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The No. 15 island green at LakeRidge Golf Course in Reno.
Photo by Rod Hanna

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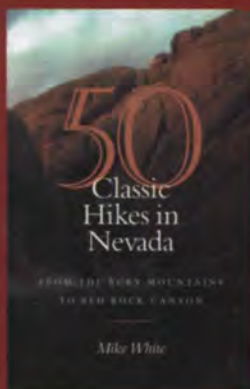
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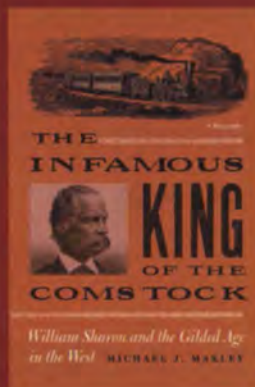
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 From the Ruby Mountains
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 How Nevada Began



Honest Horses
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The Infamous King of the Comstock
 William Sharon and the
 Gilded Age in the West

The State of the West
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Publisher's Note/Spas, Shows, Golf

Not long ago, operating a successful hotel-casino in Nevada meant having a lounge act, slots, table games, rooms, and maybe a couple of reasonably priced restaurants.

Today's resorts are upping the ante with services and attractions that would boggle the minds of the old-time casino bosses.

In this issue of *Nevada Magazine* we spotlight two of the hottest trends in the resort world—luxury spas and Broadway shows. In "Spa Delights," writer Irene Woodbury visits three Las Vegas hotel-casino spas to discover what it's like to be basted in eucalyptus oil and slathered with mango scrub. In addition, staff writer Wilma LaRocca presents a roundup of Reno and Lake Tahoe hotel-casino spas.

After all that pampering there's nothing like catching a show, particularly if it's a Tony

Award-winning Broadway play. Las Vegas entertainment writer Mike Weatherford examines the history of Broadway-style shows in the city and reports on the latest musicals, such as "Mamma Mia!," "The Phantom of the Opera," and "Monty Python's Spamalot," that are migrating from the Great White Way to the Strip.

Also in this issue is our 13th annual "Nevada Golf Guide," a comprehensive listing of golf courses throughout the state. If it has anything to do with fairways and greens, you'll find it in this special section.

A reminder—don't forget to send us your entries for the annual Great Nevada Picture Hunt. We want your best photos of Nevada's people, places, events, adventure, wildlife, scenery, and ghost towns. See page 15 for the entry form.

Richard Moreno
Publisher



Contributors



Avid golfer and *Las Vegas Review-Journal* sports writer **Kevin Iole** grew up in Pittsburgh and caddied at Oakmont Country Club, the site of many major tournaments, and at Fox Chapel Golf Club, which recently hosted the Curtis Cup. Iole, whose stories "Nevadas on Tour" and "Las Vegas by Design" appear in this issue, loves to golf in Nevada because there is such a variety of courses with great scenic views. Iole could brag about his hole-in-one at Stallion Mountain Country Club, but he can't prove it happened. "It came on my third nine of the day, and my playing partners had left after 18," he says. "The only person to witness my ace was the drink-cart girl who was waiting for me to finish."

Irene Woodbury's travel features have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Toronto Star*, *London Daily Telegraph*, and *Washington Post*. The Denver resident's work background includes administrative positions at Time Inc. and IBM. In this issue, Woodbury describes a visit to Las Vegas in "Spa Delights." In pursuit of stories, Woodbury and her husband, Richard, have traveled throughout the U.S., Mexico, and Europe. "London is a favorite destination," she says. "So is Las Vegas." Woodbury's annual birthday treks to Sin City are packed with nightlife, shopping, eating, and gambling. To unwind, she pampers herself in one or more luxurious hotel spas. She says, "After a facial, massage, and Jacuzzi soak I feel relaxed, re-energized, and ready for another round of excitement."



Kent Harper, editor of the *Ely Times* and the *Eureka Sentinel*, earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1982 at the University of Nevada, Reno. After a year of graduate work, he was hired as a reporter by the *Elko Daily Free Press*. Harper, who wrote "Going Long in Ely," about White Pine Golf Course pro Randy Long, landed in Ely in 1986. "This is just my second—and probably my last—job," he says. "I like it here because of the freedom my publishers allow me." Harper skewers political figures in his weekly column and in "Harpoon," his editorial cartoon. "People call me a conservative," he says, "when they resort to more than four letters." He and his wife, Laura, live in Ely with Oscar the cat.

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Letters

Harolds Club, gaming's 75th anniversary, and Keely Smith.

Harolds Club or Bust

You can't celebrate 75 years of gaming in Nevada without remembering Harolds Club (last issue's "Nevada: Then and Now"). During the 1950s, '60s, and into the '70s, it was the place to be in Reno. I can still remember those great signs, "Harolds Club or Bust!" They were all along the highways leading to Nevada. I'm sure this will bring back memories to many of your readers.

Jack Greiner
Silverton, OR

Thanks, Jack, for your letter. We remember the Harolds Club highway signs with affection, too, as well as the roadside boulders spray-painted gold that advertised the Sparks Nugget.—Ed.



Betting on Nevada

Thank you for the "75 Years of Gaming" roundup in the March/April '06 issue. The timeline with the vintage photos inside the green banner across the bottom of the pages was visually appealing. I also found that it was a fun way to learn more about my home state.

It's interesting that Las Vegas' first gambling license went to a woman, as noted by A.D. Hopkins in his story, "Mayme and Sons," which related how Mayme Stocker and her sons operated the Northern Club beginning in the 1920s.

Pete Slingland
Reno

Applause, Applause

If you look carefully at the photo for the month of June in the 2006 Nevada Historical Calendar, I believe you'll see Sam Butera and Keely Smith sitting next to the Sands' Copa Room stage and clapping as



Louis Prima (far left) and Keely Smith watch the Copa Girls perform at the Sands.

the Copa Girls finish their dance routine. Let me know if my suspicion is correct.

Dave Quandt
Spring Creek

Dave, thanks for your letter. You are right—that is Keely Smith watching the show at the Sands, but she is sitting with her husband, Louis Prima, not their bandmate Sam Butera. We hope you didn't bet the mortgage on this one.—Ed.

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NEVADA MAGAZINE

Celebrates 70 Years

The 1960s bring ads and psychedelia to Nevada.

The 1960s was a decade of change for *Nevada Highways and Parks*. In 1964, editor Donald L. Bowers converted the free publication into one with paid subscriptions, national distribution, and advertising. The first issue of the new *Nevada Magazine* was a special edition celebrating the state's centennial. The 68-page magazine—the largest issue yet—carried a 40-cent price tag and a message from Bowers: "Costs you a little but brings you much more." The subscription price was \$2 for four issues.

The state magazine began to take on a more glamorous style that reflected the glitz of Las Vegas and the psychedelic look popular on rock posters.

The fall 1967 cover has a smiling, bejeweled showgirl with hands on her hips. Inside is the accompanying story about "Folies Bergere" playing at the Tropicana. The winter 1969 cover features an illustration in brilliant color of Hoover Dam. The cover story, "To Tame a Giant," is a sweeping epic that covers the beginnings of the Colorado River to the dam's completion in 1935. The majority of the issue, however, is dedicated not to taming nature but to celebrating it. Stories include "Pelican Island," about the birds that make Pyramid Lake their home, and "Other Roads to California," which features seven full-page color photos of rural Nevada, plus a profile of Billy Sweetpasture, aka the "Gentleman Cowpoke."



Fall 1967



Winter 1969

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Cowboy Todd Chambers recoils his rope as he moves the cattle along a fence, his dog on the alert.



At Home on the Range

**Ruth Anne
Kocour** totes her
camera on a spring
cattle drive.

“**E**verything in this scene caught my eye,” says Reno photographer Ruth Anne Kocour. Kocour, having joined Big Smoky Valley ranchers in a cattle drive to summer grazing pasture, was shooting from the saddle. “I saw the cattle strung out along the fence line, the cowboy’s rope work, and the entire desert scene set against the blue sky and snow-covered Toiyabe Range,” she says. “I wanted to capture a sense of place—and of being in the middle of the action.”

—Wilma LaRocca

Roadside Attractions

Reno **photo show**, Food Network **wedding**, and yurt **camping**.



Wilson (left), Andrew, and Spring Fulton paddle their canoe at Upper Pahrnagat Lake.

Paddling at Pahrnagat

Visitors are advised to bring their binoculars and camera to the **Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge**, which straddles the Mojave and Great Basin deserts in Southeastern Nevada. The Pahrnagat Lakes wetlands are a protected rendezvous point for more than 230 species of birds on their migratory journeys in the spring and fall.

The Pahrnagat refuge has four main attractions. North Marsh, surrounded by stately cottonwoods, allows fishing. Primitive picnicking and camping, as well as boating and fishing for largemouth bass and catfish, are available at Upper Lake.

Farther south, boating and hunting are allowed at Middle Marsh, which has a hunting platform. The platform is open during the regular season on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday and is frequented by Canada geese and mallards.

The shallower waters of Lower Pahrnagat Lake attract beautiful wading birds such as egrets and American avocets. Hunting and boating are allowed there as well. Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge is located five miles south of Alamo and 90 miles north of Las Vegas on U.S. 93. For more information visit www.desertcomplex.fws.gov/pahrnagat.—Corrine Fulton

Exhibits and Museums

The **Artists Co-Operative of Reno** is celebrating its 40th anniversary in May. A show featuring past and current members is on display, and an artists' reception is planned for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 7. The gallery is located at 627 Mill Street in Reno. Call 775-322-8896 for more information.

The **Caliente Heritage Museum** has opened for the summer season. Located in a boxcar next to Caliente's Railroad Depot, the museum displays the original blueprints of the depot and artifacts donated by local residents. Museumgoers can see photos dating from 1884 to the early 1900s.

Volunteers welcome visitors at the boxcar, whose colorful murals depict historical Caliente scenes, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday through November, free of charge. Call 775-726-3129 for more information.

—Alisha Wike



One of two new welcome signs in Caliente.

ON THE RUNWAY

Models wearing the latest fashions sashay down the 80-foot runway on weekends in the **Fashion Show Mall's** Great Hall in Las Vegas. Shoppers also can watch the shows on three large LED screens that descend from the ceiling. The mall attracts more than 11 million visitors a year from around the world and is the largest shopping center in the state. Fashion shows are presented every hour, from noon to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For information call 702-369-8382 or visit www.thefashionshow.com.—Alisha Wike



Pretty Pictures

Elko photographer Cynthia A. Delaney presents "Northern Nevada: A Rural Portrait" in May at the Red Mountain Gallery at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno. Delaney says her favorite subjects are the wild lands and wildlife of Nevada. The exhibit includes "Lupine" (right) and other images that show the beauty of the Nevada out-back. A reception will be held May 9. Call 775-674-7698 or visit www.cynthia.delaney.com.



Classic Printmaking in Las Vegas

Visitors can watch the presses whirl, smell the ink, and purchase fine-art lithographs and posters at **S2 Art Group** in Las Vegas, one of the world's last old-style lithography studios.

Cofounded by Jack and Carolyn Solomon in 1996 and relocated from Chicago to Las Vegas in 2002, S2 Art Group produces lithographs by celebrity artists such as the late Frank Sinatra and Gordon Parks and Donna Summer, Tom Everhart, and Todd Goldman.

The internationally known group's workshop, S2 Editions Atelier, uses five antique hand-operated presses to produce prints. S2 Art's Signature Collections, in affiliation with the American Film Institute, offers "100 Years...100 American Movie Posters Classics," and the Re-Mastered Vintage Poster Collection includes limited-edition reproductions, an affordable alternative to expensive originals.

S2 Art Group and the S2 Editions



Walter Mosca (left) and Manavaz Petrosyan pull prints off a press at S2 Art Group.

Atelier Gallery, open weekdays, are located in the downtown Las Vegas Art District at One East Charleston Boulevard. Call 702-868-7880 or visit www.s2art.com for additional information.—Gregory A. Kompes

Nevada Travel UPDATES

Bike Path Opens

Bikers are happily pedaling from Mogul to Verdi now that the first part of the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway, the **Mogul-Verdi Bike Link**, is completed. The planned bikeway is a 116-mile paved path from the head of the Truckee River at Lake Tahoe through Reno and Sparks to the river's end at Pyramid Lake. The Mogul-Verdi Bike Link travels along, but a safe distance from, Interstate 80. The 40-mile first phase connects 39 miles of existing bike paths and roads situated 20 miles upstream and 20 miles downstream from Reno. Call 775-825-9869 for more information on the bike paths.

Adventure Guides

The Nevada Commission on Tourism has produced the 2006 edition of the pocket-sized **Wide Open Adventure Guide**, a 107-page booklet that lists outdoor recreation from hiking and biking to water sports in the Silver State. Activities in Northern, Southern, and rural Nevada are detailed. To obtain a Nevada visitor's package, which includes a *Wide Open Adventure Guide*, *Nevada Visitor Guide*, and state map, call 800-NEVADA-8.

"Adventures on the Edge," a brochure published by the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority, includes information about recreation in Northeastern Nevada. You'll learn which parts of Elko County are open to the public as well as information on mountain biking, camping, off-roading, hunting, and winter sports. Visit www.exploreelko.com for details.

Gee, Dad, It's a Yurt

Campers looking for an unusual way to spend the night can rent a yurt at the **Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park**, 18 miles south of Ely off U.S. 50. The Mongolian-style round tent sleeps five and has outstanding views of the Steptoe Valley, Schell Creek Mountains, and Great Basin National Park's Wheeler Peak. Available from May through September, the yurt can be reached by foot, bicycle, or ATV. Campers must bring everything they need, including a pot to boil drinking water obtained from the nearby spring. Reservations are required. Call 775-728-4460 or visit www.park.nv.gov.



Yurt camping near Ely.

Married On Scene

Couples take center stage at Lake Las Vegas and Gold Hill



Phillip and Roxanne Patranella kiss in front of Paris Las Vegas.

A Tasty Wedding

Phillip and Roxanne Patranella of Richmond, Texas, wanted a simple wedding. Instead, they got a blowout party at the Hyatt Regency at Lake Las Vegas with a sunset champagne cruise, a candlelit dinner with six desserts, and a \$15,000 cake—all provided by the Food Network. The couple's November 19 nuptials, which featured a wedding cake competition between top

pastry chefs, will air in most areas at 9 p.m. on June 11 in *Food Network Caters Your Las Vegas Wedding*.

The network picked 28-year-old Phillip and 24-year-old Roxanne for the show after they submitted a videotape. The judges decided the couple should be pampered for putting in long hours at the five Pizza Huts Phillip's family owns in the Houston area.

The Food Network handled all the wedding arrangements. "I wouldn't change anything, except maybe the Michael Bolton music," Phillip says. "We're pretty laid back, and the wedding was so great. It was really nice and extravagant, but we didn't have to do any of the planning." —Merrie Leininger

"I wouldn't change anything, except maybe the Michael Bolton music."

Living Legends Remake History

Newlyweds Mark and Gigi Pavelek are known around Virginia City in their roles as Dr. Gray Beauregard Rivers from Augusta, Georgia, and his wife, Honey Marie.

The Paveleks, who live in Reno, researched the lives of residents of Virginia City in the late 1800s and then created Doc and Honey Marie for their volunteer work as docents for the Virginia City Convention and Tourism Authority.

Mark says although he and Gigi don't portray a real couple, Doc and Honey Marie are very much like the people who moved West after the Civil War.

About 52 volunteers dress in 19th-century garb and portray Comstock characters for the Virginia City Living Legends program every summer. They stroll Virginia City's streets—men with six-shooters on their hips and women in feathered hats—talking to tourists and posing for photos.

"People like to get their pictures taken with us. The tourists love seeing the

Western and Victorian outfits," Mark Pavelek says. "People ask about the buildings, clothing, and the mines. Most of the time, though, I'm setting the history straight."

Pavelek was part of a group of people who dressed as cowboys and miners before the docent program existed.

They called themselves "19th-century groupies" and put on their Old West clothing to hang out at the Bucket of Blood Saloon, where they would listen to the Comstock Cowboys, a local Western band. Mark was in character as Doc the night he met Gigi at the Bucket of Blood last May. Their courtship was swift, and by the time they were married—in costume—at the Gold Hill Hotel on October 15, they were well known as Doc and Honey Marie.

Virginia City Convention and Tourism Authority Executive Director Susan Sutton says the Virginia City Living Legends also portray their characters at special events.

Call 775-847-4FUN or 800-718-SLVR or visit www.virginiacity-nv.org for further information. —Merrie Leininger



Mark and Gigi Pavelek wed in Nevada's oldest hotel.

NEVADA MAGAZINE

Announces

The Great Nevada Picture Hunt 29th annual photo contest



"Li'l Garrett at Pahrump Harvest Festival" by Alex Compton won Best People in the 2005 contest.

Show us your view

of Nevada... people, ghost towns, events, adventure, scenic landscapes, hotel-casinos, city life, rural life, water sports, and wildlife. The judges will be looking for the whole range of the Nevada experience.

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Anyone can enter. The photo contest is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. You can enter up to 6 photos or slides. Just be sure to send your entries postmarked by June 5, 2006.

The top five winners will receive \$200 for first place, \$100 for second, \$75 for third, \$50 for fourth, and \$25 for fifth. Additional winners will receive the 2007 Nevada Historical Calendar. Winners will be announced in the September/October 2006 issue of *Nevada Magazine*.

Photo Contest Rules

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

Deadline: Postmarked by June 5, 2006.

Entry Form: This entry form must be filled out, signed, and included with photos. All entries must be mailed in. Drop-offs and emailed entries will not be accepted.

How Many Photos: You can enter any combination of black-and-white prints, color prints, color slides, or digital images on a MAC-formatted CD or a print-out, for a maximum total of six.

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

Digital Manipulation: Digitally manipulated photos are acceptable, but must be labeled as such.

Presentation: Color or black-and-white prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14," unmounted. Trans-

parencies must be 35mm slides or larger. Please present slides in a plastic slide sleeve.

Packaging: The simpler, the better. Maximum envelope size should be 12"x16." Only one photographer with up to six photos per package. Please write "Photo Contest" on the package.

For Return: You must enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry to ensure your photos' safe return. (No pickups at the office.)

Judging: Entries will be judged by a panel of experienced photographers and magazine staff.

Permission: Contestants grant *Nevada Magazine* permission to print winning entries in the Sept/Oct 2006 issue of *Nevada Magazine* and other *Nevada Magazine* publications. Contestants also give *Nevada Magazine* permission to make reproductions of winning entries for a traveling art show, Web site display, and Great Nevada Picture Hunt slide-show presentations.

Entry Form: 29th Annual GNPH – Deadline: June 5th, 2006

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Send this form with your entries to: Great Nevada Picture Hunt, *Nevada Magazine*, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. Please remember to include a self-addressed, stamped return envelope. Please be advised, although we take great care to return your photos in the condition in which we received them, *Nevada Magazine* assumes no responsibility for damaged or lost material submitted.

LOCALS' FAVORITE

Beto's Mexican Food serves faithful Reno fans. **By Merrie Leininger**

Ask Reno residents where to find great traditional Mexican food, and many of them will say "Beto's" without missing a beat.

Beto's Mexican Food draws lunchtime crowds every day for its fresh south-of-the-border cuisine, made from traditional recipes that head chef Maria De La Torre was taught by her father, Zachary, and her sister, Rosalba, Beto's owner.

The small restaurant has been in the same location on Fifth Street, a few blocks west of downtown Reno, for almost a decade. Four of Maria's sisters, her mother, her brother, and her sister-in-law work with her, but Maria is in charge of preparing dishes ranging from sopapillas to seven seas soup. She also trains the eatery's new cooks.

The family has been in the restaurant business for years. Zachary De La Torre and his large family—six daughters and four sons—lived above their restaurant in Guadalajara. It was a popular gathering place. "Everyone would come," Maria says through interpreter Ruby, 27 her youngest sister. "They liked the food, and it was where they would come with their families on the weekends."

Beto's is named after one of their brothers, who owns Tacos El Rey in Reno, but the sisters smile and say Maria's food is better than his. Some of the most popular dishes are the soups Maria prepares. She arrives at the restaurant



Maria's Pozole

early every morning to start the pork soup called *pozole* and goat meat soup called *birria*. She oversees that day's chopping and peeling and ensures that the ingredients for the enchiladas and tacos are prepared and ready for the lunchtime rush.

"Everything is like what is used in Mexico," Maria says. "We don't use yellow cheese, only white cheese like in Mexico."

The one thing Maria makes differently is her flan. She uses a top-secret technique that many people try to pry from her. "A woman came in here two hours ago," Ruby said recently. "She didn't know I was Maria's sister and offered me \$10 to tell her how she makes it. People want to know what makes her flan taste different. But it's her secret."

¡ES BUENO!

Beto's Mexican Food is open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at 575 West Fifth Street in Reno. Call 775-324-0632 for more information.

Merrie Leininger is the assistant editor for the Reno Gazette-Journal's Calendar.

RECIPES:

Pork Soup and Seafood

Maria De La Torre enjoys sharing most of the recipes she makes at Beto's, including her *pozole* and her seafood cocktail.

Maria's Pozole

2 pounds pork meat
(includes shredded pork ears and feet)
1/4 cup salt (or as desired)
1 tablespoon fresh oregano
1 tablespoon fresh garlic
1 large (6 pounds, 12 ounces) can white hominy
4 California peppers (red chilies)
Garnishes: shredded lettuce, radish quarters, lime halves, chopped onions

In a large pot, cover meat with water, add salt, bring to a boil, then reduce heat and cook three to four hours or until cooked thoroughly. Mix garlic, oregano, and two cups of water in a blender, then add to cooked meat. Soak peppers in hot water for 30 minutes, then purée in a blender with a small amount of water, drain, and add to the meat. Add hominy to meat mixture. Reheat to desired serving temperature. Makes four large servings.

Serve with garnishes and bread or tortillas.

Seafood Cocktail

First, make shrimp soup by boiling six cups of water. Add half a chopped white onion, one teaspoon salt, and three cups shrimp. Simmer for half an hour. You'll need one cup of soup (see below).

Sauce ingredients:

1/2 chopped lime
1 tablespoon chopped white onion
1 tablespoon chopped tomato
1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro
3 tablespoons avocado
1/2 tablespoon ketchup
1 cup shrimp soup

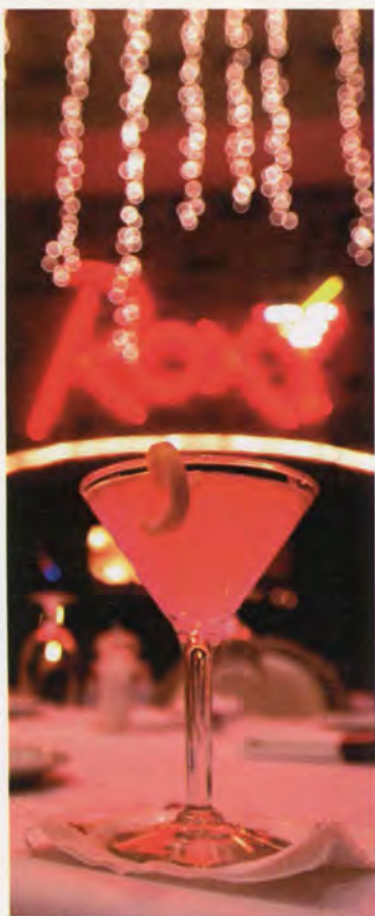
For dipping:

8 boiled shrimp
4 bite-sized pieces of boiled octopus
4 bite-sized pieces of cooked abalone

Mix sauce ingredients with one cup of the shrimp soup. Serve in a cup or bowl with the shrimp, octopus, and abalone on the side. Dip the seafood in the sauce. ▀



Maria De La Torre prepares lunch at Beto's.



The surroundings—not just the vodka—add to the buzz.

Cocktail Cool

Nightlife

You can get your martini with a twist at Roxy's in Reno.

After work on weekdays young professionals gather to sample one or more of the 102 martinis offered at **Roxy's Bar and Lounge** in the Eldorado in downtown Reno. Visitors can join the crowd at the bar and choose drinks with names like Chocolate Duchess and Jade Monkey Martini. Feeling oh-so-hip? Order the Dean Martin. The James Bond Martini might appeal to old-school sophisticates. The more adventurous can order a Titanic Martini—made with Teton Glacier vodka and three olives, one for each hour of the film.

The surroundings at Roxy's—not just the vodka—add to the buzz. Guests reach the lounge by climbing a few stairs and passing under an arch with "Roxy's" scrawled in purple neon. Waitresses, dressed in black, weave between the piano lounge and the elegant bar.

Visitors can settle on stools around the

piano, sit at a table, or relax on a couch. Behind the piano, the exposed brick wall features old French posters. Between 4:30 and 6 p.m. singer Christine Shelton and her accompanist offer jazzy versions of pop songs from the '50s ("The Way You Look Tonight" by Frank Sinatra), the '70s ("Moondance" by Van Morrison), and the '80s ("Time After Time" by Cyndi Lauper).

Getting your martini fix, especially on weekends, can be difficult, as Roxy's is often packed. You might be able to find a seat during the weeknight happy hour, when martinis cost \$4 rather than the usual \$7 or \$8. Roxy's serves every kind of liquor imaginable and has 350 wines and numerous domestic, imported, and microbrew beer for \$4 to \$5. The adjoining Roxy's restaurant prepares food for the bar, including crab cakes and shrimp from \$9 to \$12. Call 775-785-9066 for information. —*Merrie Leininger*

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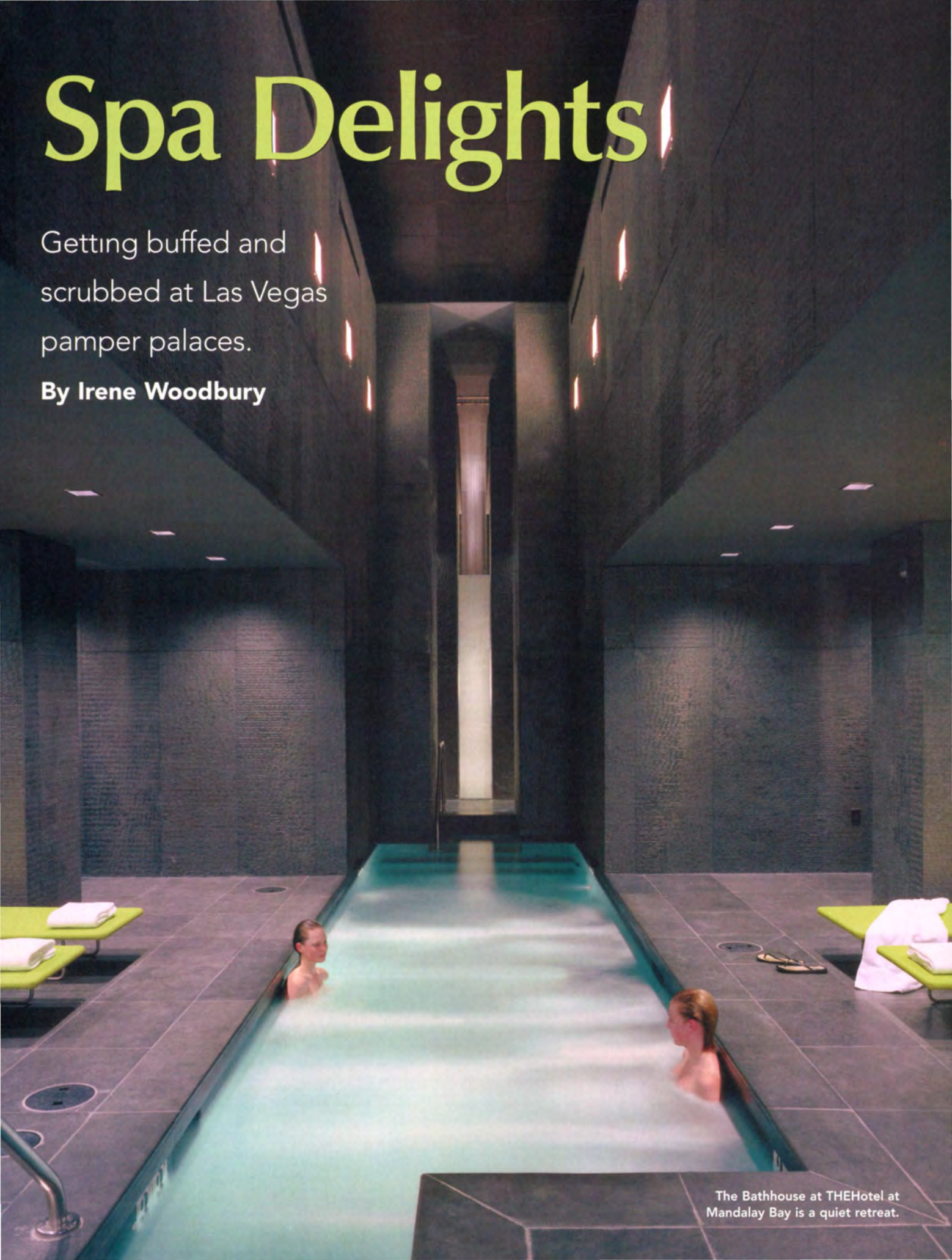
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Spa Delights

Getting buffed and scrubbed at Las Vegas pamper palaces.

By Irene Woodbury



The Bathhouse at THEHotel at Mandalay Bay is a quiet retreat.

Some women crave chocolate. Others prefer diamonds. My favorite indulgence is a spa treatment. It may not taste sweet or sparkle, but a soothing wrap or a stimulating scrub provides a unique sense of pleasure and serenity in a turbulent world.

Most often I book a facial and massage when I'm on vacation. My only complaint: I'm usually limited to the spa in my hotel.

That's not a problem in Las Vegas. This capital of 24-hour hedonism has nearly 40 hotel spas on and off the Strip that are open to guests and the public 16 hours a day, seven days a week—although a few spas limit the general public to weekdays. These or-

ment, I checked at the reception desk, where I was handed a locker key, white cotton piqué robe, and rubber sandals. After a shower with mango-scented cleanser, I joined five other robed women in a waiting room. (Men's and women's spas are separate in each facility.) We leafed through magazines and chatted while nibbling granola bars and sipping juices. Soon a swarm of therapists, outfitted in green polo shirts and khaki pants, arrived to escort us to our private treatment areas.

Twenty-something Llean, an esthetician (also known as a skin-care specialist), took me to a small, darkened room with soothing music playing. As I lay between silky white

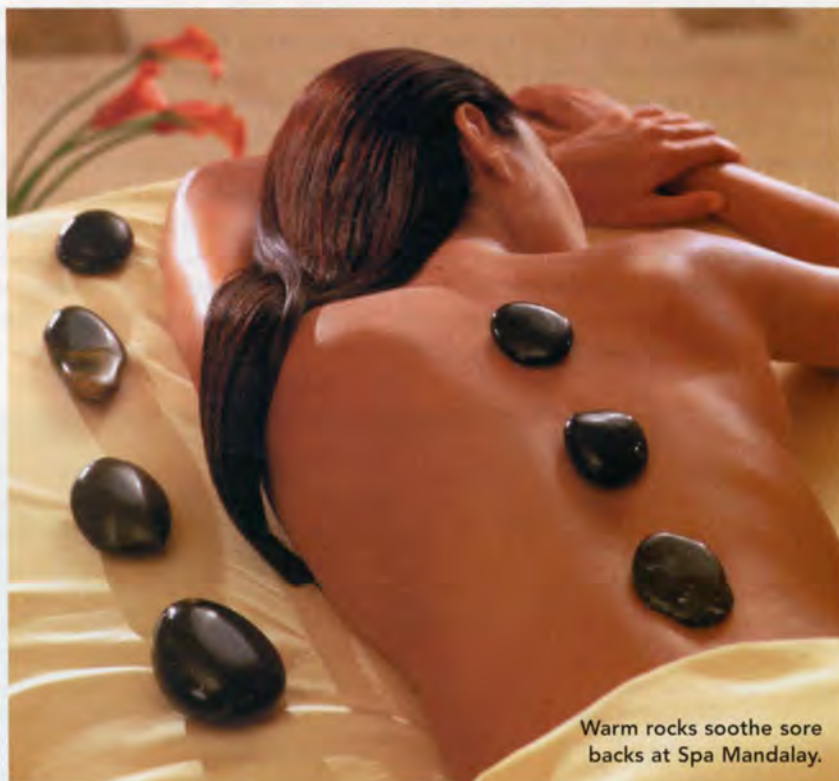
mango-scented oil. This 30-minute interlude was followed by a slathering of warm mango scrub on my legs, arms, and back. Then Dorine wrapped me, gooey and giddy, in a white sheet and walked me to the showers. I lingered in the steam room, sauna, and Jacuzzi with other patrons.

The cost of my package was \$153, plus the standard 15-percent tip, which I considered reasonable for the amount and quality of the treatment.

Although I enjoyed my visit to Oasis, I yearned for more luxury. I found it the next day at Spa Mandalay in Mandalay Bay.

Spa Mandalay is among the crème de la crème of Vegas spas. LeAnn Rimes, Faith Hill, and Pamela

Llean's
fingers felt
like **rose
petals** as
they
fluttered
over my face
and neck.



Warm rocks soothe sore backs at Spa Mandalay.

nate pamper palaces offer services in every price range, from \$1-a-minute tanning at the Excalibur to the \$281, three-hour "Pamper Me Please" package at Harrah's.

During a visit to Las Vegas last year, I checked services and prices at several facilities before scheduling three treatments. First I chose a "Rejuvenation Package" at Luxor's Oasis Spa. A friend had raved about this 90-minute respite from reality—a refresher facial, Swedish massage, and body buff.

Thirty minutes before my appoint-

ment, I checked at the reception desk, where I was handed a locker key, white cotton piqué robe, and rubber sandals. After a shower with mango-scented cleanser, I joined five other robed women in a waiting room. (Men's and women's spas are separate in each facility.) We leafed through magazines and chatted while nibbling granola bars and sipping juices. Soon a swarm of therapists, outfitted in green polo shirts and khaki pants, arrived to escort us to our private treatment areas.

Llean's fingers felt like rose petals as they fluttered over my face and neck, cleansing, scrubbing, massaging, and applying a hydrating masque and hot towels. After a dash of eye crème, lip balm, and moisturizer my 30-minute facial was over.

Next Dorine vigorously massaged my back, shoulders, and neck with

Anderson are a few celebrities who have been pampered in this 30,000-square-foot labyrinth of luxury.

My therapist, Kristie, led me to one of the spa's 21 treatment rooms for my eucalyptus wrap. As I lay on the heated massage table, Kristie generously "basted" me with warm, gelled eucalyptus oil, wrapped me in hot towels, and pulled a vinyl cover around my body to help the heat and oil seep in. With the music up and the lights down, I steeped for 10 minutes. After Kristie removed the wrappings, I



Guests relax in the Elemis Spa at the Aladdin.

clutched a fresh towel and headed to the steam room and sauna, then savored a long soak in the red-tiled Jacuzzi.

Spa Mandalay is more private and expensive than most Sin City spas. My 30-minute eucalyptus wrap was \$75, but the extras—more chaise lounges around the Jacuzzi, muffins instead of granola bars, plush robes, fresh flowers instead of plastic—seemed worth the cost.

Still, I craved more exotic treatments and found two at the Elemis Spa at the Aladdin. When I arrived the next morning for a paraffin pedicure and traditional manicure, I was led into a nail salon deco-

rated in golden hues. As I sat in a red chair with a heated massage pad against my back, Jan submerged my feet in a hot, sudsy whirlpool. She massaged tangerine-lemon-grass lotion into my feet and lower legs, clipped, filed, and buffed my toenails, and exfoliated the skin on the soles of my feet with a buff board.

Next came an aromatic lavender scrub. Then Jan dipped each foot into hot peach paraffin wax until it was thoroughly coated. With my feet in plastic bags and pink booties, I relaxed for 10 minutes until Jan peeled off the hardened wax. Voila! My feet were pink and glowing and my toenails

ready for painting with pearly white polish.

After soaking and conditioning my fingernails, Jan filed and shaped them. She massaged a layer of Elemis-brand solar butter crème into my hands and forearms. The pungent almond scent was luscious. A coat of pale polish was the final step. My 50-minute paraffin pedicure cost \$75, the 30-minute manicure \$30. To the total of \$105, I added a well-deserved 18-percent tip.

While my nails dried, I sipped a cup of tea and wandered about. Dark salmon-pink walls—dramatically offset by turquoise doors leading to 35 treatment rooms—greeted me in every direction. A hushed formality reigned over this 32,000-square-foot zone of sybaritic delights.

Although I had to forgo the steam room, sauna, and Jacuzzi because my polish might bubble, I did venture into the carpeted gym and spent a soothing 25 minutes in the Alpha 2010, a capsule-shaped chakra alignment system.

After my three visits to Vegas spas I was rejuvenated. My skin glowed. My hands and feet felt silky. My back muscles were relaxed and my chakras blissfully aligned. Convinced I was on a roll, I headed for the nearest blackjack table. ▀

Irene Woodbury (right) is a freelance writer living in Denver.



Great Hotel Spas

Nevada hotel guests can refresh their slot-machine mojo with massages, body wraps, and facials at a growing number of casino spas and salons. Advanced booking is recommended.

Following is a sampling of Nevada's hotel-casino spas—48 in all.

LAS VEGAS

Elemis Spa at **Aladdin**, 866-9ELEMIS, 702-785-5SPA, www.elemis.com/spaaladdin.htm

The Spa at **Bally's**, 702-967-4366, www.ballyslasvegas.com

The Spa **Bellagio**, 702-693-7472, www.bellagiolasvegas.com

The Spa and Salon at **Caesars Palace**, 702-731-7776, www.caesarspalace.com

Royal Treatment Spa at **Excalibur**, 702-597-7777, www.excaliburcasino.com

The Spa at **Flamingo Las Vegas**, 702-733-3535, www.flamingolv.com

The Spa at **Four Seasons**, 702-632-5000, www.fourseasons.com

The Rock Spa at **Hard Rock**, 702-693-5554, www.hardrock.com

The Spa at **Harrah's Las Vegas**, 800-392-9002, ext. 5189, www.harrahs.com

The Spa at **Las Vegas Hilton**, 702-732-5648, www.lvhilton.com

The Spa at **Imperial Palace**, 702-794-3242, www.imperialpalace.com

Aquae Sulis Health Spa at **JW Marriott Hotel/Rampart Casino**, 877-869-8777, 702-869-7807, www.jwlasvegasresort.com

Oasis Spa at **Luxor**, 702-730-5724, www.luxor.com

Bathhouse Spa at **THEhotel at Mandalay Bay**, 702-632-7777, www.mandalaybay.com

Spa Mandalay, **Mandalay Bay**, 702-632-7777, www.mandalaybay.com

Christophe Salon at **MGM Grand**, 702-891-3339, www.mgmgrand.com

Mirage Spa and Salon, 702-791-7472, www.themirage.com

The **Monte Carlo** Salon and Spa, 702-730-7590, www.montecarlo.com

The Spa at **New York-New York**, 702-740-6955, www.nynyhotelcasino.com

Spa **Orleans**, 888-365-7111, ext. 7316, 702-365-7316, www.orleanscasino.com

Palms Spa, 702-942-6937, www.palms.com

The Spa by Mandara at **Paris Las Vegas**, 702-946-4366, www.paris-lv.com

The Spa at **Red Rock**, 866-767-7773, www.stationcasinos.com

Michael's Spa and Salon at **Rio**, 702-777-7777, www.harrahs.com

Executive Fitness and Spa at **Riviera**, 702-794-9441, www.theriviera.com

Roni Josef Salon and Day Spa at **Stratosphere**, 702-380-7606, www.stratospherehotel.com

The Salon and Spa at **Treasure Island**, 702-894-7472, www.treasureisland.com

The Spa **Tropicana**, 702-739-2680, www.tropicana.lv.com

Canyon Ranch SpaClub at **Venetian**, 702-414-3600, www.venetian.com

The Spa at **Wynn Las Vegas**, for hotel guests only, 702-770-7000, www.wynnlasvegas.com

HENDERSON

The **Green Valley Ranch** Spa, 702-617-7570, www.stationcasinos.com

Spa Moulay at **Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas**, 702-567-6049, www.lakelasvegas.com

The **Ritz-Carlton** Spa at Lake Las Vegas, 702-567-4600, www.ritzcarlton.com

LAUGHLIN

The Spa and Salon at **Colorado Belle**, 702-298-4000, ext. 3016, www.coloradobelle.com

Harrah's Salon and Day Spa, 702-298-8521, www.harrahs.com

Vange Salon at **River Palms**, 702-298-2242, www.rvpalm.com

MESQUITE

The Spa at **CasaBlanca**, 702-346-6760, www.casablancaresort.com

LAKE TAHOE

The Euro Spa at **Cal-Neva Resort**, 775-832-4000, www.calnevaresort.com

The Spa at **Caesars Tahoe**, 866-895-

Northern Spas

Reno-Tahoe resorts offer elegant escapes.

Visitors can relax at full-service salons and spas at several Northern Nevada hotel-casinos. Treatments designed to pamper your body and spirit range from mud wraps to Swedish massage.

Couples can enjoy a side-by-side massage in a room overlooking Lake Tahoe at the Cal-Neva Resort's Euro Spa or in the cozy couples' room at Caesars Tahoe's spa. Caesars' spa also offers an Ashiatsu massage, during which the therapist, supported by overhead bars, applies foot pressure to your muscles. (Caesars Tahoe is scheduled to become MontBleu later this summer.)

In addition to women's facials and body treatments, the Reflection Spa at Harrah's Lake Tahoe has skin care therapy for men to alleviate shaving irritation, and both sexes can enjoy the sunless bronzing treatment.

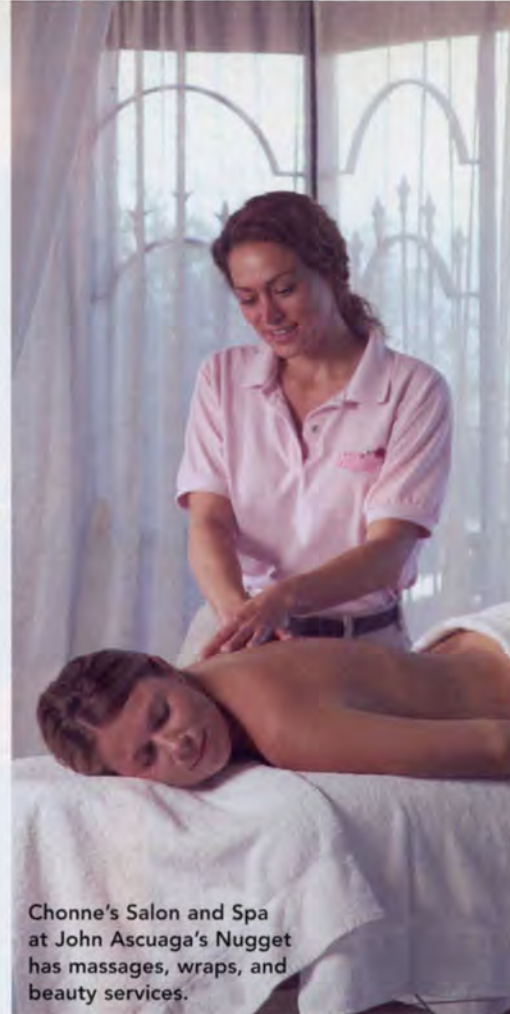
At Incline Village, the Vichy water massage at the Hyatt Regency's Stillwater Spa is designed to regenerate the scalp and mind, and for more water therapy, there's the Tahoe Blue, which includes a sugar body scrub.

At the Atlantis Spa in Reno, aromatic

ingredients in the cinnamon and clove sugar scrub and the peppermint pedicure can help you to relax. Just a few blocks north on Virginia Street, the Peppermill's Salon and Health Club therapists perform massages in your room, and the salon offers a pick-me-up facial for persons on the go (the Peppermill's spa expansion is scheduled for completion this fall).

The Siena's Hotel Spa features Italian-inspired escapes where guests can choose a 15-minute, quick-fix chair massage or a fruity Neroli body polish with white orange blossoms. Reno's other European-style spa, the Health Spa at the Silver Legacy, offers a Swedish sports massage, black Baltic mud body wrap, and the rose body mud wrap (ideal for dry skin), which contains clay from France.

In Sparks, Chonne's Salon and Spa at John Ascuaga's Nugget offers a deal—with a full- or half-day pamper package you have free use of the pool and health club.—Wilma LaRocca



Chonne's Salon and Spa at John Ascuaga's Nugget has massages, wraps, and beauty services.

7894, www.caesarsstahoe.com
Reflection Spa at **Harrah's Lake Tahoe**,
775-586-5088, www.harrah.com
The Stillwater Spa at **Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe**, 775-886-6745,
www.laketahoe.hyatt.com

RENO-SPARKS

The Spa at **Atlantis**, 775-954-4135,
www.atlanticasino.com
The Spa at **Harrah's Reno**, 775-788-2822,
www.harrah.com

Chonne's Salon and Spa at **John Ascuaga's Nugget**, 775-356-3485,
www.janugget.com

Peppermill Salon and Health Club, 775-689-7190 www.peppermillcasinos.com,
spa expansion scheduled to open fall 2007

Siena Hotel Spa, 775-321-5868,
www.sienareno.com
Health Spa at **Silver Legacy**, 775-325-7051, www.silverlegacy.com

WENDOVER

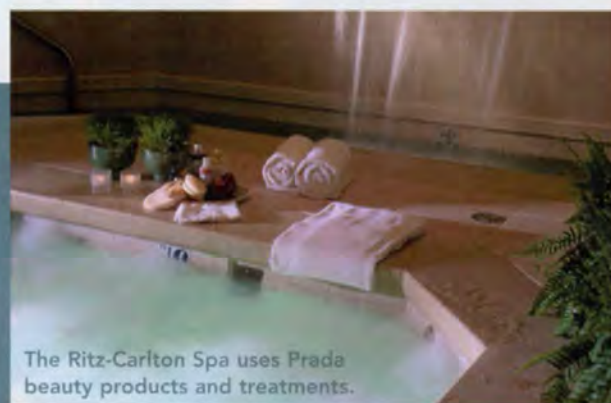
Montego Bay Salon and Day Spa, 887-MONTEGO, 775-664-9100, scheduled to open spring 2006—Wilma LaRocca

Glossary of Spa Terms

Body Buff: Much pleasanter than a body rebuff. A gel-cleansing agent with soft beads, such as jojoba or crushed nuts, is applied to exfoliate the skin and stimulate circulation.

Chakra: Sounds like a Southern vegetable, but in Eastern Indian medicinal philosophy this term refers to seven interconnected energy centers in the body. A state of harmony and health results when the seven are balanced.

Facial: Deep cleansing of the face through steaming, exfoliating, toning, massaging, and moisturizing.



The Ritz-Carlton Spa uses Prada beauty products and treatments.

Paraffin Wax Treatment: Warm melted wax containing menthol and essential oils helps to relax muscles and soften skin. After the wax cools, hardens, and is removed, the skin feels fresh and smooth. How can something so soothing and luxurious not be illegal, immoral, or fattening?
Swedish Massage: This classic body treatment is popular

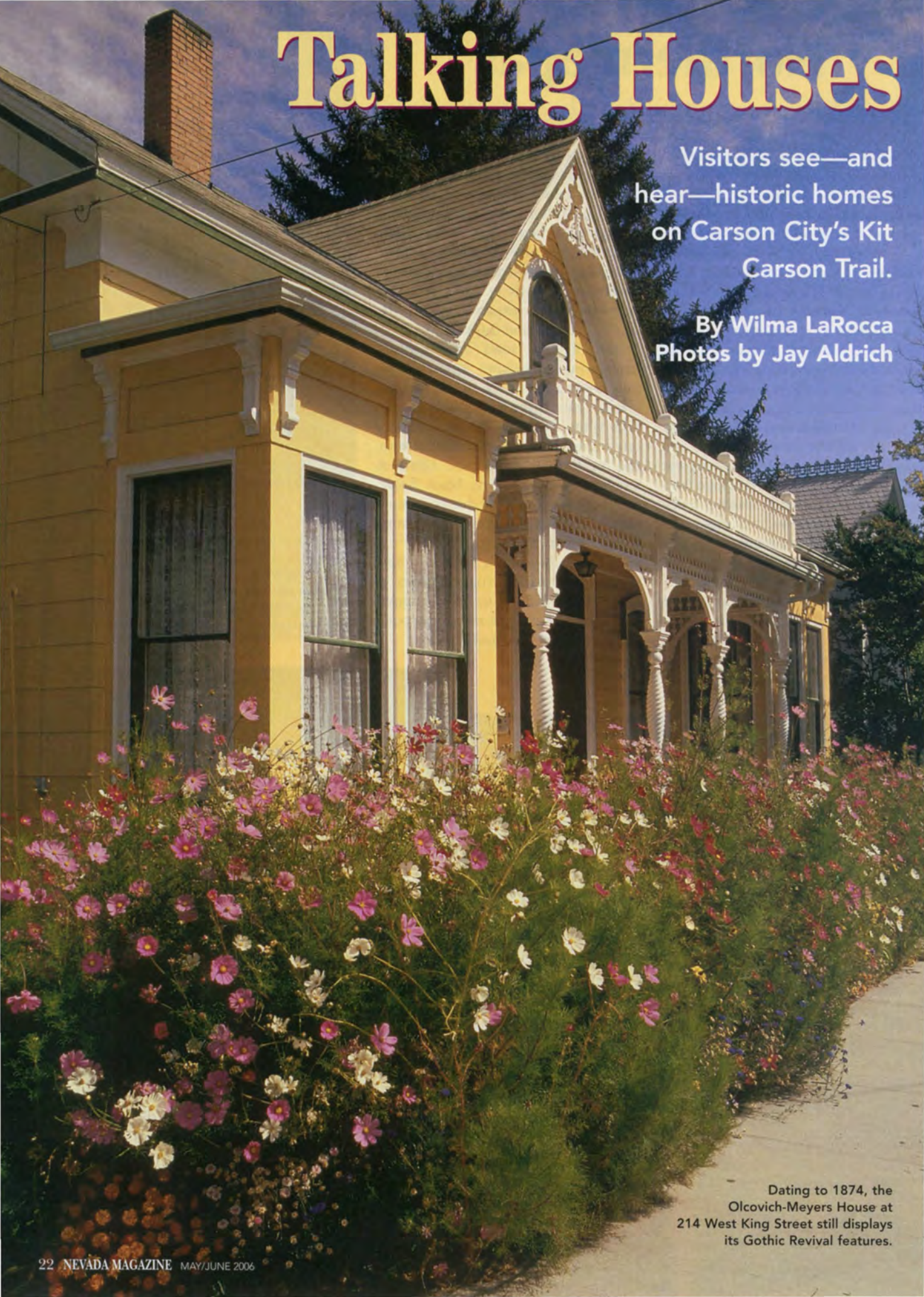
from Stockholm to the Strip. After applying oil or lotion, a massage therapist manipulates your muscles to promote relaxation, stimulate circulation, and improve flexibility.
Wrap: Not just a fast-food item at the mall. Clay, seaweed, or warm pre-treated herbal towels are wrapped around the body to release toxins, draw out impurities, and relax muscles.

—Irene Woodbury

Talking Houses

Visitors see—and
hear—historic homes
on Carson City's Kit
Carson Trail.

By Wilma LaRocca
Photos by Jay Aldrich



Dating to 1874, the
Olcovich-Meyers House at
214 West King Street still displays
its Gothic Revival features.

Historic Carson City looks much as it did when Mark Twain visited the home of his brother, Orion Clemens, the Nevada territorial secretary, in the early 1860s. Now shaded with trees planted long ago, the west side of town holds on to its 19th-century elegance, recalling the days when the capital was home to railroad executives and Tahoe lumber barons.

If you tune your radio to AM 1080 at 502 North Division Street—the Orion Clemens house—the voice of an actor says, “Hello. I’m Samuel Clemens, better known as Mark Twain to many of you. Welcome to my brother Orion’s home. It cost \$12,000 to build, but he only was paid \$3,500 when it sold.”

In all, about two dozen “talking” houses on the city’s Kit Carson Trail have stories to tell. Walking or driving the historic tour, you’ll see Gothic arched windows, mansard roofs, and eaves trimmed with boxed cornices. The trail is designated by a blue line painted on the sidewalk. Many public buildings along Carson Street, which include the State Capitol and the Paul Laxalt Building, home of *Nevada Magazine* and the former post office, “talk,” too.

The Kit Carson Trail also points out 46 non-talking buildings, which are illustrated in brochures displayed at the

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau. The trail is easy to follow, as the city has retained its original rectangular grid street system, the blocks are short, and the houses are close together. Standing at the corner of Mountain and Robinson streets, you’re only steps away from the Governor’s Mansion, the Bliss Mansion, and the Bender residence, all with ornate, wrap-around front porches furnished with wicker and Adirondack chairs.

Most of the homes are private and not open to the public, but on the Wild, Wild West guided tour, scheduled for May 27—Memorial Day weekend—several homeowners invite guests inside to meet the family, who may tell you a story about life more than 100 years ago.

Professional actors in period costume perform old-time sketches during the Wild, Wild West tour. Mary Bennett, a veteran trail actor, also writes scripts. She says the sketches go beyond costumes and speeches.

“We make people feel that they’re part of history—that they’ve gone back in time,” Bennett says. “Last year I played Lillie Langtry. I pulled up in a stagecoach, dressed in my best red velvet dress, and told the people that I was on my way to give a concert in Virginia City.”

Wilma LaRocca is a Nevada staff writer.



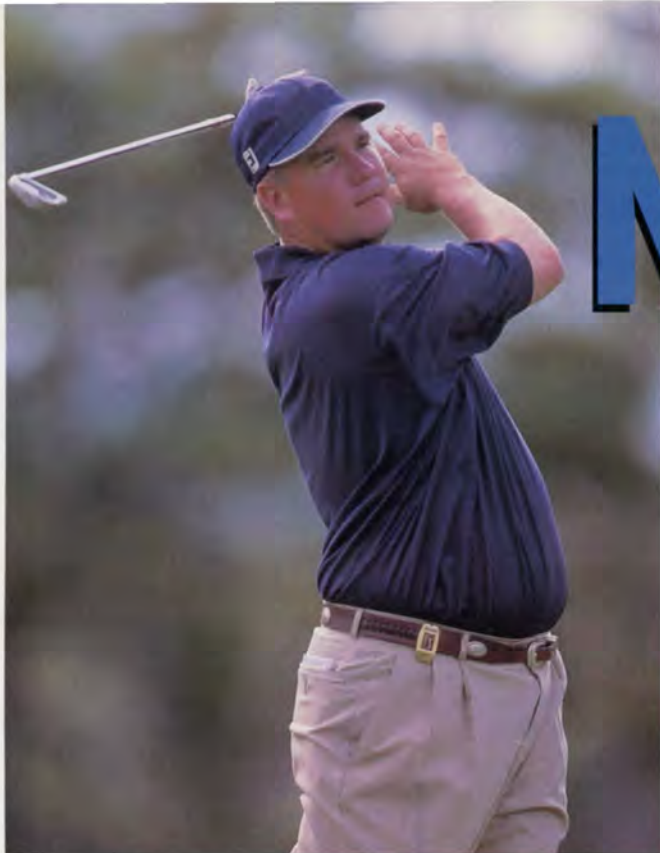
Actor Mary Bennett (left) and Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau executive director Candy Duncan pose at last year’s Wild, Wild West tour.

When You Go

For information about the Kit Carson Trail, contact the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 South Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701 (775-687-7410, 800-NEVADA-1, or www.visitcarsoncity.com). A Visitors Guide includes a map and lists the tour’s buildings and AM frequencies. The CCCVB presents the Wild, Wild West tour along the Kit Carson Trail on May 27 and on October 28 (Nevada Day weekend) a Ghost Walk is scheduled. ▣



The Yerington House, 512 North Minnesota Street, was purchased and enlarged by railroad man H.M. Yerington in the 1860s. Its glassed-in porch resembles a rail car.



Henderson's Craig Barlow was the 1994 state amateur champion.

Nevadans on Tour

Golfers from **Las Vegas** and **Reno** are making their marks on the men's and women's tours. **By Kevin Iole**

Craig Barlow was barely longer than the clubs he was swinging the first time he played golf. Craig would tag along when his father, Gary, an avid golfer, practiced in the park next to their Henderson home. The first time he watched his father swing at a ball and send it soaring majestically into the distance, Craig was hooked.

When the day finally arrived that he could swing at the ball himself, the youngster could barely contain his glee. He went with his father and his cousin, Shane Flowers, to Black Mountain Golf and Country Club in Henderson.

"I shot 72," Barlow said proudly. Then he quickly added, "From the red tees. For nine holes."

But it was a start. Today Barlow, who routinely shoots 72 or better from the championship tees for 18 holes, has played his way to the top of the game. Barlow is now in his ninth season on the PGA Tour, one of many players from Nevada who are competing on one of the professional tours.

Most members of Nevada's pro contingent live in or hail from Las Vegas. Besides Barlow, Vegas-raised players include LPGA Tour player Stephanie Loudon, who as Stephanie Keever competed in area junior tournaments, and PGA Tour player Robert Gamez, who grew up on Las Vegas' public golf courses.

Another source of links pride is the UNLV golf team. Under the direction of coach Dwaine Knight, the powerful UNLV squad has spawned numerous pros, among them Jeremy Anderson, Chad Campbell, Chris Riley, Adam Scott, Charley



Former UNR star Kirk Triplett shows his Reno-Tahoe Open trophy.

Hoffman, and Ryan Moore. All of those players except Campbell and Scott stayed in Las Vegas after their college days.

"This is my home now," said Anderson, who played on the tour as a rookie and is trying to fight his way back to the big time after battling injuries.

Hoffman, Anderson's former UNLV teammate, turned pro in 2000. In February he tied for ninth in the Chrysler Classic of Tucson. Two years ago, Riley won a playoff at the Reno-Tahoe Open on Reno's Montréux links for his only PGA Tour victory. He also made the 2004 U.S. Ryder Cup team.

Campbell wound up at UNLV by getting the scholarship that Coach Knight was holding for Tiger Woods. Campbell has won three PGA Tour events, as has Scott.

"A lot of it is because of Coach Knight," Riley said of the Rebel alumni's pro success. "The program is incredible. When you play the best players on the best courses and you have the best coach, this is what you'll start to see sooner or later."

Moore, the latest Rebel star, had a spectacular summer in 2004, when he won the NCAA Championship, the U.S. Amateur, the U.S. Amateur Public Links, the Western Amateur, and the Sahalee Players Championship. No amateur—not



Lake Las Vegas resident Natalie Gulbis tied for third at the Kraft Nabisco Championship.

Woods, Jack Nicklaus, or Arnold Palmer—had ever won all those events in the same year.

In 2005, as an amateur, Moore finished 13th in the Masters. Then he became the first player since Woods to earn enough money on sponsors' exemptions to win his PGA Tour card without going to the tour's difficult qualifying school. Although he's yet to win, Moore is hardly intimidated.

"I set standards for myself that you can't imagine," said Moore, who bought a house at Southern Highlands. "I'm playing to win, and I believe I can win every time I get out there. If I didn't, I shouldn't be playing."

Like Craig Barlow, Stephanie Louden grew up playing on the Southern Nevada Junior Golf Association circuit. At seven she began taking lessons from Kim Dolan at Las Vegas Golf Club. Dolan, who remains one of the area's top teaching pros, took an interest in her.

"He just was so special for me," said Louden. "He always made it fun. We were always laughing and kidding and having a great time, even when I was grinding away. I can remember trying so hard to beat him to win a Slurpee in the putting contests we used to have."

Louden has strong family roots in Southern Nevada golf. Her father, Larry Keever, an accomplished amateur player, got her started in the game. Her husband, Mike, a Henderson native and former state amateur champion, competes on the mini-tour circuit. Louden spent many of her early years playing with and against boys. They would flop shots over hedges and try chips from wild angles. Only

"When I knew I was going to the golf course, I always had a smile on my face," said Louden.



Stephanie Louden was a four-time All-American at Stanford.

Gulbis starred in a reality TV series called *Natalie!* and produced a swimsuit calendar.

later did she consider golf as a career.

"It was a game I loved and I wanted to be part of," said Louden, who graduated from Cimarron-Memorial High School and played at Stanford. "When I knew I was going to the golf course, I always had a smile on my face."

Robert Gamez, another product of Las Vegas public courses, became one of the most celebrated amateurs in state history. The Clark High School graduate starred at the University of Arizona before turning pro. He won his first official event, the Tucson Open,

in 1990. Two months later, on the last hole of the Nestle Invitational, he holed out a 176-yard seven-iron for an eagle to beat Greg Norman, then the world's top player, by one shot.

"Any time you win out here [on tour], it's special and means something, but to win that tournament that way, it's something that will be with me forever," said Gamez, who moved to Orlando two years ago to make travel easier but still has family in Las Vegas.

Scott McCarron lives in Reno, but he seems to play some of his best golf in Las Vegas. McCarron has finished in the top five four times in the Las Vegas Invitational.

"I'm just comfortable here," says McCarron, who has three PGA Tour wins. "I have friends and family watching, I like the course, I like the people, and things seem to just go well."

Another well-known player with Reno connections is Kirk Triplett, a University of Nevada, Reno graduate. In 2003, Triplett won the Reno-Tahoe Open as friends and college mates followed him down the tree-lined fairways of Montrêux. Last February he earned \$540,000 by winning the Chrysler Classic of Tucson. He continues to make a good living on the PGA Tour but hasn't forgotten the less fortunate. Triplett and his wife, Cathi, work on behalf of orphaned children and try to find them foster homes.

Meanwhile, the grandfather of all Nevada-based golfers, Jim Colbert, remains active on the Champions Tour. Colbert, 65, has won 20 times on the circuit.

His LPGA Tour counterpart is Patty Sheehan. The 49-year-old Reno resident has won 35 tour events, including six majors, and is a member of the LPGA Tour Hall of Fame.

The Las Vegas suburb of Summerlin has a wealth of professional golfers. Residents include LPGA player Kim Saiki and the PGA's John Riegger.

Summerlin's Bob May was involved in one of the game's most dramatic playoffs, losing to Woods on the third playoff hole in the 2000 PGA Championship. But May's game

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later was derailed by back problems.

"Rehab was hard—really hard," he said. "My muscles had been shut down for 10 weeks. I was on bed rest and wore a back brace." This year May is trying to play his way back to the top.

Dean Wilson, a former BYU star, moved to Summerlin in 2002 and is forging a career as a steady player on the PGA Tour. Wilson is perhaps best known for being a playing partner of LPGA star—and Incline Village resident—Annika Sorenstam when she played in the 2003 Colonial.

But Natalie Gulbis, who lives at Lake Las Vegas, is nowhere near such a big secret. Not only did she used to date Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, she starred in a reality television series called *Natalie!* She also produced a swimsuit calendar of herself that has boosted her profile to the point that she has been compared to tennis diva Anna Kournikova. But Gulbis says she wants to be known for her play more than her looks.

"I want to be the number-one player in the world and win tournaments, important tournaments," Gulbis said. "That's what I'm doing all of this for." ▀

Kevin Iole writes about golf and other sports for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Tournament Time

You can watch Nevada's touring pros compete with other top golfers in tournaments in Las Vegas and Reno this year.

Reno-Tahoe Open: PGA Tour pros compete for a \$3-million purse August 21-27 at Montréux Golf and Country Club in Reno. Call 888-848-RENO or 775-322-3900 or visit www.pgatour.com.

Las Vegas Invitational: PGA Tour pros play for a \$4-million purse October 9-15 at TPC Summerlin and TPC the Canyons. For information call 702-242-3000 or visit www.pgatour.com.

Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge: Stars of the PGA, LPGA, and 2nd Senior PGA tours compete at Reflection Bay at Lake Las Vegas on November 14 to benefit the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. For details visit www.wendys3tour.com.

LPGA Takefujii Classic: The fourth annual LPGA event visited the Las Vegas Country Club in April with a purse of \$1.1 million. Call 702-898-4653 or visit www.lpga.com or www.lpgatakefujiclassic.com.

Nevada Golf 2006

For more on golf in the Silver State, see "Nevada Golf 2006" on page 37

The 13th annual special section describes golf vacation ideas and more than 120 courses in Nevada and the Lake Tahoe area.

Lincoln Highway Diary

With vintage guidebook in hand, we traveled the Nevada portion of the nation's first transcontinental roadway.

By Kristin Johannsen



A pair of adventurous motorists stop to gaze upon Lake Tahoe in 1915. Their auto is perched on the old Lincoln Highway at Cave Rock.

These days, if you live in the eastern United States, and you tell your friends you're driving all the way to Nevada for your vacation, you're bound to get some strange looks. We certainly did.

Now picture making that trip in 1913.

That was the year intrepid motorists began arriving in Nevada on the Lincoln Highway, America's first transcontinental motor road, which stretched from Times Square in New York City to Lincoln Park in San Francisco. It was the brainchild of Indiana industrialist Carl Graham Fisher, who also gave us the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indianapolis 500.

In those years before World War I, America had nothing resembling a highway system. Mud tracks led from city limits to outlying towns and then simply stopped. Although nearly half a million cars were already on the road in the United States, there were no routes connecting major cities. Motorists drove across farm fields asking for directions every few miles and had to ford rivers, dig boulders out of the way, and tow each other out of bogs. Frustrated by these conditions, Fisher enlisted a group of prominent businessmen to build a road across the continent, entirely with private funds.

It was a breathtakingly ambitious project in an era when there wasn't a single mile of

paved road outside the cities. Slowly, the route was laid out and marked with red, white, and blue blazes painted on trees and wooden posts. The last section wasn't completed until 1930—north of Ely. The Nevada road followed portions of what are now U.S. 93 and U.S. 50. The route forked in Reno, one branch heading west over Donner Pass and the other veering south to Carson City and Lake Tahoe. The roads rejoined in Sacramento.

To mark the 75th anniversary of the fabled route's completion, the Lincoln Highway Association was holding its annual conference in Ely in June of last year, and it seemed like the perfect excuse for a road trip. My husband, Kevin, and I decided to drive to Nevada, retracing the path of those first adventurous auto tourists, along the entire Lincoln Highway. On a fine May morning in Manhattan, we set out from the noise and bustle of Times Square.

Although its name has mostly vanished, much of the Lincoln Highway can still be retraced on today's federal and state highways. As we crossed the Eastern states, we strained our imaginations to picture the early motor road and its parade of Model T Fords amid the swirling traffic of Philadelphia or Chicago. But the further west we got, the more clearly we saw the old road. By the time we hit Nevada, the scene around us wasn't much different from what the



This stone ruin is all that's left of the Wells Fargo building in Hamilton, a mining town near the Lincoln Highway west of Ely.

earliest auto travelers encountered. In places, we could even see the tracks their tires had carved across the desert.

The Lincoln Highway crossed into Nevada at a nameless spot 50 miles south of Wendover. According to one early traveler, "A sign to mark this border is hardly necessary, as the change in road surface is apparent immediately [sic] one has entered Nevada." Here, the rough dirt track in Utah gave way to tamped gravel. To drivers from the east, it was a lonely, forbidding region, but the *Complete Official Road Guide of the Lincoln Highway* that they carried (we had a reprint of the 1924 edition) listed stopovers along the way.

The first Nevada stop was Tippet, population 50. A prosperous ranch, it offered rooms and meals, even a telephone. Gas here cost 50 cents a gallon and oil \$1 per quart—premium prices in a remote location, a situation not unfamiliar to present-day Nevada travelers.

Stopping at Tippet, we prowled the remains of a stone grain house, a corral, and a blacksmith shop. All around, venerable cars and trucks lay rusting away picturesquely. The ranch had its own repair



Antique cars were parked at the Nevada Northern Railway depot in Ely during the Lincoln Highway Association conference last summer, 75 years after the road's completion.

a small pistol of some sort... Don't forget the yellow goggles. Don't ford water without first wading through it. " And it ends, sagely: "Don't wear new shoes."

McGill, then a busy town of 2,500 centered on its copper-smelting operation,

antique auto club displayed old cars. It hardly seemed possible that such fragile-looking contraptions had conquered the rugged Lincoln Highway.

From Ely, we headed west to Hamilton. When the highway was first laid out, its planners incorporated the best existing roads, sending it near what was then a mining camp down on its luck. Once, Hamilton's rich silver ore had lured miners from across the West, but when the deposits began dwindling, so did the town. By the Lincoln Highway era, Hamilton had only a general store and a handful of inhabitants, but it could offer travelers water, meals, and gas.

It's amazing how fast the town vanished. The largest existing ruin in Hamilton is one corner of one wall of the massive, two-story Withington Hotel. We spent a melancholy hour climbing over broken bricks scattered under the brilliant desert sky.

Eureka, on the other hand, is alive and well, the county seat of one of the richest

The first Nevada stop was **Tippet**, population 50. Gas here cost 50 cents a gallon and oil \$1 per quart.

garage, with pits cut into the plank floor where mechanics worked underneath elegant Packards and humble Hupmobiles. The floor is still littered with scraps of metal and broken brake shoes, all filmed with dust.

For the next 50 miles, the only landmarks were ranches, and that's still true today. In the early automobiles, with their poor gas mileage and 10-gallon tanks, motorists needed to refuel often, and ranchers along the way were happy to sell gas to them. All across Nevada, many settlements listed in the guidebook are ranches named for their owners.

The guidebook made for entertaining reading as we crossed long, empty stretches. Its list of provisions to be kept "at all times" includes a slab of bacon, four loaves of bread, 10 pounds of potatoes, numerous cans of fruit, sacks of rice and cracked wheat, and for some reason, a pint of pickles.

Another section entitled "Don'ts for Tourists" begins, "Don't wait until the gasoline is almost gone before filling up." Obviously, human nature hasn't changed much. It goes on to counsel, "Don't carry loaded firearms in the car, except possibly

must have been a welcome sight to the early motorists—the first major settlement since Salt Lake City. We stopped at the McGill Historical Drugstore, which served passing travelers and is now a museum, and drank a Coca-Cola from its soda fountain, dispensed with flair by Dan Braddock, its personable soda jerk (and curator).

Ely would have looked like a vast metropolis in comparison, with its six hotels (rates: \$1 to \$3), three banks, and 100 "general business places." The town speed

Apart from smooth pavement, there was **virtually nothing to betray that we weren't in 1913.**

limit was 12 mph, "enforced." This was civilization! While in Ely we attended the Lincoln Highway Association conference, which attracted 165 highway buffs from across the country (most did the sensible thing and traveled by plane).

For the next three days, members took bus excursions to highway sights, heard presentations on highway history, and took guided tours around Ely. At the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, an

gold-producing areas of Nevada. We wandered streets of staunch brick buildings and into the Eureka Sentinel Museum, which had been the town's newspaper office from 1870 to 1960. This was another "time stands still" experience. The museum's back room was filled with old printing equipment, and the walls were pasted with yellowing samples of the posters they had once printed, advertising horse races and "Supper at Brown's Hotel."



The White Pine Boy Scout Troop dedicated a replica Lincoln Highway marker on Ely's main street in 2005. For more information about the highway, visit www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org.

Austin, along one the loneliest stretches, has several Lincoln Highway-era businesses, including the Lincoln Motel. But most were closed on a sleepy Sunday, and time pressed us westward.

Through the years, the Lincoln Highway remained a major cross-country artery from east to west, even though its name was largely forgotten. Of the 3,884 miles we traveled on the Lincoln Highway, Central Nevada was where the past felt closest. Apart from smooth pavement, there was virtually nothing to betray that we weren't in 1913. Around us were only dark mountain ranges, plains of blue and orange wildflowers blooming after a rain,

and now and then a ranch spreading low in the distance. I knew then how the early travelers must have felt, one cautious eye on the gas gauge, waiting for the next settlement to rise up like a tiny oasis.

The spell wasn't broken until we finally rolled into Fallon and returned to the modern world—"The end of the desert from the east. A Real Live City," touted an advertisement in a 1915 guidebook. The city's listing described two "new" irrigation dams that would make the desert fruitful and turn Fallon into the busy commercial center that it is today. That evening, we camped on the beach at Lahontan State Recreation Area, amazed at the vast sheet

of water that human beings created nearly a century ago.

Although the Lincoln Highway's name has been forgotten in too many places, Nevadans are taking new pride in their highway heritage. In Ely, we watched Boy Scouts dedicate a replica Lincoln Highway marker on the town's main street. Holly Marich, a teacher in McGill, received a Lincoln Highway Association award for her work with her fourth-graders. They wrote about the road's history—and even baked a giant Nevada-shaped brownie with a licorice Lincoln Highway embedded in the frosting.

Also, travelers are reminded of the Lincoln Highway as they drive between Ely and Reno, for the route is marked with new, reflectorized signs bearing the old red, white, and blue logo, placed by the Bureau of Land Management.

When early motorists hit Reno and the state line, a big adventure lay ahead. Would their cars make it over the Sierra Nevada into California? Would their brakes hold going down the other side?

But for us, as we made our way to San Francisco, we knew the highlight of our trip was already in the rearview mirror. We'd just traveled the best and truest stretch of old highway in America—the Lincoln Highway across Nevada. ♡

Kristin Johannsen, lives in Berea, Kentucky. Her book Ginseng Dreams: The Secret World of America's Most Valuable Plant was published this year by the University Press of Kentucky.

Re-enactment of Historic Convoy to Stop in Reno

Fifty years ago President Dwight D. Eisenhower, recovering from surgery at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington D.C., put his signature on the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956—thereby creating the interstate highway system, the largest engineering project in the nation's history.

This June 16 a cross-country caravan sponsored by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials will leave San Francisco and make an overnight stop in Reno. When the convoy arrives in Washington on June 29, AASHTO will celebrate the golden anniversary of a

system that has become a 46,508-mile web of super-highways.

The caravan replays the 1919 Washington to San Francisco Military Motor Transport convoy, which traveled on the Lincoln Highway across the country. The convoy, which stopped in Ely, Eureka, Austin, Fallon, Carson City, and Glenbrook, included 280 officers and enlisted men, among them Lt. Col. Dwight David Eisenhower, who was then a member of the U.S. Tank Corps. The trip convinced Eisenhower that the country needed a better highway system, a notion reinforced by his experience

with Germany's autobahns during World War II.

The 50th anniversary convoy, traveling on I-80, will stop at the National Automobile Museum, The Harrah Collection, 10 South Lake Street, Reno, tentatively at 2 p.m. June 16. The public is invited to see the caravan's antique vehicles and hear presentations about the original convoy. The procession will continue to Salt Lake City the next day.

For information call NDOT Public Information Officer Fred Hinners at 775-888-7172 or visit www.interstate50th.org.

—Phillip I. Earl



Mamie Doud met future husband Dwight Eisenhower in 1915.

CmdrMark's Fave Trips

An avid Nevada visitor and geocacher reveals the top spots on his travel list. **By CmdrMark**

CmdrMark—as he's known by his friends in Nevada and on the alt.vacation.las-vegas Web news-group—is a Massachusetts native now living in Philadelphia with his wife, Samantha, and daughter, Cassandra. The former corporate manager enjoys traveling the Silver State's empty highways, seeking the little-known places that make Nevada unique. Descriptions of his Nevada trips, going back to 1994, can be found at www.CmdrMark.com.

CmdrMark—who like most geocachers prefers anonymity—took up geocaching in September 2001 during his annual “Out West Trip.”

“Using an inexpensive geographical positioning device, or GPS, you can follow in the steps of others and locate their hidden cache, or you can hide your own,” CmdrMark explains. He notes that a cache is a sealed container where cachers place inexpensive trinkets. For more information visit www.geocaching.com.

Here CmdrMark reveals five of his top-rated Nevada side trips. Three of them involve the sport of geocaching.

Spencer Hot Springs

There are 312 hot springs in Nevada, according to the National Geophysical Data Center, and one of the best is Spencer Hot Springs. Spencer is located about seven miles southeast of the junction of U.S. 50 and State Route 376 in a

remote but surprisingly accessible spot at the north end of Big Smoky Valley. A valve regulates the flow of hot water into a circular tub, allowing bathers to soak in water ranging from tepid to dangerously hot (visitors should always be careful when entering a natural hot spring).

The tub's flat rock floor and seats are comfortable, and a wood deck and indoor-outdoor carpeting helps protect the spring from muddy feet. The closest overnight accommodations are in Austin. However,

Although Beowawe's geysers spout no more, it's possible to see an occasional wisp of steam.

primitive camping 200 feet from the springs is permitted for up to two weeks.

Spencer Hot Springs is located at N39° 19' 37.8" W116° 51' 20.8". A geocache, 6.39 miles away at N39° 14' 38.3" W116° 48' 14.6" is named CmdrMark's Beyond the Hot Spring Cache—a Tupperware container with a yoyo, deck of cards, and other items stowed inside.

Twelve miles due east of the spring is the Geographical Center of Nevada, positioned at N39° 19' 48.0" W116° 37' 56.0"



CmdrMark left a cache near the Center of Nevada as located by the USGS in 1962. Upper left: Cones mark the general area.

as determined in 2003 by the U.S. Geological Survey and marked with rebar and a laminate notice. Best accessed from Highway 82, a well graded dirt road that runs south from U.S. 50, these coordinates locate the third leg of the multicache called The Center of Nevada Cache. The multicache starts at N39° 19' 11.7" W116° 38' 13.3" an earlier Center of Nevada location marked by the USGS in 1962.

McGill Drugstore

Twelve miles north of Ely on U.S. 93 lies the little community of McGill, once a Nevada Consolidated Copper Company town. If you visit the McGill Historical Drugstore, now a museum, you'll feel as if you've been transported back to Smalltown, USA. During the summer, Dan Braddock, chairman of the White Pine County Historical Society and drugstore curator, is often found behind the soda fountain, ready to serve you double-scoop ice cream cones and milkshakes.

“Welcome folks!” he'll say. “Feel free to browse through the store, back rooms, everything. Touch whatever you like.



Today, the "Survival Town" house still stands despite the May 1955 Apple II nuclear detonation (above). Dan Braddock serves ice cream at the McGill Historical Drugstore (top).

Explore. Have fun, but remember that this is a museum, and the only items for sale are ice cream and Coke."

If you're visiting during the off-season, Dan, who lives in McGill, says he is happy to open the museum if you call him first at 775-235-7276. Browsing the drugstore is a trip back in time for anyone who remembers America's more innocent days. Or has seen episodes of *Leave It to Beaver*.

Beowawe

In the 1930s, Beowawe, six miles south of Interstate 80 on State Route 306, was known for its geyser fields. While not as famous as those at Yellowstone National Park, Beowawe's geysers would spout to a height of a couple of feet, with one geyser shooting a dozen feet in the air, according to the 1940 guidebook *Nevada: A Guide to*

the Silver State. The guide was compiled by writers in the Works Project Administration, and today's travelers can obtain a reproduction, *The WPA Guide to 1930s Nevada*, which was published in 1991 by the University of Nevada Press.

Although Beowawe's geysers spout no more, it's possible to see an occasional wisp of steam emanating from the holes of the former spouts or hear a gurgle of water from the depths. In 1985, a geothermal power plant altered the flow of water in the subterranean channels, killing Beowawe's geyser field. We placed a geocache named The Ghosts of Geysers, Beowawe in August 2002. It's located at N40° 33' 44.9" W116° 35' 45.3" East of Beowawe is Gravelly Ford, a resting place for the 19th-century pioneers following the California Trail. Cottonwood trees and

water allowed man and beast to rest in relative comfort before continuing their grueling trek across the desert.

Valley of the Moon

Nevada State Route 305 runs between Battle Mountain and Austin through the heart of the Great Basin Desert. The American Automobile Association has designated this roadway as a scenic byway because of its stunning desert views. The road gently twists and turns and rises and falls as it follows the contour of the landscape along the Reese River.

Located halfway between Battle Mountain and Austin is the Nevada Department of Transportation rest area at Valley of the Moon. As you face east, you will gaze upon the same view—low-growing brush marching all the way to the Shoshone Mountains—that explorer John C. Fremont saw in the 1840s. To the west, you will see acres of alfalfa undulating before the westerly winds—a view that Fremont might never have imagined. The Reese River provides irrigation for this seeming Garden of Eden.

As an inducement to visit the starkly beautiful area, we left a geocache in 2002 at coordinates N40° 07' 47.3" W 117° 07' 36.0" It's our way of encouraging people to travel State Route 305 and see one of Nevada's hidden beauties.

Mercury

Sixty-five miles northwest of Las Vegas off U.S. 95, Mercury is headquarters of the Nevada Test Site, where nuclear devices were detonated above and below ground from 1951 to 1992. The U.S. Department of Energy offers a monthly, 250-mile round-trip motorcoach tour, which originates at the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas and passes hundreds of the site's soil subsidences and craters.

When I toured the Test Site, our guide was Ernie Williams, a former Department of Energy employee who had witnessed more than 80 nuclear explosions.

Visitors are allowed to get off the bus at the Sedan Crater, where a July 6, 1962, detonation created a crater measuring 1,280 feet from rim to rim. In one and a half seconds, 6.6 million cubic yards (12 million tons) of earth moved as a result of the 104-kiloton device detonated 630 feet below the surface. Other stops on the tour include News Nob, where reporters witnessed nuclear blasts, the 1955 Apple II test house, automobile skeletons, an M-48 U.S. army tank, and a Mosler brand bank vault. For reservations call 702-295-0944 or visit www.nv.doe.gov/nts/tours.htm.

Second City

Fast-growing **Henderson** offers many Las Vegas-style tourist attractions—and some of its own **By Jack Bulavsky**

About 15 years ago, people started hearing about Henderson. While Steve Wynn was opening the Mirage in Las Vegas and that city was gaining international media attention, little old Henderson, with minimal fanfare, was experiencing its own boom.

Today, Henderson, 11 miles east of the exotic Strip, is the second most populous city in Nevada and one of the fastest growing in America. Last summer, Henderson's population passed 240,000. By 2010, city officials predict it will reach 310,000.

Named after U.S. Senator Charles B. Henderson, the city came to life during World War II as a blue-collar factory town. Its original name, Basic, came from Basic Magnesium Industries, the company supplying the country with magnesium. Many of the original town-site homes, some occupied by families of original plant workers, still stand in downtown Henderson. The state saved the community from being designated a war surplus property, and it was incorporated as the City of Henderson in 1953. Several restored homes from its past can be toured at the Clark County



Green Valley Ranch attracts celebrities to its private cabanas and the Whiskey Bar nightclub.

Museum. The museum, on Boulder Highway, is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Former city councilman and area businessman Hugh J. Anderson moved to Henderson in 1984, when the town had 150,000 residents. He has watched

Henderson grow into a city with its own resorts, shopping, and entertainment.

"Henderson has become an upscale suburban destination resort that is more intimate than the Strip," Anderson says. "This place is fun because there is a small-town feel to it, yet it offers many big-city activities."

The town's newest resort destination is the 490-room Green Valley Ranch Resort Hotel and Casino with its eight restaurants, two nightclubs, and 10-screen movie theater complex. The popular Whiskey Bar attracts nightclubbing locals as well as visiting celebrities like Jennifer Aniston, Paris Hilton, George Clooney, and Bill Clinton. The Whiskey Bar leads out to Whiskey Beach for a good view of the Vegas Valley.

Adjacent to the casino is The District at Green Valley Ranch, the first "metropolitan lifestyle center" in Southern Nevada. More than 40 stores and restaurants line both sides of "Main Street," topped by 88 luxury lofts, flats, and offices. Shopping there is fun. Anthropologie, White House/Black Market, Pottery Barn, and



MonteLago Village at Lake Las Vegas offers shopping and dining in an Old World atmosphere.

Floral Essence offer boutique-style environments. Even more fun is dining at Lucille's Smokehouse Bar-B-Que, Panera Bread, D'Mustard, and Balboa Pizza Company.

More shopping (isn't that what everyone does when visiting Southern Nevada these days?) can be found at the two-story Galleria Mall, anchored by Dillard's and Robinsons-May. In all, the mall has 140 stores and a 12-restaurant food court.

Across the street is Sunset Station Hotel and Casino, a 20-story, 470-room resort with six restaurants, an oversized race and sports book, 72-lane bowling center, and 13-theater movieplex.

Although there are no exploding volcanoes or pyramids in Henderson, there is the Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Botanical Cactus Garden. Ethel M is a favorite of tourists and locals, who can take a mouthwatering tour to see how Frank and Ethel Mars began making and selling chocolate in 1911. In addition to the free chocolates after the free factory tour, there is the free self-guided tour of the garden planted with more than 350 rare and exotic species.

Henderson's Bird Viewing Preserve is home to more than 200 kinds of birds, in-

"This place is fun because there is a small-town feel to it, yet it offers many big-city activities."

cluding waterfowl and birds of prey. The 147-acre migratory bird stop and wetlands provide an opportunity to view birds and study their nesting and migrating habits. The preserve is open daily for free, self-guided tours from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Water Street, Henderson's original main street, is undergoing a \$12 million makeover. When completed, the downtown area will have new landscaping, banners, kiosks, and lighting. When it's time for dinner, visitors can stroll over to Mariana's

Cantina at the Eldorado Casino for oversized margaritas, tasty burritos, and a large basket of hot chips and salsa.

Lake Las Vegas, an upscale residential and resort community, was once 2,600 acres of desert west of Lake Mead. It is now a multibillion-dollar Mediterranean-themed resort with world-class hotels, championship golf courses, casinos, shopping, and spas that surround a 320-acre lake. Locals know it as the place where Celine Dion lives.

The two casinos at Lake Las Vegas are Casino MonteLago, adjacent to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, and Casino Baraka, a 10,000-square-foot European-style casino inside the Hyatt Regency Resort. Unlike

other casinos, Casino Baraka has wide, two-story windows that offer players sweeping views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Sophisticated dining reigns at Lake Las Vegas at the Hyatt's Japengo with its Pan-Asian menu and sushi bar. At the Ritz-Carlton, award-winning executive chef Stephen Marshall oversees the Medici Café.

There is culture in Henderson beyond betting on the World Series or the Super Bowl. The Henderson Chamber of Commerce promotes a variety of events, including ArtFest and Shakespeare in the Park, the Henderson Civic Symphony, Concerts in the Park, and the Made in



Kids roll along in a barrel train during the ArtFest of Henderson.

Henderson Events

In May construction is scheduled to be completed on the Henderson Events Plaza, where a number of special activities are planned. Below is a list of Henderson's major events for the rest of the year.

ArtFest of Henderson

May 13-14

Fine artists, jazz, folk, reggae, and light rock bands, food, a silent auction, and an interactive kids' gallery.

Grand Prix of Henderson

June 2-4

The 7-mile go-cart race will start in the Henderson Events Plaza and run through the city's streets.

Henderson Jazz Festival

September 8-9

Second annual festival, sponsored by Newport Pacific Jazz Records; visit www.hendersonjazzfestival.com.

Downtown Henderson Super Run Classic Car Show

September 21-24

Now in its sixth year, the car show displays more than 1,000 vehicles.

Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge

November 5-11

Firefighters from across the U.S. and Canada compete in five timed tasks.

Nevada Silverman Full Distance Triathlon

November 12

Includes a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride, and 26.2-mile run.

Henderson's Terrible 400 Desert Race

November 30-December 3

Four-day event features qualifying trials, vendors, entertainment, and a 400-mile desert race held on December 2.

Henderson Christmas Parade

December 9

Parade on Water Street in downtown Henderson with honorary guests Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

For more information call the Henderson Convention and Visitors Bureau at 877-775-5252 or visit www.visithenderson.com.



Motorcyclists ride in Henderson's Terrible 400 Desert Race, set for November 30-December 3.

Nevada Art Fair. The Henderson Pavilion at Liberty Pointe, the largest outdoor amphitheater and the first of its kind in Southern Nevada, presents theater, music, and dance throughout the year.

Down the Boulder Highway from the bird preserve is Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall. It sits on the Las Vegas side of the city line, but its soul is in Hender-

son. Sam's Town was one of the first casinos to open off the Strip and position itself as a local's place. It has a 56-lane bowling center, 18-screen movie complex, entertainment, Mystic Falls Park, an RV park, and the Firelight Buffet with New York Steak Night on Wednesday and Seafood Spectacular on Friday.

When the tours are over and all the

Ethel M dark chocolate coconut candy has been eaten, the City of Henderson offers more leisurely vacation activities, such as strolling through one of 40 city parks, playing tennis at one of 40 tennis courts, or taking a swim at one of nine public pools. Produce picked the day before it goes on sale is the highlight of the Henderson Farmers Market, offered every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Minutes from downtown Henderson are the engineering marvel of Hoover Dam and the desert beauty of Lake Mead.

Then there's golf. If there is one arena where Henderson matches its older sister city to the west, it's golf. The city's public links include Black Mountain, the Desert Willow executive course, DragonRidge, Legacy, The Falls and Reflection Bay at Lake Las Vegas, The Revere, Rio Secco, Tuscany, and Wildhorse. See this issue's "Nevada Golf 2006" for details.

This impressive collection of 10 golf courses calls Henderson home, and why not? The city slogan is "A Place to Call Home." ▀

Jack Bulavsky is a resident of Henderson. For more Henderson information, call 877-775-5252 or visit www.visithenderson.com.



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Whistlin' Billy

Kids can play engineer at the state railroad museum. **By Alisha Wike**



Savannah Uhlhorn (left), Maureen Scott, and Annaka Jahn take a peek from the cab of Whistlin' Billy.

"Don't touch!" That's what children usually are told when they visit museums. But the kid-sized locomotive called **Whistlin' Billy** at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City allows children to touch and even climb on the exhibit built just for them.

Reno artist Loren Jahn's lifelong fasci-

nation with trains inspired him to design the new exhibit. As a child in Virginia City, Jahn played on the abandoned Virginia and Truckee Railway's Engine No. 27.

"I hope that Whistlin' Billy will instill an interest in kids to learn more about the history of trains in Nevada," says Jahn, who also is a volunteer engineer at the railroad museum.

Whistlin' Billy, financed by a donation, is a sturdy green and red locomotive made of sheet metal, wood, and, as Jahn says, "the stuff that dreams are made of."

The locomotive's brass fittings shine, and the headlamp lights up. Inside, children can sit on benches, poke their heads out the windows, and twist and pull on gadgets and knobs. A picture of the legendary 19th-century railroad engineer Casey Jones is posted above the controls in the cab.

Whistlin' Billy resembles the type of narrow-gauge engine that served the timber and mining industries a century ago. These smaller engines were less expensive than the larger engines and could climb steeper hills. The small locomotives were called "donkey" or "billy goat" engines, and that's how Whistlin' Billy got his name.

"He's a billy goat-like engine with a heart of gold," says Jahn, who wrote the "Legend of Whistlin' Billy" for volunteers to read to visiting children. Jahn also painted a map that shows the engine's imaginary adventures in Western Nevada.

"Trains are like time machines that represent great American folk tales," Jahn says. "If we don't pass down the stories of the trains in the West, they will be forgotten."

And if it weren't for Jahn's imagination and love for trains, young visitors to the railroad museum would still be observing the "don't touch" rule.

When You Go

Whistlin' Billy will be the centerpiece of a future children's discovery room, where kids will trace Whistlin' Billy's adventures on an outsized map. The Nevada State Railroad Museum, located at 2180 South Carson Street in Carson City, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Call 775-687-6953 for more information. ■

Alisha Wike, a Nevada Magazine intern, will graduate with a degree in journalism from the University of Nevada, Reno, in May.

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Nevada Trivia



Who was the first woman elected mayor of Reno?



In 1979 Barbara Bennett was elected Reno's first female mayor. She resigned in 1983 to accept a state job.



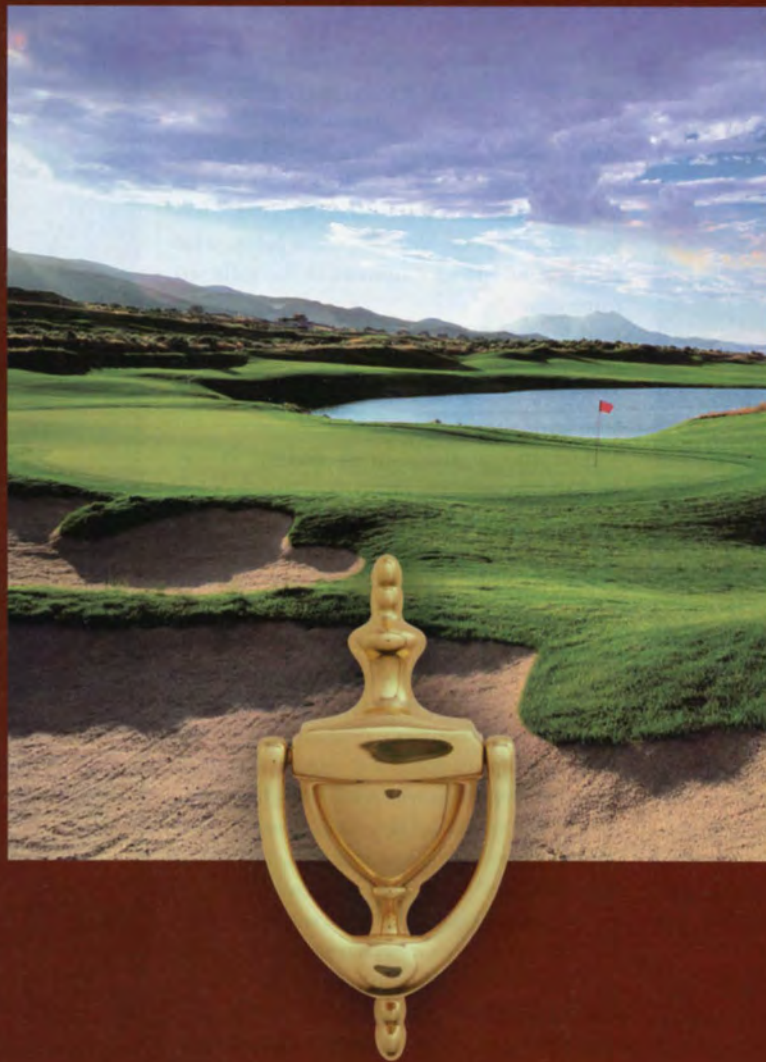
What popular British rock 'n' roll quartet performed two concerts at the Las Vegas Convention Center in 1964?



The Beatles made their only Las Vegas appearance in August of that year. The group played to capacity crowds of 8,500 at each show.

—from The Nevada Trivia Book by Richard Moreno

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Las Vegas by Design

Southern Nevada has a wealth of courses designed by famous links architects.

By Kevin Iole



Pete Dye (right) designed the three Las Vegas Paiute courses, including Wolf (above). LPGA stars Annika Sorenstam and Karrie Webb opened Wolf on *Shell's Wonderful World of Golf*.

Pete Dye, in his own words, can be “diabolical” when designing a golf course. Not only is Dye the architect of some of the world’s greatest golf courses, such as TPC at Sawgrass and the Ocean Course at Kiawah Island, but he’s also designed some of the most difficult.

However, Dye, the primary designer of all three courses at the Las Vegas Paiute Resort, doesn’t want to be known as the Simon Legree of golf. While he devises challenges for the Tiger Woods of the world, he also considers high-handicap golfers like Mary Jones.

“You have to know first of all who you’re building these golf courses for,” said Dye, who has created 10 of *Golf Digest*’s top 100 U.S. courses. “And here’s a problem you have. You have the pros and the top ama-

FORE! *Nevada Magazine* presents Nevada Golf 2006

Welcome to *Nevada Magazine*’s 13th annual “Nevada Golf Guide,” which describes more than 100 courses around the state and along its borders. The 2006 guide also presents special features on golf in Las Vegas, Mesquite, Reno, the Carson area, Lake Tahoe, and rural Nevada. Green fees vary from season to season, so it’s best to call ahead to confirm information.

teurs just hitting the ball so far. They’re over 300 yards, easy, now.

“But then, how do I account for Mary Jones? She’s going to play the course, too, and probably on a more regular basis. And she might hit it 130 yards off the tee. That’s a problem. I try to remember that I’m building the course for the people who are going to play it every day, not for a pro who might come in once a year to play four rounds in a tournament.”

That’s what Dye was able to do at Paiute. The Wolf course opened in 2001 as one of the longest courses in the state—7,604 yards from the championship tees. To some golfers, it can seem like 10,000 yards when the wind kicks up.

But Dye designed Wolf for both the high-handicapper and the tournament



Jack Nicklaus shaped the daily-fee Reflection Bay course on the shore of Lake Las Vegas. He also created Bear's Best in Las Vegas.

player. The fairways are unusually wide where the average player's drives are going to land, but they bottleneck where the good players will hit their balls. Such an arrangement, Dye said, allows a high-handicapper to have fun playing while preventing a top player from overpowering the course.

"If you make [average players] carry the ball over obstacles and give them a small landing area, you're going to keep them out there forever," Dye said. "We want the people to enjoy themselves, but we don't want them to take six hours for a round and lose a dozen golf balls."

Dye is just one of the legendary designers who have created memorable courses in Southern Nevada. Others include former players, like Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, and Tom Weiskopf. Some are longtime members of the design fraternity, such as Tom Fazio, Robert Cupp, Ted Robinson, and Jay Morrish. Three are members of the same family: Robert Trent Jones and his sons, Robert Jr. and Rees.

That group accounts for 39 of the courses on *Golf Digest's* top-100 list. In part because of those designers, PGA Tour player Craig Barlow, who was born, raised, and still lives in Henderson, believes the area deserves more recognition as a golf destination.

"We're always going to be known for the casinos and the gambling, and that's never

going to change," Barlow said. "But Las Vegas should also be known for golf. There are not only so many great courses here, but there are a great variety of courses. I think this is one of the best areas in the country just for golf."

Nicklaus has designed three courses in the Las

Vegas area. He oversaw two layouts at Lake Las Vegas in Henderson, the private SouthShore and the public Reflection Bay. In Las Vegas, he created Bear's Best, a collection of 18 of the best holes he ever designed.

At Lake Las Vegas, Reflection Bay borders the resort's man-made lake. Barlow noted that Reflection Bay ranks both as a great course and as a "visual experience." Those words delight Nicklaus, who said aesthetics play a major role in his work.

"Two things you look for in designing a golf course are beauty and making the golfing experience interesting," Nicklaus said. "When it's a nice day and you go on a picnic, you want to go to a nice place with birds, trees, water, whatever. The same holds true for golf. Second, you want to provide intriguing golf shots. You get the best of both at Reflection Bay."

Nicklaus isn't the designer of record for Mountain Falls Golf Club in Pahrump, but his Nicklaus Design laid out its back nine. Cal Olson, who received acclaim for his work at CasaBlanca in Mesquite, did the front nine at Mountain Falls.

Arnold Palmer always had fun playing the game, which helps explain why he's

the most popular golfer of all time. Still, he has made nearly as much of a mark designing courses as he did playing them.

Palmer and his design group, headed by well-known links architect Ed Seay, laid out the Mountain and Palm courses at Angel Park in Las Vegas, both the public and private courses at Red Rock Country Club in Las Vegas, and the Oasis in Mesquite.

Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed the private Southern Highlands 18, home course of the UNLV golf team. Rees Jones is known for re-designing U.S. Open venues, most notably Bethpage Black on Long Island.

Rees Jones also has had an impact on upscale public golf in Southern Nevada. In the 1990s he designed Rio Secco, a Harrah's-owned course that has become a second home to some of golf's most famous players, including Tiger Woods, who use the facility to practice. Butch Harmon, known as one of the top teachers in the game, operates his golf school on the Rio Secco practice facility, and he frequently has big-name players out, among them ex-UNLV star Adam Scott and Henderson's Natalie Gulbis.

Rees Jones also designed the Cascata Golf Club in Boulder City. Five years ago Cascata, which has a stream flowing through its clubhouse, was built by Caesars for the use of its hotel guests. Now owned by Harrah's, Cascata is open to the public, and you can play Jones' layout for one of the state's highest green fees—up to \$500 a round.

You can pay one of the region's two other \$500 green fees at Shadow Creek in North Las Vegas. Celebrities from Bill Clinton to Michael Jordan have played the exclusive links, now owned by MGM Mirage.

Tom Fazio designed Shadow Creek, which *Golf Digest* rated the third-best public course in the U.S., along with casino mogul Steve Wynn. Although Fazio is one of the game's best-known designers, Wynn was not a passive participant and spent much time talking to Fazio about the impact of the sun and the angle of the lighting. Later Fazio designed the two Primm Valley courses in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on the California border.

Recently, Fazio and Wynn collaborated again, this time on the site of the old Desert Inn Country Club on the Strip. Wynn helped Fazio design the 7,042-yard course that bears the hotelier's name, the Wynn Golf and Country Club, behind his new resort-casino, Wynn Las Vegas. Hotel guests pay \$500 to play the course.

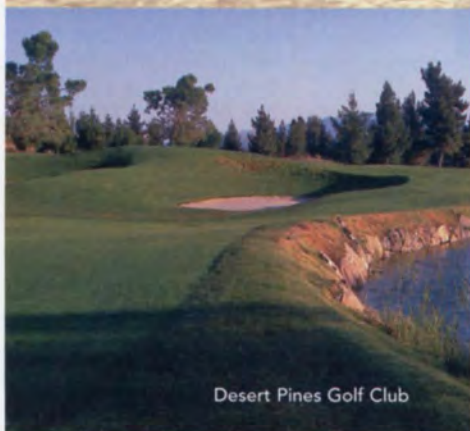
Other well-known designers who have shaped the Vegas links scene include Ted



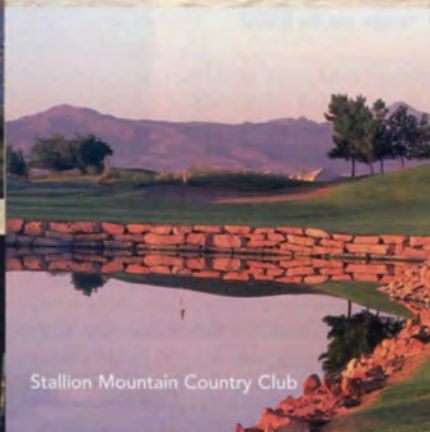
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Robinson (Rhodes Ranch, Tuscany), Tom Weiskopf (The Falls at Lake Las Vegas), Robert Cupp (Silverstone, Angel Park), Jay Morrish (DragonRidge, Painted Desert), and Pete Dye's older son, Perry Dye (Royal Links, Desert Pines).

No matter the setting, a course's architect usually attempts to balance the quality of golf with the skills of the golfers. Pete Dye said he wanted the courses at Las Vegas Paiute to represent a challenge, but he didn't want anyone feeling they were impossible to play.

"If I can build a golf course where people can shoot their handicap, and they have fun doing it, I am satisfied," Dye said. "And I think that's the case with [Wolf]. It's a fun course." He added, "If you play your normal game, you'll be able to get around the course at about your handicap and have a lot of fun doing it."

Kevin Iole writes about golf and other sports for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Las Vegas Area Courses

Early tee-time reservations are recommended. Green fees vary widely by season and are subject to change. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Most courses require soft spikes. Call ahead to confirm information.

BOULDER CITY

Boulder City Golf Course—Traditional-style course has mature trees lining the fairways and several water features. The course record of 61 is held by pro Ken Whiteaker and amateur Matt Masluk. Architect: William Bell. City, 18 holes, estab. 1972.

Cascata, designed by Rees Jones, stands in the desert near Boulder City. Green fees range up to \$500.

Golf Manager Bob Conrad, Head Pro Tony Fiorentini. Call 702-293-9236. Back tees: 6,561 yards, par 72. Green fees: Non-residents \$57 M-F, \$62 S-S. Clark County residents \$40 and \$45. Summer rates. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa accepted.

Boulder Creek Golf Club—The 27-hole city course features wide fairways and desert terrain with no hidden hazards. Named best bargain course by *Vegas Golfer*. Architect: Mark Rathert. Estab. 2003. Head Pro Andy Schaper. Call 702-294-6534, www.bouldercreekgc.com. Back tees: Longest combination 7,628 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$115 M-F, \$125 S-S. Afternoon \$95, \$105. Clark County residents \$60 M-F, \$65 S-S. Afternoon \$40, \$50. Summer rates. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Cascata Golf Club—Upscale layout is open for public daily-fee play with preference for registered guests of Harrah's and Caesars Entertainment properties, including Harrah's Las Vegas, Rio, Bally's, Caesars Palace, Flamingo, and Paris Las Vegas. Architect: Rees Jones. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 2001. Head Pro Ken Wright. Call 702-294-2000, 877-464-6534, www.golfcascata.com. Back tees: 7,137 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$500 Wed.-Mon.; closed Tues. Green fees may be lower for Harrah's and Caesars hotel guests and does not include lodging. Players are accompanied by caddies; suggested caddy fee is \$50. Major credit cards.

HENDERSON

Anthem Country Club—Private desert course has views of the Strip. Architects: Keith Foster and Hale Irwin. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Troon Golf, Director of Golf Tony Snoey. Call 702-614-5050, www.anthemcc.com. Back tees: 7,267 yards, par 72. Member-guest. AE, MC, Visa.

Black Mountain Golf and Country Club—Mature 27-hole course has both traditional and desert layout. After winning the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach in 2000, Tiger Woods caddied for his college roommate, Jerry Chang, in the Public Links qualifier here. Architects: Bob Baldock, the Founders-Horizon Course, and George Williams, the Desert Course. Semi-private, 27 holes, estab. 1957. GM Steve Goldstein, Director of Golf Joan Falls. Call 702-565-7933, www.golfblackmountain.com. Back tees: Horizon-Founders 6,541 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresident \$85, residents \$50. Summer rates. Club rental \$30. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. Yardage book.



Desert Willow Golf Club—The executive course's longest par 4 is 349 yards; the longest par 3 is 209 yards. Named 2005 Executive Course of the Year by *Vegas Golfer*. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18-hole executive, estab. 1996. Pro Shop Manager Terry W. Boyle. Call 702-263-4653, www.desertwillowlasvegas.com. Tees: 3,811 yards, par 60. Green fees: \$28-\$57. Club rental \$25. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

DragonRidge Country Club—DragonRidge, which currently allows limited public play, is scheduled to become private Nov. 1, 2006. Course has dramatic elevation changes and views of the Strip. Architects: Jay Morrish and David Druzisky. 18 holes, estab. 2000. Head Pro Gregg Minshall. For details call 877-855-1505 or 702-614-4444, www.dragonridgecountryclub.com. Back tees: 7,039 yards, par 72. Green fees: Oct.-May: \$200-\$240, twilight \$140-\$170. June-Sept.: \$100-\$150. Club rental \$50. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

The Falls Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—Course designed by Tom Weiskopf was named No. 9 Best

New Upscale Public Course by *Golf Digest* and No. 1 of Top 10 New Golf Courses by *Elite Traveler* in 2004. A *Golf* 2006 Gold Medal Resort. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Director of Golf John Herndon, Head Pro Greg Brockelman. Call 702-740-5258, visit www.lakelasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,250 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall: \$255 M-Th, \$275 F-S. Summer: \$165 M-Th, \$190 F-S. Discount packages for guests of Hyatt Regency and Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas. AE, MC, Visa. Forecaddies available.

The Legacy Golf Club—Linkstyle course hosted U.S. Open qualifying for 15 years. Tough 11, 12, and 13 are called the Devil's Triangle. Top 100

Golf Shops for 2005 and 2006 in *Golf World Business*. Architect: Arthur Hills. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. GM David Bogue, Head Pro Randy Weigman. Call 888-4GOLFV or 702-897-2187, www.thelegacygc.com. Back tees: 7,233 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. Club rental \$50. Major credit cards.

Reflection Bay Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—First daily-fee Jack Nicklaus course in Nevada was named one of America's 100 Greatest Public Courses by *Golf Digest* in 2003-2005. Host of Wendy's Three-Tour Challenge and a *Golf Magazine* 2006 Gold Medal Resort. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Director of Golf John Herndon, Pro John Spatz. Call 702-740-4653, www.lakelasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,261 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall: \$275 M-Th, \$295 F-S. Summer: \$165 M-Th, \$190 F-S. Discount packages for guests of the Hyatt Regency and the Ritz-Carlton at Lake Las Vegas. AE, MC, Visa. Forecaddies available.

The Revere Golf Club—The Revere has two 18s, the Lexington and the Concord. Named 2005 Facility of the Year by Troon Golf. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Troon Golf, GM Greg Kinney. Call 877-273-8373 or 702-259-4653, www.reveregolf.com. **Lexington Course**: Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,143 yards, par 72. **Concord Course**: Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Back tees: 7,034 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$95-\$240 depending on season; call for details. Club rental \$60. AE, MC, Visa.

Rio Secco Golf Club—Named one of America's 100 top public courses by *Golf Digest* in 2003 and 2004. Named best course in Southern Nevada by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2005. Rio Secco is the home of the Butch Harmon School of Golf. Architect: Rees Jones. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1997. GM Eric Dutt, Head Pro Charles Packard. Call 888-TO-SECCO or 702-777-2400, www.riosecco.net. Back tees: 7,332 yards, par 72. Longest hole, No. 9, is 634 yards and a par 5. Green fees: Guests at Rio, Harrah's Las Vegas, and other Las Vegas hotels pay \$125-\$275. Summer rates lower. Club and shoe rental. AE, MC, Visa.

SouthShore Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—Private course designed by Jack Nicklaus. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Director of Golf John Herndon, Head Pro Dan Romstead.

PHOTO: Larry Lambrecht (left)

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Tuscany Golf Club—A traditional design with generous fairways and views of Sunrise Mountain and the Strip. Named No. 1 course in Las Vegas by *Golf Magazine* using its BBQ rating (Bang for the Buck Quotient). Architect: Ted Robinson. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. Director of Golf Tom Vold, Head Pro C.W. Woods. Call 866-TUSCANY, 702-951-1500, www.tuscanygolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,906 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., JCB, MC, Visa.

Wildhorse Golf Club—The former Paradise Valley and Showboat Country Club was a PGA Tour stop. Architects: Robert Cupp and Hubert Green; 2004 redesign by Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. City, 18 holes, estab. 1959. GM Andy Wright, Director of Golf Dawn Darter. Call 702-434-9000, www.golfwildhorse.com. Back tees: 6,525 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$75 M-Th, \$95 F-S. Twilight \$49. Local and summer rates. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa.

LAS VEGAS

Angel Park Golf Club—Angel Park has two championship courses designed by Arnold Palmer, an executive course designed by Robert Cupp and John Fought, an 18-hole putting course, and a night-lighted driving range. Resort courses, estab. 1989. GM David Bogue, Head Pro Peter Niblock. Call 888-4GOLFLV or 702-254-4653, www.angelpark.com. **Mountain Course**: Subtle changes in elevation, challenging greens, valley views. 18 holes. Back tees: 6,722 yards, par 71. **Palm Course**: Gently rolling terrain with challenging par 3s. Redesigned by Robert Cupp and John Fought. 18 holes. Back tees: 6,530 yards, par 70. **Cloud Nine**: A 12-hole par-3 course with nine holes lighted for night play. Architects: Robert Cupp and John Fought. Tees: 1,341 yards, par 27 (9 holes). Green fees: Call for the courses' rates. AE, DC, Disc., JCB, MC, and Visa.

Arroyo Golf Club at Red Rock—The public Arroyo and private Mountain courses near Red Rock Canyon were designed by Arnold Palmer. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. Head Pro Thom Blinksop. Call 866-934-GOLF or 702-258-2300, www.arroyogolfclubatredrock.com. Back tees: 6,883 yards, par 72. Green fees: High season \$159 M-Th, \$189 F-S. Summer rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Badlands Golf Club—Desert layout designed by Johnny Miller with Chi Chi Rodriguez flows with natural terrain. Named Best Desert Course in 2005 by *Vegas Golfer*. Resort course, 27 holes, estab. 1995. Troon Golf, GM Rich Riffle, Head Pro Tom McCarthy. Call 702-363-0754, www.badlandsgc.com. Back tees: 6,926 yards, par 72. Green fees: Jan-May 21: \$150 M-Th, \$200 F-S. May 22-Aug. 27: \$80 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Aug. 28-Nov. 20: \$130 M-Th, \$180 F-S. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa.

Bali Hai Golf Club—Tropically themed course, located south of Mandalay Bay on the Strip, has water, an island green, Augusta white sand, and black volcanic rock outcroppings. Designers: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Walters Golf, GM Adam Owen. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,015 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$150-\$325 depending on season. Twilight rates. Major credit cards.

Bear's Best Golf Club—Assemblage of Jack Nicklaus' favorite holes that he has designed. Mandatory forecaddies carry distance finders. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2001. GM Bob Sommers, Head Pro Greg Blackwell. Call 866-385-8500, www.bearsbest.com. Back tees: 7,194 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$195 M-Th, \$245 F-S. Off-season and twilight rates. Club rental \$65. AE, MC, Visa.

Callaway Golf Center—Executive course near south end of the Strip is lighted for night play. Architect: Robert Cupp.



Black Mountain Golf and Country Club in Henderson already had a mature, tree-lined 18 when it added its Desert nine in 2002.

Public, 9-hole executive, estab. 1997. GM John Boreta. Call 702-896-4100. Tees: 1,230 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$37. Cart \$14. Senior and junior rates. Nevada resident discount. Club rental \$15. Major credit cards.

Canyon Gate Country Club—Private course has lots of water and narrow fairways. Architect: Ted Robinson. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Steve Lind. Call 702-363-0303, pro shop 702-363-0481. Back tees: 6,744 yards, par 72. Guests of members pay \$100. MC, Visa.

Desert Pines Golf Club—Carolina-style course near downtown Las Vegas has more than 4,000 pine trees. The target greens are replicas of famous PGA holes. Architect: Perry Dye. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Jim Anderson. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, pro shop 702-388-4400, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 6,810 yards, par 71. Green fees: Peak season: \$135 M-Th, \$175 F-S. Summer and twilight rates. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa.

Desert Rose Golf Course—Clark County course has moderate length, flat terrain. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. American Golf, GM Elizabeth Barker-Pinapfel, Assistant GM Bruce Jackson. Call 702-431-4653. Back tees: 6,511 yards, par 71. Green fees: Nonresidents \$59 M-Th, \$79 F-S. Clark County residents \$33 M-Th, \$39 F-S. Twilight rates. Club rental \$39. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Durango Hills Golf Club—Executive course in Northwest Las Vegas has 14 par 3s and four par 4s. Architects: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. City, 18-hole executive, estab. 2002. Head Pro John W. Ostrander. Call 702-229-4653. Tees: 3,780 yards, par 58. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Eagle Crest Golf Club/Sun City Summerlin—Executive course has rolling terrain and high elevation. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18-hole executive, estab. 1995. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Al Sibille. Call 702-

240-1320, www.golfsummerlin.com. Back tees: 4,067 yards, par 60. Green fees: Nonresidents \$70, twilight \$50. Nevada residents \$40, twilight \$30. Club rental \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

Highland Falls Golf Club/Sun City Summerlin—The Las Vegas Valley's highest-elevation course stands at just over 3,000 feet. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1993. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Jim Neighbors. Call 702-254-7010, www.golfsummerlin.com. Back tees: 6,512 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$80 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Nevada residents \$55 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Twilight \$40 and \$45. Club rental \$30. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Las Vegas Country Club—Private course is host of the LPGA's Takefujii Classic and a former cohort of the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational. Architect: Edmund Ault with Ron Carl redesign. 18 holes, estab. 1967. Manager Dale Telford, Director of Golf John Creaney. Back tees: 7,164 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Las Vegas Golf Club—Mature municipal course west of downtown has lots of trees and little water. Named Best Bargain Course by *Vegas Golfer* in 2005. Architect: Tom Bell. City, 18 holes, estab. 1949. American Golf, GM Bill Horttor, Head Pro Matt Cradduck. Call 702-646-3003. Back tees: 6,631 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$69 M-Th, \$89 F-S; Las Vegas residents \$27.50 to walk, \$37.75 to ride. Summer rates. Club rental \$35. Major credit cards.

Las Vegas National Golf Club—Classic old-style Las Vegas course has hosted PGA and LPGA tour events and Tiger Woods' first pro win. Architect: Bert Stamps. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1961. American Golf, GM Blake Roberts, Teaching Pro Mike Buss. Call 702-382-GOLF or 702-734-1796, www.americangolf.com. Back tees: 6,815 yards, par 71. Green fees: Oct-May: \$129-\$179 M-Th, \$159-\$179 F-S, twilight \$79 and \$119. June-Sept.: \$85 M-Th, \$105 F-S, twilight \$60. Club rental \$55. AE, Disc, MC, Visa.

Las Vegas Paiute Resort—Three Pete Dye courses are located on the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Reservation 20 miles north of downtown Las Vegas. Paiute hosts Big Stakes Match Play Event on May 20-28, 2006, and the Nevada Open in December 2006. Resort courses, 54 holes, Director of Golf Greg Wickenstimer. Call 800-711-2833 or 702-658-1400, www.hpaiutegolf.com. **Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiv)**: Elevated tees, water on seven holes, and no parallel fairways. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Back tees: 7,158 yards, par 72. **Sun Mountain (Tav-ai Kaiv)**: Generous layout with pot bunkers and railroad-tie bunkers. 18 holes, estab. 1996. Back tees: 7,112 yards, par 72. **Wolf (Kweetoo-unuv)**: Las Vegas Paiute's most challenging course, Wolf is extremely long from the back tees. The 15th hole has an island green. 18 holes, estab. 2001. Back tees: 7,604 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. No walking. Club rental \$40-\$50. AE, DC, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Los Prados Country Club—Short, tight course has five par 3s and water on four holes. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1985. Golf Shop Manager Harry Keller. Call 702-645-5696, www.lospradosgolf.com. Back tees: 5,348 yards, par 70. Green fees: Nonresidents \$40 M-Th, \$65 F-S. Nevada residents \$26 M, \$35 Tu-F, \$50 S-S. Casino employees \$25 M-F. Twilight rates F-S after noon. Summer rates. Club rental \$30. MC, Visa. Yardage book.

Painted Desert Golf Course—Desert target design by Jay Morrish features lush fairway landing areas amid desert landscape. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1987. American Golf, GM Jon Anderson. Call 702-382-GOLF or 702-645-2570. Back tees: 6,729 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$60-\$89 M-Th, \$80-\$129 F-S. Call for details. Twilight rates after 1:30 p.m. Club rental \$40 and \$50. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa.

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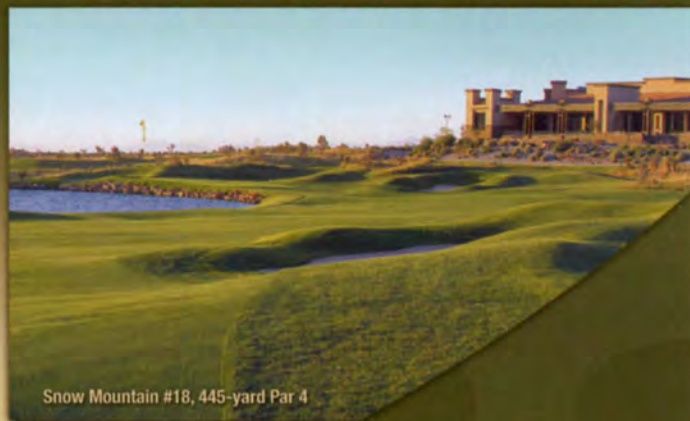
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The daily-fee Tournament Players Club at the Canyons cohosts the Las Vegas Invitational.

you can see the whole town from the seventh tee. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Paul Brown. Call 702-363-4373, www.golfsummerlin.com. Back tees: 6,794 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$80 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Nevada residents \$55 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Twilight \$40 M-Th, \$45 F-S. Club rental \$30. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Red Rock Country Club/Mountain Course—Arnold Palmer-designed Mountain Course is private, and the Arroyo Course is public. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Call 702-304-5666. Back tees: 7,187 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Rhodes Ranch Golf Club—Ted Robinson-designed course in Southwest Las Vegas has water on seven holes. Named best par 3s by *Fairways + Greens*. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. GM Tom Vold, Head Pro Mike Stewart. Call 888-311-TEES or 702-

740-4114, www.rhodesranch.com. Back tees: 6,909 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Royal Links Golf Club—Conceived by owner Bill Walters, the course "reflects the spirit of play in the British Isles. Each hole was inspired by a famous hole of a course where the British Open has been played. Architect: Perry Dye. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Matthew Tripp. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, pro shop 702-450-8123, visit www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,029 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$200 and up, varying by season. Twilight rates. Club rental \$50. AE, Disc., JCB, MC, Visa. Caddies available.

Siena Golf Club—Course on Las Vegas Valley's western rim has more than 90 white-sand bunkers and six water features. Winner of Southern Nevada Water Bureau Water Smart Award. Architects: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. Public, 18 holes,

estab. 2000. Director of Golf Clay Meininger, Head Pro Thom Blinkinsop. Call 888-689-6469 or 702-341-9200, www.sienagolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Silverstone Golf Club—Course designed by Robert Cupp has three nines and a 28th hole for playoffs. (It's a short par 3—closest to the pin is the winner.) Lengthy drives help on Mountain nine, while Desert and Valley nines require a careful approach. Public, 27 holes, estab. 2001. GM Tom Judson, Golf Operations Manager Robb Rizer. Call 877-888-2127 or 702-562-3770, www.silverstonegolfclub.com. Back tees: Longest combo 7,159 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall: \$130 M-Th, \$160 F-S. Summer and winter: \$80 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Twilight rates. Club rental \$45. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. ProLink GPS in carts.

Southern Highlands Golf Club—Private course, host of the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship and home of the UNLV men's golf team, was designed by Robert Trent Jones and Robert Trent Jones Jr. 18 holes, estab. 2000. Director of Golf Jay Beckman. Call 702-263-1000. Back tees: 7,510 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Spanish Trail Country Club—Private course designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. has three nines with fast greens and undulating fairways. 27 holes, estab. 1984. Head Pro Warren Webster. Call 702-364-0357. Back tees: Canyon-Lakes 7,116 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Stallion Mountain Country Club—Private course may be played by guests at Las Vegas hotels and through Walters Golf. Architects: Jim Colbert and Jeff Brauer. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Mike Wachtman. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,272 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. Club rental \$60.

Sunrise Vista Golf Course—Located on Nellis Air Force Base, course has four nines named after fighter jets—Eagle, Falcon, Raptor, and Thunderbird. For use by active-duty and retired military personnel and Dept. of Defense civilian employees. Civilian guests must be sponsored; call pro shop for

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Two players walk 18 at the Las Vegas Golf Club. Vegas-bred pros like Robert Gamez and Stephanie Loudon played the municipal course.

details. Architect: Steve Halsey. Military course, 36 holes, estab. 1962. Call 702-652-2602, ext. 10. Back tees: Eagle-Falcon 7,051 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. MC, Visa.

Tournament Players Club at Summerlin—Private TPC stadium course owned by the PGA Tour hosts the Las Vegas Invitational on Oct. 9-15, 2006. Architect: Bobby Weed with Fuzzy Zoeller. 18 holes, estab. 1991. GM Chuck Bombard, Head

Pro Lee Smith. Call 702-256-0111, www.tpc.com. Back tees: 7,243 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Tournament Players Club at the Canyons—High-end daily-fee course owned by the PGA Tour is cohost of the Las Vegas Invitational on Oct. 9-15, 2006. Course was named 2004 Operation of the Year for the TPC Network of Courses. Named best par 3, golf shop, and high-end resort by *Vegas Golfer* in 2005.

Architect: Bobby Weed with Raymond Floyd. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. GM Dan Hammell, Head Pro Todd Hajduk. Call 702-256-2000, www.tpcanycans.com. Back tees: 7,063 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$210 M-Th, \$265 F-S. Nevada residents \$145 and \$155. Rates vary in June-Aug. Summer twilight rates. AE, DC, MC, Visa.

Wynn Golf and Country Club—Tom Fazio designed this course for Steve Wynn's latest Strip resort, Wynn Las Vegas, on the site of the old Desert Inn Country Club. The course can be played by Wynn Las Vegas guests only. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 2005. Call 877-321-WYNN or 702-770-7100, www.wynnlasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,042 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$500, does not include lodging, for Wynn guests. Major credit cards. Forecaddies available.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Aliante Golf Club—Rolling terrain next to the Sheep Range in the north corner of the valley. Architect: Gary Panks. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. OB Sports, Director of Operations Gary Ault. Call 877-399-4888 or 702-399-4888, www.aliante.com. Back tees: 7,022 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$115 M-Th, \$135 F-S, twilight \$75 and \$85. Summer rates June-mid-Sept.: \$55 M-Th, \$65 F-S, twilight \$50 and \$55. Club rental \$50. AE, MC, Visa.

Craig Ranch Golf Course—Golfers showing out-of-state ID get a free lunch. Architect: J.C. Stimson, the original owner. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1963. Managers Eddie Schmitz and Tim Schmidt. Call 702-642-9700. Back tees: 6,032 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$19 to walk, \$30 to ride. Nonresidents \$35 to ride, with lunch. Club rental \$12. MC, Visa.

North Las Vegas Golf Course—This par-3 city course is lighted for night play. Nine holes, estab. 1971. Manager Mike Buttell. Call 702-633-1833. Tees: 1,128 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$7.50 (seniors \$6.50, students \$5) M-F, \$9 S-S. Night golf: \$9 M-F, \$10 S-S. Club rental \$10 with pull cart. No credit cards.

Shadow Creek—To play one must be an MGM Mirage overnight guest. Designed by Tom Fazio, the lush course has ringneck pheasants, swans, and other wildlife. Caddies carry range finders; there are no tee signs or yardage books. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. MGM Mirage, GM Mark Brennenman, Director of Golf Monte Montgomery. Call 888-778-3387. Back tees: 7,239 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$500 for overnight guests of the Mirage, Bellagio, Treasure Island, MGM Grand, New York-New York, Mandalay Bay, and Four Seasons. Besides lodging, fee includes limo to and from the course, cart, and caddie service.

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Four for Fore

A southern quartet offers golf getaways.

By David Moore

Southern Nevada's outlying towns—Mesquite, Laughlin, Primm, and Pahrump—offer many golf enticements. For instance, golfers teeing up in Mesquite, 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas, find high-quality links and scenery.

"We think of Mesquite as a great value destination for golfers," says Gary Moore, head pro at CasaBlanca Golf Club. "There are numerous packages you can create, and you don't have the big-city congestion to deal with. We have six golf courses within 10 minutes of each other, and there's gaming, too." Mesquite courses and hotels like the CasaBlanca and Oasis offer golf packages that begin at \$120.

"We have such a variety of championship courses, ranging from hills and canyons to more traditional," Moore says. "Our course, CasaBlanca, is traditional-style and goes through the wetlands. It's playable, but if you play from the back tees, it's tough. Others like Wolf Creek and Oasis have a lot of elevated tees and canyons—it's spot-on golf. We also have the Palms, Falcon Ridge, and the new Canyons at Oasis. So you have great variety."

Laughlin has a similar contrast in layouts. The Mojave is links-style while the new Laughlin Ranch across the river in Bullhead City has striking elevation changes.

In Primm, the names of the two Primm Valley courses indicate their contrast: the Lakes and the Desert. Both were designed by well-known architect Tom Fazio.

Pahrump has two 18-hole layouts, Willow Creek and Mountain Falls. Both have rolling terrain.

Resorts in each town serve as destinations for golf-minded guests. They also offer an escape hatch for Las Vegas visitors and residents. As Moore says, "We get a lot of people from Vegas, and they tell us that Mesquite is their getaway."

David Moore rediscovered his game three years ago at the Mojave Resort Golf Club in Laughlin.



Falcon Ridge is one of six Mesquite courses that participate in hotel-golf vacation packages.

Courses Outside Las Vegas

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca Golf Club—Course near Virgin River includes both desert and wetlands. Closed for overseeding Oct. 3-16, 2006. Architect: Cal Olson. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Director of Golf Bob Ault, Head Pro Gary Moore. Call 800-459-7529 or 888-711-GOLF, www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Back tees: 7,036 yards, par 72. Green fees: CasaBlanca Resort guests: Oct.-April: \$80-\$100 Sun.-Fri., \$80-\$110 Sat. depending on season. Lower rates May-Sept. Nonguest rates \$15-\$20 higher. Club rental \$35. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Falcon Ridge Golf Course—Elevated tee boxes in the canyons of north Mesquite. Designers: Kelly Hughes and Crescent-Hardy. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2004. Director of Golf Brian Wursten. Call 877-270-4653 or 702-346-6363. Back tees: 6,550 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$45-\$110. AE, MC, Visa.

Oasis Golf Club—*Golf Digest* four and a half stars. Named best rural course by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2005. Resort courses, 36 holes. Director of Golf Randy Tickner, Head Pro Scott Ballif. Call 888-367-3386 or 702-346-7820, www.theoasisgolfclub.com. **Palmer Course**: Rugged desert course with elevated tees was designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Back tees: 6,982 yards, par 71. Green fees: Fall and spring: \$130 M-Th, \$140 F-S. Summer: \$80 daily. Winter rates. **Canyons Course**: The 18-hole Canyons opened in 2005. Back tees: 6,633 yards, par 71. Green fees: Fall and spring: \$100 M-Th, \$110 F-S. Summer: \$70 M-Th, \$80 F-S. Winter rates. Club rental \$35. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Palms Golf Club—Each fall the Palms hosts the Re/Max World Long Drive Championship; the 2006 event is Oct. 23-28. Architect: William Hull. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Bob Ault, Head Pro Bryan K. Morgan. Call 888-711-4653 or 702-346-5232, www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Back tees: 6,814 yards, par 71. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Wolf Creek Golf Club—Set amid sandstone canyon cliffs. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Director of Golf Steve Sargent. Call 866-252-GOLF, 702-346-1670, www.golfwolfcreek.com. Back tees: 6,939 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$85 to \$180 depending on season. Club rental \$45. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

LAUGHLIN/BULLHEAD CITY

Laughlin Ranch Golf Club—Course two miles east of Bullhead City was ranked ninth best new upscale public course

in *Golf Digest*. Architect: David Druzisky. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2004. Head Pro Matt Valen. Call 866-684-GOLF or 928-754-1243, www.laughlinranch.com. Back tees: 7,155 yards, par 72. Green fees: May: \$75 M-Th, \$95 F-S. June-Sept.: \$65 M-Th, \$85 F-S. Oct.: Closed for overseeding. Twilight: \$25 off after noon daily. Winter rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Mojave Resort Golf Club—Links-style course near the Avi Casino was named a four-star course by *Golf Digest*. Architects: PGA West/Brian Curley and Grant Hesserot. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, GM Chris Stewart, Head Pro Keri Stewart. Call 702-535-4653, www.mojaveresortgolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,939 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. Club rental \$25. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

PRIMM

Primm Valley Golf Club—The I-15 border town of Primm has two resort courses designed by Tom Fazio. Named best rural course by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2005. MGM Mirage, Director of Golf Mark Yelenich. Call 800-386-7867 or 702-679-5510, www.primmvalleyresorts.com. **Lakes Course**: Lakes, streams, and mature pine trees. 18 holes, estab. 1997. Back tees: 6,945 yards, par 71. **Desert Course**: Blends with cacti, desert shrubs, and grasses. 18 holes, estab. 1998. Back tees: 7,131 yards, par 72. Green fees: Feb. 6-June 11: \$155 M-Th, \$175 F-S. June 12-Sept. 3: \$85 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Sept. 4-Oct. 5: \$135 M-Th, \$155 F-S. Fall and winter rates. Rates are \$15-\$40 lower for Primm hotel and other MGM Mirage guests; packages are available. Club rental \$50. Shoe rental \$10. Major credit cards.

PAHRUMP

Desert Greens—Informal nine-hole, par-3 course. Public, estab. 2001. Call 775-751-1999. Tees: 776 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$15. Pull cart \$1. No credit cards.

Lakeview Executive Course—Fairly flat and easy to walk, Lakeview has four lakes. Architect: William Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1984. Manager Douglas Shaw. Call 775-727-4040. Tees: 3,518 yards, par 59. Green fees: \$19 M-F, \$21 S-S. Summer rates. Cart \$11. Club rental \$10. MC, Visa.

Mountain Falls Golf Course—Course designed by Cal Olson has lush, rolling fairways and undulating greens. Architect: Cal Olson. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Head Pro Neil Pierce. Call 775-537-6553, www.mountainfallsgolf.com. Back tees: 7,236 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$50 M-Th, \$60 F-S. After noon \$35. Summer rates. Clubs \$25. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Willow Creek Golf Course—Traditional layout hosts Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Rally for the Cure. Architect: William Bell. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1980. Director of Golf Frank Cox. Call 877-779-4653 or 775-727-4653. Back tees: 7,025 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$40 M-Th, \$50 F-S. Twilight \$25, \$30. Club rental \$15. AE, MC, Visa.

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Big-Name Links

The courses of Reno and Sparks have their share of high-dollar designers.

By Vic Williams

Although it didn't become a full-fledged golf destination until the late 1990s, Reno-Sparks had designs on greatness way back in 1969, when developer Stan Jaksick and his family enlisted Robert Trent Jones to build a course on and below a rocky hillside three miles south of downtown Reno.

At the time, Jones was the world's top golf course architect, having vaulted to fame a few years earlier by pulling the spectacular Mauna Kea course out of lava rock on the island of Hawaii. He also had reworked several classic tracks so they could host major championships, earning him the nickname "the Open doctor." Jones was known for extensive bunkering, big, sweeping greens, and making players of every stripe sweat for par.

The Jaksicks didn't want a score-killer. They wanted a template for residential-based golf that also would appeal to the vacationing player—something like Jones' previous Northern Nevada creation, the Championship Course at Incline Village. Jones brought his older son, Robert Jr., to the site that would become LakeRidge Golf Course. One can imagine the old man telling his son and protégé, "All right, boy, show me what you've got."

"That was one of my earliest designs," Jones Jr. said not long ago. "There are a few holes I'd probably do differently now, but it's a good course as it stands, a lot of fun for people to play."

LakeRidge is the granddaddy of Reno-Sparks "big-name architect" courses and still has the region's most famous hole. When it was built, No. 15 boasted one of the West's first island greens. At 230 yards from the back tees, with a 140-foot drop to a huge, well-bunkered green, No. 15 offers a 180-degree view of the Truckee Meadows



LakeRidge's famous No. 15 green sits on an island. Robert Trent Jones Jr. (below) helped his father design the Reno course.



and surrounding hills. The scenic par 3 helped inspire many of the fine holes that, nearly 40 years hence, grace the region—holes with names like Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Hale Irwin, and Tom Kite behind them.

"That's a hole I pretty much came up with. Dad and I designed it together," Jones Jr. said. "I'm happy it's stood the test of time."

Jones Jr. returned to Reno-Sparks in 1997 to design the Lakes Course at Red Hawk, where he recently chipped in to move three of its holes and redesign another. Then Nicklaus designed Montrêux, a private, pine-lined masterpiece that also is owned by Jaksick and hosts the PGA Tour's Reno-Tahoe Open.

Arnold Palmer's quirky, scenic, links-on-a-tilt routing at ArrowCreek, The Legend—which resumed high-end public play in 2006—was followed by The Challenge, a private sister course designed by Fuzzy

Zoeller and John Harbottle. As the century turned, Irwin added Red Hawk's private Hills Course, and Kite and his Texas cohorts turned up in the hills west of Reno to lay out the private Somerset.

Palmer made his first Northern Nevada splash in 1991 at Dayton Valley, 12 miles east of Carson City, and Nicklaus has since designed another wonderful track at Old Greenwood in Truckee. They're both public, as are the two Genoa Lakes courses, designed by Harbottle and co-authored by Peter Jacobsen and Johnny Miller, 45 miles south of the Biggest Little City.

As daily-fee, big-name courses in Reno-Sparks proper go, LakeRidge, Red Hawk, and ArrowCreek are it. That's not such a bad thing, because there are other treasures to be unearthed in the city's golf chest. The rest of the region's accessible



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Golf Getaways

The following are good sources of Nevada golf information:

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: Information Center, 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Visit www.visitlasvegas.com for hotel and golf information.

Golf Mesquite, Nevada: Call 866-720-7111 or visit www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Golf and hotel-casino packages in Mesquite, 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, Golf Information: 4590 S. Virginia St., Box 837, Reno, NV 89502. The RSCVA, which operates Wildcreek and Northgate, has information on courses and golf packages. Call 800-FOR-RENO or visit www.visitrenotahoe.com or www.divinenine.com.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701. Has a color brochure on area's "Divine 9" courses. Call 800-NEVADA-1. For information visit www.visitcarsoncity.com or www.divinenine.com. Call 877-697-GOLF or 800-638-2321 for tee times.

Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Authority, 1477 U.S. 395 N., Suite A, Gardnerville, NV 89410. Call 800-727-7677 for "Divine 9" golf brochure. Visit www.visitcarsonvalley.org or www.divinenine.com. Call 877-697-GOLF or 800-638-2321 for tee times.

Golf the High Sierra, an association of 17 golf courses in the Reno-Tahoe area, has a Web site where golfers can reserve packages. Visit www.golfthehighsierra.com.

Nevada Golf: For more copies of the "Nevada Golf" guide, as well as general tourist information, write the Nevada Commission on Tourism, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701, call 800-NEVADA-8, or visit www.travelnevada.com. For more Nevada Magazine information visit www.nevadamagazine.com.



tracks were designed by such Northern California-based talents as Brad Benz (Wildcreek, Northgate, and Rosewood Lakes) and Keith Foster (D'Andrea). The latter hugs the hills of east Sparks, and after five years it remains an interesting track with some of the area's trickiest greens and views that rival LakeRidge's. Foster has since designed some award-winning courses on the other side of the Sierra, so he may someday join the state's superstar lineup of architects.

As it stands, the Truckee Meadows came out of its recent course-building boom with a stable of architects of which any region would be proud. When the next big flurry of earth-moving activity comes along, who knows—maybe we'll see names like Tom Fazio, Pete Dye, or Ben Crenshaw here. Certainly, there's plenty of vast and interesting desertscape to explore on the outskirts of Reno. Right now you'll need boots to explore it, but down the road you might need spikes.

Vic Williams is publisher and executive editor of Reno-based Fairways + Greens magazine, which covers golf travel and lifestyle in the West and beyond.

Reno-Sparks Courses

Early tee-time reservations are recommended. Green fees vary widely by season and are subject to change. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated.

Most courses require soft spikes. Call ahead to confirm information.

RENO-SPARKS

ArrowCreek Country Club—ArrowCreek has two championship courses, one an Arnold Palmer-designed resort course available for outside play, and the other a private Fuzzy Zoeller layout. At 5,300 feet below Mount Rose in South Reno, the courses have mountain views, mild undulations, and intricate bunkering. GM John Ross, Director of Golf Martin Chuck, Membership Director Drew Yardley. For information call 775-850-GOLF, main 775-850-4471, membership 775-850-4453, www.arrowcreekcc.com. **The Legend:** Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay designed this traditional layout, which has opened for high-end daily-fee play in 2006. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,115 yards, par 72. Green fees: Vary \$115-\$145. AE, MC, Visa. **The Challenge:** Private course was designed by Fuzzy Zoeller and John Harbottle. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,425 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Brookside Golf Course—This summer may be your last chance to play Brookside. The city course is scheduled to close at the end of Sept. 2006 to make way for expansion of Reno-Tahoe International Airport. Nine holes, estab. 1956. Manager Howard Davis. Call 775-856-6009. Tees: 3,018 yards, par 35. Green fees for 9 holes: \$10, seniors \$9, juniors \$8. Club rental \$8. MC, Visa.

D'Andrea Golf Club—Scenic back nine of well-rated course has good views of the Reno skyline. Architect: Keith Foster. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 2000. GM Michael Jory, Head Pro Eric Flickinger. Call 775-331-6363, membership 775-626-8890, www.dandreaogolf.com. Back tees: 6,849 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$35-\$105 depending on season. Club rental \$50. AE, MC, Visa. Pro Shots GPS.

Hidden Valley Country Club—Nevada's oldest private course was recently remodeled. Architect: Billy Bell Jr., redesign by Dick Bailey. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1958. President Randy Jacobs, Head Pro Van Batchelder. Call 775-857-4742. Back tees: 7,302 yards, par 72. Member-guest. Guests of members green fee \$80. Reciprocal \$125. AE, MC, Visa.

LakeRidge Golf Course—Southwest Reno course, designed by Robert Trent Jones with Robert Trent Jones Jr., has the famous 15th hole par 3, where an island green is reached from a hillside tee 140 feet above the lake. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1969. Owner Stan Jaksick, Head Pro Randy Beeghly, Director of Instruction Jan Usher. Call 800-815-6966 or 775-825-2200, www.lakeridgegolf.com. Back tees: 6,715 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer rates \$88 M-Th, \$100 F-S, rates reduced

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The Lakes Course at Red Hawk was designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. amid the wetlands of the Wingfield Springs community north of Sparks.

after 2 p.m. Winter rates about \$40 less. Club rental \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

Montréux Golf and Country Club—Forested private course designed by Jack Nicklaus is annual host of the PGA Tour's Reno-Tahoe Open; the 2006 event is Aug. 21-27. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Owner Stan Jaksick, Director of Golf Gus Jones. Call 775-849-9496, www.montréuxgolf.com. Back tees: 7,472 yards, par 72. Member-guest. Laser Link in carts.

Northgate Golf Club—Scottish links-style resort course hosted the PGA Ben Hogan Reno Open in 1991-1992. Operated by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. Architects: Benz and Poellot. 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1988. GM Joe Kelley, Head Pro Eric Huzarski. Call 775-747-7577. Back tees: 6,966 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer: \$42 M-Th, \$48 F-S. Twilight after 11 a.m.: \$32, \$40. Supertwilight after 2:30 p.m.: \$27, \$35. Winter rates. AE, MC, Visa. All golf spikes OK.

The Resort at Red Hawk—Golf complex in Wingfield Springs, seven miles north of I-80 in Sparks, has two courses. The daily-fee Lakes Course was designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., and the private Hills Course was designed by U.S. Open winner Hale Irwin. Audubon Signature Cooperative Sanctuary. Named best course in Northern Nevada by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2005. Head Pro Greg Enholm. Call 866-GO-2-HAWK or 775-626-6000, www.theresortatredhawk.com. **Lakes Course:** Scenic course meanders through lakes and wetlands. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Back tees: 7,140 yards, par 72. Green fees: May-Oct.: \$90 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Nov-April: \$50 M-Th, \$60 F-S. **Hills Course:** Private, 18 holes, estab. 2001. Back tees: 7,106 yards, par 71. Member-guest. Some tee times are available to the public. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Rosewood Lakes Golf Course—Scenic city course has large greens, 60 acres of wetlands, and many birds, such as ducks, cranes, owls, and hawks. Architect: Brad Benz. 18 holes, estab. 1991. Golf Manager Al Rogers, Head Pro Bob Forse. Call 775-857-2892, www.rosewoodlakes.com. Back tees: 6,693 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$30, seniors \$25, juniors \$20, twilight \$20. Cart \$20. Club rental \$16. MC, Visa.

Sierra Sage Golf Course—The front nine was built by U.S. Air Force in Stead, 10 miles north of Reno. County course, 18 holes, estab. 1958. Director of Golf Mike Mitchell, Head Pro Steve Bell. Call 775-972-1564, www.sierrasagegolf.org. Back tees: 6,605 yards, par 71. Green fees: April-Sept.: \$22. Twilight at noon weekdays and 2 p.m. weekends: \$16.50. Winter rate: \$16.50. Cart \$13. Club rental \$15. MC, Visa.

Somerset Club—PGA Tour star Tom Kite helped design the private course in Northwest Reno. Architects: Tom Kite, Roy Bechtol, and Randy Russell of KBR Design. Private, 18 holes, with private walking-only Canyon Nine, estab.

2003. Head Pro Kurt Vogel. Call 775-787-1800, www.somerset.com. Back tees: 7,252 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Washoe County Golf Course—Front nine is flat, the back nine hilly on Reno's oldest course, which was built by the W.P.A. in 1936. County course, 18 holes. Director of Golf Barney Bell, Head Pro Darin Menante. Call 775-828-6640, www.washoegolf.org. Back tees: 6,695 yards, par 72. Green fees: April-Oct.: \$31, seniors and juniors \$26. Twilight \$22. Winter rates. Cart \$14. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa.

Wildcreek Golf Course—Wildcreek has a championship course and an executive layout. Championship Course hosted the Gatlin Brothers Senior PGA Tour event in 1982-84. Operated by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. Architects: Benz and Phelps. Resort courses, estab. 1978. GM Joe Kelley, Head Pro Eric Huzarski. Call 775-673-3100, 775-673-1181. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1978. Back tees: 6,993 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer: \$50 M-Th, \$59 F-S. Twilight after 11 a.m.: \$40, \$49. Supertwilight after 2:30 p.m.: \$30, \$39. Winter rates. Club rental \$20-\$35. AE, MC, Visa. **Executive Course:** Challenging nine-hole, par-3 course has rolling hills. Tees: 2,840 yards, par 27. Green fees: Adults \$15, juniors \$12, replay \$5. Senior rates. Cart \$12. Club rental \$12. AE, MC, Visa. Steel spikes OK.

Wolf Run Golf Club—South Reno course is home of the UNR Wolf Pack men's and women's golf teams. *Golf Digest* three stars. Architects: John Fleming and Lou Eiguren. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1998. GM Tom Duncan, Head Pro Nate Kelley. Call 775-851-3301, www.wolfrungolfclub.com. Back tees: 7,100 yards, par 72. Green fees: April 29-Oct. 22: \$65 M-Th, \$75 F-S. After 11 a.m. \$55, \$65. After 2 p.m. \$45, \$55. Winter rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

FERNLEY

The Golf Club at Fernley—Located 30 miles east of Reno via I-80, the Fernley course has more than 20 lakes. Architect: Don Mackey, Bob Bingham Construction. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Director of Golf Don Boyle. Call 775-835-6933. Back tees: 6,650 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer: \$35 M-F, \$40 S-S. Twilight after 2 p.m. \$25. Winter rates. Club rental \$15. MC, Visa.

WASHOE VALLEY

Thunder Canyon—North of Carson City, private country club's front nine is in the meadows, and the back nine follows the pines. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1994. GM Mike Roby, Head Pro David La Fata. Call 775-882-0882, golf shop 775-884-4597, www.thundercanyon.com. Back tees: 7,166 yards, par 72. Reciprocal play. Restaurant open to the public. Major credit cards.

Home-Grown Pro

Genoa Lakes' **Lou Eiguren** has a "Divine" sense of Northern Nevada golf **By Vic Williams**

Lou Eiguren, director of golf at Genoa Lakes, was born and raised in Winnemucca, which makes him one of Nevada's few home-grown golf pros. He also might be the only Basque-American member of the PGA.

At 62, the soft-spoken Eiguren is Basque through and through. His no-nonsense yet gentle attitude toward golf and life has won him many friends, and a slight streak of wanderlust took him to San Francisco years ago for one of the game's plum jobs—head pro at the famed Olympic Club. How he got there, he admits, was "an absolute fluke."

"My wife was working for United Airlines in Reno, and I was working in insurance," says Eiguren, who earned a busi-

ness degree from the University of Nevada. "United decided to consolidate their operations in San Francisco. To keep her job, my wife would have to move there. I said, 'Hey, we're a couple of kids from the sticks. Let's go to the city. After a very short time stuck in an insurance cubicle, I decided I'd like to get in the golf business.'"

Eiguren had played on the Nevada golf team but hadn't thought previously about becoming a pro. "My wife had a friend in Walnut Creek whose husband was in the golf business. He helped me put together my resume and said he'd send it out when some jobs opened up." That led Eiguren to the Olympic Club. "I was hired on St. Patrick's Day 1969."

Eiguren stayed for 14 years, becoming



Lou Eiguren of Genoa Lakes.

only the fourth head pro in the club's history. Then his roots came tugging.

"My father had opened a casino in Winnemucca, but two weeks after the grand opening he died of a heart attack at age 59. I went home to help my brother run the business." In time Eiguren found himself back in golf, working at Ruby View

The advertisement features a large background image of a golfer in a blue shirt and white pants swinging a club on a green field. Overlaid on this are three smaller images: a hand playing cards on a green table, a golfer in mid-swing, and a large resort building with mountains in the background. The text "CHIP. SHOT." is prominently displayed in the center.

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in Elko ("they used to call me Ruby View Lou"). After a stint at Castlewood Country Club in the Bay Area, he returned to Nevada in 1986, landing the head pro's position at Edgewood Tahoe on Lake Tahoe's south shore.

"The only reason the owner, Brooks Park, hired me was because I was from Nevada," Eiguren says with a laugh. "He didn't know anything else about me."

At Genoa Lakes Eiguren oversees two tracks, the original Golf Club at Genoa Lakes, now called the Lakes Course, and the new Genoa Lakes Resort Course, formerly Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch. He even co-designed a Reno course (Wolf Run, with John Fleming, a former Olympic Club superintendent). Eiguren is the go-to guy if you want to know anything about Northern Nevada's golf history or the Divine 9, a marketing consortium of nine courses in Carson City and Carson Valley. He recently discussed those and other topics in an interview.

Q: The region has simply exploded in the past decade as a golf destination, hasn't it?

I grew up here and watched it happen. I can still remember when we had Washoe Golf Course and Hidden Valley in Reno, which opened in 1958. That was it, before Sierra Sage or any of them. LakeRidge



Empire Ranch Golf Course in Carson City is one of the area's Divine 9.

opened in the early '70s, while I was in San Francisco.

Q: Any favorite stories from that time?

When I was head pro at Olympic Club, the Laxalts [including brothers Paul, a former Nevada governor and U.S. senator; novelist Robert; and attorney Mickey] were building the Ormsby House in Carson City. Mickey would come down and play in our invitational. He found out I was Basque and from Winnemucca, so they flew me up here to see their plan—a golf

course right up on King Street [on the west side of Carson City]. We walked the property to come up with some ideas, and I probably would have moved back up here, but they sold the hotel, and the golf course went away.

Q: What makes golf in Carson City, Carson Valley, and Dayton special?

It's become a sleeper. When I was in the Bay Area, a lot of associate clubs and small groups would come up here for the value. Eagle Valley opened in the '70s, and Dayton opened in the early '90s, then all the other courses. People enjoy the ruralness of it.

Q: And the fact there's more than golf?

We've met with the folks from Marriott, who are considering building a boutique hotel at Genoa's resort course. They have criteria for rating properties. We're a "B," and the only reason is because we're not lakefront or beachfront. But for all the things you can do—skiing, boating, hiking, riding—we're right there. We're close to Lake Tahoe and only 12.8 miles to the closest ski resort, Heavenly.

Q: Besides the Divine 9 offering different playing atmospheres, how do the courses work together?

Silver Oak, Carson Valley Golf Course, Sunridge, Empire Ranch, and Eagle Valley go for a different market, a different crowd, and there's a niche for them. Genoa and Dayton attract a little of both high-end and lower-end. We've seen a tremendous increase in online bookings across the board. We're working with several tee time services. Ninety-five percent of our business is drive-up from California.

Q: Aren't the area's well-known afternoon winds a challenge?

Between noon and 3 o'clock, I fill up only 25 percent of my tee sheet. I had Mike Alger, the Reno TV weatherman, out

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here, and he gave me a great analogy. At nighttime the valleys and mountains cool down to about the same temperature, but in the daytime the temperature rises so fast, it creates its own low pressure system, a vacuum. That's why the winds pick up. Same as in San Francisco; in the summertime the valley heats up and sucks the marine layer in.

Mike said, "Get used to it." So we're making the most of it.

Vic Williams is publisher and executive editor of Reno-based Fairways + Greens magazine.

Divine 9 Courses

Early tee-time reservations are recommended. Green fees vary widely by season and are subject to change. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Most courses require soft spikes. Call ahead to confirm information.

CARSON CITY

Eagle Valley Golf Course—Two public courses offer different challenges—one is wide-open, the other links-style. City, 36 holes, GM and Director of Golf Tom Evert. Call 775-887-2380, www.eaglevalleygolf.com. **East Course:** The East was a national trendsetter when it opened in 1976 using reclaimed effluent for irrigation. Architect: Arthur Jack Snyder. 18 holes.

Back tees: 6,658 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer A.M.: Walking \$20, riding \$30. P.M.: Walking \$15, riding \$25, juniors \$5. Winter: Walking \$15, riding \$25. **West Course:** Links layout is hilly and narrow. *Golf Digest* three and a half stars. Architect: Homer Flynt. 18 holes, estab. 1987. Back tees: 6,885 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer A.M.: Riding \$35, twilight \$25. Winter \$25. Club rental \$15. MC, Visa.

Empire Ranch Golf Course—The 27-hole layout next to the Carson River has extensive wetlands. Golfers play combinations of the three nines. Architect: Cary Bickler. Public, 27 holes, estab. 1997. Call 888-227-1335 or 775-885-2100, www.empireranchgolf.com. Back tees: Comstock-River 6,840 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$40 M-F, \$45 S-S. Senior specials. Seasonal rates. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa.

Silver Oak Golf Club—Course at north end of Carson City has a new clubhouse, plus several carries over water and a dramatically hilly front nine. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. GM Pete Caron, Head Pro Robert C. Mason. Call 775-841-7000, www.silveroakgolf.com. Back tees: 6,504 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer: \$50. After 3 p.m. \$25. Winter \$40. MC, Visa.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Golf Course—Scenic, family-oriented course on Gardnerville's south end winds through tall cottonwood trees near the Carson River. Architect: Red Swift. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1965. Owners Tom Brooks and Manya Brooks, Head Pro Alan Hoover. Call 775-265-3181, www.carsonvalleygolf.com. Back tees: 6,020 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$27 M-Th, \$33 F-S. Carts \$11. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa.

Genoa Lakes Golf Club/Lakes Course—Designed by John Harbottle and PGA player Peter Jacobsen, this long, undulating layout at the base of the Sierra along the Carson River is an annual site of U.S. Open qualifying. Italian fine dining at Antoci's. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1993. Owners Mario and Diane Antoci, Head Pro Lou Eiguren, Associate Pro Jonas Ellison. Call 866-795-2709, 775-782-4653, or 775-588-GOLF, www.genoalakes.com. Back tees: 7,357 yards, par 72. Green fees:

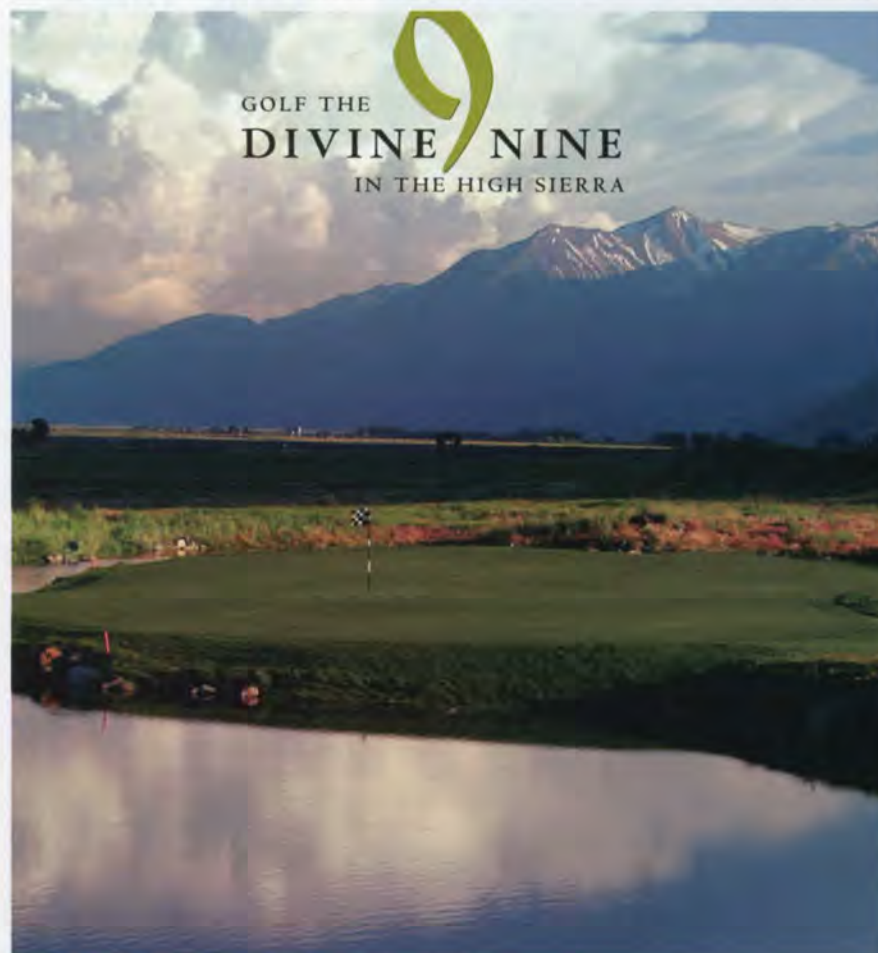
May 1-25, 2006: \$80 M-Th, \$105 F-S. Twilight \$70, \$85. Summer rates May 26-Oct. 1: \$100 M-Th, \$120 F-S. Twilight \$70, \$85. Oct. 2-31: \$70 M-Th, \$85 F-S. Nov. 1-Feb. 28, 2007: \$60 M-Th, \$70 F-S. Area residents get 25 percent discount in non-summer periods. Club rental \$40. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Genoa Lakes Golf Resort/Resort Course—The former Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch became the Resort Course of Genoa Lakes in 2005. *Golf Digest* four and a half stars. Architects: John Harbottle and Johnny Miller. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Head Pro Lou Eiguren, Associate Pro Dave Gebhardt. Call 888-452-4653 or 775-782-7700, www.genoalakes.com. Back tees: 7,358 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 1-25, 2006: \$65 M-Th, \$95 F-S. Twilight \$50, \$65. Summer: May 26-Oct. 1: \$85 M-Th, \$105 F-S. Twilight \$60, \$75. Oct. 2-31: \$60 M-Th, \$75 F-S. Nov. 1-Feb. 28, 2007: \$50 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Area residents get 25 percent discount in non-summer periods. Club rental \$40. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Sunridge Golf Club—Championship course at the north end of Carson Valley incorporates hilly topography and natural wetlands. Architect: Bill Wellman. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Owner Bill Wellman. Call 775-267-4448, www.sunridgegolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,914 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$50 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Twilight and off-season rates. Club rental \$40. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

DAYTON

Dayton Valley Golf Club—Designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay, Dayton Valley has been a Stage I PGA Tour qualifying site since 1995—the longest such run in nation. The 2006 qualifier is Oct. 22-27. *Golf Digest* four stars. New \$6-million clubhouse opened in spring 2006. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Director of Golf Jim Kepler, Head Pro Rick Vaughan. Call 800-644-3822 or 775-246-7888, www.daytonvalley.com. Back tees: 7,218 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer: May 22-Oct. 27: \$85 M-Th, \$105 F-S. Fall and spring: \$50 M-F, \$65 S-S. Winter: \$40 M-F, \$50 S-S. Twilight rates after 1 p.m. (and 3 p.m. in summer). Club rental \$25. MC, Visa. GPS in carts.



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Genoa Lakes Golf Resort – 775.782.7700
The Golf Club at Genoa Lakes – 775.782.4653
Sunridge Golf Club – 775.267.4448
Silver Oak Golf Club – 775.841.7000

places to stay

Best Western Carson Station Hotel Casino – 800.501.2929
Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort – 877.519.5567
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Carson Nugget/City Center Motel – 800.426.5239
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Thin Is In

High altitude means monster drives from Tahoe's rarefied tees.

By Vic Williams

It's one thing to watch Tiger Woods and John Daly smoke 350-yard drives. It's another to watch teen phenom Michelle Wie bash it out there to big-boy dimensions as she starts her LPGA career.

But it's another concept altogether for the average Joe or Jane to go deep with impunity, and that's more than possible at Lake Tahoe's 6,225-foot elevation. In fact, given today's physics-bending equipment, it's even probable. All you need is a decent swing, flexibility, and a Tahoe tee time.

The extra distance to be found at Lake Tahoe has been an urban legend for decades—ever since the first flagstick was stuck in the Sierra turf 90 years ago—but it's backed by scientific fact. The ball does go farther at higher elevations, and while it helps to have great strength and a repeatable swing, even weekenders can reap the benefits a couple times per round.

How? By getting "thin," that's how. According to Mike Alger, chief meteorologist at Reno's KTVN-TV and an avid golfer, the reasons behind the prodigious pokes are strictly atmospheric.

"There are two forces that limit how far a ball can fly—gravity and air resistance," Alger says. "Since there's no practical difference on the gravitational force on a golf ball here at altitude compared to sea level, it must be air resistance. In Reno, which is at 4,498 feet above sea level, there is approximately 15 percent less air density than there is at sea level. That means there are about 15 percent fewer air molecules to get in the way of your golf ball when you hit it, and so it decelerates less up here than down there. Up at Lake Tahoe it's almost 20 percent."

Need further illustration? "It's basically



A foursome heads to the next tee at Edgewood Tahoe, named the 54th best public course in America by *Golf Digest* in 2005.

the same reason you can swim faster in water than Karo Syrup," Alger adds.

Thus, it's smoother sailing for a well-hit orb at Incline's Championship Course or Edgewood Tahoe—the two public courses on Tahoe's Nevada side—than it is along the California coast.

However, notice the pivotal phrase, "well-hit." A shank or cold-top in the Sierra's shadow is just as ugly as it would be at Pebble Beach. Just ask the celebrities who descend on Edgewood every July for a three-day tournament that draws PGA Tour-caliber crowds. Muscled-up quarterbacks like John Elway or fit hockey studs like Dan Quinn can really bring the dis-

tance, but most of the celebrity players are more like us—distance-challenged.

But no matter. Long, short, or in-between, thin air or no, every shot at Tahoe is hit within heaven's reach.

Vic Williams is publisher and executive editor of Reno-based Fairways + Greens magazine. He plans to watch the sports and film stars swing from their heels during the 2006 American Century Celebrity Golf Championship on July 11-16 at Edgewood Tahoe in Stateline.

Lake Tahoe Courses

Early tee-time reservations are recommended. Green fees vary widely by season and are subject to change. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Most courses require soft spikes. Call ahead to confirm information.

LAKE TAHOE, NORTH

The Golf Courses at Incline Village—The Incline Championship Course, originally designed by Robert Trent Jones, reopened in 2005 following a Kyle Phillips refurbishing. The

Chateau clubhouse also is new. Resort courses, 36 holes, May-Oct., Director of Golf Cathy Jo Johnson. Call 866-925-GOLF, pro shop 775-832-1146, www.golfincline.com. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1964. Head Pro Jake Bader. Back tees: 7,106 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$165, twilight after 4 p.m. \$99, after 5:30 p.m. M-Th \$50. Club rental \$40. AE, MC, Visa. **Mountain Course:** Executive course, laid out in the tall pines by designer Robert Trent Jones Jr., has 14 par 3s (averaging 151 yards), four par 4s, and streams on 12 holes. 18 holes, estab. 1969. Head Pro Angie Rodriguez. Tees: 3,513 yards, par 58. Green fees: Nonresidents \$58, after noon \$49, after 4 p.m. \$39. Club rental \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Golf Course—Northstar's front nine has narrow, tree-lined fairways. The back nine is open. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1973. Head Pro Jeff Richter. Call 800-GO-NORTH or 530-562-2490, www.northstarattahoe.com. Back tees: 6,897 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. Northstar also has a winter ski resort.

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Old Brockway Golf Course—Located in Kings Beach across the street from Lake Tahoe with rolling hills, tall pines, and a creek. Architect: John Duncan Dunn. Public, 9 holes, April-Nov., estab. 1924. Owner Lane Lewis, Head Pro Garrett Good. Call 530-546-9909. Back tees: 6,900 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: High season \$68. Twilight after 3 p.m. \$29. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Resort at Squaw Creek—Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed this traditional course in Squaw Valley. Front nine is mountainous, back nine links-style. Hotel golf packages available. Resort course, 18 holes, mid-May-Oct., estab. 1991. Head Pro Eric Veraguth. Call 530-583-6300. Back tees: 6,931 yards, par 71. Green fees: High season \$110 M-Th, \$125 F-S. Twilight, spring, and fall rates. Club rental \$40. AE, MC, Visa.

Tahoe City Golf Course—Nine-hole course has four par 4s, four par 3s, and one par 5. Initially designed by May Webb Dunn in 1917. Public, 9 holes, April-Nov. Call 530-583-1516. Back tees: 5,261 yards based on 18, par 66. Green fees: Call for current rates.

LAKE TAHOE, SOUTH

Bijou Golf Course—The oldest course at South Shore was designed by Virgil Gilcrease in 1920. City course, 9 holes, April-Oct. Superintendent Stan Bobman. Call 530-542-6097, www.recreationintahoe.com. Tees: 2,002 yards, par 32. Green fees for 9 holes: Nonresidents \$18, residents \$15. Twilight after 3 p.m. \$15 and \$12. Club rental \$8.50. MC, Visa.

Edgewood Tahoe—One of *Golf Digest's* top public golf courses in U.S., Edgewood is located near the Stateline hotel-casinos. Annual host of the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship; the 2006 tournament is July 11-16. Architects: George Fazio/Tom Fazio. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1968. Head Pro Randy Fox. Call 888-881-8659 or 775-588-3566, www.edgewood-tahoe.com. Back tees: 7,491 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 12-31: \$150. June 1-Oct. 15: \$200. Walking OK (same fee). Club rental \$50. AE, MC, Visa.

Glenbrook Club—Nevada's first golf course went private

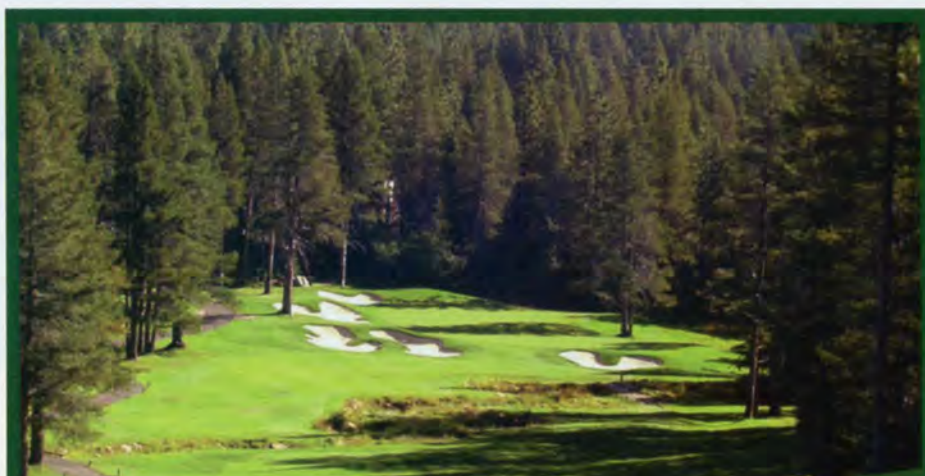
in 1998. Private, 9 holes, estab. c. 1926. GM and Director of Golf Lane Christiansen. Call 775-749-5201. Back tees: 5,610 yards based on 18, par 71. Member-guest.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course—Scenic course off U.S. 50 has been certified as an Audubon sanctuary. Located in an alpine meadow surrounded by tall Sierra peaks. Architect: William Bell. Resort course, 18 holes, April-Oct., estab. c. 1962. American Golf, GM Jeff Stange, Teaching Pro John Dorney. Call 530-577-0788. Back tees: 6,745 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$75 to ride, \$52 to walk. Carts mandatory F-S. Early-bird and twilight rates. Club rental \$35. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. No spikes requirement.

Tahoe Paradise Golf Course—Challenging executive course is narrow, with tree-lined fairways and six par 3s—the rest are par 4s. Public, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1960. Manager Dawn Steimer, Pros David Gilpin and Susan Briske. Call 530-577-2121, www.tahoeparadisegc.com. Back tees: 4,021 yards, par 66. Green fees: \$40. Early bird before 8 a.m. Twilight after 3 and 5 p.m. Senior rates. Carts \$18. Disc., MC, Visa. No spikes requirement.

Golf Groups

Nevada's golf associations are active in organizing amateur events as well as course ratings. 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).



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Nevada's neighbors
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If you're a peripatetic hacker in Northern Nevada, you'll find pleasure in stealing across the California border to indulge in some of the region's best courses and vistas. For instance, the once-sleepy railroad town of Truckee, 30 miles west of Reno, has taken the flagstick by the horns and wrestled its way onto many players' go-to lists. It started back in the 1970s with nine holes at Northstar-at-Tahoe, which later grew into 18, each side as different from the other as cross-country skiing is from downhill. Northstar continues to grow with a new mountain village and lodge, but the Robert Muir Graves half-meadow, half-mountain course remains a quirky favorite.

The 20th century ended with the opening of Coyote Moon, a pure alpine golf experience—no homes, no power lines, just a scenic routing through wildflowers and pines that culminates in the best four-hole stretch this side of Monterey. The area's newest public course, Old Greenwood, was designed by Jack Nicklaus to be as friendly to fractional owners and their friends as it is visually spectacular. Go to the back tees, though, and the Bear bares his teeth.

Golfers—and hikers, anglers, and cyclists—will find other memorable settings in Plumas County, an hour's drive northwest of Reno. The little burg of Graeagle is ground zero for several worth-the-drive courses, including Graeagle Meadows and Plumas Pines, both of which kiss the banks of the Feather River. Whitehawk Ranch is an impeccably groomed course in the Mohawk Valley just south of town, and the Dragon is as brutal a mountain monster as its name implies, although plans call for architect Robin Nelson to tame it somewhat. Add a couple of homegrown nine-holers, and there are golden opportunities in the Golden State near Reno.—Vic Williams



The forested Plumas Pines is one of many courses that offer golf-and-lodging packages.

Truckee/Graeagle Courses

Early tee-time reservations are recommended. Green fees vary widely by season and are subject to change. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Most courses require soft spikes. Call ahead to confirm information.

TRUCKEE AREA

Coyote Moon—Sierra course sits among rolling hills and tall pines. Ranked No. 11 in California by *Golf Week* and No. 13 on West Coast by *Fairways + Greens*. Architect: Brad Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Pro Dirk Skillicorn. Call 530-587-0886, www.coyotemoongolf.com. Back tees: 7,177 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$95-\$150. AE, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Golf Course—Please see Lake Tahoe course listings.

Old Greenwood—Jack Nicklaus designed this alpine course, named the fourth-best new course in the U.S. by *Golf Digest* in 2005 and among the world's top 10 new courses by *Travel and Leisure Golf* in 2004. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 2004. Head Pro Bob Hickam. For details call 530-550-7010, www.oldgreenwood.com. Back tees: 7,518 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$170. AE, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Ponderosa Golf Course—Wooded nine-hole course. Architect: Bob Baldech. Built by the local utility district. Public, 9 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1961. GM Al Bailey. Call 530-587-3501, www.ponderosagolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,044 yards based on 18, par 70. Call for rates. MC, Visa.

Tahoe Donner Golf Course—Manicured, narrow fairways weave through the pines, and a creek comes into play on eight holes. New clubhouse opened in 2005. Named best greens in

Tahoe area by *Golf Digest* in 2004. Architects: Bob Williams (1-9), Bill Bell Jr. (10-18). Semi-private, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1973. Tahoe Donner Assn., Head Pro Bill Winfield. Call 530-587-9443, www.tahoeonner.com. Back tees: 6,968 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$120, reduced after 2:30 p.m. Carts optional after 2:30 p.m. Club rental \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

GRAEAGLE

Dragon at Gold Mountain—Course offers views of the Sierra and Feather River. Clubhouse is one of three designed by Frank Lloyd Wright but not built until recently. Nakoma Resort and Spa. Architect: Robin Nelson. Resort course, 18 holes, April-Nov., estab. 2000. For further course information visit www.dragongolf.com. Back tees: 7,077 yards, par 72. Green fees: Vary by season.

Graeagle Meadows Golf Course—Situated on the Feather River, Graeagle is a scenic meadow course that has two lakes and two creeks. Many elevated tees offer views. Architect: Ellis Van Gorder. Public, 18 holes, April-Nov., estab. c. 1968. Manager Dan West, Head Pro Bob Klein Jr. Call 530-836-2323, www.playgraeagle.com. Back tees: 6,725 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$45 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Twilight \$25, \$35. Cart \$20. Club rental \$30. Disc., MC, Visa. No spike requirement.

Plumas Pines Golf Resort—Mountain course has lots of water and trees. One of *Golf Digest's* Places to Play in 1998-2005. Lodging available, with stay, play, and dine packages. Home of Longboards Bar and Grill. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Nov., estab. 1980. Head Pro Brandon Bowling. Call 530-836-1420, visit www.plumas-pines-golf.com. Back tees: 6,421 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$80 M-F, \$95 S-S, \$30 for replay. Twilight \$45-\$55 after 3 p.m. Club rental \$15. AE, Disc., MC, and Visa.

Whitehawk Ranch Golf Club—Mountain course 38 miles north of Truckee winds through pines and meadows. *Golf Digest* four and a half stars. Architect: Dick Bailey. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Doug Flynn. Call 800-332-4295 or 530-836-0394, www.golfwhitehawk.com. Back tees: 6,951 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer \$55-\$130, spring and fall \$35-\$115. Same rates for walkers. Club rental \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

Going Long in Ely

Golf pro Randy Long takes his shot at small-town golf

By Kent Harper

Ely golf pro Randy Long can instantly improve the distance of your drives. His secret? The altitude. The White Pine Golf Course is 6,500 feet above sea level. As at Lake Tahoe, the lower air pressure often means longer shots for golfers.

But that atmospheric edge isn't what brought Long to Ely from Reno three years ago. Long served 12 years as an assistant pro at LakeRidge and two years as director of instruction at Rosewood Lakes, so he was used to working on busy urban golf courses—the kind that have eight golf pros, 100 carts, 300 tournaments per year, eight-minute intervals between groups, and marshals to keep everyone moving.

Long and his wife, Lori, simply decided it was time for a change.

"We wanted our children to be raised in the kind of small-town environment we were," says Long, who grew up in Plentywood, Montana. The Longs have three children, 12-year-old twins Gerdon and Marlee and four-year-old Lauren.

"I came here from a fast-paced Reno environment," Long says. "Here it's just a slower pace. It took awhile for my heart rate to adjust."

Long is pouring coffee for two golfers who stopped by the pro shop. "I have time to sit down and have a cup of coffee with my members," the 46-year-old pro says. "Best coffee in town," the pair choruses.

"I get a lot of walk-ins," Long says. "I hardly set tee times." In Reno, Long might see 250 golfers tee off per day. The White Pine course averages closer to 45. "The



Randy Long was seeking a change when he moved from Reno to Eastern Nevada.

uniqueness is we're 240 miles away from major metropolitan areas [Las Vegas and Salt Lake City]." That's the difference between 50,000 rounds per year at many city courses and 12,000 per year in Ely.

"You don't feel pressured," he says of the Eastern Nevada location. "You can go out to play and get it done. It's relaxing."

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The 18-hole White Pine course has a scenic setting framed by the Schell Creek and Egan ranges. The course's northwest corner abuts the Nevada Northern Railway yards, and in summer the steam engines' whistles echo off the mountains as the former ore trains now haul tourists.

Golfers also share the course with wildlife. Long says that two pronghorn antelopes lived on the course for two months before seeking less humanized forage, and deer occasionally dart across the fairways.

While golfers can play relaxed on the Ely course, it's a long, hard, 14-hour day for its pro. Long, who comes to work at 6:30 a.m., finds himself mowing greens or cooking hamburgers at the snack bar ("I burned the first one until I got used to the altitude," he confesses). He also oversees a small bar, the pro shop, and 32 golf carts.

"Most days that's enough carts," Long says, "but during tournament days, we are hurting." More carts are on his wish list.

Under Long's leadership, play has grown from 8,400 rounds in 2004, his first year, to 12,000 rounds in 2005. He schedules numerous tournaments, from the Ely Amateur in May to the Member-Guest Tournament in December. Each event requires a lot of preparation. "I don't have 30 people to do the maintenance or a \$500,000 budget," Long notes, "but the members are there when I need them." He says he's amazed by the support he gets from the local golfers. "More support than complaints," he emphasizes.

"There's a real pride factor here," Long explains. "The locals are proud of what they've built. We work together."

When the original nine-hole course was built in 1957 architect Bob Baldock followed the natural terrain. In 1998 a community effort provided volunteers and money to expand the course to 18 holes. It has many trees, bunkers, water, and some open, "go for it" holes.

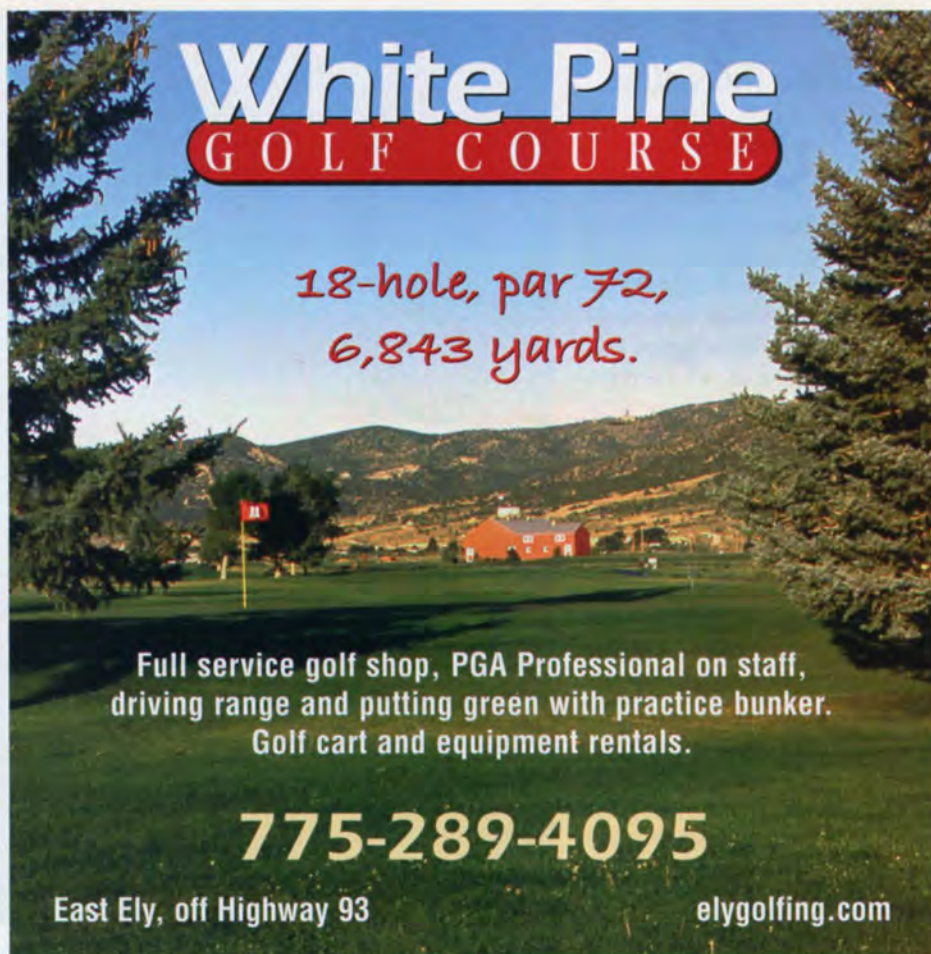
Long says he continues to try to keep the green fees down. Players pay \$24 for 18 holes. Carts cost \$12 per person, and clubs are rented, too.

Long says many visiting golfers are snowbirds following their north-south migration on U.S. 93. They return often, bringing other golfers to the area.

That's in large part due to the friendliness of the locals, Long says. The Ely area has a different lifestyle, and many people from urban areas find it refreshing.

"It's not all hustle and bustle," he adds. "It's a great way to live." And play golf.

Kent Harper is the editor of the Ely Times.



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Rural Nevada Courses

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BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Mountain View Golf Course—You can leave I-80, play nine, have lunch, and be back on the interstate in under three hours. Architects: John and Maria Heller. County course, 9 holes, March-Oct., estab. 1991. Golf Manager Jim Falzone. Call 775-635-2380. Back tees: 6,332 yards based on 18, par 71. Green fees: \$15, all day \$20. Nine holes \$12. Cart \$20. Club rental \$10. MC, Visa.

DEATH VALLEY

Furnace Creek Golf Course—World's lowest golf course: 214 feet below sea level. Closed in Sept. for overseeding. Players can stay at Furnace Creek Ranch, Furnace Creek Inn, or National Park Service campgrounds. Architect: William P. Bell, redesigned by Perry Dye in 1997. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1933. GM Dominic Lenz, Director of Golf Matt Bryda. Call 760-786-2301, www.furnacecreekresort.com. Back tees: 6,236 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$67.50, sundowner \$42.50. Summer rates.

ELKO AREA

Ruby View Golf Course—Long, rolling fairways are lined with big trees and large, well-bunkered greens. The late PGA star Tony Lema was head pro in 1957 at the old Ruby View course. City course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1968. Head Pro Rick Longhurst. Call 775-777-7277, Mulligan's Bar and Grill 775-777-7279. Back tees: 6,945 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$23 M-Th, \$28 F-S. Cart \$12. Club rental \$16. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Spring Creek Golf Course—Target course 15 miles southeast of Elko has narrow fairways, sagebrush rough, and domed greens, so players must be accurate off the tees. Public, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1972. Spring Creek Assn., Head Pro Jason Jerman. Call 775-753-6331. Back tees: 6,638 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$25. Cart \$12. Club rental \$20. MC, Visa.

ELY

White Pine Golf Course—The 18-hole course in Steptoe Valley is set between Ward Mountain, Squaw Peak, and the Schell Creek Range. At 6,500 feet, golfers can add yardage to their shots. PGA Tour player Jay Don Blake holds the original nine-hole course's record of 62. Architect: Bob Baldock. County course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1957. Head Pro Randy Long. Call 775-289-4095, www.elygolfing.com, randy@elygolfing.com. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$24. Carts \$12. Club rental \$7 and \$14. MC, Visa accepted.

EMPIRE

Burning Sands Golf Course—Course has been built over the years by U.S. Gypsum mine employees in the company town of Empire (pop: 350), 100 miles north of Reno near Gerlach. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1960s. Town Manager



Ken Power lines up a putt at Spring Creek. Golfers in Northeastern Nevada also can play Elko, Jackpot, Wells, and Wendover.

Dave Carter, Supervisor Bill Couk. Call 775-557-2341, ext. 224. Tees: 2,007 yards, par 32. Green fees: \$10 donation suggested for nonresidents. Motorized carts not allowed.

FALLON

The Golf Course @ Fallon—Construction of another nine holes is due to be completed in June 2007. The nine-hole course is set on the Carson River with tall cottonwoods and willows. Offers "Twelve-Buck Tuesdays." Architect: So-Par-O-Van Corp. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1958. Owners Matthew and Kenia Biddinger, Head Pro Jim "Izzy" Isbister. Call 775-423-4616. Back tees: 6,254 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: \$25 M-F, \$30 S-S. Twilight after 2 p.m. \$15 M-F, \$20 S-S. Tuesdays: \$12 all day. Military, seniors, and juniors \$20 M-F, \$25 S-S. Cart \$8. Club rental \$12. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

GABBS

Sandy Bottom Golf Course—Nevada's only clay course is overrun with weeds, so play has diminished. Volunteers may work on the course in 2006. Nine holes, estab. c. 1958. Call 775-285-4019. Tees: 3,010 yards, par 35.

HAWTHORNE

Walker Lake Golf Club—Towering elms flank the oldest holes and shade the stately homes built for the big brass. A moderately difficult flat course with narrow fairways at Army Ammunitions Plant. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1952. Head Pro Pete Summerbell. For details call 775-945-1111, www.walkerlakegolf.com. Back tees: 5,514 yards based on 18, par 68. Green fees: \$16 M-F, \$18 S-S. Carts \$18. Club rental \$5. Casino packages available. No credit cards.

JACKPOT

Jackpot Golf Club—Elko County course in Jackpot, the casino community on the Idaho border, is a lengthy,

undulating layout with doglegs and large, sloping greens. Course is known for coyotes, deer, hawks, and other wildlife. Greens are mature. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. 18 holes, March-Oct., estab. c. 1970. Manager and Head Pro Brent Fleshman. Call 775-755-2260. Back tees: 6,934 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$17 M-F, \$27 S-S. (Elko County residents \$15 M-F.) Cart \$24, mandatory on weekends. No private carts. Club rental \$25. MC, Visa.

PIOCHE

Lincoln County Golf Course—Citizens of the historic mining town of Pioche created a nine-hole course on the flat below town in 2002. Lincoln Links Association volunteers have installed dirt fairways and artificial-turf greens and tee boxes. Pads are available for hitting off fairways. A four-person scramble tourney is held during the annual Pioche Labor Day Celebration—last year 36 two-person teams competed. Association yearly membership costs \$25. For additional information contact Dick or Peggy Decker, Box 321, Pioche, NV 89043. Tees: 1,656 yards, par 29. Fees by donation.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Round Mountain Golf Course—Nevada's longest nine-hole layout is a mining-company course in Hadley in Big Smoky Valley, 50 miles north of Tonopah. Elevation is 5,726 feet, so sea-level golfers will notice extra distance. Three lakes come into play on six holes. Architect: William Howard Neff. Public, 9 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1991. Round Mountain Gold Corp., Director of Golf Leo Vath. For details call 775-377-2880, www.bigsmokyvalley.com. Back tees: 7,138 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: \$20. Seniors \$14, juniors \$5. Twilight rates. Cart \$10. MC, Visa.

WELLS

Chimney Rock Golf Course—City course has three lakes and the fastest greens in the state. Nine holes, April-Nov., estab. 1976. Head Pro Ron Springsteel. Call 775-752-3928. Back tees: 6,130 yards based on 18, par 70. Green fees: \$16 (rates may go up). Cart \$20. Club rental \$6. MC, Disc., Visa.

WENDOVER

Toana Vista Golf Course—A long, narrow, target-oriented design, Toana Vista forms an oasis near the Nevada-Utah border. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1987. West Wendover Recreation Dept., Director of Golf Reid Goodliffe. Call 800-852-4330 or 775-664-4300, www.rockiesgolf.com/utah/toana. Back tees: 6,820 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$43. Carts mandatory until 1 p.m. weekdays and 4 p.m. weekends. Club rental \$13. MC, Visa.

WINNEMUCCA

Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course—The flat, well-bunkered course has well-maintained small greens, large trees, and no water. Easy to walk. Architect: Bob Baldock. City, 9 holes, March-Oct., estab. c. 1952. Head Pro Michael A. Kieser. Call 775-623-9920. Tees: 3,262, par 36. Green fees: \$15 M-F, \$18 S-S. Cart \$20. MC, Visa.

YERINGTON

Arrowleaf Golf Club—Former Mason Valley Country Club course is long, flat, and open. Architects: Bud Diehl, redesign by Jack Bridge in 2005. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. Head Pro Tom Godman. Call 775-463-3300. Back tees: 6,616 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$30 nonmembers. Twilight \$20. Juniors \$4. Cart \$10. AE, MC, Visa.

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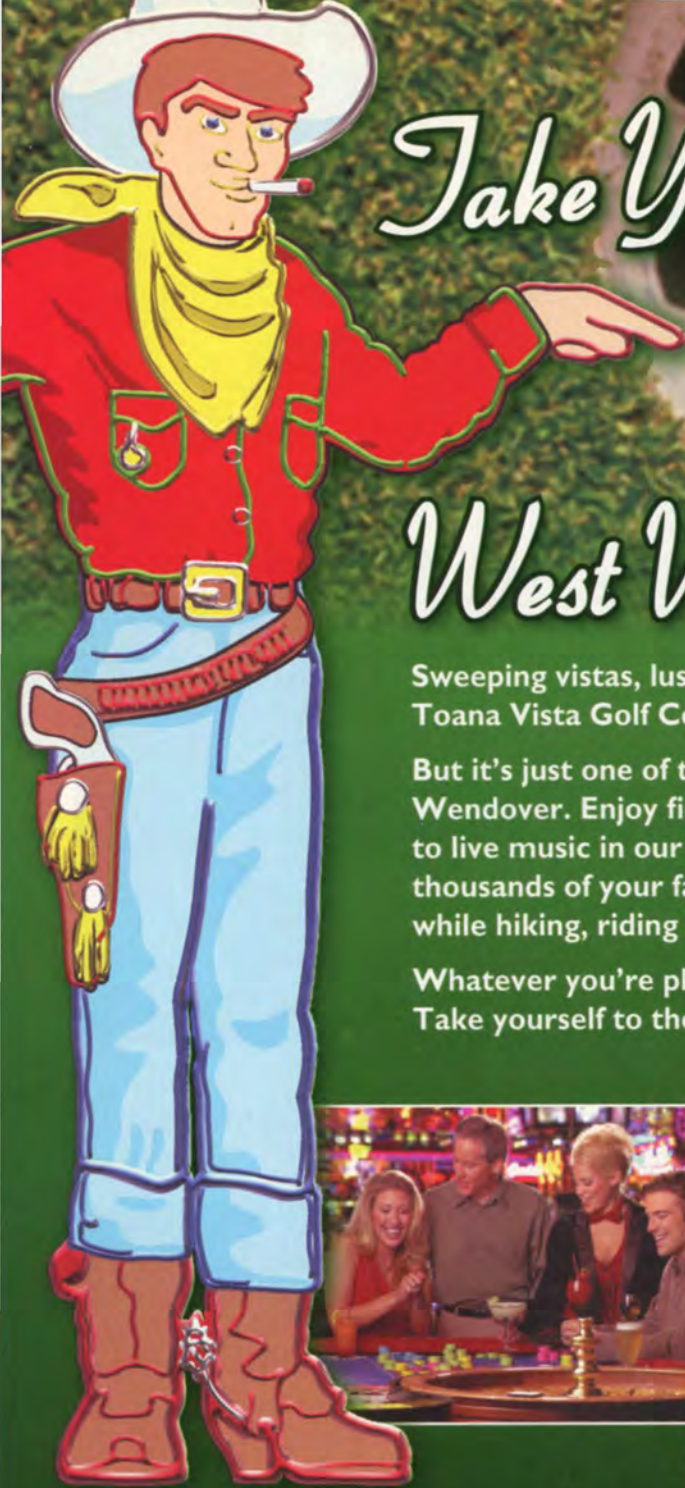
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"Spamalot" and "Phantom"

MY PLAY WILL BE BIGGER THAN YOUR PLAY:

After a run of only five months at Wynn Las Vegas, Steve Wynn is closing "Avenue Q," a Tony Award-winning play with foul-mouthed puppets (kind of Chris Rock meets *Sesame Street*) in May. Wynn, however, told *Newsweek* writer Steve Friess that he's not giving up on big theater productions. Next year, he's replacing the puppets with another Broadway mega-hit, Monty Python's "Spamalot." Taking aim at his competitors, Wynn also told Friess that other Broadway shows in Las Vegas aren't in the same class with his upcoming production. He said "Hairspray," which opened last February at the Luxor, "is not Spamalot," and added, "Phantom of the Opera," opening this summer at the Venetian, is "played out" while "Mamma Mia!" is "late in its life." As if to refute Wynn, Mandalay Bay announced that "Mamma Mia!" is entering its fourth year at the resort with an entirely new cast of leading characters—and is packing them in nightly. At Paris Las Vegas, rumors are flying that the showroom that previously housed the Queen-inspired musical "We Will Rock You," which recently closed, may be the future home of Mel Brooks' uber-hot Broadway play, "The Producers." (See "Vegas' Great White Wave" by Mike Weatherford on page 72.)

LAS VEGAS MAYOR OSCAR GOODMAN WILL BE PROUD: Another only-in-Las Vegas item is the opening of the Museum of the American Cocktail inside Commander's Palace at the Aladdin's Desert Passage shops. The museum traces the history of the cocktail during the past 200 years and includes rare, vintage cocktail memorabilia such as Prohibition-era literature, music, shakers, advertisements, and bar equipment. The museum's members include a worldwide network of afi-



RITA RUDNER MOVING ON: Popular comedian Rita Rudner's last show at New York-New York will be on June 10. The theater in which she has appeared for the past five years is being converted into a nightclub. Rudner will take her act to Harrah's Las Vegas, opening October 2.

cionados of the history of adult beverages. No word on whether Hizzoner, a well-known martini-lover, will have his favorite stemware on display.

BIG GUY MAKES THE BIG TIME: Comedian Louie Anderson, who has been selling out Las Vegas showrooms for decades (and who has his own Emmy Award-winning animated Fox TV series, *Life With Louie*), is the latest performer to be signed to a long-term deal by a Vegas resort. Anderson's "Louie: Larger Than Life" will run indefinitely at the Excalibur.

SOUTH TAKES: Despite its long and unusual name, "The Kinsey Sicks Dragapella" has been booked for an unlimited engagement at the Las Vegas Hilton. The off-Broadway show combines humor, a cappella singing, and flamboyant drag costumes. The Stratosphere has revamped its Top of the World Lounge into the elegant Romance at Top of the World luxury lounge. Changes include new décor, bottle service, and upscale drinks.

The Sahara has partnered with General Motors Corp. to build a public test track called "The Drive." Participants can

drive GM vehicles on a high-performance test track or an off-road demonstration course for a fee. Station Casinos has opened the Red Rock Casino, Resort, and Spa in Summerlin, Las Vegas. The \$925-million resort has more than 400 rooms, a 35,000-square-foot spa, nine restaurants, and a 16-screen movie theater. The resort's Rock's Lounge features eclectic cover band Zowie Bowie for an extended gig. Cable Radio Networks is carrying *Lunchtime With Ira, Live From the Las Vegas Hilton*, a weekly radio program with celebrities, entertainers, and tourism executives hosted by longtime Las Vegas publicist Ira David Sternberg.

NORTH NEWS: Actor Ashton Kutcher and fellow *That '70s Show* cast members Danny Masterson and Wilmer Valderrama are part of a group of investors planning to open Dolce, an upscale Italian restaurant, inside the Reno Hilton (scheduled to be renamed the Grand Sierra Resort). Other celeb owners will include Jamie Kennedy of *The Jamie Kennedy Experiment* and Chris Masterson of *Malcolm in the Middle*. No date announced for the opening. Fernley is gaining a state-of-the-art bowling center with 21 lanes, a sports lounge, and a children's playground. Called Frontier Fun Center, it is located near the corner of Main and Dallas streets.

AU REVOIR: Comedian Rita Rudner who appears at New York-New York until June 10, recently told *Las Vegas Sun* columnist Jack Sheehan that as a resident of Las Vegas for the last six years, "I know a lot of wild stuff goes on here, but no one ever invites me. We were looking at kindergartens recently for our daughter, and I believe it was the first time I'd ever seen a playground with a stripper pole." ▀

Richard Moreno is Nevada's publisher.

The New Showgirl

"Fantasy" at the Luxor
re-energizes the Vegas floor-show tradition

By Mike Weatherford

Will the current trend of bringing Broadway hits to Las Vegas kill the traditional casino floor show that features dancers, singers, novelty acts, and comedy?

Most likely not. The so-called "girlie shows" are a big part of Las Vegas history, and the city wouldn't be the same without them. Fortunately, there are shows, such as "Fantasy" at the Luxor, that continually update and freshen the concept of the adult-oriented production.

"Fantasy" is a pleasing revamp of an earlier revue, "Midnight Fantasy." Veteran producer Anita Mann has injected a blend of modern dance and pop choreography into the new version while retaining what attracts many showgoers to this type of entertainment: topless dancers.

the show's eight dancers plenty of opportunities to strut their stuff, which in this case means blending beauty and sensuality with tight, precise dance moves.

"Fantasy" takes the audience on what its creators call an "indulgent journey" to act out secret, sensual fantasies, including a forbidden office romance, adventures with sexy spies, and a tryst with a cowboy.

Lead singer Stephanie Jordan, who appeared in the show's earlier incarnation, is a perfect fit. In addition to physically blending in with the rest of the cast of beautiful women, her seductive vocals elevate the dance numbers.

Comedy interludes are provided by Sean Cooper, who is a crowd favorite with his send-ups of James Brown, Sammy Davis Jr., Michael Jackson, and Tina Turner.

Ultimately, "Fantasy" shows that there's still plenty of room in Las Vegas for both Broadway blockbusters with big-name stars and the good, old-fashioned floor shows with beautiful women. ♡

Show Notes

"Fantasy" plays nightly except Thursday at the Luxor in Las Vegas. Show times are 10:30 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, 10:30 p.m. Friday, 11 p.m. Saturday; and 10:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets start at \$45 plus tax. For information call 800-557-7428.

Mike Weatherford is an entertainment writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

**"You
get to
know the
dancer as an
individual."**

Mann, however, says that the new "Fantasy" attempts to go beyond the traditional perception of showgirls dancing in a chorus line with feathers, sequins, and big headdresses.

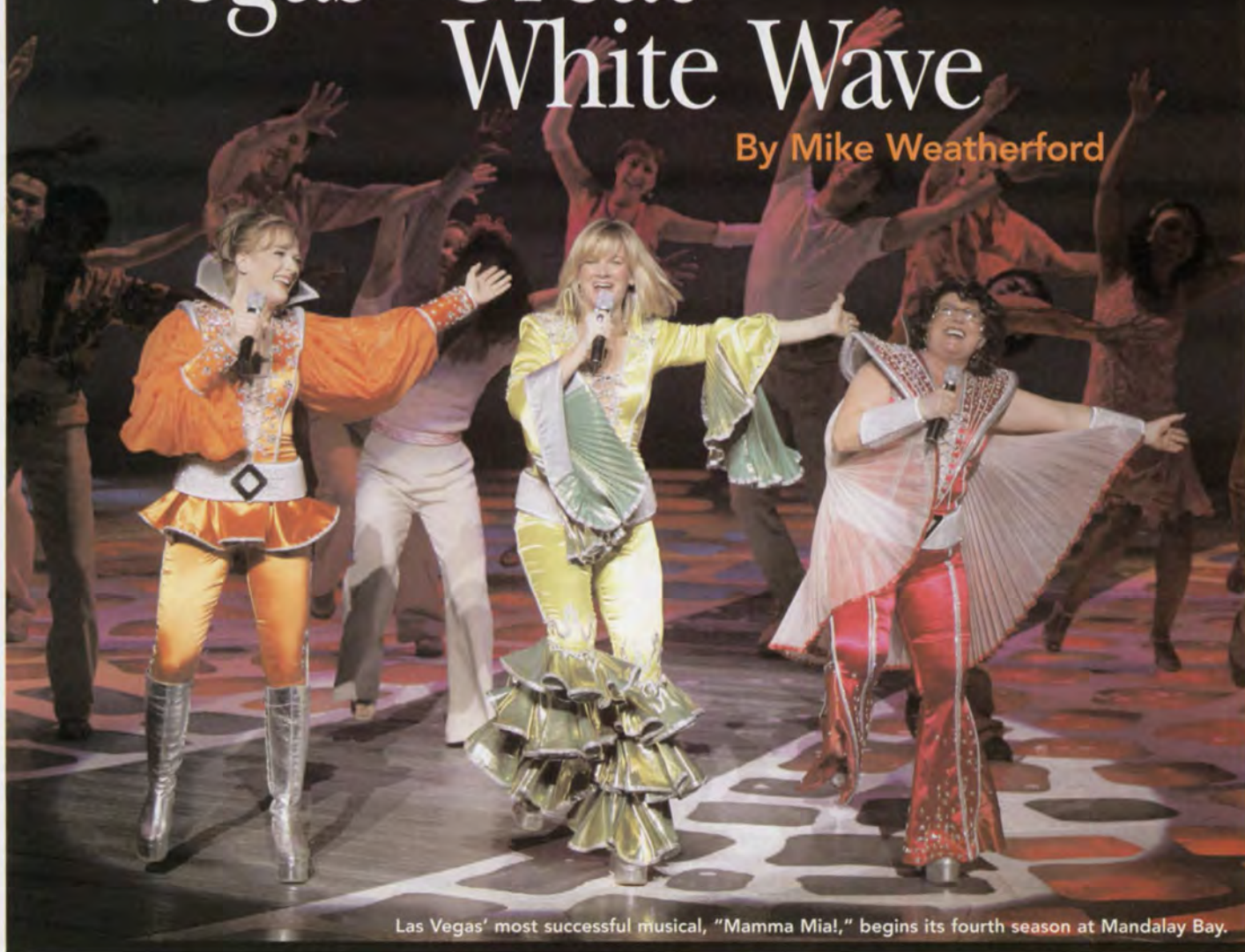
"I think the direction of the new showgirl is a full-out dancer," she says. "What we do is now about the woman as opposed to the pageantry and costumes. You get to know the dancer as an individual."

New numbers have been developed by dancer and choreographer Cris Judd, who is perhaps best known for being one of J-Lo's ex-husbands. Using their backgrounds in music videos and concert tours, Judd and co-choreographer Eddie Garcia give



Vegas' Great White Wave

By Mike Weatherford



Las Vegas' most successful musical, "Mamma Mia!," begins its fourth season at Mandalay Bay.

**Broadway
shows**
move into
Cirque du Soleil
territory
in Las Vegas.

Fans light up in delight at the opening notes of "Take a Chance on Me" in "Mamma Mia!," now into its fourth year at Mandalay Bay. The show's catchy disco-fied tunes and light romantic comedy appeal across the generations but perhaps especially to the baby boomers who grew up on "Dancing Queen" and platform boots.

Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus, the male half of the 1970s Swedish pop group Abba, built the show's story around the Abba song catalog—without changing any of the original lyrics. The two men later marveled at "the musical we never knew we'd written."

"Mamma Mia!," which debuted in

London in 1999, appeared on Broadway before beginning its run at the Mandalay Bay Theatre in 2003. The show is so far the most successful modern-era musical to land in Las Vegas, where popular Cirque du Soleil productions like "Mystère" and "O" have held the spotlight in recent years. In what may signal a shift in entertainment offerings, more than a half-dozen Broadway-style musicals will be playing nightly on the Strip in the coming months.

Emboldened by the success of "Mamma Mia!," casino producers green-lighted "Hairspray" at the Luxor, a reimagined version of "The Phantom of the Opera" for the Venetian, and "Avenue Q" and "Monty Python's Spamalot" for Wynn Las Vegas. At

this writing, "The Producers" also was in contention for Paris Las Vegas. Recently the Las Vegas Hilton opened its own "off-Broadway" district with productions of "The Kinsey Sicks Dragapella" and "Menopause: The Musical" in its Shimmer Cabaret. "Forever Plaid," now at the Gold Coast, paved the way for both of them.

The phenomenon is not new. People were talking about the Broadway invasion of Las Vegas way back in 1961. Juliet Prowse played "Irma La Douce" for 13 weeks at the Riviera that fall. And just before Christmas, New York nightclub impresario Monte Proser opened an abridged version of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Flower Drum Song" at the Thunderbird.

According to *Las Vegas Sun* columnist Ralph Pearl, Proser joked that there were



**People
were talking
about the
Broadway
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of Las Vegas
way back
in 1961.**

two envelopes on his desk, labeled "To be opened the day after the 'Flower Drum Song' premiere." One envelope contained a one-way ticket to New York, the other a round trip.

"Flower Drum Song" stuck around for nearly a year and later came back for an encore. By 1963, the Dunes chimed in with a "Guys and Dolls" production starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. Alas, "Irma La Douce" was never heard from again, indicating that the ongoing trend may be

"Menopause: The Musical" (right) appears at the Las Vegas Hilton. Actor Jack Soo starred in "Flower Drum Song" at the Thunderbird in 1961 (top). Comedian Frank Gorshin (middle) played a gangster in "Guys and Dolls" in 1995 at the Desert Inn. In 1963 at the Dunes, "Guys and Dolls" starred Betty Grable and Dan Dailey.



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that audiences evaluate one show at a time.

Over the years, Broadway became an occasional side venture on the Strip. In the late 1960s, Caesars Palace hosted the first appearance of Theodore Bikel as Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof," and Tony Randall played Felix in "The Odd Couple" before he played the character on TV.

Other Vegas productions in the 1960s and '70s included "Hello, Dolly," "Hair," and "Funny Girl."

As in the past, some of the current titles will soar and others will flail. Those planning to catch "Avenue Q" at Wynn Las Vegas had better do so by May 28, as casino head Steve Wynn opted to close the show—which was making money but not as much as hoped—instead of building a separate theater for "Spamalot."

Wynn aggressively pursued both of his Broadway titles relatively early in their life

spans. The Las Vegas "Spamalot" opens early next year, only a few months after a tour begins to visit major cities, and the contract prohibits the tour from stopping in California.

At the Venetian, "The Phantom of the Opera" is scheduled to begin previews June 4. The abridged version of the Andrew Lloyd Webber smash musical will be performed in a customized, \$40 million theater with an onstage lake and an exploding chandelier.

Why the full-court press for Broadway musicals? "Phantom" is set to open about the same time as the Strip's fifth Cirque du Soleil show, a Beatles-themed production at the Mirage. The sheer volume of Cirque in Las Vegas raises the issue of whether the Cirque productions, as popular as they are, have reached a saturation point. The question then becomes, "If not Cirque,

then what?" Casino operators are gambling that the city has become diverse enough in scope to broaden the realm of entertainment.

"As the definition of fun in Las Vegas gets broader and more diversified, it makes total sense to me that there's a wide variety of theater choices there," says David Rockwell, the architect who is doing the theater and set design for "Phantom" after adapting his Broadway set design for "Hairspray" at the Luxor.

"You've got a large population that's really there to have a good time," Rockwell says. "Theater is a communal celebration. It's 1,800 people who go into a room as strangers and throughout the process become an audience." ▀

Mike Weatherford is an entertainment writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

NEVADA PLAY BILL

"Avenue Q"

Wynn Las Vegas, through May 28: Raunchy Sesame Street spoof has puppets and humans co-existing in a downscale New York neighborhood.

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702-251-3574

"Hairspray"

Luxor: Plus-sized Tracy Turnblad lives out her dream of being a teen TV dance star on *The Corny Collins Show*, despite the snooty producers. Not resting on her laurels, she also seeks to integrate the TV show with her new black friends, who taught her cool dance steps while they served together in school detention. **702-262-4900**

"Mamma Mia!"

Mandalay Bay: A young bride-to-be discovers the diary of her single mother, who runs an inn on an idyllic Greek island. From reading it she learns that one of three men could be her father. She decides to invite all three to the wedding—much to her mother's surprise. Based on the music of Abba. **702-632-7580**

"Menopause: The Musical"

Las Vegas Hilton: Parodies of familiar rock tunes spoof the real-life angst of women coping

with "the change."

Could be a solid hit as long as there are enough 50-year-old females to buy tickets.

702-732-5755

Waiting in the Wings

"The Phantom of the Opera"

Will be unmasked June 4, Venetian: A mysterious masked man, who wanders at will in the corridors of the Paris Opera House, coaches young soprano Christine to stardom but becomes unhinged when she betrays him for a more ordinary suitor. Broadway's longest-running hit. **702-414-1000**

"Monty Python's Spamalot"

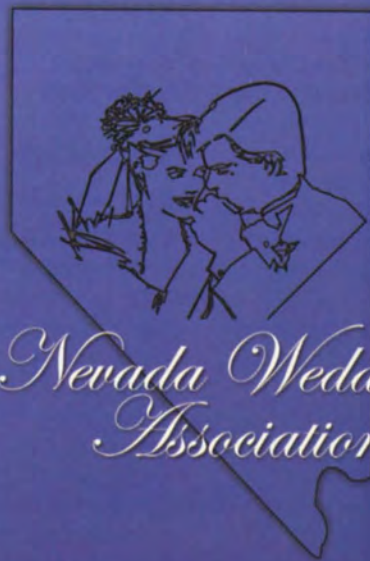
Opens first quarter of 2007 Wynn Las Vegas: Comedy sketches connected by the ultimate straight man, King Arthur, as he undertakes a series of misadventures in search of the Holy Grail. **702-770-9966**



Divine intervention enables four singers to perform a final concert in "Forever Plaid."



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www.nevadaweddings.org

THE nevada passage

Daring athletes compete in adventure trials.

During May, two athletic competitions—Nevada Passage and the new Nevada Passage Wide Open—will test participants' endurance, skill, and nerve.

Twenty handpicked athletes, paired in coed teams by profession, will compete May 8-13 in a schedule of grueling events in the second annual Nevada Passage, which will be filmed for a reality TV show. Competitors may include medics, teachers, police officers, accountants, and stockbrokers. Last year's winners, firefighters Brian Rothell of Chesterfield County, Virginia, and Erin Price of Greensboro, North Carolina, will return to defend their title.

The events—recumbent bicycling, rodeo, mountain biking, autocross, handcar races, and jet-ski slalom—will be held in six areas of the Silver State (see below). *The Nevada Passage* television special will air on stations nationwide from August to February.

A new pre-event competition for amateur athletes, the Nevada Passage Wide Open, is planned May 6 and 7 in Winnemucca. On the event schedule are mountain-bike racing, kayaking, an off-road scramble run, and ATV pull and sand drags.

For information on both events call 877-751-8880 or visit www.nevadapassage.com.—Ann Henderson

Nevada Passage Schedule of Events

Bicycle Human-Powered Speed Challenge, May 8, Battle Mountain.

Ranch Hand Rodeo, May 9, Winnemucca.

Handcar Races, May 10, Virginia City.

Mountain Bike and Trail Scramble, May 11, Austin.

Autocross, May 12, Pahrump.

Jet Ski Slalom and Obstacle Competition, May 13, Laughlin.



Tom Lyons leaps at Lake Mead last year.



Brian Rothell and Erin Price, 2005 winners.



Anthony Snoble boards at Sand Mountain in 2005.

Ride 'Em, Cowboys

Young **Nevada** competitors look for top slots at the **Reno Rodeo**.

By Guy Clifton

When the Reno Rodeo rolls into town in June, two Silver State cowboys will be chomping at the bit—one hoping to repeat the magic of last year and the other eager to compete in a rodeo he's watched all his life.

Jake Wade has no doubt that the 2005 Reno Rodeo was a defining moment in his budding rodeo career. "It definitely helped out a lot as far as confidence," says the 22-year-old bull rider from the small Lincoln County town of Alamo.

"But more important than that, it gave



Bull rider Jake Wade (left) earned fourth place and a fat check in the 2005 Reno Rodeo (above). Photos of the UNLV student competing can be seen at www.jwrodeo.com.

me some qualifications into the bigger rodeos this year," he adds. "Last year's money won is what helped me get into Guthrie [Oklahoma] and all the big rodeos this year."

At last year's Reno Rodeo, Wade won the first round of bull riding, besting more than 100 other riders, and wound up fourth overall, collecting what was then a career-high \$9,580. He finished the season 41st in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association world standings with \$29,849 in earnings for the year.

Wade's 2006 season is off to an even better start. In January, Wade claimed the first major win of his career by taking the overall title at Bullnanza-Guthrie in Guthrie. That victory earned him \$20,215 and moved him to the top of the world standings. He immediately put the biggest paycheck of his life in the bank.

"I didn't know what to do with it," he says with a laugh. "I'm probably just going to use it to rodeo this year and maybe invest a little."

Wade started riding bulls at age 14 as a freshman at Pahrnagat Valley High School in Alamo. He was the Nevada State High School Rodeo Association bull riding champion in 2000 and second in 2001, qualifying for the National High School Rodeo Association finals both years.

Wade, who attends UNLV and is a member of the university's rodeo team, is hoping to balance his studies with a busy year of professional rodeo. "My goal is to finish somewhere in the top 15 and make it to the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo this year," he says. The NFR is held in Las Vegas in December.

Another Nevada cowboy with NFR dreams is 18-year-old Jade Corkill of





PRCA rookie Jade Corkill of Fallon won the world junior team roping title last year.

Fallon, who is in his rookie season on the PRCA circuit. This will be his first year competing in the Reno Rodeo.

A team roper with a long resume in the high school and junior rodeo ranks, Corkill caught the attention of PRCA veteran roper Matt Tyler after winning the 2005 World Junior Team Roping Championships in November. Tyler, an 18-time qualifier for the NFR, asked Corkill to be his partner this season.

"I've dreamed about making the NFR forever, and this [teaming with Tyler] is

the best opportunity you could ever have to make it," Corkill says. "To have a partner like him, all I will have to do is hold up my end and do my job, and things should work out."

Corkill might be a PRCA rookie, but he's a team roping veteran. He roped his first steer—a wooden one in the living room of the family home—when he was one and won his first paycheck (good for \$25) at a rodeo when he was six. He practiced by roping goats at the Fallon ranch owned by his parents, Bruce and

Mitzi, and when he wasn't tossing a rope, he was watching tapes of roping. By age 12, he was competing against—and beating—adults in national team-roping events.

Both Corkill and Wade say they look forward to competing in the Reno Rodeo, to be held June 15-24 (see "Reno Rodeo Roundup"). The event known as "The Wildest, Richest, Rodeo in the West" will mark its 87th year with more than 900 of the top professional cowboys and cowgirls in the world competing for more than \$500,000 in prize money.

The 10-day event includes a bull-riding-only performance on June 15 that will be televised on ESPN. The rodeo features bareback bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, tie-down roping, women's barrel racing, and bull riding with events held daily beginning June 16. The championship performance will be televised on June 24 on Fox Sports.

No doubt Wade and Corkill hope to be competing on the Reno Rodeo's last day. As Corkill says, "We'll be shooting for the NFR and trying to win everything we possibly can." ▀

Guy Clifton, author of two volumes of You Know You're a Nevadan If... and Reno Rodeo: A History, the First 80 Years, writes for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Reno Rodeo Roundup

The Reno Rodeo kicks off June 15 at the Reno Livestock Events Center with a carnival that will run through the event's closing date, June 24. Daily rodeo performances begin June 16, the same day the Western States Drill Team Competition is scheduled for 7 a.m. On June 17 the rodeo parade with its bands, floats, drill teams, and mounted teams winds through downtown Reno, and the popular cattle drive enters the rodeo grounds via Sutro Street. The prestigious Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping is scheduled for June 19.

"We should have a real exciting rodeo this

year. We'll have the best cowboys, great stock. The bulls just keep getting better every year," says Jerry David, 2006 president of the Reno Rodeo Association. "We're also going to have a night where we encourage everyone to wear pink shirts. It's a program called 'Tough Enough to Wear Pink,' and it's a fund-raiser for breast cancer research. This is the first year we are going to be a part of it."

Tickets range from \$8 to \$19 depending on seating and performance dates. Tickets are available by calling 800-225-2277 or visiting www.renorodeo.com.



Battle Mountain's Matt Marvel rode saddle-bronc at the 2005 Reno Rodeo.



Toby Keith, Clowns, and "Thunder"

It's all about the man—his music, memories, and comfort foods. The hallway at Harrah's Las Vegas leading to **Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill** is lined with the singer's memorabilia, as are the walls of the restaurant, creating a museum of guitars, records, and clothing worn by the entertainer.

Video screens located around the room play the country star's music at let-your-hair-down levels. A 2006 Grammy Award winner, Keith has a dry sense of humor that is evident in such hits as "Get Drunk and Be Somebody" and his duet with Willie Nelson, "Beer for My Horses."

A guitar-shaped bar lets you know this is Keith country, and a retail store is crammed with souvenir mason jars, hats, shirts, bracelets, guitar picks, and barbecue sauce. Voluptuous "Whiskey Girls" serve drinks like Mom's Homemade Apple Cobbler Martini, Toadsuck Pond, The Vegas Dream, and Who's Your Daddy Margarita. When a whistle blows, the servers pour free shots of mixed drinks at the bar.

The menu is loaded with down-home items—turnip greens, fried okra, crawfish mashed potatoes, meat loaf, pulled pork, country-fried steak, and fried bologna sandwiches. Desserts are a decadent tribute to Keith's Southern roots. Sweet potato pecan pie comes with bourbon ice cream, and warm chocolate bread pudding is served with vanilla whiskey sauce.

Oversized servings of barbecued ribs and sandwiches flow from the kitchen. Keith personally selected the menu, according to Matt Jones, specialty room chef. "He wants servings to be large and meat

in the hamburgers and pulled pork sandwiches to overflow and dwarf the bun," Jones says. The performer also approves the bands that play nightly.

For the recipe for Toby's BBQ Baby Back Ribs, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Toby's Ribs, Nevada Magazine, 555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101, or send an email to ann@nevada-magazine.com.

Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill has a seating capacity of 290 and is available for parties of 15 to 30 people. Bands play for dancing nightly from 9 to 2. Hours of operation are 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Thursday, until 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Sunday. Prices for appetizers and salads range from \$4.99 to \$12.99, and dinner entrées are

\$13.99 to \$19.99 and include two side dishes and mini corn bread loaves. For information call 702-369-5000; dial extension 6273 for parties of 12 or larger.

THE GUYS HAVE IT

"Thunder From Down Under," the Australian male revue playing at the **Excalibur** in Las Vegas, has been extended through 2012.

GOOD DEALS

The **Silver Legacy** in Reno has opened the budget-friendly retail shop Bijoux Turner on its mezzanine level. The global chain specializes in watches, fashion jewelry, handbags, and accessory items that look upscale but sell for under \$10. ☐

Ann Henderson is Nevada Magazine's entertainment and events editor.



CLOWN ACTION: Imagine the confused tourist who might have come across these costumed convention delegates as they trooped through Las Vegas casinos earlier this year. On the closing day of the Great Clown Adventure Convention, 100 professional clowns posed for photographs at Circus Circus on the Strip.



Jack's World
Gaming According to Jack Bulavsky

How to Be a Nevada High Roller

Nothing attracts the attention of casino bosses quicker than someone who plays, or wants to play, high-limit games. We're talking table games such as baccarat, poker, or craps where the minimum bet is \$1,000 or \$10,000.

I don't live in that world. My world is investing \$5 in a quarter machine and walking away with \$45 after 20 minutes. That happened to me once, and I haven't forgotten my one big payday. That led me to think I might want to become a high roller and enjoy its many benefits, including complimentary rooms, elegant meals, monthly martini parties, and front row seats to any show in town.

I soon learned that my \$5 investment didn't allow me entry into the high roller club. The secret to membership is length of play and average bet. It might be exciting to play 30 minutes at a \$100 table and then walk away, but playing four straight hours at that same table sends a strong message to the casino manager.

My play didn't send a message. It was more like a pathetic whimper, but I now have the time to study people and the games they play. If you think you have the potential to be a high roller, here are a few suggestions:

- Walk in with confidence and ask for a casino host. Make your presence known.
- Wear proper clothing. You're not going to find shorts or tank tops among those playing baccarat behind closed doors, unless they have more money than Midas.
- Ask questions. The casino host is more than willing to explain all the rules of the house.
- Go in knowing you can win, but also knowing how much you can lose. High-limit games mean your purse can go quickly. Should you lose, thank everyone for a delightful evening—and wait for the casino to invite you back for a special high-stakes weekend.

Upcoming Events

Atlantis, Reno: Club Paradise Card holders can receive a \$25 free slot credit any



Because Adriana was using her Club Paradise Card when the jackpot hit for \$7,931.41, other gamblers in the casino also playing with their cards received \$25 in free slot play.

time a gambler hits the Rapid Fortune Jackpot. That happened in February when a lucky player, who gave her name as Adriana, won \$7,931.41. The ongoing jackpot will always be between \$1,000 and \$10,000. The slot card membership is free (775-825-4700).

Carson Valley Inn, Minden: The Carson Valley Inn's smoke-free poker room features ongoing tournaments. A shootout hold 'em kicks off play every Monday through Saturday at noon. The buy-in is \$12, and the winner takes the pot. Ongoing hold 'em tournaments start every Sunday at noon. No-limit Texas hold 'em tournaments are every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 6 p.m. (775-782-9711).

Jockey for Cash: Horse race enthusiasts have a chance to win \$250,000 every month through August during the Jockey for Cash Derby. Cashed winning race tickets and \$10 horse race bets receive drawing entries for the Cash Derby parties held at casinos throughout Northern Nevada, including John Ascuaga's Nugget, Baldini's, Atlantis, Carson Station, Mont-Bleu (Caesars Tahoe), and Club Cal-Neva. Each month, drawing tickets from participating casinos will be collected, and the

names of three lucky "jockeys" will be drawn to compete for a chance to win \$250,000.

Peppermill, Reno: On May 14-15, Mama's Money Slot Tournament will have a \$79 entry fee, the Lion's Share Slot Tournament on May 29-30 costs \$299 to enter, and you will need \$149 to join in the \$20,000 Spring Blackjack Tournament on June 6-7 (775-826-2121).

Binion's Gambling Hall, Las Vegas: If you're a serious night owl looking for an active poker room, Binion's has a no-limit Texas hold 'em tournament every morning beginning at 2 a.m. Registration starts at midnight with a \$60 buy-in and an optional \$40 re-buy (702-382-1600).

Flamingo Laughlin: A Flag Day Blackjack tournament is scheduled June 9-11. The entry fee is \$99 with a purse of \$15,000 in prize money. A slot tournament will be held June 12-14 with a first-place prize of \$3,000 and additional money paid down to 50th place. Entry fee is \$99 (702-298-5111).

Jack Bulavsky is a Southern Nevada writer who feels at home roaming Reno, hanging out in Las Vegas lounges, and visiting points in between, including Tonopah and Goldfield.

of Bulls, Botas, and Basques

Traditional culture celebrated during Elko's **National Basque Festival**.

By **Cynthia A. Delaney**

Rather than baseball, apple pie, and hot dogs, the Fourth of July weekend in Elko is marked by battle cries, the roars of charging bulls, and colorful dancers. The annual National Basque Festival, July 1-3, is one of the area's biggest and liveliest events, attracting both Basque and non-Basque visitors.

The Basque people arrived in Nevada in the late 19th century to work on cattle and sheep ranches, and over the decades they have infused the Silver State with their culture and traditions. Attending a Basque festival gives visitors the opportunity to

“You really have to be faster than the guy next to you.”



Bulls chase young men in the Running From the Bulls at the National Basque Festival.



Elko visitors watch as dancers compete at the county fairgrounds during the Basque celebration.

become part *Euskaldunak*—the term Basques call themselves.

The weekend will kick off Friday with the Running From the Bulls, an event not recommended for the faint of heart. Designed after the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Elko's event involves bulls and humans in an often hilarious and sometimes dangerous combination.

“Running From the Bulls is a real rush,” says Chris Walther, current president of the Elko Basque Club and yearly bull runner. Walther has also run in Pamplona, where, he says, there is more chance of being run over by another participant than being hit by a bull.

“During the Elko Running From the Bulls, you really have to be faster than the guy next to you. When you start running, it's basically all for one to keep ahead of



A Basque dancer waves red, white, and green colors in the arca, or hoop, dance.

the bulls," says Walther, who competes wearing the traditional white shirt and pants and red sash.

Saturday's events will include the parade through downtown and dance performances, a chorizo sausage eating contest, handball tournaments, and the games of strength held at the county fairgrounds.

A Basque choir will present "A Day of Song"—*Kantari Eguna* in Basque—at 9 p.m., followed by a dance open to the public at the Western Folklife Center.

This year, Elko will host the annual *Udaleku*, a children's camp sponsored by the North American Basque Organization, from June 18 to July 1. Kids ages 10 to 15 will learn elements of the Basque language, songs, and traditional games.

On Sunday a Catholic Mass will be held in the Elko City Park followed by a Basque-style barbecue. Vendors will sell bota bags, berets, and Basque music and cookbooks, and there will be Basque dancing and dance contests, the *irrintzi* (Basque war cry) contest, and strength demonstrations.

At the games of strength on Saturday and Sunday, strongmen will be hefting 400-pound cylinders and 225-pound granite balls. Contestants will also chop wood, wielding the ax between their feet.

Veteran strongman Aitor Narvaiza is accustomed to such contests. Narvaiza, a deputy with the Elko County Sheriff's Department, was born in Ermua, Bizkaia, Spain, and has been competing in the Basque games of strength for 15 years.

Narvaiza explains that the granite ball has to be lifted for up to two minutes. "In demonstrations, we sometimes also send it around the back of the neck to the other shoulder," he says. "The cylinder is lifted in incremental weights, usually up to 400

pounds. The world champion has a record of about 700 pounds. You have to pick up the weight and balance it on your shoulder for about three to five seconds."

During the timed wood-chopping event, contestants must cut through four to five logs. "You have to be very fast and precise and be careful not to cut your foot with the ax," Narvaiza says.

"I enjoy the sport and training because of tradition, but I'm getting old," Narvaiza adds with a laugh. He is currently training coworker Don Unruh and hopes his son, Gaizka, will one day compete as a Basque strongman.

For additional information on Elko's National Basque Festival visit www.elko-basque.com or call the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority at 800-248-3556.

Drink Like a Basque

Imbibing from a bota bag, the traditional Basque wine flask, requires technique, perseverance, and a good laundry detergent. Here are some suggestions from the pros—who drink red wine, not wimpy white.



- Unscrew the smallest cap, revealing the nozzle.
- Grab the bag with both hands, one at the base and the other near the spout.
- Squeeze the bag at the base until a little wine comes out.
- Bring the bota close to your mouth while keeping it upright. Open mouth, aim, and squeeze simultaneously. If you have done it correctly, the wine will be inside your mouth and not all over your face and chin.
- Continue to squeeze the bota to keep wine coming for as long as you would like to drink. It is important to swallow, or your mouth will overflow and tie-dye your shirt, revealing that you are an amateur. The traditional red festival scarf can be worn as a bib.
- When you've had enough, stop squeezing and tilt the bota until the nozzle is pointing up. An expert drinks with one hand, arm fully extended, and with the mouth only slightly open—spilling no wine in the process. ▮

Cynthia A. Delaney is an Elko freelance writer.



Contestants lift weights of up to 400 pounds during the Basque games of strength.

Nevada Basque Festivals

Winnemucca Basque Festival

June 10-11
775-623-5071

Elko National Basque Festival

July 1-3, 800-248-3556

Reno Basque Festival

July 15, 775-762-2577

St. Teresa of Avila Basque Festival

Carson City,
September 17
775-882-1968

Las Vegas Basque Festival

October 8,
702-361-6458

NEVADA

Events & Shows

Nevada Magazine's complete guide to activities and entertainment. Call ahead to confirm details.

Las Vegas

AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS

Events

Taste of the Nation • May 3 • Charitable event features more than 50 restaurants. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, 702-943-6868.

Pantera Owners Las Vegas Fun Rally • May 3-7 • Cars on display May 6 on the top deck of the Orleans, Las Vegas, 626-966-0890.

"Wait Until Dark" • May 4-7 • Dramatic thriller about a murderous con man and a blind woman. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

"Swing, Baby, Swing" with Norma Miller • May 5 • West Las Vegas Arts Center, 702-229-4800.

First Friday in the Arts District • May 5 • Cultural block party. Free trolley service. Main St. and Charleston Blvd. and Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-229-5431.

Taste and Tunes Festival • May 5-6 • Mexican village, carnival, boxing, food, crafts, music by Next Movement, The Dazz Band, Lakeside, Industria del Amor, Los Fugitivos, Los Bandadosos, Los Angeles de Chile. City Hall, North Las Vegas, 702-633-2418.

Helldorado Trail Ride • May 5-7 • Red Rock Canyon, 14 miles west of Las Vegas, www.lvhelldoradodays.com.

Las Vegas Helldorado Days Western Village • May 5-14

• Exhibits, entertainment, Silver State Paint Horse Show, Mexican rodeo, WRCA Rodeo. South Coast Hotel, Las Vegas, www.lvhelldoradodays.com.

Duke Ellington Orchestra • May 6 • Jazz classics. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Supercross Finals • May 6 • Motorcycle event. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

UNLVino • May 6 • Wine-tasting with more than 700 wines and 350 wineries. Paris Las Vegas, 702-895-1330.

Cinco de Mayo Community Celebration • May 6 • Rafael Rivera Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4600.

Jazz in the Park Concert • May 6 • Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

"Resurrection" • May 6-7 • Mahler "Symphony No. 2 in C Minor." Las Vegas Philharmonic, Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Spring Fine Arts Festival • May 6-7 • More than 40 regional artists. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

Spring Jamboree • May 6-7 • More than 125 crafts booths, food, music, car show. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

Annual Jazz Picnic • May 7 • Professional groups perform for 3pm event. Winchester Park, Las Vegas, 702-313-6778.

Cinco de Mayo Festival • May 7 • Family picnic features music, food, kids' games. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-444-4526.

Jazz Picnic in the Park • May 7 • Bring a lawn chair and a picnic basket. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Nevada Passage Jet Ski Slalom and Obstacle Competition • May 8 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. Colorado River, Laughlin, for additional event information www.nevadapassage.com.

Reba McEntire plays the Las Vegas Hilton.



Nevada
EVENTS AND SHOWS

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Becky Phlegar burns rubber at the starting line during Las Vegas NHRA Sportsman Open, June 16-18, a weekend of drag racing and parties.

Thursday Nite in Baghdad • May 12 • Marilyn Mayblum recounts the danger, humor, and chaos she and her troupe experienced when she took a Las Vegas-style revue to Baghdad during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Full Moon Sandstone Canyon Hike • May 12 • Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Cars, Stars, and Guitars Motorhead Festival • May 12-13 • Street rods, bikes, classics, trucks, exotics, sports cars, antiques, collector vehicles, concerts, vendors. Daytime at Henderson Harley-Davidson, evenings at Hooters, Las Vegas, 702-259-1975.

"Scheherazade and The Class" • May 12-14 • Nevada Ballet Theatre presentation of the story of a jealous sultan who fears his harem is unfaithful in his absence. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Helldorado Days in the Cultural Corridor • May 13 • Western and history-themed programs at the Old Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas Library, Reed Whipple Cultural Center. Living-history programs, cowboy poetry by Al Marquis, barbecue vendors, petting zoo, gunfighters. Cashman Dr. and Washington Ave., Las Vegas, 702-229-5431.

Mother's Day Concert and Banquet • May 13 • Carl Grove Combo, Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

Helldorado Parade • May 13 • Kicks off the Western celebration, 10am, Fourth St. Downtown, Las Vegas, www.lvhelldoradodays.com.

ArtFest of Henderson • May 13-14 • More than 200 fine

artists display their work, entertainment on three stages, food. Events Plaza, Henderson, 702-267-2171.

Mother's Day Concert and Brunch • May 14 • Walt Boenig Big Band, Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Mirage Poker Showdown • May 14 • Part of the 17-stop World Poker Tour. The Mirage, Las Vegas, for information www.worldpokertour.com.

Helldorado "Shootout" Trap Shooting Tournament • May

17-21 • Las Vegas Gun Club, www.lvhelldoradodays.com.

Helldorado Charity Poker Tournament • May 18 • Santa Fe Hotel, Las Vegas, www.lvhelldoradodays.com

Downtown Cultural Series: Cayambe • May 19 • Noon concert features Andean-flavored music. Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse, Las Vegas, 702-229-4614.

Virgin River Back to Mesquite Classic Car Show • May 19-21 • All makes and models. Virgin River Convention Center, Mesquite, 702-346-7777.



The Las Vegas Philharmonic's "Resurrection" concert May 6-7 features the Master Singers performing Gustav Mahler's "Symphony No. 2 in C Minor" at UNLV's Ham Hall.

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www.BoulderCityChamber.com



Vegas Cruise • May 19-21 • More than 150 classic cars displayed. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

Claudia Villela with Guitarist Ricardo Peixoto • May 20 • Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

Jazz in the Park • May 20 • Free 7pm concert. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Metro Chapter Barbershop Quartet: "What's This Crazy Thing Called Love?" • May 20 • Admission 2pm, \$8, and 8pm, \$12. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Rockapella • May 20 • Pop music concert. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Military Majesty • May 20 • Henderson Civic Symphony performs military tribute. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Guided Tours of the Old Fort • May 20 • Old Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Big Stakes Match Play Golf Championship • May 20-28 • Field of 128 two-man teams compete for the largest golf purse in history, \$9 million, with a first prize of \$2 million. Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort, Las Vegas, 702-658-1400.

Tee It Up Classic Golf Tournament • May 21-22 • Charity tournament, Las Vegas Golf Club, Las Vegas, 702-229-6721.

Twilight in the Park: John Jorgensen • May 26 • American Gypsy Jazz movement concert. River Mountain Park, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Snow Mountain Powwow • May 26-28 • Native American traditional dancers, singers, artisans, food. Las Vegas Paiute Snow Mountain Indian Reservation, Las Vegas, 800-711-2833, ext. 1790.

Old Time Barn Dance • May 27 • Square, mixers, contra, waltzes, polkas. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

World Vibration: Chinese Music by Lei Quiang and Hong Qui An • May 27 • Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

First Friday Art, Movies, and Exhibits • June 2 • Free trolley stops and refreshments. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Grand Prix of Henderson • June 2-4 • A .7-mile go-cart race through downtown Henderson, 702-267-2171.

"The Little Mermaid" • June 2-4, 8-11 • Original classic version of the Hans Christian Andersen tale. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6553.

Jazz in the Park • June 3 • Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Best in Show • June 4 • More than 50 shelter dogs will compete in three breed categories. All dogs in the show will be available for adoption. Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, 702-284-7777.

Nevada
EVENTS AND SHOWS

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The pop music performers Rockapella once sang for pocket change on New York City streets. The group, which performs May 20 at UNLV in Las Vegas, went on to star in Spike Lee: *Do It A Cappella* for PBS.

Mandalay Bay Poker Championship • June 4-8 • An event in the 17-stop World Poker Tour. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, www.worldpokertour.com.

CineVegas Film Festival • June 9-17 • Screenings, celebrity tributes, cash prizes for best feature and best

short films. Palms Resort, Las Vegas, for information www.cinevegas.com.

Pioneer Day • June 10 • Celebration of the arrival of Mormon pioneers in Las Vegas Valley. Old Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Reggae in the Desert Music Festival • June 10 • Concert at Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Full Moon Sandstone Canyon Hike • June 11 • Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

"The Damsel, the Devil, and the Demon Rum" • June 12-17 • Musical melodrama. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Las Vegas NHRA Sportsman Open • June 16-18 • Drag racing, test and tune, and summer kick-off party, June 16. Sportsman open time trials and eliminations, June 17. NHRA Bracket Open time trials and eliminations, June 18. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Jazz in the Park • June 17 • Concert at Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Nevada Jazz Orchestra: Latin Connection Concert • June 18 • Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-313-6778.

Mexico Vivo Presents: International Dance and Music • June 23-24 • Folk dance. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Ultimate Flair Bartending Championship • June 27-29 • Pro, semi-pro, tandem, and female divisions compete. Harrah's Las Vegas, 800-HARRAHS.

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Children's book illustrator Loren Purcell (rear) and his father, Roy Purcell, painted the mural "The Night Coyote Stole the Moon" at November's Festival of the Arts at The District at Green Valley Ranch, Henderson. The mural is on display in Henderson's Paseo Verde Library.

of casino workers—from cooks to wig stylists. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

"The Night Coyote Stole the Moon" • Permanent display of mural by children's book illustrator Loren Purcell. Paseo Verde Library, Henderson, 702-492-7252.

Nevada Camera Club • Thru May 15 • Annual member exhibit of black-and-white images. Sunrise Library, Las Vegas, 702-734-READ.

Inspiration Through My Eyes • Thru June 6 • Exhibition

by photographer H. Goldblatt. West Las Vegas Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3980.

Designs • Thru June 11 • Exhibition by designer and jeweler Ling Yen-Jones. Summerlin Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3860.

Sunprints: Plants and Animals • Thru June 13 • Photonegative image on fabric exhibition by Erin Lale. Enterprise Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3760.

The Woven Word • Thru June 24 • English messages woven into traditional Native American artworks. Clark

County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955 for details.
Lakeside Concert Series • Saturdays thru Oct. 28 • Barbecue and concerts. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

"Just a Second" • May 5-21 • Comedic sequel to *Beau Jest*. Performances Thurs.-Sun. Las Vegas Little Theatre, 800-595-4849.

Jazz on the Lake • Fridays, May 5-Nov. 17 • Outdoor concerts. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

Digital Explorations • May 11-July 16 • Photography exhibition by Kenneth Van Horn. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3400.

Helldorado Photo Exhibit • May 13-June 28 • The story of Las Vegas' Western celebration, which began in 1934, is told in a collection of 33 historic photographs from the Las Vegas News Bureau. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-3466.

Wine Walks • May 13, June 10, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14 • Taste a different wine at 10 shops. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

Barbara Wilson Exhibition • May 15-June 16 • Oils on canvas. Multigenerational Center, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Steel Sculptures • May 18 • Exhibition by David and Duanette Thompson. Sunrise Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3900.

"Misery" • May 19-21, 25-28, June 1-4 • Adapted for the stage. Stephen King's chilling tale about a novelist tormented by an obsessive fan. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Spring Mountain Ranch Art Show • Wed.-Sat., June 1-Aug. 31 • Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Movies al Fresco • Thursdays, June 1-Sept. 7 • Free outdoor movies. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, 702-564-4766.



Beauty pageants and high jinks were highlights of the annual Las Vegas Helldorado Days, a celebration started in 1934 by the Elks Lodge. Rodeos, a carnival, and music celebrated the city's Western heritage. Over the years, casinos, like the Showboat, mounted ever more elaborate floats (left). Participants landed in the "lock-up" for comic infractions (right). This year, the event kicks off with a parade May 13. Historic photos by the Las Vegas News Bureau are displayed at the Las Vegas Natural History Museum.



Top dogs will be named in the Best in Show shelter fundraiser June 4 at the Orleans in Las Vegas. More than 50 shelter dogs will compete in three categories and be available for adoption.

"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" • June 14-17, 20-24, 28-30, July 1 • Outdoors Super Summer Theatre musical. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

Deborah Mays Exhibition • June 26-July 28 • Paintings and photography. Multigenerational Center, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Savage Ancient Seas • July 1-Sept. 24 • Exhibition features the Cretaceous Period and its carnivorous marine and flying reptiles with three-foot skulls. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-3466.

TOURS AND SPORTS

Las Vegas Farmers Market • Tues. at Gardens Park at Summerlin, Wed. at Bruce Trent Park, Thurs. at Centennial Hills Park, Las Vegas, 702-562-2676.

North Las Vegas Farmers Market • Thursdays • City Hall Courtyard, North Las Vegas, 702-208-1074.

Historic Nevada Southern Railway Train Rides • Weekends • Seven-mile round trip lasts 45 minutes aboard 1911-era Pullman coaches. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City, 702-486-5933.

Rock Art Tours • Second Sat. of the month thru May • Guided tours by the Nevada Rock Art Foundation to view ancient petroglyphs. Free tour includes an optional stop at the Lost City Museum in Overton, which has a \$2 admission. Valley of Fire State Park, 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas via I-15. Reservations required, 702-804-6723.

Drag Racing • May 5-6, 10, 12-13, 19-20, June 2-3, 7, 9-10, 16-18, 21-24, July 7, 14-15, Aug. 11, 16, 18-19, 25, Sept. 2-4, 15-16, 27, 29-30, Oct. 1, 13-15, 18, 26-29, Nov. 2-5, 8, 10, 11-12, 17-19, 22-26, Dec. 1. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Las Vegas 51s Baseball • The Pacific Coast League team plays May 9-12 vs. Memphis Redbirds, May 13-16 vs. Salt Lake Bees, May 30-June 2 vs. Sacramento River Cats, June 8-11 vs. Tacoma Rainiers, June 12-15 vs. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, June 26-29 vs. Tacoma Rainiers, June 30-July 3 and 13-16 vs. Tucson Sidewinders, July 21-24

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vs. Portland Beavers, July 25-28 vs. Omaha Royals, July 29-Aug. 1 vs. Iowa Cubs, Aug. 15-18 vs. Portland Beavers, Sept. 1-4 vs. Fresno Grizzlies, Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

Las Vegas Gladiators • Arena Football League AFL play-offs, May 20-21, 27-28, June 3-4, Arena Bowl XX, June 11, Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-731-4977 for further event information.

Coming Events

World Series of Poker • July 27-31 • Rio All-Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, www.worldseriesofpoker.com.

Champions on Ice • Aug. 16 • Las Vegas, 702-284-7777.

NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series • Sept. 23 • Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Las Vegas Invitational PGA Tour • Oct. 9-15 • Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.

Hawaiian Isle Festival and Outrigger Canoe Regatta • Oct. 20-21 • Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

Mountain Man Rendezvous Living History • Nov. 10-12 • Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Pacific Street Car Association Street Car Super Nationals • Nov. 17-19 • Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Maxxin Endurocross • Nov. 18 • Las Vegas, 702-284-7777.

Henderson's Terrible 400 Desert Race • Nov. 30-Dec. 3 • Henderson, 702-267-2171.

NBA All-Star Game • Feb. 12-19, 2007 • Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.



Comedian Louie Anderson brings laughs to the Excalibur for an indefinite engagement.

Shows

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • 702-293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam. Karaoke, Wed., Music Thurs.-Sun. Call for up-to-date show schedule.

HENDERSON

Casino MonteLago at Lake Las Vegas • 702-564-4766.

Green Valley Ranch • 702-617-7777: Bill Engvall, Oct. 21. Lounge entertainment Fri.-Sat. The District at Green Valley Ranch Outdoor Events: Rick Arroyo and the Latin Percussion, May 5. Joy Ride, May 6. Darrin Michaels Band, May 12. David Miller Trio, May 13. Festival of the Arts, May 20.

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

Joker's Wild • 702-564-8100: Free entertainment Fri.-Sat.

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

Sunset Station • 702-547-7777: Lynyrd Skynyrd, May 21. Foreigner, June 9. Lonestar, Aug. 12.

JEAN

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

Nevada Landing • 702-387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Weekend entertainment.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 702-785-5555 or 877-333-WISH: Bob Dylan/Merle Haggard, May 7. The New Cars and Blondie, May 19. Desert Passage at the Aladdin: V Theatre at Desert Passage: Fab Four, dark Fri. "V," variety show, nightly. "X Girls: The Show," adult revue. Call 702-932-1818. Commander's Palace Las Vegas is home of the Museum of the American Cocktail. Piano music, Sat.-Sun. Indoor Rainstorm at Merchants' Harbor, daily. Steve Wyrick Entertainment Complex: Steve Wyrick Magic Show and Triq Lounge to open in summer. Entertainment in Sinbad's and Curve. Krave Nightclub: 702-836-0833: "The Fashionistas," adult

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musical, dark Wed. Funny Business Comedy Club, nightly. Sopranos Spoof, 6pm dinner show. The Aladdin will become Planet Hollywood in late 2006.

Arizona Charlie's • 702-258-5200: Bands play daily. Karaoke, Mon. Jerry Tiffe plays 4-7pm Fri.

Arizona Charlie's East • 702-951-9000: Martin Kohl, thru May 7. Skip Eaton, May 12-21. John Grieco, May 26-June 4. Vic Saldino, June 9-18. Martin Kohl, June 23-July 2. Skip Eaton, July 7-16.

Bally's • 702-739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: "Jubilee!", production show, dark Fri. Backstage Walking Tour at 2pm Mon., Wed., and Sat. Entertainment in the Indigo Lounge and Tequila Bar.

Barbary Coast • 702-737-7111: Pete Vallee as "Big Elvis," 3-6pm Mon.-Thurs. Bands perform Tues.-Sat.

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf., dark Mon.-Tues. and June 18, Aug. 23-27, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 4-19. Entertainment in Light, Caramel, Petrossian, Baccarat, and Fontana lounges and bars.

Binion's • 702-382-1600: Bands Fri.-Sat.

Boulder Station • 702-432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Billy Currington, May 5. Phil Vassar, May 19. Euge Groove, May 20. Ottmar Liebert, June 10. Keiko Matsui, June 23. Charley Pride, June 24. Vertical Horizon, June 30. Mark Wills, July 7. The Whispers, July 8. Chad and Jeremy,

July 14. Raul Malo, July 28. Rendezvous Allstars with Wayman Tisdale, Kirk Whalum, Jonathan Butler, and Brian Simpson, Aug. 5. Summer Storm with Norman Brown, Pattie Austin, Alex Bugnon and Paul Taylor, Toto, Sept. 1. Maynard Ferguson, Sept. 9. Don Williams, Sept. 29-30. Jerry Tiffe plays 2-4pm Thurs. Shooting Stars Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.

Caesars Palace • 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Celine Dion stars in "A New Day...", May 3-7, 17-21, 25-28, 31, June 1-4, 7-11, 22-25, 28-30, July 1-2, 5-9 (call 877-4-CELINE). "The Red Piano" starring Elton John, July 11-12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-23, 25-26, 28-30, Oct. 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, 20-22 (888-4-ELTONJ). John Secada, May 6. Jerry Seinfeld, May 12-13, Aug. 4-5, Dec. 26-27. Entertainment in the Shadow Bar, Café Lago, Terrazza Lounge, Cleopatra's Barge Nightclub, Viale on the Strip, Pure, and Galleria Bar.

California • 702-385-1222: May Day Lei Day, May 5-7. Island Fever Block Party with Kani Makou on Fri. Island Sounds concert with Chinky Mahoe, Karen Kaleolani Keawehawii, and Brother Noland Conjugacion on Sat. Paniolo concert Sun. at 3pm.

Circus Circus • 702-734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts daily. Adventuredome Theme Park, 12pm-6pm.

Excalibur Hotel • 702-597-7600: "Tournament of Kings," jousting-dinner show, dark Tues. "Thunder From Down Under," all-male revue, nightly. Louie Anderson: "Larger Than Life," Sat.-Thurs. Anthony Cools: "Raw and Uncensored," hypnotist, Thurs.-Tues. Entertainment in the Casino Floor Lounge, Camelot Steakhouse, Regales Restaurant.

Fitzgeralds • 702-388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): "The Rockin' Ass Show," starring Steve Connolly, Spirit of the King, Thurs.-Mon. Larry G. Jones: "The Man of 1,002 Voices," impersonator-comedian, dark Tues.-Wed. Michael Colyar's Comedy Extravaganza, Wed. Bands play in the lounge.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 702-733-3333 or 800-221-7299: George Wallace, comedian, indf., dark Sun.-Mon. Second City Theater: "Second City," improv comedy sketches, dark Wed. Bands play in Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville. **Four Seasons** • 702-632-5000: Piano entertainment daily during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah Restaurant.

Gold Coast • 702-367-7111 or 888-402-6278: "Forever Plaid," comedy musical, Tues.-Sun., matinee 3pm Sun., dark Mon. Bands play nightly in the lounge except Mon. Gold Coast Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor 7-10pm Mon. Dance lessons 6-7pm.

Golden Gate • 702-385-1906: Piano 6pm-midnight.

Golden Nugget • 702-386-8100: Entertainment TBA.

Golden Palm • 702-798-1111: Karaoke party at 8:30pm.



Jackie Wilson impersonator Bobbie Brooks pays tribute to the singer in the Imperial Palace's "Legends in Concert."

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Greek Isles • 702-737-5540: "Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey, and Dean," Sat.-Thurs. "The World's Greatest Magic Show," Sat.-Thurs. Karaoke, Thurs.-Tues.

Hard Rock Hotel • 702-693-5066: R. Kelly, May 4. Entertainment in Pink Taco, Simon Kitchen and Bar, and Body English Nightclub.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 702-369-5111 or 800-392-9002: Clint Holmes, dark Sun. "Skintight," adult revue, dark Thurs. Mac King, comedy magic, 1 and 3pm, dark Sun.-Mon. Improv Theater: Comedy, dark Mon. Entertainment in The Piano Bar, Range Steakhouse Lounge, Toby Keith Bar and Grill, and Carnival Court.

Hofbräuhaus Las Vegas • 702-853-BEER: Bavarian bands. **Hooters Hotel and Casino • 702-739-9000:** Backyard Bash, weekend pool parties thru mid-Oct. Entertainment in 13 Club, Martini Bar, Porch Dogs, Casino Center Stage, and Nippers Pool Bar.

Imperial Palace • 702-794-3261: "Legends in Concert," celebrity tribute revue, dark Sun. Casino Floor: Celebrity impersonators deal blackjack to gamblers. Imperial Hawaiian Poolside Luau, dinner buffet and Polynesian revue, Tues., Thurs, Sat. Entertainment in Tequila Joe's. The "Be a Legend" Amateur Celebrity Impersonator Karaoke Contest is held quarterly.

JW Marriott Las Vegas • 702-869-2335: Music and dancing. Special Event: Mother's Day Tea, May 13, fancy hats welcome.

Las Vegas Hilton • 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Barry Manilow stars in "Manilow: Music and Passion," May 17-20, 24-27, 31-June 3. Reba McEntire, May 3-7, June 7-18, July 19-30, Aug. 24-26. Bryan Adams, May 10-11. Johnny Mathis, May 12-13, Nov. 24-25. Donna Summer,



Competitors flip, spin, throw, and balance bottles during the Ultimate Flair Bartending Championship. The event will be held June 27-29 at Harrah's Las Vegas.

June 23-24. "Menopause: The Musical," dark Fri., matinees Wed., Sat.-Sun. "The Kinsey Sicks Dragapella," Tues.-Sat. Frankie Moreno Band, Wed.-Sun. Bands play nightly except Mon.-Tues.

Luxor • 702-262-4555: "Hairspray," Broadway musical, dark Wed. Carrot Top, comedy, dark Tues. "Fantasy," production show, dark Thurs. Entertainment in

Nefertiti's, Ante Room, and Ra lounges and clubs. Movies are featured in the IMAX theater, and tours are available at the King Tut's Museum.

Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: "Mamma Mia!," the Broadway musical based on the music of Abba, dark Fri. Lifehouse, Vanessa Carlson, and Everclear, benefit concert for Lili Claire Foundation, May 6. Ron White, May

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26. Martina McBride, June 24. Mandalay Bay Poker Championship, June 4-8. House of Blues: Ministry, May 16. Norm Macdonald, June 17. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Entertainment in Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce, the Mix, Red Square, Island, Rumjungle, Oba, and Coral Reef lounges and clubs. Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay open daily. Socrates Café: Book discussions, 7pm.

MGM Grand • 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111: "KÀ," Cirque du Soleil production, dark Wed.-Thurs. and May 9-13, July 11, Sept. 5-9, Nov. 7. Tom Jones, thru May 10. Oscar de la Joya vs. Ricardo Mayorga: "Danger Zone," May 6. Howie Mandel, May 11-17. 41st Annual Academy of Country Music Awards, May 23. "La Femme," topless Crazy Horse production from Paris, dark Tues. Entertainment in Studio 54, Teatro Euro Bar, Tabu, Zuri, and Centrifuge lounges and clubs.

The Mirage • 702-792-7777: Danny Gans, dark Sun.-Mon. and Thurs. The Mirage Poker Showdown, May 4-17. Damon Wayans, May 5-6. Jay Leno, May 12-13, 19-20, June 9-10, July 7-8, 21-22, Aug. 11-12, Sept. 22-23, Oct. 6-7. Kevin James, May 26-28, Aug. 4-5, Oct. 20-21. David Spade, June 2-3, Sept. 1-2, Nov. 3-4. Ray Romano, June 23-24, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Oct. 13-15, Nov. 10-12. Wayne Brady, June 30-July 1, 14-15, Aug. 18-19, Nov. 23-24. Entertainment in the Ava, Jet, Onda lounges. Siegfried and Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat, 10am-7pm daily.



Wayne Brady brings his comedy and impressions to the Mirage on the Strip on June 30-July 1.

Monte Carlo • 702-730-7000: "Lance Burton, Master Magician," dark Sun.-Mon. Entertainment in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery and Houdini Lounge. Dark Sun.-Mon.

New Frontier • 702-794-8200: Mud wrestling, Tues.-Wed.

Dance lessons, Thurs.-Sun. Bikini bull riding, Thurs.-Sat. Line dancing 9pm.

New York-New York • 702-740-6969 or 800-693-6763: "Zumanity," adult Cirque du Soleil production, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Wed.-Thurs. and June 6, Aug. 11-15, Oct. 17, Dec. 6-21. Comedienne Rita Rudner performs nightly through June 10. Entertainment in The Pub at Nine Fine Irishmen, Coyote Ugly, the Bar at Times Square, and Big Apple Bar lounges and clubs. Manhattan Express Roller Coaster, open daily.

O'Sheas • 702-7333-3333: "Buckle Up," Vinnie Favorito comedy show, Tues.-Sat.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Gordon Lightfoot, May 4-7. Ann-Margret and Company, May 11-14. Roberta Flack, May 18-21. Air Supply, May 25-28. Donny Osmond, June 8-11. Dion, June 16-18. Boyz II Men, July 6-9. Jerry Lewis: The Original King of Comedy, July 13-16. Engelbert Humperdinck, July 20-24. Ms. USA Contest, July 24-27. Bill Engvall, Aug. 3-6. Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell, Aug. 10-12. Neil Sedaka, Aug. 16-20. Saxophonist David Sanborn with jazz and pop artist Jacqui Naylor, Aug. 24-27. Air Supply, Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Righteous Brother Bill Medley, Sept. 7-10.

Vicki Lawrence and Mama, Sept. 14-17. Engelbert Humperdinck, Sept. 21-24. Mr. Olympia, Sept. 27-28. Neil Sedaka, Oct. 4-8. Dionne Warwick, Oct. 12-15. Donny Osmond, Oct. 19-22. The Smothers Brothers, Oct. 26-29. Engelbert Humperdinck, Nov. 2-5. Suzanne

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Somers, Nov. 9-12. Ann-Margret and Company, Nov. 23-26. Donny Osmond Christmas Show, Dec. 14-17. Orleans Arena: MiniMoto SX, May 5. "Champions on Ice," Aug. 16. Entertainment in the Bourbon Street Cabaret and Brendan's Irish Pub.

Palace Station • 702-367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Earl Turner, cabaret performer, Thurs.-Sun.

The Palms • 702-942-7777: Entertainment in Rain, ghostbar, and the Lounge.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Entertainment in Le Cabaret, Napoleon's, and Risqué lounges and clubs, and the Ah Sin Restaurant. Eiffel Tower rides 10am-1am daily.

The Plaza • 800-634-6575: Bands perform in the Omaha Lounge Tues.-Sun. **Rampart Casino at the Resort at Summerlin** • 877-869-8777: Entertainment in Addison's Lounge and the Round Bar.

Red Rock Station • 702-797-7777: The Goo Goo Dolls, May 13. Joe Cocker, Sept. 2. Zowie Bowie performs in Rock's Lounge.

Rio All-Suite Hotel • 702-252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO: Penn and Teller, comedy-magic show, dark Tues. and May 29-June 9. Scintas, variety show, dark Thurs., thru May 3. Ronn Lucas, comedian-ventriloquist, 3pm, dark Fri. "Chippendales: The Show," dark Wed. Club Rio: "Erocktica Live! Sex, Sweat, and Rock 'n' Roll," dark Tues. "Tony and Tina's Wedding," interactive dinner theater, nightly. Entertainment in Club Rio, VooDoo, Flirt, and I-Bar lounges and clubs. "Masquerade Show in the Sky": Carnival-themed parade above the casino daily and "Rhythm of the Night" performance at 3 and 7:30pm. After-hours DJ and stage shows, Fri.-Sat. at Masquerade Village. A high-end bowling, martini lounge, and café are scheduled to open fall 2006.

Riviera • 702-794-9301: Hawaiian Luau Nights, Dinner and Hot Lava Polynesian revue, poolside Wed. and Sat. "Splash," production show, dark Fri., covered show 7pm Sat. "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue, dark Tues. "Crazy Girls" adult revue, dark Tues. "Riviera Comedy Club," nightly. "Neil Diamond Tribute Starring Jay White," Sun.-Thurs. Dr. Scott Lewis: Outrageous Comedy Hypnotist, Mon. "Barbra and Frank: The Concert That Never Was," impersonator show, Wed.-Sun. "American Storm," male revue, dark Mon. "Super Shock," afternoon variety show begins at 1pm, free admission, dark Mon. Le Bistro Theatre converts to Syn City, the Nightclub mid-night-4am Wed.-Sun.

Sahara • 702-737-2515: "Buck Wild," country variety show, dark Sun. Amazing Jonathan, bizarre magic, dark Thurs. Coasters, Platters, and Drifters, nightly. Entertainment in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 702-456-7777 or 800-897-8696: Music in Roxy's Saloon. Radio Show with Dennis Bono, 2pm



Comedian Kevin James, sitcom star of *The King of Queens*, headlines May 26-28 at the Mirage.

Thursdays, thru Dec. 31. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, and 10pm.

Santa Fe Station • 702-658-4900: Dennis Weisde, Aug. 19. Marion Meadows, Sept. 23. Ray Price, Oct. 14. Michel Lington, Oct. 21. Memphis Championship Barbecue: Rocksicle, 10pm Sat.

Silverton • 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Commodores, May 6-7. Blake Shelton, May 13. Creedence Clearwater Revisited, May 19. Herman's Hermits, June 3. Kool and the Gang, June 30-July 1. Little River Band, July 8. Asleep at the Wheel, Aug. 11. Hootie and the Blowfish, Aug. 26. Bellamy Brothers, Sept. 30. Little River Band, Nov. 11.

Stardust • 702-732-6325: The Temptations and Four Tops, May 4-6. Don Rickles/Shawn King, May 11-13. Tim Conway and Harvey Korman, May 17-20. Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, May 24-27. Rick Thomas Show, magic production, 2 and 4pm. "Headlights and Tailpipes," adult revue, Tues.-Sun. Hypnotic Lounge: "Hypnosis Gone Wild," adult show nightly. "Hypnoticulous" starring Michelle Van Ree, Wed.-Sun. Starlight Lounge: Karaoke Mon. and Fri.

Stratosphere • 702-382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: "American Superstars," impersonator revue, dark Thurs. "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Entertainment in Images, Romance at Top of the World, and Crazy Armadillos lounges and clubs. Stratosphere thrill rides.



Country singer Tanya Tucker returns to Southern Nevada May 13 at Buffalo Bill's in Primm. A Las Vegas teenager when she scored the hit "Delta Dawn," Tucker earned a Grammy nomination at age 16.

Suncoast • 702-636-7111: Tony Orlando featuring comedian Sammy Shore, May 5-7. Frankie Avalon, May 12-14. The Gin Blossoms, May 20-21. David Sanborn, May 26-28. Jazz pianist Joe Sample, June 2-4. Sha Na Na, June 9-11. Connie Stevens, June 16-18. Jack Jones, June 23-25. Chuck Mangione, June 30-July 2. Pool party with Lisa Loeb, July 3. Carol Lawrence, July 7-9. The Smothers Brothers, July 14-16. The Dream King, Trent Carlini, July 21-23. Dance pop diva Taylor Dayne, July 28-30. Jazz bassist Kyne Eastwood, Aug. 4-6. En Vogue, Aug. 11-13. "Stayin' Alive: The Australian Bee Gees Show," Aug. 18-20. Tower of Power, Aug. 25-27. Al Martino, Sept. 8-10. Jazz guitarist John Pizzarelli, Sept. 22-24. Bill Acosta, Oct. 13-15. Roy Clark, Oct. 20-21. Ramsey Lewis Trio, Oct. 27-29. Vanessa Williams, Nov. 3-5, and Rich Little, Nov. 3-5. Air Supply, Nov. 10-12. Spyro Gyra, Nov. 17-19. Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 24-26. Acoustic guitarist Earl Klugh, Dec. 1-3. Hawaiian Christmas Show, Dec. 21-24. Guy Lombardo's Orchestra, Dec. 31. Entertainment in the Suncoast Lounge.

Terrible's • 702-733-7000: Bands play nightly.

Treasure Island (TI) • 702-894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère," dark Mon.-Tues. and May 17-21, July 16, Sept. 13-17, Nov. 12. Matinee 4:30pm Sun. Entertainment in Tangerine, Mist, and Breeze lounges and clubs. "The Sirens of TI" pirate show is performed nightly outside the hotel.

Tropicana • 702-739-2411: "Les Folies Bergere," dark Sun. Dirk Arthur: Xtreme Magic, 2 and 4pm, Sat.-Thurs. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly. Entertainment in the Celebration and Tropics lounges.

Venetian • 702-733-5000: "Blue Man Group," percussion theater, nightly. "Phantom of the Opera" opens June 24. Gondola rides on the canal.

Wynn Las Vegas • 702-770-7000: "Le Rêve," aquatic pro-

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duction, Sat.-Wed. Avenue Q Theater: "Avenue Q," Tony Award-winning musical, dark Wed., thru May 28.

LAUGHLIN

Avi Hotel • 702-535-5555: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

Colorado Belle • 702-298-4000: The Riverboat Ramblers Dixieland Band, Fri.-Sat.

Edgewater • 702-298-2453: Entertainment TBA.

Flamingo Laughlin • 702-298-5111 or 800-435-8469: Clint Black, May 20. Billy Ray Cyrus, Aug. 5. Bill Engvall, Oct. 20. The Comedy Stop, May 1-Sept. 3.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 702-298-7111 or 800-237-1739: 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: "Rhythm and Flair," dance styles revue. "Strip!" adult revue, dark Sun. and Wed. thru May 28.

Ramada Express • 702-298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theatre: Entertainment TBA. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness on Mon.

River Palms • 702-298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Bands Wed.-Sun.

Riverside Resort • 702-298-2535 or 800-227-3849, ext. 616: Seals and Seals, Sept. 12-17. Restless Heart, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Charo, Dec. 27-31. Entertainment in the Lightning Strikes Nightclub.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 702-346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Comedy Club, weekends when no performers are scheduled. Entertainment in the Skydome Lounge.

Eureka Casino Hotel • 702-346-4646: Bands play Tues.-Sun.



Country music star Clint Black performs May 20 at Flamingo Laughlin, where showgoers can hear songs from his latest album, "Drinkin' Songs and Other Logic."

Oasis • 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Karaoke Tues. Dance music Wed., Fri.-Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Virgin River • 702-346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainers play in the casino lounge, dark Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Cannery • 702-507-5700: Viva! Tribute to Santana and

Peace Frog: Tribute to The Doors, May 5-6. Blood, Sweat, and Tears with guest Chuck Negron, May 13. Triple Threat Country Concert: Restless Heart, Little Texas, and Blackhawk, June 3. Eric Burdon and the Animals/Rare Earth, June 10. Blues, Brews, and Barbecue, June 23-24. Little Anthony and the Imperials, July 8. British Invasion Concert: The Yardbirds, The Searchers, Billy J. Kramer and The Dakotas, July 22. Class of the 1970s: Ambrosia, John Ford Coley, Stephen Bishop and Gary Wright, Aug. 12. The Guess Who, Sept. 16. Ronnie Milsap, Sept. 23. Entertainment in Pin-Ups Bar.

Fiesta Rancho • 702-631-7000: Entertainment in Club Tequila and Cabo Lounge. Skating in the Fiesta Ice Arena.

Jerry's Nugget • 702-399-3000: Motown Fridays, Latin Explosion on Sat., dance music.

Texas Station • 702-631-1001: John Tesh, May 26. Johnny Rivers, Aug. 4. The Armadillo: Krookies Karaoke, Wed. Loveshack plays '80s music on Fri.-Sat. Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 800-FUN-STOP: Randy Travis, May 5. Tanya Tucker, May 13. Brad Paisley, May 20. Bill Medley/Rita Coolidge, June 9. Dwight Yoakum, June 30. Wynonna Judd, Aug. 11. Mel Tillis/Roy Clark, Aug. 25. Bands play weekends in Buffalo Bill's Stagebar. Funniez Comedy Club: Comedians Fri.-Sat.

Primm Valley • 800-FUN-STOP: Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment on weekends.

Whiskey Pete's • 800-FUN-STOP: Entertainment in Whiskey Pete's Show Bar Lounge.

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Reno-Tahoe

AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS



Professional and amateur kayakers pour on the speed May 12-14 during the Reno River Festival at the Truckee River Whitewater Park.

Events

Reno Philharmonic • May 2 • Soprano Evelyn de la Rosa is the guest performer. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses" • May 3-7 • Drama about pre-revolutionary French aristocracy. Redfield Proscenium Theatre, UNR, Reno, 775-784-4046.

"The Dorms" • May 4-6 • Play about life's surprises. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

Become a Motorman Class • May 5-7 • Learn to operate the Nevada State Railroad Museum's 1926 Edwards diesel-powered motorcar. \$120 fee includes railroader's cap, barbecue, certificate. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Nevada Wide Open Marathon de Mayo Music Marathon • May 5-7 • Health and fitness expo, May 5-6. Cinco de Mayo party, May 5. CarbFest dinner, May 6. Marathon, half-marathon, 10K and 5K events, May 7. Headliner concert (TBA), May 7. Music Marathon includes salsa, jazz, mariachi, country, and rock at city locations TBA. Reno, www.marathonde mayo.com or 775-825-1727.

Between Fences Exhibition Reception with the Brad Lund Trio • May 6 • Speaker Paul Starrs. Piper's Opera House, Virginia

City, 775-847-0433 for further exhibition information.
Fly-In • May 6-7 • Experimental aircraft, pancake breakfast, display. Carson City Airport, Carson City, 775-883-1945.

Cinco de Mayo 2006 • May 6-7 • Nevada Hispanic Services-sponsored entertainment, food, crafts, booths. Victorian Avenue, Sparks, 775-826-1818.

Cinco de Mayo Chili Cook-Off • May 6-7 • Strolling musicians, piñatas. Bucket of Blood Saloon parking lot, Virginia City, 775-897-0311.

Comstock Arabian Horse Show • May 6-7 • Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-885-1945.

High Noon at the Nevada Historical Society • May 8 • Lecture on the history of the Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Jazz in May • May 9 • Mile High Jazz Band, Comma Coffee, 775-883-4154.

Nevada Passage Handcar Race Challenge • May 10 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. Virginia and Truckee Railroad Yards, Virginia City, www.nevadapassage.com.

Altoona at Work: An Era of Steam • May 10 • Free lecture by Peter Barton on the history of the Pennsylvania Railroad's shop complex. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Spring Dance Concert: Hubbard Street 2 • May 11-13 • Group from Hubbard Street Dance Chicago performs.

Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-4ART for details.
RSVP Spring Fun Fair • May 11-14 • Carnival, crafts, entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

Reno River Festival • May 12-14 • Pro and amateur freestyle kayaking competition, down-river events, demos, concerts, expo, clinics for first-timers, Charity Raft Race on May 12. Truckee River Whitewater Park, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend • May 12-14 • Exhibits, printing press workshop, Silver Tea, historic costume fashion show, tours, children's chorus, preservation ball. Historic Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

Annual Historic Preservation Ball • May 13 • Wear Victorian clothing and dance to Butterfield Victorian Orchestra. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

Big Mama's Show and Shine • May 13 • Car show, barbecue. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-783-6455.

Sharkey Begovich Swing for a Cure Golf Tournament • May 13 • Golf, awards dinner. Carson Valley Golf Course, Gardnerville, 775-782-0770.

History in the Making • May 14 • Cultural and historic activities cover rock art to railroads. Bowers Mansion, Washoe Valley, 775-849-1825.

Arts in Bloom • May 14 • Artists, wine, beer, food, entertainment. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2376.



"Hairspray" plays May 16-21 at Reno's Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts.

Evening Lecture Series: Reno: Then and Now • May 17 • Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Reno-Tahoe Wine, Food, and Jazz Festival • May 17-22 • Wine-tasting, art show, evening receptions, wine education programs, culinary demonstrations. Reno Hilton, 775-789-2285.

Brad Lund and June Joplin • May 19-20, 27 • Concert featuring the music of Harold Arlen. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

Washoe Valley History Hike • May 20 • Moderate two-mile hike up the Ophir Creek Trail. Davis Creek Park, Washoe Valley, 775-849-1925.

Rhythm and Rawhide: The Reno Philharmonic Orchestra • May 20 • Dinner, auction, cowboy poetry. Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-323-2810.

Car and Tractor Swap Meet and Car Show • May 20 • Antique cars, trucks, tractors, gas engines. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-265-0548.

'50s Rockathon Car Show and Swap Meet • May 20 • Music by Time Warp, hobby car show including street rods, classics,

muscle cars, kit cars, low riders. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-265-0548.

Mine Dweller's Wine Tasting • May 20 • Wine and refreshments. Historic Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

USO Dinner Dance • May 20 • 1940s theme. Sterling Hangar, Carson City Airport, Carson City, 775-841-7163.

Nevada Civil War Volunteer Day • May 20 • Program on a soldier's life in the 1860s by costumed participants. Bowers Mansion, Washoe Valley, 775-849-1825.

A '60s exhibition features this VW at the National Automobile Museum in Reno.



Pembroke Renaissance Faire • May 20-21 • Food, crafts, jousting, blacksmithing. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-315-4219.

Born in Nevada: Jacob Davis and Reno's Rivets • May 21 • Slide program on the creation of riveted clothing, the forerunner of Levi's, by Reno tailor Jacob Davis. Wilbur D. May Museum, Reno, 775-785-5961.

Carson Valley Art Show and Reception • May 21 • East Fork Gallery, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.

Smart Talk: Erin Brockovich • May 23 • Women's Lecture Series presentation. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.

World Series of Poker Qualifying Tournament • May 23-26 • Harrah's Reno, 800-HARRAHS.

Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1 • May 26 • Press minted coins when the museum was the site of the U.S. Mint. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Les Ballets Africains • May 26 • 50th world tour of the company from Guinea, West Africa. Evening includes a Middle Eastern dinner. Kings Beach Center, North Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

Rip Tides: A Tribute to the Beach Boys • May 26 • Bring a picnic. Minden Park, Minden, 775-782-9828.

Kit Carson Trail: Wild West Tour • May 27 • Guided walking tour of the historic district. Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Silver Sage Adventure Race • May 27 • Multi-sport event includes kayaking and mountain biking. Downtown Reno, 530-546-1019.

Memorial Day Parade • May 27 • C St., Virginia City, 775-847-4FUN.

Lake Tahoe Jazztrax Smooth Jazz Festival • May 27-29 • Squaw Valley USA and Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe, 866-872-9849.

Minden Centennial Celebration Exhibit • June 2 • Photo and artifacts. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

Carson Valley Inn Rafting Trip • June 2-3 • Guided 20-mile trip on the Carson River. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Highway 50 Wagon Train • June 2-10 • Ride



Bike riders gear up for a fast break June 22-24 during the Tour de Nez at Reno-area locations.

from Carson City to Placerville, CA. Reservations and information, 530-644-3761.

Minden Arts and Crafts Fair • June 3-4 • More than 140 booths. Esmeralda Ave., Minden, 775-782-2444.

Rappin' to Minden • June 3-4 • Inliner vehicle show, arts, crafts, food. Minden Town Park, 775-782-7211.

Genoa Home and Garden Tour • June 3-4 • Self-guided tour. Genoa, 775-782-4951.

Valhalla Renaissance Faire • June 3-4, 10-11 • Wine, ale,

archery, javelin throws, fencing, games, crafts, petting zoo, puppet shows, storytelling, jousting. Camp Richardson, North Lake Tahoe, 415-354-1773.

Carson City Garden Tour • June 4 • Citywide, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride • June 4 • Bicycle ride around Lake Tahoe includes a boat cruise, 40-mile fun ride, 72- and 100-mile events. Lake Tahoe, 800-565-2704.

Pony Express Re-Ride and Snowshoe Thompson Day • June 7 •

Exchange of mail and stories about Thompson, who delivered mail on snowshoes in the 1800s. Genoa Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 775-782-4375.

Carson City Rendezvous • June 9-11 • Living-history festival, mountain man encampment, Civil War battles, Pony Express re-enactment, gunfighters, entertainment, Native American village, dancing, Pueblo de Nevada song and dance, Dutch-oven cooking demonstrations, Scottish clans and bagpipers, camel and stage-coach rides, Western arts and crafts, old-time fiddle contest, concerts with Back Forty Band (Fri.) and David John and the Comstock Cowboys (Sat.). Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Reno-Tahoe Pantera Rally • June 10 • High performance vehicles on display from 1-5pm. Harrah's Plaza, Reno, 800-HARRAHS.

DeCelle Memorial Lake Tahoe Relay • June 10 • Seven-person running relay around Lake Tahoe. South Lake Tahoe, 530-877-9731.

Carson Valley Days • June 10-11 • Parade, craft fair, music, food, pedal tractor pulls, firemen's water fights, greased pole. Minden and Gardnerville, 775-223-7913.

Carson Valley Poker Run • June 11 • 110-mile ride and barbecue. Jethro's Restaurant parking lot, Gardnerville, 775-265-9483.

Reno Rodeo • June 15-24 • Parade, carnival, crafts, mutton busting for kids, Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping. Fairgrounds, Reno, 800-225-2277.

Father's Day Powwow • June 16-18 • Native American dance,

Carson Valley, Nevada - Summer 2006

May

Concert In The Park in Minden
Genoa Home and Garden Tour

June

Minden Arts and Crafts Fair
Carson Valley Days
Concert On The Green in Genoa
Concert In The Park in Minden

July

Minden Centennial
Pops In The Park
The Great Race
Concert On The Green in Genoa
Concert In The Park in Minden

August

Hot August Nights Poker Run
Concert On The Green in Genoa
Concert In The Park in Minden

September

Genoa Candy Dance & Craft Faire



For more information about The Magical Carson Valley call 800-727-7677 or go to www.visitcarsonvalley.org.
From Carson City to Topaz Lake, from Minden & Gardnerville to Genoa.

ing, arts, crafts, food. Stewart Indian School, Carson City, 775-687-8333.

Harleys at the Horizon • June 16-18 • Open to all bikes. Horizon, Stateline, 530-541-3700.

Golf Tournament • June 17 • Entry fee \$175 (\$65 is a tax deductible charitable donation for Barton Memorial Hospital), barbecue, drinks. Genoa Lakes Golf Resort, Genoa, 530-543-5614.

Taste of Downtown • June 17 • Walking tour of downtown restaurants, music. Carson City, 775-883-7654.

VSA Arts of Nevada Garden Tour • June 17 • Self-guided tour of 10 unique landscapes. Lake Mansion, Reno, 775-826-6100.

Home Means Nevada Quilt Show • June 17-18 • Fuji Park exhibit hall, Carson City, 775-841-4595.

Jazzin' Up the Comstock Jazz Festival • June 17-18 • City Park, Virginia City, 775-847-4FUN.

V&T Cool Jazz Train Rides • June 17-18 • Historic train travels from Virginia City to Gold Hill. F St. Depot, Virginia City, 775-847-4FUN.

Pops Party Concert • June 18 • Carson City Symphony and Chamber Singers. Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Mining and Geology Tour • June 18 • Mining artifacts and minerals. Mackay School of Mines, UNR, Reno, 775-784-4528.

Exit 22 • June 18 • Concert on the Green. Bring a picnic. Genoa Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.

Chautauqua in the Park • June 21-22 • Bring a picnic to hear 12 historical characters. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2555.

Tour de Nez • June 22-24 • Pro and amateur bicycle races,



Pioneer life is reenacted during the Carson City Rendezvous, a living-history festival, June 9-11.

kid's events, messenger races, century rides, expos, clinics, music, belly dancing, bike-decorating contests, face-painting, parties. Verdi, Reno, Truckee, Tahoe City, 775-287-3599 or visit www.tourdenez.com.

40 Pounds of Trouble • June 23 • Bring a chair and picnic for the movie. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-7134.

Corvettes at Lake Tahoe • June 23-24 • Car show. Horizon, Stateline, 530-542-0485.

Run What Cha Brung • June 23-25 • Car show, show and shine,

poker run, music. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-883-1634.

Street Dance and Car Show • June 24 • Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626, ext. 236.

High Altitude Kite and Music Festival • June 24 • Pro and amateur fliers challenge the winds at High Camp. Squaw Valley, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Volleyball Festival • June 24-30 • Tournament draws 10,000 players, ages 12-18. Various locations, Reno, 281-207-1070.

Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1 • June 30 • Press minted

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coins when the museum was the site of the U.S. Mint. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.
Mumbo Gumbo • June 30 • Picnic concert. Minden Park, Minden, 775-782-8696.

ONGOING EVENTS TOURS AND THEATER

Nevada State Museum Tours • Behind-the-scenes tours of the anthropology, plant, and animal collections on the last Friday of each month. Registration required. Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Wine Walk on the River Walk • Third Saturday at 2pm. Free wine tasting at participating merchants with the purchase of a map and glass for \$10. River Walk Arts District, Downtown, Reno, 775-337-1717.

National Automobile Museum Guided Tours • May 1-June 30 • Free tours of more than 200 vehicles after paid admission. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" • May 12-13, 18-20, 25-28, June 1-3, 8-11, 15-17, 22-24 • Dark comedy about marriage and relationships. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

"Grease" • Weekends May 12-21 • Musical. Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-445-4249.

"Aladdin Jr." • May 12-21 • Stage adaptation of Disney movie. Reynolds Theatre, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Ride the Rails Aboard Antique Trains • May 13-14, 1926 diesel-powered rail car. May 27-29, 1882 steam locomotive. June 3-4, 1926 diesel-powered rail car. June 10-11 and 17-18, 1882 steam locomotive. June 24-25, 1926 diesel-powered rail car. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.



Gretchen Ericson's work is displayed at the Great Basin Basketmakers show May 12-Aug. 7 Nevada State Museum, Carson City.

"Hairspray" • May 16-21 • Tony Award-winning Broadway musical. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 800-714-5331.

Farmers Market • Wednesdays May 24-Sept. 27 • Bring a shopping basket. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

"Love's Labor's Lost" • June 2-3, 9-10 • King of Navarre and three friends swear off women, food, and sleep to pursue their studies. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Farmers Market • Wednesdays beginning June 7 • Mills Park, Carson City, 775-646-5024.

"Showboat" • Fridays, June 9-Sept. 1 • Broadway musical performed by Nevada Civic Light Opera aboard the *M.S.*

Dixie II sternwheeler on Lake Tahoe. Cruise includes a Cajun-style dinner. Lake Tahoe Cruises, 800-23-TAHOE.

Wednesday Walkabouts • June 14-Sept. 6 • Ranger-led evening hike. Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 775-828-6642.

Sparks Hometowne Farmers Market • June 15-Aug. 24 • Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291.

ARTS AND EXHIBITS

Modernism in American Silver: 20th Century Design • Thru May 14 • Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Selections from the Mackay Silver Collection • Thru May 14 • Pieces from Comstock mining tycoon John Mackay's ornate 19th-century dinner service. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

An Archeological Dig Through Women's Purses • Thru May 14 • Exhibition explores what women carried through the years. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.

Great Basin Gallery's 20th Anniversary Exhibition • Thru May 26 • Featured Nevada artists are Jeff Nicholson, Jean LeGassick, and Ron Arthaud. Capital City Arts Initiative Courthouse Gallery, Carson City, www.arts-initiative.org.

Roy Curtis Exhibition • Thru May 31 • Photos by Reno photographer. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Rhythm of Nature • Thru June 2 • Live animals, dioramas, hands-on activities. Wilbur D. May Museum, Reno, 775-785-5961.

Shadows of the V&T: The Art of Loren Jahn • Thru June • Pen-and-ink drawings of the day-to-day operations of the railroad by artist and railroad enthusiast. Nevada State

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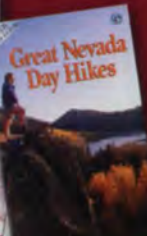
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The statue of Snowshoe Thompson presides over Snowshoe Thompson Day and the Pony Express Re-Ride in Genoa June 7 Thompson carried mail over the Sierra from 1856 to 1876.

Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953 for details.
The 1960s: Movin' and Groovin' • Thru Oct. 16 • Cars from the decade that changed every aspect of our society from language to automobiles. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Locomotive Stories of the V&T • Thru Dec. • Models, photographs, artifacts. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Between Fences • May 6-June 14 • Smithsonian traveling exhibition on the role of fences in America's history. Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

Interwoven: Visions of the Great Basin Basketmakers • May 12-Aug. 7 • Traditional and non-traditional baskets and vessels are on display. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810, ext. 240.

Bears by the Lake • May 17-Sept. 5 • Public art display of fiberglass life-sized bears. Outdoor galleries, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.

Kickstand Korner • May 24-Oct. 6 • Exhibit of early motorcycles. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Between Fences • June 23-July 31 • Smithsonian traveling exhibition on the role of fences in America's history. Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 775-828-6612.

Evenings at the Ranch • Tuesdays, June 27-July 25 • Music,

cowboy poetry, programs celebrate Nevada lifestyle. Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 775-828-6612.

Coming Events

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

AAU Girls Basketball National Championship • July 5-10, 12-16, 25-30 • Reno, 775-530-4779.

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival • July 13-Aug. 20 • 800-74-SHOWS.

MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour • July 28-30 • Sparks, 800-FOR-RENO.

Hot August Nights • July 29-Aug. 6 • Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.
Reno-Tahoe Open • Aug. 21-27 • PGA golf tournament, Reno, 775-322-3900.

Nevada State Fair • Aug. 23-27 • Reno, 775-688-5767.

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off • Aug. 30-Sept. 3 • Sparks, 800-648-1177.

46th Annual International Camel Races • Sept. 8-10 • Virginia City, 775-847-7500.

The Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 8-10 • Reno, 775-826-1181.

Lake Tahoe Marathon • Sept. 26-Oct. 1 • Lake Tahoe, 530-544-7095.



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"Forever Tango" plays at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks June 6-July 2. The show traces the history of the Latin dance.

Living in the Moment



Photos by Geoff Arnold and Elaine Swanson

Wells

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Shows

CARSON CITY

Carson Nugget • 775-882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Entertainers like The Motifs, Tommy Bell, Melissa Dru, Madison Avenue, The Cutups, Louie Fontaine, X Force, and Retroactive appear in the lounge.

Carson Station • 775-883-0900: Bands nightly except Mon.

Casino Fandango • 775-885-7000: Bands play in the lounge.

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: Twice as Nice, May 1. Melissa Dru, May 2-7. Gary and Lin, May 8. The Kid and Nic Show, May 9-14. The Gardners, May 15. American Made Band, May 16-21. Cameron, May 22. Atomica, May 23-28. Kari and Jerry, May 29. Patton Leatha, May 30-June 4.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 775-782-3133: Karaoke Sat.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 775-266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 775-825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Entertainment TBA.

Boomtown • 775-345-6000: Bands appear Tues.-Sun.

Circus Circus • 775-329-0711: Cabaret: Entertainment except Tues.-Wed. Free daily circus acts, 11am-10:30pm.

Eldorado • 775-786-5700, 800-648-5966: Eldorado Showroom: "Balagan," thru July 2, Cirque-style production, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Brew Brothers micro-brewery, Roxy, BuBinga, Casino Cabaret.

Fitzgeralds • 775-785-3300 or 800-648-5022: Music Wed.-Sun.

Harrah's Reno • 775-786-3232 or 800-HARRAHS: Plaza: May

12, Bad Intent. Sol Jibe, May 13. Showroom: "Bareback, musical revue, thru July, dark Tues. "Chippendales: The Show," male revue, Thurs.-Mon. thru July. Sapphire Lounge, entertainment Fri.-Sat.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 775-356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Danny Marona, June 1-3. "Forever Tango," Broadway musical, June 6-July 2, dark Mon. Cabaret: Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, May 4-7. Rick Hays and American Steel, May 11-14. The Kid and Nic Show, May 18-21. Buddy Emmer Band, May 25-28. Bands play in Trader Dick's, Jazz on Wed., wine-tasting Thurs. in Orozko Lounge.

Peppermill • 775-826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Heartbreaker: A Tribute to Led Zeppelin, May 26. Parrotheads: A Jimmy Buffett Tribute, June 30. "Ring of Fire: Tribute to Johnny Cash, July 8. Entertainment in the Cabaret Lounge, the Steak House restaurant, Fri.-Sat. the piano lounge.

Reno Events Center • 800-687-8733: Forever After: Filipino Show, May 28. Larry the Cable Guy, June 9. Carrie Underwood, June 18.

Reno Hilton • 775-789-2285 or 800-648-3568: Richard Jeni, May 13. John Hiatt and the North Mississippi All-Stars, May 26. Tracy Lawrence, June 29. Boz Scaggs, Aug. 6. Charlie Daniels Band, Aug. 12. Queensryche, Oct. 17. Bands play nightly in The Garage.

Sands Regency • 775-348-2200: Bands play Wed.-Sun. Just For Laughs Comedy Club, dark Mon.

Siena • 775-337-6260: Jammin' With the Siena Jazz Ensemble Tues.-Thurs.

Silver Legacy • 775-329-4777 or 800-687-8733: Carlos Mencia, May 6. Bill Cosby, May 13. "Thunder From Down Under," May 26-27. Bill Engvall, May 28. Larry, the Cable Guy, June 9. Lee Ann Womack, July 28. Beach Boys, Aug. 4-5. Rodney Carrington, Aug. 11-12. "Thunder From Down Under," Sept. 1-2. Dwight Yoakum, Sept. 15. George Lopez, Sept. 16. Doobie Brothers, Sept. 22-23. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 29-30. Bill Engvall, Oct. 14. Music in the Rum Bullions Island Bar. Comedians perform in the Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club, dark Mon. Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.



Comedian Carlos Mencia stops May 6 at the Silver Legacy in Reno during the "Comedy Central Live: Mind of Mencia Tour."

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 775-588-2455: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: Sammy Hagar, May 5-7, 12-14. Entertainment in the California Bar, Casino Center Stage, and Altitude Nightclub.

Harveys • 775-588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Harveys Cabaret: "Dancin' in the Streets," dark Mon.-Tues. "Lipstick, revue. Comedians perform in The Improv. Entertainment in the Cabo Wabo Cantina Lounge. Rascal Flatts with Gary Allan, July 16.

Horizon • 775-588-6211 or 800-322-7723: The Chipper Lowell Experience, variety show, dark Tues. Bands like The Methods, California Band, X-Force, and Tracy and Metro play in the Aspen Lounge. Special Events: Open Roads British Car Show, June 8-11. Harleys at the Horizon, June

16-17. Corvettes at Lake Tahoe, June 23-24. Craft Fairs, May 12-14, 19-21, 26-28, June 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, June 30-July 4.

Lakeside Inn • 775-588-7777: Karaoke Wed-Fri.

MontBleu Resort (formerly Caesars Tahoe) • 775-588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Billy Currington, May 12. India Arie, June 24. Ice Cube, July 29. Entertainment in the Club Nero and Cleo's Lounge.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 775-832-4000 or 800-225-6382: Band on Sat.

Crystal Bay Club • 775-831-0512: Entertainment TBA.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 775-832-1234: Bands in the Regency Grand Ballroom, Lone Eagle Restaurant: Wed.-Sat., Casino Stage Bar, pianist.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660: TBA.

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103 Boulder City Chamber of Commerce—"The city that built Hoover Dam, golf, outdoor sports, and Lake Mead. 866-297-4336, www.bouldercitychamber.com.

104 Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau—Nevada's capital city has "Divine 9" golf courses, lodging, and gaming. 800-NEVADA-1, 775-687-7410, www.visitcarsoncity.com.

105 Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau/Seniors Strike Silver Cards—Discounts on lodging, meals, museums, recreation, gaming. 800-NEVADA-1, www.visitcarsoncity.com.

106 Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Authority—Genoa, Minden-Gardnerville, and Topaz Lake make up the Carson Valley. 800-727-7677, www.carsonvalleynv.org.

107 White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board, Ely—Bristlecone pines, Great Basin National Park, fishing, hunting, camping, golf, Nevada Northern Railway. 800-HY6-9350, www.elynevada.net.

108 Eureka Opera House—Built in 1880 and restored in 1993, the Eureka Opera House is located on U.S. 50 (Lonellest Road in America). 775-237-6006, www.eureka.nv.us.

109 Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority—Fallon is home to the Navy's Top Gun flight school, Sand Mountain, and Lake Lahontan. 866-4FALLON, www.fallontourism.com.

110 Elko Convention and Visitors Authority—In Northeastern Nevada on Interstate 80, Elko has outdoor recreation, history, hotels, and casinos. Convention Center offers 50,000 square feet of meeting space. Free Meeting Planner Guide. 800-248-3556, www.elkocva.com.

111 Jackpot Tourism—Located on Idaho border on U.S. 93, Northeastern Nevada resort town has entertainment, casinos, restaurants, golf. 775-755-2229, www.jackpot-nevada.org.

112 Nevada Commission on Tourism—Nevada's tourism authority guides the visitor to unlimited outdoor adventure and world-class resorts. 800-NEVADA-8, www.travelnevada.com for more information.

116 Lander County Convention and Tourism Authority—Battle Mountain, on I-80, is famous for its *Washington Post* appellation, "Armpit of America." For Battle Mountain information 775-635-1112, www.battlemountain.org.

117 Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Authority—Basque restaurants, outdoor adventure, history, events, nightlife, gaming,

and convention center. 800-962-2638, www.winnemucca.nv.us.

119 Pony Express Territory—The Pony Express Trail (1860-1861) parallels U.S. 50 (Lonellest Road in America) in Pony Express Territory. For additional information call 888-359-9449, visit online at www.ponyexpressnevada.com.

122 Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority—Information on restaurants, shopping, entertainment, events, gaming, lodging, golf. 877-VISIT-LV, www.vegasfreedom.com for more information.

124 Pahrump Valley Chamber of Commerce—Pahrump has outdoor activities, events, hotel-casinos, the Pahrump Valley Winery, RV parks. 866-722-5800, www.pahrumpchamber.com for more information.

128 Wells Chamber of Commerce—Wells is the jump-off point for California-Oregon Trail sites. Hunting, fishing, golf, and trails. 775-752-3540, www.californiatrailinterpretivecenter.com.

129 Greater Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce—Five state parks, Pahrnatag National Wildlife Refuge, ghost towns, mining camps. 775-962-5271, www.lincolncountynv.com.

131 Mineral County Economic Development, Hawthorne—Located 130 miles southeast of Reno on U.S. 95, the area's regional theme is "America's Patriotic Home" with museums, ghost town exploring, riding, and hunting. Visit Walker Lake for fishing, bird-watching, and water-skiing. 775-945-5400.

133 City of West Wendover—Swimming, golfing, horseback riding, fishing, birdwatching, casinos, hotels, dining, and entertainment. 866-BZCITY, www.westwendovercity.com.

135 The Solitudes, Pioneer Territory—Death Valley, Boundary Peak, mining towns, seven state parks and wilderness areas, mountain biking, skiing, hiking. For information 800-357-8754, www.pioneerterritory.org.

Hotels/Casinos

(Mention *Nevada Magazine* when making your hotel reservations)

202 Carson Nugget, Carson City—Video/slot machines, table games, keno, bingo, restaurants, buffet, gift shop, entertainment. 800-426-5239, www.ccnugget.com.

203 Carson Valley Inn, Minden—Hotel, motor lodge, RV park, convention center, wedding chapel, pool, spa, gift shop, four restaurants, rafting packages, and casino. 800-321-6983, www.cvin.com for more information.

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209 Peppermill, Reno—Gaming, eight restaurants, 14 themed bars, free cabaret entertainment, pool, spa, salon, senior specials, 40,000 square feet of convention space. For more information 800-648-6992 (mention HNMAG4), www.peppermillreno.com.

215 Saddle West, Pahrump—Rooms and suites, restaurant, buffet, RV resort, golf packages, convention facilities, Players Club, and slot tournaments. 800-433-3987, www.saddlewest.com for information.

216 CasaBlanca, Mesquite—Kitchenette-studios, RV park, time-shares, gaming, spa, tennis, golf course, golf packages, three restaurants. 800-711-4653, www.casablancaresort.com for additional information.

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222 Carson Station and Piñon Plaza Casino-Resorts, Carson City—Best Western. Carson Station has 92 rooms. For details 800-501-2929, www.carsonstation.com. Piñon Plaza has 148 rooms, 70 RV spaces. For details 877-519-5569, www.pinonplaza.com.

229 Cactus Petes Resort, Jackpot—Hotel has 300 rooms and suites, live entertainment, five restaurants, 26,000 square feet of gaming. 800-821-1103, www.cactuspetes.com.

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258 Montego Bay Resort, Wendover—Themed bars, nightly live entertainment, spa and massage, pool and Jacuzzi, 250 rooms and suites, Passport Club slot card. 800-537-0207, www.montego.baywendover.com.

Golf

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307 Carson City Convention & Visitors Bureau—The "Divine 9" golf courses of Carson City and Carson Valley. Tee times 800-638-2321. Details, 800-NEVADA-1, www.visitcarsoncity.com/nevada5 or www.divine9.com.

308 Carson Valley Tourism, Divine 9 Golf—The ultimate golf deal is now available with the "Ticket to Paradise," a pass to play each of the Divine 9 courses in Carson Valley/Carson City at almost 50 percent savings. 800-727-7677, www.visitcarsonvalley.org.

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311 Carson Valley Inn Golf Packages—Groups as small as 12, standard and custom packages, including 11 area courses, offering 207 holes of play, food, and casino fun. Groups: 866-284-7766 (press 2), www.cvinn.com. Mention *Nevada Magazine*.

314 The Resort at Red Hawk, Reno/Sparks—Lakes Course by Robert Trent Jones Jr. Golf and accommodations packages. 888-874-3777 ext. 16 or www.TheResortAtRedHawk.com/N1.

316 Siena Golf Club, Las Vegas—Course in Summerlin has an Italian-themed design, Siena Lake, and Bistro restaurant. 888-689-6469, sienagolfclub.com.

318 White Pine Golf Course, Ely—Golf with views and a slow pace on a full-service, 18-hole course in Eastern Nevada. 775-289-4095, www.elygolfing.com.

320 Plumas Pines Golf Resort, Graeagle—Located near the Feather River among the pines and below the ridgeline of the northern Sierra Nevada. Stay, play, and dine packages. 530-836-1420, www.plumaspinestgolf.com.

329 Tahoe Donner Golf Course and Association—Located three miles off I-80 on Northwoods Blvd. in Truckee, the 18-hole course is enveloped in pines and has views of the Sierra Nevada. 530-587-9443, www.tahoodonner.com.

336 American Golf Corporation—Golfing Las Vegas at these destinations: Desert Rose Golf Course (702-431-4653), Las Vegas Golf Club (702-646-3003), Las Vegas National Golf Course (702-734-1796), and Painted Desert Golf Club (702-645-2880), www.americangolf.com.

349 Golf Elko Nevada, Elko Tourism—Golf the Spring Creek Golf Course or Ruby View Golf Course, both 18 holes and open from March until November. www.exploreelko.com.

350 Las Vegas Golf Getaways, Walters Golf—Hotel and golf packages at Bali Hai Golf Club, Royal Links Golf Club, Desert Pines Golf Club, or Stallion Mountain Country Club. 888-777-7917, www.lvgg.com. Mention *Nevada Magazine*.

351 Rhodes Ranch, Las Vegas—Minutes from the Strip in the Las Vegas Valley, picturesque, tropical surroundings make golf a

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352 West Wendover Golf/Hotel Packages—Visit any of West Wendover's hotel and casinos for golf and room package deals. Golf Toana Vista Golf Course, Wendover, 800-852-4330. Contact City of West Wendover, www.westwendovercity.com for more tourism information.

353 ArrowCreek Country Club, Reno—Located in the Southwest foothills with scenic views of Reno and Mount Rose, master-planned golf community offers two courses, a clubhouse, and fine dining. 888-702-7769, www.arrowcreek.com.

354 Nevada Golf, Nevada Commission on Tourism—More than 100 courses across wide open Nevada. For a complete statewide listing, call 800-NEVADA-8, or visit golf.travelnevada.com.

360 Tuscany Golf Club, Henderson—Fashioned after an Old World Tuscan village, golf store, pub, restaurant, and golf with mountain and Strip views. 866-TUSCANY, www.tuscanygolfclub.com.

361 OB Sports—Las Vegas/Henderson golf at Aliante Golf Club (702-399-4888), Angel Park Las Vegas (702-254-4653), or The Legacy Golf Club (702-897-2187), obsports.com.

362 Arroyo Golf Club at Red Rock, Las Vegas—Arnold Palmer Course, views of Red Rock Canyon and Las Vegas. 866-934-GOLF, arroyogolfclubatredrock.com.

Lodging

402 Lake Tahoe Accommodations—Management for rental properties, rental homes, or condos near skiing, golf, and lake. 800-544-3234, www.laketahoeaccommodations.com.

Houseboat Rentals

501 Forever Resorts Black Canyon Adventures, Lake Mead National Recreation Area—You can experience Nevada's incredible places by houseboat or river raft, 800-455-3490, BlackCanyonAdventure.com, ForeverHouseboats.com. Mention NVM06.

Shows

509 Fantasy, Luxor Las Vegas—Adult revue produced by Anita Mann. AOL City Guide's choice for "Sexiest Show in Las Vegas." Plays nightly, dark Thursday, Luxor Showroom. Reservations 800-557-7428, groups 702-822-6262, www.luxor.com.

Attractions, Galleries, Museums

602 Liberace Museum, Las Vegas—The museum features jewelry, wardrobe, and costumes worn by the late Liberace and his car collection and pianos. 702-798-5595, www.liberace.com.

603 Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely—Historic tourist train rides on 32 miles of track. Meetings on wheels for business and weddings. For additional information and schedule, 866-40-STEAM, www.nnry.com.

605 Explore the Land of Midnight Stars, Tonopah—Named the "Best Place to See The Stars" in *USA Today*. Receive a free Tonopah Travel Guide, 775-482-9680.

Events

704 Nevada's Cowboy Country—Lovellock to Wendover, hotels, casinos, gaming, outdoor adventure, ranches, rodeos, Basque culture, gold mines. For additional information 877-626-9268, www.cowboycountry.org.

Weddings

801 Viva Las Vegas Weddings and Viva Las Vegas Villas—Chapel and villas offer traditional, themed, Elvis weddings, limo, flowers, photos. 800-574-4450, www.vivalasvegasweddings.com for additional wedding information.

804 The Nevada Wedding Association—A nonprofit organization

that markets the various wedding regions in Nevada. For more information on Nevada weddings and marriage services visit www.nevadaweddings.org or contact President Teri Sweeney at tsweeney@ridge-resorts.com.

Recreation

901 Lake Mead Cruises—Excursions on Lake Mead and near Hoover Dam, *Desert Princess* or *Desert Princess Too*, events, and weddings. 702-293-6180, www.lakemeadcruises.com.

902 Tonopah Historic Mining Foundation—Tonopah Historic Mining Park is on site of Belle and Jim Butler's 1900 claim. Self-guided tours. 775-482-9274, www.tonopahnevada.org.

905 Nevada Department of Transportation Bicycle Safety—Department has information on safety and statewide events and sells state bicycle jerseys. For additional information 775-888-RIDE, www.bicyclenevada.com.

911 Look Tours, Las Vegas—Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam by helicopter or airplane. Bus/van tours, horseback rides, riverboat combos. 800-LOOKTOURS, www.looktours.com.

913 Lake Tahoe Cruises and Zephyr Cove Resort/Aramark Parks and Resorts—Paddlewheelers *M.S. Dixie II* and *Tahoe Queen* cruise year-round, offering parties, weddings, groups. Zephyr Cove Resort has a beach, boat rentals, cabins, restaurant, RV Park. 800-23-TAHOE, www.laketahoe.com, www.zephyrcove.com. Mention offer NVM5 or *Nevada Magazine* when making reservations.

914 Awesome Adventure, The Ultimate Tour Company, Las Vegas—Custom adventure tours of all kinds—ATV, horseback riding, and mountain biking. Reservations 800-519-2243, www.adventureseekers.info. Mention NM32006 for discounts.

915 Forever Resorts Black Canyon Adventures, Lake Mead National Recreation Area—You can experience Nevada's incredible places by houseboat or river raft, 800-455-3490, BlackCanyonAdventure.com, ForeverHouseboats.com. Mention NVM06.

Restaurants

1001 Louis' Basque Corner—Authentic Basque food served family-style in downtown Reno, 301 E. Fourth St., since 1967. Open for dinner nightly and lunch Tues.-Sat. 775-323-7203.

Real Estate

1101 Liberty Realty Relocation Division—Relocate to Nevada with a team of specialists. For information on available homes, call 800-296-1802.

1103 RE/MAX Ridge Realty, Kileen Peterson, Mesquite—Independent sales associate, call or email for information about homes in Mesquite. 702-499-7997, kileen@sisna.com.

1106 Mountain Water Ranch by Nevada Land and Ranches, Esmeralda County—You can purchase 10 acres of natural beauty. 800-265-7143, www.NVLR.com.

Retail Shopping/Books

1203 Gamblers General Store, Las Vegas—Casino products, antique slots, books, chips, roulette wheels, and tables, which are sold in store and online. 800-322-2447, www.gamblersgeneralstore.com for further information.

1205 University of Nevada Press, Reno—For the University Press' large selection of books on Nevada subjects visit www.nybooks.nevada.edu or call 877-682-6657 to receive a University Press catalog.

Business Services

1404 Nevada Department of Transportation, Nevada Plan—Help Nevada plan, answer an important survey regarding Nevada's future transportation needs. 775-888-7902, www.nevadadot.com/pub-involvement for information.

Rural Nevada

EVENTS AND SHOWS

Events

Leave No Trace Trainer Course • May 5-6 • Weepah Spring Wilderness, 35 miles north of Alamo, 775-289-1800.

Fort Churchill State Historic Park Canoe Trips • May 6, 13, 20 • Ranger-led excursion along five miles of the Carson River from Fort Churchill State Historic Park to Lahontan State Recreation Area. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and lunch. Silver Springs, 775-577-2845.

X Ride • May 6-7 • Bicycle tour includes a 40-mile night ride to the Area 51 mailbox. Rachel, 775-588-9658.

Nevada Passage Wide Open • May 6-7 • Pre-event to the made-for-TV program, *Nevada Passage*. Open to all participants. Mountain-bike racing, kayaking, off-road scramble run, ATV jamboree with a pull, sand drags, rodeo skills. Winnemucca, 800-962-2638, www.nevadapassage.com.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration • May 7 • Ethnic dancers, music, food, vendors. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

"Home Sweet Nevada" • May 7 • Slide program. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Nevada Passage Bicycle Human-Powered Speed Challenge • May 8 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. S.R. 305, Battle Mountain, www.nevadapassage.com.

Nevada Passage Ranch Hand Rodeo • May 9 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. Events Center, Winnemucca, www.nevadapassage.com.

Nevada Passage Mountain Bike and Trail Scramble • May 11 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. Austin, www.nevadapassage.com.

Nevada Passage Autocross • May 12 • Made-for-TV adventure competition. Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch, Pahrump, www.nevadapassage.com.

Spring Wings Bird Festival • May 12-14 • Annual birding weekend includes tours, workshops, banquet, nature-oriented trade show. Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Fallon, 775-428-6452.

Over the Rhine • May 13 • Pop music concert. Oats Park Center, Fallon, 775-423-1140.



A pint-sized aviator peers from an open cockpit during the Eureka Fly-In, May 13-14. A week later, aviation buffs gather on May 20-21 for the Lyon County Fly-In in Silver Springs.

Moonlight Hike • May 13 • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Third Annual Eureka Fly-In • May 13-14 • Pancake breakfast, lunch, barbecue, and music. Airport, Eureka, 775-237-6100.

Bull Riding Invitational • May 13-14 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Elko ATV Jamboree • May 17-20 • Guided trail rides, rodeo, mud-bog races, sled-pull, obstacle course. Elko, 775-738-8421, ext. 535.

Nevada Open Road Challenge • May 18-21 • 90-mile auto rally on S.R. 318 between Lund and Hiko. Staging area, Ely, 702-631-6166.

Rachel Days • May 19-21 • Parade, crafts, exhibits. Rachel, 775-729-2514.

Perdiz Gold Country Blast • May 19-21 • Sport shooting. Perdiz Range, Eureka, 775-237-7027.

Armed Forces Day • May 20 • Chili cook-off, arm wrestling, karaoke, fireworks, flag ceremony, fly-over, Veterans Memorial Park dedication, parade, water fights, tricycle races, paintball tournament, military displays, contests, entertainment. Hawthorne, 775-945-0346.

Caliente 250 • May 20 • Truck and buggy off-road race starts and finishes in Caliente, 702-452-4522.

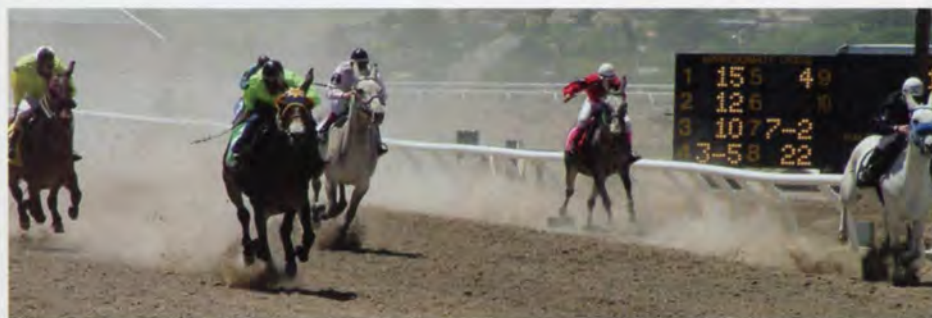
Rough Riders Gymkhana • May 20 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Wildflowers of Eastern Nevada • May 20 • Slide program. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Silver State Regional Chili Cook-Off • May 20 • Saddle West, Pahrump, 774-727-5800.

McGill Historical Drugstore Tours • May 20 • Fully stocked Rexall Drug Store from early 1970s. Open 10am-4pm. Tickets at White Pine Museum, Ely. Call 775-235-7082 for more information.

Lyon County Fly-In and Air Fest • May 20-21 • Antique and military planes, fly-bys, aviation swap meet, ICS chili cook-off, salute to women in aviation, pancake breakfasts. Airport, Silver Springs, 775-887-1294.



Winnemucca is mulish June 2-4 during the Mule Races, Show, and Draft Horse Challenge, where betting action is brisk and races competitive. The event includes a 25-mile endurance race.



Elko artist Andi Gaily exhibits paintings through July 5 at the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko. Gaily grinds rock for his artwork, which is made entirely of natural colored sand.

Lincoln County Art Show • May 26-28 • Annual juried show. Railroad Depot, Caliente, 775-728-4579.

Run-A-Mucca Motorcycle Rally • May 26-28 • Open to all participants, free concerts, bike show, games. Downtown, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Senior Pro Rodeo • May 26-29 • Open to contestants over age 40. Rodeo grounds, Wells, 775-752-3540.

Jim Butler Days • May 26-29 • Parade, dance, mining events, games, crafts, entertainment. Tonopah, 775-482-3859.

Lincoln County Homecoming Weekend • May 26-29 • Art show, entertainment, softball and horseshoe tournaments, Dutch-oven dinner, barbecue. Caliente, 775-726-3540.

Life Cycle of a Rock • May 27 • Slide program. Cathedral

Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Pahrump Open Schooling Equestrian Show • May 27 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Jarbridge Memorial Celebration • May 27-28 • Music, barbecue, bingo. Outdoor Inn and Community Hall, Jarbridge, 775-488-2311.

Casino West Yerington 200 • May 27-28 • VORRA off-road race. Yerington, 530-417-5333.

Pahrump Gunfighters Old West Reenactment • May 28 • Dusty Flats, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Sunday Morning Geology/Nature Walk • May 28 • Walk 8:30-10am. Refreshments 10am-3pm. Event celebrates visitor

center's 10th anniversary. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Make the Drive Show • May 28-29 • Porcelain and stoneware show and sale. Planet X Pottery, eight miles west of Gerlach, 775-557-2500.

Western States Cowboy Action Shooting Championship • June 1-4 • Reno-Fernley Raceway, Fernley, 775-575-3131.

Leave No Trace Trainer Course • June 2-3 • Mount Irish Wilderness, 10 miles southwest of Hiko, 775-289-1800.

Mule Races, Show, and Draft Horse Challenge • June 2-4 • Includes 25-mile endurance race, June 2. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.

GPS Workshop • June 3 • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Bull Riding Competition • June 3 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

National Trails Day in Lincoln County • June 3 • Four- and eight-mile hikes, ATV rides, 14-mile equestrian ride, barbecue. Condor Canyon and other locations, Caliente, 775-728-4460.

Portuguese Cultural Celebration • June 3-4 • Family dance, sopa feast, and auction. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-2763.

Bowhunter 3D Shoot • June 3-4 • Unmarked 3-D animal targets are placed throughout Lamoille Canyon, Elko, 775-753-4424.

Elko Mining Expo • June 8-9 • Elko, 800-248-3556.

Moonlight Hike • June 10 • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Homemade Music Productions • June 10 • Folk and bluegrass concert. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

Amargosa Valley Arts and Crafts Show • June 10 • Fourth

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www.co.eureka.nv.us/opera/opera01.htm

annual regional display and sale. Community Center, Amargosa Valley, 775-372-1218.

Richmond Fontaine • June 10 • Rock concert. Oats Park Center, Fallon, 775-423-1140.

Winnemucca Basque Festival • June 10-11 • Parade, games of strength, dance, Holy Mass, picnic. Events Complex and Convention Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

ICRA Team Roping • June 14-18 • Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.

Elko Motorcycle Jamboree • June 16-18 • Music, antique and classic motorcycle show, open-air market. Downtown, Elko, 775-753-5929.

Long Steel Rails Festival • June 16-18 • Railroad history commemorated in music, speeches, train rides, hobo camp. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Koyote Cruisers Car Show • June 17 • Open to all models. City Park, Winnemucca, 775-625-1963.

Rough Riders Gymkhana • June 17 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Flintknapping Demonstration • June 17 • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Nevada State Fiddlers Contest • June 17 • Winner to represent Nevada at nationals. High school, Wells, 775-752-3540.

Wilderness Restoration Workshop • June 17 • Mount Grafton Wilderness Study Area, 30 miles south of Ely, 775-289-1800.

Gridley Days • June 17-18 • Street dance, barrel racing, gymkhana, pancake breakfast, parade, Chautauqua presentations. Party celebrates Reuel Gridley's efforts to raise money for the Sanitary Commission, the forerunner of



Country star Ronnie Milsap shows his Grammy Award-winning style June 16-17 at Cactus Petes in Jackpot.

the American Red Cross, in 1864. Austin, 775-964-2200.

Father's Day Barbecue and Craft Show • June 18 • Paradise Valley Park, 35 miles northeast of Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Stargazing • June 24 • Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Lamoille Country Fair • June 25 • Lamoille Grove, Elko, 775-738-4091.

Pahrump Gunfighters Old West Reenactment • June 25 • Dusty Flats, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Great Humboldt Rubber Duck Race • July 1 • Food, music, cash prize. Elko, 775-738-3418.

National Basque Festival • July 1-3 • Elko, 800-248-3556.

Silver State Stampede • July 6-8 • Elko, 775-738-7780.

ONGOING EVENTS ARTS AND TOURS

Nevada Artists • Permanent exhibit includes Cliff Segerblom, Sharon Rhodes, Don Farmer, Mildred Byers. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

For the Love of a Woman • Thru June 7 • Color photo exhibit. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Andi Gaily Sand Paintings • Thru July 5 • Local artist. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Hidden Cave Tours • May 13, June 10, 24, July 8, 22 • Guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site includes self-guided tour of Grimes Point petroglyph site. Meet at Churchill County Museum, Fallon. To confirm tour dates, call the Bureau of Land Management, 775-885-6000.

Sunset at Steptoe Wine Trains • May 28, June 11, July 3, Aug. 13, Sept. 4 • Wine and hors d'oeuvres. Also, special Steptoe Valley Flyer passenger train rides pulled by steam locomotive, June 18, July 17, Aug. 20, Sept. 17. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

'Round Nevada Classic Car Tour • June 5-10 • Pre-1972 cars make stops as they tour the state. Touring vehicles can be seen June 5, National Automobile Museum, Reno. June 6, Tonopah, Goldfield, Beatty, Pahrump. June 7, Las Vegas. June 8, Caliente, Pioche, Ely. June 9, Eureka, Carlin, Winnemucca. June 10, Lovelock, Reno, for more information visit www.nevada-rides.com.

John Vaughn Exhibit • June 7-Aug. 29 • Clay sculptures. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

History in the Park Lecture Series • Songs of the Gold Rush, June 20. Utah War, June 27. Outlaws and Lawmen in Wells, July 11. Women on the California Trail, July 18. Railroad Relocation, July 25. Orrin Porter Rockwell, Aug. 1. Interrupted Journeys: Ghosts on the Trail, Aug. 15 • Bring blanket or chair. City Park, Elko, 775-738-3418.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Winnemucca Clay Track Racing • May 5, 19, June 2, 16, 30, July 14, 21, Aug. 11, 25 • Winnemucca Raceway, for information www.nevadaracing.com/winnemucca.

Battle Mountain Stock Car Racing • May 6, 20, June 3, 17, July 1-2, 15, 29-30, Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 9, 16-17 • Battle Mountain Raceway, 775-635-2784.

Top Gun Drag Racing • May 6, 27-28, June 9-10, 16, July 8, 27, Aug. 19, Sept. 1-3, 7-10, 23, Oct. 12-15, 21 • Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

Stock Car Racing • May 13, 27, June 9-10, 24, July 8, 22, Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 1-2, 22-23 • Summit Raceway, Elko, 775-753-5936.

Rattlesnake Raceway Schedule • Napa Mud Bogs Points Race, May 13. Figure Eight Points Race, May 27. Demo Derby, May 28. Figure Eight Points Race, June 10. Powder Puff Race, June 24. Fireworks show and Figure Eight Race, July 4. Bomber Challenge Pit Stop, July 22. Figure Eight Race, Aug. 5. Points Race, Aug. 19. Demo Derby Points Race, Sept. 2. Figure Eight Race, Sept. 16. Mud Bogs, Sept. 30. Nevada Dirt Track Championship, Oct. 14-15. Kris Kringle Race, Nov. 11. Rattlesnake Raceway, Fallon, 775-221-1676.

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www.rattlesnakeraceway@tripod.com for more information.
Sundays at Lahontan • June 3-June 24 • Music, paddle-boat rides, fishing derby. Lahontan State Recreation Area, Silver Springs, 775-577-2235.
Fallon Farmers Market • June 13-Sept. 12 • Tuesdays, Maine St., Fallon, 775-423-4802.

Shows

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 775-372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 775-553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands Wed.-Sat.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 800-648-2345, ext. 498: Frisco, May 2-24. Corky and Jan, May 16-21. Hildiees, June 20-25, June 27-July 2. Special Event: Cinco de Mayo Celebration, May 5.
High Desert Inn • 775-738-8425: Karaoke, Thurs.

Red Lion • 775-738-2111 or 800-545-0044: Entertainment.
Stockmen's Hotel • 800-648-2345, ext. 498: Rain, May 2-7. Rivertown, May 9-7. Octane, May 23-28. Audio Boxx, May 30-June 4. Chasin Mason, June 6-11. Midnight Riders, June 13-25. Octane, June 27-July 2. Special Events: Cinco de Mayo Celebration, May 5.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 775-945-3322: Bands Wed.-Sun.

JACKPOT

Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: Rich Little, May 5-6. Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, May 19-20. Ronnie Milsap, June 16-17. Heart, June 25. Kingston Trio, July 7-8. Montgomery Gentry, July 29. Billy Ray Cyrus, Aug. 11-12. Danny Marona: Farewell Tour, Aug. 18-19. Lynyrd Skynyrd, Aug. 20. David Allen Coe, Sept. 8-9. Don Williams: The Farewell Tour, Sept. 22-24. Roy Clark, Oct. 13-14. Bill Engvall, Oct. 27-28. Mac Davis, Nov. 3-4. Eddie Money, Nov. 17-18.

Horseshu Casino • 775-755-2321: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

LOVELOCK

Sturgeons • 775-273-2971 and 888-234-6835: Center Club Showroom: Bands and karaoke are featured on weekends.

PAHRUMP

Pahrump Nugget • 775-751-6500: Bands Thurs.-Sun.
Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 775-727-1111: Entertainment in the Club West Nightclub.

TONOPAH

Tonopah Station Ramada Inn • 775-482-9777: Bands play during special event weekends.

WENDOVER

Montego Bay • 775-664-9100: Bands play Tues.-Sun.
Peppermill • 775-664-2255 or 800-648-9660: Entertainers play Tues.-Sun. Special Events: Peppermill 21st Anniversary, June 9-11. Wendover Cruise Night Car Show, June 16-18.

Rainbow Casino • 775-664-4000: Bands play Tues.-Sun.

State Line Nugget • 775-664-2221: Karaoke weekends.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 775-623-2511: Karaoke Mon., comedy Thurs., bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Model T • 775-623-2588: Bands during special events, karaoke Wed.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 775-463-2481: Weekend music.

Dini's Lucky Club • 775-463-2868: Music during special events.



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Susan Anton

The names on the marquees came to life for this former **California girl**.

At five feet, 11 inches, singer Susan Anton stands out in her latest role as the snooty Velma Von Tussle in "Hairspray" at the Luxor. The former Miss California (1979) and her husband, Jeff Lester, became Las Vegas residents in 1995, when Anton was appearing in "The Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular," which played for seven years at the Flamingo Las Vegas. Anton received a Golden Globe nomination for the 1979 film Golden Girl. In 2000, The Last Real Cowboys, a film shot in Las Vegas, executive-produced by Anton, written and produced by Lester, and starring Academy Award winner Billy Bob Thornton, won Best Short Film at New York's Shorts International Film Festival.



The first time I saw Las Vegas was through the windows of a Greyhound bus. I was 13 years old and enjoying a summer adventure courtesy of my godmother, Eloise Hilliard. I was part of a group of 30 teens from California who were traveling for three months across America and parts of Canada.

Having been raised with my three brothers and one sister in the small towns of Yucaipa and Oak Glen, California, I was curious about places that I had only seen on TV or in magazines.

I had heard about the bright lights of the famous Strip, but nothing had prepared me for what I saw. Each hotel was more amazing than the one before—the Dunes, the Sands, the Flamingo, and the Thunderbird. There were millions of lights and names on marquees that I had only read about—Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Johnny Carson, and of course, the one and only Elvis! Little did I know that this place of absolute make believe would one day be my world, too.

Nine years later I returned to Las Vegas in my '68 Volkswagen Beetle and pulled into the Hacienda Hotel. I had been cast as a production singer in "Turn It On," a comedy-sketch show similar to the successful TV series *Laugh-In*. I remember the thrill of seeing my name on the marquee for the first time. The fact that the prime rib special had bigger billing did nothing to take away the excitement.

Since then, I have had the honor of working with some of the people whose



Susan Anton stars as Velma Von Tussle, and Katherine Leonard plays her daughter, Amber, in "Hairspray" at the Luxor.

names I saw on the billboards during that first trip. Among them are Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., George Burns, Shecky Greene, Alan King, Kenny Rogers, Paul Anka, and Tom Jones. I feel blessed to have been a part of that time.

Vegas is always changing—and only in Vegas can you do things that are impossible elsewhere. Such is the case with "Hairspray," the Tony Award-winning musical that is making a home at the Luxor. I am thrilled to be a part of this delicious production, playing the part of Velma Von Tussle. The audience members jump to their feet show after show, and the expression of joy on their faces is the fuel that makes my soul come alive. I have been an entertainer for more than 30 years, and I can honestly say that I have never experienced anything like this. "Hairspray" has magic, fantastic music, and great dancing,

and in the midst of it all there is a message of hope and love.

After my husband, Jeff, and I made Las Vegas our home, Jeff saw that the city was becoming a popular place for television, film, and special events, so in 1997 we opened our production company, Big Picture Studios, which has produced programs for the BBC, Sundance Channel, AMC, TBS, and Showtime.

We live in Summerlin, and it reminds me of my home in Yucaipa because of the friendly atmosphere. Whether I am shopping at Whole Foods and getting tips from Johnny in the meat department, or chatting with Sharon, who greets me with a smile when I sign in at Agassi Sports Center for my morning workouts, I always feel as if I am a part of something. Our Shadow Hills Church family gives us great joy, and the majesty and splendor of Red Rock Canyon never ceases to take my breath away. We also enjoy golf, boating on Lake Mead, and skiing at Mount Charleston.

I can still hear the words of my mother-in-law, Phyllis, when she came to visit us for the first time: "Isn't it amazing what air conditioning made possible." How true!

Show Notes

"Hairspray" plays nightly at the Luxor on the Las Vegas Strip (dark Wednesday). Tickets cost \$75.50 and \$96.50, which includes tax and service fee. Call 800-557-7428 or 702-262-4000 or visit www.luxor.com. ■

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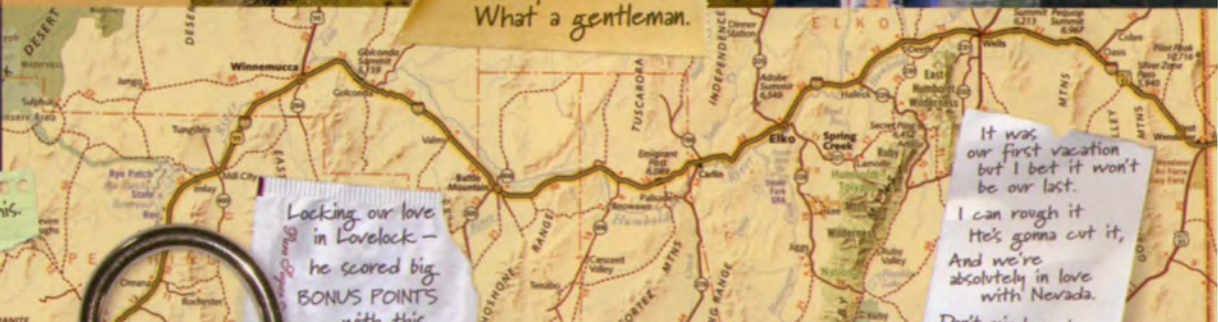
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