NEVADA
MAGAZINE

June 2003

INSIDE: Complete Guide to Events & Shows in Nevada

State of Golf
18 unusual Nevada golf experiences, plus our annual guide

4 Great Mexican Restaurants

Diamonds and Stars
34 top-rated hotels and restaurants in Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe

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—Kelly Bell, AAA hotel inspector

On the Cover:
Reflection Bay, a Jack Nicklaus-designed course at Lake Las Vegas.

Photo:
Lake Las Vegas Resort

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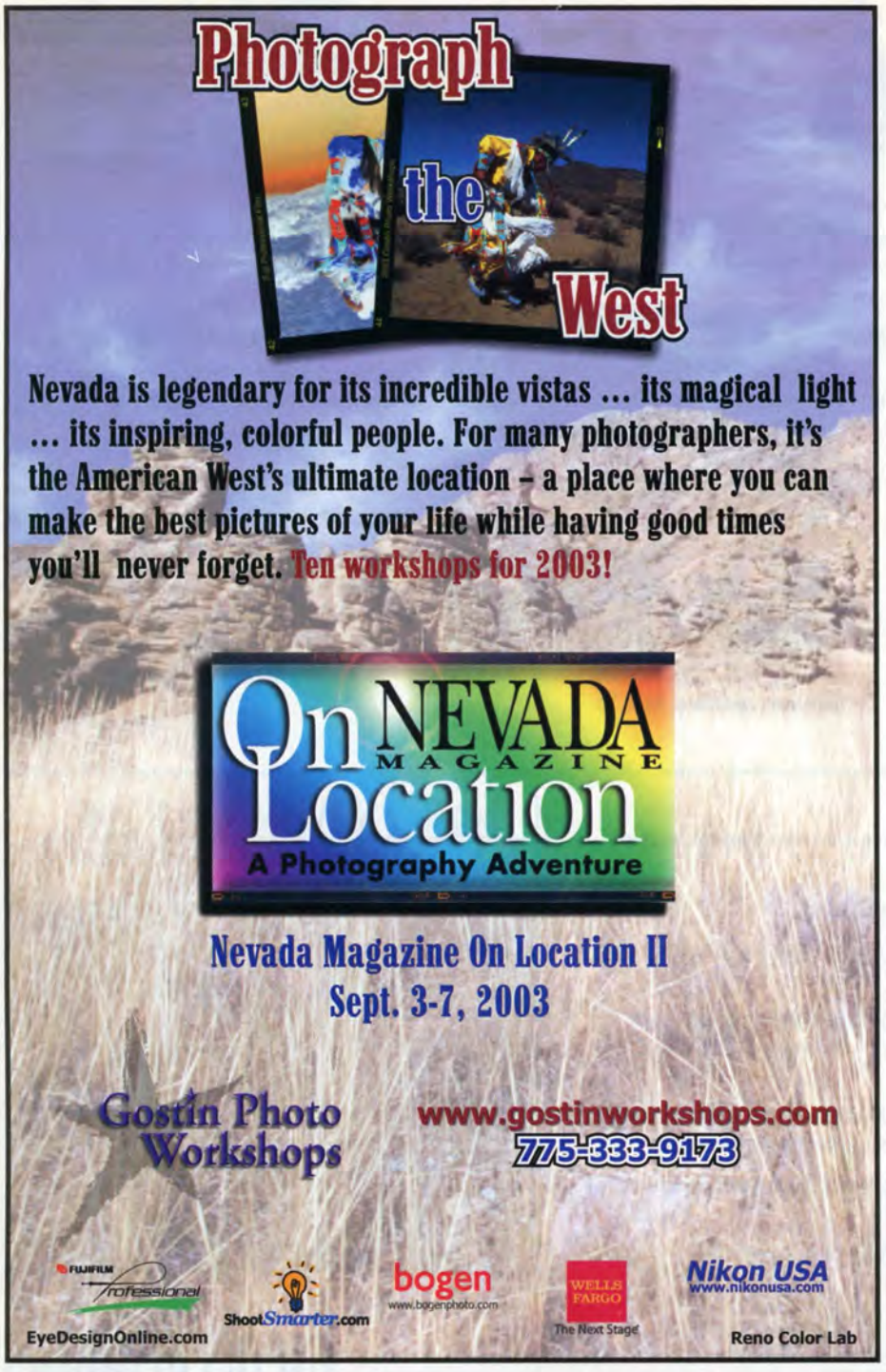

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Of Books, Burritos, and Birdies

Swetnam

Susan H. Swetnam, who wrote this issue's story on Reno's Carnegie library of a century ago ("Battle for the Books," page 24), did research at the Washoe County Library in Reno, but that's not the only time the Idaho State professor has visited Nevada. "My late husband, Ford Swetnam, and I spent a great deal of time in Northeast Nevada, especially the Ruby Mountains and Wheeler Peak," Susan says. "We spent many happy nights in Lamoille Canyon. Last summer, hoping that Nevada was still a place where I could feel close to Ford a few months after his death, I climbed again alone to Liberty Pass one morning. I was right, and I plan on returning again and again."

Castleman

Deke Castleman surveyed four of the state's Mexican restaurants in an homage to Cinco de Mayo ("Dining Out," page 27). Deke says he likes south-of-the-border cuisine for three reasons. "First, no matter what you do with tortillas, rice, beans, meat, cheese, and red and green sauces, you just can't go wrong. Second, thanks to tortilla chips, you're fed as soon as you sit down. An à la carte taco or tamale finishes stuffing me. Third, I get to practice my Español on the waitstaff." Deke recalls that he waited tables for a year at La Hacienda in Chico, California. The Reno resident, who says he's a sucker for huevos rancheros and a good char-broiled-steak burrito, is senior editor of the *Las Vegas Advisor.*

Martin

J. Rick Martin, a Las Vegas professional photographer, had what he calls the biggest thrill of his life last year. Golfing with friend and touring pro Chris Riley, Rick made a hole in one. The avid golfer plays a couple of times a week at Canyon Gate Country Club, where he is the men's club president. "I have a tip for improving your game," Rick offers. "Stop practicing and smoke a couple of cigars." In other words, he says, relax. "I don't get all tense," he says, "and I try to play the mental side of the game." Shooting courses and players (see "State of Golf," page 18 and "Nevada Golf 2003," page 81) allows him to combine his two loves, photography and golf. He says, "I like to portray a part of the golf course that hasn't been seen before."

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Letters

Joshua trees, geological wonders, and a cool cover.

Hidden Treasures Revealed

I encourage *Nevada Magazine* to do more stories on the out-of-the-way places in the state that seldom get any ink, such as "Nevada's Hidden Scenic Treasures" by Richard Moreno in March/April '03. By the way, in case a thousand know-it-alls like me haven't pointed it out, Delamar Valley and its Joshua trees are west of Caliente rather than east. Knowing the way you know the state, I wonder if you're just throwing in a few errors to see if people are paying attention.

Don Shanks
Pioche

East vs. West

When I lived in Caliente, long ago, Delamar Valley was west of Caliente, not east. However, the world has changed so much, who knows?

Walter R. Averett
Grand Junction, CO

Don and Walter, thanks for pointing us the right way.—Ed.

Geological Update

I was very pleased to see last issue's article on "Nevada's Hidden Scenic Treasures," which included Kershaw-Ryan State Park. However, there is no sandstone or limestone in Kershaw Canyon—these are all igneous rocks of Tertiary age. What was noted as red sandstone is actually a rhyolite layer, and the gray-green limestone is actually rhyolitic-welded tuff (see *Geology and Mineral Deposits of Lincoln County*, by C.M. Tschanz and E.H. Pampeyan, 1970). The geology in this area can be perplexing, and many people confuse the tuff for sandstone. They even confuse the siltstone or mudstone of Cathedral Gorge for sandstone. People who have questions about the geology of the parks in Eastern Nevada can give us a call or e-mail us, 775-728-4460, www.parks.nv.gov.

Barbara Rohde, Park Interpreter
Cathedral Gorge State Park
Panaca

Delamar Valley and its Joshua trees are west of Caliente.

Cover Ruse Unveiled!

As best man at Todd and Christina Watson's wedding at Lake Tahoe, I was involved in the taking of the cover photo of the Jan/Feb '03 issue—I was one of the people holding up the bride's veil to make it look like she was flying across the water. It was pretty cool to find out the picture was on *Nevada Magazine's* cover.

Randy Ulreich
Cincinnati, OH

New *Nevada* fan

Just wanted to let you know how much I'm enjoying my new subscription to *Nevada Magazine*. I've always loved anything about the West and Southwest but now have more of an interest since visiting Las Vegas in 1997. Even though my interest presently lies in the Las Vegas area, I'm enjoying reading about the entire state.

Jeannette Large
Springfield, PA

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.*

nevadamagazine.com Has a NEW Design

Nevada Magazine's Web site, nevadamagazine.com, has a **fresh look** with lots of new content and a cleaner layout. Readers will find it easy to navigate and link with other Nevada sites. Nevada Magazine **Gift Shop** customers will find many new books and exclusive merchandise items to peruse, and travel agents can access the **Nevada Travel Update** section. As always, visitors to the Silver State can check out the comprehensive and current listing of **shows** and **entertainment**.

Photo: Rod Henderson

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Roadside Attractions

Las Vegas 3-D rides, a Reno golf school, and a *Wild* TV show.

Magic in Motion

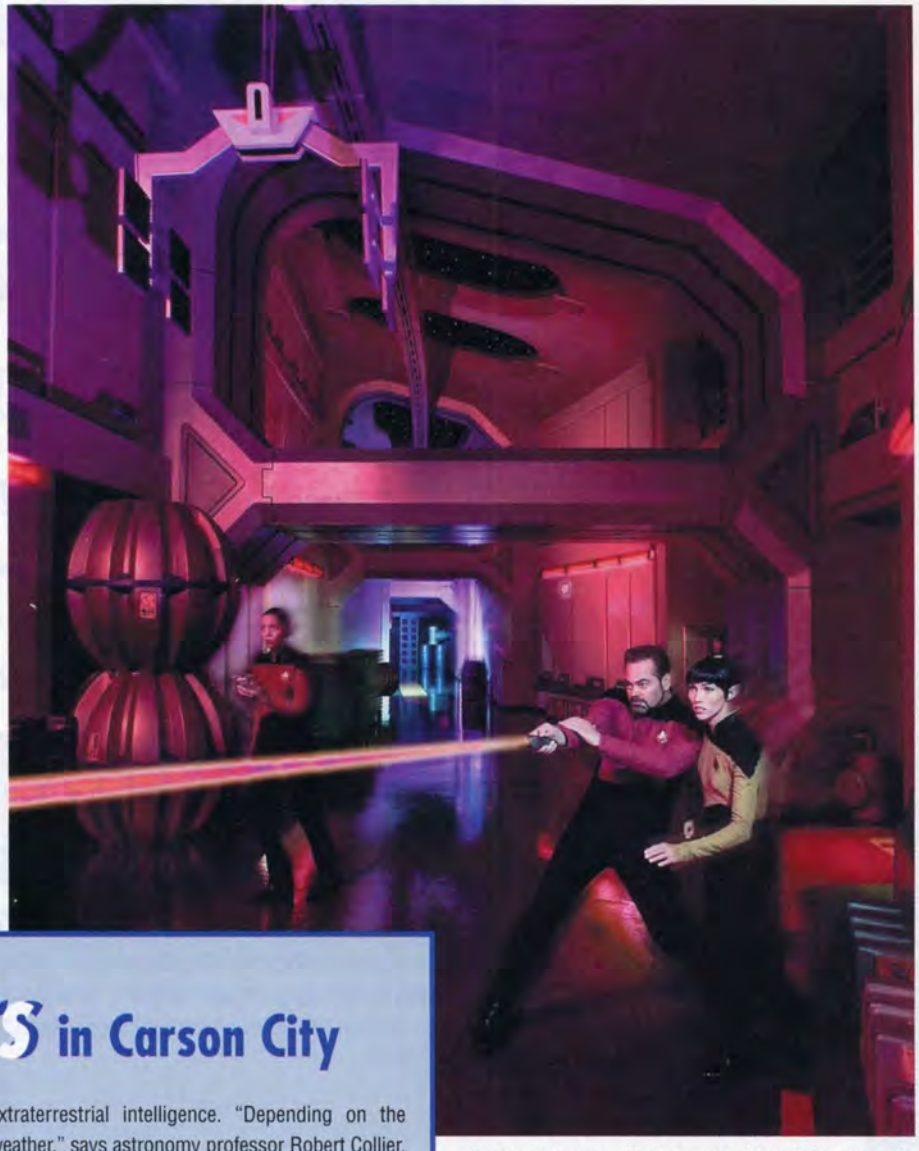
LAS VEGAS— Fans of *Star Trek* or Indiana Jones can recreate their idols' adventures through the magic of 3-D film simulator rides. Several Strip hotels have theaters with giant screens and seats that twist and turn, giving riders the illusion of flying through space or escaping evildoers.

At the **Forum Shops at Caesars** "Race for Atlantis" riders visit a lost city in search of a ring that will save the kingdom (702-893-4800, visit www.caesars.com).

The **Luxor's** ride features an archeological dig to find an ancient artifact reportedly uncovered when the hotel was built. "In Search of the Obelisk" stars an ominous, sphinx-like character that guards the entrance (800-288-1000, 702-262-4000, visit www.luxor.com).

Costumed actors in Star Trek: The Experience at the **Las Vegas Hilton** portray the *Enterprise* crew. In one film scene you ride a space shuttle down the Strip and land on the Hilton's roof. A timeline of the television show's history and Star Trek memorabilia are displayed (888-462-6535, 702-8700, visit www.startrekexp.com).

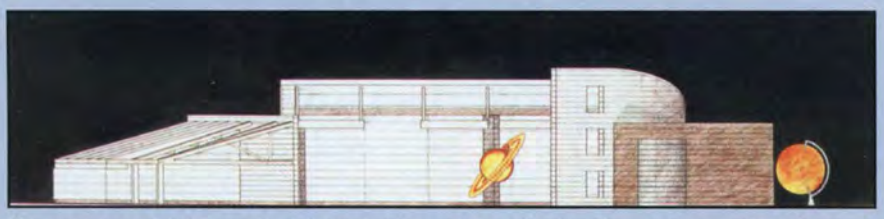
Also, the **Excalibur** offers several Magic Motion Film Rides (800-937-7777, 702-597-7777, excalibur-casino.com), while the Adventuredome at **Circus Circus** features a fun-house ride called Clown Chaos (800-444-2472, 702-734-0410, www.adventuredome.com).—*Elizabeth Nielsen*



Costumed actors simulate a Red Alert distress call in Star Trek: The Experience's Grand Corridor at the Las Vegas Hilton. The actors lead patrons to the Star Trek simulator ride.

Seeing Stars in Carson City

The **Jack C. Davis Observatory** opens May 17 at Western Nevada Community College. The 2,800-square-foot observatory on the west side of Carson City features two 16-inch and one 10-inch indoor reflecting telescopes, a four-inch refracting telescope in an outdoor robodome, and a weather station. The observatory also has a radio telescope that functions as part of SETI, the network searching for signs of extraterrestrial intelligence. "Depending on the weather," says astronomy professor Robert Collier, "we are going to try to keep the facility open to the public as often as possible." Visitors will be able to see space images on computers at the observatory and look through telescopes during night-time star parties. For a schedule visit www.wncc.edu or call Collier, 775-445-4412, for information.



Stargazers can visit the new Jack C. Davis Observatory at Western Nevada Community College.

Fore Women Only

SPARKS—Kathy Boyce says that people smile at the name of her women's golf school, **Chix With Stix**. "That's what we

Illustration: Western Nevada Community College

Kathy Boyce (left) and Deborah Jones teach women how to enjoy golf at Chix With Stix.

want," Boyce says. "We want it to sound fun." Women often find golf instruction intimidating, says Boyce, 52, who struggled with the game herself when she first tried it four years ago. So in 2000 the retired Reno stockbroker teamed with PGA-certified Class A instructor Deborah Jones to create a golf school for women only.

Students can choose from 11 classes at Chix With Stix, including a clinic for women who have never picked up a club and an advanced class for players who want to polish their skills. Many students become friends, Boyce says. "A typical class has about eight ladies. They exchange phone numbers and e-mail addresses," she says. "They develop relationships and continue to play with and give support to each other."

Chix With Stix has taught nearly 1,500 women in the last three years. In addition to classes, Chix With Stix holds group-practice sessions in which golf pros follow the players on the course. Weekly Chix With Stix Players Club games are scheduled with guaranteed tee times. Out-of-town students can obtain discounted hotel rooms. Classes are held at D'Andrea Golf Club in Sparks, the Golf Club at Genoa Lakes in the Minden-Gardnerville area, and Whitney Oaks Golf Club near Sacramento. Call 775-325-2398 or 866-331-4653 for information.—*Joyce Hollister*

Fashion Statement

LAS VEGAS—Nordstrom, which many retail enthusiasts consider to be the ultimate shopping experience, arrived at the **Fashion Show Mall** last fall as part of the center's $1-billion expansion. The Seattle-based Nordstrom, founded in 1901 as a shoe shop, carries one of the largest selections of shoes in the country as well as apparel for men, women, and children.

Bloomingdale's Home, the Fashion Show's seventh anchor store, also opened. The mall's new Great Hall has an 80-foot-long retractable runway for fashion shows. Nordstrom's other co-anchor stores—Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Macy's, Dillard's, and Robinsons-May—expanded their spaces. An eighth flagship, Lord and Taylor, is scheduled to open in 2004.

The Fashion Show Mall is located on the Strip near Treasure Island. Call 702-369-8382 or visit www.thefashionshow.com for more shopping information.

—*Elizabeth Nielsen*

Merci Beaucoup

CARSON CITY—In 1949, the French people shipped 49 Merci Boxcars to the United States, one to each state and the territory of Hawaii, to thank Americans for sending supplies to war-torn France two years earlier. Each boxcar was painted with the shields of the provinces of France and filled with donated items. Today, Nevada's Merci Boxcar is restored and on display at the **Nevada State Railroad Museum** in Carson City.

The 1880s-era railroad cars transported American and French soldiers to the front

David and Denise Parsons helped raise funds to restore Nevada's Merci Boxcar, now housed at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City.

in both world wars. During World War II, David Parsons of Reno joined 39 other American soldiers in a boxcar bound for Germany to fight Hitler's armies. Parsons says the boxcars were known as "40-and-8s" because each car could carry either 40 men or eight horses.

Stored outside the state museum for many years, Nevada's Merci Boxcar deteriorated badly, says the 78-year-old Parsons, former Nevada commander of the Forty and Eight veterans organization. In 1995 Parsons and his French-born wife Denise (they met in Bordeaux after the war) began collecting donations for the restoration at the museum's July Fourth celebrations. Parsons says, "I thought it would be a nice thing to fix it up for the veterans of the State of Nevada and to show what some of us had to ride in many years ago."

This summer a canopy will be built to

Photos: Mary Schilpp (bottom), Kurt Hildebrand (middle right)

shelter the boxcar at the railroad museum. An exhibit of the car's French items, such as dolls, photographs, and medals, will be mounted inside. The museum (775-687-6953) is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at U.S. 395 and Fairview Drive, just south of downtown Carson City.—*Joyce Hollister*

Driving a Dream

LAS VEGAS— Vacationers who want to feel like a high roller—or at least look like one—can rent a Ferrari or a Lamborghini and cruise the Strip.

Two companies rent sports and luxury cars as well as Harleys and Hummers. **Dream Car Rentals** can put you in a BMW, Mini Cooper, or the ultimate Vegas ride, a 1959 Cadillac convertible. Owner Rick Shebs says driving an exotic car is a thrill for many of his customers. "They know they'll never own one," he says. "Or if they are used to one of these cars at home, they don't want to go to Avis and rent a Neon."

Visitors can cruise Las Vegas in Corvettes and other exotic and luxury cars.

Rent-A-Vette offers new Corvettes, Ferraris, Jaguars, Prowlers, Vipers, or classics like the Porsche Speedster. Such cars require the perfect road, owner John Kiland says, so his company offers suggestions for trips into the countryside. "We try to get customers to drive out of Las Vegas," he says. "We give them maps to Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, Lake Las Vegas, or Red Rock Canyon."

Prices range from the affordable, $99 a day for a convertible Mustang, to the extravagant, $1,249 a day for a Ferrari 360 Modena. Customer service agents review the cars' operations before drivers leave the lot. Call Rent-A-Vette, 5021 Swenson, 702-736-2592, or Dream Car Rentals, 3025 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-731-6452.

—*Kristine McKenzie*

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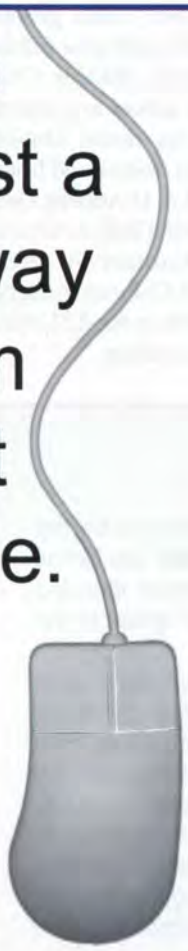

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Wild About Nevada

RENO—The crew of the *Wild Nevada* TV show has gone spelunking in Emerald Lake Cave, kayaking on Walker Lake, and mountain-biking on Winnemucca's Bloody Shins Trail. Since it began airing two years ago, the Reno-based public-television program, also broadcast in Las Vegas, has visited many of Nevada's most scenic and historic spots, including Austin, Eureka, and Berlin-Ichthyosaur.

The 30-minute show, hosted by Chris Orr and Dave Santina, spotlights points of interest, recreation, and landmarks that can be discovered on two-day trips. Past programs have featured such outings as Winnemucca to Unionville and Henderson to Searchlight. *Nevada Magazine's* staff often provides research about the show's destinations.

Additionally, *Wild Nevada* is distributed nationally to 30 Public Broadcasting System affiliates, including stations in Denver, Dallas, Chicago, and Sacramento. *Wild Nevada* is produced by KNPB in Reno and is partially funded by the Nevada Commission on Tourism. Visit www.knpb.org/productions/WildNevada for more information.—*Richard Moreno*

People Page

A Pahrump soft server, a Henderson teen magician, and a 19th-century singer.

Ice Cream Man

By Carolyn Fox

You can recognize **Bob Marburger's** Pahrump ice cream stand, Seemoore's, by the giant fiberglass cone on the roof. The 10-foot ice cream cone can be seen from a distance above a sea of shops and businesses. "I kept the earth movers from leveling my corner," Marburger says. "I wanted to keep the little rise so the stand and the cone would be more visible."

When you drive into Pahrump on State Route 160, look for State Route 372 and go west. Watch for the car dealer on the right. Now you're close to Seemoore's, which Marburger named after his wife, Carol Moore, whose personalized license plate reads, "CMOORE."

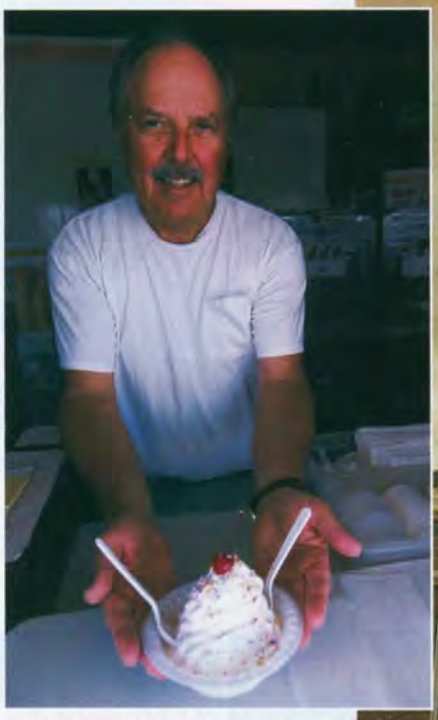
In the late 1990s Marburger retired to Pahrump after 30 years as a food and beverage manager, most recently at the Flamingo Las Vegas. He says he chose to operate an ice cream stand because startup costs were low. He explains, "It's easy to run, and there's a good profit margin. Besides, everybody likes ice cream." The stand gives him free time, too. Marburger is on the job from April through October, but he's off all winter, when he and Carol travel around the United States and visit their grandchildren.

Seemoore's sells three flavors of soft ice cream and yogurt—strawberry, chocolate, and vanilla—and this year Marburger added dipped ice cream because soft serve doesn't come in specialty flavors like butter pecan. "Of course, we have banana splits and sundaes. When the snowbirds are here, they appreciate the yogurt. It's sugar-free."

Marburger celebrated Seemoore's third anniversary last September. The U.S. Patent Office has approved his application for a trademark, and he envisions a chain of Seemoore's franchises.

"It would be great to have ice cream on every corner," Marburger says. "Pahrump could be the Ice Cream Capital of the World."

Carolyn Fox of Jackson, California, is a freelance writer and photographer.



Bob Marburger (above) serves a sundae at Seemoore's, his fiberglass-cone-topped ice cream stand in Pahrump (right). Pahrump is 62 miles west of Las Vegas. Brandon Coleman of Las Vegas licks a cone (far right).

Emma Nevada Returns

By Kurt Hildebrand

More than a century after she first sang at Piper's Opera House, Emma Nevada has returned to the Comstock stage. As portrayed by lyric soprano **Mary McNeill**, the 19th-century operatic sensation performed three times recently at the historic Virginia City hall. The original Emma Nevada sang once at Piper's, on December 3, 1885.

That 1885 performance served to inspire McNeill, a 33-year-old Sparks resident, to begin portraying Emma a year ago. Her aunt, Lena Covello, heard a story about a previous Piper's portrayal that ended with a handbill from Emma's original show fluttering from the ceiling. McNeill says, "That's when we decided who I was going to be."

During their research, McNeill and Covello learned that Emma was born in a California mining camp in 1859 and moved to Austin with her father, William Wixom, in 1864. At age nine she sang for miners in Austin's Methodist Church. Three years later her mother died, and Emma was sent to seminary school at what is now Mills College in Oakland, where she studied voice. She graduated in 1876 and returned to Austin, performing a benefit concert for a miner who had lost his leg.

As her career progressed, she traveled to Europe. She chose the stage name Emma Nevada just before her May 17, 1880, debut at Her Majesty's Theater in London, where she sang Amina in "La Sonnambula." Emma toured Europe and America until she retired in 1910 and settled in England. The voice of the

Photos: Larry Angier

"It's an honor to be her for a little while. She lived at such a remarkable time."

Mary McNeill portrays 19th-century opera star Emma Nevada.

"Comstock Nightingale" fell silent in 1940 when she died in Liverpool.

Like Emma, McNeill began singing at an early age. At Sparks High School she performed with the "Skyfire" show choir and sang in competitions in Germany and Austria. McNeill, who works for Stetson-Beemer Insurance during the day, takes classical singing lessons from Reno teacher John Fay. Fay also directs the "Emma Nevada" show. As Emma, McNeill sings "The Star of Nevada," "Return to Sorrento," and popular songs of the 1800s like "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Listen to the Mockingbird."

"I would love to eventually get into the opera," says McNeill. She also confesses, "Sometimes I really like getting in front of a band and singing country music." McNeill, a sixth-generation Nevadan, notes that her great-great-grandfather Dan Baird rode with the Pony Express and later drove stages. He may have heard the original Emma Nevada sing.

"It's an honor to be her for a little while," McNeill says. "She lived at such a remarkable time, was so famous, and there was not one hint of scandal about her. She was so pure."

Kurt Hildebrand is a columnist for Carson City's Nevada Appeal.

Teen Magic

By Deana Di Dio

Dan Hill has been performing magic ever since his parents, Patty and Paul Hill of Henderson, gave him his first magic kit at the age of six.

The sleight-of-hand artist, now 17, says, "I'm not so much a magician as much as I am an entertainer. It's more about the relationship I set up between me and the audience. I learn something new every time." The Green

Valley High School junior has turned the family's spare room into his Magic Room. In one corner lives his pet dove, Rocket, who once starred in a cannon-firing illusion. In the prop closet Hill stores magic wands and countless cups and balls for his hide-the-ball trick. He writes ideas for illusions on a dry-erase board next to a makeshift stage. Bookcases are full of magic books and periodicals. Hill has been mentioned in *Genii, M-U-M,* and *Linking Ring,* three of the four major magic magazines. He has yet to be mentioned in *Magic.* "It's my goal to get in an article in all of them," he says.

Hill practices magic tricks two hours a day, perfecting illusions like the Human Blockhead, where he seems to be pounding objects into his nose with a shoe, and the Egg Bag, in which he makes an egg disappear from a cloth sack. His dedication has paid off.

Last year he won the teen close-up act competition at the World Magic Seminar. He also took first place in junior contests sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Magicians in 1999 and 2002. His biography and photos can be seen on his Web site, www.hoodanny.com.

Hill frequently performs for the Clark County-Las Vegas Library District summer reading programs, Lions Club socials, business meetings, and children's birthday parties. Last year he opened for magicians Victor and Diamond in Bermuda.

"Magic is a pretty universal thing," Hill says. "And for me, it's a healthy passion. I don't know what I would do with my life if I didn't have magic."

Deana Di Dio is a contributor to the Las Vegas Review-Journal *features section.*

Dan Hill shuffles a deck of cards. The Henderson teen has won awards for his sleight-of-hand technique.

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Photo: Steve Spatafore

Five Diamonds, Four Seasons

A visit to the Four Seasons in Las Vegas reveals why it's one of Nevada's most decorated hotels. **By Joan Patterson**

Kelly Bell has inspected hundreds of lodgings across Nevada, Northern California, and Utah for the American Automobile Association, and yet there is still a touch of giddiness in his voice when he talks about bedding down in the best-of-the-best: a five-diamond hotel.

"To become a five-diamond is the ultimate in the hospitality industry. You are in a very elite group. Once you are there, you have made it," Bell says with a chuckle. "Once you're there, you better damn well keep it."

Well, Las Vegas is there. In 1999, the Four Seasons came to town and within a few months gave the city its first AAA five-diamond rating for lodging. The Bellagio followed in 2001 after instituting an intense training program for its staff and adding details such as a hotel greeter and even bathroom scales. Both hotels also received four out of five stars from the *Mobil Travel Guide*.

It takes more than just the proverbial mint on the pillow to earn the AAA's top rating. Bell, speaking from his San Francisco office, observes, "It's not anything to empty a wastebasket and replace a towel. It's what they do above and beyond that."

A few days later I had the chance to see what Bell was talking about. I packed a bag and drove my dusty Toyota to the Mandalay Bay Resort, where the Four Seasons Hotel Las Vegas is nested in floors 35 through 39. It is an unprecedented arrangement, having the demure hotel located inside a Las Vegas casino-resort. Yet the Four Seasons retains its exclusive nature with its own outdoor entrance and a discreet glass door on the

The Four Seasons occupies floors 35 through 39 and has its own entrance at Mandalay Bay.

casino level that only guests can open via their room key cards.

The Toronto-based Four Seasons is the most prolific operator of luxury hotels. The company has 57 hotels and resorts around the world with recent openings in Egypt, China, and Uruguay. Although guest privacy is guarded carefully, business moguls and celebrities are known to frequently sign the register. Not long ago Sting stood on stage at Las Vegas' Hard Rock Hotel and let it slip that he was staying down the road at the more sedate Four Seasons.

Upon pulling up to the private entrance, I was greeted by a bellman, who took my bags and whisked me through the glass doors past not one but two greeters. I was led to the registration desk, where, sitting on its shiny marble surface, was a bowl of bright-red Washington Gala apples to welcome hotel guests. My instinct was to grab one and throw it in my bag, but I demurred and caught myself wondering if I would be lucky enough to come back the next time around as a Four Seasons Fuji.

Inside the lobby, I was struck by the hotel's simple elegance. There were walls of pecan and pear woods, rugs in muted earth tones, and fresh flowers everywhere—bowls of yellow roses, vases of delicate calla lilies and forsythia. But it was the quiet, a hush you don't find in this piped-in stereophonic world anymore, that was falling around me like a curtain. I had to remind myself I was on the Strip, on Super Bowl weekend, amid hundreds of tourists.

After registering I took an express ride to the 37th floor and, upon entering the suite, found myself in a spacious foyer. An arrangement of lilies and hydrangeas sat on a center table. Farther ahead was a tumbling mass of buildings like something out of a fantasy Monopoly game—the Luxor's black pyramid, Paris' Eiffel Tower, New York-New York's Empire State Building. Standing before a window that stretched the entire length of the northwest wall, I could see most of the western Las Vegas Valley, including the Spring Mountains, which cradled it all in its craggy arms.

As I peered out the window, Brent, a bellman, reviewed the room's features. He pointed to a walk-in closet with ironing board and slippers. A minibar was stocked with everything from Blistex to golf balls. He showed me a small refrigerator filled with juices, sodas, and a small $35 bottle of champagne.

Brent described the nightly turndown service (slippers by the bed, surprises on the pillow—I was ready for that one) and complimentary services such as shoe shines and morning newspapers. The hotel offers 24-hour laundry and dry-cleaning service, with one-hour pressing.

I remembered Bell's comment that a five-diamond room must have an enclosed, illuminated closet with at least 10 hangars. A four-diamond needs only eight hangars. I went to the walk-in closet and counted: two dozen wooden specimens, including four with their own sachets.

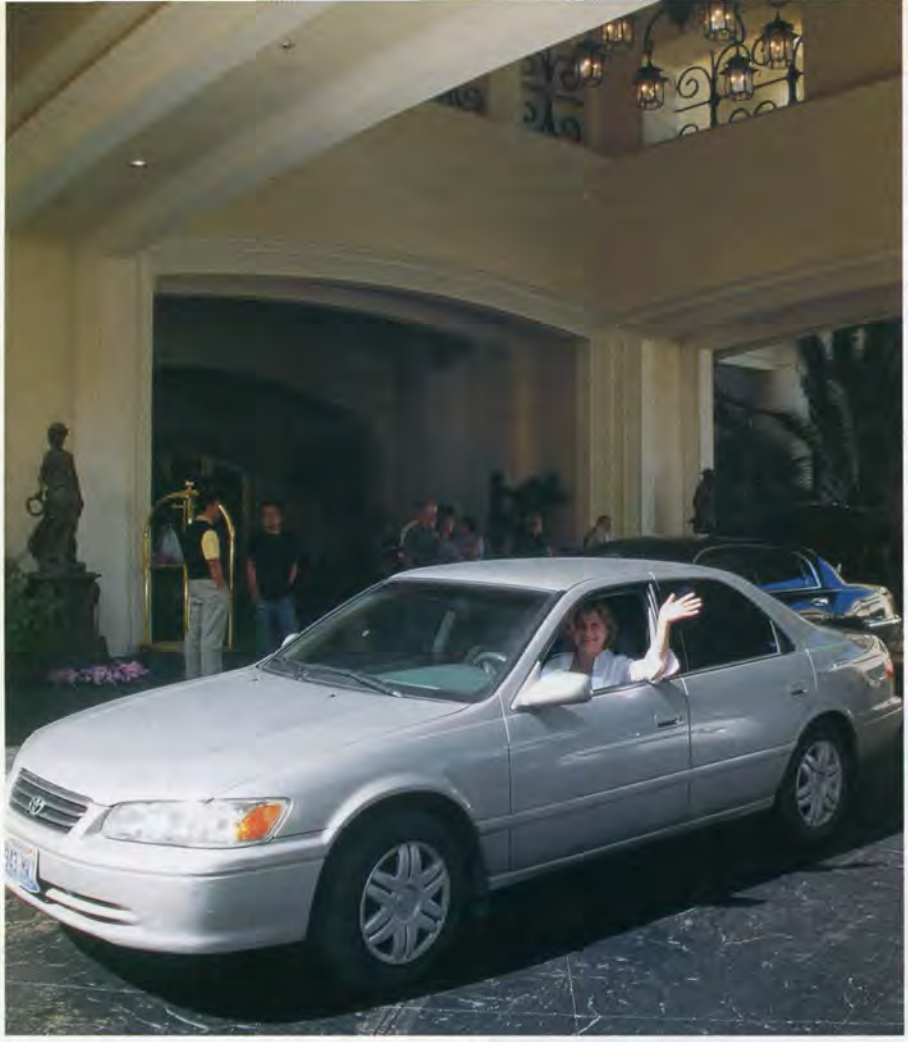
The furniture in this suite, which costs between $450 and $675 a night, was polished to a mirror-like finish. During my stay a desk was topped with eight chocolates and a delicate chocolate-quill centerpiece. A sheet of spun-sugar paper read, "Welcome to Four Seasons Las Vegas."

Strolling the property, I noticed Four Seasons guests have easy access to the Mandalay Bay's casino, restaurants, and concert arena. Yet as a separate hotel the Four Seasons has its own lobby, spa, and two restaurants. One is the posh Charlie Palmer Steak, established by the celebrity chef who brought Aureole to Mandalay Bay. The room looks like a private club with leather chairs and a lounge area where patrons can smoke cigars. The other eatery is the Verandah, where the menu includes a Japanese meal of miso soup, grilled salmon, and toasted seaweed for breakfast. Outside seating offers a view of the pool and gardens. A pianist plays during afternoon tea.

I visited the spa and fitness center. The Four Seasons' version of a locker room has pale-gold carpeting, slippers and robes in

The author takes in the tranquility of the Four Seasons' lobby (top). Suites offer Vegas views.

Photo: Chris Leedham (top)



Guest Patterson waves goodbye to the suite life at the Four Seasons.

every wooden locker, and classical piano lilting over the speakers. Inside the fitness room, every piece of cardio equipment had a little television and headphones. I spent my minutes on the stair-stepper staring out a set of thick glass doors overlooking what I call the dragon fountain in the hotel's garden area. The gardens provide another calming atmosphere.

"Las Vegas has so many things to do it really puts all your senses to work all of the time: excitement, glitz, and bells and whistles," George Cordon, the Four Seasons Las Vegas general manager, told me. "What we do here is provide a quiet hotel, a serene hotel … We maintain the privacy of the guests. A quiet elegance.

"We spend a great deal of time and resources making sure we get it right," he said. "We also trust our employees to use common sense in making the right decisions for our guests."

That evening I was joined by my husband, and after touring the Strip like tourists, we returned to our 37th-floor refuge. We stared out the window, and stared, and stared. After 25 years of living in Vegas between us, the wash of neon was still almost hypnotizing.

I have to note that my husband shooed the maid away that evening, so we never got the turndown service. I am still grumbling about that. He did want me to mention the glass shower door, which, he said, "is the thickest shower door I've ever seen." A guy thing, I guess.

Before checking out the next morning, I sat in the lobby, absorbing the hush, the way the staff quietly and efficiently helped their guests. A staff member told me more about the turndown service that I had missed. I learned it included having the alarm clock turned toward the bed, curtains drawn, and a TV remote placed on the nightstand.

While waiting at valet, I was asked graciously six times if I needed assistance. Then I looked up and saw a departing guest, sitting in a black SUV, munching her Four Seasons apple. I thought about running back inside and grabbing one of those Galas to take home. But there was my humble Toyota, waiting in the stark sunlight. So one shiny apple is still nestled in the lap of one of the world's finest hotels. Lucky apple.

Joan Patterson is a Las Vegas writer.

A guide to Nevada's top-rated hotels and restaurants.

By Wilma LaRocca

This year more than 30 Nevada hotels and restaurants earned the loftiest honors in the travel business—four or five stars in the ***Mobil Travel Guide*** or four or five diamonds in the ***AAA TourBook***.

"Nevada deserves a lot of diamonds," says American Automobile Association spokesperson Sean Comey. "It probably has more diamonds per capita than any other state in the nation."

The two new honorees for 2003, Green Valley Ranch Resort in Henderson and the Le Cirque restaurant at Bellagio, both received four diamonds. (Le Cirque already had four stars.) Thirty-two Nevada and Tahoe-area hotels and eateries repeated with four or five diamonds or stars.

Green Valley Ranch earned the honor only a year after its December 2001 opening. "Every one of our 1,200-plus employees contributed to the effort," says Lesley Pittman, Station Casinos vice president of public affairs. "We've planned a party so the whole staff can celebrate."

Le Cirque chef Marc Poidevin says, "It was definitely a team effort by the front desk and the back of the house staff." He says new show plates, china pattern, and silk leather menu covers may have helped gain the rating.

Establishments are rated by Mobil and AAA on a one-to-five scale. One star or diamond means good, two very good, three excellent, four outstanding, and five world-class. In 2003, Mobil awarded five stars to 30 lodgings and 14 restaurants out of 22,000 facilities evaluated in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. AAA inspected 50,000 facilities and gave five diamonds to 80 lodgings and 53 restaurants.

In 2003, Mobil awarded five stars to 30 lodgings and 14 restaurants out of the 22,000 facilities evaluated in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. AAA inspected 50,000 facilities and gave five diamonds to 80 lodgings and 53 restaurants.

The following guide presents the 34 Nevada and Tahoe-area hotels and restaurants that have received the two auto groups' top endorsements. Room rates vary seasonally and are higher on weekends. Reservations are recommended for the hotels and especially for the eateries.

Las Vegas

Bellagio: ◆◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. Bellagio has an art gallery, botanical gardens, and a fountain that dances to music. Rates: $159-$6,000, whirlpool suites $209-$750. Call 888-987-6667, 702-693-7111, www.bellagiolasvegas.com.

Aqua (Bellagio): ★★★★. Chefs Marc LoRusso and Michael Mina use California and Mediterranean products for their caviar parfait and lobster pot pie. Entrees begin at $31. Business casual dress. Call 702-693-7223.

Le Cirque (Bellagio): ◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★.

Photo: Chris Leedham

Diamonds and Stars 2003

Circus-themed Le Cirque provides an intimate dining atmosphere for Chef Marc Poidevin's French haute cuisine. Three-course ($80) or five-course ($95) tasting menu. Jackets required. 702-693-8100, www.lecirque.com.

Picasso (Bellagio): ◆◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★★. Master Chef Julian Serrano guided Picasso to its five-diamond, five-star status. The decor includes 12 original Picassos. Prix fixe menu $79.50-$89.50. Open Thurs.-Tues. Jackets recommended. 702-693-7111.

Caesars Palace: ◆◆◆◆. Caesars Palace has a Roman-style mall, heated pools, and Celine Dion. Rates: $99-$650. 800-CAESARS, 702-731-7110, www.caesars.com.

Four Seasons: ◆◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. The nongaming resort occupies the 35th through 39th floors of Mandalay Bay's hotel tower. Rates: $200 weekdays, $300 weekends, Presidential Suite $3,000-$4,000. 877-632-5000, 702-632-5000, www.fourseasons.com/lasvegas.

Golden Nugget: ◆◆◆◆. The downtown hotel has gourmet Italian and Chinese restaurants. Rooms start at $59, suites $250-$750. 800-634-3454, 702-385-7111, www.goldennugget.com.

Green Valley Ranch: ◆◆◆◆. Nevada's newest four-diamond hotel has lush lawns, palms, and Argentinean ranch-style architecture. The Henderson hotel, seven miles east of the Strip, has six restaurants, tennis courts, cinema, and spa. Rates: $159-$299, suites $350-$2,500. 702-617-7777, 866-782-9487, www.stationcasinos.com.

Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas: ◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. Movie buffs will recognize the resort in Henderson as a location for *America's Sweethearts*, starring Julia Roberts. Rates: $155-$299. 800-55-HYATT, 702-567-1234, www.hyatt.com.

Las Vegas Hilton: ◆◆◆◆. The 3,174-room Hilton has eight restaurants, lighted tennis courts, and Star Trek: The Experience. Rates begin at $55, suites $360-$3,000. 800-732-7117, 702-732-5111, www.lv-hilton.com.

Mandalay Bay: ◆◆◆◆. Mandalay Bay has two four-diamond restaurants (3950 and Aureole), the House of Blues, and a beach. Rates: $109-$599, suites $169-$2,999. 877-632-7000, 702-632-7777, www.mandalaybay.com.

The White Orchid at the Peppermill in Reno has been awarded four diamonds by AAA.

3950 (Mandalay Bay): ◆◆◆◆. The a la carte menu features continental cuisine. The name derives from the hotel's street address, 3950 Las Vegas Boulevard South. Dinners $27-$58. Dressy casual. 877-632-7000, 702-632-7414.

Aureole (Mandalay Bay): ◆◆◆◆. Celebrity chef Charlie Palmer houses his 9,000-bottle wine cellar in a four-story tower. Specialties are seasonal American dishes such as oak-smoked salmon. Dinners $55-$75, fixed price. Jackets suggested. 702-632-7401.

Michael's (Barbary Coast): ◆◆◆◆. Reservations required at this Strip-hotel restaurant. Dover sole and rack of lamb are popular entrees. Dinners a la carte, $35-$90. Elegant casual dress. 702-737-7111.

The Mirage: ◆◆◆◆. Resort offers priority seating at Renoir and "Siegfried and Roy" and tee times. Some suites have private elevators. Rates: $89-$399. Suites, $375-$1,025. 800-627-6667, 702-791-7111, www.themirage.com.

Renoir (Mirage): ◆◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★★. Renoir and Bellagio's Picasso are the only Nevada restaurants to earn both five-star and five-diamond awards. Chef Alessandro Stratta prepares many seafood and vegetable specialties. Menus, fixed price and a la carte. Entrees begin at $36. Jackets recommended. 702-791-7353.

Nobu (Hard Rock Hotel): ★★★★. Diners can sample Chef Peter Woo's modern Japanese cuisine. Fish for the sushi bar is flown in daily from Tokyo. Dinners $50-$60. 800-HRD-ROCK, 702-693-5090.

Paris Las Vegas: ◆◆◆◆. Paris, modeled after the Hotel de Ville, offers indoor Parisian streets and rides to the top of the 50-story Eiffel Tower. Rates: $90-$300, suites $350-$2,500. 888-266-5687, 702-946-7000, www.paris-lv.com.

Eiffel Tower Restaurant (Paris): ◆◆◆◆. On the tower's 11th floor, diners on the side facing Bellagio can watch the fountain show. Chef-owner Jean Joho offers French cuisine a la carte. Three-course dinners begin at $41. Semi-formal dress. 702-948-6937.

Treasure Island: ◆◆◆◆. Each Treasure Island suite has a sitting area, two bathrooms, and whirlpool. Rates: $69-$359, suites $299-$1,150. 800-944-7444, 702-894-7111, www.treasureisland.com.

Venetian: ◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. Amid the Grand Canal and other reminders of Venice, you can visit shops or order a massage at the Canyon Ranch SpaClub. Rates: $129-$999. 800-494-3556, 702-414-1000, www.venetian.com.

Lutece (Venetian): ★★★★. This second version of New York's famous eatery overlooks the Grand Canal. Chef David Feau offers a modern classical French cuisine. Entrees $28-$55. Elegant casual dress. 702-414-2220.

Lake Tahoe/Stateline

Caesars Tahoe: ◆◆◆◆. The Stateline hotel has four restaurants, Nero's 2000 nightclub, pool, saunas, tennis, and headliner entertainment. Rates: $79-$300, suites $370-$950. 800-367-4554, 775-588-3515, www.caesars.com.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe: ◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. Harrah's Lake Tahoe has seven restaurants, exercise facilities, and name entertainment. Rates: $129, suites $229-$429. 800-HARRAHS, 775-588-6611, www.harrahs.com.

The Summit (Harrah's): ◆◆◆◆. The 16th floor was once the Star Suite where Sammy Davis Jr. stayed. The cocktail lounge offers cigars. Menu items $26-$32. Jackets required. 800-HARRAHS, 775-588-6661.

Harveys: ◆◆◆◆. Harveys has seven restaurants, including the four-diamond Llewellyn's, heated pool, and massage. Rates: $119-$299, suites $299-$699. 800-HARVEYS, 775-588-2411, www.harrahs.com.

Chef Marc Poidevin at Le Cirque in Bellagio.

Llewellyn's (Harvey's): ◆◆◆◆. Llewellyn's 17th-floor dining room offers views of Lake Tahoe. Dinner $18-$28. 800-HARVEYS, 775-588-2411, www.harrahs.com.

Lake Tahoe/North

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe: ◆◆◆◆ and ★★★★. The Incline Village resort has 500 feet of lakefront beach and four restaurants. Rates: $180-$475, suites $415-$1,565. Cottages with private beach begin at $445. 800-233-1234, 775-832-1234, www.laketahoehyatt.com.

Resort at Squaw Creek: ◆◆◆◆. Resort near Squaw Valley ski area has golf and skiing. Rates: $117-$479. 800-404-9917, 530-583-6300, www.squawcreek.com.

Glissandi (Resort at Squaw Creek): ◆◆◆◆. Glissandi features California French cuisine. Entrees $28-$36. Casual dress. Call 530-581-6621.

Squaw Valley Lodge: ◆◆◆◆. All-suite resort near the Squaw Valley cable car. Rates: $179-$415. 800-922-9970, 530-583-5500, www.squawvalleylodge.com.

Reno

Harrah's Steak House (Harrah's Reno): ◆◆◆◆. The Steak House serves lunch and dinner. Favorites are the five-onion soup and steak Diane. Dinners $23-$32. 800-HARRAHS, 775-788-2929, www.harrahs.com.

White Orchid (Peppermill): ◆◆◆◆. The White Orchid menu features dishes such as a tower of ahi tuna tartar with avocado as an appetizer. Dinners $24-$44. Chef's special $75-$85 with five wines. 800-282-2444, 775-689-7300, www.peppermillreno.com.

Jackpot

Cactus Petes: ◆◆◆◆. Ten-story, Las Vegas-style resort with a dinner showroom and nearby golf. Rates: $65-$135, suites $125-$200. 800-821-1103, 775-755-2321, www.ameristars.com.

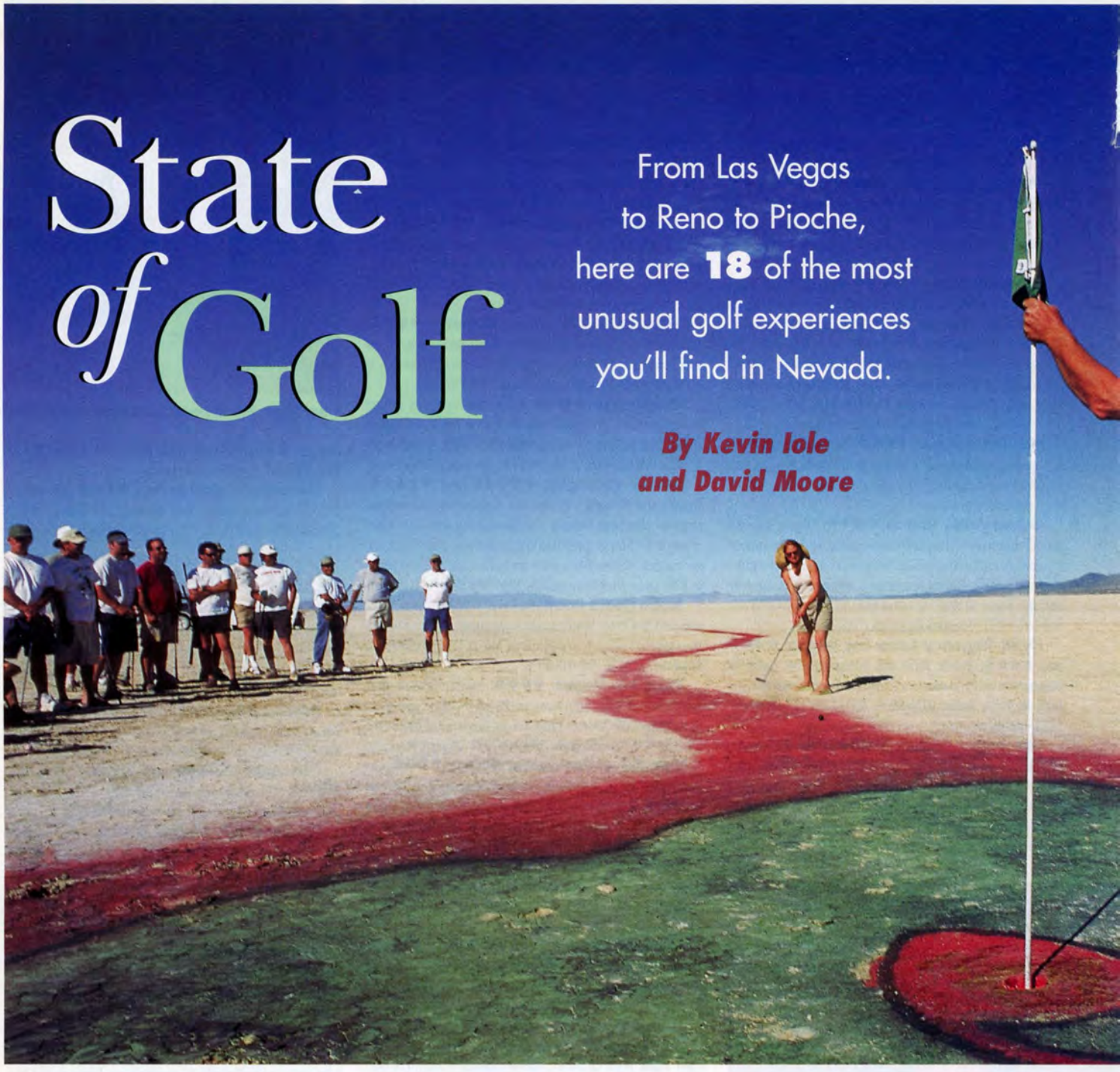
Wilma LaRocca is an editorial assistant at Nevada Magazine.

For an expanded version of the "Diamonds and Stars 2003" guide see www.nevadamagazine.com.

State of Golf

From Las Vegas to Reno to Pioche, here are **18** of the most unusual golf experiences you'll find in Nevada.

By Kevin Iole and David Moore



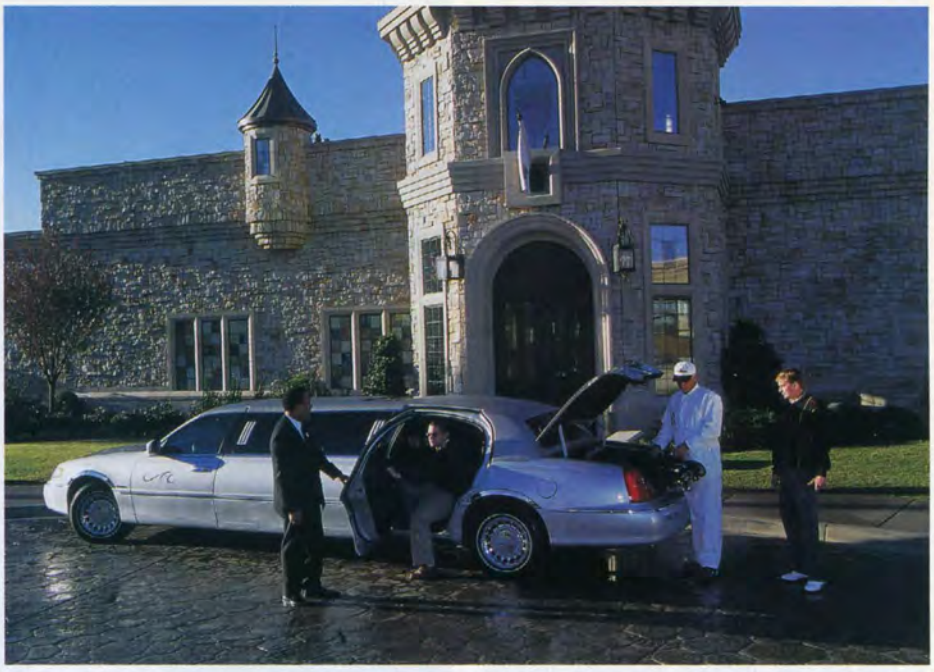
The **Nevada golf** experience varies as widely as the comet-like trajectory of a slice into the woods. You can take a lesson from Tiger Woods' teacher, Butch Harmon, at Rio Secco in Henderson. At Edgewood Tahoe you can smash the longest drive of your career. Pioche's new Lincoln County links may have dirt fairways, but thanks to indoor-outdoor carpeting you can pretend you're playing Augusta if you really try.

Golf offers us the chance to pursue the elusive dimpled sphere in scenic and intriguing Nevada settings. Following are 18 of the most unusual links experiences that golfers can encounter in the Silver State.

1 Ode to the Isles: Some of the most famous holes in golf are found in Great Britain—and at the Royal Links Golf Club. Las Vegas golf-course developer Bill Walters offers Royal Links as tribute to the great holes of British Open courses like Muirfield and Turnberry. On No. 8 you can hit out of a seven-foot-deep bunker near the devilish "Postage Stamp" green just as you can at Royal Troon. On No. 10 you can try to bomb one over the wall on a replica of St. Andrews' "Road Hole." The castle-like clubhouse has a statue of Old Tom Morris, the one-time caddie who won four British Opens in the 1860s.

2 Black Sand: Sure, it's possible to lose sight of your ball in the white-sand bunkers at Bear's Best Las Vegas, where Jack Nicklaus

Photo: Douglas Keister



Las Vegas golfer Jack Sheehan and son J.P. play No. 4's black sand at Bear's Best. Top: A player arrives in style at the Royal Links clubhouse. Left: All eyes follow the bouncing ball during the Black Rock putting contest.

has recreated 18 of the best holes he's designed for more than 200 courses worldwide. But seeing your beached ball won't be a problem on Nos. 4 and 11, where the bunkers have black sand. Trucked in from Montana, it's the same black sand Nicklaus used at Montana's Old Works Golf Club. Meanwhile, you can take heart that your group may be accompanied by one of Bear's Best forecaddies. The caddies describe course strategy and carry laser rangefinders to provide exact yardages and help golfers avoid the beach.

3 Celebrity Golf: Jack Nicklaus also designed Reflection Bay, an upscale public course on the banks of Lake Las Vegas, home of two other courses, the public Falls and private SouthShore, as well as a Hyatt Regency and Ritz-Carlton. Like other Vegas-area courses, Reflection Bay draws its share of celebrity golfers. Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley have played many rounds at Reflection Bay, which *Golf Magazine* named one of the best 100 public courses in the country.

4 Luncheon Meet: If you want to add power to your golf game, try lunch at Cili at Bali Hai Golf Club. The Strip restaurant is known as a power-lunch spot, attracting many Las Vegans who don't know a golf cart from a la carte. While they wheel and deal, you can analyze your putting stroke over Cili's spicy orange chicken with water chestnuts, scallions, and jasmine rice. Opened by Wolfgang Puck three years ago, Cili is now managed by Stephen Poskus. On Martini Thursdays a jazz band

Photos: J. Rick Martin (top right), Chris Leedham (bottom right)

plays and martinis are discounted between 6 and 9 p.m. Just don't make your Friday tee time too early.

5 Tiger's Classroom: Rio Secco in Henderson, designed by Rees Jones, is tough enough to challenge the world's best golfers, so it seems appropriate that the best, Tiger Woods, shot the course record, an eight-under 64. You can often find Woods and other top players at Rio Secco because it's the home of the Butch Harmon School of Golf. Harmon, well known as Woods' teacher, and son Claude Harmon III are available along with their staff to give lessons to golfers of all abilities (see www.playrio.com). Golf Channel viewers may have seen the instructional series in which the younger Harmon hits shots both right- and left-handed. Room-and-school packages, costing $4,800 for three days and $2,500 for one, include on-course lessons and a chance to meet Tiger's mentor.

6 The Works: There may not be a more complete golf club than Angel Park. The Las Vegas links complex has two 18-hole championship courses designed by Arnold Palmer, a 12-hole par-three course that is lighted for night play, and an 18-hole putting course. In addition, the driving range is lighted, so there's no excuse for not practicing after dinner.

7 High Rolling: The Cascata Golf Club is perhaps Southern Nevada's most exclusive track, created for the high-rolling guests of Park Place Entertainment hotels such as Bally's, Caesars Palace, Flamingo, Las Vegas Hilton, and Paris. Service is the word at the Boulder City course. The chef on duty will make anything you desire, from a club sandwich to filet mignon. Order on the course, and food will be delivered to you. Even well-traveled guests appear to be dazzled when they walk in the clubhouse and see the stream that runs through it.

8 Easy Riders: When Wolf Creek was being built in Mesquite four years ago, designers Dennis and Jon Rider wanted to preserve the natural beauty of the land. So the Riders did not allow a construction vehicle to put its wheels on the course. When they needed to bring in sand for the bunkers, it was delivered by helicopter. The height of No. 2's back tee is equivalent to that of an 11-story building. To get to the tee you have to trudge up 90 rock steps. The steps, which weigh 500 pounds apiece, also were placed by helicopter. Meanwhile, wildlife on the course remains abundant. Lucky golfers may spot desert tortoises, roadrunners, Gila monsters, and coyotes.

Pioche's pioneering golfers play the No. 5 sand green. Top: Butch Harmon teaches Tiger and others at Rio Secco.

9 Walk in the Wild: Las Vegas Paiute Resort features three courses designed by Pete Dye, one of golf's great architects. The Sun Mountain, Snow Mountain, and Wolf courses are known for exquisite conditioning and lightning-quick greens. As a bonus, there are no homes on the three golf courses—just desert and mountain scenery—so golfers feel they're by themselves as they stroll the lush fairways.

10 Vegas After Dark: The par-three North Las Vegas Golf Course is one of the state's shortest layouts, but it has some of the longest views. Standing on the No. 9 tee after dark—the entire 1,158-yard municipal course is lighted for night play—you can see the lights of the Strip hotels pulsating near the other end of the valley.

Photos: J. Rick Martin (top), Don Shanks (bottom)

Summer on Lake Tahoe's south shore unfolds at Edgewood Tahoe. Many sea-level golfers can hit the ball farther at the lake, where the elevation is more than 6,200 feet.

11 Links of Lincoln: Like the golfing fanatics of Gabbs and Empire who carved courses out of the desert, the citizens of Pioche are building a links of their own. Golfers in the historic mining town 174 miles north of Las Vegas had tired of hours-long drives to play their favorite game. Dick and Peggy Decker are two of the leaders of the Lincoln County Links Association, which was formed last summer after Peggy and friend Carol Shanks decided to test local interest.

The No. 15 green at LakeRidge, designed by Robert Trent Jones, occupies a scenic Reno island.

"We put an ad in the local paper saying that anyone interested in the game of golf should meet at the town hall," Peggy says. "We had 50 people show up." The group chose a site one mile east of town on the road to Spring Valley State Park. Don Shanks, Pat Kelley, Jim Kelly, Keith Stever, and Dick Decker laid out the nine-hole course, and the Deckers' son Lee cleared away the sagebrush using a grader loaned by Jim Wilkin. The group rolled the greens with reject sand from county road projects.

The golfers celebrated with a nine-hole scramble tournament during Pioche's big Labor Day Weekend Celebration. Amazingly, 55 contestants turned out on short notice. Most carried mats of indoor-outdoor carpet that Dick Decker had fashioned. During the round each player would place his or her ball on the mat before making a shot.

The association has 100 members and is selling T-shirts and hats ($15 each) to raise funds. A year's membership costs $25; for information contact the Deckers, Box 321, Pioche, NV 89043, 775-962-5206. Dick Decker says, "We're hoping to build a clubhouse, and we're looking at artificial turf for the greens. Our goal is to put in all nine greens this summer." The group envisions the links one day having sprinklers, water, and, yes, even grass.

Meanwhile, visiting golfers are welcome to borrow or bring their own indoor-outdoor carpeting and play the fledgling 1,656-yard, par-29 Lincoln County Golf Course. Peggy Decker says, "We have dirt fairways and sand greens—and everyone is having a blast."

12 Long Drivers: "Grip it and rip it" is the motto of the big hitters who meet each fall at Mesquite's scenic Palms Golf Club for the RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship. Last October, Carl Wolter, a former Penn State javelin thrower from Plymouth Meeting,

(Continued on page 79)

Nevada Golf 2003

See "Nevada Golf 2003" on page 81 for contact information and other details about many of these "18 Unusual Golf Experiences" in Nevada. The annual "Nevada Golf" guide covers events, hot lines, and more than 100 courses in Nevada and the Lake Tahoe area.

Photos: Wolf Kohz (top), Chris Talbot (bottom)

My Favorite Marshes

Each summer my family returns to the bass and birds of the Ruby Marshes.

By Terry Hall

I was 11 years old when I first set eyes upon the Ruby Marshes. I was spending the summer with my grandfather, Rufino "Beno" Bena. A Basque immigrant, Beno was retired and caretaking the ranch at Twin Bridges, south of Elko, for its owner, Henry "Apache" Corta. My mother had been born on that ranch.

One day we took a break from haying, and Beno, Apache, and I gathered our fishing poles and tackle boxes and piled into the front seat of Apache's pickup. I remember cresting Harrison Pass a half hour later and seeing the beautiful, endless expanse of Ruby Valley. To the north Franklin Lake, usually a dry lake bed, shimmered beneath the blue sky. To the south was the greenest oasis I had ever seen, the Ruby Marshes.

We stopped at the collection ditches and began throwing lures from a tule-lined earthen dike. Soon I had a large rainbow trout on the line. I was an avid fisherman, but the battle with that trout was unlike any I had experienced. We caught those animated lunkers one after another from the cold, clear waters of the maze of collection ditches that fed the marshes.

The author cruises the marshes. Top: Shelbe (left) and Laura Hall wait for unsuspecting fish to bite.

Four decades later, I still get excited catching fish at the Ruby Marshes. Each summer my wife, Sheri, and I plan a fishing trip to this magical place with our daughters, Shelbe and Laura. The anticipation of this pilgrimage is enough to keep us breathing through the winter.

The Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge was created in 1938 not for fishing but to protect nesting and migrating waterfowl. When fishing we often see great blue herons, grebes, Canada geese, canvasback ducks, eagles, hawks, and trumpeter swans.

The Ruby Marshes were formed by the collection ditches, which direct melting snow, streams from springs, and agricultural runoff into a series of dikes and ponds. Nearby, a state hatchery raises rainbows, brookies, and other trout. The

Photos: David Moore

plentiful largemouth bass, planted in the 1930s, are the most sought-after fish.

Fishing the marshes is best accomplished in a boat. The ponds, filled with tules, mimic a watery jungle. Tall steel poles mark the navigable routes—travel must be planned carefully because of the marshes' great expanse. The vegetation is so dense that you can hear the voices of other anglers but never see them. A newby can easily become disoriented or lost.

The wind can be your worst enemy. Many times I have been shoved against the tules and held helplessly until the wind subsided. Lightning is another concern in the open marshes. There's no shelter, and you may be the tallest thing out there, not to mention being in an aluminum boat. Unfortunately, lightning has killed at least one person holding a fishing pole in the open water.

Safety aside, out on the marshes your only priority in life is to catch a big bass. The number of lurking fish varies from year to year, depending on the snowfall, but we have never been disappointed. Often we can look over the edge of the boat and see the fish we are stalking. We pack our lunch and spend the day fishing and admiring this awesome place. The snow on the north slopes lasts through July, adding contrast to the aspen, mahogany, juniper, and piñon trees that paint the mountains. Reflections of the peaks on the water give us the sense of being part of a photograph.

Awaking before dawn, we can hear the gurgling cry of herons. Mornings we see deer, rabbits, and hawks. I often remember those first visits with Beno and Apache. I know my kids will bring their families here when they are older and tell Ruby Marshes fish stories, just as I do.

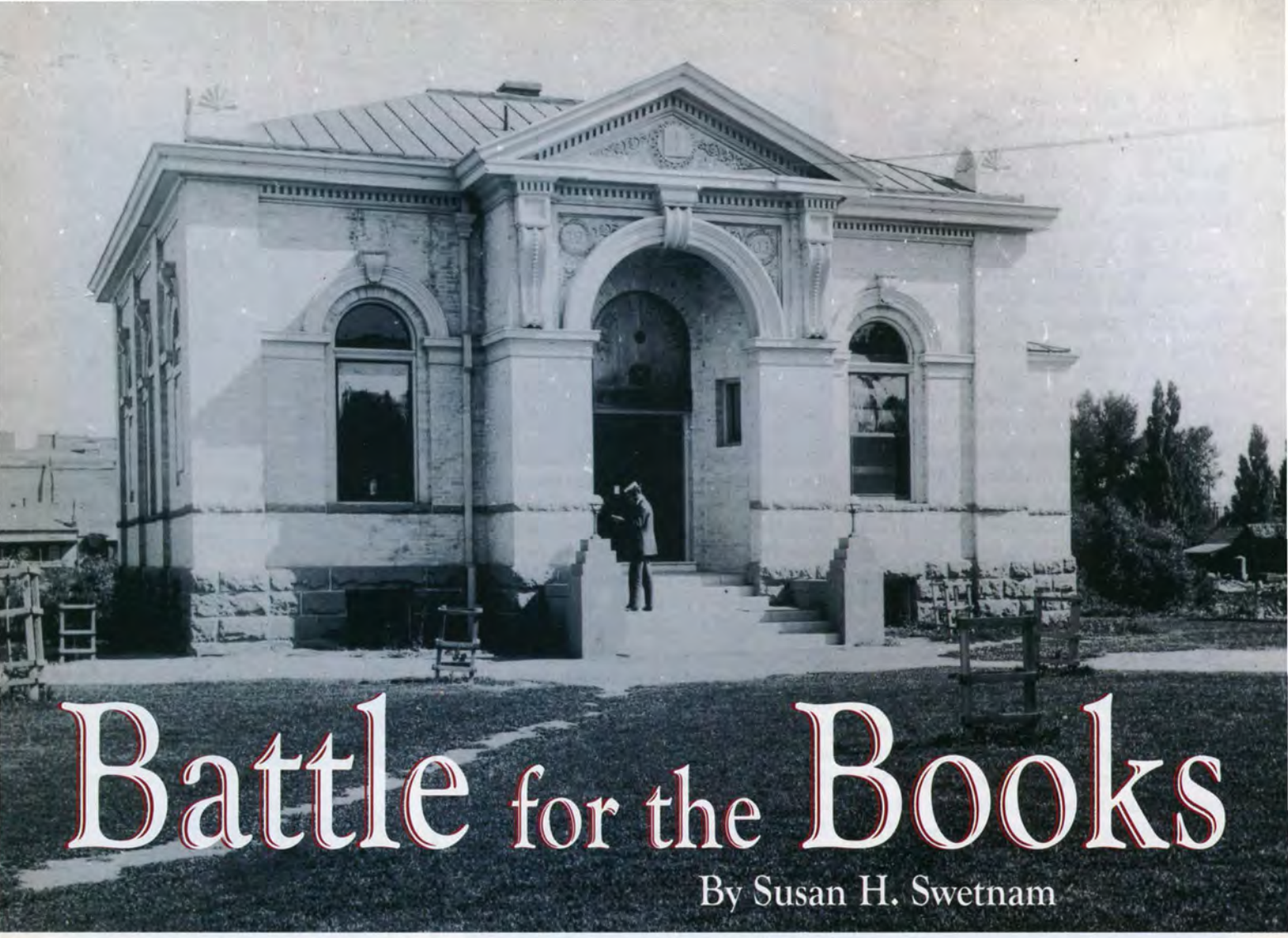
Terry Hall of Dayton frequently travels Nevada's back roads as an environmental health specialist with the State Health Division.

Repeating a summer ritual, the Halls head into the tules in search of largemouth bass and a beautiful day.

The mountains offer a scenic backdrop to Ruby Valley and the marshes.

The Ruby Marshes

Summer is the main season for anglers at the Ruby Marshes, also known as the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 55 miles south of Elko and 66 miles south of Wells. Fishing is allowed year-round, but boating regulations are strict and varied. Boating is allowed on only part of the marsh—be sure to check with the refuge for regulations. Most travel is on graded dirt roads; call ahead about fall-to-spring road conditions. A U.S. Forest Service campground is located on the marshes' west side. Refuge headquarters offers brochures and advice. Write the refuge at HC 60 Box 860, Ruby Valley, NV 89833, or call 775-779-2237 for information.



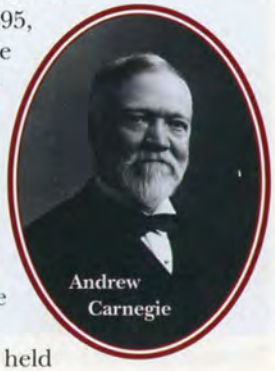
Battle for the Books

By Susan H. Swetnam

A century ago Reno citizens overcame a corrupt county government to establish a Carnegie public library.

Today, it's hard to imagine public libraries as controversial institutions—we take them for granted as quiet necessities. But things were different in Reno at the turn of the 20th century. The Carnegie library in the rough-hewn railroad town took shape only after a bitter struggle. During the fight for its establishment, the library became a rallying point, a symbol of political skullduggery, and an object of jubilant celebration once it was assured 100 years ago.

Reno did not have a public library in the 1890s, in part because there was no state law to authorize library taxes. In Reno, appeals for government support of any kind appeared doomed to failure. Reno had no municipal government. Instead, it was overseen by the Washoe County commissioners, a group of men whose corruption was legendary. During the 1880s and 1890s, grand juries had indicted the commissioners repeatedly for bribery and corruption, noting in 1894 that their conduct in purchasing and awarding contracts displayed "a looseness almost beyond belief." By 1895, county finances were in such poor condition that the commissioners fired the janitor at the courthouse, requiring officials to sweep, dust, and clean their own spittoons, according to the *Nevada State Journal*. Commissioner Thomas K. Hymers, owner of a prosperous livery stable and later a major player in the Carnegie library bid, was charged in 1891 with drawing "a large sum of money" from the treasury to fund travel expenses for acquaintances and friends "on the pretext of affording relief to the indigent."



Andrew Carnegie

Despite such malfeasance, Hymers and his cronies held

Photo: Nevada Historical Society (top)

Library leader Frank Norcross (left) was a member of the first graduating class at the University of Nevada, which included Fred C. Bristal (center) and Henry Cutting (right). A library at last: Opened in 1904, Reno's Carnegie public library represented a triumph of the popular will (opposite page).

absolute power in the county, setting property taxes, issuing bonds, and spending tax revenues at their own discretion. They blocked civic improvements even when Reno had no municipal dump and was dumping raw sewage into the Truckee River. Citizens' attempts to influence the commissioners failed miserably. The *Reno Evening Gazette* complained that the board's chairman adopted a particularly "insulting manner when gentlemen go before the body."

Why were the commissioners reluctant to commit tax money to civic improvements? Public projects would have required higher property taxes for large landowners, including the commissioners themselves, such as Grover Holcomb, another public library opponent. Holcomb, termed by Thomas Wren's *1904 History of the State of Nevada: Its Resources and People* as "one of the most extensive landholders in the state," owned 9,000 acres, 700 head of cattle, and 1,500 sheep. The commissioners were also protecting the region's powerful businesses, especially the Central Pacific Railroad, from higher taxes.

Into this picture stepped a young man with innovative ideas—attorney Frank Norcross, who had the education and confidence necessary to challenge the status quo. Born on a ranch near Reno in 1869, Norcross attended the new University of Nevada in 1886. He took a surveying course and was elected county surveyor. Graduating with the university's first class in 1891, he taught and served as principal at the Verdi school. U.S. Senator William Stewart, fostering local talent, found Norcross an appointment as a clerk in the census office in Washington, D.C., which allowed Norcross to enroll at Georgetown Law School. After graduating in 1894 he returned to Nevada and immediately assumed many duties. He practiced law, served as acting principal of Reno High School, and was elected district attorney of Washoe County.

Norcross soon found himself with another responsibility. In 1895 Reno citizens held a meeting to rally support for a public library. The state legislature was meeting at the time, and library supporters vowed not to wait two years for another session. They appointed Norcross to a committee drafting a bill that would allow tax support for public libraries. The group worked quickly, and the bill was soon before the legislature.

Surprisingly, the bill passed—but not before someone changed the language in a way that crippled the bill's intent. Instead of ordering a dollar-based rate of taxation, as the draft stipulated, the bill as recorded contained a formula based on "mills," or tenths of cents. The bill had been sabotaged.

Reno's pro-library forces were furious, but they kept working. In 1896, Norcross won election to the Assembly and, according to the *Gazette*, "saw to it that the act was properly amended." The revised bill stipulated a rate of taxation that effectively multiplied the earlier provision by 10.

As library supporters gathered petition signatures, they received another boost. In 1898, New York millionaire Andrew Carnegie began to grant funds for the construction of public libraries across America. Carnegie, who had made his fortune in steel and railroads, promulgated what he called a "Gospel of Wealth," by which wealthy men were obliged to share their assets in charitable giving. Since Carnegie credited his success in part to his access to books as a young man, and since he asserted strong faith in bootstrap democracy, he made public libraries a major component of his philanthropy.

Under the Carnegie program, any community could win a grant if it had an adequate population, pledged to raise 10

Grover Holcomb was one of the commissioners who tried to block Reno's library bid.

Photos: Nevada Historical Society

percent of Carnegie's total gift annually in taxes for library maintenance, and supplied a site, books, and furniture. Communities hurried to take advantage of this offer.

To Norcross and other public-spirited Reno citizens, this program potentially solved a huge problem. Even if the commissioners were forced to approve tax support, the funds so generated would have been inadequate for construction. Encouraged by Carnegie's offer, the library supporters redoubled their efforts to gather signatures. On February 4, 1901, armed with the petition, Norcross led a contingent to a county commission meeting and called for action. But the fight was not so easily won. Furious, the commissioners stalled. Hymers moved, and Holcomb seconded, that "the whole matter of a free public library petition be laid aside for one year." In response, Norcross procured a writ of mandate from a district judge forcing action.

A postcard from the early 1900s shows the Carnegie library's location on the Truckee River across from the Riverside Hotel. Later, the library was torn down, and Reno's main post office was built on the site.

On February 23, 1901, the commissioners again considered what their minutes called "a petition purporting to be signed by a majority of the taxpayers of the Reno School District." A heated discussion followed. The commissioners finally proclaimed that "the taxpayers who signed the petition do not know what is for their best interest." The *Journal* reported, "Many little episodes occurred that savored of anger," and the commissioners disallowed the petition.

Undaunted, Assemblyman Norcross introduced an amendment to the state library funding law that would allow a district judge of any judicial district in Nevada to approve a petition for any community. Once such verification occurred, "the said commissioners shall within 10 days after said petition . . . levy a tax." Although conservative legislators forced a compromise, lowering the amount of support to "10 cents and no more," the way was now clear for Reno's library.

Norcross applied to Carnegie on November 14, 1901, in a letter that prudently omitted all mention of the six-year struggle just completed. Carnegie promised $15,000, and citizens gathered in a public meeting to consider the offer. A petition was circulated and approved. Finally, on June 3, 1902, the county commissioners grudgingly approved a levy.

Reno's library proponents had won. When a building site was chosen next to the Truckee River at Virginia and Mill streets, it was heralded as a new day for the city. "The heart of Reno," the *Journal* declared, would "be converted to a riverside beauty spot, and the free public library the nucleus of the prettiest town in the west."

When the cornerstone was laid on September 22, 1903, the city celebrated with fervor. The Reno Wheelman Band led a parade from the Masonic Temple to the site, escorted by the Knights Templar in full regalia and followed by the Grand Lodge in sheepskin aprons as well as 200 Masons. Music, speeches, salutes, and invocations followed. After the ceremony, celebrants sat down to a banquet, followed by speechmaking and toasting.

Less than a year later, in June 1904, the building was dedicated "for the pleasure and profit of all citizens of this community, the rich and the poor alike," as the *Gazette* pointedly noted. By then Renoites had won another victory in the struggle for self-rule: Reno had been granted separate municipal government while the library was under construction. A new day had certainly come for the city, and the library stood as its first tangible symbol.

Norcross went on to a judicial career, serving as a U.S. district court judge and retiring in 1945 as chief justice of the Nevada Supreme Court. He was active in many civic organizations, his public service harking back to the grand victory that he won as an idealistic young attorney in 1902.

Between 1881 and 1917 Carnegie and his foundation spent $56 million to build more than 2,500 public libraries around the world. The first was in Dunfermline, the Scottish town where Carnegie was born. In all, Carnegie funded more than 1,600 libraries in the United States. Reno's was the only one built in Nevada, although the citizens of Goldfield made an unsuccessful attempt to secure a Carnegie grant.

Reno's handsome little Carnegie library building was torn down in 1931 to make room for the central post office. The Carnegie building proved to be the nucleus of a strong county library system. The citizens of Reno (rich and poor, still) who use its services can celebrate its genealogy as a symbol of populist triumph at a time when citizens had to fight for self-government—and the right to borrow books.

Susan H. Swetnam, a professor of English at Idaho State University in Pocatello, is completing a book on Intermountain West Carnegie library grants. Her articles and essays have appeared in Gourmet *and* Journal of the West, *and her collection of essays,* Home Mountains: Reflections from a Western Middle Age *(Washington State University Press), was runner-up for Idaho Book of the Year in 2000. She and her late husband, Ford Swetnam, frequently visited Nevada.*

Photo: Nevada State Museum

¡Mole, Olé!

Mexican eateries we've known and loved. **By Deke Castleman**

Soledad Montes, a waitress at Dona Maria's in Las Vegas, digs into a two-tamale combo plate. The tamales are served with rice and beans.

In honor of Cinco de Mayo we visit four of the most venerable and popular Mexican restaurants in Nevada, which, after all, is a Spanish word meaning, "Enchiladas, anyone?" (Just kidding.)

The first is, as far as we can tell, the second-oldest Mexican restaurant in the state after Las Vegas' El Sombrero (see "Dining Out," May/June '88). **Miguel's**, whose festive and colorful sign adorns Virginia Street just south of downtown Reno, opened in 1959, when Mexican food was so novel that Miguel's Yellow Pages ad referred to its "Spanish" cuisine. The original owner, Miguel Rivera, moved to Reno from New Mexico in the late '50s and owned the restaurant till he died in 1998. Three years later his family sold the restaurant to current owner Elmer Figueroa, who repainted the walls and added new floors and furniture.

Figueroa has expanded Miguel's original menu. The cheese and onion enchiladas are popular, as are spicier dishes such as carnitas, a roasted-pork entree; chicken mole, with its dark chocolate-based gravy; and posole, a pork and hominy soup. Every entree is served with rice and beans, tortillas on the side, and sopapillas (a doughy pastry) and jelly for dessert, a tradition that continues from the days of Miguel Rivera. Entrees start at $6.50; the seafood dishes are $10.95 to $13.95. Miguel's (1415 South Virginia Street, Reno, 775-322-2722) is open daily except Monday for lunch and dinner.

La Cocina has been a fixture in downtown Fallon since 1980. La Cocina's claim to fame is its tostada grande. How grande is it? At 12 inches in diameter, it's the size of a large pizza, and at 12 inches tall it's the height of a medium-sized wedding cake. It's so big, in fact, that La Cocina awards T-shirts to all comers who can finish one; a number of La Cocina T-shirts can be seen on the hearty-appetited seabees around the Fallon Naval Air Station and its Top Gun school. Since 1998, when owner Jim Kenealy started keeping track, approximately 100 people have managed to finish the tostada grande and have their names added to one of four plaques gracing the restaurant's walls.

Kenealy says that he goes through 5,200 pounds of pinto beans every year. Let's see. In the past 22 years, that adds up to ... a lot of beans! (Nearly six tons, all told.) La Cocina's specialties, besides the tostada grande (which comes in beef or chicken with guacamole, sour cream, and green chiles), are an eight-ounce New York steak and enchilada dinner and a taco, enchilada, burrito, and tamale combination plate. (If you finish that, all you get is a free pass till breakfast.) Meals are served with rice and beans, which are vegetarian-friendly—no meat or lard. The tostada grande is $9.50; the four-combination plate is $10.25. La Cocina (125 South Maine, Fallon, 775-423-6166) is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

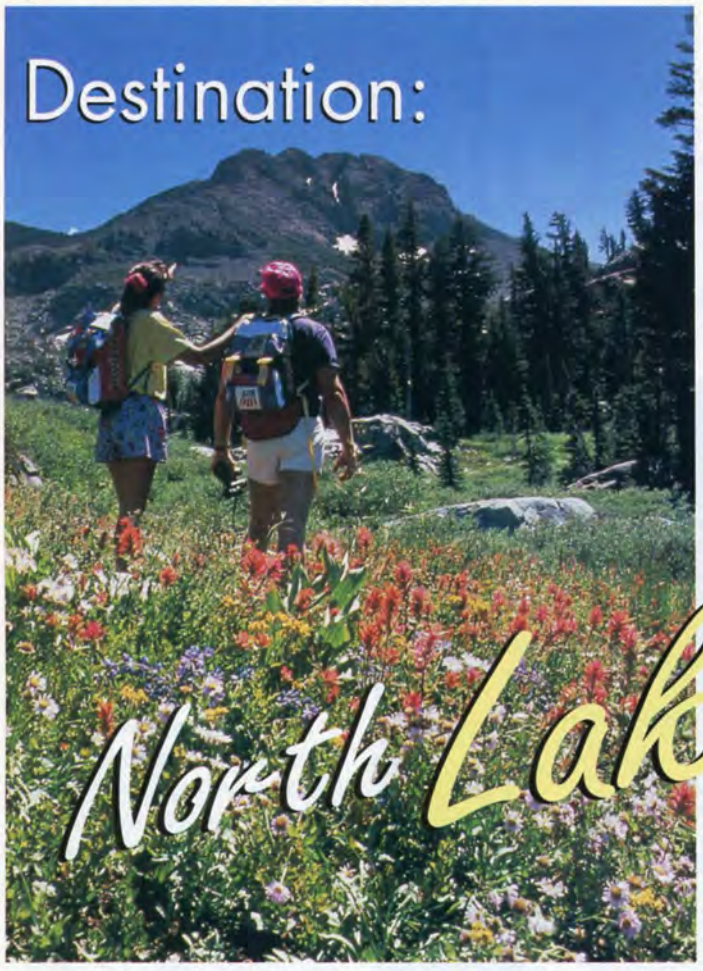
Since the mid-1980s **El Marques** has served Tonopah residents and visitors. The restaurant on the town's main street is owned by Pablo Quiroz, who purchased the business from Edward Guzman in 1998.

Quiroz says all the food at El Marques is authentic Mexican with the exception of two American concoctions, the taco salad and the burritos. The burrito, he explains, was never a Mexican dish. Rather, it was developed just north of the border

(Continued on page 103)

Photo: Chris Leedham

Destination: North Lake Tahoe



People can hike (left) and parasail (right) at North Lake Tahoe.

Outdoor recreation appeals to vacationers at Tahoe's north shore.

By Joyce Hollister

Many vacationers come to **North Lake Tahoe** to spend lazy days on the beach. But if you want to be more active, you can take part in almost every type of outdoor recreation imaginable. You can swim, fish, raft, kayak, waterski, and parasail. In the surrounding Sierra Nevada you can camp, bike, hike, boat, and rock climb. You also can play golf. Daytime summer temperatures never get too hot, 75 to 80 degrees, and the air is as clear as the water in Tahoe's coves and inlets. With low humidity and gentle breezes, the cool nights are great for strolling on the beach—and nightlife in Nevada includes gaming and casino shows.

The north shore encompasses communities in Nevada and California on State Route 28. In all of them visitors will find beaches, boat launches, marinas, resorts, lodging, shops, restaurants, and places to rent equipment for outdoor recreation.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay

A railway built in 1881 carried logs up Incline Mountain. From there the logs were transported by wooden flume and mule teams to Virginia City's mills and mines. Today, big houses and resorts hug the shoreline, and restaurants and shops cater to residents and visitors in **Incline Village**.

The **Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe** (888-899-5019) sits on 26 lakefront acres and has rooms, suites, beachfront cottages, restaurants, and a casino. The hotel is in the process of recreating the classic 1920s alpine "grand lodge" atmosphere. The **Ponderosa Ranch** (775-831-0691), inspired by the television program *Bonanza*, offers guided ATV trail rides as well as a climbing wall, shooting gallery, Western entertainment and memorabilia, petting farm, and hayride breakfasts.

Sand Harbor at **Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park** (775-831-0494) has a scuba cove for divers as well as picnic tables, boat launch, restrooms, and group use areas. Sand Harbor is three miles south of Incline Village. Memorial Point and Hidden Beach, located between Incline Village and Sand Harbor, are part of the state park. Visitors may tour the **Thunderbird Lodge**, millionaire George Whittell's 1930s mansion south of Sand Harbor; for tour reservations call the Incline Village Visitors Center, 800-GO-TAHOE.

Nevada and California meet at **Crystal Bay**, where Nevada-side casinos offer gaming and entertainment. The state line runs through the **Cal-Neva Resort** (775-832-4000), made famous in the 1960s by former owner Frank Sinatra. The Cal-Neva offers a casino, restaurant, spa, swimming pool, and rooms and suites.

The recently renovated **Tahoe Biltmore** (800-245-8667) has gaming, rooms, café, and pub and grill. The Biltmore emphasizes its wedding facilities and has an on-site wedding chapel and banquet room. Gaming and entertainment are offered at **Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget** (775-831-7156). The **Crystal Bay Club**, built in 1927, is being renovated and plans to reopen July 1. For more information about Incline Village and Crystal Bay, contact the **Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau**, 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451, 800-GO-TAHOE, 775-832-1606, or www.gotahoe.com.

Carnelian Bay, Tahoe Vista, Kings Beach

Marinas, shops, resorts, lodgings, and restaurants are found in **Carnelian Bay, Tahoe Vista,** and **Kings Beach**. Resorts and condominiums offer tennis, golf, pools, spas, and beach access. The **North Tahoe Marina** (530-546-8248) at Tahoe Vista has boat rentals, charters, and a restaurant. The day-use **Kings**

Photos: Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau

Head to the Golden Shore on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe for a wonderfully waterful summer getaway. You can catch rays on Tahoe's sandiest beaches, snorkel around huge rocks, sail and even kayak to secluded coves – all from the enchanted shores of Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

Dive In!

Log on or call for discount lodging packages. And for a full menu of activities that you can book online, click through to ActivityTickets.com

ACTIVITY TICKETS .com

GoTahoe.com or 800-GoTahoe {800-468-2463}

INCLINE VILLAGE CRYSTAL BAY

The Golden Shore of LAKE TAHOE

The Italian Street Painting Festival (left) is held in June at the Tahoe Biltmore at Crystal Bay. Right: Visitors can tour the inside of Thunderbird Lodge.

Beach State Recreation Area (530-546-4212) has picnic tables, grills, pier, and restrooms. Visitors swim, parasail, kayak, and operate personal watercraft at the beach.

Tahoe City

At **Tahoe City** visitors can bike, jog, or inline skate on the **Tahoe City Public Utility District's** (530-583-3796) paved bike trail, located close to **Fanny Bridge**. Nearby bike and inline skating shops provide rentals. At Fanny Bridge folks can feed giant rainbow trout in the Truckee River.

You can raft down the Truckee, which exits Lake Tahoe at Tahoe City. The lake water is released from a dam built in 1913 by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. A replica of the former dam supervisor's lodge is now the **Gatekeeper's Cabin Museum** (916-583-1762).

At Tahoe City's **Lighthouse Marina** you can board the ***Tahoe Gal*** paddlewheeler (800-218-2464) for a cruise. **North Tahoe Marina** (530-546-8248) has boat rentals, fishing charters, gas dock, repairs, storage, and a restaurant. **Tahoe City Marina** (530-583-1039) has rentals and services.

Two trailheads for the 165-mile **Tahoe Rim Trail** are in Tahoe City (775-588-0686, www.tahoerimtrail.org). The **Tahoe State Recreation Area** (530-583-3074) has day-use sites, fishing, swimming, and camping.

For more information on Kings Beach, Tahoe Vista, Carnelian Bay, and Tahoe City, as well as accommodations and recreation, contact the **North Lake Tahoe Resort Association**, 380 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145, 800-824-6348, 530-581-8709, www.mytahoe.vacation.com.

Truckee

Truckee, just off Interstate 80 and 14 miles north of Tahoe City on State Route 89, was named after a Paiute leader who guided a pioneer group over the mountains in the 1840s. Nearby **Donner Lake** was first known as Truckee's Lake but was later named to commemorate the Donner Party of 1846-47. In 1868, the Central Pacific Railroad was built through Truckee, and the historic part of town borders the tracks. The **Truckee-Donner Chamber of Commerce** office is housed in the renovated railroad depot, and Amtrak makes a stop there.

Truckee capitalizes on its past with a tour, "Walk in the Tracks of History," in the downtown area, where 50 shops and restaurants cater to vacationers. The nearby **Donner Memorial State Park** (530-582-7892) features a pioneer monument and emigrant trail museum as well as hiking, camping and day-use facilities, fishing, and boating. Good deals can be found at the **Tahoe Truckee Factory Stores**, 12047 Donner Pass Road.

Contact the **Truckee-Donner Chamber of Commerce**, 10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161, 530-587-2757, www.truckee.com.

Golf/Adventure Activities/Parks

Golf courses at North Lake Tahoe include **Incline Village Championship Course** (888-236-8725), **Incline Mountain Course** (775-832-1150), **Old Brockway Golf Course** (530-546-9909), **Squaw Creek Golf Course** (530-583-6300), and the **Tahoe City Golf Course** (530-583-1516); in the Truckee area are **Coyote Moon Golf Course** (530-587-0886), **Northstar Golf Course** (530-562-2490), **Ponderosa Golf Course** (530-587-3501) and **Tahoe Donner Golf Course** (530-587-9440).

In addition, ski areas offer recreation or adventure activities in summer, such as **Diamond Peak** (775-832-1177), **Donner Ski Ranch** (530-426-3635), **Homewood Mountain Resort** (530-525-2992), **Northstar-at-Tahoe** (530-562-1010), **Squaw Valley** (800-401-9216), and **Sugar Bowl** (530-426-9000).

For information about recreational activities at state parks, visit **www.parks.nv.gov** (Nevada) and **www.cal-parks.ca.gov** (California). For information about national forest areas contact the U.S. Forest Service's **Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit** (530-573-2600, www.r5.fs.fed.us/ltbmu).

Joyce Hollister is Nevada Magazine's *associate editor.*

For a complete list of North Lake Tahoe summer events go to www.nevadamagazine.com

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Photo: Scott Klette (top right)

Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Magazine's Guide to Entertainment and Attractions in the Silver State

May/June 2003

TOURIST TRAINS ON TRACK

Riding the rails in Virginia City, Ely, and Carson City

Fabulous at 50

The story behind Las Vegas dancer Linda Green's long run in "Jubilee!"

"Motor City All-Stars" brings back Motown to Harrah's Reno

Old No. 8 steams up at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City

Photo: Larry Angier

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RIDING THE RAILS

Historic tourist lines in Ely, Virginia City, and Carson City show us how trains once rocked and rolled.

By Lin Anderson

Nevada owes its birth to the Civil War, but its diapers arrived by railroad. The cross-continent span completed in 1869 was quickly augmented by a plethora of short lines that catered to the needs of the infant state. Nevada's railroad heritage is alive today in three remnants of those lines—tourist trains that carry their passengers back to a time when the engines of commerce were powered by steam and diesel.

In Ely, the Nevada Northern Railway thunders astride its original tracks. Riders are propelled along two routes, each of which loops around the city and then out into the countryside, where the remnants of White Pine County's copper-mining heritage occasionally poke from the sagebrush.

In Virginia City, the storied Virginia and Truckee—more familiarly known as the V&T—offers its riders a half-hour trip between Virginia City and Gold Hill. If area railroad buffs have their way, this very short line will grow considerably longer, spanning 17 miles to connect with a depot in Carson City, as it once did.

At the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City, visitors can enjoy a heady dose of Silver State railroad history as they tour one of its collection of lovingly tended locomotives—including the 1875-vintage *Inyo*, one of the oldest operating steam engines in North America—and beautifully restored freight cars and passenger coaches. Most of the rolling stock is from the V&T, and some

The V&T rolls past Virginia City mines. A diesel engine has filled in while No. 8 and No. 29 (above) are refurbished. No. 8 is due back steaming this summer.

Photo: Charles Colvard

of it has graced both big and small screens, called into service by Hollywood filmmakers looking for the right touch of Iron Horse authenticity.

The museum has a regular schedule of steam-ups that offer an opportunity to take a jaunt around the grounds on the rolling stock. The museum also is in the process of crafting its own passenger line in Boulder City, which would follow a 12-mile round trip through Railroad Pass to the Henderson area, where riders could observe impressive views of the Las Vegas Valley from their coaches.

There is nothing like a ride aboard an authentic steam- or diesel-powered train. A vintage train charmingly clickety-clacks along the rails, the to-and-fro sway adding the occasional touch of surfing to a stroll down the aisle of the passenger cars. Under power, it rocks and rolls like an odd hybrid of winding snake and bucking bronco, its passengers left to adapt to its antique rhythms as best they can.

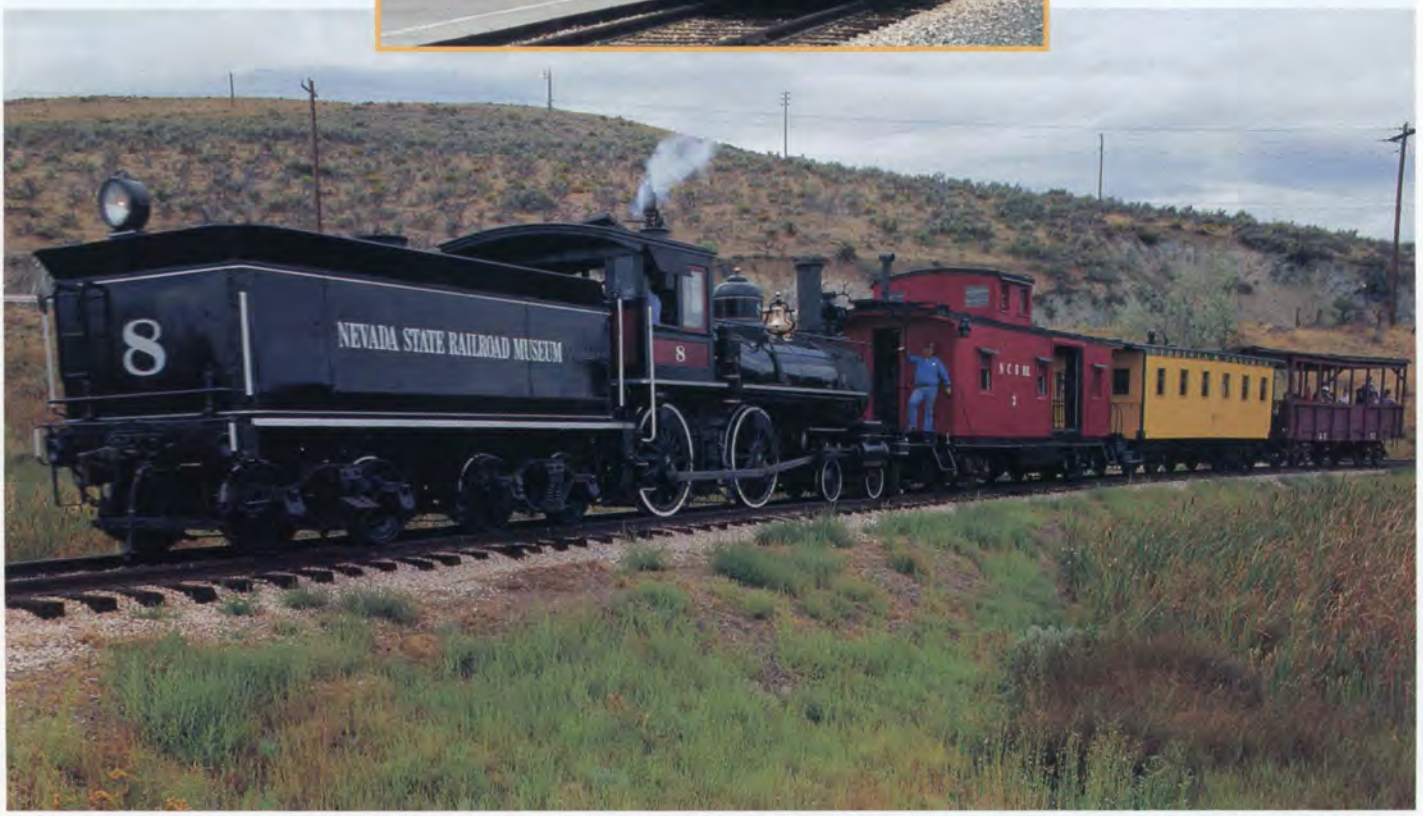
On excursions such as the Nevada Northern's Wine Train, the ride approximates the experience of a more genteel age. Wine Train passengers relax and converse over gleaming white tablecloths, sipping chardonnay or merlot as the sunset sky paints itself across the horizon. Memorable, too, is watching the Fourth of July fireworks from the Ely train.

The ride on the Nevada Northern's Wine Train approximates the experience of a more genteel age.

"Nevada has a long love affair with the old railroads," says former U.S. senator and Nevada governor Richard Bryan. "In fact, the history of modern-day Nevada begins with the railroad. I'm talking to you right now from Fourth and Bridger streets in Las Vegas, and where I'm sitting is land originally deeded to the railroad. In Northern Nevada, the towns are spaced as they are because you could only travel so far on the old locomotives between places to stop."

Last year, one of Nevada's old locomotives provided rides to hundreds of visitors to the Salt Lake City Olympics. The Nevada Northern's No. 93 and two passenger coaches were trucked to Utah to ferry passengers to and from Olympic events at Soldier Hollow. "This was our opportunity to receive regional, national, and worldwide exposure," says the Nevada Northern's executive director, Mark Bassett. *The Today Show* on NBC showed footage of the locomotive making *Dr. Zhivago*-like tracks through the drifting snows of Zion, and photos appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*.

Built in 1905, the Nevada Northern served the area's copper empire. It also carried children from McGill and Ruth to school in Ely, transported shoppers from outlying areas, and functioned as a commuter route for the miners. An impressive stone depot and extensive railyard—both of which survive—were constructed, and the railway was a going concern until the 1980s, when Kennecott Copper left Ely and presented the intact railroad to the city.



The 1888-vintage Engine No. 8 plies the Nevada State Railroad Museum's .9-mile route in Carson City. Top: The museum's motorcar awaits passengers at the depot.

Photos: Carolyn Fox

For residents like 98-year-old John Mariani, the Nevada Northern and Ely are inseparable. The remarkably vibrant Mariani, who worked for the Nevada Northern for 47 years, remains one of its most ardent supporters, often turning up at the old depot to watch the trains run and reminisce with the staff.

> **"When visitors come here for the first time, they are amazed that the trains have survived."**

Mariani recalls the time an ore train hauling eight cars derailed in one of the route's two tunnels. Management left it to the track-smart Italian immigrant to figure out how to remove the cars and get the railroad running again.

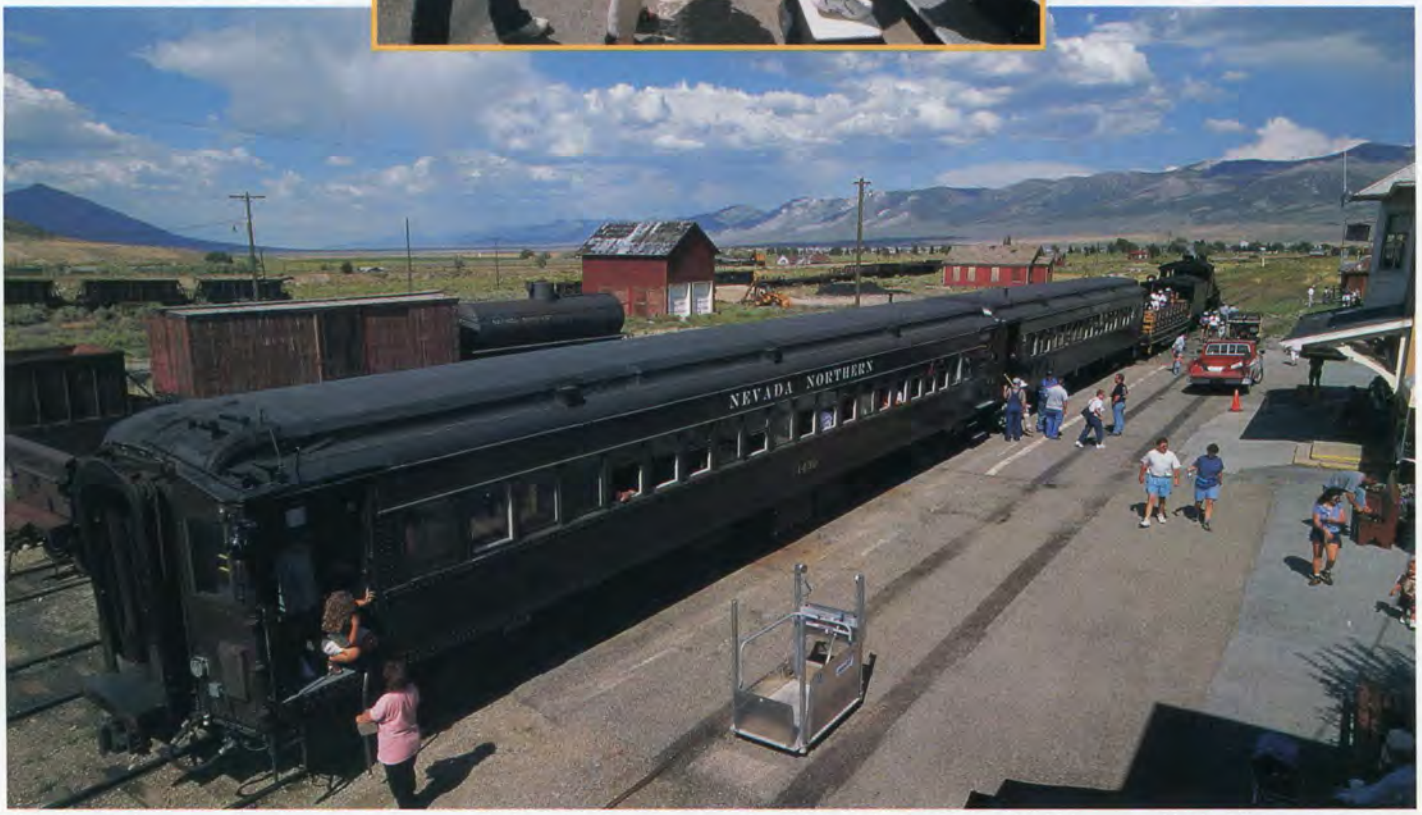
"Well," says Mariani with a laugh, "we couldn't take the top off the mountain." The trapped cars couldn't be pulled out of the tunnel, either, because the tracks beneath them had become gnarled in the derailment. Mariani's solution: lift the engine and cars with hydraulic jacks and build new rails beneath them. The Nevada Northern was running 24 hours later, with Mariani its new general foreman.

But preservation comes at a price. More than $5.1 million is the current estimate for keeping the Nevada Northern chugging into the future. The railway has a collection of 12 steam and diesel locomotives, six passenger coaches, 50 freight cars in various stages of repair, five cabooses, and some 30 miles of track for them to run on. Designated a National Historic District, the railroad's holdings encompass 40 acres and 49 structures, and the wheels are in motion to upgrade the district to national landmark status. There is a dream, too, says Bassett, to extend the Nevada Northern to the old Western Pacific interchange at Shafter and to the Southern Pacific interchange at Cobre, 123 and 141 miles north of Ely respectively.

Passion and plans are equally ambitious for the Virginia and Truckee. Built to connect the mines of Virginia City with Carson City and Reno, the V&T ran from 1870 to 1950 as one of the grandest exemplars of time and place in Nevada history. Engines like the *Empire, Inyo, Reno,* and *Genoa* rumbled and whistled through the Comstock, brightly festooned with gold leaf and shiny brass.

The railroad's present 2.8-mile route between Virginia City and Gold Hill attracts as many as 70,000 riders annually. The railroad has been in operation since 1976, when rail fan Robert Gray acquired a section of the V&T's long-dormant line connecting the two towns and began running tourist trains.

V&T partisans hope to extend the line to Carson City along much of the original right-of-way. It has been a decade since the notion was first floated, and now the Northern Nevada Railway Foundation and its parent, the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railroad, finally may see some light at the end of the tunnel. The corporation formed to support the effort has pledged to



Ely's Ghost Train prepares for a run to the Ruth copper diggings. Top: A conductor punches tickets at the East Ely depot, which appeared in the 2001 movie *Rat Race*.

Photos: Larry Angier

match every nonfederal dollar raised by the foundation up to $10 million. The state has issued a V&T commemorative license plate, with proceeds benefiting the fund. Private donations and other fund-raising events have helped. Janice Ayres, who chairs the foundation, says, "I like to think that we're giving people a chance to say, 'Hey, I helped build a railroad.'"

Visitors to the Nevada State Railroad Museum, home of so many classic V&T engines and coaches, appreciate the commitment to preservation, says John Ballweber, director of the Carson City museum.

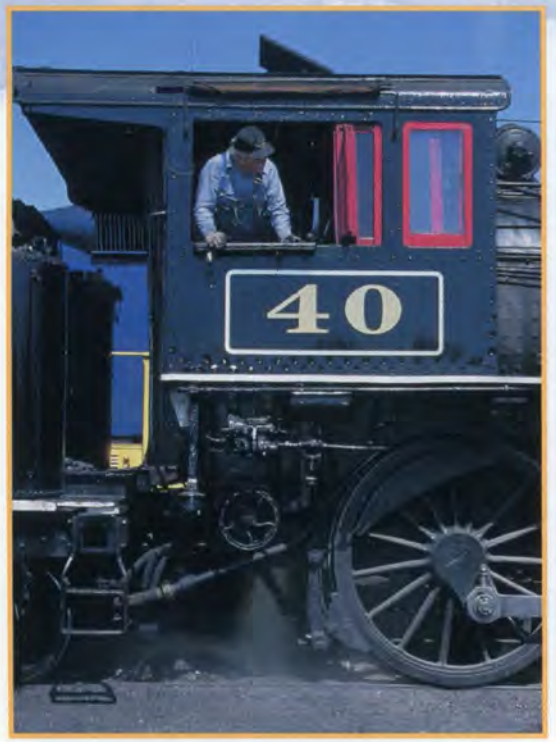
"When visitors come here for the first time, they are amazed that the trains have survived," he says of the steam engines. "When they find out that some are in operating condition, they are astonished."

Trains help connect the generations, Ballweber adds. "Grandfathers may have worked around the steam engines, so it becomes a real source of pride to share that. It is very personal for them. When the locomotives move out on the museum's short track, they say, 'This is the way I remember it. This is what it smelled like. This is what it felt like.'"

Lin Anderson is an Elko newspaper columnist.

Southern Nevada railroaders Bob Freedman (left), Chris Cheely, and George Cheri pose with a restored 1939 diesel locomotive, painted in Nevada colors, that will be part of Boulder City's future tourist line.

All Aboard!



Allen Jones peers from Old No. 40 during Rail Days in Ely.

Train enthusiasts can take rides on these tourist lines in Ely, Carson City, and Virginia City. Also noted are events, Web sites, and phones. Call ahead to confirm times and ticket prices.

Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely: The museum is open in the old depot. Generally in summer the steam train runs Sat.-Mon. and the diesel Wed.-Fri. Steam-train rides are offered on May 10, 17-18, 24-26, June 1-2, 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 28-30, July 4-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28, Aug. 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25, 30-Sept. 1, 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28. Diesel rides are May 17, 24, 31, June 4-6, 11-14, 18-21, 25-28, July 2-3, 9-12, 16-19, 23-26, 30-Aug. 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29, Sept. 6, Oct. 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, 31-Nov. 1. Food Train (donations instead of tickets), Nov. 29. Tickets cost $18 adults and $12 ages 4-12 for the longer routes. Wine Trains with wine, hors d'oeuvres, and open bar are planned at sunset on May 25, June 7, July 5, and Aug. 2 and 31. Also, if you want to drive a locomotive, the Nevada Northern offers the "Take the Throttle" engine-rental program; cost is $200-$550. Call 866-40-STEAM or 775-289-2085 or visit www.nevadanorthernrailway.com.

Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City: The museum is open daily; admission is $2 adults, free for ages 17 and under. The museum has 4,800 feet of track on 11 acres. Steam-ups often fall on holiday weekends. The steam train ($2.50 adults, $1 ages 6-11) operates May 17, 24-26, June 14-15, July 4-6, 19-20, Aug. 2-3, 16-17, 30-Sept. 1, Oct. 19, Nov., 1, and 28-29. Santa Claus entertains riders on Dec. 13-14. The motorcar ($1 adults, 50 cents ages 6-11) runs on May 3-4, 10-11, 18, May 31-June 1, 7-8, 21-22, 28-29, July 12-13, 26-27, Aug. 9-10, 23-24, Sept. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28. Call 775-687-6953 or visit www.nsrm-friends.org.

Virginia and Truckee Railroad, Virginia City: The 35-minute narrated trips between Virginia City and Gold Hill are offered daily from May 24 to Oct. 26. Tickets ($6 adults, $3 ages 5-12, $12 all-day pass) are sold at the C Street V&T car and at the F Street boarding area. Call 775-847-0380.

Northern Nevada Railway Foundation: Promotes the V&T's extension to Carson City. Call 775-885-6833 or visit www.steamtrain.org.

Two small-gauge Nevada railroads offer rides. In Carson City, the 24-inch-gauge **Carson and Mills Park Railroad** operates in Mills Park during the summer; call 775-887-2523. In Laughlin, the **Ramada Express' Ol' No. 7** offers free rides around the hotel-casino property from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. year-round; call 702-298-4200.

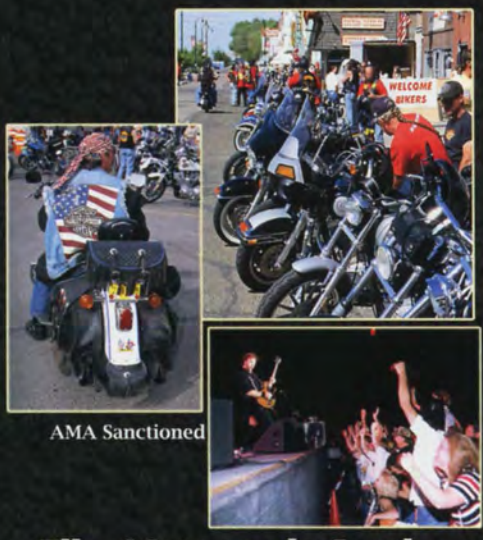
During **Yerington's Spring Fling** on May 17 the Lyon County Museum celebrates its 24th anniversary. Visitors will get a preview of the renovation of Copper Belt Railroad Engine No. 6, which once ran between Mason and Wabuska. Call 775-463-2245.

Ely's Trains, Planes, and Automobiles on Aug. 30-Sept. 1 includes Rail Days 2003, with steam-train rides and displays of railroad history; the Long Steel Rail Festival, a folk-art event with music, hobo camp, and workshops; and the Model Train Expo. Call 775-289-2085.

Photos: Chris Leedham (top), Carolyn Fox (bottom)

Something for everyone in Elko, Nevada

National Intercollegiate Rodeo Assoc. Western Finals
May 15th-17th



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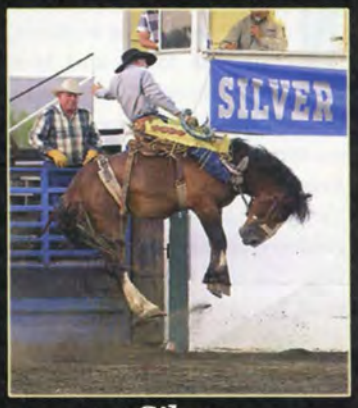

Silver State Stampede
July 10th-12th

40th National Basque Festival
July 3rd-6th

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Nevada Events

May and June events in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and Rural Nevada.

Nevada communities offer a great variety of events this summer, including Cinco de Mayo and Memorial Day celebrations. The Laughlin Mile Dragon Boat Challenge takes place May 10 on the Colorado River. Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend brings visitors to Virginia City May 16-18, and the Reno Rodeo rides into town June 21-29. Birding fans can visit Fallon May 9-11 for the annual Spring Wings Bird Festival. *Nevada Magazine* offers these events and celebrations for May and June. Be sure to call ahead for confirmation.

Fly Away With Me

Tinker Bell goes into a jealous snit when Peter Pan shows up with Wendy to live on the Island of Lost Boys. The classic tale of adventures in the land of make-believe with a vengeful pirate and his crew is performed by the Nevada Ballet Theatre May 16-18 in Las Vegas.

Las Vegas Territory

Mesquite Senior Games • April 28-May 4 • Second annual national competition. Various locations, Mesquite, 702-346-0244.

Good Old-Fashioned BBQ • May 1 • Blind Center of Nevada benefit has live music. $100 per couple. Blind Center of Nevada, Las Vegas, 702-642-6000.

Mesquite Days • May 1-4 • Carnival, vendors, entertainers, and parade on May 3 at 10am. Recreation Center, Mesquite, 702-346-8732.

Alex DeGrassi • May 2 • Acoustic guitarist's music ranges from George Gershwin to Jimi Hendrix. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Friday Night Fights • May 2 • Boxing card. Event Center, Colorado Belle/Edgewater, Laughlin, 877-460-0777.

International Food and Folklife Festival • May 2-3 • Food vendors, handmade folk craft demonstrations and sales, children's hands-on activities, entertainment. Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Spring Dance Concert • May 2-3 • Dance ensemble, guest artists, and company. Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Spring Fling Slot Tournament • May 2-4 • $300 entry fee. Sahara, Las Vegas, 888-696-2121.

All-Harley Drags • May 2-4 • The Strip, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-632-8213.

"Six Degrees of Separation" • May 2-4, 8-11 • John Guare's play about mistaken identities. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Honor the Elders Banquet • May 3 • Native American culture awards includes dinner and silent auction. Moyer Student Union, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-647-5842.

Art on the Patio • May 3 • Artists from Southern Nevada and Northern Arizona exhibit and sale. Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 702-293-2138.

Las Vegas Philharmonic Season Finale • May 3 • Guest artist soprano Ana Maria Martinez and a performance of "Firebird Suite." Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Race for the Cure • May 3 • 5K run and one-mile fun walk. Proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

EA Sports Supercross Series National Finals • May 3 • Motorcycle event. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

Sandstone Canyon Hike • May 3 • Three-hour, moderate to strenuous hike. Long pants, hiking shoes, lunch, and water needed. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Spring Jamboree • May 3-4 • More than 125 craft booths, food, music, entertainment, car show. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

Cinco de Mayo Festival • May 4 • Food, entertainment, job and health fair, dancing, and contests. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-649-1198 for further event information.

Choral Program Concert • May 4 • Classical and jazz selections. Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Cinco de Mayo Festival • May 4 • Entertainment, crafts, vendor booths. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-284-6425.

Cantorial Concert • May 4 • Folk and liturgical melodies. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-794-0090.

Candle Dipping • May 4 • Living-history demonstration. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Slot Tournament • May 4-6 • First place $100,000. Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-3311.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Corporate Golf Classic • May 5 •

Tournament, barbecue, and raffle. Las Vegas Country Club, Las Vegas 702-383-8500.

Crumb • May 7 • Documentary about Robert Crumb, the underground cartoonist who created Mr. Natural. Adult theme. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Cars, Stars, and Guitars, and Wing Thing 2003 • May 9-10 • Cruize Nite, poker run, concerts, vendors, beer garden to benefit Wheelchair Foundation of Nevada. Boulder Station, Las Vegas, 888-319-4661.

Vegas Cruise 2003 • May 9-11 • Classic car show and entertainment on two stages Fri. and Sat. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

Mother's Day Slot Tournament • May 9-11 • $199 entry fee. Virgin River, Mesquite, 702-346-7777.

Woodsy Owl Day • May 10 • Family entertainment. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Solo Festival Concert • May 10 • Faculty and piano competition backed by 35-piece orchestra. Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Laughlin Mile Dragon Boat Challenge • May 10 • Local and international teams of 22 participants paddling 44-foot-long Chinese war canoes. Event includes drumming contests. Colorado River along River Walk, Laughlin, 888-679-4222.

Jazz in the Park • May 10 and 24, June 7 and 21 • Jazz performances. Picnics welcome. Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

OKC Gun Show • May 10-11 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

ArtFest of Henderson • May 10-11 • Art, food, entertainment, special events for children. Water Street, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Art in the Park • May 11 • Artists' demonstration and exhibit. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Autocross • May 11 • Drivers compete on closed asphalt course. Fiesta Henderson, Henderson, 702-461-8683.

From Whiteacre to Broadway • May 11 • Las Vegas Master Singers concert. Doc Rando Recital Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-452-3104.

Mother's Day Brunch • May 11 • Buffet cruise on Lake Mead to Hoover Dam aboard the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler. Lake Mead Cruises Landing, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.

Concert Band Showpieces • May 13 • Performance includes Gustav Holst's first and second suites. Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kinderstransport • May 14 • Academy Award-winning documentary about the 10,000 Jewish children saved from the Nazis when they were sent to England. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Shakespeare Under the Stars • May 15-17 • "Midsummer Night's Dream." Summerlin Community Park, Las Vegas, 702-873-0191.

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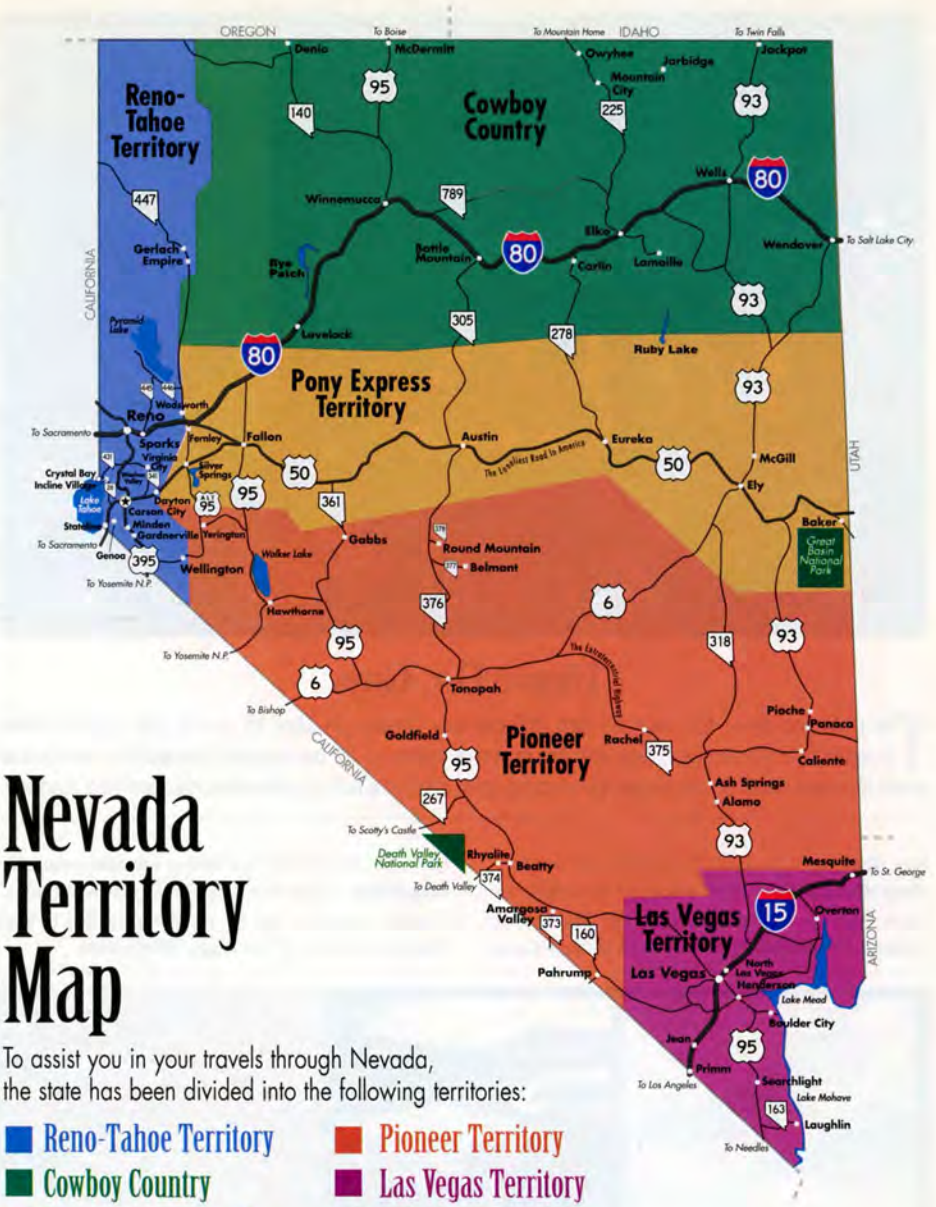


Nevada Territory Map

To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into the following territories:

- Reno-Tahoe Territory
- Cowboy Country
- Pony Express Territory
- Pioneer Territory
- Las Vegas Territory
- Indian Territory

Henderson Civic Symphony • May 16 • Season finale. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Doug Mishler as Theodore Roosevelt • May 16 • Downtown Cultural Series, noon, bring a lunch. Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse, Las Vegas, 702-229-6328.

Poets' Corner • May 16 • Open to all poets. West Las Vegas Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4800.

Cruise Night • May 16 • Hot Rod Hill Grill and Auto Center, Henderson, 702-567-5655.

25th Anniversary Dance Celebration • May 16-18 • Boulder City Ballet Company students perform ballet, tap, jazz, swing, and Irish step. Boulder Theatre, Boulder City, 702-293-5001.

"Peter Pan" • May 16-18 • Nevada Ballet Theatre production. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-243-2623.

Las Vegas Home Improvement and Decorating Show • May 16-18 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-736-5958.

Desert Awareness • May 17 • Tips for a safe and enjoyable time in the desert. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Desert Dash • May 17 • Adventure race of six to 12 hours includes five-10 miles of trail riding, 15-25 miles of mountain biking, and three-eight miles of orienteering. Call for location. Las Vegas, 702-431-4858.

"Keeping the Mind, Spirit, and Body Alive One Stitch at a Time" • May 17 • Quilt display by Ethel Roberts. West Las Vegas Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4800.

Nevada Jazz Orchestra • May 18 • 18-piece ensemble features top Nevada musicians. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Henderson Civic Symphony • May 18 • Mozart's "Symphony No. 25 in G Minor" and Faure's "Requiem for Soprano and Baritone." Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Sandstone Canyon Hike • May 18 • Three-hour, moderate to strenuous hike. Long pants, hiking shoes, lunch, and water needed. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Salesman • May 21 • Funny and bleak look at the lives of four Bible salesmen. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

$5,000 Memorial Day Rollin' on the River • May 22-26 • Giant dice are rolled down a staircase. Colorado

Heave Ho, Guys

The Colorado River fills with 44-foot Chinese war canoes on May 10 during the Laughlin Mile Dragon Boat Challenge. Local and international teams of 22 participants compete in the annual event 95 miles south of Las Vegas. Drumming contests and a full day of ceremonies are also planned.

Belle/Edgewater, Laughlin, 877-480-2747 for details.

"Rage Is Not a One-Day Thing" • May 23 • Playwright-actor Awele Makeba tells the story of the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott in 1955-56. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211 for further event information.

Soap Making • May 24 • Living-history demonstration. Samples while they last. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

"Company D Ninth U.S. Infantry at Camp El Dorado and Las Vegas, 1867-1868" • May 24 • Talk at 10:15am, soldiers available 9am-2pm. Also a children's program on adobe making. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Old Time Barn Dance • May 24 • Square, mixers, contras, waltzes, and polkas. No partner or experience needed. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

Leave No Trace • May 25 • How to enjoy parks and keep them safe for future visits. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Ash Grove Hike • May 26 • Easy hike on a new trail through a variety of habitats. Sturdy hiking shoes and water are advised. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Trinity and Beyond: The Atomic Bomb Movie **and** ***Cane Toads: An Unnatural History*** • May 28 • *Trinity* traces the history of atomic weapons testing. *Cane Toads* studies Australia's invasion by huge, voracious toads. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

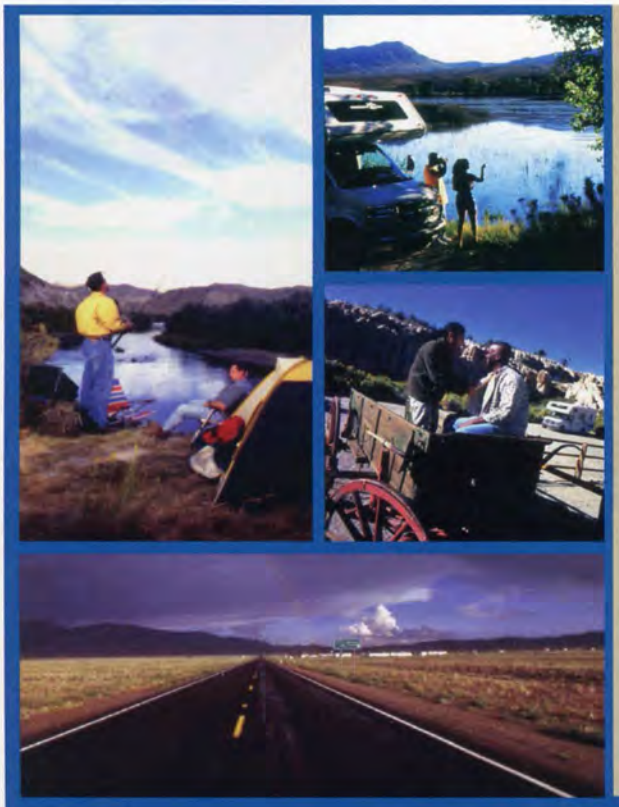
Share Our Strength: Taste of the Nation • May 28 • 11th annual culinary tasting event features 50 of the city's top chefs and restaurants. Includes music and a silent auction to benefit anti-hunger organizations. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, 702-943-6909.

Bugsy's Bunch Slot Tournament • May 28-29 • $79 entry fee. Flamingo Laughlin, Laughlin, 702-298-5111.

Black Mountain Ceramics • May 30-31 • Ceramics show. Henderson Convention Center, Henderson, 702-361-8041.

River Days • May 30-June 1 • Formula One boat drivers compete at more than 100 mph on the Colorado River. Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

International Gem and Jewelry Show • May 30-June 1 •



High Desert
Adventure

Remove yourself from civilization and experience the remoteness of Pioneer Territory. The pure vastness is enough to boggle your mind. Along the routes of Pioneer Territory are quaint communities filled with history, attractions, and outdoor activities too numerous to mention.

From below sea level to higher than 13,000 feet in elevation, there is something for everyone in Pioneer Territory — families, RV travelers, outdoor enthusiasts, group tourists, and those just desiring a weekend excursion.

Nevada's Pioneer Territory

www.pioneerterritory.org

For information call:
800-357-8754

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

Ready to Go

Bubba Crosby leads off first base during a Las Vegas 51s game at Cashman Field. Crosby is an outfielder with the Los Angeles Dodgers' Triple-A affiliate. See page 39 for a complete schedule of home games.

Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100 for details.

"Sleeping Beauty" • May 30-June 1 and June 5-8 • Comic twist to the traditional fairy tale. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6553.

Best Western's People vs. the Pros • June 2 • Two amateur golfers will emerge from qualifying rounds to compete against Lee Trevino and John Daly for $100,000 prize. Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-564-1600.

Henderson Civic Symphony • June 6 • Classical music opens the 16th season. Justice Court Park, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Friday Night Fights • June 6 • Boxing card. Event Center, Colorado Belle/Edgewater, Laughlin, 877-460-0777.

Everlast Heavyweight Explosion • June 7 • Professional boxing. Flamingo Laughlin, Laughlin, 702-298-5111.

Broadway Pops Concert • June 7 • Musical Arts Society Chorus performs. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-451-6672.

Cash 777 Slot Tournament • June 8-10 • $400 buy-in. Colorado Belle/Edgewater, Laughlin, 877-480-2747.

"Hello Dolly" • June 11-14, 18-21, 25-28 • Broadway musical performed under the stars. Summer plays are extremely popular, so advance tickets recommended. Bring a picnic. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

There are a
Thousand Things to do in Lyon County

Here are just a few of THEM!

Upcoming Events	Month	Location
Mother's Day Madness Team Roping	May 2003	Fernley
Fernley Fly-In	May 2003	Fernley
Spring Fling Car Show	May 2003	Yerington
Western States Corvette Conference & 4th Celebration	July 2003	Yerington

We also have museums, ghost towns, golfing, fishing, camping, boating, motocross, mountain biking, rock climbing, and much, much more!

Lyon County Information Center
227 South Main Street • Yerington, Nevada 89447
www.tele-net/lyon
(775) 463-2245

ONGOING EVENTS

All events are color coded according to territory (see map on page 31).

Reno-Tahoe Territory
Cowboy Country
Pony Express Territory
Pioneer Territory
Las Vegas Territory
Indian Territory

Art Shows and Exhibits

Desert Love Buggy: Ongoing. Display presents the 1911 Sears Model K horseless carriage, known as the Desert Love Buggy, that personified the image of Las Vegas during the 1940s. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Art Through the Ages: Masterpieces of Painting From Titian to Picasso: Thru May 4. Guggenheim Hermitage Museum, Venetian, Las Vegas, 702-414-2440.

Legislative Exhibitions: Tim Guthrie: Mixed Media: thru May 9. Anthony Tom: Traditional Native Bead Work, May 9-23. Daryl Depry: Mixed Media, May 23-June 6. Nevada Legislature, Carson City, 775-687-6680.

"Elephants": Thru May 11. Traveling exhibit. Wilbur D. May Museum, Reno, 775-785-4153.

Face to Face: Dealing With Prejudice and Discrimination: Thru May 15. Multimedia, interactive experience helps children recognize and respond to prejudice. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Albert Hankins: Thru May 31. Photos of Jiggs and Ruby Valley areas by the local rancher and photography pioneer. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Out of Africa: Thru June 1. New exhibition re-creates three extinct primates. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-DINO.

Collecting the Past: Selections From the Nevada Historical Society: Thru June 28. Artifacts from Nevadans. Many of the items have never been displayed. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

African Art Exhibit: Thru July 31. Traditional and contemporary African masks, sculpture, basketry, and fabrics. Left of Center Gallery, Las Vegas, 702-647-7378.

Dairies of Carson Valley: Thru Aug. 8. Photographs, memorabilia, stories related to Carson Valley dairies. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

Nevada Wide: Thru Sept. 7. Exhibit of 36 panoramic Nevada photographs, with the earliest an 1876 view of Virginia City. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Andy Warhol: The Celebrity Portraits: Thru Sept. 7. More than 50 paintings covering three decades of the famous, ranging from Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to Mick Jagger. Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, Bellagio, Las Vegas, 702-693-7871.

The grand opening of the new Nevada Museum of Art in Reno will feature Frida Kahlo's "Self Portrait With Monkeys, 1943."

Andy Warhol's portraits of John Lennon and other celebrities are on display this summer at the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art.

Early Man in Southern Nevada: Thru Oct. Covers the Paleo through the Archaic and Basketmaker periods. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

The Big Dig: The Tule Springs Expedition, 1962-63: Thru Nov. 2. Mammoth remains, stone tools, and other artifacts. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Barn Sale: Thru Dec. 31. One-third scale barn recreated inside main exhibit space. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

Under One Sky: Thru Dec. 2004. Artifacts, life-size dioramas, children's room, and a contemporary art gallery of Nevada's Native American culture. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Tireless and Unremitting: The Chinese and Nevada's Railroad: Thru Jan. 2006. Explores the relationship of Chinese with the railroad and other aspects of their culture and daily life in Nevada. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Nevada Watercolor Society Spring Show 2003: May 1-29. Open juried show. Lloyd D. George Federal Courthouse, Las Vegas, 702-393-6192.

Boulder City Art Guild: May 1-Nov. 30. Exhibition by members. Jitters Coffee House, Boulder City, 702-293-2138.

"Watercolors From Across the Water": May 2-June 16. 28th annual juried exhibition of paintings from seven Western states hosted by the Nevada Watercolor Society. Marjorie Barrick Museum, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-454-2255.

Neon Las Vegas: Lighting the Dream: May 8-Oct. 1. Neon and electrical signs from Las Vegas' past. Signs from the Neon Museum's "boneyard" come indoors for a closer look. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Pickup Trucks: An American Icon: May 14-Sept. 12. Trucks used for work and play. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300 for exhibit information.

Cool Breezes: Handheld Fans in the 20th Century: May 17-Aug. 17. The world of fans before air-conditioners and their place in American popular culture. Clark County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Harley-Davidson: Centennial Hogs: May 21-Sept. 29. Exhibit celebrates the 100th anniversary of the big motorcycle. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Diego Rivera and 20th Century Mexican Art: The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection: May 24-Sept. 21. Feature presentation for the grand opening of the new Nevada Museum of Art. The exhibit presents more than 200 paintings, sculptures, and photographs dating from the 1920s to the 1990s. Works by Frida Kahlo will be shown May 24-June 29. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

The New Nevada Museum of Art: Contemporary Architecture by Will Bruder: May 24-Oct. 26. Exhibit examines the architect's concept in his design for the museum. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Barn Again! May 27-June 30. Traveling Smithsonian exhibition traces the importance of barns across the U.S. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677.

Pushkar: A Camel Fair in the Desert: June 1-30. Photographs by Kiran Singh. Western Nevada Community College, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

The Tiniest Giants: Discovering Dinosaur Eggs: June 7-Dec. 31. Fossils from the world's largest dinosaur-nesting site found in Argentina. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-3466.

Edward Hopper: The Paris Years: July 11-Sept. 21. Display of 45 works reveal when and how Hopper became one of the great American artists. Exhibition was organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Music, Lectures, Tours

First Fridays Concert Series: Free arts, music, and cultural block party from 4-6pm. City Park, across from City Hall, Las Vegas, 702-229-6704.

Concerts: Tues. and Thurs. in May and June. Headliners perform on two stages. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

WorldFolk's Battle of the Bands Festival: Thru July 6. Fifth annual. GameWorks and other locations, Las Vegas, 702-227-5017.

Weekend Science Series: Saturday lectures on natural history and science from 10am-3pm. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-346-DINO.

Adopt-A-Car Wax and Shine Party: May 8, July 24, Sept. 25. Museum members are responsible for caring for a car. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Hidden Cave Tours: May 10 and 24, June 14 and 28. Guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site includes self-guided tour to nearby Grimes Point petroglyph site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon. Confirm tour dates, 775-423-3677 for tour information.

Fourth Fridays: Extended hours from 5-8pm on May 23, June 27, and July 25. The $10 admission includes appetizers and wine. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Blues Suede Boots: Weekends June 6-29. Arts, crafts, and entertainment. Harrah's Outdoor Special Events Plaza, Reno, 800-200-4557 for information.

Sporting Events

Top Gun Raceway: Drag racing thru Nov. Fallon, 775-423-8926.

Rattlesnake Raceway: Oval dirt-track racing thru Nov. Fallon, 775-423-7483.

Las Vegas Gladiators: The former New Jersey Gladiators of the Arena Football League play May 3 vs. New York Dragons, May 18 vs. Buffalo Destroyers. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-739-3267.

NASCAR Weekly Racing: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. The Bullring, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-632-8422.

Reno-Fernley Raceway: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28. Fernley, 775-575-7217.

Battle Mountain Stock Car Racing: May 3, 17, 31, June 14, 28, July 11-12, 26, Aug. 9, 23, and Sept. 6 and 20-21. Battle Mountain Raceway, Battle Mountain, 775-635-5060.

Las Vegas 51s Baseball: The Los Angeles Dodgers' AAA team in the Pacific Coast League plays May 6-9 vs. Edmonton Trappers, May 10-13 vs. Tucson Sidewinders, May 23-26 vs. Portland Beavers, May 27-30 vs. Salt Lake City Stingers, June 9-12 vs. Omaha Royals, June 13-16 vs. Tacoma Rainiers, June 26-29 vs. Tucson Sidewinders, June 30-July 3 vs. Fresno Grizzlies, July 10-13 vs. Iowa Cubs, July 17-20 vs. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, July 25-28 vs. Albuquerque Isotopes, July 29-Aug. 1 vs. Fresno Grizzlies, Aug. 15-18 vs. Portland Beavers, Aug. 29-Sept. 1 vs. Sacramento River Cats. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-798-7825.

Midnight Mayhem at the Strip: May 9, 23, June 6, 13, 27. Street-legal races. The Strip, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-632-8213.

Motocross Racing: May 17, June 13-14, and Aug. 8-9. Battle Mountain, 775-635-5352.

Farmer's Markets

Boulder City Farmer's Market: Thursdays. Bicentennial Park, 702-293-5933.

Carson Valley Farmer's Market: Wednesday mornings. May 21-Oct. 1. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

Carson City Farmer's Market: Wednesdays. June 11-Aug. 27. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Sparks Hometowne Farmer's Market: Thursdays, June 12-Aug. 21. More than 100 booths, cooking demonstrations, entertainment. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291.

Henderson Farmer's Market: Thursdays. Fresh produce, baked goods, crafts, and specialty foods. Water Street, Henderson, 702-565-2181.

Las Vegas Farmer's Market North: Wednesdays at Bruce Trent Park. Tuesdays at Gardens Park. Saturdays at Colonnade Square Shopping Plaza. Las Vegas, 702-562-2676.

Las Vegas Farmer's Market South: Fridays at Centennial Center. Saturdays at Desert Breeze Park. Las Vegas, 702-300-4492.

Silver State Market Place: Thru May. General wares, vendors on third weekend of the month at Sam Boyd Stadium. Las Vegas, 702-386-7927.

Watercolor World

"Tangerine" by Las Vegas artist Dottie Burton will be among the juried works in the exhibit "Watercolors From Across the Water" May 2-June 16 at the Marjorie Barrick Museum at UNLV in Las Vegas.

Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Summer Finals Rodeo • June 12-14 • MGM Grand Arena, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.

Father's Day Motor Mania • June 13-15 • Open to all makes and models of cars and motorcycles. Car show, slow drags, burn-out competition. Sam's Town, Las Vegas, 702-643-0000.

CineVegas International Film Festival • June 13-21 • Screenings, conferences, and parties. Palms Resort, Las Vegas, 702-368-2890.

Poolside Rhythms • June 14 • Tamaeva Arii performs Tahitian music, drums, and dance. Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

"The Mormon Militia, From Nauvoo to Las Vegas, 1830s-1856" • June 14 • Talk at 10:15am, soldiers available 9am-2pm. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Slot Tournament • June 15-17 • Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-3311.

Las Vegas Founders Junior Golf Championship • June 16-19 • Open to American Junior Golf Association members age 13-18. Boulder Creek Golf Course, Boulder City, 702-242-3000.

Tommy Rocker and Conched Out • June 20 • Music, limbo contests, and costumes. Mission Hills Park, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Black Mountain Gift and Craft Show • June 20-22 • Convention Center, Henderson, 702-568-7109.

Nevada Chamber Symphony • June 26 • Classical and contemporary music under the stars. Justice Court Park, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Vegas to Reno • June 26-29 • Best in the Desert sponsors a 500-mile off-road race for motorcycles, quads, cars, and trucks. Suncoast Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-457-5775.

All-American Hot Truckin' Spectacular • June 28 • Truck show, big-rig drags, jet trucks, burn-out contest. The Strip, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-632-8213.

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All That Jazz

More than 300 groups tune up for the annual Reno Jazz Festival May 1-3 on the UNR campus. There will be a series of concerts and workshops, with a showcase concert on May 3 featuring the performers with the best scores.

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WILD WEST TOUR

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Kit Carson Trail

Featuring Women of the Wild West

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Tours leave every 1/2 hour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
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Guided Tours • Historic Homes • Living History • Meet the People of the Old West Music of the Era • Refreshments

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Reno-Tahoe Territory

Reno Jazz Festival • May 1-3 • Concerts, workshops. Showcase concert May 3. Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-4046.

Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival • May 1-4 • 56th annual event features mainstream and advanced round dancing. Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-783-8982.

"True West" • May 2-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, and 30-31 • Sam Shepard's play. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

Cinco de Mayo Reno • May 2-4 • Mexican food, music, booths, crafts. Downtown, Reno, 775-825-1727.

"Murder on the Nile" • May 2-4, 9-10 • Agatha Christie's mystery. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Genoa Courthouse Museum Opening • May 3 • Museum opens for the season. Genoa, 775-782-4325.

Cinco de Mayo Chili Cook-Off • May 3 • 21st annual ICS-sanctioned event. Bucket of Blood parking lot, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Art for Kids • May 3 • Portraiture and self-portrait class for Spanish-speaking children ages six to eight. Reservations required. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Arie Antiche • May 3 • 17th- and 18th-century songs and arias. Lyric Opera Theatre, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6847.

Lake Cushing Crossing • May 3 • Pond crossing, wacky event subject to conditions. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 888-358-7461.

Oodles of Noodles Cook-Off • May 3 • Italian and Chinese entries celebrate Dayton's heritage. Event includes a craft fair and music. Downtown, Dayton, 775-246-7909.

Cinco de Mayo • May 3 • Hispanic entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-782-2105.

Topaz Sagehens Annual Rummage Sale • May 3-4 • Topaz Ranch Estates Community Center, Topaz Lake, 775-266-3835.

Spring Schwing Snow Golf Tournament • May 4 • Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 888-358-7461.

Fiesta Day Cash Slot Tournament • May 4-5 • $199 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

Band Concert • May 6 • Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble • May 6 • Music, comedy, singing, and percussive dance from different cultures. Cal Neva Resort, Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

UNR Spring Dance Concert • May 8-11 • Featured performer Lakota Sioux Dance Theatre. Special children's performance May 8 at Lawlor Events Center. Redfield Theatre, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6847.

RSVP Spring Fun Fair • May 8-11 • Carnival rides, midway games, arts and crafts, food, and drink. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

"Tom Sawyer" • May 9 • Presented by the BAC Stage Kids. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Gates and Wakes Ski/Snowboard • May 9-10 • Water ski and wakeboard professional challenge. Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-4232.

"Deathtrap" • May 9-10, 16-18, 24-26 • Mystery drama presentation by Reno Little Theater. Hug High School Theatre, Reno, 775-329-0661.

Sports Car and Jazz Cats • May 9-11 and 16-18 • NASCAR display, arts, crafts, and entertainment. Harrah's Outdoor Special Events Plaza, Reno, 800-200-4557.

"Kiss Me, Kate" • May 9-11 and 16-18 • Cole Porter's musical comedy about a traveling Shakespeare troupe. Community Center, Carson City, 775-445-4249.

"Proof" • May 9-10, 16-18, 24-26 • Reno Little Theater's presentation of a family's madness versus their brilliance. Hug High School Theatre, Reno, 775-329-0661.

Desert Gardens and Green Thumbs

Garden lovers can see how Nevadans create unusual, beautiful, and lush gardens in the desert during the annual Town and Country Garden Tour on June 21 in Reno. The self-guided tour of eight gardens benefits VSA Arts of Nevada. Carson City offers a garden tour on June 22.

Rummage Sale • May 10 • Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-7909.

Snow Golf Tournament • May 11 • Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-4232.

Big Band Jazz at Comma Coffee • May 13 • Performance by Mile High Jazz Band. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Arts in Bloom • May 11 • Fine art show and sale. Victorian Plaza, Sparks, 775-353-7816.

"Collecting the Past" • May 14 • Presentation by Jim McCormick, UNR Professor Emeritus of Art. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Culture Shock Hip-Hop Dance Troupe • May 16 • Group promotes self-worth, dignity, and respect through music. Cal

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A Jarbidge Salute

The tiny community north of Elko celebrates the Fourth with spirit. **By Linda Robinson**

It could be the rust-colored rock pillars that stand as sentries to the entrance of Jarbidge Canyon, the location in 1916 of the last stagecoach robbery in America. Perhaps it is the willow-lined Jarbidge River that meanders through the rugged lava canyon. But I think it is the people who make visitors return to this living ghost town each summer.

The spirit of Jarbidge resides in its independent and resourceful citizens, especially those who live in the canyon year-round. About 14 residents weather the winters and burn kerosene lamps at the Outdoor Inn on evenings when the power goes down. The General Store's pot-bellied stove chokes out a steady stream of heat, warming hunters who stop for supplies or gas. That adventurous spirit brings both residents and visitors to this mountain-ringed hamlet.

"We just like to see people come and have fun," says Dot Creechley, owner of the Outdoor Inn, as she slides a plate of flapjacks in front of a customer. Dot and her husband, Jack, have been hosting visitors for more than 30 years at the bar and restaurant, which is known for its prime-rib Saturday nights.

The town, bordered by three ranges with peaks as high as 8,400 feet, celebrates holidays with enthusiasm. Memorial Day weekend has featured a big barbecue since the mid-1970s.

By July Fourth the weather is warm enough for hiking, fishing, camping, and celebrating America's birthday Jarbidge-style. Volunteers put on bingo at the Community Hall and throw a children's festival and parade. The Independence Day parade, complete with flags, flowers, beauty queens, music, and whatever else the community delights in at the time, begins around 2 p.m. The procession makes its way up and down the main dirt road a couple times—usually ending around 2:15. A barbecue follows with sack races, a watermelon-seed-spitting contest, and my personal favorite, the pie-eating contest. I recall one young contestant staring at her pie and exclaiming, "I'm not eating that without a spoon!" Dancing to a country band rounds out the evening.

An enthusiastic parade celebrates Fourth of July in the tiny community of Jarbidge. Other events include bingo, a children's festival, sack races, and a barbecue.

Residents recall that their Labor Day potluck and corn feed dates back to the 1950s or beyond. A pig roast and Halloween party in October provide the community with another party. Proceeds from a baked-goods auction help pay for emergency and fire equipment and training.

Making the Trip: Visitor accommodations in Jarbidge include the Outdoor Inn, Tsawhawhitts Bed and Breakfast, an RV park, and campgrounds. Jarbidge is remote. Visitors driving north from Elko may find the dirt road via Charleston too snowy to drive until summer. The road via Jackpot and Rogerson, Idaho, usually is an easier route. For information on the area call 775-488-2311 or visit www.nevadaadventures.com/client/outdoorinn/outdoor1.html.

Linda Robinson is a Twin Falls, Idaho, writer.

Photos: Linda Robinson

Visitors are drawn to Jarbidge's spectacular scenery and outdoor recreation found on three ranges with peaks higher than 8,000 feet. The Outdoor Inn (left) is a favorite watering hole and dining place.

Photos: Doug Bruha (top), Linda Robinson (bottom)

Celebrating the Fourth

While Jarbidge celebrates America's independence, other Nevada communities hold July Fourth parties, fireworks, and patriotic programs. Following is a statewide schedule with information phones to confirm events and dates. All dates are July 4 unless otherwise noted.

Las Vegas Territory

Boulder City: The annual Damboree offers a parade, games, patriotic programs, food, and drink at Central Park. Fireworks at Veteran's Memorial Park. 702-293-2034.

Las Vegas: The Red, White, and Boom: Fourth of July Celebration will include fireworks, a car show, contests, and skateboard, breakdancing, and martial-arts exhibitions at Desert Breeze Park. 702-455-8200.

Las Vegas: The Star Spangled Spectacular features a Las Vegas Philharmonic concert followed by fireworks. Hills Park in Summerlin. 702-895-2787.

Laughlin: The annual Rockets Over the River fireworks display, choreographed to patriotic music, will be visible along the Laughlin River Walk. 800-452-8445.

Mesquite: Plans include a parade, games, fun, and fireworks. 702-346-8732.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City: The Fourth of July Cavalcade of Spectaculars will be July 2-6. Whirling carnival rides, midway games, food vendors, concessions, arts and crafts, and entertainment keep families busy at Mills Park. Event includes fireworks on July 4. 775-687-4680.

Genoa: The Reno Philharmonic performs a patriotic concert at Mormon Station State Historic Park. 775-323-6393.

Minden: Carson Valley POPS Orchestra performs at Minden Park. 775-782-7459.

Stateline, South Lake Tahoe: Lights on the Lake is the largest fireworks display west of the Mississippi. 530-544-5050.

Sparks: Old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration at Sparks Marina Park includes milk-carton boat races and entertainment before evening fireworks on Victorian Square. 775-358-1976.

Virginia City: Plans include a parade, fireworks, and a Victorian tea at Fourth Ward School. 775-847-0311.

Rural Nevada

Austin: Plans include a parade, street events, and activities. 775-964-2200.

Battle Mountain: There will be a parade, food vendors, games, and fireworks. 775-635-2728.

Elko: Traditional evening fireworks spectacular are planned at the fairgrounds. 775-738-3616.

Elko: The National Basque Festival on July 4-6 includes dancing, weight lifting, Running of the Bulls on Friday, and church services on Sunday. Fairgrounds and City Park. 775-738-1240.

Ely: Nevada Northern Railway offers a barbecue and train ride to watch the fireworks. 775-289-2085.

Eureka: There will be a parade, entertainment, and barbecue in the park. 775-237-5484.

Fallon: Rattlesnake Raceway will stage points racing for all classes, followed by a pit party and a fireworks show. 775-423-7483.

Gold Point: The town's saloon area is busy July 4-6 with Old West shootouts, barbecue, fireworks, and music by four bands. 775-482-4653.

Hawthorne: Water sports, barbecue, and fireworks over the lake are planned at the Cliff House, U.S. 95 at Walker Lake, 12 miles north of Hawthorne. 775-786-6663.

Jarbidge: Celebrates July 4-5 with a deep-pit barbecue and music at the Outdoor Inn. 775-488-2311.

McDermitt: On July 4 and 5 the town's Ranch Hand Rodeo is followed by music, dances, and street events. 775-272-3241.

Spring Creek: Lake of Fire is the annual fireworks over water at the Spring Creek Marina, 18 miles south of Elko. 775-738-9895.

Winnemucca: The city park will be busy with games, food, petting farm, face painting, dunk tank, and evening fireworks. Also scheduled is the Great Winneducka Duck Race, which features 2,500 sunglasses-wearing rubber ducks racing for prizes on the Humboldt River. On July 3-6 the Silver State Summer Cutting event takes place at the Event Center. 800-962-2638.

Yerington: A barbecue, crafts, entertainment and fireworks are held at Mountain View Park. 775-463-2245.—*Luciano J. Otano Jr.*

Neva Resort, Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend • May 16-18 • Roaring Twenties dance and revue, bathtub gin martinis, dinner on Fri. at Fourth Ward School. Printing-press workshop, exhibit on schooling on the Comstock, Preservation Ball at Piper's Opera House on Sat. Comstock Children's Chorus presentation, Carol Morgan Page Tea, and historic costume fashion show on Sun. Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Arm Wrestling Tournament • May 16-19 • Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 800-245-8667.

Bucks and Benz Slot Giveaway • May 16-19 • Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.

Fort Churchill Canoe Trip • May 17 • Ranger-guided canoe trip on the Carson River. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

River Wine Walk • May 17 • Wander Reno's River Walk and taste wine at each of the art galleries and specialty shops. River Walk, Reno, 775-329-3698.

Rhythm and Rawhide • May 17 • Concert, dinner, and auction featuring cowboy poet Waddie Mitchell and balladeer Don Edwards and the Reno Philharmonic. Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-323-6393.

Windows on History • May 17-18 • Historical tours of Truckee, including downtown buildings and other landmarks, cemetery, gold panning, and Wild West performances. Downtown, Truckee, 530-587-2757.

Rock Point Mill Site Tour • May 18 • Mill processed Comstock ore. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

Memorial Weekend Motorcycle Jamboree • May 23-25 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-6100.

Snowbomb.com Sick and Twisted Superpipe • May 24 • Snowboard event. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-1010.

Kit Carson Trail "Wild West Tour" • May 24 • Guided tour of historic homes and their costumed characters. Tours are every 30 minutes from 9:30am-2:30pm. Telegraph Square, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Everlast Heavyweight Explosion • May 24 • Professional boxing. Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-789-2285, 800-648-3568.

Civil War Encampment • May 24-25 • Nevada Civil War Volunteers stage a living-history of 1860 military camp life. Includes cannon demonstrations. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

Nevada Museum of Art Grand Opening • May 24-26 • Grand opening of the new museum features tours, music, family workshops, and a major exhibit of paintings by Diego Rivera. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Double Slot Tournament • May 26-27 • $299 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

Artesa Winery Winemaker Dinner • May 27 • $99 per person. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

Full Moon Snowmobile Tours • May 27-28 • Northstar-at-Tahoe, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-1010.

Escarabajo Off-Road Rally • May 29 • 27th annual 40-mile rally on a course that begins and ends on F Street. Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Summer Pot of Gold Poker Tournament • May 29-June 8 • Reno Hilton, Reno, 888-547-2081.

Reno Days Kick-Off Concert • May 30 • Blues band plays by the Truckee River. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-334-2594.

Reno Days • May 30-June 1 • Historical family event that this year will celebrate the city's centennial. Features music, craft fair, historical presentations, food. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-334-2594.

Parasols on the River • May 31 • High tea and fashion show in the European-style hotel built in 1907. Ross Manor Residential Hotel, Reno, 775-323-3044.

Blackpowder Smoke-Old Guns • May 31 • History of guns from blackpowder to present. Washoe Lake State Park, Carson City, 775-687-4319.

Celebrate the Carson River • May 31 • Presentation on the impact of rivers and water. Plus a ranger-guided canoe trip on the Carson River. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

Carson Valley Inn Rafting Outing • May 31 • Travel 20 miles along the East Fork of the Carson River. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Barn Again • May 31 • Carson Valley barn tour. Fee includes tour map and barn booklet. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

A Century of Fire Fighting • May 31 • More than 30 pieces of antique and modern fire-fighting equipment dating from the 1800s. Parade on Virginia St. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-334-2594.

Kids' Fishing Derby • May 31-June 1 • Pre-registration mandatory, ages three-12. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

Genoa Home and Garden Tour • June 1 • Self-guided tour of new and historic homes, gardens, and llama ranch. Genoa, 775-782-4951.

America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride • June 1 • Annual bicycle ride to benefit leukemia and lymphoma programs. Three different rides attract teams from across the U.S. Stateline, South Lake Tahoe, 800-565-2704.

Breeder's Invitational • June 1-14 • Cutting horse show offers Western trade show, demonstrations, clinics, and awards. Reno Livestock Events Center, 775-329-4200.

Stargaze • June 3 • Viewing through telescopes. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

Carson Valley Inn Fishing Derby • June 6 • More than $1,000 in cash prizes for catching mackinaw trout at Lake Tahoe. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Wildflower Walk • June 7 • Learn common names. Washoe Lake State Park, Washoe Lake, 775-687-4319.

Mutt Strut • June 7 • Fun dog-walk event benefits Nevada Humane Society. Sparks Marina Park, Sparks, 775-331-5770.

Minden Rotary Hot-Air Balloon Race • June 7-8 • Balloon launch 6:30am. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-7987.

Minden Arts and Crafts Fair • June 7-8 • Entertainment and crafts. Esmeralda Avenue, Minden, 775-782-2444.

Valhalla Renaissance Festival • June 7-8 and 14-15 • Medieval food, games, and costumes. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

USTA Farwest Regional Wheelchair Tennis Championship • June 12-15 • 17th annual competitive and recreational gathering involving 14 divisions. Followed by mountain and water adaptive activities. Plumas Tennis Center, Reno, 775-852-7077.

Carson City Rendezvous • June 13-15 • 20th annual living-history event with Native American dancing, gunfighters, Civil War camp, farriers contest, Dutch-oven cook-off, concert. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Harleys at the Horizon • June 13-15 • Motorcycle show, rally, and arts and crafts. Lake Tahoe Horizon Casino, Stateline, 530-541-7300.

Slot Tournament • June 13-15 • $15,000 guaranteed. Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 800-245-8667.

Carson Valley Days • June 13-15 • Annual festival dates back to early settlers. Parade, craft fair, rodeo, dance, and games. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

Dayton Area Chamber Golf Tournament • June 14 • 10th annual event includes a post-play buffet. Dayton Valley Golf Club, Dayton, 775-246-7909.

Feathered Friends • June 14 • Bird watching and leisurely walk. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe, 775-749-5980.

Rodeo Wrestler

The Reno Rodeo presents nine rodeo performances in which professional cowboys compete in saddle-bronc riding, team roping, steer wrestling, and other events on June 21-29. Entertainment includes a parade, kids rodeo, and the Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping Classic.

DeCelle Memorial Lake Tahoe Relay • June 14 • Seven member teams, each running approximately eight to 12 miles. Millers Outpost, South Lake Tahoe, 530-877-9731.

Kids Free Fishing Day • June 14 • Anglers ages seven to 17. Event includes lunch and prizes. Sparks Marina Park, Sparks, 775-353-2385.

Beerfest • June 14 • Music and samples from regional breweries. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-1010.

Golden Dollar Slot Marathon • June 15-17 • Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.

$55,000 Slot Tournament • June 16-17 • $199 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

Reno Rodeo Cattle Drive • June 16-20 • Fifty guest riders make five camps as they bring 300 head of cattle from Northern California cross-country to the Reno Rodeo. Downtown Reno, 775-329-3877.

Pony Express Re-Ride/Snowshoe Thompson Mail Route • June 17 • Reenactment ride includes a stop at the Genoa Courthouse Museum, where there will be an education program from 2-4pm. Genoa Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 775-782-4325.

Night Sounds • June 17 • Evening sounds of birds and animals. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe, 775-749-5980.

Summer Showdown Horse Handicapping Tournament • June 19-21 • Reno Hilton, Reno, 866-BET-RENO.

Pylon Racing Seminar • June 20-22 • Air-race veterans gather and new pilots learn to race. Stead Airport, Reno, 775-972-6663.

Fly-In: Wings and Wheels • June 21 • Fifth annual fly-in for airplanes. Event includes pancake breakfast, barbecue, concert, military aircraft display. Stead Airport, Reno, 775-348-7011.

River Wine Walk • June 21 • Wander Reno's River Walk and taste wine at each of the art galleries and specialty shops. River Walk, Reno, 775-329-3698.

Great Strides • June 21 • 10K walk to cure cystic fibrosis features magic, refreshments, lunch, boat rides. Tahoe Keys Marina, Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5022.

Town and Country Garden Tour • June 21 • Self-guided tour of eight gardens to benefit VSA Arts of Nevada. Art Access Gallery, 135 N. Sierra, Reno, 775-826-6100.

Taste of Downtown • June 21 • Entertainment and samples from Carson City restaurants. Downtown, Carson City, 775-883-7654.

Black Rock Self-Invitational Golf Tournament • June 21-22 • 16th annual tourney on the Black Rock playa requires advance registration. 10 miles north of Gerlach, 530-892-2883.

Reno Rodeo • June 21-29 • One of the country's top PRCA rodeos has nine performances with televised finals. Cowboys compete in such events as saddlebronc riding, team roping, and steer wrestling, while cowgirls compete in barrel racing. Also includes the Buckaroo Breakfast and Reno Rodeo Parade on Virginia Street on Sat., June 21, as well as the Special Kids Rodeo and the Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping Classic. Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-329-3877.

Pops Party Concert • June 22 • Outdoor performance featuring Carson City Symphony and Carson Chamber Singers. Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Pioneer Children Activity Day • June 22 • Old-fashioned games. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

Carson City Garden Tour • June 22 • Walking tour from 1-6pm. Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

Whitehall Lake Winemaker Dinner • June 23 • $99 per person. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

Chautauqua in the Park • June 25-26 • An evening of living-history from 5-8pm performed by young Chautauquans. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-267-3410.

Vegas to Reno • June 26-29 • Best in the Desert sponsors a 500-mile off-road race for motorcycles, quads, cars, and trucks. Finish at Reno Hilton, Reno, 702-457-5775.

News Channel 8 Golf Classic • June 27 • Prizes and auction to benefit CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada. Lake Ridge Golf Course, Reno, 775-829-CARE.

Run What Cha Brung • June 27-29 • 19th annual car show,

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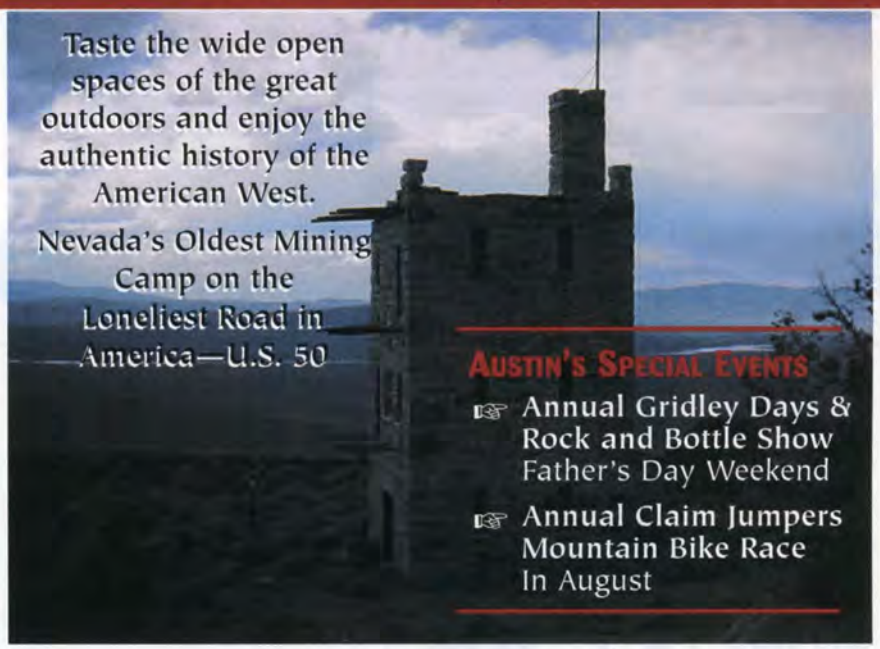


For more information, write or call:

Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 212 • Austin, NV 89310
775-964-2200

Photo: Ralph Willits

show and shine, poker run, rock 'n' roll weekend. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-883-0927.

U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West • June 28 • Free concert. Regional Park Amphitheatre, Truckee, 530-587-2587.

Comstock Silver Bicycle Tour • June 28 • 100-mile ride from Genoa to Virginia City and return. Genoa, 800-565-2704.

Oldies Street Dance • June 28 • In conjunction with Run Whatcha Brung car show. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 800-426-5239.

Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews, and Blues Festival • June 28-29 • Eighth annual street party. Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.

Lake Tahoe Chautauqua • June 28-29 • Scholars portray historical figures such as Meriwether Lewis, John Jacob Astor, and Sacagawea with Lake Tahoe as a backdrop. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 775-784-6587.

Valhalla Arts and Music Festival • June 29-Aug. 30 • Daily events including art exhibits, concerts, classic films, and plays. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

Rural Nevada

Hackamore Classic • May 1-3 • Working-horse competition includes herd, rein, and cow work. Event Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Les Yeux Noirs • May 2 • Paris ensemble has improvisational approach to Gypsy music. Oats Park Art Center, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

Rattlesnake Raceway Season Opener • May 2-3 • Points race and mud bogs competition. Rattlesnake Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-7483 for further event information.

Spring Craft Fair • May 2-3 • Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-1112.

Wild About Flowers • May 3 • Slide program on the common wildflowers of Eastern Nevada. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Ruby Mt. Symphony • May 3 • 50-piece orchestra performs Basque and Spanish music. Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-4187.

Winnemucca Pro-Am Golf Tourney • May 3-4 • More than 100 golfers compete for prizes and glory. Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course, Winnemucca, 775-623-9920.

Soroptimists Home and Garden Show • May 3-4 • Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-4556.

Spring Wings Bird Festival • May 9-11 • Celebration of birding in the Lahontan Valley Wetlands and Stillwater Wildlife Refuge. Tours, arts and crafts, workshops, seminars, and kids activities. Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-5128.

Rachel Days • May 9-11 • Dance, parade, dinner in the park, train ride, games, Mother's Day brunch and gospel music, and battle of the bands featuring bluegrass, country, and rock. D.C. Park and Little A'Le'Inn, Rachel, 775-729-2514.

Xtreme Challenge Bull Riding • May 10 • Open to first 40 riders, $4,000 added purse, dance, concessions. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4674.

Oli Anderson Motor Show • May 10 • Monster truck show. Elko County Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

Cathedral Gorge: Where the Buffalo Roamed • May 10 • Discovery of bison remains in the park. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

G-D Team Roping • May 10-11 • Cowboys and cowgirls compete for cash and prizes. Event Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-3086.

Fernley Walk for Life • May 11 • Crisis Pregnancy Center, Fernley, 775-575-4430.

"Oliver" • May 13-14 • Yerington Middle School presentation. Jeanne Dini Cultural Center, Yerington, 775-463-9116.

Fallon Farm Festival • May 14-15 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-6913.

National Intercollegiate Rodeo • May 15-17 • Finals includes contestants from Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, and Idaho. Elko County Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-2676.

Don Waters Roping • May 15-18 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-7093.

Spring Fling • May 16-17 • Classic car show and street dance. Celebration also marks the 24th anniversary of the Lyon County Museum, which plans a quilt display and a sneak preview of the renovation of the Copper Belt Railroad Engine No. 6, which ran from Mason to Wabuska. Downtown and the Lyon County Museum, Yerington, 775-463-2245.

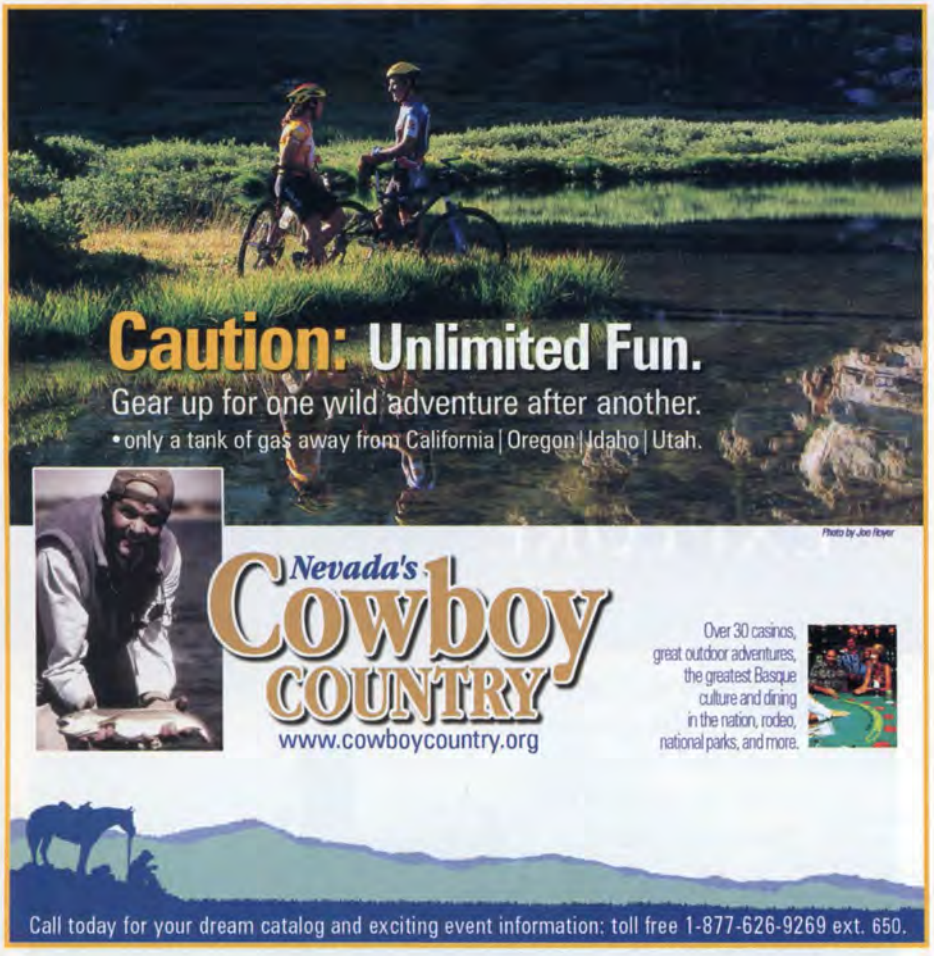
Silver State Classic • May 16-18 • Open-road race from Lund to Hiko on State Route 318. Staging area in Ely, 775-289-8877.

Armed Forces Celebration • May 16-18 • Arm wrestling, tournaments, dances, parade, barbecue, games, vendors, stock car races. Hawthorne, 775-945-2507.

TVA Motocross Racing • May 17 • Motocross Track, Battle Mountain, 775-635-5352.

Moonlight Hike • May 17 • Ranger-led stroll through spires and caves. Bring a flashlight and dress for cool weather. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Fallon Portuguese Festa • May 17-18 • Dance, food, parade, Sunday Mass, sopas lunch. St. Patrick's Catholic



Birders in Fallon

The Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 9-11 in Fallon, attracts birding fans of all ages to learn about the importance of the Lahontan Valley Wetlands and Stillwater Wildlife Refuge. The celebration includes tours, arts and crafts, workshops, seminars, and kids activities.

Church, Fallon, 775-423-2223 for further information.

Lyon County Fly-In, Fly-Fest • May 17-18 • Modern, military, and classic aircraft display, BLM smoke jumpers, food, vendors, entertainment. Silver Springs Airport, Silver Springs, 775-575-5662.

Senior Pro Rodeo • May 23-25 • Contestants over 40 compete for points for the finals in Reno. Rodeo Grounds, Wells, 775-752-3540.

Run-a-Mucca Motorcycle Rally • May 23-26 • Celebrity ride with Mickey Jones, show 'n shine, poker run, concerts, vendors. Downtown, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Fireman's Benefit Chili Cook-Off • May 23-26 • No-ingredient-barred cook-off, Old West shoot-outs, barbecue, and bluegrass, country, and rock bands. Gold Point Saloon area, Gold Point, 775-482-4653.

Jim Butler Days • May 23-26 • Gold-panning, street dance, children's events, parade, barbecue, craft vendors. Main Street, Tonopah, 775-482-3859.

Nevada Quarter Horse Show • May 23-26 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-463-2977.

Life Cycle of a Rock • May 24 • Slide program about the park's geology. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Memorial Weekend • May 24-25 • Bingo and music on Sat., followed by bingo, barbecue, and music on Sun. Community Hall and Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311.

Autocross: North-South Challenge • May 24-25 • Drivers compete on closed asphalt course in timed event. Mineral County Airport, Hawthorne, 775-727-1936.

Lincoln County Homecoming • May 24-26 • Barbecue, talent show, horseshoe tournament, craft sales, demolition derby. City parks and schools, Caliente, 775-726-3109.

Lincoln County Homecoming Art Show • May 24-26 • Various media. Nevada Railroad Depot, Caliente, 702-726-3933.

VORRA Off-Road Races • May 24-26 • Desert race. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

Make the Drive • May 24-26 • Planet X Pottery's spring show. Eight miles west of Gerlach, 775-557-2500.

Tuscarora Artists Open Studio Days • May 24-26 • Eight artists feature landscapes, jewelry, photographs, and pottery. Tuscarora, 41 miles northwest of Elko, 775-756-6433.

Pari-Mutuel Races and Mule Show • May 30-June 1 • Races and a 25-mile endurance race on May 30. Events

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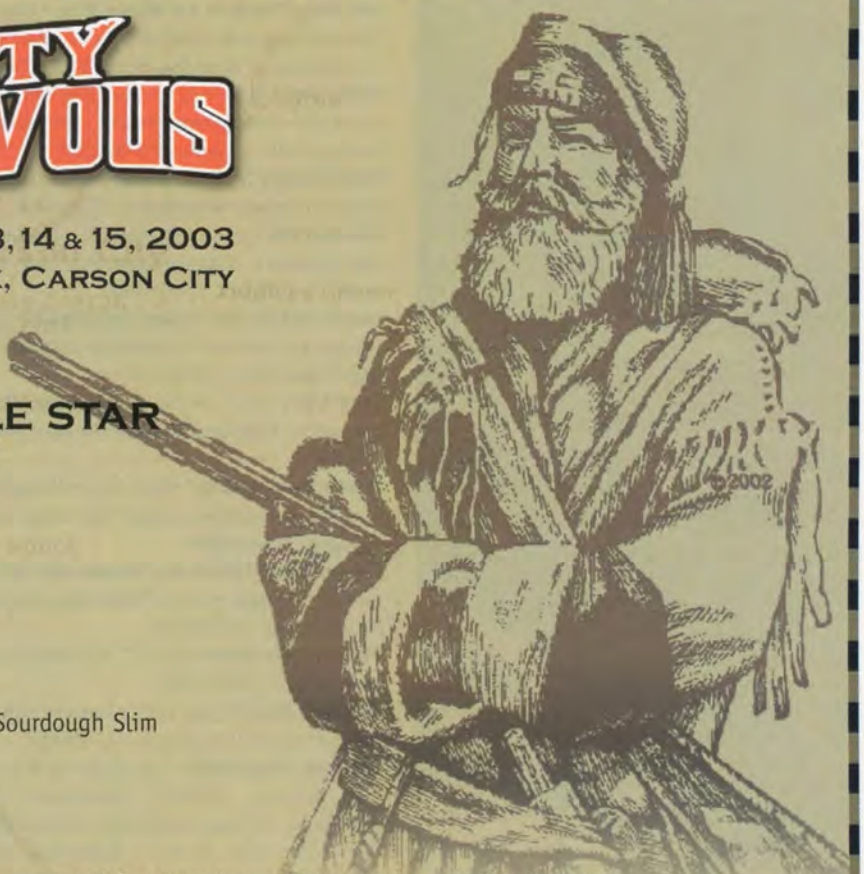

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Complex, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638 for details.

Silver State Regional Chili Cook-Off • May 31 • Second annual ICS-sanctioned red, verde, and salsa contests. Saddle West Casino, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Stargazing • May 31 • Learn the locations of the stars and constellations. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Portuguese Festa • May 31-June 1 • Heritage celebration includes a dance, Sunday procession of the queen and her court, Mass, traditional feast, auction of hand-crafted items. Holy Family Church Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-2763.

Bowhunter Classic • May 31-June 1 • 16th annual archery competition for all ages. Lamoille Canyon, 25 miles southeast of Elko, 775-753-4424.

Caliente 250 • June 6-7 • SNORE-sponsored off-road truck and buggy race. Caliente, 702-452-4522.

Museum Day • June 7 • Native American dancers, quilt display, country-Western music, gold panning, children's games, community choir, cowboy poetry, blackpowder display, food. White Pine Public Museum, Ely, 775-289-4710.

Creepy, Crawly Critters • June 7 • Slide program on the desert dwellers. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Portuguese Celebration • June 7 • Dance, parade, Mass, sopa lunch, and auction. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-2245.

Winnemucca Basque Festival • June 7-8 • Parade, games of strength and endurance, Basque music, Mass, and traditional picnic. Events Complex and Convention Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Nevada Paint Horse and Llama Show • June 7-8 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-867-3154.

Slot Tournament • June 8-9 • Rainbow Casino, Wendover, 800-217-0049.

Elko Mining Expo/Rock and Mineral Show • June 12-14 • Second annual rock and mineral show reviews latest mining techniques. Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-4091.

Gridley Days • June 13-15 • Annual festivities named for a Civil War-era shopkeeper. Parade, music, street dance, vendors, barbecue. Austin, 775-964-2200.

Koyote Kruiser's Car Show • June 14 • Open to all cars and trucks. Downtown, Winnemucca, 775-625-1963.

Moonlight Hike • June 14 • Ranger-led exploration of the park's mysteries. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Nevada State Old Time Fiddlers Championship • June 14 • Winners will advance to a national competition. Wells High School, Wells, 775-752-3540.

Coyote Chase • June 14 • 17th annual 5K and 10K run and two-mile fun walk. Gage Road and Day Lane, Smith, 775-465-2597.

"Mother Goose Rhythms" • June 14-15 • Yerington Ballet Company presentation. Jeanne Dini Cultural Center, Yerington, 775-463-9116.

Paradise Valley Father's Day Barbecue and Craft Show • June 15 • 35 miles north of Winnemucca via S.R. 290, Paradise Valley. 775-578-3533.

Fallon Farmer's Market • June 17, 24 • Downtown Maine Street, Fallon, 775-423-4556.

ICRA Team Roping • June 19-22 • National competition. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 541-586-2250.

Duckwater Spring Festival • June 20-22 • 18th annual festival includes volleyball tournament, powwow, handgames, barbecue, basketball tournament, horseshoes, turkey shoot. Duckwater Indian Reservation, 75 miles southwest of Ely, Duckwater, 775-863-0227.

Elko Motorcycle Jamboree • June 20-22 • All makes and models welcome. Bike show, vendors, poker run, motorcycle rodeo, street dance, extreme motorcross, contests, parade, and free concert by Quiet Riot. Elko, 775-777-9839.

Yerington Junior Rodeo • June 21-22 • Lyon County Fairgrounds, Yerington, 775-465-2849.

Lamoille Country Fair • June 22 • Booths feature pottery, leather goods, paintings, and arts and crafts. Clowns and belly dancers entertain. Lamoille Grove, Lamoille, 775-777-1400.

Pizen Switch Round-Up • June 22 • Picnic and reunion of former residents. Walker River Resort, Smith Valley, 775-463-2245.

Battle Mountain Junior Rodeo • June 27-28 • Contestants from California, Idaho, and Nevada. Livestock Events Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-0369.

BTM Barrel Race • June 27-29 • Competition for cash. Event Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Just Deserts • June 28 • Slide program on the desert life zones. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Pizen Switch Round-Up • June 29 • Community picnic and reunion of current and former residents. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

Coming Events

Silver State International Rodeo • July 1-6 • Fallon, 775-423-4674.

Artown • July 1-31 • Reno, 775- 322-1538.

Elko Basque Festival and Running of the Bulls • July 4-6 • Elko, 775-738-1240.

SCORE Henderson's Terrible 250 Desert Race • July 9-13 • Henderson, 877-775-5252.

Pioche Heritage Days Plays • July 10-12 • Pioche, 775-962-5305.

ESPN Great Outdoor Games • July 10-13 • Reno, 775-323-8850.

Big Easy Cajun Festival • July 11-13 • Sparks, 775-358-4771.

American Century Celebrity Golf Championship • July 15-20 • Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.

Reno Basque Festival • July 19-20 • Reno, 775-784-6500.

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival at Sand Harbor • July 19-Aug. 24 • Incline Village, 775-832-1616.

Pony Express Open Road Car Race • July 25-27 • Battle Mountain, 775-635-1112.

Wells Fun Run and Car Show • July 25-27 • Wells, 775-752-3540.

Lovelock Frontier Days • July 25-27 • Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Fifties Fever Car Show • Aug. 1-3 • Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

Hot August Nights • Aug. 3-10 • Reno and Sparks, 775-356-1956.

Eureka County Fair • Aug. 8-10 • Eureka, 775-237-5448.

Claim Jumpers Mountain Bike Festival • Aug. 9-10 • Austin, 775-964-2364.

Reno-Tahoe Open • Aug. 18-24 • Reno, 888-848-RENO.

Nevada State Fair • Aug. 20-24 • Reno, 775-688-5767.

Elko County Fair • Aug. 22-Sept. 1 • Elko, 775-738-7135.

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off • Aug. 28-Sept. 1 • Sparks, 775-356-3300.

Tri-County Fair and Stampede • Aug. 29-31 • Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV.

Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival • Aug. 29-Sept. 1 • Fallon, 775-423-2544.

Hometowne Christmas Parade • Dec. 6 • Sparks, 775-353-2291.

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Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in May and June.

Spirit of Aloha

Rozita Lee's "Drums of the Islands" heats up the Shangri-La pool deck at the Imperial Palace in Las Vegas. The Polynesian music-and-dance revue follows a seafood-buffet luau and includes ceremonial torch lighting, Hawaiian lei greetings, hula lessons, and an audience sing-along.

Nevada's clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This summer "Miss Saigon" plays at the Aladdin in Las Vegas. "Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!," the tribute to the Beatles, plays the Eldorado in Reno, while Joe Cocker headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. Also, "Passion Xtreme" continues its run at Caesars Tahoe. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Call ahead for times and reservations.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • 702-293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam.

HENDERSON

Fiesta Henderson • 702-558-7000: Bands play in the Lava Lounge. Entertainment 9pm-1am Sat. Cancun Room: Tribute impersonator shows Fri., comedy Sat.

Green Valley Ranch • 702-454-0544: Jazz Club: Entertainment Fri.-Sat. Whiskey Amphitheater: Norman Brown and Brian Culbertson, June 14. Al Jarreau, Sept. 26. Whiskey Sky Terrace: Entertainment schedule TBA.

Joker's Wild • 702-564-8100: Entertainment Wed.-Sun.

Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-6181: Piano music and hors d'oeuvres, 6-9pm Fri.-Sun.

Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-4700: Firenze Lobby Lounge: Florentine Tea daily from 2:30-5pm.

Sunset Station • 702-547-7777: Club Madrid: Entertainment TBA. Amphitheater: Will Downing and Gerald Albright, May 3. Jay Black and the Americans, June 20. Village People and Tavares, July 3. Gary Allen/Aaron Lines, July 4.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 702-477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands

like Jeep Capone and Laura Ash and Inferno play nightly except Tues.

Nevada Landing • 702-387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands like Applause and Tom Amato appear nightly except Wed.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 877-333-WISH: Aladdin Theater for the Performing Arts: "Miss Saigon," May 13-18. CenterStage Showroom: Society of Seven, musical comedy, dark Mon. "X," adult production show, 10:30pm Tues.-Sun. Sevilla Spanish Steakhouse: "Bravo" starring Charo. Sinbad's Lounge: Bands play until 3am. Music in the Curve nightclub.

Arizona Charlie's • 702-258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: Susan McDonald, April 29-May 3. Jonathan Music Magic, May 6-10. Checkmates, May 13-24. The Coates Twins, May 27-31. Destiny, June 3-7. Front Page, June 10-14. Checkmates, June 17-29. Karaoke 8:30pm-1:30am Mon. Bands play Tues.-Thurs. Jerry Tiffe's Band, 4-7pm Fridays.

Arizona Charlie's East • 702-951-5800: Palace Grand Lounge: Checkmates, April 29-May 11. Rock Steady, May 13-18. Randy Anderson, May 20-25. Sounds of Joy, May 27-June 1. Christy Bryant, June 3-15. Randy Anderson, June 17-29. Bands play 4-7pm Fri.-Sun.

Bally's • 702-739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!," dark Fri. Entertainment in the Indigo Lounge.

Barbary Coast • 702-737-7111: Barbary Coast Lounge: Pete Vallee as "Big Elvis," 3-6pm Tues.-Fri. Entertainers like San Fernando Band, Elements, and Smith Brothers play in the lounge. Karaoke, Mon.-Tues.

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf., dark Wed.-Thurs. Light: Nightclub opens at 10:30pm Thurs.-Sun. Caramel Bar is open nightly until 4am. Musicians play in the Petrossian Lounge and Baccarat Bar. Fontana Room: Jimmy Hopper and his band, dark Mon.

Boardwalk Casino • 702-735-2400: Lighthouse Lounge: Spectrum, Motown sound, indf., dark Mon. Purple Reign, a tribute to Prince, dark Sun.-Mon. Kokomo, Sun.-Mon.

Boulder Station • 702-432-7777 or 800-683-7777: The Railhead: Don Williams, May 24. Bill Engvall, May 31. Michael Franks, June 28. Advertising Community Talent Show, July 18. David Benoit, Aug. 9. Taylor Dayne, Nov. 8. Jerry Tiffe plays 2-4pm Thurs. KIXX: Shooting Stars Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.

Bourbon Street • 702-737-7200: Big Easy Showroom: "Soul of Magic," starring Victor and Diamond, dark Mon.

Caesars Palace • 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544: The Colosseum Showroom: Celine Dion stars in "A New Day," dark Mon.-Tues. Jerry Seinfeld, May 2-3. Shadow Bar: Dancers and flair bartenders perform 8pm-2am Sun.-Thurs., 7pm-3am Fri.-Sat. Entertainment in the Café Lago Restaurant, Terrazza Lounge, Cleopatra's Barge, and Galleria Bar.

Castaways • 702-383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Windjammer Lounge and Outer Bar: Bands play nightly.

Circus Circus • 702-734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts from 11am to midnight.

Excalibur Hotel • 702-597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," jousting-dinner show. Merlin's Theater: "Thunder From Down Under," all-male revue plays at 7:30pm Sun.-Wed., 7:30 and 11:30pm Fri.-Sat., dark Thurs. Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club: Comedians perform at 10pm nightly and 7:30pm Thurs. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers, 10am-10pm daily. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Regales and Camelot restaurants.

Fitzgeralds • 702-388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Second Floor Events Center: "Secrets," magic show starring Arian Black, 3pm. Larry G. Jones, free impersonator show, 5pm (shows have a one-drink minimum). "Tribute to Elvis," 7 and 9pm Thurs.-Mon. First Floor Stage: Mike Lee, "Singer of Memories," 8pm-1am Thurs.-Mon.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 702-733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: Gladys Knight, 7:30pm, dark May 13-17, June 6-7, and Sun.-Mon. The Amazing Johnathan, outrageous magic, 10pm, dark Thurs. "Bottom's Up," comedy revue, 2 and 4pm, dark Sun., indf. Second City Theater: "Second City," improv comedy sketches, 8pm Thurs.-Tues., 10:30pm Tues., Thurs., and Fri.-Sat., dark Wed. Flamingo Late-Night Lounge: DJ and dance music, 1-4am.

Flamingo O'Shea's • 702-737-1343: Comedy Theater: "Hip-Nosis: Playin' With Your Head," starring Justin Tranz, R-rated comedy show, Mon.-Sat.

Four Queens • 702-385-4011 or 800-634-6045.

Four Seasons • 702-632-5000: Piano entertainment during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah restaurant, 2-5pm daily.

Gold Coast • 702-367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): Lounge: Kinda Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm. Bands like Front Page and Latin Vida play nightly except Mon. Gold Coast Showroom: "Honky Tonk Angels: A Tribute to Country's Great Ladies," dark Tues. Latin Breeze, Fri.-Sat., indf. Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor on Tues. Dance lessons are 6-7pm. Sunday Tea Dance Party with Larry Taylor from 1-5pm. Free drama workshop, 9:30-11:30am Sat.

Golden Gate • 702-385-1906: Live piano featuring David Morris, Danny Sands, Moses Hazen, Betty deBetea, 6pm-midnight.

Golden Nugget • 702-385-7111: Golden Nugget Theatre Ballroom: "Spirit of the Dance," thru May 7, includes

Celtic, Latin, and Broadway dance styles, dark Thurs. Singer Martin Nievera, May 8-June 8, dark Mon.-Wed. "Spirit of the Dance," June 9-July 31. Bands play in the Show Bar Lounge.

Golden Palm • 702-798-1111: Karaoke, 9pm-2am Wed.-Sun.

Greek Isles • 702-952-8000: Magic Theater: Dr. Naughty, comedian-hypnotist at 11:15pm daily. Sandy Hackett Comedy Club, 9pm nightly. "The Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey, and Dean," dinner at 5:30, show at 7pm, dark Wed.

Hard Rock Hotel • 702-693-5066: The Joint: Entertainment TBA.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 702-369-5111: Clint Holmes Theatre: Clint Holmes, musical variety show, dark Sun. Comedy Cabaret: Improv, nightly except Mon. "Skintight," adult musical revue, dark Thurs. "Mac King Comedy Magic Show" appears at 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Carnaval Court: Cook E. Jarr, midnight-2am. Fri.-Sat. Bands play outdoors beginning at noon. Music nightly in La Playa Lounge and in the Range Steakhouse Lounge. View Nightclub opens in the Range Steakhouse at 11pm.

Howard Johnson Hotel • 702-798-1111: Entertainment TBA.

Imperial Palace • 702-794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," impersonator revue, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Sun. Shangri-la Pool Deck: "Hawaiian Hot Luau Imperial-Style," buffet dinner and Polynesian revue, thru mid-Oct., Tues. and Thurs. Entertainment on Fri.-Sun. in Nomiya Lounge. Dancing in Tequila Joe's Nightclub.

Key Largo • 702-733-7777: Sand Bar Lounge: One performs Tues.-Sun

Lady Luck • 702-477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater: Entertainment TBA. Lucky Louie's Lounge: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Country Girls

The Dixie Chicks blend country, pop, and bluegrass with a rock beat. The Texas-by-way-of-Nashville group appears at the MGM Grand July 26-27.

Las Vegas Hilton • 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: Mel Tillis and Pam Tillis, May 2-3. The Smothers Brothers, May 6-June 1. Sheena Easton, June 3-July 13 (dark June 21 and 23), 7:30pm show. Huey Lewis and The News, June 5-7, late show. Victor Awards 2003, June 21. Peter Frampton, July 11-12. Engelbert Humperdinck, July 15-Aug. 3. Heart, Aug. 1-2. The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Aug. 5-24. The Smothers Brothers, Aug. 26-Sept. 14, 7:30pm. Huey Lewis and The News, Aug. 29-31, 10pm. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 5-6, 10pm. The Commodores, Sept. 12-13, 10pm. The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Sept. 16-21. Sheena Easton, Sept. 23-Oct. 26. The Doobie Brothers, Sept. 26-27, 10pm. The Smothers Brothers, Oct. 28-Nov. 16. The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Nov. 25-30. The Commodores, Nov. 28-29, 10pm. Logan Wells, Dec. 2-7. The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Dec. 16-21. The NightClub: Disco nights, 11pm-3am Thurs.-Sat., DJs spin '70s and '80s dance music. Dance music nightly except Sun. in the Crystal Lounge.

Luxor • 702-262-4555: Luxor Theatre: "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor," percussion theater. Pharaoh's Theater: "Midnight Fantasy," production show, dark Mon. Ra Nightclub at Luxor: DJs Wed.-Sat. Entertainers play in Nefertiti's Lounge. Movies are shown in the IMAX theater.

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Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: "Mamma Mia!," the Broadway musical based on the music of Abba, dark Tues. Mandalay Events Center: Oscar De La Hoya vs. Yory Boy Campas and Erik Morales vs. Bobby Boy Velardez, May 3. Tim McGraw and the Dancehall Doctors, May 10. Country Music Awards, May 21. House of Blues: Alkaline Trio, June 8. Dance music, Thurs.-Sun. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Bands play in the Orchid, Island, and Coral Reef lounges. The Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay is open daily.

MGM Grand • 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Hollywood Theatre: Howie Mandel, April 24-May 7. David Copperfield, May 8-21. George Carlin, May 22-June 4 and June 12-25, Aug. 21-Sept. 3, Sept. 25-Oct. 8 and Dec. 24-Jan. 1. MGM Grand Garden Arena: Pearl Jam, June 6. Justin Timberlake and Christina Aguilera, June 21. Dixie Chicks, July 26-27. La Femme Theatre: "La Femme," Topless Crazy Horse production from Paris, dark Tues. Studio 54: Dancing Tues.-Sat. Live entertainment in the Zuri Lounge, Craftsteak Restaurant, and Entertainment Dome. EFX Theatre: Cirque du Soleil production to open in 2004.

The Mirage • 702-792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular, dark Wed.-Thurs. Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans performs nightly except Fri. and Mon. Entertainment in the Lagoon Saloon, Onda Lounge, and Baccarat Bar.

Monte Carlo • 702-730-7000: 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 • 702-794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Bands play Tues.-Sat.

New York-New York • 702-740-6969 or 800-693-6763:

Hot Blokes

Girls can have a night out with Australia's "Thunder From Down Under" this spring at Excalibur in Las Vegas, Don Laughlin's Riverside in Laughlin, and the Atlantis in Reno.

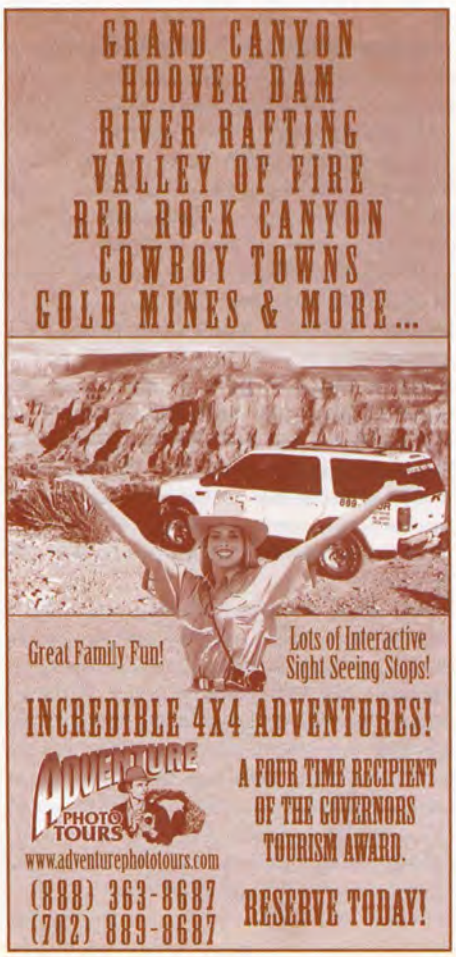
Broadway Theatre: Cirque du Soleil production opens in July. Cabaret Theatre: Comedienne Rita Rudner performs nightly. "Boo!" improvisational revue, 10pm Tues.-Thurs., 10:30pm Fri.-Sat., dark Sun.-Mon. Ticket includes an after-show roller coaster ride. Coyote Ugly: Dance nightclub opens nightly at 6pm. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play from 7:30pm nightly in the Bar at Times Square. Bands play in the Big Apple Bar.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Righteous Brothers, April 22-May 4. Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell, May 8-11. Neil Sedaka, May 13-18. Air Supply, May 22-25. David Brenner, May 29-June 1. Righteous Brothers, June 3-15. Tony Orlando, June 27-29. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Performers like Susan McDonald, Front Page, and The Klique appear nightly except Mon. Brendan's Irish Pub: Bands play nightly. Jazz, Tues., Fri.-Sat. Blues, Thurs. Irish acoustic folk, Sun. Sazio Restaurant: "Ba-Da-Bing," interactive dinner show, Thurs.-Mon.

Palace Station • 702-367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Laugh Trax Comedy Club: Comedians perform Tues.-Fri. Jack's Irish Pub: Entertainers perform nightly. Palace Pavilion: Entertainment TBA.

The Palms • 702-942-7777: Rain in the Desert: Entertainment TBA. Bands play nightly in the Palapa Lounge. DJs play Fri.-Sat. in the Ghostbar.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Theatre des Arts: Andre Philppe-Gagnon, May 4-8. Smokey Robinson, May 9-10. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, May 11-14. Olivia Newton-John, May 15-18. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, May 19-22 and 26-29. Jeff Foxworthy, May 30-June 1. Sinbad, June 5-8. Golden Rainbow, June 7-8, 1pm matinee, AIDS benefit. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, June 13-16. Al Green, June 20-21. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, June 22-25. Clint Black, June 26-28. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, June 30-July 3. Wayne Brady, July 4-6. Andre Philippe-Gagnon, July 7-10. Dennis Miller, July 11-13. Olivia Newton-John, Aug. 14-17. Vince Gill, Aug. 21-23. Wayne Brady, Sept. 5-7. Olivia Newton-



John, Oct. 16-19. Natalie Cole, Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Tony Bennett, Nov. 6-9. Jeff Foxworthy, Dec. 5-7. Wayne Brady, Dec. 12-13. Bands play in Le Cabaret Lounge. Napoleon's Lounge: Entertainment nightly. Eiffel Tower rides 10am-1am daily.

The Plaza • 800-634-6575: Plaza Theatre: The Comedy Zone, dark Mon. "Stars of the Strip," impersonator show, 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Omaha Lounge: Dusty Barron/The Sun Spots perform Tues.-Sun.

Rampart Casino at the Resort at Summerlin • 877-869-8777: Addison's Lounge: Rock, oldies, and R&B bands perform 8pm-midnight Fri.-Sat. Round Bar: Bobby Dickerson, Tues.-Sat.

Rio All-Suite Hotel • 702-252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Scinta Showroom: The Scintas, musical-comedy show, dark Thurs. Ronn Lucas, comic-ventriloquist, 3pm Sat.-Thurs., dark Fri. Samba Theater: Penn and Teller, comedy-magic show, dark Tues. "Showgirls," late-night musical revue, dark Sun. Club Rio: "Chippendales: The Show," dark Tues. Club Rio Nightclub is open for late-night dancing Thurs.-Sat. Calypso Room: "Tony 'n Tina's Wedding," off-Broadway interactive dinner theater, nightly. Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade above the casino daily at 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8, 9, and 10pm. Bikinis Beach and Dance Club: Nightclub opens 10pm Thurs.-Sun. Sexy swimwear competition on Thurs. Entertainment in the Ipanema Bar and VooDoo Lounge.

Riviera • 702-794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," production show, dark Fri. Top of the Riv: Brett Butler, May 23-24. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue, dark Tues. Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls" adult revue, dark Thurs. "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear nightly. Le Bistro Theatre: Singer Marlene Ricci, 8:30pm Tues.-Fri. "America's Neil Diamond Tribute: Portrayed by Jay White," 7pm Tues.-Sun. Bill Pinkney's Original Drifters, 10pm, dark Sun.-Mon. The Platters featuring Monroe Powell, dark Tues.-Wed. Lon Bronson's All-Star Band plays at 1:15am Sat. Dr. Scott Lewis: Outrageous Comedy Hypnotist, 7pm Mon. Tony Sacca, 8:30pm, Sat.-Mon.

Well-Read Redneck

TV and radio star—and author of 11 humor books—Jeff Foxworthy brings his "You Might be a Redneck If" brand of comedy to Paris Las Vegas May 30-June 1.

Sahara • 702-737-2515: Sahara Theatre: Magician Steve Wyrick, dark Tues., indf. Congo Room: The Platters, Cornell Gunter's Coasters, and Beary Hobb's Drifters. Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 702-454-8048: Sam's Town Live: Entertainment TBA. Late Night: Music and dancing 11pm-3am Fri.-Sat. Roxy's Saloon: Bands play. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, 10pm.

San Remo • 702-739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic," revue, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Bonne Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe Station • 702-658-4900: Santa Fe Amphitheater: Grand Funk Railroad, June 27. Ty Herndon, June 28. Herman's Hermits featuring Peter Noone, July 3. Eddie Money, July 4. Johnny Rivers, August 29. The Green Room: Nightclub open for dancing. Jerry Tiffe and His Orchestra, 7-11pm Wed. Bands play Fri.-Sat. Memphis Championship Barbecue: John Earl and the BoogieMan Band perform Fri.-Sat.

Silverton • 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

Stardust • 702-732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Wayne Newton Theatre: Wayne Newton, thru May 26. Don Rickles/Lorna Luft, May 29-June 1. Wayne Newton, June 3. Andrew Dice Clay, June 6-7, 11pm. Tim Conway and Harvey Korman, July 23-26. Andrew Dice Clay, July 18-19, 11pm. Burt Reynolds, Aug. 28-31. Chicago, Sept. 3-6. Andrew Dice Clay, Sept. 12-13, 11pm. Tim Conway and Harvey Korman, Nov. 12-15. Andrew Dice Clay, Nov. 28-29, 11pm. Stardust Lounge: Bands play nightly. Stardust Ballroom: Les Brown's Band of Renown, May 31. Russ Morgan Orchestra, Sept. 6. Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, Nov. 29.

Stratosphere • 702-382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue, dark Thurs. "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Outdoor Events Center: Entertainment TBA. Images Lounge: Bands like Front Page play 10pm-3:30am Tues.-Sun. Top of the World Lounge: Candace Davis-Martin, April 16-June 1. Santino Virga and Grace Abarca open Sept. 25, dark Mon.-Tues. Crazy Armadillos: Latin/Disco Night, Mon.; karaoke, Tue.-Wed.; DJ, Thurs.; bands play Fri.-Sat.; Band showcase, Sun.

Suncoast • 702-636-7111: Showroom: Al Martino, May 2-4. Bobby Collins, May 10-11. Tony Danza, May 16-18. Dave Mason Band, May 24-25. Bill Acosta, May 30-June 1. The Lettermen, June 13-15. David Brenner, June 20-22. McKenna Medley, June 28-29. The Limey Bar Stewards, 9:30pm-midnight Tues. Spazmatics, 10:30pm-1:30am Wed. Bands like Sho-tyme and Smith Brothers play in the Suncoast Lounge nightly except Mon.

Terrible's • 702-733-7000: Stage Bar Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.

Treasure Island • 702-894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère," dark Mon.-Tues. Entertainment in the Mist and Breeze lounges. Buccaneer Bay sea battle nightly.

Tropicana • 702-739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Les Folies Bergere," dark Sun. "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri. Tropics Lounge: "The Tropicana Bird Show," 10am, noon, and 2pm except Thurs. Celebration Lounge: T. Fox and the Fox City Show, dark Mon.-Tues. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly. "Air Play," aerialists perform above the casino at 3, 5, 7:30, and 9:30pm.

Venetian • 702-733-5000: Showroom at the Venetian: "Lord of the Dance," Celtic production, dark Mon. "V:

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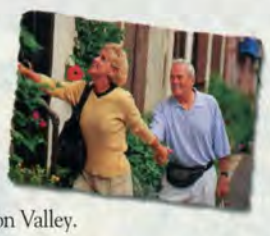

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The Ultimate Variety Show," nightly, specialty and daredevil acts.

Westward Ho • 702-731-2900: Crown Room: "Ho-Waiian Luau," dinner and show, Wed. and Sun. thru June 7. Bands play nightly except Mon. in the lounge.

Wild West Gambling Hall • 702-740-0000.

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 702-535-5555: ArrowWeed Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Colorado Belle • 702-298-4000: Oldies duos play in the Boiler Room Microbrewery and Restaurant. Dixieland band strolls on D Deck and in the casino.

Edgewater • 702-298-2453: Edgewater Events Center: Friday Night Fights, May 2 and June 6. Kokopelli's Lounge: Music nightly.

Flamingo Laughlin • 702-298-5111 or 800-435-8469: Flamingo Showroom: The Comedy Stop opens May 5. Flamingo Ballroom: Heavyweight Boxing, June 7. Grand Funk Railroad, June 28. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 27-28. Glen Campbell Christmas Show, Nov. 29. Ann-Margret, Nov. 30. Flamingo Amphitheater: Loretta Lynn, May 10. Tony Bennett, May 17. The Beach Boys, May 31. Wynonna, Sept. 13. The Righteous Brothers, Oct. 11.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 702-298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Nightclub: Dinner and dancing to the music of the '40s and '50s on Tues. Bands play nightly.

Harrah's Laughlin • 702-298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Earl Turner, high-energy cabaret singer, thru Aug. 31, dark Sun. and Wed. Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater: Kool and the Gang, 10pm May 24, K.C. and the Sunshine Band, 10pm July 5. George Jones, 8pm Oct. 31.

Pioneer • 800-634-3469: Showdown at Sundown, gunfighter demonstration, 8pm Fri.-Sat.

Ramada Express • 702-298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theatre: Country Nites, May 6 and 8, variety show. An Evening of Bluegrass, May 10, starring Lost and Found and The Chapmans. T.G. Sheppard, May 17 and 21. Rich Little, May 24-25. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness is scheduled on Mon.

River Palms • 702-298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Crystal Sands Room: "Joey and Maria's Italian Wedding," interactive dinner show, Sat. "The Sopranos' Last Supper," May 3 and June 14, interactive adult comedy dinner show. "Jimmy and Jenny's Wacky Western Wedding," May 24 and June 28, interactive dinner show. "Celebrities on Stage," impersonator show, daily. Berri Lee, comic-magician, daily. Bands or DJ music nightly in the Bermuda Club Lounge. Karaoke, 4-7pm Wed.

Riverside Resort • 702-298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Franz Harary, May 7-11. "Thunder From Down Under," May 15. Gallagher appears on May 23-25.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 702-346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Showroom: Little River Band, May 3. Don Williams, May 23. Juice Newton, July 19. Bellamy Brothers, Aug. 8. Entertainment in the lounge.

Eureka Casino Hotel • 702-346-4646: Wild Cactus Lounge: Sonny D, Mon. and Wed. Fun Fool's Karaoke, Tues. Bands play in the lounge Thurs.-Sun.

Oasis • 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187: The Boot Saloon: Video and live DJ on Fri. and Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play in the lounge.

Virgin River • 702-346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Bands play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Cannery • 702-507-5700: The Club: Latin Vida, May 2-3. Jive, May 9-10. Cornell Gunter's Coasters, May 16-17. Pinups Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Fiesta Rancho • 702-631-7000: Cabo Lounge: DooWopp.com, Fri.-Sat. Roxy's Lounge: Entertainment TBA.

Jerry's Nugget • 702-399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri. and Sat.

Texas Station • 702-631-1001: Dallas Events Center: Ray Charles, Aug. 23. The Armadillo: Kroakies Karaoke, Wed. Loveshack, Fri.-Sat. Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA. Show Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Primm Valley • 800-FUN-STOP: Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment Fri.-Sun.

Whiskey Pete's • 800-FUN-STOP: Whiskey Pete's Comedy Club: Comedians perform 10pm Sat. Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment Fri.-Sun.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Carson Nugget • 775-882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Lounge: Entertainers like the Motifs, David Proud, Joey Carmon, White Wing, and Killer Tomatoes appear Tues.-Sun. at the downtown casino.

Carson Station • 775-883-0900: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Piñon Plaza • 775-885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Wed.-Sun.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: Entertainment TBA.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 775-266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat. at the casino.

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Sunny and Her Toys

Singer, dancer, and impressionist Sunny offers a new revue, "Sunny: Blondes and Boy Toys," at Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno. The show, produced by her husband, Greg Thompson, includes a medley of tunes about relationships and several male dancers for Sunny to toy with.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 775-825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Showroom: Danny Marona Show, May 23-25. "Thunder From Down Under," May 27-June 7, male revue. Bands perform nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret. Dancing in the Atlantis Nightclub.

Boomtown • 775-345-6000: Can-Can Theater and Dancehall: Bands like Madison Avenue, Stew Stewart, Whiskey Ridge perform Tues.-Sun.

Club Cal Neva-Virginian • 775-323-1046 or 877-777-7303: Entertainment on Fri. and Sat.

Circus Circus • 775-329-0711: Nevada Room: Geechy Guy Happy Hour, stand-up comedy, Wed.-Sun. Free daily circus acts, 11am-10:30pm.

Eldorado • 775-786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): "Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!" Beatles tribute starring Rain plays thru July 27. Bands play nightly at the Brew Brothers microbrewery. Piano music in the Roxy Lounge. BuBinga Lounge: Dance to DJs and bands. Special Event: The Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews, and Blues Festival, June 28-29, free admission, on Virginia Street.

Fitzgeralds • 775-785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Joey Carmon, David Proud, Speedy Garfin, and Big Tiny Little perform nightly in the casino's Fitz Showbar.

Harrah's Reno • 775-788-2900 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: Gordie Brown, one-man theatrical production, dark Tues.-Thurs. "Sunny: Blondes and Boy-Toys," musical revue, dark Fri. "Motor City All-Stars Rhythm and Blues Revue," starring Chapter One, June 16-Sept. 3, dark Fri. Bands play Thurs.-Sat. in the Sapphire Lounge. The Plaza at Harrah's: Kool and the Gang, May 25, free concert.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 775-356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Celebrity Showroom: Los Lobos, June 6-7. Mills Brothers, July 6-7. The Lettermen, July 17-19. Bellamy Brothers, July 25-26. Rose Ballroom: Bad Company's Paul Rodgers, May 10. Joe Cocker, June 20-21. Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's. Flamenco guitarist Thurs. and jazz Fri.-Sat. in Restaurante Orozko.

Peppermill • 775-826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Entertainment TBA. Bands like Madison Avenue and Memphis Rising play in the Cabaret Lounge. Ron Perry and Dale Vernon perform in the Steakhouse Lounge.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 775-359-9440: Side Track Lounge: Bands play on weekends.

Reno Hilton • 775-789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theater: "The Imperial Circus," thru June 12. Hilton Pavilion: Entertainment TBA. Bands play nightly.

Sands Regency • 775-348-2200: Tequila Bar: Music nightly except Mon.-Tues. Comedians perform in the Just For Laughs Comedy Club, dark Mon.-Tues.

Silver Club • Sparks, 775-358-4771 or 800-905-7774 (U.S. outside Nevada): Entertainers like City Zu, Whiskey Ridge, and Louie Fontaine and the Rockets appear in the lounge Wed.-Sun.

Silver Legacy • 775-329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: George Carlin, July 19. Johnny Mathis, Sept. 19-20. Engelbert Humperdinck, Oct. 17-18. George Jones, Oct. 24-25. Righteous Brothers, Nov. 14-15. City Center Pavilion: Jeff Foxworthy, June 28. Music in the Rum Bullions Island Bar. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club, dark Mon. Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

Sundowner • 775-786-7050.

Tamarack Junction • 775-852-3600.

Western Village • Sparks, 775-331-1069, 800-648-1170.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 775-588-2455: Williams Back Door Blues Club: Bands play 9:30pm-12:30am Thurs.-Sat.

Caesars Tahoe • 775-588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: "Passion Xtreme," adult revue, Sun.-Thurs.

Club Nero nightclub has music for dancing. Cleo's Bar: Pianist Arthur Hervey.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in the Casino Center Stage.

Harveys • 775-588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: The Improv, comedians perform nightly, dark Mon.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 775-588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Carnival Cabaret," male celebrity impersonator revue, dark Mon. Club Z: Dance music. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

Lakeside Inn • 775-588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 775-832-4000 or 800-225-6382: Frank Sinatra Celebrity Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 775-832-1234: Bands play in the Regency Grand Ballroom. Lone Eagle Restaurant: Music, Wed.-Sat. Casino Stage Bar: Pianist, Wed.-Sun.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0455.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660: Bands play nightly at the Biltmore.

Rural Nevada

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 775-372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 775-553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play in the lounge Fri.-Sat.

Exchange Club • 775-553-2368: Karaoke on Fri.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 775-738-3181: Bands play nightly.

Gold Country Casino • 800-621-1332: J.R.'s Lounge: Entertainment on weekends.

High Desert Inn • 775-738-8425: Comedy on Fri.

Red Lion • 775-738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Stockmen's Hotel • 775-738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Bands play in the Stockmen's Showroom.

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 775-289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 775-423-6031.

Fallon Nugget • 775-423-3111.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 775-945-3322: Bands play in the casino lounge.

Joe's Tavern • 775-945-2302.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 775-755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Cactus Petes' Gala Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Horseshu Casino • 775-755-2321. Cabaret: TBA.

LOVELOCK

Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's • 775-273-2971: Center Club Showroom: Bands and karaoke are featured on weekends.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 775-727-7777: Bowling alley at the Pahrump casino.

Pahrump Nugget • 775-751-6500.

Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 775-727-1111: Club West Nightclub: Opens at 9pm; DJ music for dancing. Live bands perform on select Sat. "Comedy Corral," Thurs., free show featuring stand-up comedians.

Terrible's Lakeside • 775-751-7770.

Terrible's Town Casino • 775-751-7777.

TONOPAH

Banc Club • 775-482-5409: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Tonopah Station Ramada Inn • 775-482-9777: Bands play on weekends.

WENDOVER

Montego Bay (formerly the Silver Smith) • 775-664-9100: Entertainment nightly.

Peppermill • 775-664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play nightly except Mon. in the casino.

Rainbow Casino • 775-664-4000: Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Red Garter • 775-664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).

State Line Nugget • 775-664-2231.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 775-623-2511: Comedians perform 7:30-9pm Thurs. Bands perform Thurs.-Sat.

Model T Hotel • 775-623-2588: Bands play Tues.-Sat.

Holiday Inn Express • 775-625-3100.

Sundance Casino • 775-623-3336.

Red Lion • 800-633-6435.

YERINGTON

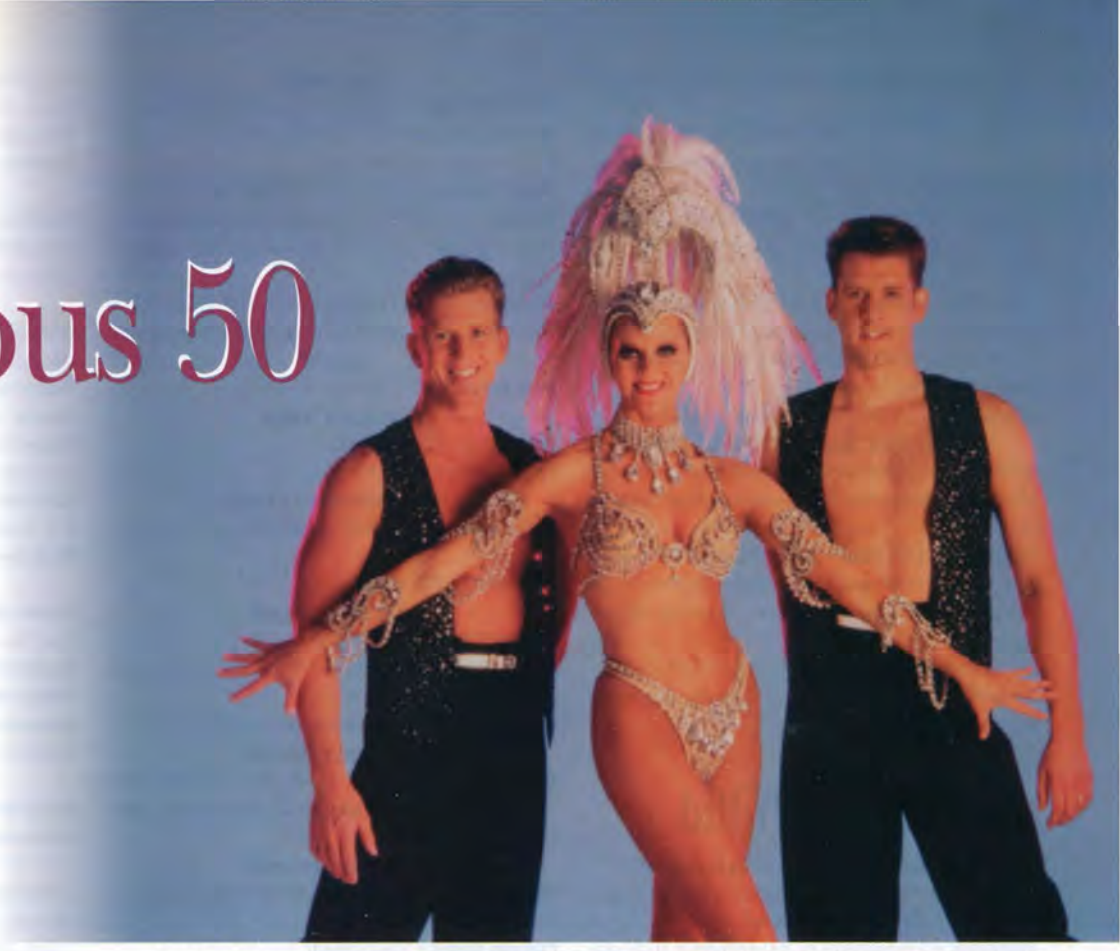
Casino West • 775-463-2481: Weekend music.

Dini's Lucky Club • 775-463-2868: Weekend music.

A Reminder: To confirm show dates and times, use the telephone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 in Las Vegas and 775 in the rest of the state. To obtain hotels' toll-free numbers, call 800-555-1212.

Fabulous 50

Linda Green has been a principal dancer in "Jubilee!" for 22 years.



Las Vegas dancer Linda Green, 50, performs with Eric Fleming (left) and Scott Barnard in "Jubilee!"

By Mike Weatherford

"I'm way past the law of averages here," says Linda Green. On a couple of fronts, she is. Green has been a dancer in Bally's "Jubilee!" from the day the Las Vegas show opened in July 1981. And here's another milestone: On April 1 Green turned 50. She has outlasted the career of the average professional dancer by 15 to 20 years.

"I'm grateful that I'm physically capable of doing the show, because a lot of people finish their career in their 30s," Green says.

"She's very disciplined, and I think that's what it takes to maintain for such a long period of time," says "Jubilee!" company manager Ffolliott "Fluff" LeCoque. "Her work ethic is just phenomenal. That girl, I don't think she's ever called in sick. She loves to dance and she loves performing."

When the Virginia native came to Las Vegas in the late 1970s, the city had only 300,000 residents, but more of them were showgirls than today. The Strip boasted large and small productions exploding with legs, sequins, and plumage. The showgirl was a Las Vegas icon, established when the French show "Lido de Paris" opened at the Stardust in 1958.

Twenty-two years later, producer Donn Arden envisioned "Jubilee!" as the most over-the-top production show of them all. His goal was to one-up aging competitors, but "Jubilee!" turned out to be the last of its kind. Along with the Tropicana's "Les Folies Bergere," the Bally's revue preserves a unique era of show business, and Green dwells in a most unusual world. "This is our iceberg," she says, passing the prop where the *Titanic* sinks six nights per week. "Here's our bull"—one of the false gods that enrage Samson before he brings down the temple.

"I've lived in this dressing room longer than any house in my life."

Green can't begin to count the number of trips she's made on the backstage stairs. "Every costume change is three flights down and three flights up." Her corner of a rectangular dressing room, shared with two other principals, is nearly wallpapered with snapshots attesting to her longevity—family, bygone coworkers, and orphaned cats she has placed with families. "I've lived in this dressing room longer than any house in my life," she says.

A trained ballet dancer since age 10, Green enjoyed a brief tenure with New York's Harkness Ballet. When it folded, she found her way into the world of casino shows. She was in "Lido de Paris" for a year and a half but was told she needed more experience to be a principal. So she danced in Europe and came back to audition for "Jubilee!" "I had to wait six months and turn down jobs to get this job," she says.

After two months of rehearsals, the cast was ready to begin working with the band on the morning of November 21, 1980. That's the day the hotel—then called the MGM—caught fire. The fire claimed 87 lives and marked one of the darkest days in Nevada history. Rehearsals were off the table until April.

"The day before Christmas I had to lock up my new house and leave town," Green recalls. "It was the most awful time." She took a job in a touring burlesque show with Red Buttons that played at the Sahara Tahoe and Sahara Reno.

"Jubilee!" opened July 30, 1981, and Green has never been anywhere else. "It's interesting because it doesn't feel like 22 years," she says. "Just one year and then another and then another. People come and go, and I'm still here."

These days the typical show dancer is a

college student who treats the gig as a part-time or short-term job. "I think I'm just a different kind of person," Green says. "I thrive on the sameness of it. I like structure." She gets to work a little after 6 p.m. on show days to lead the cast in 25 minutes of stretches and warm-ups.

There are two shows a night, six nights a week. Green gets home shortly before 1 a.m. after a night of work as a drunken floozie barely escaping the *Titanic*, stepping through a Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers tribute, and wearing a Bob Mackie outfit that's so big it's lowered on wires for the finale.

Having never been out of shape makes it easier to stay in the kind of form it takes to be nearly naked in front of strangers. "She looks the same now as she did when she started here," LeCoque marvels. "She hasn't gained or lost an ounce."

Green goes to the gym three or four times a week and cross trains to work the muscles she doesn't use in the repetitive choreography of the revue. "I lift light weights and Life Cycle. I only work out for an hour, but I get everything done if I don't visit too much.

"I'm getting older," she volunteers. "I have to warm up more to get to the same level, but I understand that. I really believe exercise keeps you younger. You can have aches and pains in the morning, and if you do a little workout, the aches and pains go away."

Bad food isn't much of a temptation, either. "I eat from all four food groups. A little red meat, a lot of salads," she says. "It's not like I deny myself anything. I have junk when I want it, which is really not too often." She adds, "My favorite meal in the world is chicken fingers with ranch dressing, fries, and a margarita. And I'll have that maybe twice a year."

Those special chicken-finger occasions might be shared with Paul, her husband of 11 years, her two stepsons, Johnathan and Michael, and their three cats. Paul happens to be a chiropractor, which is "good for free adjustments," she says with a laugh.

Green's offstage passion is rescuing cats. She sets traps and catches feral cats in alleys and garbage dumps. "I have them spayed and neutered. If they're capable of being socialized, I help with that. If not, we have these trap-and-release programs so they can return to their colonies." She drives some felines to the FLOCK (For the Love of Cats and Kittens) shelter, operated by Sylvia Renee in Sloan, 14 miles south of town, where Green serves as a volunteer.

"If people would spay or neuter their pets, this wouldn't happen," she says.

No one seems to know how many more years "Jubilee!" will run, and Green doesn't know if she will make it to the end. "I'm sure they're going to be the ones kicking me out," she says. "I would like to stay a few more years, but it just depends on how I age."

She says she's still having fun. "I always urge people to find something they like to do," she says. "Going to work and liking it is really the best."

Show Notes

"Jubilee!" appears nightly except Friday in the Jubilee Theater at Bally's in Las Vegas. "Jubilee!" features a cast of 100 performers, the Long Twins acrobats, and aerialists Stoyan and Dmitri. Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets cost $53.50, $59, and $64 (table and theater seating), including tax and a $2.50 telephone-order charge. Beverages, which are not included, are available. Showgoers must be 18 to attend. Call 702-967-4567 or 877-374-7469 for reservations.

Mike Weatherford is a columnist for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Green's offstage passion is rescuing cats. She points out, "We have trap-and-release programs so they can return to their colonies."

Linda and Paul Green relax in their Las Vegas garden with Opie (left) and Sadie, both rescued from the pound.

Photo: Steve Spatafore

Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**

Las Vegas Territory

Check out the butterfly exhibit at the **Bellagio** Conservatory in the Las Vegas hotel. Beneath the clouds above, 15-foot and five-foot mechanical butterflies, covered in flowers, spread their wings. Other features include 10-foot-tall sculpted urns that hold 10-foot blooming branches and shooting sprays of water bouncing from pool to pool. The butterflies will be flying through May 31.

Three casinos in Mesquite, the **Casa-Blanca**, **Oasis**, and **Virgin River**, offer slot points for players. Double slot points can be earned Monday and Wednesday at the the CasaBlanca and Monday through Thursday at the Oasis. Triple slot points are available Monday through Thursday at the Virgin River. To earn points, gamblers can sign up for a free player's card. Mesquite is located 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas on Interstate 15.

Harrah's Laughlin initiated its first air-charter service from Williams Gateway Airport in Mesa, Arizona. Harrah's charter program packages include discounted airfare, multiday hotel accommodations, and transportation to and from the Laughlin-Bullhead International Airport. Harrah's partners with Allegiant Air to offer more than 250 scheduled round-trip packages throughout the U.S. on MD-87 aircraft.

A combo restaurant and nightclub opened at **Paris Las Vegas**. The eatery Ah Sin serves Pacific Rim specialties with traditional hand-washing and ceremonial tea service. A floor above is Risque, a chic lounge and dessert bar with balconies that overlook the Strip.

Auditions of the beverage kind will produce a new style of cocktail servers at the **Rio** in Las Vegas. Slated for a late-May launch, BevErtainment calls for waiters and waitresses to perform choreographed singing and dancing routines throughout the casino as part of the drink service. The Rio's existing "Masquerade in the Sky" provides floor-level entertainment while floats circle the casino overhead.

The World's Fare Buffet at the **Riviera** opened the Great Late Night New York Steak Buffet from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily except Friday. The Las Vegas buffet has a limited takeout menu.

The late-night crowd kicks up its heels at Sevilla, a multilevel, 35,000-square-foot steakhouse and Latin nightclub inside the Desert Passage at the Aladdin in Las Vegas. The eatery is themed after a town and fortress in southern Spain. On stage flamenco guitarist Charo appears in "Bravo."

The old became new again when the **Sahara** changed the name of its steakhouse from Sahara Steakhouse back to House of Lords. In the days of yore the House of Lords lived up to its reputation as a chic restaurant. The menu still includes steak, chicken, and seafood with prices ranging from $18.95 to $58.

Completion of a $250-million addition this summer to the **Venetian** will add 1,013 rooms, bringing the Strip hotel's room count to 4,049. The new tower makes the Venetian the world's third largest hotel.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

The hotel sign at the **Cal-Neva Resort** in Crystal Bay has been replaced with a modern stone edifice complete with fountains, but the original marquee is being given a place of honor because of its historical value. The sign was installed by Frank Sinatra when he was part owner of the property in the early 1960s. The singer is still remembered at the Lake Tahoe casino, as the Frank Sinatra Showroom is named after him.

Eldorado guests who sign up for the Club Eldorado Gold gaming card (it's free) receive dining discounts at the Reno hotel. For example, the steak, shrimp, and crab feast on Saturday night is $12.99 for club members, a savings of $5. In the La Strada Restaurant, chicken parmesan, salad, and spumoni gelato is $8.99 with the discount.

Fitzgeralds in Reno launched a worldwide hunt for photographs taken of people wearing hats bearing the Irish-themed hotel's logo. First-place winners were George Mariano of Burnaby, British Columbia, and Emil Urac of Carmichael, California. Both men submitted photos taken in Pattya, Thailand, 8,040 miles from Reno. The next contest has a deadline of June 30. Entries should be sent to Fitzgeralds, Attn: Marketing Hat, 255 North Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89501.

Ann Henderson is the events and entertainment editor of Nevada Magazine.

Casino Deals

Peppermill's Romanza has early-bird specials.

In Las Vegas, the Vintage Vegas Package at **Bally's** offers room rates starting at $75 per night Sunday to Thursday (double occupancy). Each room receives a $50 dining credit, two-for-one spa admission, and two-for-one tickets to the late show of "Jubilee!" in the Jubiliee Theater. The package is available year-round. 702-739-4111, 800-7BALLYS, www.ballyslv.com.

You'll get $5 to $100 in free slot play at **Boulder Station** when you sign up for the Boarding Pass drawing. The deal is year-round, for new sign-ups only. 702-432-7777, 800-683-7777, www.boulderstation.com.

At **Caesars Palace**, the Emperor's Getaway Package might allow some left-over money for shopping at the Forum Shops. A room for two nights (double occupancy) costs $210 and includes one breakfast buffet per room per night. The package is available Sunday to Thursday from June 1 to August 31. 702-731-7110, 800-634-6001, or visit www.caesars.com.

The **Gold Strike** and **Nevada Landing** in Jean offer chances to stay and play. Crapshooters win a $500 cash bonus every time they make and establish all six points before sevening out. Roulette spinners win a prize when they hit the same number straight-up twice in a row, and blackjack players win prizes like flashlights and radios every time they hit a blackjack twice in a row. Both casinos are located in Jean, 30 miles south of Las Vegas off Interstate 15. A shuttle runs between the two properties. Gold Strike 800-634-1359, www.goldstrike-jean.com; Nevada Landing, 800-628-6682, www.nevadalanding.com.

The **Las Vegas Hilton's** Delectable Diversions Package for two nights costs $128 (double occupancy). Each room receives a $40 dining credit, $10 in promotion chips, and two Nevada Numbers (keno lotto) tickets. Other packages, priced from $108 to $168, include three nights' lodging with two-for-one show tickets and buffet meals. Available year-round. 702-732-5111, 800-732-7117, www.lvhilton.com.

Two restaurants at the **Peppermill** in Reno offer early-bird specials designed to please sophisticated palates. The Romanza Ristorante Italiano has veal osso bucco for $13.95, mushroom ravioli $10.95, and filet and scampi for $17.95. Steak House diners can order a T-bone steak for $12.50, a petite filet and lobster tail for $17.95, and a grilled fillet of salmon for $11.95. All entrees include soup or salad and bread. The specials are available from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at Romanza and Monday to Thursday at the Steak House. Romanza, 775-689-7474; Steak House, 775-689-7111; www.peppermillreno.com.

You can rest your head in Wendover, where a giant neon cowboy welcomes travelers. At the **Peppermill**, **Rainbow**, and **Montego Bay** rooms cost $24.95 Sunday to Thursday (double occupancy). Breakfast is a deal, too. Buy one, and you get one free. 775-664-2255, ext. 529.—*Wilma LaRocca*

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Attractions, Tours & Museums

Places to go and things to do around the Silver State.

Travelers will find many intriguing attractions when they explore the Silver State's museums, resorts, and state and national parks. For more details on attractions, tours, and museums, please call the information phone numbers provided.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Black Canyon/Willow Beach River Adventures • Raft tours down the Colorado River. Hacienda Hotel, U.S. 93 between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 702-294-1414 or 800-455-3490.

Boulder City Historic District • Walking tours. 1305 Arizona St., 702-293-2034.

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum • Displays and books on the dam's construction in the 1930s. 1305 Arizona St., 702-294-1988.

Boulder Dam Hotel • 1305 Arizona St., 702-293-3510.

Colorado River Tours • Underground gold mine tour. Nelson, 702-291-0026.

Hoover Dam and Hoover Dam Visitor Center • Theater and exhibit hall, High Scaler Monument. U.S. 93, 702-597-5970.

Lake Mead Cruises • Excursions on Lake Mead. 702-293-6180.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Alan Bible Visitor Center • Visitor center is on U.S. 93 between Boulder City and Hoover Dam. 702-293-8990.

Skydive Las Vegas.com • Tandem jumps. 702-293-1860.

St. Jude's Ranch for Children • Chapel tours and antique car museum. 100 St. Jude's St., 702-294-7100.

HENDERSON

City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people. 2400 B Moser St. off Sunset, 702-566-2940.

Clark County Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 702-455-7955.

Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 702-458-8864.

Mountasia Family Fun Center • 2050 Olympic, 702-898-7777.

Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Tours. 330 Carousel Pkwy., 702-434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus Dr., 702-385-4321.

Adventuredome • Covered park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.

Anderson Dairy • 801 Searles. Tour, movie, and ice cream by appt. on Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Fri. 702-642-7507.

The Auto Collections • Classic and antique vehicles at Imperial Palace. 702-794-3174.

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Bellagio • Fountain shows and art gallery. 702-693-7111.

Cinema Ride • Forum Shops at Caesars, 702-369-4008.

Cowboy Trail Rides • Horseback riding. 702-948-7061.

Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex • 9295 W. Flamingo, 702-253-9832.

Desert Demonstration Gardens • 3701 W. Alta, 702-258-3205.

Driving 101 • Indy-car driving experience. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-651-6300.

Elvis-A-Rama Museum • 3401 Industrial, 702-309-7200.

ESPN Zone • Sports-themed restaurant. New York-New York, 702-933-3776.

Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators. 702-597-7777.

Flamingo Las Vegas • Wildlife habitat. 702-733-3111.

Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 702-486-5413.

Flyaway Indoor Skydiving • 200 Convention Center Dr., 702-731-4768.

Forum Shops at Caesars • Hourly shows at Festival and Atlantis fountains. 702-893-4800.

Fremont Street Experience • Light show on the hour from dark to midnight. Downtown Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

Gameworks • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 3785 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-597-3122.

Gilcrease Nature Sanctuary • 8103 N. Racel St., near Floyd Lamb State Park. Petting zoo, picnic areas, walking trails, open Wed.-Sun. 702-645-4224.

Guggenheim Hermitage Museum • Works of the masters. Venetian, 702-414-2440.

Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-792-3766.

Hard Rock Hotel • Music memorabilia. 702-693-5000.

Harley-Davidson Cafe • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys on display. Las Vegas Strip, 702-740-4555.

Houdini Museum • Memorabilia and magic shop. Venetian, 702-798-4789.

Howard W. Cannon Aviation Museum • McCarran International Airport, 702-455-7968.

Laser Quest • 7361 W. Lake Mead, 702-243-8881.

Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 702-360-8000.

Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 702-385-1664.

Las Vegas Mini Gran Prix • Go-kart track, roller coaster, super slide. 702-259-7000.

Las Vegas Motor Speedway • Guided tours of the race track. 702-644-4444.

Las Vegas Natural History Museum • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 702-384-DINO.

Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 702-798-5595.

Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 702-382-KIDS.

Luxor • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum. 702-262-4000.

M&M's World • Museum and gift shop. Showcase Mall, 702-736-7611.

Free Birds

Tiana Carroll and her feathered cast entertain guests with the free "Tropicana Bird Show" three times daily. The birds sing, dance, juggle upside down, and ride a bicycle in the Tropics Lounge.

Madame Tussaud's • Wax museum. Venetian, 702-862-7805.

Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 702-895-3381.

MGM Grand • Lion habitat open daily. 702-891-7979.

Mirage • Volcano and Siegfried and Roy Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat. 702-791-7111.

Mount Charleston • Recreation information. 702-515-5400.

NASCAR Cafe • Race cars displayed in the themed restaurant. Sahara Hotel, 702-734-7223.

Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 702-486-5205.

New York-New York • Roller coaster. 702-740-6969.

Nevada Zoological-Botanical Park • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks. 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 702-648-5955.

Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park • Site of 1855 settlement. 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N., next to Cashman Center, 702-486-3511.

Paris Las Vegas • Rides to the observation deck of the hotel's Eiffel Tower. 702-946-7000.

Planet Hollywood Las Vegas • Movie memorabilia. 3500 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-791-7827.

Race for Atlantis • IMAX 3D motion simulator. Forum Shops at Caesars, 702-733-9000.

Rainforest Café • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 702-891-8580.

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-363-1921.

Richard Petty Driving Experience • Drive NASCAR-style cars. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-643-4343.

Rio Suite Hotel • Free sky parade. 702-252-7777.

Sahara Hotel • Speed: The Ride roller coaster, virtual reality car racing. 702-737-2111.

Sam's Town Sunset Stampede • Water and laser show. 702-456-7777.

Santa Fe Station • Ice arena. 702-658-4900.

Scandia Family Fun Center • 702-364-0070.

Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay • Exhibit of sharks, sea predators, and aquatic creatures. Visitors can ask questions of divers. 702-632-7777.

The Cat's Meow

Three tigers, a snow leopard, two linxes, and a cougar live at Animal Ark, a sanctuary for nonreleasable wildlife, north of Reno. Guests can watch a black bear play in his pool and hear the park's pack of wolves howl. The Ark is open daily except Mondays through October 31.

Shelby American • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-643-3000.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 702-875-4141.
Star Trek: The Experience • Las Vegas Hilton, 702-697-8700.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster, Big Shot ride, and Strat-O-Fair midway. 702-380-7777.
The Wynn Collection • Art belonging to casino mogul Steve Wynn. Wynn Resorts Bldg. on the site of the former Desert Inn Hotel, 3145 Las Vegas Blvd. South, 702-733-4100.
Treasure Island • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 5:30 to 11:30pm thru Oct. 702-894-7111.
Tropicana • Birds, gambling museum, and aerial acrobatic show. 702-739-2222.
Venetian Hotel • Gondola rides. 702-733-5000.
Wetlands Park • Nature center and walking trails. 7050 E. Tropicana Rd., 702-455-7522.
Wet 'n Wild • Water theme park opens in May. 702-765-9700.
XPLEX • Open-wheel racing experience. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-260-6355.

LAUGHLIN

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area • Nature and water sports. Four miles south of Laughlin, 702-298-1859.
Colorado Belle • Cyber Roller Coaster and Boiler Room Microbrewery. 702-298-4000.
Elvis-A-Rama Museum • Edgewater, 702-298-0752.
Grapevine Canyon • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 702-298-2214.
Laughlin River Tours • Colorado River, 702-298-1047.
Ramada Express • American Heroes Museum and military tribute film. 702-298-4200.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, river tour boat, and bowling center. 702-298-2535.

MESQUITE

Virgin Valley Heritage Museum • 702-346-5705.
Oasis • Gun club, hayrides. 702-346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 702-651-4759.

OVERTON

Echo Bay Resort and Marina • Water sports on Lake Mead, houseboat and ski-boat rentals. 702-394-4000.
Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Museum presents artifacts and reconstructed homes of ancient Pueblo people

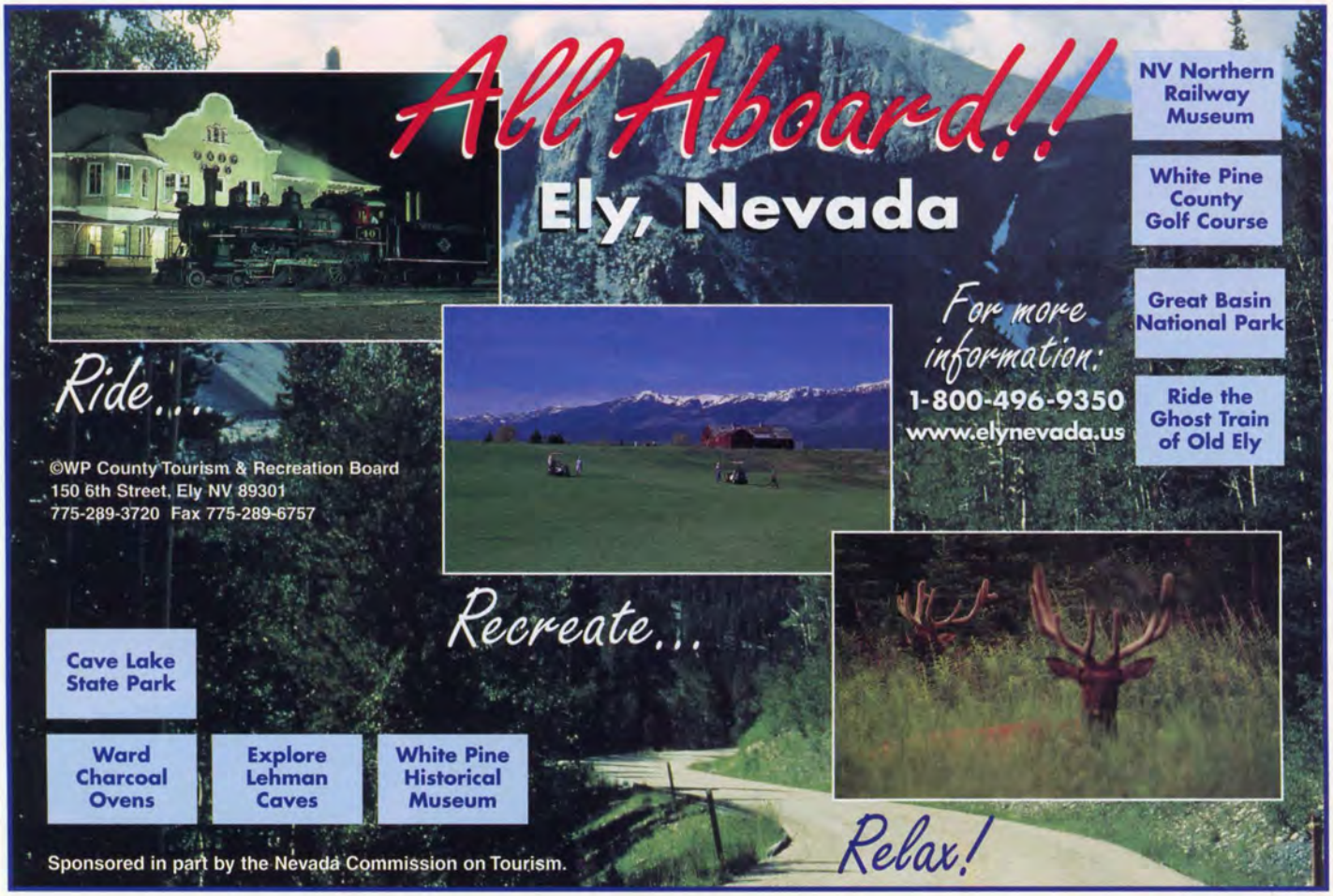

Photo: Monty Sloan

who lived in the Moapa Valley. 702-397-2193.
Old Logandale School Historical Museum and Cultural Society • Open Wed.-Sat. Logandale, 702-398-7272.
Valley of Fire State Park • 702-397-2088.

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, cyber coaster, and Turbo Drop rides, cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz. 702-382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Museum • History. 702-297-1055.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 775-883-1976.
Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Mills Park, 775-887-2523.
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • Educational exhibits. 813 N. Carson St., 775-884-2226.
Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour. 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1.
Nevada State Capitol • 775-687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 775-684-3310.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 775-687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 775-687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours. 775-684-1600.
Roberts House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 775-887-2174.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 775-887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 775-687-5678. On the Carson River.
Dayton Historic Society Museum • Open weekends in the 1865 Old Dayton Schoolhouse on Shady Lane.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • U.S. 395, 775-782-2555.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • Open May-October.
Mormon Station State Historic Park • 775-782-2590 for more information.
David Walley's Hot Springs • 775-782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Hard Rock Cafe • Harveys, Stateline, 775-588-6200.
Heavenly Ski Resort • Gondola rides. Stateline, 775-586-7000.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 775-831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Paddlewheeler • Cruise ship docks at Zephyr Cove, 775-588-3508.
North Tahoe Cruises • Tahoe City, 530-583-0141.
Ponderosa Ranch • Incline Village, 775-831-0691.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 165-mile system. 775-298-0012.
Tallac Historic Site • South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5227.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours. 530-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • Cruises, boat rentals. 775-588-6644.

RENO

Animal Ark • 10 mi. north of Reno on U.S. 395, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road, 775-970-3111.
Bartley Ranch Regional Park • Hiking, horse arena, and one-room Huffaker Schoolhouse. 775-828-6612.
Fleischmann Planetarium • Stargazing programs, exhibits. UNR campus, 775-784-4811 for schedule and hours.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mt. Rose Hwy., 775-849-2511.
Harrah's Reno • Outdoor plaza. 775-786-3232.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 775-825-1776.
National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) • 10 S. Lake St., 775-333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Tournaments and IWERKS

Speedsters

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7 days, Oct.-March
11-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
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theater. 300 N. Center St., 775-334-2695 for information.
Nevada Historical Society • Museum. 1650 N. Virginia St., UNR campus, 775-688-1190.
Nevada Museum of Art • New museum. 775-329-3333.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk • 775-334-2077.
Reno Hilton • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, putting course, go-kart center. 775-789-2000.
Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Classes. 1313 S. Virginia St., 775-329-5665.
Sierra Arts at the Riverside Artist Lofts • Gallery. 17 S. Virginia St., 775-329-2787.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 775-677-1101.
Silver Legacy • Giant mining machine and laser shows every hour. 800-MUSTSEE.
Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-4153.
Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-4064.
Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 775-574-0290.
Pyramid Lake Visitor Center • 709 State St., Nixon, 775-574-1088.

SPARKS

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Ranchers' brands exhibit. 775-356-3300.
Sparks Heritage Museum • Local history, Southern Pacific train cars, 1864 Glendale School. Victorian Square, 775-355-1144.
Sparks Marina Park • Fishing, walking paths. 775-353-2376.
Victorian Square Fountain • Water shows. 775-353-2284.
Wild Island • Water park open in summer, miniature golf and raceway open year-round. Off I-80, 775-359-2927.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • Motion-theater rides, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf. 775-345-8668.

VIRGINIA CITY

Assay Office Museum • 775-847-0777.
The Castle • 775-847-0275.
Chollar Mine • Tours of workings. 775-847-0155.
Fourth Ward School Museum • 775-847-0975.
Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 775-847-9394.
Mackay Mansion Museum • 775-847-0173.
Nevada Gambling Museum • 775-847-9022.
Piper's Opera House • 775-847-0433.
Ponderosa Mine • Tours. 775-847-0757.
Virginia and Truckee Railroad • 775-847-0380.
Virginia City Tours • 530-587-5742.
The Way It Was Museum • 775-847-0766.
Western Historic Radio Museum • 775-847-9047.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Regional Park • Park open year-round. Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires. 775-849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • Washoe County park. 775-849-0684.
Washoe Lake State Park • Birdwatching, windsurfing, fishing. East Lake Blvd., 775-687-4319.

Rural Nevada

AUSTIN

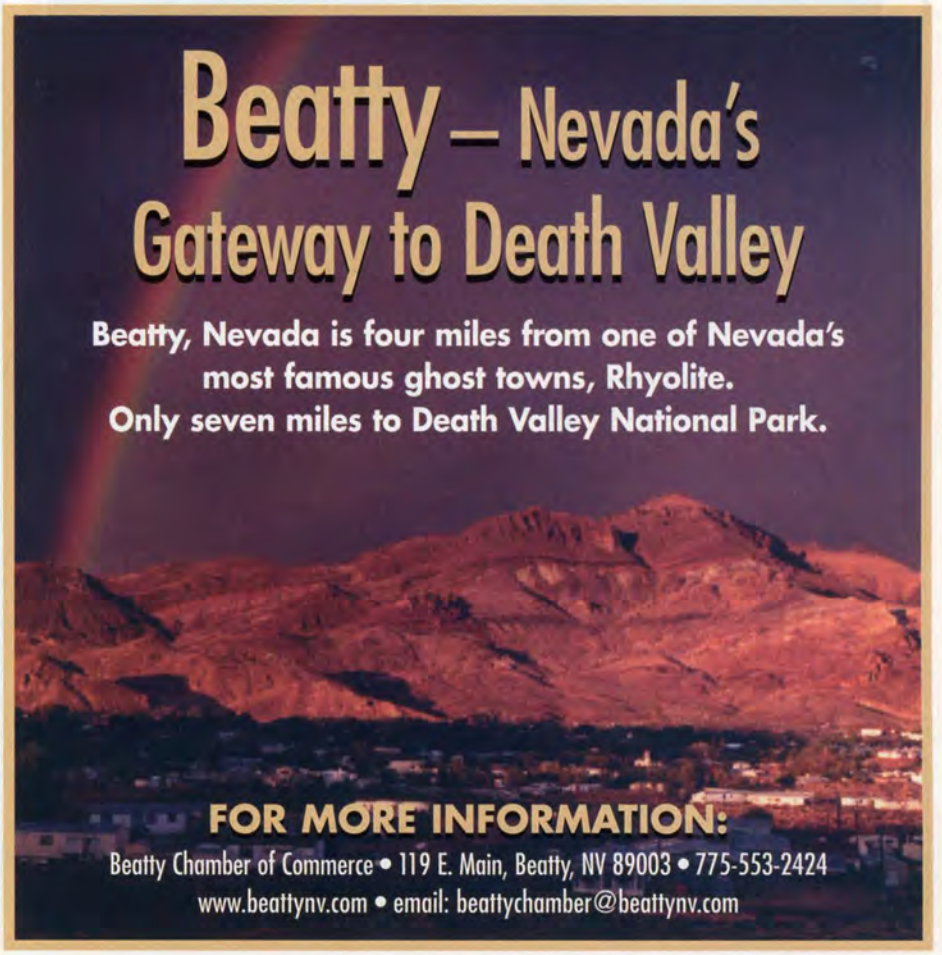
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • Self-guided tour with signs. 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50, 775-635-4000.

BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits. 775-553-2303.
Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Beatty. 775-553-2200.
Rhyolite • Historic bottle house and the Gold Well Open Air Museum sculpture exhibit. Four miles west of Beatty, 775-553-2424.

ELKO

Newmont Mining Corp. Gold Mine Tour • Largest producer in North America. Monthly tours on second Tues., April-Oct. Reservations required. Meet at Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-778-4068.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., 775-738-3418.



Ruby Mountains and Jarbidge Wilderness • 775-752-3357 for area information.
Sherman Station Complex • Restored 1875 ranch, tours, and greater Elko area visitor information. 775-738-7135.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., 775-738-7508.
Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 775-758-6493.

ELY/GREAT BASIN PARK

Cave Lake State Park • 15 miles south of Ely, 775-728-4460 for information.
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • Tours of museum. 775-289-1663.
Great Basin National Park • Hiking, camping, ancient bristlecones, and tours of Lehman Caves. Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 775-234-7331.
McGill Historical Drug Company • Call for tours of an old-fashioned drugstore. McGill, 775-235-7082.
Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Rides on historic trains. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 775-289-2085.
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 775-289-1693 for more area information.
White Pine Public Museum • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 775-289-4710.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open for tours Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. 775-237-6006.
Eureka Sentinel Museum • 775-237-5010.

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 775-423-3677.
Sand Mountain • Giant sand dune 25 miles east of Fallon, 775-885-6000.
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 775-423-5128.

FERNLEY

Reno-Fernley Raceway • Paintball park. 775-575-7217.

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • Dinosaur fossils and ghost town of Berlin. 20 miles east of Gabbs, 775-964-2440.

GERLACH

Soldier Meadows Guest Ranch • Tours, horseback riding. Black Rock Desert National Conservation Area, 530-233-4881.

GOLDFIELD

Historic Buildings and Mining Tour • Telegraph Office, Florence Mine, and Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company Building. 775-485-3486.

HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • Historical exhibits. 400 10th St., 775-945-5142.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Fishing and bird-watching. 775-867-3001.

LOVELOCK

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 775-273-7213.
Pershing County Marzen House Museum • 775-273-7213.

MOUNTAIN CITY

Mountain City Visitor Center • 80 miles north of Elko via State Route 225. Open for tours and information June-Oct. Mountain City, 775-763-6691.

PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Pahrump is 58 miles east of Furnace Creek. 760-786-3243.
Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 775-727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Box Car Museum • Railroad and local history. Caliente, 775-726-3199.
Cathedral Gorge State Park • 10 miles south of Pioche, 775-728-4460.

Courthouse in Session

The Genoa Courthouse Museum opens for the summer season in May. Descendants of pioneers donated display items, and exhibits feature John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson, the Pony Express, and Native Americans. The courtroom and jail reflect the 19th-century history of building, while one room harks to the courthouse's use as a school from 1916 to 1956.

Echo Canyon State Park • 12 miles east of Pioche, 775-728-4460.
Elgin Living History Schoolhouse Museum • Open for weekend tours or by appointment; 21 miles south of Caliente. Write Lynn Wood, Box 266, Caliente, NV 89008.
Kershaw-Ryan State Park • Three miles south of Caliente, 775-726-3564.
Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 775-962-5207.
Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 775-962-5207.
Spring Valley State Park • Park is 18 miles east of Pioche, 775-962-5102.
Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Spring Valley State Park, 775-962-5102.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Smoky Valley Museum • 1935 schoolhouse and assay equipment. Open by appointment. 775-377-2243.

SILVER SPRINGS

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • 775-577-2345.

TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 775-867-3001.
Central Nevada Museum • 775-482-9676.
Tonopah Historic Mining Park • 775-482-9274.

WENDOVER

Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • 775-623-2225.
Humboldt Museum • 775-623-2912.
Midas Schoolhouse • Call for tours; 46 miles by dirt road, east of Winnemucca, 775-529-0302.

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • Seasonal. 775-463-2245.

What Do Aliens Look Like?

PHOTO: NEVADA COMMISSION ON TOURISM

Nevada Magazine Readers Know

Travelers on the Extraterrestrial Highway (State Route 375) have reported curious-looking aircraft and visitors—especially near Rachel, a tiny town 140 miles north of Las Vegas and more than 390,000,000 miles from Jupiter. Each issue of *Nevada Magazine* explores such Silver State outposts as Rachel, where the unusual is the norm.

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Where to Buy NEVADA MAGAZINE: The magazine is available on newsstands and in gift shops throughout Nevada. To order issues by mail call the magazine, 775-687-5890, and ask for single copy sales.

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Web Site: Check out the magazine's Web site, **www.nevadamagazine.com**, for information on **NEVADA MAGAZINE** and Nevada travel and attractions.

Travel Hot Line: The Nevada Commission on Tourism provides travel information: 1-800-NEVADA-8, 775-687-4322, or www.travelnevada.com.

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coc@wellsnevada.com

Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.

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

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

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

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89005; www.vegasfreedom.com; 702-294-1252.

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

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

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; www.hooverdam.usbr.gov; 702-294-3518.

Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 South, Exit 12, Jean, NV 89019; www.vegasfreedom.com; 702-874-1360.

Las Vegas C of C: 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; www.lvchamber.com; 702-641-5822.

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

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Suite 3, Box 7500, Las Vegas, NV 89125; www.LasVegasLatincc.com; 702-385-7367.

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, 1585 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89028; www.laughlinchamber.com; 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

Laughlin Visitor Bureau: 1555 S. Casino Dr., Box 502, Laughlin, NV 89029; www.visitlaughlin.com; 702-298-3022 or 800-4LAUGHLIN.

Mesquite Area C of C: 12 W. Mesquite Blvd., No. 107, Mesquite, NV 89027; www.mesquite-chamber.com; 702-346-2902.

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15, Exit 122, 460 N. Sandhill, Mesquite, NV 89027; www.visitmesquite.com; 702-346-2702, 877-MESQUITE.

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 1531, Overton, NV 89040; www.moapavalley.com; 702-397-8875.

North Las Vegas C of C: 2290 McDaniel St., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; www.nlvchamber.com; 702-642-9595.

Excuse Me While I Kiss the Sky

Mountain bikers are welcome on most portions of the Tahoe Rim Trail, the scenic 165-mile loop of Lake Tahoe. The Tahoe Rim Trail Association's Web site, www.tahoerimtrail.org, notes which areas are closed and publishes bikers' reviews of trails, such as the strenuous uphill Flume Trail/Tahoe Rim Trail Loop (above) that begins at the Spooner Lake parking lot.

Urban C of C: 1048 W. Owens Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106; www.urbanchamberlv.org; 702-648-6222.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City Area C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; www.carsoncitychamber.com; 775-882-1565.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; www.visitcarsoncity.com; 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1513 Hwy. 395 N., Gardnerville, NV 89410-5283; www.carsonvalleynv.org; 775-782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Dayton Area C of C: 35 Shady Lane, Box 2408, Dayton, NV 89403; www.daytonnvchamber.org; 775-246-7909.

Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.gotahoe.com; 775-832-1606, 800-GO-TAHOE 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.mytahoevacation.com; 530-581-8737.

North Lake Tahoe Resort Association: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.mytahoevacation.com; 530-581-8709.

Reno-Sparks C of C: 1 E. First St., Box 3499, Reno, NV 89505; www.reno-sparkschamber.org; 775-337-3030.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Box 837, Reno, NV 89504; www.renolaketahoe.com; 775-827-7654 or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; www.rsic.org; 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, Lake Tahoe, NV 89449; 195 U.S. Hwy. 50 at Round Hill, Zephyr Cove; www.tahoechamber.org; 775-588-4591.

Photo: Jeff Dow

Virginia City and Gold Hill C of C: 86 S. C St., Old Crystal Bar Visitor Center, Box 464, Virginia City, NV 89440; www.virginiacity-nv.org; 775-847-0311.

Virginia City Convention and Tourism Authority: 86 S. C St., Old Crystal Bar Visitor Center, Box 920, Virginia City, NV 89440; www.virginiacity-nv.org; 775-847-7500.

Rural Territories

Amargosa C of C: 821 E. Farm Rd., Box 40, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020; www.amargosavalley.com; 775-372-1515.

Austin C of C: 122 Main Street, Austin Courthouse, Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; www.austinnevada.com; 775-964-2200.

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; www.battlemountain.org; 775-635-8245.

Beatty C of C: 119 E. Main St., Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; www.governet.net/nv/as/bea; 775-553-2424.

Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Ely, NV 89301; www.elynevada.net; 775-289-3720.

Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 775-726-3129.

City of Carlin: 101 S. 8th St., Box 787, Carlin, NV 89822; www.explorecarlinnv.com; 775-754-6354.

Elko C of C: 1405 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; www.elkonevada.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.

Eureka C of C: 111 N. Main St., Box 1078, Eureka, NV 89316; 775-237-5544.

Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallontourism.com; 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.

Gabbs Information: 509 Main St., Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 775-285-4019.

Goldfield C of C: Box 204, Goldfield, NV 89013; 775-485-3560.

Great Basin Business and Tourism Council: Info on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; www.greatbasinpark.com; 775-234-7323.

Greater Fallon Area C of C: 65 S. Maine St., No. C, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallonchamber.com; 775-423-2544.

Greater Smoky Valley C of C: HCR 60 Box 53504, Round Mountain, NV 89045; www.mountainsage.com; 775-377-2490.

Jarbidge Community Association: Trading Post, 72 Main St., Box 260075, Jarbidge, NV 89826; jarbidge@aol.com; 775-488-2311.

Lincoln County C of C: Box 915, Panaca, NV 89042; www.pioneerterritory.org; 775-728-4282.

Lovelock/Pershing County C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; www.zplace2b.com/pccofc; 775-273-7213.

Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; www.tele-net.net/mvcc; 775-463-2245.

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 775-532-8742.

Mineral County Economic Development Authority: 932 E. St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; www.nvbottomline.org; 775-945-5896.

Pahranagat Valley Chamber of Commerce: Box 421, Alamo, NV 89001; www.pahranagat.net; 775-725-3483.

Pahrump Valley C of C: 1301 Hwy. 160, Box 42, Pahrump 89041; www.pahrumpchamber.com; 775-727-5800.

Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; www.piochenevada.com; 775-962-5544.

Silver Springs C of C: Box 617, Silver Springs, NV 89429; www.silverspringsnevada.com; 775-577-4336.

Tonopah C of C: 301 Brougher Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3859.

Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, 301 Brougher Ave., Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3558.

Wells C of C: 395 Sixth St., Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; www.wellsnevada.com; 775-752-3540.

White Pine Chamber of Commerce: 636 Aultman St., Ely, NV 89301; www.elynevada.net; 775-289-8877.

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.

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; 760-786-3243.

Great Basin National Park: 100 Great Basin N.P., Baker, NV 89311; www.nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89052; www.nps/gov/lame; 702-293-8947.

Nevada Division of State Parks: 1300 S. Curry, Carson City, NV 89703; 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, 775-861-6586; Las Vegas, 702-647-5000; Elko, 775-753-0200; Winnemucca, 775-623-1500; Carson City, 775-885-6107; Ely, 775-289-1842; Caliente, 775-726-8100; Battle Mountain, 775-635-4000; Tonopah, 775-482-7800.

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest: www.fs.fed.us/htnf/; 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-355-5311; 4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89130; 702-515-5400; 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-5171.

Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main office: 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89512; www.nevadadivisionofwildlife.org; 775-688-1558; Southern Nevada: 4747 Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89108; 702-486-5127.

Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; www.plfisheries.org; 775-476-0500.

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Dining Directory

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, and dinner (B, L, D) are served. 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, sundaes, sandwiches, soup, 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. Buffet carving station, roast baron of beef, desserts, and more. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet—794-3261. Prime rib and champagne dinner nightly at the Imperial Buffet. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/The 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. $.

ASIAN

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. $$.

ITALIAN

Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. $.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Imperial Palace/Embers—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D. $$.

Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Selections include Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D, $$.

Laughlin

AMERICAN

Colorado Belle/Boiler Room—298-4000. Laughlin's only brewery has beers, pizzas, grilled steaks, burgers. D. $-$$.

Colorado Belle/Captain's Food Fare—298-4000. Buffet with Friday night seafood and weekend brunch. B, L, D. $.

Colorado Belle/Paddlewheel—298-4000. American-style dishes 24 hours a day. B, L, D. $.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Prime Rib Room—298-2535. Prime rib, chicken cordon bleu, salad bar. D. $.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Riverview Café—298-2535. Giant hamburger, lemon pepper chicken, steak, and shrimp. B, L, D. $.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Sidewalk Café—298-2535. Breakfast sandwiches, deli sandwiches. B, L, D. $.

Flamingo Laughlin/Flamingo Diner—298-5205. Build-your-own-omelets, Steak 'n Pasta. B, L, D. $.

Flamingo Laughlin/Fruit Basket Buffet—298-5348. Fresh fruit, salad bar, and entrees. Free beer and wine with dinner. B, L, D. $

ASIAN

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Rice Garden—298-2535. Kung pao chicken, barbecue pork, sweet and sour pork. L, D. $.

Michael's offers fine dining in an elegant atmosphere at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Colorado Belle/Mark Twain's—298-4000. Barbecue featuring baby back ribs, chicken, steak, and seafood. L, D. $$.

Colorado Belle/Mississippi Lounge—298-4000. Fresh seafood bar, Maine lobster. French Quarter setting on hotel's D deck. L, D. $$.

Colorado Belle/Orleans Room—298-4000. Fine dining with steaks, Maine lobster, tableside cooking, and wine list. D. $$.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Gourmet Room and Lounge—298-2535. French renaissance menu, tableside cooking. D. $$$.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Riverside Buffet—298-2535. Multinational menu, Sunday champagne brunch. B, L, D. $

Flamingo Laughlin/Alta Villa—298-5257. Affordable gourmet dining with a view of the Colorado River. D. $$.

Flamingo Laughlin/Beef Barron—298-5111. Prime rib, barbecue chicken and ribs, steaks and fish. D. $$.

Mesquite

AMERICAN

CasaBlanca/Purple Fez Café—346-7529. Steak and lobster special, various entrees, 24 hours. B, L, D. $-$$.

Oasis/Charmaine's Fine Dining—346-5232. Steaks, prime rib, lobster, lamb chops, pasta, and seafood, two-time Zagat award winner. D. $$.

Oasis/Garden Room—346-5232. Extensive menu includes porterhouse and prawns, prime rib, 24 hours. B, L, D. $.

Oasis/Pizza Pub—346-5232. Pizza, wings, sub sandwiches. L, D. $.

INTERNATIONAL

CasaBlanca/Katherine's—346-7529. Dining room features certified Angus beef, Maine lobster, and Italian cuisine. D. $$.

CasaBlanca/Buffet—346-7529. Daily specials and themes, including Mexican and Southwestern, Italian and Mediterranean, Oriental, Creole and Cajun, seafood and prime rib, Hawaiian and Pacific Rim, and continental. B, L, D. $-$$.

Oasis/Paradise Buffet—346-5232. Mongolian barbecue, deli, and fruit, soup, and salad bars. Themes include All American, Italian Festival, and prime rib. B, L, D. $.

Carson City

AMERICAN

Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Branding Iron Cafe and Margarita Saloon—885-9000. Western favorites at moderate prices. B, L, D. $-$$.

Carson Nugget/Buffet—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. Home-style cooking. B, L, D. $.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Steakhouse—885-9000. Specialties include Southwestern shrimp, rack of lamb Dijonnaise, six cuts of steak. D. $$.

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Fish and chips and pan roasts. L, D. $.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce. D. $$.

Carson Valley

AMERICAN

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. $-$$.
Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and seafood creations. D. $$.

Reno-Sparks

AMERICAN
Circus Circus/Courtyard Buffet—Reno, 834-9169. Daily omelet station for breakfast, Asian exhibition kitchen, prime rib, and shrimp. B, L, D. $-$$.
Circus Circus/Three Ring Coffee Shop—Reno, 834-9169. All-American coffeehouse 24 hours, breakfast, burgers, and steaks. B, L, D. $.
Circus Circus/Main Street Deli & Ice Cream Shoppe—Reno, 834-9169. Early morning coffee, sandwiches, soups and salads, Breyer's ice cream. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Farm House Coffee Shop—Sparks, 356-3300. Omelets, pancakes, sandwiches, and fried chicken. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Gabe's Pub and Deli—Sparks, 356-3300. Quick-service deli offers snacks, sandwiches, desserts, pastries. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, seafood Louis. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $-$$.
Peppermill/Food Court—Reno, 826-2121. Mexican, Asian, Italian, hamburgers, and salad bar. B, L, D. $.
Peppermill/Island Buffet—Reno, 826-2121. Chicken, seafood, prime rib, salads. B, L, D. $.
Peppermill/Peppermill Restaurant—Reno, 826-2121. Burgers, sandwiches, salads, seafood, chicken. B, L, D. $-$$.

ASIAN
Circus Circus/Kokopelli's Sushi—Reno, 834-9169. Sushi bar inside Art Gecko's Southwest Grill. Seafood delicacies. L, D. $$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$.

BASQUE
Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, seafood dishes, served family-style. L, D. $$.

CONTINENTAL
Peppermill/White Orchid—Reno, 826-2121. Filet mignon, seared ahi, medallions of elk. D. $$$-$$$$.

ITALIAN
Peppermill/Romanza Ristorante Italiano—826-2121. Osso bucco alla Romanza, salmone affumicato con fettuccini nere alla vodka, costolette d'Agnello. D. $$.

MEDITERRANEAN
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko—Sparks, 356-3300. Veal medallions saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana. D. $$-$$$.

MEXICAN
Circus Circus/Art Gecko's Southwest Grill—Reno, 834-9169. Southwestern and Mexican dishes prepared in an exhibition kitchen, margaritas. L, D. $-$$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD
Circus Circus/The Steakhouse at Circus—Reno, 834-9169. Charbroiled steaks, prime rib, seafood selections. Friday-Tuesday, smoke-free. D. $$-$$$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. $$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. $$.
Peppermill/Steak House—Reno, 826-2121. Steaks, seafood, chicken, salads. D. $$$-$$$$.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN
Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$.

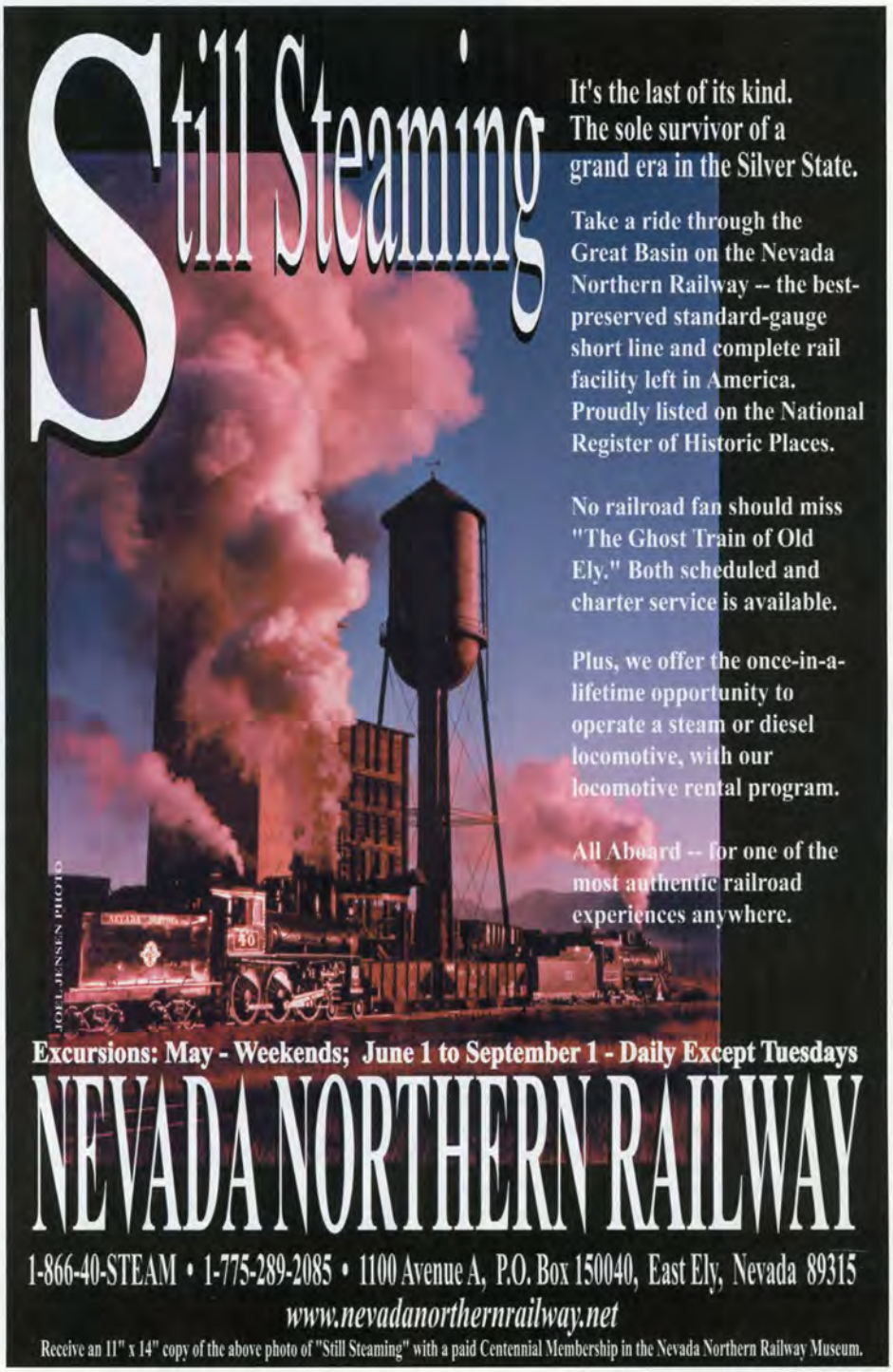
ASIAN
Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan and Mandarin specialties are offered. D. $$.

ITALIAN
Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. $$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD
Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, and Cajun specialties. D. $$.

Around the State

PAHRUMP: Saddle West Hotel/Silver Spur—727-1111. T-bone steak dinner, filet mignon and lobster, chicken cordon bleu, eight-ounce swordfish dinners. B, L, D. $.



Motown Serenade

Patrons get up and dance to the "Motor City All-Stars."

By Joyce Hollister

Most Americans over a certain age can sing along when they hear a Motown song. "My Girl," "Baby, I Need Your Loving," "Just My Imagination"—they play in the memory bank like a friendly old 45.

People with a fondness for the Motown sound will enjoy the "Motor City All-Stars Rhythm and Blues Revue," which returns to Harrah's Reno for a summer run starting June 16. The show stars the Philadelphia singing group Chapter One—John Stone, Adrian Jackson, William Mount, and Vernon Taylor. The four shake showgoers' hands, serenade women, and encourage the audience to get up and boogie. "We don't want you sitting there like you're watching TV. We want you to take part in the show," declares Stone, the group's founder and emcee. Taking his invitation to heart, audience members often clap and dance to the music.

The hour-long revue unrolls like a history of R&B, beginning with Mills Brothers' tunes like "Up a Lazy River" from the 1930s and '40s. The audience can't help but join in on the 1950s hits "Love Potion Number Nine," "Charlie Brown," and "Yakety Yak" by the Coasters and "Only You" by the Platters. Between musical segments Stone tells silly off-color jokes about problems with his "lady," causing his mates to groan and roll their eyes. He chooses someone from the audience for a bit of onstage comedy. Guiding the volunteer up the steps, he says, "Be careful. We have no insurance," drawing a big laugh.

Each of the four singers has a chance to perform solo. For example, Taylor, who sang with a Drifters reunion group, earns applause and whistles during "There Goes My Baby." Other crowd-pleasers are the Four Tops' early '60s hits "Baby, I Need Your Loving" and "Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch." There's no band—the group sings to recorded music—but the songs sound remarkably like the originals. Chapter One, which has performed on the East Coast and at Lake Tahoe, presented the "Motor City All-Stars" in Sammy's Showroom last winter.

The show's finale, a tribute to the Temptations, ends with the 1972 Grammy-winning hit, "Papa Was a Rolling Stone." Chapter One shows its best dance moves and vocal stylings in this scene. At the end of the show Stone announces that Chapter One CDs will be sold outside the showroom.

When Jackson and Mount point out the CDs don't include Stone's jokes, the audience roars with approval.

John Stone (front) emcees Chapter One's "Motor City All-Stars" revue. Stone and fellow singers (from left) Adrian Jackson, Vernon Taylor, and William Mount present renditions of Motown songs.

The hour-long show unrolls like a history of R&B, beginning with the Mills Brothers' "Up a Lazy River" and ending with the Temptations' "Papa Was a Rolling Stone."

Show Notes

The "Motor City All-Stars Rhythm and Blues Revue" with Chapter One appears in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno from June 16 to September 3. Show times are 9:30 p.m. Monday and Friday, 7 and 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and 11:30 p.m. Saturday (dark Sunday). Tickets are $25. Call 800-HARRAHS or visit www.harrahs.com/reno.

Joyce Hollister is Nevada Magazine's *associate editor.*

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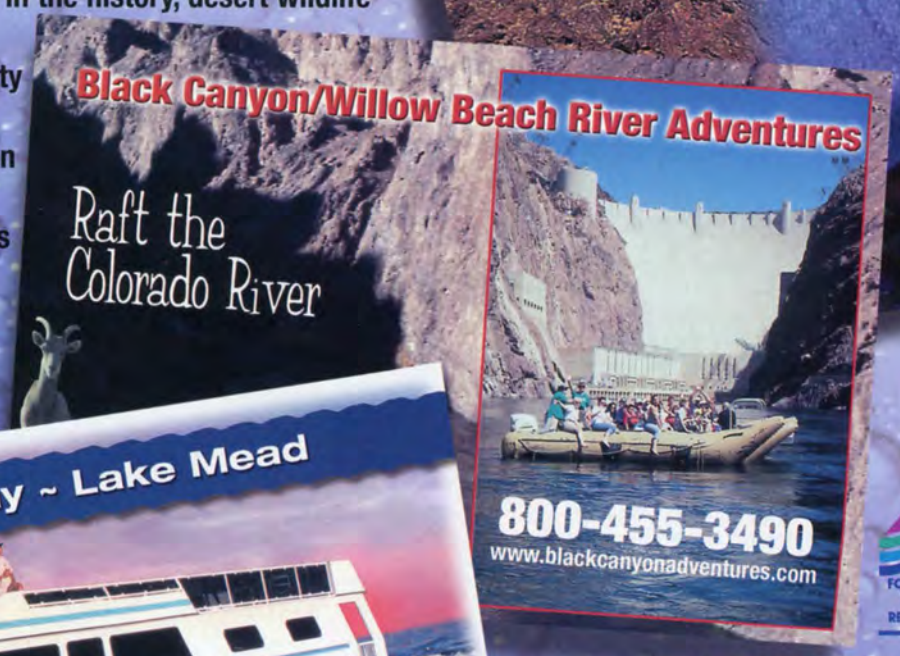

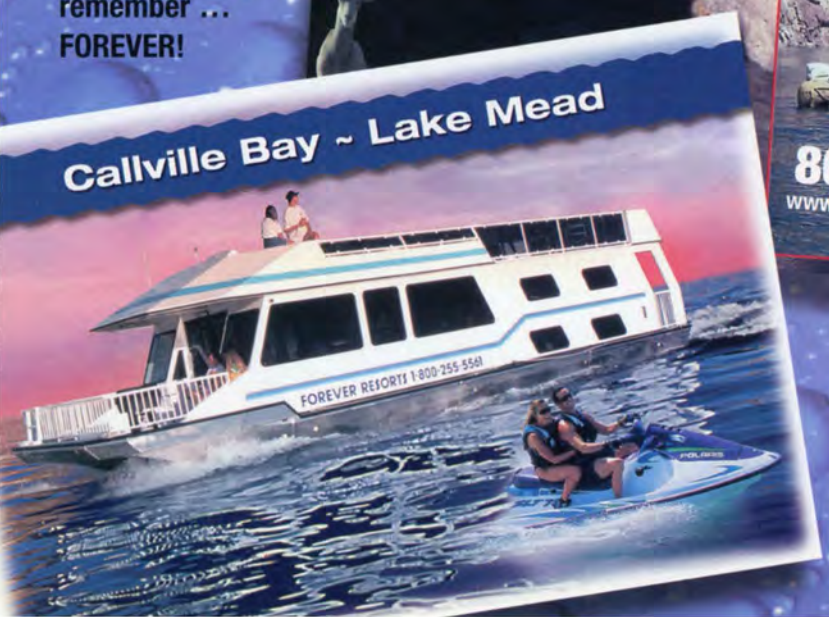

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State of Golf

(Continued from page 21)

Pennsylvania, won the $80,000 first prize by ripping his drive 384 yards, 15 inches, as a crowd of 2,000 gasped in appreciation. "Totally unexpected," Wolter said afterward. "You always find your best golf swing when you're having fun." This year's long-drive championship is scheduled for October 14-18 with a $350,000 total purse.

13 Bird Land: Golfers can count a variety of birds—not just the under-par kind—at Rosewood Lakes in Reno. The city course runs through 60 acres of federally protected wetlands, and golfers may spot cranes, geese, red-tailed hawks, owls, and other birds. Head pro Bob Forse says, "The uniqueness of the course is that most of the holes are not side by side, so you're often playing out near the wetlands. We even have a few muskrats, and I understand there are some champion-sized carp out there." Rosewood's carp also are protected—there's no fishing.

14 Have a Blast: If you usually play at sea level, you may notice your shots get a bit more distance at Lake Tahoe courses like Edgewood and Incline. The lake's elevation is about 6,225 feet, and the thinner air and lack of humidity allow the ball to travel about one club farther than on the flatlands.

15 Island Green: You won't know whether to pull out your camera or a three iron on LakeRidge's No. 15. When you stand on the tee of this par three on the Southwest Reno course, you're not only 239 yards from the green but also 140 feet above it. And the green is sitting on an island in the middle of a lake with views of downtown Reno in the distance. LakeRidge was designed in the '60s by links architect Robert Trent Jones.

Kevin Iole covers golf and boxing for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. *David Moore is editor of* Nevada Magazine.

16 Black Rock Adieu: America's premier playa-art golf tournament is hanging up its spikes. The 16th annual Black Rock Self Invitational will be the last, according to founder Douglas Keister, due to increasing fees and regulations.

The event is June 21-22. As always, Keister's band of Bay Area golfing artists will use biodegradable paint to create colorfully fanciful tees and greens on the Black Rock playa 10 miles north of Gerlach. The event includes putting and driving contests, a softball game (California vs. the World), and the 18-hole tourney. The fee is $120 per twosome. For details contact Keister at 530-892-2883 or www.keisterphoto.com. Keister says, "We've had a good long run. We want to go out in style and have a great time."

17 Shooting Stars: This summer and fall you can observe famous golfers at several Nevada tournaments. Sports stars such as John Elway, Charles Barkley, Johnny Bench, and Jerry Rice are regulars at the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship at Edgewood Tahoe. This year's tournament is July 15-20. The Reno-Tahoe Open on August 18-24 will host PGA Tour pros at Montreux Golf and Country Club in Reno. The 2002 winner was Chris Riley, the former UNLV star and a Henderson resident. At the Las Vegas Invitational on October 6-12 the pros will play at TPC at Summerlin, TPC at the Canyons, and Southern Highlands. Tiger Woods won his first PGA title at this event.

18 All-Nevada Tour: In recent years Guy E. Torrey IV has played 105 Nevada-area courses and lived to write about it. "I am the first person in history to personally play and evaluate every golf course in Nevada," says the Reno resident and author of *The Straightball Guide*, which rates the state's links according to conditioning, difficulty, value, and "ammo"—how many balls you might lose. His evaluations are frank. Reviewing Shadow Creek in North Las Vegas, he notes, "this tight layout is no place for the lesser skilled, although some high handicappers may consider it an honor to get spanked here."

The golf journalist began his Nevada odyssey in 2001. "Since I live in Northern Nevada, I started by evaluating local courses on a gradual basis. When I was certain I could complete a guide to the entire state, I moved to Las Vegas and played all 61 courses in Southern Nevada in 70 days."

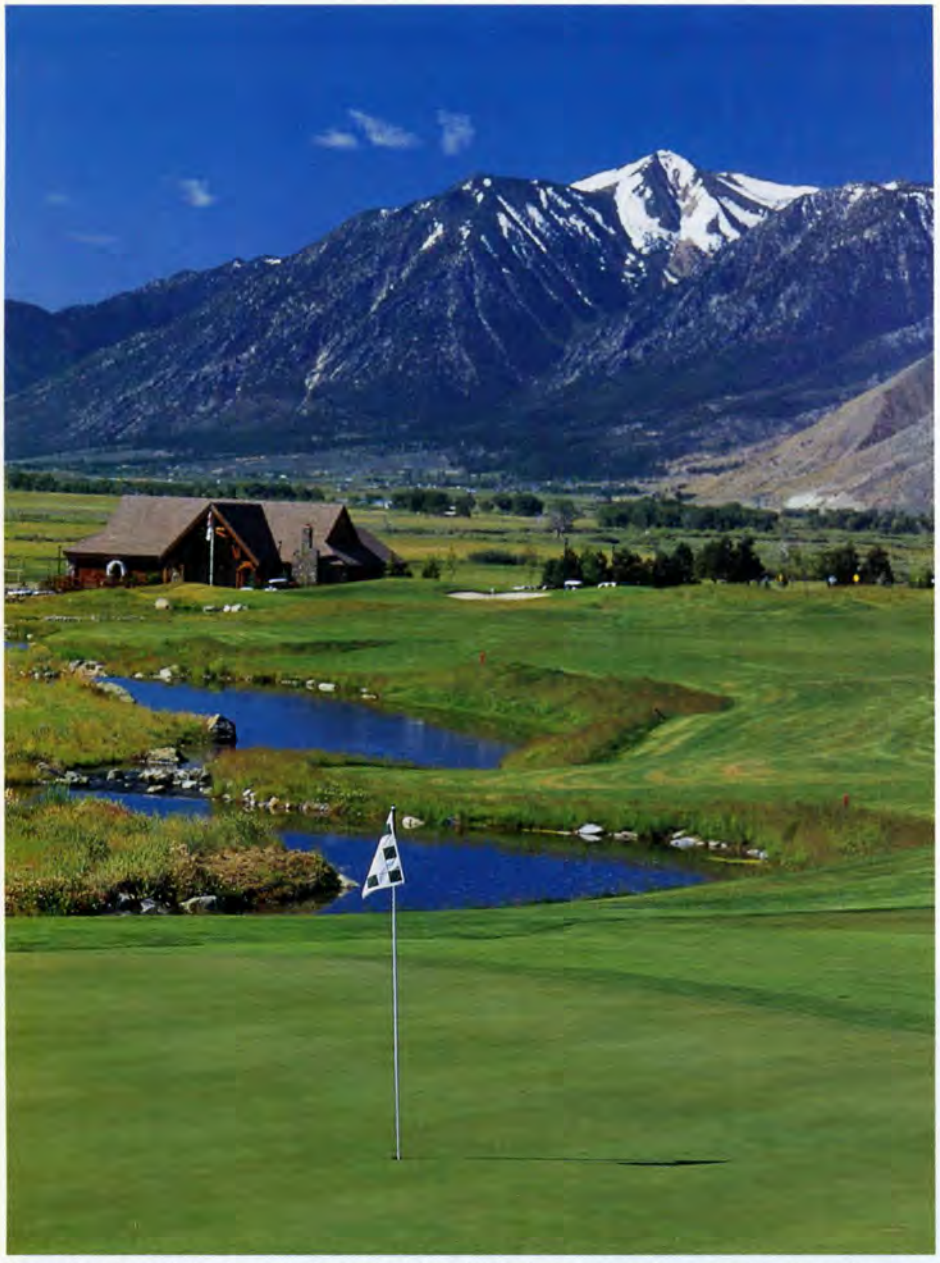
The book grew out of his disenchantment with what he calls "politicized" course-rating practices. "Most magazines use a rating system that favors the highly skilled golfer and does not give enough weight to whether a course is really worth the green fee they charge. This is why the most expensive, most difficult courses get rated at the top," he says. "My system evaluates and recommends courses for all skill levels and green fees."

Torrey, 35, says he plans to expand *The Straightball Guide* ($13.95; see www.straightballguide.com) with editions covering New Mexico, Hawaii, and Oregon. As for his top Nevada layouts, he says it depends on a player's skill level and wallet.

"My favorites courses are usually the ones that best marry quality with value," says Torrey, who plays to an eight handicap. He points to Sunrise Vista's 36-hole complex at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Mojave Resort in Laughlin, Genoa Lakes in Carson Valley, D'Andrea in Sparks, and Ruby View in Elko. "Of course, there are plenty of great courses for big bucks in Vegas. If you've got an extra $500 laying around, there's always Shadow Creek."

Torrey (at D'Andrea) aimed to play every course.

Photo: Kurt Hildebrand



Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch, a John Harbottle-Johnny Miller design, was built on ranch land near Genoa.

Bobman. 3464 Fairway and Johnson Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA. Call 530-542-6097. Tees: 2,002 yards, par 32. Green fees: Nonresidents $16 for 9 holes, residents $13. Twilight rate $10 after 3 p.m. Senior discounts on Wed. Hand carts only, $3. Club rentals $8.50. MC, Visa. Both spikes and spikeless allowed.

Edgewood Tahoe—One of *Golf Digest's* top 25 public golf courses in the U.S., Edgewood Tahoe is located near the Stateline hotel-casino area on the south shore of Lake Tahoe. Host of the U.S. Public Links in 1980, the U.S. Seniors Open in 1985, and the annual American Century Celebrity Golf Championship, July 15-20, 2003, to appear on NBC. Famous players include Arnold Palmer, Tiger Woods, Phil Michelson. Architects: George Fazio/Tom Fazio. Resort course, 18 holes, open May 7 to mid-Oct., estab. 1968. Owner Park Cattle Co., Head Pro Randy Fox. Box 5400, Stateline, NV 89449. Call 775-588-3566 or 888-881-8659, www.edgewood-tahoe.com. Back tees: 7,491 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $150 May 7-30, $200 May 31-Oct. 11. Walking OK (same fee). Club rental $40. Caddies available. AE, MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

Glenbrook Club—A wooded older course on Lake Tahoe's eastern shore, Nevada's first golf course went private in 1998. Private, 9 holes, estab. c. 1926. General Manager and Director of Golf Lane Christiansen. 2070 Pray Meadow Rd., Glenbrook, NV 89413. Call 775-749-5201, fax 775-882-5428. Tees: 5,610 yards (based on 18 holes), par 71. Private membership in gated community. Soft spikes.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course—Scenic course was recently certified as an Audubon sanctuary. The Upper Truckee River and man-made lakes come into play on all but two holes. Architect: William Bell. Nike Golf Program. Resort course, 18 holes, open April-Oct., estab. c. 1962. American Golf, General Manager David Hershey, Head Pro Kevin Sommerfeld. U.S. 50 West (one mile west of airport), 2500 Emerald Bay Rd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. Call 530-577-0788, fax 530-577-4469. Back tees: 6,745 yards, par 71. Green fees: $70 to ride, $48 to walk. Carts mandatory F-S. Early-bird and twilight rates. Club rental $30. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Tahoe Paradise Golf Course—Challenging executive course, narrow and tree-lined, with six par 3s and 12 par 4s. Public, 18-hole executive, open May-Oct., estab. 1960. Manager and Head Pro Dave Beeman. 3021 U.S. Hwy. 50, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. Call 530-577-2121. Tees: 4,021 yards, par 66. Green fees (prices subject to change): $36, seniors $28. Twilight $20 after 3 p.m. Carts (optional) $16. Club rental $15. MC, Visa.

TRUCKEE/GRAEAGLE

Coyote Moon Golf Club—Sierra course sits among rolling hills, tall pines, and Trout Creek. Clubhouse to open this summer. Architect: Brad Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Head Pro Dirk Skillicorn. 10685 Northwoods Blvd., Truckee, CA 96160. Call 530-587-0886, fax 530-550-2211, www.coyotemoongolf.com. Back tees: 7,177 yards, par 72. Green fees includes cart: $150. AE, MC, Visa. Soft spikes preferred.

Dragon at Gold Mountain—Clubhouse is one of three designed by Frank Lloyd Wright but never built. Views of the Sierra and Feather River. One of top "New Challenges" in *Golf* in May 2001. Hosts 2003 Dragon Pro-Am on May 13, 2003. The 2003 Dragon Challenge has year-long public qualifying. Architect: Robin Nelson. Resort course, 18 holes, open mid-April to mid-Nov., estab. 2000. Owner and General Manager Daniel Garner, Director of Golf Matt Ochs, Head Pro Matthew Magnotta. Box 880, Graeagle, CA 96103. Call 530-832-4887, 800-368-7786, www.dragongolf.com. Back tees: 7,077 yards, par 72. Green fees: $130 with cart, $100 walking; twilight $75 after 3 p.m. Club rental $30. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. Spikeless.

Graeagle Meadows Golf Course—Located on the Feather River in the Mohawk Valley, Graeagle is an hour's drive north of Reno. Meadow course has two lakes, the river, two creeks, and many elevated tees with views. Architect: Ellis Van Gorder. Public, 18 holes, open April-Nov., estab. c. 1968. Manager Dan West, Head Pro Bob Klein Jr., represented on LPGA Tour by Emilee Klein. State Route 89 north of Truckee, Graeagle, CA 96103. Call 530-836-2323. Back tees: 6,725 yards, par 72. Green fees: $45 M-Th, $55 F-S. Twilight rates. Cart (optional) $15 per person. Club rentals $25. MC, Visa.

Plumas Pines Golf Resort—Mountain course bordered by the middle fork of the Feather River and Plumas-Eureka National Forest. Lots of water, trees, nature. New wildflower field to the left of the first hole—lupine and poppies bloom in early June. Longboards Pro-Am on June 30, 2003. Live music on Sat. night. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Nov., estab. 1980. Celtic Golf, Director of Golf Tom Godman, Superintendent Mark Callahan, Pro Brandon Bowling. 402 Poplar Valley Rd., Blairsden, CA 96103. Call 530-836-1420, www.plumaspinesgolf.com. Back tees: 6,504 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $65 M-Th, $80 F-S, $20 for replay. Twilight rate $40 after 3 p.m. Club rentals $10. Major credit cards are accepted. Spikeless. Longboard Bar and Grill.

Ponderosa Golf Course—Truckee course is mostly flat and heavily wooded. Well bunkered, no water hazards. Architect: Bob Baldech. Built by the local utility district. Public, 9 holes, open May-Oct, estab. 1961. Hwy. 267 and Reynolds Way, Truckee, CA 96160. Call 530-587-3501. Back tees: 6,044 yards (based on 18 holes), par 72. Call for current rates.

Tahoe Donner Golf Course—Creek comes into play on eight holes. Course is hilly, with many steep drops from tees to fairways and greens. During 2003 Tahoe Donner is building a new clubhouse. Architects: Roy Williams (1-9), Bill Bell Jr. (10-18). Semi-private, 18 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1973. Tahoe Donner Assn., Head Pro Bruce Towle. 11509 Northwoods Blvd., Truckee, CA 96161. Call 530-587-9440. Back tees: 6,899 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $100. Reduced rates after 3:30 p.m. and during shoulder season. Carts optional after 3:30 p.m. Club rentals $35. MC, Visa. Spikeless preferred.

Golf Club at Whitehawk Ranch—Mountain course 38 miles north of Truckee winds though pines and meadows. Golf shop named Resort Merchandiser of the Year by Northern California PGA in 2000. One of only 16 California courses with four and a half stars in *Golf Digest* in 2000. Hosts Brooks Park Cup matches (pros vs. amateurs) on Oct. 1, 2003. Architect: Dick Bailey. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Van Batchelder. 768 Whitehawk Dr., Clio, CA 96106. Call 530-836-0394 or 800-332-4295, www.golfwhitehawk.com. Back tees: 6,951 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: Summer $85-$135, spring and fall $75-$105. Same rates for walkers. Club rentals $30. AE, MC, Visa. Spikeless.

Photo: Chris Talbot

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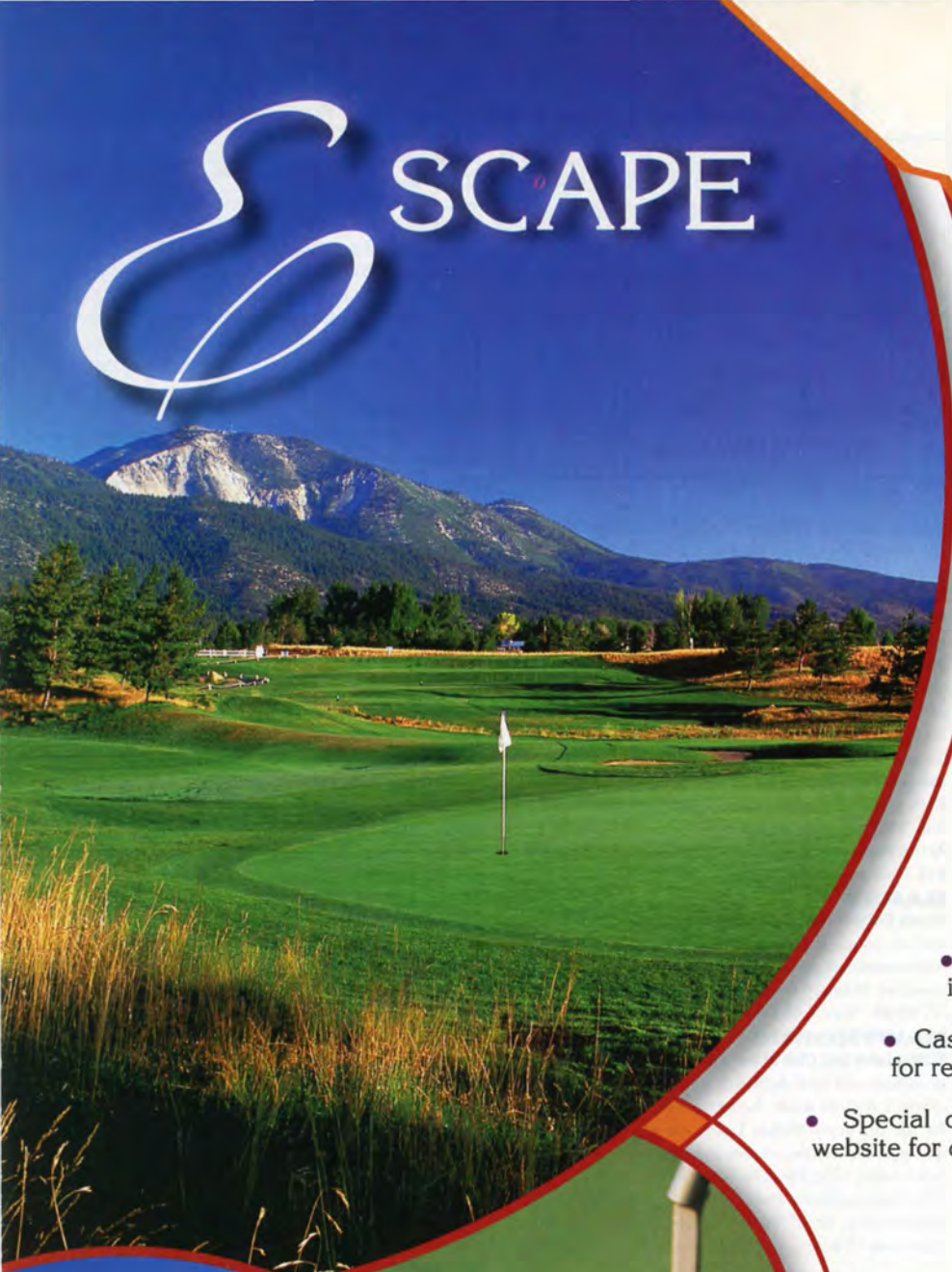

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BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Mountain View Golf Course—This Northern Nevada layout has rolling layouts, tight doglegs, narrow fairways, sagebrush, and three water hazards. Architects: John and Maria Heller. County course, 9 holes, open March-Oct., estab. 1991. The Mountain View Golf Course is operated by Lander County. Head Pro Jim Neville. 205 Fairway Dr., Box 201-14, Battle Mountain, NV 89820. Call 775-635-2380, fax 775-635-2509. Back tees: 6,332 yards, par 71. Green fees: $12. Senior and junior rates. Cart $20. Club rentals $8. Major credit cards.

ELKO/SPRING CREEK

Ruby View Golf Course—Long rolling fairways lined with big trees, large well-bunkered greens, one lake. Named one of America's best and most affordable public courses by *Golf Digest* in 1996. Golf legend Tony Lema was head pro at the old Ruby View course in 1957. City course, 18 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1968. City of Elko, Head Pro Rick Longhurst. 2100 Ruby View Dr., Elko, NV 89801. Call 775-777-7277 golf shop, 775-777-7279 Mulligan's Bar and Grill. Back tees: 6,919 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents $20, Elko residents $16 M-Th. Nonresidents $25, Elko residents $20 F-S. Carts (optional) $12 per player. Club rental $14. Major credit cards. Soft spikes.

Spring Creek Golf Course—Desert course 15 miles southeast of Elko has narrow fairways and many elevation changes. Must be accurate off the tee. Public, 18 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1972. Spring Creek Association, Head Pro Jason Jerman. 401 Fairway Blvd., Spring Creek, NV 89815. Call 775-753-6331, fax 775-753-5491. Back tees: 6,638 yards, par 71. Green fees: $25. Carts (optional) $20. Club rentals $10. MC, Visa. Spikeless.

ELY

White Pine Golf Course—Ely's course expanded from nine to 18 holes in 1998, giving each nine both large and narrow fairways, flat and rolling terrain, and small and extra-large greens. Architect: Bob Baldock. County course, 18 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1957. White Pine County, Head Pro Jo-Jo Coronado. 151 N. Golf Course Dr., Ely, NV 89301. Call 775-289-4095, fax 775-289-1560, elygolfing.com. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: $24. Carts (optional) $18. Club rental $10. MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

EMPIRE

Burning Sands Golf Course—Built over the years by gypsum-mine employees in Empire, 100 miles north of Reno near Gerlach. The course runs through town, crosses some streets, and features a 420-yard par 5 that has a 320-yard dogleg. Public, 9 holes, estab. early 1960s. Town Manager Dave Carter, Supervisor Bill Couk. Downtown Empire, NV 89405. Call 775-557-2341. Tees: 2,007 yards, par 32. Green fees: Donations accepted; $10 suggested for nonresidents. Carts not allowed. Tennis courts, barbecues, picnic tables.

FALLON

The Golf Course @ Fallon—Nine-hole course set on the Carson River has tall cottonwoods and willows, two sets of tees, doglegs, and the Carson River. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1958. Owners Matthew and Kenia Biddinger, Superintendent Jeff Lockwood. 2655 Country Club Dr., Fallon, NV 89406. Call 775-423-4616, fax 775-423-8341. Back tees (based on 18 holes): 6,426 yards, par 71. Green fees: $20, twilight after 2 p.m. $13. All day Tuesday: $12. Active military and juniors: $15 all day. Carts (optional) $15. Club rentals $8. MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

GABBS

Sandy Bottom Golf Course—Laid out on a dry lake bed, this clay course is near the rodeo grounds west of Gabbs. Adventuresome nonmembers are welcome to play anytime free. Public, 9 holes, estab. c. 1958. Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409. Tees: 3,010 yards, par 35.

HAWTHORNE

Walker Lake Golf Club at the Depot—First holes were built by military and local duffers in 1952. Towering elms flank oldest holes and shade the stately homes that were built for the big brass. Walker Lake Golf Association, which manages the course, encourages public play. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1952. Head Pro Pete Summerbell. 2 S. Main, Army Ammunitions Plant, Hawthorne, NV 89415. Call 775-945-1111, fax 775-945-7111. Back tees: 5,514 yards (based on 18 holes), par 68. Green fees: $14 M-F, $16 S-S. Carts (optional) $16. Club rental $5. No credit cards. Casino packages available and free motorhome parking.

JACKPOT

Jackpot Golf Club—Lengthy, undulating layout has lots of doglegs and large, fast greens. The course has coyotes, deer, hawks, and ball-stealing ravens. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. County course, 18 holes, open March-Oct., estab. c. 1970. Elko County, Head Pro and Manager Dave Albrecht, Pros Doug Russell and Andy Hollister. 415 Ace Dr., Jackpot, NV 89825. Call 775-755-2260, fax 775-755-2123. Back tees: 6,436 yards, par 72. Green fees: $15 M-F, $18 S-S. Elko County residents $9 M-F. Carts (optional) $24. No private carts. Club rental $20-$25. MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

PIOCHE

Lincoln County Golf Course—The historic mining town of Pioche has a nine-hole course that citizens carved out of the flat below town. The Lincoln Links Association has created dirt fairways and hardpan greens and holds a tournament during Pioche's Labor Day Celebration. Golfers hit off pieces of indoor-outdoor carpeting. A year's membership costs $25. Contact the Deckers, Box 321, Pioche, NV 89043, 775-962-5206, for information.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Round Mountain Golf Course—The state's longest nine-hole course was built by Round Mountain Gold at Hadley in Big Smoky Valley, 50 miles north of Tonopah. Three lakes come into play on six holes. Elevation is 5,726 feet. Architect: William Howard Neff. Public, 9 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1991. Head Pro Apprentice Leo Vath. Box 480, Round Mountain, NV 89045. Call 775-377-2880, fax 775-377-1208, visit www.bigsmokyvalley.com. Back tees (based on 18 holes): 7,138 yards, par 72. Green fees: $16. Carts $9 per person. Senior and junior discounts. MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

WELLS

Chimney Rock Golf Course—Course has extremely fast greens, three lakes, and views of the East Humboldt Range. A formation called Chimney Rock gives the course its name. City course, 9 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1976. City of Wells, Head Pro Ron Springsteel. 750 Ventosa Ave., Wells, NV 89835. Call 775-752-3928. Back tees (based on 18 holes): 6,130 yards, par 70. Green fees: $16. Carts (optional) $20. Club rental $5. Spikeless.

WENDOVER

Toana Vista Golf Course—The long, narrow, target-oriented course offers an oasis near the Nevada-Utah line and the Bonneville Salt Flats. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1987. West Wendover Recreation Dept., Director of Golf Reid Goodliffe. 2319 Pueblo Blvd., Box 2290, West Wendover, NV 89883. Call 775-664-4300, 800-852-4330 outside Nevada. Back tees: 6,820 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $40. Carts mandatory until 1 p.m. M-F and 4 p.m. S-S. Club rental $13.

WINNEMUCCA

Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course—Located near a town park, this relatively flat, well-bunkered layout offers a challenge with small greens and large trees. Architect: Bob Baldock. City course, 9 holes, open March-Oct., estab. c. 1952. City of Winnemucca, Head Pro Bill Phillips. 1395 Mizpah St., Winnemucca, NV 89445. Call 775-623-9920. Tees: 3,250 yards, par 36. Green fees: $14 weekdays, $16 weekends. One dollar off if you start before 7:30 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Carts (optional) $20. No credit cards. Spikeless.

YERINGTON

Mason Valley Country Club—Long, open, easy-to-walk but challenging course was designed by residents who like to play golf. Course expanded to 18 holes several years ago. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. Owners Tom Carpenter and Ernie Carpenter, Manager Vici Jodsaas. 111 Hwy. 208, Yerington, NV 89447. Call 775-463-3300, fax 775-463-1014. Back tees: 6,616 yards, par 72. Green fees: $31 nonmembers, $24 members. Carts (optional): $24 nonmembers, $17 members. Twilight $35. Juniors $12. Club rental $5. MC, Visa. Soft spikes.

"Nevada Golf 2003" was compiled by Nevada Magazine *Editor David Moore and Associate Editor Joyce Hollister.*

Golf Groups

Nevada's golf associations are active in organizing amateur events and junior programs as well as course ratings. For more information contact the Northern Nevada Golf Association, Box 5630, Sparks, NV 89432 (775-673-4653 or www.nnga.org) or the Southern Nevada Golf Association, 3590 E. Patrick Lane, Suite C, Las Vegas, NV 89120 (702-458-4653 or www.snga.org).

Golfers in Elko can play Ruby View, one of rural Nevada's most challenging and best kept courses.

Photo: David Moore

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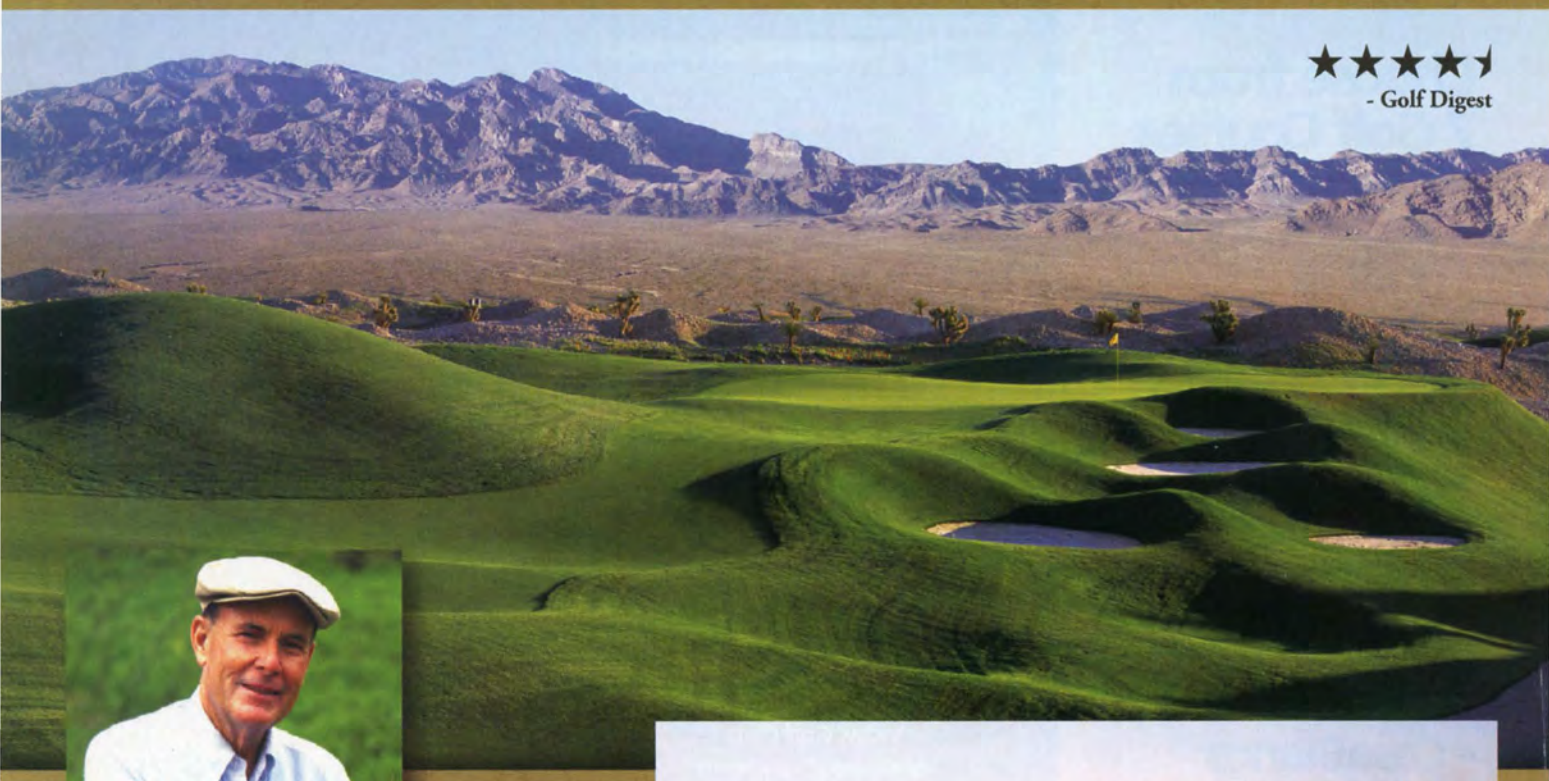

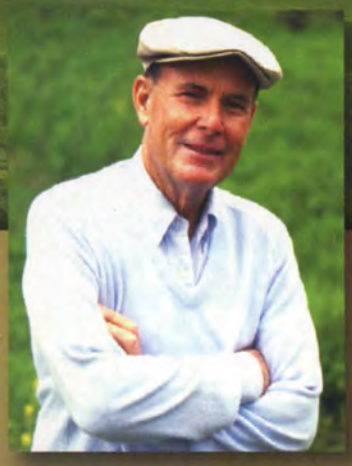

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Dining Out: Mexican Eateries

(Continued from page 27)

but became so popular it was adopted by Mexican restaurants.

El Marques' shrimp ranchero is a favorite with locals and passers-through. The shrimp is sauteed in garlic, black pepper, and a mixture of enchilada and Spanish verde sauce along with green peppers, onions, and tomatoes. The Gratinado steak is an eight-ounce ribeye served with enchilada sauce and melted cheese. A choice of soup or salad is included with both of the above.

The good deal here is the No. 1 combination plate of a taco, enchilada, and chile relleno for $7.95. All dishes are served with rice and beans and flour tortillas on the side. The entrees run up to $11.95 for the shrimp ranchero. Also, the margaritas are the finest in town at El Marques (348 Main Street, Tonopah, 775-482-3885). It's open for lunch and dinner daily except Monday.

In Las Vegas, **Dona Maria's** opened in 1980 on East Charleston and 10 years later moved to its present site on the corner of Charleston and Main just south of downtown. It has been owned the whole time by Alfredo and Elvia Martinez, who moved from Mexico to Las Vegas in 1970.

The house specialties are the tamales—pork, chicken, beef, or chile and cheese. They have more meat and less cornmeal than commercial varieties. You can buy the tamales by the dozen for $16.75. The two-tamale combination plate, with rice and beans, is $6.75, but the great deal is to get one (the chile and cheese enchilada-style with green sauce, for example) a la carte for $3. Throw in the free chips and salsa and a beer, and you're pleasantly full for $5.75.

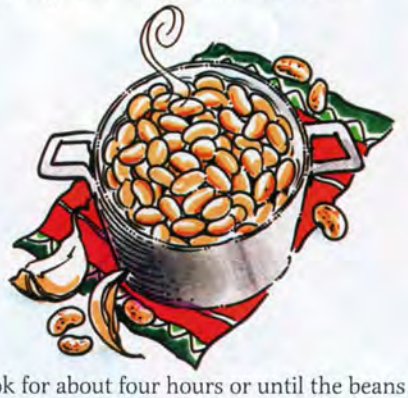
Other entrees include the usual enchiladas, burritos, tostadas, and tacos, all in the $6.75 range for lunch. The restaurant also serves Mexican breakfasts and has a full bar. Dona Maria's is one of the largest family-owned Mexican restaurants in Nevada, with a big main room that is often jampacked at lunchtime. The smaller front and back rooms are sedate the rest of the day and night.

Dona Maria's (910 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas, 702-382-6538, with a second outlet at 3205 North Tenaya Way, 702-656-1600) is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day.

Deke Castleman is senior editor of the Las Vegas Advisor *and author of* Las Vegas.

La Cocina Beans

Cinco de Mayo is a good excuse to have a big party, and a big party is a good excuse for cooking Jim Kenealy's pinto beans. Kenealy serves these beans at his La Cocina restaurant in Fallon. The recipe has no meat or lard, and it makes enough to feed a large crowd.



22 cups dried pinto beans
3 gallons water
1-1/2 cups chopped, dried onions
5 tablespoons salt
2 tablespoons granulated garlic
1 tablespoon black pepper
1 tablespoon cumin
3 tablespoons mild chili powder

Place all ingredients in a large pot and cook for about four hours or until the beans are soft. You don't have to soak them, Kenealy says. If you prefer, use a spicer chili powder. "My theory is," Kenealy says, "if you make it too hot, you can't take it out. But you can always put it in." To make a La Cocina tostada grande, spread a fried flour tortilla with beans, then layer it with lettuce, sour cream, shredded chicken or beef, tomatoes, guacamole, salsa, green chiles, and cheese. —Joyce Hollister

Illustration: April Pedersen

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Joyce Rossi

Reno watercolorist prefers faces to places.

"Kayley and Kierra's Mural": "I painted this mural on a bedroom wall for the twin daughters of Shelley and Wayne Capurro of Reno."

"Kathy": "I thought Kathy would make a really good subject. She was such a beautiful little girl. She's all grown up now."

When Reno art teacher Joyce Rossi was illustrating her children's book *The Gullywasher,* she needed to educate herself about equine anatomy. "I had to take two weeks away from the book to study horses, because there was a horse in the story," the 60-year-old watercolorist says. "Horses are not as easy to do as other animals. You can't cover them with fur. You see every muscle, and if the proportion is wrong, it doesn't work."

Rossi, who wrote *The Gullywasher* for ages five and older, was inspired by a tall tale she heard from rancher and cowboy poet Jack Walther of Lamoille. With his approval, Rossi borrowed Walther's idea and added other details to create a fanciful yarn. The book was nominated for the Nevada Young Readers Award when it was

"The Artist": "This was out of my imagination. I envisioned Mother Nature painting stripes on the tiger."

"Abel": "I painted this from a photograph of Abel Mendeguia of Reno. He wanted another one for a relative, so I painted it twice."

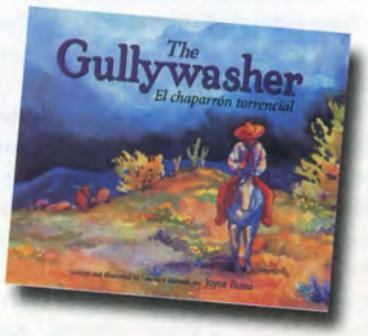
published in 1995, and in 1999 the book won an Arizona librarians' award.

A 42-year Nevada resident and former third-grade teacher, Rossi has painted buckaroos, ranchers, Basque dancers, and children with pets and farm animals. She prefers to paint people rather than landscapes. "I don't find landscapes as interesting as people's faces," she says. "I especially enjoy old people—I love those lovely old wrinkles."

Rossi and her husband, Lou, raised their sons Vince and Mike in Verdi and now live in Southwest Reno. A freelance illustrator for many years, Rossi does portraits for private clients and is experimenting with printmaking. She has collaborated with longtime friend Teddy Swecker on public murals. The two artists painted a 100-foot wall in the children's area at the Sierra View branch of the Washoe County Library in Reno and several murals at schools in Winnemucca, Swecker's hometown.

Ever the teacher, Rossi has given art and writing presentations to more than 50,000 adults and children since *The Gullywasher* was published. One of her standard workshops, Rossi notes wryly, is named "How to Draw the Head of a Horse."

—Joyce Hollister



Nevada Almanac

Nevada trivia and Your Own Celebrity Slot Machine Contest.

Nevada Trivia

Q What was the first revue in Nevada to feature rows of leggy, dancing, sequined showgirls?

A The "Lido de Paris," a revue imported from Paris, opened in July 1958 at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas and ran until 1991.

Q What community, noted for its hot springs, was named after a town in India?

A Golconda, east of Winnemucca, was named after India's one-time capital (1512 to 1687) and had a hot-water spa for the first half of the 20th century.

Q By what name do the Northern Paiutes call themselves?

A The Northern Paiutes call themselves the *Numa*, meaning "the people."

—from The Nevada Trivia Book *by Richard Moreno (Gem Guides, 1998)*

All Aboard Volunteers Ed Jungers (left) and Doug Diemer take a break during a steam-up at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City. Grownups who have never lost their love for trains help keep the locomotives running.

Your Own Celebrity Slot Machine Contest

Readers who wish to enter the **Your Own Celebrity Slot Machine Contest** can still submit entries, for we have extended the contest deadline to May 22. The winners will be awarded prizes. Here are two of the contenders so far:

HO*-GAN!:** "I've always thought that a celebrity slot machine styled after the old TV show ***Hogan's Heroes would be a natural. There are major players (Hogan, Colonel Klink), medium-level players (LeBeau, Major Hofstetter, the Richard Dawson character), and minor characters (Klink's secretary). There are great opportunities for audio and video, such as Sgt. Schultz saying, 'I know *noth*-ing,' Klink saying, '*HO*-GAN,' and Major Hoffstetter saying: 'Vat is ziss man doing here?' For a bonus select a character until you hit 'the cooler.' Even the show's theme song is contagious."—*Randy Cornelius, Tampa, FL*

The Ponderosa: "I would like to see a ***Bonanza***-themed slot machine featuring images of the Cartwrights (Ben, Adam, Hoss, Little Joe), the Ponderosa Ranch, Virginia City, Hop Sing the cook, and the Comstock's silver mines—you can't get much more Nevada than this! The machine could play the theme music from the series for larger payoffs and possibly pay out with *real* silver dollars."—*Louise Park, San Diego, CA*

Send your entries to "Nevada Almanac," 401 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701; fax 775-687-6159; or e-mail jhollister@nevadamagazine.com.

Photo: Carolyn Fox (top). Photo Art: Margie Enlow (bottom)

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The 2003 Nevada RV Adventure Sweepstakes

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Sweepstakes starts 1/18/03 and ends on 10/15/03 (the "Promotional Period"). While visiting any participating RV Park, State Park, Chamber of Commerce or Visitor Center in the State of Nevada, U.S.A. during the promotional period, obtain and complete an official entry form and then deposit your entry form in the designated The 2003 Nevada RV Adventure Sweepstakes entry box. Entries must be received on or before 10/15/03. Limit of one entry per person in each of the five Nevada territories as established by the Nevada Commission On Tourism. Such territories are Reno-Tahoe, Cowboy Country, Pony Express, Pioneer and Las Vegas. Maximum of five entries per person. No mechanically reproduced entries permitted. Entries received by any means other than as described above will not be accepted and will be ineligible for the Sweepstakes. Open to lawful permanent residents of the U.S. and Canada (except residents of Florida, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, and the province of Quebec), 21 years of age or older. Sweepstakes is void in Florida, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, U.S. territories and possessions, the province of Quebec and where prohibited by law. For a Canadian resident to be declared a winner, he/she must correctly answer, without assistance of any kind, whether mechanical or otherwise, a time-limited, mathematical, skill-testing question to be administered by phone. See Official Rules for complete description of prize, odds of winning and complete details. For a copy of the Official Rules, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The 2003 Nevada RV Adventure Sweepstakes Rules, P.O. Box 8991, Calabasas, CA 91372 USA. Canadian residents may omit return postage. You may also view the rules by visiting www.travelnevada.com.

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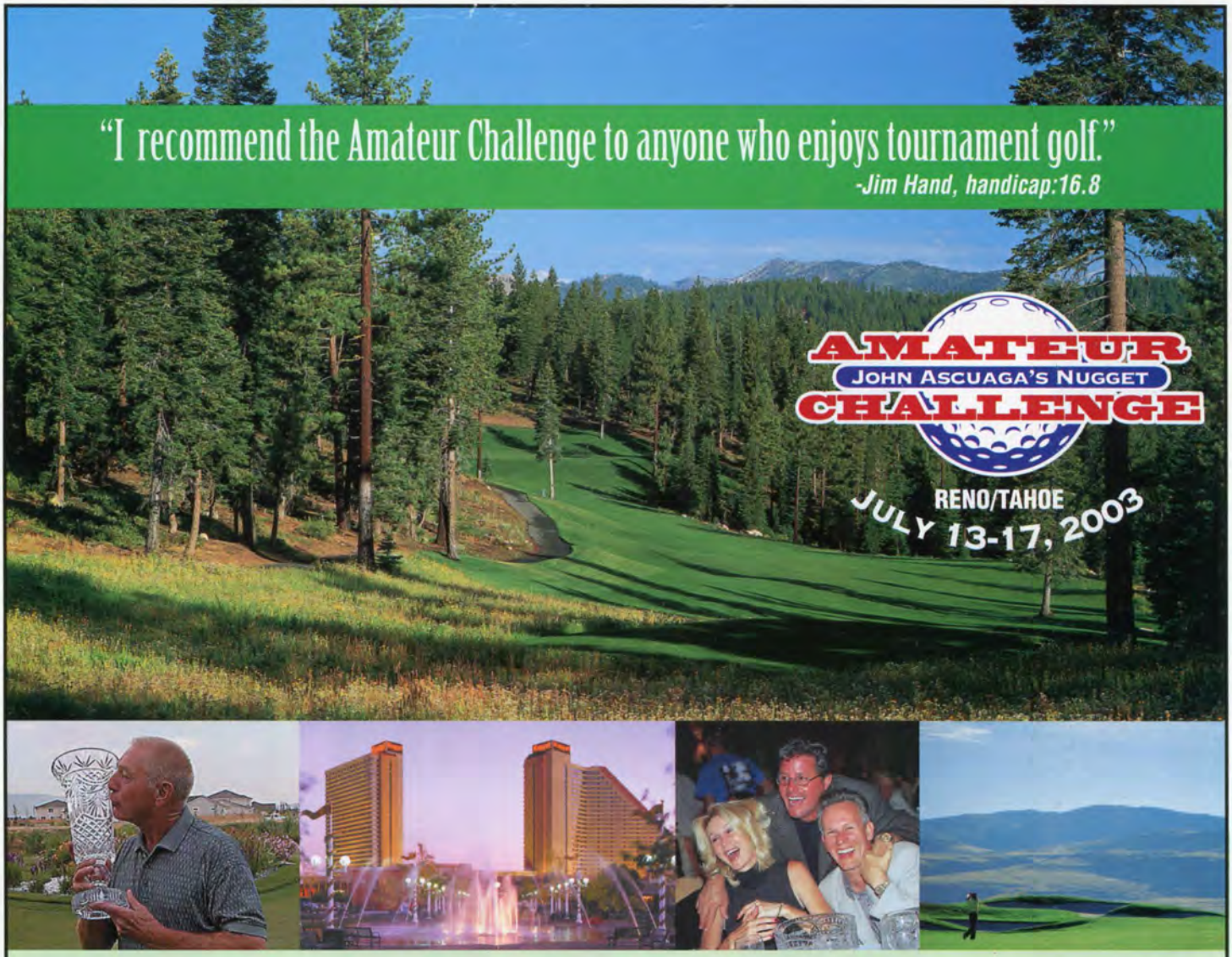

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