov. 10-11

Featured music: Maurice Ravel & Gabriel Fauré

A performance with noted pianist Meng-Chieh Liu

Dec. 28-31

Nevada Chamber Music Festival
Four days and seven concerts, including a New Year's Eve celebration

Reno Philharmonic

775-323-6393, renophil.com

Nov. 17-18

Featured music: Rimsky Korsakov & Samuel Barber

Renowned violinist Anne Akiko-Myers plays to Barber's *Violin Concerto*

Jan. 13 & 15

Featured music: Manuel de Falla & Piotr Tchaikovsky
Dances from Falla's *Three-Cornered Hat*, featuring flamenco dancer Yaelisa

AVA Ballet Theatre

775-686-6000, avaballet.com

Dec. 14-16

"The Nutcracker"
The holidays come to life in this classic family performance

Nevada Opera

775-786-4046, nevadaopera.org

Feb. 8 & 10

"Hansel and Gretel"
Engelbert Humperdinck's piece provides a happily-ever-after ending



gift from las vegas

Make it a December to Remember in the Cultural Corridor

BY ANN HENDERSON

What happens when you break a Mexican cascarone, a decorated egg filled with confetti, over someone's head? How do you make a dreidel, a Jewish toy? What is the purpose of a Muslim charity jar or a Native American gift of kindness? You can find the answers at December to Remember, a six-week festival of cultural traditions, November 23 to January 6, in Las Vegas.

Sponsored by the seven members of the downtown Cultural Corridor, a composite of public, private, and non-profit entities, December to Remember promotes cultural acceptance.

"When you learn about another culture, you can see the similarities, not the differences," says Marilyn Gillespie, executive director of the Las Vegas Natural History Museum and president of the Cultural Corridor. "And that understanding can lead to tolerance."

Exposure to more than a dozen ethnic groups is planned around weekend schedules packed with music, special events, hands-on children's activities, film, and theater. An ongoing festival of trees, each decorated in symbols from cultures such as Chinese, Hungarian, and Hawaiian, are on display. Faiths, including Buddhist, Jewish, Islamic, and Native American, are expected to contribute displays representing their beliefs.

"Last year four monks from Los Angeles traveled here to



create the Buddhist exhibit,” says Gillespie. “December to Remember adds an entirely new dimension to a time that is so important to families.”

Festival highlights are as diverse as a living-history presentation by Soldiers of the Old Fort or a chance to explore the Neon Museum’s Boneyard. There will be Japanese drummers, a Jewish children’s choir, Thai Stick dancers, and a Black Nativity Musical.

By the way, if you want someone to dance with you, simply break a cascarone over his—or her—head.

SCHEDULE OF CULTURAL CORRIDOR EVENTS

For a list of events & prices, visit culturalcorridorvegas.org.

Natural History Museum: Mexican cascarones, Dec. 1; Jewish dreidels (toys), Dec. 8; Muslim charity jars, Dec. 15; Jewish Children’s Choir, Dec. 16; Norwegian paper quilling, Hawaiian singers & dancers, Japanese Taiko drummers, Mexican performers, Thai Stick dancers, Dec. 22; Native American gifts of kindness, Dec. 29. lvnhm.org, 702-384-2008

Lied Discovery Children’s Museum: Holiday Film Festival, Dec. 1-2; 8-9 (classic films); 15-16 (Hanukkah & Kwanza); 22-23 (Christmas); 29-30 (New Year’s family stories). ldcm.org, 702-382-3445

Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park: Make-and-Take Ornaments, Dec. 8; Soldiers of the Fort, living-history Civil War Christmas celebration, Dec. 15. parks.nv.gov, 702-486-3511

Reed Whipple Cultural Center: Vegas Valley Legacy Band, Dec. 8; Las Vegas Wind Quintet, Dec. 16. artslasvegas.org, 702-229-6211

Las Vegas Library: Luminaria & Mexican La Posada songs, Dec. 15. lvccld.org, 702-507-3500

Cashman Center: Black Nativity Musical, Dec. 21-22, 702-994-2964

Neon Museum: Boneyard open house, Dec. 29, hourly guided tours from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., North Boneyard on McWilliams Ave. neonmuseum.org, 702-387-6366



Cultural Corridor activities during the holiday season feature (beginning on opposite page, clockwise from top left) luminaria; restored neon signs at the Fremont Street Experience; re-enactor Kenny Burk and a Civil War Christmas led by Soldiers of the Old Fort (top and middle); a performance by Vegas Valley Legacy Band; and dreidel making.

november/december

Nevada Magazine's guide to Southern Nevada events. All listings are in Las Vegas unless otherwise noted. Call ahead to confirm details.

las vegas

MOTOR SPORTS

Laughlin International Rally & Motorsports Festival
Nov. 8-11
GPS adventure rally,
pro-am drifting nationals
800-4LAUGHLIN
rallyusa.com

Henderson's Terrible "400"
Henderson
Nov. 30-Dec. 2
Off-road race
702-457-5775
bitd.com

SPORTS

2007 PBR World Finals
Nov. 1-4
Bull riders
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

Firefighter Combat World Challenge
Fremont Street Experience
Nov. 4-8
702-678-5600
vegalexperience.com

Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge
Henderson
Nov. 9-13
914-764-8477
wendys3tour.com

Nevada Silverman Full Distance Triathlon
Henderson
Nov. 10
702-267-4849
hendersonlive.com

Las Vegas Marathon
Dec. 2
lvmarathon.com

Downtown Hoedown NFR Kick-Off Party
Dec. 5
Fremont Street Experience
Hal Ketchum &
Sawyer Brown perform
702-678-5600
vegalexperience.com

National Finals Rodeo
Dec. 6-15
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

NFR Cowboy Christmas Show
Dec. 6-15
702-260-8605
nfrexperience.com

Las Vegas Bowl
Henderson
Dec. 22
702-895-FANS
unlvtickets.com

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Lights Festival
Springs Preserve
Dec. 1-31
702-822-8344
springspreserve.org

Moscow Ballet Great Russian "Nutcracker"
Henderson
Nov. 2
702-267-4849
hendersonlive.com

Gift of Lights
Nov. 9-Jan. 1
Drive-thru holiday display
702-451-1641
giftoflights.com

"Babes in Toyland"
Henderson
Nov. 10

Holiday musical
702-267-2171
hendersonlive.com

Winterfest
Boulder City
Nov. 10-11
702-293-2138
boulder-city-chamber.com

Festival of Trees
Mesquite
Nov. 14-17
702-346-ARTS
mesquiteartscouncil.com

Christmas Tree Auction
Boulder City
Nov. 16-17
Trees, wreaths, centerpieces
702-293-7231
boulder-city-chamber.com

Celebrate the Seasons: 1960-1980
Henderson

Nov. 18-Jan. 14
Holiday traditions
702-455-7955
co.clark.nv.us/museum

Ethel M Chocolate Wonderland
Henderson
Nov. 21-Jan. 1
Holiday cactus garden
800-438-4356
ethelchocolate.com

Magical Forest Holiday Village
Nov. 22-Dec. 30
702-259-3700
opportunityvillage.org

December to Remember
Nov. 23-Jan. 6
Promotes understanding thru
cultural exhibits & programs
702-384-2008
lvnhm.org



The best compete at the National Finals Rodeo, Dec. 6-15



NEVADA ONLINE

For more events in the Silver State, visit nevadamagazine.com.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Boulder City
Nov. 30
702-293-2034
boulder-city-chamber.com

Las Vegas Great Santa Run

Dec. 1
5K and one-mile events
Runners in Santa suits
702-880-4055
opportunityvillage.org

**Santa's Electric Night
Parade & Picture Party**

Boulder City
Dec. 1
702-293-2034
boulder-city-chamber.com

"Acclamation"

Mesquite
Dec. 6
Southern Utah University
702-346-ARTS
mesquiteartscouncil.com

**Henderson Symphony
Orchestra**

Henderson
Dec. 6
Winterfest concert
702-267-2171
hendersonlive.com

Winterfest

Henderson
Dec. 6-9
702-267-2171
hendersonlive.com

Luminaria

Boulder City
Dec. 7
702-293-2034
boulder-city-chamber.com

Vegas Valley Legacy Band

Dec. 8
Holiday concert
702-229-6211
artslasvegas.org

**Need a Little Christmas:
Favorite Broadway Carols**

Boulder City
Dec. 8
702-294-0043
boulder-city-chamber.com

**Las Vegas Philharmonic
Holiday Concert**

Dec. 8-9
702-258-5438
lvphil.com

**Holiday Festival
Fremont Street Experience**

Dec. 11-22
702-678-5600
vegsexperience.com

**Bandstand Jam Series
Holiday Sing-Along**

Dec. 12
702-229-1515
artslasvegas.org

"The Nutcracker"

Dec. 14-16, 18-24, 26-27
Nevada Ballet Theatre
702-895-ARTS
pac.unlv.edu

December Fiesta

Dec. 15
702-229-1515
artslasvegas.org

**Las Vegas Wind Quintet
Holiday Concert**

Dec. 16
702-229-6211
artslasvegas.org

"Loving the Lonely"

Dec. 29
Premiere of family tale
about Christmas & Kwanzaa
702-229-4800
artslasvegas.org

**First Night Boulder City
Boulder City**

Dec. 31
Non-alcoholic celebration

702-293-2034
boulder-city-chamber.com

New Year's Eve Celebrations

Dec. 31
Casino parties, fireworks
See showguide listing for
phone numbers &
Web addresses

New Year's Eve

Fremont Street Experience
Dec. 31
702-678-5600
vegsexperience.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Pomegranate Art Festival

Nov. 2-3
Logandale
702-397-6444
moapavalley.com

Boulder City Air Show

Boulder City
Nov. 3
702-293-9405
boulder-city-chamber.com

Patriot Party

Nov. 9-11
The Singing Sergeants &
Tops in Blue, USAF performers
702-678-5600
vegsexperience.com

**Las Vegas Intertribal
Veterans Powwow**

Nov. 9-11
702-457-0869
lvintertribalpowwow.com

**Aviation Nation
Military Air Show**

Nov. 10-11
aviationnation.org

**Veterans Day Parade
Fremont Street Experience**

Nov. 11
702-678-5600
vegsexperience.com



Pomegranate Art Festival, Logandale, Nov. 2-3

Holiday displays and events include Magical Forest Holiday Village, Nov. 22-Dec. 30



NEVADA EVENTS

Your Nevada events can be considered for inclusion in *Nevada Magazine*. For details, visit nevadamagazine.com.

november/december

Nevada Magazine's guide to Northern Nevada and rural events. All listings are in Reno unless otherwise noted. Call ahead to confirm details.

reno-tahoe

SPORTS

Sparks Turkey Trot

Sparks

Nov. 22

775-353-7898

sparksrec.com

Thanksjibbin' Rail Jam

North Lake Tahoe

Nov. 23

530-583-6985

squaw.com

Full Moon Snowshoe Trek

Lake Tahoe

Nov. 23, Dec. 22, Jan. 19

209-258-7248

kirkwood.com

Full Moon Snowshoe Tour

North Lake Tahoe

Dec. 22

530-562-2475

northstaratahое.com

Mountaintop Full Moon

Snowshoe Tours

North Lake Tahoe

Dec. 23-24, Jan. 20-22,

Feb. 21-22, March 21-22

530-583-6955

squaw.com

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holiday Art Mart

at the Lake Mansion

Nov. 8-10, 13, 16-17

775-826-6100

vsnevada.org

Valhalla Holiday Craft Faire

Lake Tahoe

Nov. 16-18

530-541-4975

valhallatahое.com

"The Nutcracker"

Carson City

Nov. 23-25

775-882-2916

pinkertondance.com

Holiday Village at The Rink

Nov. 23-Dec. 23

Ice skating, downtown shopping

775-334-INFO

cityofreno.com

Festival of Lights

North Lake Tahoe

Nov. 24

530-583-6985

squaw.com

East Fork Gallery

Christmas Reception

Gardnerville

Nov. 25

775-782-7629

visitcarsonvalley.org

Carson Valley Christmas

Season Kick-Off

Gardnerville

Nov. 28

775-782-7134

visitcarsonvalley.org

Spaghetti Feed &

Christmas Tree Bingo

Minden

Nov. 30

775-782-3416

mindendouglaselks.org

Lighting of the Minden

Gazebo & Tree

Minden

Nov. 30

775-782-2444

visitcarsonvalley.org

"A Messiah Sing-Along"

Nov. 30-Dec. 1

800-225-2277

unr.edu/arts

"Scrooge"

Virginia City

Nov. 30-Dec. 1

775-847-0433

virginiacity-nv.org

Parade of Lights

Gardnerville/Minden

Dec. 1

775-782-8144

visitcarsonvalley.org

Christmas Craft Faire

Minden

Dec. 1

775-782-5136

visitcarsonvalley.org

Sparks Hometowne Christmas

Sparks

Dec. 1

Parade, Santa

775-353-2291

sparksrec.com

Christmas Parade of Lights

Virginia City

Dec. 1

775-847-0311

virginiacity-nv.org

Fourth Ward School's

Victorian Christmas

Virginia City

Dec. 1

775-847-0975

virginiacity-nv.org

Christmas on the Comstock

Virginia City

Dec. 1-31

775-847-4386

virginiacity-nv.org

Holiday Tea, Cookie

Walk, & Holiday Trees

Gardnerville

Dec. 2

775-782-2555

historicnevada.org



Train ride to visit

Santa, Ely,

Nov. 23-Dec. 23

Stephanie Sant'

Androgio & Argenta,

Dec. 7



NEVADA ONLINE

For more events in the Silver State, visit nevadamagazine.com.

Christmas in Genoa

Genoa

Dec. 2

775-782-8696

visitcarsonvalley.org

"Germany Send-Off"

Choral Concert & Recital

Dec. 5

Ottorino Respighi's

"Laud to the Nativity"

800-225-2277

unr.edu/arts

Silver & Snowflake

Festival of Lights

Carson City

Dec. 6

775-887-1294

visitcarsoncity.com

History for the Holidays

Dec. 8

Art, music, crafts for kids

775-688-1170

nevadaculture.org

Christmas Faire in Genoa

Genoa

Dec. 8-9

775-782-8696

visitcarsonvalley.org

Victorian Homes

Christmas Tour

Carson City

Dec. 9

Walking tour of nine homes

775-882-1805

Holiday Treat Concert

Carson City

Dec. 9

775-883-4154

visitcarsoncity.com

Holiday Choral Concert

Dec. 11

800-225-2277

unr.edu/arts

A Jazzy Christmas

Carson City

Dec. 11

775-883-4154

milehighjazz.com

"The Nutcracker"

Dec. 14-16

AVA Ballet Theatre

775-686-6600

pioneercenter.com

Christmas in the

Sierras' Concert

Genoa

Dec. 15

775-782-8696

visitcarsonvalley.org

Gingerbread Social & Auction

Virginia City

Dec. 15

775-847-4386

virginiacity-nv.org

Christmas at the Park w/Santa

Washoe Valley

Dec. 15

775-687-4319

parks.nv.gov

Ride the Rails w/Santa

Carson City

Dec. 15-16

Historic trains

775-687-6953

visitcarsoncity.com

Christmas Eve

Torchlight Parade

North Lake Tahoe

Dec. 24

530-583-6985

squaw.com

New Year's Dinner Party

North Lake Tahoe

Dec. 31

530-583-6985

squaw.com

New Year's Eve Bash

Virginia City

Dec. 31

Piper's Opera House

775-847-0433

pipersoperahouse.org

New Year's Eve

Reno/Carson City/Lake Tahoe

Dec. 31

Parties in the casinos

See showguide listing

for phone numbers

& Web addresses

New Year's Eve Fire & Ice Party

North Lake Tahoe

Dec. 31

800-GO-NORTH

northstaratahove.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Rhymers Rodeer

Minden

Nov. 2-3

Cowboy poetry & music

775-783-6679

cvinn.com

USO Veterans Day Celebration

Gardnerville

Nov. 7

775-783-6455

douglascountynv.gov

Mark Twain's Birthday Party

Gold Hill

Nov. 9

775-847-0311

virginiacity-nv.org

Veterans Day Parade

Virginia City

Nov. 11

775-847-0311

virginiacity-nv.org

ART EXHIBITS

A Tribe of Artists: Costumes

& Culture at Burning Man

Thru Nov. 11

775-329-3333

nevadaart.org

Salt Dreams: Reflections

from the Downstream West

Thru Dec. 9

775-329-3333

nevadaart.org



Nevada communities mark the holidays with Festival of Trees events.



NEVADA EVENTS

Your Nevada events can be considered for inclusion in *Nevada Magazine*. For details, visit nevadamagazine.com.



Holiday Jazz Festival,
North Lake Tahoe,
Nov. 23-24

Pianist Meng-Chieh
Liu & Reno Chamber
Orchestra,
Nov. 10-11



NEVADA ONLINE

For more events in
the Silver State, visit
nevadamagazine.com.

ART EXHIBITS (Cont.)

Batmobile Exhibit
Thru Dec. 31
775-333-9300
automuseum.org

**Yosemite: Art of an
American Icon**
Thru Jan. 13
775-329-3333
nevadaart.org

**Kickstand Korner:
Cruising on Two Wheels**
Nov. 8-April 14
775-333-9300
automuseum.org

**1908 New York to
Paris Auto Race:**
100th Anniversary
Nov. 8-Jan. 5, 2009
1907 *Thomas Flyer* on display
775-333-9300
automuseum.org

**Carson Valley Art Association
Second Saturday
Carson Valley**
Nov. 10, Dec. 8
775-782-5606
visitcarsonvalley.org

MUSIC/THEATER

Quartet New Generation
Nov. 1
Contemporary music
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

"Coppelia"
Nov. 3
BYU ballet
775-686-6600
pioneercenter.com

"Guys & Dolls"
Carson City
Nov. 3-18
Western Nevada
Musical Theatre
775-445-4249
visitcarsoncity.com

University Percussion Ensemble
Nov. 6
Guest choreographer
Lula Washington
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

"The Trojan Women"
Nov. 9-10, 14-18
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

"Movin' Out"
Nov. 9-11
Broadway Comes to Reno
775-686-6600
pioneercenter.com

Reno Chamber Orchestra
Nov. 10-11
Meng-Chieh Liu, piano soloist
775-348-9413
renochamberorchestra.org

**November Jazz
Carson City**
Nov. 13
775-888-4154
milehighjazz.com

Reno Philharmonic Concert
Nov. 17-18
775-686-6600
pioneercenter.com

**University Orchestra
Fall Concert**
Nov. 20
Symphonic masterworks
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

**Holiday Jazz Festival
North Lake Tahoe**
Nov. 23-24
775-832-1234
laketahoehyatt.com

Trans-Siberian Orchestra
Nov. 24
775-784-4444
unr.edu/lawlor

"The Elves & The Shoemaker"
Nov. 27
775-686-6600
pioneercenter.com

Rockapella
Dec. 2
800-606-0424
pioneercenter.com

University Combo Concerts
Dec. 2, 9
Jazz & improvisational
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

"Shall We Dance?"
Dec. 6
University Wind Ensemble
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

**Argenta w/Stephanie
Sant' Androgio**
Dec. 7
Chamber music
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

"Evita"
Dec. 7-9
Broadway Comes to Reno
775-686-6600
pioneercenter.com

**Carson City Symphony
Carson City**
Dec. 9, Feb. 24, Apr. 26
775-883-4154
ccsymphony.com

University Jazz Big Bands
Dec. 11
800-225-2277
unr.edu/arts

Nevada Chamber Music Festival
Dec. 28-31
Seven-concert series
features world's
finest chamber musicians
775-348-9413
renochamberorchestra.org

GENERAL INTEREST

What is El Dia de los Muertos and How is it Celebrated?

Carson City

Nov. 3

Lecture

775-687-4810, ext. 237

visitcarsoncity.com

The Evolution of Railroad Signaling

Carson City

Nov. 14

Lecture

775-687-6953

nevadaculture.org

Ride the Rails

Carson City

Nov. 23-24

Rides aboard historic trains

775-687-6953

visitcarsoncity.com

High Noon at the Historical Society

Nov. 26

Chinese on the RR

775-688-1190

nevadaculture.org

Nevada Historical Society Evening Lecture Series

Nov. 27

Peter Barton

775-688-1190

nevadaculture.org

Devils Will Reign: How Nevada Began

Carson City

Nov. 27

Lecture by Sally Zanjani

775-687-4810, ext. 239

visitcarsoncity.com

Holiday Gala

Lake Tahoe

Dec. 1

530-541-4975

valhallatahoe.com

Sierra Valley Railway

Carson City

Dec. 12

Lecture by Larry Meeker

775-687-6953

nevadaculture.org

rural nevada

SPORTS

National Finals Senior Pro Rodeo

Winnemucca

Oct. 31-Nov. 3

775-623-5071

winnemucca.nv.us

Battle Mountain Chukar Tournament & Feed

Battle Mountain

Nov. 3

Hunt offers \$10,000 in prizes

775-635-1112

battlemountaintourism.com

Wrangler Team Roping Championship

Winnemucca

Nov. 16-18

775-623-5071

winnemucca.nv.us

Chariot Races

Wells

Nov. 16-18

775-752-3540

wellsnevada.com

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holiday Craft Bazaar

Wells

Nov. 17

775-752-3540

wellsnevada.com

Holiday Craft Bazaar

Elko

Nov. 23-24

775-736-8164

elkocva.com

Polar Express

Ely

Weekends, Nov. 23-Dec. 29

Ride historic train to visit

Santa at the North Pole

775-289-2085

nnry.com

Festival of Trees

Elko

Nov. 27-29

775-738-4091

exploreeelko.com

Sights, Sounds, & Smells of Christmas

Ely

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

Festival of Trees, light parade

800-496-9350

elynevada.net

Parade of Lights

Lovelock

Dec. 1

775-273-7213

loverslock.com

Festival of Trees & Gala

Pahrump

Dec. 1

775-727-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Christmas Bazaar

Hawthorne

Dec. 1

Fine art, crafts, food,

performance artists

775-945-3030

Pahrump-A-Pum-Pum Festival

Pahrump

Dec. 1-2

Parade, food, entertainment

775-727-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Nurses' Bazaar

Elko

Dec. 1-2

775-778-0546

elkocva.com



Pahrump
Gunfighters stage
reenactments,
Pahrump,
Nov. 25, Dec. 30



NEVADA EVENTS

Your Nevada events can be considered for inclusion in *Nevada Magazine*. For details, visit nevadamagazine.com.



Pahrump Competition
Powwow & Rodeo,
Pahrump, Nov. 16



NEVADA ONLINE

For more events in
the Silver State, visit
nevadamagazine.com.

HOLIDAY EVENTS (Cont.)

Wendover in Lights

Wendover

Dec. 5, lighting of the Menorah
Dec. 6, tree-lighting
866-299-2489
westwendovercity.com

Choir Concert

Elko

Dec. 5, 11-12
775-738-7281
elkocva.com

Christmas Tree Lighting

Fallon

Dec. 7
775-423-4556
fallontourism.com

Fallon Hometown Christmas

Fallon

Dec. 8
775-423-2544
fallontourism.com

Luminaria

Silver Springs

Dec. 9
Nativity pageant, carols, Santa
775-577-3424
Email: sschamber@
silverspringsnevada.com

Santa Claus at the Museum

Elko

Dec. 18-22
775-738-3418
elkocva.com

Countdown in Downtown

Elko

Dec. 31
775-777-0725
elkocva.com

New Year's Eve

Wendover & Winnemucca

Dec. 31
Casino festivities
See showguide for phone
numbers & Web addresses

Ely Volunteer Fire Department

New Year's Eve Ball

Ely

Dec. 31
800-496-9350
elynevada.net

Border Inn New Year's

Baker

Dec. 31
775-234-7300
greatbasinpark.com

New Year's Eve Fireworks

Fallon

Dec. 31
775-423-4556
fallontourism.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Death Valley '49er Days

Beatty

Nov. 7-11
866-736-3716
beattynevada.org

Veterans Day Parade & Picnic

Pahrump

Nov. 11
775-727-5800
pahumpchamber.com

Pahrump Competition

Powwow & Rodeo

Pahrump

Nov. 16
775-751-1923
pahumpchamber.com

Renaissance Feast

Elko

Nov. 20
775-778-0547
elkocva.com

Pahrump Gunfighters

Pahrump

Nov. 25, Dec. 30
Skits & reenactments
775-751-3458
pahump-nv.org

ART EXHIBITS

Something That a

Cowboy Knows

Elko

Thru Dec.
L.L. Griffin photographs
775-738-7508
Email: wfc@westernfolklife.org

Will James' Art

Elko

Thru Jan. 2
775-738-3418
museum-elko.us

MUSIC/THEATER

Bettye LaVette Band

Fallon

Nov. 10
775-423-1440
Email: charts@phonewave.net

Teadra

Fallon

Dec. 8
775-423-1440
Email: charts@phonewave.net

GENERAL INTEREST

Chili & Craft Fair

Spring Creek

Nov. 10
775-778-3405
elkocva.com

Museum Birthday Ball

Elko

Nov. 10
775-738-3418
elkocva.com

Hidden Cave Tours

Fallon

Nov. 10, Dec. 8, 22, Jan. 12, 26
Archaeological sites
775-885-6000
ccmuseum.org

In the middle of Nevada, no one can hear you scream.



As Highway 50 winds eastward across the Great Basin, it passes through the town of Austin, smack in the middle of rural Nevada. Born as a silver camp in 1862, it was home to some of Nevada's more colorful prospectors and miners.

Today, with the expansive Toiyabe Mountain Range as its backyard, it features some of the best outdoor recreation in the state. After a hard day playing, take some time to kick back and replenish some of that spent adrenaline by visiting our historic Main Street businesses and spend the night at one of our hotels.

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The Greater Austin
Chamber of Commerce
775.964.2200
AustinNevada.com



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NOVEMBER 16-18
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Pow-Wow
Petrack Park

DECEMBER 1-2
Pahrump A-Pum-Pum
Festival
Bob Ruud
Community Center

bunny bash

Bally Technologies' reel story began in 1932

BY JACK BULAVSKY

WHEN YOU TURN 75, you can do just about anything you want—even have a party with beautiful Playboy bunnies. That's exactly what Bally Technologies did when it celebrated its diamond anniversary in spring 2007 with 300 invited guests at The Palms in Las Vegas.

I plan to do the same when I turn 75...minus the 300 invited guests.

Bally is the oldest continually operating slot-manufacturing company in existence. In 1932 Chicago, founder Ray Moloney developed the "Ballyhoo," a 31-by-16-inch wood and metal pin-ball game that offered affordable fun during the Great Depression: the player got seven marbles for a penny. Later pinball models had automatic coin payouts for high scores, a precursor to the modern slot machine. In 1936, five years after gambling was legalized in Nevada, Moloney's Bally Manufacturing Company developed the "Bally Baby." At the time it was the world's smallest slot machine.

In the 1950s, Bally created other coin-operated devices such as coffee-vending machines and bowling games. Bally even attempted making TV remote controls (they had a cord), records, and sewing machines.

In the late 1970s and '80s, Bally distributed "Space Invaders," "PacMan," and "Ms. PacMan," those blockbuster arcade games that we all played.

Bally also operated more than 400 "Aladdin's Castle" amusement arcades.

But with the growth of gaming in Nevada and the 1976 legalization of gaming in New Jersey, Bally executives realized that the real money was in slots. The company began to divest itself of non-gaming assets.

"If one were to look back at Bally's history, one would see that it became too diversified in the early years," says Bally CEO Richard Hadrill. "And that diversification caused the company to lose focus."

Not any more. For its 75th anniversary, Bally introduced CineReels™ the first seven-reel slot that offers payouts on every spin of the mechanical wheel.

"It's all about entertainment," says Marcus Prater, Bally senior vice president of marketing. "Players are looking for a higher level of entertainment, and we provide that through wider screens, ergonomic seating, additional hit frequency, bonus games, and collect-and-win features. It's new technology. It's what players want."

It seems they also want 50-cent, \$1, and even \$2 and \$5 slot machines.

I will be interested to see what games Bally has created by my 75th birthday party. On second thought, I may invite a few friends to meet the bunnies.



Bally Timeline

- 1932 — "Ballyhoo"
- 1936 — "Bally Baby"
- 1963 — "Money Honey"
- 1980 — "PacMan" and "Space Invaders"
- 1983 — First video slot and poker machines
- 1998 — "Thrillions" progressive slots



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