

INSIDE:

NEVADA
NV2000
Making Millennium Magic

MILLENNIUM
Countdown
Calendar

NEVADA

MAGAZINE

October 2000

Haunting Images

Six photographers offer personal views of Nevada's ghost towns

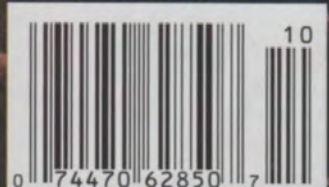
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"I think it probable that no citizen of Las Vegas during all those long, lean, and disappointing years had such supreme faith in the high destiny of Las Vegas."—Las Vegas Age Editor C.P. "Pop" Squires on Dr. Roy Martin



On the Cover:

Lightning flashes over the old bank building in Rhyolite.

Photo by Richard T. Stephens

Features

12

Haunting Images

Six photographers present their unique perspectives on Berlin, Rhyolite, and other symbols of Nevada's boom-town past.

16

Purple Feat in Reno

Creative juices flowed as my sister and I turned grapes into wine at the Great Italian Festival.

By Barbara Wies



Soothing Spas: Page 18

18

It's a Wrap!

Nevada's spas use mud, herbal wraps, and other magic to foster inner health and a good steam.

By Katherine McDonnell

20

The Driven Doctor

For \$10 he won in a foot race, Roy Martin bought a medical practice in the new railroad town of Las Vegas.

By K.J. Evans



A Thunderbirds Tour: Page 8

Departments

- 5 **Editor's Note** Carolyn Fox goes on the road to photograph her favorite Nevada places.
- 6 **Letters** Dude ranch salute, ghost town search, and unsung heroes.
- 8 **Roadside Attractions** The Thunderbirds, Tahoe's Flume Trail, and a Reno arbor in fall.
- 71 **Nevada Bookshelf** Recent releases of Nevada interest. **By Richard Moreno**
- 72 **Dining Out: California (Street) Cuisine** Three restaurants near downtown Reno form a creative culinary crossroads. **Story by Kathleen Stebbins, Photos by Gary Elam**
- 74 **Casinoland: Antique Station** You can gamble, dine, and step back in time amid the ornate furnishings of Victorian-themed Main Street Station in Las Vegas. **By Bob Barnes**
- 76 **Nevadans: Model Farmers** Darrell and JuDee Craig deliver produce from their Carson Valley farm to organically minded subscribers. **Story by Treva Lind, Photos by Jay Aldrich**
- 78 **Recreation: A House Afloat** Cruising Lake Mead by houseboat. **By Joe Zentner**
- 90 **Side Trip: Fallon in the Fall** An autumn trip to Fallon will introduce you to farmer's markets, a venerable moviehouse, and other old-fashioned attractions. **By Carolyn Graham**

Events & Shows

- 25 **Rising With the Dawn Patrol** During a single September day we rose with the balloons in Reno, caroused with the camels in Virginia City, and raced a train while searching for the perfect photo. **Story and Photos by Carolyn Fox**
- 28 **Millennium Countdown Calendar** Fairs, celebrations, and other events.
- 46 **Nevada Showguide** Where the stars and shows are playing this fall.
- 52 **Casino Notes** News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**
- 57 **Show People** David Cassidy has starred in several roles—producer and headliner, husband and father—since moving to Las Vegas. **By Kathy Espin**
- 68 **Review** The Luxor's production of "Blue Man Group." **By Mike Weatherford**



Dawn Patrol in Reno: Page 25

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Desert Fox

Carolyn Fox has an eye for the weird. The photographer from Jackson, California, has snapped golfers riding bicycles in the Black Rock Desert, camel jockeys in Virginia City, and wacky mailboxes on country roads. Carolyn and her photography partner, Larry Angier, once covered both the Great Reno Balloon Race and the Virginia City International Camel Races in a single day, an outing Carolyn recalls in "Rising With the Dawn Patrol" in this issue's Nevada Events and Shows.

"What messes up that whole event is that you have to get up early for the Dawn Patrol," says Carolyn, who professes a fear of getting up early—and not getting up on time. On that trip she forgot her alarm clock, and the hotel didn't offer wake-up calls. "I would get up in my pajamas, go downstairs, put the keys in the ignition of the car, and look at the clock," she says.

These days Carolyn never leaves home without a clock—or a notebook. A longtime *Nevada* contributor, Carolyn, 54, recently added the title of writer to her credentials. "I just do it for the fun of it," says Carolyn, who took a college writing class last winter. "The one I got an 'A' on was the story about the balloons and camels."



Carolyn Fox on the Black Rock playa.

Her career as a professional photographer began at another Nevada event. "I owe it all to Shooting the West," she says, referring to the photography seminar held in Winnemucca each March. In 1990, Carolyn and Larry attended the second Shooting the West, where she was inspired by such speakers as author Robert Laxalt and stock-agency owner Tom Stack. Arriving home she was notified she had won her first photography contest. The same year, she earned an honorable mention in *Nevada Magazine's* Great Nevada Picture Hunt for a photo she'd taken at the Valley of Fire. The photo later was used on

the magazine's cover. She and Larry have attended every Shooting the West since. She says, "We usually leave several days ahead to see how much trouble we can get into."

Carolyn, who operates a custom drapery business, says she is drawn to Nevada's unusual people and wide-open spaces, not to mention its bizarre photo opportunities. One of her favorite Nevada images is a pair of sticks in the snow that someone had dressed in Levi's and cowboy boots. Carolyn explains, "People are saying, 'I live here, and I have a sense of humor.'" —Carolyn Graham



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Letters

Dude ranch salute and unsung heroes.

Dude Ranch Days

I am a new subscriber to *Nevada Magazine*, and the March/April issue was my first. I began reading the article "Donner Trail Days" with only a mild degree of interest. I quickly began to realize and appreciate this glimpse from the recent past that the author, Katharine Jensen, captured so well.

The photographs of Verdi's old Donner Trail Ranch are a real treasure. Let's hope that Nevada will not plow under too much of its past. We are fortunate that Ms. Jensen took the time to re-create, and share, a piece of this past with us.

Les Wimmer
Warren, OH

Another Salute to Dudes

Thanks to Katharine Jensen for her article "Donner Trail Days" on Olde Reno, glamour and all, which appeared in *Nevada Magazine's* May/June 2000 issue. Please, let



Phillip A. Pilgram with his Nevada state flag.

us hear more on how it was before memories fade and they blacktop everything.

Sara Harvey Ball
West Chatham, MA

Flying the Flag

I thoroughly enjoy every issue of *Nevada Magazine* and especially like articles and

photos on the Carson Valley and Lake Tahoe area. I plan to retire there someday, but in the meantime I fly the Nevada state flag at every opportunity to remind me of the greatest state in this country.

Phillip A. Pilgram
Glendale, CA

Vegas for Adults (and Kids)

In response to Nicholas Campanella's letter about "Adults Only?" in Jan/Feb 2000, where has he been? Las Vegas has typically been an adult-themed entertainment area for a good number of years. Yes, recently they have started catering to families, but the adult theme still remains. Perhaps he should either do more research on his choice of vacation spots for child-friendly activities or leave his daughter at home.

Still, Las Vegas has child-related activities. After all, the employees of the numerous casinos, restaurants, theaters, museums, and shopping areas, who live there every day have families that are entertained in ways appropriate for their family members. I know. I used to live there and enjoyed various activities with my 12- and 14-year-old stepdaughters.

Vicki Vaughan
Blue Springs, MO

A Present From the Past

I recently attended a conference in Reno, the first time I'd ever been to Nevada. My father mentioned to me that he had a great-uncle who lived out that way and had been associated with some kind of snow research. I decided to check the Web, which led me to *Nevada Magazine's* Web site and the discovery that Dad's great-uncle, James Edward Church, a professor at the University of Nevada in Reno and snow-survey pioneer, was one of 11 people featured in "Unsung Historical Heroes" by Richard Moreno in May/June '99. My father's birthday is coming up, and I can't think of anything he'd enjoy more than a copy of that issue.

Linda Church
Marietta, NY

A Parallel Universe?

I am a longtime subscriber and enjoy *Nevada Magazine* very much, but I must

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point out an error in "Boogie Nights" in the March/April issue. The article placed the Drink and Eat Too nightclub in Las Vegas "at the corner of Harmon and Flamingo." Please note that these streets run parallel to each other. I believe it should read "corner of Harmon and Koval."

W.H. Painter

Society for the Preservation of English Language and Literature (SPELL)
Las Vegas

Show Me the Money

There are many reasons that I prefer to travel 500 miles to play slot machines in Nevada rather than patronize the two Indian casinos that are right down the road from me. Of those reasons, the biggest is that the Indian casinos pay off in ticket vouchers.

I've been playing machines with coins since 1960 (my first pull on a slot-machine handle was at Barney's South Shore Club at Lake Tahoe), and I much prefer real coins to vouchers. Art Nadler says in his Jan/Feb article "I Dream of Jackpots" that eventually players won't touch money. I hope this won't become a reality.

Dan Groah
Silverton, OR

Ghost Town for Sale?

My friend and I are interested in finding out how we can buy an unowned ghost town in the Nevada area. We want one that we will enjoy doing the work on to get it in working order. We plan to move out there if we can get a ghost town of our own.

Ralph Johnson
Atlanta, GA

Ralph, we know of no real-estate companies specializing in ghost towns, but we've mailed you some information that might help.—Ed.

Course Designer Revealed

Enjoyed looking at the "Nevada Golf 2000" golf-course directory in the May/June issue. There is an error to be pointed out with regard to the Eagle Valley East Golf Course on page 87. This course was designed by Arthur Jack Snyder of Scottsdale, Arizona. He also designed Elko's Ruby View Golf Course.

Hank Etchemendy
Reno

How to Submit Letters: Readers are encouraged to send letters regarding stories and photos in the magazine. Write "Letters to the Editor," Nevada Magazine, 401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291. Fax 775-687-6159. E-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.



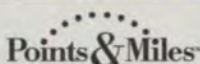
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Roadside Attractions

Taking a Thunderbirds Tour and admiring the trees of autumn.

Touring the Thunderbirds

NORTH LAS VEGAS—Based at Nellis Air Force Base, the Thunderbirds aerial precision team presents dazzling displays at air shows throughout the world. The team's pilots serve as the Air Force's main recruiting tool.

Visitors can learn about the powerful jets and their pilots by taking a Thunderbirds Tour, held at 2 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday at Nellis. Once on base you follow a map to the Thunderbirds' museum and hangar. The tour begins in the museum auditorium with a short lecture, film, and Q&A session. The film is narrated by Michael Dorn, a star of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

The tour reviews the history of the elite team. The Thunderbirds, which employ a squadron of six F-16 Fighting Falcons, were activated in 1953 to showcase the technology and fighting capabilities of the Air Force during the Korean War. Today the team, also known as "Ambassadors in Blue," travels to air shows and public events, performing such precision aerobatics as the four point roll and the delta blueout cloverloop opener.

Inside the hangar, visitors will not see a speck of oil or dirt. In fact, the Thunderbird logo painted on the center of the hangar floor is roped off and polished every morning and evening by crew members entering the program. They must polish the bird a certain way in order to smooth, rather than ruffle, its feathers. Legend has it that if a Thunderbird's feathers are ruffled, it can't fly.

While visitors explore the hangar, a guide remains to answer questions. Tourists are allowed to take photos only of specific jets—the Air Force prefers that no photos be taken of any jet undergoing maintenance. Gathering the group at a cockpit simulator, the guide explains how pilots are trained, noting that pilots learn the switches so well that they keep their eye on the lead pilot and never have to look down. The guide also shows how the ejection seat works and how G-suits help pilots handle high speeds.

At tour's end, visitors can inspect the museum's historical photographs and



At Nellis Air Force Base touring visitors can see the Thunderbirds' F-16 Fighting Falcons. This is the dramatic view from the No. 4 slot as the Thunderbirds move from a trail to a diamond formation.

other Thunderbird memorabilia. Adorning one wall are autographed photos of celebrities, such as Candice Bergen and Joe Montana, who have flown with the Thunderbirds. For sale are hats, T-shirts, mouse pads, and other Thunderbird items.

The tour is free. Drivers entering the

base are required to show a driver's license and proof of car insurance and registration. If you are renting a car, you will need to present the rental agreement. Call 702-652-4018 or go to www.airforce.com for more information or a Thunderbirds performance schedule.—Elizabeth Nielsen



Mountain bikers favor the Marlette Flume Trail in the fall, when temperatures are moderate and autumn colors at their peak. The narrow, challenging trail provides some of the area's best views of Lake Tahoe.

Flume With a View

LAKE TAHOE—For mountain bikers exploring Lake Tahoe's eastern shore, the Marlette Flume Trail offers beautiful autumn views while putting riders literally on the edge.

The views take in both the lake's blue waters and the aspens' fall colors of orange, red, and yellow. The edge comes where the trail narrows and looks steeply down on Sand Harbor and other sights far, far below. There's enough space for only one brave rider on those stretches, so some riders choose to dismount and walk their bikes.

The Marlette Flume Trail dates back to the late 1800s, when several miles of wooden box flumes were constructed as part of the system that delivered water from Marlette Lake to Virginia City. Today the trail is part of Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park. Most bike riders reach the trail

from Spooner Lake (\$5 vehicle fee). It's five miles uphill to Marlette Lake, where the Flume Trail starts. From Marlette the bike path slices north another five miles to Tunnel Creek Station, where the old flume section ended. Bikers then must negotiate three miles of steep downhill to Incline Village.

Hikers and runners use the trail, so bike riders should beware and go slow on the last downhill leg, where speeding is taboo. Contact Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, 775-831-0494, for further information on the Marlette Flume Trail. Also, guided mountain-bike tours of the Flume Trail are offered by Spooner Lake Tours, Cabins, and X-C Skiing; call 775-749-5349 or visit www.theflumetrail.com for details.

Bedtime Story in Elko

ELKO—A framed poem hangs on the entry wall at the Elko bed and breakfast called *Once Upon a Time*. The poem reads: "Tomorrow you again may roam,/But while you're here, just feel at home." *Once Upon a Time's* owners, Madeline and Michael Johnson, do everything they can to convey that sentiment to their guests.

"We both had dreams," Madeline Johnson says as she and her husband, Michael, sit in the kitchen sipping coffee. "I was widowed. The kids were grown, but I wanted to keep on kind of being a mother. Waiting on people. Making them happy. Having a bed



Madeline Johnson straightens a guest room at *Once Upon a Time*, the B&B that she and her husband, Michael, operate in Elko.

Photos: Peter Spain (top), Connie Emerson (bottom)

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Goldfield photographer P.E. Larson took this portrait of his wife, Hilda, and son Edward. Larson's photographs are featured in "Tonopah and Beyond" at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.

and breakfast." Madeline adds, "Michael's dream was of owning an art gallery."

Soon after Madeline and Mike met in the mid-1980s, they realized that both they and their dreams were compatible. They married, and in 1992 the Johnsons began to convert Mike's single-story house in Elko to two stories. "The building boom had started, and we couldn't find a contractor," says Mike, who works for Citizens Telecom. Delays ensued, "and we ended up doing the contracting ourselves."

Since 1996, Madeline and Mike have shared their dream with others. From the open kitchen that adjoins the dining area and living room to the three guest bedrooms, Once Upon a Time is the sort of place that makes visitors feel at ease. The living room is a mini-museum full of conversation pieces like the big ceramic Buddha and Mike's paintings. Each of the cozy bedrooms has a name and a theme. The romantic "Casa Blanca" has a canopy above the bed and movie-related memorabilia on the walls. "The Stagecoach" offers a cowboys-and-Indians motif, and "Treasure of Sierra Madre" is decorated around a mining theme. In the latter two's shared bath, a butler's basket holds toothbrushes and other toiletries guests may have forgotten.

There's another room, which guests may enter by invitation only: Mike's train room. It's an extensive setup, with multiple tracks and trains, a fantasy of bridges, cars, water towers, people, and depots. Many of the buildings are miniature replicas of California landmarks from Mike's earlier years.

Once Upon a Time is located at 537 14th Street, Elko, NV 89801; phone 775-738-1200. Because the rooms are filled

with so many knickknacks, it's an adults-only bed and breakfast (and nonsmoking). On the second Saturday in December, the Johnsons host their annual Christmas Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. with cookies, hot spiced cider, and tours of Once Upon a Time.—Connie Emerson

Tonopah and Beyond

CARSON CITY—As Tonopah celebrates its centennial year, the Nevada State Museum offers a show, "Tonopah and Beyond," that portrays the state's early 20th-century mining boom through the eyes of Central Nevada photographers and cartoonists. Using the work of pioneer lensmen like E.W. Smith, museum curators present scenes from early-day Tonopah, which was established shortly after Jim Butler discovered silver there in 1900. There are photos of satellite mining towns such as Pioneer and Manhattan. The era's politics and people are the subjects of a wall of cartoons, many of them penned by Arthur V. Buel, a cartoonist for the *Tonopah Daily Sun* from 1905 to 1908.

Especially intriguing are the more than 50 images taken by Goldfield photographer P.E. Larson. Discovered two years after Tonopah, Goldfield became the state's largest city by 1907, and Larson photographed its many aspects. The exhibition includes his sharp, often humorous portraits of mine owners, stock traders, beer hall customers, women on auto trips, children, and burros.

The Nevada State Museum is open daily; phone 775-687-4810. Admission is \$3 adults, \$2.50 seniors, and free to children under 18. "Tonopah and Beyond" shows in the Changing Gallery through March.

Photo: P.E. Larson Collection, Nevada State Museum

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Sparks Water Sports

SPARKS—Created from a former construction pit near Interstate 80, the Sparks Marina Park opened last summer with a deep, man-made lake. The park has picnic areas, group-use gazebos, a two-mile walking path, volleyball courts, and sandy beaches.

Anglers can fish for rainbow and brown trout, with catch-and-release fishing encouraged. Scuba diving, boating, and swimming are other attractions at the 77-acre reservoir, which has an average depth of 60 feet and a deepest point of 120 feet. To reach the park, take Interstate 80 and exit at Sparks Boulevard. Call the Sparks Park and Recreation Department, 775-353-2376, for more information.

May in the Fall

RENO—If you are looking for landscaping ideas or wish to take a quiet walk under a soothing canopy of trees, you will enjoy the peaceful change of pace the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden offers. In autumn the arboretum presents an especially colorful sight when many of the deciduous trees and shrubs change from summer shades of green to red, gold, and bronze hues.

Located in Rancho San Rafael Park just west of the University of Nevada campus, the arboretum is one of several attractions named for Wilbur D. May, the late Reno philanthropist and big-game hunter. The arboretum covers more than



The bright-red burning bush (*Euonymus alata*) and purple and pink Michaelmas daisies appear at the Wilbur D. May Arboretum in fall.

Photo: Lainie Thompson

10 acres. An assortment of specialty gardens and groves of trees have different themes. The recently established Butterfly Garden has a variety of spring, summer, and fall blooming perennials that attract butterflies throughout the growing season. Visitors will find unexpected plantings, such as the *Sempervivum tectorum* (hens and chicks) growing on a supporting wall in the Rose Garden.

Trees and shrubs are clearly labeled with both botanical and common names. Visitors also can rely on trail maps, pamphlets, and interpretive signs.

Horticulturists and other experts offer

special tours and talks in spring, summer, and fall. The Fall Harvest and Hot Spring Tour, an off-site field trip to identify, collect, and prepare native foods, takes place September 21 and 23. Volunteers can tackle a community-service project on Make a Difference Day, October 21, at the arboretum.

Located at 1502 Washington Street, the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden is open throughout the year, and there is no admission charge for strolling the grounds. Gates open at 8 a.m. and close at dusk. Call 775-785-4153 or visit www.maycenter.com.—Lainie Thompson

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HAUNTING IMAGES

Six photographers focus on Nevada's boom-town past.

Every Nevada mining camp and ghost town has its own personality and history. There's something intangible that lingers, a kind of spirit that lives on in the cracks and crevices, behind an old door or broken window. Often objects are left as if the owner expected to return soon. Questions remain. What happened here?

The ghost town experience is a challenge to capture on film, but the resulting images can tell us a great deal about the state's frontier days and popular perceptions of that past. Here, Nevada photographers Jim Galli, Diane Kay Griffin, Richard T. Stephens, Britt Pierson, Jens Peerman, and Bob Goodman share their ghost town visions.



This old house stands on a back street in Tonopah. I often thought it would be fun to make a ghost picture on those steps, showing a little girl with a puzzled look and an antique doll. She might have lived in this house in 1911. Now for reasons unknown she haunts it.

I needed to find a girl just the right age. After pestering my bride for possibles a few times I spotted a girl at the end of our pew at church. "Who's that?" I whispered, pointing. My wife answered, "Oh, that's Jordan Brown. She'd be great!"

Jordan was indeed perfect. During the shoot I explained that she was a ghost who was rather sad. Her mom promised her ice cream at McDonald's if she didn't giggle and smile.

Jim Galli,
Tonopah

After we drove a 12-mile stretch of desolate road east of Gabbs, shapes began to define the once booming mining community known as Berlin. We saw the Berlin ore mill and imagined clamorous pounding of the enormous stamping machinery. Outside town, men dripped in sweat, lifting their picks in unison, praying the next swing would make them rich.

One mark of a miner's success was a multiroom cabin. As we passed one such dwelling, an image appeared at the window, a wary miner reflecting days of hardship and misfortune.

The belongings left behind in the cabins inspired us to wonder. As money ran out, did the inhabitants wait until the dead of the night to slip away? Did rumors send them in search of a new strike? It must have been an endless journey in search of roots, prosperity, and, ultimately, the reuniting of families.

Diane Kay Griffin,
Gardnerville



I love being in Rhyolite on a stormy night. My wife hates it, and I'll admit to being frightened myself once or twice, but it is difficult to resist the adrenaline rush of being in the middle of a ghost town in the middle of the night in the middle of a lightning storm, striving to capture on film the power of nature as it batters the crumbling ruins. The night this photo was taken part of the sky was clear, allowing the light of a full moon to illuminate the scene. As the storm cell advanced across the valley, I hurried from building to building, seeking angles. This is one of my favorites, shot from inside the Cook Bank ruin as I huddled in the doorway to the old vault room.

Richard T. Stephens,
Beatty



During a visit to Rhyolite I saw this old caboose near the train depot. As I approached, I noticed that the chair looked as if a single spotlight was shining on it. I quickly set up and prepared to have time for only one shot before the light changed. The light stayed, however, and I stepped back and saw the whole composition: the rusted ladder, the texture in the wood, the deep reds against the blue sky, and, of course, the chair.

Britt Pierson, Las Vegas

I glimpsed it through the north window of the assay office building in Berlin and was instantly captured. Dust, spider webs, the pale colors, a fair amount of backlight, and the overall tranquility created a pleasant mood. At the same time, the open ledger and the typewriter suggested the presence of busy office clerks, although they obviously were long gone.

For a while I stared at the scene and imagined the people to whom a manual typewriter like this was state-of-the-art technology. Wondering where they are now, I decided they must be out for lunch.

Jens Peerman,
Carson City



Austin has long intrigued me for its living preservation of Nevada history. In this scene, the old storefronts, bounded by the walkway and illuminated by the setting sun, appealed to me. At the time I saw Austin as a town in its own fading light, yet beautiful to the end.

This image was made before the townspeople began to restore their storefronts. Austin is one of Nevada's best living ghost towns, and it never seems far removed from the elements.

Bob Goodman,
Reno

PURPLE FEAT IN

Creative juices flowed as my sister and I turned grapes into wine at the Great Italian Festival

By Barbara Wies

Heralded by trumpets, young male flag twirlers from Italy, dressed in medieval tights and tunics, snap and swirl their colorful silk banners in procession as their forebears have done since Marco Polo's day. The fanfare is archaic, athletic, and lovely.

The whole city of Reno seems to be out enjoying this sunny morning in early October. Several downtown blocks have been closed to traffic, and the streets are jammed with pedestrians celebrating the Eldorado Hotel's Great Italian Festival. It's a street fair complete with Italian food, ices, wines, coffees, and music—lots of music. Three stages, just far enough apart so they don't compete, provide continuous entertainment.

I am comfortably dressed in my oldest black shorts, a plaid shirt over a sleeveless turtleneck, and a cotton bandanna. It isn't a fashion statement. I've been invited to stomp grapes and told to wear clothes I could throw away afterward. In expectation of getting thoroughly drenched in purple juice, I've even worn old underwear. My sister BJ, on the other hand, looks cool and chic in her crisp white blouse, tan slacks, and fawn-colored suede boots. Her pale blond hair shines in the sun. I was told to bring an assistant, and I recruited BJ at the last minute. What she is to do, neither of us has a clue.

After sampling "the world's largest risotto" and finding it surprisingly good,



RENO



we wander toward the grape-stomping area, on a side street just off the main promenade. Eight or so washtub-size wooden buckets stand in a row on a raised platform. There is a railing behind them and, in front, a lower platform like a shelf. People mill around, but nothing has begun yet. It is cool here in the shadow of the tall buildings.

There will be four stomping competitions, one for Italians, one for the press (that's my gang), and two for politicians (it's an election year). Politicians first, we're told. Then press, politicians again, and then the Italians.

BJ and I find a place to watch the first competition. I spot a friendly face, Nancy Peppin, a Reno artist. Nancy says she's "mucking" in the first event. Responding to our clueless stares, she explains that "mucking" is what BJ will do and involves sticking an arm into the bucket of grapes and tickling the grapes away from the hole where the juice flows out. Nancy is dressed, like me, in old clothes. She's

I've been invited to stomp grapes and told to wear clothes I could throw away.

mucking for Nevada's attorney general, Frankie Sue Del Papa.

"I've been her mucker for years," Nancy says. Then she tells us to try for third place. First prize, she says, is a belt buckle apiece, second place a money clip. Third-place finishers win several bottles of good wine. Since we've left a turkey roasting in the oven, wine sounds like a good plan. Nancy lends BJ adhesive tape to wrap her fingers.

"You'll break a couple of nails anyway," Nancy says, "but the tape helps."

The politicians are in their tubs, the

muckers aligned on the platform shelf below, and they're off! The heat is three minutes of all-out tromping with the feet—no hands. Grape juice flies in the air. The stompers are purple from the waist down. The muckers are purple from the waist up, since the juice is landing on their heads, and each has a purple arm. The MC urges the contestants on. Suddenly, it's over, and the jugs of juice are taken away to be weighed.

I give BJ my bandanna to put over her hair and my plaid shirt to put over her white one. She tucks her boots into a safe-looking spot behind the platform. I take my place behind our tub and size up the competition. They all look about half my age.

"Third place," I think, but without much hope.

At the signal, I step into my tub. It's cold and slippery. I'm running in place as hard as I can, and BJ is leaning into the bucket pushing grapes out of the way so the juice can run out.

At the other end of the platform, the MC is calling out encouragement.

"Number 3 is really going strong. Oh, look at number 5, he's really going now. Come on, number 4, you're getting close."

Meanwhile, a young man with a baby in a stroller keeps yelling, "Look at number 8! Look at number 8!"

"That's us," BJ says, so I figure the young man must be a friend of hers.

"Keep going. A minute and a half to go. You're halfway there," the MC calls out.

Halfway? It feels as though I've been doing this for hours. Suddenly, I feel the elastic in my underpants give. Since I'm wearing shorts, they don't fall, but they feel odd and precarious. I share this information with BJ who says she really wishes I hadn't mentioned it. After a *very* long time, the MC says we have a half a minute more. Wondering whether I'll last that long without keeling over, I try to flatten as many more grapes as I can. Finally it's over.

I'm almost giddy with relief as I climb out of the bucket. A tall man who is, I'm told, a local radio personality steps up and places a few handfuls of smooshed grapes on my head. As he's fool enough to turn his back, I return the favor.

Down in the street, the stompers share a hose, cold water only, to rinse their

purple feet. I have bits of grape sticking to my legs and, thanks to the radio guy, on my hair, face, neck, and shoulders. I look for the hose and notice Mr. Radio in the street, stripped to his bikini underwear, showering in the cold spray from the hose. Why not? Keeping my clothes on, I join him in a vain attempt to sluice a few of the grape skins out of my hair. Standing in the shade, I'm thoroughly soaked in cold water, and my teeth are chattering so hard that I'm not sure I hear the announcer right. But BJ is jumping up and down, screaming, "We won! We won!"

We're told to come back after the last heat to collect our prizes. After buying a

The heat is three minutes of all-out tromping with the feet—no hands. Grape juice flies in the air.

couple of oversize T-shirts and equally large coffees to try to warm up, BJ and I stroll casually back to watch the last two stomping contests. We are both sure that there is something wrong with the number 8 barrel. Maybe the juice hole is too big. We're a little dubious about two 50-something women beating out a whole line of 20-somethings, whatever the judges say.

The politicians stomp through their second round. Number 8 loses. The Italians stomp. Number 8 loses again. We won! We really did it!

Forget the third-prize wine. BJ and I have shiny three-by-four-inch silver-and-gold belt buckles. The buckles sparkle in the sun, and they are a sure bet to impress the sawdust out of any rodeo-riding buckaroo who doesn't get close enough to read the words "Grape Stomping" emblazoned on the front. ▀

Barbara Wies of Carson City is a freelance writer and recipient of a 1999-2000 Nevada Arts Council fellowship. She enjoys wine made by other people. This year's Great Italian Festival takes place October 7-8 in downtown Reno. Call the Eldorado Hotel, 775-786-5700, for details on the weekend festival. The grape stomp is scheduled for both days.

It's a MU



Nevada's spas use mud, herbal wraps, and other magic to foster inner health and a good steam.

By Katherine McDonnell

Hidden on the quiet hallways of resort hotels, tucked far from the casino's clamor, there is a place where life's stresses are made to disappear. Instead of high-stakes baccarat, this place offers exotic herbal wraps. Instead of New York steak specials, it offers juices and health-oriented cuisine. Your bankroll's not clipped; your nails are. This place, so different and yet perfectly situated in a bustling Nevada hotel-casino, is the spa.

The spa offers more than good health, softer skin, and an appreciation for mud. As a personal trainer and frequent spa-goer, I have seen how a spa can add a

welcome balance to the gaming experience, offering an island of tranquillity amid the nonstop action.

Spas are part of Nevada resorts' trend toward luxury and extra services. High-end spas are opening or expanding in Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe in much the way resorts have expanded their restaurants and shopping malls. The cost to spa-goers varies (see the following "Guide to Nevada Spas"). Daily fees start at \$20, while spa packages range up to \$670 for three days of gratification.

Several factors drive this trend to indulge. One is the age-old search for the fountain of youth; healing centers have

existed at least since the Roman Empire. Our 21st-century pursuit is fueled by an aging population and greater disposable income.

Look around in a Nevada spa, and you'll notice the customers are predominantly women. Men tend to shy away from giving permission to pamper themselves. However, with the influx of treatments "just for men," the guys are coming around to what we women have known all along.

On a recent visit to the Canyon Ranch SpaClub at the Venetian in Las Vegas, I met Susan, a New Yorker who had received the full treatment. She jokingly told me, "I've been polished, buffed, wrapped, and

Spa attendant Renee Winner (above) finds juice and rejuvenation in the whirlpool at the Silver Legacy Spa in Reno.

rap!

kneaded. I'm not going to have any skin left." But she glowed.

Recently I surveyed a number of spas around the state, most of which are open to both guests and nonguests. Here are a few of those places—and their intriguing treatments—beginning in Las Vegas.

The healing power of water is embraced at **Aquae Sulis**, a posh new spa at the Regent Las Vegas in the Summerlin area of northwest Las Vegas Valley. The 40,000-square-foot spa offers panoramic views of Mount Charleston, an exercise area, an aerobics studio that looks onto the pool terrace and gardens, and an outdoor massage cabana.

Aquae Sulis, pronounced "ahk-way soo-lis," takes its name from the Roman town—now Bath, England—that was known as a healing center nearly 2,000 years ago. The name translates to "waters of the sun," according to spa director Mindy Terry, and water is central to many of the spa's therapies.

For example, the Aquae Sulis Ritual is a hydrotherapy circuit that echoes an ancient Roman bathing tradition. Beginning with cold and hot plunges, you are transported through six chambers of the outdoor therapy pool. Then you hit the steam



Do real men order facials? They do at many spas like the Dolphin Court (above) in Las Vegas.

Photo: Chris Leedham (middle)

room, the sauna, and a waterfall shower. The invigorating ritual ends with teas, water, fruit, or juice.

The largest spa in Las Vegas is the **Canyon Ranch SpaClub** at the Venetian on the Strip. Canyon Ranch also brings the most extensive menu of services of any Nevada day spa, with prices to match. The 65,000-square-foot, tobacco- and alcohol-free facility not only provides more than 120 services, from massages to skin care, but also offers nutrition counseling and exercise physiology. You can tackle a 40-foot rock-climbing wall or take classes in such trendy exercises as Spinning, an indoor cycling class, and cardio-kickboxing. Certified personal trainers are available. The aura of good health extends to the Canyon Ranch Cafe menu, where calories and fat and fiber grams are listed next to the prices.

Recently I made an appointment for an aromatherapy massage at Canyon Ranch. In the women's lounge I was greeted by a spa host, who handed me a robe and slip-



Canyon Ranch's Lulur King's Bath incorporates milk, yogurt, lulur powder, lotion, and massage oil.

pers and pointed to the showers, where I rinsed clean. Then I put on my robe and slippers and met the therapist in the waiting lounge. We adjourned to a private room. The therapist explained how I am drawn to certain aromas that relate to my emotions or concerns. He lifted several vials of pure essences to my nostrils, and I told him which ones I liked and disliked. As he massaged the blend of oils into my skin, the aromas seemed to be as soothing as the rubdown.

For \$210, "A Taste of Canyon Ranch" includes a Swedish massage, conditioning body scrub, and manicure. A day pass gives you access to fitness classes, a body composition, use of the fitness center, cold dip, steam room, whirlpool, and sauna.

Spa Mandalay, a 30,000-square-foot center at Mandalay Bay, is located on the hotel's beach level. A daily pass lets you take a eucalyptus steam or relax in a redwood-lined sauna. Robes, sandals, and ex-



Body treatments include mud and paraffin wax. Above, a seaweed session at Caesars Palace.

ercise wear are provided in addition to fruits, nuts, and beverages.

One of Spa Mandalay's island therapies is the Ala'Ea Salt Glo exfoliating body treatment. Exfoliation is a popular way to cleanse the skin while removing rough spots and cellular debris. Spa guests are buffed by hand with Pacific Island salt crystals and lathered with Ocean Breeze moisturizing "gelee." If you book a Volcanic Dust Mask, the therapist will apply mineral-rich exfoliating mud over your entire body.

The "Mandalay Day" package (\$289) gives you three-and-a-half hours of pampering with an Ala'Ea Salt Glo, herbal wrap with peppermint scalp treatments, Swedish massage, and facial.

You reach the **MGM Grand Spa** by strolling past the classic-movie posters on the hotel's Studio Walk. The spa's serene setting includes sculptures, soothing music, and running water. At the gym, T-

You can tackle a 40-foot climbing wall or take classes in cardio-kickboxing at Canyon Ranch.

shirts, shorts, robes, sandals, toiletries, and fruit juice are all provided.

Ready for a cocoon-like sensation? Try the parafango body treatment (\$125). As you lie on a table, the therapist covers you with a blend of Austrian mud and paraffin wax that produces a micro-sauna around

(Continued on page 81)

The Driven Doctor

For \$10 he won in a foot race, Roy Martin bought a medical practice in the brand-new railroad town of Las Vegas. **By K.J. Evans**

The young doctor stepped off the train that had deposited him in the desiccated tent town of Las Vegas. He was not impressed. It was August, and the temperature was past the century mark. Only three months before, in May 1905, the town had been created in the span of two days when the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad auctioned off town sites in what is now the core of downtown Las Vegas.

Dr. Royce Wood Martin, who went by "Roy," surveyed a cluster of wood-framed tents, one of which was a "hotel" where dust-covered men paid a dollar for the privilege of sleeping in a bed with a stranger.

Martin drove his car on a dusty, rutted cowpath and beat the train to Las Vegas.

"There was only one train a day then, and it left at night," Martin recalled in later years. "I was going to take it that same night." His destination was the Bullfrog Mining District and the town of Rhyolite.

To kill time, Martin strolled the bustling streets of Las Vegas, stopping to talk to the locals, who were unanimous in their denunciation of the Bullfrog District as a "has-been" place and in their confidence about their own fledgling community. At one point, Martin met another physician, quite disenchanted with Las Vegas, who offered to sell him his entire practice, with equipment, for \$10, the cost of a railroad ticket to Los Angeles.

Martin didn't have a spare sawbuck. To raise it, he asked around until he had located the town's fastest runner and challenged him to a foot race. The purse was \$10. Martin, a sprinter in his college days,

won the race, collected the money, paid off the doctor, and decided that Las Vegas might be a good place to stop for a while. He stayed 38 years.

Martin was born November 16, 1874, at Table Rock, Nebraska, the eldest of five children. He earned his M.D. in 1903 at the University Medical College in Kansas City, Missouri. Martin married his high-school sweetheart, Nellie Cotton, and for a wedding gift gave her a grand piano, which is now owned by his granddaughter, Julie Jones of Las Vegas. The couple subsequently had two daughters, Frances and Mazie. The family home, situated on the southwest corner of Fifth and Fremont streets, was a concrete block structure described by *Las Vegas Age* Editor C.P. "Pop" Squires as being "of Japanese design."

The town was crude, some of its inhabitants cruder still, but it was infused with the optimism that characterizes most boom towns, and seemed to hold promise for an entrepreneurial young doctor. Martin hung his first shingle on an eight-foot by 10-foot framed tent at Stewart Avenue and Third Street. Four months after his arrival, he was appointed chief surgeon for the Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad, a position he held for nearly 12 years. The railroad provided him a second hospital—another tent. But it had 10 cots and, according to his daughter, Mazie Martin Jones,

a "makeshift operating room where only minor surgery was done, except in emergency cases." His counterpart was Dr. Halle Hewetson, the surgeon for the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad. The two doctors often assisted and relieved each other.

According to Squires, neither surgeon did much cutting in his tent hospital, particularly in summer when oppressive heat made it too risky for the patient. The standard procedure was to stabilize patients and put them on the train to Los Angeles. If surgery was essential, the operation would be performed at 4 a.m., the coolest time of day.

Martin made house calls. He also made calls to the mining camp at Goodsprings and to more remote



workings, to the brothels of Block 16, and to the Paiute colony. "He would answer any call for help from anyone, anywhere, any-time," said Frances Donnelly, his eldest daughter. "He paid a lot of attention to the minorities in this town; at his funeral, people of all colors came to pay their respects."

Martin was a country doctor in a very large country, often as much a race-car driver as a physician. In what must have been a record for the time, he drove from Las Vegas 10 miles south to Arden, where a U.S. Gypsum worker had been injured in a rock fall. Martin gave the man first aid, then loaded him aboard the No. 4 train to Las Vegas. The train

One of his first patients was night watchman Joe Mulholland. He and William McCarthy were drinking at Arthur Frye's saloon on First Street when a quarrel erupted over ownership of a ring. McCarthy settled it by drawing a pistol and giving Mulholland a hot lead injection. Martin couldn't help, and the watchman died.

In June 1906, Martin moved his hospital to a downtown building. It was a great improvement with a dozen beds, a private room, and a pharmacy. Over the years Martin and other Las Vegas physicians improved their quarters. In 1917 he built a hospital on Second Street that had 12 beds and a second-story balcony that wrapped around the entire structure, providing patients with a

art, 35-bed facility. It had laboratories, a maternity ward, an X-ray machine, five treatment rooms, a tilting operating table, and an advanced lighting system in the operating room. Martin sold his interest in the hospital in 1937, planning to retire. But, according to daughter Mazie Martin Jones, he was stuck with more than \$80,000 in debts he couldn't collect. Even so, he joined his earlier hospital on Second Street with a house he owned next door to create the El Patio Motel, which he operated until 1941.

Martin was a Republican and was elected to the Clark County Republican Committee in 1910 and 1924. He later was a delegate to the 1928 national convention that nominated Herbert Hoover for president.

In 1923, Martin was elected to the state assembly. One of his assignments was the committee on roads and highways. Having suffered the bumps, bruises, and breakdowns inflicted by the state's primitive roads, Martin was a vociferous advocate of improving them. He was especially keen on linking Las Vegas with Yerington; the only decent road sent travelers through California. He also wanted to improve on the road to Los Angeles, which ran down through Searchlight, then to Needles and Barstow. The road advocated by Martin was more direct. Highway 91 and, later, Interstate 15 both followed his proposed route.

Late 1926 found Martin in Reno, where he purchased a new Cadillac. He convinced his friend, former Governor James Scrugham, to ride with him to Las Vegas in order to inspect the road between the two towns. It was a grueling journey, climaxing



Martin (opposite, in the 1920s) ran a railroad tent hospital, like this Las Vegas structure, in 1905.

slid along on smooth steel rails, while Martin bounded along on a dusty, rutted cowpath—and beat the train to Las Vegas. In 1927, he drove to Baker, California, a distance of more than 90 miles—on a road that was mostly sand, rocks, and misfortune—in less than two hours.

Sometimes the problem was the patient, not the terrain. Once Martin was summoned to a home where a screaming wife in labor had sent her husband into hysterics. The husband threatened Martin with violence if he did not alleviate his wife's pain. Asked in later years how he handled the situation, Martin offered a simple explanation. "I knocked him out," he said. Mother, baby, and dad all recovered nicely.

To maintain the stamina needed to keep up the pace he set for himself, Martin adhered to a rigorous diet, avoiding fatty foods and eating plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables. His one vice, said Donnelly, was unfiltered Lucky Strike cigarettes. Sadly, that habit may have contributed to his eventual demise.

Aside from the inevitable mining accidents, most of Martin's business was provided by the gun, the knife, and the stork.

place to take the cool evening breezes. In 1931, Drs. Martin, F.M. Ferguson, and R.D. Balcum formed the Las Vegas Hospital Association, with the intention of building a first-rate facility. They agreed that Martin would build the structure and the other doctors would furnish and supply it. Their new Las Vegas Hospital was a state-of-the-



The doctor greets fellow Las Vegas Alta Ham during the local filming of *Water*, a 1929 Western movie.



Martin moved his hospital from a tent to this bay-windowed brick building on Fremont Street.

when Martin lost control of the car north of Las Vegas and it overturned. Neither man was hurt, but Scrugham was so exhausted that Martin checked him into the hospital for a week.

It wasn't Martin's first motoring mishap. The worst incident involved his family. "He was a busy, energetic man," recalls Donnelly, "and he was preoccupied with

The rescuers raced to aid the doctor's stranded family, nearly dead from thirst.

one thing or another most of the time. But on Sundays, he made time for his family." Usually this came in the form of a family outing.

In July 1918, Martin, his family, and the daughter of a fellow Las Vegas physician set out in an open Franklin motorcar to visit friends in Pioche. The party arrived at Hiko, stayed the night at a ranch, and asked for directions to Pioche. They were directed to a shortcut across the mountains to Caliente. Martin drove the rocky, rutted roads for 84 miles before conceding that he was lost, and turned back toward Hiko. The gasoline gave out 75 miles from there. Provisions consisted of a quart of water, a can of beans, and a few graham crackers.

"We opened the can of beans with a nail file," said Donnelly. A small cloudburst appeared, and the women hurried to rig funnels to collect the rain, finally resorting to licking the moisture off the car. Meanwhile, Martin began the hike to Hiko. It

was a nightmarish ordeal. He hallucinated springs of fresh water gushing across the road. At one point, he turned himself around, following his own tracks and marveling that some fool had been hiking in this barren wilderness. He drank water from cow tracks and, after 28 hours, he reached John Wright's ranch at Hiko. They immediately cranked up Wright's Model T and raced to aid the doctor's stranded family, nearly dead from thirst.

"My first memory was someone shoving ginger snaps down my throat with milk," said Donnelly. "It was a long time before I could eat ginger snaps again." At the insistence of the girls, the Martins continued on their trip to Pioche. "He had promised us," said Donnelly, "and when he made a promise, he kept it."

Even after the near calamity, Martin remained an inveterate desert explorer and became something of an expert on extracting vehicles from the inevitable sand traps. His skill came in handy in 1935, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in Nevada to dedicate Hoover Dam, decided to visit the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp at Harris Springs, adjacent to Martin's property on Mount Charleston. The road was narrow, the presidential entourage was long, and FDR found himself stranded in his car on a steep road with no place to turn around. "The newspaper stories of the time tell about the president being delayed," said Donnelly. "But they don't say that it was Dr. Martin who got them out of the situation and back on the road."

But Martin is perhaps best remembered by old-timers for his contribution to the rescue of the Prettyman party in 1937. In December of that year, Lee Prettyman, his

wife, their cook, two friends, two cats, and a dog set out in a new Packard sedan to inspect the Groom Mine, owned by Prettyman and located near present-day Rachel. It was a hard winter, and the group was soon stranded in deep snow near the mine. Lee Prettyman walked to civilization and organized a rescue. By midweek, it was learned that one of the men had attempted to walk out and had died of exposure on the shore of Groom Lake. Concern soon shifted to the 20-member rescue party, which included Martin. It was making slow progress toward the stranded group, which was living off canned corned beef and snow. Ultimately the rescue succeeded, with Martin providing first aid to survivors who were more dead than alive. So dramatic was the misadventure that the following year, the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) produced a radio drama about it.

Martin came out of retirement in 1942, at the onset of World War II, because of the shortage of civilian doctors. He practiced at Basic Hospital in Henderson until December 27, 1943, when he died after suffering two heart attacks in close succession.

Of Martin, Squires wrote: "I think it probable that no citizen of Las Vegas during all those long, lean, and disappointing years had such supreme faith in the high destiny of Las Vegas, or sacrificed so much of himself in the effort to bring that destiny to fruition." ▀

K.J. Evans, who died last year, was a writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and a frequent Nevada contributor. His story on Dr. Roy Martin, which first appeared in the Las Vegas Review-Journal as one of a series of millennium-related features, is excerpted from The First 100: Portraits of the Men and Women Who Shaped Las Vegas, edited by A.D. Hopkins and K.J. Evans and published by Huntington Press of Las Vegas. The First 100 (\$34.95), which includes many photographs on 272 large-format pages, is available at Nevada bookstores or directly from the publisher, 800-244-2224 or www.greatstuff4gamblers.com.



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Millennium Countdown

CALENDAR

October 2000 - January 2001

of Nevada Events & Shows



Dawn's Early Light

This fall hot-air balloons lift off at the Great Reno Balloon Race (above), September 8-10, and the Las Vegas Balloon Classic, October 20-22.

Center Photo: Carolyn Fox Background: Jay Aldrich

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*2000 Casino Player readers poll

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Rising With the Dawn Patrol

During a single September day we arose with the balloons in Reno, caroused with the camels in Virginia City, and raced a train while searching for the perfect photo.

Story and Photos by Carolyn Fox

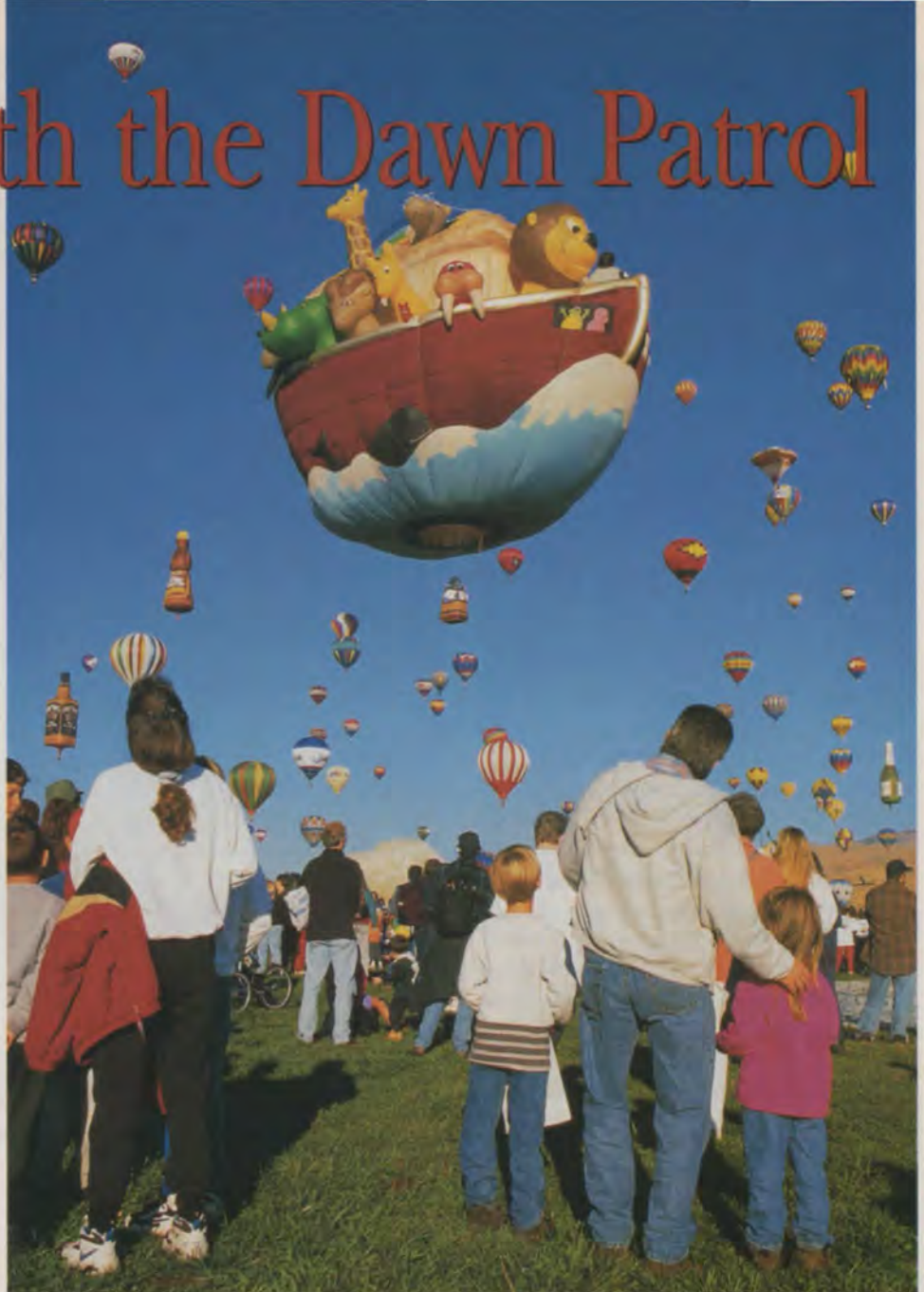
Last year I fretted for months before the weekend of the Great Reno Balloon Race and the Virginia City International Camel Races. The reason? I'm deathly afraid of waking up early—so afraid, in fact, that I can't sleep, knowing I have to get up before the sun rises.

My anxiety was compounded by the fact that Larry and I planned to photograph both events in a single day. The balloon and camel races, two of the Reno area's biggest spectator events, take place on the same weekend in September, a week after Labor Day. We would attend the two events on Sunday. We also planned to photograph the Virginia and Truckee train after the camel races. Driving between the two events would be easy—it's only 25 miles up the mountain from Reno to Virginia City—and Larry and I were used to shooting on a tight schedule. Still, I wondered, am I ready for 24 hours of balloons, camels, and trains, all starting before dawn?

But there I was, preparing to retire in our Carson City motel room on the night before the big day. I set the alarm for 3:45 a.m. and draped my clothes over the chair. I got my film organized: 100 speed in one camera, 200 in the other. It was too warm, so I opened the window. Then I lay on top of the sheets listening to people arrive—lucky people who would soon be fast asleep.

I dreamed we missed the balloon race. Then I dreamed we missed the camel race, the ostrich race, and the water buffalo race in Virginia City. When the Virginia and Truckee steam locomotive entered the tunnel, the sound of the whistle became the sound of the alarm clock ringing me awake.

Soon Larry and I were driving north to Reno in pitch blackness. Finding the neighborhood west of the university, we



Spectators raise their gazes as hot-air balloons drift skyward in September's Great Reno Balloon Race.

parked in the Rotary Club lot, from where we could see several hot-air balloons already bulging with light across the ravine at Rancho San Rafael Park. We were drawn down the hill with the crowd. Some people carried folding chairs. Some were wearing sleeping bags. Most had kids in tow. A balloon shaped like an Early Times bottle had already inflated, glowed, and deflated. It was 5 a.m.

Slipping and sliding on the wet lawn, we took our stations west of the six balloons licensed for dawn patrol, the morning display of brightly lit balloons. The dawn-patrol pilots tried for a simultaneous glow. When five lit up at once, they looked like giant stained-glass light bulbs. As each pilot was introduced, he or she responded with a quick burst of light. The six balloons ascended one by one, floating rather

quickly to the west and away from the three-quarter moon that still hung in the sky. Five of the lighter-than-air crafts stayed in a cluster while one drifted north. The announcer told the crowd the flashes from all the cameras wouldn't help get better photos, but the pilots sure enjoyed seeing the ground light up beneath them.

After the dawn patrol faded from sight, there was a lot of milling about. As we were ooling and aching over a little trailer a pilot had made from government surplus in Fallon, we spotted the head of a bald eagle rising. The announcer told us the eagle would play the fox in the fox-and-hound chase. Next to the eagle was a traditionally shaped balloon that was red, white, and blue. Both balloons were plumping up.

Suddenly I heard a yell. Next to me, a man had been holding a rope to control

the opening in the top of the red, white, and blue balloon. He yelled just before he went tumbling, hanging on to the rope for dear life. I was witnessing the fact that when a balloon fills with hot air and begins to stand upright, it can take off if not weighted or tied down. Acting as a human anchor, the man was finally able to steady himself and the balloon.

The first strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner" played while the dawn's early light lit the two balloons. What should I do? Be an obnoxious paparazzi and keep shooting photos, or be patriotic and stand at attention with my hand over my heart? Worse luck. Here came the light for which every photographer would drink a quart of developer. Hoping people would understand, or that no one would notice, I simply alternated: camera on ground, hand over heart, camera up, click, camera down, hand over heart, up, down, click.

Many balloons began to rise. We saw a pink piggy bank with a deflated ear. The Early Times bottle made a comeback, popping erect and competing for space with a giant liter of José Cuervo. Beyond was the Burger King burger, the DiGiorno pizza with cheese and pepperoni, and the anatomically correct Dairymen's Association black-and-white cow. Like slow-flying particles during the Big Bang, most of the balloons were now drifting overhead.

This is nice, I thought. Maybe I should get up early more often. The thought evaporated when I realized I'd lost Larry's 72-millimeter lens filter somewhere in the mud. It was too late. It would be like searching for a small object after a stampede. So I watched the polar-bear balloon team give tethered rides for charity. The polar bear cast a huge shadow as people



Riding the Virginia and Truckee from Virginia City to Gold Hill recalls the spirit of the Comstock Lode.

climbed in and out of the wicker basket attached to the bear's tummy. Soon the other balloons were settling, some nearby on the hill.

Before I went looking for the filter in the muddy grass, I got directions to the lost-and-found. It was manned by a teenage girl. "You wouldn't have had a filter for a camera lens turned in, would you?" I asked in a depressed tone. She looked to her side and asked, "A 72-millimeter?" I kissed her hand.

As Larry and I eased our way out of the park, we noticed snow cones and kites and balloon souvenirs for sale. There was an inflated computer to jump on. Kodak had a fix-it booth. In the center area, little kids waited their turn at a climbing wall. If they

reached the top and rang a bell, a young woman would take a Polaroid to preserve their accomplishment. Most kids made it and then, like little pendulums, were lowered to their parents.

On the way to the camel races Larry and I each downed a quarter-pound hot dog and a large Gatorade at a 7-Eleven. By the time we arrived in Virginia City, we were so drowsy that we parked in the shade outside the radio museum to take a nap. Then we heard the train whistle. We couldn't sit still any longer.

It was time to chase the train. We drove southward, found a dirt road, tore around the bend, saw the tracks, set up our tripods, and waited. We were

September Race Weekend

The second weekend in September—the weekend after Labor Day—is busy around Nevada as local celebrations help stretch out the summer season. Several events take place in the Reno area on September 8-10. The **Great Reno Balloon Race** (775-826-1181) draws more than 100,000 spectators to Rancho San Rafael Park to watch pilots loft their crafts in one of the country's biggest ballooning events. At the same time, intrepid jockeys ride closer to the ground in the **Virginia City International Camel Races** (775-847-0311), which take place at the town's camel arena. While taking in Virginia City's

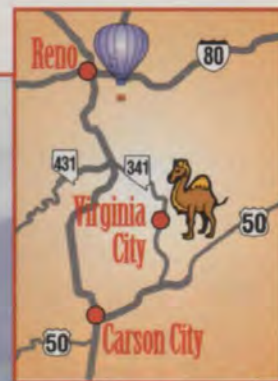
historic attractions, visitors can take a two-mile ride on the **Virginia and Truckee Railroad** (775-847-0380).

Other Reno-area events include the **Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration** (775-782-8144) in Minden, the **High Desert Jazz Festival** (775-883-1976) at the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City, and the **Nevada State Museum/Carson City Mint Coin Show** (775-687-4810 ext. 221), which features historical memorabilia and free appraisals at the state museum in Carson City.

In Southern Nevada, the **Boulder City Chautauqua** (702-294-4365) brings scholars on stage to portray famous historical figures

on September 8-9. Chautauqua-goers will find music, food, and crafts at the Bicentennial Park event.

Also, balloon fans in Southern Nevada can attend the **Las Vegas Balloon Classic** (702-434-9900, ext. 100) on October 20-22, when hot-air balloon events, a car show, and entertainment take place in Silver Bowl Park. For details on those and other events and celebrations, see the "Millennium Countdown Calendar" in this issue of Nevada Events and Shows.



standing above the bridge on the truck route—the perfect spot to take a photo because in this direction the engine would be pulling the cars rather than pushing them. Soon the train passed under us, its cars full of waving passengers who were having the time of their lives.

Back in town, we parked near the camel arena. Miss Camel Race appeared wearing a black strapless corset and riding a camel, accompanied by an entourage of rough-looking, shoot-'em-up gambler types. At the entrance we learned that for a total of \$25 we could gain VIP status. This meant all we could eat or drink. Maybe if we hadn't had those hot dogs.



Camel and ostrich jockeys, known for their strong grips, compete in the Virginia City Camel Races.

The show began. Master of ceremonies John Tyson, the cowboy TV reporter, straddled the center fence in his levis, speaking into a portable microphone. I'm unfamiliar with Nevada TV news, but I knew of John from a couple of his on-air essays for the ABC affiliate in Reno. One concerned his search in Nevada for a legendary chicken-fried steak that was as large as a toilet seat. Under an awning stood the other master of ceremonies, McAvoy Layne, the Mark Twain impersonator from Lake Tahoe. Twain worked as a newspaperman in Virginia City in the 1860s.

I crawled through the fence trying to get the perfect shot of the gunfighters and their gals shooting each other. Then the camels were paraded into the arena. Their saddles sported foam-rubber chunks secured by duct tape. Many of the camel jockeys were women. The women also rode ostriches that were so stubborn that a man on horseback had to chase them around the track (the birds, not the women). As sports announcer Keith Jackson was fond of saying, "They left

everything they had on the field." At least this year no one was carted off in the Virginia City ambulance.

The program included a couple of brief races by water buffaloes with rings in their noses (ouch!). The animals weren't able to negotiate the turn, so they ran from the west fence to the east fence. Next was an amazing demonstration of a very woolly American bison ridden by his trainer. To the crowd's applause, the trainer made the bison turn and bow deeply.

Larry disappeared while I photographed the winners receiving their trophies. I caught up with him at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. We talked to a couple

who had brought their kids to Virginia City for a day's outing.

"Oh, did you see the races?" I asked.

"What races?"

"Camels and balloons."

"Nope." Then the train whistle blew.

"If you hurry, you can catch the last train."

Off they went. It was odd having anyone actually take my advice. They got their tickets at the train car next to the tracks. They rode the rails to Gold Hill and back. We chased them and snapped away as they waved from the open-air passenger car.

That evening we celebrated our brief photo vacation at the Carson City Sizzler before heading home over the Sierra. In 24 hours we'd accomplished what we set out to do—follow the balloons, cruise with the camels, race the train in Virginia City, and take lots of photos. I knew I'd sleep soundly no matter what time the alarm clock went off. ♣

Carolyn Fox is a writer-photographer from Jackson, California.

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Millennium Countdown

CALENDAR

Nevada is holding a celebration for the millennium. Nevada has welcomed visitors and residents to months of festivities that extend to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Following is a statewide day-by-day guide to events. Dates are subject to change, so it is wise to confirm dates and times. Each event is color-coded to the Nevada Territory Map (below).

September 2000

- **Thru Oct 7 Valhalla Summer Arts Festival:** Concerts, performances, cultural events. Tahoe Tallac Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **1-3 Stargazing:** Telescopes provided. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **1-3 Crazy Keno Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 775-329-1880.
- **1-3 Carson Valley Bocce Bash:** Tournament at Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 625.
- **1-3 Red Star Powwow:** Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Reno, 775-425-0775.
- **1-3 and 8-10 "Peter Pan":** Broadway musical presented by the Brewery Arts Center. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.
- **1-4 Tri-County Fair and Stampede:** Rodeo, carnival, entertainment, exhibits, and vendors. Event includes the Western Art Roundup and Summer Art Festival. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **1-4 Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival:** Fallon, 775-423-2544.
- **1-4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, working cow horse competitions, team-branding contest, 4H livestock show and sale, home art exhibits, food booths, carnival, and dances. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.
- **1-4 Pioche Labor Day Celebration:** Mining events, parades, contests, booths, dancing, and arts and crafts. Pioche, 775-962-5544.
- **1-4 Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** A world-class event featuring the West's best rib cooks competing for fame and the crowd's acclaim. Also featured are nightly entertainment and an arts and crafts fair. Victorian Square and John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300.
- **2 Alpen Wine Fest at Plumpjack Squaw Valley Inn:** Wine tastings, hors d'oeuvres, and silent auction to benefit Jimmie Heuga Center. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **2 Railroad Day:** Train rides on the V&T, barbecue, and tours. Virginia City and Gold Hill, 775-847-7500.
- **2 "Oh, Nuts!":** Tips on gathering and cooking pine nuts. Cave Lake State Park, 15 miles south of Ely, 775-728-4460.
- **2 Eastern Nevada Mining History:** Slide program highlights more than 100 years of mining. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **2 Meet the Artist: Stephen Lucas:** Abstract, acrylic, and watercolor paintings. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.
- **2-3 Tri-Holiday Sweepstakes:** Legends racing.



- Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 775-885-2079.
- **2-3 Turkey Nationals:** Drag-strip racing. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.
- **2-3 Annual Corn Feed:** Potluck dinner, live music, and bingo. Proceeds go to community needs. Jarbidge, 775-488-2311
- **2-3 Ultra Lite Fly-In:** Air show, hot air balloon rides, Ultra Lite flights for the public. Yelland Air Field, Ely, 775-289-4687
- **2-4 Steam-Up:** Train rides. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.
- **2-4 Back County Camp:** Work session to help build the Tahoe Rim Trail. Lake Tahoe. Call for directions, 775-588-0686.
- **2-4 Lone Days:** Music by David John and the Comstock Cowboys, turkey shoot, horseshoes tournament, barbecue, pancake breakfasts. Ore House Saloon, Lone, 775-964-2003.

NEVADA'S 15-Month Celebration



Aerobatics and racing in four classes thrill spectators at the National Championship Air Races September 14-17 in Reno.

- **2-4 Off-Road Desert Challenge:** VORRA race. Fernley, 916-925-1702.
- **3 Sundae in the Park:** Silver Springs Golden Anniversary Reunion of 1950s and '60s "Founders." Penny Park on Donner Trail, Silver Springs, 775-577-2069.
- **3 History of Ward Charcoal Ovens:** Slide-illustrated talk. Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park, 19 miles (10 dirt) south of Ely, 775-728-4460.
- **3 Low-Impact Camping Tips and Techniques:** Bring a picnic lunch. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **3-5 Video Poker Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 775-329-1880.
- **4-6 Slot Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 702-739-2411
- **6, 13, 20 Young Brando Film Series:** Showcase of Marlon Brando's films including *Viva Zapata*, Sept. 6; *Julius Caesar*, Sept. 13; *On the Waterfront*, Sept. 20. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-4557340.
- **8-9 BULLNANZA:** Top 55 pro bull riders compete. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-595-RIDE.
- **8-9 Boulder City Chautauqua:** Scholars portray historical characters. Event includes arts and crafts, food booths, and musical entertainment. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-4365.
- **8-9 Carson Valley Inn Mixed Scramble Golf Tournament:** Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 625.
- **8-9 Under the Sea Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Laughlin, 702-298-5028.
- **8-10 Morrodders Gamble Run:** Car show features poker run, sock hop, parade, games, live music. Elko, 775-777-7896.
- **8-10 Fremont Street Music Experience:** Live entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

- **8-10 Pony Express 100 Car Race:** Highway race between Battle Mountain and Austin on S.R. 305. 775-635-8245.
- **8-10 ACTRA Team Roping:** Contestants from the Western states. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.
- **8-10 Virginia City International Camel Races:** Camel, ostrich, and water buffalo races, specialty acts, daily parades, and food. Camel Arena, Virginia City, 775-847-0311 or 775-329-7469.
- **8-10 Great Reno Balloon Race:** A top ballooning event that draws 120,000 people. The early morning rally has been voted as one of Northern Nevada's best events. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 775-826-1181
- **8-10 and 15-17 "California Suite":** Neil Simon's classic comedy. Elks Lodge, Reno, 329-0661
- **9 Race to the Angel:** Walkers, runners, and mountain bikers follow the 13.1-mile course that climbs 3,000 feet from downtown Wells to Angel Lake. Wells, 775-752-3540.
- **9 Antique and Collectible Sale:** Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-6097
- **9 Canoe Trip:** Park rangers lead a canoe trip on the Carson River from Fort Churchill to Lahontan Reservoir. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.
- **9 Gymkhana:** Caliente, 775-726-3203.
- **9 International Chili Cook-Off:** Ponderosa

- Ranch, Incline Village, 775-831-4440.
- **9 CasaVino Wine Tasting:** Fundraiser for Boys and Girls Club of America. CasaBlanca, Mesquite, 800-459-PLAY.
- **9 Moonlight Hike:** Ranger-led easy hike through spires and caves. Bring a picnic dinner. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **9 Big Band Dance:** Music of the '30s and '40s. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **9 Moonlight Concert:** Cajun band BeauSoleil with Michael Doucet. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8206.
- **9, 16, 23, and 30 Championship Points Races:** All classes. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 775-885-2079.
- **9-10 Hot Rod Event:** Car show of pre-1954 autos includes music, barbecue, parade. Miners Park, Virginia City, 775-265-7064.
- **9-10 Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration:** Annual arts and crafts fair features live entertainment and food booths. Downtown Minden, 775-324-6435 or 775-782-8144.
- **9-10 Nevada State Museum/Carson City Mint Coin Show:** More than 35 dealers from across the U.S. showcase coins, collectibles, historical papers, books, stamps, jewelry, and medals. There will be free appraisals and free admission. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810 ext. 221
- **9-11 Black Rock X1 and EX2 Rocket Launches:** High-altitude amateur rocketry invitational. Black Rock Desert, 775-623-1528.
- **9-11 Reunion Celebration:** Past and present resi-



The Invensys Classic at Las Vegas takes place October 11-15. Jim Furyk (above) has won the event, formerly the Las Vegas Invitational, three times.

- dents gather in Tonopah. 877-TONOPAH.
- **10 Las Patrias Festival:** Entertainment on three stages, fireworks, food, crafts. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 800-634-6133.
- **10 Sundae in the Park:** Art and food festival with locally produced quilts, crafts, foods, and art. Entertainment and free ice cream. Yerington, 775-463-1783.
- **10 Living History Program: Olive Lake:** Life of

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2000 EVENTS CALENDAR

Fallon Air Show, TBA

Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 12-14

Silver State Int'l Rodeo, June 30 - July 4

Stampede & Pioneer Days Pow Wow, July 14-16

Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 1-4

Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival
Sept. 29-Oct. 1



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Millennium Countdown Calendar

early Las Vegas school teacher and friend of the ranch's founder. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

- **10-12 Road to Riches Blackjack Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777
- **11-13 Twice as Nice Twin Stakes Slot Tournament:** Fremont, Las Vegas, 702-385-3232.
- **12-14 Show Me the Money:** Video poker tournament. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
- **13 Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Stone Temple Pilots:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 888-464-2468.

- **13-16 Queen of the Nile Slot Tournament:** Luxor, Las Vegas, 800-285-2844.

- **13-17 Summerlin Street Fair:** Arts and crafts, music, entertainers, demonstrations. Summerlin Community, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

- **14 Blue Moon Ball: Visions of Greece:** Refreshments and dance with DJ music. Sammy Davis Jr. Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-6601

- **14-17 Annual Pinenut Festival:** Traditional celebration giving thanks for the year's pinenut harvest. Schurz, 775-773-2306.

- **14-17 Bucks and Sense Slot Tournament:** Pioneer Hotel, Laughlin, 800-634-3469.

- **14-17 National Championship Air Races:** Four classes of racers—Unlimited, Formula One, AT-6, and Biplane—plus military displays and aerobatics. Reno, 775-972-6663.

- **14-18 Cool September Days:** Car show featuring vintage autos from 1927 to the '90s. Lake Tahoe Horizon, 800-322-7723.

- **15 Mexican Fiesta:** Entertainment and games. Free admission. Rafael Rivera Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4600.

- **15 Performing Arts Center's Best of the New York Stage:** Featuring Marvin Hamlisch. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787

- **15-16 Paradise Valley Beef Rib and Chili Cook-Off:** Paradise Valley, 35 miles north of Winnemucca via S.R. 290. 775-578-3301

- **15-17 Silver State Classic Challenge:** Ninety-mile open road car race against the clock on S.R. 318 from Lund to Hiko. Pre-race activities in Ely, 775-289-8877

- **15-17 Dayton Valley Days:** Country fair, rodeo, crafts, entertainment. Dayton, 775-246-3378.

- **15-17 Pahrump Harvest Festival:** PRCA rodeo, carnival, vendors, music, and parade on Sept. 16. Community Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

- **16 Pacific Crest Ultra Marathon:** 12K, 25K, and 50K races. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe,

530-583-6955 for further event information.

- **16 Horseback Endurance Ride:** Annual 100-mile ride in 25-mile loops around the hills of the Comstock mining town and scenic areas such as Washoe Lake, Virginia City, 775-847-0311

- **16 Buckland Station History Talk:** Rangers lead a discussion about the newly restored station. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

- **16 Watchable Wildlife:** Lecture contains tips on photography and wildlife-viewing hot spots. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

- **16 Hike-A-Thon:** Hike the Tahoe Rim Trail from Carson Pass to Luther Pass on Lake Tahoe's south shore. Fundraiser. Call for directions, 775-588-0686.

- **16 Debra Greschner Concert:** Vocal and classi-



Colorful powwows are planned this fall in Reno, Carson City, Owyhee, Elko, Pahrump, and at Pyramid Lake. Shown are dancers from the annual Father's Day Powwow at the Stewart Indian School in Carson City.

cal piano. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-658-6741

- **16 Meet the Artist: Kathy Cartier:** Large scale, mixed-media paintings. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

- **16-17 Ranch Hand Rodeo:** Saddle bronc riding, team roping, wild cow milking, team branding, ranch doctoring. No professional athletes, just working cowboys. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.

- **17 Mexican Independence Celebration:** Entertainment, exhibits, food, games, music. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-649-1198.

- **17 Performing Arts Center's The World Stage:** Featuring Ladysmith Black Mombazo. Artemus Ham

Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787 for information.

- **17 Living History Program: Gold Panning:** Demonstration of the historic art. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **17-18 Stash the Cash Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **17-19 Meadow Valley Days:** Poker run, horse-shoes, baseball, barbecue during annual celebration. Caliente, 775-726-3129.
- **17-20 Hawaiian Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **19-20 Viva Mexico Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Laughlin, 702-298-5028.
- **20 Arrangers' Holiday Concert:** Jazz composers and arrangers perform their favorite works. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.
- **20-Oct. 1 Snaffle Bit Futurity:** Horses and riders compete for more than \$700,000 in prize money. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5750 for more information.
- **21 Barrick Lecture Series:** Mark Russell appears. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **21-23 Taste of Vegas:** Food, music, art, cooking demonstrations. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-730-0300.
- **21-23 World of Speed:** Land speed time trials and record runs. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.
- **21-24 Wine and Roses Slot Tournament:** Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-739-2411
- **21-24 Las Vegas Street Fair:** International food festival, concerts, carnival rides, exhibits. Corner of



Street Vibrations, September 21-24, celebrates music and motorcycles in Reno with a parade and shows.

Valley View Blvd. and Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

- **21-24 San Gennaro Feast:** Italian food festival, music, vendors. Vacation Village, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.
- **21-24 Street Vibrations Music, Metal, and Motorcycles Festival:** Motorcycle tours, entertainment, ride-in shows, a parade, poker run/walk, vendors, and concerts. Various community locations, Reno, 775-329-SHOW or 800-200-4557

- **22 Members Choice Concert:** Nevada Opera artists from the 1999-2000 season perform. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.
- **22-23 Professional Bull Riders:** Competition for money and bragging rights. Special Events Site, Laughlin, 702-298-3022.
- **22-23 Flarumba:** Traditional and modern dance and music by a flamenco troupe. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.



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O N G O I N G

Nevada's museums, galleries, and other organizations hold long-running events throughout the year. Ongoing activities this fall range from a millennium exhibit at the Lost City Museum in Overton to the Tuesday night lecture series at the Gold Hill Hotel near Virginia City. It is always a good idea to confirm events using the information phone numbers listed.

Museums and Exhibits

Communicating America's Vision: The Nevada Bell Collection: Thru Sept. 3. Artists include Georgia O'Keefe, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, and William Wegman. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Silver Ladies in Golden Splendor: Thru Sept. 4. Exhibition of gowns worn by 10 of Nevada's first ladies, 1945-1999. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

LVMPD Art Exhibit: Thru Sept. 5. Arts and crafts by the staff of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police

Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-883-0259.

Nevada Camera Club Exhibit: Thru Oct. 1. First place winners from the annual slide competition. Whitney Library, Las Vegas, 702-454-4575.

The 1930s: Boom or Bust: Thru Oct. 2. Car exhibit. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Fairy Rings: Julia Latane: Thru Oct. 6. Large-scale vinyl fabric soft sculptures. Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6658.

History Channel Great Race: Thru Oct. 9. Exhibit of cars that have run in the race. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Minerals Go to War: Thru Oct. 29. Exhibit of World War II posters and wartime materials. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Roberts House Crafts Sale: First Sat. and Sun. of each month, thru Oct. Roberts House Park, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

Cliff Segerblom Retrospective: Thru Nov. 2. Black-and-white hand-treated photographs by the late Boulder City photographer. Laughlin Library, Laughlin, 702-298-1081

Pueblo Grande de Nevada: The Only City in Nevada a Millennium Ago: Thru Dec. 31. Exhibit highlights life of Pueblo people in Southern Nevada. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

A Show of Hands: Thru Dec. 30. Baskets of the Great Basin

Basketmakers and antique quilts. Opening day includes annual ice cream social and book signing. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190, ext. 0.

Night: Sept. 1-Oct. 20. Themed exhibit by eight Nevada artists. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

Neon: Sept. 1-Dec. 2. Exhibit showing the hand-blown glass forms. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4631

Hoodoo: Sept. 14-Nov. 19. Landscape exhibition by Megan Roberts and Raymond Ghirado. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4631.

Artouring: On Exhibit: Sept. 16-Nov. 12. Works by local artists who have opened their studios to public tours. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Dale Chihuly: 2000 on Site: Sept 16-Nov. 12.

Glass creations. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Communicating America's Vision: The Nevada Bell Collection: Sept. 18-Nov. 10. Artists include Georgia O'Keefe, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, and William Wegman. Marjorie Barrick Museum Gallery, UNLV, 702-895-3381

Sierra Plein-Air: Dan MacInnis: Sept. 21-Oct. 12. Landscape oil paintings of the Sierra. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-228-4274.

Native American Exhibit: Sept. 27-Nov. 28. Petroglyph artist Sharon Graf and photographer Mike McGraw. Summerlin Library, Las Vegas, 702-256-5111

Carmine Dell'aira: Sept. 27-Dec. 10. Paintings exhibited as part of Hispanic American Heritage Month. West Las Vegas Library, 702-647-2117

Busy Town: Sept. 30-Jan. 7. Interactive math and science exhibit for preschoolers based upon the books of Richard Scarry. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Portraits by Katya Dach: Oct. 2-Nov. 10. College Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-883-0259.

Sagebrush Studio: The Watercolors of R.G. Schofield: Oct. 6-Dec. 30. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Beyond Pottery With Linda Vinikow: Oct. 6-Nov. 3. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

Exhibit Handed Down: Nevada's Living Folk Arts: Oct. 7-April 30. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Artist Gene Speck: Oct. 15-Dec. 22. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

Las Vegas History of Entertainment IV: Nov. 4-April 1 2001. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Great Nevada Picture Hunt: Nov. 13-Dec. 22. Nevada Magazine's "Great Nevada Picture Hunt" 2000 Photo Contest winners. College Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-883-0259.

Image as Object: Photography and Sculpture Connect: Nov. 16-Dec. 15. Photographs are combined with fabricated or found objects to create artworks. Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6658.

Hot Art, Cold War: Nov. 17-Feb. 16. Russian nonconformist retrospective. Marjorie Barrick Museum Gallery, Las Vegas, 702-895-3381

Wild Women Take Off: Nov. 18-26. Works by Northern Nevada artists. Nevada State Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Sheppard Family: A Legacy in Art: Dec. 2-Feb. 4. Works by Craig, Yolanda, and Sophie Sheppard. Nevada State Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.



A retrospective of Cliff Segerblom's black-and-white hand-treated photographs will be shown through November 2 at the Laughlin Library. The late Boulder City resident was nationally recognized as both an artist and photographer. The show includes this unusual photo of Hoover Dam, with its outlets wide open, that he took while working for the Bureau of Reclamation in 1941.

Department. West Charleston Library, Las Vegas, 702-878-6382.

Red, Hot, and Blue: A Salute to American Musicals: Thru Sept. 10. Photographs, movie posters, and a sampling of great musicals. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

Nevada Camera Club Exhibition Juried 2000: Thru Sept. 10. West Las Vegas Library, 702-647-2117

Three California Painters: Bankuti, Doty, and Tannen: Thru Sept. 17. Works range from realism to abstract. Las Vegas Art Museum, 702-360-8000.

Poetry in Motion: Thru Sept. 19. Photography and poetry by Carol Beinhorn and Frank Vivert. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-733-7810.

The State of the Art: Printmaking: Thru Sept. 29. Virginia City artist Edw Martinez and prints from the 50 States Project. College Gallery,

E V E N T S



The Wolf Pack football team of the University of Nevada in Reno (above) meets its intrastate rival, the Rebels of UNLV, on October 7 in Las Vegas.

Nevada 2001: A Photography Odyssey: Jan. 19-June 15. Pioneer photographers including James H. Crockwell, Al Smith, E.W. Smith, P.E. Larson, and "Northeast" Johnson. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Lectures

Tuesday Night Lectures: Ed Murkovich, "Virginia City and the Way It Really Was," Sept. 19; McAvoy Layne presents "Mark Twain and a Conversation with Queen Elizabeth," Sept. 26; Phil Earl, "Mark Twain: A Complete Life," Oct. 3; Peter Kelley, "Early Days in Eureka: My Life in Nevada," Oct. 10; Norman Lee Hoggatt, "On the Trail of Wyatt Earp," Oct. 17; Susan James, "Life and Times of Julia Bulette," Oct. 24; Sam Macaluso, "Kids of Nevada," Nov. 7; Stan Paher, "Northern Nevada Mining and Railroad Towns," Nov. 14. Gold Hill Hotel, Gold Hill, 775-847-0111

Sporting Events

College and professional sporting events take place in Las Vegas and Reno throughout the year. Following are ongoing races as well as games and matches scheduled this fall, including those of the UNLV Rebels, University of Nevada Wolf Pack, and Las Vegas Stars triple-A baseball team.

Stock Car Racing: Thru Sept. Mini, pro, hobby, modified, dwarfs, and cruiser classes. Summit Raceway, Elko, 775-738-5641

Drag Racing: Weekends thru Nov. 19. Las Vegas

Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

Las Vegas Stars Baseball: The San Diego Padres' triple-A team plays Sept. 1-3 v. Sacramento. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

UNLV Men's Soccer: The Rebels play Sept. 1 v. Ohio State, Sept. 3 v. Notre Dame, Sept. 10 v. Grand Canyon, Sept. 22 v. Cal Poly, Sept. 29 v. Drury, Oct. 1 v. Louisville, Oct. 6 v. UC Santa Barbara, Oct. 8 v. Cal State Northridge, Peter Johann Memorial Field, Las Vegas, 702-895-3207

U of N, Reno Soccer: The Wolf Pack plays Sept. 3 v. Fresno State, Sept. 8 v. Southern Nevada Community College, Sept. 11 v. Western Baptist, Oct. 1 v. San Jose State, Oct. 5 v. Portland State, Oct. 19 v. SMU, Oct. 22 v. TCU, Oct. 29 v. Pacific. Location TBD, Reno, 775-784-6900.

UNLV Women's Soccer: The Lady Rebels play Sept. 7 v. Idaho, Sept. 11 v. Bowling Green, Sept. 23 v. San Francisco, Oct. 6 v. Wyoming, Oct. 8 v. Air Force, Oct. 18 v. New Mexico, Oct. 27 v. Western Michigan. Peter Johann Memorial Field, Las Vegas, 702-895-3207 for further information.

UNLV Volleyball: The Rebels play Sept. 8 v. Alabama and Idaho State, Sept. 9 v. Boise State and San Jose State, Sept. 28 v. New Mexico, Oct. 7 v. San Diego State, Oct. 20 v. Utah, Oct. 21 v. BYU. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

U of N, Reno Football: The Wolf Pack plays Sept. 9 v. TCU, Sept. 30 v. Colorado State, Oct. 21 v. San Jose State, Nov. 4 v. UTEP, Nov. 18 v. Rice. Mackay Stadium, Reno, 775-784-6900.

UNLV Football: The Rebels play Sept. 16 v. North Texas, Sept. 30 v. Air Force, Oct. 7 v. U of N, Reno, Oct. 21 v. Wyoming, Nov. 11 v. New Mexico. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

Third Annual Las Vegas Triple-A World Series: Sept. 18-22. Winner of the Pacific Coast League v. the winner of the International League. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200 for further information.

U of N, Reno Volleyball: The Wolf Pack plays Sept. 21 v. Rice, Oct. 5 v. Texas Christian, Oct. 7 v. Southern Methodist, Oct. 11 v. Tulsa, Oct. 14 v. Hawaii, Oct. 17 v. Sacramento State, Nov. 2 v. Fresno State, Nov. 4 v. San Jose State, Nov. 20 v. Texas-El Paso. Old Gym, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6900.

Farmer's Markets

Several Nevada towns host farmer's markets every week during their region's growing season. The markets offer fruits, vegetables, entertainment, and crafts in the open air.

Carson Outdoor Farmer's Market: Wednesday evenings thru Sept. 13. Produce, flowers, crafts, and entertainment. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Incline Farmer's Market: Thru Sept. 29 from 2:30-7:30pm every Friday. Ponderosa Ranch, Incline Village, 775-831-4440.

Fallon Farmer's Market: Thru Sept. from 4-8pm Tuesdays. Fresh fruit and vegetables, games and craft booths, food and entertainment. Downtown Fallon, 775-423-4556.

Gardnerville Farmer's Market: Thru Oct. weather permitting, Wednesdays 8am-1pm. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 782-9828.

Boulder City Farmer's Market: Thursdays 9am-1pm, on Colorado St. behind City Hall, 702-293-5933.

Las Vegas Farmer's Markets: Sundays at Village Square at Peccole Ranch, Tuesdays at Children's Memorial Park, and Wednesdays at Bruce Trent Park. Las Vegas, 702-683-GROW.

And the Maze...

The Nevada Maze: Thru Oct. 31. Walk more than a mile of twisting and puzzling trails in a cornfield. Moonlight Mazes scheduled Sept. 1-2,



Despite the state's desert topography, Nevada growers offer fresh produce at several farmer's markets. One of the first to open each year is the Sparks Farmer's Market (above), which runs from June to August.

15-16, Oct. 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28. Farm has an old-fashioned roadside produce stand, antique tour, picnic area, volleyball, and horseshoes. In October, pick your own pumpkins. Special events include Pumpkin Tower Lighting Ceremony and Giant Pumpkin Contest on Oct. 14, and Scarecrow Factories on Oct. 14 and 21 Lattin Farms, Fallon, 775-867-3750.

- **22-24 Civil War Reenactment:** Pioneer Park, Winnemucca, 775-623-5704.
- **22-24 Gold Coast SNORE 250:** Off-road race. Las Vegas, 702-452-4522.
- **22-24 Cribbage Tournament:** Convention Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **22-24 Annual Nevada Shakespeare in the Park:** Outdoor presentation of plays by the Bard. Henderson, 702-565-2367
- **22-24 Taste of Vegas:** Food and music. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-730-0300.
- **23 MX Race:** Mesquite Raceway, Mesquite, 800-621-0187
- **23 Dash for Cash:** Gymkhana. Caliente, 775-726-3203.
- **23 Starving Artists Sale:** Nothing over \$100. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 775-329-1324.
- **23 Horseback Tours:** Rangers lead a tour of Carson River ranches. Fort Churchill Historic State Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.
- **23 \$15,000 Turkey Nationals Big Bucks Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.
- **23 Memory Walk/Run:** Three-mile walk and 8K run to benefit the Alzheimer's Association of Northern Nevada. Caughlin Ranch, Reno, 775-786-8061
- **23 Reno Chamber Orchestra:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **23 Las Vegas Philharmonic:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **23 NASCAR Featherlite Southwest Series:** Race on 1.5-mile superspeedway. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.
- **23 MSRA Pro Four Series:** Second over the line wins on 3/8-mile paved oval. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 704-644-4444.

- **23 Cowboy Poets and Songwriters:** Richard Elloyan and Brenn Hill perform. Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-1614.
- **23 Nuts About Pines:** Information on pine nuts and local gathering spots. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **23-24 Pacific Islands Festival:** Entertainment, food, crafts, demonstrations. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.



Richard Elloyan (above) and Brenn Hill perform September 23 in Lovelock.

- **23-24 Pioneer Park Encampment:**

- Confederate and Union camps, battle reenactments, grand ball, church services. Pioneer Park, Winnemucca, 775-623-5704.
- **23-24, 29-30 "A Midsummer Night's Dream":** Shakespeare's classic play presented at Piper's Opera House. Virginia City, 775-847-0433.
 - **23-24 Genoa Candy Dance:** 80th annual arts and crafts fair featuring more than 300 fine arts and crafts booths. Dinner and dance held on Saturday night. Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.
 - **23-24 High Desert Classic Softball Tournament:** Coed softball tournament. Event held at Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

- **23-24 Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races:**

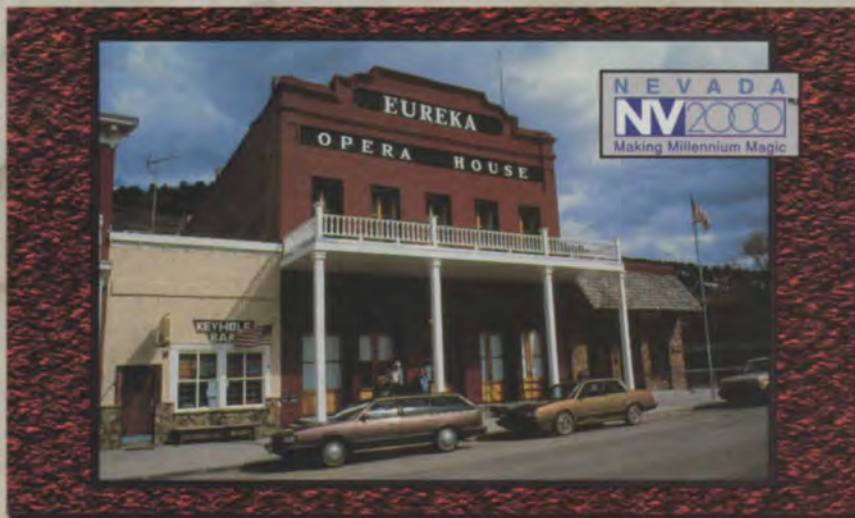
- International Short Course Championship, Yucca Street Rail Yard, Boulder City, 702-595-7223.
- **23-25 Dolly's Birthday Bash:** Blackjack tournament. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
 - **24 Mountain Run II:** Event includes 10K run and four-mile fitness walk on a high mountain loop course following dirt roads and trails from Roller Pass and the Pacific Crest Trail. Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.
 - **24 Stew-Do:** Stew-cooking contest, food, arts and crafts, and a classic car show. Penny Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-3424.
 - **24 Fall Harvest Walk:** Edible and useful plants

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at the visitor center. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **24 Astronomy in the Best Dark Skies:** Slide presentation and viewing at one of America's best remaining dark skies for recreational astronomy. Visitor Center Auditorium, Great Basin National Park, Baker, 775-234-7270.

• **24-30 America's Loneliest Bike Tour:** Annual camping-style ride across Nevada on U.S. 50 from Lake Tahoe to Great Basin National Park. Call 775-588-9658.

• **25-29 John Ascuaga's Nugget Amateur Open:** Golf tournament will be held on five area courses. Top finishers will play ArrowCreek Legend Course on final day. Entry fees include five-day, four-night packages. John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-648-1177

• **26 Tonopah: A Historical Overview, 1900-1940:** Lecture by historian Guy Louis Rocha.

Major Sports Nights

This fall sports fans can attend preseason NHL and NBA games in Las Vegas. On September 20 the Los Angeles Kings take the ice against the Colorado Avalanche at the MGM Grand. On October 23 the Los Angeles Lakers and Sacramento Kings hoop it up at UNLV's Thomas and Mack Center.

Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

• **26-28 Show Me the Money:** Slot tournament. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

• **28-30 Blues and Brews:** Outdoor blues festival.

Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-47-RIVER.

• **28-Oct. 1 Wings Over the Valley:** Hunting festival, dog trials, bird carving show, auction, food, concert. Convention Center, Fallon, 800-874-0903.

• **28-Oct. 1 Roddin' on the River:** Ninth annual classic and custom car event. Riverside Resort, Laughlin, 800-452-8445, option 4.

• **29 Slot Tournament:** Club Cal-Neva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.

• **29-30 Mexico Vivo Dance Company:** Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **29-30 "Threepenny Opera":** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **29-Oct. 1 Desert Oasis Music Festival:** Music, food, crafts, workshops, pancake breakfast. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-7733.

• **29-Oct. 1 Craps Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 702-739-2411

• **29-Oct. 1 World Championship Chili Cook-Off:** Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **29-Oct. 1 Crazy Reels Slots Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 775-329-1880.

• **29-Oct. 1 Annual Tahoe Donner International Wheelchair Tennis Sectional Championship:** More than 80 players are expected for 14th annual event. Tahoe Donner Tennis Club, Truckee, 530-587-2108.

• **30 Riders in the Sky:** Country-western performers present a concert, including their music from the soundtrack of *Toy Story II*. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8242.

• **30 Great Basin Book Festival:** Authors and readers conduct readings, panels, and book signings. Themes include World War II, Native American literature, Nevada architecture, and women and the

West. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-784-6587

• **30 Frozen Fury IV:** NHL preseason exhibition game between the Los Angeles Kings and Colorado Avalanche. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.

• **30 Ruins Tour:** Ranger-led tour of Fort Churchill.

History Lives

Visitors to Las Vegas can discover what a 33.6-karat diamond ring and an old-time radio program have in common at the living-history programs presented at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park. Located 15 miles west of Las Vegas, the ranch has had several unusual owners, including Vera Krupp and Lum of the Lum and Abner comedy team.

Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **30 Miss Kitty's Jeans to Jewels:** Western hoe-down, food, silent auction to benefit Opportunity Village. J.W. Ranch, Las Vegas, 702-259-3741

• **30 Mud Racing:** Side-by-side competition. Mesquite Raceway, 702-346-3766.

• **30 "Cinderella":** Play performed by Missoula Children's Theatre. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6040.

• **30 Wurstfest:** Bratwurst, beer, music, and live auction. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-1008.

• **30-Oct. 1 Cyclists Back Country Camp:** Max Jones, member of the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame, leads a work session on the Tahoe Rim Trail, Lake

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Tahoe. Call for directions, 775-588-0686.

• **30-Oct. 1 Yerington Airport Fly-In:** Poker run, war bird display, static displays. Municipal Airport, Yerington, 775-463-3511

October 2000

• **Thru 7 Valhalla Summer Arts Festival:** Concerts, performances, cultural events. Tahoe Tallac Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **4 Argenta Quartet:** Concert. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6145.

• **5 Lulu Lifetree Trio:** Cindy Pearson leads musicians playing original jazz, blues, swing, and contemporary music. Center Club Showroom, Ramada Inn, Lovelock. 775-273-2082.

• **5 Taste for Travel:** Fundraiser features creative desserts prepared by area chefs. Reno Hilton, 775-829-CARE.

• **5 Mark Elf:** Jazz guitarist in concert. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **6-8 Las Vegas Super Run 2000:** Open to all classic vehicles. Welcoming party, poker walks and runs, slow drags, burn-out competition, cruises. Las Vegas, 702-739-0045.

• **6-8 Pahrump Fat Tire Festival:** Mountain-bike cross-country race, hill climb, night rides, poker run, and tours for beginners and advanced. Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

• **6 Back Roads Nevada Barbershop:** Performance by the Valley of Fire Chorus of Sweet Adelines. Pahrump Valley Winery, Pahrump, 775-727-6900.

• **6 and 28 "The Usual Suspects":** Comedy featuring Finley Bolton, Rick Ginn, and Jeff Granstrom. Performing Arts Center, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-LIVE.

• **6-7 "A Midsummer Night's Dream":** Shakespeare is presented among the ghosts of the famous Comstock playhouse. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

• **6-8 and 13-15 "Paper Lanterns, Paper Cranes":** After World War II a young girl faces the loss of her eyesight due to A-bomb-related disease. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6553.

• **6-9 Americana Indian**

Jewelry Show: Henderson Convention Center, Henderson, 520-526-9232.

• **7 Dinosaur Ball:** Dinner, dancing, and auction to benefit the Las Vegas Natural History Museum. Evening includes presentation of the Dinosaur



Khac Chi Ensemble, virtuoso musicians from Vietnam, perform October 7 in Yerington and October 13 at the Cal-Neva Resort in Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe.

• **1 Smith Valley Fun Days:** Show-and-shine, food, arts, crafts, Smith Valley, 775-465-2354.

• **1 Snaffle Bit Futurity:** Horses and riders compete for more than \$700,000 in prize money. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5750.

• **1 American Heart Walk:** Fundraiser for the American Heart Association. Wingfield Springs, Sparks, 775-322-7065.

• **1 and 22 SCCA-Sanctioned Autocross:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 775-727-1936.

• **1-3 Blackjack Tournament:** Peppermill, Wendover, 775-664-0521

• **1-7 "Threepenny Opera":** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **1-31 16th Annual Comstock Art Show:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **3-8 Great Basin Festival: Celebrating Our Heritage:** Workshops, ethnic performances, concert featuring Keith Secola and Wild Band of Indians, chautauqua, art. Elko, 775-753-6871

Turning Pages

Book lovers can meet authors and attend readings and book signings at the annual Great Basin Book Festival on September 30 in downtown Reno.

Academy Awards a la Hollywood 65 million years ago. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-DINO.

• **7 Art and Earth Festival:** Art, food, crafts. Hawthorne, Walker Lake, and Schurz, 775-945-5896.

• **7 Scarecrow Festival:** Make your own life-size



The action is exciting at Nevada's rodeos. Upcoming events include the National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals, October 30-November 5 in Reno; the National Finals Rodeo on December 1-10 in Las Vegas; and the Reno Rodeo on June 16-24.

scarecrow or purchase a ready-made. Food, pumpkins, face- and pumpkin-painting. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.

• **7 World Championship Outhouse Races:**

Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **7 Back Roads Nevada Barbershop:**

Performance by the Valley of Fire Chorus of Sweet

Adelines. Tonopah High School, 775-482-3558.

• **7 Performing Arts Center's Best of the New York Stage:**

Featuring Mingus Big Band, Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **7 Las Vegas Folklife Festival:** Entertainment, music. Rainbow Library Park, Las Vegas, 775-687-6953.

• **7 Carson City Library Foundation**

Oktoberfest: Beer and brats, craft fair, used book sale, music, dancing. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-887-2244.

• **7 Living History Program: Vera Krupp:** Life of German actress and movie star, and owner of the ranch and the 33.6-karat Krupp Diamond. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 1.5 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **7 Khac Chi Ensemble: Sounds of Vietnam:**

Traditional folk songs and instruments. Theatre for the Arts, Yerington, 775-463-1783.

• **7 Heavenly Hike:** Two-mile guided hike on the Tahoe Vista Trail with accommodations at the Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 665.

• **7 and 14 Championship Points Races:** All classes. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 775-885-2079.

• **7-8 Annual Donner Party Hike:** Docent-led hike along the Donner Trail. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **7-8 Kokanee Salmon Festival:** Migration of land-locked kokanee salmon. Event includes children's activities, shows, salmon dinners, entertainment, exhibits, and environmental education. Forest Service Taylor Creek Visitor Center, South Lake Tahoe, 530-573-2674.

• **7-8 Art in the Park:** More than 300 booths featuring fine art and crafts for sale and browsing. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-1611

• **7-8 Valhalla Book Fair:** Used book sale, children's storytelling, a book appraiser, and book signing. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **7-8 Great Italian Festival:** Activities include a grape stomp, spaghetti-eating contest, Italian food

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booths, and entertainment. Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 775-786-5700.

- **8 Annual Lake Tahoe Marathon:** 5K, 10K, half-marathon, and marathon. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **8 Nevada Chamber Symphony:** Light classics and popular music. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8242.
- **8 Living History Program: Chet Lauck:** He performed on radio and in movies as Lum of the Lum and Abner comedy team and owned ranch as a summer retreat for his family. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **8 Casual Classics:** Concert featuring the Argenta Quartet. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6145.

- **8-9 Hit the Jackpot Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777
- **8-11 The Perils of Nora Slot Tournament:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-891-4220.
- **11-13 NHRA Division Seven Federal Mogul Points Meet:** Event on quarter-mile drag strip. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.
- **11-15 Invensys Classic at Las Vegas:** 18th annual PGA Tour tournament. Golf stars will play at TPC at Summerlin and two other area courses. Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.
- **12-15 Las Vegas International Bike Festival:** Includes the Bike Aid Music Festival, demos, rides, races, entertainment, food. Las Vegas, 702-792-9430.
- **12-15 Wide Open Miniature Golf Tournament:** Pioneer Hotel, Laughlin, 800-634-

- 3469, ext. 4114 for more event information.
- **12-15 Season Opener:** Nevada Ballet Theatre performs "Fest Polonoise," "In the Glow of the Night," and Act III of "Sleeping Beauty." Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **13 Khac Chi Ensemble: Sounds of Vietnam:** Traditional folk songs with instruments. Frank Sinatra Celebrity Showroom, Cal-Neva Resort, Crystal Bay, 530-546-4602.
- **13 Leon Nightingale Memorial Concert:** Featuring Richard Stolzman in a tribute to Benny Goodman. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6145.
- **13-14 and 20-21 "Laughing Wild":** Satirical comedy about two people who meet in a supermarket. Adult language and humor. Little Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-LIVE.
- **13-14, 20-21, 27-28, and 31 "Macbeth":** Shakespeare's play. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

Boulder City Calendar of Events

April

Clark County Artist Show

May

Spring Jamboree & Craft Fair
Boulder City Folk Festival

July

Fourth of July Damboree

August

Street Party

September

Chautauqua
Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races
Wurstfest
Lake Mead Boat & Ski Races

October

Art In The Park
Country Store Sale
St. Jude's Ranch Celebration

November

Boulder City High School Rodeo
Community Tree Lighting

December

Doodlebug Bazaar Craft Sale
Christmas Parade & Santa's Party
Lake Mead Parade of Lights

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Summer's Last Hurrah

Labor Day festivities and county fairs draw big-city crowds looking for a good time in small-town Nevada. Favorites are the Tri-County Fair and Stampede in Winnemucca, Elko County Fair, and Pioche Labor Day Celebration.

- **13-15 Renaissance Faire:** Food, medieval games, demonstrations. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8289.
- **13-15 \$750,000 Cleopatra Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.
- **13-15 Keno Shootout Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.
- **13-15 Las Vegas International Air Show:** Canadian Snow Birds, military and civilian aircraft displays, two outdoor concerts. Jean Airport, 30 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15, 702-869-2757
- **13-15 Oktoberfest Keno Tournament:** Fitzgeralds, Las Vegas, 800-274-LUCK.
- **13-15 Reno Film Festival: Betting, Boxing and Babes:** Films with story lines related to gambling, boxing, or sexy stars. Reno, 775-334-6707
- **13-15 and 19-22 "Steel Magnolias":** Western Nevada Theatre Company, Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.
- **14 Fall Safety and Survival:** Safety tips and techniques during hunting season. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **14 Performing Arts Center's Charles Vanda Master Series:** Iceland Symphony performs. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **14 Las Vegas SCCA Rally Cross:** Street legal vehicles. Jean, 30 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15, 760-788-3809.
- **14 Living History Program: Pioneer Living:** Talks and demonstrations of old-time skills from the early 1800s. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **14 Meet the Artist: Gene Inglis-Ward:** Watercolor paintings. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.
- **14-15 2000 THQ U.S. Open:** American Motorcycle Association supercross race. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.
- **14-15 Native American Festival/Snow Dance:** Basketweaving, canoeing demonstrations, arts,

crafts, food. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 775-831-4440.

• **14-15 Oktoberfest:** Eureka Casino, Mesquite, 702-346-4600.

• **14-15 Death Valley Mini Rally:** Jean to Beatty and return. AMA-sanctioned, non-competitive dual sport motorcycle tour. Call 818-348-8381

• **14-15 Fort Churchill Encampment:** Civilian, Confederate, and Union camps, battles and displays, church service. Fort Churchill Historic State Park, Silver Springs, 775-423-3528.



On Saturday, October 28, in Carson City the Nevada Day Parade will celebrate the Silver State's admission to the Union in 1864.

• **15 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Northern Nevada Race for the Cure:** 5K run-fitness walk. Washoe Village at South Meadows, Reno, 775-355-7311

• **15 Harvest Farm Auction:** Antique sale. Smith Valley, 775-465-2353.

• **15 Las Vegas Basque Festival:** Traditional ethnic dances, food, games of strength such as weight lifting and wood chopping. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-361-6834.

• **15 Nevada Jazz Artists:** Las Vegas Jazz Society members perform. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **15-Nov. 30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **18-21 World Finals:** Cars and motorcycles try one last time in the year 2000 to set new land speed records. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

• **19-21 Carson Valley Inn Fall Fun Stag Golf Outing:** Play at the Golf Club at Genoa Lakes and Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch. Carson Valley Inn,

Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 625 for details.

• **19-21 ReMax Long Drive Championship:** Competition in three divisions at the Palms Golf Course. Mesquite, 702-346-2902.

• **19-22 Henderson Expo:** Art show, food booths, carnival, and businesses exhibit. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **20 Oktoberfest and Beer Tasting:** Brews and food. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711, ext. 679.

• **20 New Horizons Art Auction:** Benefit for New Horizons Academy school for children with learning challenges. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

• **20 Choral Concert:** University singers perform "Requiem" and "Feet of Jesus." Trinity Church, Reno, 775-784-6145.

• **20 Slot Tournament:** Club Cal-Neva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.

• **20-21 Dance Arts Fall Concert:** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **20-21 High Desert Jazz Festival:** Big bands, food, drinks, workshop. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

• **20-22 Las Vegas Balloon Classic:** Hot-air balloon competition, car show, concert, entertainment, crafts. Silver Bowl Park, Las Vegas, 702-434-9900, ext. 100.

• **20-21 Deer Widows Weekend:** Non-deer-hunting spouses head to Wendover for the weekend. Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **20-22 Elko Te-Moak Powwow:** Tribal Gym, Elko, 775-753-5055.

• **20-22 Gem and Mineral Fair:** Demonstrations, sales of minerals, fossils, and rocks, silent auction. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **21 Tough Truck Field Meet:** Expo. Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-457-5775.

• **21 Carson City Symphony:** Premiere of Continental Harmony Project composition by Jim Cockey. Churchill County High School, Fallon, 775-883-4371

• **21 Cemetery Tour:** Carson Valley Historical Society, Gardnerville. Call for directions, 775-782-2010.

• **21 Nevada Days 100:** Race action at Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 775-885-2079.

• **21 Blues Concert:** Free event featuring the Moanin' Blacksnakes. Mountain View Park, Laughlin, 702-298-3413.

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Millennium Countdown Calendar

- **21 Foamfest:** Fundraiser for the Tahoe Adaptive Ski School. Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 530-581-4161
- **21 Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk:** Walking tour to hear stories of yesterday told by character actors in historic homes. Carson City, 775-687-7410.
- **21 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **21 Living History Program:**

Helen Stewart: Life of one of the first pioneers to settle in the Las Vegas Valley. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **21 Bowers Mansion:** Civil War period dancing in the ballroom, fortune telling, and songs of the era. Bowers Mansion, on Old U.S. 395 in Washoe Valley between Reno and Carson City, 775-857-3559.

• **21 Fantasy 2000:** Benefit for the Lied Discovery Children's Museum. Mirage, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

• **21-22 and 28 Steam-Up:** Train rides. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

• **21-22 Celtic New Year Celebration:** Pipe band competition, Celtic dancing, entertainment, food, crafts. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-3138.

• **22 Living History Program: Willard George:** Early ranch owner became famous as "furrer to the stars" and a leader in the Chinchilla industry. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **22 Carson City Symphony:** Classical concert. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **23 Wind Ensemble Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6145.

• **23 NBA Pre-Season Game: Los Angeles Lakers vs. Sacramento Kings:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 888-464-2468.

• **24 Shoshone Christmas Craft Bazaar:** Native American arts and crafts, food booths. Shoshone Indian Colony, Ely, 775-289-3013.

• **24 UNLV Jazz Ensembles in Concert:** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-4787

• **24-26 Gone With the Wins Slot Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777

• **24-31 Nevada Day Celebration:** Parade (on Oct. 28), carnival, midway games, entertainment, food booths, arts and crafts, and dance bands. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-882-2600.

• **25 American Music Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6145.

• **25-26 Haunted Grand Hall at Valhalla:** For children under 12. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **26-27 Asylum Presents the Play Pen:** Staged readings of new plays. Winchester Center, Las

Vegas, 702-455-7340 for more information.

• **26-28 Trick or Treat Town:** Parents free when accompanied by a child. Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, Carson City, 775-884-2226.

• **26-29 Professional Bull Riders Bud Light Cup World Championships:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 800-634-6698.

• **27 A Night With Paul Zarzyski and Tom Russell in Eureka:** Poet and singer-musician perform. Weekend also features the Loneliest Art Tour II, when 12 invited artists will create artwork for the opera house collection. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

• **27-28 Fall Tri Game-A-Thon:** Blackjack and slot tournament. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 877-783-



The Celtic New Year Celebration offers ethnic dancing and pipe-band competition October 21-22 in Reno.

7711 for more information on the tournaments.

• **27-29 La Ka La'l Bee Powwow:** Traditional dance and music. Carson Colony Gym, Carson City, 775-885-6818.

• **27-29 The Good Guys Nostalgia Meet:** Competition on the quarter-mile drag strip. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

• **27-29 The American Le Mans Series:** Race on 2.25-mile road course. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

• **27-29 and Nov. 3-5 "The Mouse Trap":** Agatha Christie whodunit. Elks Lodge, Reno, 775-329-0661

• **27-29 Autumn Food and Wine Festival:** Food and wine tastings, cooking and baking demonstrations, seminars, entertainment. Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **27-29 BF Goodrich Tires Trans-Am Series:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

• **28 Nevada Day Halloween Drag Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **28 Nevada Day Parade:** More than 250 entries

celebrate Nevada's admission to the Union. Carson Street, Carson City, 775-882-2600.

- **28 Black and Black Ball:** Ghosts, ghouls, live music, appetizers, and potions. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **28 Pig Roast/Halloween Party:** Pig roasted on a spit on Saturday afternoon with a bake auction by Jarbidge School following the barbecue. Costume party on Saturday night. Jarbidge, 775-488-2311
- **28 Burro Races:** Race against time to pack and unpack an uncooperative burro. City Arena, Beatty, 775-553-2424.
- **28 Living History Program: Chuck Wagon and Trail Cooking:** Talk and demonstration in period costume on the art of Dutch-oven cooking. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **28 Las Vegas Odyssey 2000: Fine Food, High Technology:** Wine symposiums, caviar and champagne tastings, grand prix dinners, cooking demonstrations. Five-course masters dinner will be Oct. 28. Aladdin, Las Vegas, 702-257-2345.

Mark Twain Is Back

Actor Hal Holbrook presents "Mark Twain Tonight" December 16-17 in the one-man show he performed two decades ago at Piper's Opera House in Virginia City. The show concludes a season of productions at the historic opera house.

- **28-29 Pyramid Lake Rodeo:** Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, Nixon, 775-574-1000.
- **28-31 Safe Street at Opportunity Village:** Halloween trick or treat for children. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3741
- **29 Living History Program: Pioneer Women:** Talks and demonstrations portray the lives of early settlers. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **29 76 Trombones + Four in Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, 702-895-2787
- **29-Nov. 1 Halloween Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **30-Nov. 1 Pennzoil World of Outlaws:** Winged spring car race on half-mile dirt oval. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.
- **30 Kids Carnival:** Games, costumes, entertainment. Caliente, 775-726-3422.
- **30-Nov. 5 National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals:** Athletes 40 and older compete. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-8842.

November 2000

- **1 Alice Giles:** Harpist in concert. Winchester Center, 702-455-7340.
- **1-30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.
- **2-5 Reserve 250:** SNORE off-road race. Las Vegas, 702-452-4522.
- **3-5 Western Heritage Festival:** Cowboy poetry gathering featuring chautauquas, Western music entertainment, vendors, arts and crafts, pickup truck display, and hot air balloons. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-658-4679.
- **3-5 Rhymer's Rodeo Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.
- **3-5 and 10-12 "Tommy":** Rock opera. Nicholas

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Millennium Countdown Calendar

Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

• **3-5, 10-12, and 17-19 "My Fair Lady":**

Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **4 Las Vegas Pro Polo:** America vs. Great Britain. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 775-826-6157

• **4-5 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor MX style. Mesquite Raceway, 435-673-1956.

• **5 Tour Las Vegas: Ride of the Century:** Fully supported bicycle rides. 775-588-9658.

• **6 Veterans Day Celebration:** Annual salute to the military. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **10-12 Veteran's Day Powwow:** Traditional dances and music. Duck Valley Reservation. Owyhee, 775-757-3161

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Patriotic pride on the Comstock. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

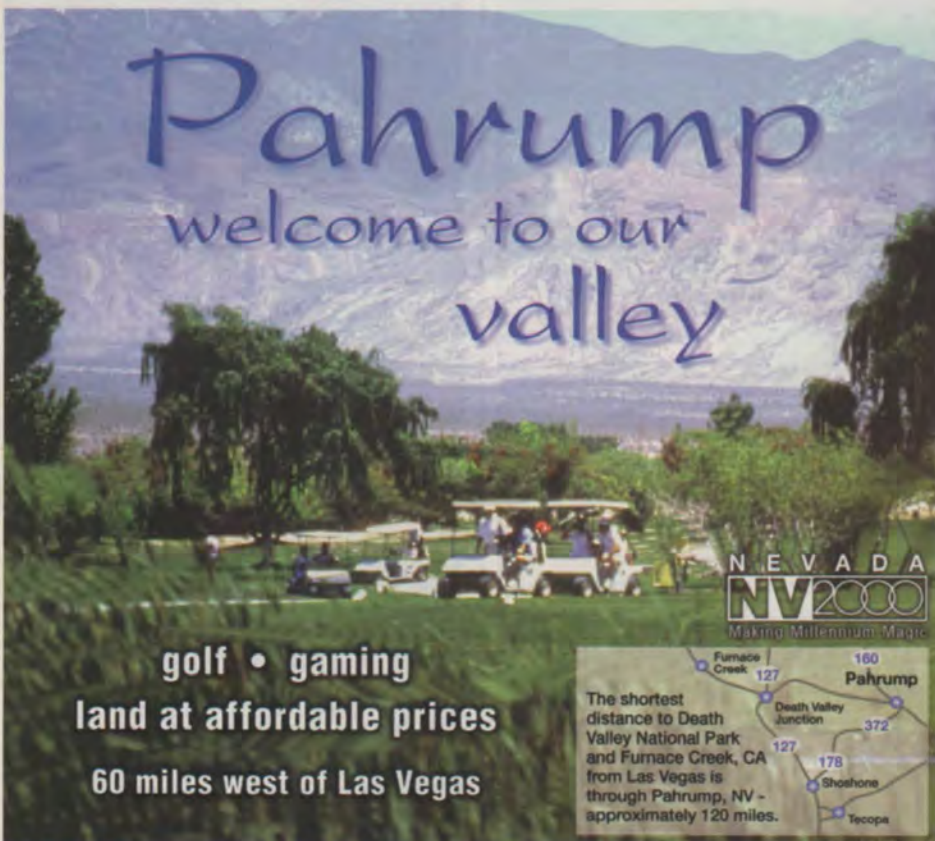
• **11 Pomegranate Art Festival:** Arts, crafts, pomegranate foods, cookbooks, entertainment. Moapa Valley Art Gallery, Overton, 702-397-8323 for more information.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Virginia Street, Reno, 775-334-2262.

• **11-12 Elko SnoGoers Grass Drags:** Competition among more than 200 snowmobile rac-

Pahrump

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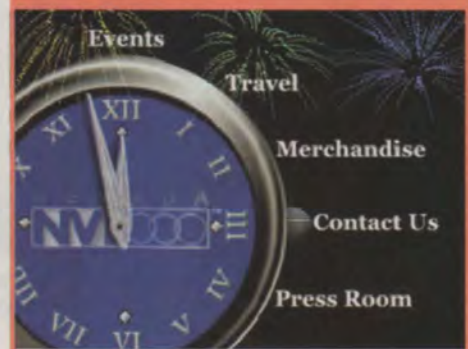
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Millennium Site



The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar, devoted to the state's 15-month millennial celebration, appears in each issue of *Nevada Magazine* during the state's celebration. The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar also is available online at www.2000nevada.com. In addition to millennium events, the site has information on ordering "NV2000: Making Millennium Magic" merchandise, millennium travel packages, and a countdown clock. The site links to the Nevada Commission on Tourism's information site, www.travelnevada.com, which offers a wide variety of travel and vacation ideas.



The Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas will host a continuous holiday light show and entertainment December 15-24. The festivities will be topped off with a party on New Year's Eve.

ers. Elko, 775-777-5221 for more information.

• **13 St. Anne's Holiday Bazaar:** Local crafters' sale. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-3842.

• **17 "Barber of Seville":** Rossini's comedic opera. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.

• **17-19 River Rick's Golf Tournament:** Pioneer Hotel, Laughlin, 800-634-3469, ext. 4114.

• **17-19 Pahrump Valley Chamber Inter Tribal**

Powwow: Native American music and dancing. Community Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

• **17-19 Charlie Nannini Invitational Chariot**

Races: Horse-drawn chariot racers compete. Chariot Track, Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **17-19 Valhalla Holiday Faire: A Dickens**

Experience: Holiday crafters, artists, boutiques, carol-

ers, and characters from Charles Dickens. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **18 Slot Tournament:** Club Cal-Neva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.

• **18-19 Giftown:** Artists and merchants display Christmas ware. Elko, 775-738-4091

• **18-19 What a Deal Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777

• **19 Faculty Solo Concert:** Classical and contemporary music. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

• **19 Trout Fishing in America:** Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet perform folk music. Center Club Showroom, Ramada Inn, Lovelock, 775-273-2082.

• **24-26 "The Nutcracker":** Tchaikovsky's holiday ballet performed by the Pinkerton Dance Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-882-3054.

• **24-26 Crazy Reels Slot Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.

• **25 Holiday Song Fest:** Pasta buffet, entertainment, and silent auction to benefit Nevada Opera youth programs. Eldorado, Reno, 775-786-4046.

• **25 Fisherman's Holiday Fish Derby:** Anglers compete for cash prizes. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **25 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner:** R.S.V.P. and Senior Center, Caliente, 775-726-3129.

• **26-27 Scrooge's Craft Fair:** Homemade crafts, food. Caliente, 775-726-3649.

• **27-29 Riverside's Third Annual Western**

Movie Star Party: Richard Farnsworth, Bo Hopkins, and other stars. Riverside Resort, Laughlin, 800-227-3849.

• **28 Jack Dempsey and Nevada's 20th Century**



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Catch the Excitement

Millennium Countdown Calendar

Mining Town: Lecture by Charles Greenhaw. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

- **28-30 Video Poker Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777
- **29 Deck the Halls of Valhalla:** Bring a non-breakable ornament for Christmas party. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **30 Downtown Hoedown:** Live entertainment to celebrate the National Finals Rodeo. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **30-Dec. 9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

December 2000

- **1-3 Las Vegas 200:** A 200-mile off-road race with start and finish on the Moapa Indian Reservation northeast of Las Vegas. 702-457-5775.
- **1-3 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **1-9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** About 500 exhibitors sell their cowboy trappings. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.
- **1-10 National Finals Rodeo:** Top 126 rodeo contestants compete for more than \$4.2 million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.
- **1-30 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.
- **2 Crafters Christmas Bazaar:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8261
- **2 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **2 Christmas Ghost Train Ride:** Holiday excursion aboard steam-powered train. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.
- **2 Christmas Parade:** Santa arrives at Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.
- **2 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 decorated boats on Lake Mead. Lake Mead Marina, Lakeshore Road, Boulder City, 702-457-2797
- **2 Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** 14th annual parade with Santa, music, arts and crafts, and a tree-lighting ceremony. Sparks, 775-353-2291
- **2-3 Festival of Trees:** Area businesses decorate trees in three themed categories. Wingfield Park and the Truckee River, Reno, 775-334-2417
- **2-3 Genoa Christmas Faire:** Arts and crafts fair, with Christmas carols and appetizers on Friday. Town Hall and Fire Bay, Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.
- **3 Victorian Home Christmas Tour:** Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1565.
- **4 Pioche Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit:** Christmas lighting, bonfire, hot chocolate, Santa arrives with gifts for all the children. Pioche, 775-962-5544.
- **4 Tree Lighting Ceremony:** Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **7 Christmas at the Liberace Museum:** Las Vegas, 702-798-5595, ext. 20.
- **7 Silver and Snowflake Festival of Lights:** Christmas tree-lighting ceremony. State Capital Building, Carson City, 775-882-1565.

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HITS Tahoe, the hunter-jumper horse show, has signed on to present six shows each summer in Minden. Dates for 2001 are June 27-July 1, July 4-8, 11-15, 18-22, and 25-29. The prestigious Horse Shows in the Sun competition draws equestrians from throughout the country.

- **8-9 Indian Art Market and Christmas Sale:** Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe artists exhibit and sell traditional works. Reno/Sparks Indian Colony, Reno, 775-786-7029.
- **8-10 Ramada Express International Car Rally:** Off-road endurance race. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
- **8-10 and 14-17 "The Apple Tree":** Three comedy mini-musicals based on Adam and Eve, the "Lady and the Tiger," and Cinderella characters. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **9 Country Christmas:** Visit by Santa, Christmas tree lighting. Yerington, 775-463-2245.
- **9 Children's Christmas Parade:** Santa meets and greets children after parade through town. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951
- **9-10 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor MX style. Mesquite Raceway, 435-673-1956.
- **9-10 Steam-Up:** Train rides. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.
- **9-10 "Messiah":** Handel's holiday classic performed by the Reno Chamber Orchestra. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **9-10 Merry Money Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **10 Christmas Celebration on Main Street:** Parade, tree-lighting ceremony, and caroling. Yerington, 775-463-2245.
- **10-12 Strike It Rich Blackjack Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777
- **10-13 \$140,000 Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.

- **15-17 International Stamp and Coin Expo:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 818-997-6496.
- **15-17 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **15-17 Super Slots Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.
- **15-17 VEGASPEX:** International coin, stamp, antique jewelry, and collectible expo. Tropicana, Las Vegas, 818-997-6496.
- **15-24 Country Holiday Festival:** March of the Toy Soldiers and Santa. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **15-26 "The Nutcracker":** Nevada Ballet Theatre performs the holiday classic. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **16 Christmas Booksigning and Sale:** Local authors autograph books. Tea and cookies, music. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191
- **16 Slot Tournament:** Club Cal-Neva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.
- **16-17 "Mark Twain Tonight":** Hal Holbrook stars in the one-man show he performed two decades ago in Virginia City. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0600.
- **17 Christmas at CCSN:** Music and dance concert includes a Christmas Carol sing-along. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.
- **18-21 Reebok Holiday Prep**

Classic: Boys' high school basketball tournament featuring 64 teams from 17 states. Green Valley and Durango high schools, Las Vegas, 702-799-5456.

- **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **31 New Year's Eve Celebration:** Live entertainment. Admission \$25. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **31 New Year's Eve at Piper's Opera House:** Brian Farnon and his 18-piece big band orchestra. Virginia City, 775-847-0433.
- **31 New Year's Eve Bash with Smiley Jones and Majestic:** Eureka Casino, Mesquite, 702-346-4600.
- **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Statewide.
- **31-Jan. 1 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor MX style. Mesquite Raceway, 435-673-1956.

January 2001

- **13 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, UNLV, 775-348-9413.
- **13-15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.

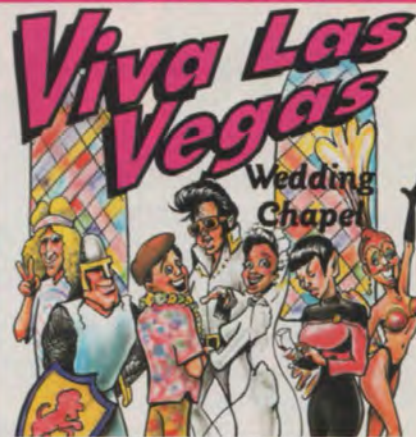
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Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in September and October.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This fall in Las Vegas, Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme will be the last performers to appear in the Circus Maximus Showroom at Caesars Palace. Tony Bennett performs at Silver Legacy in Reno, and Counting Crows play the Reno Hilton. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Showrooms often fill fast, so call for show times and reservations. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380.

HENDERSON

Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.

Reserve • 558-7000: Wasimba's Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Sunset Station • 547-7777: Sunset Amphitheater: Najee, Sept. 1. Rick Springfield, Sept. 2. Lonestar, Sept. 8. Club Madrid: Pat Cooper, Sept. 22. B.J. Thomas, Sept. 30. Men at Work, Oct. 6. Dave Mason, Dec. 1. John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band, Dec. 8. Shooting Stars Karaoke, Wed. Louie Louie, Thurs.-Sat.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play nightly except Tues.

Nevada Landing • 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands appear nightly except Wed.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 877-333-WISH: Theater for the Performing Arts: Entertainment TBA.

Arizona Charlie's • 258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: Bands play nightly.

Arizona Charlie's East • 951-5800: Bands play in the Palace Grand Lounge at the Boulder Highway hotel.

Bally's • 739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Tues.). George Carlin, Oct. 12-18 and Nov. 2-15. Indigo Lounge: Van McGlothen on piano nightly except Tues.

Barbary Coast • 737-7111: Bands play nightly. Karaoke, Mon.

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf. (dark Wed.-Thurs., Oct. 16-17). Performers play in the Allegro, Petrossian, and Fontana lounges and Baccarat Bar.



A Family Show

The Scintas star in their own comedy-variety show playing nightly in the NightClub at the Las Vegas Hilton. The group includes (clockwise from left) Joe Scinta, Peter O'Donnell, Frank Scinta, and Chrissy Scinta.

Boardwalk Casino Holiday Inn • 730-3194: Lighthouse Showroom: "The Dream King," starring Elvis impersonator Trent Carlini. Surf Club: DJ nightly (dark Mon.).

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railroad Lounge: Don McLean, Sept. 9. Montgomery Gentry, Sept. 15. Loretta Lynn, Sept. 16. BTO, Sept. 22. Merle Haggard, Sept. 23. Kansas, Sept. 29-30. Hal Ketchum, Oct. 7. Earl Klugh, Oct. 14. Jerry Vale, Oct. 20-21. Confederate Railroad, Oct. 27. Peter White and Rick Braun, Nov. 10. Billy Ray Cyrus, Nov. 24-25. Toby Keith, Nov. 30-Dec 2. Mark Wills, Dec. 9. Bands play nightly. Karaoke, Fri.-Sat. KIXX: Rocco Barbato, 1-4pm Sun.; country music, Wed.; Tommy Rocker, Thurs.; Shooting Stars Karaoke on Fri.-Sat.

Bourbon Street • 737-7200: Bourbon Street Theatre: Dr. Naughty, adult hypnotist show, 9pm Tues.-Thurs., 7 and 10pm Fri.-Sat. "Naughty Bones," adult stand-up comedy, 7:30pm Sun.-Mon., 11:45pm Tues.-Thurs. "The Multiple Personalities of Billy Cage," impressionist, 2pm Tues.-Sat. Bands play in the lounge nightly except Sun and Mon.

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus

Maximus Showroom: Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Bands play in the Forum, Galleria, and La Piazza lounges, Terrazza restaurant, and Cleopatra's Barge. Piano music in the Galleria Bar. Magicians perform Tues.-Sat. in the Secret Pagoda and Sultan's Palace theaters at Caesars Magical Empire.

Casino Royale • 737-3500: Cafe Trilussa: Piano music nightly (dark Tues. and Wed.).

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

Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," music-dinner show. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-10pm. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Lance-a-Lotta Pasta and Camelot Casual Dining restaurants.

Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Michael Kennedy's "Tribute to Elvis," Thurs.-Sun. on the casino floor.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: Entertainment TBA. Sunset Ballroom: Eddie Money, Sept. 29-30. Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.). "Hip-Nosis: Playin' With Your Head," starring Justin Tranz, R-rated comedy show, midnight Fri.-Sat.

Flamingo O'Shea's • 737-1343: Comedy Theater: "The King in Concert," Elvis impersonator revue, 4pm. "All Shook Up," Elvis tribute show, 7pm. "Hip-Nosis: Playin' With Your Head," starring Justin Tranz, R-rated comedy show, 9pm. All shows run Tues.-Sat.

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

Four Seasons • 632-5000: Piano entertainment during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah restaurant, 2-5pm daily.

Gold Coast • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke

nightly in the West Lounge. Gold Coast Showroom: "Original Tribute to Patsy Gline and the Jordanaires," thru Sept. 24, Oct. 18-Nov. 12 (dark Tues. and Sept. 7). "Country Heroes and Honky Tonk Angels: Tammy Wynette, George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Dolly Parton, and Kenny Rogers," impersonator revue, Sept. 27-Oct. 15 and Nov. 15-30 (dark Mon.-Tues). Salsa All Stars, Sat. (indf.). Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor Tues. and Sun.

Golden Nugget • 385-7111: Bands play in The Lounge nightly except Mon.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650: The Joint: Entertainment TBA.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Clint Holmes Theatre: "Takin' It Uptown," starring Clint Holmes, musical variety show (dark Wed., Sept. 7-12, and Dec. 12-26). Improv Showroom: Comedy club nightly except Mon. Mac King Comedy Magic Show, 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Cook E. Jarr, midnight-2:30am Fri.-Sat. Carnival Court: Bands play outdoors till midnight. Music nightly in the La Playa Lounge and Range

Steakhouse Lounge at Harrah's Las Vegas on the Strip.
Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," celebrity impersonator show (dark Sun.). Kabuki Lounge: Bands play 4:30pm-1:40am. Poolside: "Hawaiian Hot Luau," Polynesian revue and buffet, 6:30pm Tues. and Thurs. thru Oct.

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Theater: "Kenny Kerr's Boylesque," female impersonator revue (dark Sun.-Mon.). "Houdini Lives Again," starring magician Dixie Dooley, 4pm Tues.-Sun. Omaha Lounge: Dusty Barron and the Sunspots play daily except Mon.

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

Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater: "Stars of the Strip," comedy impersonators, 2 and 3:30pm Mon.-Fri. Fielding West: Magic and comedy show, Sun.-Thurs.

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: Reba McEntire, Sept. 14-17. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 22-23. Steven Wright, Oct. 7-8. Tim Conway/Harvey Korman, Oct. 19-21. Jeff Foxworthy, Nov. 30-Dec. 3. The NightClub: Scintas and Forward Motion, Tues.-Sun. Benihana Lounge: Various jazz trios, 4-8pm Mon.-Fri.

Luxor • 262-4400: Luxor Theatre: "Blue Man Group: Live at the Luxor," percussion theater (dark Tues.). Pharoah's Theater: "Lasting Impressions With Bill Acosta" (dark Fri.). "Midnight Fantasy," production show at 10pm, also midnight on Sat. (dark Mon.). Ra Nightclub at Luxor: DJ's Wed. - Sun.

Main Street Station • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: Triple 7 BrewPub: Karaoke on Wednesdays.

Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: Entertainment TBA. House of Blues: Static X with Soulfly, Shovel, and Taproot, Sept. 1. The Bangles, Sept. 15. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Mandalay Bay Events Center: The Spectacular 10th Annual Las Vegas International Mariachi Festival, Sept. 23. Mr. Olympia Competition and Fitness Olympia/Ms. Olympia, Oct. 20-21. Mandalay Beach: Little Feat, Sept. 22. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Sept. 29. Bands play in the Island, Orchid, and Coral Reef lounges.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Hollywood Theatre: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Tommy Tune (dark Sun.-Mon.). Grand Garden Arena: NHL Hockey: Frozen Fury IV with Los Angeles Kings v. Colorado Avalanche, Sept. 30. THQ U.S. Open of Supercross, Oct. 14-15. Pearl Jam with Supergrass, Oct. 22. Hollywood Theatre: Rodney Dangerfield, thru Sept. 6. Carrot Top, Sept. 7-13. Studio 54: Dancing nightly. Live entertainment in the Show Bar Lounge, Brown Derby, Betty Boop Bar, and Gatsby's.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs.). Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans performs nightly (dark Fri. and Mon. and Oct. 24-25). Bands play in the Lagoon Saloon, Corner and Baccarat bars (piano bar). Samba Grill: Brasilia 2000 Fri. and Sat.

Monte Carlo • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.). Top 40, disco, country, and classic-rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

New Frontier • 794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Bands play Tues.-Sat.

New York-New York • 740-6969: Broadway Theatre: "Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance" (dark Sun.-Mon.). Bands play in the Empire Bar. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play 8pm-2:15am nightly in the Bar at Times Square.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Little River Band, Sept. 1-3. Jerry Lewis, Sept. 7-10. Righteous Brothers, Sept. 13-25 (dark Sept. 18). Olga Telethon, Sept. 25. Ray Charles, Sept. 27-Oct. 1. Debbie Reynolds, Oct. 5-8. Smothers Brothers, Oct. 10-15. Neil Sedaka, Oct. 17-22. Everly Brothers, Oct. 25-29. Righteous Brothers, Nov. 1-12. Jerry Lewis, Nov. 16-19. Lorrie Morgan, Dec. 1-3. Tanya Tucker, Dec. 8-10. Don Ho, Dec. 15-17. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Bands play nightly (dark Mon.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Trax Nightclub: Keiko Matsui, Sept. 29. Strunz and Farah, Oct.

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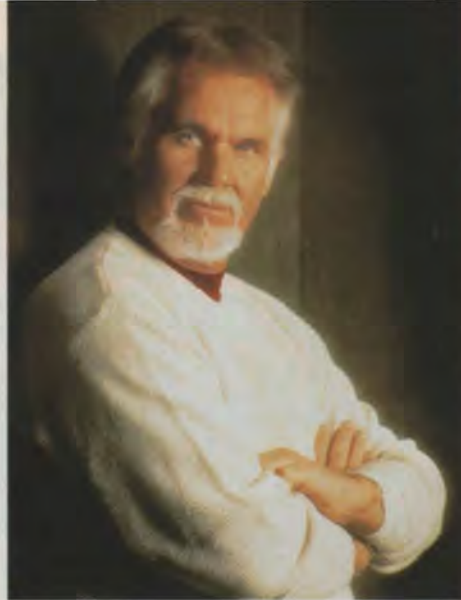
20. The Al DiMeola Project, Nov. 18. Bands play in Trax and Fri.-Sat. in the Palace Saloon.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Le Theatre de Arts: "Notre Dame de Paris," theatrical show (dark Sun.-Mon.). Entertainment in Le Cabaret Show Lounge (dark Tues.). Napoleon's Cigar Bar: Music from 9pm-1am (dark Mon.).

Regent Las Vegas • 877-869-8777: J.C. Wooloughan Irish Pub: Entertainment nightly. Addison's Lounge: Tommy Thompson, saxophone jazz, Sept. 1-3. Bands play Tues.-Sun. Round Bar: Jazz Fri.-Sun. Tazzas Lounge: Pianist Tues.-Sun.

Rio Suite Hotel • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: "David Cassidy at the Copa," musical variety show. De La Guarda Theatre: "De La Guarda," avante-garde off-Broadway interactive experience with no seating (indf.). Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at 2pm Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.). Pavillion Theatre: Entertainment TBA. RioBamba Cabaret: Earl Turner. Live entertainment in the Ipanema Piano Bar and Voodoo Lounge. Club Rio: Dance nightclub Wed.-Sat.

Riviera • 794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," production show. Top of the Riv: Tommy Chong and Bobcat Goldthwait, Sept. 1-3. Rich Little, Sept. 29-30. Jackie "The Jokeman" Martling, Oct. 20-21. Royale Pavillion: Tony Orlando, Oct. 13-14. Johnny Maestro and the Brooklyn Bridge, Oct. 24-25. Joey Dee and the Starlighters/Jimmy Beaumont and the Skyliners, Nov. 21-22. The Duprees, Nov. 28-29. Colors of Christmas with Peabo Bryson, Bill Medley, Marilyn McCoo, and Roberta Flack, Dec. 12. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.). Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.). "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear nightly. Le Bistro Lounge: "Tribute to Elvis" with Billy Ortiz, 4-7:30pm Fri.-Sun.; Jazz



Rogers on the River

Kenny Rogers performs in the Outdoor Amphitheater at Harrah's Laughlin on September 9-10. Fans can expect to hear his latest hit, "Buy Me a Rose."

on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Fri.-Sat.; bands play Tues.-Sun. in the lounge.

Sahara • 737-2515: Sahara Theatre: Magician Steve Wyrick opens this fall. Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Music and dancing except Sun.-Mon. Roxy's Saloon: Bands play. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, 10pm.

San Remo • 739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Les Trix," starring the Showgirls of Magic" thru Oct. (dark Mon.). Bonne Chance Lounge: Entertainers perform nightly.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Ice Lounge: Groups perform nightly. Pavilion: Jazz noon-3:30pm Wed.-Sat. and Sun. and piano Sun.-Tues.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Entertainment nightly except Mon.

Silverton • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: "Always...Patsy Cline" with Sally Struthers and Rachel Ricca, musical tribute, Wed-Sun. (indf.). Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Wayne Newton Theatre: Wayne Newton, Sept. 11-Oct. 27 (dark Sun.). The O'Jay's, Sept. 7-9. B.B. King, Nov. 16-18. Stardust Ballroom: Glenn Miller Orchestra, Sept. 9. Harry James Orchestra, Oct. 7. Ricky and the Redstreaks, Nov. 29-Dec. 10. Bands play in the Starlight Lounge. Stardust Conference Center: Bob Anderson, thru Sept. 15.

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.). "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Entertainment in the Top of the World and Oasis lounges.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and Oct. 4). Music in Captain Morgan's piano bar. Hideaway Lounge: performers nightly.

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs.). "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri. "The Birdman of Las Vegas," 11am, 12:30 and 2pm except Thurs. Celebration Lounge: Bands play nightly. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly.

Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Venetian • 733-5000: Showroom at the Venetian: André Philippe-Gagnon, impressionist, indf. (dark Mon.).

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"Nebulae: The LifeForce," production show, indf. (dark Thurs. and Fri.). "Melinda: The First Lady of Magic." Entertainment daily in the Rialto Bar and La Scena Lounge.

Westward Ho • 731-2900: Westward Ho Lounge: Entertainment nightly. Crown Room: Dinner Show, Wed. and Sat. 6pm.

Wild Wild West Gambling Hall • 740-0000.

World Trade Center • 369-5750: International Showroom: "Amen," starring Michael la Rocca, spiritual music (indf.).

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 535-5555: Arrowweed Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Colorado Belle • 298-4000: Bands like Echo Love Chamber and Man Almighty play in the Boiler Room Brew Pub.

Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Steel Breeze, thru Sept. 3. Daemine and the Rhythm Connection, Sept. 5-10. Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Sept. 12-17. Wild at Heart, Sept. 19-24. Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Billy Erickson and the Bandits, Oct. 3-8. Daemine and the Rhythm Connection, Oct. 10-15. Louie Fontaine and The Rockets, Oct. 17-22 and Oct. 26-29.

Fleming Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Outdoor Amphitheater: Harry Belafonte, Sept. 16. Dwight Yoakam, Sept. 23. Tanya Tucker, Sept. 30. Englebert Humperdinck, Oct. 14. Mary Wilson and the Supremes with Little Anthony and the Imperials, Oct. 25. Silver Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," revue (dark Fri.).

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Nightclub: Top 40 format dance bands play Thurs.-Sun. DJ Tues.-Wed.

Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: The Pendragons, Sept. 8-Dec. 3. Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater: Kenny Rogers, Sept. 9-10. Jeff Foxworthy, Sept. 23. Wayne Newton, Oct. 28-29.

Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: Elayne Boosler, Sept. 2-3. The Association with the Happenings, Sept. 9-10. Swing Sisters: "That Sentimental Swing: An American Variety Show," Sept. 11-12. "Shout: A Tribute to the '50s Featuring the Swing Sisters," Sept. 18-19. Frank Gorshin, Sept. 23-24. On the Edge: Comedy Jugglers, Sept. 25-28. "Oliver," Sept. 29-Oct. 5. Mickey Rooney, Oct. 14-15. Kingston Trio, Oct. 21-22. "Broadway Tonight Featuring Patti Bell," Oct. 23-26. "Shout: A Tribute to the '50s Featuring the Swing Sisters," Oct. 30-Nov. 2. A Salute to the Music of Frank Sinatra with Harry Connick, Sr. and the Nelson Riddle Orchestra directed by Christopher Riddle, Nov. 11-12. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness, Mon. Swing and Latin dance contests, 5pm daily. Train rides also are available.

River Palms • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: DJ music or bands perform nightly in the Bermuda Club Lounge. Karaoke with Don West, 4-7pm Wed.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Gallagher, Sept. 1-3. Bill Medley, Oct. 12-14. Everly Brothers, Nov. 2-5. Chubby Checker, Nov. 7-12. Gallagher, Nov. 16-18. Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 22-26. Don Ho, Dec. 11-14. The Osmond Brothers, Dec. 27-31. Charlie Prose, Jan. 14-Feb. 8. Melissa Manchester, Feb. 14-18. Mel Tillis, March 6-11.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Showroom: Little River Band, Sept. 9. Don Williams, Sept. 22. Anthony Cools, comedy hypnotist, Oct. 20. Glen Campbell, Nov. 4. B.J. Thomas, Dec. 9. Comedy shows Fri.-Sat. when there is no headliner. Bands play nightly except Mon. in the CasaBlanca Skydome Lounge.

Eureka Casino Hotel • 346-4646: Wild Cactus Lounge: Karaoke, Tues. nights. Ladies night, DJ dance party, Wed. Live entertainment Thurs.-Sun.

Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Redd Boot Saloon: Video and live DJ, Fri. and Sat. Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club on Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Bands like Wheels play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Roxy's Theatre: Headliners

TBA. Pipe organ music nightly. Silent movie night on Thurs. Bands play nightly in the Cabo Lounge. Gardunos Restaurant: Mariachis play 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.

Jerry's Nugget • 399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri. and Sat.

Texas Station • 631-1001: The Armadillo: Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4pm-8pm. Shooting Stars Karaoke, Thurs. 8pm-midnight. Loveshack, Fri. and Sat. 10pm-2am.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Willie Nelson, Sept. 2. Brooks and Dunn, Sept. 8. Stage Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun. Carolee's Comedy Club: Guest comedians, Fri. and Sat. nights.

Primm Valley • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471. The Piano Bar: pianist Thurs.-Sun.

Whiskey Pete's • 382-1212. Pete's Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Danny Marona, Sept. 1-3. Bands play nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret.

Boomtown • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Entertainers play nightly (dark Sun. and Mon.).

Cal-Neva Virginian • 323-1046, 877-777-7303. Bands play on Fri. and Sat.

Circus Circus • 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.

Comstock • 329-1880.

Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Eldorado Showroom: "Spirit of the Dance: The New Millennium," Irish dance production show, thru Sept. 3 (dark Mon.). Brew Brothers: Rock, blues, and swing bands play nightly at the micro-



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brewery. Piano music in Bistro Roxy. BuBinga Lounge: Dance to DJs and live music.

Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950: Lounge entertainment. DJ music at Reno Live at Eddie's.

Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Whiskey Ridge and Impulse perform nightly.

Flamingo Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "Carnival of Wonders," magic production show, thru Nov. (dark Tues.). Entertainment at the Top of the Flamingo restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Dancin' in the Streets," revue, 7:30pm Sun.-Fri. and 7 and 9pm Sat. (dark Thurs., Sept. 15-17). "Erocktica 2000.com," adult revue, 10pm Sun.-Fri., 9:30 and 11:30pm Sat. Vonda Shepard, Sept. 15-17. Sam Butera and Dick Capri, Oct. 5-8. Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts, Nov. 24-26. The Plaza: Showband, Sept. 1-3. Ray Charles, Sept. 7. Balloon rides, Sept. 8-10. The Dynatones, Sept. 21-22. Bobby Sims and the Blues Rockers, Sept. 21-23. Jackie Landrum, Sept. 23-24. KC and the Sunshine Band, Sept. 28. Professional boxing, Sept. 29. Car show, Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Those Darn Accordians, Oct. 7. Andy Lorusso, the Singing Chef, Oct. 7-8.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Rose Ballroom: Tom Jones, Oct. 13-14. Celebrity Showroom: Lou Rawls, Aug. 31-Sept. 6 and Sept. 8-13. The Lettermen, Sept. 14-27. Crystal Gayle/Mark Kornhauser, Sept. 28-Oct. 11. Tower of Power, Oct. 12-18.



Closing Night at Caesars

Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, appearing August 31-September 3 at Caesars Palace, will be the last performers to play the Circus Maximum Showroom. Singer Andy Williams (right) opened the theater on August 5, 1966. The showroom is closing to make way for major improvements at the Strip hotel.

Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Austin Lounge Lizards, Sept. 16. Classic Rock All Stars with Peter Rivera, Mike Pinera, Jerry Corbetta, and Dennis Noda, Sept. 21. B.J. Thomas, Sept. 29. Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 359-9440: Entertainers play on weekends in Rail City's Side Track Lounge.

Ramada Inn and Speakeasy Casino • 329-7400: Pretty Boy Floyd's Bar features karaoke (Mon.) and live entertainment.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theatre: Two shows alternate, with "Work That Skirt" on Sun., Tues., and Fri. and "Escape With David Hayes" (caution: may not be suitable for under age 17) on Mon., Wed., and Sat. (dark Thurs.). Outdoor Amphitheater: Counting Crows, Sept. 19. The Garage: Bands play nightly. The Improv Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.

Riverboat • 322-1671.

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

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Carrot Top, Sept. 2-3. Loretta Lynn, Sept. 9. Chicago, Sept. 15-16. Doobie Brothers, Sept. 22-23. Tony Bennett, Oct. 6-7. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club (dark Sun.-Mon.). Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

Sundowner • 786-7050.

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

CARSON AREA

Carson Nugget • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: Comedy Night Live, Sept. 29. Sticky

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Fingers: A Salute to the Rolling Stones, Oct. 13-14. Bad Moon Rising: A Salute to Creedence Clearwater Revival, Nov. 18. Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge for dancing nightly except Mon.

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

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

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Karaoke, Fri.-Sat. Also, extensive displays of memorabilia.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE
Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Eddie Money, Sept. 8-9. Clint Black, Sept. 15-16. Randy Travis, Oct. 6-7. The Temptations, Oct. 13-14. Pauly Shore, Oct. 20-21. Nero's 2000 nightclub has live music. Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears infd.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller," thru Oct. 1. Danny Marona, Oct. 5-8. Smothers Brothers, Oct. 19-22. Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, Nov. 23-26. Tower of Power, Dec. 26-29. Bands play nightly in the Casino Center Stage.

Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: "Passion 2000," adults only (dark Mon.).

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Carnival Cabaret," male celebrity impersonator revue. Comedy Showcase, stand-up comedians, midnight, Thurs.-Mon. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

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

Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: DJ Wed.-Sun.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 832-1234: Regency Ballroom: TBA. Lone Eagle Restaurant: Music, Wed.-Sat. Casino Stage Bar: Pianist, Wed.-Sun.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-0455.

Tahoe Billmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Bands play nightly.

Cowboy Country

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Bands play nightly.

Gold Country • 800-621-1332: J.R.'s Lounge: Entertainment Tues.-Sat.

High Desert Inn • 738-8425: Comedy show Fri.

Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Bands play nightly.

Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Bands play in the Stockmen's Showroom.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: Sherman Hemsley, thru Sept. 3. Laughing Room Only, Sept. 5-7. America, Sept. 8-9. The Grass Roots, Sept. 12-17. Freddie Fender, Sept. 19-24. Mickey Dolenz, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Michael Martin Murphy, Oct. 3-8. Danny Marona, Oct. 31-Nov. 5.

Horseshu Casino • 755-2321. Horseshu Cabaret: Pam Nickels and Key Lane play in Sept.

LOVELOCK

Ramada Inn • 775-273-2971: Center Club Showroom: LuLu LaFever Trio, Oct. 5. Trout Fishing in America, Nov. 19. Bands and karaoke are featured on weekends.

WENDOVER

Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play nightly except Mon.

Rainbow Casino • 664-4000: Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

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

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

State Line • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Stateliner Lounge: Entertainment nightly.



The Voice of Ally

Singer-songwriter Vonda Shepard, the voice of *STV's Ally McBeal's* theme song, "Searchin' My Soul," performs September 15-17 in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Bands play nightly.

Model T Hotel • 623-2588. Bands play Wed.-Sun.

Holiday Inn Express • 775-625-3100.

Sundance Casino • 623-3336.

Red Lion • 800-633-6435.

Pony Express Territory

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Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-6031.

Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

Pioneer Territory

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play Fri.-Sat.

Exchange Club • 553-2368: Karaoke on Fri.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3322: Entertainment Wed.-Sun. at the Hawthorne motel-casino.

Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777: Bowling alley.
Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 727-1111.

TONOPAH

Banc Club • 482-5409: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Mizpah Hotel • 482-6200.

Station House • 482-9777: Shotgun Willie's Saloon: Bands play nightly except Mon.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 463-2481: Weekend music.

Dini's Lucky Club • 463-2868: Weekend music.

A Reminder: Please phone ahead to confirm dates and times. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.

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Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. By Ann Henderson

Las Vegas Territory

By Magic: The **Aladdin**, Las Vegas' latest megaresort, was scheduled to open in August on the site of the original Aladdin, which was imploded in 1998. The 2,567-room Arabian Nights-themed hotel features 21 restaurants, two outdoor pools located six stories above the Strip, the 7,000-seat Theater of the Performing Arts, 75,000 square feet of meeting space, and a spa and fitness center. For shopping, the Desert Passage at Aladdin offers more than 130 retail shops and dining and entertainment places.

Getting a Facelift: By December 31, a \$6-million expansion and renovation is scheduled for completion at **Arizona Charlie's** on Decatur Boulevard, four miles west of the Las Vegas Strip. Phase one of the project calls for a 9,000-square-foot bingo parlor, with seating for 550 people, to replace the Palace Grand Theatre. Other plans for the hotel, which was built in 1988, include additional casino space, improved parking, a new swimming pool, a 5,000-square-foot conference center, and a refurbished buffet.

Bigger Country: The Railhead Showroom at **Boulder Station** in Las Vegas opened in September after a \$2.5-million remodeling. The showroom at Boulder Station, recognized as a 1999 Casino of the Year by the Academy of Country Music, will have an expanded seating capacity of 800, a new décor, and upgraded sound and lighting equipment.

Whole New Look: Improvements are coming to **Caesars Palace** in Las Vegas in the way of multimillion-dollar renovations and additions. The hotel's Omnimax Theatre, showroom, and Bacchanal and Palace Court restaurants have closed. Plans have been made to erect a temporary covered pavilion to host concerts, banquets, sports events, and shows. At a cost of \$15 million, the hotel will open an aquatic-themed Café Roma, and the Noodle Shop will be moved to a site overlooking the pool area. Guest rooms and hallways in the Roman Tower and the penthouse in the Centurion Tower will be remodeled by December at a cost of \$3.5 million.

D.I. Done: In August, the 50-year-old **Desert Inn** on the Las Vegas Strip was closed by its new owner, Steve Wynn. The hotelier has announced plans to raze the Desert Inn and



Kids find thrills in a smaller version of the Big Shot ride at Strat-O-Fair, the Stratosphere's new entertainment complex. Other rides include bumper cars and a Ferris wheel located 80 feet above the Strip.

build another megaresort. In 1966 billionaire Howard Hughes bought the hotel and its championship golf course, a purchase that led to the advent of corporate gaming in Nevada.

Relaxing Change: A \$3-million upgrade of the Spa at **Monte Carlo** in Las Vegas has expanded the treatment and gym areas, added state-of-the-art exercise equipment, and refurbished the spa with décor from India, China, Italy, Indonesia, and Saudi Arabia. During a \$20-million upgrade to the Monte Carlo's Monaco Suites, two-person Jacuzzis were added to many of the suites, which have views of the Strip or the mountains. Other added amenities include a wet bar, marble entrance, new art, a glass-enclosed steam and shower room, and a music and video system.

Shark Bait: Summer brought a new attraction to **Mandalay Bay** on the Strip. More than a conventional aquarium, the Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay features one of North America's largest displays of sharks, sea predators, and aquatic creatures.

Hotel Opening: Billed as the crown jewel of the Coast Resorts properties, the Mediterranean-themed **Suncoast Hotel and Casino** opened this fall. Located five miles north of the Strip at Alta Drive and Rampart Boulevard, the 432-room Suncoast offers a 78,000-square-

foot casino, five restaurants, a 16-screen theater complex, and a 500-seat showroom. Other amenities include a 64-lane bowling center, race and sports book, bingo room, 25,000 square feet of meeting space, Kids Tyme childcare center, exercise facilities, and outdoor pool and spa.

More Thrills: An entertainment complex, the Strat-O-Fair midway, opened recently at the **Stratosphere**. Located at the base of the 1,149-foot tower, which houses the Top of the World restaurant and an observation deck, Strat-O-Fair offers the Sky Wheel, a Ferris wheel that gives riders a view of the Strip from 80 feet above the street. Among the other rides is a smaller version of the Big Shot that has been adapted for children and Hover Crash, a futuristic bumper car attraction. There are also midway games of skill and two food outlets.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

The Sporting Look: **Best Western Carson Station** in Carson City recently unveiled a remodeled sports book and snack bar. Larger television sets, decorator tile, tables, and wagering windows updated the sports book, while new equipment means expanded menu choices at

the snack bar. There are plans to remodel the sports bar in spring 2001.

More Rooms: Last summer, a \$4-million expansion added 84 rooms to the **Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort** in Nevada's capital city. The addition brought the hotel's total to 148 rooms.

Bigger and Better: Extensive changes are in various stages of completion at **Boomtown** in Verdi, nine miles west of Reno on Interstate 80. The remodeling of the indoor pool and Cassidy's Steak and Dinner House (the former Waddie's) was completed in summer 2000. Renovation of the Tumbleweed Café and the addition of a fountain and mural also are planned. Previously, the guest rooms were refurbished, a concierge desk was added, and the Devil's Mine Ride, a motion-simulator experience, opened to scare riders with acid pools and exploding powder kegs.

Welcoming Guests: Changes at the **Club Cal-Neva/Virginian** include a 6,400-square-foot lobby with marbled walls, floor-to-ceiling windows, and a Southwestern-style emporium. The 420-room downtown Reno property followed the lobby renovations with a new wedding chapel and the River Central Trade Show and Convention Center, a 15,000-square-foot facility that can seat 1,450 theater-style and 1,000 banquet-style.

Bar and Restaurant Added: New to guests at the

Flamingo Reno are the Lobby Bar and the Golden Palace Chinese Restaurant and Bar. Located across from the hotel's front desk, the Lobby Bar opened on the Flamingo's second floor. At the Golden Palace, authentic Chinese delicacies are served amid the backdrop of an indoor waterfall.

At the Ranch: A \$3.5-million project at **Gold Ranch RV Park and Casino** in Verdi, nine miles west of Reno on I-80, should be completed this fall. Visitors can expect a 105-space RV park, swimming pool, and spa. Remodeling the restaurant and interior and exterior casino renovations are also included.

New Hotel: The heritage of the scenic Carson Valley is the theme of the **Historian Inn**, which opened on U.S. 395 in Gardnerville. The 35-room property is decorated with photographs depicting the history of ranchers and early settlers such as Basque shepherders. Future plans include four specialty shops.

Entertainment Notes

Tribute to Patsy: "Always...Patsy Cline," is a simple story of friendship that relies on the comedic talents of Emmy Award-winner Sally Struthers, of TV's *All In the Family*, and Broadway singer Rachel Ricca. The two-woman show at the **Silverton** in Las Vegas has Struthers

playing super-fan Louise Seger. Struthers relies heavily on slapstick to tell the story of her favorite singer, who died at the age of 30 in a 1963 plane crash. Surprisingly, the comedy and jokes work. Ricca is superb as she sings 22 of Cline's hits, from "Back in Baby's Arms" to "Crazy," backed by the Bodacious Bobcats Band. The show is a bargain at \$27.50 plus tax. Show times are 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and Sunday and 6 and 9 p.m. Saturday. Call 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711 for show reservations.

The Brothers Everly: Rock and roll is alive and well. So are the blues and country when the **Everly Brothers** appear in concert at the **Orleans** in Las Vegas. After more than 40 years of performing, brothers Don and Phil still carry off their trademark harmonies on such songs as "Walk Right Back" and "Let It Be Me." The Everly Brothers have updated hard-driving hits such as "Lucille," going for a more contemporary sound. Despite having achieved senior citizen status in the entertainment industry, the duo plays to capacity crowds at the Orleans Showroom, which is one of the best in the city. The acoustics are excellent, and the theater-style seating is comfortable. The Everly Brothers return to the Orleans October 25-29. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$34.95 to \$44.95 plus tax. Call 800-ORLEANS for reservations.

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Las Vegas Territory

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- Black Canyon River Raft Tours** • 293-3776 for information.
- Boulder City Historic District** • Walking tour. 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.
- Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum** • Displays and books on the dam's construction in 1930s. 1305 Arizona, 294-1988.
- Boulder Dam Hotel** • 1305 Arizona, 293-7731.
- Hoover Dam and Hoover Dam Visitor Center** • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 294-3515, 293-8367, 293-8000.
- Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess** • Excursions on Lake Mead, 293-6180.
- Lake Mead National Recreation Area** • 293-8906.
- St. Jude's Ranch for Children** • Children's Art Museum, artifacts, tours. 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

HENDERSON

- City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve** • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people of the 80-acre preserve. 2400 Moser Street off Sunset, Henderson, 565-4264.
- Clark County Heritage Museum** • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.
- Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden** • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.
- Mountasia Family Fun Center** • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.
- Ron Lee's World of Clowns** • 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

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- Bellagio** • Fountain shows, 693-7111.
- Caesars Palace** • Dining, magic shows, and special effects at Caesars Magical Empire, 731-7333.
- Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex** • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.
- Elvis-A-Rama Museum** • 3401 Industrial, 309-7200.
- Excalibur** • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators, 597-7777.
- Flamingo Las Vegas** • Wildlife sanctuary, 733-3111.
- Floyd Lamb State Park** • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
- Flyaway Indoor Skydiving** • 200 Convention Center Dr., 731-4768.



Final Frontier, Vegas Style

Star Trek: The Experience, a space-age virtual-reality ride and museum, entertains trekkies and other Searthlings at the Las Vegas Hilton. Visitors can chat or pose for pictures with a Klingon or Ferengi and eat an out-of-this-world snack at the attraction's restaurant.

- Forum Shops at Caesars** • "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3D motion simulator. Caesars Palace, 893-4800.
- Fremont Street Experience** • Light show on the hour from dusk to midnight. Downtown Las Vegas, 678-5600 for more information.
- Gameworks** • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 597-3122.
- Guinness World of Records Museum** • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
- Harley-Davidson Cafe** • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys and other items on display. Las Vegas Strip, 740-4555.
- Holy Cow! Casino** • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
- Imperial Palace Auto Collection** • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.
- Laser Quest** • 7361 West Lake Mead, Las Vegas, 243-8881.
- Las Vegas Art Museum** • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.
- Las Vegas Club** • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.
- Las Vegas Motor Speedway** • Guided tours. 644-4444.
- Las Vegas Natural History Museum** • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
- Liberace Museum** • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
- Lied Discovery Children's Museum** • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
- Luxor** • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.
- M&M's World** • Showcase Mall, 736-7611.
- Mandalay Bay** • Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay. Exhibit of

- sharks, sea predators, and aquatic creatures. Visitors can ask questions of divers. 632-7777.
- Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History** • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
- MGM Grand** • Lion habitat open daily. MGM Grand Adventures Theme Park open weekends till Sept. 4, 891-7979.
- Mirage** • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.
- Motown Cafe** • Memorabilia and entertainment, New York-New York, 740-6440.
- Mount Charleston** • Recreation info., 222-1597.
- NASCAR Cafe** • Race cars displayed. Sahara Hotel, 734-7223.
- Nevada State Museum and Historical Society** • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
- Nevada Test Site History Center** • Displays 50 years of nuclear testing. Open Tues.-Thurs. noon to 4pm. Building B-3, 2621 Losee Road, 295-3521.
- New York-New York** • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
- Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park** • Site of 1855 settlement. 908 Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue, 486-3511.
- Race Rock Cafe** • Race cars and monster trucks. Fremont Street Experience, 382-7223.
- Rainforest Cafe** • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 891-8580.
- Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area** • 363-1921.
- Rio Suite Hotel** • Free carnival-themed sky parade, exhi-

Nevada Events & Shows

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bition of artifacts from the *Titanic*, 252-7777.
Sahara Hotel • Speed: The Ride roller coaster, NASCAR Cafe, virtual-reality car racing, 737-2735.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Santa Fe Hotel • Ice arena, 4949 N. Rancho Dr., 658-4993.
Shelby American • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 643-3000.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks, 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Star Trek: The Experience • Las Vegas Hilton, 697-8700.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster, Big Shot ride, and Strat-O-Fair midway, 380-7777.
Treasure Island • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30 p.m., 894-7111.
Tropicana • Birds, tiger habitat, and gambling museum, 739-2222.
Venetian Hotel • Madame Tussaud's Celebrity Encounter wax museum, gondola rides, 733-5000.
Walker African-American Museum and Research Center • Exhibits and records, by appointment only, 647-2242.
Wet 'n Wild • Water theme park open daily through Oct. 1, 734-0088.

LAUGHLIN

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area • Nature and water sports, four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
Colorado Belle • Cyber Roller Coaster and Boiler Room Microbrewery, 298-4000.
Colorado River Museum • Arizona Hwy. 95, 520-754-3399.
Del Rio Beach Club • Colorado River sightseeing boat tour, 298-6828.
Davis Dam • Self-guided tours, 298-2214.
Grapevine Canyon • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 298-2214.
Lake Mohave Resort • 602-754-3245.
Laughlin River Tours • Colorado River, 298-1047.
Ramada Express • WWII museum and multimedia tribute to American war heroes, 298-4200.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, river tour boat, and bowling center, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

Desert Valley Museum • 346-5705.
Si Redd's Oasis • Gun club, hayrides, ATV and horseback rides, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.
U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds • Tour of demonstration squadron facility, 2pm Tues. and Thurs. Nellis Air Force Base, North Las Vegas, 652-4018.

OVERTON

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

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, cyber coaster, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz and Clyde's bullet-riddled shirt at Whiskey Pete's, 382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Gallery • 297-1540.
Searchlight Historic Museum • 455-7955.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.
Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Mills Park, 887-2523.
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • Museum has educational exhibits, 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226.
Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour, 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.
Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit, 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.

Nevada Supreme Court • Tours, Stewart St., 687-8616.
Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.
Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-6929.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.
Dayton Historic Society Museum • Open weekends on Shady Lane.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395, 782-2555.
Sharkey's Nugget • Boxing, rodeo memorabilia, 782-3133.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • 782-4325.
Mormon Station State Historic Park • 782-4325, 687-4379.
David Walley's Hot Springs • 782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Hard Rock Cafe • Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411.
Heavenly Aerial Tram • Seasonal, Stateline, 586-7000.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
Ponderosa Ranch • Open through October, Incline Village, 831-0691.
Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler • Tahoe City, 530-583-0141.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
Tallac Historic Site • Tours daily Memorial Day through Sept., South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • Stream-profile chamber, 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 530-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • Cruises, boat rentals, 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • Open until Oct. 31, 10 mi. north of Reno on U.S. 395, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road to reach Animal Ark, 969-3111.
Bartley Ranch Regional Park • Hiking, horse arena, and one-room Huffaker schoolhouse, Reno, 828-6612.
Earth Window Museum • Native American artifacts, 100 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • Stargazing programs, U of N campus, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Harrah's Reno • Laser show nightly at the outdoor plaza, 775-786-3232.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776 for further information.
National Automobile Museum (the Harrah Collection) • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Tournaments and IMAX 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.
Playland • Rides, picnicking, Idlewild Park, 329-6008.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk • 334-2077.
Reno Hilton • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, putting course, 789-2000.
Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Tours, 215 S. Wells Ave., 329-5665.
Sierra Arts Center Gallery • Gallery and offices, 200 Flint St., 329-2787.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
Silver Legacy • Giant mining machine and laser shows every hour, 325-7396.
Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE
Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 574-0290.

SPARKS
John Ascuaga's Nugget • Ranchers' brands exhibit, 356-3300.

NEVADA'S GATEWAY TO DEATH VALLEY



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

775-553-2424

Beatty Chamber of Commerce
 119 E. Main, Beatty, NV 89003



Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum • 355-1144.
Wild Island • Water park open in summer, miniature golf and raceway open year-round. Off I-80, 359-2927.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • Motion Theater rides, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf, 345-8668.

VIRGINIA CITY

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

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Park • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires, 849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • 849-0684.
Washoe Lake State Park • Birdwatching, windsurfing, fishing, East Lake Blvd., 847-4319.

Cowboy Country

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center • Pioneer exhibits, research room, 453 N. Second St., 635-5720.

ELKO

Jarbridge Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.
Sherman Station Complex • Restored 1875 ranch, tours. Visitor information, 738-7135.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508.
Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

LOVELOCK

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 273-7213.
Pershing County Marzen House Museum • Lovelock-area history, 273-7213.

WENDOVER

Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • 623-2225.
Humboldt Museum • Winnemucca-area history, 623-2912.
Midas Schoolhouse • Call for tours of the two-room schoolhouse located in Midas, 46 miles by dirt road from the Golconda exit east of Winnemucca on I-80. 529-0302.

Pony Express Territory

AUSTIN

Hickory Petroglyph Recreation Site • Self-guided tour with interpretive signs, 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

ELY/GREAT BASIN N.P.

Cave Lake State Recreation Area • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • Tours, 289-1663.
Great Basin National Park • Hiking, camping, ancient bristlecones, and tours of Lehman Caves. Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.
McGill Historical Drug Company • Call for tours of an old-fashioned drug store. McGill, 775-235-7082.
Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Train rides on historic locomotives. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.

White Pine Public Museum • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, 237-6006.
Eureka Sentinel Museum • 237-5010.

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.
Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.
Sand Mountain • Giant sand dune, 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 423-5128.

SILVER SPRINGS

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.

Pioneer Territory

BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits, 553-2424.
Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Beatty, 619-786-2331.
Rhyolite • Bottle house and Gold Wells Open Air Museum sculpture exhibit, four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • Dinosaur fossils and ghost town, 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • Exhibits on the history of the Hawthorne area, 400 10th St., 945-5142.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Fishing, camping, and birdwatching, 945-5896.

PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Pahrump, 619-786-2331.
Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Box Car Museum • Railroad and local history. Caliente, 726-3129.
Cathedral Gorge State Park • South of Pioche, 728-4460 for more information.
Elgin Living History Schoolhouse Museum • Open for weekend tours or by appointment. Located 21 miles south of Caliente via Rainbow Canyon. Write Lynn Wood, Box 266, Caliente, NV 89008.
Kershaw-Ryan State Park • South of Caliente, 728-4460 for more information.

Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207.

Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 962-5207.

Spring Valley State Park • 728-4460.

Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Spring Valley State Park near Pioche, seasonal, 728-4460.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Smoky Valley Museum • 1935 schoolhouse and assay equipment. Open second Wednesday of the month and by appointment, 377-2243.

TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.
Central Nevada Museum • Artifacts and photographs on Tonopah-area history, 482-9676.
Tonopah Historic Mining Park • 482-9274 for details on the mining park.

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • Exhibits and photos on the history of the Yerington area, 463-2245.

A Reminder: To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. The area code is 702 in the Las Vegas area, and the rest of the state is 775.

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Cassidy at the Copa

David Cassidy has dived into several roles—producer and star, husband and father—since moving to Las Vegas. **By Kathy Espin**

At 50, David Cassidy has learned to appreciate the fact that he looks younger than his years. "I was in my early 20s when I was doing the television show," Cassidy recalls. The television show, of course, was the '70s hit *The Partridge Family*, in which Cassidy starred as the lead singer of a family rock-and-roll band. "I could play someone much younger because I looked so young. It's been a blessing, but I thought of it as a curse for a long time. A guy in his 20s doesn't want to be thought of as a 16-year-old."

Seeing Cassidy backstage at the Rio Suite Hotel in Las Vegas, wearing a blue-denim work shirt and black jeans, a *Partridge Family* fan might say he looked like Keith Partridge playing a grownup. Peering from under the bill of a baseball cap, Cassidy shook hands awkwardly with his left hand because of tendinitis in his right. He retreated to a back room of his dressing suite at the Rio, where he appears in "David Cassidy at the Copa," to remove the cap and repair the hat-hair in private.

Sinking into a leather sofa in the parlor, Cassidy said he considers himself a Nevadan after living in Las Vegas for four years. He pronounced the name of the state with a soft "a" (Nev-ah-da) instead of the hard, nasal "a" sound (Nev-aa-da) that natives prefer. "Frank [Sinatra] said Nevahda, so we entertainers feel we are entitled," he said. "It reflects a little of the old Vegas."

However you say it, Nevada has been Cassidy's home since 1996, when he came to Las Vegas to revamp and star in "EFX" at the MGM Grand. His reasons for accepting the assignment were varied, but a major attraction was the chance to ply his trade without traveling.

"I had been on tour for at least half the year for the last 25 years," said Cassidy, who then was based in the New York area. "I saw an opportunity to stay in one place and still write, produce, and perform." He also wanted to spend more time with his wife, Sue, and his son, Beau, now nine. "In Las Vegas, I saw I could do what I enjoy and still be a part of his growing up."

Furthermore, the MGM assignment gave

him a chance to fulfill a dream. "This was the final frontier for me," he said. "By then, I had done so many of the things I wanted to do in my career except play Vegas," he said. As a boy, David had visited Las Vegas with his father, actor Jack Cassidy, who played the Strip on several occasions.

"My dad used to talk about it and really romanticized it. I saw Bobby Darin here, one of the best singers and entertainers in



As a Las Vegas, Cassidy has revamped "EFX," produced "Rat Pack," and now stars in "David Cassidy at the Copa" at the Rio.

the world. As a kid I thought, when I grew up, I could do something like that. To me, the people at the top of their game played Vegas. To be a headliner here you had to really have the goods."

After 1,000 performances of "EFX" Cassidy suffered a setback. He had a Morton's neuroma, a nerve injury, in his foot that required an operation.

"I was laid up for three months and on crutches for a long time," he said. "During the time I was laid up, I called my old friend, Don Reo, a well-known, successful film and TV writer, and said, 'You know, I have this idea. I really want to do this show about old Las Vegas and the Rat Pack era.'"

The result was a nightclub-style show that takes the audience back to Sinatra's birthday on December 12, 1961. During the course of the imaginary celebration Sinatra is visited by his Rat Pack running buddies Sammy Davis Jr. and Dean Martin. "We pay homage to the roots of Las Vegas," Cassidy said. "Without that talent, none of this city would be standing today. We owe that era and many of those performers a debt."

Producing the "Rat Pack Is Back" was a learning experience. The show received strong reviews and attracted large crowds, according to Cassidy, but Sammy's, Frank's, and Dean's heirs threatened lawsuits. The show closed but was soon revived at the Sahara Hotel. Although the Sahara announced the show would close in August, it was extended until October due in part to fan protests and Cassidy's determination.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch-sized property Cassidy owns on the border of Las Vegas and Henderson, another idea was becoming a reality. For the Rio Suite Hotel, Cassidy created and produced another nightclub-style show, "David Cassidy at the Copa," a revue that stars Cassidy and singer Sheena Easton and features an 18-piece orchestra. A romance-murder-mystery plot line takes the audience time-traveling through decades of popular music, including several of Cassidy's '70s hit songs.

With producer credits and star billing on multiple Strip productions, Cassidy is now officially a major player in the Las Vegas entertainment industry. At the same time, Cassidy and his family have found Southern Nevada a good place to settle. David and Sue work with local children's charities, and they recently held a golf tournament and auction that raised thousands of dollars for kids in need.

"We aren't satisfied with rocking and watching the grass grow, but I do wish I had created more time to play golf and do the things my son likes to do," Cassidy said. "Las Vegas has been a great place for us to flourish. I'm happy it's worked out the way it has."

Kathy Espin is a Las Vegas writer.



Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.



Fall Reflections and Trail Sessions

Hikers find the colors and alpine vistas of the Tahoe Rim Trail perfect for a moment's reflection. When completed in September 2001, the trail will follow a 150-mile loop around Lake Tahoe. To date, volunteers who participate in the work sessions such as those planned this fall have built 141 miles of trail. Call 775-588-0686 for information on the Tahoe Rim Trail.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information. Also, Internet users can visit the Web sites listed. If you plan to stop by a chamber of commerce (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

Statewide Information

Nevada Commission on Tourism: 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; www.travelnevada.com; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 702-456-3838.

Asian C of C: 900 E. Karen, No. C217, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 702-737-4300.

Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; www.bouldercitychamber.com; 702-293-2034.

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-294-1252.

Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; www.hendersonchamber.com; 702-565-8951.

Henderson Convention Center: 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; www.cityofhenderson.com/convention; 702-565-2171.

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; www.hooverdam.com; 702-294-3524.

Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 South, Exit 12, Box 19470, Jean, NV 89019; lasvegas24hours.com; 702-874-1360.

Las Vegas C of C: 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; lvchamber.com; 702-735-1616.

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109; www.lasvegas24hours.com; 702-892-0711.

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; LasVegasLatincc.com; 702-385-7367.

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; www.laughlinchamber.com; 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Box 502, Laughlin, NV 89029; www.visitlaughlin.com; 702-298-3321 or 800-4LAUGHLIN.

Mesquite Area C of C: 850 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; www.mesquite-chamber.com; 702-346-2902.

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15, Exit 122, 460 Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2702 or 877-MESQUITE.

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040;

www.moapavalley.com; 702-397-2160 for information.

North Las Vegas C of C: 2290 McDaniel, North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 702-642-9595.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; carsoncitychamber.com; 775-882-1565.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; www.carson-city.org; 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-5283; www.carsonvalleynv.org; 775-782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Dayton Area C of C: 200-B Main St., Box 2408, Dayton, NV 89403; www.daytonnvchamber.org; 775-246-7909.

Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 1 E. First St., Reno, NV 89501; www.reno-sparkschamber.org; 775-686-3030.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.laketahoechamber.com; 775-831-4440.

Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.gotahoe.com; 775-832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.virtualtahoe.com; 530-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Box 884, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoeinfo.org; 530-581-6900.

North Lake Tahoe Resort Association: 245 North Lake Blvd., Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoeinfo.org; 530-583-3494 or 800-824-6348.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Box 837, Reno, NV 89504; www.renolaketahoe.com; 775-827-7600 or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 775-329-2936.

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.tahoeinfo.com; 530-541-5255.

Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; www.sparkschamber.org; 775-358-1976.

Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 195 Hwy. 50 at Round Hill, Zephyr Cove; www.tahoechamber.org; 775-588-4591.

Virginia City C of C: V&T Railroad Car, 131 South C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; www.comstocklode.com; 775-847-0311.

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 775-635-8245.

Elko C of C: 1405 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; www.elko-nv.com; 775-738-7135.

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; www.elkocva.com; 775-738-4091, 800-248-3556 outside Nevada.

Jarbridge Community Association: Trading Post, 72 Main St., Box 260072, Jarbridge, NV 89826; jarbridge@aol.com; 775-488-2315.

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 775-273-7213.

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 775-532-8742.

Wells C of C: 395 Sixth St., Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; www.wellsnv.com; 775-752-3540.

Wendover Area Chamber of Commerce: 735 Wendover Blvd., Box 2468, West Wendover, NV 89883; www.wendover-usa.org; 775-664-3414 or 877-WENDOVER.

Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca-nv.org; 775-623-2225.

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca.nv.us; 775-623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Lander County Courthouse, Austin, NV 89310; 775-964-2200.

Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; www.elynevada.net; 775-289-3720.

Eureka County C of C: 111 N. Main St., Box 1078, Eureka, NV 89316; 775-237-5484.

Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 775-423-4556 or 800-874-0903.

Fernley C of C: 70 N. West St., Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; www.fernleynevada.net; 775-575-4459.

Great Basin Business and Tourism Council: Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park, Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; 775-234-7323.

Greater Fallon Area C of C: 65 S. Maine St., No. B, Fallon, NV 89406; 775-423-2544.

Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 775-577-2069.

White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; www.elynevada.net; 775-289-8877.

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2, Box 401W, 821 E. Farm Rd., Amargosa, NV 89020; www.armaosavalley.com; 775-372-1515.

Beatty C of C: 119 E. Main St., Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; www.governet.net/nv/as/bea; 775-553-2424.

Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 775-726-3129.

Gabbs, City of: 509 Main St., Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 775-285-4019.

Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; members.xcom.com/gfldchamber; 775-485-3560.

Greater Smoky Valley C of C: State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Box 1977, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 775-377-2490.

Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; www.tele-net.net/lceda; 775-463-2245.

Mineral County C of C: 932 E. Street, Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; www.mineralcountynvchamber.org; 775-945-5896.

Pahrump Valley C of C: 1021 S. Frontage Rd., Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; www.ahrumpchamber.com; 775-727-5800 or 800-633-WEST.

Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 775-962-5544.

Tonopah C of C: 301 Brougner Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3859.

Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, 301 Brougner Ave., Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3558.

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 680 Greenbrae Dr., No. 265, Sparks, or Box 7440, Reno, NV 89510; 775-355-0600.

Indian Territory: Nevada Commission on Tourism, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; www.travelnevada.com; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8.

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 760-786-2331.

Great Basin National Park: Nevada Hwy. 488, Baker, NV 89311; www.nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; www.nps.gov/lame; 702-293-8907.

Nevada Division of State Parks: 1300 S. Curry St., Carson City, NV 89710; www.state.nv.us/stparks; 775-687-4370.

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; www.redrockcanyon.blm.gov; 702-363-1921.

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Department of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; www.bicyclenevada.com; 775-888-RIDE.

Bureau of Land Management: Main office: Reno, www.nv.blm.gov; 775-861-6400; Las Vegas, 702-647-5000; Elko, 775-753-0200; Winnemucca, 775-623-1500; Carson City, 775-885-6000; Ely, 775-289-1800; Caliente, 775-726-8100; Battle Mountain, 775-635-4000; Tonopah, 775-482-7800.

Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main office: 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89512; www.state.nv.us/cnr/nvwildlife/; 775-688-1500; Southern Nevada: 4747 W. Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89108; 702-486-5133.

Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; www.pyramidlakefisheries.org; 775-476-0500.

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest: www.fs.fed.us/htnf/; 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 702-873-8800; 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-5171.

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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 (\$\$\$\$). Nevada's area codes are 702 in the Las Vegas area and 775 in the rest of the state. Major credit cards are accepted at the restaurants unless otherwise noted.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

Imperial Palace/Betty's Diner—794-3261. Shakes, malts, and sundaes as well as sandwiches, soup, breakfast bakery. B, L, D, \$.

Imperial Palace/Burger Palace—794-3261. Burgers, fries, and other fast-food items. B, L, D, \$.

Imperial Palace/Emperor's Buffet—731-3311. Carving station, roast baron of beef. B, L, D, \$.

Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet—794-3261. Prime rib and champagne dinner nightly. B, L, D, \$.

Imperial Palace/Rib House—794-3261. Barbecued ribs, chicken, blackened entrees. D, \$\$\$.

Imperial Palace/Teahouse—731-3311. Carving station with prime rib. Weekend brunch. B, L, D, \$.

Riviera/Kady's Coffee Shop—794-9403. \$-\$\$.

Sam's Town Hotel/Mary's Diner—454-8073. All-American cuisine and blue plate specials in a 1950s-style diner. B, L, D, \$.

Sam's Town Hotel/Smokey Joe's Cafe—456-7777. 24-hour coffee shop featuring prime rib and two-pound Dungeness crab. B, L, D, \$\$\$.

Sam's Town Hotel/The Great Buffet—456-7777 B, L, D, \$.

Stratosphere/Roxy's Diner—380-7777. A '50s themed diner with thick shakes, big sandwiches, burgers, and blue plate specials. B, L, D, \$.

Stratosphere/Stratosphere Buffet—380-7777. Seafood night on Friday and Saturday. B, L, D, \$.

Stratosphere/Triple Crown Deli—780-7777. Sub sandwiches. L, D, \$.

INTERNATIONAL

Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries featuring international cuisine. B, L, D, \$, no credit cards.

Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet—794-9400. International cuisines plus prime rib at the Riviera's buffet. B, L, D, \$.

ITALIAN

Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D, \$.

Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano—794-9363. Italian eatery serves lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D, \$-\$\$\$.



The Great American Grill at Elko's Hilton Garden Inn.

Sam's Town Hotel/Papamios Italian Kitchen—454-8041. Choose your pasta and sauce with bottomless salad and a glass of wine. D, \$.

Stratosphere/Fellini's Tower of Pasta—380-7777. Italian cuisine is presented in an Old World setting. L, D, \$\$\$.

ASIAN

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D, \$\$\$.

Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughly with black pepper sauce. D, \$-\$\$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Imperial Palace/Embers—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D, \$\$\$.

Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D, \$\$\$.

Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D, \$.

Sam's Town Hotel/Billy Bob's Steak House—454-8031. Entrees include 28-ounce ribeye steak, rotisserie chicken, fresh catch of the day, prime rib. D, \$\$\$.

Stratosphere/Montana's Café and Grille—380-7777. Steaks, seafood, pasta, and desserts. B, L, D, \$.

Stratosphere/Top of the World—380-7777. Steaks, fish, and lobster. D, \$\$\$\$.

Laughlin

AMERICAN

Ramada Express/Carnegie's 24-Hour Dining Car—298-6231. Dine in a detailed reproduction of a railroad dining car. Carnegie's has a wide variety of menu items as well as a unique ambiance. B, L, D, \$.

Ramada Express/Roundhouse Buffet—298-4200. Choose from more than 100 items, including a carving station. B, L, D, \$.

Ramada Express/Under the Stairs Cafe—

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298-4200. Sandwiches, hot dogs, salads, shrimp cocktails, and pastries. B, L, D. \$.

Ramada Express/Station Cafe—298-4200. L, D. \$.

ITALIAN

Ramada Express/Passaggio Italian Gardens—298-4200. Chef Rafi's Italian-with-attitude variations. Homemade pastas and pizzas. D. \$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Ramada Express/The Steakhouse—298-4200. Specializing in flame-broiled meats. D. \$\$.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

Atlantis/Purple Parrot—Reno, 825-4700. Breakfast and American favorites served 24 hours a day. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

Atlantis/Toucan Charlie's Buffet—Reno, 825-4700. Friday-night seafood buffet and Sunday champagne brunch. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Branding Iron Cafe and Margarita Saloon—Carson City, 885-9000. Western favorites at moderate prices. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

Carson Nugget/Bufet—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. \$.

Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$.

Carson Station/Station Grill and Rotisserie—883-8400. Baby back ribs, fish specials. L, D. \$-\$\$.

Carson Station/Station Restaurant—883-0900. Homestyle cooking. B, L, D. \$.

Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 783-6650. Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D, \$-\$\$.

Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and seafood creations. D. \$-\$\$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Farm House Coffee Shop—Sparks, 356-3300. Old-fashioned home cooking including omelettes, pancakes, fried chicken. B, L, D. \$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Gabe's Pub and Deli—Sparks, 356-3300. Snacks, sandwiches, desserts, pastries. B, L, D. \$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

Silver Legacy/Fresh Express Food Court—Reno, 329-7400. A variety of menus, including Chinese noodle kitchen. B, L, D. \$.

Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D. \$.

Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli. B, L, D. \$.

ITALIAN

Atlantis/Café Alfresco—Reno, 825-4700. Brick-oven pizzas, pastas. L, D. \$.

Atlantis/MonteVigna—Reno, 825-4700. Tuscan-style Italian cuisine, 4,000-bottle wine cellar. D. \$\$\$.

Eldorado/La Strada—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees. Award-winning wine list. D. \$-\$\$.

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Eldorado/Chefs' Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. USDA prime rib, homemade pastas, Mongolian grill, salad bar, dessert bar. B, L, D. \$.

Eldorado/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. Deli, espresso bar, bakery, Asian Noodle Kitchen. B, L, D. \$.

Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D. \$.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$\$\$.

ASIAN

Eldorado/Golden Fortune—Reno, 786-5700. Hong Kong-style cuisine. D. \$\$\$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$\$.

Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. \$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Atlantis/Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse—Reno, 825-4700. Steaks, prime rib, seafood, and pastas. D. \$\$\$.

Atlantis/Oyster Bar on the Sky Terrace—Reno, 825-4700. Oysters, clams, shrimp, and lobster. L, D. \$\$\$.

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der, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. \$.

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Eldorado/The Grill Steakhouse—Reno, 786-5700. Prime rib, seafood, and grilled entrees. D. \$\$\$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. \$\$\$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. \$\$\$.

Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. \$\$\$.

Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Entrees include medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken. D. \$\$\$.

MEDITERRANEAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko—356-3300. Veal medallions saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana. D. \$.

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Eldorado/The Brew Brothers—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecue shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. \$.

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Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaola. D. \$\$\$.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$\$\$.

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CONTINENTAL

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STEAK & SEAFOOD

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Harveys Tahoe/Sage Room—588-2411. Western-themed steak house, tableside preparation. D. \$\$\$.

Harveys Tahoe/Seafood Grotto—588-2411.

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LOVELOCK: Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$.

WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, ribeye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. \$.

ELKO: Hilton Garden Inn/The Great American Grill—777-1200. Mobley burger, chicken Caesar, linguini primavera, filet of salmon. B, L, D. \$, major.

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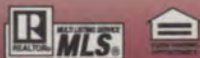


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- 210 Stardust Hotel/Wayne Newton/Las Vegas
- 236 Silver Legacy Hotel/Reno
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- 429 Nevada's Cowboy Country/Winnemucca

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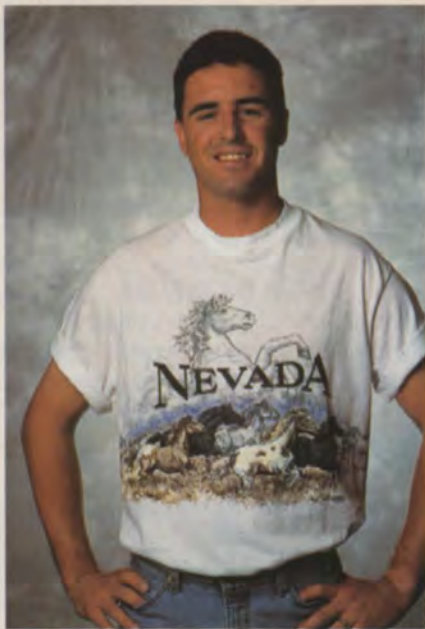
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Three Blue Men

The Luxor's production of "Blue Man Group" makes a loud but merry splash on the Las Vegas Strip.

By Mike Weatherford

Las Vegas had comedy, but never performed by bald men with blue faces.

Las Vegas had music, but not performed on instruments made of PVC pipe.

Las Vegas had magic, but never attempted to explain the real magic of how our eyes work.

So it seems there is indeed room on the Strip for "Blue Man Group," an off-Broadway hit that opened with an expanded production at the Luxor last March. The show arrived to some degree of skepticism. Everyone knows Las Vegas has changed. But has it changed enough for a largely pantomimed show on a minimalist black stage, set to rocking, percussive music that sounds like it belongs in a spaghetti Western?

Apparently so. "Blue Man Group," which is essentially leasing its theater from the Luxor, expects to make back its investment by winter. Although it's still not for everyone—with particularly warnings to those with a low tolerance for loud drumming—"Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor" is universal enough in its humor to appeal to more showgoers on the Strip than not.

To note that the show combines sophisticated concepts with elementary-school pranks may be the highest compliment one can offer. Its attempts to put the information age into context somehow fit comfortably alongside stunts such as spitting marshmallows and seeing how loudly Cap'n Crunch cereal can be chomped into a microphone.

"Blue Man Group" fits together, although it's not easy to explain why. Only the odd sensibilities of its three New York founders—Chris Wink, Phil Stanton, and Matt Goldman—give it a unified vision. The three were the original Blue Men in the early '90s, and they still occasionally



Drums and Cap'n Crunch figure prominently in "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor," the offbeat, off-Broadway percussion theater.

slap on the cobalt-blue greasepaint to stay in touch with their roots. For the most part, however, they now oversee a 350-person enterprise with companies in four cities.

Three Blue Men are still the stars of every show. They're slightly robotic, never-smiling, never-talking, but always-curious everymen who seem to have sprung still wet from some mad scientist's cloning laboratory.

Roughly the first half of the Luxor show reprises bits from the original off-Broadway production. The Blue Men squirt fluorescent paint into drumheads while pounding away on them, make beautiful music on their PVC "drumbones" and "tumbulums," and invite an audience member (always a female) to join them for a Twinkies snack, eaten to the strains of Ravel's "Bolero."

The second half exposes larger set pieces the Blue Men concocted in their New York warehouse. The expanded scope led them to seek a larger venue, hence the move to the Luxor.

A "drum wall" of seven drummers resembles the *Hollywood Squares* set by way of Pink Floyd. A neon desertcape comes to life when animated figures break out of their two-dimensional confines.

In perhaps the most stunning set piece, spinning statues on a turntable, or zoetrope, spring to life in a tribal dance. It's a feat of low-tech wizardry that comes after an explanation of how our eyes are tricked



every time we watch a movie or cartoon.

The show ends—all too quickly—on a communal note of celebration. The audience is invited to sing along to the Jefferson Airplane's "White Rabbit" and then participate in a large-scale version of the high-school ritual of papering a girl's house (to explain it would spoil it).

Some showgoers may be surprised, disappointed even, that it's all accomplished without the million-dollar staging and expensive special effects of other revues on the Strip. But "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor" revels in blessings that money can't buy: imagination and a unique, specific vision of how to show it off. ♡

Show Notes

"Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor" plays at 7 and 10 p.m. nightly except Tuesday in the Luxor Theater at the Luxor in Las Vegas. Tickets cost \$71.50 for the main floor and \$60.50 for the mezzanine, including tax. Cocktail service is available. Children over five years of age may attend. Call 702-262-4400 for reservations.

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

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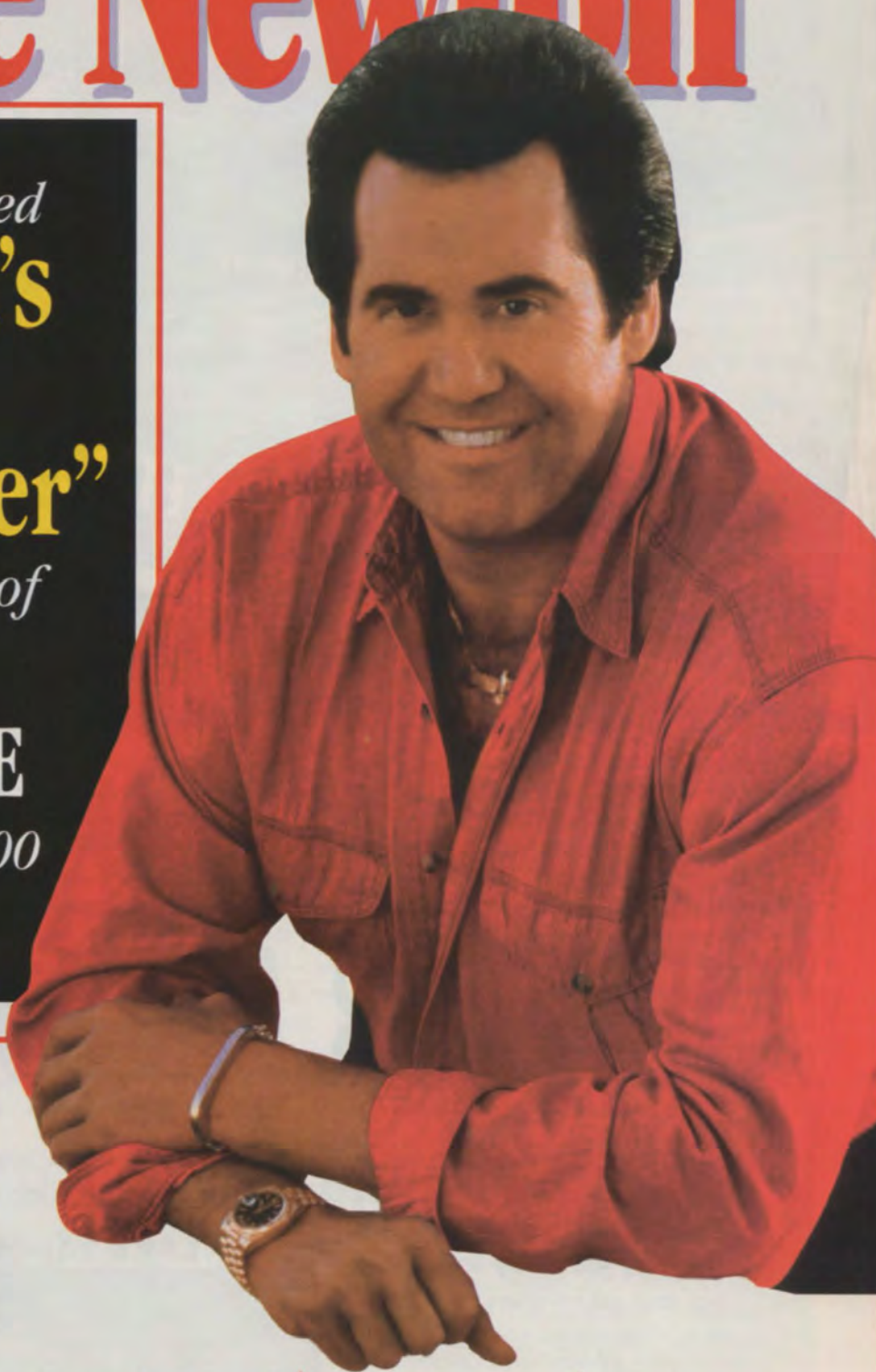
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Nevada Bookshelf

Recent releases of Nevada interest.

Nevada Post Card Album: Photographic Views of Nevada, 1903-1928

by Robert Greenwood, Fred Holabird Americana, 701 Gold Run Court, Reno, NV 89511. 220 pages, \$24.95, paper (ISBN: 0-9664632-0-X).



Las Vegas Robert Greenwood has collected the images of nearly 400 rare photographic postcards produced in the early 20th century. The black-and-white photos, most of which have never been reproduced before, offer glimpses of dozens of Nevada towns and mining camps. Some of the postcards capture events such as a spectacular fire on Reno's Commercial Row in 1909 and the start of regular airmail service in Las Vegas in 1926.

Reno casino executive Dwayne Kling has compiled an A-to-Z encyclopedia on the history of Reno's gaming industry. You can find entries ranging from the obscure (anyone remember Zimba's Casino?) to the famous (Harrah's and Harolds Club). Kling meticulously recalls colorful Reno area gaming industry figures and the nearly 350 casinos that operated in Reno between 1931 and 1981. He notes the first property to receive a legal gaming license in Nevada was the Owl Club, which opened in 1931 on Commercial Row, and that Reno's first female casino owner was Mildred Preston, who inherited 50 percent ownership in the Waldorf Club after her husband died in 1932. Highly recommended for anyone interested in Reno gambling history.

Sonny's Story: A Journalist's Memoir

by Rollan Melton. University of Nevada, Oral History Program, Reno, NV 89557. 224 pages, \$24.95, hardcover (ISBN: 1-56475-376-X). Veteran Nevada journalist Rollan Melton, who still writes a regular column for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*, tells his own story in this handsome volume prepared with the assistance of the Oral History Project at the University of Nevada, Reno. Melton, called Sonny as a youngster, describes his chaotic and dysfunctional childhood—his family moved frequently and his father was an alcoholic—as well as his subsequent success as a Nevada high school and college football player, newspaperman, and, later, media executive. Highlights include Melton's newspaper apprenticeship in Fallon, his involvement in a 1950s battle for academic freedom at the University of Nevada in Reno, and his rapid rise through the



executive ranks at Speidel Newspapers to become the company's president at 40.

Nevada Travel Smart

by Carolyn Graham. Avalon Travel Publishing, 5855 Beaudry St., Emeryville, CA 94608. 240 pages, \$15.95, paper (ISBN: 1-56261-434-7). Carolyn Graham, associate editor of *Nevada Magazine* and author of guidebooks on Costa Rica and Belize, has written a clever, comprehensive guide to the Silver State. Unlike some guides, which simply list every restaurant, hotel, or attraction, Graham offers her recommendations for the best places to eat, stay, and play in the state. Her choices are subjective—Graham favors the unusual and offbeat—but always interesting. The book is well illustrated with black-and-white photos, charts, maps, and graphics.



Nevada Place Names

by Helen S. Carlson. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076. 296 pages, \$21.95, paper (ISBN: 0-87417-094-X). If you're at all interested in Nevada history, this book should be on your shelf. Author Helen S. Carlson, who died in 1996, spent more than 14 years researching this comprehensive guide to the origins of nearly every place name used in Nevada. Originally published in 1974, *Nevada Place Names* remains an invaluable tool for anyone who has ever wondered what Pahrump means (it's Paiute for "big spring") or where you can find Goblin Knobs (they're hills in Nye County).—Richard Moreno

Good Medicine: Four Las Vegas Doctors and the Golden Age of Medicine

by Annie Blachley. University of Nevada School of Medicine, Greasewood Press, Reno, NV 89557. 232 pages, \$35.00, hardcover (ISBN: 0-9649759-7-1).

Reno author Annie Blachley traces the evolution of the medical profession in Las Vegas from the 1940s to the 1980s. Blachley focuses on four longtime medical practitioners—Dr. Gerald J. Sylvain, Dr. Joseph M. George, Dr. James D. Barger, and Dr. Leonard P. Keisler—and tells how each came to Las Vegas when it was a small town and how their profession, and the community, radically changed over the years.

The Rise of the Biggest Little City: An Encyclopedic History of Reno Gaming, 1931-1981

by Dwayne Kling. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076. 220 pages, \$34.95, hardcover (ISBN: 0-87417-340-X). Former

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Reno's Celebration of Books

Book lovers can attend public readings by authors, panel discussions, book signings, and book sales at the **Great Basin Book Festival** on September 29-30. Most events will take place Saturday in Wingfield Park in downtown Reno.

The keynote speaker for the fourth annual festival is Wole Soyinka, a prominent Nigerian playwright, poet, and novelist in exile who received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1986. Considered by many to be Africa's finest writer, Soyinka often writes about the struggle among Africans to reconcile tradition with modern culture. Other themes to be explored at the festival include the experiences of the World War II generation, Native American literature, women writing about the West, and Nevada architecture. Contact the Nevada Humanities Committee, 775-784-6587, for more information on the Great Basin Book Festival.



California (Street) Cuisine

Three Reno restaurants form a creative culinary crossroads.

Story by Kathleen Stebbins, Photos by Gary Elam

If a city can be said to have a cultural epicenter, then Reno's is on California Street. Just southwest of downtown, the California Street corridor between Virginia Street and Keystone Avenue is where Reno's multiple personalities collide: Million-dollar mansions meet converted bungalows, foothills find the river, buzzing marquees give way to old oak.

At the center of all this you'll find a trio of restaurants making good use of the energy. The Cheese Board and Wine Seller, its upstairs neighbor Deux Gros Nez, and the Blue Plate across the street collectively and individually offer a colorful culinary experience.

Start with **Deux Gros Nez**. Locals who can't pronounce the name ("doo-grow-nay," meaning "two big noses" in French) sometimes refer to the second-floor eatery as "that place with the bicycles."

Owner Tim Healion, a cycling enthusiast, displays a veritable museum of memorabilia. The inside walls are covered with racing jerseys, including one worn by three-time Tour de France winner Greg Lemond, who went to high school in Reno.

"It's about as eclectic as anything in the world," says Healion. He has expanded his collection to include rock-climbing gear, '50s chrome, and hand-painted chairs. Over 15 years he's tinkered with the food as well, adding more serious entrees to the original coffeehouse menu of pastries and croissants. Diners can now enjoy focaccia

pizzas, quiches, and soups. Most items are vegetarian and sport names like "See Voo Play" (eggs over a croissant) or "Sandwich Obscurra" (peanut butter and jelly).

The whimsical environment draws a varied clientele. "At 6 a.m. we get the construction guys, at eight the business guys. You can find lawyers sitting next to kids with piercings and mohawks, right-wing gun guys sitting next to hard-core radicals," Healion says. The service is casual, like hanging out at an eccentric friend's house. Tuesday is Open Mike Night, featuring what Healion calls "some great,

very weird stuff." Deux Gros Nez also has added a juice bar. It's located downstairs, behind the Cheese Board and Wine Seller. *Deux Gros Nez (775-786-9400) is open daily from 6 a.m. to midnight.* The **Cheese Board and Wine Seller** offers a more upscale, traditional style with alfresco seating when weather permits. The menu is less capricious but still inventive. Selections like smoked turkey focaccia with basil pesto and grilled chicken Caesar with sun-dried tomato dressing entice a sizable crowd at lunch time. "We have customers who come in four or five days a week," says owner Debbie Branby. She keeps them surprised with specials like cranberry-glazed pork tenderloin and crab quiche with herbs in addition to what she calls the "best selection of specialty cheeses in Northern Nevada."

The interior is a well-considered exam-



The eclectic Deux Gros Nez (left) features cycling memorabilia at the second-floor eatery. Laura Hardester (above) trims the wheat grass in the juice bar at Deux Gros Nez.



Owner Harriet Ellis discusses luncheon entrees with diners in the enclosed rear courtyard at the Blue Plate on California Street.

ple of California chic, colorfully understated, with pinspot lighting adding a dramatic effect to the crisp linen-topped tables. The linen is a recent upgrade; many fans remember the "old days," when butcher paper and crayons were the norm. The Cheese Board coexists peacefully with its funkier upstairs cousin, and the two owners sometimes borrow from each other when supplies unexpectedly run low. "They check with me for cheeses," Branby says, "[but] they always have more milk than I do!" *The Cheese Board and Wine Seller* (775-323-3115) is open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Across the street at the **Blue Plate**, manager-owner Harriet Ellis takes a different

tack on the bistro theme: Greek meets Chinese. "The Greek part came from [our] being Greek," she says, "the Asian because we liked it."

Ellis' diners choose from entrees like the Chop Chop (salad greens with chicken, basil, cheese, and chick peas), Spanakopita (traditional Greek spinach and phyllo pie), and the Pat (cold noodles dressed in peanut sauce with chicken) and follow with authentic baklava or chocolate-dipped fortune cookies.

Ellis and her co-owner and daughter, Valerie Ellis, recently expanded the Blue Plate, more than doubling its dining space. The dining

room offers customers a view of food preparation in the exhibition-style kitchen. Try taking a high-topped table by the window if you like people-watching. An enclosed rear courtyard provides additional seating, and in the summer Blue Plate patrons can dine Parisian-style on the sidewalk out front. *The Blue Plate* (775-786-3463) is open for lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and stays open until 8 p.m. on Friday. Greek-food aficionados might wish to investigate Greek Menu Night, every second Wednesday of the month with 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. seatings. ♣

Kathleen Stebbins is a restaurant writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal and longtime observer of the Reno-Sparks restaurant scene.



Faye Woodroof (left), Micki Estes, and Mike Price beat the lunch crowd at the Cheese Board and Wine Seller.

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Antique Station

You can gamble, dine, and step back in time at the Victorian-themed Main Street Station.

By Bob Barnes



Salve Sebresos greets guests at Main Street Station's ornate registration area. The mahogany cabinets came from an old-time drugstore in Covington, Kentucky.

Nearly every hotel-casino in Las Vegas has a theme to make it stand out from the rest. At Main Street Station, the theme is Victorian opulence. An array of furniture, artifacts, and collectibles at the downtown casino provides a glimpse of the luxury enjoyed by the pampered elite of the late 19th century. The antiques not only enliven the atmosphere but also put you in touch with history.

Main Street Station opened in 1991 as a downtown redevelopment project. The city of Las Vegas approached Bob Snow, the entrepreneur who had turned a run-down area of Orlando into the popular Church Street Station, to do the same for downtown Las Vegas. Snow spent millions

to create a themed resort to showcase the antique collection he had amassed over 25 years. It was reputed to be the world's largest private collection of artifacts and antiques owned by one person. Snow described the casino's décor as "High Victorian, meant to represent a period in England from the 1880s to 1910." However, Main Street Station foundered, filed for bankruptcy, and closed in 1992.

The casino remained empty for four years until it was resurrected by Boyd Gaming Corporation. Boyd Gaming, owners of the California Hotel across the street and other Las Vegas hotels, added a parking garage and a walkway to the California. After building a brewpub to entice the



These 1870 street lamps came from Brussels.



A collector wanted "Goldie's Window," so he bought the house.

locals, Boyd Gaming reopened Main Street Station in 1994. Bolstered by the Fremont Street Experience light show and the popularity of the Triple 7 Brewpub—winner of *Las Vegas Review-Journal* and *Nevada Magazine* readers' polls and of silver and bronze medals in the Great American Beer Festival—Main Street Station has prospered by attracting locals as well as tourists.

Although 4,000 of Snow's antiques were auctioned off from the warehoused collection before bankruptcy was declared, many historical pieces remain. Even before entering the casino you can see splendid relics. On the tree-lined sidewalk leading from the Fremont Street Experience, two blocks away, you'll find two historic rail cars. The older is the *Cascade/Colorado Midland 100*. Built in 1897 by the Pullman Palace Car Company, the *Cascade* is regarded by railroad experts as the best preserved specimen of an 1890s private business car. Its state of preservation is attributed to its having been stored in a barn for decades before its move to Las Vegas. Originally built for the president of the Colorado Midland Railroad, the *Cascade* has its original inlaid paneling, Pintsch gaslight fixtures (now electric), and a huge Stearne's Company wood-burning stove.

Next to the *Cascade* is the *Blackhawk/Private Car 92*, built in 1903 for Charles Elliot Perkins, president of the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad. In its hey-

day the *Blackhawk* served as the personal car of Buffalo Bill Cody, who used it to travel with his Wild West Show from 1906 until his death in 1917. Annie Oakley and Colonel Teddy Roosevelt also traveled in the *Blackhawk*. Both cars are perfectly preserved, and one can peer through their windows to see a dining room, bedroom, kitchen, and sitting room as they looked a century ago.

Also outside are six red-granite and bronze street lamps from Brussels. The lights burn gas just as they did more than a century ago.

From the sidewalk you'll admire two Victorian stained-glass windows. One once hung in the Pittsburgh mansion of American singer and actress Lillian Russell and was presented to her by Diamond Jim Brady. The other is the original "Goldie's Window" from the home of Goldie Schiesser, a wealthy resident of St. Joseph,

Missouri. Collectors tried to buy the window from Goldie, but she refused to sell it. Finally, a gallery owner from Aspen purchased the entire home to gain possession of the window.

Inside the casino, nearly everything you see except the gaming tables and slot machines is rich in antiquity. Be sure to pick up the hotel's brochure, *Guide to Artifacts, Antiques & Artworks*, at the casino cage or the reservation desk. The reservation desk itself looks as if it could be standing in an old railway station, with its wooden panels, high-backed wooden benches, and brass light fixtures.

More history can be found in three 1890s billiard tables that, unfortunately, are located in the mezzanine executive area above the casino and not accessible to the public. The tables were built for England's royal family and played at Windsor Castle until after World War II. Winston Churchill was said to have played the tables. One table was later owned by renowned pool hustler Minnesota Fats. Amazingly, patrons were allowed to play the tables when Main Street Station first opened under Bob Snow.

Representing modern history is a sizable portion of the Berlin Wall. Displayed in the men's restroom just past the keno area, it's built into the

urinals—a fitting tribute. Photos of daring escapes and the wall's dismantling are framed above it.

You can examine more antiques in the Pullman Grille steakhouse. Entering the restaurant you'll pass through massive doors that once stood in the Pullman Mansion in Prairie, Illinois. Inside, you'll see the restaurant's centerpiece—the *Louisa May Alcott* train car. Built in 1926 by the Pullman Palace Car Company, the *Louisa May Alcott* was part of a four-car series named after famous women authors and was fashioned as a traditional parlor car, with one end designated as a "gentlemen's" smoking room. Patrons can go inside the train car and enjoy a drink or a fine cigar from the Pullman Grille's humidor. This railway car is quite appropriate since Main Street Station sits on property once used by the Union Pacific Railroad.

That is just a sampling of the antiques on display at Main Street Station. What's especially impressive is that the artifacts are incorporated into the design of the property, and several function much as they did a century ago. If you're a history buff, or just someone who enjoys finely crafted collectibles, a visit to Main Street Station will take you back in time. ▣

Bob Barnes is a freelance writer who teaches fifth grade at Edith Garehime Elementary School in Las Vegas. He contributes to Vegas People and serves as regional correspondent for Celebrator Beer News. Call Main Street Station, 800-713-8933, for more information on its antiques.



Las Vegan Walter Baier inspects the *Blackhawk*, one of two private rail cars parked outside Main Street Station.

Model Farmers

Darrell and JuDee Craig deliver produce to organically minded subscribers.

Story by Treva Lind
Photos by Jay Aldrich

Just ahead of the summer sunrise, Darrell Craig straps on a headlamp at 5 a.m. and heads out into darkness to pick spinach so it will be fresh for customers that day. By 6:30 a.m. he and his wife, JuDee, have loaded the bed of a restored Model A truck with organic Johnson Lane Farms produce, bound for the Wednesday farmer's market in Gardnerville. Their cargo may consist of tomatoes, carrots, eggplants, cucumbers, arugula, green beans, herbs, strawberries, and any other edible plants they can nurture through Northern Nevada's unpredictable growing season.

On market days the Craigs set up their stand amid the crowd of vendors and customers in Lampe Park. The Craigs also make deliveries to their subscribers—Carson Valley and Carson City residents who pay \$550 for a six-month subscription to receive a box of just-picked produce each week.

Darrell and JuDee are vegetarians who thrive on the outdoors and the natural process of advancing food from seed to table. Although JuDee teaches piano, guitar, and recorder in her home to help pay the bills, she works with Darrell most mornings on the quarter-acre farm that stretches behind their house and on the nearby land of JuDee's father, Pete Neudeck, in the Johnson Lane area five miles northeast of Minden. For the couple, Johnson Lane Farms is not only a labor of love but also their livelihood. With the help of greenhouses the Craigs grow some crops through the winter, sustaining themselves and a few customers year-round.

"These are people who garden not as a hobby but because it's who they are," says Tina Fixman, an avid Minden gardener



JuDee and Darrell Craig grow certified-organic tomatoes, carrots, and many other crops at their Carson Valley farm. They often deliver produce to subscribers in the 1929 Model A Ford truck that Darrell restored.

and friend for 22 years. "It's a way of life."

"I've always been an outdoors person," says Darrell, a quiet man who was raised in Napa Valley. He enjoys working with his hands and restored the Model A truck himself. "It's all about getting back to the basics. I'd like to be out in the middle of

nowhere on 40 acres, with a straw-bale house, no electricity, a windmill, and a stone barn."

Darrell and JuDee, who grew up at Lake Tahoe, do all they can to live with nature. Their farm is one of 21 in Nevada certified as organic by the Nevada Division of



The Craigs tend to a frequent fall task: covering plants to protect them against frost. Pippin, one of the Craigs' rabbits, hides in the banana peppers (top left). Darrell turns tomatoes for even ripening (top right).

Agriculture. "It's very important to both of us to be as natural and self-sufficient as we can," JuDee says. "I love being with the birds, bunnies, and butterflies in the morning, and later, even though my back hurts a little, I don't always want to come inside."

Both admit that trial-and-error garden-

ing in the high desert presents a challenge not found in the milder regions of California. Here, growers deal with unexpected frost into June, 60-mph winds, and thunderstorms that pound tender plants with hail. A short, 90-day growing season, from June through August, forces the Craigs to rely on raised beds with protec-

tive covering such as rows of clear plastic and even blankets bought at thrift stores.

The Craigs have no employees, relying instead on teamwork and an automatic irrigation system. Their farm companions include a dog, a cat, two rabbits, 23 chickens, and 75 fish that live in a pond. Their bunny Pippin, a gray Chinchilla Agouti, has found a slice of carrot heaven at the farm. Darrell doesn't remove the plastic from some of the 22 crop beds until they know Pippin is ready for a nap.

"We have a bunny who likes to get in and chew off the peppers and the small cucumbers, so we leave the plastic on for a little while," explains Darrell, who typically begins working by 5:30 or 6 a.m. "That helps the peppers actually stay warmer, and they like it. I start weeding or preparing a bed. Then the bunny goes under the deck to get cool about 9 or 10 a.m. When we know he's on his down time, then up go the covers. He's got the run of this place."

The Craigs have served as many as 21 subscribers in their community-supported agriculture group, some of whom drive to the farm to pick up their weekly box of produce. JuDee writes a weekly newsletter that includes recipes and suggestions for using the harvest year-round.

"We try to plant a variety because maybe if the corn doesn't make it, then perhaps the peas will do really good. You're always taking chances," explains JuDee. But whatever the growing cycle, the Craigs say they find it rewarding simply to see more people making vegetables a diet staple. JuDee says, "It's so fulfilling to encourage people to eat according to the seasons." ▀

Treva Lind, a former reporter for Gardnerville's Record-Courier and the Reno Gazette-Journal, recently moved with her family from Carson Valley to Washington state. A hobby gardener, she once grew a giant pumpkin but had lousy luck with corn.

Nevada's Subscription Farms

For more information on their farm, the farmer's market, or subscriptions, the Craigs can be reached at 775-267-2209 or by writing **Johnson Lane Farms**, 2646 Stewart Avenue, Minden, NV 89423. The **Gardnerville Farmer's Market** at Lampe Park meets each Wednesday morning through October, weather and crops permitting; call 775-782-9828.

Nevada has other subscription farms, known officially as community-supported agriculture (CSA) farms. In Silver Springs, **Custom Gardens** has been operated by Ray and Virginia Johnson

since 1988. Their farm, like the Craigs', is certified organic, and they offer a food-for-work membership. Contact Custom Gardens, 3701 Elm Street, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 775-577-2069; <http://customgardens.home.mindspring.com>.

In Dayton, **Smith and Smith Farms** is operated by the mother-and-daughter team of Carole and Brenda Smith. The Smiths send flyers in February, sign up members in March, and distribute produce from June to October. Contact **Smith and Smith Farms**, Box 1164, Dayton, NV 89403; 775-246-9005.

A House Afloat

Cruising Lake Mead by houseboat offers all the conveniences of home.

By Joe Zentner

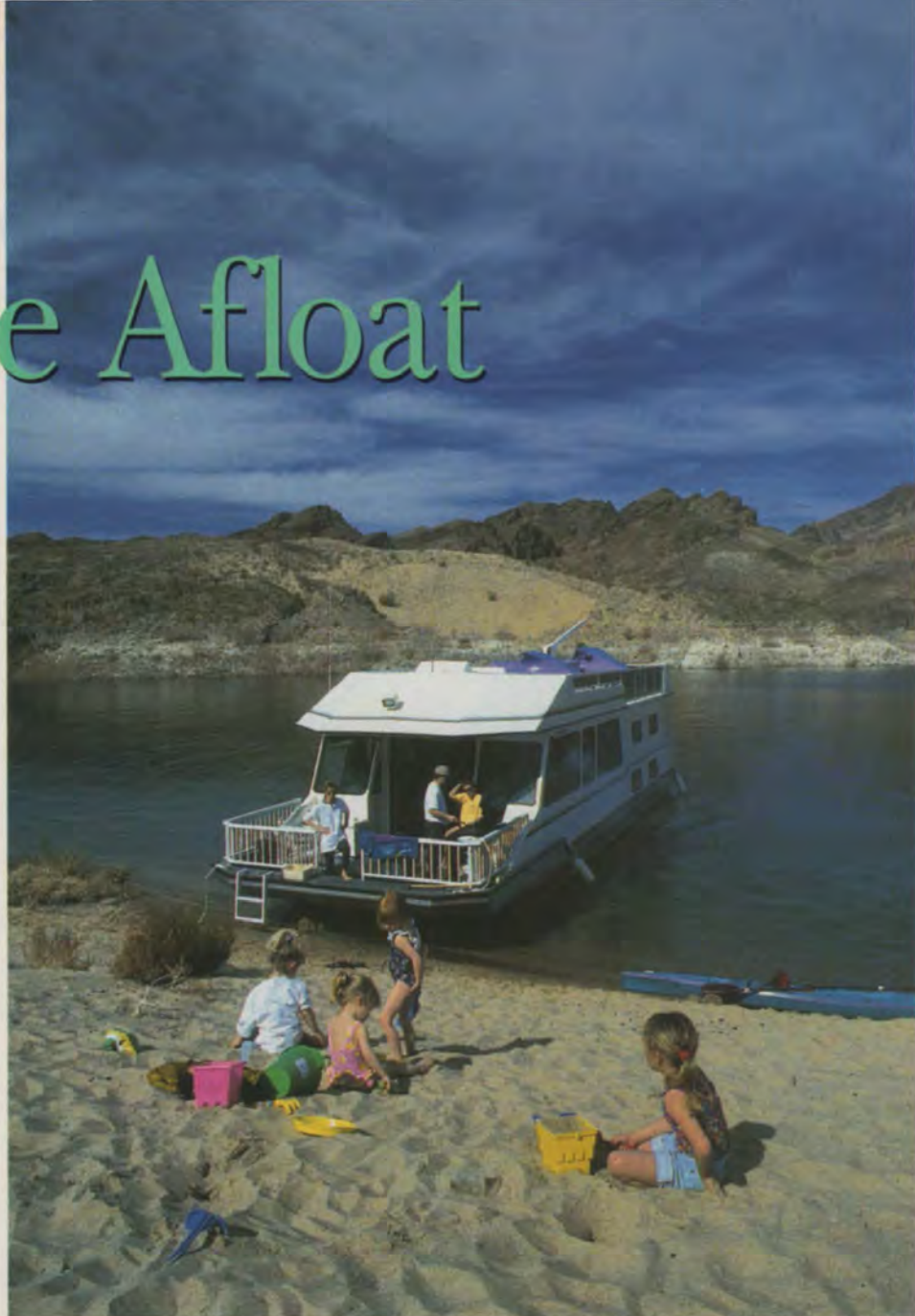
A vacation house that's free of weeds and free to follow the sun—that's a houseboat. This vessel is precisely what its name suggests—a home afloat, a marriage of space and water. The house illusion, in fact, is so strong that one night, the last time we were on Lake Mead, a departing guest on our boat opened the front door, turned to say good-bye, and walked into the lake.

During several vacations my family, friends, and I have explored the sheltered coves of Lake Mead aboard a houseboat. This manner of conveyance offers seclusion, independence, mobility, and convenience. If you've never captained a houseboat, much less cruised on one, you're in for a surprise. In addition to having all the comforts of home—right down to the barbecue grill on the foredeck—houseboats are easy to maneuver and self-contained.

On Lake Mead and its neighbor, Lake Mohave, you can float your cares away in a houseboat equipped with a well-appointed kitchen, beds, bathrooms, grill, dining table, chairs, front and back

Cruising at eight miles per hour, we gauged our progress in terms of scenery witnessed, sun bathed in, and fish caught.

porches, and sundeck. Aside from savoring the scenery, houseboaters can hike through quiet wilderness areas, fish, snorkel, lounge the days away with a good book, or cool off with a swim when the sun reaches its peak intensity.



Ready for sand-castle building and dinner, houseboat vacationers find a berth at Sandy Cove on Lake Mead.

Best of all, it's a world of your own making. The itinerary, menu, and, most importantly, the company you keep, are all determined by you.

Summer is the busiest houseboating period on Mead, but fall and spring are excellent times to go houseboating there because the weather is still warm and the rates are generally lower than summer. It's

wise to make reservations well in advance with one of the two concessionaires, Forever Resorts and Seven Crown Resorts, that rent houseboats in Lake Mead National Recreation Area (see sidebar).

The rental fee covers everything except

food, fuel, and, in some cases, bedding. Bring food, paper towels, and personal items. Besides vacation clothes, you'll need rubber-soled shoes to provide firm footing on houseboat decks.

When you arrive at the marina, your houseboat will be ready to go. Each boat carries large storage tanks of fresh water, as well as sewage tanks. Before setting out, the rental operator will take you on a short cruise to familiarize you with the controls, navigation, and docking. Be advised: First-time houseboaters often go too far too fast. The rental operator can advise you how much mileage is best for a day's cruising.

We took our most recent cruise in July 1999 when we launched our houseboat from Callville Bay Marina and embarked on a week of adventure. It was hot during

the day, and the breeze behaved strangely up the high-walled canyons, but we got our wish for quiet and solitude.

Lake Mead is shaped like a giant upside-down "T." Its upper end backs into the Virgin River. Its east end reaches the Grand Canyon, and its west end is held back by Hoover Dam.

When we launched just around Promontory Point from the dam, we looked across 15 miles of water known as Boulder Basin, dotted with islands and bordered by great black-, brown-, and rust-colored mountains that dropped straight down into the lake. We noticed that distances are deceiving in the clear desert air. An object 10 miles away seemed right over the bow.

On the afternoon of the first day, we beached our white-and-blue houseboat near the end of a milk-chocolate canyon. The sun gazed down from a robin's-egg sky, and the day was body-temperature hot except where sandstone shadows fell. I untied a dinghy and rowed quietly up-canyon. Two girls scrambled up a steep sand bank and then slid otterlike, laughing, into the water. Two other girls explored the sandstone amphitheater that towered six stories above them.

There were 10 of us: Lee and Teal Collum, our neighbors, and their two daughters; Polly and I and our two daughters; as well as Douglas and Mame Johnston. Our houseboat was a 50-footer. It had a covered deck forward and a sun-deck aft, an aft cabin with two double and two single bunks, a mid cabin with two single bunks, a forward cabin with kitchen and lounge, as well as an open top deck



A houseboat cruise on Mead brings one close to the formations carved by the Colorado and Virgin rivers.

where the adults slept under the stars. The boat afforded ample room day and night.

In the morning we would pack our bedding off the top deck, have a quick breakfast, carry the anchors off the beach, and back her off. Then we'd cruise amidst some of the most awesome geology on earth—sandstone tapestries, frescoes, mosaics, caves, castles, towers, minarets, arches, domes, and grottoes. When the day grew hot, we would cut the engines and drift, or anchor in a quiet cove. Then the girls would put on an inner tube or life vest and jump in. The pace of life on a houseboat seemed a throwback to an ear-

lier time. Cruising at eight miles per hour, we didn't gauge our progress in terms of miles traveled per day but rather in scenery witnessed, sun bathed in, and fish caught.

In the afternoon we would head up one of Mead's tributary canyons or unnamed waterways to search out a camp. Camping is allowed anywhere along the shore. We chose our campsites for their privacy, beauty, swimming possibilities, shelter from the wind and sun, and their fishing potential.

Houseboating Mead

Two concessionaires rent houseboats at five marinas in Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Reservations must be made in advance. Houseboats usually rent for three, four, or seven days and, depending on size, sleep eight to 14 people. The marinas also rent powerboats and personal watercrafts. Houseboat rental prices are highest in summer but drop in fall, winter, and spring. Prices vary not only by season but also by marina and boat size.

Forever Resorts rents houseboats at Callville Bay on Lake Mead and Cottonwood Cove on Lake Mohave. In the fall season, Sept. 3-Oct. 15, three-day

trips cost \$1,695 to \$2,595. Weekly rentals range from \$2,495 to \$3,995. Rates are lower between Oct. 16 and May 1. Contact Forever Resorts, Box 52038, Phoenix, AZ 85072; 800-255-5561 or 480-998-1981; www.foreverresorts.com.

Seven Crown Resorts rents houseboats at Echo Bay and Temple Bar on Lake Mead and at Lake Mohave Resort near Laughlin. At the value rate, from Sept. 5 to early June (except Memorial Day weekend), a three-day rental runs \$850 to \$1,650, and a seven-day excursion costs \$1,450 to \$2,250. Contact Seven Crown Resorts, Box 16247, Irvine, CA 92623; 800-752-9669; www.sevencrown.com.



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Most houseboats come with kitchens, queen beds, gas grills, televisions, and even air-conditioning.

Our favorite campsite, in Iceberg Canyon, was an excellent illustration of a houseboat's role as a fishing camp. Over a couple of days the houseboat had transported us in what can only be described as luxury far up Lake Mead to a place that can be visited only by boat. We came to a passageway barely wide enough for us to squirm through. The canyon widened but began to grow shallow. Just before it became too shallow for the houseboat, a perfect camping site appeared on the port side. I maneuvered the boat into it and held on the sand while Lee and Douglas planted the anchors up the slope off the port and starboard bows, drew the lines taut, and secured them.

It was a dreamy place, with a pyramid-shaped tower reflecting in the water and a sky-high red cliff opposite. The girls spotted bluegill swarming beside the boat and began to catch them on worms using their ultralight spin-casting outfits. With the dinghy, Polly and I explored a garden of submerged trees that lay 30 yards aft of the houseboat's stern and saw schools of bass swimming among them.

Swimming with masks and innertubes, the girls spotted several catfish. We were near a tributary, which was lined with trees and places where sheer cliffs dived deep below the surface.

Our last evening, we tied up to a tree in a deserted cove with our sundeck commanding a sweeping view of the landscape. We had fresh-caught catfish for dinner. Later, we sat on the sundeck and watched the stars come out.

That is what we liked best about floating across the landscape in a houseboat: You do it your way, at your own pace, unhurried and unpressured. Even on crowded weekends, Lake Mead's side canyons and coves make it easy to find your own private place. ♥

Joe Zentner is a retired professor of political science at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He lives in North Carolina and writes regularly about history and the outdoors.

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Nevada Spas

(Continued from page 19)



The MGM Grand spa is one of those with space for meditation.

your body. This warm mixture lets your pores open, eliminating toxins and absorbing moisturizing oils.

The **Spa at Caesars Palace** offers such hedonistic services as a Faustina oxygen replenisher facial and a sultan's seaweed body mask. If Eastern traditions intrigue you, a therapist can provide an Indian Ayurvedic ritual, such as shirodhara ther-

The Krauter Bath is a potent, aromatic solution made from rich botanicals.

apy. This technique is based on an ancient ritual used to restore inner calm and balance the emotions. Your treatment begins with a stream of warm oil dripping lightly onto your "third eye"—the forehead. The herbal-infused oil is massaged into the hair and scalp, followed by Ayurvedic herbs to nourish the hair roots and condition the scalp. Then, using oils chosen earlier that address your emotional and physical concerns, the therapist concludes the session

with a full body massage. Although some folks complain about getting all that oil in their hair, it's a rejuvenating treatment.

Caesars has several spa packages. For \$225, the "Pompeian Pleasure" renews your psyche with an aromatherapy pedicure, vitamin therapy, and a neck, back, and shoulder massage.

Essential services at **Spa Bellagio** are massage therapy, hydrotherapy, and body and facial care. The Deluxe Massage combines Swedish technique and a scalp treatment for \$100. The spa is open only to guests of Bellagio, Mirage, Treasure Island, and Gold Nugget.

Hydrotherapies cost about \$45 and include a Hungarian thermal mineral soak and a Krauter Bath. The latter is an old German remedy, and its name derives from the German *krauter bad* ("herbal bath"). The Krauter Bath is a potent, aromatic solution made from rich botanicals. You can bathe in the aroma of pine to invigorate the body, wildflower for aching muscles, or chamomile for a soothing sensation.

Mesquite, 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas, has two hotel spas. The **CasaBlanca Spa and Salon** offers an outdoor hot-oil treatment or Watsu (aquatic Shiatsu) massage. This open-air spa is noted for its healing waters and peat-moss mud treatments.

My partner and I braved the Mud n' Eucalyptus Steam, which began with a baptismal emersion into a tub of hot mud. Yes, it smelled like moss! However, as I imagined how mud is a toy to a child, my adult awareness and modesty began to melt away. Later, we rose from this green mixture not quite able to bend our limbs as we lumbered under the weight of the dripping mud. Next we were escorted to an outdoor lounging area. After the mud baked dry, we washed down with a tingly peppermint castile soap made from olive oil and rosemary and peppermint extracts. The final step was a cleansing steam, where our pores and oral senses soaked up the potent eucalyptus.

Packages range up to \$170 for "Getting Out of the Rough," a mud and scrub, Swedish massage, and European facial you can enjoy after playing the CasaBlanca Golf Club.

Across the street at Si Redd's Oasis is the **Spa at the Oasis**, operated by the presti-

gious Green Valley Spa of St. George, Utah. The lobby of the cabana-style building is adorned with candlelight, soft music, and fragrant blooms. The treatment rooms are sprinkled with flower petals.

You might start with the Crushed Pearl Body Rub. First the therapist gently exfoliates your body with a warm "pearl" paste. Then you are emersed in a honey-milk bath Jacuzzi. The treatment ends with a light massage to relax the mind and moisturize the skin. Si Redd's Oasis has two championship golf courses, and a spa package provides an antidote to an arduous 18 holes.

The Reno-Tahoe area has a number of spas, too. **Caesars Tahoe Spa** has one of the lake's biggest spas. It boasts a 2,500-square-

Spa Glossary

Before booking your next spa vacation or appointment, here's some background on a few of the massages and skin-care treatments available at Nevada spas.

Swedish Massage: A full-body massage involving the classic European techniques of long strokes and kneading. It aids circulation and promotes relaxation.

Sports Massage: Focuses on specific muscle groups with compression and cross-fiber techniques. The goal is to relieve the aches and pains resulting from sporting activities.

Shiatsu: A Japanese technique using the concepts of acupuncture. By applying pressure to various points along energy meridians of the body, blocked energy is released and functions of internal organs are stimulated.

Reflexology: Concentrating on hands and feet, this ancient Asian massage technique stimulates and releases the flow of energy when pressure is applied to areas associated with the body's glands and organs.

Exfoliation: Cleanses the skin and removes rough spots and cellular debris.

Detoxification: Removes impurities from the skin.

Nourishment: Replaces nutrients vital to the skin.

Rehydration: Replenishes the skin's moisture.

—Katherine McDonnell

foot cardiovascular room, retail shop, juice bar, massages, certified personal trainers, as well as aerobics and yoga classes. Locker areas include showers, eucalyptus steam rooms, whirlpools, and saunas.

In Crystal Bay, the rooms of the **Cal-Neva Resort's European Health Spa** look out on Lake Tahoe. For \$99 you can embark on a two-hour "Spa Adventure" with robe and slippers, sauna, Jacuzzi, steam, herbal wrap, salt-glow scrub, and a half-hour massage while enjoying the peace and views of Tahoe's north shore.

Reno's **Silver Legacy Health Spa** offers guests state-of-the-art exercise equipment with LifeFitness cardiovascular machines and circuit training by Life Strength.

Personal trainers will take you through a weight workout or develop a personalized weight-training program for \$15 for 55 minutes. Services also include sauna, steam room, whirlpools, and massage therapy. The Barbary Beauty and Barber Salon provides facials, manicures, and hair styling.

In Sparks, you'll find one of the state's best pools on the fifth floor of John Ascuaga's Nugget. There, **Chonne's Salon and Spa** features eight bubbling whirlpools along the edge of an Olympic-size indoor swimming pool, complete with waterfall. A 13,000-square-foot glass atrium encloses the pool and spa and allows views of Reno and the Sierra Nevada. You'll find massages, a health club with gym equipment,

and a full-service salon. For \$189, a "Complete Day of Pampering" package treats you to a massage, manicure and pedicure, facial, hair style, makeup, pool-side lunch, and pool and health-club pass. Then, looking and feeling good, you can step out that night with another package benefit: two tickets to the Nugget's Celebrity Showroom. ▣

Katherine McDonnell, former Nevada Magazine events editor, is a freelance writer. She is a certified personal trainer at the Canyon Ranch Health Resort in Tucson and a professional dancer and teacher with that city's Ballet Arts Ensemble. Her "Diary of a Showgirl" appeared in the July/August '98 issue.

Guide to Nevada Spas

By Wilma LaRocca

Nevada's spas run the gamut in style and expense. Admission usually is free to hotel guests. Most hotel-casinos provide lockers, toiletries, and spa attire to nonguests for a daily use fee. Many spas have personal trainers. Here is a sampling of the Silver State's spas and some of the services each offers. Reservations are suggested. Prices for spa treatments and other services vary widely and are subject to change. The spas are listed alphabetically by hotel, beginning in the Las Vegas area.

Las Vegas

Alexis Park Health Spa: Open to the public. The spa at the nongaming Alexis Park Resort has a massage therapist, weight-training room, men's and women's changing areas, steam room, hair salon, and three outdoor swimming pools with Jacuzzis. Alexis Park Resort is located east of the Strip at 375 E. Harmon Ave. Call 702-796-3300, www.alexispark.com.

The Spa at Bally's: Open to the public. The spa offers training and exercise machines, saunas, and steam rooms. Treatments include Panthermal, a treatment for women to increase mental and muscular capacity and restore body elasticity, and Russian leaf therapy for men, a full body scrub with a loofah sponge. Fees range from \$20 for a salt glow to \$120 for a Belavi facelift massage. The daily fee is \$20. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-739-4111, www.ballyslv.com.

Spa Bellagio: Set amid gardens on Bellagio's eight-acre lake, the spa is open only to guests of the Bellagio, Mirage, Treasure Island, and Golden Nugget. Users are offered robe and slippers, spa snacks, fruit juice, and smoothies. Hydrotherapy treatments (\$40 to \$50) include aromatherapy, Krauter, and thalassotherapy (algae) baths. Massage therapies range \$50 to \$170. Personal trainers are avail-



Michelle Stecker climbs the wall at Canyon Ranch in the Venetian.

able. Hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-693-7111, www.bellagioresort.com.

The Spa at Caesars Palace: Open to nonguests Sun.-Thurs. Caesars' spa features

a fitness center, aerobic studio, weight machines, and rock-climbing wall. The spa offers champagne facials, vitamin body treatments, and aromatic steam baths, as well as Ayurvedic treatments based on Indian healing rituals. Guests may relax at the Zen waterfall. Robes, towels, and lockers provided. The daily use fee is \$24. Hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Three- and five-day passes are available. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-731-7110, www.caesars.com.

Dolphin Court Day Spa: Open to the public in two locations, this nongaming spa offers massages, facials, body treatments, hair coloring, manicures, and pedicures. Options are the anti-aging oxygen treatment, microderm abrasion, chi-yang facial, and hot rock massage. The spa has dozens of hair designers, a children's salon, child care, and a café. A one-hour Swedish massage costs \$70, an aromatherapy exfoliation \$50, and intensive facial cleaning \$75. The workout fee is \$25; no charge to persons scheduling treatments. Hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun. 7581 W. Lake Mead Blvd. in Las Vegas, 702-432-9772. Also, 3455 S.

Durango Dr. in Las Vegas, 702-949-9999. A third Dolphin Court is scheduled to open at 10624 South Eastern Ave. in Henderson. Visit www.dolphincourt.com.

Flamingo Health Spa, Flamingo Las Vegas:

Open to the public. The spa has a blue lagoon, flowers, and waterfalls, and guests can ride a water slide or cool off in a pool. With separate facilities for men and women, the spa has a workout room, saunas, wet saunas, steam-inhalation rooms, a universal exercise room, and hot, warm, and cold whirlpools. Therapeutic massages are available. A one-day visit costs \$20. Hours are 7 a.m.-8 p.m. The steam room, sauna, and spa close at 7:30 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-733-3111, www.flamingolasvegas.com.

Four Seasons Health Club and Spa: Complimentary for hotel guests only, the club has two private spa rooms with sauna and whirlpools, a spa with six treatment rooms, and healthclub. Four Seasons guests have full privileges at the adjacent Mandalay Bay Resort. A separate children's pool welcomes families. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-632-5000, www.fourseasons.com.

The Spa, Golden Nugget: Open only to guests of the Golden Nugget, Bellagio, Mirage, and Treasure Island. The fitness center features Nautilus and Universal gym equipment and beauty care. Separate facilities for men and women provide massage, whirlpool, Eucalyptus steam room, and sauna. Robes, sandals, shorts, T-shirts, towels, and toiletries are provided, as are coffee, tea,



Luxurious pools and exotic hydrotherapy treatments are attractions at the Spa Bellagio in Las Vegas.

and fruit juices. The "Spa and Buffet Getaway" costs \$79 per person, double occupancy, midweek and \$115 on the weekend. A \$15 fee covers most of the spa's facilities. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sun. Downtown Las Vegas. Call 702-385-7111, www.goldennugget.com.

The RockSpa, Hard Rock: Open to the

public. The RockSpa offers massage, aromatherapy, body care, and facial treatments. The fitness center features cardiovascular equipment, weight machines, EFX elliptical trainers, and a climbing wall. Nonguests pay \$20 day. Hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Near the Strip at 4455 Paradise Road. Call 702-693-5554, www.hardrockhotel.com.

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- Civic Center - Plaza
- Downtown/7th Street - Limited
- Half Moon Bay - Limited
- Hayward - Limited
- Lombard - Limited
- Oakland - Limited
- Rohnert Park - Limited
- SFO/Airport - Inn
- SFO/Burlingame - Inn
- San Bruno - Limited
- Union Square - Inn
- Vallejo/Napa Valley Area - Inn

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- Livermore - Limited
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- Pleasanton - Inn
- San Jose - Limited
- Santa Clara - Limited
- Sunnyvale - Inn

CENTRAL CA

- Fresno - Inn
- Fresno - Limited
- Merced - Inn
- Monterey/Fremont - Limited
- Monterey/Cass - Limited
- Oakdale - Inn
- Oakhurst - Limited
- Santa Cruz - Limited
- Santa Nella - Inn

SOUTHERN CA

- Bakersfield - Limited
- Canoga Park - Limited
- Chatsworth - Inn
- Claremont - Inn
- Costa Mesa - Limited
- Hemet - Inn
- Palm Springs - Inn
- Santa Barbara - Limited

Los Angeles Area

- Burbank - Inn
- Commerce - Inn
- Downtown LA - Inn
- Fountain Valley - Limited
- Hollywood - Limited
- LAX/Culver City - Plaza
- LAX/South - El Segundo - Plaza
- Marina Del Rey - Limited
- Pasadena - Inn
- Torrance - Limited
- Torrance - Inn
- West Hollywood - Inn
- Wilshire - Inn

Anaheim Area

- East Katella - Inn
- Garden Grove - Plaza
- Main Gate North - Inn
- Orange County - Inn
- Whittier - Limited

San Diego/San Diego Area

- Chula Vista - Inn
- Carlsbad - Inn & Suites
- Downtown/Conv Ctr - Inn
- Harborview - Limited
- Hotel Circle - Plaza
- La Mesa - Limited
- National City - Limited
- Old Town - Limited
- Oceanside - Limited
- San Diego - Limited & Suites
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- Temecula - Inn
- Poway - Limited
- Qualcomm Stadium Conf. Ctr. - Inn

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Most spas have workout rooms like this one at the Silver Legacy in Reno.

Harrah's Spa, Harrah's Las Vegas: Open to the public. The spa offers workout facilities with locker rooms, saunas, steam baths, whirlpools, massage, and strength training. The Olympic-size pool has a landscaped deck. Massages (\$40-\$100) may be received in-room. The nonguest fee is \$10 per day. Hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-369-5000, www.harrahslv.com.

Spa Moulay, Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas Resort: For hotel guests only. Spa Moulay offers spa treatments, including massages and hydrotherapy. The resort has two championship golf courses. Lake Las Vegas in Henderson, 17 miles southeast of the Strip. Call 702-567-1234, www.lakelasvegas.hyatt.com.

Imperial Palace Health and Fitness Center: Open to the public. The center on the hotel's fourth floor offers exercise equipment, tanning (\$20 for three sessions), and full spa services. Massages (\$40-\$60) include use of the facilities for a day. The "Sports Package" (\$100) includes an herbal linen wrap and sports massage. Day passes are \$10, three-day passes \$24. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-731-3311, www.imperialpalace.com

The Spa at the Las Vegas Hilton: Open to the public. Located on the Hilton's eight-acre rooftop recreation deck, the spa has workout equipment, steam and sauna rooms, and tennis. Robes, sandals, juices, and fruit are provided. The gym and weight-training facilities are on the third floor. Swedish, body glow, clay wrap, and seaweed mud massages cost \$45 to \$75. The two-and-a-half-hour "Royal Treatment" package with clay wrap, seaweed, and massage is \$185. The daily fee is \$18. Hours vary by the season. Near the Strip at 3000 Paradise Road. Call 702-732-5648, www.lv-hilton.com.

The Oasis, Luxor: Open to the public. The herbal wrap (\$40) uses warm linen with

pretreated herbal towels to relax the muscles and detoxify the skin. Other body treatments are the aromatherapy sea salt scrub glow (\$80), which exfoliates and renews the skin, and a facial (\$45) with a clay or seaweed masque to provide hydration and purification. Luxor daily guest passes cost \$20, nonguest passes \$25. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-262-4000, www.luxor.com.

Spa Mandalay, Mandalay Bay: Open to the public. The spa has steam rooms, saunas, whirlpools, and cold plunges. Robes and sandals, fresh fruit, and snacks are provided. The gym is equipped with computerized fitness machines. Spa Mandalay offers massages, body wraps, scalp treatments, and Ayurvedic treatments. The Robert Cromeans Salon offers haircuts from \$55 by a stylist to \$150 by artistic director Paul Mitchell. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-632-7220, www.mandalaybay.com.

MGM Grand Pool and Spa Complex: Open to nonguests Mon.-Thurs. The spa area offers lush landscaping and a 1,000-foot-long pool. The complex can accommodate 2,500 sunbathers and has private cabanas, cocktail service, and a poolside restaurant. The Grand Spa has saunas, steam rooms, whirlpools, and more than 30 treatment rooms, with two private VIP spa suites. Guests can enjoy virtual-reality climbers, bikes, and treadmills. Services include facials, aromatherapy treatments, stress-relief therapy, traditional massage, Shiatsu, and foot and scalp treatments. A library offers subliminal tapes and musical recordings. Daily passes for hotel guests cost \$20, nonguests \$25. Hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-891-3077, www.mgmgrand.com.

The Spa at the Mirage: Open to nonguests Mon.-Thurs. if room is available, and open daily to guests of the Mirage, Bellagio, Treasure Island, and Golden Nugget. The spa has cardiovascular and weight-training equip-

ment and an aerobics studio. A personal training session of one hour costs \$40. The spa offers baths, massages, facials, body care packages, and waxing services. The "Mirage MakeOver," consisting of a Swedish massage, mini facial, and makeup, costs \$130. Daily fee is \$20. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily. Las Vegas Strip. Call the Mirage, 702-791-7472, www.mirage.com.

The Spa at Monte Carlo: Open to the public. A swimming pool, slow-flowing river ride, wave pool, and soothing whirlpool are set in a tropical environment. The exercise room has weights, bikes, and treadmills. Three lighted tennis courts are staffed by professional instructors. The European spa services include massage, bioenergetic hydro, and anti-stress treatments. The daily fee for guests is \$22, nonguests \$25. Hours are 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-730-7596, www.monte-carlo.com.

The Spa at New York-New York: Open to the public. The spa offers "Relax in a New York Minute" services and a fitness center. Body massages cost \$50 to \$110. Hydrotherapy in the women's spa includes a 20-minute aromatherapy soak (\$7) and the Down to Earth Tub (\$15). Five body treatments are priced from \$70 to \$80. Hours are 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-740-6969, www.nynyhotel.casino.com.

Spa by Mandara, Paris Las Vegas: Open to the public. Guests can relax by the rooftop swimming pool, use the workout equipment



A therapist at the Cal-Neva Resort's European spa gives a massage on the deck overlooking the pines and the north end of Lake Tahoe.

and steam rooms, and have a facial and body treatment. Spa grand suites have oversized whirlpool bath, private lounge area, and a personal attendant. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-946-4567, www.paris.lasvegas.com.

Polo Towers Fitness Center: Open to the public. The Polo Towers Fitness Center has a workout center, steam room, and massage. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-261-1000.

Aquae Sulis, Regent Las Vegas: Open to the public. The spa focuses on the hydrotherapy circuit, offering whirlpools, thalassotherapy, siddha vaidya, aromatherapy, Vichy showers, and a variety of scrubs and wraps. Personal trainers are available. Three golf courses border the resort. Packages, which include massage and facial, cost from \$310 nightly, double occupancy, to \$780 for two nights. Located in the Summerlin area at 221 N. Rampart Blvd. Call 702-869-7777, www.resortsummerlin.com.

Michael's Salon and Rio Spa, Rio Suite Hotel: Open to nonguests Mon.-Thurs. The salon offers Swedish massage (\$50), deep tissue massage (\$100), and foot massage (\$50). Body treatments cost from \$70 to \$120 and include enzymatic sea mud wrap, aroma body paraffin, and hydro-active mineral salt scrub. Facials and hair salon are available. Near the Strip at 3700 W. Flamingo Road. Call 702-252-7777, www.playrio.com.

Executive Fitness, Riviera: Open to the public. Executive Fitness, located on the 12th floor of the Riviera's South Tower, specializes in massage, face cleansing, and exfoliation. Guests can use an exercise room and take a steam or whirlpool bath; the treatments include a slimming-cellulite-detoxifier with oxygen. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Sun. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-734-5110, www.theriviera.com.

Treasure Island Health Spa: Open to nonguests Mon.-Thurs., and open daily to guests of the Bellagio, Mirage, Treasure Island, and Golden Nugget. The spa, with men's and women's locker rooms, has saunas, whirlpools, and steam baths. Spa attire is provided. The exercise room is staffed with fitness experts. The spa provides aromatherapy baths (\$20), aromatherapy massage (\$85 to \$90), and scalp, hand, and foot massages (\$45). Hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-894-7472, www.treasureisland.com.

Tropicana Spa: Open to the public. The spa offers massages, facials, and body treatments. Strength-training equipment and free weights are available. The daily use fee is \$16 for all facilities except the pool, which is reserved for hotel guests. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-739-2680.

Canyon Ranch SpaClub, Venetian Resort: Open to the public. Robes, slippers, and bev-

erages are provided in this large, lavish spa. Body treatments and nutritional counseling are available. Guests may schedule massages, body cocoons, and facials. Fitness enthusiasts can participate in aerobics, Pilates, yoga, tai chi, or stretching sessions, or try hiking or mountain biking in the great outdoors. A 40-foot climbing wall presents a further challenge. The Canyon Ranch daily use fee is \$50. Hours are 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Las Vegas Strip. Call 702-414-3600, www.venetian.com.

Laughlin

Club Philipe, Harrah's Laughlin: Open to the public. The club offers separate men's and women's saunas, a fitness center, and massages by appointment. Gym guests have a view of the Colorado River. Exercise equip-

ments. Alternative therapies include a moor mud bath, Reiki, aroma lymph massage, and hot scalp massage. Oasis golf and spa packages are available. Hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Fri.-Sun. Call 702-346-5232, www.oasisresort.com.

Reno/Sparks

Atlantis Health Spa: Open to the public. The center offers massages, facials, body care, and cosmetic makeovers. The Atlantis has two spas, an indoor-outdoor pool, sauna room, steam room, and workout facility. Day passes for nonguests are \$10. Hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. 3800 S. Virginia St., Reno. Call 775-825-4700, www.atlanticasino.com.

Harrah's Reno Health Club: Open to the public. The club, which has a heated outdoor

Spa Policies

Most spas have strict policies. Generally, spas will post and publish rules such as these.

Reservations: Recommended two to three weeks in advance. Hotel guests should try to make spa appointments when making room reservations.

Check In: Arrive at the spa at least 30 minutes prior to your first appointment.

Cancellations: When canceling, you must notify the spa four to 24 hours in advance. Some spas will charge the entire fee for canceling after the designated

time; others waive 50 percent. Ask about your spa's policy.

Gratuity: Except at Canyon Ranch, tips are not included in the price of services. Operators welcome your generosity.

About That Cell Phone: Some spas require users to be at least age 16. Most spas are nonsmoking and alcohol-free, and many prohibit cellular-phone use.

—Katherine McDonnell

ment includes lifecycles, stairmasters, and a graviton. The gym is open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Spa hours are 9:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m. The use fee for guests is \$5, nonguests \$10. Call 702-298-4600, www.a2zlasvegas.com.

River Palms Spa: Open to the public. Exercise equipment includes stair climbers, treadmills, stationary bikes, and weight machines. The River Palms has a sauna, separate lockers for men and women, outdoor pool, and hair salon. Nonguests pay a \$10 daily use fee. Hours are 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 702-289-8165, www.a2zlasvegas.com.

Mesquite

CasaBlanca Spa: Open to the public. Located near the swimming pool and waterfall at the south end of the CasaBlanca Resort, the spa provides exercise equipment, massages, body treatments, facials, manicures, pedicures, and paraffin hands. (Only guests can use the gym.) Golf and spa packages. Spa hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. Call 702-346-6760, www.casablancaresort.com.

Spa at the Oasis, Si Redd's Oasis: Open to the public. The Spa at the Oasis offers four massages, four facials, and eight body treat-

ment includes lifecycles, stairmasters, and a graviton. The gym is open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Spa hours are 9:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m. The use fee for guests is \$5, nonguests \$10. Call 702-298-4600, www.a2zlasvegas.com.

Chonne's Salon and Spa, John Ascuaga's Nugget: Open to the public. The atrium-enclosed pool and spa are located on the Nugget's fifth floor. The pool features eight bubble pools, a 16-foot Jacuzzi, and views of the Sierra Nevada. The salon offers haircuts, massages, manicures, and pedicures. A nonguest pool pass is \$15. Hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Downtown Sparks. Call 775-356-3485, www.janugget.com.

Peppermill Health Club and Spa: For hotel guests only, the club offers workout equipment, dry sauna, massages, body treatments, and facials. Guests can enjoy a waterfall bar, pool, and a show that features mechanical animals. Open 24 hours. 2707 S. Virginia St., Reno. Call 775-826-2121, www.peppermillcasinos.com.

Reno Hilton Health Club: Open to the public. The club offers workout equipment, facials, massages, body wraps, mud baths, and waxing. Users will find a sauna, steam room, whirlpool, aerobic room, and climbing wall. The use fee for guests is \$10 daily and \$30 weekly. Nonguests pay \$20 daily. Hours are 6 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays and 7 a.m.-7 p.m. weekends. 2500 E. Second St., Reno. Call 775-789-2285, www.renohilton.net.

Silver Legacy Spa: The spa is for guests of the Silver Legacy, Circus Circus, and Eldorado. Fruit juices and coffee are offered. There are separate facilities for men and women, with a steam room, Jacuzzi, and dry

saunas. The workout room has free weights and cardiovascular equipment. The outdoor pool is open to Silver Legacy guests only. At the spa Silver Legacy guests pay \$5 per day, Circus Circus and Eldorado guests \$10. Hours are 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Downtown Reno. Call 775-329-4777, www.silverlegacyresortcasino.com.

North Lake Tahoe

Cal-Neva European Health Spa: Open to the public. Therapists offer massages on the deck overlooking the lake's north shore. Rooms also have views. Treatments include hydrotherapy, facials, baths, and skin care.

The Cal-Neva Resort's fitness facility offers a sauna and Jacuzzi. Nonguests can pay \$15 for steam and sauna. Crystal Bay. Call 775-832-4000, www.calnevaresort.com.

Hyatt Regency Spa, Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe: Open to the public. Between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. guests may schedule massage and other spa treatments. From 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. they may use equipment for stretching, toning, and aerobic exercise. The daily use fee for nonguests is \$5. Incline Village. Call 800-553-3288, www.laketahoehyatt.com.

Health and Fitness Center, Resort at Squaw Creek: Open to the public, the center has eight guest massage rooms and two wet treatment rooms. Guests may order mud wraps and other body treatments. Nonguests pay a \$25 day fee. Olympic Valley, California. Call 800-327-3353, www.squawcreek.com.

South Lake Tahoe

Caesars Tahoe Spa: Open to the public. The 6,500-square-foot fitness center has stationary bicycles and a rock-climbing treadmill. Treatments include Ayurvedic, Hawaiian, Javanese, and Balinese therapies accompanied by island music and performed by aestheticians clad in sarongs. Moor mud baths and seaweed body masks are offered. Couples may enjoy simultaneous duo massage services. Eucalyptus-scented saunas and a Zen meditation chamber are available. Hours are 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. weekends. The daily use fee is \$10 for hotel guests, \$20 for nonguests. Stateline. Call 800-648-3353, www.caesars.com.

The Spa at Harrah's Lake Tahoe: Open to the public. The spa has a glass dome-covered pool, a men's and women's health club with weight machines and lifecycles, Jacuzzi, steam rooms, tanning center, and sun deck. Services include massage and body treatments. All services are free for hotel guests; nonguests pay a \$10 daily use fee. Hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Stateline. Call 775-588-6611, www.harrahstahoe.com.

Genoa

David Walley's Resort, Hot Springs, and Spa: Open to the public. The nongaming retreat south of Carson City offers suites and cabin rentals. Walley's has six mineral hot springs tubs, a heated outdoor pool, fitness center, steam room, and saunas. Spa treatments include massage, mud wraps, aromatherapy, and customized facials. Non-members may purchase spa packages and membership. Nonguests pay \$20 per day. Foothill Road, Genoa. Call 775-782-8155 for more spa information. ☐

Wilma LaRocca of Carson City is an editorial assistant at Nevada Magazine.

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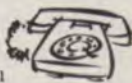
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Third Annual Readers Award

Recently *Nevada Magazine* readers chose their favorite Nevada places, shows, attractions, and activities in the third annual "Best of Nevada" poll. Following are the results of the 2000 "Best of Nevada" balloting.

1. Best Entertainer

North: Wayne Newton
South: Wayne Newton

2. Best New Entertainer

North: Carrot Top
South: David Cassidy

3. Best Revue or Long-running Show

North: "Spirit of the Dance," Eldorado
South: "Folies Bergere," Tropicana

4. Best Hotel/Resort

Carson City: Carson City Nugget
Lake Tahoe: Harrah's Lake Tahoe
Las Vegas: Rio Suite Hotel
Laughlin: Harrah's Laughlin
Mesquite: CasaBlanca
Reno/Sparks: Tie between John Ascuaga's Nugget and Silver Legacy
Rural: Carson Valley Inn, Minden

5. Best Place to Gamble

Carson City: Carson City Nugget
Lake Tahoe: Harveys
Las Vegas: Sam's Town
Laughlin: Ramada Express
Mesquite: CasaBlanca
Reno/Sparks: John Ascuaga's Nugget
Rural: Carson Valley Inn, Minden

6. Friendliest Casino

Carson City: Carson City Nugget
Lake Tahoe: Harveys
Las Vegas: Rio Suite Hotel
Laughlin: Ramada Express
Mesquite: CasaBlanca
Reno/Sparks: John Ascuaga's Nugget
Rural: Tie between Cactus Petes in Jackpot and Carson Valley Inn, Minden

7. Best Slot Club

North: Harrah's Total Gold
South: Tie between Harrah's Total Gold and Stardust
Rural: Ramada Express, Laughlin

8. Best Thrill Ride

Rides at the Stratosphere, Las Vegas

9. Best Wedding Chapel

North: Chapel of the Bells, Reno
South: Viva Las Vegas

10. Best Golf Course

Carson City: Eagle Valley
Lake Tahoe: Edgewood Tahoe
Las Vegas: Desert Inn

Laughlin: Emerald River
Mesquite: CasaBlanca
Reno/Sparks: ArrowCreek
Rural: Pahrump Executive Course

11. Best Place to Take a Photo

North: Lake Tahoe
South: Red Rock Canyon
Rural: Virginia City

12. Best Park (National, State or County)

North: Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park/Sand Harbor
South: Valley of Fire State Park
Rural: Great Basin National Park

13. Best Place to Ski

Heavenly Valley Ski Area

14. Best Hiking Trail

Tahoe Rim Trail

15. Best Place to Fish

Lake Tahoe

16. Best Natural Wonder

Lake Tahoe

17. Friendliest Town

Las Vegas

18. Best Place to Camp

Lake Tahoe

19. Best Ghost Town

Rhyolite

20. Best Helicopter Tour Company

Sundance Helicopters, Las Vegas

21. Best Reservation Service

Tie between Reservations Plus and Hotel Reservations Network

22. Best Attraction

Lake Tahoe

23. Best Place to Take Kids

North: Lake Tahoe
South: Circus Circus/Adventuredome, Las Vegas
Rural: Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, Carson City

24. Best Special Event/Festival

North: Hot August Nights, Reno
South: National Finals Rodeo, Las Vegas
Rural: Cowboy Poetry Gathering, Elko

25. Best Place to Shop

North: Meadowood Mall, Reno
South: Forum Shops at Caesars, Las Vegas
Rural: Horizon Outlets, Laughlin

26. Best Museum

North: Nevada State Museum, Carson City
South: Liberace Museum, Las Vegas
Rural: Back to the '40s, Ramada Express, Laughlin

27. Best Night Spot

North: Nero's, Caesars Tahoe
South: Voodoo Lounge, Rio, Las Vegas

28. Best Place for a Romantic Evening

North: Llewellyn's, Harveys, Lake Tahoe
South: Top of the World, Stratosphere, Las Vegas
Rural: Ramada Express Steakhouse, Laughlin

29. Best Buffet

North: Toucan Charlie's, Atlantis, Reno
South: Carnival Buffet, Rio, Las Vegas
Rural: Cactus Petes, Jackpot

30. Best Sky's-the-Limit, Gourmet Restaurant

Lake Tahoe: Llewellyn's, Harveys
Las Vegas: Top of the World, Stratosphere
Reno: White Orchid, Peppermill
Rural: Ramada Express Steakhouse, Laughlin

31. Best Themed Restaurant

Lake Tahoe: Hard Rock Café, Harveys
Las Vegas: Rainforest Café, MGM
Reno/Sparks: Planet Hollywood, Harrah's

32. Best Saloon

North: Brew Brothers, Eldorado, Reno
South: Triple 7 Brewpub, Main Street Station, Las Vegas
Rural: Bucket of Blood, Virginia City

33. Best Coffee Shop

North: Peppermill Coffee Shop, Reno
South: Peppermill Coffee Shop, Las Vegas
Rural: Sturgeon's Ramada Inn, Lovelock

34. Other categories you would like to include in this survey:

Strong write-in vote for Best Comedy Club, with the Comedy Shop at the Tropicana cited specifically. Other categories mentioned include: Best Brew Pub, Loosest Slots, and Most Reasonable Hotel.

Fallon in the Fall

(Continued from page 90)

well as watermelon, tomatoes, corn, and other vegetables in season. The top crops at Lattin are the berries—strawberries and raspberries. Jams and jellies are made at the farm. The Lattin family also started a new tourist attraction—a maize maze. A cornfield has been cut into the shape of Nevada with a maze inside. The farm also has picnic tables and volleyball. Details: Maze open 10-dusk Thurs.-Sun., by appointment Mon.-Wed., in Sept.-Oct. (see page 33). Maze is \$6 adults and \$4 children 14 and under.

Workman Farms, 4990 Reno Hwy., 775-867-3716. The fruits of Fallon's fertile valley also are offered at Workman Farms' roadside stand. The family-operated market offers tomatoes, corn, cucumbers, cantaloupes, and other produce. You'll also find a selection of shrubs and flowers as well as pickles, olives, and jams. Details: About 3.5 miles west of Fallon on Alternate U.S. 50. Open 8-5 daily.

Churchill County Courthouse, Downtown Fallon, 775-423-6028. You can't miss this old wooden courthouse in the center of town. The white neo-classical building with Tara-like columns was built in 1903 at a cost of \$7,300. The courthouse was recently raised from its foundation and stripped of paint for refurbishing.

Fallon Naval Air Station, 775-426-2880. Don't be alarmed if you hear low-flying jets overhead—it's the Top Gun fighter pilots cruising back to their home base at the Fallon Naval Air Station. The Top Gun Navy Fighter Pilot School, made sexy by Tom Cruise, is based here, so expect to see a lot of residents with short haircuts and aviator sunglasses. Groups of 10 to 50 people can tour the Fallon NAS, although you have to make reservations six months in advance (no drop-ins allowed).

Top Gun Raceway, 775-423-0223 or 800-325-7448. This quarter-mile drag strip sta-

tioned in the desert is sanctioned by the NHRA, so the racing action is top level. The track has a 3,500-seat spectator area. Details: 15 miles south of Fallon on U.S. 95. Admission \$5-\$15. Season is March-Nov.

Recreation

Several good outings can be made east and west on U.S. 50. Sites include **Sand Mountain**, 775-885-6000; the **Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge**, 775-423-5128; the **Grimes Point Archaeological Site**, 775-885-6000; and **Lahontan State Recreation Area**, 775-867-3500.



B. Ann and Rick Lattin offer Fallon cantaloupes and maze tours at their Lattin Farms.

Root Beer and Java

An intriguing place to grab a bite in Fallon is **Bob's Root Beer**, 775-867-2769, three miles west of Fallon. Open year-round, Bob's is an authentic drive-in built in 1960 by retired Navy man Francis "Gunner" Signore. A few years ago he sold the orange-and-white burger stand to Fallon residents George and Sharon Hansen, who still make the root beer from

scratch. Carhops serve the root beer, floats, and shakes in frosty mugs pulled right out of the freezer. Dogs with paying customers get free ice cream.

Coffee lovers won't feel neglected in Fallon, which has two high-octane cafes, **Cafe Nations**, 775-423-6828, 960 A Auction Rd., near Wal-Mart, and **Java World**, 775-428-2400, downtown near the theater.

Bed and Breakfast

The **1906 House**, 10 S. Carson St., 775-428-1906, is a bed-and-breakfast inn. With its gables, spires, and front porch, the pink mansion looks much as it did when it was built by State Senator Robert L. Douglass for his wife, Eleanor, in 1906. Ninety years later, Suzanne and Jerry Noonkester bought and restored the home, which offers two guest bedrooms with a shared bath.

Special Events

The **Hearts o' Gold Cantaloupe Festival** on Labor Day weekend, September 1-4, includes produce stands as well as cantaloupe-eating contests, a carnival, and camel rides. Be sure to visit the booth selling cantaloupe-flavored ice cream. In spring, the **Fallon Naval Air Show** features aerial demonstrations.

Farmer's Market

During August and September the **Fallon Farmer's Market** on U.S. 50 offers fresh fruit and vegetables, food booths, and entertainment from 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, this year through Sept. 19. Call 775-423-4556.

More Information

For additional information on the Fallon area and its attractions and special events, contact the **Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority**, 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 775-423-4556 or 800-874-0903. ♣

Carolyn Graham is associate editor of Nevada Magazine. "Fallon in the Fall" is adapted from her book, Nevada Travel Smart (214 pages, softcover, \$15.95), a guide to the state published this year by Avalon Travel Publishing, 5855 Beaudry St., Emeryville, CA 94608.

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Fallon in the Fall

An autumn trip to Fallon will introduce you to farmer's markets, a maze, and a classic moviehouse. **By Carolyn Graham**

Approaching Fallon on U.S. 50, it doesn't take long to realize that this little green pocket of Nevada is the state's breadbasket. While the bucolic scenery of rolling fields of corn, old tractors, and pastures dotted by cattle are reminiscent of old-fashioned farm towns, you can look up and see Navy jets roaring overhead.

The intriguing mix of old and new is apparent as you pass through Fallon. You see an old-fashioned root-beer stand and a downtown movie theater, remnants of a simpler time, as well as a sculpture of a fighter jet and signs pointing the way to Top Gun Raceway. Such sights are part of the community's fabric. Agriculture came to Fallon in the early 1900s when the Newlands irrigation project created farm lands 60 miles east of Reno. The Navy first arrived during World War II, and now the Fallon Naval Air Station is the home of the Top Gun pilot-training school.

Sightseeing Highlights

You'll find intriguing small-town attractions in and around Fallon, including an excellent museum and a cornfield maze in the shape of Nevada. The town's main street is named Maine Street—after the state.

Churchill County Museum and Archives, 1050 S. Maine St., 775-423-3677. This well-stocked museum reveals how the valley's Native Americans and pioneers



Snack-bar attendant Joel Peixoto welcomes film-goers to the historic Fallon Theater, a downtown landmark.

lived. You can see the intricately woven blankets and baskets used by the area's early inhabitants, the Paiute Indians. Check out the Springfield Steam Road Roller used to build Lahontan Dam in 1915 as well as the buildings outside the museum, such as the restored Woodliff Novelty Store, one of the oldest buildings in Fallon. Details: Open 10-5 daily. Donation. Two-hour tours of Hidden Cave Archaeological Site leave the museum at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Sat. of the month.

Fallon Theater, 71 S. Maine St., 775-423-6210 or 775-423-4454 (show times). This little gem in downtown Fallon is the longest continuously operating movie theater in Nevada and well worth a visit. The once-lavish theater opened in 1920 and was rebuilt in the 1930s to accommodate talkies. A 1939 fire and the area's 1954 earth-

quake led to a decline, but the theater was eventually refurbished and reopened to the delight of local citizens. Its thick plaster walls, Spanish-style arched ceilings, and dark-blue interior make the place a cool

Fallon is famous for the super-sweet Hearts o' Gold cantaloupes that originated on the fields here.

retreat in the summer. The theater has been split into two rooms, giving moviegoers a choice of two screens. Details: Tickets are \$7 adult, \$5 seniors and ages 17 and under.

Latin Farms and the Maze, 1955 McLean Rd., 775-867-3750, www.latinfarms.com. Fallon is famous for the super-sweet Hearts o' Gold cantaloupes that originated on the fields here. At Latin Farms you can buy fresh-picked cantaloupes as

(Continued on page 88)



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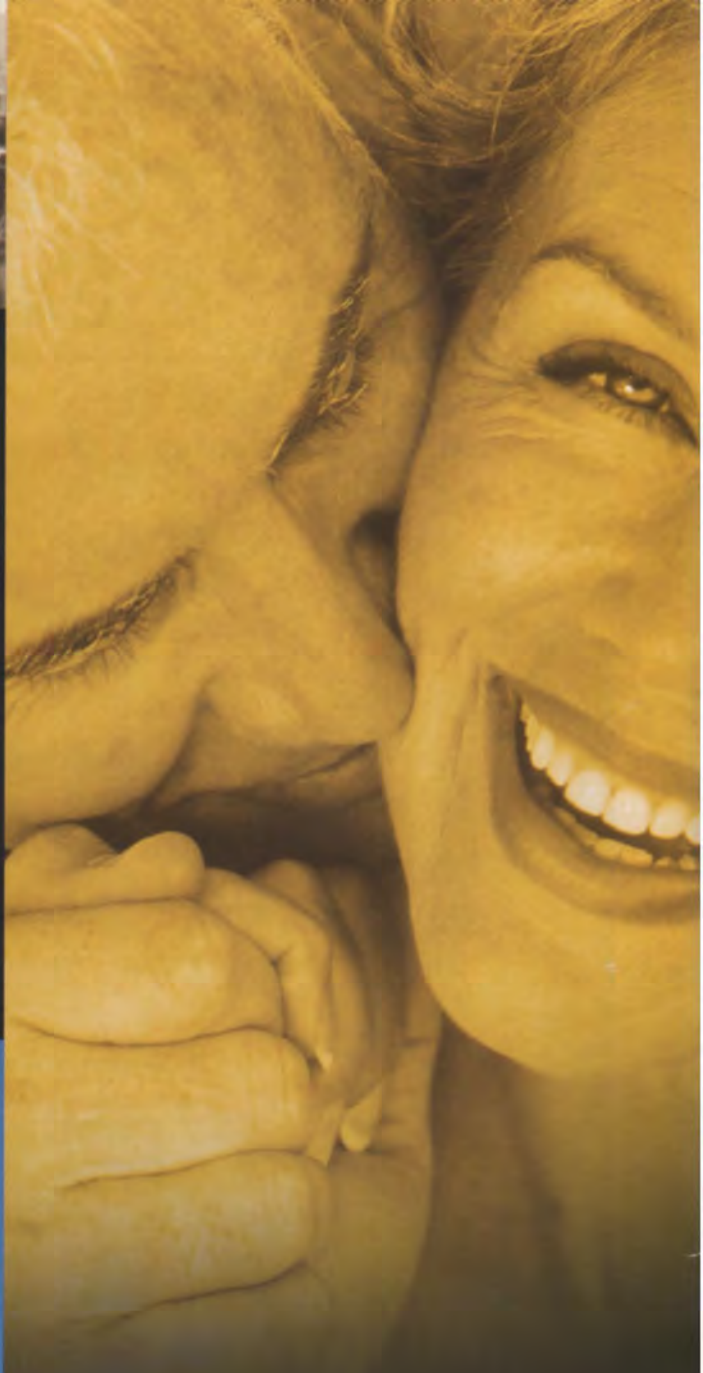
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