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EDITOR'S NOTE

Characters

"I love going to country stores," **Kate Butler** confesses. "People are laid back, and they're enjoying themselves."

The Las Vegas writer, photographer, and banjo player reviews 29 rural markets in this issue's cover story, "Country Stores." Kate says she greatly enjoyed meeting the store owners, some of whom are real characters.

"The most significant thing is making friends—and that's possible for travelers with time and an honest approach," Kate says. "There's an honesty, a genuine feeling at most country stores. You walk in a stranger, but you don't have to walk out a stranger." The shopping is unique, too, says Kate, who admits she has her eye on a tarantula T-shirt from the R&H in Gabbs.

Marge Knorr found small-town friendliness at the Wellington Mercantile. The Reno writer describes her visit in "All's Well in Wellington."

Unique small-town doings are the subject of "Rockin' at the Red Dog," **Chandler Laughlin's** first-hand account of how the Red Dog Saloon, the legendary dance hall-bar-gourmet house, and its house band, the Charlatans, set the stage for the San Francisco music scene of the 1960s—in Virginia City.

Records are music to the ears of those lucky (and skilled) anglers who catch the big ones. Las Vegas writer **Paula J. Del Giudice** offers several success stories in "Reeling in Fish Tales."

Nevada-made movies are the topic of **Robin Holabird's** "10 Great Flicks to Watch For." Robin reviews Silver State locations that you'll see soon on the silver screen.

Photographers should snap to it and heed Art Director **Paul Allée Curtis'** call to action in this year's Great Nevada Picture Hunt. See page 73 for this year's tips and entry form.

Speaking of photography, **Richard Menzies** presents "The Bridges of Lander County," in which he recounts the tender first meeting of photographer Robert Korncaid and ranch wife Branfresca Johnson—a Nevada love story sure to be retold on film. Richard notes, "Besides Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep as stars, I'd suggest Van Johnson play himself and either Frank Langella or Jack Nicholson the part of the editor of *Nevada Magazine*." —David Moore

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At the Genoa Country Store (from left) are Katrina and Bryant Falcke, Nic Beres, Abby Aldrich, Zac Beres, and Peaches.
Photo by Jay Aldrich

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LETTERS

Triangle trees and signs at hot springs.

Retracing the Triangle

The May/June issue and "Journey Into the Silver Triangle" brought back many happy memories of Virginia City, Austin, Tonopah, Ione, Grantsville, and Reese River and Berlin.

If my Rolls was pointed east, I'd be gone. Good to see my long-time good friend Levi Hooper sitting on my bar stool in the Ore House Bar in Ione.

I would like to point out that Broken Hills has a grave that contains the remains of Matt Costello, a bartender in Broken Hills' heyday

Curly Hamblin
West Sacramento, CA

Stumped by Tree Tale

"Journey Into the Silver Triangle" by David W Toll last issue was very en-



Paul Cirac and his growing family tree.

joyable—until the part about the tree that had Paul Cirac's great-grandparents' initials "now 15 feet above the ground."

Trees grow up from the top and out from the center. In other words, a limb that starts six feet from the ground will always be six feet from the ground, even though the tree doubles in height.

However, some early people somehow did rock

carving more than 20 feet from the ground. I think this was to lead interlopers to believe they were entering the territory of giants.

Jack Mooney
Yerington

Jack, you're barking up the right tree. Pat Murphy, a deputy state forester, says that's true—a carving will remain the same height. David W Toll, the story's author says, "There are several explanations for the 15-foot-high carving: 1) Great-grandfather Louis Sr hoisted Great-grandmother Elizabeth onto his shoulders in order to leave room for succeeding generations; 2) There used to be a rock to stand on, but the constant parade of Ciracs has worn it away; 3) Jack Mooney is right. The top carving was more like six feet from the ground. Paul thinks the altitude got to me, but I think it was the exalted experience of seeing an actual living family tree. Those initials seemed 15 feet high to me." —Ed.

Journey Back Home

As a Nevada native now living in the Midwest via New England, I was thrilled when I received a gift subscription from my sister. Seeing the beautiful photos and reading the wonderful articles make me feel as though I've gone back home. I especially enjoyed the "Journey into the Silver Triangle" by David W Toll last issue.

Pamela Meister Sweat
Evansville, WI

Counting Cars

The "10 Great Loneliest Roads" by Richard Moreno in the May/June issue brought memories flooding back. There

(Continued on page 78)



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Publisher's Note

Dear Friends of Nevada Magazine:

With great reluctance, we must raise the price for Nevada Magazine single issue copies and annual subscriptions.

Skyrocketing paper costs—they have jumped 30 percent in the past six months—and recent increases in postal rates are forcing us to take this action. Starting with the July/August 1995 issue, the cover price of Nevada Magazine is \$3.50 and the annual subscription rate is \$15.95 (a savings of \$5.05 off the newsstand price).

We appreciate your continued support for Nevada Magazine and pledge to continue bringing you the unique blend of entertaining and informative stories and photography that you've come to expect.

Thanks,

Richard Moreno
Publisher

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ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Blooms, berries, and bargains.

HIKING

Volunteer Trailblazers

LAKETAHOE—On summer weekends, hikers can join the volunteer crews clearing pathways on the **Tahoe Rim Trail**.

Construction of the Rim Trail began in 1984. Today, 22 miles of trail making remain before volunteers complete the 150-mile trail around Lake Tahoe. This summer, crews will concentrate on an eight-mile section from Tahoe City



Hikers can work on the Tahoe Rim Trail this summer.

south to the Pacific Crest Trail and 14 miles of trail near Mount Rose.

Special events this season include the Tahoe Rim Trail Concert at Sand Harbor on July 29, the fourth annual Back

Country Camp-Out on August 25-28, and the fourth annual Hike-A-Thon on September 23.

Call the Tahoe Rim Trail hot line, 702-588-8799, for weekend trail-work information and 702-588-0686 for event information. The work season on the scenic rim route runs through October 15. —Missy Eason



PARKS



Blooming Roses

RENO—Everything's coming up roses at the Reno Municipal Rose Garden in Idlewild Park. About 500 varieties of roses, from Orange Silk to Sexy Rexy, fill the one-acre area with a feast of color and fragrance. Visitors can sit and enjoy the blooms from park benches and picnic tables. The rose garden is in the western corner of Idlewild Park, which is next to the Truckee River about a half-mile west of downtown Reno. —Carolyn Graham

COUNTRY TOUR

Farmer's Market

FALLON—The rewards of the fertile fields of the Lahontan Valley can be reaped this summer at **Workman Farms**. The roadside market known as "Workman's" offers fresh-picked produce from area farms, such as tomatoes, corn, melons, and pickling cucumbers in the summer and Fallon's famed Hearts of Gold cantaloupes beginning about mid-August.

The 32-year-old produce stand has sprouted into a nursery where green thumbs will find flowers, shrubs, and trees. Workman's carries supplies for crafters, including more than 200 bolts of fabric, quilting supplies, and baskets. You'll also find olives, spices, and jams.

The family-operated market, 4990 Reno Highway about 3½ miles west

Workman Farms in Fallon has fresh fruit and flowers.

of Fallon on Alternate U.S. 50, is open daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call Workman Farms, 702-867-3716. —Monie Byers



ATTRACTIONS

A Berry Good Tour

HENDERSON—Visitors can take a free tour at **Cranberry World West**, the visitor center next to Ocean Spray's processing plant.

The free tour begins with a 10-minute film narrated by Carina the Cran-Cran Girl, who notes that the cranberry is one of only three fruits native to North America (the others are the blueberry and the Concord grape). The center has interactive displays that tell how the fruit, which is grown in soggy bogs, made its way to the Southern



Ocean Spray has a berry-filled tour.

Nevada desert. You also can watch the plant's bottling operations and visit the gift shop at tour's end.

Cranberry World West is off U.S. 95 South at 1301 American Pacific Drive in Henderson and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on the center and tours, phone 702-566-7160. —Ann Henderson

Alien Outposts

RACHEL—UFO watchers will find it a bit more challenging to observe alien space ships and experimental aircraft that are rumored to hover around **Area 51**, the super-secret Air Force range.

Last April, an area called Freedom Ridge near Rachel, 150 miles north of Las Vegas, and other prime viewing perches were declared off limits to civilians after the Interior Department turned over about 4,000 acres of public land next to the airfield on the remote desert testing range, where the Stealth and U-2 planes were tested.

But Glenn Campbell, Rachel resident and author of the *Area 51 Viewer's Guide*, says there is still hope for UFO buffs seeking alien and exotic aircraft encounters.

"They didn't take all the viewing sights, just the best ones," Campbell says.

Tikaboo Peak, about 25 miles east of the secret testing area, affords a distant view of Area 51's hangars and landing strip from about 8,000 feet in elevation. You can consult Campbell's guide (\$15 plus \$4 s&h) for details on viewing areas. For a copy, write Campbell at HCR Box 38, Rachel, NV 89001.

Another alien note: A bill has been introduced in the Nevada Legislature to officially designate a portion of State Route 375 through Rachel the "Extraterrestrial Alien Highway."

—Carolyn Graham



FREE INFO

M.A.I.N Attractions

Visitors looking for a list of some of Southern Nevada's popular museums and attractions can turn to a new brochure published by the nonprofit Museums and Attractions in Nevada Association (M.A.I.N.). The free pamphlet has a map and a list of more than 30 sites, from the Liberace Museum to Skydive Las Vegas, Inc. For a copy write M.A.I.N., 3305 W. Spring Mountain Rd., No. 60, Las Vegas, NV 89102.

THE BARGAIN ADVISOR

By Deke Castleman

Nevada's nicknames include the Sagebrush State, the Silver State, and the Battle Born State. If the nickname is ever updated, there would be only one choice: the Bargain State. There are more room, meal, show, tour, even gambling bargains in Nevada than anywhere else in the country. Thanks to casino profits, which subsidize other amenities, Nevada is a bargain hound's cloud nine.

If Nevada is the Bargain State, then Las Vegas is its Bargain Capital. The best breakfast bargain in a city famous for bargain breakfasts is the steak-and-eggs special at **Ellis Island** (702-733-8901), a small casino on Koval Road a block east of Bally's. You get a six-ounce charbroiled strip steak, homemade home fries (no frozen hash browns here), two eggs, and toast—all for \$1.95. It's served 11 p.m. to 11 a.m.

Las Vegas is no less renowned for its economical lunches and dinners, and some of the lowest-priced meal deals are at the casino snack bars. One of the best is the Whistle Stop at **Palace Station** (702-367-2411). The breakfasts, burgers, and sandwiches reflect the average coffee-shop fare, but they're all made before your eyes and served hot off the grill—at half the price. For example, the chicken fingers (\$3.45) are real filets, breaded and deep-fried while you watch. Weekday breakfast and dinner specials are 99

cents and \$2.99, respectively. For a little lubrication, you can head over to the Guadalajara Bar and get a 12-ounce margarita for a mere 99 cents (chips and salsa, of course, are free).

For years, Reno's around-the-clock eye-opener meal deal has been the 99-cent breakfast at the **Club Cal-Neva**, served in the Top Deck Restaurant on the third floor. A measly George



The Whistle Stop and Guadalajara Bar (above) at Palace Station serve big meal and drink deals.

Washington gets you two eggs, ham or bacon, hash browns, toast, and coffee.

"Bargain" doesn't mean only inexpensive—cheap has to be balanced by value. Although there are less expensive tours in the state, one of the most authentic historical experiences is Virginia City's **Best and Belcher Mine** tour. The 30-minute, \$3.50 tour departs from the Ponderosa Saloon on C Street (702-847-0757) and snakes 315 feet into the bowels of Mount Davidson. At the far of the tunnel, if the guide fires up candles and turns off the lights, you'll be back in 1873.

Perhaps the best current bargain in the state is found in Jackpot. Every Wednesday from 5 to 11 p.m. at **Cactus Petes** (702-755-2321), all food in all restaurants is 50 percent off. This is a bona-fide half-price meal deal, whether you're alone or with the cast of *Ben Hur*. At the Coyote snack bar, your burger, baked potato, and



Breakfast bargains abound.

Coke add up to \$2.12. In the Plateau Room your gourmet entrees are \$4.50 to \$11. You can even catch the dinner show in the Gala Room for \$6.50. Now that's a bargain. □

Deke Castleman is the managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor, a monthly newsletter that covers the Las Vegas bargain scene.

CHARACTERS, CRACKER BARRELS, AND COUNTRY STORES

Nevada's rural markets are beacons of old-fashioned values,
hot coffee, and country character

By Kate Butler

Country stores and summertime—they seem to intertwine when you're exploring the back roads of Nevada. At rural crossroads, and in places where coyotes outnumber cowhands, the country store remains a beacon of old-fashioned values and a fresh cup of coffee.

The stores and the folks who run them are central to their rural communities. Their establishments not only provide everyday necessities like milk, bread, videos, and fishing lures. They also are the gathering places where you can hear local news, ask directions, or just pull up a chair and shoot the breeze.

"The country store offers a special need," says Leona "Ma" Rowley, owner of the General Store in Eureka. "I can get almost anything anyone wants, but it's more than that. It's a place to come and visit and have a cup of coffee," she says. "Sometimes the after-work bull sessions have gone on until two or three in the morning. I just kept the store open for them."

That's because amid all the jams, jellies, and sacks of feed, the human element is the most important item in a country store.

"My husband wonders why it takes me so long to go to the store," says Karan Mori, a rancher who shops at Tremewam's in Mountain City. "We start



Jan Hamlin (left) and Margene Garate enjoy coffee and conversation at Swisher's in Lamoille.

talking about our quilts, and one thing leads to another. That's how I find out what's going on in town."

You'll find Nevada's country stores in remote places like Mountain City, Willow Creek, and Panaca. They carry everything from saddles to scented

"My husband wonders why it takes me so long to go to the store," says Karan Mori, who shops at Tremewam's.

soap, depending on their clientele. Wayward travelers are always welcome.

The pace is easy-going at the **Swisher General Store** in tiny, picturesque Lamoille, 20 miles southeast of Elko. Potted pansies, columbine, and lilac trees decorate the store's entrance. People often stop in to just sit and chat on the bench swing and lounge chairs in the grassy yard. From the lawn one can see the jagged, snow-tipped peaks of the Ruby Mountains.

On Tuesdays and Fridays the store has baskets of French bread, shepherd bread, and onion rolls from the Lamoille Bakery. The fresh bread sells out early in the day, so residents know to arrive early.

Sharon Swisher and two of her sons, Chuck and Jack, have owned the store since 1990. They sell groceries, worms, fishing gear, and a few antiques. Occasionally they offer free vegetables picked from area gardens. The Swishers even have fax-machine service.

This may be the last summer to visit the little store. The Swishers are hoping to replace it with a larger log building next year. "The people depend on these small stores," Sharon says. "That's why

Lynn and Chip Garofalo offer fresh produce and country charm at Nevada Lynn's in Washoe Valley.



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I would like to see it bigger, so we could have more of a choice of things."

Taylor Canyon Resort is in the heart of sportsmen's country, 46 miles north of Elko near Tuscarora. Hunters and fishermen meet at the store because of its easy access to Desert Ranch, Willow Creek, and Wilson reservoirs.

During hunting season owners Tom Young and Milt Middleswart host an annual game feed and dance. This year's feast is July 15.

"We'll be serving antelope, deer, mountain lion, wild boar, sage grouse, and all kinds of fish," Middleswart says. "We hire a country band, and it's a lot of fun. About 300 to 400 people showed up at the party last year."

Besides the mini-mercantile, the resort has a bar and a large recreation room decorated with hunting trophies and photographs. Across the highway are four cabins, a laundromat, shop, and 10 RV hookups. The partners serve breakfast, sandwiches, and dinner. The cof-

On the walls at Tremewam's are pictures of hunters and a collection of oddities that have been donated by friends.

fee is always hot and free.

Mountain City, a little Elko County town (pop.: 50) that is so far north it runs on Idaho time, has two country stores: **Tremewam's Store** and **Read's Golden Rule**. Both date from the 1930s.

At **Tremewam's Store** Louise and Mel Basañez carry groceries, shoes, and sporting goods. They also sell beaded jewelry and moccasins made by Shoshone tribal members from the nearby Duck Valley Reservation.

"It's so much fun to go in there. It's super relaxed, and they have really good meat," says Mountain City resident Larry Monroe. He also likes Mel Basañez's butchering technique.

"Mel is the world's strongest man," Monroe says. "When I ask him for a piece of meat, he comes out with this big chunk of cow, you know, and plops it down and cuts off a steak."

The store, originally built around a dance floor, was acquired in 1958 by Oliver and Anna Tremewam (pronounced "Tramune"), who have handed it over to their daughter Louise, her husband Mel, and son Mitch.

On the walls are pictures of hunters and fishermen and a collection of oddities that have been donated by friends. One item is a log with three drilled holes—a "Basque bowling ball."

Over at **Read's Golden Rule**, there is no sign out front. The building is painted cream and blue and has an enclosed entrance. Tourists stop at the pumps and are surprised to find a country store when they go inside to pay

"We got this new store up and ran out of money," explains Charlene, daughter of owners Chuck and Maxine Read, who remodeled three years ago. "People say you ought to have a sign, and we really need to do that," she adds. "But it's pretty laid back around here."

Inside, the aisles are wide. The Reads still use an old, dependable meat cutter, and they display threads in a vintage three-drawer, glass-and-wood case. They keep their hand-crank cash register and scales in case of power failure.

Also ever-ready are Chuck, 78, and Maxine, 76. Larry Monroe (who shops at both Mountain City stores) points out that Chuck is always at the store, and Maxine "kind of cruises through once in a while and gives everybody the let's-get-organized look."

"We call them Energizer rabbits," Charlene says, "because they keep going and going."

Paradise Valley Mercantile is a small community store in a 110-year-old adobe in Paradise Valley, 40 miles north of Winnemucca.

"We're a drop-off place for everything in the world," owner Tom Bidegary says. "Like UPS deliveries, or possibly a cow or a calf. You might find a little baby lamb in a box that they're bottle feeding."

Indeed, baby goats, sheep, and lambs graze in adjacent pens. "It's like a petting zoo," Tom says. "We give tours all the time."

Inside the mercantile, the adobe walls



Cattle-drive wagons stop to refuel at Swisher General Store in Lamoille.



Tom Young (bottom left) runs the Taylor Canyon Resort, a hot spot for hunters. Hillary Moulton checks out one of the old cash registers at Read's.





The General Store in Eureka has been fruitful for Leona "Ma" Rowley (above), who raised her kids on the hard work and profits from the store.

are visible, and large wooden beams stretch across the ceiling of the basement, where wine was once produced. Tom and his wife Mary opened the mercantile in 1992, and last year they finished restoring the old valley inn.

In the mornings, school-bus drivers and other residents gather for free doughnuts, coffee, and chitchat. Manager Nita Kennedy sells wine, milk, eggs, and butter and provides another essential of rural life—1,600 videos.

Antique wagons, plywood cows, and crates filled with fresh-picked fruits and vegetables beckon travelers on U.S. 395 into Nevada Lynn's Emporium, midway between Reno and Carson City at the north end of Washoe Valley

Summer specialties include corn on the cob, "Sweet and Sassy Pickles" that are sun-cooked on the premises, and Hearts of Gold cantaloupe from Fallon.

The store carries 35 kinds of home-

made jams and jellies as well as tomatoes, blackberries, knickknacks, quilts, jalapeño olives, nuts, dried fruits, and old-fashioned candies. Lynn Garofalo doles out free samples of fruit, salsa,



Louise Basañez (right) chats with customers at Tremewam's Store in Mountain City.

pickles, jellies, flavored vinegars, and vegetables.

"You can stop in for lunch without having to spend anything, really," she says.

Lynn and her husband Chip, who have owned the store for seven years, are planning their first Fourth of July weekend festival with watermelon-eating contests, sack races, and other old-fashioned events.

Uncle Patrick's Way Station in Virginia City is owned and operated by Patrick Hanley, a crusty yet lovable half-Irishman who calls himself "kind of a yellow journalist." He writes a weekly column about government bureaucracy for the *Comstock Chronicle*. Each column ends with comments by Ms. Muttley, his golden retriever and store-mate.

Uncle Patrick, 74, says he's retired to the store. "It's a working retirement," Patrick says.

The store, crowded with groceries, is in an old livery stable on B Street, a block south of the county courthouse. Patrick sells lots of "oddball things folks don't find in other markets" like Black Strap Molasses and Idaho Spuds candy.

The store has a community bulletin board and a front veranda where locals linger, drink beer, and visit in the summer. They can sit on the porch barrels, Patrick says, if he doesn't sell the barrels out from under them.

"Everything is for sale for a price, honey," he explains, "except for Ms. Muttley, who won't let me out of her sight."

Bicyclists and hikers gravitate to the **Genoa Country Store**, where they can relax on the porch with a cool drink or a hand-dipped ice cream cone and watch life go by in downtown Genoa.

The store shares the building with the Genoa Post Office and a bookstore. "I call it 'Early American Ricketty-Ticketty,'" says Barry Penzel, who owns the store with his wife Cindy and sister Shirley. The building was moved in 1972 from Carson City, where it once had a cafe downstairs and a bordello upstairs.

The Genoa Country Store is a good place to whet your whistle—you'll find 18 flavors of Snapple, 144 different sizes and kinds of sodas, and milkshakes and malts. For verbal refreshment, the Penzels have a political corner with two captain's

ALL'S WELL IN WELLINGTON

Wellington and its country store offer a step back in time.

By Marge Knorr

It is early morning at the Wellington Mercantile. Already several pickups wait outside, their owners having been lured into the red-frame building by the aroma of coffee and freshly baked pies.

Inside the 122-year-old store, the wood floors creak. Big fans push the air down from the high, molded-tin ceiling. The walls are covered with antiques: old wash tubs, ice tongs, horse collars, and a saddlebag dating back to the Civil War.

Owner Norma Peterson greets everyone who walks through the worn wooden doors with a smile. "I want to keep it the way it was," she says. "My customers are local ranchers and tourists, and I want them to feel like they did in Grandma's kitchen."

The Mercantile, originally called Hoyes Store, was built in 1873 in a nearby canyon by John and Mary Hoyer. They later moved the building to its present site, where it served as a station on the stage line between Genoa and the mining camps of Bodie and Aurora.

Today the Mercantile is the centerpiece of Wellington, a small village in Smith Valley, about 20 miles south of Yerington. Wellington is years removed from today's frantic urban pace. The town has no casinos, shopping malls, or fast-food joints. There isn't even a stoplight.

For a century, the store has been a vital social hub in Wellington.

"Folks come in for a sandwich or ice cream and just sit and visit," Norma says. "They tell me it's like coming



Mildred Coddington (left) and Frances Burns relax on the Mercantile's old porch.

home, a chance to slow down."

At the Mercantile, residents and travelers can get fresh eggs, canned goods, candy for the kids, and the latest news. One can buy flowers, greeting cards, or a pair of 30-year-old Red



The Wellington Mercantile has welcomed patrons for 122 years.

Wing boots. Bolts of cloth fill the shelves in a sewing corner. Norma says the grocery stock is much the same as it was in 1873. "Mary Hoyer used that old pole with the hook on the end to lift stock up to high shelves," she says. "We still use it."

In winter, people gather around the big iron stove, but in the summer it's a pleasure to take a sandwich or a piece of pie outside to a table on the front porch, where one can enjoy the warm weather and talk to the locals.

Al Annett stops in for a bag of nails. "My mother and father were married in the building next door when it was a hotel, part of the stage station," he says. "Dad was a miner, and on their wedding night the other miners shivered him. They set off sticks of dynamite."

mite in the apple trees and darned near blew the windows out."

Al's 87-year-old mother Alpha says, "In those days there was a mining engineer behind every sage bush. I met my husband in the store—in 1926. My first job out of college was keeping books here in the Mercantile. It was the Smith Valley Co-Op back then, and it's changed very little."



Norma Peterson (left) lures customers like Jim Philips with sweets, subs, and sundries.

Unlike many Nevada towns, Wellington was never a high-rolling boom town filled with fortune seekers. Most people passed through here on their way to somewhere else. Wellington's unhurried pace and country-store atmosphere make it an almost perfect example of a century-old farming community—with its history intact.

Jim Compston, 67, is a second-generation resident and local historian. He moved Wellington's original schoolhouse, built in 1898, about a quarter-mile north to the banks of the West Walker River. Jim and his wife Marion turned the old schoolhouse into a museum, filling it with their collection of Wellington memorabilia. It's crammed with old posters, sheep-ranching and mining equipment, candle molds, bullet molds, old typewriters, and a wealth of photographs and artifacts. They open the museum on request, sometimes to busloads of school children and teachers.

The schoolhouse-museum stands next to State Route 208 in an old orchard. "They shipped the fruit from this orchard and vegetables from the Chinese gardens across the river to Aurora and Bodie," Jim says. "In the

mining camps, fresh food was worth as much as the gold."

The West Walker River, one of the best fishing streams in the state, runs through Wellington. It's opening day of fishing season, and although the water looks muddy, fishermen stand shoulder to shoulder along the banks.

Anglers are telling stories in the CC Bar across from the Mercantile. Nobody caught a fish all day—except Jackie Hays, the proudest woman in town. "The men are all mad because a woman caught the first fish," she says, laughing.

The Heyday Inn, at the south end of town, is another historic building. Built about 1875 by Zadoc Pierce, it served as a stage stop until 1903, when it was bought by W.E. Reading and became a general store. Old-timers still call it "Reading Brothers," and resident Ben Harrison recalls buying his first pair of shoes there. Since 1983, Mahlon Hoosman has operated a bar and restaurant there. While diners enjoy steak and scampi, John Deere tractors drive by outside the window. It's a place of contrasts and vanishing scenes.

Every fall hundreds of people flock to Wellington's big Community Hall for old-fashioned fun at Smith Valley Fun Day and Harvest Auction. The day includes a craft show, car show, hayride, and barbecue.

But most days, life in Wellington is serene. Norma Peterson likes the old-fashioned town—and her Mercantile—just the way they are: "Let's hope it never changes."

Marge Knorr is a Reno writer who loves the pies, and the pace, at the Wellington Mercantile.

chairs placed on either side of a pot-belly stove. They post a daily topic, and the discussions often draw a crowd.

The Penzels carry cold cuts, videos, gifts, and paintings by local artist Mimi Jobe. They also offer a self-service area with nachos, peanuts, and hot dogs.

You'll find music beneath your feet in the **Wellington Mercantile**, an old country store on State Route 208 in Smith Valley (see story on left). Creaks, groans, and other haunting refrains escape from the worn, wooden floor as you shop.

"I love the old floors," says owner Norma Peterson. "The boards are different colors and conditions all over the store. They creak and talk to you when you walk. They kind of sing a melody"

Peterson, a Wellington native, sells groceries, dry goods, homemade pies, sub sandwiches, and floral arrangements. The large, wood-frame building has tall ceilings and a cozy porch.

R & H Foods, the general store in Gabbs, may be the only place in Nevada where you can buy a tarantula T-shirt. Owners Ray and Hazel Dummars (thus "R & H") serve miners, ranchers, Shoshone Indians, and other residents of the area. Sometimes a tourist will wander in and buy a tarantula T-shirt—a good souvenir from Gabbs, whose high-school teams are called the Tarantulas.

The Dummars sell hardware, groceries, pop, candy, and sporting goods. From a large glass display case the Dummars offer Indian crafts and Hazel's painted sweatshirts.

Ray and Hazel, both born in Fallon, have lived in this part of Nevada most of their lives. Occasionally Ray is asked about his brother, Melvin Dummars. Melvin's story, involving Howard Hughes and the "Mormon Will" (see *Nevada*, July/Aug '81 and Jan/Feb '86), is told in the 1980 movie *Melvin and Howard*.

Wednesday morning is a special time for bakery buffs at **The General Store** in Eureka. That's when folks gather around a large picnic table, drink coffee, and munch the fresh doughnuts just trucked in from Elko.

"It's like a little social center for some people," says Leona "Ma" Rowley, the store's owner for the past 28 years.

The large, white building on the east side of town is more than a century old. Like Eureka's opera house and courthouse, it is built of brick and has high ceilings and an old-fashioned iron door. Petunias and pansies grow in large pots near the doorway. The thick walls of the building keep it cool inside even when the weather is really hot, allowing Row-

Wellington's slow pace and country-store atmosphere make it an almost perfect example of a century-old farming community

ley to keep the doors wide open.

She sells groceries, coffee, sandwiches, feed grain, fuel, and old bottles that she has dug up in her yard over the years. She also has small pots made by Lloyd Morrison from the clay of nearby Diamond Valley.

Rowley, 66, raised her four children the old-fashioned way—working in the store and living in the back apartments. She plans to run the store for another four or five years if her health allows it. Despite the long hours, she says, “I don’t feel like the store owes me a whole lot. It’s taken care of me and my family for all these years. I feel like we’re sort of even.”

Willow Creek Trading Post and General Store near Ely has buffaloes on the range—inside and out. Owner Joyce Priest, mother of nine and grandmother of 16, serves sizzling buffalo burgers right off the grill at a small snack counter. Outside, she keeps nine buffalo—not the source of the burgers—that will come up to visitors and eat from their hands. Priest also has peacocks, cows, horses, chickens, turkeys, ducks, and sheep.

From her three-year-old store Priest sells beer, pop, tools, antiques, and summer produce. She offers a selection of never-worn shoes made in the 1940s and 1950s, acquired when she



Tami Frank (left), Howard Schwartz, and Lori Frank-Gallagher mind the store in Blue Diamond.

bought a shoe store in Ely.

Priest, who grew up in Ely, and Bob Hoffman, her fiancée, started the trading post as a ranch six years ago because

they wanted to raise buffalo. The ranch, 17 miles south of Ely on the Ward Charcoal Ovens turnoff on U.S. 93, sits alone in the middle of miles of sagebrush. Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park is on the eastern horizon. Tourists often photograph Mount Wheeler through the ranch gate—after taking pictures of the buffalo.

The Panaca Market is the news and information center for the small Mormon town of Panaca. People call to find out about the weather, road conditions, where the dog catcher is, or what movie is playing in Pioche.

“We are the local gossip center, unfortunately, too,” says owner Leon Potet, who with his wife Kaye own the former Panaca Mercantile. “So if there’s good news or bad news in town—marriages, deaths, births—we usually pretty well know what’s going on.”

The store plays an important part in birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, and other family events. For example, when couples are getting married, they leave a wedding invitation at the store. Leon puts it on a shelf, and the townsfolk can chip in to buy a gift.

The Panaca Market stands on the site

FINDING THE STORE

Rural Nevada’s country stores usually offer groceries, videos, and everything from work gloves to flowered hats. Many have gas pumps. Most are open daily, with hours depending on the season, community, and owners’ lifestyles. Following is a roundup of Nevada’s country stores, mini-mercantiles, and way stations.

Reno Area

Empire Store on State Route 447 in Empire 70 miles north of Fernley. General store serves residents of Empire, a U.S. Gypsum company town, and the railroad burg of Gerlach. Tourists, truck drivers, and golfers at Empire’s Burning Sands Golf Course also shop at the store, which has a deli, groceries, beer, and crafts. 702-557-2311.

Genoa Country Store on Main Street in Genoa. Shares a white-and-green-trim building with a post office and bookstore.

Gifts, deli sandwiches, and ice cream. Potbelly stove and conversation area for political haggling. 702-782-5974.

Jack and Ruby Brodie’s Country Store in Fernley off I-80. Owned and run for 31 years by Jack Brodie and his family. Great place to hear Fernley history and other stories. Meat counter, vegetables, groceries, housewares, hot coffee. 702-575-2203.

Nevada Lynn’s Emporium in Washoe Valley on U.S. 395 south of Reno. A tourist-oriented general store with quilts, wildflower seeds, sarsaparilla, and free samples. 702-849-2979.

Uncle Patrick’s Way Station in Virginia City. Store in rebuilt livery station. Groceries, newspapers, pop, hard-to-find foods, and local lore. 702-847-9019.

Wellington Mercantile in Wellington, 20 miles south of Yerington. Has served the Smith Valley community as well as tourists for more than a century. Antiques, sub



sandwiches, and candy. 702-465-2552.

Nye County

R & H Foods in Gabbs on State Route 361. Groceries, produce, some meats, hardware, Indian crafts, Gabbs Tarantula T-shirts. 702-285-4072.

Shoshone Market in Round Mountain, 56

At the Panaca Market, people call to find out where the dog catcher is or what movie is playing in Pioche.

of the adobe Panaca Co-Op, built more than 100 years ago. The large country market—Leon calls it a “supermarket without the ‘super’”—sells groceries, produce, household supplies, hardware, and other essentials.

“We’re tied to the store all the time. We work between 60 and 70 hours a week,” Leon says. “It’s fun. I really enjoy it. The people are wonderful here, and I know almost everyone who comes into the store.”

The Village Market and Mercantile in peaceful Blue Diamond, 17 miles west of Las Vegas off State Route 159, was once a company store for Blue Diamond Mine employees and their families. Today it has taken on new life as a replica of a Tennessee country store, the kind of place found down in a “holler” in the Volunteer State.

“I’ve spent a lot of time in Tennessee,” says Tami Frank, who bought the store two years ago. “We fashioned it after

the old mercantile general store that people would see in the Smoky Mountains. Typically it would be the only restaurant for miles around.”

Inside, the mercantile overflows with old stuff: kitchen implements, Hoosier cabinets, hats, dresses, a pot-belly stove, clocks, lamps, and more. (Tami says she is planning to sell the store soon, so the inventory may change this fall.) The rear of the store is Lori’s Grits and Grub, which serves sandwiches, vegetarian dishes, and cookies. It has four tables covered with green-checked tablecloths, which add a country-picnic

flavor that is unusual on the Las Vegas scene.

The store represents a comfortable step back in time. The freeway may be just across the valley from Blue Diamond, but the pace is slow in this little Nevada town, and the country store helps keep it that way ▽

Kate Butler is a Las Vegas writer-photographer and a banjo picker in the country-bluegrass band Ribbons 'N Straw. She enjoys visiting the country stores, museums, and cafes as she travels Nevada's rural roadways en route to her ranch in Lamoille.

miles north of Tonopah on State Route 376. Small store, friendly staff, summer produce, sandwiches, fuel. 702-377-2632.

Paradise Valley

Paradise Valley Mercantile in Paradise Valley at the end of State Route 290, 40 miles north of Winnemucca. Tiny cowboy store in old adobe building. 702-578-3611.

Elko County

Owens Market in Carlin, off I-80. Family store serves townfolk, ranchers, and I-80 travelers who drive down the hill past the Texaco store. 702-754-6211.

Read's Golden Rule in Mountain City 84 miles north of Elko on State Route 225. 702-763-6616.

Swisher General Store in Lamoille on State Route 227 20 miles south of Elko. Groceries, crafts, chairs and a swing for visiting. 702-753-6489.

Taylor Canyon Resort on State Route 226, 45 miles north of Elko. Mini-mer-

(Continued on page 79)

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Visitors enjoy sun and surf at Harrah's beach on the Colorado River

Laughlin's a Hot Spot

This casino town on the Colorado River
finds ways to stay cool in summer

By Marie Harrell

FOR NINE MONTHS of the year, Laughlin laughs at the rest of the nation. When mid-winter blizzards blow across the Midwest, it's a balmy 70 degrees on Casino Drive. As spring storms bathe the Northeast in rain and slush, Laughlin is basking in sunny, shirt-sleeve weather, and half the population seems to be playing golf.

During the summer months, though, things really heat up in this Colorado River town, literally and figuratively. Residents say that Laughlin in the summer registers only two temperatures—hot and damn hot. Hot is 100 to 120 degrees. Anything over that is damn hot. Luckily, there are only a couple of weeks of damn hot weather, and usually they're over quickly.

As natives will tell you, "it's a dry heat," but then again, so is a pizza oven. In that dry heat, eggs can be fried on the sidewalk, as they do in the neighboring hamlet of Oatman, Arizona, each Fourth of July.

However, residents and visitors are able to beat the heat thanks to two elements that are indigenous to the southern corner of Nevada—the Colorado River and air-conditioning.

As temperatures soar past 100 degrees, folks are attracted more and more to water-related activities such as waterskiing, swimming, and relaxing by the hotel pool with piña colodas. Just upriver is Davis Dam, and just up from the dam is a full-service resort at Katherine Landing on the south end of Lake Mohave.

The Colorado flows right by the clubs in Laughlin. One, Harrah's, has a sandy beach, and some resorts rent jet skis and other watercraft. In summer you can see the proliferation of waterskiers whizzing up and down the river and paddlers drifting by in innertubes, canoes, and kayaks. Each resort has swimming pools and cabanas for further relief.

The indoor action at the casinos also is brisk, thanks to the soothing effects of air-conditioning. Walking into a cool casino can take one's breath away on a hot day. People stand in the doorways, drinking in the deliciously frigid air. Inside, air-conditioners are kept in top running order, and ice machines shift into high gear as the demand for margaritas, daiquiris, and beer goes up.

The resorts sometimes wage room-rate wars that result in truly hot deals. For instance, last year the reader boards along Casino Drive advertised rates such as \$14 per night, or \$18 first night,

**When Laughlin's
"three digit rule" goes
into effect, the tenets of
business dress
fly out the window.**

second night free, for a stay between Sunday and Thursday.

Of course, those folks staying and playing indoors on June 29, 1994, might not have noticed that the town was setting a state record for highest recorded temperature, 125 degrees. Residents, long used to high mercury readings, shrugged at the announcement.

In fact, Laughlinites frequently find

themselves defending their town's summer climate. After all, how often does your hometown get mentioned on the Weather Channel as the hottest place in the country?

Residents and visitors will tell you the heat is bearable because of the area's low humidity—the "dry heat." It's a theme that seems to run through every conversation. Of course, when it's 118 at 2 a.m., you tend to seek the positive.

Actually, the low humidity does make the summer sun tolerable because the body's natural cooling system works more efficiently in a dry climate than in a damp one. As the body sweats and moisture evaporates, a person cools off, a process enhanced in Laughlin by the warm breeze that is almost always present.

Natives use some tricks that help them to not only survive the season but also enjoy it.



Water jitneys run as interclub taxis.

One is a change in attitude. Laughlinites do not think of heat the same way people do in other parts of the country. Considering the fact that the area has

(Continued on page 85)



Hotel guests can get their vacations on track while relaxing at the Ramada Express' locomotive-shaped pool.

T H E
B R I D G E S
O F



L A N D E R
C O U N T Y

Somewhere in the heartland of Central Nevada, photographer Robert Korncaid met Branfresca Johnson, a ranch wife who didn't eat meat but definitely fogged his camera lens.

B Y R I C H A R D M E N Z I E S

Framed against the cloudy bright sky, striding purposefully across the field, toward him she came. Through the window of his viewfinder he watched, and watched some more as she drew closer. Something about the way the wind teased the hem of her thin cotton dress told Robert Korncaid this wasn't going to be just

another run-of-the-mill magazine assignment.

"What do you think you're doing?" the woman called out. "Are you aware you're standing on private property?"

Something about her voice, her accent, the way her cheeks flushed and her nostrils flared and her breasts heaved beneath her ripped bodice, transported Korncaid back to

another place and time. In his mind's eye he was 20 again, sipping Chianti at a sidewalk cafe in Naples, smoking a Camel cigarette, and desperately trying to establish eye contact with the waitress.

"Buon giorno," he said. "Are you Italian?"

"Are you deaf?" the woman answered. "I said, 'You're standing on private property!'"

Suddenly Korncaid found himself looking down the barrel of a .44 Magnum revolver—the most powerful handgun in the world. And just as suddenly the misty reverie of Old Napoli gave way to a sweaty flashback to that time in Tuscarora when he'd blundered upon the old hermit's moonshine still.

"Beg your pardon, ma'am," Korncaid pleaded, instinctively raising his hands. "I thought all the land around here belonged to the federal government. The name's Korncaid. I'm a photographer on assignment for *Nevada Magazine*. You can look in my gadget bag there if you don't believe me."

Branfresca looked in his gadget bag. Sure enough, it was chock-full of expensive Nikon cameras and other brand-name accessories that somehow softened her heart and convinced her Korncaid wasn't just your everyday trespasser.

"Guess I spook kind of easy these days," she apologized, gently uncocking the hammer and holstering the big .44. "All we ever seem to get out here lately are cattle rustlers and environmentalists. Good thing you had those Nikons in your bag and that Gitzo tripod. Otherwise, I suppose I'd have shot you dead."

Korncaid laughed, but nervously. Something about this woman he found attractive, yet frightening. Part of him wanted to stay and talk photography; another part cried out, "Let it go, Korncaid, get back on the road! Go to Vegas, look up the keno runner with the fishnet stockings, and swim naked till dawn in gold-plated jacuzzis with Siegfried and Roy's white tigers."

But no, the slow street tango had already begun.

Branfresca Johnson was her name, she said, and yes, she was Italian by birth. Her last name she'd acquired when she'd married one of the Yanks who'd liberated her country from the grip of fascism during the war—in the process killing off all the eligible bachelors in her village. Branfresca had pretty much resigned herself to a life without men—that is, until the fateful day her husband-to-be, Van Johnson, crash-landed his crippled B-25 into the rose garden of the convent where she was studying to become a nun.

"Sounds pretty romantic," said Korncaid.

"It was," Branfresca sighed. "At first it was very romantic. But then the war ended, Van's multiple injuries healed, we got married, he brought me to America, we settled down on this godforsaken patch of ground, and sank into a life of quiet desperation. But I'm glad I once had dreams, even if none of them ever came true."

Korncaid was definitely interested now. When he was young, he'd had dreams, too. One of them was that one day he'd figure out how to get girls with a camera, the way David Hemmings did in the movie *Blowup*.

"Is this a meadow or a pasture?" Korncaid heard himself ask as they strolled along. It was such a stupid thing to say, he couldn't believe he'd said it.

Branfresca tossed her head back and laughed—a throaty, Mediterranean kind of laugh. "What does it matter?"



she asked. "It's a field where we grow grass and keep cows. Watch out for their leavings."

How odd, Robert thought, that this gun-toting rancher's wife wouldn't know the difference between a pasture and a meadow, or the technical term for cow droppings.

They came to a barbed-wire fence. Robert held down the top strand while Branfresca stepped over. Then she held the wire for him, and she marveled at the gazellelike grace with which the mysterious stranger accomplished the maneuver. Her husband Van, he was forever snagging the crotch of his Levi's on barbed-wire fences. Either that, or stepping in cow leavings.

The Johnson farmhouse turned out to be a mobile home perched on cinder blocks and ringed about with cast-off appliances, farm machinery, trucks, dirt bikes, and an out-of-order snowmobile. As they approached the door, a snarling pit bull darted out from underneath an old washtub, pulling up short as it reached the end of its tether just inches shy of Korncaid's firm, tight behind. Once again, Branfresca was impressed by the way Korncaid could move.

"Is your, um, husband home?" Robert asked after he caught his breath.

"Gone to the stock auction in Elko to look at a bull," Branfresca answered. "Not that we need any more cattle around here, in my opinion. I'm a vegetarian myself."

"No kidding? I'm a vegetarian, too."

Branfresca Johnson leaned back and rested her shapely elbows on the faded yellow Formica kitchen counter. She looked Korncaid over. She noticed all of him—his finely chiseled jaw and piercing blue eyes, his muscular forearms, sensitive hands, and well-manicured fingernails. Here's a man, she thought, who's never done a hard day's work in his life.

With his broad shoulders and narrow waist, Korncaid was just the opposite of her husband, who couldn't squeeze into a tapered shirt nowadays unless he put it on upside down. No, Van Johnson had definitely gone to pot since the war—the result of too much brown gravy, too many biscuits, too many bags of pork rinds, and far too many evenings spent sprawled in his BarcaLounger in front of the television set.

"I hate television, don't you?" Branfresca said.

▼▼▼

Korncaid was the
opposite of her husband,
who couldn't squeeze into
a tapered shirt unless
he put it on upside down.

"Never watch it," answered Korncaid. "Don't even own one. Would you like a Camel cigarette?"

Branfresca felt a slight flutter in her breast. Not since before Surgeon General Koop came along had a man talked to her this way

"All Van ever wants to do at night is watch television," she continued. "If there's something on he thinks is interesting, he'll call for me to come watch. 'Brannie, come quick, you've got to see this! Neil Armstrong is walking on the moon! J.R. has been shot! Mount Saint Helens has exploded!' Television bores me to death, frankly Can I fix you a potato?"

"Yeah, thanks." Korncaid took a chair and stretched his long, sinewy legs. Leopardlike, he pawed through the multiple pockets of his Banana Republic photojournalist vest in search of his matches. "I know what you mean," he said. "Everyday life can get awfully boring."

"I'll bet your life is never boring," said Branfresca, as she took a paring knife to a russet. She'd never thought of peeling a potato as having curlicue feelings connected with it before.

"Oh, sometimes it drags a bit," said Korncaid, trying hard to sound mod-



'Just last week
Nevada Magazine sent
me out to shoot the wild
geese of Esmeralda
County,' Korncaid said.

est. "Most people think working for *Nevada Magazine* is a thrill a minute, but it's not necessarily so. Why, just last week, for instance, they sent me out to shoot the wild geese of Esmeralda County "

"I didn't know they had wild geese in Esmeralda County," said Branfresca.

"They don't. Come to find out the editor made it up just to get rid of me."

"Are you chasing wild geese today, Mr. Korncaid?" Branfresca asked, coyly

"Please, call me Robert. No, I'm done with wild geese. This trip I'm shooting the bridges of Lander County "

"The bridges of Lander County?" Branfresca's jaw dropped.

"Yeah. My editor says there are a lot

of bridges around here that I might be interested in taking pictures of."

Branfresca lay down the knife and took a hard look at this man Robert Korncaid, who had come a long way to her kitchen. All the way from the West Coast in a secondhand police cruiser he called Dirty Harry, with a song in his heart and a Nikon camera slung round his neck. A long way just to take pictures of bridges—and most likely on his own dime, on spec, with no kill fee and no payment before publication.

"Robert, are you sure your editor said bridges?"

"Why do you ask, Branfresca?"

"Because as far as I know, there aren't any bridges in Lander County. We have some ridges, yes, but no bridges. Heck, we don't even have any waterways to speak of. The Reese River, maybe, but even at flood stage it's never so wide you can't jump across it if you get a running start."

"Jump across?"

"Or drive across. That's why everybody who lives out here drives a pickup truck. In case they ever need to get from one side of the Reese River to the other."

Suddenly it got very quiet in the room. It even smelled. .quiet. Robert Korncaid felt a sinking sensation in the pit of his stomach, the likes of which he hadn't felt since the week before, when he'd asked around Goldfield for directions to the wild geese.

Branfresca said nothing. She just stood there and wondered what manner of man was this Robert Korncaid, to whom the difference between a pasture and a meadow seemed so important. A man who could leap a barbed-wire fence in a single bound without snagging his pants, a man who didn't own a television and never ate meat. A man who seemed to know next to nothing about the wildlife and hydrology of the Great Basin.

"Here's your potato, Robert," she said at last.

"Thanks."

Robert Korncaid took a bite. He'd never thought of a raw potato as food before, and he was pretty sure if he ever tasted one again, he'd be sure to remember Branfresca Johnson and the dry washes of Lander County, the bridges at Toko-Ri, Vanessa Redgrave, Muscolini, Van Johnson, Naples, and the dark days of World War II. □

Richard Menzies is a Salt Lake City-based photographer and magazine writer who daydreams a lot.

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Karl MacDiarmid holds the 51-pound, 12-ounce striper he caught on Lake Mohave. His lake record lasted just three weeks.

Reeling in Fish Tales

Nevada's trophy fish come in all shapes, sizes, and stories.

By Paula J. Del Giudice

The green sunfish lurking in the shallows was a monster by Tule Springs standards. So observed Joe Burgess Sr. as the Las Vegas angler patiently fished the small pond at Floyd Lamb State Park. Still, the wily sunfish turned up his nose at the bait.

Finally, Burgess handed the rod to his son, Joe Jr. The 15-year-old cast the hook, embellished with a smidgen of worm, just where the sunfish wanted it, and—*wham!*—both Joe Jr. and the fish were hooked.

"Dad said it was the biggest sunfish he had ever seen," Joe Jr. recalls. "Dad was going to let it go, but the park ranger

thought it might be a state record."

So the Burgesses put the foot-long sunfish in a bucket of water and headed for the nearest bait shop. When the

"The big fish came
to the surface and made
about three rolls.

When I saw how big he was,
my heart nearly stopped."

scales settled at one pound, six ounces, they learned that their catch was a new state record.

A state record was on the mind of Dale Thompson, an avid fisherman from Yerington, when he came close to breaking the state walleye mark at Lahontan State Recreation Area one evening. After Thompson had spent four hours fishing by Lahontan Dam, a giant walleye took his yellow jig and swam away with it.

"The big fish came to the surface and made about three rolls," Thompson recalls. "When I saw how big he was, my heart nearly stopped."

Where to Catch Big Fish

Records are meant to be broken, and in Nevada that's particularly true of state-record fish. Lake Tahoe is known for record mackinaw trout, Pyramid and Walker for cutthroat trout, and Mead and Mohave for weighty stripers and largemouth bass.

All waters have their resident turners. Here's where new records may lurk up soon:

Lahontan State Recreation Area near Fallon may harbor a new state-record walleye. Last year a walleye weighing 15 pounds (the current record is 14 pounds, 14 ounces) turned up in samples taken by biologists from the Nevada Division of Wildlife. The walleye was released, of course. A new fish called the "wiper," a cross between a white bass and a striped bass, has been introduced to Lahontan and Rye Patch reservoirs and will create a new state record as soon as one is entered in the state's trophy fish program.

Ruby Lakes National Wildlife Refuge near Elko was hit hard by the recent drought. However, some mighty big fish including the state-record tiger trout (eight pounds, eight ounces) have been taken from the Collection Ditch at Ruby Marsh, and the ditch is still turning out large tigers, browns, and rainbows.

South Fork State Recreation Area southwest of Elko is home to the state-record smallmouth bass (see page 72). Another record likely will come from that reservoir as the fish continue to grow.

Carson River and **Truckee River** are usually fished for trout, but every now and then anglers catch a mountain whitefish. With the state record at two pounds, 13 ounces, this mark seems destined to be bettered.

Cave Lake is home to the state-record brown trout (27 pounds, five ounces) even though the state park south of Ely is better known for its hatchery-reared rainbows. For those who know how to fish for browns, a new state record could be the prize.

Lake Mohave's striped bass are growing quickly thanks to abundant shad. The best time to fish for big stripers is in late April through May as they congregate to spawn. In a few years the stripers will outstrip their food supply, and populations will plummet, but you can enjoy the fishing in the meantime.

Fishing by the Book

If you catch a record-sized fish, you can enter it in the Nevada Division of Wildlife's trophy fish program. Anglers have entered more than 4,000 fish since the program's inception in 1968. Leroy McLelland, staff fisheries biologist and project coordinator, says, "The biggest value of the program is its indication of how a fishery is faring."

You needn't catch a large fish to read your name in the records. A nice fish out of a water for which no record has been established will do.

If you think your catch might be a record, be sure to keep the fish wet either in a bucket of water or wrapped in moist material. (Once it dies, a fish

loses weight and dries out.) Trophy rules can be found in NDOW's fishing regulation booklet. For instance, the measurements of the fish (weight, length, and girth) must be witnessed by two other persons, at least one of whom must not be a relative of the angler. Photos or other identifying means must accompany the entry. If it's a new state record, the fish must be weighed on a state-certified scale and witnessed by an NDOW employee.

For information on fishing licenses and the booklet "Nevada Fishing Seasons and Regulations," write or call the **Nevada Division of Wildlife**, Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520, 702-688-1500. The booklet includes descriptions of the state's game fish, trophy records, boating information, and a map of major lakes and reservoirs.—Paula J. Del Giudice



'I know I caught a whitefish that was a lot bigger than this one.

Back in the early 1960s

I ate a lot of fish that were probably state records.'

If it didn't stop then, it might have when Thompson and his brother tried to net the big walleye. "The fish only went halfway in the net," he recalls in mock horror. "Then, when I went to take the jig out of his mouth, it popped out all by itself!"

Thompson took the fish to the Village Market in Silver Springs, towing along four Lyon County sheriff's deputies to act as witnesses. His walleye weighed 13.79 pounds and measured 30.5 inches in length. The fish, just a pound short of the state record, went to the taxidermist and is now mounted on Thompson's wall.

As Dale Thompson and Joe Burgess Jr. can attest, there is nothing like the excitement of knowing there's a big fish tugging at the end of your line. Your knees get weak, your adrenaline surges, and your palms get sweaty. You keep the rod tip high and the line tight as you cautiously reel the lunker in. You let him run and then take in the slack whenever he pauses. You call upon every angling skill you've ever learned to bring the fish into your hands.

Besides the sensation of catching a nice fish, some anglers land another reward—a spot in the record book. Thirty-one residents and visitors hold Nevada state records, and the records come in all shapes and sizes. They range from a 15-ounce Arctic grayling hooked in Desert Creek to a 53-pound, eight-ounce striped bass caught on Lake Mohave. The Nevada Division of Wildlife has kept big-fish records since 1968 (see sidebar). Its Nevada Trophy Fish Program keeps track of state marks, species records, and water records.

The honor of catching a record can be a fleeting experience, as Karl MacDiarmid of Henderson discovered last spring. On April 22 he hooked into a 51-pound, 12-ounce striped bass near Placer Cove on the Nevada side of Lake Mohave. The elated angler was casting a Bomber Long A lure from shore when the big fish struck.

News of MacDiarmid's catch, a new lake record, prompted anglers to swarm

Record Fish of Nevada (since 1968)

Species	Lbs.	Oz.	Length	Water	Year	Angler
Bass, Largemouth	11	0	26.0"	Lake Mohave	1972	H.P. Warner, Nevada
Bass, Smallmouth	4	11	18.0"	South Fork Res.	1991	Reta Strickland, Elko
Bass, Striped	53	8	47.5"	Lake Mohave	1995	John French, Las Vegas
Bass, White	4	0	19.0"	Lahontan Res.	1984	Greg Ackerman, Wadsworth
Carp	30	8	36.0"	Lake Mohave	1976	Larry Lee Frazier, Orange, CA
Catfish, Bullhead	3	5	16.25"	Clover Creek	1990	Steven K. Bowman, Caliente
Catfish, Channel	31	1	40.5"	Lahontan Res.	1980	Harry Stephens, Reno
Catfish, White	16	15	31.5"	Humboldt River	1981	Jean Bianchi, Battle Mountain
Crappie, Black	3	2	16.1"	Lake Mead	1976	Henry Herman, Las Vegas
Crappie, White	2	8	16.5"	Lahontan Res.	1968	Charles C. Grant, Nevada
Grayling, Arctic	0	15	13.75"	Desert Creek	1978	George Delich, Carson City
Perch, Sacramento	4	9	17.0"	Pyramid Lake	1971	John Battcher, Nevada
Perch, Yellow	1	8	13.3"	Dufurrena Ponds	1987	Warren Todd Goodale, Win'ca
Pike, Northern	27	0	44.0"	Comins Lake	1978	Kelly H. Malaperdas, Ely
Salmon, Kokanee	4	13	25.7"	Lake Tahoe	1973	Dick Bournique, Nevada
Salmon, Silver	8	12	28.5"	Lake Mead	1974	William Musso, Las Vegas
	8	12	30.3"	Lake Mead	1974	Charles W. Caskey
Sunfish, Bluegill	1	10	11.6"	Hunewill Pond	1978	Larry Baker, Yerington
Sunfish, Green	1	6	12.5"	Floyd Lamb Park	1992	Joe Burgess Jr., Las Vegas
Sunfish, Redear	1	0	10.0"	Ft. Churchill Pd.	1994	Jerry Hawkins, Minden
Trout, Brook	5	10	22.8"	Bull Run Res.	1980	Richard Baker, Elko
Trout, Brown	27	5	33.0"	Cave Lake	1984	Dennis Mangum, McGill
Trout, Bull	4	6	22.0"	WF, Jarbidge R.	1985	Rex Shelburne, Las Vegas
Trout, Cutthroat*	23	8	38.0"	Pyramid Lake	1977	Ben Barlow, Reno
Trout, Golden	0	15	14.5"	Hidden Lakes	1969	Don Capps, Reno
Trout, Mackinaw	37	6	44.0"	Lake Tahoe	1974	Robert Aronsen, Nevada
Trout, Rainbow	16	4	31.5"	Lake Mohave	1971	Mike Soskin, Nevada
Trout, Bowcutt	24	10	36.0"	Pyramid Lake	1976	Lloyd Lowery, Nixon
Trout, Tiger	8	8	25.12"	Ruby Marsh	1992	Kurt Covely, Elko
	8	8	25.5"	Ruby Marsh	1994	Arthur N. Lacey, Idaho
Walleye	14	14	30.0"	Rye Patch Res.	1992	Jim Buonamici, Reno
Whitefish, Mt.	2	13	17.75"	Truckee River	1987	Daniel S. Jackowiak, Sparks

* A recognized world-record cutthroat of 41 pounds was caught at Pyramid Lake in 1925.



John French of Las Vegas set the state record for striped bass last May with this lunker he landed at Lake Mohave.

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to Mohave to try their luck. On May 11 MacDiarmid's mark *and* the state record fell to a new big fish—weighing a whopping 53 pounds, eight ounces—caught below Willow Beach by John French of Las Vegas. French, who was trolling close to shore, also caught his fish on a Bomber Long A lure.

George Wilkerson of Carson City is a serious angler who holds two water records: a two-pound, 14-ounce small-mouth bass taken in 1977 on the Carson River, and a two-pound, eight-ounce mountain whitefish that he caught in 1993 on the Carson's East Fork. Both

times he was fishing for trout.

"I threw the whitefish in the cooler and took it to Raley's to have it weighed on their certified scales. Everyone said, 'What's that thing? It looks like a sucker!'" he recalls.

"The funny part is that I know I caught one in the past that was a lot bigger than this one. In fact, back in the early 1960s I ate a lot of fish that were probably state records."

Both of Wilkerson's water-record fish made it to his dinner table. "Heck, they make really good eating," says Wilkerson, "In fact, the whitefish is an excel-



This largemouth bass from Mead put Mike Grande in the Big Bass championships.

lent fish to eat. I like them smoked. Some people complain that they have too many bones, but I don't mind."

Mike Grande hasn't eaten any state records, but it's probably just a matter of time before the Las Vegas fisherman earns the chance. Like most anglers who catch big fish, Grande fishes a lot. He has taken a 22-pound striped bass from Lake Mohave and an 18-pound striper from Lake Mead.

The 31-year-old bartender says his most exciting catch was a largemouth bass from Echo Canyon State Recreation Area near Pioche. Grande (pronounced "Grand") was fishing for crappies when he saw the weeds move. After he saw a big bass come up and slurp a dragonfly off the surface, Grande threw his Rooster Tail lure at him.

"He took the Rooster Tail just as it hit the surface of the water, just like it was a big fly," Grande remembers. The fish weighed seven pounds when caught, but by the time Grande drove back to Las Vegas, it weighed only 5.75 pounds. If the fish had not lost weight through dehydration, it would have been a new water record for Echo Canyon Reservoir.

Grande hooked another memorable largemouth bass after fishing all night for stripers on Lake Mead. It was a February evening when only the truly dedicated were out on the lake.

"It was real cold that night—only 19 degrees—and the wind was blowing 30 miles per hour," he recalls. "There was

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'I saw one largemouth bass that probably weighed over 10 pounds. I fished for that fish day and night, but it wouldn't hit anything.'

ice on our boat and ice on our lines."

When the sun came up, Grande and his fishing partners headed for a rocky spot in Las Vegas Wash where he likes to fish for largemouth bass. He worked his bait, live shad, down under the rocks. "This big fish took it. The fish went down real deep."

When the fight was over, Grande had a largemouth bass that made him swear the scale in his boat was broken. Later, at the Rod 'N Reel in Henderson, the fish weighed 8.96 pounds on a certified scale. Another weighing was slightly higher, but Grande took the lower weight because he was entered in the Big Bass World Championships and "I didn't want there to be any controversy." In fact, the largemouth bass was the state's biggest for the year and



Anglers rowing Pyramid in the 1930s caught this impressive row of trout.

Cutthroat Business

Fishing at Pyramid Lake has long been a cutthroat matter—that is, the catching of cutthroat trout. Giant trout were taken there in the 1880s. World-traveling anglers like Herbert Hoover fished Pyramid half a century ago at the height of the lake's fame. Cutthroat disappeared from the lake in the 1940s, as Truckee River water was diverted to farmlands east of Reno, but the fish later returned through stocking programs.

The fishing is generally hottest in the middle of winter.

The largest known cutthroat taken from Pyramid Lake, a 41-pounder, was hooked by John Skimmerhorn, a Paiute fisherman, in July 1925. The fish set a world record at the time. The story of the angler's feat has faded with the passing years, but his big fish remains with us—on display at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.

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earned him a place in the Big Bass tournament in Florida last November.

Catching big bass on Lake Mead isn't easy, he says. "I've seen some that I thought would weigh 10 pounds—but they're so smart. They won't bite if they hit or see the line. I guess it's because the water's pretty clear at Mead and there's lots of angling pressure.

"I saw one largemouth bass near Saddleback Island that probably weighed over 10 pounds. I fished for that fish day and night, but it wouldn't hit anything."

Last year, Grande and his fishing partners went diving to get a closer look at big largemouth bass. They saw a school of 13 fish that all weighed between five and nine pounds. He reports, "They were just swimming around eating bluegills."

Reta Strickland of Elko has caught only one smallmouth bass in Nevada, but the one she hooked set a state record.

Reta and her husband Troy fish every week, all summer long and into autumn. Often they try three prime spots in the Elko area: Wildhorse Reservoir, the Ruby Marshes, and South Fork Reservoir.

Strickland took her state-record small-

mouth bass—a lunker weighing four pounds, 11 ounces—while fishing at South Fork with Troy in October 1991. "I didn't realize what it was when I hooked it," says Strickland, a retiree and former blackjack dealer at the Red Lion in Elko. "I thought it was a trout—it jumped like one." The smallmouth had hit a minnow-like Rapala lure she was trolling. "I got the fish right next to the boat, and then he started fighting. I needed help from Troy to net him."

The fish looked big. "Troy said, 'I think you've got a record, and I sort of laughed it off. Then we looked at the fishing booklet for the records.'" The Stricklands took the bass to the NDOW office in Elko and then to Raley's to weigh it on a certified scale.

Reta never found out whether the smallmouth was mouth-watering or not. She had the fish mounted, and



Reta Strickland hooked her record bass at South Fork.

today it hangs in the family room as a reminder of that remarkable day at South Fork.

While record-setting anglers like Reta Strickland can bask in a moment of glory—and deservedly so—their record-setting fish have had a more mixed fate. Some lunkers are shipped to the taxidermist. Others go right into the skillet.

Young Joe Burgess, though, allowed his green sunfish from Tule Springs to swim another day. After the formal measuring and photographing, Joe and his father took the record-setter back to the ponds north of Las Vegas and released it. There the fish may still lurk in the shallows, ready to be hooked by another patient angler with an eye on a record. □

Paula J. Del Giudice is a Las Vegas angler and writer. Her biggest catch in Nevada is an eight-pound mackinaw from Lake Tahoe.

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Great Nevada Picture Hunt

Announcing *Nevada Magazine's* 18th annual photo contest.

Roadside Attractions and Special Effects photography are new categories in *Nevada Magazine's* 18th annual Great Nevada Picture Hunt. You can send up to seven photos (prints or transparencies), and the judges will carefully consider each entry.

There is no charge to enter, and the contest is open to all photographers, professionals and amateurs. Entries must be postmarked by August 15, 1995.

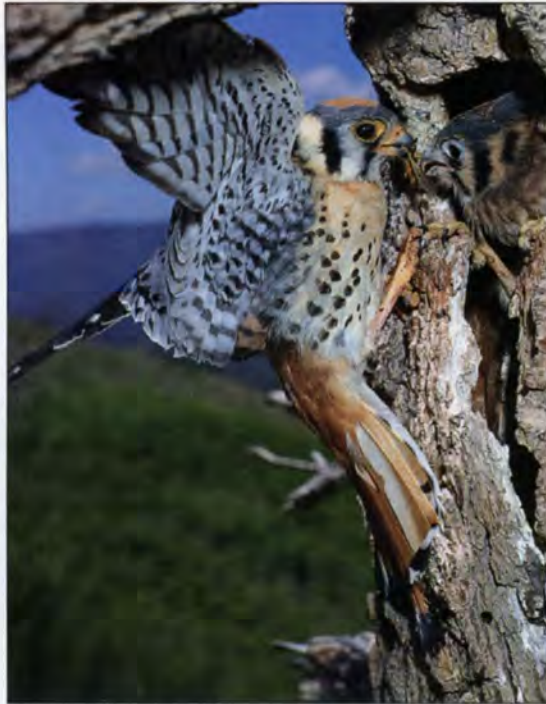
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- Roadside Attractions
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- Humor
- Outdoor Recreation
- People
- Plantlife
- Wildlife
- Rural
- Urban



Ken M. Johns of Sparks won first place overall in last year's contest for his photo "Dinner's On."

CONTEST RULES

Entries that don't follow the rules will be disqualified. The rules are:

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

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

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

Labeling: Your name and address must be on the back of each print and on each slide, along with title, location, and description.

Categories: There is no need to categorize your entries—the judges will do that for you.

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

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

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

For Return: When mailing in entries, you must enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ensure your photos' safe return. No pickups at the office.

Judging: Entries will be judged by a prestigious panel drawn from the ranks of professional photographers and magazine staff members.

Permission: Contestants grant *Nevada Magazine* permission to print winning entries in the November/December 1995 issue. Contestants also give the magazine permission to make reproductions of winning entries for use in a traveling art show and Picture Hunt slide show presentations. □

ENTRY FORM: 18TH ANNUAL GNPH—DEADLINE: AUGUST 15, 1995

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Send this form with entries to: Great Nevada Picture Hunt, Nevada Magazine, 1800 Hwy. 50 E., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89710.

When Legends Fly

A yellowed photograph recalls Amelia Earhart's stop in Battle Mountain.

By Charles E. Ross

On June 5, 1931, Amelia Earhart landed in a snapshot of Battle Mountain history. On that day, Earhart spent half an hour at the Battle Mountain airport, just long enough to gas up her Pitcairn autogiro, an experimental aircraft she was promoting, and to pose for a picture taken by local aviation buff Fred W. Altenburg.

The yellowing photograph captures a brief meeting between small-town America and one of its heroes. A schoolboy named Charles Tibbs, Jr., pictured just to the right of Earhart, was among the admirers who greeted the legendary pilot that day in Battle Mountain. With her goggles up and helmet off, the attractive young woman with the unforgettable smile clambered out of the cockpit. Tibbs, then about 12 years old, reached out a hand to steady her, and Earhart hopped to the ground and kissed him on the forehead.

More than 60 years later—his own flying career would include World War II combat missions and work as a test pilot—Tibbs, who now lives in Alabama, vividly recalls the brief encounter: "I didn't wash my face for a month."

With the exception of Tibbs' memories, Amelia's arrival in Battle Mountain is preserved only in Fred Altenburg's photograph. Altenburg, inspired by his brush with the legendary aviator, later became a pilot. He was killed in an airplane crash near Battle Mountain in 1938. His photograph was recently rediscovered in the

Earhart clambered out of the cockpit. Tibbs reached out a hand to steady her, and she hopped to the ground and kissed him on the forehead.



Amelia Earhart made a fuel stop and a lasting impression in Battle Mountain.

family album of his widow, Grace Rose, who lives in Winnemucca.

In the photo, Amelia is surrounded by other Battle Mountain residents: Standard Oil vendor Ted Chase (pouring gas), Idona Perkins (in front of the engine), Charles Tibbs, Jr., Alene Holan (with back to camera), and, to the far right, Roma Swackhamer, now Roma Hensler, who still lives in Battle Mountain. Also pictured is Pitcairn mechanic Eddie McVaugh, inspecting the rotor.

Amelia's autogiro journey was promoted by her husband, publisher George Palmer "G.P." Putnam. The trip, sponsored by Pitcairn and Beech-nut Gum, was intended to show that the autogiro was a practical, safe alternative to the airplane. The autogiro looked like a cross between an airplane and a helicopter, with a conventional airplane engine, propeller on the nose, and rotor overhead. Despite numerous marketing attempts, the exotic aircraft never caught the flying public's fancy.

At age 32, Amelia was already famous. In 1928, only a year after Lindbergh, she had become the first woman to fly over the Atlantic. No one cared that she was just a passenger on that flight. In 1929 and '30 she had been involved in air races and several record attempts. She would disappear in 1937, flying across the Pacific, in one of the great unsolved mysteries of the century.

During her stop in Battle Mountain, the aviator shook hands. She posed for pictures. She spoke encouragement to young girls. After her autogiro was gassed, Amelia flashed a smile, waved to the residents of Battle Mountain, and took off.

Amelia flew down the Humboldt River Valley, bound for Reno. Thunderstorms and dust clouds stopped her just short of Lovelock, so she landed at the Pershing Quicksilver Mine. Amelia spent the night in Lovelock, but the local newspaper didn't cover her stopover. Instead, two weeks later the *Review-Miner* reported that a dog had hitchhiked into town on someone's running board.

Ahead, Renoites had festivities planned for Amelia, but, thwarted by the weather, she arrived late and was in a hurry to be across the Sierra. After pausing only long enough to take on fuel, she left Reno bound for the West Coast, further adventures, and a remarkable fate. □

Charles E. Ross is a Sparks-based aviation consultant and technical writer

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Cracking Up at the Cracker Box

By Lou Thomas

Jerry Massad began his career as an Jegg-flipper 15 years ago when he bought a little diner in Carson City called the Cracker Box. He employed one waitress and washed the dishes himself after closing time. The place seated only two dozen customers, so Jerry had time to pull an occasional prank (like serving rubber eggs) on his regular customers.

"One time a guy said he didn't want a short stack. He just wanted one pancake," recalls Jerry, who proceeded to serve the customer a pancake—30 inches in diameter.

The Cracker Box, which resembles an old-style diner, was remodeled a couple of years ago. It now seats 74, and there are 10 full-time employees. Although the pranks are in the past, Jerry still visits with his customers, many of them regulars since he first opened.

He describes the fare as home-style. "We do things the way you do 'em at home," he says. "Almost everything on the menu is made from scratch." He says his is the only restaurant in Northern Nevada that uses the diet extra-lean grade of ground beef. The Cracker Box also serves orange and grapefruit juice fresh-squeezed to order.

At breakfast, "Our Soon to Be World Famous Spuds" is a real treat that comes with all egg dishes, including omelettes (one is called "Everything But the Kitchen Sink"). At lunch, sandwiches and burgers are the staples, but the menu offers fresh fish, steaks, liver and onions, fish and chips, deep-fried oysters, and various specials.

The Cracker Box is a favorite with folks who want to grab an early breakfast, and the place is packed during the lunch hour. If he's



Cracker Box owner Jerry Massad (left), waitress Teri Jarvis, and cook Scott Rhinesmith.

not too busy, Jerry might even stop by your table for a chat.

Just don't order one pancake.

The Cracker Box: 402 E. William St., on U.S. 50 in the middle of Carson City, 702-882-4556. Open daily 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Entrees \$3.25 to \$7.75. No credit cards.

Lou Thomas is sports editor of the Nevada Appeal and a Cracker Box regular

Vegas Valley Views at Kiefer's

By Ann Henderson

The best time to have dinner at Kiefer's Atop the Carriage House is at sundown, on a cloudy day, with a significant other you wish to impress.

From your table in the ninth-floor dining room, you'll be treated to a striking sunset. After dark, the view will change to a galaxy of city lights and the neon constellations of the nearby MGM Grand and Aladdin hotels.

Kiefer's has one of Las Vegas' best views from its perch in the Carriage House, a nongaming hotel tucked behind the Polo Towers on the Strip. Kiefer's also is known for an intimate atmosphere, fine food, excellent value, and attentive waiters—qualities that owner Randall Kiefer had



The Vegas view from Kiefer's is a highlight for the Feeney family.

Kiefer first came to Las Vegas in 1974. 'Once you've lived here, there's always a strong pull that brings you back.'

in mind when he opened the supper club in 1989.

"I wanted to create something that felt expensive but wasn't," he says. "I keep the prices moderate, include more elaborate side dishes at no extra charge, and brainwash my service staff to treat everyone equally."

The 47-year-old Kiefer started in the restaurant business in 1970 as a bouncer and eventually became vice president and founding partner of the Elephant Bar restaurant chain. He first came to Las Vegas in 1974 to open a Jeremiah's and looked for a chance to return permanently "Once you've lived here, there's always a strong pull that brings you back," he says. The chance came in 1987, when he purchased Play It Again Sam, a casual eatery on Spring Mountain Road.

Two years later he opened Kiefer's. With seating for 98, Kiefer's is comfortable and uncluttered with draped tables and bamboo chairs. Strings of tiny lights make the room seem cozy but don't detract from the main attraction—the view of the Las Vegas Valley.

The menu has seafood, pork, beef, and pasta entrees. A popular dish is Kiefer's Catch, a poached orange roughly layered with crab meat and cheese and stuffed in a puff pastry. For the more adventurous, Black Lobster Ravioli consists of pasta dyed with squid ink (a natural, tasteless dye), stuffed with lobster, blended with mushrooms and snow peas, and served in a champagne cream sauce. Both are \$18.95.

Music from the piano bar enhances the mood on Friday and Saturday nights. Of course, the view needs no enhancement at all.

Kiefer's Atop the Carriage House: 105 E. Harmon Ave., Las Vegas. Reservations 702-739-8000. Open 5 to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. Entrees \$17 to \$22. Major credit cards. ♡

Ann Henderson is Nevada Magazine's Las Vegas representative.

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Letters

(Continued from page 7)

was the excitement of my first and only Nevada traffic citation earned on U.S. 95 en route to Tonopah.

That evening we had the enriching experience of driving U.S. 6 to Ely, and between 4:30 and 7 p.m. we saw a grand total of three cars in 170 miles. It is my belief that the Nevada Department of Transportation has a sneaky Ely or Tonopah resident doing the counting. No way are 160 cars daily traveling U.S. 6, if at a weekday rush hour there were only three in view

Bob Bradley
Los Angeles, CA

A Sign of Omission

We went to Rogers Spring from Las Vegas one day after reading about it in March/April's "Roadside Attractions." Your description of the spring was a joke. The algae was very apparent, and there was a sign that said, "Do not allow water to enter your nose. An amoeba common to thermal pools may enter causing a rare infection and death." We were appalled. To think that a magazine would endorse such a place is unthinkable. I would advise that this place be closed to the public.

Dale Goldsworthy
Union Grove, WI

Dale, thanks for pointing out the sign at Rogers Spring. (Thanks also to Ann M. Jones of La Mesa, CA.) Karen Whitney, public affairs officer at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, says the signs were posted several years ago at all the thermal springs in the park as a precaution against Naegleria fowleri, a waterborne amoeba. She says the tiny creatures have been known to cause a rare infection and can be hazardous if they get into your nose. While there has never been a problem reported at the springs at Lake Mead, the signs recommend that swimmers keep their heads above the water as a precaution.—Ed.

The Naked Truth

I read in last issue's "Letters" that Anthony J. Bianchino of Saratoga Springs, New York, wants someone with their clothing on to be on the magazine cover (March/April '95 issue). My Nevada Magazine has a clothed person on the cover. Why am I getting the G version of the magazine while Anthony is getting the R-rated version?

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FINDING THE STORE

(Continued from page 17)

cantile, bar, cafe, cabins, and camper hookups in hunting and fishing country. 702-756-6500.

Tremwam's Store in Mountain City, 84 miles north of Elko on State Route 225. 702-763-6621.

Eureka

The General Store on U.S. 50, on the east side of town. Historic building, owned nearly 30 years by Leona "Ma" Rowley. Groceries, grain, books, and Wednesday doughnuts. 702-237-5333.

Raine's Market, in downtown Eureka, was built in 1879 and has an ornate pressed-tin ceiling and mounted elk heads. General store with groceries, clothes, and even a Western Union office. 702-237-5296.

Ely Area

Carter's Country Store in Lund on State Route 318. Family store in Mormon country, gathering spot, groceries, but no liquor, cigarettes, or hot coffee. 702-238-5260.

Chuck and Bessie's Stage Stop at Lages Station at the intersection of U.S. 93 and Alternate U.S. 93, 59 miles north of Ely. Small store, bar, cafe, motel, and RV park. Pool table and wood-burning stove. 702-591-0397

Goshute Mercantile in Currie, 62 miles south



Alamo Food Town, formerly Shumway's, beckons all types of rural wanderers.

of Wells on U.S. 93. Old country store with bar, cafe, RV park, and motel. Gifts, burgers, and pool table. Historic Nevada Northern railroad station nearby. 702-591-0444.

Lane's Travel Store in Preston, just north of Lund on State Route 318. Small store, cafe, motel, and truck stop. 702-238-5230.

Steadman's in Baker near Great Basin National Park, five miles south of U.S. 50. Groceries, household supplies, liquor and pop, auto parts, fishing, and camping supplies. Gathering spot, fishing tips. 702-234-7264.

Willow Creek Trading Post is 17 miles south of Ely off U.S. 93. Buffalo burgers and live buffalo to feed, other ranch animals, mini-museum. 702-289-5402.

Pioche Area

Alamo Food Town off U.S. 93 in Alamo, 93 miles north of Las Vegas. Fairly large country market with groceries, meats, some hardware. May be enlarged this year and moved to the highway. 702-725-3341.

Caliente Food Town in Caliente across the railroad tracks from U.S. 93. Large community market. 702-726-3386.

Eagle Valley Resort on State Route 322 near Spring Valley State Park, 18 miles east of Pioche. Tiny store and RV park. Canned goods, pop, and lots of liquor. 702-962-5293.

Lincoln County Market in Pioche, off U.S. 93, 20 miles north of Caliente. Community market with fresh cuts, produce, and store-baked breads and cakes. 702-962-5811.

Panaca Market in Panaca, between Pioche and Caliente on State Route 319. Family store, gathering place, hardware. 702-728-4454.

R Place in Ash Springs on U.S. 93, 103 miles north of Las Vegas. Small store, RV park, and gas station. Always open. Natural hot springs across the highway. 702-725-3545.

Las Vegas Area

The **Village Market and Mercantile** in downtown Blue Diamond off State Route 160, 17 miles southwest of Las Vegas. Antiques, convenience store, and lunch spot. 702-875-4207

—Kate Butler

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The real Charlatans at the Red Dog, from left: Mike Wilhelm, George Hunter, Richard Olsen, Dan Hicks, and Michael Ferguson.

ROCKIN' AT THE RED DOG

Thirty summers ago in Virginia City, the seminal Red Dog Saloon showed America how to dance again.

BY CHANDLER LAUGHLIN

Drinking and dancing at 6,000 feet can take their toll, which is how the divorcée from Vermont happened to be camped upstairs in the Bridal Suite at the Red Dog Saloon. As chief publicist and head gofer of America's first Gourmet Rock and Roll Saloon, I had an early pick of the upstairs rooms, and the view down Six Mile Canyon more than made up for the hearts, bows, and cupids dancing across the wallpaper. Life was good upstairs at the Red Dog.

The only fly in my particular soup was Dan Hicks' cat, whose discovery of a missing floorboard in his closet upstairs led to a spreading stain and pungent odor in the ceiling corner of my happy hideaway. This time, as I awoke to the sound of kitty scratching at 5 a.m.,

it was just too much. Rolling over, I grabbed my pistol (a turn-of-the-century 32/20 Colt police positive) from the gun belt (a Mexican buscadero cross draw with an embroidered eagle between the double buckles in front) hanging on the bedpost and snapped off two quick rounds into the corner. This deterred the cat but roused the lady from Vermont, who failed entirely to appreciate the idea of shooting inside the hotel, particularly at kitty cats. She moved down the hall with a carpenter that very morning. Life was never dull upstairs at the Red Dog.

Historically, San Francisco owes much of its culture and image to the vast riches of Nevada's Com-

stock Lode and the queen of that mining boom, Virginia City. Comstock gold in Frisco banks built The City and its fortunes and then rebuilt them in the wake of every fire and disaster that befell the city by the bay.

Less well known, however, is the role Virginia City played in the musical explosion that became San Francisco Rock and Roll in the late '60s. If San Francisco was the birthplace of '60s rock, Virginia City was the site of the seduction, and the act itself was consummated at the Red Dog Saloon.

It was the summer of '65 when Comstock residents Don Works and Mark Unobsky and an assortment of their California cohorts, myself included, refurbished the old Comstock House, a

Before the evening was over, Lynne Hughes was singing with her first band, the governor was dancing with the barmaid, and the D.A. was buying a round.

three-story hotel, saloon, and eatery at the north end of Virginia City's C Street commercial district. The building had been closed for a couple of years before Mark bought it, so the plumbing had frozen on every floor. David Mitchell from over Auburn way was our plumber, and for weeks we had boiling-hot water in the commodes and nothing in the showers.

When the county told us we had to rip out the entire kitchen, pour a buttressed retaining wall, and refit the whole cooking system, it became obvious we had to bring in some quality construction help. The best builder-artists in the Bay Area lived on the houseboats in the old Sausalito shipyards, and a quick trip to the coast fetched back a half dozen of the finer craftsmen to the mountains. Doyle Nance and Dean Blackmore built the new bar top and stage. Bill Harner and Steve Henry did the covered porch and kitchen.

All hands turned out for the great cement cascade from B Street, high above the newly excavated kitchen. We had go-go waitresses, guitar players, cabinetmakers, and several local miners with shovels hanging on the hillside to move the mess of concrete. It turned into a mud party, and everyone had to repair to Hobo Hot Springs in Carson Valley, the showers being disabled again.



Michael Ferguson, who played piano, created the band's poster and the Red Dog logo.

Upon completion of the project, all hands, from the pretty bookkeeper to the lowliest plumber and painter, suddenly transformed themselves into costumed characters in a wild Western *musicale* that stretched day-trip tourism into all-night boogie. Everyone wore clothes intended to appear at least a century old, the guys in vests and Stetsons, the ladies in dresses with dance-hall décolletage. You could walk into the Red Dog and see people in the back playing cards, cleaning their guns, ready to go rustle a few cows at a moment's notice. There would be music, too. It was the middle '60s, and nobody had invented hippies, dance concerts, or

even rock bands yet. The Red Dog was about to change the tenor of the times.

Originally conceived as a folk club with fine dining, the Red Dog was to be modeled on the classic *Gunsmoke* film-set saloon, complete with Miss Kitty, a bluesy torch singer from Seattle named Lynne Hughes, who had been imported specifically for the role. The concept changed when I fell in with a group of self-styled folk-rock musicians from San Francisco's notorious North Beach called the Charlatans. This pioneering ensemble consisted of Mike Wilhelm, Michael Ferguson, Richard Olsen, Dan Hicks, and George Hunter. Considering that their first public performance together was their Virginia City audition at the Red Dog, the name was to prove prophetic.

I had first met them in North Beach. I had talked to a guy about this new band named the Charlatans, and that night I



The C Street landmark appears on an old postcard.

saw these two old Western-looking longhairs at the Coffee Gallery. They were watching me because we were the only longhairs in the place, so I said, you must be the Charlatans, and they said, you must be from Nevada. Before I finished my errands in The City and got back up the mountain, they had arrived in Virginia City and become the Red Dog's house band.

There was something about the Charlatans that made people want to stand up and dance. The music was the loudest thing in Virginia City since the mines and mills shut down in the '40s, but by modern rock standards the sound was laughable: one Fender Twin Reverb amp shared by both the guitar and a tiny piano originally intended for military church services in the field. The bass player, Richard Olsen, had his own small amp, and several microphones were mixed in a sound system that also fed an amazing automated light show on the wall behind Dan Hicks, the drummer. The light show and music art forms had come together in art happenings in San Francisco, but the one ingredient to make the mix explode was still missing until the Red Dog Saloon's grand opening, when Nevada taught America how to dance again.

It was opening night, and the guests had enjoyed a gourmet meal of Crab Louis prepared by Jenna Nichols, our head chef-accordionist in the back kitchen. The crowd at the bar was busily polishing the new plank with whiskey. The back-bar mirrors gleamed



Painter-bartender Don Works with his '37 Cadillac and the author (above), in the '60s.

in the light of the antique chandeliers. Governor Grant Sawyer was ensconced at a back table with Storey County Democrats in attendance, and the can-can costumed cocktail wenches were doing big business when the band launched into their remembrance of "Alabama Bound," one of their best tunes since all members could recall how it went, more or less.

The audience listened with the after-dinner ennui that makes casino lounge acts despair of show business. Suddenly a tall, skinny longhair with a cowboy hat took the tray from a tiny blonde cocktail waitress and led her into the colored lights of the dance floor, where they proceeded to frug, pony, and bop to the momentary amazement of all observers. Momentary, because longhairs and locals alike suddenly seemed to get the message and decamped toward the bandstand like jitterbugs at a Dorsey date. It was Dance Hall Time again in the High West.

Before the evening was over, Lynne Hughes was singing with her first band, the governor was dancing with the barmaid, the district attorney was buying the house a round, and rock 'n' roll was the new rush in the old gold camp.

Between the music, the food, and the Comstock location, the script just seemed to write itself at the Red Dog. The only rule was: Never Appear Downstairs Out of Character. We all understood that our image was our disguise, and we took pains to look more like old Virginia City than anyone else on C Street. We were the classic saloon down at the wrong end of town, with loose women, armed men, and a rowdy crowd at best.

The Charlatans were already into a semi-Edwardian image drawn from the thrift stores of The City, and their long hair, velvet vests, ruffled shirts, and waistcoats fit right in with the Red Dog ambience once they added Winchester rifles and derringers to properly dress their set for the evening show. A seamstress from Frisco showed up to make long skirts for all the Red Dog women, who were drifting in as band followers, waitresses, kitchen help, or whatever it took to join the show. I was traveling to The City every two weeks for supplies, including cocktail waitresses capable of working in the elbow-room crowds the club was attracting every night.

Our door man was "Washoe Mike" Jones, the chosen next chief of the Woodfords band of his tribe, and the biggest Indian for a hundred miles. At six-five and 300 pounds, wearing a top hat and a purple velvet sash with gold braid and mystic symbols from the Order of the Eastern Star, Mike could calm the flaring tempers of drink with a sweet smile and a quiet inquiry as to the nature of the problem. He kept the peace among Navy flyers, outlaw bikers, local characters, and the Reno high lifers who came to play six nights a week.

Throughout the summer the Red Dog Saloon attracted the young and energetic from Reno and Tahoe as well as weekenders from the Bay Area who had heard rumors of good times on the Comstock. Politicians brought dinner parties for Jenna's famous Greek Lemon Soup and Chicken Apricot Glacé. Motorcycle clubs and off-shift dealers from the Lake converged on weeknights, and a good time was had by all despite

THE 'RED DOG' MOVIE

A documentary film, *The Life and Times of the Red Dog Saloon*, is being completed by Mary Works of Silver City. Works, who wrote, directed, and produced the feature-length film, says it should be released this fall and begin making the festival circuit.

The movie grew out of a Red Dog reunion held on the Comstock in 1991, says the 27-year-old filmmaker, whose father, Don Works, is one of the original Red Dog crew.

Mary notes that the film will cover "the Red Dog's role in the social, musical, and artistic revolution of the '60s," not to mention such vignettes as the time everyone at the Virginia City saloon got deputized.



Lynne Hughes began her singing career at the Red Dog.

grumblings from the town elders, most of whom owned bars at the other end of town, where the sidewalks still rolled up after dark.

However, Pat Hart, proprietor of the Brass Rail across the street, loved us

dearly. Our overflow crowds between sets went to the Rail to drink when the Red Dog bar was three deep and running behind. Penna, his ever-patient wife, would open her tiny street window over the grill, toss some onions on to fry, and sell half a hundred hamburgers in half an hour.

But rumors began to spread of pot smoking, psychedelics, underage runaways, and renegade Indians dressed in top hats and velvet sashes. Although most of the stories were figments of jealous imaginations, there was enough truth to the description to make folks edgy as the Red Dog partied on into the morning hours. We were the action, and beatnik folkies from all over America seemed to sense it and want in on the fun. The periodic arrival of ragged bands of longhair musicians from Berkeley and Portland added to the legend, and when gunplay was used to stop a brawl between the sailors and

the Indians, tension peaked on old Sun Mountain.

Neal Cassidy, Jack Kerouac's model for Dean Moriarty, the Beat outlaw hero of *On the Road*, arrived at the Red Dog in August, headed for a gathering of

Beats in New York. In his usual style he blew up his Chevy on Geiger Grade and had to coast the last four miles into town. I agreed to sell Neal my great truck, a '47 International with a WWII Cadillac tank engine and a Clark five-speed box (capable of making 80 mph across the Sonora Desert ahead of the federales of two countries), which had been hiding in a shed at an old landing strip out past the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation for two years. If the feds still wanted the truck, who better to talk to the authorities than America's premier rap artist of the time?

By the time we got back from Pyramid, tuned the truck, and kissed Neal goodbye, the Merry Pranksters in Ken Kesey's bus were headed our way, as was the sheriff, who had just been cabled from Rodeo, California, with news. On Labor Day weekend, 1965, the Charlatans' guitarist, Mike Wilhelm, and I got caught returning from a shopping trip to The City with a broken car and a pound of marijuana in Rodeo. In the ensuing panic the Red Dog Saloon closed its doors for the season.

The Charlatans decamped immediately for Frisco, where, together with Lynne Hughes again, they played the first San Francisco rock dances for the Family Dog at the Longshoremen's Hall.

By the next summer, when the Red Dog reopened for its last season, San Francisco dance halls were already a going concern. Several Bay Area bands including Big Brother and the Holding Company played Virginia City's premier nightclub, but the focus had shifted to San Francisco, where music was making history, far from the Red Dog Saloon. □

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The Charlatans, the Red Dog's incomparable house band, broke up in the '70s after a checkered career in San Francisco dance halls.

Guitarist Mike Wilhelm formed his own band, Loose Gravel, toured with the Flaming Groovies, and now runs a coffee house in San Francisco. He has recorded two albums and still plays occasionally as a single in The City.

Piano player Michael Ferguson formed Tongue & Groove with Lynne Hughes, making one record in 1968. He continued to do poster art and record covers for San Francisco rock events until his death in the middle '70s.

Lynne Hughes recorded with T&G and

had a record of her own, "Freeway Gypsy," before joining up with Stoneground on the movie *Medicine Ball Caravan*. She had a hit single, "Passion Flower," with Stoneground but left to join the Sutro Symphony Orchestra back in Nevada. She performed with Sutro until the late '70s. Lynne died in 1993 at her home in Silver City where she was a community leader.

Bass player Richard Olsen built Pacific High recording studio in San Francisco, recording many of the top bands of the era. He and Wilhelm recorded one record with a revamped Charlatans. Olsen later formed Richard Olsen and His Big Band, specializing in society parties with a blend of contemporary and swing styles that charm

dancers across the generations.

Drummer Dan Hicks broke away for a career of sardonic songwriting and eccentric performances, recorded a number of albums as Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks, and today periodically tours with his new band, the Acoustic Warriors.

George Hunter, who never progressed beyond auto harp as a musician, returned to his first love, style and design. His World Propaganda agency produced numerous fine cover paintings for the booming Frisco recording industry through the '70s. He is still on the edge of design innovation somewhere north of San Francisco, where he is rumored to be working in high-style furniture.

Chandler Laughlin got out of jail, worked for Tom Donahue at KMPX and KSAN in San Francisco, became a talk host-news analyst, and is still at large.

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Laughlin's a Hot Spot

(Continued from page 19)

had 80-plus-degree weather since February, anything under 100 is "cool."

In summer, business people in Laughlin follow the "three digit rule." That is, when the temperature goes over three digits, the rules of business dress fly out the window.

Ties come off. Slips and nylons are not seen again until November. The only people wearing jackets are obviously from out of town. This is one of the few areas in the country where shorts are considered proper business attire.

Locals don't go out in the heat of day unless it's absolutely necessary. They also know it's cooler at noon than at 5 p.m. The ground, which has been baking all day, begins to let off heat after the sun dips to the west. So it's wise to complete outside errands before two in the afternoon. Linda, a cocktail waitress, says, "I try to go to the stores early, before the tar in the asphalt starts melting."

Golfers rise early. "If we get out at 7 a.m., we can play nine holes before it gets too hot," says Joe, a dealer who is an avid golfer. "We have the course to ourselves most of the time, and the rates are cheaper."

In summer Laughlinites tend to develop a strange sense of humor, possibly from being in the sun too long. One resident raised the idea of producing bumper stickers that read, "Welcome to Laughlin—Hell Is Cooler." However, the chamber of commerce didn't think it was such a hot idea.

New visitors do double-takes in early summer when seeing residents greeting each other and stopping to chat. They will raise their hands high above their heads while talking. It's called the "Laughlin Wave."

There is a reason for this odd habit—gnats. The river banks are a prime breeding spot for the pesky insects. As any local will tell you, gnats swarm to the highest part of the body—and better your hands than your face.

"If you've ever sucked a gnat up your nose while standing outside talking, you would try anything," explains Mary, a cocktail waitress. She notes that it's a good isometric exercise besides.

Whether you're in the swim or doing the Wave, enjoying Laughlin in the summertime is mostly a matter of adapting to the low-desert climate. Here are a few tips garnered from knowledgeable

locals that will ensure a good time and relief from the heat.

- Bring sunscreen. The bigger the SPF number the better. If there is anything on the market in the mid-1,000s, buy that.

- Wear a hat and light-colored clothing.

- Drink lots of water. Sling a water bottle in a mesh carrier over your shoulder while you take in the sights.

- Bring some Avon Skin So Soft bath oil or moisturizing lotion, which is a great repellent for gnats. No one knows why it works—it just does. Use it liberally all over your body. Combing some through your hair will help keep gnats from swarming at the top of your head. Also, try the Laughlin Wave.

- Don't forget the alarm clock if you're a golfer. Be on the links by 7 a.m.

- Watch for low room rates.

- Maintain a sunny disposition. Practice jokes about warm hospitality and hot deals. Remember that a sense of humor about the heat will stand you in good stead as you vacation in one of America's "hottest" destinations. □

Marie Harrell is a Laughlin resident who is trying to invent a slot machine that also works as a swamp cooler

Fun in the Sun

Laughlin has nine hotel-casinos: the Colorado Belle, Edgewater, Flamingo Hilton, Golden Nugget, Gold River, Harrah's Laughlin, Pioneer, Ramada Express, and the Riverside. The new Avi Hotel is 10 miles south. Also in town are the Regency Casino and the nongaming Bayshore Inn.

Laughlin proper has a total of 11,163 hotel rooms.

Visitors can tap several sources of information on Laughlin. Contact the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce, Box 7777, Laughlin, NV 89028; phone 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245. Or the Laughlin Visitor Bureau, Box 29849, Laughlin, NV 89029; phone 702-298-3022. Or call 800-4-LAUGHLIN.



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Flicks to Watch For

Where to see the Silver State on the silver screen.

By Robin Holabird

Moviegoers have seen the Silver State on film since classics like James Cruze's *The Covered Wagon* and John Ford's *The Iron Horse* used Nevada's open spaces as a backdrop in the 1920s. Following are 10 new movies, recently released or due out shortly, that star Nevada settings.

1 *Bushwhacked*: In this comedy *Home Alone* burglar Daniel Stern plays an on-the-lam city slicker who leads a group of 10-year-olds into the wilderness. Tahoe locations range from Echo Summit to studio interiors in Incline's old Outdoorsman store. Watch for Stern's zany campfire scene—it was filmed inside a Sparks warehouse.

2 *Showgirls*: Paul Verhoeven's erotic film was made mostly in Las Vegas, using Luxor exteriors and Stardust interiors. Key show numbers were staged at the Lake Tahoe Horizon. Moviegoers will spot Elizabeth Berkeley (*Saved by the Bell*) hitchhiking on U.S. 395 near Armio's restaurant in Carson City. During filming a trucker stopped for Berkeley, but she declined the ride.

3 *The Dead Man*: Last fall, just weeks after he ran up a \$9,000 damage bill in a New York hotel room, Johnny Depp stayed at Brian and Mary Bills' Mackay Mansion in Virginia City while on location. The heartthrob left little more than a couple of cigarette butts in an ashtray as he stayed up all night hunting the halls for the mansion's rumored ghost. Director Jim Jarmusch (*Night on Earth*) filmed at the Gold Hill Depot and Crown Point Mill.

4 *Sydney*: Three years ago Paul Thomas Anderson soaked up Reno's casino atmosphere at the Peppermill



Daniel Stern (above) trained for *Bushwhacked* with daily Tahoe swims.

while working as a production assistant on Robert Conrad's *Sworn to Vengeance*. Since then the 24-year-old writer-director has written *Sydney*, about a local gambling character, and landed a cast that includes Samuel L. Jackson, Philip Baker Hall, and Gwynneth Paltrow. The Las Vegas casino you see early in the movie is John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, and a sportsbook scene was shot at the Eldorado. Most other casino interiors were filmed at the Peppermill.

5 *Casino*: Martin Scorsese insisted on real Las Vegas locations when he filmed *Casino*, which explores the dynamics of tough people in a tough business. Production designer Dante Ferretti gave the Riviera's casino a mid-'70s feel and added palm trees and North African touches to the Landmark. Scorsese's crew stayed for more than 100 shooting days, allowing stars Sharon Stone, Joe Pesci, Robert De Niro, and James Woods to pass for locals.

6 *Leaving Las Vegas*: Nicholas Cage, star of 1992's *Honeymoon in Vegas*, returned for *Leaving Las Vegas* last fall. Most of the shooting shifted to Laughlin, where the crew filmed and stayed at the Gold River Hotel.

7 *Bogus*: Whoopi Goldberg teams with Gerard Depardieu (*Green Card*), who plays the imaginary friend of a young boy whose mother works at the Tropicana in Las Vegas.

8 *Pretty Hattie's Baby*: Sadly, this film is on the shelf. Two days short of completion in 1990, its producers ran out of money. Additional backers are being sought for the film, which is based on a true story. Alfre Woodard plays a Reno maid who adopts a

baby of mixed race, or so it seems until the child grows up and discovers her real background. Locations include the Nevada Club, Flamingo Hilton Reno (with Jill Clayburgh), Sands Regency, and Black Springs Baptist Church.

9 *After the Game*: Finding Elko was "cosmic" for first-time director Brewster MacWilliams. Scouting for his movie's fictional King Casino last year, he drove into Elko, and there it was—White King, the giant polar bear on the Commercial Hotel. MacWilliams also filmed at Pete's Lucky 7 Bar, Lamoille, and the Mountain City Highway.

10 *Eddie and Pen*: The title refers to two women who meet on a flight to Reno, where they plan to divorce their husbands. Written by actress Victoria Tennant (*L.A. Story*), the movie highlights Reno's country-western scene with Scott Glenn as a love interest for Stockard Channing. Locations include the Reno airport, the Reno Hilton, and Washoe County Courthouse. The Hilton plans a special screening next winter as part of a new film festival. □

Robin Holabird is deputy director of the Nevada Motion Picture Division and heads its Reno-Tahoe office.



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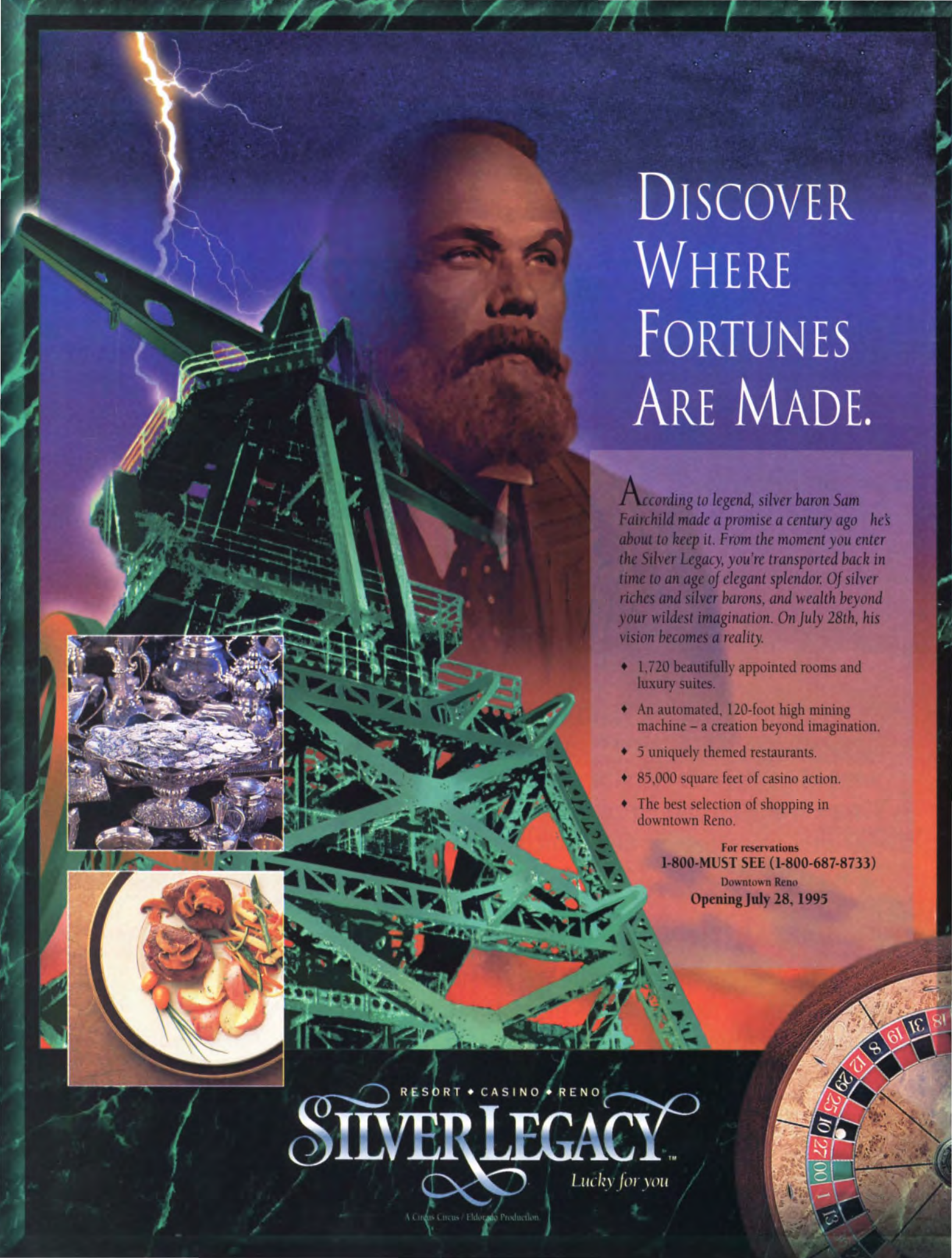
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NEVADA *Events & Shows*

Section of Nevada Magazine

July/August 1995

Rally Riders

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SPOTLIGHT



Rib recipes, special sauces, and napkins will be in high demand at the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off, September 1-4.

STATE FARE

What's cookin' this summer? Lots of food festivals.

By Kathleen Berry

The veterans say: Don't eat for days. Bring bibs for the kids. And don't wear white—a shirt the color of barbecue sauce is better. Then you're ready for the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off in Sparks, September 1-4, and a mouth-watering good time.

Admittedly, the event's name is misleading. These are not the West's best ribs—they are the nation's best. Each of the 30 competitors is thoroughly scouted by John Ascuaga's Nugget before being invited. The result is a rack of rib chefs willing to test every technique in their quest for \$14,500 in prizes.

"You will not find a better rib than a Nugget cook-off rib," says five-year-veteran rib judge Ginger Johnston, and Johnston should know. She's the food editor of the *Portland Oregonian*. "Each cook has a different style. But they all have one thing in common. They've perfected their methodology for creating the finest pork ribs."

Ahh, it's the ultimate hog heaven.

Ambrosial smoke meanders from grills as the ribs sear over open fires. The ribs are prepared every way imaginable: smoked, marinated, basted, and even



Kids are champs at eating finger foods.

rubbed. After they're topped off with special sauces, you'll find that licking your fingers is half the fun.

Samplers consisting of two ribs cost \$3. Complete meals are \$6 to \$8 and come with side dishes such as corn on the cob, beans, corn bread, coleslaw, and rolls.

You'll find plenty of non-edible activities on Victorian Square. The square will have 125 arts and crafts booths. While you shop, the kids can join the children's activities, such as meeting the Nugget spokeselephants, Bertha and Angel. In past years the Nugget has offered train rides for the youngsters.

Free open-air concerts take place on four separate stages. The schedule is still simmering, but past acts have included America, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Juice Newton, Mumbo Gumbo, and Little Charlie and the Nightcats.

The event is a good way to cap off the barbecue season—even if you do splatter sauce on your favorite shirt. The ribs will sizzle from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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Friday through Sunday. On Monday, Labor Day the festivities will cook from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event, entertainment, and parking are all free. For more information on the rib cook-off call John Ascuaga's Nugget at 800-648-1177

Kathleen Berry is a Sparks-based travel writer who has dared to wear white while eating ribs.

Summer Food Fests

Throughout the summer in Nevada, food lovers will find other events that tempt the taste buds.

The Carson Valley Heritage Day Chili Cook-Off on July 8 will bring a hometown flavor to Minden Park, where chili tasting, an arts and crafts fair, and clowns will be on the menu. Call 702-782-8144 for information.

In Hawthorne, the Veterans of Foreign Wars will be hosting a Chili Cook-Off on July 15 at the VFW Hall. Contestants can win awards in two categories—with or without beans. Poppa Clutch and the Shifters, a popular Northern Nevada band, and the Nevada Cloggers, an all-female dance troupe, are the



The grape-stomping contest is a hit at Reno's Great Italian Festival, October 7-8.

scheduled entertainment. For information call 702-945-2313.

The Las Vegas Department of Parks and Leisure Activities will present a Hawaiian Luau at Stupak Community Center on July 29. Besides Hawaiian food and dancers in grass skirts, the luau will have a penny carnival. Call 702-



The National Automobile Museum in Reno is holding two old-fashioned ice cream socials.

229-2488 for more information.

Old-fashioned **ice cream socials** are another way to beat the heat. The National Automobile Museum in Reno hosts two this summer, on July 15 and August 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum will be decorated like a turn-of-the-century street with patio tables and ice cream stations, and Dixieland bands and barbershop quartets will perform. Admission to the museum includes ice cream and toppings and costs \$7.50 for adults, \$6.50 for seniors, \$2.50 for children six to 18, and is free for children under five. Parking is free in the museum's lot on Mill Street. For more information call 702-333-9300.

Nevada's Basque celebrations are noted for uniquely prepared standards such as steak, lamb, and seafood. Freshly baked sheepherder's bread and lots of red wine also are found at Basque festivities. For something special, you'll want to be on the lookout for libations like picon punch. The **National Basque Festival** in Elko is June 30 to July 4. The **Reno Basque Festival** will be held in Reno and Sparks on August 19-20. The **Las Vegas Basque Picnic** is scheduled for October 14-15. The **Winnemucca Basque Festival** takes place every June.—*Katherine McDonnell*

Still Cookin'

The remaining 1995 food festivals in the state include:

Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 1-4, 10th annual, Fallon, 702-423-2544

"Ho'olaule'a '95" Pacific Island Festival, Sept. 16-17, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383

Genoa Candy Dance, Sept. 23-24, 702-782-TOWN

Greek Food Festival, Sept. 23-24, 23rd annual culinary gathering, Las Vegas, 702-221-8245

World Championship Chili-Cook-Off and Americana Food Festival, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Reno, 702-686-3047

Octoberfest, Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Laughlin, 702-298-6231

Grape Stomp, Oct. 7, Pahrump Valley Vineyards, 702-727-6900



Chilis are stewing at upcoming cook-offs.

Great Italian Festival, Oct. 7-8, 14th annual, Reno, 702-789-0490

High Desert Chili Cook-Off and Chuckwagon Barbecue, Oct. 14, includes a home-brew tasting competition, Saddle West Casino, Pahrump, 727-1111

Smith Valley has held its **Strawberry Festival** every May since 1895, and Las Vegas hosts the **International Food Festival** in May

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Las Vegas Territory

EVENTS

July

- Clay Series of the Nevada Clay Guild**, thru July 4, collection of raku, saggar, high fire, low fire pit, and sawdust clay works, Sunrise Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 453-1104
- The Fetish Carvers of Zuni**, thru July 29, 130 fetish carvings, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955
- Off the Cutting Room Floor**, thru Aug. 8, architecture and furniture designs by Eric Strain, Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575
- Las Vegas Strip Sign Artists**, thru Sept. 7, Green Valley Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 435-1840
- "Bats,"** thru Oct. 1996, exhibit featuring species common to Las Vegas Valley and the Spring Mountains, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205
- Laughlin Fourth of July Weekend**, July 1-4, barbecue in Town Square, fireworks, 298-6231
- Beale Street Blues Band**, July 4, part of the Fourth of July celebration, fairgrounds, Logandale, 398-3895
- Campbell Soup's 1995 Tour of World Figure Skating Champions**, July 4, 8pm, tickets \$30 and \$45, MGM Grand Garden, Las Vegas, 474-4000
- July Fourth Damboree**, July 4, parade 9am, games, band concert, carnival, fireworks at the old airport, Central Park, Boulder City, 293-2034
- Las Vegas July Fourth Fireworks**, July 4, 44th annual, Sam Boyd Stadium, 895-3900
- Mesquite July Fourth Celebration**, July 4, fireworks, Pioneer Park, 346-2902

TERRITORY MAP



"American Superstars" at the Luxor in Las Vegas is a song-and-dance tribute to legendary entertainers like Elvis Presley and Sammy Davis, Jr

- Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus**, July 6-9, Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900
- Unspeakable Places**, July 7-Aug. 29, iris-photo prints of the Southwest desert by Mark Andrew, watercolors, Laughlin Library Gallery, 298-1081
- Gun and Knife Show**, July 8-9, Henderson Convention Center, 855-8095
- Nevada Camera Club Citywide Slide Exhibition**, July 11-Sept. 17 12th annual, Spring Valley Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 368-4411
- "Singing in the Rain,"** July 12-19 and 23-26, bring blanket and picnic dinner, \$2-\$6 admission, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY
- Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social**, July 13, Mirabelli Community Center, Las Vegas, 229-6359
- World Junior Frisbee Competition**, July 13, Robison Community School, Las Vegas, 495-0201
- Gun and Knife Show**, July 15-16, Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 800-333-GUNS
- Freeway Philharmonic**, July 22, chapman stick, viola, guitar, and drumcussion quartet plays jazz, pop, rock, and classical music, Sammy Davis, Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6383
- Antique and Collector's Fairs**, July 22-23, Cash-

- man Field, Las Vegas, 813-345-4431**
- Dusk Hike**, July 23, walk through Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, meet at tour gate by main pasture at 6pm, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141
- Friday Night at the Fights**, July 28, choreography from the National Stage Combat Workshop, 8pm, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 895-3801
- Bridal Spectacular '95**, July 28-30, Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 258-0188
- Hawaiian Luau**, July 29, food, dancers, entertainment, penny carnival, Stupak Community Center, Las Vegas, 229-2488

August

- Great Duck Derby Adoptions**, Aug. 2-Sept. 17 race will be held in the Wave Pool at Wet 'n Wild on the Strip Sept. 17, fundraiser for Goodwill Industries, Las Vegas, 431-2592
- Good Old Summertime**, Aug. 5, street party, north and south Escalante plazas, Boulder City, 293-2034
- "Oliver,"** Aug. 9-12, 16-18, and 23-26, Charles Dickens story, bring blanket and picnic dinner, \$2-\$6 admission, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY
- Alphabet Banners**, Aug. 10-Oct. 15, large-scale fabric wall hangings by Ray Lawson, Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575
- Nevada Rally**, Aug. 12-13 and 20, 2,006-mile off-road motorcycle race, begins and ends in Las Vegas, qualifying rounds at Las Vegas Speedway Aug. 12, Showboat Hotel is host, Las Vegas, 385-9123 or 619-562-1440
- The All Girl Boys**, Aug. 13, bluegrass concert, Jaycee Park, Las Vegas, 229-6383
- People, Places, and Postscripts: Inside a Reporter's Notebook**, Aug. 15-Nov. 14, b&w photos by Las Vegas reporter Art Nadler depicting people and scenes, Summerlin Library and Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 733-3601
- Nevada Rally in Mesquite**, Aug. 19-20, off-road motorcycle race on 2,006-mile loop starting in Las Vegas (Aug. 12-20), racers also visit Tonopah, Fallon, Winnemucca, Elko, and Ely, 619-562-6687
- Dave Mallett and Northern Lights**, Aug. 20, bluegrass concert, Jaycee Park, Las Vegas, 229-6383
- Cat Show**, Aug. 25-27 Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 565-5988

COMING EVENTS

- Labor Day Lunacy**, Sept. 5-8, Laughlin, 298-6231
- Pacific Island Festival**, Sept. 16-17 Las Vegas, 229-6383

PREVIEW



The International Nevada Rally, August 12-20, begins in Las Vegas and winds through the backcountry and six other towns.

Rally Around Nevada

The International Nevada Rally, a 2,006-mile motorcycle race across the backroads of Nevada, is a test of off-road riding skills that includes grueling days on the trail. Riders from around the world will gather August 12-20 to meet Nevadans and challenge the state's unique terrain.

The Showboat Hotel in Las Vegas will again host pre- and post-race activities. Qualifying rounds will take place at the Las Vegas Speedway on August 12. On race day, August 13, time trials, called special tests, will be held in the hotel parking lot. Spectators are welcome at both events.

Speed is not the only factor during the Nevada Rally. Navigating the

route is also important because there is no advance running of the course—the route is kept secret to all racers.



Special tests take place in the parking lot at the Showboat on August 13.

The first leg of the race will be from Las Vegas to Tonopah. For the duration of the Rally, racers will travel 250 to 300 miles each day, stopping overnight in Tonopah, Fallon, Winnemucca, Ely, and Mesquite with a day off in Elko.

In each community, local clubs will prepare a dinner for the riders and crews, and spectators can watch the start and finish each day. The field is expected to return to Las Vegas from Mesquite on August 20.

For more information on the International Nevada Rally call Acerbis Adventures, 619-562-1440, or the Showboat Hotel, 702-385-9123 or 800-634-3484.—Jimmy Lewis

PREVIEW



Exotic cats perform in the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, July 6-9, at Thomas and Mack Center

Big and Little Feats

The 125th edition of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus will visit Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas, July 6-9.

The Greatest Show On Earth brings performing animals, clowns, trapeze artists, and acrobats into the UNLV arena. Three rings will be full of activity when the Espans, a fifth-gener-

ation circus family, walk the Wheel of Death and challenge the Globe of Death on motorcycles, and Chicago Kidz tumble across the backs of elephants. Mark Oliver Gebel's unusual animals will seemingly dance to music, and Vivien Larible will take to the air with the greatest of ease while balancing on her head.

The Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus will appear at 7:30 p.m. July 6-7; noon, 4, and 8 p.m. on July 8; and 1 and 5 p.m. on July 9. Tickets are \$10.50, \$12.50, and \$14.50. Call the Thomas and Mack Center ticket office for tickets and information, 702-895-3900, or charge by phone, 702-474-4000.—Katherine McDonnell

Pioneer Days on the Old Spanish Trail, Sept. 22-27 Mesquite, 346-2902
Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair, Sept. 22-Oct. 1, Cashman Field, 457-8832
Greek Food Festival, Sept. 23-24, Las Vegas, 221-8245
Hoover Dam Days and Festival of Pride, Sept. 23-24, Boulder City, 294-1988
Oktoberfest, Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Laughlin, 298-6231

Art in the Park, Oct. 7-8, Boulder City, 294-1611
Columbus Day Parade and Block Party, Oct. 9, downtown Las Vegas, 736-4293
Henderson Expo, Oct. 13-15, 565-8951
Las Vegas Balloon Classic, Oct. 21-23, Las Vegas, 434-0848
Mesquite Sky Festival, Nov. 17-18, 346-2902
National Finals Rodeo, Dec. 1-10, Las Vegas, 895-3900

SHOWGUIDE

Las Vegas and the surrounding area offer big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. James Brown is coming to the Hard Rock Hotel, and David Copperfield brings his magic show to Caesars Palace. Seating often fills up fast, so be sure to call ahead



Country singer Clint Black brings his music to Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, August 10-13.

for show times and reservations.

Boulder City

Gold Strike Inn, between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Entertainment Thurs.-Sun.

Jean

Gold Strike Hotel, 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play (dark Tues.)

Nevada Landing, 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Live entertainment (dark Wed.)

Las Vegas

Aladdin, 736-0240: "Country Tonite," revue (dark Tues.); *Theatre for the Performing Arts*: Allman Brothers Band, July 9; "Jesus Christ Superstar," July 26

Arizona Charlie's, 258-5200: "Naughty Lady Revue" (dark Mon.); *Palace Grand Theatre*: Jerry Blake, big band music and dancing, Sun. 6-9pm

Bally's, 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: *Jubilee Theatre*: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); George Carlin, thru July 12; Barbara Mandrell, July 13-18 and 20-26; bands play nightly in the *Panda Lounge*

Boomtown, 263-0777 or 800-588-7711: *Rattlesnake Ricky's Lounge*: Entertainment and dancing 2pm-4am; *Opera House Theatre*: "Shenandoah," July 5; Boy Howdy, Aug. 21

Boulder Station, 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: *Railhead Saloon*: Dance bands; piano music in the *Lobby Bar*

Bourbon Street, 737-7200: *Basin Street Lounge*: Entertainment nightly (dark Mon.)

Caesars Palace, 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Tony Bennett, thru July 3; Howie Mandel, July 13-16; David Copperfield, July 18-Aug. 8; Julio Iglesias, Aug. 15-20; Natalie Cole, Aug. 31-Sept. 3

Circus Circus, 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Continental, 737-5555: Huck Daniels Revue (dark Tues. and Sun.); Jazz Jam Session, Mon.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel, 733-2243 or 800-633-1777: *Star Theatre*: Debbie Reynolds and the Uptown Country Singers

Eldorado, Henderson, 564-1811: *Margaritaville Lounge*: Bands include Lonesome Heart, June 28-July 9, and Sound Chaser, Aug. 23-Sept. 3

Excalibur, 597-7600: "King Arthur's Tourna-

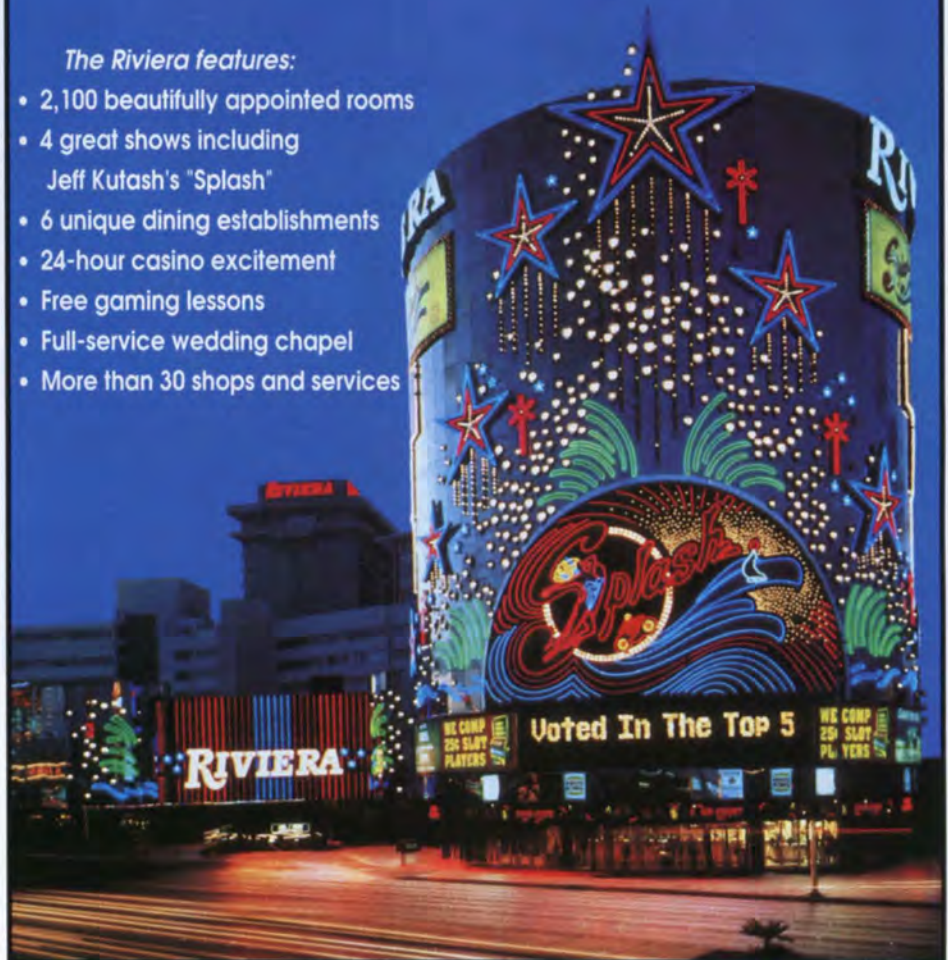
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ment," nightly; "A Symphony in White" starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, at 2pm, also noon on Sat.-Sun. (dark Wed.); *Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse*: Country Knights (dark Tues.); Electric Cowboy Band, thru July 9 (dark Mon.); Jumpin' Boots, July 11-Aug. 6; entertainment in *Minstrel's Theatre Lounge*; free entertainment 10am-10pm on *Court Jester's Stage*

Fiesta Casino, North Las Vegas, 631-7000: Dancing to country bands in the *Old San Francisco Steakhouse and Dance Hall*, Thurs.-Sat.; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm on Sun.

Fitzgeralds, 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Don Cloe and Anthony Micco (dark Thurs.)

Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: *Flamingo Showroom*: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Sun.); *Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre*: "Forever in Plaid," musical revue (dark Thurs.)

Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Monday Night Jazz; "Four at Four," tap variety show, 4pm on the fourth Thurs. of every month

Gold Coast, 367-7111: *East Lounge*: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm, bands play 9pm-3am; *West Lounge*: Entertainment 10pm-4am; *Dance Hall*: Randy Anderson thru July 3; Gold Coast Orchestra, July 5-17; country music bands, July 19-Aug. 7 and Aug. 9-28; rock 'n' roll bands, Aug. 30-Sept. 18

Golden Nugget, 386-8100: "Country Fever," look-alike musical revue (dark Fri.)

Hacienda, 739-8911: "Lance Burton: World Champion Magician" (dark Mon.); music in the *Bolero Lounge*

Hard Rock Hotel, 800-HARD-ROCK: Seal, July 3-4; Stephen Stills, July 8; Hootie and the Blowfish, July 25-26; James Brown, Aug. 12

Harrah's Las Vegas, 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: "Spellbound: A Concert of Illusion" (dark Sun.); "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); Karaoke, Fri.-Mon.

Imperial Palace, 794-3261 or 800-351-7400: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.); "Hawaiian Hot Luau," poolside Polynesian revue

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, 386-2464 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): "Hot Rock and Country," adult revue (dark Tues.)

Joker's Wild, Henderson, 564-8100: Karaoke on Tues.; entertainment Wed.-Sun.

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

Lady Luck, 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: "Melinda, the First Lady of Magic" (dark Mon.); "Lady Luck Luau," Polynesian revue, Mon.

Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5755 or 800-STARLIGHT: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Mon.); *The Nightclub*: Kristine W and the Sting (dark Thurs.); The Emeralds (dark Thurs.); Rock 'n' Roll Heaven, Thurs.

Luxor, 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: *Nefertiti's Lounge*: "American Superstars," musical revue (dark Sun.)

Maxim, 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Hell on Heels," adult revue (dark Thurs.)

MGM Grand, 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: *Grand Theatre*: "EFX!" starring Michael Crawford; *MGM Garden*: "1995 Tour of World Figure Skating Champions," July 4; *Center Stage Lounge*: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club

The Mirage, 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy, magic spectacular (dark Wed., July 20-25, and Aug. 24-29); Barry Manilow, Aug. 24-29

O'Sheas Hilton, 737-1343: Free mini-magic show 2, 3, and 4pm daily

Palace Station, 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Dance

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SPORTS DATES

Las Vegas Stars: Triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club playing in the Pacific Coast League, July 1-3 v. Albuquerque Dukes, July 21-24 v. Calgary Cannons, July 25-28 v. Tacoma Tigers, Aug. 7-10 v. Edmonton Trappers, Aug. 11-14 v. Salt Lake Buzz, Aug. 19-22 v. Vancouver Canadians, Aug. 24-27 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, Aug. 28-31 v. Phoenix Giants, Cashman Field, 386-7200

Las Vegas Dustdevils: Indoor soccer, July 15 v. San Jose Grizzlies, July 20 v. Anaheim Splash, July 28 v. Houston Hotshots, July 30 v. Washington Warthogs, Aug. 5 v. Detroit Neon, Aug. 11 v. Arizona Sandsharks, Aug. 12 v. Seattle Seadogs, Aug. 19 v. San Diego Sockers, Aug. 24 v. Seattle Seadogs, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV, 895-3900

Las Vegas Sting: Arena football, July 14 v. Memphis Pharoahs, July 29 v. Arizona Rattlers, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV 895-3900

to bands nightly

Rio, 252-7776 or 800-888-0400: *Copacabana Super Club Theater:* "Copacabana Dinner Show," revue; *Club Rio:* Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sun.

Riviera, 794-9301 or 794-9433: Jeff Kutash's "Splash II"; *Mardi Gras Plaza:* "An Evening at La Cage," revue (dark Tues.); *Mardi Gras Plaza:* "Crazy Girls: Sensuality, Passion, and Pudgy!" revue (dark Mon.); *Riviera Comedy Club,* comedians; *Le Bistro Lounge:* Jazz on the Strip, Mon.

Sahara, 737-2515: *Congo Theatre:* "Boylesque," starring Kenny Kerr (dark Thurs.); entertainment in the *Casbar Lounge*

Sam's Town, 454-8048: *Western Dance Hall:* Bands play 9pm-3am Mon.-Sat.; *Roxie's Lounge:* Entertainment from noon till 6am; Karaoke Mon.
Sands, 733-5453 or 800-446-4678: *Copa Room:* "Glitz," musical revue of history of Las Vegas (dark Sun.); "Viva Las Vegas!" 1 and 3:30pm weekdays
San Remo, 597-6028 or 800-897-SHOW: "Comedy Cabaret"; bands play in the *Winner's Circle Lounge*
Santa Fe, 658-4900: *Ice Lounge:* Salsa Machine plays dance music Sun.-Mon., July 1-31; music Tues.-Sat.; fireworks display, July 4
Sheraton Desert Inn, 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: *Starlight Theatre:* Bob Anderson thru July 9; Keely Smith, Sam Butera and the Wildest will

appear from July 11-Sept. 3

Showboat, 385-9123 or 800-634-3484: Bands will entertain nightly in the *Carnival Room*
Stardust, 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: "Enter the Night," musical revue (dark Tues.); *Stardust Ballroom:* "Manpower Australia," male stripper revue, thru Aug. 26; bands play in the *Starlight Lounge*
Treasure Island, 894-7111: "Mystère," circus theater (dark Mon.-Tues. and Aug. 9-10)
Tropicana, 739-2411: *Tiffany Theatre:* "Folies Bergere" (dark Thurs.); Zaji, Acrobats of China, 2pm (dark Tues.); *Comedy Stop Theatre:* "Comedy Stop"
Vacation Village, 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: *Koo Koo's Lounge:* Entertainment and dancing take



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 time Jazz Band (dark Sat.)

Laughlin

Avi Casino, 535-5555
Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Free enter-
 tainment nightly except Mon.
Edgewater, 298-2453: Bands nightly
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 298-5028
 or 800-435-8469: Jukebox Giants: Riv-
 ingtons, Dodie Stevens, The Hap-
 penings, and Al Wilson
Gold River, 298-2242 or 800-835-7904:
Cody's Saloon: Tribute to Garth
 Brooks starring George Mick; Trib-
 ute to Alan Jackson starring Victor
 Carroll (dark Wed.); free line-dance
 lessons, Tues.; *Palace Theatre*: Gold
 River Honky Tonk, weekends
Golden Nugget Laughlin, 298-7111 or 800-237-
 1739: Entertainment nightly



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Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600 or 800-447-8700:
 Mariachi Estrella, strolling musicians, daily;
Club La Bamba: Entertainment nightly except

Whiskey Pete's, 382-1212 or 800-367-7383: Head-
 liners appear monthly in the *Whiskey Pete's*
Showroom

Mon.; Jason Lugo and the Blue Roan
 play July 18-23
Ramada Express, 298-4200: Bands will
 entertain nightly in the *Caboose*
Lounge
Regency, 298-2439
Riverside Resort, 298-2535 or 800-227-
 3849 ext. 616: "Legends in Concert,"
 June 28-Sept. 28

Mesquite

Si Redd's Oasis Resort, 346-5232: Show
 bands play nightly
Virgin River, 346-7777 or 800-346-7721:
 Entertainment Tues.-Sat.

State Line

Buffalo Bill's, 382-1111: Big-name enter-
 tainment plays monthly in the
Star of the Desert Arena
Primadonna, 382-1212 or 800-826-4471

NIGHTLIFE

Hitting the Mark

The partners in a courageous specialty act use one another for target practice.

By Kim Pryor

Hans and Maureen Pantar have spent 12 years shooting arrows as a featured spot in Donn Arden's "Jubilee!" at Bally's Las Vegas. Even before "Jubilee!" Maureen was the target of her husband's affection. "We've been shooting at each other for 23 years now," Maureen says.

Their act comes as a surprise during the show, and at first the audience doesn't know how to react. During one stunt Maureen gives new meaning to the phrase "backseat driver" when she shouts directions to her blindfolded husband (who also has his back turned to her) as he holds a crossbow over his shoulder and lines up with the target above her head. Then pow! A two-foot-long arrow shoots across the stage and lands right on the mark.

In their finale Hans and Maureen balance eight crossbows on stands placed around the stage. The crossbows are lined up to set off a chain reaction of crisscrossing arrows that ends with the last crossbow firing an arrow through an apple on top of Hans' head, à la William Tell. The chain reaction

is completed in the blink of an eye.

The first time Hans shot an apple off his head for an audience was during the 1976 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, where the Pantars performed for the athletes. However, it's not always an apple. Once, when attendees of a McDonald's convention sat in the "Jubilee!" audience, Hans



Hans and Maureen Pantar at Bally's.

spearated a Big Mac. "It was kind of messy," he says, chuckling.

The Pantars' act is successful for the same reason a good thriller works—each little scene builds to a suspenseful climax. During a recent performance, a stray arrow missed the apple and grazed the top of Pantar's head, requiring 12 stitches. "People ask me if I think about getting hurt, and occasionally I do think about it," Hans says. "But once you do it a thousand times, it's no big deal."

Perilous adventure runs in Pantar's family. His father, Hans Moretti, is a German magician. As a child, Pantar assisted his father with magic, juggling, and escape acts. Moretti drew the line when 15-year-old Hans wanted to be involved in his father's gun-shooting routine. Rather than have Hans carry a loaded weapon, he taught his son to use the crossbow.

Maureen first saw her future husband's act while vacationing on a cruise ship when she was 19 years old. At the time Pantar was still performing with his father. Maureen joined the act when Pantar—then 16 years old—and his brother, Peter, found themselves short one female assistant for a gig in South America. Hans asked his new friend Maureen to fill in.

"The next thing I knew I was in Rio de Janeiro, and Hans and his brother were shooting at me," Maureen recalls. "And Hans' brother is

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

July

Independence Day Slots, July 2-5, Desert Inn, 733-4488

Keno and Slots, July 9, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882

Western-Theme Slots, July 11-14, Harrah's, 369-5000

Emerald City Slots, July 16-19, MGM Grand, 891-7488 or 800-929-9410

Slots, July 17-20, Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502

Adventures in Paradise Slots, July 23-25, Imperial Palace, 794-3114

Hot Country Nights Slots, July 24-27, Sands, 733-5542

Jamaican Jackpots Slot Tournament, July 30-Aug. 2, Tropicana Hotel, for information 739-2614 or 800-521-8767

not as good of a shot as Hans. You just don't think when you're that young."

Since teaming up, Hans and Maureen have performed throughout Europe and in "Hello Hollywood, Hello" in Reno. They made "Jubilee!" their permanent home in 1983 after appearing on the *Dinah Shore Show* while it was being taped at the MGM (now Bally's) in Las Vegas. The MGM's president watched the Pantars' act and hired them on the spot.

"The thing that makes any specialty act good is to be different," Hans says. "If there's nobody who does what you do, then you cannot compare yourself to anybody." In that case, the Pantars are in a class by themselves.

The Pantars have now settled in Las Vegas with their son, Harlan, and daughters, Katie and Sascha. But Hans hopes the children will resist the lure—and danger—of show business. "Of course, my father wanted me to become a lawyer or a doctor," Hans says, "but I ended up doing what he does."

Target Practice

Hans and Maureen Pantar take aim in "Jubilee!" nightly except Friday at Bally's Las Vegas. Tickets are \$38.50. Call 702-739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW for reservations.

Kim Pryor is a Lake Tahoe writer and the entertainment editor for In Tahoe Weekly

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Get Involved: The Fiesta Casino in North Las Vegas recently introduced the state's first interactive keno game, where players can press the button that selects the numbered keno balls. To participate, just sign up and wait until your name is called.

First Choice: Hugo's Cellar, the gourmet room in the Four Queens, has been picked by *Las Vegas Review-Journal* readers as Las Vegas' Best Gourmet Room for the fourth time.

Jazz Night: Monday Night Jazz at the Four Queens was chosen as the Best Jazz Show in Las Vegas by the readers of the *Las Vegas New Times*.



Award winners Siegfried and Roy.

Two Bucks: Nevada's first \$2 slot machines have been introduced at Harrah's Las Vegas. The specially designed tokens could become the latest gaming collectible.

Quality Counts: The Imperial Palace on the Las Vegas Strip has been named

one of the nation's top 15 companies for its workforce diversity and practices by HR Effectiveness of Beaverton, Oregon, in the company's latest *Best Practices Guide*.

First Lady: Melinda, who performs sleight of hand in "Melinda, the First Lady of Magic" at the Lady Luck, has been inducted into the Magic Hall of Fame. Melinda is the first woman to receive the honor.

Let Them Eat Cake: Stanton Ho, who has been buttering up guests at the Las Vegas Hilton for 16 years, has been named one of America's 10 best pastry chefs by *Chocolatier Magazine*.

Award Appears: Mirage illusionists Siegfried and Roy received the second annual Liberace Legend Award for their contributions to the community and the world of entertainment.

P.D. & C.: "Pomp, Duck & Circumstance," the hit European dinner-theatre show, will play New York and Atlanta before settling into its permanent home at the MGM Grand on October 1, 1996.

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August

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- Keno, Aug. 4-6, Excalibur, 597-7777
- Slots, Aug. 6 and 13, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea Slots, Aug. 13-15, Imperial Palace, 794-3114
- Blackjack, Aug. 11-12, Excalibur, 597-7777
- Slots, Aug. 21-24, Caesars Palace, 800-262-2502

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

Boulder City

- Black Canyon River Raft Tours: 293-3776
- Boulder City Historic District: Walking tour, 1497 Nevada Hwy., 293-2034
- Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum: 444 Hotel Plaza, 294-1988
- Hoover Dam: Tours, U.S. 93, 293-8367
- Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess: 293-6180
- Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., 293-8906

Henderson

- Clark County Heritage Museum: 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955
- Cranberry World West: 1301 American Pacific Dr., tours of Ocean Spray facility, 566-7160
- Escape the City Streets: Mountain bike tours, 800-596-2953
- Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden: Tours, 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864
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Circus, 385-4321
Aladdin: Predator's Paradise, wildlife habitat, 871-LION
Bonnie Springs Old Nevada: Red Rock Canyon, 875-4191
Boomtown: Pan for gold, I-15, 263-7777
Caesars Forum Shops: Italian street scene, cafes,

animated statues, Caesars Palace, 893-4800
Desert Demonstration Gardens: Tours, 3701 W. Alta, 258-3205
Excalibur: Motion machines, 597-7700
Floyd Lamb State Park: Ponds, 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413
FunTazmic: 4975 Polaris, 795-4FUN
Grand Slam Canyon: Adventure park, next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS
Guinness World of Records Museum: 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766
Hard Rock Hotel and Casino: Music memorabilia, 693-5000
Holy Cow! Casino: Brewery tours, 732-2697
Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 794-3174
Las Vegas Art Museum: Lorenzi Park, 3333 W. Washington Ave., 647-4300
Las Vegas Mini Gran Prix: 1401 N. Rainbow Blvd., 259-7000
Las Vegas Natural History Museum: 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO
Liberace Museum: 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595
Lied Discovery Children's Museum: 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS
Luxor: King Tut's Tomb, boat ride, 262-4000
MGM Grand Adventures: Theme park, 891-7979
Magic and Movie Hall of Fame: O'Sheas, 737-1343
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History: UNLV 895-3381
Mirage: Dolphins, erupting volcano, 791-7111
Mount Charleston: Recreation info., 222-1597
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ing lot B only), state historic park, 486-3511
Omnimax Theatre: Caesars Palace, 731-7900
Planet Hollywood: Movie memorabilia, Caesars Palace, 791-7827
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: 363-1921
Sam's Town: Water and laser show, 456-7777
Scandia Family Fun Center: 2900 Sirius Ave., 364-0071
Southern Nevada Zoological Park: 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park: Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141
Thrill Climbers: Rock climbing on artificial surface, 810 Circus Circus Dr., 699-5710
Treasure Island: Pirate battle, 894-7111
Wet 'n Wild: 2601 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 737-SURF

Laughlin

Lake Mohave Resort: Marina at Katherine, 602-754-3245
Riverside Resort: Classic car showroom and antique slots, 298-2535

Mesquite

Desert Valley Museum: 31 W. Mesquite Blvd., 346-5705
Arvada Gun Club: Si Redd's Oasis, 346-5232 ext. 3729

North Las Vegas

The Planetarium: Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059

Overton

Lost City Museum of Archaeology: 721 S. Hwy. 169, 397-2193
Valley of Fire State Park: 397-2088

State Line

Buffalo Bill's: Roller coaster, 382-1111

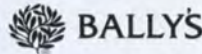
A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

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Reno-Tahoe Territory



The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival brings the Bard to the beach at Sand Harbor Lake Tahoe, August 4-September 3.

EVENTS

July

World War II Remembered: The War and the Medical Corps, thru July 4, traveling exhibit from the National Archives, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

Area Artists' Show, thru July 12, Genoa Courthouse Museum, 782-4325

"Guys and Dolls," thru Aug. 5, Tahoe Mountain Musicals production under the stars, Lakeview Amphitheater, North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista, 916-581-4323

Kit Carson Trail Days, thru Sept. 2, weekly Saturday tours of the Blue Line section of the Kit Carson Trail, meet at 10am, Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1

Art Show, thru Sept. 4, prints by Jiri Anderle are compared to works of the old masters, Neva-

da Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333

Tours of the Ehrman Mansion, thru Sept. 4, living history day Aug. 13, Sugar Pine Point State Park, South Lake Tahoe, 916-525-7982

About Faces, thru Sept. 10, interactive video exhibit on the human face, Wilbur D. May Museum, Reno, 785-5961

A Universe of Life and Yellowstone, thru Sept. 10, SkyDome 870, 70mm format, Fleischmann Planetarium, U of N, Reno, 784-4812

Horse Tales: An Evolutionary Odyssey, thru Sept. 10, exhibit of equine evolution, sponsored by the Reno Rodeo Assn., Western Heritage Interpretive Center, Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 828-6612

Hot Pursuit: Law Enforcement Vehicles, thru Sept. 22, law enforcement vehicles of the past are displayed, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

Fourth of July Calvacade of Spectaculars, June 30-July 4, fireworks display at dusk July 4, carnival, games, entertainment, Mills Park,

Carson City, 687-4680

Steam-Up, July 1-4, 15-16, 29-30, and Aug. 12-13, steam-up and operation of historic steam locomotive on one-mile loop of track, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953

Reno Municipal Band Concert Series, July 1-Aug. 30, noon concerts Mon.-Fri., Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 789-2878

Summer Concert Series, July 1-Aug. 30, jazz Thurs. 6-8pm, big band dancing Sat. 7-9pm, Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 334-2077

Fourth of July Family Picnic, July 4, Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 334-2077

Fourth of July Pops in the Park, July 4, Reno Philharmonic performs at 5pm, bring blankets and a picnic, Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-5259

Star Spangled Fourth of July, July 4, fireworks display over Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe,



Motorcycle fans will go hog wild when 6,000 Harley-Davidson riders roll into town for the Reno Hog Rally, July 13-15. Events will be held in Reno and Sparks.

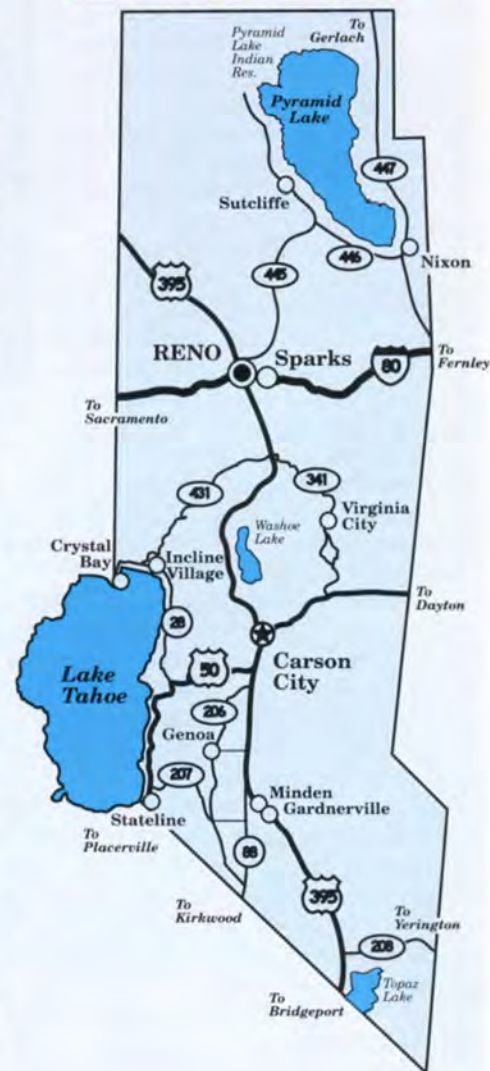
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- Skyfire Fireworks Display**, July 4, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 800-367-7366
- Virginia City Fourth of July**, July 4, parade at 11am, fireworks at dusk, 847-0311
- Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championships**, July 6-9, annual televised event, celebrities and sports stars, Edgewood Golf Course, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 831-3993
- Thursday Night Jazz**, July 6-Aug. 31, weekly concerts, Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166
- "Wild Oats,"** July 7-8, 14-16, and 21-23, adaptation of John O'Keefe's melodrama, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661
- Cruise Car Show**, July 7-9, Truckee Regional Park, 916-582-9062
- Sports Cars and All That Jazz**, July 7-9, show 'n' shine, Brazilian and contemporary jazz, rallies, swap meet, downtown Reno, 686-3045 or 800-FOR-RENO
- Tahoe ARTour '95**, July 7-9, self-guided tours through North Tahoe and Truckee artists' studios, 916-581-2787
- Great Nevada Picture Hunt Winners Show**, July 7-27, exhibit of *Nevada Magazine's* 17th annual photo contest winners, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-4976
- Art in the Park**, July 8, arts and crafts fair hosted by the Nevada Museum of Art, \$3 admission includes art workshops, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 785-4064 or 329-3333
- Carson Valley Heritage Day, Chili Cook-Off, and Arts and Crafts Fair**, July 8, Minden Park, 782-2211
- Way It Was Rodeo**, July 8-9, Camel Race Arena, Virginia City, 847-0311
- Hope Valley Wildflower Walk**, July 10,

- Sorensen's Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 800-423-9949
- Moonlight Kayak Tour**, July 11, Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-2011
- Potpourri Concert Series**, July 11-Aug. 29, Tues. evening music concerts, part of the Summer Arts Music Festival, Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166
- Reno Hog Rally**, July 13-15, parade, Harley-Davidson motorcycles, Reno, 827-7662
- Farmer's Market**, July 13-Sept. 28, Thurs. only, fresh produce, breads, flowers, Third and Carson streets, Carson City, 687-7410
- Kayak Demo Day**, July 14, Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-2011
- "Curse of the Hanging Tree,"** July 14-15, audience participation, spoof on a murder and lynching that occurred in Genoa in 1897 Masonic Hall, Genoa, 782-8131
- Moonlight on the Links**, July 15, nine-hole night tournament, barbecue dinner, flashlight required, Eagle Valley Golf Course, Carson City, 885-0984 or 885-4433
- Rhythm and Brews Festival**, July 15, sample beers from West Coast microbreweries, music by Jack Mack and the Heart Attacks and Norton Buffalo, Harveys, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 588-2411
- Red Skelton 82nd Birthday**, July 15-16, personal appearance, art show, birthday celebration, John Ascuaga's Nugget and Reno Hilton, 323-1920 or 800-327-2334
- Jackpot of Gems '95**, July 15-16, presented by the Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Reno Livestock Events Center, 356-9864
- Ice Cream Social**, July 15, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300
- Auto Parts Exhibition**, July 15-Oct. 8, photography by Wesley Jimmerson III, National Auto Museum, Reno, 333-9300
- Nature Photography Workshop**, July 16-18, Sorensen's Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 800-423-9949
- Historic Emigrant Walking Tours**, July 18 and 25, Sorensen's Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 800-423-9949
- Journey to the Center of the Arts**, July 20-22, youth theater workshop performances, Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 786-2278
- "Annie Warbucks,"** July 21-23, 28-30, and Aug. 4-6, sequel to "Annie!," Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company, Carson City Community Center, 887-3153
- AirMinden '95**, July 22, warbirds, aerobatics, hot-air balloon rides, Douglas County Airport, Minden, 265-2889
- Kirkwood Climb Mountain Bike Race**, July 22, four-mile uphill race, Kirkwood, 916-583-3753
- Euro-Brit Motorcycle Show and Swap**, July 22-23, Fuji Park, Carson City, 267-1009
- Kirkwood Red Cliffs Classic**, July 23, cross-coun-

- try mountain bike race around the resort, Kirkwood, 916-583-3753
- Vintage Motocross**, July 23, Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 267-1009
- Democracy in America**, July 24-27 Great Basin Chautauqua tent show with historical figures in costume, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 784-6587
- American Heat**, July 27-Aug. 1, '50s cars and memorabilia, Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 687-7410
- Silver Legacy Opens**, July 28, downtown Reno, 329-4777
- Jimmie Heuga Mountain Bike Express**, July 29, team race to benefit the Jimmie Heuga Center for multiple sclerosis research, Squaw Valley USA, North Lake Tahoe, 916-583-6985
- Native American Festival**, July 29-30, rain dances, American Indian art, food, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166 or 800-AT-TAHOE
- Sierra Folklife Festival**, July 29-30, traditional arts of Northern Nevada cultures, music, crafts, and food, Wingfield and Brick parks, Reno, 687-6680 or 329-1324
- Truckee Tahoe Air Show**, July 29-30, 50th an-

TERRITORY MAP



NIGHTLIFE

A Comic Splash

Opening for Sha Na Na was like swimming with the sharks.

By Guy Richardson

Comic-magician Mark Kornhauser is a nice guy. However, either in this life or another he must have done something dreadful. His karmic sentence was to open for Sha Na Na.

Being an opening act wasn't hard. Kornhauser, who lives in Sparks, has opened for everyone from Rudy Vallee to Greg Allman. Well, Allman wasn't easy. "I don't think he knew I was there. He stumbled out, and I was done," Kornhauser said.

But that was for one show. You can put up with anything for one show, even if a guy in the audience stands up—as happened at Allman's show—and screams at the opening act, "Who the f— are you?!!!"

Kornhauser toured with Sha Na Na for three years. Three. Years. People have robbed banks and gotten shorter sentences.

Not that Kornhauser doesn't like Sha Na Na. He thinks they are a terrific act, funny, wonderful music, nice guys. He's just happy now to be the featured comic in Jeff Kutash's "Splash" at the Reno Hilton. For one thing, the other cast members don't ridicule him.

Opening for a rock 'n' roll band is not a comic's idea of a good time. The audience, usually rowdy and ready to yell, is not there to see a comic. "The guys in Sha Na Na used to stand in the wings," Kornhauser said. "They loved it when I died."

A word here from the other side. A few years after Kornhauser quit opening for Sha Na Na he produced a magic revue at Harveys, "Magic to Die For," and I asked Sha Na Na's Scott Simon if they were hard on opening acts. "Who've you been talking to?" Simon said. "Kornhauser, right? Well, Kornhauser never died when he opened for us. In fact, we were try-



Mark Kornhauser, appearing in "Splash" at the Reno Hilton, teamed with a mouse in a show last year

ing to find him to open for us last year at Harveys."

Oh, cue the music from *Jaws*. The good news is that they didn't find him.

Steve Martin has opened for Sha Na Na. Jay Leno toured with them. So did Billy Crystal. You want to scare a

Jay Leno toured with
Sha Na Na. So did
Billy Crystal. You want to
scare a comic? Just whisper,
"Sha Na Na is looking
for you "

comic? Just whisper, "Sha Na Na is looking for you "

"They are really nice guys," Kornhauser said, "and they've been doing this for a thousand years. But the audience isn't there to see the opening act. Harry Anderson, Dr. Hook, those guys got booed off stage with Sha Na Na. I never got booed off stage, but it could be really rough."

Opening for any rock band can be hard, but opening for Sha Na Na was in a class by itself. As with many rock 'n' roll shows on the road, if the show didn't start on time, the crowd would be restive. Restive, in rock 'n' roll terms, means they are not yet throwing beer bottles but are making a deafening din.

"So here is the crowd shouting," said Kornhauser, "and a stagehand comes out and yells on the microphone, 'Are you ready for Sha Na Na?' The audience goes nuts. There's a loud 'YEAH!!!!' and then the

stagehand says, 'Butfirstthere'scomic-markkornhauser.'"

Death to the comic. Death, if he's lucky

So if you go see Kornhauser in "Splash," notice that he looks really happy. He only has to follow beautiful people who are swimming in thousands of gallons of water.

Spish Splash

Mark Kornhauser appears in Jeff Kutash's "Splash" at the Reno Hilton eight times weekly (dark Thursday). Call 702-789-2285 or 800-648-3568 for reservations and ticket information.

Guy Richardson is an editor and entertainment writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal.



Classic cars, poodle skirts, and rock 'n' roll are all the rage during Reno's Hot August Nights, August 2-6.

niversary celebration of the end of World War II, warbirds, fly-bys, static displays, aerobatics, Truckee Tahoe Airport, 916-582-9068

August

Hot August Nights, Aug. 2-6, celebration of America's love affair with cars and rock 'n' roll, concerts, car auction, poker run, parade, various locations, Reno and Carson City, 829-1955 or 687-7410

Exhibition Baseball Game, Aug. 3, Reno Diamonds, a semi-pro team, vs. Colorado Silver Bullets, a professional women's team, Moana Stadium, Reno, 829-0116

Shakespeare at Sand Harbor Festival, Aug. 4-Sept. 3, 17th annual, nightly except Mon., "A Midsummer's Night Dream," "Two Gentlemen of Verona," and a children's performance of "Beauty and the Beast," Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, Incline Village, 832-1606

Mountain Run, Aug. 5, 15th annual, 3.5-mile run up Squaw Valley, cable car ride included, Squaw Valley USA, North Lake Tahoe, 916-583-6985

"You're A Good Man Charlie Brown," Aug. 9-Sept. 2, Tahoe Mountain Musicals under the stars, Lake View Amphitheater, Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista, 916-581-4323

Ballet by the River, Aug. 11-12, the Reno Ballet, Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 333-6532

Concours d'Elegance, Aug. 11-12, wooden-boat show, Sierra Boat Co., Carnelian Bay, North Lake Tahoe, 916-581-4700

Bowers Mansion Festival, Aug. 12, 10th annual, bands play bluegrass, folk, and old-time music, bring blankets and a picnic, Washoe Valley, 882-6013

Great Gatsby Festival, Aug. 12, Roaring '20s living history, flapper's ball, croquet, Charleston contests, barbecue, live music, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166 or 800-AT-TAHOE

Homewood Hill Climb, Aug. 12, mountain bike race to top of resort, Ski Homewood, 916-583-3753

Beach Volleyball, Aug. 12-13, men's open tournament, North Tahoe Beach Center, Kings Beach, 916-546-2566 or 916-988-2419

Blackwood Backwood Challenge, Aug. 13, rugged 23-mile mountain bike race, Blackwood Canyon, North Lake Tahoe, 916-583-3753

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HOT MUSIC

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The Colorado Silver Bullets (above), a women's pro team, will go to bat against the Reno Diamonds August 3 at Moana Stadium in Reno.

SPORTS DATES

Reno Diamonds: Semi-professional baseball, July 1-2 v. Auburn Cardinals, July 6-8 v. Oakland Oaks, July 13-15 v. San Francisco Angels, July 20-22 v. San Francisco Seals, July 26-27 v. Sacramento Stogies, July 28-29 v. Sacramento Smokies, Aug. 4-6 Wood Bat Championship, Aug. 11-13 v. Sacramento K&Z, Moana Stadium, 829-0116

Elderhostel, Aug. 13-19, study of Basque history and culture, U of N, 784-4046

Carson Pass Wildflower Walk, Aug. 14, Sorensen's Resort, Hope Valley, 800-423-9949
"Taming of the Shrew," Aug. 17-19, Shakespeare comedy, directed by Jeanmarie Simpson, Wingfield Park, downtown Reno, 786-2278

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center Grand Opening Ceremonies, August 19, Douglas County High School has been converted, 10am ribbon cutting, food, entertainment, tours, Gardnerville, 265-3493

Ice Cream Social, Aug. 19, turn-of-the-century street, old-fashioned games and entertainment, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

Storey County Jeep Posse Barbecue, Aug. 19, Ice House, Virginia City, 847-0311

Carson Valley Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration, Aug. 19-20, Esmeralda Street, Minden, 782-8144

Civil War Encampment and Reenactment, Aug. 19-20, living history demonstrations by Nevada Civil War Volunteers, battles, train fight, field hospital, crafts, Mackay Mansion and V&T Railroad, Virginia City, 847-0311

Reno Basque Festival, Aug. 19-20, 28th annual, Aug. 19 traditional dancers at 1pm, Aug. 20 Mass in Basque at 10:30am and barbecue lamb-and-beef lunch 1-3pm, Reno Armory and

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Trail Days, Aug. 19-20, 1840s pioneer family encampment, period music, wagon train parade in Truckee Aug. 19, Donner Memorial State Park, 916-544-3053

Pyramid Lake Triathlon, Aug. 20, 12th annual, 1.5K swim, 40K bike, 10K run, Pyramid Lake, Sutcliffe, 30 miles north of Reno, 786-5528 or 800-457-5604

Reggae Sunday, Aug. 20, featuring Serious T'ing, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-4975 or 800-AT-TAHOE

Historic Emigrant Walking Tour, Aug. 22, Sorensen's Resort, Hope Valley, 800-423-9949

Tommy Dorsey Band, Aug. 23, music from the '40s, Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 687-7410

Nevada State Fair, Aug. 23-27 livestock shows, carnival midway, entertainment, Reno Live-stock Events Center, 688-5767

Valley Cruisers Main Street Event, Aug. 25-27 eighth annual, pre-'70s car show, pancake breakfast, '50s and '60s dance, swap meet, Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 265-7074

Carson City Invitational Handcar Races, Aug. 26-27 Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953

Holiday Festival On Ice III, Aug. 26-27, starring world and Olympic champions such as Reno resident Kristi Yamaguchi, Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 827-7603

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off, Sept. 1-4, rib cookers compete for "Best Ribs" and "Best Sauce," concerts, crafts, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2284 or 800-843-2427



The '20s roar again on August 12 for the Great Gatsby Festival at Tallac Historic Site.

COMING EVENTS

Great Reno Balloon Race, Sept. 8-10, Rancho San Rafael Park, 829-2810

Virginia City International Camel Races, Sept. 8-10, 847-0311

Reno National Championship Air Races, Sept. 14-17 972-6663

Genoa Candy Dance Fair, Sept. 23-24, 782-TOWN



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The Reno Philharmonic plays in Genoa on July 4.

PREVIEW

Pops in the Park

The early birds will arrive in Genoa by 9 a.m. with kids, coolers, and chairs in tow. By 3 p.m., 3,500 people will have gathered under the trees at Mormon Station State Historic Park for the 12th annual Fourth of July Pops in the Park concert by the Reno Philharmonic and the Carson Chamber Singers.

This free event is as corny as it gets, a slice of Norman Rockwell's old-fashioned, small-town America. Kids wave flags, families reunite, and strangers actually talk to one another. People speculate on the silent auction and buy colorful balloons, patriotic T-shirts, hot dogs, and homemade cookies. Then there's the raffle. The winner gets to conduct the orchestra—for a song.

"This is the largest single ongoing thing the Philharmonic does, in terms of audience size and longevity," director Ron Daniels says. The program, which starts at 5 p.m., includes "Battle Hymn of the Republic," John Philip Sousa marches and sing-alongs, and Genoa resident John O'Neil's "Fourth of July Polka," which gets nearly everyone dancing.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Parking is free but limited. For more information on Pops in the Park call the Sierra Philharmonic League at 702-782-5259.—Annie Blachley



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"Jesus Christ Superstar" joins the Reno Hilton's outdoor concert series for a single performance on July 24.

"Les Misérables," Sept. 27-Oct. 1, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 786-5105
World Championship Chili Cook-Off and Americana Food Festival, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Reno, 686-3047

Great Italian Festival, Oct. 7-8, Reno, 786-5700
Columbus Day Parade, Oct. 9, Reno, 329-7469
Wa She Shu Powwow, Oct. 28-30, Carson City, 885-6939

Nevada Day Parade and Celebration, Oct. 31, Carson City, 882-2600

Celtic New Year Celebration, Nov. 3-5, Reno, 535-3045

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals, Nov. 6-12, Reno, 688-5751

SHOWGUIDE

The Reno and Lake Tahoe areas offer production shows and big-name entertainment. Brooks and Dunn will be coming to Caesars Tahoe, and Harrah's presents stage shows in Reno and Lake Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations.

Reno/Sparks

Bob Cashell's Horseshoe Club, 323-7900: *Boots Bar, Grill, and Dance Hall*: DJs nightly, free dance lessons Tues.-Sat.

Circus Circus, 329-0711 or 800-648-5010: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands play in the casino lounge and on weekends at *Atlantis* nightclub

Eldorado, 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada), or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Rob Hanna's Salute to Rod Stewart, thru July 9; The Diamonds, Aug. 1-13; Danny Marona, Aug. 1-20

Fitzgeralds, 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada)

Flamingo Hilton Reno, 785-7080: *Flamingo Showroom*: "American Superstars," (dark Tues.)

Harolds Club, 329-0881 or 800-648-5022: *Dick*

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Clark's American Bandstand Club: DJ and bands alternate, Tues.-Sat.

Harrah's Reno, 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: *Sammy's Showroom*: "Hit City!" and "Playboy's Ecstasy," (dark Tues.); Marilyn McCoo, thru July 9; Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, July 11-16; Phyllis Diller, July 18-23; The Crystals and the Marvellettes, July 25-Aug. 6; Bill Medley, Aug. 11-20; Lacy J. Dalton, Aug. 22-Sept. 3; bands play nightly in the *Rendezvous Lounge*

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Western Canada): *Celebrity Showroom*: The Lettermen, Mark Schiff, thru July 12; Charo, Carl Wolfson, July 13-26; The Drifters and the Coasters, Ralph Achilles, July 27-Aug. 9; Rich Little, Sammy King, Aug. 10-23; *Rose Ballroom*: Johnny Cash, July 20-21; bands play nightly in the *Casino Cabaret* and at *Trader Dick's*

Peppermill, 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Prime Time, thru July 2; Heidi Wilson, thru July 2 and Aug. 21-27; David Proud, July 3-9 and Aug. 7-13; Blue Flame, Tony Vitale, July 3-16; Glenn Williams, July 10-16; Power House, Cameron, July 17-30; Jerry Zu, July 24-Aug. 6; Johnny Baron, July 31-Aug. 6; Cheryl Cotten, July 31-Aug. 13; Madison Avenue, Aug. 7-20; Dynatones, Aug. 14-20; X Factor, Aug. 14-27; Tommy Bell, Aug. 21-Sept. 3

Plantation Station, Sparks, 359-9440: Sock Hop with Johnny Star, July 28; Papa Clutch and the Shifters, July 29

Reno Hilton, 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): *Hilton Theatre*: Jeff Kutash's "Splash" (dark Thurs.); *Outdoor Concerts*: John Denver, July 14; Earth, Wind, and Fire, July 15; Jesus Christ, Superstar, July 24; Blues Festival (B.B. King, Jimmie Vaughn, Etta James, The Magic Dick, J. Geils, Elvin Bishop), Aug. 12; Barry White, Aug. 13; Lyle Lovett, Aug. 17; Ringo Star, Aug. 25; REO Speedwagon with Fleetwood Mac and Pat Benetar, Aug.

WILD ABOUT NEVADA



Nevada Wildflowers T-Shirt

A patch of Nevada wildflowers has been puff-printed on the front and back of a 100-percent-cotton woman's scoop-neck T-shirt. Available in white only in sizes S, M, L, and XL, \$19.95; please add \$2.00 for XXL.

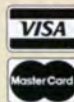


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27; *Aspen Lounge*: Bands play Tues.-Sun., and a video wall; *Just for Laughs Comedy Club*: Comedians perform

Reno Hotel, 788-2000

Silver Club, Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada): Entertainment such as Kat Wilson and Vamp, Cheryl Cotten, Joey Carmen, and George Pickard will appear in the lounge

Silver Legacy, 329-4777 or 800-MUST-SEE: Around-the-clock casino entertainment

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

Carson City/Carson Valley

Carson City Nugget, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. outside Nevada)

Carson Station, Carson City, 883-0900

Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Paradise, thru July 1; Eddie Dunbar, July 3-8; Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, July 10-22; Shake, Rattle 'n' Roll, Aug. 7-19

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890

Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133

Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

South Lake Tahoe

Bill's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 588-2455

Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 586-2044 or 800-648-3353: *Circus Maximus*: Reba McEntire, thru July 3; Rosie O'Donnell, July 7-9; Huey Lewis and the News, July 27-30; Brooks and Dunn, Aug. 4-6; David Copperfield, Aug. 10-16; Barry Manilow, Aug. 18-20; Julio Iglesias, Aug. 24-27



Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi skates with other champions at Lawlor Events Center in Reno on August 26-27

Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: *South Shore Room*: "Stagestruck" and "Playboy's High Voltage," thru July 24; Asleep at the Wheel, thru July 2; Eddie Rabbitt, July 7-9; Three Dog Night, July 14-16; Fabulous Thunderbirds, July 21-22; The Four Tops with The Temptations, July 27-31; Jim Messina, Aug. 4-6; Paul Revere and the Raiders,

Aug. 11-13; Blood, Sweat and Tears, Aug. 18-20; Smokey Robinson, Aug. 25-26; *Casino Center Stage*: Nightly bands

Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411 or 800-HARVEYS: *Emerald Theatre*: "Bye Bye Bijou," (dark Wed.); *Llewellyn's*: Ron Rose Sound; *Emerald Party Lounge*: Performers include Tommy Bell, Sonny Turner, and Edy Gainer and Dezire

Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 800-648-3322: *Grande Lake Theater*: Christopher Cross, July 7-8; Waylon Jennings, July 21-22; George Carlin, Aug. 11-12; *Golden Cabaret*: "Cheers" and "Desire" (dark Mon.); bands play nightly in the *Aspen Lounge*
Lakeside Inn, Stateline, 588-7777

North Lake Tahoe

Cal-Neva Lodge, Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382

Crystal Bay Club Casino, Crystal Bay, 831-0512
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 832-1234

Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 831-0660 or 800-BILTMOR: Bands such as Perfect Tommy and Mo Beach play Tues.-Sun.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

July

Skyfire Slots, July 3-4, Peppermill, 689-7282 ext. 7282

Reno Arch Keno, July 5-7 Fitzgeralds, 785-3381

Visit TV's legendary Ponderosa Ranch, cruise on the M.S. Dixie II across Lake Tahoe. And tour Carson City's "Talking Houses."

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HOTELS

Casino Notes

Still Brewing: The Eldorado is spending \$55 million on a 200,000-square-foot expansion. The project is set to include a 12-story hotel tower and a microbrewery, the Brew Brothers, which is named for the Carano brothers, who operate the property.

Hello, Frank and Dolly: For the first time, "American Superstars" at the Flamingo Hilton Reno has tributes to Dolly Parton and Frank Sinatra in the lineup. "Everyone loves Dolly," says Sherry Gordon, who portrays the country star six nights a week. Ol' Blue Eyes is impersonated by crooner Michael B. Levin.

Pinnacle Prize: The Summit restaurant at Harrah's Lake Tahoe won the Four Diamond Award from the American Automobile Association. The Summit chef Elizabeth Gregory-Lange was named one of the Best Chefs in America by the American Academy of Restaurant Sciences.

Bird's-Eye View: Harrah's Lake Tahoe has added a new wedding chapel on its 16th floor. Natural earth tones are combined with bronz sculptures under a hand-painted domed ceiling. At the heart of the chapel is



The Summit at Harrah's Lake Tahoe won the AAA Four Diamond Award.

a view of Mount Tallac, Lake Tahoe, and Heavenly Ski Resort.

Bowling Down Memory Lane: Harrah's Reno delivered a cake to Greg Griffo, an 85-year-old bowler from Solvay, New York, who recently knocked down his 100,000th pin (with a strike)



Greg Griffo, 85, was bowled over after he knocked down his 100,000th pin in ABC tournament play during a tourney at Reno's National Bowling Stadium. Here Nina the Showgirl greets Griffo after his big strike.

in American Bowling Congress tournament play while competing at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno. Griffo is only the fourth bowler to achieve this goal, which places him in the ABC Hall of Fame.

You Can Bet on It: The race and sports book located in the lower-level Pavilion of John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, has been expanded to include 48 TV screens and a new restaurant and bar, Gabe's Pub and Deli.

Mother Lode: Downtown Reno's long-awaited themed resort, Silver Legacy, is scheduled to open July 28. The 1,720-room hotel-casino will have five restaurants, an 85,000-square-foot gaming area, a 120-foot automated mining rig, and a 180-foot dome that features a sky that changes from morning to night every two and a half hours. Silver Legacy is a joint effort between the Eldorado and Circus Circus hotels.

or 800-431-3134

B.L.T. Keno, July 7-8, Peppermill, 689-7290 ext. 7290
Video Poker, July 7-9, Comstock, 329-1880
Super Keno, July 21-23, Comstock, 329-1880
Slots, July 23-25, Flamingo Hilton, 800-950-2946
Keno, July 30-Aug. 1, Eldorado, 789-0490
Slot August Nights, July 31-Aug. 1, Peppermill, 689-7282 ext. 7282

August

Hot August Blackjack, Aug. 6-8, Peppermill, 689-7100 ext. 7100
Asian Table Games, Aug. 13-16, Flamingo Hilton, 800-950-2946
Keno Shootout, Aug. 18-20, Comstock, 329-1880
Slots, Aug. 20-22, Eldorado, 789-0490
Super Slots, Aug. 20-22, Comstock, 329-1880
'50s Slots, Aug. 20-23, Flamingo Hilton, 800-950-2946

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

Carson City

Brewery Arts Center: 449 W. King St., 883-1976
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada: 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226
Kit Carson Trail: Self-guided walking tour, talking houses on AM 530, 882-1565 or 800-638-2321
Nevada State Capitol: 687-5030
Nevada State Library and Archives: State Constitution exhibit, 100 Stewart St., 687-5210
Nevada State Museum: 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810
Nevada State Railroad Museum: S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953
Roberts House Museum: 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805
Stewart Indian Cultural Center: 5366 Snyder, 882-1808
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum: 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210

Genoa

Genoa Courthouse Museum: Seasonal, 782-4325
Mormon Station State Historic Park: Seasonal, 782-4325, 687-4379
Walley's Hot Springs: 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155

Lake Tahoe

Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park: 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler: Zephyr Cove, 588-3508
Planet Hollywood: Movie memorabilia, Caesars Tahoe, 588-7828.
Ponderosa Ranch: Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691
Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler: Tahoe City, 916-583-0141
Tahoe Queen Sternwheeler: South Lake Tahoe, CA, 800-23-TAHOE
Tahoe Rim Trail: 150-mile system, 588-0686
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center: Tours, 916-573-2600
Vikingsholm: Tours, 916-525-7232
Zephyr Cove Resort: 588-5021

Reno

Bull Creek Ranch: Verdi, 345-7600
Earth Window Museum: 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828
Fleischmann Planetarium: U of N, 784-4811
Galena Creek Regional Park: 18350 Mount Rose Highway, 785-4319
Hidden Valley Regional Park: 4740 Parkway Dr.,

PREVIEW

A Clowning Achievement

Richard Bernard Skelton—better known as Red—will celebrate his 82nd birthday with an exhibit of his artwork at John Ascuaga's Nugget and the Reno Hilton on July 15-16. The weekend event will feature 50 originals and 60 limited editions of Skelton's trademark clown portraits.

The art show will open at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 15, in the Rose Ballroom A at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, and will run until 5 p.m. On Sunday, Skelton's work will be shown in the Broadway Ballroom of the Reno Hilton from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The public is also invited to join the artist for a birthday party at noon on Sunday, which will also be held in



Red Skelton celebrates his 82nd birthday July 15-16.

as circuses, burlesque houses, television, and movies. (The 1890 Philion used in the movie *Excuse My Dust*, which starred Red Skelton, is displayed at the National Automobile Museum in Reno.) During his long career Skelton also developed a cast of clown characters, like Freddie the Freeloader and San Fernando Red, who are portrayed in his paintings.

For more information about Red Skelton's 82nd birthday celebration and special art shows call the Addi Gallery in the Reno Hilton, 800-327-2334 or 702-323-1920, or John Ascuaga's Nugget, 702-356-3304. Admission is free for all the birthday festivities.

—Katherine McDonnell

the Hilton's Broadway Ballroom.

Skelton has been a clown and a painter since he joined a traveling medicine show at age 10. Over the years he's performed in venues such

the Reno Hilton, 800-327-2334 or 702-323-1920, or John Ascuaga's Nugget, 702-356-3304. Admission is free for all the birthday festivities.



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- 785-4319
- Liberty Belle Slot Collection: 4250 S. Virginia St., in Liberty Belle Saloon, 825-1776
- Mackay School of Mines Minerals Museum: U of N, 784-6052
- Nevada Historical Society Museum: 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190
- Nevada Museum of Art, E. L. Wiegand Gallery: 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333
- Numana Hatchery Visitors Center: Pyramid Lake, 574-0290
- Planet Hollywood: Movie memorabilia, Harrah's Reno, 322-7837
- Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater: 334-2077
- Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy: Tours, 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665
- Sheppard Fine Art Gallery: U of N, 784-6682
- U of N Anthropology Dept. Research Museum: U of N, 784-6704
- Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden: Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153
- Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure: Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064
- Wilbur D. May Museum: Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961
- William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum: 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300

Sparks

- National Air Race Museum and Hall of Fame: 1570 Hymer Ave., 356-7544
- Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum: 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144
- Wild Island: 250 Wild Island Ct., 359-2927

Virginia City

- Assay Office Museum: C St., 847-0777
- Chollar Mine: Tours, seasonal, 847-0155
- 1869 Territorial Prison Museum: Tours, 847-0500
- Fourth Ward School Museum: Seasonal, South C St., 847-0975
- Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum: 5 C St., 847-9394
- Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum: Seasonal, 51 South C St., 847-0717
- Mackay Mansion Museum: 129 South D St., 847-0173
- Mark Twain Museum of Memories: 109 South C St., 847-0454
- Nevada Gambling Museum: 50 South C St., 847-9022
- Piper's Opera House: Seasonal, B St. at Union St., 847-0433
- Ponderosa Mine: Tours, 847-0757
- Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum: 847-0525
- The Castle: Seasonal, 847-0275
- Way It Was Museum: 133 North C St., 847-0766
- Virginia and Truckee Railroad: Washington and F streets., seasonal, 847-0380
- Virginia City Radio Museum: 847-9047
- Virginia City Tours: 786-0866
- Wild West Museum: 66 North C St., 847-0400

Washoe Valley

- Bowers Mansion Park: 4005 U.S. 395 North, pool, seasonal, 849-1825
- Davis Creek Park: Washoe County park near Bowers Mansion, 849-0684
- Old Washoe Stables: 1201 Hwy. 395, 849-1020
- Washoe Lake State Park: E. Lake Blvd., 687-4319

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

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1995 Events Calendar

MAY 20 "Spring Fling" Classic Car Show, BBQ & Street Dance

MEMORIAL/LABOR DAY WEEKEND "Vorra Off Road Races" - Saturday Night Parade and Sunday Race

JUNE 17 & 18 "Back Alley Fights" & Main Street Sports Festival

AUGUST 18-20 "Lyon County Fair & Rodeo" - Saturday, Aug. 19, Parade and Street Dance

AUGUST 25-27 "Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow"

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The Rural Territories

COWBOY COUNTRY



July

Hot Salt One, thru July 4, parade July 4, car show, cruising, golf tournament, hot-air balloon and helicopter rides, street dance, BLM tours to areas around the Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-533-9176

All Indian Art Show, thru July 6, artwork of Anthony Tom, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Jarbidge Fourth of July, June 30-July 2, parade and barbecue July 2, dunk tank, live music, Outdoor Inn and Town Hall, 488-2311 or 488-2325

Elko's National Basque Festival, June 30-July 4, 32nd annual, music, dancing, parade, sheep hooking, bread-baking contest, contests of strength and endurance, Mass, public dance



Winnemucca's Hot-Air Balloon Rally takes flight on the weekend of August 18-20.



Mountain bikers ride through history on the Austin-Eureka Pony Express Ride.

- at Basque House, City Park, 738-7135
- Winnemucca Junior Rodeo**, July 1-2, fairgrounds, 623-2220
- Twin States Ranch Hand Rodeo**, July 3-4, bronc riding, calf and horse roping, barrel racing, rodeo grounds, McDermitt, 532-8001
- Elko Fireworks**, July 4, fairgrounds, 738-7135
- Wells Fireworks**, July 4, Chimney Rock Golf Course, 752-3540
- Lovelock Fourth of July Celebration**, July 4, children's parade 10am, fireworks, McDougal Ball Park, 273-7213
- Wendover Fourth of July Celebration**, July 4, parade, picnic, fireworks, Scobie Park, 664-3414
- Fourth of July Wild Horse Fishing Derby**, July 4, \$10,000 in prizes, barbecue 11am to dusk, Wild Horse Ranch and Resort, 62 miles north of Elko on Highway 225 East, 758-6472
- Run and Ride**, July 4, 11th annual, eight-mile bike ride and 5K run are among the family events, State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 800-848-7300
- Art Exhibit**, July 5-Aug. 10, oil paintings by Sparks artist Lee Peer, Northeastern Nevada Museum Gallery, Elko, 738-3418
- Silver Smith Slot Tournament**, July 9-11, Silver Smith Hotel, Wendover, 800-848-7300
- World Championship Feedlot Roping**, July 10-13, 24th annual, team roping, fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV
- Lovelock Junior Rodeo**, July 12-13, sack roping, goat tying, barrel racing, rodeo grounds, 273-2968
- Ceramics Exhibit**, July 14-Aug. 24, works by Debbie Findley, Northeastern Nevada Museum,

- Elko, 738-3418
- Art in the Park**, July 15-16, 11th annual, art exhibition, City Park, Elko, 738-5025
- Outdoor Inn's 25th Anniversary Celebration**, July 15-16, Muzzle Braun and the Boys will perform, barbecue, Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 488-2311
- Silver State Stampede**, July 15-16, PRCA rodeo, dance, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-7135
- Mixed Ball Golf Tournament**, July 15-18, Toana Vista Golf Course, sponsored by the State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 800-848-7300
- Senior Citizens Benefit Golf Tournament**, July 16, eighth annual, Chimney Rock Golf Course, Wells, 752-3928
- Bonneville Land Speed Opener**, July 20-23, 18th annual, open to all vehicles, record attempts, speeds range from 200-400 mph, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364
- A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education Motorcycle Rodeo and Bike Show**, July 21-23, motorcycle events, bike shows, Native American dancers, prizes, Lyon's Park, Battle Mountain, 673-2110
- Native American Festival**, July 21-23, Great Basin Native American artists, intertribal open dance competitions, drum groups, exhibits, stick and card games, barbecue, softball, fairgrounds, Elko, 753-3794
- Michelob Two-Player Outdoor Volleyball Tournament**, July 23-24, City Park, Elko, 738-7135
- Lovelock Frontier Days**, July 27-30, parade, live music, flea market, games, softball tournament, cowboy poetry, Round Courthouse Park,

273-7213

Good Times Street Drags, July 28, Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV

Ruby Mountains Livestock Show, July 29, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-7135

Wells Classic Fun Run, July 29-31, car show, \$15 entry, City Park, 752-3540

Hot August Nights Winnemucca, July 29-Aug. 1, live music, classic cars, poker runs, costume contests, parade, show 'n' shine, convention center, 800-WMCA-NEV

August

Winnemucca Summer Cutting, Aug. 4-5, cutting horse show, fairgrounds, 800-WMCA-NEV

Superior Livestock Auction, Aug. 4-5, convention center, Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV

Jarbidge Days, Aug. 4-6, crafts, street dance, barbecue, contests, Town Hall, Jarbidge, 488-2311 or 488-2325

Wells Junior Rodeo, Aug. 6-7 752-3540

Left Handers Art Show, Aug. 10-Sept. 30, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

National Barrel Horse Assn. State Finals, Aug. 12-13, fairgrounds, Elko, 635-5346

Appaloosa Sagebrush Circuit Show, Aug. 14-

20, horse show, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-7135

Nevada Rally in Winnemucca, Aug. 15-16, off-road motorcycle race on 2,006-mile loop starting and finishing in Las Vegas (Aug. 12-20), racers also visit Tonopah, Fallon, Elko, Ely, and Mesquite, 623-5071 or 619-562-1440

Nevada Rally in Elko, Aug. 16-18, off-road motorcycle race on 2,006-mile loop, 738-7135

Hot-Air Balloon Rally, Aug. 18-20, more than 20 balloons, Night Glow at the Sports Complex Aug. 19, 6am liftoffs, convention center, Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV

World Fast Draw Championship, Aug. 18-20, Main Street Park, Lovelock, 575-5748

Sho 'N' Shine '95, Aug. 19-20, car displays, poker run, engine kill contest, food booths, music, entertainment, City Park, Carlin, 754-6102

Bonneville Speed Week, Aug. 19-25, 47th annual, attempts at land-speed records, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 619-274-8826

Ruby Mountain Running Club Race to the Angel, Aug. 20, 13-mile paved hill climb, from Wells through Humboldt National Forest to Angel Lake, divisions for runners, walkers, road and mountain bikes, Wells, 752-3540

Hot August Nights Keno Tournament, Aug. 20-

21, Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255

Lander County Fair and Mosquito Festival, Aug. 26-27 festival celebrates the fact that Battle Mountain has no mosquitoes, civic center, Battle Mountain, 635-9228

Elko County Fair and Livestock Show, Aug. 29-Sept. 5, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-7135

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY



July

Fernley July Fourth Celebration, July 4, parade

PREVIEW

A Spiritual Celebration

The third annual Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow will be August 25-27 at the Pat Peoples Softball Field in Yerington. The powwow is named for Wovoka, the Paiute-Numu prophet. Also known as Jack Wilson, Wovoka was born in Smith Valley in 1856, the son of a medicine man named Numa-Taibo or White Indian. Wovoka was often called the rainmaker, as one day he made the rain fall only on a spot where a group of men were pitching hay.

Wovoka was the originator of the Ghost Dance, a dance that he said was given to him by God, who instructed him to tell the Indians to live in peace with the whites. Wovoka's teachings and beliefs are well known among the Numu of the Yerington Paiute Tribe and Walker River Tribe as well as tribes throughout the United States.

The powwow, organized by the Mason Valley Wind Spirit Dancers, is held to promote Native American culture. The three-day event provides traditional entertainment, a glimpse of colorful regalia, and the chance to hear Indian drums and singers. Visitors can sample Indian tacos and visit the arts and crafts booths.

The host drum for this year's powwow is Red Sands from Arizona, a family drum group that has traveled to powwows throughout the Southwest. Head Man and Lady Dancer are Vaughn and Georgann Baker from Eugene, Oregon. The emcee will be Leo Sheppard from Cedar City, Utah. For more information call 702-463-2350 or 702-463-3301.—Debra Keats



Wovoka was a Paiute prophet who taught peace.



Dancers will perform at the Wovoka Days powwow.

down Main Street at 10am, arts and crafts, fireworks at dusk, Out-of-Town Park, 575-4459
Fireworks Train and Barbecue, July 4, train ride to the fireworks 6:30pm, Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely 289-2085
Eureka Fourth of July Parade, July 4, Main Street, 237-5417
Silver State International Rodeo, July 6-9, 10th annual, rodeo for high school reserve champions from , nightly dances, Churchill County Regional Park, Fallon, 423-4674
Ollie Anderson Mud Bog and Monster Truck Showdown, July 8, Ely, 289-8877
Hidden Cave Tours, July 8 and 22, 9:30 am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677
All-Indian Stampede and Pioneer Days, July 14-16, Indian rodeo, Native American foods, 10am Wild West parade July 15, regional park, Fallon, 423-2544
Eagle Valley Muzzle Loaders Awareness Day, July 15, free, display depicting pioneer living and hardships, Dayton State Park, 687-5678

August

Austin-Eureka Pony Express Ride, Aug. 5-6, mountain bikers retrace the Pony Express-Overland Stage Trail, 588-9858
Bristlecone Arts in the Park, Aug. 5-6, County Park, Ely, 289-2671
Eureka County Fair, Aug. 11-13, Western States Commercial Replacement Ewe Futurity, barbecue, fairgrounds, Eureka, 754-2344
Santa Maria Day, Aug. 12, Dayton, 246-7909 or 246-3899
Hidden Cave Tours, Aug. 12 and 26, 9:30am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677
Nevada Rally in Fallon, Aug. 14-15, off-road motorcycle race on 2,006-mile loop starting and finishing in Las Vegas (Aug. 12-20), racers also visit Tonopah, Winnemucca, Elko, Ely, and Mesquite, 423-4556 or 619-562-6687
Nevada Rally in Ely, Aug. 18-19, off-road motorcycle race, 289-3720 or 619-562-6687
Evening Star Gaze, Aug. 19, astronomers will guide viewers, Dayton State Park, 687-5678
White Pine County Horse Races, Aug. 19-20 and 26-27, fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877
The Joe Douglass of the Dayton, Sutro, and Carson Valley Railroads, Aug. 26, free slide show by local historian Jack Gibson, Dayton State Park, 687-5678
White Pine County Fair, Aug. 26-27, 4-H exhibits, livestock sale, horseshoe tournament, entertainment, fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877

rangers lead tours of 225-million-year-old ichthyosaur fossils and the Berlin ghost town site, call for days and times, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 964-2440

Pahrump July Fourth Festival, July 4, barbecue, arts and crafts, fireworks, Unhorse Derby with jockeys on stick horses, Community Park, 727-5800

VFW Chili Cook-Off, July 15, games, entertainment, VFW Hall, Hawthorne, 945-5876

Panaca Pioneer Day, July 22, parade, games, barbecue, 726-3333

August

Lincoln County Fair, Aug. 12-19, fairgrounds, Panaca, 726-3333

Mason Valley Gem and Mineral Club Summer Show, Aug. 12-13, Casino West banquet room, Yerington, 463-2217

Nevada Rally in Tonopah, Aug. 18-19, off-road motorcycle race on 2,006-mile loop starting and finishing in Las Vegas (Aug. 12-20), racers also visit Fallon, Winnemucca, Elko, Ely, and Mesquite, 482-3859 or 619-562-6687

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo, Aug. 16-20, parade Aug. 19, arts and crafts, demolition derby, hay booming, truck and tractor pull, Yerington, 463-2090

Classic Desert Nights, Aug. 18-20, old timers' picnic Aug. 19, car show, poker run, barbecue, '50s and '60s dance, Tonopah, 482-6221 or 482-6752

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For more information, write

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P.O. Box 1958, Hawthorne, NV 89415

PIONEER TERRITORY



July

Fossil House and Ghost Town Tours, state park

PREVIEW

Hot Rods in Winnemucca

The '50s and '60s will be the hot ticket July 29-August 1 during the fourth annual Hot August Nights Winnemucca. Rock 'n' roll, classic cars, and hula-hoops will be among the attractions at this nostalgic event.

Poker runs will be held on July 29 and 30. Winnemucca casinos and residents will host the stops on the first run. The second, which is new this year, will go to Paradise Valley, 40 miles north of Winnemucca, where a community barbecue will be followed by an awards ceremony.

On July 29, the Masonic Lodge in Winnemucca will give everyone a jump start at its traditional pancake breakfast between 7 and 11 a.m. A car parade and show 'n' shine are scheduled for Monday, July 31, with a performance by the Reno Hot August Nights Dancers. Also on Monday, a DJ will MC hula-hoop, limbo, and costume con-



Classic cruisers will shine when car and music buffs convene for Hot August Nights Winnemucca, July 29-August 1.

tests while spinning some rock 'n' roll discs.

Hot August Nights Winnemucca is a sponsor of Reno's Hot August Nights, which is August 2-6. For more information on the weekend event call the Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau, 702-623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.—JoLyn White

DISCOVER

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Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow, Aug. 25-27
competitive Native American dancers, Indian
tacos, arts and crafts, Pat Peeples Softball
Field, Yerington, 463-2245

COMING EVENTS

Elko County Fair, Sept. 1-4, 738-3616
Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 1-4,
Fallon, 423-4556
Pioche Labor Day Celebration, Sept. 1-4, 962-
5544
**Winnemucca Labor Day Weekend, Rodeo, and
Tri-County Fair**, Sept. 1-4, 623-2225 or 800-
WMCA-NEV
Mineral County Fair and Rodeo, Sept. 2,
Hawthorne, 945-5896
Nevada Northern Rail Day '95, Sept. 2, Ely, 289-
2085
Baker Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 2-3, 234-7302
Amargosa Valley Labor Day Parade, Sept. 4, 372-
5459
**Parimutuel Thoroughbred Quarter Horse and
Mule Racing**, Sept. 9-10, Winnemucca, 623-
5071
Jazz Festival, Sept. 10, Pahrump Valley Vine-
yards, 727-6900
Harvest Festival, Parade, and Rodeo, Sept. 15-
18, Pahrump, 800-633-WEST
Battle Mountain Bed Races and Trail Ride, Sept.
16-17 635-8245
Dayton Valley Days, Sept. 16-17, 246-3281
Ranch Hand Rodeo, Sept. 16-17 Winnemucca,
623-5071
Silver State Classic Challenge, Sept. 16-17, auto
race, Ely, 289-8877
World of Speed, Sept. 19-23, Bonneville Salt Flats,
Wendover, 664-3414
Smith Valley Fun Day, Oct. 1, 465-2354
Grape Stomp Festival, Oct. 7 Pahrump Valley
Vineyards, 727-5800
Fernley Frontier Days and Rodeo, Oct. 7-8, 575-
4459
Fallon Air Show, Oct. 14, Naval Air Station, 423-
4556
Bonneville World Finals, Oct. 14-16, Bonneville
Salt Flats, Wendover, 800-426-6862
Harvest Farm Auction, Oct. 15, Smith Valley, 463-
2245
Te-Moak Powwow, Oct. 21-23, Elko, 738-7681
Beatty 49ers Burro and Flapjack Races, Oct. 28-
29, 553-2424
Nevada Day Parade, Oct. 31, Elko, 738-7135

SHOWGUIDE

Rural Nevada offers some unique entertain-
ment values. For example, you'll find Chub-
by Checker performing this summer at Cactus
Petes in Jackpot. Most casinos add a lively mix of
local bands to their weekend lineups, so you'll
want to be sure to call ahead for show times.

COWBOY COUNTRY

Battle Mountain

Owl Club, 635-5155

Elko

Commercial Hotel, 738-3181: Comedy on Wed.
Red Lion, 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S.
outside Nevada)

Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141

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1995 SUMMER/FALL EVENTS

July 1 & 2 McDermitt Ranch Hand Rodeo
July 10 - 13 IFCA World Championship Roping
July 29 - August 1 Hot August Nights Winnemucca
July 29 - 30 Good Times Street Drags
August 4 & 5 Superior Livestock Auction
August 15 International Motorcycle Rally
August 15 - 20 Hot Air Balloon Festival

LABOR DAY WEEKEND EVENTS

September 1 - 4

Western Art Round-up & Buckaroo Poetry
Winnemucca PRCA Rodeo
Tri-County Fair and Carnival
September 8 - 10 NBHA Super Series Barrel Racing
September 9/10 & 16/17 Pari-Mutuel Horse & Mule Racing

For Further Information Write or Phone:
Winnemucca Convention & Visitor's Bureau

50 Winnemucca Blvd. West 1-800-WMCA-NEV Winnemucca, NV 89445



The need for speed accelerates during Bonneville Speed Week August 19-25.

Jackpot

Barton's Club 93, 755-2341
Cactus Petes, 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: *Cabaret Lounge*: Sons of the Pioneers, July 4-9; Danny Marona, July 11-23; Chubby Checker, July 25-30; Blue Flame, July 31-Aug. 13
Horseshu Casino, 755-2321

Mill City (on I-80)

Burns Bros. Casino, 538-7306: Bands play at *Mr. B's Lounge*

Wendover

Mac's Casino and Nevada Crossing Hotel, 664-4000

Peppermill, 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada)

Red Garter, 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Kip and Bo, thru July 2; Ross Lewis Duo, July 3-30; The Look, Aug. 1-20; Different Drummer, Aug. 22-Sept. 9

Silver Smith, 664-2231 or 800-354-3671: Nightly entertainment

State Line, 664-2221 or 800-648-9668: Nightly entertainment

Winnemucca

Winners Hotel, 623-2511: Karaoke on Mon.; comedy on Wed.; entertainment Tues.-Sun. in the lounge

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

Ely

Hotel Nevada, 289-6665: Comedy on Tues.

Fallon

Bonanza Inn, 423-3111 ext. 47
Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

PIONEER TERRITORY

Beatty

Stagecoach, 553-2419 or 800-4BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada)

Hawthorne

El Capitan, 945-3321

Pahrump

Saddle West Casino, 800-GEDDY-UP

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Tonopah

Mizpah Hotel, 482-6202
Station House, 482-9777

Yerington

Casino West, 463-2481 or 800-227-4661
Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

Cowboy Country

Bonneville Salt Flats: Wendover, 801-977-4300
Buckaroo Hall of Fame: Winnemucca, 623-2225
Giant Tufa Park: West of Lovelock, 273-7213
Humboldt Museum: Winnemucca, 623-2912
Jarbidge Wilderness Area: 376 Burley Ave., 208-543-4129
Northeastern Nevada Museum: 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418
Pershing County Marzen House Museum: Marzen Ln., Lovelock, 273-7213
Western Folklife Center: 501 Railroad St., Elko, 738-7508 or 800-748-4466
Wild Horse State Recreation Area: 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493

Pioneer Territory

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site: 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001
Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park: 23 miles east of Gabbs, Austin, 964-2440
Cathedral Gorge State Park: Panaca, 728-4467
Central Nevada Museum: Tonopah, 482-9676
Death Valley National Park: Via Beatty or Pahrump, 619-786-2331
Lincoln County Historical Museum: Pioche, 962-5207
Lyon County Museum: Yerington, 463-2245
Million Dollar Courthouse: Pioche, 962-5182
Mineral County Historical Museum: 400 10th St., Hawthorne, 945-5142
Pahrump Valley Winery: Tours, 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE

Rhyolite Bottle House, Historic Site: 553-2424
Spring Valley State Park: Star Route 63, Pioche, 962-5102
Walker Lake State Recreation Area: Hawthorne, 945-5896

Pony Express Territory

Cave Lake State Recreation Area: 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467
Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave: Tours, 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677
Dayton State Park: 687-5678
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum: 289-1663
Eureka Opera House: Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, Eureka, 237-6006
Eureka Sentinel Museum: Eureka, 237-5484

Fort Churchill State Historic Park: 8 miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345
Great Basin National Park: Baker, 234-7331
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site: 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50
Nevada Northern Railway Museum: Seasonal, East Ely, 289-2085
Sand Mountain: 20 miles east of Fallon, U.S. 50, 885-6000
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site: 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, Panaca, 728-4467
White Pine Public Museum: Ely, 289-4710

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.



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Eureka County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Authority
P.O. Box 14 • Eureka, Nevada 89316



Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information.

If you plan to stop by a chamber (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

When calling long distance within Nevada, first dial the state's area code (702).

Statewide Information

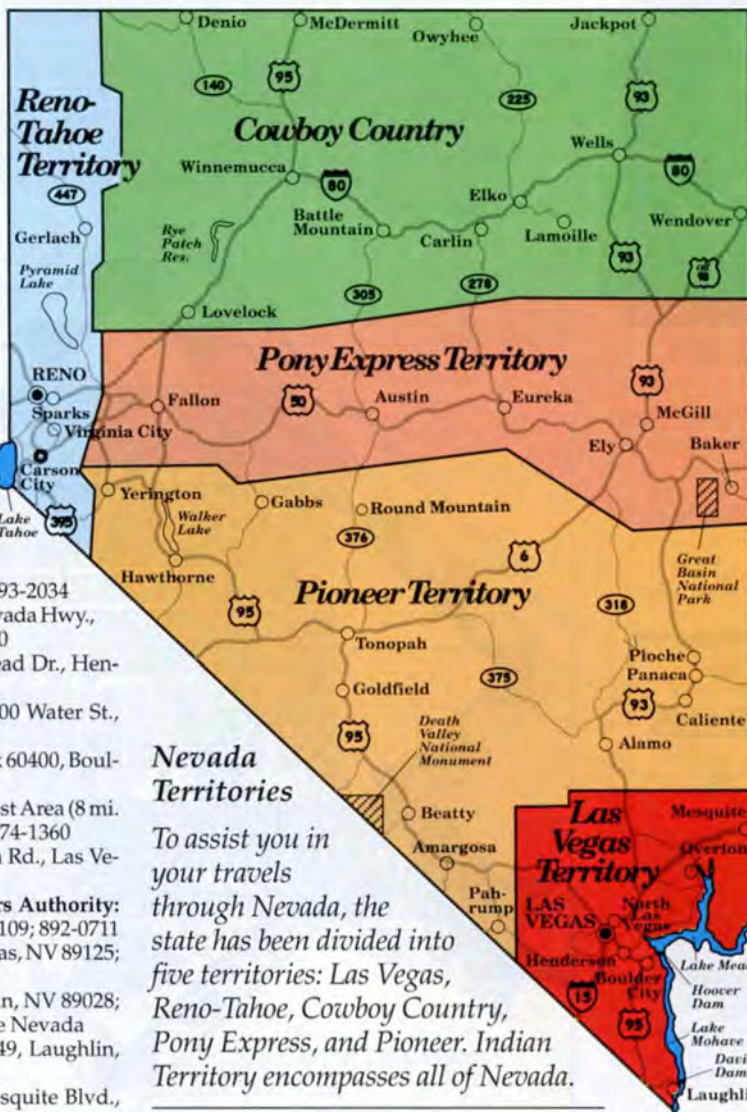
Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada

Las Vegas Territory

Boulder City C of C: 1497 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034
Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1220
Henderson C of C: 100 E. Lake Mead Dr., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951
Henderson Convention Center: 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-2171
Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 293-8367
Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Rest Area (8 mi. south of Jean), Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360
Las Vegas C of C: 711 E. Desert Inn Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711
Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367
Laughlin C of C: Box 7777 Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada
Laughlin Visitor Bureau: Box 29849, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3022
Mesquite Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902
Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703
Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2193 (Lost City Museum)
Nevada Black C of C: 1048 W. Owens Ave., Box 4850, Las Vegas, NV 89106; 648-6222
North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595
Southern Nevada Arts Hot Line: Local arts and cultural events; on touch-tone phone call 385-4444 and enter code 2172

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565
Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.
Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority:



Nevada Territories

To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into five territories: Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, Cowboy Country, Pony Express, and Pioneer. Indian Territory encompasses all of Nevada.

1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.
Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; 686-3030
Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440
Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.
Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S., or 900-776-5050 for updated visitor info. (\$1/min. charge)
North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-6900
Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in the U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936
South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-541-5255
Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976
Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591
Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE 4 U
Virginia City C of C: V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245

Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091 or 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada

Jackpot Visitor Information: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321, 800-821-3935 in Nevada, 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S.

Jarbridge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbridge, NV 89826; 488-2315

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213

McDermitt Information: McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742

Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862 outside Nevada

Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 964-2200

Dayton Area C of C: 15 Main St., Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.)

Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720

Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484

Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-4556 or 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.

Fernley C of C: 485 Truck Inn Way, Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459

Great Basin C of C: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
 Greater Fallon Area C of C: 100 Campus Way,
 Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544
 Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of
 Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV
 89429; 577-2069
 White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301;
 289-8877

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2 Box 401W, Amargosa,
 NV 89020; 372-5459
 Beatty C of C: 119 E. Main, Box 956, Beatty, NV
 89003; 553-2424
 Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente,
 NV 89008; 726-3129
 Gabbs, City of: Box 86, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-
 2671
 Goldfield C of C: 115 Columbia, Box 219, Goldfield,
 NV 89013; 485-9957
 Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield,
 NV 89013; 485-6365
 Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State
 Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain,
 NV 89045; 377-2490
 Lincoln County C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV
 89008; 726-3129
 Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington,
 NV 89447-2536; 463-2245
 Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635,
 Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
 Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV
 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST
 Pioche C of C: Box 127 Pioche, NV 89043; 962-
 5544
 Tonopah C of C: 301 Brower Ave., Box 869,
 Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859
 Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah,
 NV 89049; 482-3558

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 806 Holman Way,
 Sparks, NV 89431; 355-0600
 Indian Territory Chair: Stewart Indian Museum,
 5366 Snyder, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1808

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Death Valley, CA
 92328; 619-786-2331
 Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-
 7331
 Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada
 Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907
 Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex,
 Carson City, NV 89710; 687-4370
 Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area:
 Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 363-1921

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation:
 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712;
 687-4997
 Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000,
 Reno, NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas,
 NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801,
 738-4071
 Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd.,
 Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171
 Nevada Div. of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno,
 NV 89520, 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State
 Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
 Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route,
 Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500
 Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way,
 Sparks, NV 89431, 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View,
 Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102, 873-8800

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DINING DIRECTORY

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to \$10 (\$), \$11 to \$20 (\$\$), \$21 to \$30 (\$\$\$), and more than \$30 (\$\$\$\$). To phone from out of state or long distance in-state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

- Excalibur Hotel/Round Table Buffet**—597-7777. Hot and cold entrees in abundance. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Sherwood Forest Cafe**—597-7777. Burgers, spaghetti, sandwiches. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Imperial Palace Hotel/Emperor's Buffet**—731-3311. Carving station featuring roast baron of beef. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Imperial Palace Hotel/Imperial Buffet/Teahouse**—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop**—794-9318. Deli-style restaurant open 24 hours with daily specials, deli, and kosher items. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Sam's Town/Mary's Diner**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8073. A '50s flair. Blue plate specials served 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Sam's Town/Smokey Joe's 24 Hour Cafe & Market**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 456-7777. Barbecue specialties served 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Sam's Town/Uptown Buffet**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8048. B, L, D. \$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

- Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court**—734-5110. Nine quick-service restaurants serving food from around the world. B, L, D. \$, no CC.
- Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet**—794-9400. Features a variety of international cuisine plus prime rib served nightly. B, L, D. \$, major.

ITALIAN

- Excalibur Hotel/Lance-A-Lotta-Pasta**—597-7777. Lasagna, fettuccine Alfredo, plus 14 different pasta creations. L, D. \$\$, major.
- Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace**—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, and salads. L, D. \$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano**—794-9363. Vermicelli salsa bella vista, lobster Francaise, and fresh seafood. D. \$-\$\$\$\$, major.

MEXICAN

- Sam's Town/Willy and Jose's Mexican Cantina**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8044. Authentic Mexican dishes in Old Mexico setting. D. \$, major.

ORIENTAL

- Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace**—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. \$\$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Rik'Shaw**—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughy with black pepper sauce. Beef, shrimp, chicken, and pork sautéed with Chinese vegetables in oyster sauce. D. \$-\$\$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

- Excalibur Hotel/Camelot**—597-7777. Escargot, sea bass St. Michel, rack of lamb, filet Canterbury. D. \$\$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Sir Galahad's Prime Rib Room**—597-7777. Prime rib, English-fashioned desserts, entrees with soup, salad, potatoes, creamed spinach, and Yorkshire pudding. D. \$\$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Wild Bill's Saloon & Steakhouse**—597-7777. T-bone steaks, sirloins, ribs, fish, and chicken. D, Sun. champagne brunch. \$\$, major.

- Imperial Palace/Seahouse**—794-3261. Alaskan King crab legs, hot and cold appetizers, seafood salads. D. \$\$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's**—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. Complete dinners include glass of house wine, vegetable tray, breads, salad, entree, and dessert bonbons. D. \$\$, major.
- Sam's Town/Diamond Lil's**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8009. Fresh fish and seafood daily. D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major.

Laughlin

- Colorado Belle/Orleans Room**—298-4000. Sunset supper menu. D. \$, major.
- Edgewater/Bountiful Buffet**—298-2453. B, L, D. \$, no CC.
- Edgewater/The Hickory Pit Steak House**—298-2453. Steak, seafood, prime rib, barbecue ribs, and chicken. D. \$\$, major.
- Gold River Resort/Cafe Victoria Coffee Shop**—298-2242. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/Opera House**—298-2242. Buffet. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/Pasta Cucina**—298-2242. Italian cuisine. D. \$\$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/The Lodge**—298-2242. Steakhouse. D. \$-\$\$, AE, MC, V.
- Ramada Express/Dining Car Coffee Shop**—298-4200. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Ramada Express/Passaggio Italian Gardens**—298-4200. Homemade sauces, pastas, pizzas. D. \$, major.
- Ramada Express/Roundhouse Buffet**—298-4200. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Ramada Express/The Steakhouse**—298-4200. Specializing in flame-broiled meats. D. \$, major.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

- Carson Nugget/Buffet**—882-1626. Sun. champagne brunch, Sat. breakfast buffet, Fri. seafood buffet. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop**—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's**—Minden, 782-4347. Steaks, seafood, veal, soup and salad bar. L, D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major.
- Carson Valley Inn/Katie's**—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Carson Valley Inn/Michael's**—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. \$-\$\$, major.
- Fitzgeralds Reno/Molly's Garden**—785-3300. Omelets, prime rib, sandwiches, salads. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Fitzgeralds Reno/O' Lucky's Buffet**—785-3300. Open daily. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Holiday Hotel Casino/Shore Room**—Reno, 329-0411. Fresh salmon in chive sauce, chicken, prime rib. Steamed vegetable basket. B, L, D. \$, major.
- John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store**—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis. B, L, D. \$, major.
- John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie**—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet. L, D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major credit cards accepted.
- Ormsby House Hotel/V & T Coffee Shop**—Carson City, 882-1890. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Peppermill Hotel/Coffee Shop**—Reno, 826-2121. Filet of chicken croissant, Mediterranean omelet, California tostada salad, stuffed shells Florentine. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Peppermill Hotel/Island Buffet**—Reno, 826-2121. Breakfast buffet, lunch buffet, seafood buffet Fridays. \$-\$\$, major.
- Sharkey's Nugget**—Gardnerville, 782-3133. Prime rib is house specialty. B, L, D. \$, no CC.
- Virginian Hotel/Ranch Restaurant**—Reno, 329-2673. Gambler's Breakfast, prime rib, New York steak. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

BASQUE

- Louis' Basque Corner**—301 E. 4th St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$\$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Eldorado/The Vintage—786-5700. Continental cuisine, daily specials, choice dry-aged beef, mesquite-grilled. Complimentary wine tasting from award-winning wine list. D. \$\$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Le Moulin—Reno, 826-2121. Broiled swordfish Santa Cruz, filet mignon, bearnaise, veal piccata, lobster linguine a la Roma. D. \$\$-\$\$\$ major.

INTERNATIONAL

Eldorado/Choices—786-5700. An express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. \$, major.

Eldorado/Market Place Buffet—786-5700. Serving mushroom ravioli, fresh fish, homemade pastas, and prime rib. B, L, D. \$, major.

Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant and entertainment attraction. Italian, South American, Caribbean, Thai, Szechwan, Vietnamese, Cantonese, and American cuisine. B, L, D. \$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Food Court—Reno, 826-2121. Manicotti marinara, prime rib, kung pao shrimp, chicken fajitas. B, L, D. \$, major.

ITALIAN

Eldorado/La Strada—786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees plus homemade pasta, sauces, and desserts. Award-winning wine list. D. \$\$, major.

ORIENTAL

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. L, D. \$, major.
Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken picata, escargot.



Steaks are the fare at The Lodge in Laughlin's Gold River

D. \$\$, major.

Eldorado/Grill and Rotisserie—786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb, and USDA choice dry-aged beef, soup and salad bar. D. \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/John's Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak and lobster, snapper, shrimp. L, D. \$\$, major.

Ormsby House Hotel/Baron's Steak House—Carson City, 882-1890. L, D. \$\$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb

chops, prime rib. Coffee shop, open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaola, pollo allo spumante. D. \$\$, major.

ORIENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$\$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. Reservations for large parties. D. \$\$, major.

Caesars Tahoe/Pisces—Stateline, 588-3515. Salmon, lobster, shrimp, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D. \$\$, major.

Around the State

Elko: Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Casino coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Ely: Copper Queen—289-4271. Coffee shop, family dining room. Steaks, prime rib, seafood. Family-style Basque dinners Fri.-Sat., 5-10 p.m. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Lovelock: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room Supper Club Tues.-Sat. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.

Mt. Charleston: Mt. Charleston Hotel/Canyon Dining Room—872-5500. Tournedos of beef, steak Diane, shrimp scampi, chicken piccata. B, L, D. \$\$, major credit cards accepted.

Tonopah: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Casino restaurant, breakfasts, hamburgers, steak, and seafood. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

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Jarbidge: Discover Jarbidge
Winnemucca: IFCA Champ Roping
Wendover: Bonneville Land Speed
Opener

Battle Mountain: Mining
Madness & Bed Races

AUGUST

Wendover: 47th Annual
Bonneville Speed Week
Winnemucca: Hot August Nights,
Hot Air Balloon Festival
Lovelock: Frontier Days, World
Championship Fast Draw Contest
Elko & Winnemucca: Nevada Rally
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Elko: County Fair & Livestock
Show & Pari-Mutuel Racing,
Western Art Show & Auction
Winnemucca: Western Art
Roundup, Tri-County Fair,
Winnemucca Rodeo & Parade

SEPTEMBER

Wells: Race To Angel
Wendover: World of Speed
Winnemucca: Thoroughbred,
Quarterhorse & Mule Pari-mutuel
Racing, Ranch Hand Rodeo

OCTOBER

Wendover: Bonneville World Finals
Speed Racing
Elko: Te-Moak Youth Pow Wow

NOVEMBER

Elko: Festival of Trees

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A Play on 'Playboy'

Greg Thompson's show romps at Harrah's Reno.

By Katherine McDonnell

The Playboy name carries with it an undeniable cachet. Playboy Entertainment is visible throughout the world with Playboy clubs, bunnies, centerfolds, Playmates, and *Playboy* magazine. Likewise, Seattle-based producer Greg Thompson and choreographer Mistinguett—no strangers to the Reno-Tahoe area—also have entertained audiences worldwide. Their productions are known for heart-pounding futuristic music, state-of-the-art set design, and scantily-clad dancers. Mix these teams together and you've got "Playboy's Ecstasy," the latest musical revue at Harrah's Reno.

"Playboy's Ecstasy" is a sexy romp, complimented by music and dance. Thompson and Mistinguett entertain and titillate with gaudy neon and bawdy vignettes. However, the only connection to Playboy Entertainment is the show's name and a few jokes by comic Adam Leslie.

Because Playboy Playmates are not generally dancers, they are absent but hardly missed. The cast of seven female and three male dancers is joined by three singers, who, unlike *Playboy*, entertain an audience of both sexes. They perform rapidly paced songs that leap from Billy Joel to Prince to Michael Bolton in a single bound. The choreography, although not Mistinguett's best, is as electric and blatantly erotic as ever.

Mistinguett's costumes for "Ecstasy" are equally sinful. In a number that features En Vogue's "Giving Him Something He Can Feel," six female dancers enter in beautiful topless gowns that appear to toast their femininity rather than



The Mistinguett Dancers show a lot of skin in "Playboy's Ecstasy" at Harrah's Reno.

sexuality. But when the dancers turn away from the audience, the gowns have a rear cutaway that reveals a distracting amount of derriere.

Lead dancer Shannon O'Keefe is lean and powerful, but she spends the first half hour of the show sliding and grinding. For a leading lady, O'Keefe is hidden much of the time behind other dancers and by floppy headpieces. It's disappointing because this woman is an exceptional performer.

Sheldon Craig heads up the cast of talented singers in "Playboy's Ecstasy." He has appeared in two other Thompson shows at Harrah's Reno, "Stage-struck" and "High Voltage." In "Ecstasy" he teams with newcomer Darren Fowler to sing the ballad "The Stranger." Leda Lorraine's singing performance is reminiscent of Tina Turner's in *Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome*—savage yet intensely female.

"Ecstasy" also features magician

Phelston Jones and comedian Adam Leslie. While Jones' mystical dances and sleight of hand are some of the best 10 minutes of the show, Leslie's observational humor delivers a blast of lightheartedness. He spoofs *Playboy*, impersonates Lawrence Welk, takes digs at the airlines, and looks at the dirty parts of Mother Goose stories. Leslie's banter fits the "Playboy's Ecstasy" style as well as a bunny fills out her cocktail costume.

Forget the fact that *Playboy* is designed to appeal to men. "Playboy's Ecstasy" is pure adult entertainment for both sexes. It's an eye-popping 60 minutes that has fun with our sexual nature—which it does even without pulling a Playmate out of a hat.

Katherine McDonnell, who once visited a Playboy Club in New Jersey, is a former casino-show dancer and the events editor for Nevada Magazine.

Hoppin' at Harrah's

"Playboy's Ecstasy" appears at 11 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday and at 9 p.m. Monday in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno. Tickets are \$17.50. For reservations call 702-788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS.

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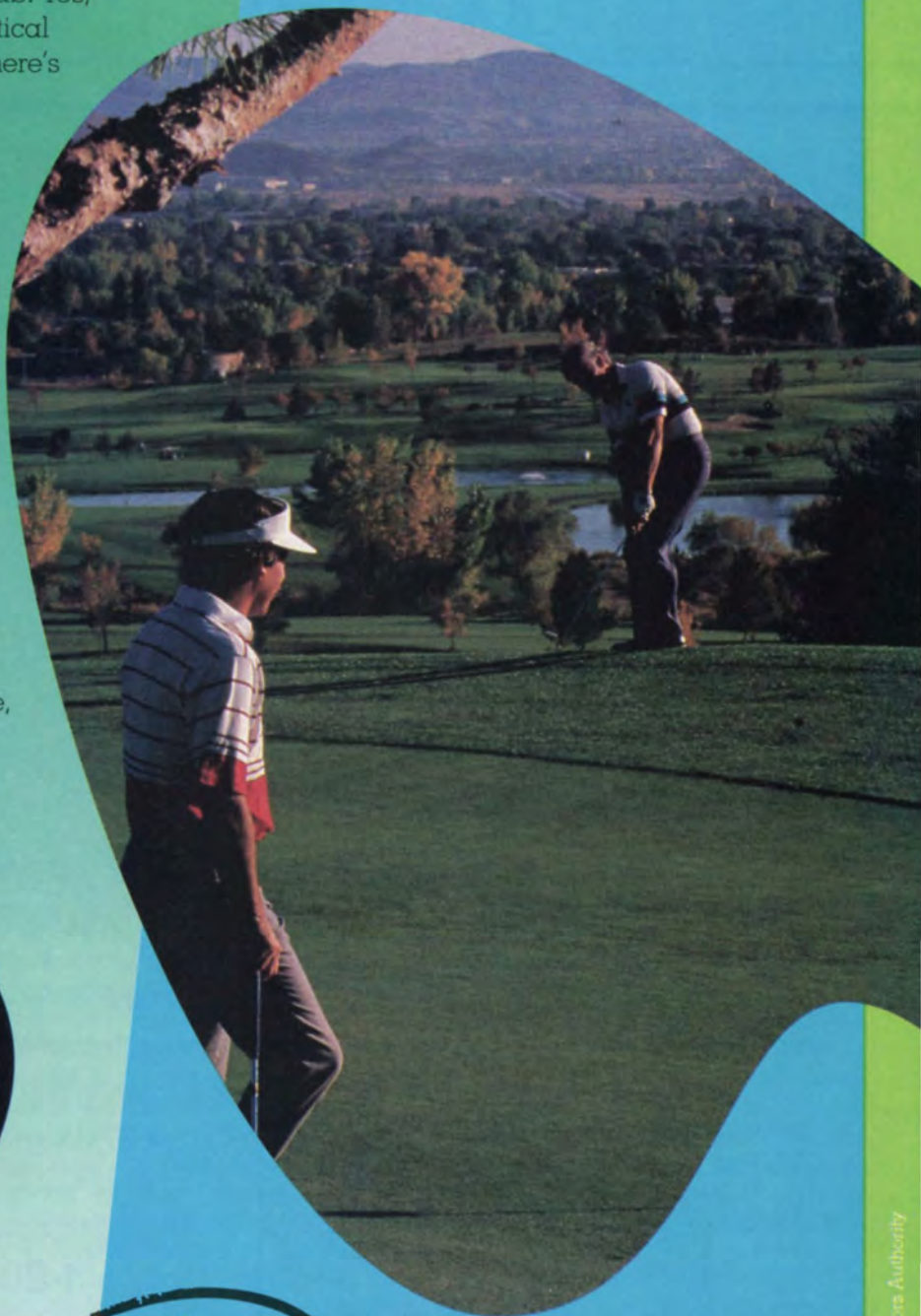
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For tee time reservations, or if you hunger for more info on Reno/Lake Tahoe, call the number below. Bon appétit.



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