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Angler Debi Siska stalks trout in Lamoille Creek

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Guides

Guy Louis Rocha, historian, author, and state archivist, likes a good mystery Long curious about the origin of the name "Nevada," Guy recently uncovered new trails of evidence. In this issue's "How Nevada Became 'Nevada'" he offers a rather startling conclusion: Our state's name was decided in a Congressional salon, not a Comstock saloon.

Guy's research led him to records of the 1850s, when farmers and miners began to settle the region. One day he was cruising microfilm, following a hunch. "If there was a moment when I said, 'Eureka, it was when I found the 1858 *New York Times* story about 'The New Territory of Nevada,'" he recalls. "There it was, the earliest discovered newspaper reference to the name 'Nevada.'"

Guy also noted that Nevada's territorial ambitions were first encouraged not by Northerners but instead by Southerners interested in slavery's expansion and by Westerners connected to William Walker's 1856 insurgency in Nicaragua. Guy says, "This adds a whole new dimension to Nevada's role in the pre-Civil War era."

The role of a dancer in Las Vegas is the subject of **Jeanie Gardner's** "Confessions of a Copa Girl." With Lake Tahoe writer **Kim Pryor**, Jeanie recalls Elvis, Frank, and her years as a dancer.

In "A Fair to Remember" **Kate Butler** visits the Clark County Fair, during which Logandale is transformed into a carnival and livestock capital.

As part of a series celebrating *Nevada's* 60th anniversary, former staff photographer **Adrian Atwater** vividly remembers covering a 1953 atomic test in "A Blast at News Nob."

Debuting this issue is the "People Page," compiled by Associate Editor **Carolyn Graham**. Future nominations of intriguing Nevadans are welcome.

The cover story, "Great Guides: Summer Vacation Ideas," reviews topics ranging from ghost-town hikes to bargain buffets. The "Great Guides" are some of the state's best known guidebook authors—gurus of getaways such as **David W Toll**, **Barbara Land**, **Mary Ellen** and **Al Glass**, **Anthony Curtis**, **Stanley W Paher**, **Connie Emerson**, **Deke Castleman**, and **Richard Moreno**, *Nevada's* publisher.—*David Moore*

NEVADA 60 YEARS

VOLUME 56 • NUMBER 2 • MARCH/APRIL 1996

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On the Cover: Debi Siska of Sparks, with Worf the lab, fishes Lamoille Creek in June. Photo by Bob Rosenquist

Photos (from top to bottom): Gary Elam, Jeanie Gardner Collection, Gene Hertzog

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LETTERS

Hard rocks, a big chill, and mystery coins.

A Warm Reception

I was delighted to read Mark McLaughlin's article "The Big Chill" in the Jan/Feb issue. It added greatly to a manuscript I was working on about the Meadow Valley Wash, in which I included a section on the winter of 1937 and the problems faced by the Prettymans and their friends.

Walter R. Averett
Grand Junction, CO

Hopping Dad

I have been a faithful reader of *Nevada Magazine*. I was born in Elko and raised in Fallon until I met my husband Jakie and moved to Texas.

My father, Edward Gibbs, has always loved Nevada and was quite learned about its history At times he would be called upon to lecture about the state.

My mother Fontella was an avid rockhound and used to drive my dad crazy, making him carry rocks all day when they'd go on rockhound trips from time to time. I remember Mother having rocks under their bed, in closets, the bathroom, etc.

At this particular time, my dad was chief of police in Fallon and would get calls early in the morning. He'd jump out of bed to go to the station and end up stepping on rocks. Needless to say, he was rather upset.

Donna Gibbs Sanfilippo
Corpus Christi, TX

Candy Dance Advisory

The story on Genoa's annual Candy Dance in the Sept/Oct issue was great except for a couple of errors that seem to be repeated year after year. According to the late Arnold Trimmer and the late Ione Fettic, both of whom were around at the time of the first Candy Dance in 1919, the idea for the event came from a river cruise, not an ocean cruise, that resident Lillian Virgin Finnegan had enjoyed.

Further, there were not, and are not, any gas lights in Genoa. The first Candy Dance was to raise funds for street lights since electricity had come to the valley

Nancy Miluck
Genoa

Nancy, thanks for the tips. Genoa resident Barbara Florman, who serves as the Candy Dance's publicity coordinator notes that there have been a number of different cruise stories over the years. However Barbara agrees that the reference to gas lights was an error Thanks again.—Ed.

No Objections Here

Regarding the letter to the editor in the Jan/Feb issue from Mark Cash of Warren, Michigan.

Where can I get a copy of the *Nevada Magazine* that includes pictures of the *Playboy* show at Harrah's Reno? If Mr. Cash finds the pictures so objectionable, perhaps he will send me his copy

Wayne Norton
Aromas, CA

Nevada Goes to Sea

As a Carson City native who is stationed on a ship deployed to the Mediterranean Sea, I don't often get a chance to see a piece of home. I was ecstatic when I received a copy of the July/August issue.

I thoroughly enjoyed the article "Characters, Cracker Barrels, and Country Stores" by Kate Butler. I have fond memories of going to some of those very stores on Sunday drives with my family—especially the Genoa Country Store.

Robert B. Parker STG2
U.S. Navy

Magical Mystery Machine

Could you help me settle a bet with a friend? Recently we spent a week at the Silver Legacy in Reno and while we were there ran into a bit of a mystery surrounding the mining machine in the casino.

My friend believes the machine produces the actual slot tokens used in the casino. We asked a few employees how we could obtain a coin as a keepsake but got different stories. What's up?

Darrell Smith
Old Hickory, TN

Darrell, thanks for the coin query. The 120-foot-tall mining machine only appears to turn raw ore into coins by simulating the silver mining process of Nevada's Comstock era. Dollar slot tokens are temptingly stored in the large coin pavilion, and the tokens drop into a slot carousel to be awarded to winners.—Ed.





ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Bowling, surfing, and revisiting a classic theater.

MUSEUMS

History Class

GARDNERVILLE—Travelers will find a new place to learn about local history at the new **Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center**.

The historical building is the former Douglas County High School, which was designed by Reno architect Frederic DeLongchamps and opened in 1916. In recent years residents raised funds and donated their time to fix up the old school and transform it into a museum, which opened last August.

The museum is packed with remnants of local history, including Washoe murals and baskets, agricultural artifacts from ranching families, old telephone and newspaper displays, an antique dress shop, and a Basque sheep camp. Visitors can learn about Carson Valley's early-day doctors, one of whom was Eliza Cook, the state's first female physician. A natural-history display has mounted exotic animals and a replica of an old hunting lodge.



Franklin Baker (left), class of 1930, and Dan Hellwinkel, '44, chat at the museum opening.

The center also has an art gallery, picnic area, and chamber of commerce visitor center. Located in the heart of Gardnerville on U.S. 395, the museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 702-782-2555 for more museum information. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.—*Treva Lind*

WEB SITES

Nevada on the Net

THE INTERNET—Nevada-related sites are beginning to appear on the Internet, where cybersurfers can find travel information about the Silver State on the World Wide Web.

The **Reno-Tahoe Territory Home Page** (http://reno-tahoe.com) is attractive and useful, with plenty of pictures, an excellent state map, and text about the area, including attractions, events, and hotel listings. The site includes suggested itineraries, which could use a little more detail, but they are a good beginning. The page also has a handy "All Nevada Jump Page," offering links to other Nevada Web sites.



Travelers on the Internet can visit several Nevada sites on the World Wide Web.

The **Las Vegas Internet Leisure Guide** (http://www.pcap.com) lists attractions, events, and hotels in the Vegas area. Although the graphics are primitive, the site is fast and rich in content. The features section on the main page presents updates on such matters as Megabucks jackpots and hotel construction. The show guide gives dates and admission prices for showrooms, and the recreation guide lists activities from billiards to hockey.

Nevada Magazine's Web page is under construction. The site will include selected articles and photographs and listings from Nevada Events and Shows.

In the meantime, you can send comments, suggestions, and letters to nevmag@aol.com.—*Steve Graham*

BOWLING



The colorful balls at the Piñon Plaza are suitable for framing.

Strike Up a Game

CARSON CITY—Visitors to the newest casino in the capital should spare the time to bowl at the **Piñon Plaza's Bowling Center,** which has a video-game arcade, free children's playroom, and 24-hour lanes.

The center, which opened last summer, has 32 lanes, state-of-the-art scoring, a pro shop, men's and women's locker rooms, and a lounge and snack bar. The decor is cheerful, accented by pastel seating and wildly colored bowling balls. The center plans to add glow-in-the-dark pins and instant video replay.

Rates vary throughout the day. Children (12 and under) and seniors pay $1.50 per game, while regular adult rates range from $1.75 for weekdays to $2.25 for evenings and weekends. On weekdays from midnight to 8 a.m., everyone bowls for $1.50. Shoe rentals are 50 cents for children, $1.50 for adults and seniors. The free supervised playroom is open 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. for ages two to eight.

Piñon Plaza is located on U.S. 50 East. Call 702-885-9000 for more information.

—*Katherine McDonnell*

Photo: Jay Aldrich (top left)

Theater of Time: Back to the Feature

BOULDER CITY—While touring the historic district of Boulder City, one can easily slip back in time to the 1930s, when the town was created for the workers at Hoover Dam.

One establishment that is preserving the town's heritage is the **Boulder Theatre**, the oldest movie theater in continuous operation in Nevada.

Although its screens show first-run movies that are pure modern-day Tinseltown, the theater's atmosphere is authentic 1930s. Moviegoers are taken back 60 years with such classic remnants as the old cast-iron letters that spell out flicks on the marquee and original chandeliers and scones that shed minimal light inside.

"We wanted to preserve the ambiance of the '30s, which everyone who comes here seems to relate to their past," says owner J.J. Brennan.

"Not everyone was alive in the '30s, but this place has a charm all its own, and everyone brings their own memories with them," Brennan adds.



Moviegoers lined up bumper to bumper to catch a flick at the Boulder Theatre in downtown Boulder City in 1932. Today the theater maintains its 1930s charm.

The theater's look may evoke an era that has passed, but the room's acoustics offer a surprisingly high-tech feature: crisp sound. The Boulder Theatre was built with acoustics in mind, while today's multiroom cinemaplexes rely on Dolby sound systems that bleed into the next room. Speaking with a normal voice on the raised stage in the old movie house, a person can easily be heard in the back row.

The Boulder Theatre opened in 1932

(Continued on page 77)



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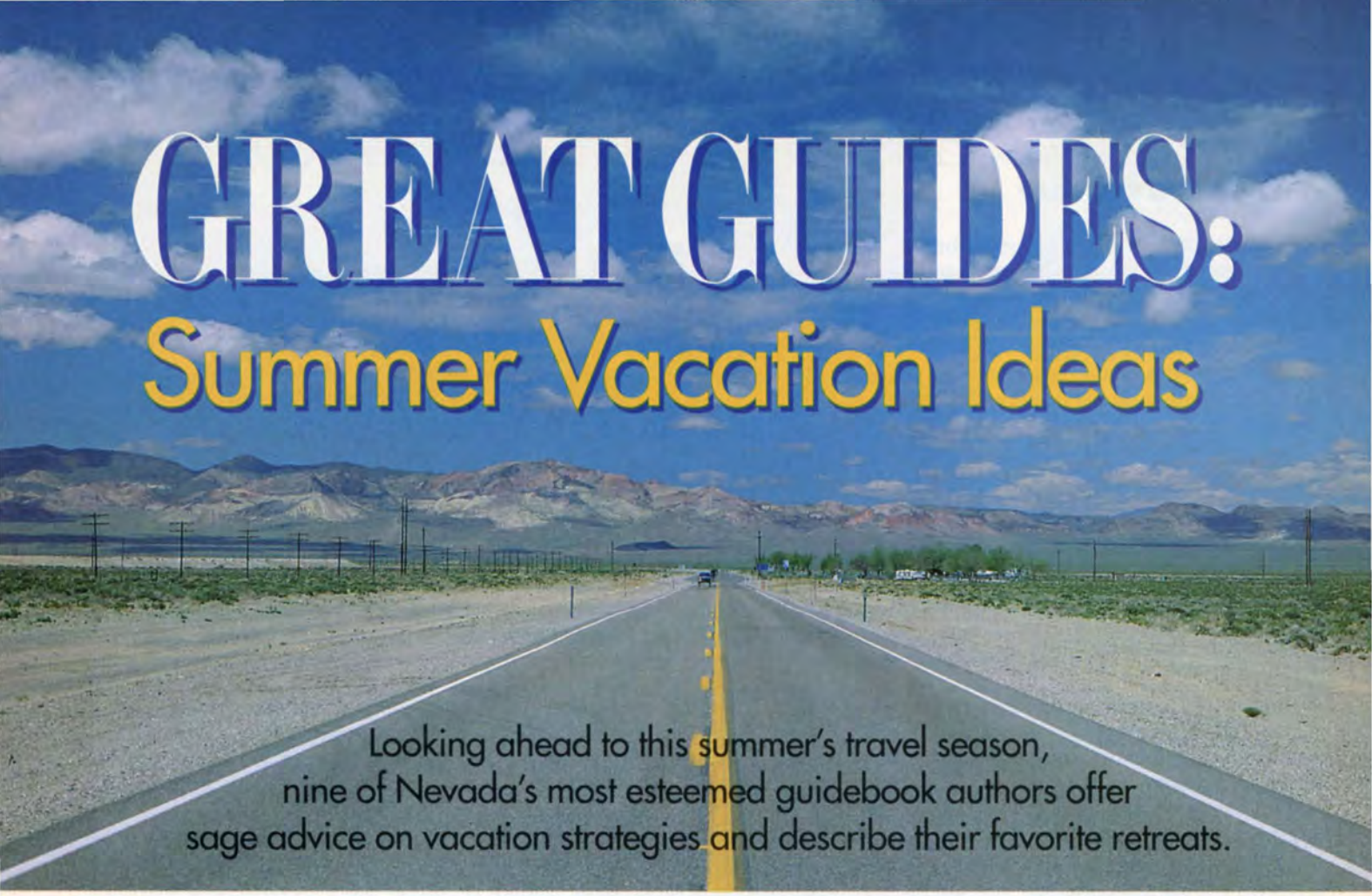
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Clockwise from top: dazzling entertainment, Reno Rodeo, Great Reno Balloon Race, National Bowling Stadium, National Championship Air Races, Downtown Reno.

Photo: Bureau of Reclamation

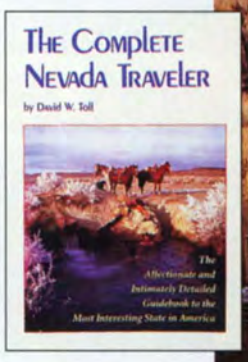
GREAT GUIDES:
Summer Vacation Ideas



Looking ahead to this summer's travel season, nine of Nevada's most esteemed guidebook authors offer sage advice on vacation strategies and describe their favorite retreats.

Blue Sky Highways

By David W Toll





David W. Toll and Miss Daisy, ready to embark on another trip into the hinterland.

Everyone who travels regularly in Nevada has favorite destinations, places that raise anticipations as we set out on what might otherwise seem like, well, work.

I love the road itself. I like leaving routines and schedules behind to voyage out beyond the horizon, gliding between volcanic swells and cresting mountain passes like an Essex-built schooner with a following wind, bound for Hawthorne or Lamoille. I like going there as much as getting there.

And because I don't want to miss a single mile of the fun, I like to get on the road early. On a recent trip south on U.S. 95, I arrived at Walker Lake as the first sweet light of morning was seeping into the sky, a thin white outline on the eastern horizon. And then the sky slowly blossomed into delicate yellow, its color emerging like an opening rose above magenta mountains. On the dark glittering water, white blobs bobbing: a flock of pelicans. It was a brilliant beginning to the day's drive.

One of my favorite passages on this road is the line of telephone poles between Coaldale Junction and Miller's, sternly striding in a straight line, then suddenly twanging silently off on a new tangent alongside the gently curving road. And behind the poles' strict geometric progressions the rough and rumpled magnificence of Lone Mountain

Nevada's longest road is U.S. 95, which is 565 miles in length. Top: U.S. 95 skirts the Monte Cristo Range near Tonopah.

Photos: Larry D. Taylor (top), Gary Elam (bottom)

presses up against the blue silk sky

The Nevada highway is a narrow stripe of asphalt through regions of utter wildness. It is a magnificent landscape, sometimes thrilling in its immensity, sometimes chilling in its cosmic indifference to our most urgent needs.

Out here in the purity of the natural world—no phones, no interruptions, no routines—you are free to think thoughts not conceivable during the daily grind—wildflowers of the mind, that blossom unexpectedly alongside the beaten track of everyday worries and concerns, and are gone. Evanescent and unforgettable, and ordinarily unavailable—vagrant memories of a miraculous May in Paris, of making the long hike up out of the Grand Canyon, of running and playing with the cowboys on payday in the pre-restored Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah. Of the girl with the freckled face, whose eyes locked with mine through the rain sparkling on our streetcar windows as we floated slowly past one another 40 years ago. Does she ever think of me?

The trip is different from season to season, day to day, hour to hour, mile to mile, endless and endlessly changing. I'm surprised how often I replay some of the most vivid memories from the highway

One of my favorites was on a drive west from Winnemucca into the long summer twilight. Miss Daisy was zooming easily along at a steady 68.5, Bill Evans was weaving piano tapestries on the tape deck, and the sun was sliding slowly down the sky Black shadows crept across the tawny valleys as the sun, a swollen gob of gold, touched the mountains, illuminating the clouds in glorious light like angel's wings.

And as the sun cooled and submerged, the sky began to sizzle. Blue skies bleached to white and the clouds dimmed to apricot, then orange, then darkly red—as the sky blued up again, shifting deeper toward star-spangled indigo as the fire finally flamed out and cooled, and the clouds darkened through chocolate brown to charcoal.

By the time the sky was black and the clouds invisible, I was ready for a cup of coffee—and there at the edge of the highway ahead was the Burns Brothers truck stop, a brightly lighted landing pad for the return to mundane reality.

David W. Toll of Gold Hill is the author of The Complete Nevada Traveler *(Gold Hill Publishing), soon in its sixth edition. When first published in the 1970s,* The Traveler *was the first travel guide to Nevada since the WPA guidebook of the 1930s.*

Red Rock Rambles

By Barbara Land

For me, the best part of the research for writing *Las Vegas With Kids* was the chance to explore nearby desert places like Red Rock Canyon. What a surprise—a glimpse of wild, natural prehistoric beauty less than 20 miles from man-made glitter on the Las Vegas Strip.

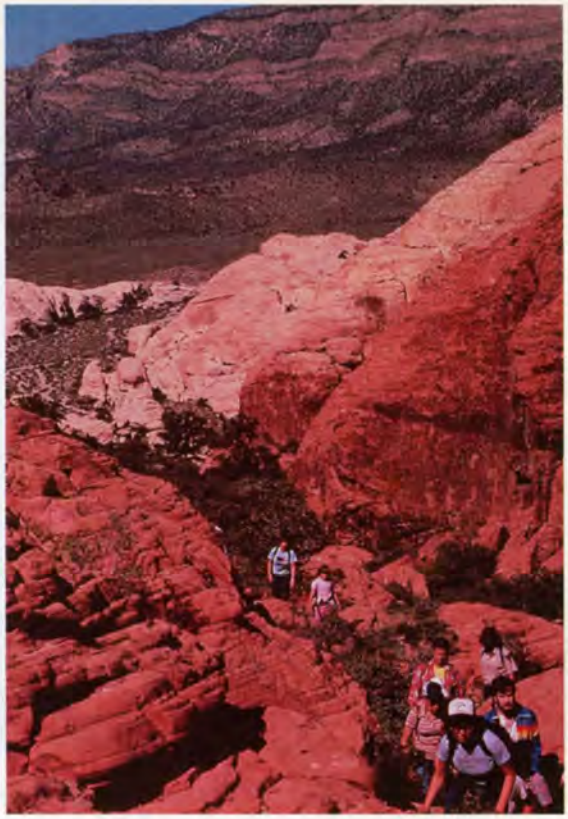
This natural "Jurassic Park" in the Mojave Desert is a wilderness where lizards and tortoises live among wild burros and jackrabbits, a world that was once the province of dinosaurs.

The first thing you notice in Red Rock Canyon is the variety of colors in the Jurassic sandstone. Those hills and rocks are not just red. Some cliffs and peaks look pink, orange, or yellow with purple shadows. No wonder they're called "Calico Hills." Higher mountains in the distance seem to be striped, with layers of gray on top of red. Patches of cactus and Joshua trees beside the road remind you that you're in the same desert containing Death Valley National Park.

This rocky wilderness covers more than 195,000 acres, so you'll need to pinpoint an area to explore. The 13-mile Scenic Drive is flexible enough to allow you to get out of the car at designated parking areas and hike down one of the trails. At the first two pullouts you'll find short trails leading toward the base of the Calico Hills. If the season is right, nature lovers can look for rain pools where insects may be hatching.



Barbara Land tells where to take the kids in Southern Nevada.



The curiously sculpted sandstone formations of Red Rock Canyon are west of Las Vegas.

Rock climbers are often perched on the sandstone walls.

If you have time for just one stop, don't miss the Lost Creek Children's Discovery Trail. It's only half a mile long, and it leads you through some spectacular scenery. It's also near the Willow Spring picnic area, a perfect place to unpack your lunch. From there you can walk into Lost Creek Canyon to find a year-round spring, but don't drink the water.

If the weather is hot, you can cool off in Ice Box Canyon, the next stop on the one-way road, where steep walls protect trails from the blazing sun. You may even see a small waterfall if there has been any recent rain.

Last stop on the loop is the Pine Creek Canyon overlook and a short trail leading to the ruins of an old homestead. An unexpected grove of ponderosa pines grows along a creek in the canyon. Whatever you do, make sure to have plenty of film in your camera.

Barbara Land of Reno is the author of five books, including Las Vegas With Kids, *and coauthor with her husband, Myrick Land, of six books, including* A Short History of Reno. *The preceding is adapted from* Las Vegas With Kids, *published by Prima Publishing (Box 1260BK, Rocklin, CA 95677) last summer*

Photo: Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area



Job's Peak peeks over the clouds and Carson Valley.

Carson Valley's Scenic History

By Mary Ellen and Al Glass

The best place in Nevada to vacation is Carson Valley. It's restful, educational, scenic, and historic. Here you will find great Sierra scenery and towering Job's Peak, which is one of the most beautiful sights in the West. If you wish to tour the area, Carson Valley is within easy driving distance of Lake Tahoe, Carson City, and Virginia City. As a scenic base, the valley has no equal.

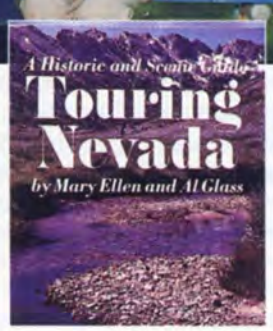
Our favorite aspect of Carson Valley is its history Established in the 1850s, Mormon Station, the state's first permanent settlement, was founded as an outpost of the Mormon theocracy Today the town of Genoa has Mormon Station State Historic Park, the Courthouse Museum, old-fashioned restaurants, and even the state's oldest saloon.

Gardnerville, settled in 1887, served the needs of valley farmers. You can stroll the downtown, play golf, and visit a new historical museum established in the old high school. The museum offers an introduction to the Washoe people, who have lived in the valley for centuries. Gardnerville also has three of the best Basque restaurants in Nevada, harking back to the hotels and boardinghouses that served the area's Basque sheepherders.

Gardnerville lost its metropolis status in 1906, when the Virginia and Truckee Railroad established a terminus in the new town of Minden. A group of German ranchers led by Fred Dangberg had arranged to have the railroad stop on Dangberg property, defeating the aspirations of a group of Danish residents. The new town was named after the German city of Minden. Today Minden has traveler's services such as an RV park, motels, casino, and restaurants.

The farming activity that began with the early settlers remains. The lush farms, Job's Peak, and the area's history will provide many days of looking and learning.





Mary Ellen and Al Glass have guided readers to their favorite historic sites.

Mary Ellen and Al Glass of Reno and Yuma are the authors of Touring Nevada: A Historic and Scenic Guide *(University of Nevada Press, 1983) and* Your Guide to Western Nevada *(Nevada Historical Society, 1975). The founder of the University of Nevada's Oral History Program, Mary Ellen has written several other books, including* Nevada's Turbulent '50s *and* Silver and Politics in Nevada.



The Hunt for Casino Bargains

By Anthony Curtis

My idea of a great Las Vegas vacation is one that incorporates consumerism and savings. Since casinos peddle an essentially identical product, they're forced to wage a war of loss leaders, giveaways, and givebacks to bring customers through their doors.

My first experience with the impact of the great casino bargain machine came during a visit to Las Vegas just after I had turned 21. I had a bad experience at the tables, but the sting was mitigated by a $1.99 buffet I found. It was such a good deal that it made me feel as if I hadn't been completely irresponsible.

This, of course, is the precise effect the casinos hope their loss leaders will have. But it was obvious to me that the situation could be manipulated to my advantage.

When I moved to Las Vegas later that year, I marveled at how I could eat well on less than $5 a day—a 50-cent shrimp cocktail, a 49-cent breakfast, a complete steak dinner for $2. I realized that those values could enhance anyone's vacation. Even beyond the good deal, they also provided a good story to take home. Listen to your friends when they come back from a Las Vegas vacation: "Sure I lost a little in the slots, but let me tell you about my $3.95 buffet, 99-cent foot-

Photos: Jay Aldrich (left), Gail Bandini (right)

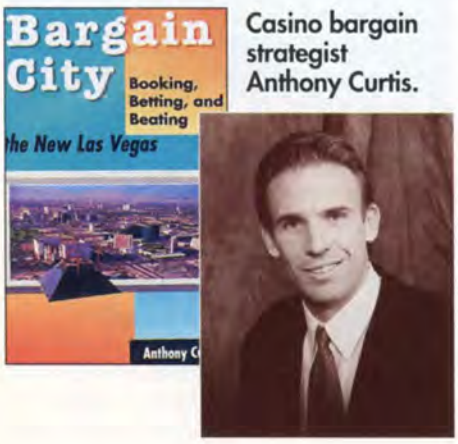


A lushly appointed hotel swimming pool is a cool bargain in itself. Above: the Tropicana's.

long hot dog, and 75-cent Heineken."

How good does it get? With today's competition, opportunities abound to lower the cost, or improve the quality, of lodging, dining, entertainment, gambling, and just about everything else connected with a Las Vegas vacation. A customer who takes advantage of the low prices, funbook coupons, and promotions, and doesn't give it back via excessive gambling, can come away with one of the least expensive vacations on Earth.

Anthony Curtis is publisher of the Las Vegas Advisor, *a monthly newsletter (Huntington Press, 3687 South Procyon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103). Curtis also is the author of* Bargain City, *a Huntington Press guide to "booking, betting, and beating the new Las Vegas."*



Casino bargain strategist Anthony Curtis.

Tybo Time Travel By Stanley W Paher

Sixty miles northeast of Tonopah is the 19th-century mining camp of Tybo. Silver was discovered there in the summer of 1870, and Tybo soon became the metropolis of Central Nevada, claiming a population of nearly 1,000 in 1877 The mines were profitably worked until just before World War II, when operations ceased and the town was abandoned.



Ghost-towner Doug Shearer inspects kilns near Tybo.

As modern-day visitors motor the nine-mile graded dirt road from U.S 6 into the old camp, they enter one of many canyons of the Hot Creek Range. In Tybo they will find foundations of once productive mills and smelters amid deserted wooden homes and commercial brick buildings. The long-used Trowbridge Store still looks as stately as a pagan temple whose worshippers have long since vanished.

At the upper end of Tybo are three kilns that made charcoal, an agent used in reducing the lead-silver ores at the two local smelters in the 1870s. The beehive-shaped structures remain remarkably intact.

Tybo also offers the advanced ghost-towner unexpected delights—if you come prepared with a tent, cooler, and good hiking boots for a long day's prowl in the mountains.

You can bed down near the kilns and arise with the sun. Before starting out, it is wise to fill day packs with food, water, a simple snake-bit kit, other first-aid items, and U.S.G.S. maps of the area.

The hike proceeds westward along the old stage road toward Belmont. Ascending upper Tybo Canyon, you can imagine the century-ago activity of horse-drawn stages and large freight wagons driven by swearing teamsters.

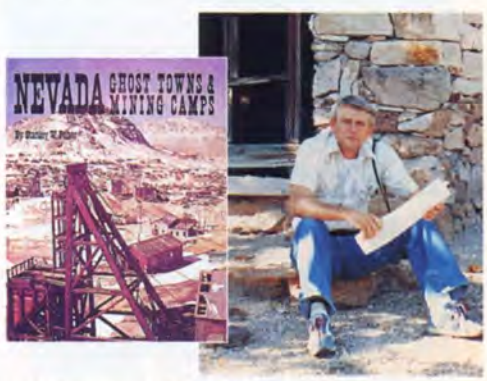
As you reach the top of the Hot Creek Range, the thin air offers breathtaking views. Paralleling the road are gaunt telegraph poles. A buried treasure—a lost gambler's cache—is said to be near the summit. As the story goes, a gambler from Belmont relieved a number of Tybo's miners and charcoal burners of their wages, and he left town with more than $3,000. Sensing that he was being followed, the gambler hid his winnings in a canvas ore sack near a grove of junipers. The cache has never been found.

Proceeding west down the flank of the range, hikers will find at the base of the mountain and alongside the road another set of three charcoal ovens made of bricks. As you linger inside the kilns, you smell century-old smoke emanating from the soot-stained bricks.

Walking on the Tybo-Belmont stage road, you can find more ovens a mile and a quarter south and still another set two miles north. From any point you can return to Tybo by way of the stage road.

In all, this pilgrimage is about 14 miles. The hike is not strenuous, and once back at camp in Tybo you can relax with a ham and cheese sandwich on rye and a cool soda pop. It will be a rewarding excursion—even if you don't find the gambler's lost cache.

Stanley W. Paher of Reno is the author of Nevada Ghost Towns and Mining Camps, *now in its 12th printing, and numerous other books. He presides over Nevada Publications (4135 Badger Circle, Reno, NV 89509), which soon will release new editions of his* Nevada Ghost Towns and Mining Camps Illustrated Atlas.



Stanley W. Paher (at Tybo, right) wrote the book on Nevada ghost towns.

Photo: Doug Shearer

The High Road to Jarbidge

By Deke Castleman



The Jarbidge Wilderness has ample room for llamas and other pack animals.

Growing up in the concrete jungles of New York and Boston, I developed a strong hankering for wide-open spaces. I'm happiest at the top of the highest mountain around, with an unobstructed 360-degree view of the land and sky. That's why one of my favorite Nevada haunts is the stretch between Wild Horse and Jarbidge in the northeastern corner of the state.

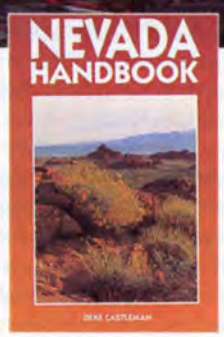
Wild Horse is a recreation area centered on Wild Horse Reservoir on the upper Owyhee River. You can swim, boat, fish, hike, and spend an idyllic evening watching the sun set over the Independence Range across the lake. You can even rinse off the dust and start out fresh in the morning—the state-park campground has showers.

Right across from the park entrance is the Gold Creek access road to Jarbidge. The 55-mile ribbon of dirt leads to one of the most remote towns in the country Jarbidge is a picturesque former boom town with a small store, two saloons, a gas station, and two dozen hardy residents, but most of the fun (for me, anyway) is getting to Jarbidge.

The dirt ribbon traverses some flats and then follows gorges carved by Meadow Creek and the Bruneau River. Beyond the Bruneau the whole world leans back, and for the next several miles you're engaged in one of the longest and steepest uphill struggles in the state. It's up, further up, and then-some up, until finally the world levels out again and the boundless Snake River Plateau stretches to the horizon. You can see for at least a million miles. Am I exaggerating? Probably But nobody from the northeastern U.S. would argue the point.

Deke Castleman of Las Vegas is author of Nevada Handbook *and* Las Vegas. *Both are published by Moon Publications (722 Wall Street, Chico, CA 95928). He is managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor and writes "The Bargain Advisor" in* Nevada.





Deke Castleman on the road with Ernie the Journey, his '79 Ford Fairmont station wagon.



Sous-chef Norris Willis at the Treasure Island Buffet in Las Vegas.

The Art of the Buffet

By Connie Emerson

Part of the joy of vacationing is sampling the local cuisine, and the seasoned Silver State traveler knows that the buffet is as much a part of the Nevada experience as a visit to the blackjack tables or a ghost town.

Finding a good buffet presents a challenge. No doubt about it. But to get the ultimate gustatory satisfaction and biggest bang for your buffet buck, you need only follow a few rules.

1 Don't assume that a buffet is good just because the line is long. Maybe four tour buses just pulled in. To help decide if a buffet deserves raves or raspberries, ask to look at the buffet *before* you pay. Good food usually looks and smells good. For example, you can tell just by looking at the strawberry crepes and the stuffed pork loin with Cabernet sauce at the Harrah's Tahoe Forest Buffet that the food is going to be delicious.

2 Be suspect of too-cheap seafood buffets. After all, good seafood, even at wholesale prices, is expensive.

3 Look for buffets that are imaginative, such as the Flagship Buffet in the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, where you'll find unusual desserts like strawberry trifle and lemon mousse.

4 Plan your approach. There's nothing worse than a plate piled so high that everything gets mixed together—remember the lime Jell-O salad that

Photos: Scott T. Smith (top left), Michael Yamashita (middle left), Kate Butler (top right)

melted into the beef stroganoff? Experts advise that you circle the buffet before you put anything on your plate. Then take small portions of the dishes that look appealing. Return for larger helpings of the foods you like best.

5 Go for the prime rib, shrimp, blueberries, and labor-intensive desserts. You can fix the low-budget spaghetti and chocolate pudding at home. An exception is at the Peppermill in Reno, where the make-your-own-salad ingredients are outstanding.

Experts advise that you circle the buffet before putting anything on your plate.

6 As in all things, you generally get what you pay for. In Las Vegas, the price at Bally's Sterling Buffet Brunch on Sunday is high, to be sure, at $39.95, but you'll remember the French champagne, sturgeon caviar, and omelets with New Zealand lobster long after you've forgotten the money you spent.

Connie Emerson of Reno is author of The Cheapskate's Guide to Las Vegas *(Carol Publishing Group, New York, NY). Her other books include* The 30-Minute Writer *and* Fodor's 1988 Fun in Las Vegas Including Reno and Lake Tahoe.





Bountiful banquet boggles buffet behavioralist Connie Emerson.

My Private Lamoille

By Richard Moreno



Debi Siska of Sparks, with her lab Worf, hikes the trail to Island Lake in the Rubies.

This is one of my fantasies: I win a lottery or inherit a ton of money from a long-lost relative. What to do with the cash? Get a place in Lamoille.

I love Lamoille. Nestled at the base of the Ruby Mountains about 30 miles southeast of Elko, Lamoille is a tiny ranching community that just might be the most beautiful spot in Nevada.

With its groves of aspens and cottonwoods, steepled Presbyterian church, rustic ranch houses, and fields of green, Lamoille is a postcard-image town that would have made Norman Rockwell salivate.

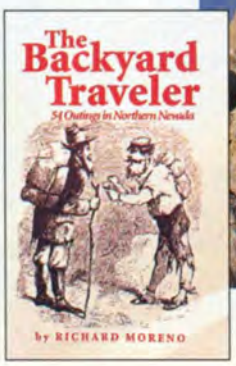
For me, however, the nearby Ruby Mountains are the real draw The Rubies are a virtual wall of imposing, jagged peaks that challenge you to come visit. The drive up Lamoille Canyon provides only a glimpse of the trails, glacial formations, lakes, and rugged scenery found in the range. At the canyon's end a trailhead guides you into the wilderness.

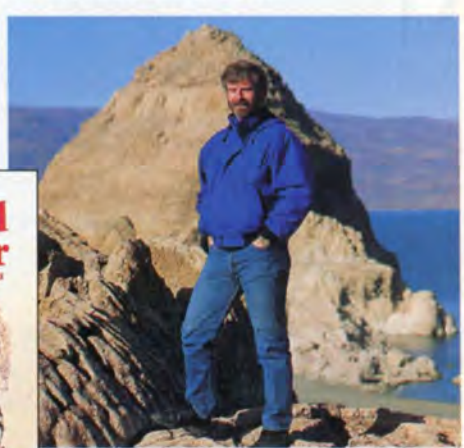
Campers can find a small camping area with 16 sites at Thomas Canyon, which branches off Lamoille Canyon Road. Reservations are recommended; call 1-800-280-CAMP

Climbing one of the trails in early summer—there are more than 100 miles of hiking paths in the range—I find it's easy to turn contemplative. Cares and worries slip away as I listen to the birds and enjoy the bright wildflowers that grow in wide swaths on the mountainside. The sunlight glistens off melting snow patches, and a soft wind teases the grass.

I hope I win a lottery.

Richard Moreno is publisher of Nevada Magazine *and author of* The Backyard Traveler *series of Nevada guidebooks and the* Nevada Trivia Book.





Future Lamoille resident Richard Moreno.

Photos: Kate Butler (left), Bob Rosenquist (top right)

Spring Gallery

Desert plants show their plumage.

Many colorful flowering plants thrive in the Nevada desert. [Top] Photographer Scott T. Smith of Logan, Utah, found this white bitterroot cradled in a bed of rocks in the Jackson Mountains west of Winnemucca. [Right] Alvin McLane of Reno focused on the brilliant-magenta flowers of the beavertail cactus, a Mojave Desert dweller, west of Tonopah. [Far right] Long-leaved paintbrush provides flashes of scarlet in this view by Larry B. Taylor of Carson City. Taylor photographed the paintbrush and violet lupines on Dollar Lake Trail in Lamoille Canyon.





Confessions of a Copa Girl

Stars, glamour, and million-dollar marriage proposals were all in a day's work for this former Las Vegas dancer.

By Jeanie Gardner as told to Kim Pryor

I'll always remember the night we rescued Elvis Presley.

Elvis was making a movie in Los Angeles, and, as was his custom, he had hopped in his white limousine for a weekend jaunt to Vegas. He loved to watch all the Vegas shows.

One night, when I was dancing in the Hank Henry show at the Silver Slipper, I spotted Elvis in the audience. The Memphis Mafia, Elvis' entourage, was clustered around him in the front row

When our show ended, Elvis looked over his shoulder and saw the crowd surging forward. From where I was standing on stage, the crowd looked ready to smother Elvis. He took one look at that mob and leaped on the stage, exiting with us during the finale. In all the years I danced, I never saw any of the stars who watched our show exit the showroom in quite that way.

> *'Often we would perform a special third show at 2 a.m. just for entertainers.'*

After the show, when I was having a drink at the Sahara, a mutual friend introduced me to Elvis. Elvis looked at me and said, "You know, when I saw you, I felt like I already knew you. I'd love to take you out and buy you a drink."

I felt very comfortable with Elvis during our first date to Don Rickles' show The King treated me like a queen. He was always walking around singing little phrases from songs, as if the music kept flowing out of him no matter where he went.

That's what life was like as a Las Vegas dancer in the late 1960s and early 1970s. We were courted by the world's richest and most famous men. Today, after a show, dancers slip on their blue jeans and go home. Then, we were expected to mix with the public. We dressed in glamorous gowns that glittered brighter than the lights on the Strip, decorating the coffee shop and lounge between and after shows. It made life more interesting, more exciting, because the world came to us.



Jeanie Gardner was pretty in pink during her days as a dancer in the Sands' Copa line.

My best friend, Corinne Cole, danced with me in the Copa line, the line of dancers who performed in the Sands' Copa Room. Corinne was engaged to Jack Entratter, president of the Sands. Jack sent us to Europe, where limousines whisked Corinne and me around Rome, Paris, and London. Even the entertainers brought gifts. Vic Damone bought me

Photo: Jeanie Gardner Collection

a pretty evening purse, and Dean Martin would often treat a group of dancers to dinner.

Meanwhile, the celebrities saw the casino lounges as a home away from home. You never knew who would pop in. Often we would perform a special third show at 2 a.m. just for entertainers. In the audience we would see Wayne Newton as well as Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Joey Bishop, and the rest of the Rat Pack. The stars were our best audiences because no one likes to be entertained more than entertainers.

I not only loved dancing in Las Vegas—I also grew up here. My family moved to Las Vegas from Salinas, California, when I was nine years old. I started taking dance lessons when I was six years old and continued taking ballet, tap dance, and modern jazz dance lessons through my school years. I was inspired by stars like Betty Grable and Fred Astaire, who twirled their way across the silver screen. Indeed, dancing was in my blood. My grandparents sang, danced, and roller-skated in a vaudeville act, and my father traveled with them. Inevitably, I, too, was lured by the spotlight. Living in Vegas only made it easier to get into show business.

When I was about nine years old, I went to the Desert Inn with my mother to watch the Sonya Henie ice show Frank Sinatra and Ava Gardner were also in the audience. I went over to their table and got their autographs. Frank Sinatra was so nice. I came back to our table and said, "Oh, Mama. Frank Sinatra grinned at me."

While growing up, I watched countless shows on the Strip, and I pictured myself dancing in one of them. Soon after graduating from Las Vegas High School, I auditioned at the Flamingo. They needed only one dancer, and 40 women tried out. I was very lucky. It was my first audition, and I got the job.

Later, I danced briefly at the Dunes and then appeared in Hank Henry's show at the Silver Slipper. One night Jack Entratter came to the show and spotted me on stage. Soon after, he asked me to be a Copa Girl at the Sands.



Jack and Corinne on their wedding day.





Elvis dated the Copa Girl. Frank Sinatra dropped by rehearsal at the Sands. Jeanie is at right.



The Copa Girls get a kick out of a performance during the 1960s. Jeanie is on the left.

The Copa Girls were the crème de la crème of Vegas dancers. All the Copa Girls were hand-picked by Jack Entratter. Before working at the Sands, Jack was a well known producer with the Copacabana in New York.

We performed in the Sands' Copa Room, which was an impressive showroom. Plush and elegant, with chandeliers hanging from the ceiling, the room was twice the size that it is today. When the Sands remodeled the room in 1981, they gave me a piece of the stage attached to a plaque engraved with my name.

The biggest names in music and film performed at the Sands, and the dancers became good friends with many stars.

One of my dream-come-true relationships was with one of the richest men in the world. He passed away years ago, but when I knew him, he owned several international businesses. He paid for a friend and me to meet him in the Orient, and we toured Hong Kong and Tokyo and then visited him at his home in Manila. He offered me a million dollars to marry him. When I turned him down, he was so disappointed that he asked the other Copa Girls, "If you could go any-

Photos: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (top left), Sands Hotel (top right and middle), Jeanie Gardner Collection (bottom)

where in the world, where would you go?" He bought them all luggage and plane tickets to their chosen destinations. And they never came back. Some went to New York. Some started their own businesses. Some of them moved to their dream city. We lost the whole Copa line over my decision to break up with him. Corinne, who was then Jack Entratter's fiancée, and I were the only dancers left.

Dating Frank Sinatra was also a dream come true. He had seen me perform at the Silver Slipper and asked Hank Henry if he could meet me, but I declined since I was dating someone else. Later, when I worked at the Sands, he asked me out, and I accepted.

While dining with Frank at the Villa d'Este, once a popular restaurant in Vegas, I remember gazing into the prettiest blue eyes I've ever seen. They were almost iridescent. He was very different from Elvis. Frank was very romantic and lived up to his image. Elvis was more like the boy next door.

Looking back, I can't help but feel nostalgic for the times when Frank, Dean Martin, and Sammy Davis Jr. mingled with the casino crowds. I'm glad I was a part of that bygone era. It was so much fun, so exciting. You never knew what would happen next.

One night I was sitting in the Sands lounge, chatting with three friends, when Warren Beatty sat down with us. He was carrying a big, stuffed animal and sat there without saying a word. I asked, "How are you doing?" He said, "OK." Then he guzzled his drink and left. I guess he was looking for somebody and our table was a good place to wait.

One time, while a number of us were finishing breakfast in Elvis' suite at the Sahara, Elvis asked me to go swimming—at four o'clock in the morning. As I left for home to change into a bathing suit, I asked Elvis to join me. But the poor man always had to battle his way through the casino and a mob of fans. "I want to come with you," he told me, "but I don't want to go through that casino again."

When I returned to the Sahara, we crept down to the swimming pool. The security guard started to chase us away until he realized who we were. That was such a romantic night. For once, Elvis had some privacy

I not only socialized with the entertainers; I also appeared on stage with many of them. Dancing with Betty Grable and Mitzi Gaynor awed me. As a child, I watched both of those women in movies, and they inspired me to become a dancer.



Today Jeanie enjoys her job serving cocktails at the Sands.

Through Corinne I met Dyan Cannon. For a while we were quite a threesome. I was divorcing my husband and Dyan was divorcing Cary Grant, so there was a lot of male-bashing going on. Poor Corinne, who was then trying to become Mrs. Jack Entratter, had to listen to us.

> *'I still meet people from all over the world as well as people in show business.'*

Meeting Corinne and Jack proved to be one of the biggest blessings of my life. Jack was like a father to me. He advised me how to invest my money and was always looking out for me. Even though Corinne and Jack divorced each other twice, you could really see the love between them.

Their deep love was evident the day Jack died. Jack was years older than Corinne, and he always told her, "If anything ever happens to me, promise me you'll be there."

When I heard about Jack's stroke, I immediately called Corinne in Los Angeles, and she chartered a plane to Vegas. For days she waited at the hospital, watching Jack's condition worsen. Exhausted, she stumbled into my apartment.

"Why don't you lie down and get a little rest?" I asked. She took my advice but a couple minutes later bolted up. "I have to go back to the hospital," she declared. "I gotta go back right now " So I handed her the car keys, and she ran out the door. About 20 minutes later she called to tell me Jack had died.

It was as if he had pulled her up off the bed—she knew she had to go back. They always had that pact: "No matter what happens, promise me you'll be there." And she was.

I left the Copa line in the early '70s and went to Los Angeles to dabble in acting. I could have danced longer than I did, but changes were taking place in Las Vegas. When I left the Sands, management decided an act would be less expensive than a chorus line. When I returned to Las Vegas, there weren't many good dancing jobs available, so I decided to take a job as a cocktail server at the Sands.

I still keep in touch with Corinne, who is married to a director and living in Los Angeles. I miss dancing, but I really love my job as a cocktail waitress at the Sands. I still meet people from all over the world as well as people in show business. I waited on Sally Field a couple months ago. Last November, I appeared on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*. Leno was taping the show in Vegas, and he asked me, on camera, about my life as a Copa Girl. I told him about dating Elvis, Frank Sinatra, and Jack Jones. Leno asked, "Did you date them all at once?" I laughed and said, "No, I spread it out a little."

Recently, I met Robert Wagner and Stephanie Powers. Robert and I reminisced about the old days. I have appeared in three movies, *Final Impact*, *To Be the Best*, and *The Fear Within*.

I can never bring back the old days, but I have wonderful memories, and I followed my dream. I think one of the worst things that could happen to anybody is to sit back and say, "Gee, I wish I had done that." It's so much better to say, "I did do that, and I had the time of my life."

Former Copa Girl Jeanie Gardner is a cocktail server at the Sands in Las Vegas. Kim Pryor is a writer who lives at Lake Tahoe.

Photo: Kate Butler

PEOPLE PAGE

Plane model, *Time* man, and big-league aces.

Plane Portrait

Las Vegas dancer **Aki Alma** has really taken flight since last fall, when her picture was plastered on the side of a Boeing 737. The airplane belongs to West Pacific Airlines, which flies to Colorado Springs, Chicago, and Houston and has a fleet of flying billboards.



Las Vegas dancer Aki Alma's high-profile portrait gives a face lift to the Stardust's flying billboard.

"The idea just fell out the sky," says Aki, who appears in the Stardust's production show, "Enter the Night." "They were shooting photos for billboards, and they had this idea for original advertising for the show."

Despite her high-profile portrait, fame has not gone to Aki's head, and she rarely gets recognized on the street.

"I have gotten one fan letter," she says. "People are interested because they want to know who is the face behind the photo. But the funny thing is that no one recognizes me—I don't go around wearing long eyelashes."

Carved in Time

Dick Carver, a rancher from Carvers, 53 miles north of Tonopah, is still savoring his moment in the sun after appearing on the cover of *Time* last fall.

"It's been quite an experience," says the Nye County Commissioner, who was interviewed in *Time's* October 23 issue about the county-supremacy movement in the West. "The phone just rang steady. We were getting between 30 and 35 calls a day."



Dick Carver (center) and other Nye County residents had the *Time* of their lives.

Carver says he still runs into autograph hounds. "Everywhere I go people want me to sign *Time* magazines. In fact, people send them to me to sign."

—*Carolyn Graham*

Diamond Dudes

By Greg Bortolin

Baseball fans can expect to see several Nevada-bred players take the field this spring following superb 1995 seasons.

Not only is **Greg Maddux** the best pitcher to come out of the Nevada high school ranks, but baseball historians are beginning to tout the Valley High product from Las Vegas as the best righthander of all time. Last year Maddux, 29, won an unprecedented fourth straight Cy Young Award, leading his Atlanta Braves to victory over the Cleveland Indians in the World Series.

How dominant was Maddux in 1995? He led the National League in victories with a 19-2 record, earned run average (1.63), and complete games (10).

The Cy Young earned Maddux, who resides in Spanish Trail in southwest Las Vegas, a $750,000 bonus in addition to his $5-million salary.

Another Las Vegan, **Marty Cordova**, was named American League Rookie of the Year. An outfielder for the Minnesota Twins, Cordova belted 24 home runs and drove in 84 runs with a .277 average.

Cordova attended Bishop Gorman High School. After winning the award, he said he could quit his night job during the off-season—parking cars at the Palace Station.

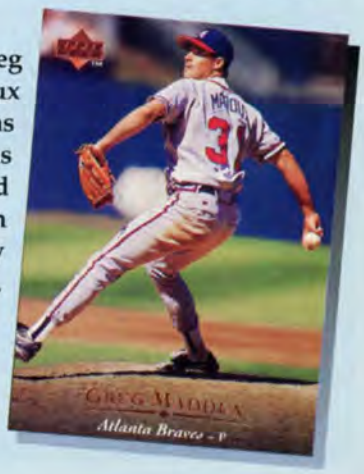
Carson City's **Matt Williams**, who owns most of UNLV's batting records and is considered the best third baseman in the majors, was keeping up with Roger Maris' record home run pace in June when he fouled a ball off his foot, breaking a bone. With Williams sidelined, the San Francisco Giants fell out of contention in the National League West.

Despite having a cast on his foot, Williams was voted the National League's starting third baseman in the All-Star game. After missing six weeks, he finished with a .336 average, 23 home runs, and 65 RBIs in just 77 games.

The other Nevada high school grads who played in the majors last season were all pitchers: **Shawn Boskie** (Reno High), California Angels; **Shawn Estes** (Douglas High in Minden), San Francisco Giants; **Mike Maddux** (Rancho High in Las Vegas), who is Greg's brother, Boston Red Sox; **Mike Morgan** (Valley High in Las Vegas), St. Louis Cardinals; and **Donovan Osborne** (Carson High and UNLV), St. Louis Cardinals.

Detroit Tigers reliever **Joe Boever**, New York Yankees starter **Brian Boehringer**, St. Louis Cardinals starter **Todd Stottlemyre**, and Toronto Blue Jays reliever **Duane Ward** all pitched for UNLV. San Francisco Giants reliever **Shawn Barton** once hurled for the University of Nevada Wolf Pack.

Greg Bortolin is a sports copy editor for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. *He never made the cut as a baseball player but played football with Matt Williams and former Houston Astros pitcher Charley Kerfeld at Carson High.*



Greg Maddux of Las Vegas has wound up with four Cy Youngs.

Photo: Upper Deck (bottom)

Dining Out

Breakfast, dinner, and dancing.

A New Breakfast Dawns at Cafe 333

By K.J. Evans

It's easy to find a good place for breakfast, but just try to find one that will serve you a breakfast dish you haven't eaten a hundred times before.

Americans demand novelty when we go out to dinner. Not so with breakfast. In the morning, we're hidebound traditionalists. Coffee. Orange Juice. Cereal. Toasted bread products. Eggs up or over served with some sort of pork product cooked to the verge of incineration.

Eschewing those breakfast stereotypes is Cafe 333, a three-year-old Lake Tahoe eatery that derives its name from its address at 333 Village Boulevard in Incline Village. Cafe 333 serves unconventional breakfasts and brunches in a style that owner Mary Young calls "Nou-vada Eclectic," or Nouveau California with Southwestern, Tuscan, and Pacific Rim influences. The Seattle influence is apparent, since the restaurant has a delightfully redolent espresso bar that serves Starbucks coffee. *Bon Appetit* called the cafe latte the "best on the lake."

Bon Appetit also praised the Breakfast Strata, a savory bread pudding, crusty on top, moist on the underside, layered and baked with prosciutto, spinach, tomato, basil, mascarpone cream cheese, parmesan, and cream. Ours was served with a panoply of produce, including asparagus, oranges, strawberries, and three kinds of melon. Turns out those *Bon Appetit* people really know their grub. It *was* wonderful and, at $7.50, reasonably priced.

Also wonderful at $7.50 is the cafe's Chicken Hash, a melange of roast chicken, red and green peppers, mushrooms, poached eggs, and scallions, slathered in lemon pepper Hollandaise sauce with chunky-cut home fries on the side.

A contemplative morning repast can be made of a Cafe 333 scone and something steaming from the espresso bar. The scones are not the fried biscuit-dough type abominations found in some areas of the West but rather a crumbly cake, not too sweet, about the consistency of a moist corn muffin, and laced with cranberries and red currants. Nibble it slowly, sip the piquant brew, and watch the seasons change.



The food is "Nou-vada Eclectic" and served on Fiesta Ware at Cafe 333 in Incline Village.

In warm weather, the place to be is outdoors. During the snowy season, sit inside breathing the pungent coffee vapors until you begin to levitate above your table. Aside from those pleasant aromas, the air is always clean indoors or out, since smoking is verboten anywhere on the premises.

Portions are neither grandiose nor stingy and are served on Fiesta Ware. "People are always telling me that their aunt or grandma had dishes just like these," Mary says. There's no extra charge for the nostalgia.

Cafe 333: 333 Village Boulevard, Incline Village, 702-832-7333. Breakfast and lunch ($5 to $9) are served 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Dinner (entrees $12 to $22) is served 5:30 to 9:30 every night during the lake's busy seasons and Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at other times. MasterCard and Visa are accepted, and dinner reservations are recommended.

K.J. Evans believes that a good breakfast should always include the three basic food groups—imported cheese, smoked meats, and European pastry.

You can sit inside breathing the pungent coffee vapors until you begin to levitate above your table.

Dine and Dance at Wild Bills

By Ann Henderson

At Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse, it's a short stroll from the chow line to the dance line.

Wild Bills is a dine-and-dance hall where you can wrangle a T-bone dinner and then join other dudes and dudettes on the dance floor, two-stepping off the calories to a rockin' country band.

Tucked incongruously into the medieval surroundings of the Excalibur Hotel, the Las Vegas restaurant looks like a Western saloon with its frontier-town facade and desert foliage. Western movies starring Hopalong Cassidy, Buster Crabbe, and Gene Autry run continuously on large screens. The place offers an appropriate setting at rodeo time.

The menu emphasizes steak, chicken,

Photo: Bob Wilkie



Customers can swing for their supper at Wild Bills in the Excalibur Hotel.

and ribs—the mode here is Western barbecue—but diet-conscious diners also will find the Wild Bunch vegetable platter ($8.95). The baby back ribs ($11.95), slathered in a tasty sauce, are so tender the meat nearly drops off the bone.

Western movies starring Hopalong Cassidy and Gene Autry run continuously on large screens.

Wild Bills' delicious strawberry shortcake ($3.25) is large enough to share. Afterward, you'll just have to work harder on the dance floor, where Jumpin' Boots and other bands keep everyone hoppin' long after dessert.

Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse: Excalibur Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-597-7777 Open daily at 5 p.m. Bands play 6 p.m. (7 p.m. on Tuesdays) till 11 on week nights and midnight on weekends. Entrees are $8.95 to $19.95. Major credit cards are accepted. Reservations are accepted but not required.

Ann Henderson first visited Wild Bills while doing research on medieval cowboys.

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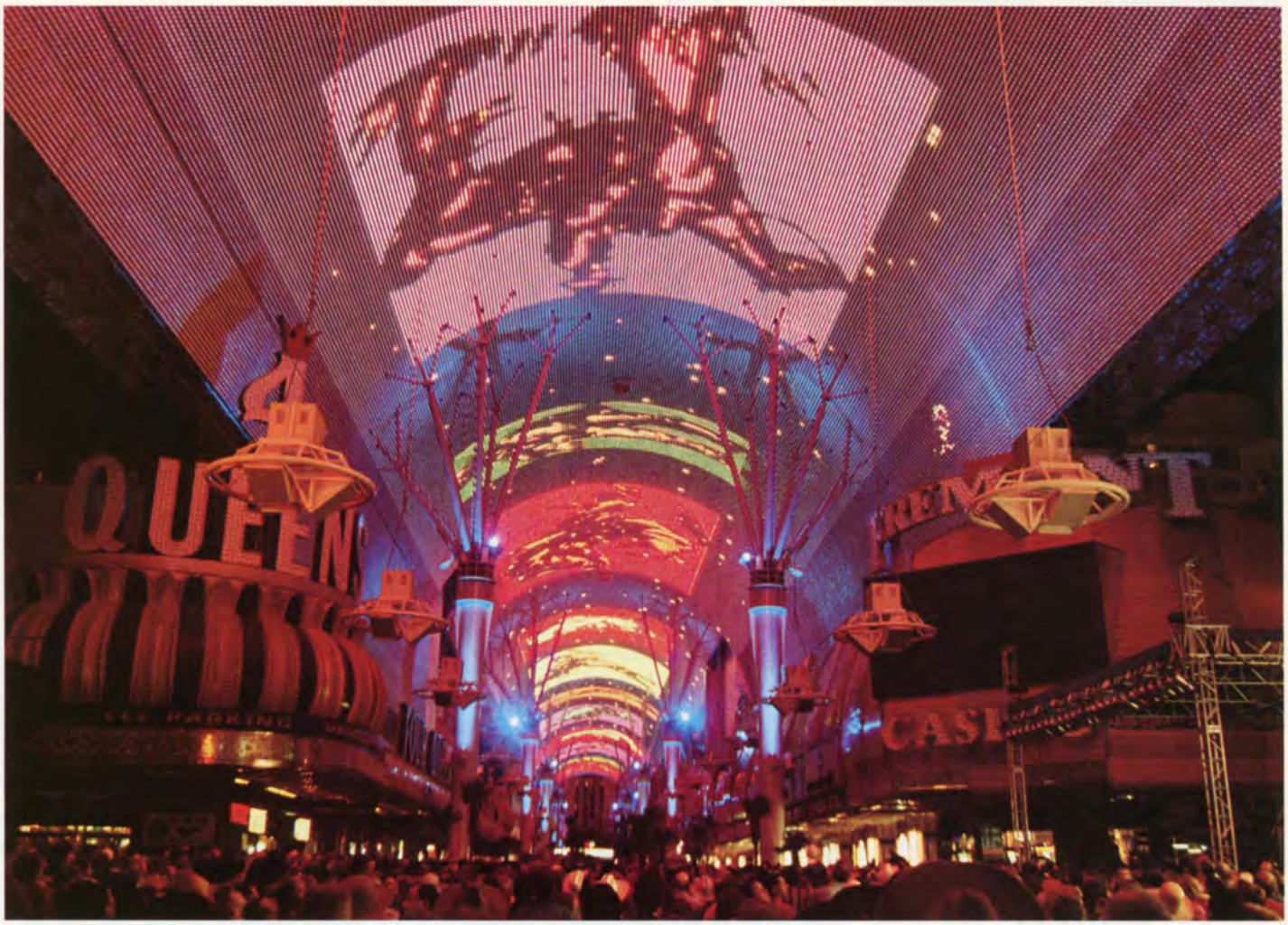


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Experience

The $70-million Fremont Street Experience brings a canopy of lights

Fremont Street has long been a center of activity in Las Vegas. It was the town's first business district in the early 1900s. Each May crowds would jam the sidewalks as the Helldorado Parade passed by. When small clubs gave way to brightly lit casinos and hotels, Fremont became known 'round the world as Glitter Gulch.

Today the lights are even brighter due to the opening of the Fremont Street Experience, a four-block-long pedestrian mall covered by a canopy that hovers above the casino marquees. Developed to keep pace with growth on the Strip, the $70-million project opened last winter.

By day the downtown casino neighborhood now resembles a cozy, landscaped patio. Background music plays continuously as visitors stroll the flagstone-like walkway among palm trees and planters. After dark it's show time. Every hour on the hour spectators take up positions to watch the light-and-sound show. Kids sprawl on their backs, waiting for the action to begin. Others crane their heads up and down the canopy, or "space frame," as the designers call it. The music builds, and a six-minute sky parade shoots down the animated ceiling 90 feet overhead.

Covering a distance equal to more than four football fields, the canopy has 2.1 million lights, 208 speakers, and lighting fixtures that generate more than 300 colors. The whole affair is synchronized by 31 computers.

There's entertainment at ground level, too. "Under the Lights" themed parties will be held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. (Phone 702-678-5600 for details.)

A rodeo-themed sky parade gallops along the canopy (top). Light-and-sound shows take place hourly each evening.

Photo: Gene Hertzog

Plans call for shops in the new parking plaza at the east end.

But the light show is the incandescent centerpiece. "Everything about the Fremont Street Experience is unique," says Bau Struye, creative director for See3, the Santa Monica company that produces the sky parades. "Each element of the production process has to be created from scratch." It is Struye's job to animate the shows frame by frame. For a six-minute sky parade, that can total more than 10,000 frames.

Eventually there will be several six- to eight-minute shows. So far they have included such eye-poppers as 84 toy soldiers marching to Christmas tunes and a New Year's Eve fireworks display that is being repeated in other productions because it was such a hit.

Struye particularly likes the latest show: Jets in formation thunder down the length of the canopy, a space ship blasts off, and a symbolic showgirl appears in a tribute to Las Vegas. "It's pretty darn spectacular," he says.

Ann Henderson is Nevada's *Southern Nevada editorial representative. She has mixed memories of marching down Fremont Street in the Helldorado Parade, wearing a wool high-school band uniform on a very hot day.*





This!

to Glitter Gulch. By Ann Henderson

During the day downtown Las Vegas becomes a brightly lit pedestrian mall (top left). At night jets roar past Binion's Horseshoe and the Golden Nugget (left). The Fremont Street project is a joint effort of the city and 10 downtown hotels.





Before and After: Glitter Gulch in 1965 (left) and today. The canopy, or "space frame," covers more than four acres.

Photos: Sal Maimone (top left), Chris Leedham (top right), Gene Hertzog (bottom left and right)

A BLAST AT NEWS NOB

Covering an atomic test for *Nevada Magazine* was an assignment like no other. By Adrian Atwater

It went by several names: "Operation Doom Town," "Observation Shot," and the official title, "Upshot Knothole." Whatever the name of that 1953 atomic test, it made a bang-up impression on Fred Greulich and me.

Fred was the pioneer of *Nevada Magazine*, then called *Nevada Highways and Parks*, and he served as editor, writer, and copy boy of the highway department's publication. I was the department's lone photographer in those days, and one of my duties was to travel with Fred around the state.

One day Fred said he had read that an atomic blast was scheduled for the Nevada Proving Ground, and VIPs, service brass, and news people could attend it. In two years of A-bomb testing there had been about 20 other above-ground blasts with minimal press coverage, but this detonation would receive major publicity The test would take place on March 17, 1953.



The magazine's coverage of the atomic blast was part of a national effort to promote civil defense.

Fred very much wanted to be included in this invite, and so did I. We got approval from Governor Charles Russell, who had already been invited. The government issued us credentials following background and security checks. A few days before the test Fred and I found ourselves driving to Las Vegas with camera gear and film, pad and pencil, and lots of enthusiasm.

Would it be safe? Today we know about the dangers of radiation, but they weren't public knowledge then. The question of safety never entered our minds. If governors and other VIPs had been invited, we figured it had to be safe.

Day One: We went to the old Las Vegas City Hall, where along with 600 other guests we registered and received information packets, ID badges, film badges, and viewing goggles.



Time Delay: Using darkroom sleight of hand, the author placed himself and his Speed Graphic in a photograph he took at News Nob during the 1953 test.

Day Two: We boarded buses for a pre-shot visit to the test site. During the 65-mile ride there was much good-natured wisecracking among the news people, many of whom were well-known journalists. I remember talking with the popular commentator John Cameron Swayze, who sat across the aisle. Movie

60th Anniversary Feature

This article is one of a series recalling *Nevada Magazine's* 60 years of publication, which began in 1936.

Photo: Adrian Atwater

photographers were there to film the event for newsreels. Fred and I felt privileged to be a part of this fraternity.

After we reached Mercury, the test site's headquarters, officials gave us a tour of Yucca Flat, where the blast would take place the next day. A mini-community had been built on the flat for scientific study Two houses had been erected, and cars, military equipment, and power-line poles were scattered in the desert.

Day Three: Somewhat bleary-eyed, Fred and I arrived at City Hall at the appointed hour—just after midnight. Instead of carefree chatter there was a lot of grumbling on the bus from those newsmen who had taken advantage of the Las Vegas continental nightlife. Fortunately, Fred and I had got in a few hours of sleep, but a number of our colleagues hadn't been to bed yet. Once we were on the road, sawing wood could be heard throughout the bus.

We put our goggles on, and at the count of zero there was a complete white-out.

At News Nob, our observation point for the blast, the army had set up an outdoor mess hall under floodlights, and we were treated to a good breakfast with lots of hot coffee. Photographers began scrambling up the nob, stumbling over rocks in the near-dark and being ever mindful of rattlesnakes. Soon a forest of tripods was in place. The VIPs and brass took their seats on benches below

About 5 a.m. the countdown began over the P.A. All cameras were aimed at a little light bulb glowing on the tower at point zero. We put our goggles on, and at the count of zero there was a complete white-out.

As soon as the white-out subsided, we took off our goggles and saw a ball of deep red fire on the desert floor. The boiling fireball rose on its mushroom stem, and the desert churned with dirt. Thunder echoed off the mountains. The P.A. advised us to watch out for the shock wave. Across the desert a roll of dirt was approaching like an ocean wave. Its arrival proved quite a jolt, and I reached for my tripod out of concern that it might topple over.

The mushroom cloud continued to rise to 20,000 or 30,000 feet, and although it was still quite dark below, the sun tinted the upper part bright orange. A white cap formed on top of this mass; officials said it was an ice cap that resulted from the moisture entering the freezing-cold atmosphere.

For the first time army troops were engaged in such an operation. GIs in full battle gear had crouched in trenches much closer to ground zero than we were. Soon a fleet of helicopters brought the troops to an area where the media could interview them. Most of the GIs said it was pretty scary, but a few insisted it wasn't big a deal. I noticed they were still pretty wide-eyed and, as we used to say, "nervous in the service."

Later we climbed onto the buses for a tour of the aftermath. Army personnel had gone ahead with Geiger counters to monitor the radiation levels. We could see right off that the tower at ground zero and the closest house were no more—nothing remained.

We were allowed to get off the bus a quarter mile from the second house, but first we had to put on protective booties that slipped over our shoes and up to our knees. Officials told us that if we dropped anything, it would be retrieved

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and decontaminated. The house was still highly radioactive, and the side facing the blast was charred black. We were

Cars and equipment close to the blast were burned-out, twisted hulks.

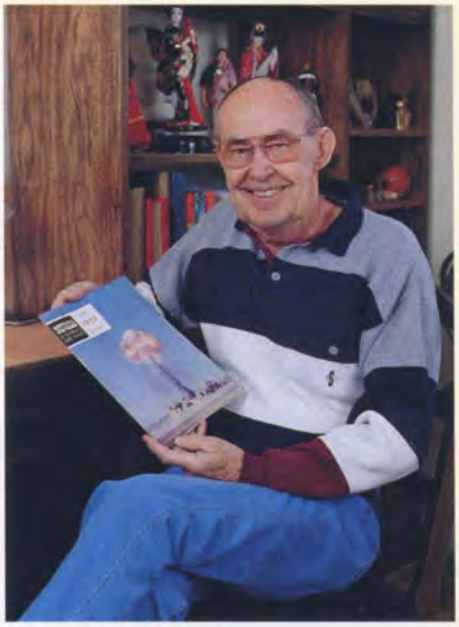
told that it had been in flames, but the shock wave had extinguished the fire.

Cars and equipment close to the blast were burned-out, twisted hulks. The sparse grass, sage, and greasewood were charred black. I noticed a lizard scurrying around and noted to Fred that I'd bet on that creature being pretty radioactive. A whirlwind (dust devil) approached us from the hot zone. It enveloped us and went on its way I wondered at the time how many harmful particles were deposited on us in its passing.

Soon we were back on the bus, after depositing our booties. On the way to Las Vegas we stopped at the Indian Springs air base and were allowed to roam at will. Among the aircraft there was a giant B-36 bomber, designed to fly long distances and deposit atom bombs during the Cold War. It became known as the plane that never dropped a bomb in anger. Off to one side was a jet fighter that had flown through the mushroom cloud that morning for scientific purposes. It was being decontaminated by several service men hosing it down with a solution.

Years later I received correspondence from government officials stating that their records showed I had been an observer of a nuclear device and may have received radiation. I was assigned a number and given a toll-free phone number for Bethesda Naval Hospital if I should develop any problems. I have had numerous skin cancer operations on my face, neck, and ears over the years, but I don't know if any of it is due to the blast. Presumably my skin problems are due to years of sun exposure and lack of sunscreen. The radiation film badge that was issued to me was never collected, so I kept it as a souvenir.

But we were more weary than worried that evening when we arrived back at City Hall. Fred and I were literally bombed out and tired of the pace and crowds. Next morning found us driving south to do a story on Davis Dam. It was good to be in the peaceful desert again and a place where we felt at home.



The author was a highway-department photographer for three decades.

Adrian Atwater lives in Carson City. He donated his goggles, film badge, and ID badge to the Nevada State Museum for use in a historical exhibit about the bomb.



Photo: Jay Aldrich

NEVADA BOOKSHELF

Recent releases of Nevada interest.

Literary Las Vegas: The Best Writing About America's Most Famous City, *edited by Mike Tronnes, introduction by Nick Tosches. Henry Holt, 115 West 18th St., New York, NY 10011. 358 pages, $30 hardcover, $12.95 softcover* Practically every writer who has ever visited Las Vegas has taken a stab at describing it, and this book is a collection of the very best stories, reflecting various stages in the life of the Entertainment Capital from the 1940s to the 1970s. The viewpoints range from the ravings of Hunter S. Thompson to the keen and condescending observations of playwright Noel Coward, who did a short stint as a Strip headliner in the 1960s. This is a Las Vegas buffet for the brain.

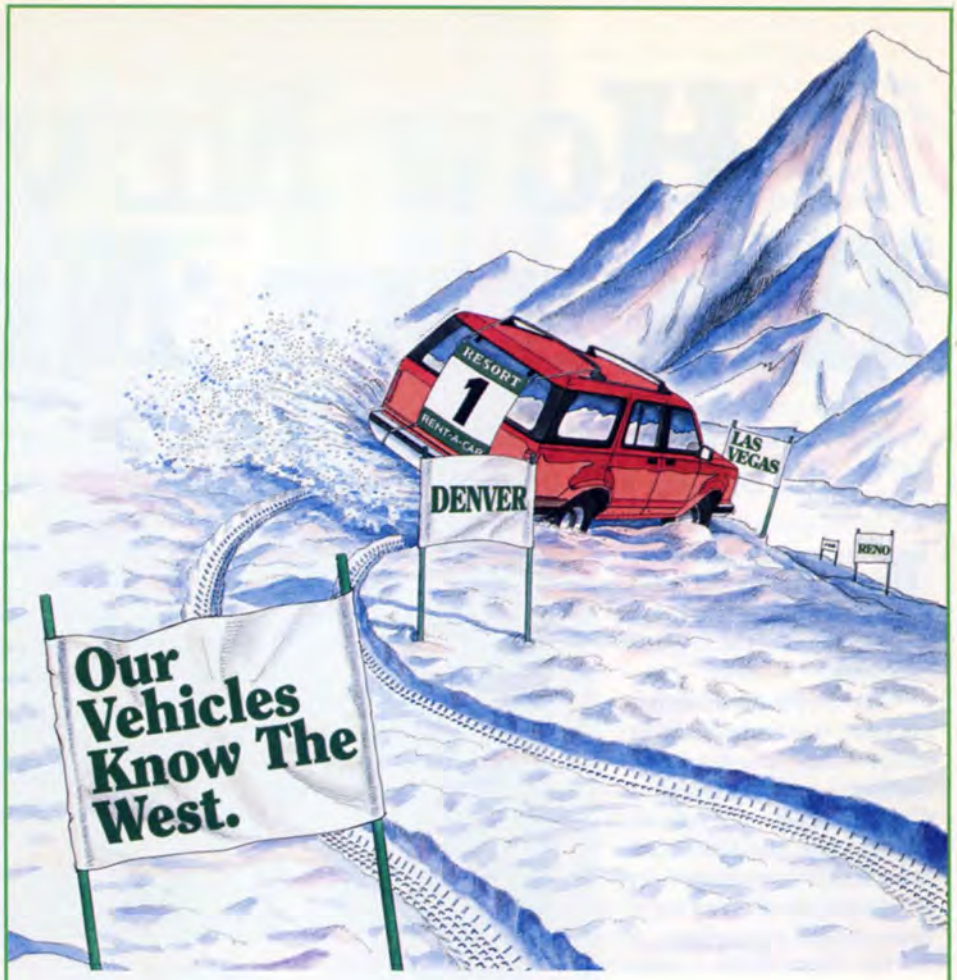


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Weavers of Tradition and Beauty: Basketmakers of the Great Basin, *text by Mary Lee Fulkerson, photos by Kathleen Curtis. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557 184 pages, $19.95 softcover* The authors, both Reno-area artists and basketmakers, spent years seeking out Native American basketmakers around Nevada. The result is an affectionate, intimate look at the art of weaving from the weavers' point of view.

•

Hard Work and Far From Home: The Civilian Conservation Corps at Lake Mead, *by Dennis McBride, Boulder Images, 1000 Nevada Highway, Boulder City, NV 89005. 106 pages, black-and-white photos, $10 softcover* In the 1930s the working boys of the Civilian Conservation Corps built most of the original recreational facilities at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Valley of Fire State Park, and Mount Charleston. The Lost City Museum also was built with CCC muscle. This largely overlooked contribution is the subject of McBride's latest oral history, an appropriate sequel to his earlier oral history on the construction of Hoover Dam.—*K.J. Evans, David Moore*



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How Nevada Became 'Nevada'

Nevada or Esmeralda? Oro Plata or Washoe? The story of how Nevada got its name is filled with political and name-making intrigue. By Guy Louis Rocha

Leonard O. Sterns knew what he wanted to call his new state, and it wasn't "Nevada."

"Let us, by all mean[s], christen the State 'Esmeralda,'" the lawyer from Aurora in Esmeralda County told his fellow delegates at the 1863 constitutional convention in Carson City Sterns continued with a flourish:

"No State of this Union now commences with the letter E—let us set her up as high alphabetically as she is geographically, and in natural wealth clothe her with a congenial name; mount her upon the glorious chariot wheels of American Union, and my word for it, she will shine the brightest diadem [crown] of them all."

Of course, the Auroran's plea on behalf of Esmeralda did not sway the crowd—Nevada was the state's name when it joined the union in 1864. But the story of exactly how Nevada got its name has long been shrouded in mystery The term "Nevada" came into use sometime between 1776, when Padre Pedro Font gave the title of Sierra Nevada ("snow-covered mountains") to Spanish California's towering range, and 1864, when Nevada became a state. But as Hubert Howe Bancroft noted in his *History of Nevada* (1890), "How the territory came to be called simply Nevada, snowy, is not altogether clear."



This map of the West shows the extent of Utah Territory in 1856, five years before Congress created Nevada Territory out of Utah's western half. Nevada became a state in 1864.

"Nevada" was not a homegrown name, which is one reason for the long-standing mystery. If the residents of the western Great Basin had had their way, the 36th state might have been known as Bullion, Carson, Esmeralda, Humboldt, Oro Plata, Sierra, Sierra Nevada, Sierra Plata, or Washoe.

Instead, the name "Nevada" seems to have originated in Washington, D.C., and was first used in 1858, when the House Committee on Territories christened the proposed territory. Newly reviewed sources, including House records and biographical material, tell the story on two levels: not only how Nevada got its name but also how Nevada came to be a state. Both processes were intimately linked to the politics of national expansion and territorial affairs. The creation of Nevada was influenced greatly by the slavery issue, the Mormon question, Indian relations, the approach of the Civil War, and the silver discoveries on the Comstock Lode—not to mention the name preferences of territorial legislators.

Long before the arrival of Spanish, British, and American explorers, Native Americans had their own names for the region we know as Nevada. The Washoes, who lived in and around the Sierra, called their world "Wa She Shu E Deh," meaning "Washoe lands." Other areas were home to the "Numa" (Northern Paiute), "Newe" (Western Shoshone), and "Nuwuvi" (Southern Paiute).

Explorer John C. Fremont gave the region another name. During his expeditions of the 1840s Fremont identified the vast area of internal drainage between the Sierra Nevada and the Rocky Mountains and called it the Great Basin.

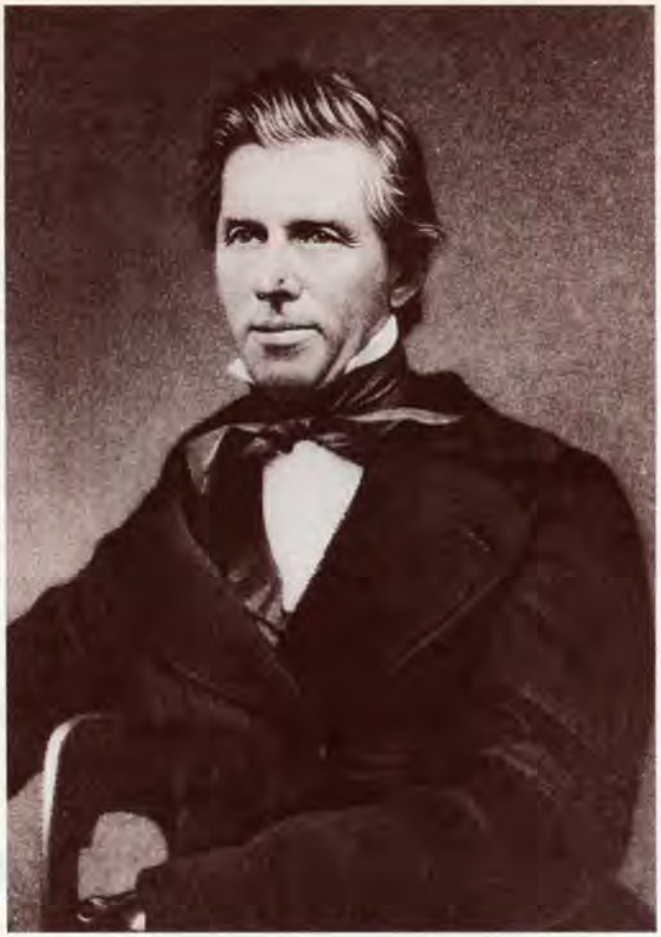
Photo: Nevada Historical Society

Present-day Nevada went by other names before statehood. It was part of Alta California before the end of the Mexican War in 1848, when much of the West was ceded to the United States.

Nevada also was part of Zion, as the Latter Day Saints, or Mormons, called their desert homeland. Based in Salt Lake City, the Mormons established the State of Deseret, a provisional government that included most of what is now Nevada and Utah and parts of seven other states.

To the outside world in the 1850s, Nevada was best known as the western portion of Utah Territory, which Congress created in 1850. The name Utah referred to the Ute Indians, who inhabited its eastern fringe.

Beginning in 1849 the California gold rush brought thousands of fortune seekers across the Great Basin. Traders and Mormon farmers settled in the shadow of the Sierra Nevada, and placer miners came in search of gold. In 1855 the northwestern quarter of present-day Nevada was organized as Carson County by Orson Hyde, a Utah probate judge and one of the LDS Church's Twelve Apostles. Hyde set up his government in Genoa.



William "Extra Billy" Smith was an early force for Nevada.

Some non-Mormons called the region the Washoe Country, after the Indian tribe, or the Eastern Slope because of its location on the Sierra's east side. Many wanted to give the area yet another name—California. That is, they wanted the Golden State to annex western Utah. Still other residents, disenchanted with the government in Salt Lake City, 600 miles away, called for a separate territory. They weren't sure what to name it, but events proved to be on their side.

By 1857 political affairs in western Utah were in chaos. Orson Hyde, who had alienated many non-Mormons, returned to Salt Lake City, and Carson County was attached to Great Salt Lake County. Devout Mormons trekked back to Salt Lake as Brigham Young, the territorial governor and church president, prepared for a confrontation with the federal government over control of Utah.

That August residents held mass meetings at Genoa. They adopted a resolution asking Congress to create a new territory out of the "Great American Basin." James Crane, an outspoken advocate of states' rights from Virginia and author of *The Past, The Present, and The Future of the Pacific* (1856), was appointed unofficial delegate to Congress.

The proposed territory had various designations. California newspapers sometimes called the area Carson Territory or the Territory of Sierra.

Residents asked Congress to create a new territory out of the "Great American Basin."

Six months later the region had Congress' attention—and a new name. On February 18, 1858, Crane wrote from Washington, D.C., that, as a war measure directed at the Mormons, "the Committee on Territories has unanimously agreed to report a bill forthwith to establish a Territorial Government out of western Utah, under the name of Sierra Nevada."

Crane's connection on Capitol Hill was William "Extra Billy" Smith, a fellow Virginian who had spent time in California. Because of his personal agenda, Smith would prove to be extremely important in Nevada's march to statehood. A slave owner who supported the concept of "popular sovereignty," Smith favored a policy of U.S. expansion that would allow citizens of new territories to decide if they favored slavery when they pursued statehood. Nevada later became a firmly Union state, but in the late 1850s the region's loyalty was an open question: Would residents of the new territory side with the South or the North? Smith thought Nevada might be good for the Southern cause.

In 1858 the issue of territorial status for western Utah drew Congressman Smith to Crane and his friend, Major William Ormsby, another new arrival in Genoa and a leader in the territorial movement. All three men were 49ers, and Ormsby apparently had served with Smith's son in William Walker's ill-fated filibustering force in Nicaragua two years earlier. Ormsby was interested in mail lines, as was Extra Billy, who gained his nickname after allegedly receiving extra payments for the U.S. mail routes he operated a few years before. Crane may have known Smith in both Virginia, where Extra Billy was a legislator and governor, and California.

At Crane's request President Buchanan presented to the House on April 9, 1858, a Carson Valley citizens' memorial asking for a separate territory. Smith and the House Committee on Territories responded by shortening the name of the proposed territory from Sierra Nevada to Nevada and outlining boundaries similar to the state's present borders.

This was the first public appearance of the name "Nevada." Smith's committee had shortened the name sometime during late April and early May, but we may never know the reason because there are no committee minutes and the original bill no longer exists.

"The New Territory of Nevada," read a headline in *The New York Times*. The story noted that a bill creating Nevada Territory was to be reported out of

Photo: The Library of Virginia

committee shortly, but "if there is any disposition to debate it exhibited, it may be thrown over."

On May 12, 1858, Extra Billy Smith submitted a committee report supporting the new territory Members noted the reasons: "to protect the public mails travelling within and through it; make safe and secure the great overland route to the Pacific as far as within its limits; restore friendly relations with the present hostile Indian tribes; contribute to the suppression of the Mormon power by the protection it might afford to its dissatisfied members; and [be] of material aid to our military operations. Thus satisfied and impressed, your committee respectfully report a bill for the formation of a new Territory to be called the Territory of Nevada."

However, most Southern representatives did not want to add another territory, and Congress adjourned in June without taking further action.

In July 1859 the citizens of western Utah forced Congress to act. At a constitutional convention in Genoa the sagebrush rebels declared their secession from Utah Territory They named their provisional territory Nevada, taking the name advocated by Smith and his House colleagues.

The secessionists faced a setback that fall when the 40-year-old Crane, an articulate spokesman for the provisional



William Ormsby was a secessionist leader and namesake of Ormsby County.

Nevada Territory, died of a heart attack in Gold Hill. His place was taken by John Jacob Musser, one of the founders of Carson City Musser traveled to Washington, where he pressed Nevada's case on members of Congress.

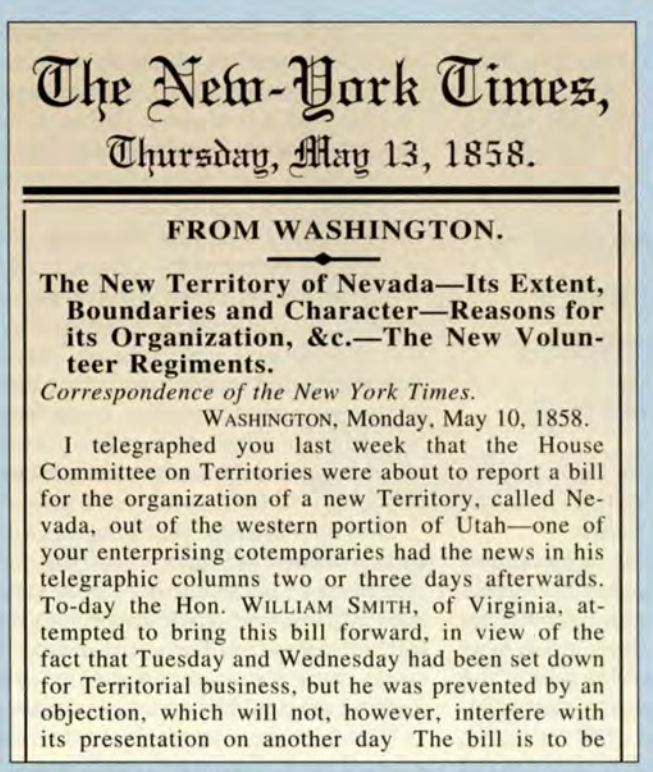
Officials in Salt Lake frowned on the activities of the Carson County insurgents.

"In reference to the difficulties known to exist in the portion of this Territory known as Nevada," proclaimed Utah Governor Alfred Cumming in a February 1860 report to the U.S. Secretary of State, "I believe them to arise from a settled determination on the part of its inhabitants to recognize no courts and obey no laws, except those which have their origin in, and spring directly from primitive assemblages of the people."

The *Salt Lake Mountaineer* ridiculed the separatists and suggested that "each man of the three or four hundred who are citizens of that majestic sovereign territory ought to have an office.. But do not be afraid, Sister Nevada, we shall not contest your right to a divorce."

While Washington pondered Nevada's fate, other names were being used for the region. Reporting on gold fever and the "rush to Washoe" in the *San Francisco Herald* on March 26, 1860, Richard Allen relayed "the glad intelligence that Western Utah (or Nevada, Carson, Washoe, or whatever it may yet be permanently named) is richer than all the Potosis or El Dorados that have ever yet been opened to the sight of man."

On May 11, the House Committee on Territories reported favorably on a bill to provide a temporary government for the Territory of Nevada. But the bill was soon amended and counter-amended. Some representatives from the border states, including Smith,



The New-York Times,
Thursday, May 13, 1858.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The New Territory of Nevada—Its Extent, Boundaries and Character—Reasons for its Organization, &c.—The New Volunteer Regiments.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Monday, May 10, 1858.

I telegraphed you last week that the House Committee on Territories were about to report a bill for the organization of a new Territory, called Nevada, out of the western portion of Utah—one of your enterprising cotemporaries had the news in his telegraphic columns two or three days afterwards. To-day the Hon. WILLIAM SMITH, of Virginia, attempted to bring this bill forward, in view of the fact that Tuesday and Wednesday had been set down for Territorial business, but he was prevented by an objection, which will not, however, interfere with its presentation on another day The bill is to be

This story marked the appearance of "Nevada" in 1858.

THE ORIGIN OF 'NEVADA'

Precisely how Nevada got its name has long been a puzzle to researchers. Newly uncovered reports, however, put the origin of Nevada, both name and state, in much sharper focus.

The name Nevada apparently was first used in Congress in May 1858, when House members presented a territorial bill. An article in the May 13, 1858, edition of *The New York Times* was headlined, "The New Territory of Nevada." This is the first known public use of our state's name.

The *Times* account, in turn, leads to a well known Congressman of the day, William "Extra Billy" Smith. As chairman of the House Committee on Territories, Smith oversaw and approved the process by which Nevada was named and eventually became a territory in 1861 and a state in 1864. If anyone in Congress could be called the "Father of Nevada," it was this former Virginia governor.

Smith's role also sheds new light on the politics of Nevada statehood, which has been portrayed as a done deal for the Northern cause. However, in the 1850s Nevada played roles in the grand schemes of many people, including some Southerners who saw Nevada, like "bleeding Kansas," as a place where citizens might support the expansion of slavery. Thus, Nevada's territorial heritage may be said to have originated not with Northern interests but with the Southern cause. It is a rich chapter in the state's history that should make us rethink Nevada's origins.—*Guy Louis Rocha*

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

supported territorial status if slavery was not outlawed in the organic act. Representatives from the Deep South, however, feared Nevada was destined to be a free state. So the bill was tabled.

In the end William Smith, who would soon leave the House and serve in the First Confederate Congress, voted against creating Nevada Territory.

By the time Pony Express riders had delivered the bad news to the citizens of western Utah, Major Ormsby had met a violent end. On May 12, 1860, he was a casualty of the first battle of the Pyramid Lake Indian War. Despite the loss of Ormsby's leadership, the citizens of western Utah continued to press their case for a Nevada Territory.

They found a more receptive audience when Congress reconvened in Decem-

"Nevada is a euphonious name—but how much more so is Esmeralda!"

ber 1860. Several developments—the silver and gold discoveries at Virginia City and Aurora, the need to provide for the safety of settlers, and, most importantly, the coming of the Civil War following the secession of seven Southern states—prompted the remaining members of Congress to pass a Nevada Territory bill. On March 2, 1861, as one of his last actions in office, President Buchanan signed the organic act that finally created Nevada Territory

So Nevada was the region's chosen name—or was it?

The next year there appeared support for a state to be called "Washoe." Promoters of statehood were not discouraged by the fact that their territory, with its 30,000 inhabitants, did not have the requisite population, about 60,000, to have one member in the House and justify statehood. Thus, optimistic territorial legislators met in Carson City in December 1862 and approved "an act to frame a Constitution and State Government for the State of Washoe."

The name debate came to a head the following November when delegates met in Carson City to draft a constitution. However, as the convention's minutes reveal, many of the delegates objected to the name Washoe.

Alanson W "Lance" Nightingill of Unionville wanted the new state to be named after his county, Humboldt. That caused attorney Leonard Sterns, the delegate from Aurora in Esmeralda County, to declare that "there is a regal odor about the name of Baron Humboldt that I, for one, am opposed to encircling around the free State of Esmeralda." Baron von Humboldt, a German naturalist, geographer, and world traveler, had never seen the river named after him by John C. Fremont.

"While I pay homage to his worth and to his giant mind, I perceive a decided inappropriateness in his name for us and our posterity," Sterns decried. "Names of men of foreign birth and kingly titles, are not befitting our Republican Government, our democratic institutions." Sterns also attacked the name Washoe, displaying the racism and anti-democratic feelings toward Native Americans so prevalent at the time.

The Aurora attorney futher declared, "Nevada is proposed by some. I had the honor of putting the first article in print advocating that proposition in this Territory; but I have repented, and abandoned my first love for that more

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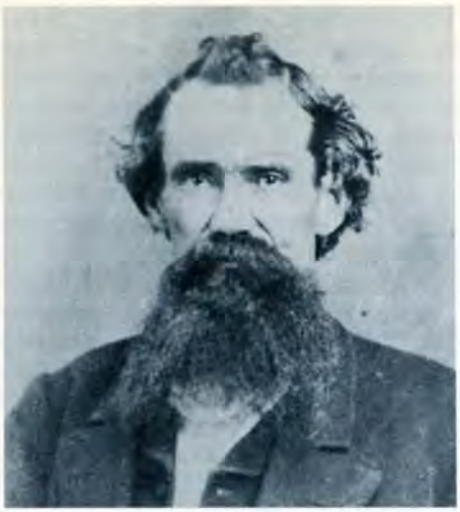
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Lance Nightingill favored "Humboldt"

"They assured me that the name by which we are known throughout the East is Nevada."



while Nathaniel Ball backed "Nevada."

endearing one which is named in my report. . Nevada is a euphonious name—but how much more so is Esmeralda!"

Unmoved by Stern's passionate remarks, Nightingill withdrew Humboldt in favor of Nevada. By a vote of 32 to four, Esmeralda was thrown out. After an eloquent plea for Washoe by Charles S. Potter, a merchant in the Washoe County settlement of Ophir, during which he defended the good name of the Washoe people, the delegates adopted the name Nevada by a vote of 28 to eight.

Residents voted down the state constitution as a result of mining-tax and election disputes, but national politics put the statehood process back on track. Moderate Republicans wanted to strengthen President Lincoln's position in the 1864 election, a three-way race involving Lincoln, General John C. Fremont, the Radical Republican candidate, and General George B. McClellan, a Democrat. Congress soon passed an enabling act for "the People of Nevada" that paved the way for statehood. Lincoln signed the bill on March 21, 1864. Now it was up to the territory's citizens.

Once again, the naming of the new state aroused animated debate when a constitutional convention met in Carson City that July. Some delegates supported Humboldt and Esmeralda while others suggested such names as Bullion, Oro Plata, and Sierra Plata.

John A. Collins of Virginia City advocated the name Washoe. Collins argued that the name Nevada would cause great confusion because California already had a Nevada City and a Nevada County as well as the Sierra Nevada. Moreover, Collins proclaimed, "those who understand the meaning of the word [snow-covered] are aware that it is wholly impracticable to us. When you

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Photo: Nevada Historical Society

hear it, you are inclined to button your coat, and shiver. Here we have an almost semi-tropical climate of almost the whole of the Territory.. We are known everywhere, north and south, east and west as Washoe."

Charles W Tozer of Gold Hill challenged Collins' view: "We are already known as the Territory of Nevada and a great part of our Territory lies throughout its course at the base of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I think it proper to call the State 'Nevada' on that account alone."

"There is another reason why the name Nevada should be retained," declared Nathaniel Ball. A Gold Hill banker, Ball said he had surveyed Eastern visitors on what they called the area. "Without exception, those gentlemen told me that they never heard the name of Washoe applied to this country at all, until they came to California, except by some of their friends who had resided in California," he said. "They each and all assured me that the name by which we are known throughout the East is Nevada."

J. Neely Johnson, president of the convention and former governor of California, made another compelling argument. "In the Enabling Act, as I conceive, Congress had specifically prescribed our name," Johnson pointed out. "Now the child is named; it has been baptized by the name of Nevada, and nothing short of an act of Congress can change that name."

On September 7, 1864, the voters of Nevada Territory approved the constitution by an eight-to-one margin. President Lincoln proclaimed Nevada a state on October 31, a week before the national election. Lincoln easily carried the new state—Fremont had dropped out of the race in September—and Nevadans gave the beleaguered president three Republican Congressmen to help him rebuild the nation.

Thus the Battle Born State had acquired its name only after a long series of skirmishes at home and in the halls of Congress. Given the degree of national politics involved, it seems fitting, if ironic, that our state's name was fashioned in a House committee room rather than a raucous meeting of insurgents in Genoa or Carson City. If it hadn't, what we call Nevada today might be known instead as the great state of Esmeralda, Humboldt, Washoe, or even Bullion.

Guy Louis Rocha is a historian of the American West and the Nevada state archivist in Carson City.

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CINEMA

Theater of Time: Back to the Feature

(Continued from page 9)

and was the first building in town to be equipped with swamp coolers, making it a refuge for workers toiling in 110-degree summer temperatures at the dam. Movies were shown 24 hours a day to accommodate the around-the-clock construction at the dam.

For groups, Brennan has added a special attraction. He has spliced together a 28-minute vintage movie from thousands of feet of film that were taken in Boulder City and at the dam in the 1930s. Brennan shows the movie on a period projector that resembles a potbelly stove with a chimney, which releases heat from the projector.

The movie is scored with 1920s and '30s music. Groups can arrange to tour the theater, projection room, and see the old movie by calling 702-293-6982. Cost is $3 per person.

For a recorded schedule of movies and theater ticket information call 702-293-3145.—*Roy Theiss*

NATURE

Rock of Ages

LAS VEGAS—In Southern Nevada you'll find a unique geologic opportunity: You can straddle a 1.2-billion-year gap in the history of the Earth, a blank spot representing roughly one-fourth of the planet's past.

The **Great Unconformity**, as it is known, is a huge formation that stretches across several miles on the eastern edge of the Las Vegas Valley and is exposed at the base of Frenchmans Mountain. The outcropping is an extension of the Great Unconformity in the Grand Canyon that was first reported by explorer John Wesley Powell in 1869. The "unconformity" refers to the gap in the geological record between Paleozoic sediments, which are 500 million years old, and Precambrian metamorphic rock, which dates back 1.7 billion years.

The Las Vegas site's accessibility gives it great significance as one of the noted rock outcroppings of the world.

Two interpretive plaques at the site describe the geological events that exposed the Great Unconformity. The area was once buried under sea, sand, and mud. Later upheavals of the earth's surface and the sliding of Frenchmans Mountain exposed and tilted the outcropping into its present position.



The unconformity: a great gap in time.

The Great Unconformity is located on the south side of Lake Mead Drive, one mile east of the intersection at Hollywood Boulevard. The outcropping is a short walk across a graveled wash from the paved parking lot. In hot weather, visitors should wear a hat and carry water since there is no shade at the site. Adventurous visitors can hike up the outcropping, but be aware that the rocky pathways are slippery Call the BLM, 702-647-5000, for more information.—*Kate Butler*

THE BARGAIN ADVISOR

By Deke Castleman

Parking downtown in most U.S. cities is an expensive proposition. It's particularly perturbing to be charged to park in a hotel lot when you're a guest of the place. But you won't find parking expensive in downtown Reno. Within a few blocks are eight multilevel parking structures with thousands of posts for hitching your trusty steed for free—even if you're not a guest. The best deal for free self-parking is at **Harrah's Reno**, where there's no time limit. The **Eldorado** gives you four hours free, then charges $1 an hour. If you're not a guest and you're planning to stay awhile, lay off your car on a valet. When you return the next morning—or the next week—it costs you a buck for the toke.

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Not only is parking free in downtown Las Vegas, but lunch is, too. The **Lady Luck** (702-477-3000) delivers a real deal in the form of a free foot-long frankfurter complete with mustard and relish. Just stroll back to the Welcome Center, present a non-Nevada ID, get the casino's funbook, and take the coupon to the snack bar. Having a couple of kids along will help in finishing the beast. The Lady Luck funbook also has a coupon for a free two-minute call to anywhere on the continent.



Bargain hunters will relish the free foot-long hot dog at the Lady Luck's snack bar.

After wolfing down your dog, if you're in the mood for a little dessert in the desert, drive south to **Boomtown** (702-263-7777) on Interstate 15 at the Blue Diamond exit. For one measly dollar the Comstock coffee shop serves up a strawberry "tall" cake that's as high as the Lady Luck's hot dog is long. And that's without the whipped cream, which sits atop the torte like a bad Santa Claus wig. The whole affair swims in a strawberry soup. And the free parking, of course, is plentiful.

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

Photos: Kate Butler (top), Dennis R. Gershick (bottom)

10 GREAT

Trivial Pursuits

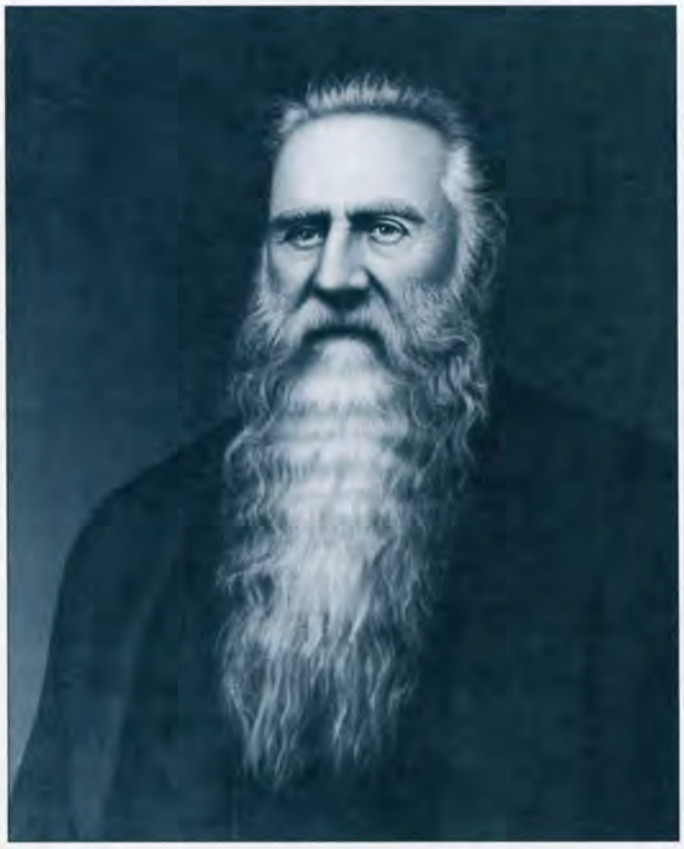
Testing your knowledge of Nevada geography, whiskers, and opera.

By Richard Moreno

Ever wonder what percentage of Nevada is covered with sagebrush? How many of the state's governors have had beards? When it comes to trivia, there is no shortage of unusual or fascinating facts about the Silver State. The following trivia questions and answers can help make you an instant Nevadaphile—or at least give you a fighting chance in solving the "Nevada" category on the TV game show *Jeopardy*.

1 What is the average elevation of Nevada? The state's average elevation is 5,000 feet, or nearly a mile high.

2 What is the highest point in Nevada? At 13,143 feet, Boundary Peak in the White Mountains on the Nevada-California border is the highest point in the state.



Lewis "Old Broadhorns" Bradley, one of seven bearded Nevada governors, was an Elko County cattleman.

3 How many of Nevada's governors had beards during their terms in office? Seven of the state's governors have had beards: Henry Blasdel (1864-70), Lewis Bradley (1871-78), John Kinkead (1879-82), Charles Clark Stevenson (1887-90), Frank Bell (1890), John Jones (1895-96), and Reinhold Sadler (1898-1902). Three others had mustaches: Jewett Adams (1883-86), Roswell Colcord (1891-94), and John Sparks (1903-08). In fact, 10 of the state's first 11 governors had some kind of facial hair. The exception was Territorial Governor James Nye (1864), who was clean-shaven.

4 What oddity existed on the official state seal from 1866 to 1913? The original seal depicted a train with smoke trailing from left to right, as well as a smokestack with smoke blowing in the opposite direction—a physical improbability Since 1913, however, all smoke has blown in the same direction.

5 What was the first Nevada hotel-casino to offer big-name entertainment? Surprisingly, it wasn't a Reno or Las Vegas club that launched the state's star-entertainment era. In 1941, the Commercial Hotel in Elko booked well-known bandleader Ted Lewis and his orchestra for an eight-day engagement at a cost of $12,000. The resulting publicity attracted record crowds, and Commercial owner Newton Crumley followed with other performers, such as Paul Whiteman, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, and the Andrews Sisters. Elko's initial competitive advantage quickly evaporated when clubs in Reno and Las Vegas adopted the same strategy

6 What is the only city in Nevada named for a Native American? French Ford was renamed Winnemucca in 1866 by officials of the Central Pacific Railroad in honor of the famous Paiute chief.

7 What percentage of Nevada is covered by sagebrush? Approximately 40 percent of the state is blanketed with this shrub, which is Nevada's official state flower.

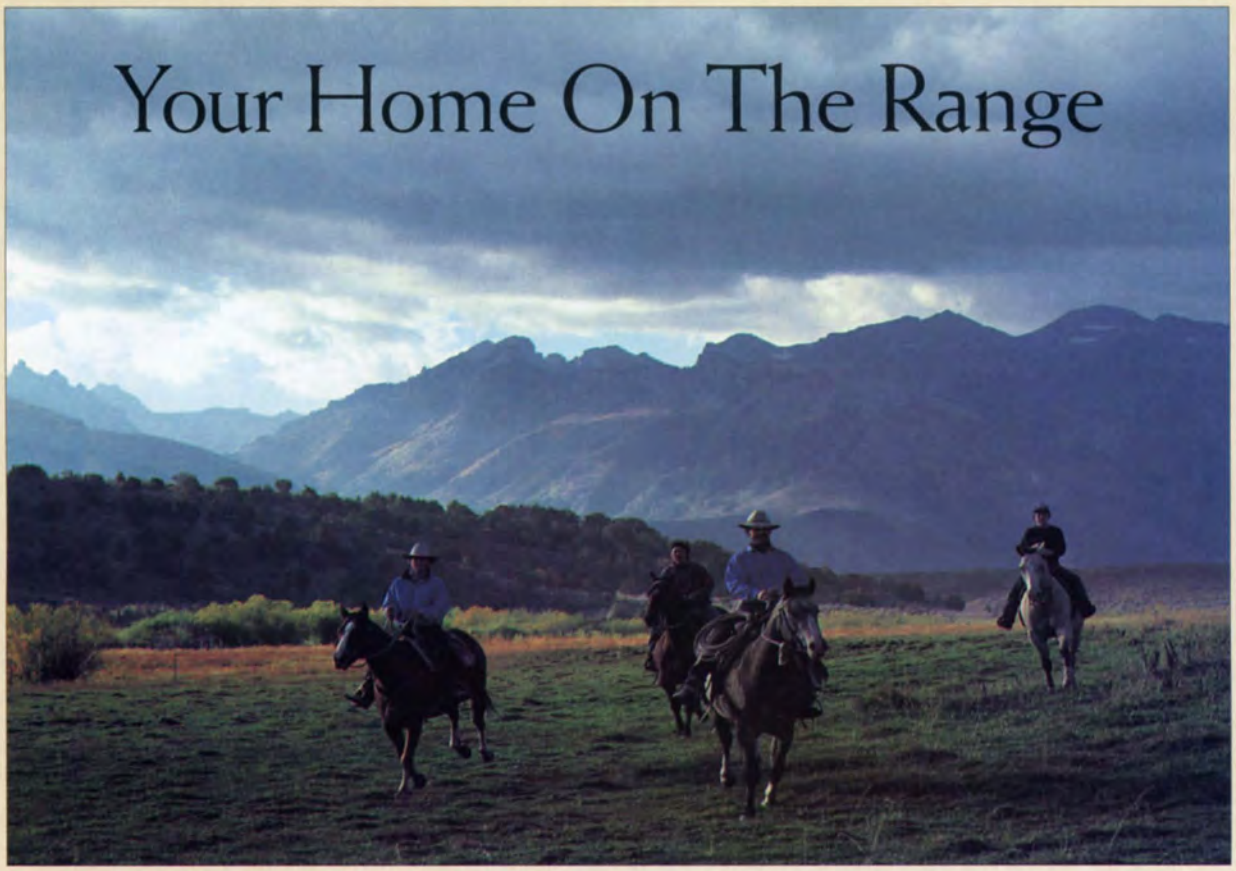
8 What Nevada town was named for an Italian opera composer? The tiny enclave of Verdi, west of Reno. Central Pacific Railroad officials named the community after composer Giuseppe Verdi. Curiously, the town's name is mispronounced "verdye" in Nevada.

9 Who was the first woman elected to the Nevada Legislature? Sadie D. Hurst, a Republican from Reno, was the state's first woman legislator. She was elected to the Assembly in 1919 and served one term.

10 Who coined the name "the Strip" for Las Vegas Boulevard, which was also called the Los Angeles Highway? Former Los Angeles Police Captain Guy McAfee, who purchased the Pair-O-Dice Club on the Los Angeles Highway in 1938 and reopened it as the 91 Club, is credited with calling Las Vegas Boulevard "the Strip." He said the road reminded him of L.A.'s Sunset Strip between Hollywood and Beverly Hills.

Richard Moreno is Nevada's *publisher and author of* The Nevada Trivia Book, *recently published by Gem Guides Books.*

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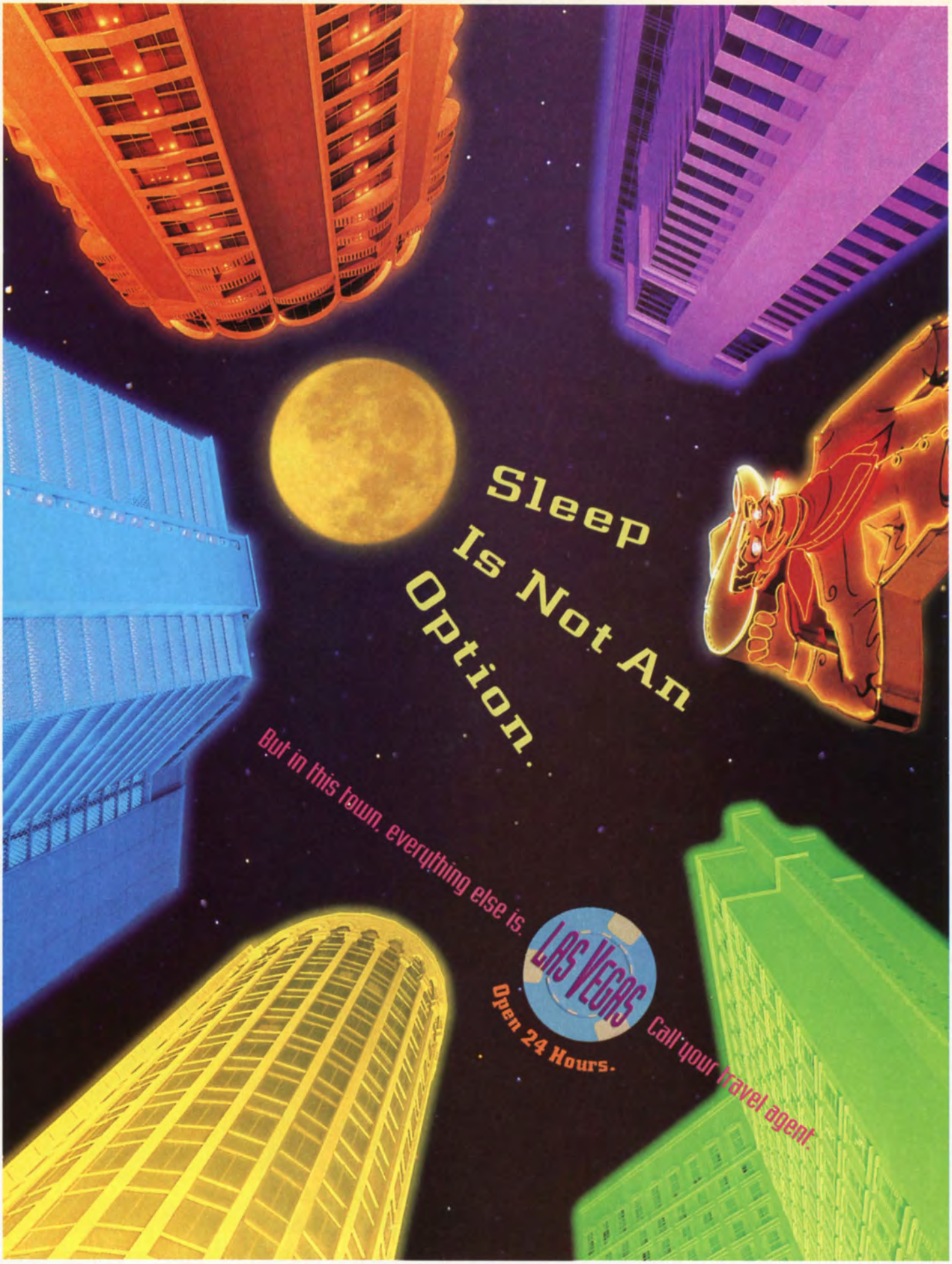
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Clark County Fair

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Clark County Fairgoers get in the whirl of things on the Yoyo ride at Logandale's annual midway.

A Fair to Remember

Puppets, pets, and pigs frolic at the Clark County Fair

Story and Photos by Kate Butler

It's not hogwash. The Clark County Fair has pig races. This genuine, old-style country fair also has carnival rides, cotton candy, homemade quilts and jams, and the largest livestock show and auction in Southern Nevada.

The annual fair takes place April 11-14 at the fairgrounds in Logandale, a small farming community in the fertile Moapa Valley, 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas. The fair's theme, "Blaze a Trail to Logandale," focuses on the area's Native American and Mormon heritage. Fairgoers can follow the trail of pig signs that leads to the fair from the Logandale/Overton exit on Interstate 15.

The livestock show and auction is expected to draw nearly 200 swine, lamb, and steer entries. The livestock owners, most of whom are youngsters who belong to 4-H and Future Farmers of America, earn ribbons based on the quality of their animals and showmanship. A further payoff comes at auction time.

"I like the competitive aspect of it," says Shelby Hiser, a sophomore at Moapa Valley High School who has been raising and selling steers since she was nine. "It's how I make my money. It's like a job." On an average Hiser's steers sell for $2.50 per pound, but she has received as much as $4.75 and as little as a dollar. She will use her savings for college.

> The pig races, petting zoo, and pie-eating contests are big attractions.

This year Hiser will show Buckwheat, a one-year-old steer that will probably weigh out at 1,100 pounds by show time. Hiser, who has won four Reserved Grand Champion (second place) awards in six showings, is hoping to win the 1996 Grand Champion.

"Some of the more important components of the fair are the quilts that people make, the jams, the canning—all of the things that go into juried exhibits," says Ace Robison, chairman of the fair board. Although competition is tough, Warren Knudtson, a Las Vegas bachelor with a passion for cooking, has won 172 times.

COVER PHOTO BY KATE BUTLER



In 1993 his ambrosia cheesecake was judged "Best of Show."

The rodeo, which is run by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, is held outdoors on Friday through Sunday evenings. It's a perfect way to see a rodeo—the desert sunset, cowboys straddling the fence, fans cheering in the bleachers, and high-speed roping and bucking horses in the arena.

This fair has continuous family entertainment. Among the performers will be the Native American Indian River Dancers, the Dutton Family Singers, San Francisco jugglers Grinn and Barrett, the 16-member Acclamation Choir from Cedar City, and American Made, a versatile singing and fiddling group of five. Terry Stokes, a popular Las Vegas hypnotist, will do two shows daily, and yodeling Sourdough Slim will entertain with his accordion and distinctive singing style.

The Swifty Swine pig races, petting zoo, walking puppet show, children's races and pie-eating contests, a Frisbee-catching dog team called the Canine Rockets, and a log-rolling lumberjack are daily attractions. Heritage Village, a special area of the fair, will feature Native American

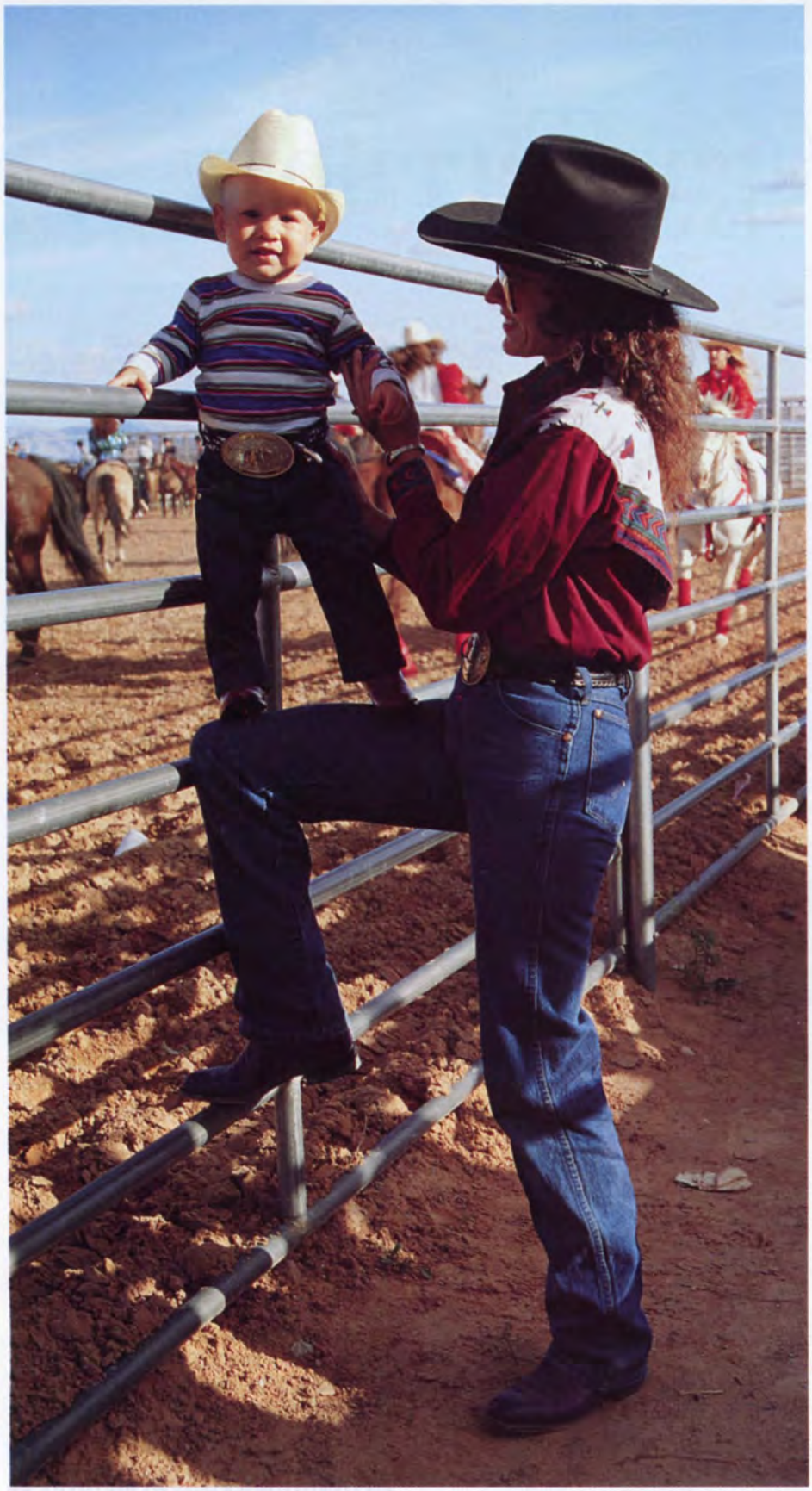
A bronc rider bursts out of the chute during the PRCA rodeo, with a scenic desert backdrop provided by Mormon Mesa and the Virgin Mountains. At the carnival midway (below), youngsters show their excitement as they twist and roll on the Cyclone Coaster.



foods and handicrafts, traditional Hispanic fare, blacksmithing, horseshoeing, and other aspects of the county's heritage.

Admission prices are $6 at the gate and $5 in advance for ages 13 to 59, $5 and $3 for seniors (60 and older), $3 and $2 for ages five to 12, and free to children under five. All-day carnival passes are $14, or $9 in advance. General admission to the rodeo is $5, reserved seats $8. Fair hours are from 1 to 10 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. For information call 702-594-FAIR. Advanced fair admission and general admission rodeo tickets are available at Ticket Master outlets or by calling 702-474-4000.

Kate Butler is a Las Vegas writer-photographer whose favorite jam is on the banjo.







Young J.C. Fox of Overton looks ready to rodeo as his mother Kim gives him a perch with a good view of the fairground's arena (above). The fair's mascot is a rather large pink pig (top right). Thanks to inflatable costuming, the popular porker can converse with fairgoers. At right, late-afternoon shadows fall on the arena as rodeo time approaches.

Las Vegas Territory

EVENTS

March & April

EXHIBITS

Valentines: Flattery and Insults • Thru March 16 • More than 100 valentines exhibited. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Black History Month Exhibit • Thru March 19 • Acrylic works of African-American art. Whitney Library, Las Vegas, 454-4575.

Art A Fair • Thru March 30 • Multimedia fine arts show, reception March 3 at noon. Las Vegas Art Museum, 259-4458.

Black History Month Exhibit • Thru April 14 • Memorabilia of Ida B. Wells, a founder of NAACP. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 733-7810.

Nevada Camera Club Exhibit • Thru April 30 • Black-and-white and color photos taken during 1995. Spring Valley Library, Las Vegas, 368-4411.

Black History Month Exhibit • Thru May 7 • Pastel portraitures of African and Afro-Caribbean faces. West Las Vegas Library, 647-2118.

Bats • Thru Oct. 31 • Exhibit featuring species common to Las Vegas Valley and the Spring Mountains. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

A Common Thread '96 • March 1-April 6 • Fourth biennial traveling exhibit of fine crafts from Nevada and the Great Basin includes quilts and wood sculptures. Temporary Contemporary Gallery, Las Vegas, 731-0991.

Planes and Structures • March 7-April 21 • Two- and three-dimensional art objects that explore the nature of visual perception. Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

George Spivey: American Primitive Painter • March 18 • Reception 5-7pm, oil paintings. Winchester Gallery, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

Indians of the Southwest • March 23-June 1 • Original sepia-toned photographs from the portfolio of Edward Curtis. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.



Land yachts cross Ivanpah Dry Lake near State Line during the America's Landsailing Cup Regatta in March.

SEASONAL

The Irish Rovers • March 16 • 8pm, Celtic music, singing, and comedy, tickets are $13.50-$21.50. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Block Party • March 17 • Las Vegas, 363-7178.

Easter Egg Hunt • April 6 • Doolittle Community Center, Las Vegas, 229-6374.

PERFORMING ARTS

"Man of La Mancha" • Thru March 3 • Las Vegas Music Theatre. Cashman Theater, Las Vegas, 895-3801.

Jean-Pierre Rampal in Recital • March 1 • World-renowned flutist, 8pm, tickets are $20-$50. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Piano Concert • March 3 • Fabio Bidini, 11-time Italian national piano competition winner. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Nevada Jazz Artists Series • March 10 • 2pm, cosponsored by the Las Vegas Jazz Society. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-7240.

Veryovka Ukranian National Dance Company • March 12 • 7:30pm, tickets are $11.75-$29. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Nevada Symphony Orchestra Performance • March 16 • Guest classical guitarist Pepe Romero. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 732-7600.

Viennese Weekend • March 16-17 • Dance to the Paragon Ballroom Orchestra playing Strauss waltzes and polkas. Charleston Heights Arts Center Ballroom, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Anjani Kathak Dance of India • March 23 • 8pm. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

Magical Moonshine Theatre Rural Tour • March 25-29 • Folktales and heritage of North, South, and Central Americas with puppets and live music. Performances are in Mesquite on March 25, Overton on March 26, Sandy Valley on March 27, Indian Springs on March 28, and Searchlight on March 29, 455-8242.

"Graduation Ball," "La Luna Gitana," and "Paquita" • March 28-31 • Nevada Dance Theatre. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 732-3838.

Michael Ballam in Concert • April 4 • Tenor from the

TERRITORY MAP



Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events & Shows is a section of **Nevada Magazine.** To list an event, contact Events Editor Katherine McDonnell: 702-687-5416 • fax 702-687-6159 • 1800 Hwy. 50 East, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89710. Subscription rates for **Nevada Magazine** are $15.95 for one year, U.S.; $21.95 Foreign. To subscribe call toll-free, 1-800-495-3281.

Photo: Jim Laurie/*Las Vegas Review-Journal*

United They Stand

The human statues of Human Design are dedicated athletes. By Mike Weatherford



Human Design: The trio's carefully crafted act unfolds in "Spellbound" at Harrah's Las Vegas.

It's like the United Nations when the three members of Human Design take the stage in "Spellbound" at Harrah's Las Vegas. And we do mean united.

Joined at the hip are these three—not to mention at the thighs, the feet, and the hands: Slawek Kielbasinski, from Poland; Miguel Soler, from Spain; and Anne Marie Roche, from England.

The tri-cultural act is the latest in a small but proven niche of Las Vegas specialty acts known as the "human statues" or "human pretzels." Human Design calls it "slow-motion hand-to-hand balancing," but under any name it's a crowd-pleaser.

The theme of "Spellbound" is illusion, but there's no room for trickery here—you can't hide a dove or playing card in a G-string. The three near-naked acrobats appear on stage to dramatic movie music, their sculpted bodies glowing silver—from a nightly dip in aluminum paste. They proceed to hoist each other into a variety of symmetrical, gravity-defying positions. The three become one, culminating in a handstand by Soler on top of Kielbasinski's raised arms, which are also holding Roche's feet as she clings upside-down to his knees.

"After a while it's second nature. You just do it. You don't need special concentration even," assures Kielbasinski, a robust 40-year-old who founded the act four years ago after competing for the Polish national team in sports acrobatics.

Human Design is not the first such act on the Strip. For years the Garza Brothers anchored the now-defunct "City Lights" at the Flamingo Hilton, and a duo called Aros performs in the *main-à-main* act in Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" at Treasure Island. But Human Design has at least two noteworthy distinctions.

First, it's unusual to see a woman in such an act. Roche, 26, was a dancer in a revue in Spain where Kielbasinski and Soler, 35, performed the act with a third man. When he dropped out, they asked her to try it. "I thought, you've got to be kidding. I'm a dancer. I was fascinated, but thought it was way beyond my ability," she says.

Now, after a year in "Spellbound" Roche claims to be "still learning," but she found the transition wasn't so difficult after all. "I worked on my upper body to define muscle tone," she says. "I'm craving meat more than I used to."

Less obvious is the fact that the three are almost the same height, ranging from five feet, nine inches to five feet, 11 inches. Similar acts try to find the smallest possible partners to hoist aloft. "We're just the opposite," Soler says. Thus the symmetry is more striking, making it look as if the three are being lifted by invisible wires (they aren't).

They work out for a half hour before the first of two nightly shows. That gives the trio a chance to discuss the previous night's performances and correct mistakes. Between shows, it's just a quick brush-up behind the closed curtain. Offstage, without the music and the silver paste—they slather on about 11 pounds of it a year—they don't look nearly as Herculean or Amazonian.

"Show business is different than competition," says Soler, who represented Spain at the 1984 Olympic games in Los Angeles as a gymnast. "Sometimes you can do the most difficult tricks in the world, and the audience doesn't appreciate them." Presentation is everything: "It has to be at the right moment," he says, "and we work with the music more [than some similar acts]."

But the three consider themselves true athletes in that there's always room for improvement. "You need time to fit together," says Soler. "It's like a little matrimony. You go through good times and bad times. Normally the [acts] who last are family." This one, he says, is "a real partnership."

Mike Weatherford is a Las Vegas Review-Journal *entertainment reporter.*

Statuesque Act

Human Design performs in "Spellbound" at Harrah's Las Vegas. Show times are 7:30 and 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday (dark Sunday). The price, $29.95, does not include drink, tax, or tip. Call 702-369-5000.

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Las Vegas

Utah Festival Opera performs Broadway hits. Virgin Valley High School Auditorium, Mesquite, 356-2787.

"Sometimes We Need a Story More Than Food" • April 13 • A Traveling Jewish Theatre production of history, nostalgia, and religion. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

"Babar" • April 15 • Theatreworks/USA musical adaptation of the Laurent de Brunhoff stories. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Bolshoi Ballet Ensemble • April 22 • 8pm, tickets are $20-$50. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Victor Borge 87th Birthday Tour • April 25 • One-man show, comedy and classical music. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra • April 27 • Zubin Mehta conducts, 8pm, tickets are $50-$250. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

GENERAL INTEREST

"Wings of Courage" • Thru April 20 • 40-minute IMAX film about the first airmail flights in the Andes, stars Tom Hulce, Elizabeth McGovern, and Val Kilmer. Caesars Palace Omnimax Theatre, 731-7900.

Hoover Dam Square Dance • March 1-2 • 23rd annual, round dancing to '30s music and square dancing. Elton Garrett Junior High School, Boulder City, 293-4918.

Snowbox Derby • March 2 • Seventh annual race to benefit YMCA youth programs, 10am-2pm. Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort, 877-9622.

Sergei Eisenstein Film Series • March 6, 13, 20, and 27 • 7pm, $1 admission, four classic Russian films by pioneering Russian director. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-8264.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Las Vegas Stars • Triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club playing in the Pacific Coast League, April 4-7 v. Vancouver Canadians, April 8-12 v. Tacoma Tigers, April 26-29 v. Phoenix Giants, April 30-May 3 v. Tucson Toros. Cashman Field, 386-7200.

Las Vegas Thunder • International Hockey League, March 1 v. Detroit Vipers, March 5 v. Kansas City Blades, March 8-9 v. Peoria Rivermen, March 15 v. Chicago Wolves, March 19 v. Cincinnati Cyclones, March 26 v. Milwaukee Admirals, March 29 v. Orlando Solar Bears, April 9 v. Chicago Wolves, April 12 v. Milwaukee Admirals, April 13 v. Los Angeles Ice Dogs. Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV, 798-7825.

UNLV Women's Basketball • Lady Rebels play March 2 v. San Jose State. South Gym, UNLV, 895-3207.

Aerobics Attack at Thomas and Mack • March 3 • World record challenge for the greatest number of people doing aerobics at one time, shooting for 3,000 participants, $15 entrance fee. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 431-6333.

Miller Lite King of the Beach Invitational • March 8 10 • Inaugural outdoor event of the 1996 Pro Beach Volleyball tour, round-robin competition. Hard Rock Hotel, Las Vegas, 693-5000.

Harlem Globetrotters • March 14 • 70th anniversary tour. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900.

WBC Heavyweight Boxing Championship • March 16 • Mike Tyson takes on current WBC champ Frank Bruno, tickets are $200-$1,000. MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas, 891-3160 or 474-4000.

America's Landsailing Cup Regatta • March 23-29 • 60 land yacht pilots and more than 100 boats will compete. Ivanpah Dry Lake, 43 miles south of Las Vegas at State Line on the Nevada-California border, 892-0711.

Las Vegas Senior PGA Classic • April 22-28 • Tour stop for top senior pro golfers. Qualifying rounds at the Desert Inn Country Club, play at TPC Summerlin, Las Vegas, 382-6616.

1996 U.S. National Wrestling Championships • April 24-27 • More than 1,500 Olympic hopefuls, nationally televised. Las Vegas Convention Center, 361-5017.

FESTIVALS & RODEOS

Kite Karnival • March 2 • Contests, workshops. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 229-6729.

Mesquite Rodeo • March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13, 20, 27 • 5pm. Mesquite City Fair Grounds, 801-652-0510.

The Brews Festival • March 3 • Tasting of microbrews and imports, appetizers, entertainment, seminars, auctions, 1:30-5:30pm, tickets are $25 in advance, $27 at the door. Round House Center Ballroom, Palace Station, 456-6695.



The Harlem Globetrotters demonstrate the perfect slam dunk at Thomas and Mack Center on March 14.

Flying Colors Kite Expo • March 10 • Workshop, demonstrations. Silver Bowl Sports Complex, Las Vegas, 455-8206.

Laughlin River Roundup • March 28-31 • Bucking broncs, country dance band, free line-dance lessons. Rodeo arena and Ramada Express, 298-2214 or 800-243-6846.

Invitational Native American Arts Festival • March 29-31 • Seventh annual, food, art sale, dancing, craft demonstrations, storytelling, lectures, films. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Clark County Fair • April 11-14 • Living history, Native American crafts, blacksmithing. Fairgrounds, Logandale, 398-3247 or 597-FAIR.

Henderson Heritage Days • April 19-28 • Parade, contests, chili cook-off, 565-8951.

Green Valley Fine Arts Festival • April 22-23 • 60 artists from the West present works. Green Valley Library, 458-8855.

Las Vegas Folklife Festival • April 27 • Traditional music, dance, crafts, and foods of Las Vegas' folk and ethnic communities. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, 486-5205.

PREVIEW

A Harley Holiday



Harley-Davidson motorcycles have a reputation for polished chrome and thunderous engines. Laughlin hosts thousands of choppers during its annual Harley River Run, April 19-21, with a custom bike show and other events.

Dazzling chrome and the howl of American rolling iron await the more than 20,000 people expected to motor into the Colorado River town of Laughlin for the 14th annual Harley River Run, April 19-21.

"It's the West Coast's largest ride-in bike show," says event coordinator Joe O'Day of Dal-Con Promotions in San Bernardino. "Three days of fun, sun, custom paint, and chrome."

Visitors can test-ride 30 different 1996 Harley models and see the Harley-Davidson traveling museum, which chronicles 93 years of Harley motorcycle history. Bike owners can join a miles-long parade of bikes on the annual Poker Run and enjoy other traditional Harley fare.

"If you're into people-watching and motorcycles," O'Day says, "there will be people from all walks of life and from all around the globe—U.S. senators, doctors, lawyers, accountants, casino management executives, right down to the everyday blue-collar worker."

Ted Finneran, the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce's executive director, says, "When the run first started, we had around 400 bikes. Last year we had around 20,000."

Official events include two precision drill teams—an all-woman group from Colorado, the Hardly Angels, and the Victor McLaglen Drill Team, started in the 1930s by the screen actor. Motorcycle riders' safety seminars are planned, as is a custom bike show.

Laughlin also has big-name entertainment—such as country star Joe Diffie and Creedence Clearwater Revival with members of the original band—scheduled that weekend in April. For event information call 800-357-8223. For information on accommodations call the Laughlin Visitors Bureau, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.—*Jill McCoomber*

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Photo: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau



The Moody Blues appear at Caesars Palace in March.

CARS & MOTORCYCLES

Best in the Desert • March 28-30 • Inaugural Vegas-to-Reno 500-mile off-highway vehicle race, trucks, buggies, motorcycles, etc. welcome. Start is at Rio Suite, finish at the Peppermill, 457-5775.

Porsche Owners Club Time Trials and Cup Races • March 2-3 • Las Vegas Speedway, 310-784-5653.

Gambler Classic River Run • March 15-17 • Ninth annual, Southern Nevada Classic Chevy Club, open to '55-'57 Chevrolets. Gold River, Laughlin, 593-5777.

Edsel Owners Club Reunion • March 27-31 • Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 818-353-8719.

Model A Club Tour and Car Show • April 12-14 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 909-829-9629.

Harley River Run • April 19-21 • Giant Harley-Davidson motorcycle meet with parade, test-rides of new models. Laughlin, 298-2214 or 800-227-5245.

Pantera Owners Club of America Convention • April 25-28 • 15th annual, this year commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Pantera. Fremont Street Experience, downtown Las Vegas, 310-903-2812 or 818-966-0899.

CRAFT FAIRS & SHOWS

Desert Quilters of Nevada Quilt Show • March 8-9 • Henderson Convention Center, 878-2223.

Western National Antique Show • March 9-10 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

Spring Craft Fair and Chili Competition • March 16 • Food, arts, and crafts. Parkdale Center, Las Vegas, 455-7517.

Las Vegas Gem Club Gem and Mineral Show • April 12-14 • Displays, dealers, demos, free admission. Henderson Convention Center, 564-1550 or 645-3587.

NATURE WALKS & TOURS

Life on the Edge • March 9 • Lecture about bighorn sheep and a 1.5-mile hike into their habitat. Visitor Center, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 363-1921.

Boulder City Garden Walk • April 22 • Boulder City's Hoe and Garden Club sponsors tours, 293-6425.

COMING EVENTS

Olympic Torch in Las Vegas • May 1 • 731-2115.

Spring Jamboree and Crafts Show • May 4-5 • Boulder City, 293-2034.

Helldorado Days and Rodeo • May 14-19 • Las Vegas, 870-1221.

Mesquite Days • May 30-June 1 • 346-2902.

Laughlin River Days • May 31-June 2 • 298-2214.

Fireworks Display • July 4 • Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 895-8900.

Laughlin Desert Challenge • Sept. 6-8 • Off-road race, 298-2214.

Hoover Dam Days • Sept. 20-22 • Boulder City, 293-2034.

Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair • Sept. 20-Oct. 8 • 457-8832.

Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament • Oct. 2-6 • 382-6616.

Octoberfest • Oct. 4-7 • Various sites in Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Laughlin RiverFlight '96 • Oct. 18-20 • Hot-air balloons. 298-2214.

Las Vegas Balloon Classic • Oct. 25-27 • 434-0848.

National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 6-15 • Las Vegas, 731-2115.

Parade of Lights • Dec. 7 • Lake Mead, 457-2797 or 438-2485.

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SHOWGUIDE

The Las Vegas area offers big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. Barbara Mandrell is coming to Bally's, and Johnny Mathis performs at Caesars Palace. Showrooms often fill fast, so call ahead for show times and reservations.

BOULDER CITY

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

HENDERSON

Eldorado • 564-1811: Margaritaville Lounge: Dance bands play Wed.-Sun.
Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-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 or 736-0419: "Country Tonite," revue (dark Tues.).
Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: Concerts TBA.
Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: Louie Anderson, March 7-20; Paul Anka, March 21-April 3; Barbara Mandrell, April 5-10; Engelbert Humperdinck, April 11-17; George Carlin, April 18-May 1; bands play nightly in the Panda Lounge.
The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts by contemporary artists.
Boomtown • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Ricky's Lounge: "Boomtown Belles of the West" (dark Mon.).
Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Saloon: Headline entertainer monthly, dance bands nightly; piano music in the Lobby Bar.
Bourbon Street • 737-7200: Basin Street Lounge: Entertainment nightly except Mon.
Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus Showroom: The Moody Blues thru March 3 and 7-10; Wynonna and Kim Richie, March 27-31; Johnny Mathis, April 4-7; David Copperfield, April 9-23.
Circus Circus • 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.
Continental • 737-5555: Continental Theater: Cook E. Jarr, Wed.-Sat.
Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "The Debbie Reynolds Show with the Uptown Country Singers," 7:30pm Tues.-Sat. and 3pm Sun.; "Boy-lesque starring Kenny Kerr," 10:30pm Mon.-Sat. (dark Sun.).
Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; "Symphony in White" starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, noon and 2pm Sat.-Sun., 2pm Mon.-Fri. (dark Wed.); Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse: Dance music nightly.
Fitzgeralds • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Don Cloe (dark Tues.) and Anthony Micco (dark Wed.-Thurs.).
Flamingo Hilton • 733-3333: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).
Four Queens • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Monday

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Question: **What do Mark Twain, Clara Bow, and Will James have in common?**



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The new limited edition of NEVADA MAGAZINE CLASSICS: HISTORICAL CHARACTERS collects the 10 best issues of NEVADA MAGAZINE from the last 30 years that contain stories highlighting fascinating historical people such as Mark Twain, Clara Bow, and Will James. These are actual issues and not reprints. Only 200 individually numbered, hard-cover copies will ever be made. Supplies are limited, so order today.

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CasinoNotes



The Stratosphere will have high-powered rides and a revolving restaurant when it opens in Las Vegas in April.

New Brew: Henderson's first microbrewery, Barley's Casino and Brewing Company, opened in January at the Green Valley Town Center on Sunset Road. Barley's serves three specialty beers and offers tours of the brewing operations. The brewpub also has a restaurant, slot and video poker machines, and a sports book.

Ciao Baby: Called the most expensive resort Las Vegas has ever seen, the $1.1-billion Bellagio is scheduled to open in 1998. The Steve Wynn hotel, located at the old Dunes site across the Strip from Bally's, will look like an Italian village and have room prices of $150 to $200.

Play Time: Kids can take a vacation from their parents at the new child-care facility at the Boulder Station, where they can explore 8,000 square feet of toys, physical courses, and interactive media. Up to 186 children between the ages of six weeks and 12 years are accepted, and the cost is $5 per hour per child.

Million Machines: Caesars Palace's Million Dollar Babies slot machines are now linked with the progressive machines at Caesars Tahoe. The machines start at $1 million, and jackpots are paid in a lump sum.

B-One: The electronic age is adding a new twist to bingo at the Continental. When a number is called, a player presses the number into a hand-held computer, and all of his cards are "marked." There are two sessions daily Friday through Sunday.

Go Ahead and Shoot: Shooters, a new game at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, has gamblers betting on dice while sitting at a standard blackjack table. The total cumulative score, after two rolls of the dice, determines the player's winnings in the new game.

Eateries' New Look: Changes are being made to the MGM Grand's restaurant row, which opened in 1993. New or renovated eateries include Emeril Lagasse's New Orleans Fish House, the Dragon Court (Oriental food), Franco Nuschese's Tre Visi (Northern Italian fare), and Gatsby's (French cuisine).

Hypnotic Show: Audience volunteers who shed inhibitions in "Hypnomania," the Sahara's new revue, may find themselves eating fire or speaking in a foreign tongue. A full-scale production starring hypnotist Marshall Sylver, the show blends comedy, dance, magic, and unexpected audience reactions.

Topping King Kong: The Stratosphere is scheduled to open in April with a roller coaster and a space-shot ride to the 1,081-foot level of the 1,149-foot tower. The next planned attraction is a 60-foot-tall mechanical gorilla that will climb the outside of the tower's legs with 60 paying passengers in a Belly of the Beast ride.

Photo: Anna Fuentes

Night Jazz with Alan Grant in the French Quarter; bands play Tues.-Sun.

Gold Coast • 367-7111: East Lounge: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play 9pm-3am (dark Mon.); West Lounge: Entertainment 9pm-3am (dark Tues.); Dance Hall: Craig Harrison thru March 11; Randy Anderson, March 13-25; Gold Coast Orchestra April 17-29; ballroom dancing with deejay Larry Taylor, 7:30-11:30pm Tues. and 1-5pm Sun.

Golden Nugget • 386-8100: Theatre Ballroom: "Country Fever," country stars look-alike variety revue (dark Fri.).

Hacienda • 739-8911: Fiesta Theatre: "Lance Burton: World Champion Magician" thru March 31 (dark Mon.).

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Rock concerts, Jackson Browne appears March 3.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Commanders Theatre: "Spellbound: Starring Mark Kalin and Jinger" (dark Sun.); "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); bands such as Cornell Gunter's Coasters play Sun.-Thurs., with karaoke Fri.-Mon. at the Court of Two Gators.

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.).

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2444 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): "Xposed," adult revue (dark Fri.).

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

Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: "Lady Luck Luau," Polynesian revue, every Mon.

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-STARLIGHT: Starlight Theatre: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Fri.); The Nightclub: Kristine W and the Sting, the Emeralds (dark Thurs.); guest entertainers every Thurs.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Nefertiti's Lounge: "Beehive," musical tribute to female groups of the '60s (dark Mon.).

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



Southern Nevada's largest Easter egg hunt is April 6 at the Doolittle Community Center in Las Vegas.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Michael Crawford (dark Thurs.); Hollywood Theatre: TBA; Grand Garden: Mike Tyson v. Frank Bruno, March 16; Center Stage Cabaret: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club; bands play late night; Bobby Dickerson, nightly except Mon. in the Flying Monkey Bar; entertainment in the Santa Fe Lounge.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: Siegfried and Roy, magic spectacular, reopens March 6 (dark Wed. and April 4-10).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Dancing to bands nightly in the Loading Dock Lounge.

Rio • 252-7774 or 800-888-0400: Copacabana Supper Club Theater: "Copacabana Show," revue (dark Sun.-Mon.); Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sat.; monthly concerts on the Beach begin April 26, headliner TBA; Mambo's Lounge: Sergio Alberti appears thru April 20.

Riviera • 794-9301 (477-5274 Splash): Splash Theatre: "Splash II, the Voyage of a Lifetime," nightly; Riviera's Grande Ballroom: The Beach Boys in Concert, March 29-30; Billy Ray Cyrus, April 19-20; Mardi Gras Showroom (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Mardi Gras Showroom (second floor): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality, Passion, and Pudgy!" adult revue (dark Mon.); "Bottoms Up," burlesque-style musical comedy revue, 2 and 4pm (dark Thurs.); "Riviera Comedy Club"· Le Bistro Lounge: Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; live entertainment Tues.-Sat.

Sahara • 737-2515: Congo Theatre: "Hynomania," production show (dark Sun.); entertainment in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play 9pm-3am; Roxie's Lounge: Entertainment noon-5am.

Sands • 733-5453 or 800-446-4678: Rita Rudner thru March13; Bobby Collins, March 14-24; Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, March 26-April 7; Jeff Dunham, April 10-21; Copa Room: "Viva Las Vegas!" revue, 1 and 3:30pm weekdays.

San Remo • 597-6028 or 800-897-SHOW: "Showgirls of Magic"; bands play in the Bon Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Live entertainment in the casino

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with music Tues.-Sat. in the Ice Lounge.
Sheraton Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Room: Gordon Lightfoot, April 12-14; the Temptations, April 23-28; Starlight Theatre: Entertainment nightly except Mon.
Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-634-3484: Mardi Gras Room: Vandell's Rock 'n' Roll Revue, April 23-May 12.
Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," musical revue (dark Tues.); bands play in the Starlight Lounge.
Stratosphere • 382-4446: Opens April 1, entertainment TBA.
Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and April 10-11).
Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Folies Bergere" (dark Thurs.); Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop"; bands play in the Atrium Lounge and Tropics Lounge.
Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Entertainment and dancing Tues.-Sun.
Westward Ho • 731-2900: "Hurray, America," starring Robbie Howard and Red Hot Mama and the Goodtime Jazz Band (dark Sat.).

LAUGHLIN

Avi Casino • 535-5555.
Colorado Belle • 298-4000: Riverboat Lounge: Big Tiny Little appears at 1pm thru April; entertainment nightly except Mon.
Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Club Flamingo Room: TBA; Flamingo Outdoor Amphitheater: Weekly concerts April-June.
Gold River Gambling Hall and Resort • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Cody's Saloon: Free entertainment nightly; free line-dance lessons Tues.
Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Entertainment Tues.-Sun.
Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Club La Bamba: Entertainment nightly except Mon.
Ramada Express • 298-4200: Entertainment nightly in the Caboose Lounge.
Regency • 298-2439.
Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Eddy Arnold thru March 3; Roy Clark, March 6-10; Mel Tillis, March 11-16; Carl Hurley, March 18-19; Oak Ridge Boys, March 22-23; Air Supply, March 28-30; Eddie Rabbitt, April 10-13; Joe Diffie, April 18-20.



The Las Vegas Stars' first home game is April 4, as the team opens its Pacific Coast League season at Cashman Field.

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MESQUITE

Players Island • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Bali Hai Theater: "Island Fever," musical revue, evenings except Sun., matinees 3pm Tues. and Sat.; bands play nightly in the Cascades Lounge.
Si Redd's Oasis Resort • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Entertainment nightly in the Cabaret Lounge.
Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Jake Black and Thunder Road, March 5-17; Donny Rhea, March 19-24; American Made, March 26-April 7; Western Rain, April 9-21; Wheels, April 23-May 5.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Live entertainment in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.
Texas Gambling Hall • 631-1000: Nightly entertainment in the Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge.

STATE LINE

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111: Carolee's Theatre: "Carolee's Comedy Club," Fri.-Sun.; entertainment in the Stage Bar Lounge.
Primadonna • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471.
Whiskey Pete's • 382-1212 or 800-367-7383.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

March & April

Leap Year Slots • Thru March 3 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.
Leap Into Luck Slots • Thru March 3 • Tropicana, 739-2614 or 800-521-8767.
Spring Break Slots • March 10-12 • Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.
Keno • March 17-20 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.
Slots • March 18-21 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.
April Foolish Video Poker • March 31-April 3 • Tropicana, 739-2614 or 800-521-8767.
Play It Again, Sam Twin Stakes Slots • April 21-24 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.
World Series of Poker • April 23-May 16 • World champion wins $1,000,000, Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600 or 800-937-6537.
Slots • April 21-24 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 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 and Visitor Center • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall, U.S. 93, 293-8367, 293-8000, or 293-8419.
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 • Tours of Ocean Spray facility,

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A Festival of Cultures

Ethnic groups from around the Las Vegas Valley will gather at Lorenzi Park from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 27 for the fourth annual Las Vegas Folklife Festival. The event, a celebration of the folk and ethnic communities of Las Vegas, will feature food, entertainment, and craft demonstrations from organizations such as the Hawaiian Civic Club, Japanese American Citizens' League, and the Thai Cultural Arts Association.

The festival, which is free to the public, includes dancers and musicians representing Africa, Mexico, Japan, and other countries. The groups wear traditional costumes and perform on the Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza stage.

Artists and craftsmen will demonstrate skills such as hatmaking, silversmithing, Navajo weaving, and American quilting. And the food is always exotic—African, Hawaiian, Filipino, Scottish, and Mexican fare.

Details are still being finalized, but in the past performing groups have included the Scottish Highlanders Bagpipe Band; Kaminari Taiko Drummers and Ondo Dancers from Japan; Amauta, a five-member group offering the music of South America and the Caribbean; and the Warburton Family Band playing bluegrass music.

Lorenzi Park is located on Washington Avenue about two miles west of downtown. Call the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 702-486-5205, for more information on the folklife festival.– *Joan Patterson*



Southern Nevada's many cultures are part of the tapestry of the Las Vegas Folklife Festival on April 27 at Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Lorenzi Park.

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Kidd Marshmallow Factory • Tours, 8203 Gibson Rd., 564-3878 or 800-234-2383.
Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Free factory tours, 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bunjy • Bunjy jumps, rock climbing. 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.
Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Movie Museum • Tours, 733-2334.
Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing, 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
Forum Shops at Caesars • 893-4800.
Fremont Street Experience • Light show hourly from dusk to 11pm, 678-5600.
Grand Slam Canyon • Adventure park with rides and attractions, next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
Hard Rock Hotel and Casino • Music memorabilia, 693-5000.
Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
Imperial Palace Auto Collection • 3535 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 794-3174.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 6130 W. Charleston Blvd., 647-4300.
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History • 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.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand Adventures • Theme park, 891-7979.
Mirage • Dolphin habitat, white tigers, 791-7111.
Mount Charleston • Recreation info., 222-1597.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (enter from Cashman Field parking lot B only), 486-3511.
Omnimax Theatre • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Treasure Island • Pirate battle, 894-7111.
Wet 'n Wild • 2601 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 737-SURF.

LAUGHLIN

Lake Mohave Resort • 602-754-3245.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, 298-2535.
Ramada Express • Train rides, 298-4200.

MESQUITE

Arvada Gun Club • Si Redd's Oasis, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.

OVERTON

Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Pueblo culture, 397-2193.
Valley of Fire State Park • 397-2088.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Historic Museum • 455-7955.

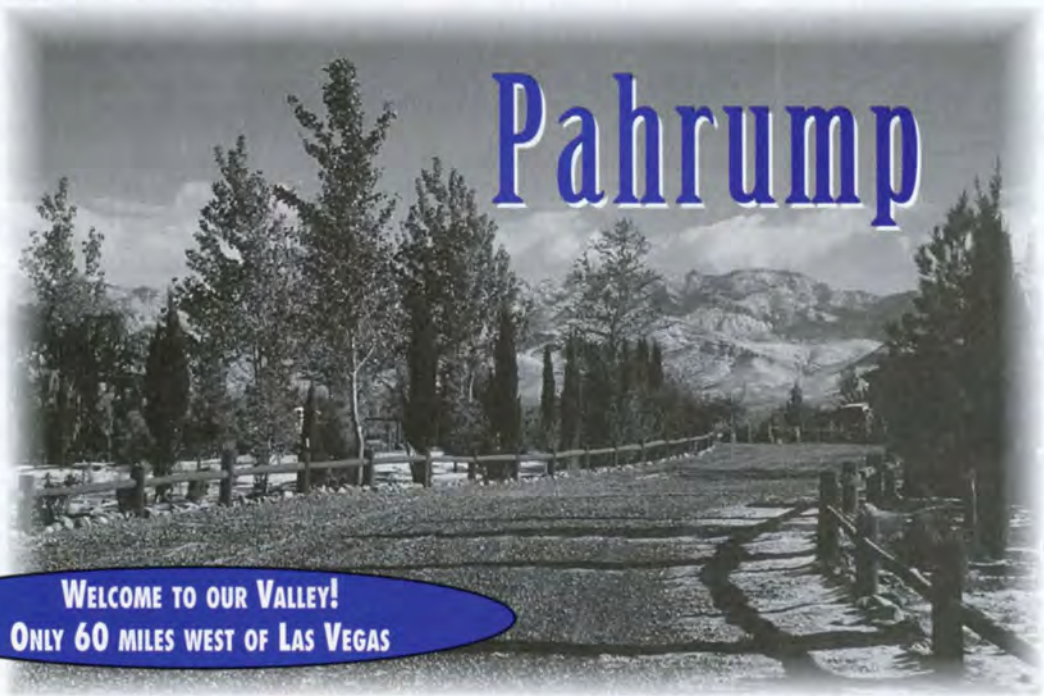
STATE LINE

Buffalo Bill's • Roller coaster, 382-1111.

A Reminder:

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EVENTS

March & April

EXHIBITS

Art and the Parks • Thru March 10 • Paintings of today's national parks. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

Old Flames • Thru March 29 • Fire equipment from the 1820s to the 1920s. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Weavers of Tradition • Thru March 30 • Historic and contemporary baskets of Washoe, Paiute, and Shoshone tribes. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1190.

TERRITORY MAP





Cliff jumpers are judged on style and form during the All Mountain Extreme at Squaw Valley March 11-15.

Hot Rod Heaven • Thru April 1 • Custom hot rods on display. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Nevada Gold Museum • Thru Sept. 2 • Gaming chips and memorabilia. Skyway of the Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.

Art Exhibit • March 4-May 3 • Paintings and montages by Sparks artist Marguerite Crokus. C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery, Reno City Hall, 329-1324.

Dinamation's World of Whales • March 4-June 2 • Giant robotic whales. Wilbur D. May Museum, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 785-5961.

Tools, Togs, and Touring • April 15-June 28 • Celebration of the 100th anniversary of the automobile. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

SEASONAL

St. Patrick's Day Celebration • March 15-17 • Fitzgeralds, downtown Reno, 800-431-3134.

Willson and McKee • March 27 • Celtic music and folk tales. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Children's Easter Events • April 7 • Numerous Lake Tahoe ski areas.

Bunny Bash Crafts • April 11 • Kids' craft day with the Easter Bunny, ages 6-11, 3:30-5pm, $10, bring apron and old shirt. Billingshurst Park Gym, Reno, 334-2262.

Easter Egg Hunt • April 14 • Sponsored by the Jaycees. Governor's Field, Carson City, 882-9191.

PERFORMING ARTS

Concerts in the Atrium • Thru May 24 • Fri. only, free classical music concerts, noon-1pm. Airport Gardens Office Bldg., Reno, 329-1324.

"Dames at Sea" • March 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, and 22-23 • 8pm, the Proscenium Players present this musical comedy. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"The Sleeping Beauty" • March 1-3 • Nevada Festival Ballet. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 329-2552.

Trout Fishing in America • March 7 • Folk singers. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Pictures of America • March 12 • Performances by the Reno Philharmonic and the Percussion Clique, John Tyson narrates. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 825-5905.

Lora and Sukutai Marimba and Dance Ensemble • March 13 • Dance, music, and authentic costumes of the Zimbabwa Shona culture. Carson City Community Center, 883-1976.

"Inherit the Wind" • March 15-16, 22-24, and 29-30 • 8pm, Reno Little Theater presents the play by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee. Masonic Lodge, Reno, 329-0661.

Yang Feng Puppet Master • March 22 • The Chinese counterpart of Muppets creator Jim Henson, 7pm, advance tickets are $8 adults, $4 students. North Tahoe Conference Center, 916-546-4602.

Chamber Music Concert • March 26 • Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, 8pm, tickets are $20 general admission, $15 seniors, $10 students. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, 784-6847.

The Argenta Trio • March 29 • Brahm's Trio in B Major, 8pm. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, 784-6847.

"Out of the Mist—A Dragon" • April 4 • Wood and String Puppet Theatre, Japanese-style puppets. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Theatre in Motion • April 4 • Contemporary, avant-garde theater. Virginia City High School Commons, 847-9ART.

Photo: Joe McBride

Rabbitt Tales

This country stud is planning an album of children's songs.

By Guy Richardson

In 1992, *Cosmopolitan* magazine named Eddie Rabbitt one of "The Hunks of Country," calling him a "Stetsoned stud."

Rabbitt, who appears at John Ascuaga's Nugget this spring, is one hunky kinda guy. He's lean and studly with a mane of dark hair. He also has, says my female friend who is acquainted with such matters, "nice buns."

As for Rabbitt, nice buns and all, his enthusiasm is for an album he's planning of kids' songs.

Sorry, ladies.

However, if you could hear Rabbitt's warm voice talking enthusiastically about the project, you'd be sanguine. In country music "sanguine" means you ain't cryin' in yer beer.

"It was calculated that all the air play of his songs would stretch out for more than 85 years."

He began writing kids' songs when his two children, now nine and 14, were babies. He wrote the songs to sing to the children as they went to sleep.

"I'd make up these little songs, and the kids would ask me to sing them over and over again, so I had to memorize them." His voice went into soft song: "Oh, I fell in love with my grits the other day..."

He went on, sounding for all the world like a country Dr. Seuss, with clever internal rhymes and rhythms. Dr. Seuss was not an influence on his songs, Rabbitt said. "I mean, they were just silly little things."



Eddie Rabbitt sings his country melodies at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, March 21-April 3.

Here's one of his "silly little things" that I find utterly charming ("poonies" are, as any parent of a three-year-old will tell you, "spoons"):

Little baby ducks rub lotion on their elbows
A little on their kneecaps
And some on their toes.
Then they fluff up their feathers and fly away.
Little baby pigs eat ice cream with their poonies.
They fill up their faces till they look like balloonies.
They eat and they eat and they eat till they float away.
And all the little animals are just like children too,
'Cause they wash their faces and they brush their teeth
And they wash their hands and then they go off to bed, sleepyhead, goodnight, tick tock tick tock tick tock...

Rabbitt, who has long been public about his dislike of MTV's excesses, decided that, as a family values kind of guy, "Why not put these songs out, and if they do well we can do afternoon shows at 3 or 4 for kids, and we'll sing these cute little children's songs."

This is not a ploy by a fellow with a declining career. Rabbitt has a series of five PBS specials coming up. His shows at John Ascuaga's Nugget, March 21-April 3, will feature an amazing 27 number-one hits. When BMI awarded him a Million-Air in 1994, it was calculated that all the air play of his songs would stretch out for more than 85 years.

The kids' album, which he plans to record this spring, comes from a man who will be married 20 years in 1996 and who says, "I put the poo on Hollywood and MTV and anyone who is misusing the First Amendment to sell trash to children."

Yes, put the poo. Our hunk talks like that.

Rabbitt hopes his album will be a small part of making kids a little more civilized.

And if the album takes off, he's got a plan. He's got these stories about Andrew the Squirrel...

Rabbitt in Sparks

Eddie Rabbitt headlines March 21-April 3 in the Celebrity Showroom at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. Call 702-356-3304 or 800-648-1177 for ticket information.

Guy Richardson is a Reno Gazette-Journal *editor and entertainment writer.*



The Children's Snowman Building Contest is a popular event at North Tahoe's annual winter carnival, Snowfest, March 1-10.

PREVIEW

A Sierra Snowfest

Madonna, Michael Jordan, and Speedy Gonzales stick out their tongues at the judges gathered at Brockway Golf Course. A pair of glasses keep slipping down the nose of a black lab cub reporter named Jimmy Olsen. Other contestants pant and drool. That's the kind of scene you can expect at the Dress-Up-Your-Dog Contest during Snowfest, North Lake Tahoe's winter festival.

The 15th Snowfest, March 1-10, will be a celebration of food, fun, and sun in the snow. The party starts Friday, March 1, at Squaw Valley with a torchlight parade and fireworks. Tiny lights twinkle in the trees along the village boardwalk as cocoa-scented steam rises from booths. The crowd huddles close—waiting. Suddenly, down the dark slope, you eye a zigzag of scarlet as the torchlight parade nears. Multicolored laser lights, reflecting off the snow, pirouette, and fireworks erupt in the sky.

But Snowfest is more than spectator events. A dozen ski resorts hold races and contests like the Great Ski Race (30 kilometers from Tahoe City to Truckee, over Starrett Pass) and Mount Rose's Big Air Snowboard Contest. Skiers are all wet at Boreal's Slush Cup when they try to skim across an icy pond.

Nonskiers, too, find plenty to do. You can eat, drink, play, and compete or simply stroll the colorful avenues browsing art, crafts, and ice sculptures. Kids' activities include children's theater and a snowman building contest. Call Snowfest, 916-583-7625, for a schedule of events.—*Ellen Hopkins*

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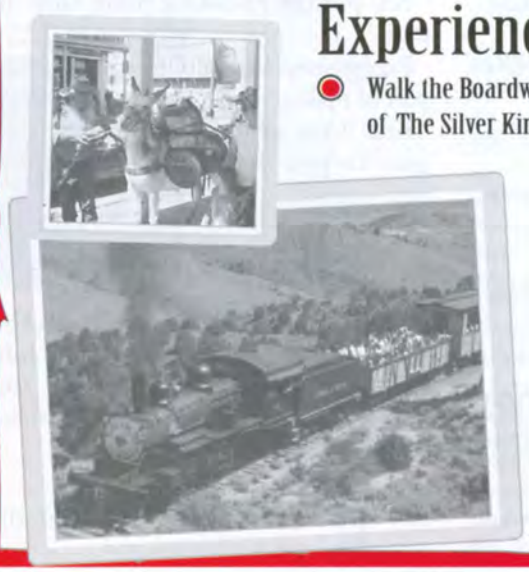
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Photo: John Thomas



Late-model stock cars race at Carson City's Silver State Raceway in the Desert Rose 100, March 9-10.

"Stomp" • April 9-11 • Broadway-show series. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 348-4600 or 800-714-5331.

"Bullshot Crummond" • April 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27 • A spoof of 1940s mystery movies, Proscenium Players. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Reno Philharmonic Concert • April 16 • Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "Resurrection," guest vocalists are soprano Susan Frank and mezzo-soprano Donna Bruno. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 825-5905.

Chaskinakuy • April 18 • Music of the Andes. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Reno Jazz Festival • April 19-20 • Vocal and instrumental competitions, workshops, master classes, and a performance by the Grammy Award-winning Phil Woods Quintet. Lawlor Events Center, U of N and Truckee Meadows Community College, 784-4046.

Lakota Sioux Indian Dance Theatre • April 25-26 • 12 traditional artists of the Sioux Nation. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 329-2552, and Cal-Neva Resort Celebrity Showroom, Crystal Bay, 916-546-4602.

"The Music Man" • April 25-27 • Virginia City Theater Muckers' spring musical. Virginia City High School Commons, 847-9ART.

Acoustic Guitar Concert • April 28 • Ed Gerhard performs. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert • April 28 • Featured violinist Phillip Ruder. Carson City Community Center, 883-4154.

GENERAL INTEREST

Rear View Mirror: Looking at Our Past From Behind the Wheel • March 12, 14, and 16 • Spring symposium on the impact of the automobile on the American experience. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

An Evening With the Academy Awards • March 25 • Big-screen simulcast of Hollywood's annual event, includes dinner, prizes, silent auction, late-'30s-movie costume contest. Circus Maximus Showroom, Caesars Tahoe, 542-3632.

Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous • April 19-21 • Primitive camping, traders, blackpowder shooting, call for directions. Carson City, 887-1221 or 884-4542.

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Photo: Hot Wheels Racing

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Topaz Sertoma Chili Cook-Off • April 20 • International Chili Society sanctioned chili cook-off, country music, arts and crafts. Topaz Lodge, 266-3468.

SNOW SPORTS

International Police Winter Games • Thru March 1 • Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Snowfest • March 1-10 • 15th annual winter carnival, opening ceremonies on March 1 at Squaw Valley, the Great Ski Race, California Special Olympics, Dannon Winterfest, Missoula Children's Theatre, North Lake Tahoe, 916-583-7625.

Kids Karnival • March 3 • Face painting, on-snow obstacle course, Crackers the Bear, Chinese New Year celebration. Boreal and Soda Springs ski areas, 916-426-3666.

USSA Junior National Freestyle Championships • March 5-9 • First step to the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, events include mogul and aerial competition. Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Women's Pro Race • March 9-10 • Top women racers compete, followed by pet events in the Pedigree Petathlon. Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Boardercross at Mount Rose • March 10 and 24 • Snowboard races that are similar to motocross events. Mount Rose Ski Area, 849-0704.

Wildlife Ski Tour • March 10 • Guided exploration of Hope Valley's critters. Hope Valley Cross-Country, Sorensen's Resort, Hope Valley, 916-694-2203.



Chili tasters raise their spoons in approval at the Topaz Sertoma Chili Cook-Off on April 20.

All Mountain Extreme • March 11-15 • Cliff jumpers and steep masters compete. Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Chevy Winter Carnival • March 15-17 • Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Winterfest • March 15-23 • Gay and lesbian social gatherings, skiing, sleigh rides, St. Patrick's Day party. Incline Village, 916-582-1892.

Gourmet Cross-Country Ski Tour • March 24 • 10K tour with guide includes a stop in the wilderness for a gourmet lunch. Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-3577.

Sprint Bumps and Jumps Challenge • March 29-30 • Top professional mogul and aerial competitors. Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Echo-to-Kirkwood Race and Tour • March 30 • 12-mile cross-country ski course along the Swing Crest. Kirkwood, 209-258-7248.

Jose Cuervo Games of Winter • March 30 •Time toss and snow volleyball. Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Coors Light Freestyle Aerial Competition • March 30-31 • Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-1010.

Amateur Mogul Open • April 6 • Open to all mogul

Photo: Fredrick K. Rubins



Blackpowder shooting is a highlight at the Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous in Carson City, April 19-21.

skiers and spectators. Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Jammin' Spring Ski Party • March 30-April 7 • Big Air contests for snowboarders, ski jumping contests, pond skimming contest, music. Kirkwood Beach at the base of Chair No. 5, 209-258-7386.

Wayne Wong World Hot Dog Skiing Festival and Championship • April 20 • Wacky revival of hot dog skiing. Entry includes clinic, movie, cocktail party, poster, and T-shirt. Alpine Meadows Ski Area, 916-583-4232.

Ultimate Spring Ski Bash and Annual Snow Golf Tourney • April 25 • Alpine Meadows Ski Area, 916-583-4232.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Reno Renegades • Professional ice hockey, West Coast Hockey League, March 5 and 23 v. Bakersfield Fog, March 6 v. Fresno Falcons, March 19 and 22 v. Alaska Gold Kings. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 828-3400.

University of Nevada Baseball • March 1-3 v. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, March 5 v. Cal State Stanislaus, March 8-10 v. Portland State, March 16-17 v. Washington, March 18 v. Cal Poly Pomona, March 26 v. Stanford, April 4-6 v. San Jose State, April 8 v. UC Davis, April 19-21 v. Long Beach State, April 30 v. Sacramento State. Peccole Field, U of N, 348-PACK.

University of Nevada Men's Basketball • March 2 v. New Mexico State. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, 348-PACK.

Big West Conference Basketball Tournament • March 7-10 • Six Big West schools compete for a spot in the NCAA Tournament. Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 784-6900.

Desert Rose 100 • March 9-10 • Sixth annual, 100-lap invitational late-model stock car race. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

Fly Fishing Festival • April 21 • Demonstrations, classes, exhibits. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 625 or 800-321-6983.

Carson Valley Inn Spring Stag Golf Outing • April 25-27 • Seventh annual play at Genoa Lakes and Dayton Valley. Minden, 782-9711 ext. 679 or 800-321-6983.

POETRY & POWWOWS

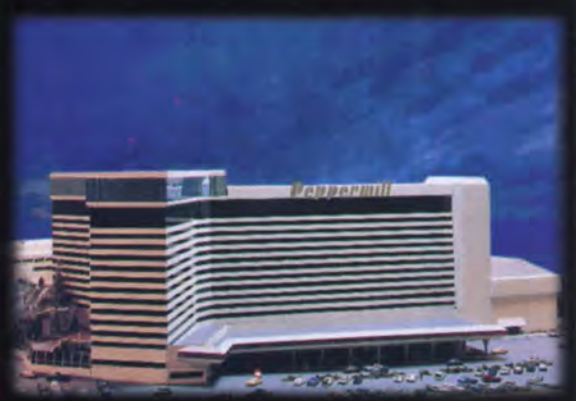
Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry • March 9 • Don Edwards, Waddie Mitchell, and the Sons of San Joaquin perform cowboy music and poetry to benefit the Carson-Tahoe Hospital Auxiliary. Carson City Community Center, 883-1532.

Mother Earth's Awakening Powwow • March 15-17 • Celebration of the spring equinox with Native American dancers, drummers, singers, artisans, and craftspeople from all over the West. Stewart Indian Cultural Center, Carson City, 882-1808.

Cowboy Culture Weekend • March 29-31 • Cowboy

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Photo: John Considine

Hepcats in Reno

Whether you're a jazz fan or aspiring vibesman, you'll want to snap your fingers, take in the tunes, and perhaps even blow your own horn at the Reno Jazz Festival, April 19-20 at the University of Nevada, Reno. The festival includes student competitions, interactive jazz workshops with guest professionals, and celebrity entertainment.

Although the academic venues lack the feel of an intimate nightclub, enthusiasts will be jazzed by the daily musical marathon of syncopated rhythms from fusion and bebop to contemporary big band. This year more than 3,500 musicians and singers are expected to attend.

Workshop participants can learn to jam at the improvisation class. They can pick up pointers from the masters on trumpet, saxophone, or trombone. Other classes include vocals, arranging, and jazz history. Daytime festival passes are $10.

On Friday night, jazz stars take the stage at Nightingale Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m. Headlining is the Phil Woods Quintet, winner of three Grammy awards and known for hard bop melodies. The Festival Big Band, comprised of the event's judges and instructors, will include composer Matt Harris, vocalist Madeline Eastman, and trombonist Jeffrey Usitalo. Friday's concert tickets are $20 general admission, $15 for seniors, and $10 for students.



The Grammy Award-winning Phil Woods Quintet headlines the Reno Jazz Festival on April 19 at Nightingale Concert Hall. They are: Phil Woods (center), Bill Charlap, Steve Gilmore, Bill Goodwin, and Brian Lynch.

Saturday night's Festival Showcase and Playoffs will feature encores by the best groups and soloists. Tickets are $8 general and $5 for students. For more information call the university's Division of Continuing Education, 702-784-4046 or 800-233-8928.—*Kathleen Berry*

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music and poetry featuring Ray Reed, Kay Hansen, and Andy Wilkinson. Shannon Ballroom, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 625 or 800-321-6983.

COMING EVENTS

RSVP Spring Fun Fair • May 1-5 • Carson City, 687-4680.
Fiesta Nevada • May 3-5 • Sparks, 353-2284.
Minden Spring Arts and Crafts Street Fair • May 18-19 • 782-4227.
Snowshoe Thompson Festival • June 1 • Genoa, 265-2889.
Reno West Coast Wine Tasting and A Taste of Nevada • June 7 • 827-7711.
Celebrate the River • June 7-9 • Reno, 334-2077.
Carson Valley Days • June 7-9 • Gardnerville, 265-5281.
Kit Carson Rendezvous and Wagon Train • June 7-9 • Carson City, 884-7711.
Father's Day Arts and Crafts Powwow • June 14-16 • Carson City, 882-1808.
Reno Rodeo • June 22-30 • 329-3877.
Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship • July 12-14 • Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050.



The pond-skimming event is wet and wild at Kirkwood's Jammin' Spring Ski Party.

Hot August Nights • July 31-Aug. 4 • Reno-Sparks, 829-1955.
Nevada State Fair • Aug. 21-25 • Reno, 688-6767.
Nugget Best in the West Rib Cook-Off • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Sparks, 353-2284.
Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 6-8 • 826-1181.
Virginia City International Camel Races • Sept. 6-8 • 847-0311.
National Championship Air Races • Sept. 12-15 • Reno-Stead Airport, 972-6663.
Reno Grand Prix Trans Am Race • Sept. 20-22 • Reno Hilton, 827-7676.
Genoa Candy Dance • Sept. 21-22 • 782-TOWN.
Firefest '96 • Sept. 27-29 • Reno, 686-3047.
Great Italian Festival • Oct. 12-13 • Reno, 786-5700.
Nevada Day Parade and Celebration • Oct. 31 • Carson City, 882-2600.
Celtic New Year • Nov. 1-3 • Reno, 800-535-3045.
National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals • Nov. 4-10 • Reno, 829-7469.
Celebrate Christmas on the River • Nov. 30 • Reno, 334-2414.
Sparks Hometowne Christmas • Dec. 7 • 353-2284.

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Moe Bandy	Mar 7-20
Eddie Rabbitt	Mar 21-April 3
Highway 101	April 4-17

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Johnny Cash
April 11, 12



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SHOWGUIDE

The Reno and Lake Tahoe area offers production shows and big-name entertainment. Bill Medley returns to Harrah's Reno, and the Moody Blues visit Caesars Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations.

RENO/SPARKS

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

Clarion • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands such as Steppen Stonz and Impact play 6pm-5:30am, nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret and on weekends at the Atlantis nightclub.

Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): The Cabaret: Honolulu, March 26-April 17; Danny Marona, April 23-May 12; Brew Brothers: Colin Ross Band with Mig O'Hara (Mon.-Tues.); Crazy Copper Keys (Wed.-Sun.).

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

Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars" (dark Tues.); Monday Night Blues Jam in the Showspot Lounge, where bands play Tues.-Sun.; entertainment at the Top of the Hilton restaurant.

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Playboy's Ecstasy" and "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" (dark Tues.); Bill Medley, thru March 3; Phyllis Diller, March 5-17; Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, March 19-24; Glenn Yarbrough, April 9-21; Patsy Cline Tribute Starring the Jordanaires with Sharon Haynes, April 23-May 5; bands play nightly in the Rendezvous Bar.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Celebrity Showroom: Blood, Sweat, and Tears featuring David Clayton-Thomas, thru March 6; Moe Bandy, March 7-10; Eddie Rabbitt, March 21-April 3; Rose Ballroom: TBA; bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and at Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Convention Showroom: Frank Gorshin, March 28-30; the Gaylords, April 12-13; music nightly on the casino stage.

Plantation Station • Sparks, 359-9440.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theatre: Jeff Kutash's "Splash" (dark Thurs.); Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Bruce Baum, thru March 3; Paul Provenza, March 19-24.

Reno Hotel • 788-2000.

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

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-MUST-SEE (U.S., Nevada, Canada, and Mexico): Silver Legacy Gazebo: Wally Jones and Perry Joe Schirmer, afternoons; Gary Xavier, evenings; lightning storm and mining machine shows, throughout the day.

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

CARSON CITY/CARSON VALLEY

Carson Nugget • 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Preston Hodge appears in the Cork and Bottle 3-9pm except Mon.; bands such as Speedy Garfin and The Act play at the Nugget Showbar.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Entertainment Tues.-Sat. includes Get Ready and Valentino and Sol.

Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890.

Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 586-2044 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Ziggy Marley, March 1-2; Howie Mandel, March 8-9; Moody Blues, March 15-16; Wynonna, March 22-23.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Mystique," thru April 14; Casino Center Stage: Nightly bands.

Harveys Lake Tahoe • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 (U.S. and Nevada): Emerald Theatre: "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys," musical revue with Dick Clark as video host; Llewellyn's: Ron Rose Sound; music in the Emerald Party Lounge.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-648-3322: Grande Lake Theater: Richard Lewis, March 8-9; Golden Cabaret: Wise Guys Comedy Cabaret (dark Mon.); bands play nightly in the Aspen Lounge.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382.

Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Madison Ave. plays in the casino lounge thru March 10.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Music in the Stage Bar. Incline Village, 832-1234.

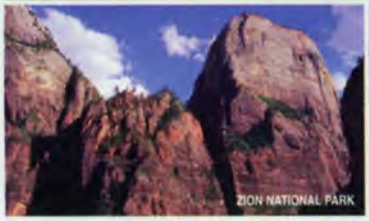
Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660 or 800-245-8667: Music and dancing nightly in the Aspen Lounge with Suzanne Lee Price.

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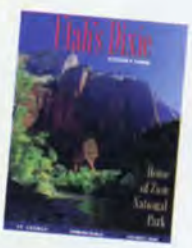


Now, with the new Sky Mountain Golf Course in Hurricane, there are eight groomed golf courses ready to challenge your abilities in St. George and Utah's Dixie! Surrounded by the colorful cliffs and mountains of our national and state parks, these picturesque courses are open all year. Imagine playing 18 holes of golf in the morning and enjoying the towering cliffs of Zion National Park or the scenic vistas of Snow Canyon State Park in the afternoon.

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Utah's Dixie

Send for our FREE 32-page visitor guide listing accommodations, golf packages and other places to visit in southern Utah's Dixie.



Call toll free

1-800-869-6635

WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAVEL AND CONVENTION BUREAU

The Dixie Center 425 South 700 East St. George, Utah 84770

Casino Notes

Flashy Facade: The Comstock in downtown Reno has a new exterior sign, which depicts a mountain range outlined in neon and blinking star-shaped beacons. The sign also includes a light show resembling fireworks exploding up the north and east walls of the building every 90 seconds.

International Eats: The Eldorado recently replaced the Market Place Buffet with the Chefs' Pavilion as part of its phased expansion. The Chefs' Pavilion has four buffet lines with American, Italian, Chinese, and Hispanic cuisines. The 600-seat buffet also has an ice cream bar and an exhibition cooking area, which includes two 36-inch-diameter Mongolian grills with six-foot woks.

Meaty Award: The Steak House at Harrah's Reno received the Five Star Diamond Award from the American Academy of Restaurant Sciences. This award designates the Steak House as one of America's top 10 restaurants of its kind in food quality, service, and ambiance.

Rockin' at Stateline: A three-year collaboration links Harveys at South Shore with Dick Clark Productions of Burbank and World Productions of Los Angeles. In December, the Lake Tahoe property launched "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys," a nostalgic musical revue in the redesigned Emerald Theater. Clark acts as video host of the show.

Rail City on Tap: A 28-story hotel tower with 802 rooms, a restaurant and microbrewery to seat 350 people, and 31,000 square feet of convention space are elements of an expansion planned for John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. Ground breaking took place in November. The projected completion date is March 1997

Suite Deal: The Peppermill's $70-million tower expansion is scheduled for completion in March. The project includes a health club, fine-dining restaurant, steak house, swimming pool with a volcano, and 16,000 square feet of gaming space. Of the 465 additional rooms, 145 are luxury suites, including two 3,500-square-foot "ultra-plush" suites.

Welcome Back: Sharkey's Nugget in Gardnerville reopened in January after a fire closed the casino for more than six weeks. There are some new fixtures, and employees got new uniforms—polo shirts with a Sharkey's logo and black pants. Prior to the fire, Sharkey's had been open continuously since 1971.



A new addition to Reno's downtown skyline, these star-shaped beacons are part of a light show that illuminates two sides of the Comstock Hotel.

Photo: Craig Sailor/*Reno Gazette-Journal*

Happy times are yours with a Carson Nugget Fun Pack!

$39 Drive up Fun Pack

Only $39 per couple with this ad... Here's what you get:

	Value
2 Buffet Dinners	$14.00
4 50¢ Keno Credits	$ 2.00
4 Cocktails	$ 8.00
4 Lucky Bucks	$ 4.00
4 $1.00 Gaming Tokens	$ 4.00
Deluxe Motel Room 1 Night per couple	$44.00
Total Value	$76.00
Your Price Only	$39.00

Second night room only $22.50 plus tax

Here's all you do:

1. Call City Center Motel 1-800-338-7760 for your room reservation & mention Drive-Up.
2. Upon arrival, check into the City Center Motel, present this ad, pay desk clerk $39, and receive your Carson City Nugget **Fun Pack** coupon book!
3. Go to the Carson Nugget to redeem those coupons for:
   Gaming 21, Craps, Roulette, Slots and Progressive Poker Machines.
   Fine Food Buffets, Oyster Bar, Snack Bar, Coffee Shop,and Steak House.
   Entertainment Live Music every night (except Monday) in our Theater Lounge.
   Cocktails At the Bonanza Bar or the Intimate Cork and Bottle Lounge.

Limit one **Fun Pack** per couple per week.
Both must be 21 years of age. This offer, in all or part, is subject to cancellation or revision at any time. Rooms subject to availability.

CARSON NUGGET Carson City

The Carson Nugget
The Happiest Casino in the World
507 N. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada 89701

City Center MOTEL

800 N. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada 89703
1-800-338-7760

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

March & April

Spring Poker • March 1-8 • Peppermill, 689-7275.
Keno • March 8-9 • Peppermill, 689-7290.
Wearin' o' the Green Super Keno • March 8-10 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Those Irish Eyes Video Poker • March 10-12 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Clubs and Clovers Blackjack • March 15-17 • Comstock, 329-1880.
St. Patrick's Day Dollar Slots • March 15-17 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.
When Irish Slots Are Smiling • March 17-18 • Peppermill, 689-7282.
Slots and Poker • March 22 • Lakeside Inn, Stateline, 586-7710.
Corned Beef and Cash Super Slots • March 22-24 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Blackjack • April 11-13 • Peppermill, 689-7100.
Slots • April 14-15 • Peppermill, 689-7282.
Arabian Nights Dollar Slots • April 19-21 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.

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 • 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.



The Reno Renegades score goals at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center through March.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on Hwy. 395 S., 265-2889.

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.
Ponderosa Ranch • Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691.
Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler • Tahoe City, 916-583-0141.
Tahoe Queen Sternwheeler • South Lake Tahoe, 800-23-TAHOE.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • Stream chamber in creek, 916-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 916-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • North of Reno on Red Rock Rd., 969-3111.

The Seniors Strike Silver Club, for folks 50 and older, lights the way for a great stay in Carson City.


Photo courtesy of the Nevada State Museum

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As a club member, you're eligible for special room rates, discounts on dining, deals on gaming, plus value-priced multi-night packages.

Spotlight on Fun
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CARSON CITY Seniors Strike Silver Club MEMBER

CARSON CITY
Carson City Convention & Visitors' Bureau
1900 So. Carson Street, Suite 200 Carson City, NV 89701

Photo: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau

Earth Window Museum • 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • U of N, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
National Automobile Museum • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Domed theater, 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.
Nevada Historical Society Museum • 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
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.
Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 574-0290.

SPARKS

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum • 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144.
Wild Island • Off I-80, 359-2927.

VIRGINIA CITY

Assay Office Museum • 847-0777.
The Castle • Seasonal, 847-0275.
Chollar Mine • Tours, seasonal, 847-0155.
Fourth Ward School Museum • Seasonal, 847-0975.
Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 847-9394.
Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum • Seasonal, 847-0717.
Mackay Mansion Museum • Artifacts, furnishings, silver collection, 847-0173.
Mark Twain Museum of Memories • 847-0454.
Nevada Gambling Museum • 847-9022.
Piper's Opera House • Seasonal, 847-0433.
Ponderosa Mine • Tours, 847-0757.
Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum • 847-0525.
Virginia and Truckee Railroad • Seasonal, 847-0380.
Virginia City Radio Museum • 847-9047.
Virginia City Tours • Narrated trolley tour, 786-0866.
Way It Was Museum • 847-0766.
Wild West Museum • Seasonal, 847-0400.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • 345-8668.
Bull Creek Ranch • Trail, wagon, and sleigh rides, 345-7600.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Park • Seasonal, 849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • 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.

Cowboy Culture

Music and Ephemera of the American West

March 29 - March 31

Ray Reed
Ray was recently inducted into the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame.

Andy Wilkinson
1995 winner of the Wrangler Award for best contemporary cowboy album.

Kay Hansen
Kay's beautiful voice will take you on a musical voyage of the American West.



Friday Night Feature Show $15
Saturday Dinner Show $30
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P.O. Box 986, Lovelock, NV 89419
(702) 273-7144

Rural Territories

EVENTS

March & April

COWBOY COUNTRY



EXHIBITS

Shooting the West VIII • March 8-10 • Western photography workshop, guest speakers. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 623-5071 or 623-6388.

SEASONAL

Battle Mountain Easter Powwow • April 6-7 • 635-8245.

Eagles Easter Egg Hunt • April 7 • McDougal's Softball Sports Complex, east of Lovelock, 273-2195.

PERFORMING ARTS

Sound FX Footloose Concert • March 9 • Dancing and singing by children age five-18. Elko Convention Center, 800-248-3556 or 738-4091.

Willson and McKee • March 20 • Celtic folk music. Battle Mountain Civic Center, 635-9228.

Celtic Celebration • March 23 • Authentic Celtic dinner, Celtic duo Willson and McKee perform. Great Basin College Community Center Theatre, Elko, 753-2237.

Willson and McKee • March 25 • Celtic music and stories. Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2082.

GENERAL INTEREST

"Celebrate You" Women's Conference • March 22-23 • Friday night entertainment by comedian Marni Voss. Elko Convention Center, 800-248-3556.

A Taste of Wendover • April 11 • Local chefs share their specialties. State Line Casino, 664-3414.

CRAFT FAIRS & SHOWS

Silver Sage Quilt Guild Quilt Show • March 30-31 • Display of more than 100 quilts by Nevada quilters. Elko Convention Center, 800-248-3556 or 738-4091.

Bridal Fair • March 17 • Elko Convention Center, 738-4091.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

King of Clubs Video Poker • March 3-4 • Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255.

St. Patrick's Day Slot and Keno Tournament • March 13-16 • State Line Casino, Wendover, 664-2231.

Reggae Blackjack • March 17-19 • Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255.

Spring Fling Keno • April 14-15 • Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255.

Maxi 21 • April 18-19 • Silver Smith Casino, Wendover, 800-848-7300.

South Pacific Slots • April 21-23 • Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255.



Photographer James Fain, who will appear at Shooting the West in Winnemucca, captures rodeo's true grit.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY



EXHIBITS

Best of the West Tour • April 19-20 • Art exhibit, sale, and cowboy music and poetry. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

PERFORMING ARTS

Willson and McKee • March 29 • Celtic-folk music. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

Loren Kahn Puppet Show • April 12 • Short plays for adults and children. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

GENERAL INTEREST

An Evening With the Arts • March 2 • 10th annual fund-raising dinner, silent auction. Fallon Convention Center, 423-1440.

Hidden Cave Tours • March 9 and 23 and April 13 and 27 • 9:30 am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Live Dance Band • March 16 • Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

PIONEER TERRITORY



SEASONAL

St. Paddy's Day Dinner and Auction • March 17 • Corned-beef-and-cabbage dinner at 5pm followed by auction, library benefit. Smith Valley Community Hall, Wellington, 465-2304 or 465-2328.

GENERAL INTEREST

Good Sam Jamboree • Thru March 3 • Camp-out, swap meet. Amargosa Multi-Purpose Bldg., 372-5459.

FESTIVALS

Rhyolite Living History Festival • March 15-16 • Honors the heritage of the ghost town with a descendants' reunion, tours, banquet, period movies, exhibits,

Photo: James Fain Photography

PREVIEW

Pluck of the Irish

By Kerry Jamison



Celtic musicians Willson and McKee share the spirit of St. Patrick's Day with Northern Nevada during March.

Come St. Patrick's Day everyone's Irish, and would-be Celts in five Nevada towns will have the chance to prove their green when Ken Willson and Kim McKee tour their "strung tight and played loose" Celtic rhythms.

"It's a pretty rural circuit for us," McKee says. In March, Willson and McKee make a Northern Nevada tour celebrating St. Patrick's Day. They'll perform in Battle Mountain on March 20, Elko on March 23, Lovelock on March 25, Carson City on March 27, and Eureka on March 29.

Willson and McKee play a variety of stringed instruments—the banjo and mandolin as well as hammered dulcimers and the Irish Bouzouki.

"I've played the piano for five years," McKee says, "but I'm primarily a lyricist. Ken is the vocalist. At first, when we got together, I'd accompany him on his songs, and he'd accompany me on my songs. Now we just play together."

McKee met Willson three years ago at the Acoustic Coffee Shop in Phoenix. Willson, a chiropractor, was playing and singing bluegrass. After their marriage three years ago, Willson says McKee dragged him "kicking and screaming" into the world of Celtic music. They share their home in Montana with six children, three of his and three of hers.

Willson's primary instruments are the guitar, banjo, mandolin, and the Irish Bouzouki. McKee plays the hammer and mountain or Appalachian dulcimers, the Bodhran (an Irish drum), the psaltry (a stringed instrument played with a bow), and what she describes as animal bones.

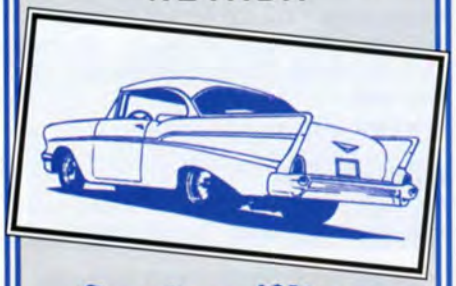
"After all," McKee explains, "back in the days when this music was being invented, sometimes old bones were all they had to play with."

In Elko they'll perform at a Celtic Celebration that includes an authentic Irish dinner at the new College Community Center Theatre on the Great Basin College campus (702-753-2237).

Kerry Jamison is a reporter for the Elko Daily Free Press.

Family fun in hometown style! Visit...

Mason Valley
NEVADA



Spring Fling

Not Just a Classic Car Show!

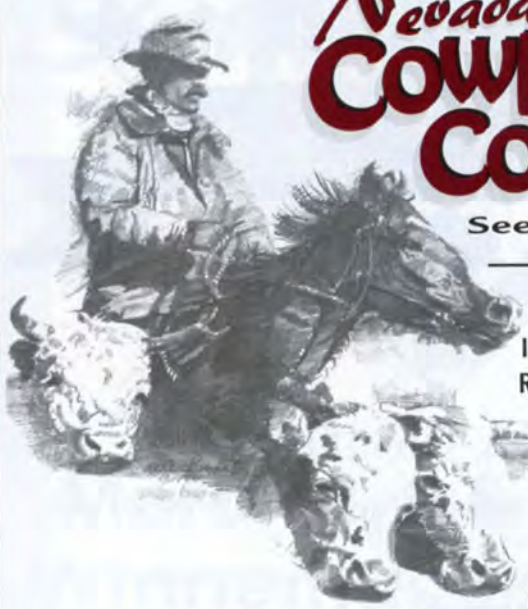
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May 18, 1996

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Yerington, Nevada
(702) 463-2245

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Hot Air Balloon Festival
Frontier Days • County Fairs and Livestock Show
Western Art • Covered Wagon Trail Ride
Horse Shows • World Championship Roping

Write or Call:
Nevada's Cowboy Country
Dept.NM
1601 Idaho St.
Elko, Nevada 89801

(702) 738-7135 or
1-800-248-3556

and other attractions. Rhyolite and Beatty, 553-2424.
Loon Festival • April 21-22 • Barge rides on Walker Lake to see loons in spring mating plumage, dinner, guest speaker. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 945-5896.

CRAFT FAIRS & SHOWS

Spring Craft Show • March 15-16 • Handmade items, concessions, Celtic band performs in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Hawthorne Convention Center, 945-5854.

COMING EVENTS

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta • May 4 • Wendover, 664-3403.
Silver State Classic Challenge • May 18-19 and Sept. 21-22 • Auto race. Ely, 289-8877.
Jim Butler Days • May 24-27 • Tonopah, 482-3859.
Mesquite Days • May 30-June 1 • 346-2902.
Desert Oasis Music Festival • June 1-2 • Fallon, 423-7733.
Gridley Days • June 14-16 • Austin, 964-2200.
Elko's National Basque Festival • July 5-7 • 738-7991.
All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days • July 19-21 • Fallon, 423-2544.
Silver State Stampede • July 20-21 • Elko, 738-1499.
Winnemucca Labor Day Rodeo and Fair • Aug. 30-Sept. 1 • 800-WMCA-NEV.
Rail Days • Aug. 30-Sept. 1 • Ely, 289-2085.
Western Art Roundup • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Winnemucca, 529-0452 or 623-2225.
Elko County Fair • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Elko, 738-3616.
Pioche Labor Day • Aug. 31-Sept. 3 • 962-5544.
Pahrump Valley Harvest Festival • Sept. 13-15 • 727-5800.
Fernley Frontier Days and Rodeo • Sept. 28-29 • 575-4459.
World Finals • Oct. 13-15 • Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414.



Step Back Into History!

A stroll down Main Street in Eureka will take you back 100 years ago when Eureka was a thriving mining camp.

Visit our historic courthouse, the Eureka Opera House, and the Eureka Sentinel Newspaper Building (now a fine museum).

Explore the sidestreets and discover dozens of historic buildings — each with its own fascinating story.

Experience history in Eureka, Nevada, the best preserved town on Highway 50 the "Loneliest Road in America."

For your free copy of "A Self Guiding Tour of Eureka," call us at 702-237-5484

Eureka County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Authority
P.O. Box 14 • Eureka, Nevada 89316

SHOWGUIDE

Casinos often bring star entertainment to rural Nevada. For example, Lacy J. Dalton will appear at Cactus Petes in Jackpot. Many lounges have bands on weekends. 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: Comics weekly.
Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.
Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Rob Hanna: A Salute to Rod Stewart, thru March 3; An Evening at the Improv, March 5-10; Bill Pinkney's Drifters, March 12-17; Lacy J. Dalton, March 19-24; the Coasters, March 26-31; An Evening at the Improv, April 2-7; Danny Marona, April 9-21; Donna Fargo, April 23-28; the Kingston Trio, April 30-May 5.
Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306: Bands play in Mr. B's Lounge.

WENDOVER

Nevada Crossing • 664-2900 or 800-537-0207.
Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660.
Rainbow Casino • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.
Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Bands include Ross Lewis Duo.
Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671.
State Line • 664-2221 or 800-648-9668.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Karaoke on Mon.; comedy on Wed.; R.C. and Lonesome Heart, March 5-17.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

ELY

Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall • 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.
Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP
Saddle West Casino • 800-GEDDY-UP.
Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777.

TONOPAH
Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.
Station House • 482-9777.

YERINGTON
Casino West • 463-2481 or 800-227-4661 (U.S. and Nevada).
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 • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418.
Pershing County Marzen House Museum • Marzen Ln., Lovelock, 273-7213 or 273-2115.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., Elko, 738-7508 or 800-748-4466.



Lacy J. Dalton sings at Cactus Petes March 19-24.

Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

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, 237-5010.
Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Silver Springs, 577-2345.
Great Basin National Park • Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50, 867-3001.
Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Seasonal, 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.
Sand Mountain • 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.
White Pine Public Museum • Ely, 289-4710.

PIONEER TERRITORY
Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.
Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 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 • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Hawthorne, 945-5896.

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

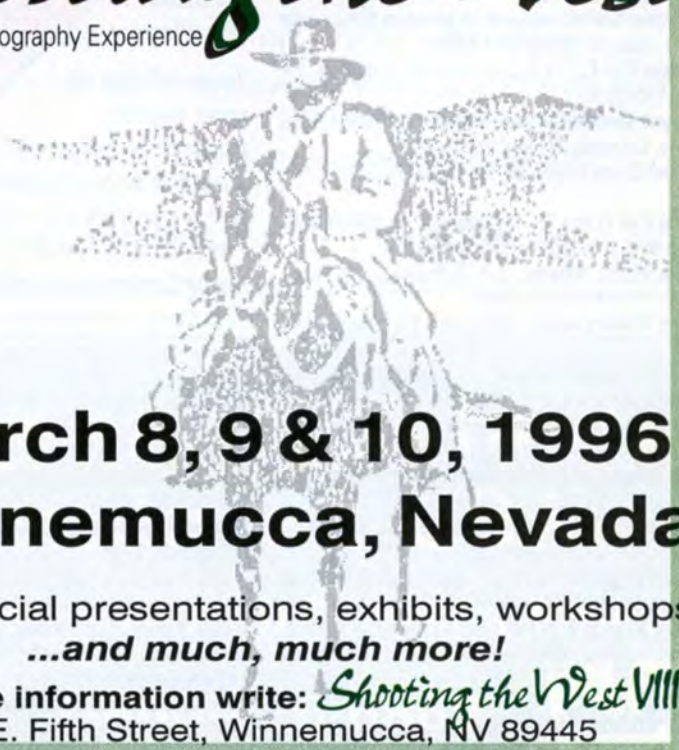
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Vacation Hot Lines

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, be sure to first dial the state's area code (702).



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.

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 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Laughlin Visitor Bureau: 3650 S. Pointe Cir., #104-B, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3022

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445

Mesquite Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703

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: 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; 916-581-6900

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 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 or 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S. (Cactus Petes)

Jarbidge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; 488-2315

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742

Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862 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: Box 90, Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
Greater Fallon Area C of C: 379 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544
Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2069
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2 Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 372-5459
Beatty C of C: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-3453
Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-6365
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; 463-2245
Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST
Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544
Tonopah C of C: 301 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: Stewart Indian Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1808

State and National Parks

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area: Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-1859
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 Department 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 Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 873-8800

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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

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. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Sam's Town/Mary's Diner—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8073. A '50s flair. 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—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

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.

ASIAN

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. D. $-$$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

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/Billy Bob's Steak House and Saloon—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8060. Prime rib, porterhouse, petite filet, and lobster. D. $$, major.

Sam's Town/Diamond Lil's—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8009. Fresh fish and seafood daily. D, Sun. brunch. $-$$, major.

Laughlin

Ramada Express/Dining Car Coffee Shop—298-4200. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.



Fiona's at the Carson Valley Inn serves fresh seafood.

Ramada Express/Passaggio Italian Gardens—298-4200. 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

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burgers. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. $-$$, major.

Eldorado/The Brew Brothers—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecued shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. $, 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. Sunday brunch, B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie–Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet. Sunday brunch, L, D. $-$$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Coffee Shop—Reno, 826-2121. Filet of chicken croissant, Mediterranean omelet, California tostada salad. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Island Buffet—Reno, 826-2121 Seafood buffet Fridays. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken, warm lamb and feta cheese salad, deli sandwiches. B, L, D. $, major.

Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, and chicken cacciatore. B, L, D. $, major.

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. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Eldorado/The Vintage—Reno, 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, veal piccata, lobster linguine a la Roma. D. $$-$$$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Eldorado/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. Express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. $, major.

Eldorado/Market Place Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. Serving mushroom ravioli, fresh fish, homemade pastas, and prime rib. B, L, D. $, major.

Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. 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—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine plus homemade pasta, sauces, and desserts. Award-winning wine list. D. $$, major.

ASIAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$, major.

Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777 Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, and Cantonese pepper steak. B, 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, escargot. D. $$, major.

Eldorado/Grill and Rotisserie—Reno, 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/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 Louis. L, D. $$, major.

Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Louisiana crab cakes, oyster pan roast, chicken and seafood jambalaya. L, D. $$, major.

Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken, and seafood fettucine. D. $$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, pollo allo spumante. D. $$, major.

ASIAN

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. D. $$, major.

Caesars Tahoe/Pisces—Stateline, 588-3515. Salmon, lobster, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D. $$, major.

Around the State

Elko: Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Ely: Copper Queen—289-4271. Coffee shop, family dining room. Steaks, 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.

Tonopah: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Hamburgers, steak, seafood. B, L, D. $, AE, MC, V.

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Sizzling in Mesquite

A tropical "Island Fever" hits the border town.

By Ann Henderson

Game-show creator and hotel magnate Merv Griffin has spelled out the future of showroom entertainment for Mesquite, the gambling oasis 77 miles northeast of Las Vegas on Interstate 15. Last year Griffin opened the $80-million tropical-themed Players Island and brought a splashy production show, "Island Fever," to the tiny community on the Nevada-Utah border.

There is nothing small-town about the show, which could do well in Las Vegas, Laughlin, or Reno. Showgoers in the 425-seat Bali Hai Theater see a fast-moving montage of dance numbers and musical tableaus—from Polynesian to country-western—that have "heat" or island themes. Appealing to the senses with vivid colors and richly textured sets and costumes, the show is visually exciting and fun to watch.

The sets are outlined with neon—about one mile of it—creating an art-deco look. The most striking neon figures are the glowing purple and green palm trees, which also can change color to suit the music.

Opening with the number "Too Darn Hot," followed by the sizzling "Heat Wave," there are eight dance numbers, three sections featuring the singers, and 13 costume changes packed into an hour's performance. A highlight is the memorable 12-minute appearance by Los Diablos Gauchos—Diablo, Eileen, and Fernando—known for their near-miss antics with whirling bolos. Diablo is one of the original Argentinean gauchos who starred in "Jubilee!" at Bally's before forming his own act.

The show's colorful costumes include more than 5,000 feet of ruffles for the Latin numbers. For the Tahitian dance, pink and purple grass skirts bounce to the drum beat. Later it is the skull-themed head pieces and flowing leopard capes that place you in the Ashawara (African) scene.



Neon palms and South Seas sets lend tropical inspiration to "Island Fever," playing at Players Island in Mesquite.

The youthful cast of nine singers and dancers is led by Emmett Murphy and Carol Ann Maccri. Toes begin tapping when the duo performs the Dolly Parton-Kenny Rogers hit "Islands in the Stream." Murphy and Maccri pair again for the romantic "Bali Hai" from South Pacific.

A family-oriented show, "Island Fever" not only has inventive staging and an energetic cast. It also has brought a big-city production to a booming Nevada border town.

Tropic of Mesquite

"Island Fever" plays at Players Island in Mesquite at 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with additional shows at 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Tuesday and Saturday (dark Sunday). Tickets are $12.50. Packages include a buffet and show for $14.50 or dinner and show for $27.50. Prices do not include drinks. Call the Bali Hai Theater box office, 800-896-4567 or 702-346-7529.

Ann Henderson is the Southern Nevada editorial representative for Nevada Magazine.

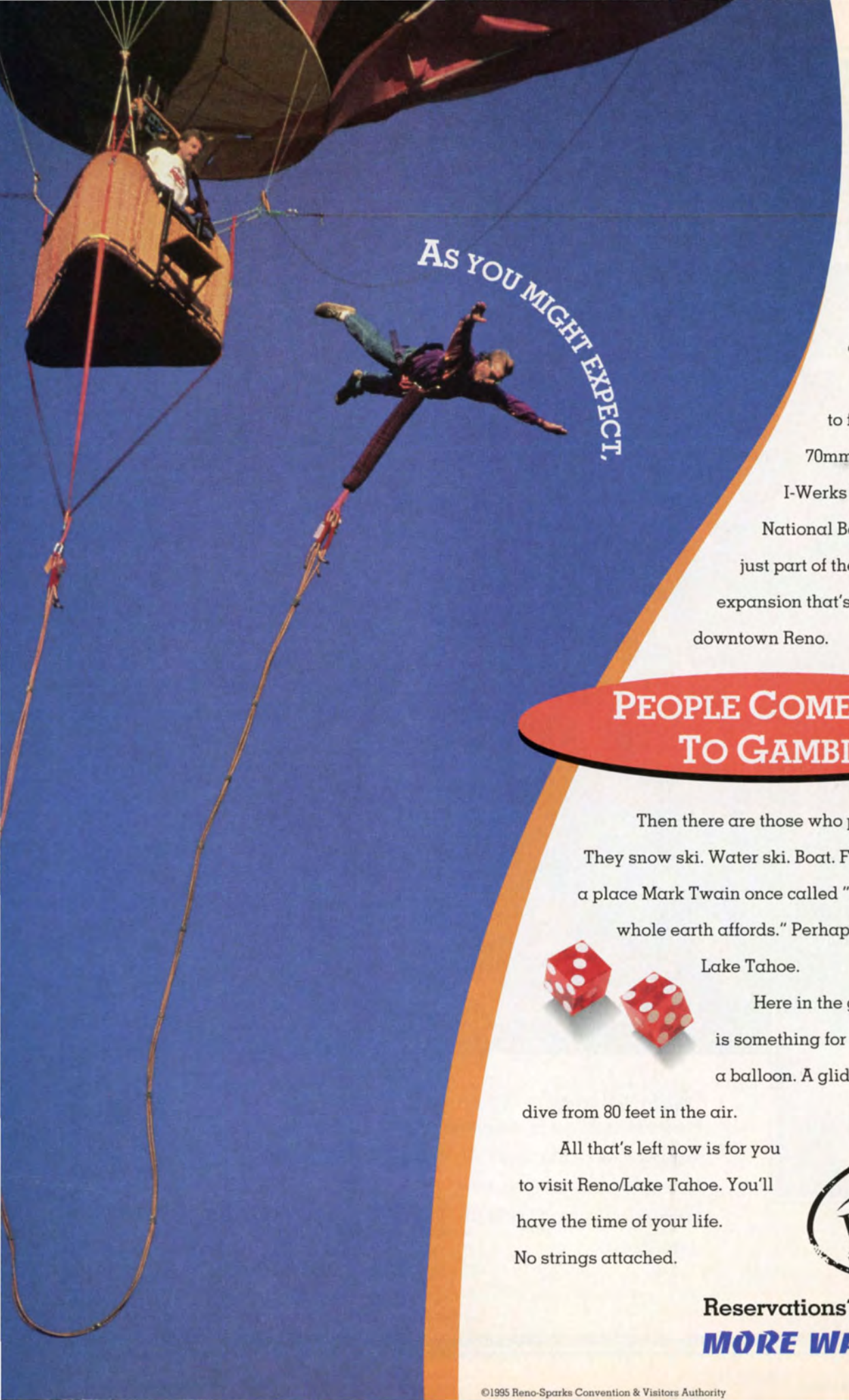
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