

NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM | MARCH/APRIL 2015 | THEN AND NOW | ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH | TONOPAH ARMY AIR FIELD

# NEVADA

MARCH/APRIL 2015

M A G A Z I N E

## Then & Now THROUGH THE LENS



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MARCH/APRIL 2015

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Cover Photo: Jon Peckham II

A broken wagon wheel sits idle during a spectacular Silver City sunset.

## FEATURES

### THEN & NOW: THROUGH THE LENS

Time has had both striking and subtle effects on Nevada. Take a look at how some scenes have changed, and some have stayed the same.



### TONOPAH ARMY AIR FIELD

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A STATE APART.



# NEVADA

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### Meet our new business manager: Janet Kinney!



"I have worked for the state for more than 16 years. I have two beautiful daughters—Sarah and Holly—and in my spare time I play the piano, work on crafts, and collect teapots! I am so excited to be working with *Nevada Magazine*."

**Contributing Writers:** Floyd Allen, David Finern, Dave Zook

**Contributing Photographers:** Larry Angier, Will D'angelo, Dennis Ducilla, Lorraine Giurlani, Nancy Good, Taylor James, Cindy Joyce, Suzanne Kessler, Greg McKay, Alan O'Neill, Eleanor Preger, Corey Rich, Ernest Ross, Ben Willmore

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NANCY GOOD

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► Nestled along U.S. Route 93, nearly 30 miles north of Laughlin, is the thriving burg of Cal-Nev-Ari. While its name is somewhat unique, its history is even more so. If Laughlin is “Little Las Vegas,” then Cal-Nev-Ari could be dubbed “Tiny Laughlin.” With a motel, restaurant, casino, RV park, market, and even a landing strip, Cal-Nev-Ari is the perfect stop for anyone who thinks they’ve seen all Nevada has to offer. **By Floyd Allen.**

► In this issue we compare some photos taken long ago to the same photo taken today (**Then & Now:** see page 56). Visit [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com) for more information about the original photos and for a behind-the-scenes look at what it was like for our photographers as they attempted to recreate the shot.

## TOUR AROUND NEVADA 2015



Send your vote to [editor@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:editor@nevadamagazine.com) with the town and “Tour Around NV” in the subject line. Voting closes for the May/June issue March 13. See page 76 for details.

## FEATURED Instagram



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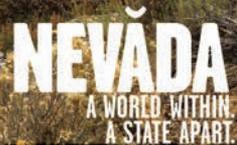


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# Then and Now. Now and Then.

Spring is in the air! Truth be told, it has been for a while now as we experienced a fairly mild winter here in northern Nevada. With the impending arrival of warmer weather, longer days, fresh blooms, and my allergies, I find my mind is having a hard time landing on any one subject for too long. I'm holding onto my winter activities like skiing and crocheting, knowing they'll be gone soon, but I'm also planning for bike season and fishing excursions.

Ideas and directions change from person to person, naturally, and as I complete my first year with the magazine so too has it changed. Here's a crazy fact: Approaching 80 years in production, there have been just eight editors, including me. Eight stewards of the public view of Nevada, eight keepers of our storied tale...eight different ideas about what was most important to share with you. This fact left me a little gobsmacked, and pretty humbled. I feel my place in the history of this magazine being written and it's impossible not to compare myself to the past editors.

I think it's a good thing to keep an eye on the past. It's how we remember our choices and their outcomes, which allows us to make a new choice or if the outcome was pleasant, stick with our choices. Dwelling on the past, however...not a big fan of that. I do it from time to time, and really, it's just a waste of energy. No regrets, no recrimination ever made my outlook better. I say let's look ahead and say "now what?"

Coincidentally, this issue has also become a look at "then and now;" we literally looked back at photos we've run in the past, then shot the same scenes today (check out page 56). It's an interesting thing, to compare yesterday and today.

As we spring ahead into the belly of 2015, I want to thank everyone for the feedback I've received. Not all of it was kind, but so much of it was, and honestly it's all grist for the mill, so I welcome it. We share a common goal—the best magazine possible—so regardless if you like my direction or prefer one of my predecessors, I'm happy you're still here. Onward ho!

## IN THIS ISSUE

As I said, we honor our past and smile at today in a photo spread that pits the two side by side. We also look back at Nevada's female political pioneers, those brave women who paved the way for today's legislators (see page 38).

On page 32, Associate Editor Eric Cachinero writes about the renovation of St. Augustine's Cultural Center in Austin. From its

beginnings as a Catholic church to its future as a community gathering place for the arts, St. Augustine's is a brilliant, vibrant part of central Nevada's history. And while it may not be an obvious adventure, on page 66, Dave Finnern reveals an amazing story of Tonopah Army Air Field's somber past, and how it moved him to search for wreckage in the desert as a way to pay homage to our brave soldiers who served some 70 years ago.

Our Cravings department (page 42) is devoted to—in my opinion—one of the sweetest professions around; candy makers. Nevada is replete with chocolate wizards and confectionary craftsman, each armed with tempting goodies for the holidays and every day. Dave Zook had the enviable task of revealing some amazing backcountry skiing stashes, and while Mother Nature doesn't always play ball, Dave reveals where the diehards hungry for powder go on page 26.

Spring festivals are popping up faster than tulips, so don't miss the uniquely Nevada events on page 22. One of those incredible festivals happens in our second Tour Around Nevada 2015 town, which is a first-time winner and crushed the competition with a landslide of votes. See what all the ruckus is about on page 73.

And finally, we are excited to announce our first Silver State Scavenger Hunt. If you ever needed a push to get you to explore Nevada's small towns, this should do the trick. With a grand prize courtesy of Land Rover, you need to get this one on your calendar. The details can be found on page 31.



"I wonder what I'll look like if I'm still here in 20 years..."

**Megg Mueller**, Managing Editor

mmueller@nevadamagazine.com



**WELCOME BACK**

Today I have ordered a three-year subscription to *Nevada Magazine*.

I have lived in Nevada for over 40 years and had been a subscriber for most of the time. Unfortunately, a few years ago a major change took place with *Nevada Magazine* which caused me not to renew it. Over the past few years I have randomly picked up *Nevada Magazine* when I found something of interest in it but did not re-subscribe. In this time I believe the magazine has returned to its roots and am proud to have sent in my subscription again. I am so confident the magazine is back in the proper direction I have subscribed for three years. The staff of *Nevada Magazine* is very hard working and it shows throughout the pages. You all have my best wishes and keep Nevada strong!

**Gary Michael Buyachek,**

Las Vegas

**WHICH WAY DID WE GO?**

I was reading your article on Ely (January/February 2015) and noted somewhat confusing directions: ‘Driving into downtown Ely from Interstate 80, heading east, can make even the non-history buff’s jaw drop.’ Ely is on Hwy 50, 139 miles south of Interstate 80 via Hwy 93.

**Wynne Benti,** Bishop, Calif.

*You are 100 percent correct! Having driven into town a few times on this trip, from all different directions, I apparently got muddled. Thanks, Wynne! - MM*

**CORRECTIONS**

In our January/February issue, on page 42, we incorrectly identified the owners of the Tonopah Brewing Co. and Mizpah Hotel. Fred and Nancy Cline are the owners.

And on page 71, we noted the area of Adams-McGill Reservoir as 785 surface feet; it is actually 785 surface acres.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

**DAVE ZOOK**



Dave Zook grew up in coastal California, went to college in Oregon, and a few years later settled in Tahoe City. He enjoys freelance writing on outdoor adventures such as snowboarding, hiking, and

biking. He loves exploring Nevada whenever possible, and has only scratched the surface so far with trips to the Rubies, Toiyabes, and of course, Mt. Rose. ■ PGS. 26-30

**DAVID FINNERN**



David Finnern has spent more than 35 years searching for shipwrecks and submerged ruins. As an award-winning writer, he has published hundreds of stories on underwater exploration in numerous magazines and newspapers.

David is the author of several books, including the critically-acclaimed “Passage Through Deep Waters” and “Lost Below: The Southwest’s Most Intriguing Shipwrecks, Sunken Aircraft, Submerged Ruins and Undersea Treasures.” He is a member and former president of both The Adventurers’ Club and California Wreck Divers, Inc., and was elected a Fellow of The Royal Geographical Society in 2002.

■ PGS. 66-71

**FLOYD ALLEN**



Floyd Allen is an author/educator from Phoenix, Ariz. His work appears regularly in magazines, including *Cessna Owner*, *Dolls*, and *Piper*. He has also had stories

in *Vietnam Magazine* and *Abilities Magazine*. He has been married to his wife, Clarissa for 42 years. They have three children and 11 grandchildren.

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**WE VALUE YOUR INPUT**

Write to [editor@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:editor@nevadamagazine.com) or via mail at 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. You can also comment on stories and read more letters at [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com). Letters and comments are subject to editing.

# MEET YOUR NEW LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: MARK HUTCHISON



*Editor's note: In coming issues, look for columns from our lieutenant governor as he explores Nevada through his new position. For this issue, we present a personal look at our new chairman.*

I'm a third-generation Nevadan, raised in a modest, blue-collar family with a strong sense of dedication and love toward the Silver State. My wife Cary and I have been married for 30 years and together we have six children and four grandchildren. I have spent many enjoyable years coaching the athletic teams of my children and their friends and continue to help the football team at Palo Verde High School in Las Vegas. In my little free time I enjoy running, collecting leather books, writing, and doing just about anything with my wife and family.

My children and I are all products of Nevada's public education system. After I graduated from Bonanza High School, I earned a business administration degree, Phi Kappa Phi, from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and received my law degree, magna cum laude, from Brigham Young University. I am extremely proud to say that I'm a small business owner who built my law firm, Hutchison and Steffen, from the ground up starting in 1996, which is now one of Nevada's largest law firms, employing nearly 100 Nevadans.

In 2014, I was elected to serve as Nevada's 34th lieutenant governor. Prior to running for lieutenant governor, I had a long history of public service. I served on the Nevada Commission on Ethics for six years, two of which I chaired the commission. I also had the pleasure of serving in the Nevada State Senate to which I was elected in 2012. In addition to my service in the public sector I served as

a member of numerous non-profit and community organizations, some of which I am still active in today.

As lieutenant governor, I'm a member of Governor Brian Sandoval's cabinet and serve as President of the State Senate. I'm also the chairman of the Commission on Tourism, Vice-Chairman of the State Board of Transportation, a member of the Board of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, and a member of the Executive Budget Audit Committee.

I'm deeply honored by the trust Nevadans have placed in me to serve as lieutenant governor and since my election I've been focused on being the hardest working and most effective lieutenant governor possible. When not focused on my family, my time is dedicated to promoting economic development, job growth and Nevada's world-class tourist destinations.

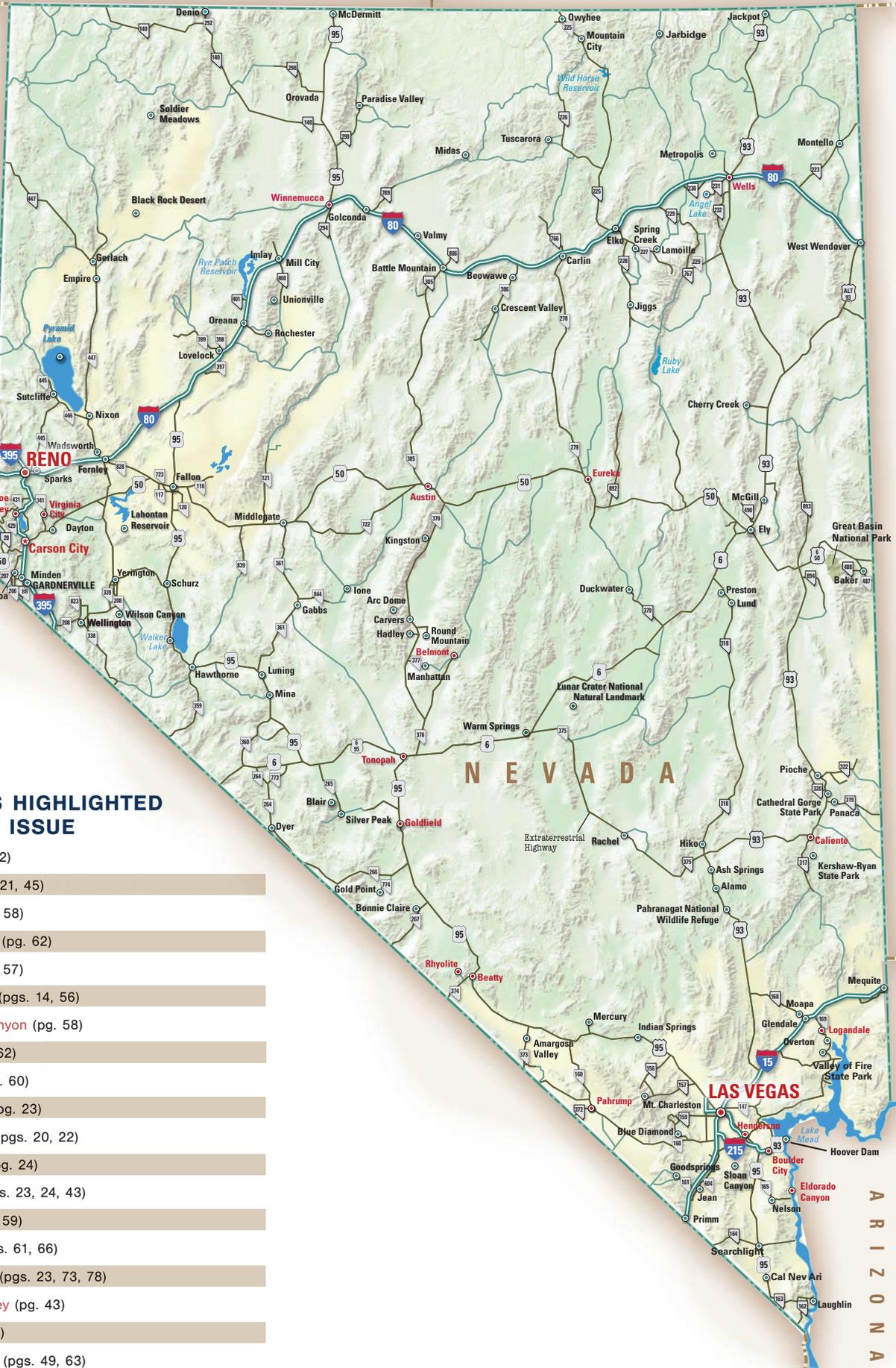
Thank you for taking the time to learn about Nevada and the amazing opportunities we have to offer visitors. I look forward to welcoming those of you who are new to our state in the near future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Hutchison".

**Mark Hutchison**  
Lieutenant Governor  
Chairman—Nevada Commission on Tourism  
ltgov.nv.gov

CALIFORNIA

UTAH



ARIZONA

**PLACES HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS ISSUE**

- Austin (pg. 32)
- Beatty (pgs. 21, 45)
- Belmont (pg. 58)
- Boulder City (pg. 62)
- Caliente (pg. 57)
- Carson City (pgs. 14, 56)
- Eldorado Canyon (pg. 58)
- Eureka (pg. 62)
- Goldfield (pg. 60)
- Henderson (pg. 23)
- Lake Tahoe (pgs. 20, 22)
- Logandale (pg. 24)
- Pahrump (pgs. 23, 24, 43)
- Rhyolite (pg. 59)
- Tonopah (pgs. 61, 66)
- Virginia City (pgs. 23, 73, 78)
- Washoe Valley (pg. 43)
- Wells (pg. 21)
- Winnemucca (pgs. 49, 63)



The Tule Springs Fossil Beds area is set against the Sheep Mountain Range.

PHOTOS: ALAN O'NEILL



## HISTORY

### Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument becomes a reality

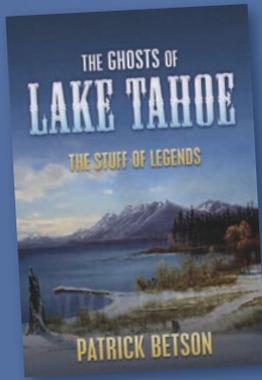
Nevada is about to get its second national monument, thanks to an unlikely source: the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which was recently signed by President Obama after passing the House and Senate.

Situated 25 miles north of Las Vegas, the Tule Springs area is home to thousands of fossils that span at least two ice ages. Scientists estimate the fossils and fossilized pollen cover nearly 250,000 years of time.

The 22,650-acre area falls under the government's preservation umbrella as part of the national park system. The chalky hills along the upper Las Vegas Wash have thus far revealed evidence of mammoths, horses, camels, bison, North American lions, giant ground sloths, saber-tooth cats, and a dire wolf, the first such discovery in Nevada.

The Protectors of Tule Springs, a grassroots group created to advocate for the land's preservation, was instrumental in bringing the area—once slated for residential development—and its historical and scientific features to light. The group hosts fossil walks in the spring, and has not yet revealed when the park will be open to visitors. The area is now off-limits to motorized vehicles, but not foot traffic.

The 2015 NDAA also included measures to create two new Nevada wilderness areas—one in Humboldt County and one in Lyon County. [tulespringslv.com](http://tulespringslv.com)



## NEVADA BOOKS

### *“The Ghosts of Lake Tahoe (The Stuff of Legends)”*

By Patrick Betson, self-published, createspace.com/3862917, 248 pages

#### REVIEW BY JANET GEARY

If you like a great story—fiction or fact—you’ll love Patrick Betson’s latest book: “The Ghosts of Lake Tahoe.”

Betson’s writing is very light-hearted with a lot of clever dialogue between the characters. Sometimes, you’re not sure if they are fictional or real, as these conversations seem so authentic you think they must have happened.

This 12-story collection of nostalgic short tales about some of the most famous early pioneers like Pony Bob Haslam and Snowshoe Thompson will make you laugh out loud, even if you’re not sure these stories are real. My favorites were the stories about Snowshoe Thompson’s first trip and Jung Lo, who was part of the Chinese crew working on the Central Pacific Railroad. But the short, two-page story of Old Ben has a twist that will keep you coming back for more.

Some of the historic photos in this book are rare. In fact, there’s a photo of young Mark Twain that I’ve never seen before. It’s a great vacation book, as some of the stories are only a few pages and you can pick it up when you have a few minutes, but I warn you— it does become habit forming! It is a great read for any history buff or Lake Tahoe fan.

#### An excerpt from *“The Dreaded Evening Drink (The Silent Terror) 1872”*

...

*Nervously, the young man placed a bottle and glass on the bar counter. The big ham fist enveloped the bottle from neck to bottom. While Jim Stewart drank, Freddie Scott started to clear up after the departed customers. Having poured and swallowed several glasses, Stewart wiped his mouth with the back of his hand. As Freddie moved back behind the bar, the big man fixed the young bartender with a stare.*

*“YOU. Didn’t I already kill you, boy?” Stewart demanded of Scott.*

*“No, sir, you must be mistaken,” Scott answered in a voice slightly higher than usual.*

*“Don’t smart-mouth me, boy!”*

*It was useless. Freddie was trapped. Not even by admitting to his own death could he have avoided trouble.*

*“Got a gun, boy?”*

*“Mister Stewart, sir, please, I don’t want no trouble.”*

*As the young bartender pleaded for his life, two would-be customers walked into the saloon, cheerfully talking to each other, unaware of the lack of customers or the reason why. Stewart whirled around and noisily clamped a hand o side, they decided to run. The big man followed as far as the swinging doors and watched their flight down the boardwalk. Laughing to himself, Stewart turned around and went back into the saloon.*

*His laugh died somewhere deep within him and his mouth fell open stupefied. He was looked down two shotgun barrels, the wrong way. Stewart went for his gun, but before he reach it he was hurled back through the swinging doors. The big man’s dead body crumpled on the deck outside. Freddie Scott, no expert with a rifle, had grimaced as he pulled the trigger. The recoil had knocked him to the ground. Hitting his head against a table as he fell, the young bartender knocked himself unconscious.*

*When Scott came to his senses, the saloon was crowded. Upon hearing shots, some of the locals had braved the danger to find out who had been Stewart’s latest victim. When the cry went out that it was indeed Stewart that was dead, all the other saloons emptied. A dazed Freddie Scott rubbing his bruised head looked up to a sea of faces. Toothless Larry Morgan asked him, “Did you shoot Stewart, Freddie?”*

*“Yes,” answered Scott, still dazed.*



A young Mark Twain poses for a portrait.

## Battle Born Buzz

■ **The Mob Museum**—aka The National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement—now offers audio tours in four languages. Visitors can choose from tours in English, Spanish, Mandarin, or Portuguese. The museum also announced its first traveling exhibit. Through June 30, the Plaza Hotel & Casino will host museum artifacts including John Gotti's 1972 Jaguar XKE Convertible. [themobmuseum.org](http://themobmuseum.org), 702-229-2734

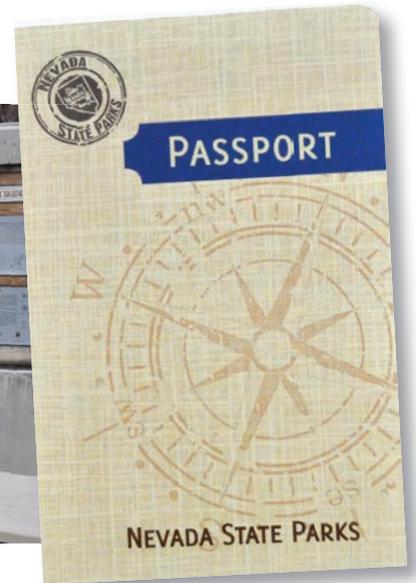
■ The city of **Las Vegas** reached a historic milestone in 2014, exceeding 40 million annual visitors. The previous record was set in 2012 with more than 39,727,000 tourists. The city celebrated by surprising random visitors with such gifts as suite upgrades, beauty makeovers, free dining, and more. [lvcva.com](http://lvcva.com), 702-829-0711

■ The Nature Conservancy in Nevada will create more living sculptures designed to restore damaged floodplains. The first **"The Nature of Art"** project—a 360-foot serpentine-shaped piece of art made from natural materials such as willow leaves—was created along the Carson River in May 2014. Two additional art installations are now planned along the Truckee River near Reno. The sculptures grow and take root, becoming part of the environment, helping stabilize streamside areas, and enhancing habitat for a variety of wildlife including willow flycatcher, western bluebirds, and native bees, as well as fish. [nature.org/nevada](http://nature.org/nevada), 602-738-1586

■ James Beard award-winning chef Michael Mina has opened **BARDOT Brasserie** at ARIA Resort & Casino. Offering a modern and sexy take on the traditional French brasserie experience, BARDOT serves such exotic Parisian cuisine as roasted bone marrow with bacon marmalade, foie gras en croute, and more. [aria.com](http://aria.com), 866-359-7757



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES



### OUTDOORS

## Parks Passport Could Earn Visitors A Free Pass

The Nevada Division of State Parks Passport Program was unveiled recently. The program is designed to encourage Nevada residents and visitors to experience all of Nevada's 23 state parks. Park visitors can pick up a passport booklet at any park, and once they have their booklets stamped at 15 different parks, they will earn one free annual pass to any and all Nevada State Parks.

The passport booklet serves as a travel aid as well as a park guide that includes photos, park descriptions, travel journal pages, and spaces for validation stamps. Passports can also be picked up at division headquarters in Carson City, and region headquarters in Fallon and Las Vegas. Governor Brian Sandoval was the first visitor to have his park passport stamped. [parks.nv.gov](http://parks.nv.gov), 775-684-2770



DRAKULICH REALTY

### ICONS

## Bill Harrah's family estate sold

Gaming pioneer Bill Harrah's son has reached an agreement to sell Rancharra, the family's 150-acre estate in Reno which Harrah bought in 1957. The property is owned by John Harrah, who turned the estate into a successful cutting horse facility, and opened it to the public for weddings and special events.

The Rancharra site is approved for up to 715 residential units across 141 acres. John Harrah told the *Reno Gazette-Journal* the new developer—Reno Land Development—plans to continue offering equestrian events and services to the area. [rancharra.com](http://rancharra.com)

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Nevada

## Battle Born Buzz

Programs on Nevada's animals and plants take center stage at the **Nevada State Museum** in Carson City in March. On March 14, learn about desert adaptations, which introduces the masters of survival: kangaroo rat, burrowing owl, desert tortoise, antelope squirrel, creosote bush, cacti, and succulents. On March 27, take a behind-the-scenes tour in natural history by George Baumgardner, Ph.D., which features the plants and animals of Nevada; reservations are required. [nevadaculture.org](http://nevadaculture.org), 775-687-4810

A heartfelt passion for savoring life's flavor drives Chef Bradley Manchester, who is set to open **Glutton** in Downtown Las Vegas. Located across from Downtown Container Park, Glutton will showcase savory meats, locally sourced produce, house-made pastas, and seafood from the Pacific Northwest. [gluttonlv.com](http://gluttonlv.com), 702-878-5505

For those not into skiing or snowboarding, or for an après ski event, the Virginia City Visitors Center offers the Comstock Lift Ticket. For \$10, a **Comstock Lift Ticket** includes access to a Trolley Ride and the Ponderosa Mine Tour, plus 20 percent off at more than 20 Virginia City and Gold Hill hotels, motels, restaurants, and merchants. [visitvirginiacitynv.com](http://visitvirginiacitynv.com), 800-718-7587

The longest running community theater in Nevada—**Reno Little Theater**—is celebrating its 80th season. Started by Edward Semenza in 1935, the little theater's first play was held at the University of Nevada, Reno. It found a permanent home in 1941, but after 50 years the building was demolished, and the group performed in various locations, most notably Hug High School. After many years of fundraising, in 2012, a new permanent theater opened. The company has put on more than 5,000 plays in 80 years, and will produce seven main stage productions in its 2014-15 season. [renolittletheater.org](http://renolittletheater.org), 775-813-8900



DIAMOND PEAK SKI RESORT

### RECREATION

## Ever want to push a dummy downhill?

The 15th annual Dummy Downhill at Diamond Peak Ski Resort is Sunday, March 29. Whether you participate or just watch, this is a must-see event. Participants build a dummy (no live ones, please) that weighs no more than 75 pounds, put it on skis (or a snowboard), and then launch it off a big jump; spectators can view the hilarious action from the base lodge deck. Diamond Peak is located outside Reno, and this very wacky event is great for the whole family. [diamondpeak.com](http://diamondpeak.com), 775-832-1177



VEGAS UNCORK'D

### CRAVINGS

## Pop your foodie cork in Las Vegas

Vegas Uncork'd by Bon Appétit returns for its ninth year on April 23-26 to ARIA, Bellagio, Caesars Palace, and MGM Grand. Four days of events with celebrity chefs, master sommeliers, and cutting-edge mixologists make this annual event a foodie's dream. A few of the headliners include chefs Jean-Georges Vongerichten, Gordon Ramsay, Julian Serrano, François Payard, Masa Takayama, Michael Mina, and Guy Savoy. New events include Prime Time with Jean-Georges Vongerichten at his signature Prime Steakhouse at Bellagio; an Italian Brunch in Julian Serrano's soon-to-open Lago at Bellagio; and In Hell's Kitchen with Gordon Ramsay at Caesars Palace. [vegasuncorked.com](http://vegasuncorked.com), 877-884-8993



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DENNIS DUCILLA

## HISTORY

### First active Pony Express station comes to Carson City

The Nevada Day Store and Trading Post have teamed with the Nevada Division of the Pony Express to promote living history in Carson City. Starting in May on the last Saturday of each month, visitors to the Nevada Day Store can have cards and letters stamped with an official Pony Express stamp. Letters will be delivered by riders to the post office on Little Street. Riders will be at the store to meet and greet and the public can learn about the Pony Express and maybe even pet a horse or two.

The Nevada Day Store and Trading Post plans to host many Wild West and historic Nevada characters—such as Like Battle Born Civil War re-enactors and Naughty Tea Mistresses—this summer during its family-friendly events. [nevadaday.com](http://nevadaday.com), 775-882-2600

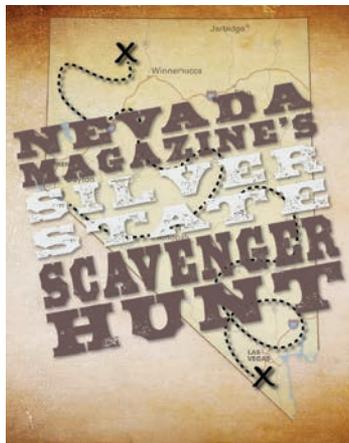
## SCAVENGER HUNT

### Nevada Magazine to launch statewide contest

On May 1, *Nevada Magazine* is launching its first annual Silver State Scavenger Hunt. The hunt encourages adventure seekers to travel to some of Nevada's most iconic destinations—and some lesser known ones—to snap a photo of themselves and possibly win one of two grand prizes. By submitting photos, participants will be entered to win one of two Land Rover Wheels Events. The adventure puts you in the driver's seat of a Land Rover vehicle with the chance to navigate some of Nevada's backcountry. Trained technicians will be on hand to assist drivers and breakfast and lunch will be catered.

For the scavenger hunt, we have split the state into two zones—Northern and Southern—and chose 14 notable places in each. Participants must simply pick a zone, visit 10 of the 14 locations in that zone, snap a photo holding the May/June 2015 issue of *Nevada Magazine* at each location, and email all 10 photos to us at [nvmaghunt@gmail.com](mailto:nvmaghunt@gmail.com).

Check out page 31 for more details.



■ Rick Harrison—co-founder of the Gold & Silver Pawn Shop and star of The History Channel's "Pawn Stars" and "Pawnography"—has created **Rick Harrison's Trivia Challenge**, a speed trivia game. The game begins at the front door of the Gold & Silver Pawn Shop. Harrison serves as guide while players progress through the multiple levels and earn virtual gold which can be redeemed for prizes, including a tour of the pawn shop by Harrison himself. The app is available iPhone and Android. [rickstrivia.com](http://rickstrivia.com), 775-623-5071

■ The Nevada Arts Council's 10th annual **Poetry Out Loud** competition will hold its finals on March 15 at the Siena Hotel in Reno. Preliminary contests will occur statewide, with Nevada's 15 school districts participating. The Nevada State Champion receives \$1,000 and his/her school receives \$1,000 for the purchase of poetry books and to support literary programs/residencies. The state winner moves on to a national contest in April in Washington, D.C. [nac.nevadaculture.org](http://nac.nevadaculture.org), 702-486-3738

■ The 38th annual Hunting and Sporting Expo, held in Reno each January, is set to bring in \$8.2 million to the local economy in 2015. **The Sheep Show**—as it is also known—allows the public to view 400 exhibits, including guides and outfitters from North America and around the globe, gear, guns, art, taxidermy, wildlife displays, and equipment. [wildsheepfoundation.org](http://wildsheepfoundation.org), 702-770-9966

■ Following the success of the Las Vegas Strip's first bitcoin ATM in July, the Las Vegas-based company Coin Cloud unveiled a second Strip **bitcoin ATM**, located inside Gold Spike. The ATMs provide digital currency enthusiasts a 24-hour downtown location to buy and sell bitcoin with the touch of a screen. Coin Cloud now has four Las Vegas bitcoin ATMs. [coincloudatm.com](http://coincloudatm.com)

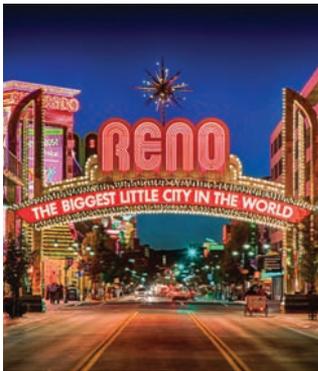
# 18th Annual READERS' POLL



**CAST YOUR VOTE AT**  
**NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM**

Voting ends April 17.

Results will be published in the July/August 2015 issue of *Nevada Magazine, Events & Shows*, and on [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com). One lucky voter will win a complimentary Nevada travel package. Some restrictions apply.



## TAHOE SOUTH GETAWAY PACKAGE

Two nights in a one-bedroom condominium suite at The Ridge Tahoe. Two sightseeing tickets on the Heavenly Lake Tahoe gondola. Two-hour lunch cruise to Emerald Bay for two aboard the Tahoe Bleu Wave, including lunch buffet and two drinks per person. Enjoy a sleigh ride or carriage ride for two with Borges Sleigh and Carriage Rides. Dinner for two at the Hard Rock Cafe Lake Tahoe (\$100 F&B credit) plus a Rocktastic bag of Hard Rock Schwag!

F&B credits do not include gratuities. All items subject to availability. Some restrictions will apply. Expires: May 31, 2016.



# NEVADA

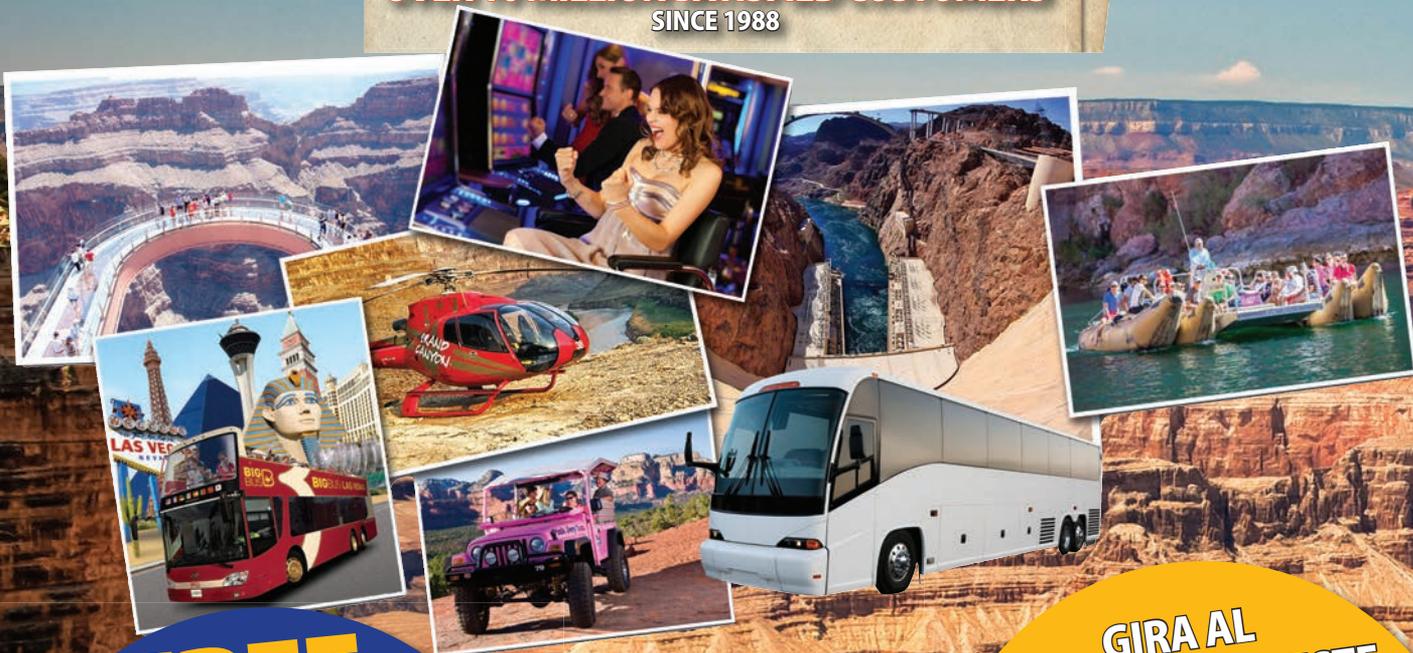
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\*Add Skywalk Express \$195

**\$329** Champagne Picnic  
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\*Add Limo & Strip Flight \$65  
\*Add Skywalk & Heli/Boat \$195

\*Certain options change package itinerary call for details \*

## GRAND CANYON TOURS

### GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM TOUR

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Add Heli \$175

### GRAND CANYON WEST RIM TOUR

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- See Native American Dancers and Wild West shows
- View the historic new Skywalk

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Add Skywalk \$35  
Add Heli/Boat \$195  
Add Heli/Boat Skywalk \$230

## HOOVER DAM AND LAKE MEAD CRUISES

### HOOVER DAM EXPRESS TOUR

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- Up to 2 hours at Hoover Dam
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### HOOVER DAM & LAKE MEAD CRUISE

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- Ethel M's Chocolate Factory & Cacti Gardens
- 90 Minute Lake Mead Cruise
- Includes Lunch

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- Tour of Vegas Mob Hangouts.
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Black Canyon River Rafting ..... \$145  
Bootleg Canyon Zip Line ..... \$159  
Hollywood Tour ..... \$199  
Death Valley ..... \$199  
Vegas Balloon Ride ..... \$229





## No Horsing Around

It takes a diehard photographer to put himself in harm's way to get the photo, but that's just what Dennis Ducilla did to capture this shot in late fall 2014. "I was laying prone in the wash as the riders were coming around the corner," Dennis says. "Being sprayed with dirt and rocks is not a problem when you get to photograph such marvelous scenes."

**PHOTO BY  
DENNIS DUCILLA**

*See more of Ducilla's work at  
[facebook.com/ducillaphotography](https://www.facebook.com/ducillaphotography)*

## Nature's Painting

As Grand Prize winner of the 2014 Great Nevada Picture Hunt, Eleanor Preger has shown she knows how to capture a situation just right. This is eloquently exemplified in this photo of Lake Tahoe that she took in January. "I was in the middle of cooking dinner and looked outside just as Mother Nature was starting her painting," Eleanor says. "There were so many phases to this particular sunset, especially comparing the east side of the lake to the west side."

**PHOTO BY ELEANOR PREGER**

*See more of Preger's work at [eleanorpreger.com](http://eleanorpreger.com)*



### **ART DIRECTOR'S CHOICE**

Each issue, *Nevada Magazine* Art Director Sean Nebeker chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page. E-mail your photos to [snebeker@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:snebeker@nevadamagazine.com).



**STAFF PICK**

Each issue, the staff of *Nevada Magazine* chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page.

## Curly Blond

Sometimes it takes teamwork to capture wildlife photography, especially when the subject is an impressive bighorn ram. Photographer Ernest Ross snapped this stunning image in 2012 near Beatty. With the assistance of experienced photographer Tim Torell of Digital Wildlife Images, Ernest was able to get close enough to get the shot.

**PHOTO BY ERNEST ROSS**

## Bad Hair Day

Isn't it nice when photo opportunities fall—or fly—right into your lap? Such is the case of this owl that flew into photographer Cindy Joyce's backyard in Wells. Making the situation even more exciting, the owl perched only 10 feet away from Cindy, and decided to stick around for most of the day.

**PHOTO BY CINDY JOYCE**



**FB GROUP CHOICE**

Each issue, our Nevada Photographers Facebook group votes for their favorite photo out of three selected by *Nevada Magazine* staff.

**JOIN OUR NEVADA PHOTOGRAPHERS GROUP** [facebook.com/groups/nevadasnaps](https://facebook.com/groups/nevadasnaps)

# Splendiferous Spring Festivals

NEVADA COVERS THE GAMUT OF CELEBRATORY HAPPENINGS.

BY ERIC CACHINERO

There's many charming words in Nevada's arsenal of descriptive adjectives, festive being one of them. So it's no surprise that the Silver State contains a separate arsenal for its superb spring festivals. Because if staring up at multicolored hot air balloons in Pahrump or discovering the luck of the Irish in Henderson isn't exciting enough for the average adventurer, then surely gobbling down copious quantities of livestock testicles at the Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry in Virginia City fits the bill. Hopefully this list of golden oldies and emerging favorites will pique your interest in finding some festive fun this spring.

## SNOWFEST!

**North Lake Tahoe  
Through March 8**

Pray for snow! Since 1982, North Lake Tahoe has been celebrating each spring with SnowFest!—10 days and nights of snowy activities and events. Attendees can check out local ski resorts including Diamond Peak, that are offering on-snow related happenings, or participate in the numerous special events, parades, parties, concerts, races, and more that take place in numerous locations throughout North Lake Tahoe. Check out [tahoesnowfest.com](http://tahoesnowfest.com) for a full list of events.



## MARDI GRAS VEGAS

**Springs Preserve, Las Vegas**  
**March 7**

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!* Let the good times roll! Come get your Cajun and Creole on at the Springs Preserve. Mardi Gras Vegas provides live music, Southern cuisine from local Vegas eateries, and a beer garden. This family-friendly event also offers crafts for kids, along with all the sounds, sights, and flavors of the Louisiana Bayou.



## THE SILVER STATE CHILI COOK-OFF

**Petrack Park, Pahrump**  
**March 7-8**

Get chili and turn up the heat at The Silver State Chili Cook-Off. On Saturday, March 7, head over to Petrack Park for the chili cook-off competition, car show, live entertainment, gunfighters show, raffles, and arts-and-crafts vendors. Chili tastings are \$5 for 10 samples, with all proceeds benefitting No to Abuse charity. Cash prizes are given for first-place winners of several chili-cooking categories.

On Sunday, March 8, check out The Silver State Chili Cook-Off Golf Tournament, which takes place at Mountain Falls Golf Club.

## HENDERSON ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

**Henderson Events Plaza**  
**March 13-15**

Nevadans know how to get their Erin go bragh on, and have been doing so at the Henderson St. Patrick's Day Parade for nearly 50 years. The three-day event includes festival necessities—carnival, car show, and live entertainment—along with a celebratory parade. This year's parade theme is 'love, loyalty, friendship.'



## ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRY

**Virginia City**  
**March 14**

What can be said about the Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry that hasn't



been said before? The euphemisms and innuendos surrounding this zany Nevada tradition run deep, but for good reason. The event draws approximately 3,000 people to Virginia City, all waiting to snag a taste of the curious concoctions. Whether you prefer them deep-fried, wrapped in bacon, or molded into a tasty curry, there is certainly no shortage of supply or demand for the globules that give this festival its heart and soul.

In addition to the culinary festivities, the Ball Breaker Saloon Crawl gets into the spirit of St. Patrick's Day by offering crawl-goers one free beer at the main event bar with the purchase of an event cup.

## PAHRUMP BALLOON FESTIVAL

**Petrack Park, Pahrump**

**March 20-22**

The Pahrump Balloon Festival takes to the skies over Pahrump March 20-22. After a successful inaugural event in 2014, the second annual festival hopes to be even bigger than the last. Attendees can enjoy tethered balloon rides, music and entertainment, great food, and arts and crafts.



PAHRUMP PHOTOGRAPHY

## CLARK COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

**Logandale**

**April 8-12**

The Clark County Fair & Rodeo wasn't always such. It began as the Moapa Valley Fair in 1965, and started out small. Since then, new attractions were added and locations changed, molding the promising fair into what it is today. Approximately 80,000 people attend each spring, filling their fixing for carnival rides, entertainment, crafts, exhibits, a livestock show, pig racing, mutton bustin' and, of course, great food.

The fair includes two of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association's premier rodeo events. The first four days is the Wrangler Million Dollar Tour and the final day features the Wrangler Champions Challenge Rodeo, which brings together the nation's top 10 contestants in each event. ▾



### PLAN YOUR TRIP

#### **SnowFest!**

North Lake Tahoe

Through March 8

[tahoesnowfestival.com](http://tahoesnowfestival.com), 530-583-7167

#### **Mardi Gras Vegas**

Springs Preserve, Las Vegas

March 7

[springspreserve.com](http://springspreserve.com), 702-882-7700

#### **The Silver State Chili Cook-Off**

Petrack Park, Pahrump

March 7-8

[visitpahrump.com](http://visitpahrump.com), 775-751-6853

#### **Henderson St. Patrick's Day Parade**

Henderson Events Plaza

March 13-15

[hendersonlive.com](http://hendersonlive.com), 702-267-2323

#### **Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry**

Virginia City

March 14

[visitvirginiacitynv.com](http://visitvirginiacitynv.com), 775-847-7500

#### **Pahrump Balloon Festival**

Petrack Park, Pahrump

March 20-22

[visitpahrump.com](http://visitpahrump.com), 775-751-6853

#### **Clark County Fair & Rodeo**

Logandale

April 8-12

[ccfair.com](http://ccfair.com), 888-876-3247

# AUSTIN, NEVADA:

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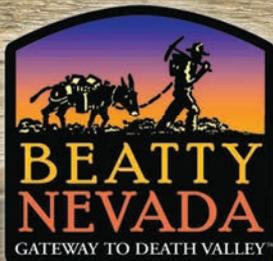
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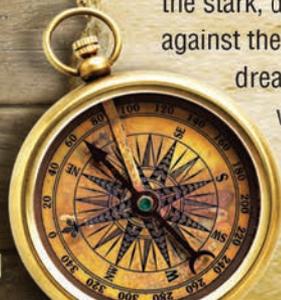
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### THE DEATH VALLEY BLOOM

**[MARCH - MAY]** Sometimes in spring...a burst of color softens the stark, dry landscape of Death Valley with a blanket of wild flowers set against the surreal salt flats and majestic mountains. It's a photographers dream, and a site you don't want to miss! So come out to Beatty, where there's plenty of room accommodations, RV parks, campsites, places to dine and new friends to be made.

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to Death Valley  
National Park.**

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# MT. ROSE: WINTER'S FICKLE BLOOM

On the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe, great backcountry skiing depends on Mother Nature, but always delivers a fun adventure.

STORY BY DAVE ZOOK  
PHOTOS BY MATT BANSAK

In mid-December, approaching the summit of Mt. Rose Highway—30 minutes from Reno on State Route 431—the area buzzed with human activity. Hundreds of families played in the snow, while groups of snowshoers, skiers, and snowmobilers pushed into the mountains. Early season storms in late 2014 had dolloped the Tahoe area with hefty precipitation, but with consistent rain at lake level and a snowline at about 8,000 feet, the high-elevation Rose area became the best backcountry ski destination around.

Now in late January, my friend Matt Bansak and I pulled into the parking area on the pass at 8,911 feet. This time, there was not a soul around.

The fresh snow had stopped as the calendar year turned over. The Tahoe region received virtually zero precipitation in January, and consistently high temps melted the snow in the daytime and froze it to the consistency of coral reef overnight. But there were murmurs of a few pockets of powder still out there if you knew where to look.

“This is going to be a great time; let’s get after it and make our friends jealous via social media,” said Matt, an eternal supporter of getting outside, skiing, and taking photos.

“I bet there could be some decent options...we can’t not try,” I replied.

Options of all flavors define the umbrella area known as Rose, which refers to terrain accessed off the highway of the same name, but the titling gets strange. Mount Rose the peak—the third highest in Tahoe at 10,776 feet—is on the west side of Mt. Rose Highway, while the ski area— Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe—is on the east side of the highway and is actually on Slide Mountain. Just a few miles west of the summit is the boundary of the 31,310-acre Mt. Rose wilderness area, with Rose Knob Peak out there somewhere as well.

Nevertheless, it all sits in Nevada and offers a wonderful spectrum of backcountry skiing with hundreds of available lines and dozens of peaks. Casual hour-long hikes to low-angle slopes cater to the beginner, and grueling all-day affairs to 50-degree couloirs entice the experienced and gutsy skier. Snowmobiling is also allowed in a large portion of Rose, a rarity for much of Tahoe.



## THE LONG WALK

We slapped on our skins, Matt's to his skis and mine to my split-board, and checked our beacons under the grey but warming skies.

From our pullout, one has decisions to make. The closest is the user-friendly 9,990-foot Tamarack peak. To get to its summit, you just gain the ridgeline that begins up the hill next to the parking lot and follow it northeast to the peak. Another popular access point is about a mile north on the highway at another established pullout and from there you skin basically straight west about a mile and you're on the peak where several short yet sweet options await. On powder days, Tamarack may be one of the most heavily trafficked areas.

But we wanted to explore Relay Peak, due to its longer lines and the option of continuing to the steep Bronco Chutes. Just a few hundred feet south from the parking area is a Forest Service road that links with the Tahoe Rim Trail—the 165-mile loop that circumnavigates the Basin. Once on this road, orienteering is a snap and it's a simple slog that contours around the south of Tamarack before the road gives way to the open flats below Relay.



The milky skies had us wondering if the frozen snow would see any type of softening. But as skiing and snowboarding enthusiasts know this is part of the game, and in fact, this is the game. The positives on days like these—fresh air, exploring, getting in shape, the chance to play—trump any potential complaining.

Almost five miles later we reached the top of 10,335-foot Relay Peak, the highest point on the Tahoe Rim Trail. Views of the east shore of Lake Tahoe stretch down the horizon and the clouds add a silver gleam to its smooth surface. From here we can ski off Relay in several directions; from short lines on the southeast face, to longer chutes to the north. Farther along the ridge to the north of Relay lie the Bronco Chutes, a consortium of steep lines and a favorite for advanced skiers. If we dropped to the north, it would at least put us closer to Bronco.

“Ski the north side toward Bronco and decide after the run,” posited Matt. Now in the early afternoon, daylight needed to be considered, but the Bronco Chutes pulled us in like magnets with their thick conglomeration of craggy rocks and mysterious lines.

“Sure thing. Would be sweet to check that off the list,” I said in agreement.

We dropped into the north face and found variable conditions, a euphemism for conditions that really aren’t that good. There were a few chalky and smooth sections, a few short, soft, wind-filled pockets, and plenty of ice and hardpack.

At the bottom looking toward the Bronco Chutes, the distance now seemed overwhelming. The trek would have taken at least two more hours, and combined with the questionable snow, it no longer made sense.



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# NEVADA

MAGAZINE

Getting back up the ridgeline to Relay proved more difficult than expected. After losing my traction, I found myself on a slope mere feet from a flat section, but on my side and crawling the last few inches like a small child. Matt's ski popped off after slipping out and he went down; his smartphone careened to the edge of the ridge, inches from plummeting into the abyss.

## HOMeward

Making it back to the top of Relay, we dropped into an easy section that lined us up with the access road that would deliver us to the parking lot. We still had a long return back to the car, and the slight downhill grade made for a steady pace, although the lower we got the more the surface resembled mangled chunks of a substance formerly known as snow.

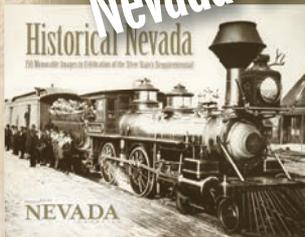
It was an honest effort covering almost 10 miles, and though it never softened and we didn't find a mystical stash of powder, we were now more prepared for when the big storms come, as they can in late spring. Friends had started biking or trail running, but we wanted to stay true to our favorite sport. I spent all day outside and didn't see a single other group, and I won't hesitate to return when the snow does...which it will. ❄️



# THE SILVER STATE SCAVENGER HUNT

NEVADA MAGAZINE'S STATEWIDE SCAVENGER HUNT SPANS 28 ICONIC LANDMARKS.

First 100 people  
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Nevada coffee table book!



Calling all trekkers, explorers, road trippers, and weekend warriors! Do you love traveling the Silver State? If so, we want to offer you—the almighty adventurer—a chance to visit some of Nevada's most iconic destinations, while possibly winning an awesome prize. Like what you see? Here are the details:

We split the state into two zones—Northern and Southern—and chose 14 notable places in each. Simply pick a zone, visit 10 of the 14 locations in that zone, snap a photo of yourself holding the **MAY/JUNE 2015** issue of *Nevada Magazine* at each location, and email all 10 photos to us at [nvmaghunt@gmail.com](mailto:nvmaghunt@gmail.com). That's it.

By submitting your photos, you'll be entered to win one of two Land Rover Wheels Events. The adventure puts you in the driver's seat of a Land Rover vehicle with the chance to navigate some of

Nevada's backcountry. Trained technicians will be on hand to assist drivers and breakfast and lunch will be catered.

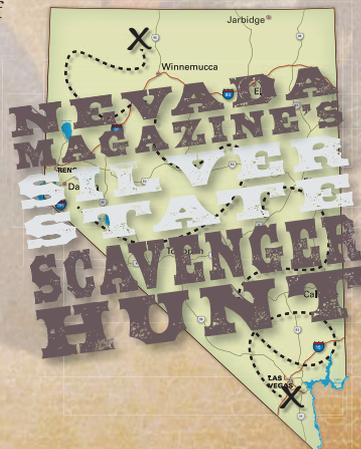
The official list of destinations will be published in the **MAY/JUNE 2015** issue of *Nevada Magazine*. To get your copy first, subscribe to *Nevada Magazine*. You can also look for the **MAY/JUNE 2015** issue on newsstands. For a complimentary copy, send us a letter (details below) or swing by the *Nevada Magazine* offices at 401 N. Carson St. in Carson City any time after **Friday, May 1, 2015 at 8 a.m.**

Visit [nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt](http://nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt) for complete rules, alternate means of entry, and prize updates.

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ABOVE & BEYOND

# St. Augustine's Cultural Center

AUSTIN CHURCH GETS A SERIOUS MAKEOVER.



STORY & PHOTOS BY ERIC CACHINERO

On Christmas Eve 1866, St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Austin was officially dedicated. The bricks and solid-granite foundation used in its construction were pulled from the Austin quarry and brickyard, which flourished in the 1800s. The church was constructed primarily by volunteer labor from Austin's Irish-Catholic community at a cost of \$50,000—an enormous sum of money in 1866—and designed to look like a ship sailing out to sea. Though an impressive feat of Gothic Revival and Italianate architecture, the sting of senescence began to take hold on a building nearly as old as the state itself, and it eventually fell into disrepair. This was, however, until one woman—along with the help of many others dedicated to preserving this piece of Nevada history—took over and the church received a restoration and a whole lot of tender loving care.



Opposite page: St. Augustine's Cultural Center has received more than \$1 million in renovations during the past decade. This page: St. Augustine's altar sits among the colorful murals that adorn the center's walls.

## A LOT OF ELBOW GREASE

That woman is Jan Morrison, a retired developer from Las Vegas. After purchasing, renovating, and moving into a small cottage near St. Augustine's in 2003, she says the church, which had become overgrown with weeds and debris, literally kept her up at night.

"Metal panels from the roof were begin-

ning to come loose, and the creaking would keep me awake," Jan says. After discussing the weathered structure with a fellow resident, a subtle challenge was offered: "Well then, why don't you buy it?"

"One thing led to another, and a year and a half later I had purchased it," Jan adds.

Jan then submitted her first grant application, which allowed preservation histo-

rian Dan Pezzoni to study the church and prepare a historical analysis and blueprint for the restoration. Dan also authored the original report to the National Register of Historic Places, which resulted in St. Augustine's being added to the list. "The grant was awarded by the Nevada Commission for Cultural Affairs, and I was on my way to 10 years, 9 grants, and over a million dollars spent on the restoration," Jan says.

The dream was becoming a reality.

Over the span of a decade, the church received a serious facelift. Windows, doors, a meeting room, bathrooms, catering kitchen, and an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant lift—which operates between the lower and upper levels of the church—were among the many additions. The entire roof was also reconstructed just in the nick of time, as it was on the brink of collapse.

The blood, sweat, and tears paid off, though, all leading to the apex of the renovation—the rededication of the church.

## REDEDICATION: CATHOLIC CHURCH TO CULTURAL CENTER

On Sept. 27, 2014, the once-tattered church was rededicated, now under the name St. Augustine's Cultural Center. According to Jan, the event drew people from far and wide, sharing stories of the church and discovering common threads of shared history.

"We sold some of the architectural salvage from the restoration," Jan says. "Many people took home doors, kneelers, pews, and wonderful hand-hewn planks." Several of these pieces of history are still available for purchase.

The highlight of the evening was the playing of the church's Henry Kilgen Nine Rank pipe organ. The cultural center was bathed in the golden glow of the Austin sunset when pipe organ historian Michael Friesen brought the instrument to life publicly for the first time in more than 40 years.

"I don't think anyone took a breath during the first selection," Jan adds.



The Henry Kilgen Nine Rank pipe organ (above) is the only operating organ of its kind in existence today. Right: Lander County Commissioner Patsy Waits plays a tune, demonstrating the results of a massive restoration project that the organ underwent in 2012.



## NO ORDINARY ORGAN

A member of the well-known Kilgen organ-building family of St. Louis, Mo., Henry Kilgen built the organ that resides in St. Augustine's today in 1884. Although it is uncertain how many organs he built during his lifetime, only six have been documented. The Nine Rank pipe organ in Austin is the only known surviving organ constructed by Henry Kilgen that is tonally, mechanically, and visually intact.

An article in the *Reese River Reveille* newspaper dated Sept. 15, 1884, gives an account of the organ's debut in the church: "Yesterday morning the new Catholic organ was initiated, so to speak, into its work of producing melodies for the religious services of that society, by the rendering of Haydn's master piece [sic]—the Second Mass."

In May 2012, the approximately 3,000 pieces of organ were carefully dismantled; shipped to Conifer, Colo.; and restored by pipe organ builder Charles Ruggles. After removing layers of dust, bird droppings, and bat guano—and straightening out some of the interior pipework said to be damaged by a cat snacking on the critters that lived inside—the organ was reassembled. Once assembled in Colorado and tested for playability, it was once again disassembled, shipped back to Austin, and then reassembled where it remains today.

## HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Although the cultural center has been re-dedicated, there are still several upcoming projects, including a sound-and-light system for performances. The cultural center will eventually house an arts center, offering space for artist workshops, historic presentations and dramas, docent tours, local art shows, music presentations, and exhibits of Austin and central Nevada. The center is also able to host events from business meetings to family reunions. According to Jan, the large meeting room can hold 40-50 people, whereas the upper level can seat approximately 150. Jan says they also have plans for a 'fiddler's weekend,' which will feature old-time music. Though there is not a finalized schedule of events, check out [goaustinnevada.com/staug.html](http://goaustinnevada.com/staug.html) as information is constantly updated. ▀

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[goaustinnevada.com/staug.html](http://goaustinnevada.com/staug.html)





## Divine Murals

Though upkeep of St. Augustine's was infrequent, in 1939 the parish hired Lake Tahoe artist Raphael Jolly to paint more than a dozen murals on the church's interior. According to [goaustinnevada.com](http://goaustinnevada.com), "the vibrantly colored scenes of events in the lives of Christ and St. Augustine are, today, the building's artistic highlight."



Left: The pews, Henry Kilgen Nine Rank pipe organ, and newly installed lift occupy the space at the rear of the cultural center. Above: Murals give vibrancy and life to the walls of the cultural center.

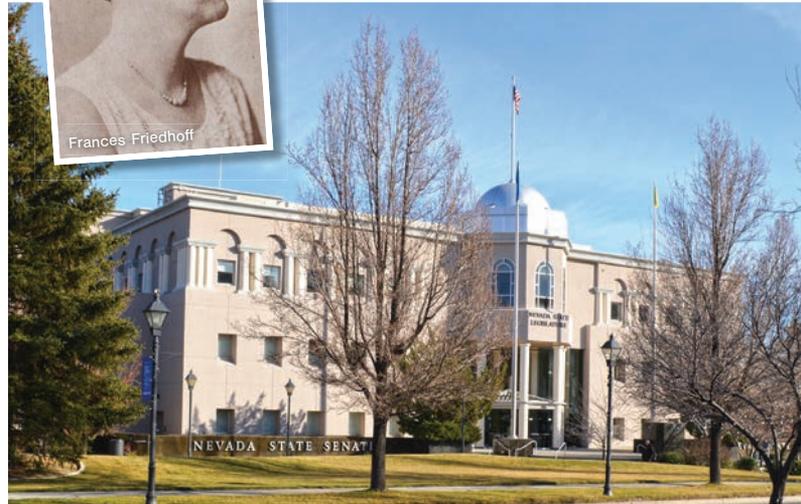
# Looking Back: Women who led the way

Female political pioneers made history and policy.

BY NEVADA MAGAZINE

*The 78th session of the Nevada Legislature began Feb. 2, and when the 63 members of the Senate and Assembly met, Nevada's 21 female legislators took their seats. Women first voted in Nevada in 1916, and in 1918, Sadie Hurst made history as the Assembly's first female. Since then, Nevada has had at least one woman representative each session, with just four exceptions: 1917, 1931, 1933, and 1947.*

*Twenty years ago in our March/April 1995 issue, we took a look at two political pioneers: Hurst and Frances Friedhoff. These women came forth in a time when women were likely considered to be mothers and homemakers, and then citizens. Their voices, while small compared to their peers, made a difference on the role of women in Nevada. You can find the full story on our website, but take a look at this condensed version of the story we ran 20 years ago.*



Frances Friedhoff, who became Nevada's first female state senator in 1935.

Although their terms were brief, Hurst and Friedhoff opened important political doors for women in the Silver State.

Hurst's election in 1918 reflected the growing political presence of women in America. In Nevada, women were involved with the legislature from the beginning. Hannah K. Clapp of Carson City lobbied the Territorial Legislature (1861-1864) to improve education. In 1877, Mary E. Wright of Virginia City became the first female legislative clerk. But it wasn't until November 1914, following a hard-fought, 45-year battle in the legislature, that Nevada women won the right to vote in state elections.

Sadie Hurst, like many other Nevada politicians, was part of the social reform movement known as Progressivism, which was then sweeping the country. Although details of her early life are sketchy, it is known that Hurst was born in Iowa in 1857 and moved to Reno with her two sons after the death of her husband. In Reno, she became involved in women's civic clubs and community improvement projects, both Progressive hallmarks.

Her preoccupation, however, was another Progressive proposal—Prohibition. Unlike ax-wielding Carry Nation, famous for literally breaking up Kansas bars, Hurst used political persuasion to stop the sale and consumption of alcohol. In those days Reno was the epitome of the Wild West, a center for easy divorces, championship prize fights, and back-alley card games. But the public's interest in moral reform and concern about supplies during World War I (grain was better used for food than booze, ran one argument) were strong during the 1918 election. Remarkably, Reno voters elected an entirely "dry" delegation, including Hurst, to the legislature.

Early in the 1919 session the *Nevada State Journal* remarked that "the woman lawmaker, Mrs. Hurst, has already had the pleasure of seeing some of her legislative propositions take the form of law." In one of its first actions, the legislature, meeting in its chambers on the second floor of the State Capitol, endorsed the Prohibition amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The paper also noted that

## Leading Ladies of Nevada's Legislature

Lawmakers Sadie Hurst and Frances Friedhoff led the way in changing the all-male club of the Nevada Legislature.

BY DANA R. BENNETT

On Election Day in 1918 the *Nevada State Journal* took an unusual stand: The newspaper endorsed a female candidate for the state Assembly. No woman had ever served in the Nevada Legislature. In fact, women did not vote in state elections until 1916.

Nevertheless, the Reno paper reminded its readers that Republican candidate Sadie Dotson Hurst "has taken an active part in public matters" and assured them that her experience in club work "will stand her and the people of Nevada in good stead should she be elected to the assembly." Washoe County voters apparently agreed, electing Hurst as one of their seven representatives for the 1919 session in Carson City. Hurst thus became the first woman elected to the Nevada Legislature and a trailblazer for women like

"Mrs. Hurst's petition to Congress for woman's suffrage" had passed.

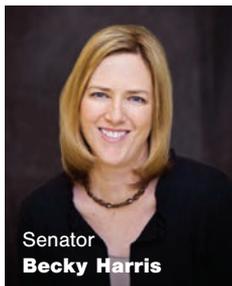
The presence of this new Assembly member occasionally mystified the formerly all-male body. "Much discussion goes on in the assembly as to how to address the Hon. Sadie Hurst," the *Journal* reported. "Some call her the assembly woman while others salute her as the 'gentle lady.' "Whatever they called her, the paper stated that "the Washoe delegates are very proud of having a woman delegate."

Chivalry, however, did not stop the male legislators from making fun of Hurst's legislation or excluding her from functions. After she introduced a bill prohibiting cruelty to animals, some legislators arranged a street fight between a badger and a bulldog. Outraged, Hurst rose on the floor of the Assembly to protest this brutal plan, only to find herself the butt of a joke when it was revealed that the "badger" in the covered cage was really a chamber pot.

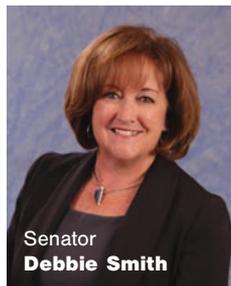
Despite such obstacles, Hurst sponsored several bills involving women's rights. One would have given a mother control of her children and their estates upon the death of the father. Another would have allowed women to enter into any legal contract. Neither bill passed. A third measure would have required a wife's signature, in addition to her husband's, to deed real estate held as community property. The bill passed the Assembly but was tabled in the Senate.

Hurst's successful bills included one that raised the age of consent from 16 to 18 years and increased the penalties for rape. Her bill outlawing animal cruelty was also approved, despite the badger-fight prank. Both houses passed Hurst's measure requiring the registration of nurses. Although Nevada was then the only state not regulating the nursing profession, Governor Emmet Boyle vetoed the measure because it did not specify standards.

Hurst was clearly not intimidated into silence by being the only woman in the legislature. As an adamant Prohibitionist, she strongly opposed a bill, which passed, allowing the sale of "near beer" and flavored cooking extracts that contained minuscule amounts of alcohol. As a suffragette, she stood up for women's rights. She also was staunchly conservative, indeed reactionary, on some matters. When the 1919 session considered a bill to legalize marriages between Native Americans and Caucasians, it was Hurst who led the floor fight against it. However, her colleagues were not swayed by her arguments, and the bill passed by a substantial margin.



Senator  
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Senator  
**Debbie Smith**



Senator  
**Joyce Woodhouse**



Senator  
**Pat Spearman**



Senator  
**Patricia Farley**



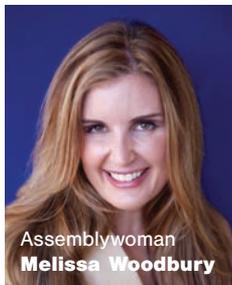
Assemblywoman  
**Marilyn Kirkpatrick**



Assemblywoman  
**Michele Fiore**



Assemblywoman  
**Robin Titus**



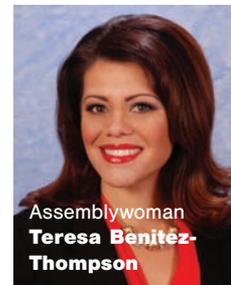
Assemblywoman  
**Melissa Woodbury**



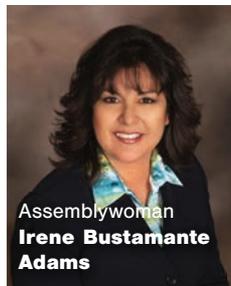
Assemblywoman  
**Amber Joiner**



Assemblywoman  
**Shelly Shelton**



Assemblywoman  
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Assemblywoman  
**Irene Bustamante Adams**



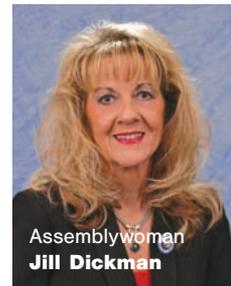
Assemblywoman  
**Dina Neal**



Assemblywoman  
**Victoria Seaman**



Assemblywoman  
**Ellen Spiegel**



Assemblywoman  
**Jill Dickman**



Assemblywoman  
**Heidi Swank**

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**After she introduced a bill prohibiting cruelty to animals, some legislators arranged a street fight between a badger and a bulldog.**

---



Assemblywoman Sadie Hurst surrounded by her male colleagues during the 1919 legislature, and one of her campaign ads.

A year later the legislature met in special session to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted the vote to women nationwide. Hurst and other suffragettes made sure enough legislators would be in Carson City to vote for ratification. When the special session opened on Feb. 7, 1920, animated suffrage supporters filled both chambers.

Hurst ran for reelection in 1920 but was soundly defeated in the Republican primary. She left Reno two years later with her sons. In 1952, Nevada's pioneering assemblywoman died in Pasadena, Calif, at the age of 94. Hurst opened the doors to the Assembly for women throughout Nevada.

The doors to the Senate, however, were closed tightly against women until 1935. That year Frances Friedhoff of Yerington was appointed to replace her husband, George, who had resigned to take a job with the Federal Housing Administration. She was sworn in as the senator from Lyon County on March 16, 1935. Because the session was nearly over, she sat in the legislature for only 14 days, and her senatorial tenure lasted little more than seven months.

Friedhoff, no stranger to politics, was not simply warming an empty chair. Raised in Carson City, she had worked as a teenager in the household of former Nevada Governor R.K. Colcord. She married George Friedhoff in 1912, and the couple moved to a ranch outside Yerington. She became active in civic affairs and in the state's Democratic Party. Frances sold Liberty Bonds during World War I, organized the first 4-H club for girls in Mason Valley, and helped establish the Lyon County Farm Bureau. She led the movement to establish a Yerington library and consolidate rural schools. In 1923

she was appointed to the State Vocational Board of Education, on which she served for 20 years. In 1924 she was elected Democratic national committeewoman from Nevada. When George resigned from the State Senate, Frances was a logical choice to take his seat.

The seating of a woman in the Senate was much more interesting to the state's newspapers than Hurst's election to the Assembly had been. On March 17, 1935, the *Nevada State Journal* trumpeted: "The Senate Ceremoniously Greets First Woman Member of Body."

She chaired the Senate Committee on Public Lands, of which her husband had been a member. In legislation, Friedhoff had a perfect success rate: Her only bill, which granted industrial insurance to Nevada Emergency Relief Administration workers, was passed.

Despite encouragement, Friedhoff declined to run for the seat in 1936. Thirty years would pass before a woman—Helen Herr of Las Vegas—was elected to the Senate.

After Frances Friedhoff died in 1958 at the age of 63, the legislature memorialized her as "an illustrious standard bearer in the front ranks of woman's battle for political prominence in Nevada."

Frances Friedhoff and Sadie Hurst are unique among Nevada's women lawmakers: In their respective houses, they were the first. Today, when women are elected to the State Legislature, newspapers no longer debate their proper titles.

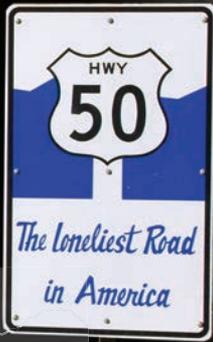
Visit [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com) to read the full story as it appeared in 1995. ▀

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PHOTOS BY WILL D'ANGELO

Above: Peanut butter and dark chocolate toffee from Whoa! Foods. Below: Employee Linda Partlow-Catania displays a range of their products. Opposite page: The hot toffee mixture is poured over the bottom layer.

# Keeping it Sweet

NEVADA'S CHOCOLATIERS AND CANDY MAKERS CREATE A VERITABLE CANDY LAND.

BY MEGG MUELLER



A few words to describe chocolate that I used in the course of one interview include evocative, compelling, rewarding, complex, engaging, decisive...and of course, incredible. Our complex relationship with candy—chocolate in particular—can't be easily understood, but thankfully, that doesn't mean you can't indulge. As we shake off the dust of winter, what better season (or reason) to treat yourself than spring? But before you indulge in a run-of-the-mill confection, consider one of the plethora of Nevada chocolatiers. These craftsmen create decadent nuggets of sweet desire that can't be found on a chain-store shelf. With ingenuity, creativity, and passion, clever chefs craft the perfect treat. So try one of these local shops, whether for the holidays, special occasions, or just because you know you deserve it.





## Sweet Southern Nevada

### WHOA! TOFFEE

One bite, and you'll know how Whoa! Toffee got its name. The Las Vegas-based company began as many do—with a homemade recipe that had friends and family clamoring for more. Suni Chabrow's family had been making toffee for 25 years, sending it to friends for the holidays. When Suni's son, Douglas J. Green, was sent to Afghanistan with the Army, Suni would send care packages to him and the troops. Sadly, Douglas was killed in action. Her son's death left Suni looking for a way to get involved and give something back, and toffee was the unusual and perfect avenue.

Suni and co-owner Julie Ann Littmann started Whoa! Toffee in 2012. Julie helped convince Suni her toffee would be loved by the public, and she was right. The company now sells about 12,000 pounds of candy a year through its website and retail locations. Today, Suni concentrates her efforts on running her foundation—the Douglas J. Green Memorial Foundation, which receives a portion of every Whoa! Foods purchase—while Julie focuses on Whoa! Foods. Non-profit and profit come together to support each other as seamlessly as the crispy toffee supports the sweet layers of chocolate and butterscotch. Other flavors include coffee, S'mores, pretzel, cookies & cream, and peanut butter, so it's easy to satisfy your sweet tooth and support our troops, in one purchase.

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#### Whoa! Toffee

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### FAZACKERLEY'S FUDGE & CANDY EMPORIUM

Sharen Fazackerley and her husband James embarked on their sweet endeavor in 1987, when the couple lived in Canada. What started as a hobby became a family tradition that turned into a business making fudge, and eventually other sweets. The family moved the business to Nevada in 1997. Today, their kids—daughter Corrina and husband Douglas Swenson; son Rodney and his wife Charmayne Fazackerley—run the business, along with Sharen. The small, family run company still specializes in fudge, plus apples dipped in homemade caramel and hard red candy. The Fazackerleys make their candy at the fairs and festivals they travel to each year, all of it by hand. You can buy their delicious nut rolls, candy and caramel apples, and fudge in such flavors as black forest, chocolate orange, caramel, chocolate peanut butter, dark chocolate, and more at fairs (see below), or online.

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Pahrump, NV 89048

fazfudge.com, 775-751-9773

#### Find Fazackerley's Fudge at these events:

Clark County Rodeo, April 10-12

Pahrump Fall Festival, Sept. 24-27

## Northern Nevada Treats

### CHOCOLATE NUGGET CANDY FACTORY

Known for the giant prospector statue that guards this longtime favorite in northern Nevada, the Chocolate Nugget Candy Factory was started in Washoe Valley—between Reno and Carson City—by Dan and Caroline Saltzswimmer in 1983. Along with son Danny, the Saltzswimmers hand make more than 100 varieties of chocolate, along with many other confections including the peanut brittle Danny's grandfather Frank started making during the Depression to generate extra money. The family makes most of its treats at its second location in nearby Mound House, which opened in 1989. A sweet stop during any roadtrip, the two shops carry taffy, brittles, fudge, chocolates, caramel corn, and small gifts. You can also custom order sweets for special occasions, and can order online.

#### GET YOUR OWN

##### Chocolate Nugget Candy Factory

56 State Route 341  
Mound House, NV 89706  
775-246-5500

611 Hwy. 395 N.  
Washoe Valley, NV 89704  
775-849-0841

[angelfire.com/chocolatenuggetcandyfactory/index](http://angelfire.com/chocolatenuggetcandyfactory/index)



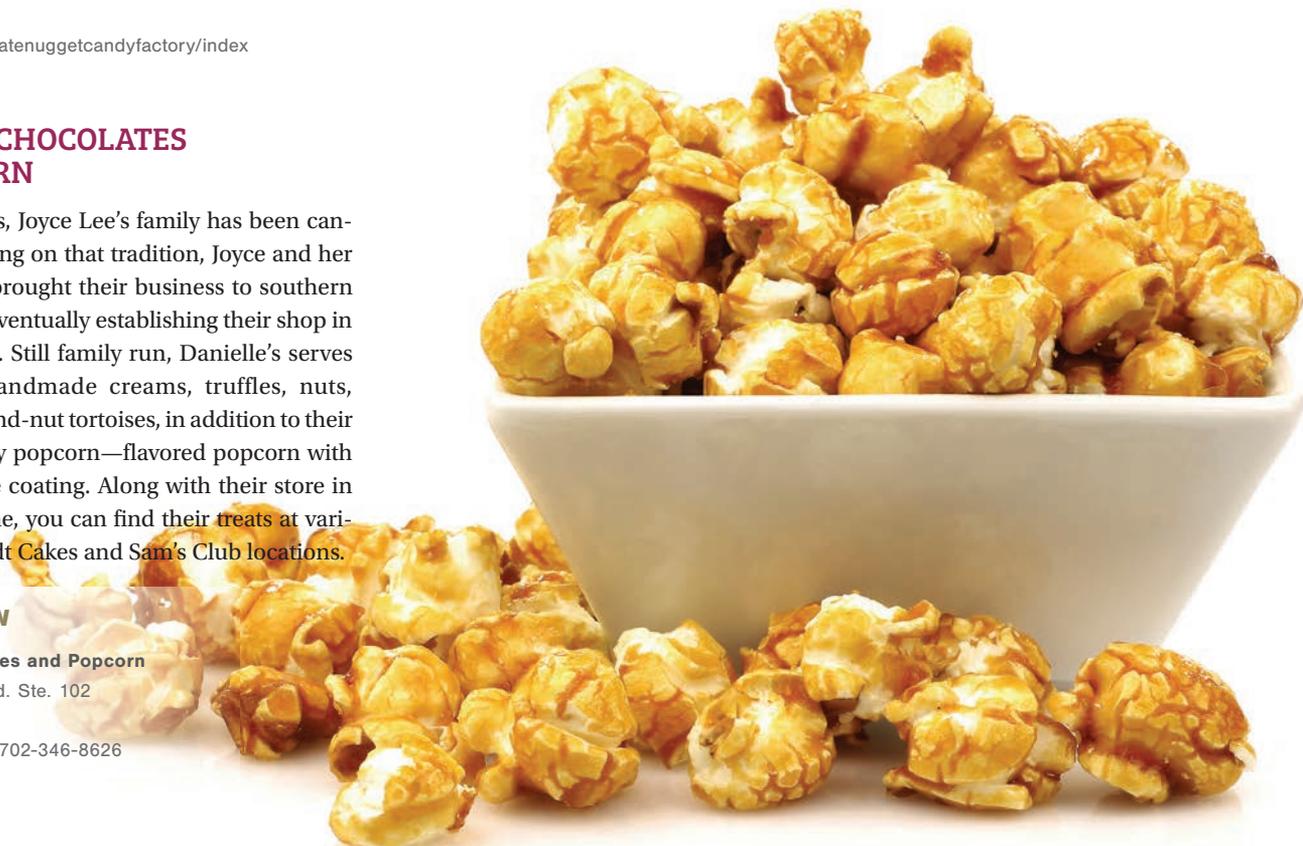
### DANIELLE'S CHOCOLATES AND POPCORN

For generations, Joyce Lee's family has been candy makers. Carrying on that tradition, Joyce and her husband Calvin brought their business to southern Nevada in 1987, eventually establishing their shop in Mesquite in 2004. Still family run, Danielle's serves up delectable handmade creams, truffles, nuts, chews, caramel-and-nut tortoisés, in addition to their best-selling snowy popcorn—flavored popcorn with a white chocolate coating. Along with their store in Mesquite or online, you can find their treats at various Nothing Bundt Cakes and Sam's Club locations.

#### GET YOUR OWN

##### Danielle's Chocolates and Popcorn

1155 W. Pioneer Blvd. Ste. 102  
Mesquite, NV 89027  
[snowypopcorn.com](http://snowypopcorn.com), 702-346-8626





## More Southern Sweets

### Death Valley Nut and Candy Company

900 E. U.S. Route 95 N.  
Beatty, Nevada 89003  
facebook.com/deathvalleycandy, 775-553-2100

### Ethel M Chocolates California Hotel

12 E. Ogden Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
ethelm.com, 702-383-3340

### Ethel M Chocolates Factory Store and Cactus Garden

2 Cactus Garden Dr.  
Henderson, NV 89014  
ethelm.com, 702-435-2655

### Ethel M Chocolates McCarran International Airport

5757 Wayne Newton Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89119  
ethelm.com

### Grandma Daisy's Candy & Ice Cream Parlor

530 Nevada Highway  
Boulder City, NV 89005  
grandmadaisys.com, 702-294-6639

### Sweet Ruby Jane Confections

9550 S. Eastern Ave. #110  
Las Vegas, NV 89123  
sweetrubyjane.com, 702-648-1000



MATTHEW B. BROWN

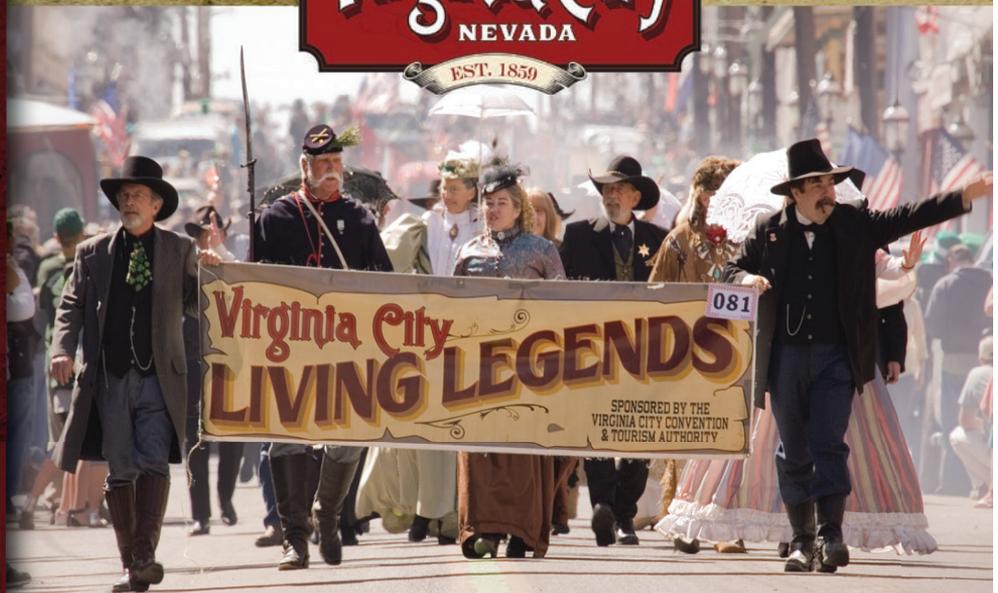
Middle: Chocolate coins and Nevada-shaped chocolates at the Chocolate Nugget Candy Factory. Photos by Sean Nebeker. The giant prospector sits outside the Chocolate Nugget's Washoe Valley location.

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## SIERRA NEVADA CHOCOLATE COMPANY

What do you get when you cross an expop, history buff, and a candy lover? You get Tammy Borde, owner of Reno's Sierra Nevada Chocolate. Tammy's family goes back in Nevada for almost five generations, and when she acquired the Sierra Nevada Chocolate Company, her mother was already making chocolates for her other business—The Chocolate Walrus. Whether by serendipity or sheer force of will, Tammy dove into the world of chocolate, and her knowledge and passion about chocolate is as full as her dazzling store cases. From glitter-enrobed truffles, to more than 38 varieties of chocolate bark, her quaint shop will insinuate itself into your culinary sweet tooth. Her chocolatier can create almost any design; if you doubt that, consider there are more than 14,000 molds in the kitchen. They do about half their business through wholesale sales, and the other through retail. The shop caters to educating customers about chocolate, even offering tastings of various blends of cacao. From everything being hand-rolled and homemade, and the choice to use a cream base in their truffles, Sierra Nevada Chocolate prides itself on offering the finest chocolates around. ▽

### GET YOUR OWN

**Sierra Nevada Chocolate Company**  
1290 S. Virginia St.  
Reno, NV 89502  
775-323-2462

Sierra Nevada Chocolate Company's cases are full of gorgeous and incredible truffles. The store also serves locally made Blind Dog Coffee, and offers tables and a lounge area.



PHOTOS BY MEGG MUELLER

## More Northern Nevada Treats

### Chocolate Shoppe by Sweet Images

1363 U.S. Highway 395 N., Ste. 7  
Gardnerville, NV 89410  
sweetimagesltd.com, 775-267-1002

### Dorinda's Chocolates

727 Riverside Dr., Ste. E  
Reno, NV 89503  
dorindaschocolates.com, 775-432-2024

### Grandma's Fudge Factory

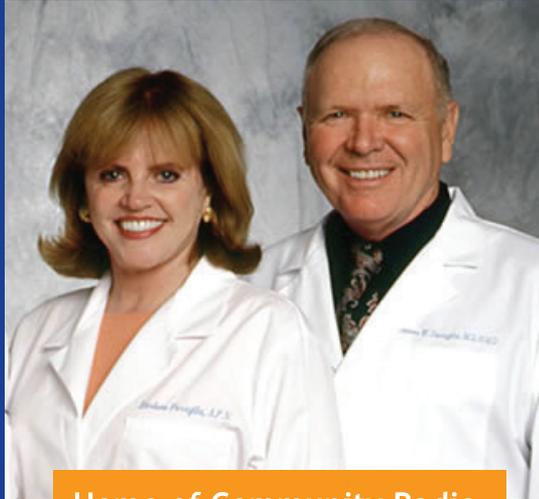
20 C St.  
Virginia City, NV 89440  
grandmasfudgefactory.com, 775-847-0770

### Kimmie Candy Company

525 Reactor Way  
Reno, NV 89502  
kimmiecandy.com, 775-284-9200



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- 2502 Land Rover Reno/Las Vegas

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- 2701 KNPB Channel 5

# SHOOTING THE WEST

PHOTOGRAPHY SYMPOSIUM CAPTURES NEVADA'S BEST SIDE.



BEN WILLMORE



LARRY ANGIER



COREY RICH



BEN WILLMORE

Shooting The West photography symposium brings renowned professional photographers and photo instructors to the Winnemucca Convention Center March 3-8. For more than 27 years, Shooting The West has highlighted photography of all types, with special attention to Nevada and the West. The symposium features presentations, workshops, field trips, exhibits, contests, vendor booths, and—best of all—the opportunity to share ideas and techniques with fellow photographers and to consult with professionals.

This year's special guest is famed photographer and master of digital photography Ben Willmore. Willmore has taught more than 100,000 Adobe Photoshop users on six continents. In addition to teaching workshops, Willmore is set to give two presentations.

Another guest at the symposium is Corey Rich, a renowned adventure photographer who joined climbers in January on one of the hardest rock climbs in the world—a never-before completed free-climb of a half-mile section of Yosemite National Park's El Capitan. Rich spent days photographing the progress of the two climbers and camping with them on the side of the rock face. Shooting the West attendees have a privileged opportunity to hear the details of this historic climb from someone who was there.

A continuing symposium favorite is Tom Bol—an experienced freelance photographer whose assignments have ranged from photographing mountaineers on Mt. McKinley to sea kayaking in Honduras. He specializes in dynamic location lighting using large battery-powered strobes. This year, Bol conducts a day-long workshop on creating dramatic portraits and getting professional results using small flash.

For those needing basic photo tips or wanting to learn the most advanced techniques, there will be something for everyone interested in improving their photos, whether they use film, digital cameras, or smartphones.

Registration for individual segments or the entire program can be done online. Popular workshops fill up very quickly. For more information, go to [shootingthewest.org](http://shootingthewest.org) or call 877-623-3501.—Lorraine Giurlani

## PLAN YOUR TRIP

### Shooting The West

Winnemucca Convention Center

March 3-8

[shootingthewest.org](http://shootingthewest.org), 877-623-3501

# 'RON WHITE'S COMEDY SALUTE TO THE TROOPS'

DISTINGUISHED COMEDIAN PAYS  
TRIBUTE TO ARMED FORCES.



**T**he Mirage Hotel and Casino is hosting the seventh annual “Ron White’s Comedy Salute to the Troops” Wednesday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. The one-night show takes place at the Terry Fator Theatre with proceeds benefiting the Armed Forces Foundation.

Ron White is best known as the cigar smoking, scotch drinking funnyman from the “Blue Collar Comedy Tour.” He has established himself as a star in his own right with multiple comedy albums and videos including “Drunk in Public,” “They Call Me Tater Salad,” and “You Can’t Fix Stupid.”

“I look forward to spending the evening with some of my closest comedian friends as we do our best to raise these soldiers’ spirits, and at the same time, raise funds for a great cause,” White says. “I consider it an honor and a privilege and I believe that it’s the duty of each of us to give back to those who give so much—the bravest men and women on this planet.”

White is joined on stage by a lineup of hysterical comedians for an evening of laughter, good times, and giving back.

The show will be recorded and will air on Country Music Television (CMT) at a later date. This is the fifth year White and CMT have partnered to air the special.

Tickets start at \$79.99. For an additional \$119, guests can upgrade to a VIP package which includes priority seating, a copy of White’s newest DVD “A Little Unprofessional” autographed by the comedian, a Q&A session, and a complimentary photo.

**WHERE**

The Mirage Hotel and Casino

**WHEN**

March 4

Showtime: 7:30 p.m.

**TICKETS**

[mirage.com](http://mirage.com), 702-791-7111

Starting at \$79.99

**WORTH A CLICK**

[tatersalad.com](http://tatersalad.com)

**ALSO AT THE MIRAGE**

John Mulaney, March 6

Tim Allen, March 7

Daniel Tosh, March 27-28

Gabriel Iglesias, April 3-4

Ray Romano & David Spade, April 10-11

Wayne Brady, April 17

Kathy Griffin, April 18

# las vegas shows



## DON'T MISS

### RINGO STARR AND HIS ALL STARR BAND

The Pearl inside Palms Casino Resort

March 15

palms.com, 702-944-3200

Ringo Starr and his All Starr Band have announced new tour dates, including a final tour stop at The Pearl inside Palms Casino Resort on March 15 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$69.

Ringo Starr and his All Starr Band—comprised of Steve Lukather, Richard Page, Gregg Rolie, Todd Rundgren, Gregg Bissonette, and Warren Ham—are embarking on a new tour, which takes the super group through a few stops in the U.S. before traveling throughout Latin America with shows in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and more.

This incarnation of the All Starr Band is the same lineup Ringo has played with since 2012, and the addition of these new dates comes as no surprise to anyone who has heard Ringo talk about this band. “We have so much fun playing together, we don’t want it to end,” Ringo says.

## NEWS

The Joint inside **Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas** is hosting one of the biggest names in country music history—Kenny Chesney—for a two-night concert series Friday, April 3 and Saturday, April 4 at 8 p.m.

[hardrockhotel.com](http://hardrockhotel.com), 702-693-5583

The **Smith Center for the Performing Arts** offers free, guided walking tours of the world-class campus on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. highlighting its architectural accomplishments, artwork, and historic overview.

[thesmithcenter.com](http://thesmithcenter.com), 702-749-2012



## SHOWS OF INTEREST

### THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND

The Orleans  
March 6-7  
[orleanscasino.com](http://orleanscasino.com)  
702-365-7111

### BILL MAHER

Palms  
March 21-22  
[palms.com](http://palms.com)  
702-944-3200

### WIDESPREAD PANIC

Hard Rock  
March 27-28  
[hardrockhotel.com](http://hardrockhotel.com)  
702-693-5000

### LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts  
March 30  
[thesmithcenter.com](http://thesmithcenter.com)  
702-749-2348

### HOIZER

The Chelsea  
April 9  
[cosmopolitanlasvegas.com](http://cosmopolitanlasvegas.com)  
702-698-7000

### FLEETWOOD MAC

MGM Grand  
April 11  
[mgmgrand.com](http://mgmgrand.com)  
877-880-0880

### PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO

Hard Rock  
April 19  
[hardrockhotel.com](http://hardrockhotel.com)  
702-693-5000

### AMY SCHUMER

The Chelsea  
April 24  
[cosmopolitanlasvegas.com](http://cosmopolitanlasvegas.com)  
702-698-7000

### IGGY AZALEA

MGM Grand  
April 25  
[mgmgrand.com](http://mgmgrand.com)  
877-880-0880



Shooting The West

LORRAINE GIURLANI

## EVENTS

### SHOOTING THE WEST

Winnemucca Convention Center, Winnemucca  
March 3-8  
shootingthewest.org, 877-623-3501

### NASCAR WEEKEND

Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas  
March 6-8  
lvms.com, 800-644-4444

### MARDI GRAS VEGAS

Springs Preserve, Las Vegas  
March 7  
springspreserve.com, 702-882-7700

### SILVER STATE CHILI COOK-OFF

Petrack Park, Pahrump  
March 7-8  
visitpahump.com, 775-751-6853

### SNOWFEST!

North Lake Tahoe  
Through March 8  
tahoesnowfestival.com, 530-583-7167

### ALTRIDER'S TASTE OF DAKAR

Pahrump  
March 13-15  
visitpahump.com, 775-751-6853

### HENDERSON ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Henderson Events Plaza  
March 13-15  
hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2323

### MONSTER JAM

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, Reno  
March 13-15  
monsterjam.com, 775-688-5751

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRY

Virginia City  
March 14  
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

### PAHRUMP BALLOON FESTIVAL

Pahrump  
March 20-22  
visitpahump.com, 775-751-6853

### RED ROCK RENDEZVOUS

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park  
March 27-29  
redrockrendezvous.com

### DUMMY DOWNHILL

Diamond Peak Ski Resort  
March 29  
diamondpeak.com, 775-832-1177

### CLARK COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

Logandale  
April 8-12  
ccfair.com, 888-876-3247

### CRAZY SPOKES

Mission Hills Park, Henderson  
April 11  
hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2323

### HENDERSON HERITAGE

PARADE & FESTIVAL  
Henderson Events Plaza  
April 18  
hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2323

### RENO JAZZ FESTIVAL

University of Nevada, Reno  
April 22-25  
unr.edu/rjf, 775-784-4046

### LAUGHLIN RIVER RUN

Laughlin  
April 22-26  
laughlinriverrun.com, 949-502-3434



Dummy Downhill

DIAMOND PEAK SKI RESORT

**VIRGINIA CITY GRAND PRIX**

Virginia City  
April 25-26  
vcgp.com, 775-527-1034

**SHOWS**

**MARTIN SEXTON**

The Knitting Factory, Reno  
March 5  
re.knittingfactory.com



Martin Sexton

**BLUE OYSTER CULT & FOGHAT**

Peppermill Concert Hall, West Wendover  
March 6  
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

**UMPHREY'S MCGEE WITH  
THE REVIVALISTS**

Whitney Peak, Reno  
March 8  
cargoreno.com, 775-398-5400

**JASON BONHAM**

**LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE**

The Knitting Factory, Reno  
March 12  
re.knittingfactory.com



Howie Mandel

**HOWIE MANDEL**

Peppermill Concert Hall, West Wendover  
March 13  
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

**311**

Peppermill Concert Hall, West Wendover  
March 14  
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

**ROCKAPELLA**

Harrah's, Reno  
Through March 21  
harrahsreno.com, 775-786-3232

**SHEENA EASTON**

Laughlin Event Center  
March 21-22  
visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

**THE BEACH BOYS**

MontBleu, Stateline  
March 27  
montbleuresort.com, 755-588-3515



Alabama

**ALABAMA**

Laughlin Event Center  
March 28  
visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

**THE MAVERICKS**

Silver Legacy, Reno  
March 28  
silverlegacyreno.com, 800-687-8733

**YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND**

**WITH BEN SOLLEE**  
Whitney Peak, Reno  
April  
cargoreno.com, 775-398-5400

**TRACY LAWRENCE**

Peppermill Concert Hall, West Wendover  
April 4  
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

**LITTLE RIVER BAND**

MontBleu, Stateline  
April 18  
montbleuresort.com, 755-588-3515

**MADAME HOUDINI**

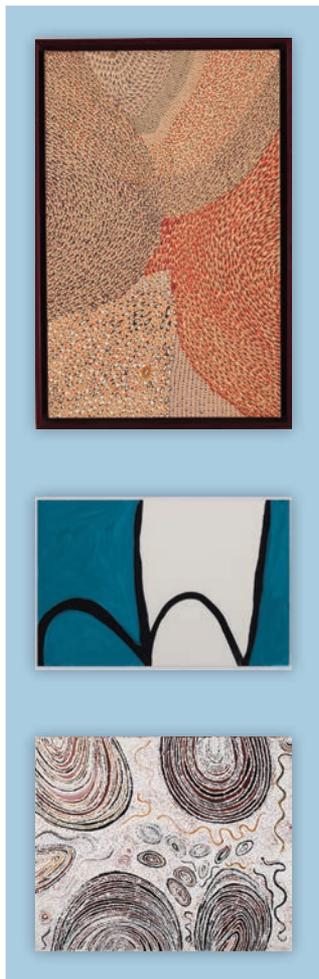
Eldorado, Reno  
Through April 19  
eldoradoreno.com, 800-648-5966



The Beach Boys

# ‘NO BOUNDARIES’

NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBIT FEATURES TALENT FROM DOWN UNDER.



The paintings in “No Boundaries” were made by nine elderly men from the Western Australian desert. These men were revered as leaders in their communities, their worldview defined by an ancient cosmology in which ancestral spirits exerted a continuing presence in everyday life. But Paddy Bedford, Janangoo Butcher Cherel, Tommy Mitchell, Ngarra, Boxer Milner Tjampitjin, Warlimpinnga Tjapaltjarri, Tjumbo Tjapanangka, Billy Joongoorra Thomas, and Prince of Wales (Midpul) transformed the visual traditions of their people into contemporary artworks. Despite coming to art late in life and being mostly unknown to one another, they were innovators of the highest order. Where their predecessors in the early 1970s had drawn on cartographic and figurative imagery, these men forged a new path in abstract images that broadened the possibilities of Aboriginal art.

During the last three years, the Nevada Museum of Art has been working with Aboriginal artists who live in the remote Paruku region of Western Australia on a unique art and science project led by Australian painters Mandy Martin and Kim Mahood, and conservationist-rancher Guy Fitzhardinge. The paintings and materials generated by both the Aboriginal and kartiya (non-indigenous) artists were donated to the Center for Art + Environments Archive Collections in 2013 and exhibited here in the summer and fall of 2014.

There is a close connection between the Paruku paintings and the artworks in “No Boundaries,” which also hail from the northern part of Western Australia. Hanson Pye, the Aboriginal elder who painted two of the most important works in the Paruku project, learned how to paint from his grandfather, Boxer Milner Tjampitjin.

Within the collections of the Nevada Museum of Art there are manifold connections among disparate artists forged through a commonality of mark-making, the preservation of stories, and cultural heritage, and the conservation of the natural world. The work of Australian Aboriginal artists is of special import in this context as the roots of their work reach back more than 50,000 years, and represent the oldest continuous cultural production in the world.

All the paintings in “No Boundaries” are drawn from the collection of Debra and Dennis Scholl—Miami-based collectors and philanthropists—and will be on display through May 3. —*Nevada Museum of Art*

## PLAN YOUR TRIP

### “No Boundaries”

Nevada Museum of Art  
160 W. Liberty St., Reno, NV 89501  
Through May 3  
nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

## EVENTS & EXHIBITS

### SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno  
March 6-April 10  
nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

### “ART & WINE: A PERFECT PAIRING”

Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, Las Vegas  
March 11; April 8  
bellagio.com, 702-693-7871

### FRANCES HUMPHREY LECTURE SERIES: MILITARY CONVOY IN THE U.S.

Nevada State Museum, Carson City  
March 26  
museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

### CHILDREN’S BOOK ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP

St. Mary’s Art and Retreat Center, Virginia City  
March 27-29  
stmarysartcenter.org, 775-847-7774

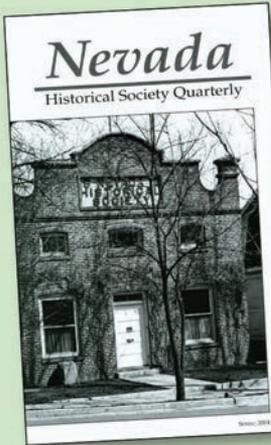
### INTAGLIO PRINT PROCESSES WITH NOLAN PREECE

St. Mary’s Art and Retreat Center, Virginia City  
April 7  
stmarysartcenter.org, 775-847-7774

### “YESTERDAY & TODAY”

UNLV Marjorie Barrick Museum, Las Vegas  
Through May 30  
unlv.edu, 702-895-3381

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## Nevada Historical Society

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[museums.nevadaculture.org](http://museums.nevadaculture.org)



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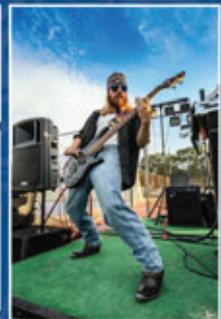


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[www.travelnevada.com](http://www.travelnevada.com)

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# THEN & NOW: THROUGH THE LENS



TIME HAS BOTH SERIOUS AND SUBTLE EFFECTS ON NEVADA.



1897

THEN: NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY; NOW: ERIC CACHINERO

## BY NEVADA MAGAZINE

PHOTOGRAPHERS: ERIC CACHINERO, NANCY GOOD, GREG MCKAY, MEGG MUELLER

**T**ake a second to look out the closest window to you. What do you see? Swaying trees? A busy street? A sagebrush scene? There's a chance that whatever you're seeing out that window looks much different than it did 80, 100, or even 150 years ago. But, like many meticulously preserved aspects of the Silver State, there's a chance it may not look too different. Just take a look at the photo of the 1897 Nevada Legislature and staff on the steps of the Nevada State Capitol above; more than 100 years and not much—other than the people—has changed.

To explore some of these differences, we visited various locations across the state to compare what they looked like then, to what they look like now. So let's travel Nevada in both time and space, and see just how many things have changed, and how many have stayed the same.



1930

FRANK SCOTT COLLECTION

## CALIENTE RAILROAD DEPOT

### THEN

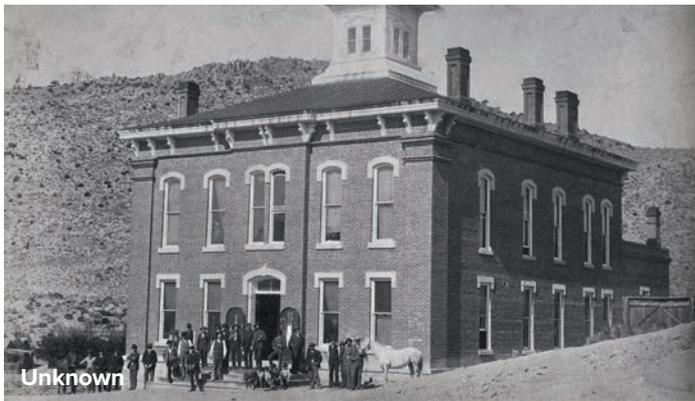
The Caliente Railroad Depot was constructed by the Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad in 1923, and acted as the railroad's division point between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. Eventually, diesel locomotives would replace steam, and the depot was no longer needed.

### NOW

The depot is now Caliente's civic center, and holds the town's government office, museum, and library. Freight trains still pass on the tracks alongside the depot, though the last passenger service ended in the 1990s.



ERIC CACHINERO



Unknown

MRS. DELLA DODSON COLLECTION

## BELMONT COURTHOUSE

### THEN

Constructed in 1875-76, the Belmont Courthouse served as the Nye County courthouse until 1905, when the county seat was moved to Tonopah. By 1900, silver was drying up in the area, causing mines to close, and the town began to dwindle.

### NOW

Thanks to recent efforts by Friends of the Belmont Courthouse—the group dedicated to preserving this Nevada landmark—the courthouse looks remarkably similar to what it did in its prime. On a trip in summer 2014, photographer Greg McKay and a group of ghost town enthusiasts recreated this shot in front of the courthouse.



GREG MCKAY

## COLORADO RIVER

### THEN

At the foot of Eldorado Canyon in southern Nevada during the late 1800s, steamboats could often be seen making their way up the Colorado River.

### NOW

The area has now become a popular destination for aquatic activities, cliff jumping, and fishing.



1890s

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NANCY GOOD



1905-06

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



ERIC CACHINERO

## RHYOLITE BOTTLE HOUSE

### THEN

From 1905-06, prospector Tom T. Kelly built the famous bottle house in Rhyolite, using approximately 30,000 (50,000 by some accounts) bottles that were scavenged from the town's saloons.

### NOW

The bottle house was restored in 1925 by Paramount Pictures for a silent film called "The Air Mail," and again in 2005. Today, it is owned and maintained by the Bureau of Land Management.

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Circa 1910

NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM

## GOLDFIELD

### THEN

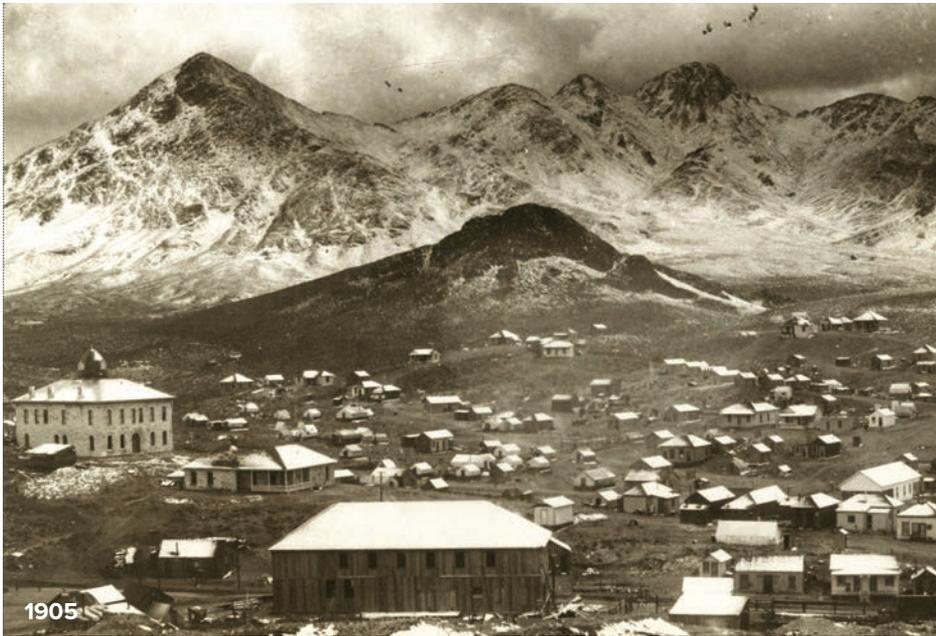
The Esmeralda County Courthouse and Goldfield Fire Station No. 1 were both constructed in 1907.

### NOW

Though Goldfield is sometimes considered a ghost town, small shops line the streets and show promising commerce. The courthouse remains in service to this day, and the fire station was operational until June 2002.



ERIC CACHINERO



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO LIBRARY

## TONOPAH

### THEN

After gold was discovered in Tonopah in the 1890s, construction of buildings including the Mizpah Hotel and Nye County Courthouse followed. The new courthouse—built in 1905—is in the far left of the photo.

### NOW

The Tonopah Historic Mining Park and the Central Nevada Museum are just a few of the many historical treasures in the town.



ERIC CACHINERO



LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU COLLECTION

## HISTORIC BOULDER THEATRE

### THEN

The Boulder Theatre was constructed in 1933 by Fox Theatres. At the time, it was the only air-conditioned building in town, and many Hoover Dam workers would pay 25 cents to enjoy a few hours of sleep in a cool room.

### NOW

The theatre closed briefly in the mid-1990s, before being renovated by its current owners, Desi and Amy Arnaz. Today, the theatre hosts events including a film festival, Chautauqua, and ballet performances.



NANCY GOOD

## EUREKA OPERA HOUSE

### THEN

In August 1879, the great Main Street fire in Eureka destroyed a building called the Odd Fellows Hall. In its place, the Eureka Opera House was constructed, and, in 1880, it was used for the first time for the New Year's Eve Costume Ball.

### NOW

The opera house offers space to hold meetings, conventions, retreats, and more. The grand hall auditorium occasionally hosts theater performances and musical acts.



EUREKA SENTINEL MUSEUM



ERIC CACHINERO



1930s

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## WINNEMUCCA

### THEN

In “The WPA Guide to 1930s Nevada,” it reads, “Winnemucca stages an annual rodeo (first week in September) for which bucking horses and wild range steers are brought in and to which riders come from long distances, attracted by generous cash prizes.”

### NOW

Some aspects of Winnemucca remain the same as they did in earlier days. Visitors today can enjoy restaurants, museums, parks, a golf course, and more.



MEGG MUELLER



Circa 1900

UNIVERSITY OF LAS VEGAS LIBRARY

## HELEN STEWART RANCH

### THEN

Helen J. Stewart—known as the first lady of Las Vegas—operated a ranch in the Las Vegas Valley with the help of her father and others. The ranch sold goods to miners in the surrounding areas, and served as a waystation for travelers.

### NOW

The area is now the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, and looks fairly different than it did more than 100 years ago.



NANCY GOOD

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# Tonopah Army Air Field's Unsung Heroes

HUNTING FOR REMNANTS OF WWII CRASH SITES PROVIDES A SOLEMN GLIMPSE OF HISTORY.

STORY & PHOTOS BY DAVID FINNERN

The massive, four-engine B-24 bomber yawed slightly, as 1st Lt. Charles H. Enoch attempted a right turn to simulate a two-engine landing on the runway at the Tonopah Army Air Field. With the nose slightly upward, the plane banked left to right several times, then the left wing abruptly dropped on the last turn. The aircraft spasmodically yawed once again; this time the nose dipped as the right wing dropped dramatically. The nose and right wing tip hit the ground simultaneously, and the resultant explosion rocked the hangars and buildings surrounding the central Nevada air strip. All nine crewmen were killed instantly that Aug. 19, 1944. This particular B-24 crash occurred within one hour of another crash, which also ended the lives of its nine-man crew.

These incidents were an all-too-common occurrence during World War II at many airfields in America. Tonopah Army Air Field (TAAF) was just one of the installations created for the purpose of training pilots, navigators, bombardiers, and gunners for the dangerous task of aerial combat in the European and Pacific theatres. Unfortunately, training turned out to be just as lethal as combat.

All told, TAAF endured 58 serious crashes, scattered throughout the desert and mountains, and 134 aircrew lost their lives during its tenure as a training facility. These accidents primarily occurred in the long-range B-24 bombers and the P-39 Airacobra pursuit fighters, the mainstay of training aircraft at TAAF.



---

It's estimated that 40 percent of pilot deaths during World War II were attributed to training accidents. According to the "Army Air Forces Statistical Digest," 13,621 Army aircrew lost their lives in flight training and non-combatant incidents in the continental United States during the war. Almost 13,000 planes were lost in some 47,462 accidents. These figures are staggering, especially considering they represent Army personnel only. The Navy and the Marine Corps kept separate records.

---

Keith Carney surveys the remnants of one of Tonopah Army Air Field's hangars.

## SEEKING MORE THAN NUMBERS

Statistics are both cold and deceiving, however, and simply too easy to digest. I decided a visit to the actual sites was imperative to fully appreciate these incidents. Locating these sites could be challenging, but I found the answer: Allen Metscher, director of the Central Nevada Museum and president of the Central Nevada Historical Society. Allen has spent his adult life not



only researching and locating TAAF crash sites, but interviewing pilots, aircrew, and workers who were stationed in Tonopah. He has authored numerous stories and books on the subject for no other reason than to keep alive the memories of those lost airmen. I contacted Allen via the Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah. He graciously agreed to draw a map to some of the crash sites.

My son-in-law, Keith Carney, luckily has the tools and toys needed for desert exploration. We loaded Keith's camper and trailer with everything from motorcycles and gas to an ATV, then we—Keith, my 13-year-old grandson Seth, his friend, Chase Hendricks, and I—left Southern California to begin our adventure.

We arrived at the Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah the next morning. The front parking lot of the museum is an eclectic collection of artifacts, representing everything from Tonopah's mining history to its World War II connection. Conspicuously displayed around the perimeter of the lot is a memorial to those who died in TAAF crashes, with B-24 props, .50 caliber machine guns, landing gear with shredded tires, and a curious bomb with the remains of a wooden wing (we were to learn later this is a glide bomb, one of the secret experiments exercised at TAAF).

Allen greeted us, and he was exactly as anticipated. Sporting jeans, a plaid shirt, and a ball cap with a B-24 insignia, he was clearly comfortable digging at crash sites, addressing academics, or educating a journalist and his family. He guided us to an area of the museum devoted to TAAF in general and to the crash sites in particular.

Viewing the paraphernalia recovered from the crash sites, it was easy to envision the historical and mechanical side of the horrific crashes. However, the human factor soon superseded cold statistics—a dog tag that belonged to B-24 pilot 1st Lt. George R. Gilpin; a key and coins from the pocket of 2nd Lt. M.A. Brown; an aviator cap emblem worn by Wayne C. Hurst; and a pocket watch owned

by B-24 pilot 1st Lt. Earl Jacobs. These men had been gone more than 70 years, cut down in their prime as they prepared to defend their country and loved ones.

## HISTORY ON THE DESERT FLOOR

We left the museum with a new appreciation of their sacrifice, plus books and maps to guide us to the base and two crash sites.

The air field was relatively easy to locate. Two original stone columns still stand guard on either side of the main entrance. A sentry shack that once stood between the columns disappeared long ago. The camper creaked as we exited the highway and onto the original asphalt road leading onto the base. Foundations lined the road for miles, and rickety hangars could be seen in the distance. I tried to envision the vitality that occurred here 70 years ago when 6,000 individuals went about the business of preparing for war. Now, it was vacant, quiet, and solemn.

We followed Allen's map, and the asphalt turned to dirt. As Allen had warned, we approached a washed-out section, steep and filled with sand. The camper could go no further.

We unloaded the ATV from the trailer, and following the map's landmarks we neared the first site. "We have to be close," Keith said, scanning the distance. "Probably need to get out and hike around to find the exact area."

We climbed out of the ATV and wandered into the emptiness of the desert. It wasn't long before we came across the first evidence of the crash. An oxygen canister, small shards of Plexiglas, and then countless small remnants of a once-mighty B-24 bomber lay scattered amongst the brush.

While we knew some of the larger pieces had been removed, it was surprising just how little of the huge craft remained. Equally amazing was the minuscule size of some of the individual pieces, no doubt due to the explosion that ripped the plane apart.

The Consolidated B-24 Liberator had a wingspan of 110 feet and its deep fuselage had a bomb capacity of 8,000 pounds. The aircraft was powered by four 1,200-horsepower Pratt and Whitney engines and was equipped with 11 .50-caliber machine guns in the nose, waist windows, tail, belly, and in a turret on top. Later models, such



Top Left: Central Nevada Museum Director Allen Metscher poses with a World War II artifact. Keith, Seth, and Chase (above) are ready to comb the desert.

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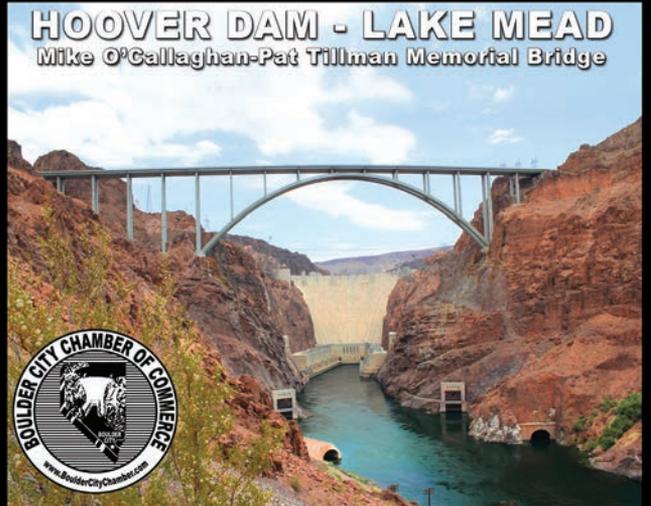
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as the B-24J, were more than 67 feet long. The entire aircraft, in which aircrew Charles Enoch, John Davis, Johnnie Mundell, Thomas Brown, Donnie Riordan, Richard Stringer, Walter Von Schenk, Junnel Tank, and Robert Pariseau lost their lives, was reduced to a handful of plastic and metal debris scattered across the desert. It was indeed a somber realization.

The next crash site was a P-39 Airacobra. Piloted by 23-year-old Capt. Charles C. Johnson III, the cause of the crash is somewhat enigmatic. There were no witnesses; only a plume of smoke rising from the desert, about 5 miles east of TAAF on May 28, 1943.

The P-39 was one of the first production fighters to be built as

a “weapons system.” Uniquely designed, the Allison engine was mounted in the fuselage’s center behind the pilot, allowing for the massive arsenal it carried in the nose. Although numerous variants were produced, it often carried a 37-millimeter cannon in the nose. Two .50-caliber machine guns were centered just above the cannon, and four .30-caliber machine guns were mounted in the wings. It could carry a 500-pound bomb.

This site was located only a few miles from the B-24 site, but with no apparent landmarks, it was a little more difficult to locate. Finally, we saw the glint of reflected sun smattering off the desert floor just west of the dirt road.



Top: Scraps of history litter the desert floor.  
Above: One of the remaining hangars stands in ruins at the Tonopah Army Air Field.



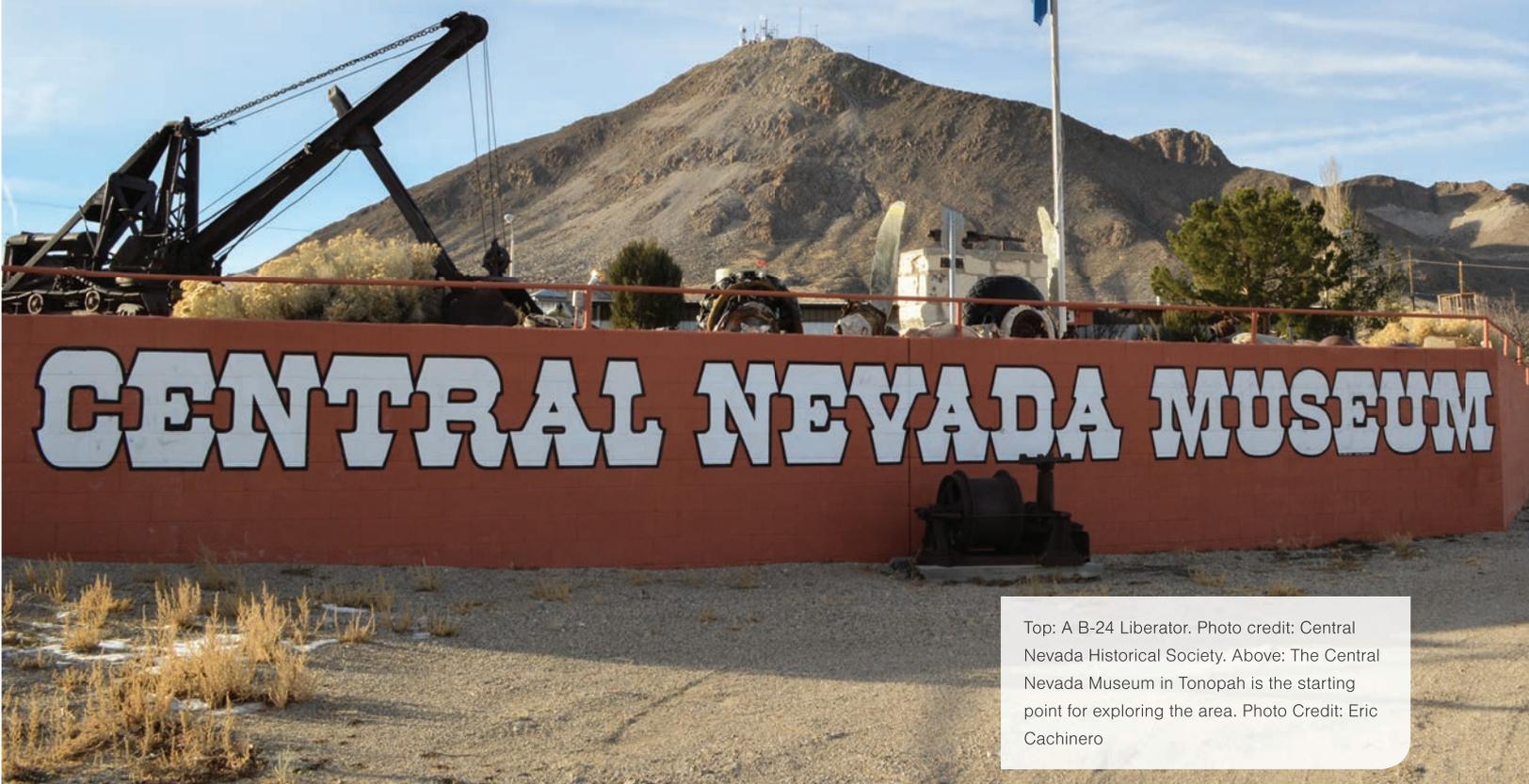
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tonopahnevada.com, 775-482-9676

We drove until we saw a steel pipe with a small attached metal plate rising a few feet off the desert floor. Allen had placed markers at some of the sites, with the crash date and names of the crew.

Keith and I once again scoured the desert floor looking for telltale signs of the aircraft. Again, it was surprising just how many, yet how small the fragments were. But while the pieces were small, a story soon emerged: A gas line, hose clamps, control linkage, and scraps of aluminum, many of which had the original olive-colored paint, reflected the afternoon sun.

For us, who represented the three generations subsequent to these men, it was difficult to comprehend the complete story that took place at Tonopah Army Air Field 70 years ago. But we could understand the sacrifice. A death during training is no less the tragedy, no less the loss, and certainly no less heroic than it is in combat. Rest in peace, gentlemen; you have not been forgotten. ▽



Top: A B-24 Liberator. Photo credit: Central Nevada Historical Society. Above: The Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah is the starting point for exploring the area. Photo Credit: Eric Cachinero

A person wearing a green and yellow plaid shirt and dark pants is sitting on the tailgate of a dark-colored SUV. The car's trunk is open, revealing a tent, a sleeping bag, and a lantern. The scene is set outdoors on a rocky, gravelly ground, likely in a backcountry area. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

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VIRGINIA CITY TOURISM COMMISSION

Virginia City's main street—C Street—has been preserved to look as it did a century ago. Right: In a photo from the Comstock Historic District Commission, miners pose before going underground. Comstock residents took pride in prohibiting child labor, so the boy was either the minimum age of 15 or he was a visitor.



# Virginia City

COMSTOCK LEGEND EARNS LANDSLIDE VICTORY AND FREQUENT VISITORS FROM A FRESH LOOK AT HISTORY.

BY MEGG MUELLER

Silver, saloons, mining lore, the Comstock, the Wild West, and Mark Twain. It's likely some or all of these words come to mind when someone mentions Virginia City. The history of this northern Nevada gem is as wild, deep, and important as they come, and not just to Nevada.

Voted the favorite Nevada town during the second round of *Nevada Magazine's* Tour Around Nevada 2015, this small town was established in 1859 and sits at the base of Mount Davidson, just 26 miles southeast of Reno. At the height of the Comstock Lode bonanza in 1863, the town boasted a population of about

15,000 people. As miners in search of gold and silver poured into the area—including nearby Gold Hill, Silver City, and Dayton—so did the shopkeepers, saloon owners, railroad workers, and more. Bursting at the seams, the town attracted the attention of many who would stake their claim to fame in Nevada, including Mark Twain, John Mackay, and George Hearst.

While the heyday of Virginia City was about over by 1880, in 23 short years it's estimated that more than \$300 million was pulled from the surrounding hills, according to Virginia City Tourism Commission. The fortunes made by Mackay and Hearst—among others—not only developed northern Nevada, but were also responsible for development in San Francisco, and even aided in



Chollar Mine

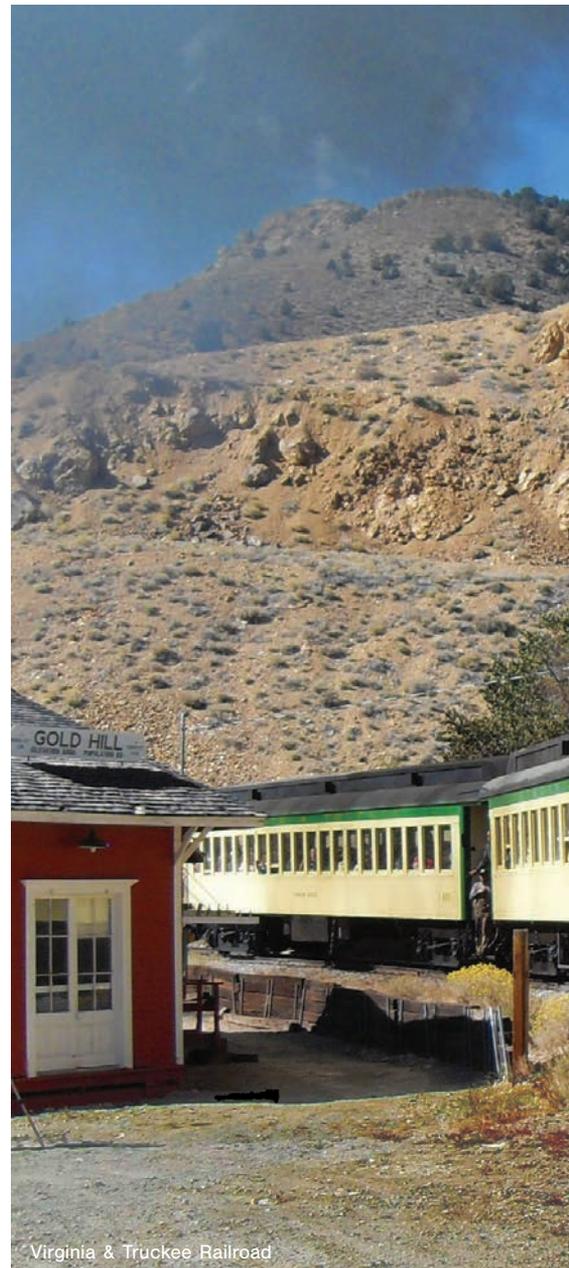
VIRGINIA CITY TOURISM COMMISSION

Fill your visit with stops at area mines, the V&T Railroad, and refurbished mansions. The beautiful St. Mary in the Mountains Catholic church, below, is open daily for tours of the museum and wine cellar, and Mass on weekends.



St. Mary in the Mountains

SUZANNE KESSLER



Virginia & Truckee Railroad

funding the New York City subway system. Much has been written about how Nevada's wealth helped the country during the Civil War, and it's these connections that most intrigue Deny Dotson, director of the Virginia City Tourism Commission.

"My favorite thing about Virginia City is to follow the money that came out of here, and how some of it was used to build the infrastructure of the U.S.," Deny says. "People don't realize it, but we have about 17 museums here that are not just about Virginia City or Nevada history, but also U.S. history."

Those museums—which are free on the first Friday of each month, May through October—include:

- **Mackay Mansion:** an Italianate-style mansion built in 1860 once owned by both Hearst and Mackay that has been immaculately restored, with tours that reveal little-known area histories.
- **Historic Fourth Ward School & Museum:** an 1876 Victorian school with 16 classrooms. It's the only Second-Empire style four-storied, wooden school building still standing in the U.S.
- **Piper's Opera House:** built in the 1880s,

played host to the likes of President Grant, Buffalo Bill, Al Jolson, and Mark Twain. The restored theater today hosts many performances and special events.

Not all museums are in a building, however. The Virginia & Truckee Railroad offers rides on steam and diesel trains using some of the same route as the trains that ran ore in 1870 when the railroad was first built. Themed rides happen throughout the summer, fall, and winter seasons.

If authentic is what you're looking for, this is the place. Consider the Comstock Gold Mill.



VIRGINIA CITY TOURISM COMMISSION

“A giant machine—the stamp mill—breaks up the ore,” Deny says of the Comstock Gold Mill. “You’re in this building, and on the tour, they start it up and it’s almost like Disneyland. You hear this thing getting ramped up...there’s a thump thump thump. It’s really cool, and you get to see how the gold was processed. Outlaw Dave gives a great tour.”

The roads leading to the historic mining town from Reno or Dayton are a favorite of motorcyclists; the hairpin twists and turns and panoramic views take on even greater excitement when the sun is on your face.

The close proximity to its larger neighbors can be both a blessing and a curse for visitors, however. The drive from Reno climbs almost 2,000 curvaceous feet in elevation, so for any who want to imbibe and take in the color and charm of the city’s saloons, the drive back down is out of the question. The perfect solution exists, however: stay the night. There are about 200 rooms, somewhat surprising for a town with a year-round population of less than 1,000. From incredibly restored B&Bs to rustic and authentic rooms above the town’s main street—plus an RV park and modern ho-



Mackay Mansion

MATTHEW B. BROWN



COMSTOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

A look at C Street in the 1940s. Most of the buildings in the photo still stand today. Right: Geiger Grade—State Route 341—is the route to Virginia City from Reno, and despite having a narrow shoulder is a favorite of bicyclists.

tels—Virginia City offers a great place to rest your head after a full day of exploring.

The dining options are often surprising, again, owing to the smaller size of the town and its attention to detail in preserving its historic feel. On the main street boardwalk, you'll find no shortage of tasty burgers, corn dogs, and the like, but delve a little deeper and you'll find some incredible cuisine. For 10 years, Café Del Rio has served its "Out West Cuisine" to great reviews, and more recently, The Core—which moved to a new location at the Gold Hill Hotel—rivals any fine dining you'll find close by. The Mustang Ranch Steakhouse & Hunters Lounge is a family friendly place that caters to carnivores.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Virginia City delivers an immense blend of history, fun, and adventure. Annual events such as the International Camel Races, World Championship Outhouse Races, and the Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry all speak to how seriously Virginia City takes its fun. While a number of Virginia City's attractions are seasonal, the town's appeal and charm can be felt 365 days a year.

## IF YOU GO

The Ye Old Virginia City mobile app provides visitors with information on this historic town's saloons and restaurants, its quirky special events, lodging, a historical audio tour of 32 attractions, webcam of C Street, area map, weather, and the ability to check-in on social networking sites. The app is available for iPhone and Android.



SUZANNE KESSLER



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### CONTACT

**Virginia City Tourism Commission**  
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*If you find yourself in Virginia City, and you're looking for a couple one-more-day ideas, give one—or all—of these a try:*

## SPRING

Springtime marks the beginning of event and parade season in Virginia City. The Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry (March 14), St. Patrick's Day Parade (March 14), Crabby Feed (April 17-18), and Chili on the Comstock & Saloon Crawl (May 2-3) are several of the activities springing up as the weather gets warm.

## SUMMER

Summertime on the Comstock is where memories are made. Muckfest: Mining, Whiskey, & Cigars (June 13), Fourth of July Parade (July 4), Comstock Classic Car Show (July 18), and Wild Horse Faire Parade (Aug. 22) all offer one more day of excitement.

## FALL

Fall holds a host of quirky events including the International Camel Races (Sept. 11-12), World Championship Outhouse Races (Oct. 3-4), Redrun zombie run (Oct. 10), and Haunting of the Opera House Ball (Oct. 31).

## WINTER

Get into the holiday spirit with the V&T Candy Cane Express (Nov. 27-29; Dec. 5-6, 12-13), Parade of Lights (Dec. 5), and the Gingerbread Social and Auction (Dec. 13).

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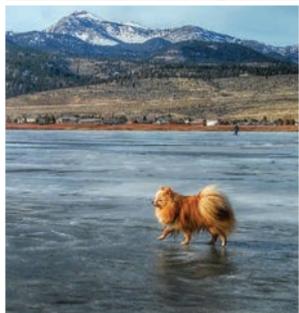
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## The Legend of Benson

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TAYLOR JAMES

I adopted Benson in February 2014 at the Nevada Humane Society and fell in love with him instantly. After a few weeks of going on trips with him, I decided to put him in a few of my landscape shots. He brought the photo to life! The deeper I fell in love with him, the better my photos got with him in them. My photo trips were now planned on what Benson would look good in.

As my love grew deeper for this handsome, young Pomeranian, my photos became more passionate. They were no longer landscape photos, they were Benson-scapes. People on Facebook fell in love with him too and wanted more. I started sending my Benson-scapes to the news stations and they began posting his picture on television. All of northern Nevada was falling in love with my best friend!

Now I cannot imagine a photo without Benson in it. I decided we would start photographing tourist-type places with Benson in them to show the world that there is more to do in Nevada besides gaming. The great outdoors awaits us all and most of it you can share with your four-legged best friend too, getting beautiful photos and wonderful memories of this place I call home: northern Nevada.



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# 2015 *Uncorked* & ON TAP<sup>SM</sup> DINNER SERIES

## Truly *Uncorked*

Don't miss out on these amazing events in 2015! In its 11th year, our wine dinner series has surpassed expectations, hosting some of the finest wineries from across the globe. The Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse will host four of these dinners in 2015 alone. Our popular Beer Dinner series will continue this year at the Branding Iron Café, which will include a four course meal with accompanying beer! We look forward to serving you!

Stay tuned for more details. For reservations, please visit [www.bonanzacasino.com/reservations](http://www.bonanzacasino.com/reservations).



Jordan Vineyard  
& Winery  
March 9, 2015



21st Amendment Brewery  
May 2, 2015



Chef Almira Da Fonseca  
Culinary Institute of America,  
Greystone  
June 8, 2015



New Belgium Brewing  
July 25, 2015



Tour of France  
October 5, 2015



Samuel Adams  
October 24, 2015



Caymus Vineyards  
December 7 & 8, 2015