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# NEVADA

MAGAZINE

October 2006

**Great Nevada  
Picture Hunt**  
Photo Contest Winners

**Wild & Wacky**  
Las Vegas Shows

**Fall Photo  
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**On the Cover**  
Autumn leaves at the  
Capitol in Carson City.  
Photo by Jay Aldrich

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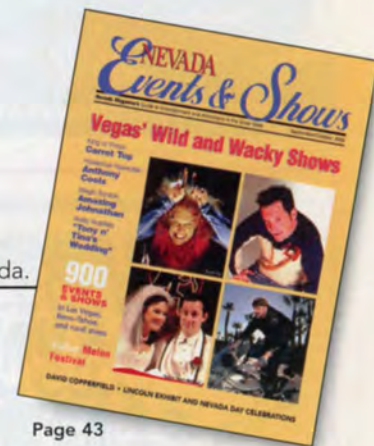


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## Publisher's Note/Dual Goodbyes

For the last 10 years, the person most instrumental in creating the look of *Nevada Magazine* has been Art Director Denise Barr. With a background in graphic arts and a keen eye for quality, Denise transformed *Nevada* into a contemporary, attractive publication. A few years ago, she redesigned the magazine, introducing a striking new logo, improving page layouts, and incorporating other elements that have helped to make *Nevada Magazine* more readable.

One of Denise's longtime passions, however, has been fashion design. Recently, she had the opportunity to pursue her dream of becoming a clothing designer. And so with this issue, we bid Denise a fond farewell and wish her the best of luck in her new career.

Writer Wallace Stegner once wrote that to understand the beauty of the West "you have to get over the color green." That's certainly true in Nevada, a place liberally painted in subtle shades of yellow and brown. And during the past quarter century that I've lived in the state I've grown to love Nevada's palette. I've

learned to appreciate beauty that isn't always obvious. When it comes to the Nevada landscape, sometimes what you can't see tells you as much as what you can.

So it is with mixed feelings that I have decided to leave *Nevada Magazine* for a position at Western Illinois University. It was not an easy decision. I have a strong attachment to Nevada. I met my wife in Carson City and both of my children were born in the state. During the last 14 years at the magazine, I've encountered many wonderful people and established friendships that I know will last the rest of my life.

But the time has come for me to try something new. I know that I'll miss many things about the state: the unspoiled open space,

the unique history and geology, the colorful people, and the stories that I never quite got around to writing.

And, most of all, I'll miss being a part of *Nevada Magazine*.

Thanks for everything.

**Richard Moreno**  
Publisher



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## Contributors



**Jack Bulavsky**, a 35-year Nevada resident, honed his gaming skills in the Reno area before moving to Las Vegas in 1988. "When I arrived in Nevada, casinos were all about table games and high rollers, and comps were based upon friendships, not points," he recalls. He and his wife Marilyn live in Henderson, where he enjoys cooking for her. Bulavsky still enjoys sports books, craps tables, roulette wheels, and poker rooms, and he marvels at the advanced technology of slot and video poker machines. Each issue he offers gaming insights in his column, "Jack's World."

Freelance writer **Robin Flinchum's** interest in history is usually focused on the women who worked in the mining camp red-light districts. While researching old Tonopah and Goldfield newspapers, Flinchum came across accounts of the 1906 Gans-Nelson prizefight, which she revisits in this issue's "Labor Day Redemption." "Joe Gans was a true underdog," she says. "That he was able to win the allegiance of an overtly racist population seemed like a story well worth telling." Flinchum lives in Tecopa, California, with her husband, David Fann.



Freelance photographer **Jeff Erickson**, and his wife, Mary Vandebosch, love to fish. "Nevada has become a favorite state of ours," the Minneapolis native says. "We've visited Nevada three years in a row—last year for more than a month." Last fall they found a foot of new snow in the Rubies (fortunately, it quickly melted), where the couple fished and Erickson photographed Lamoille Creek, producing an image that appears in this issue's "Gallery." The Ericksons live in Helena, Montana, and own an environmental consulting business.

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# Letters

A tale of two Curtises and celebrating 70 years.

## No Relation

Just curious, is the Roy Curtis mentioned in the July/August 2006 Roadside Attraction item on the exhibit of Curtis' photographs at the Nevada Historic Society any relation to Edward Curtis, who was a photographer of Indian tribes at the turn of the 20th century?

**Donna Andress**  
Nelson

*Donna, we contacted Lee Brumbaugh at the Nevada Historical Society. He put us in touch with Roy Curtis' grandson, John, who lives in Grosse Point, Michigan. He said the two were not related. Roy Curtis was a working class guy who came to Reno from Brooklyn in 1916 to get a divorce. Although his photos are appreciated now, at the time he was not successful. Edward Curtis was born to poor farmers in 1868 and grew up in Minnesota, near the Chippewa, Menomini, and Winnebago tribes. At 19, he moved with his family to a homestead on Puget Sound. He spent much of his life documenting*

*the life of the American Indian, taking more than 40,000 photos of 80 tribes.—Ed.*

## Ah, Memories

I read with interest the "Nevada Magazine Celebrates 70 Years" in the last issue, and I thought about the family story behind the photo of a water-skier in your 1956 issue.

In the 1950s My grandparents owned two cabins in Zephyr Cove at Lake Tahoe. They called them "Good Medicine," after a famous painting by Charles M. Russell, and "Spare Time."

My grandparents, West and Beth Moreau, took their two boys, Joe and Roger, to the lake each summer. My father, Roger, worked nights at Harrah's to save money for

college. Later, the family moved to the lake and lived in "Spare Time" until last year.

One day in the early 1950s, a Nevada Magazine photographer named Adrian Atwater approached my grandfather during a stroll on the shore of Zephyr Cove. Atwater asked him if he knew anyone with a boat, because he wanted to take a picture of a water-skier. My grandfather said he, in fact, had a boat, and his son could water-ski. On page three of Nevada Highway and Parks No. 1, 1956, is my father water-skiing behind a boat called "Spare Time." The cover features a photo, also taken by Atwater, that is the most beautiful photograph of Zephyr Cove I have ever seen.

**Marcus Moreau**  
La Mesa, CA



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# Autumn Leaves

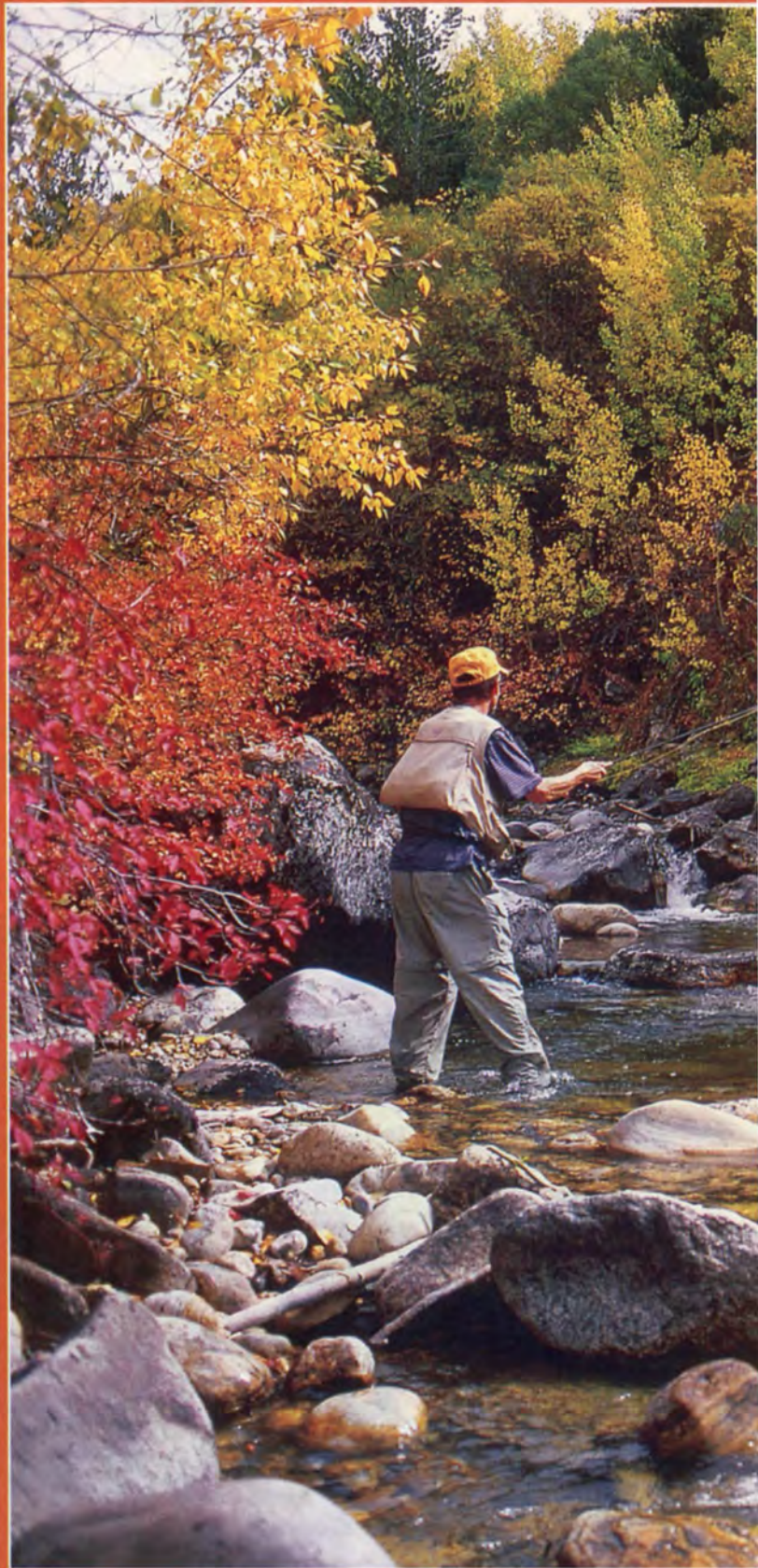
JAY ALDRICH

## Photographers explore Nevada's fall glory.

**F**all in Northern Nevada stirs the senses. The sun warms your face, and the air is cool and fragrant with pine and sage. In the Ruby Mountains near Nevada's eastern border and at Lake Tahoe on the state's western edge, the cottonwoods, chokecherries, and aspens turn flaming shades of red and gold. Here, three photographers train their lenses on fall's leafy glory.

### Jeff Erickson

Montana freelance photographer Jeff Erickson used a self-timer and a wide-angle lens to take this photo of Lamoille Creek on a late September afternoon during a camping-fishing vacation (right). The fly angler, casting upstream for a rainbow or brookie, is Jeff himself. The scene with the tumbling stream painted with peak fall colors was complete in most respects. "The main challenge was finding a secure place to set up the tripod," Erickson explains. Many of Erickson's shots are of running water. "Trout almost always live in beautiful places," he says. The lush, glacier-carved Lamoille Canyon near Elko lures nature lovers and anglers.





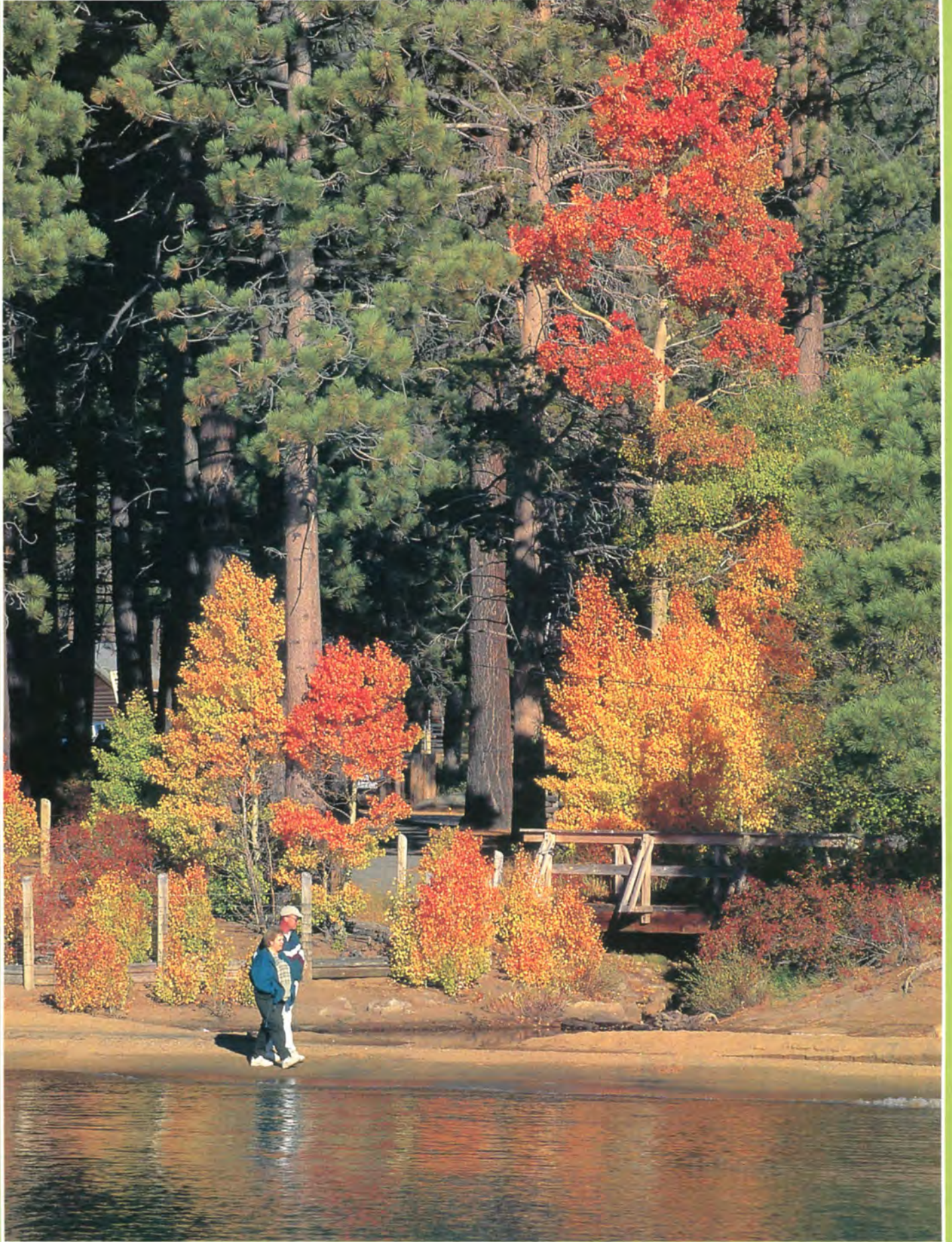
## Margaret Fava

Margaret Fava, a Sacramento photographer, makes frequent trips to Nevada. "I enjoy exploring the Nevada countryside," Fava says. It was a warm, hazy day when she saw this couple with their dog walking along a country road near Carson City (below). "I like this scene because it shows no part of city life," Fava says. The photograph heightens the contrast of golden cottonwoods and wild grass against the surrounding green foliage. For this shot she used a hand-held 35mm Minolta with a zoom lens set at telephoto.

## Carolyn Fox

On the way to her home in Jackson, California, after a photography trip through Nevada, Carolyn Fox stopped by Lake Tahoe's Zephyr Cove. "I was hoping for some fall color," Fox says. She was standing on the pier when a couple walked by, and she took several exposures to catch them striding in unison (opposite page). A longtime Silver State nature and events photographer, Fox frequently contributes to *Nevada Magazine*. "I like to capture what I see for others to enjoy at their convenience," Fox says.—*Wilma LaRocca*





# OUT & about

Las Vegas souvenirs, outlaws, and two eateries.



A pianist plays at Dreamer's Coffeeshouse during the Truckee River Wine Walk held in Reno.

## Take a Truckee River Walk

Sitting near the Virginia Street Bridge in downtown Reno, Dreamer's Coffeeshouse is the gateway to the **Truckee Riverwalk**, a scenic, tree-lined walkway following the river. The coffee joint displays edgy artwork and offers comfy couches.

Next door, EJ's Jazz Cafe pulses with live jazz several nights a week, while friendly waiters serve down-home southern eats. You can cross the river at Sierra Street where a waterfall has been built into the rocky riverbank. Shoppers can check out Parasols for lovely dresses, stylish purses, or

a piece of vibrantly-colored, blown-glass jewelry. A few steps from Parasols, the First Street Plaza opens to the river and is a great place for people-watching while enjoying a blended nonfat mocha from Java Jungle.

The Riverwalk Merchant Association sponsors the Truckee River Wine Walk from 2 to 5 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month. Visit [www.renorrivier.org](http://www.renorrivier.org) for details about area events.—*Katie Palani*

## Tickets to Ride

Virginia City visitors can pay one fee for admissions to Comstock attractions and historic places through three **Silver Line Express** value packs. Tickets cost \$10, \$21, and \$36. All tickets offer narrated rides on the V&T and the Virginia City Trolley, plus various merchant discounts and museum admissions through October. For ticket information call the Virginia City Convention and Tourism Authority, 800-718-SLVR or 775-847-4FUN, or visit [www.virginiacity-nv.org](http://www.virginiacity-nv.org).



## Cow Palaces

Each fall the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko hosts a **historic barn tour** in an outlying ranching community where participants can experience Elko County's own version of the American rural icon, the barn. This year on October 7 the tour will visit Lamoille's agricultural structures.

Elko County is dotted with historic barns in a variety of shapes and materials that rival those of any community. The design of these structures is the result of necessity: the barren high desert gave early pioneers little to build with, so ranchers used what they could find—rock, railroad ties, or aspen logs. Wealthy



This historic barn in Lamoille will be on the Northeastern Nevada Museum tour.

builders had materials such as brick and heavy timber shipped in.

Some of the barns on the tour still house livestock, and some are home only to wild animals that have sought shelter from the desert winds. Once inside, tour-goers will be able to study each barn's underlying structure and unique features. Following the tour, the Lamoille 4-H Club will serve lunch. Call 775-738-3418 for more information.—*Catherine Wines*

## Chamber's New Home

The offices of the Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Authority are now open in the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, 1477 U.S. 395, Suite A, Gardnerville.

Call 775-782-8144 or visit [www.carsonvalleynv.org](http://www.carsonvalleynv.org) for more information about Carson Valley's attractions, recreation, dining, lodging, and events calendar.

## Artists Take to the Streets

On the first Friday of every month, streets are closed to automobile traffic, and more than 70 galleries, studios, shops, and restaurants in the downtown Las Vegas Arts District invite the public to experience the creative processes of Las Vegas artists.

Visitors to the Charleston Boulevard and Main Street area can tour the galleries and studios or stroll outside where artists have set up booths behind the Arts Factory and along Casino Center and Colorado Avenue. There, oil and watercolor paintings are displayed, and artists

work with their metal, clay, and wax for future sculptures—and even draw portraits. The art for sale includes glass work, paintings, and photographs. Prices range from less than \$100 up to seven figures.

Free buses transport visitors from the free parking garage located at the Clark County Government Center to the Arts Factory, Holsum Lofts, galleries, and restaurants on Main Street, Antique Row, and the Commerce Street Studios near Wyoming Avenue.

Call 702-384-0092 or log onto [www.firstfriday-lasvegas.org](http://www.firstfriday-lasvegas.org) for more event information.—Patrick M. Kennedy



## Hitting a Bonanza

Although **Bonanza Gifts** in Las Vegas calls itself “The World’s Largest Gift Store,” nobody knows for sure. “I’ve heard there’s a bigger one in Texas,” says supervisor Charlotte Summerfield, “but I don’t know if that’s true.”

Whatever the case, the store is a bonanza for anyone looking for Las Vegas souvenirs. Summerfield calls the Bonanza “40,000 square feet of fun. I

used to wear a pedometer. Walked five miles on busy days and about three miles on the ordinary ones.”

Just perusing the Elvis merchandise takes stamina. Elvis guitar clocks decorated with color photos sell for \$29.99. Fleets of miniature pink Cadillacs, sunglasses and sideburns, multiple Elvis wigs, license plates, and copies of *The Presley Family Cookbook* are only the tip of the Elvis iceberg.

In this store, variety is exceeded only by quantity. Clocks with dice marking the hours cover much of one wall. There are pillows shaped like dice and poker chips, doormats that light up, and snow globes with miniature New York-New Yorks, Stratosphere Towers, and MGM lions inside.

If you dream of having a classic Las Vegas dealer’s visor, a sequined sombrero, or your own picture of the Rat Pack, the Bonanza won’t disappoint. Even if you have nothing in mind, you’ll likely find a memorable souvenir. Just be sure to wear your pedometer.—Connie Emerson



PHOTO: Gregory A. Kompes (top), Chris Leedham (bottom)

### Viator Buys Look Tours

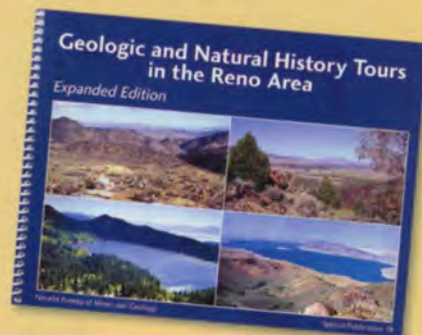
Las Vegas-based Look Tours has been purchased by Viator, which helps travelers book activities before they arrive at their destination. Viator works directly with customers and through online travel agencies such as Priceline and Lonely Planet. The merger provides Viator with Look Tours’ call center infrastructure and Las Vegas experience.

### Reno Haunted House

The National Automobile Museum in Reno will host a family Halloween event with candy, a pumpkin patch, games, and a haunted house. Admission is \$1. Call 775-333-9300 for more information or visit [www.automuseum.org](http://www.automuseum.org).

### NCOT Guides Online

The Nevada Commission on Tourism is presenting its guides online. Visitors who want to research Nevada when planning a trip can click on [www.travelnevada.com/library.asp](http://www.travelnevada.com/library.asp). The guides look just like the paper brochures, but you flip through these with a click on the corner of a page. Visitors can get information on Highway 50 and other roads, outdoor activities, big-city attractions and entertainment, and golf.



### Nevada Rock Hunting

The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology recently released an expanded edition of *Geologic and Natural History Tours in the Reno Area*. The book is packed with photos, directions, and maps for touring historical and geologic sites. Most of the sites can be seen easily from the road, and the book notes key places to get out and stretch your legs. Visit [www.nbmng.unr.edu](http://www.nbmng.unr.edu) for additional information.—Elizabeth Hogue

Since it opened seven years ago, **Rosie's Place** has been a favorite of Wellington locals thanks to the friendly manner and authentic Mexican cooking of its owners, Juan and Rosie Verlugo.

The townspeople aren't the only ones who appreciate Rosie's cooking—customers also include motorists traveling through Smith Valley, eighteen miles south of Yerington.

During a recent lunchtime rush, neighbors and strangers gladly squeezed together in the cozy one-room eatery to ensure that everyone could be served. Juan says that the sudden crowd of customers is nothing new. "It happens all the time," he laughs. "Her cooking just drives them crazy."

While Juan greets and serves customers, Rosie works in the kitchen, preparing the meals from scratch. "I had



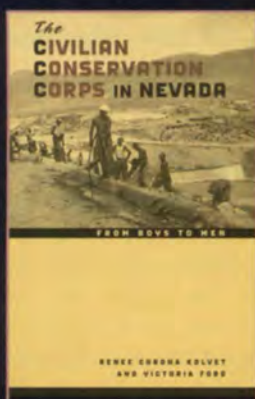
Katrina Matheus of Reno enjoys the chicken enchiladas at Rosie's Place.

to name the place after her so she'd come work with me," Juan jokes.

Some of Rosie's most popular dishes are chimichangas, spicy chile verde, and pork carnitas. Diners also recommend the pork tamales and chicken enchiladas. Most items include beans, rice, chips, and fresh salsa.

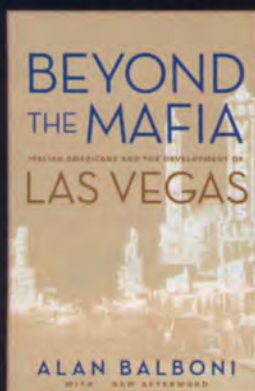
Rosie's Place, 2881 State Route 208, Wellington, 775-465-0041. Open for breakfast (\$5), lunch (\$7), and dinner (\$9) daily. Dinner is not served Wednesday. Rosie's also offers drinks and snacks in its corner market.—*Elizabeth Hogue*

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The State of the West  
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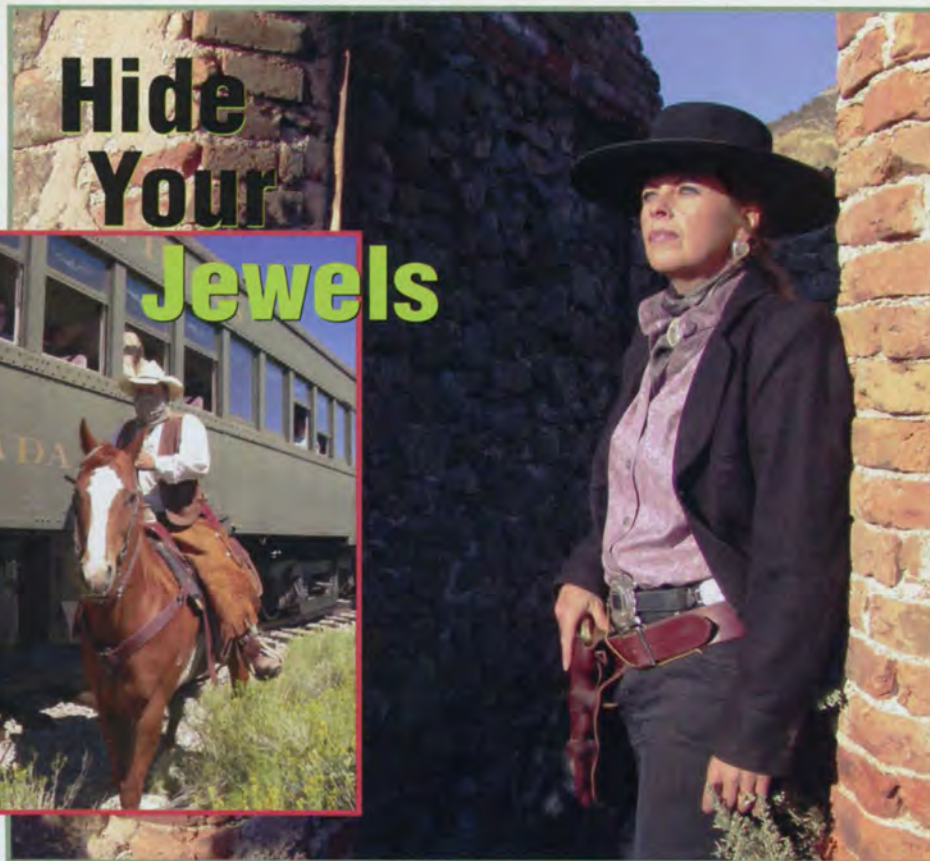
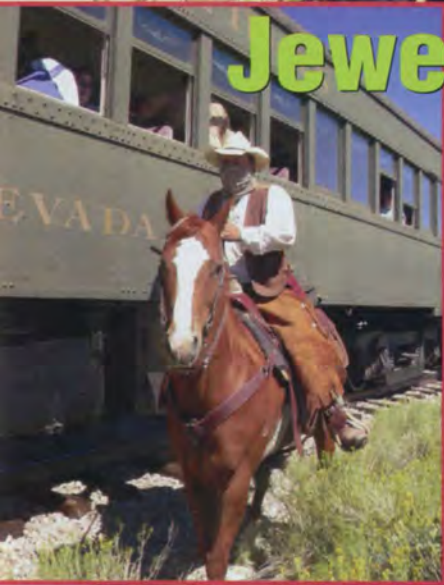
## Exhibits

After checking out the glitzy side of **Glitter City**, visitors can learn more about ordinary folks in the **"24 Hour Show: Working 'Round the Clock in Las Vegas"** at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society. In the exhibit, Las Vegas residents talk about making their homes in the 24-hour city.

"Out of towners just love to learn how much work it takes to run a casino," says museum director Greta Brunschwyler. "People are surprised to learn you can buy tiger food in Las Vegas, and that there are a lot of specialized wig shops, things you wouldn't necessarily think would make up Las Vegas."

The museum is located at 700 Twin Lakes Drive in Las Vegas and is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and free for members and children. Call 702-486-5202.

# Hide Your Jewels



The Ghost Riders are reenactors who “rob” the tourist trains that operate on the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely (left). To see the outlaws, including Tequila Kate, portrayed by Patti Heinebaugh (right), book a berth on any of these train rides: The Wine Train (\$44) on Sept.

9; the Oktoberfest Trains (\$59) on Sept. 16, 23, and 30 (children not encouraged for these two rides); the Centennial Special Sept. 29-Oct. 1; and the Ghost Train on Oct. 7, 14, 21, and 28. Regular ticket prices are \$23 adult, \$15 children four to 12. Call 866-407-8326 for reservations.

## Las Vegas Wash Lives

Not far from the Strip, the Clark County Wetlands Park shows visitors a living desert-wetlands environment. Park goers can walk through a grove of willows to the bird-viewing blind at Upper Pond where they can see a great egret feasting on a frog, an osprey diving for fish, or a silky flycatcher dining on mistletoe.

The previously dry Las Vegas Wash that runs the seven-mile length of the park is now a rushing river thanks to recycled water. Christie Leavitt, the park’s curator of education, calls the river a “modern artifact of urbanization,” noting how the waste water has been put to good use. This year Clark County is adding 80 acres to the park as well as more restrooms, which will be handicapped accessible.

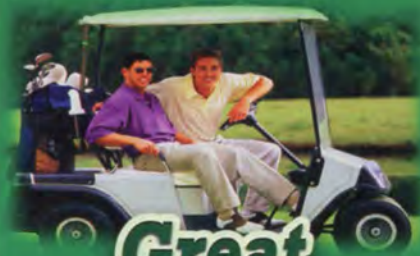
The park has a stroller- and wheelchair-friendly 1.7-mile paved path and numerous gravel paths—no swimming, wading,



Mallards lounge on rocks at Las Vegas Wash.

or fishing allowed. The Clark County Wetlands Park is located 1.7 miles east of Boulder Highway on Tropicana Avenue. For more information call 702-455-7522.—Stacey Seitzinger

Carson City, Nevada



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# Twisted Farm Food

Chef Vidal reinvents  
homestyle cuisine at  
Hash House A Go Go.

By William Fowler

Las Vegas chef Anthony Vidal is a self-described “kid from south Bronx,” but the entrées he prepares at Hash House A Go Go are inspired by Midwestern comfort food and life on the farm.

Take one of Vidal’s favorite entrées, the crispy style, hand-hammered pork tenderloin. It’s a 14-ounce cut served with griddled smoked mozzarella, fresh spinach, portabella mushroom, and charred tomato.

How did this fusion of influences come about? Vidal was courted last year by Andy Beardslee, the chef and founder of the Hash House A Go Go in San Diego. Beardslee, who grew up on an Indiana farm, wanted Vidal to help bring what he calls “twisted farm food” to a second Hash House A Go Go, which opened in fall 2005 in Las Vegas. At the time, Vidal was working alongside the James Beard Award-nominated chef Carlos Guia at Commander’s Palace on the Las Vegas Strip.

“Hash House A Go Go sat me down in their San Diego restaurant as a guest,” Vidal says. “I fell in love with the food and immediately wanted to bring it to Las Vegas. It’s comfort food with an urban edge. Not quite like mom used to make.”

Hash House A Go Go reinterprets Midwest farmbelt dishes by adding regional flavors such as Southwestern spices or pan-Asian style sauces. When you order the sage-fried chicken, served with fried leeks and hard-

“There are three things you won’t find in my kitchen  
**Frozen foods, a microwave, or a single heat lamp.”**

wood bacon, it arrives on a bed of Belgian waffles. The butternut squash is stuffed with risotto and crowned with cornmeal-crusted rock shrimp. Most entrées are elaborately presented with sprays of fresh herbs on oversized platters and drizzled with homemade sauces. Dinner prices range from \$10.95 for hot sandwiches to \$24.95 for the 14-ounce New York steak.

As the chef responsible for this folksy bill of fare, Vidal points out,

“There are three things you won’t find in my kitchen. Frozen foods, a microwave, or a single heat lamp. Each entrée goes from preparation to your table.”

The restaurant also has a full bar with specialty cocktails and coffee drinks served in an industrial-chic atmosphere. The dining area is appointed with diamond-plate chrome flashings and over-size bridge bolts, a nod to the Midwestern work ethic that inspires a big appetite.

Martha Stewart arrived at Hash House A Go Go in February with cameras rolling and a hungry entourage—“ready,” as she put it, “to descend upon these beautiful platters of food.”

Vidal is most proud of what happened after the show’s taping. “The crew just



Chef Anthony Vidal serves a blackberry granola flapjack at Hash House A Go Go.

# Nevada Magazine Celebrates 70 Years

Photographer Linda Dufurrena looks back at her Nevada subjects.

By Merrie Leininger

kept eating and eating," says Vidal, laughing. "Martha wouldn't let us take anything off the table."

With the appearance of Hash House A Go Go on the Martha Stewart Show, as well as the Travel Channel and Dr. Phil, customers are now regularly traveling to the restaurant from the Las Vegas Strip.

Hash House A Go Go also offers a full breakfast menu, a rarity for full-service, off-Strip restaurants. The blackberry granola flapjack (fruit in season) is popular, as is the Boston hash with blue crab cake, crispy potatoes, and fresh tomatoes. Just for fun, the breakfast menu includes something called the O'Hare of the Dog: A 24-ounce Budweiser served in a paper bag with five strips of smoked hardwood bacon.

"That," says Vidal, "is definitely not like mom used to make."

Hash House A Go Go is open daily at 6800 West Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas. For more information call 702-804-4646 or visit [www.hashhouseagogo.com](http://www.hashhouseagogo.com).

*William Fowler is a writer living in Las Vegas.*

## Hash House at Breakfast

Chef Anthony Vidal offers his recipe for blackberry granola flapjacks. He serves the breakfast creation as a single, oversized pancake.

Ingredients:

4-3/4 cups flour

3 eggs

2 cups buttermilk

2 cups milk

1/2 cup melted unsalted butter

1/4 cup sugar

1-1/2 tablespoons baking powder

2 tablespoons baking soda

2 tablespoons salt

2 teaspoons vanilla

Fresh blackberries and granola

Mix all dry ingredients together in bowl. In separate bowl beat eggs, then mix in remaining wet ingredients. Pour liquid ingredients into dry ingredients, stirring together until only slightly lumpy. Ladle onto hot sizzling griddle, cook for 20 seconds, and top with a generous portion of blackberries and granola. When bubbles form on top, give the pancake a flip and finish cooking. For a slightly lighter flapjack, prepare the same way except separate the egg whites, beat them to a soft peak stage, then gently fold into the batter. ▀

Thirty years ago, Linda Dufurrena was contacted by *Nevada Magazine* editor C.J. Hadley, who had published Dufurrena's photo of sheep on her family's ranch along with other winners of the Northeastern Nevada Museum's photography contest. Dufurrena, at 40, had just started her photography career by taking photos of her kids competing in high school rodeos. She went on to be the official high school rodeo photographer for the next seven years.

It was the first time she had been published by a magazine. Hadley asked her to take more photos for *Nevada*. "That was great," Dufurrena says. "C.J. guided me a lot on how to submit photos and edit photos for magazines. I hadn't even thought about it before she called. It was all C.J."

Through the late 1980s, '90s, and into the 21st century, *Nevada Magazine* former editor Dave Moore and current editor Joyce Hollister have relied on Dufurrena for quiet desert landscapes and portraits of weather-beaten ranchers. The photographer is now 69 and continues to work out of her studio on the ranch in Denio, located 75 miles northwest of Winnemucca, where her family raises sheep, cattle, horses, and alfalfa.

Dufurrena's reputation as a photographer has grown, but she says her

photos haven't changed. "I'm still taking pictures the same as always: family, friends, ranch workers. I can find everything I want close at home," she says. Dufurrena helped establish "Shooting the West," a photo seminar held every March in Winnemucca.

One of her favorite *Nevada Magazine* images is "In God's Light," which the magazine also sold as a poster. The photo shows sheep in a corral with sunlight filtering through the trees. The image is often hung in hospitals because people find it comforting, Dufurrena notes.

Dufurrena says she regrets the loss of some of her favorite subjects—Basque shepherders and Native American elders, who have passed on. One of her favorite photos, a portrait of Fort McDermitt Paiute tribal elder Eileen Smart, was on the December 1992 cover.

"I was doing an oral history project for the Humboldt library, and I was talking to the Indian elders and asked them if I could take their pictures," Dufurrena says. "They were so gracious to me. I think there were 24 elders, and they were just so nice." ▀

*Merrie Leininger, assistant editor of the Reno Gazette-Journal's weekly entertainment section, is a great admirer of Western photographers.*

Linda Dufurrena's photos of Fort McDermitt tribal elders appeared in the Nov/Dec 1992 issue.



# Picture Perfect

*Nevada Magazine's*  
**Great Nevada Picture Hunt**  
**photo contest winners**  
seek out Nevada scenes.

**“W**hen you live far from town, you have to make do with what’s on hand,” says Gary A. Reese, whose photo of the red, white, and blue window curtain, “Faded Glory, Cherry Creek,” took first place in the 2006 Great Nevada Picture Hunt.

The Las Vegas photographer’s winning image shows an American flag hanging in the window of an abandoned house in Cherry Creek, an isolated hamlet off U.S. 93 between Ely and Wells. “Need a curtain? Well, here’s a flag we can use,” he imagines the former residents saying.

Reese also won third place for “Ghostly Sofa, Minerva,” his photo of an abandoned sofa in Spring Valley. His wife, Susanne Reese, earned fourth place for “Time Travel, Goldfield Buried Treasure,” an image of an art car and bogus stop sign in the desert near Goldfield.

The couple travel frequently in Nevada’s rural areas. Gary Reese teaches photography at Community College of Southern Nevada, and he scouts the state for topics for his Photographing the Heritage of the West course.

Second place in *Nevada Magazine’s* 29th annual photo contest went to Larry Angier for his photo, “Twin Chairs, Winnemucca Hotel.” Angier, a Jackson, California, photographer who makes frequent trips to the Silver State’s rural communities, took the photo at last



**First:** “Faded Glory, Cherry Creek” by Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas



**Second:** "Twin Chairs, Winnemucca Hotel" by Larry Angier, Jackson, CA



**Third:** "Ghostly Sofa, Minerva" by Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas



**Fourth:** "Time Travel, Goldfield Buried Treasure" by Susanne Reese, Las Vegas

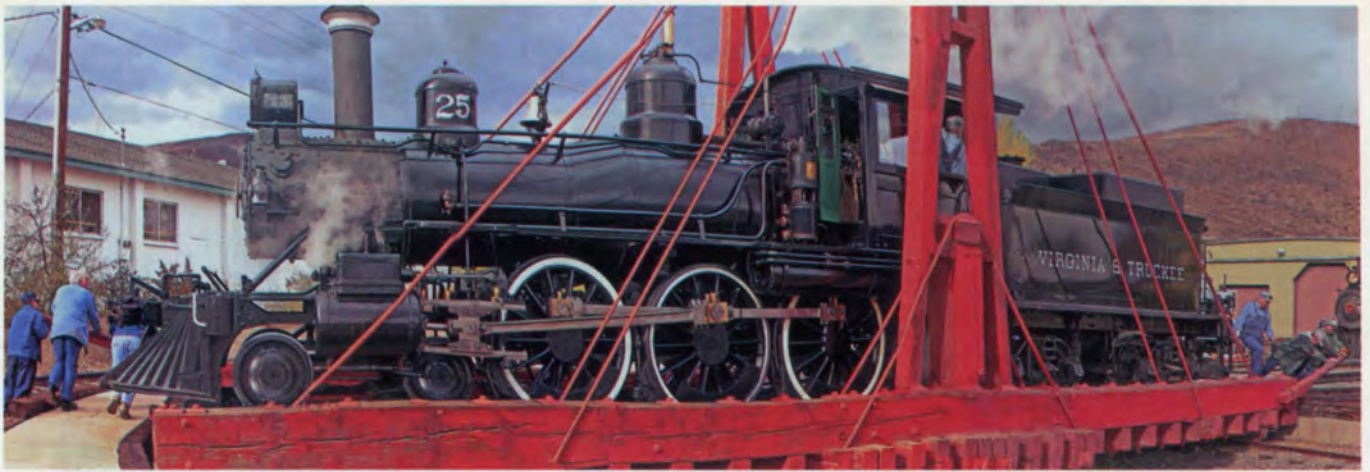
spring's Shooting the West photography seminar in Winnemucca.

Angier relates that, as he set up his photo, hotel owner Mike Olano asked, "Why do you want to shoot those old chairs?" Angier laughs. "I told him, 'Those old chairs have a beauty of their own.'"

The judges for this year's photo contest were Candice Towell, a photographer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*, Chris Talbot, a globe-trotting photographer from Incline Village, and Denise Barr, longtime *Nevada* art director who recently left the magazine for a job in fashion design. Barr notes with a touch of sadness, "My last Great Nevada Picture Hunt was one of the best."—*Joyce Hollister*  
See these and more GNPH contest winners on our Web site, [www.nevadamagazine.com](http://www.nevadamagazine.com).



**Best Wildlife:** "Bald Eagle on No. 9" by John Dykes, Dayton



**Best Digitally Enhanced:** "Virginia & Truckee Baldwin 4-6-0 being turned on the Armstrong Turntable" by Roy Christian, Aptos, CA



**Fifth:** "Store Front, Hwy. 50, Austin" by Barry Glazier, Kanab, UT



**Best People:** "Speed Biker from Mars" by Richard Menzies, Salt Lake City

# 2006

Great Nevada Picture Hunt  
WINNERS

**First Place:** Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas, "Faded Glory, Cherry Creek"

**Second Place:** Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "Twin Chairs, Winnemucca Hotel"

**Third Place:** Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas, "Ghostly Sofa, Minerva"

**Fourth Place:** Susanne Reese, Las Vegas, "Time Travel, Goldfield Buried Treasure"

**Fifth Place:** Barry Glazier, Kanab, UT, "Store Front, Hwy. 50, Austin"

**Best Action:** Alex Compton, Pahrump, "Bull's Eye!"

**Best Black and White:** Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas, "Crook Street"

**Best Ghost Town:** Alex Compton, Pahrump, "Homesteader Shackin' Up"

**Best Detail:** Carolyn Fox, Jackson, CA,



**Best Action:** "Bull's Eye!" by Alex Compton, Pahrump

"Chris Brophy, Fireman, Poses with Oil Can in Front of the Ghost Train"

**Best Digitally Enhanced:** Roy Christian, Aptos, CA, "Virginia & Truckee Baldwin 4-6-0 being turned on the Armstrong Turntable"

**Best Environmental Portrait:** Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "The Ghost Train with Chris Brophy and Don Hepler"

**Best Event:** Lainie McFarlin, Incline Village, "It's a Happy Day"

**Best Humor:** Carolyn Fox, Jackson, CA, "Move-In Special"

**Best People:** Richard Menzies, Salt Lake City, "Speed Biker from Mars"

**Best Photo Illustration:** Lainie McFarlin, Incline Village, "Steaming Up"

**Best Rural:** Olga L. Perez, Las Vegas, "A Town Frozen in Time"

**Best Urban:** Sheree Norman, Las Vegas, "French Express"

**Best Wildlife:** John Dykes, Dayton, "Bald Eagle on No. 9"



**Honorable Mention:** "Paris" by Heather Protz, North Las Vegas



**Best Urban:** "French Express" by Sheree Norman, Las Vegas

## Honorable Mention

Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "Susan and Norman Sharp, With Their Dogs" and "At the Little A'Le'Inn"

Edward S. Carroll, Las Vegas, "Globe Mallow Blossoms" and "Waiting For Dinner to Drop In"

Roy Christian, Aptos, CA, "Genoa Saloon"

Carolyn Fox, Jackson, CA, "'99' Cat Sees His First Cow"

Jean Kelley, Elephant Butte, NM, "Pahranagat"

Craig Malburg, Los Angeles, "Mark Twain Impersonator McAvoy Layne Visits Virginia City"

Richard Menzies, Salt Lake City, "Red Recliner"

Heather Protz, North Las Vegas, "Paris"

Gary A. Reese, Las Vegas, "Fogbank, Newark Valley"

Robert Rollins, Reno, "The Troughs, Peterson Mountain Range"

Mike Sevon, Fallon, "Dowitchers on Alert"

Pete Slingland, Reno, "Glass Blower, Burning Man" ▀



**Best Detail:** "Chris Brophy, Fireman, Poses with Oil Can in Front of the Ghost Train" by Carolyn Fox, Jackson, CA

# Labor Day

## REDEMPTION

By Robin Flinchum

One hundred years ago, **Joe Gans** won a 42-round title fight and the **heart of a mining camp.**

**O**n the afternoon of September 3, 1906, at the edge of a boxing ring so new it still smelled of sawdust, lightweight champion of the world Joe Gans waited underneath an umbrella, shielding himself from the harsh Nevada sun. In the opposite corner stood Oscar Battling Nelson, a bruising boxer known as the Durable Dane.

At the first bell, with 8,000 fight fans looking on, Gans stepped out of the shadows and into boxing history. Already the first American-born black man to hold a championship boxing title, Gans sealed his future as a mas-

ter of the pugilistic art by enduring 42 rounds in the Goldfield arena, the last 26 with a broken hand, and winning the longest match ever fought under Marquis of Queensbury rules. His victory put Nevada firmly on the pugilistic map.

Gans won the famous Labor Day match on a low blow by Nelson. The Danish-born scrapper led with heavy-hitting fists while Gans danced gracefully around him, dodging and jabbing. But those in attendance understood that Gans' win on a foul was a bit of justice better suited to the match's history than even a knockout might have been.

To meet Nelson's terms for the fight, Gans had already pushed himself to the edge of endurance by dropping more than his usual weight. He trained at high altitude and in the harsh heat of the Central Nevada desert. Ultimately he walked away with a meager third of the unusually fat \$30,000 purse (plus a roughly 10-percent bonus similarly divided).

But as a black boxer with a slightly shaky reputation, 32-year-old Gans had come to Nevada looking for redemption and, in an unabashedly racist mining camp, with a white opponent calling all the shots, he somehow managed to find it.





Joe Gans earned the reputation as a gentleman among the miners in Goldfield.

"Among the miners Gans appears to be a decided favorite," wrote referee George Siler, who had come from Chicago to oversee the fight, in the *Chicago Daily Tribune*. "The men who wield the pick think Gans has been imposed upon by Nelson's manager, and they want to see him win."

"Gans is the favorite," reported the *Goldfield News*, "and the camp finds itself in the unique position of wishing to see a Negro defeat a white man."

Although the fight promoters in Goldfield, led by saloon man Tex Rickard, liked to boast that the Gans-Nelson contest was arranged in less than 12 days, with the largest purse ever offered for such a fight, in truth it had taken over a year and a half to bring together all the elements.

Joe Gans first set his sights on Nevada in February 1905, writing to a promoter in Tonopah about the potential for a profitable match there. In those days Nevada was testing the boxing waters. In 1897 the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight in Carson City had drawn large crowds, but the Central Nevada mining camps were relatively new to the sport.

Gans may have been the lightweight champ, but he had a pair of tigers latched onto his championship tail—his race, which made it harder for him to secure an opponent when many fighters de-

clined to box a black man, and the rumor that he had thrown a couple of fights in his impoverished youth.

Gans, who grew up in Baltimore, was shucking oysters for a living when as a teenager he discovered his talent for boxing. According to biographer Nat Fleischer, Gans' combination of natural grace and intense study eventually earned him the lightweight title and the nickname "The Old Master."

But the whispers of his thrown fights followed him even into the wilds of Nevada, and the mining camp public ini-

**"The men who wield the pick think Gans has been imposed upon by Nelson's manager, and they want to see him win."**

tially had little regard for Gans the man. Before arriving in Nevada, Gans was depicted by a *Tonopah Daily Sun* cartoonist as a large-lipped, long-limbed fool who could barely speak coherent English and was given little credit for his part in arranging the match as his own manager.

But a decided change took place once Joe Gans stepped down off the train in Goldfield. Illustrations of him in the *Tonopah Daily Sun* changed dramatically from boy buffoon to a handsome, cultured man.

A reporter from the *Tonopah Daily Sun*, awaiting him upon his arrival, wrote, "Gans is a little wiser than a lot of people give him credit for being, and while he took in the big money talk that was dealt out to him, he added to it the regulation grain of salt. Said Gans: 'If I believed all

that those fellows handed out to me, I would demand a \$130,000 purse instead of \$30,000 as promised. Still I would be satisfied to fight for my training expenses just to take Nelson's measure.'"

During preliminary negotiations, the more Gans conceded, in his quiet way, to the blustering demands of 28-year-old Battling Nelson, the more public sentiment swung in Gans' favor. While Nelson was petulant and obstinate, Gans was gracious and accommodating. And the more it became clear that, while deporting himself as a soft-spoken gentleman, Gans nev-

ertheless had an affinity for craps tables, saloons, and mining stocks, the more Goldfield warmed to him.

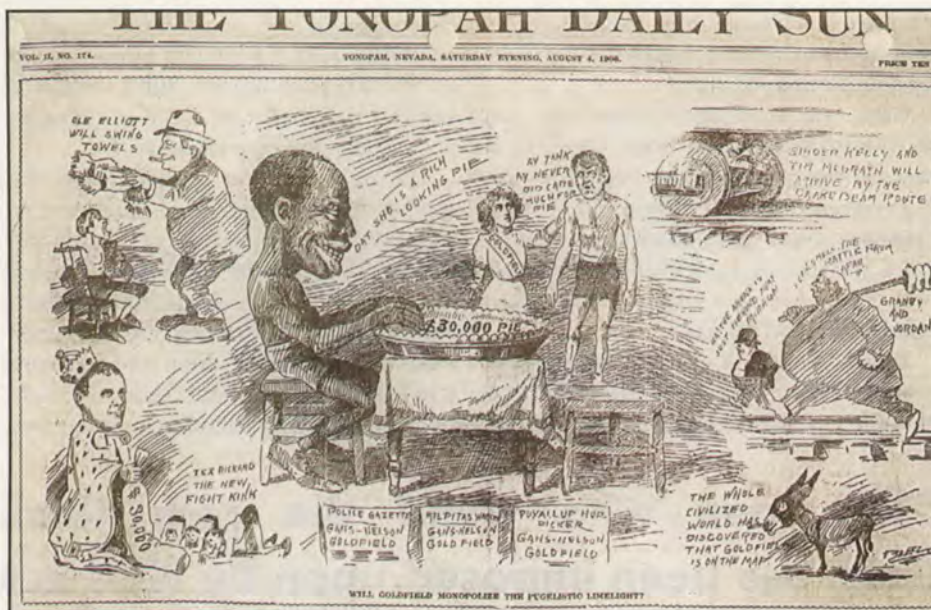
To secure the fight, Gans agreed to Nelson's demand that the two men lower their weights, including fighting togs, to 133 pounds. Gans, who arrived weighing 139 pounds and normally fought at 142 pounds, told the *Sun* he took off the weight not only through vigorous training, which residents watched with avid interest, but through worrying.

When the weight question became an issue in negotiations, Gans vowed he would do whatever was necessary to make the fight. "I may have to crawl into the ring on crutches, but I'll be there alright," he told the *Sun*.

Gans also agreed to receive only a third of the purse, win or lose. In Goldfield and



P.E. Larson photographed Oscar Battling Nelson's arrival in Goldfield on August 11, 1906. Opposite page: The fighters shake hands before the opening bell of the 42-round match.



Before Joe Gans arrived in Goldfield, newspaper cartoonists drew him as an illiterate fool.

Tonopah, this division didn't sit well with mining men who appreciated fair play.

The pressure was on, with Goldfield promoters backing the fight with more than \$100,000 for construction of the arena, promotion, the fight purse, and betting operations. Fearing that rumors of past thrown fights would cause serious trouble if he lost, Gans' newly acquired manager, local saloon owner and speculator Larry Sullivan, was said to have told the fighter he had better win, "or they'll kill you sure."

So on that Labor Day a century ago,

surrounded by spectators from all over the country, including an unprecedented 1,500 women, Gans and Nelson fought for 42 rounds. The match started at 3:25 p.m. and lasted until well into the evening, when the sun had all but disappeared from the sky. In the first two hours temperatures in the ring may have surpassed 100 degrees.

As the two men battled, most of the honors went to The Old Master, whose quick and graceful moves contrasted with the lumbering style of the Durable Dane. Later, observers agreed that Nelson had

**"I may have to crawl into the ring on crutches, but I'll be there alright," Gans told the Sun.**

landed several foul blows before a low punch ended the fight on a technicality in the 42nd round, giving the victory to Gans.

When the fight was over, referee Siler wrote, "Goldfield is a vast camp of hero worshippers tonight, and its hero is Joe Gans, a Negro."

Nelson bitterly contested the decision, but little attention was paid to his complaints. Many Nevadans believed that the final foul blow was just one of many he'd landed in one form or another since negotiations for the fight began.

After the match The Old Master took his prize money home to Baltimore, where he built the Goldfield Hotel as a tribute to Goldfield's landmark establishment. Gans' Goldfield Hotel was a prominent, mixed-race clientele jazz club that launched the careers of such great musicians as Eubie Blake. The hotel combined a gymnasium and residence with the popular nightclub and remained



Diego "Chico" Corrales (right) lands a blow on Jose Luis Castillo. Corrales, the World Boxing Council's lightweight champion, was born in Sacramento but makes Las Vegas his home.

## Fight Night

By Kevin Iole

Diego Corrales says his heart flutters and the butterflies dance in his stomach when the lights dim, the music blares, and the prizefighters begin the long and lonely walk to the ring for a Las Vegas championship boxing match.

Corrales, the World Boxing Council's lightweight champion, is one of the world's finest and most popular fighters. In 2005 at Mandalay Bay he defeated Jose Luis Castillo in a bout hailed as one of the greatest of all time.

But Corrales says he's most overcome by excitement not when he's fighting but at the fights he attends as a spectator.

"The fighters all know that when you're fighting in Las Vegas, you're on the big stage, and it's for all the marbles," Corrales says. "You can't help but think about the guys who came before and fought in that same ring: Sugar Ray Leonard. Thomas Hearns. Roberto Duran. Marvin Hagler. Muhammad Ali. Larry Holmes.

# THE TONOPAH DAILY SUN

THE 11, NO. 174.

TONOPAH, NEVADA, FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 16, 1906.

FRANCIS TAYLOR



As Gans endeared himself to the populace, cartoonists changed their depictions of him.

a fixture in Baltimore for many years.

Joe Gans and his victory helped launch Nevada as a boxing state and gave Goldfield's Tex Rickard a national reputation as a fight promoter. Rickard eventually moved to New York and built the third Madison Square Garden in 1925, turning the old sporting hall into a premier boxing venue.

Gans returned to Nevada twice, delivering two more victories to his mining camp fans in Tonopah, and local newspapers followed his career. However,

Gans' career was cut short when he contracted tuberculosis. It was believed that he acquired the fatal malady while in Nevada, weakened by the grueling 1906 fight and the hard training that preceded it.

In September 1908 Gans, already affected by the disease but desperate for money, met Battling Nelson again in San Francisco. He lost his championship title to the Dane. Gans died in 1910, only four years after his famous Goldfield match with Nelson.

## Goldfield Tribute

A centennial celebration of the Gans vs. Nelson prizefight will be held September 16 at Goldfield Park. The boxing clubs of the University of Nevada, Reno and University of Nevada, Las Vegas will compete in several tribute matches to equal the historic 42 rounds of the 1906 contest. After the matches, a barbecue, a boxing film festival, including a video of the 1906 bout, and vendors selling souvenirs are scheduled in Tonopah. Call 888-900-3336 or visit [www.eden-nv.com](http://www.eden-nv.com) for more information.

Today, Joe Gans holds a place in the International Boxing Hall of Fame, and Goldfield, the mining town that helped make him famous, is on the National Register of Historic Places. One hundred years after his original victory, the town of Goldfield still commemorates the fight that put Joe Gans—and itself—on the boxing map. ▽

*Robin Flinchum is a freelance writer living in Tecopa, California. Florida resident Kari Coughlin, former Death Valley National Park historian, and Gary Schultz, an Illinois boxing collector, helped with research for this story.*

"There's just a great sense of drama and anticipation. You have this feeling that you're about to see something incredible and you can't wait for it to begin."

A major title match in boxing, or the mixed martial arts of the Ultimate Fighting Championship that is held at one of the major Nevada casinos, generally attracts a crowd worthy of the Academy Awards. Entertainers, politicians, and athletes turn out not only to be seen in the spotlight but to enjoy what may be a historic fight. It's not uncommon to see celebrities like Cindy Crawford or Samuel L. Jackson in a ringside seat. NBA Hall of Famer Charles Barkley is a big-fight regular, as are boxing legends like Hearn, Leonard, and Mike Tyson.

One night last June, Aimee Harris of Cleveland braved 100-plus-degree temperatures to watch a card in an outdoor arena at Caesars Palace. Her reward was a chance to get an autograph and have her photograph taken with Tyson, who was sitting ringside to watch unbeaten heavyweights Calvin Brock, a 2000 U.S. Olympian, and Timur Ibragimov meet in a significant match.

"This is so cool," she said as her friend snapped a picture of her with Tyson. "I can't believe this. I watched so many of [Tyson's] fights on TV, and to be able to come here and see him in person is incredible."

Las Vegas resident Al Bernstein, a television analyst and ringside boxing analyst for more than 20 years, recalls the electricity that coursed through the crowd at the famous 1985 bout between Hagler and Hearns in the outdoor arena at Caesars. Even hard-boiled veterans of the fight scene admitted to goose bumps when the crowd roared as the fighters made their way to the ring for what would turn out to be an epic battle.

"I've talked to so many reporters, and they all say the same thing, that there is nothing like the feeling of a major fight in Vegas," Bernstein says. "It's one of those things that, if you're a sports fan, you have to experience once in your life. And when you do, you're usually hooked."

Top fights are held in Las Vegas at the Thomas and Mack Center (sponsored by Steve Wynn), and at MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, and Caesars Palace. The Reno Events Center and Lawlor Events Center in Reno and Harveys and MontBleu at Lake Tahoe host boxing events. For schedules of fights statewide visit <http://boxing.nv.gov/schedule.htm>. ▽

*Kevin Iole writes about boxing, golf, and fantasy sports for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Iole's "Nevadans on Tour" and "Las Vegas by Design" appeared in our May/June 2006 issue.*

# Happy Anniversaries

Hotel-casinos from **Jackpot to Laughlin** celebrate their beginnings.



The Fremont Hotel stands inside the Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas (above). Below: Sharkey's Nugget occupies the site of Gardnerville's 1890s Corner Saloon.

**T**his year a number of venerable Nevada hotel-casinos are observing their anniversaries with parties, room packages, and gaming specials. Visitors are welcome to help blow out the candles at these 16 establishments, whose ages range from a mature 35 to a wise old 100.

## Peppermill Reno, 35 Years

The Peppermill Hotel Casino in Reno began as a restaurant and lounge and is

now one of the largest hotel-casinos in Northern Nevada. The Peppermill added towers in 1988 and 2000, and its latest expansion is a \$300-million, all-suite Tuscan-themed hotel scheduled for completion in 2007. The new 600 suites will bring the total number of rooms to 1,631.

Since 1971 the Peppermill has retained a colorful décor with lots of neon and mirrors. The Peppermill has eight restaurants, including the AAA four-diamond White Orchid, and free entertainment. The



swimming pools, spa, and health club are free to hotel guests. The Peppermill celebrated its 35th anniversary in June.

*Information: Peppermill Hotel Casino, 2707 S. Virginia St., Reno, 775-826-2121, 800-648-6992, [www.peppermillreno.com](http://www.peppermillreno.com).*

## Sharkey's, 35 Years

For more than a century there has been a saloon on the corner where Milo "Sharkey" Begovich established Sharkey's Nugget in 1971. The Gardnerville casino owner was known for his collection of circus posters, photos of legendary boxers, and hand-tooled saddles. At his Serbian Christmas dinner, held every January until his death in 2002, upward of 3,500 people would happily wait in line for the free feast, which included 20 goats, 20 suckling pigs, 20 turkeys, and 1,000 pounds of roast beef.

Today, visitors will find some of Sharkey's memorabilia that has been preserved by the new owners, The Holder Hospitality Group. The casino's prime-rib dinner continues to be the most popular item on the menu. Sharkey's has more than 200 slot machines and table games on weekends.

*Information: Sharkey's, 1440 Hwy. 395 N., Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.*

## Plaza Hotel Casino, 35 Years

Opened in 1971, the Plaza originally was called the Union Plaza because it occupied the former site of Las Vegas' Union Pacific depot. For years guests could get off the train inside the hotel, and today Amtrak still chugs on tracks nearby.

Like many downtown casinos, the Plaza emphasizes gaming with its slots, table games, and a race and sports book. Daily no-limit hold 'em tournaments are held.

The Center Stage Italian Chop House has a glass dome that allows diners to see the Fremont Street Experience's glittering lights. The French-influenced entrées in the Great Moments Room range from broiled lobster tail to the house specialty, prime rib.

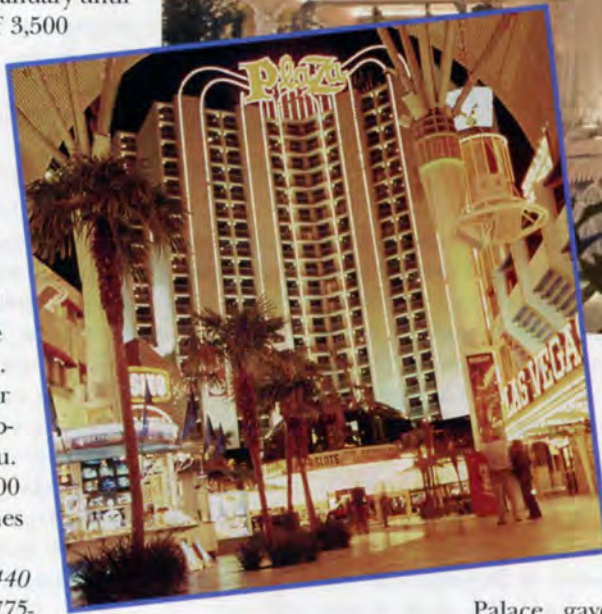
*Information: Plaza Hotel Casino, 1 Main St., Las Vegas, 702-386-2110, 800-634-6575, [www.plazahotelcasino.com](http://www.plazahotelcasino.com).*

## Caesars Palace, 40 Years

The fountains, statues, and Roman columns were distinctive, but Caesars



Fountains play at Caesars Palace on the Strip (above). Left: The Plaza Hotel.



Goffstein named for his four daughters, Faith, Hope, Benita, and Michele.

The Four Queens will honor its 1966 debut with a 40th-anniversary promotion for Royal Players Club members and a \$40,000 grand-prize drawing. The casino offers 100-percent ticket-in, ticket-out slot play and numerous food and drink specials. The Chicago Brewing Company serves microbrews and Chicago-style pizza. *Information: Four Queens, 202 Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-385-4011, 800-634-6045, [www.fourqueens.com](http://www.fourqueens.com).*

## Riverside Resort, 40 Years

At the Riverside Resort in Laughlin, you can watch the Colorado River flow past while dining in the Gourmet Room. You also can ride the Colorado on the U.S.S. *Riverside*. From either vantage point, it's intriguing to imagine owner Don Laughlin flying his plane over this spot four decades ago and seeing a lonely motel, café, and bait shop on the riverbank.

In 1966, Laughlin bought that motel and launched not only a resort but also a town. Today the Riverside boasts more than 1,400 rooms, a 740-space RV park, a bowling center, buffets, convention areas, and a collection of classic cars. The hotel, which has a movieplex and big-name entertainment in Don's Celebrity Theatre, celebrated its 40th anniversary in August.

Palace gave Las Vegas more than an architectural gimmick when it opened in 1966. Created by hotelier Jay Sarno, Caesars set a Strip standard for high-roller action and themed surroundings.

Caesars Palace retains that allure. Celine Dion plays the 4,000-seat Colosseum showroom, and Elton John fills in when she's on vacation. The Empress Court and the celebrity-chef rooms Restaurant Guy Savoy and Bradley Ogden offer fine dining. Shoppers strolling the upscale Forum Shoppes can lunch at Spago's. With Strip views, the Pure nightclub is a magnet for the late-night crowd, while the rocking lounge of Cleopatra's Barge recalls Caesars' Roman roots.

*Information: Caesars Palace, 3570 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, 702-731-7110, 800-634-6661, [www.caesarspalace.com](http://www.caesarspalace.com).*

## Four Queens, 40 Years

At the Four Queens in downtown Las Vegas, each woman dining in Hugo's Cellar receives a long-stem red rose. The gesture seems appropriate at the Four Queens, which original owner Ben



Benny Binion began the World Series of Poker at his hotel, Binion's, in downtown Las Vegas.

*Information: Riverside Resort, 1650 S. Casino Dr., Laughlin, 702-298-2535, 800-227-3849, [www.riversideresort.com](http://www.riversideresort.com).*

## Cactus Petes, 50 Years

Jackpot is the only town in Nevada founded entirely on gambling, and Cactus Petes is one of Jackpot's original establishments. In 1956, soon after Idaho banned slot machines, Jackpot sprang up on the Nevada-Idaho border. Before the town was up and running, "Cactus" Pete Piersanti moved his café and slot joint down the road from neighboring Mineral Springs, Idaho. In 1991 Cactus Petes underwent a \$22-million hotel and casino expansion and the next year won AAA's Four-Diamond Award, which it still holds. Cactus Petes has an RV park, Olympic-size swimming pool, golf, tennis, and fine dining at Plateau Steaks and Seafood.

*Information: Cactus Petes Resort Casino, 1385 U.S. 93, Jackpot, 557-755-2321, 800-821-1103, [www.ameristarcasinos.com](http://www.ameristarcasinos.com).*

## Fremont Hotel, 50 Years

The 15-story Fremont Hotel and Casino opened in 1956 with a rooftop platform where guests could watch atomic blasts at the Nevada Test Site. Another first: The teenaged Wayne Newton made his Las Vegas debut in 1959 at the Fremont.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the hotel is introducing five \$5 commemorative gaming chips. Each limited-edition chip represents one of the five decades since the hotel opened. Two Silver Strike 50th Anniversary slot machines will dispense collectible silver tokens to winners.

The Fremont has 447 guest rooms, a

650-seat showroom, and front doors that open to the Fremont Street Experience. Dining includes the Second Street Grill and Tony Roma's rib house.

*Information: Fremont Hotel and Casino, 200 E. Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-385-3232, 800-634-6182, [www.fremontcasino.com](http://www.fremontcasino.com).*

## Flamingo Las Vegas, 50 Years

Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel faced a big problem when his Flamingo Hotel debuted on December 26, 1946. In the rush to open, the guest rooms still were not ready. Bugsy lost his shirt. Six months later he was gunned down in Beverly Hills.

Today, there is no lack of guest rooms—the Flamingo has 3,600 of them. A bird show is offered at a 15-acre tropical habitat that includes swimming pools and waterslides. In summer the pool scene is enlivened by happy hours and parties. The hotel has a spa and three fine-dining restaurants. Comedy fans can catch George Wallace or the "Second City" improv troupe while parrotheads can boogie to bands at Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville.

*Information: Flamingo Las Vegas, 3555 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, 702-733-3111, 800-732-2111, [www.flamingo.com](http://www.flamingo.com).*

## Binion's Gambling Hall and Hotel, 55 Years

After opening Binion's in 1951 in Las Vegas' old Apache Hotel, founder Benny

Binion and his family made several innovations. The downtown casino, then called the Horseshoe, accepted outrageously high bets, and customers could have their photos taken, free, with \$1 million in cash. In 1970, Binion's began holding the World Series of Poker, the Texas hold 'em tournament that made Benny's club famous.

Binion's closed for three months in 2004 but was reopened by MTR Gaming and Harrah's, which took over the World Series of Poker franchise. Today, Binion's, owned by MTR, has 366 rooms and a 25th-floor rooftop pool. On the 24th floor, Binion's Ranch Steakhouse offers fine dining and views.

*Information: Binion's Gambling Hall and Hotel, 128 E. Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-382-1600, 800-937-6537, [www.binions.com](http://www.binions.com).*

## Golden Nugget, 60 Years

Today, the Golden Nugget is the only major casino in Vegas without neon. When it opened in downtown in 1946, it was the city's largest gambling hall and had an enormous, lighted Western-style sign that some would call ugly.

In the mid-1970s its new owner, Steve Wynn, tore down the sign and gave the hotel the elegance that characterizes the hotel today. The Golden Nugget has held AAA's Four-Diamond Award for 29 consecutive years. The new owner, Landry's Restaurants, is in the process of renovating the Nugget and adding new



The Flamingo Hotel in the 1960s.

restaurants, a showroom, and a tropical pool area with water slides and a nearby shark tank. The hotel's 60th anniversary celebration features a Summer Surprise Special with room rates of \$69 weekdays and \$89 weekends through September 7.

*Information: Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino, 129 E. Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-385-7111, 800-426-1906, [www.goldennugget.com](http://www.goldennugget.com).*



The Golden Nugget's famous sign, as seen in the 1960s, was removed by Steve Wynn in the 1970s (below).

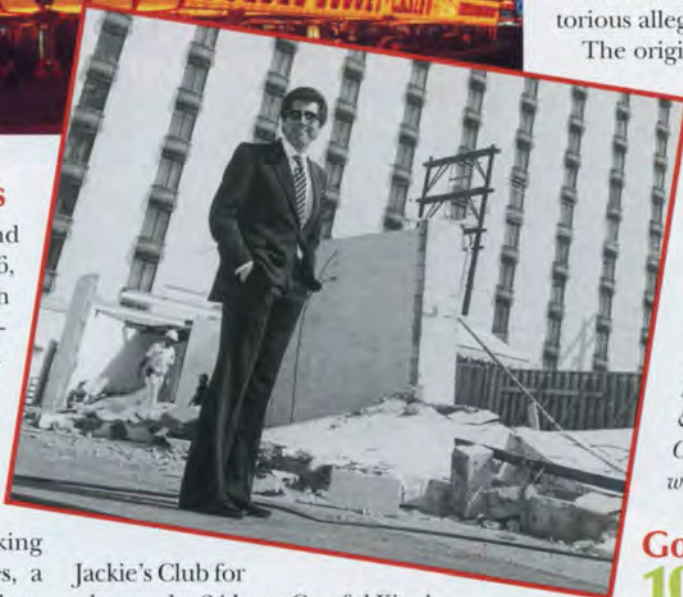
Ford, John Schneider, and Wayne Newton. *Information: Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall, 501 Aultman St., Ely, 775-289-6665, 888-406-3055, www.hotelnevada.com.*

## Cal Neva, 80 Years

The Cal Neva Lodge was built in 1926 by San Francisco businessman Robert P. Sherman, who wanted his resort to resemble the log cabin in "Lightnin,'" a Broadway play starring Will Rogers. In the 1960s, owner Frank Sinatra used the North Lake Tahoe getaway to entertain his Rat Pack friends, Marilyn Monroe, and the notorious alleged mobster Sam Giancano.

The original lodge burned in 1937 but was rebuilt and expanded by succeeding owners. Now the Cal Nev Resort, Spa, & Casino, the lodge observed its 80th anniversary with a party in July. The resort offers fine dining, gaming, Lake Tahoe beach access, and spa, ski, and golf packages.

*Information: Cal Nev Resort, Spa, & Casino, 2 Stateline Way, Crystal Bay, 800-CAL-NEVA, www.calnevaresort.com.*



## Tahoe Biltmore, 60 Years

The Tahoe Biltmore Lodge and Casino traces its beginnings to 1946, when the hotel opened in North Shore's Crystal Bay on the Nevada-California state line. The Biltmore has been sold, remodeled, and renamed several times, but the original building still stands with its name restored.

Today, guests can relax in the hotel's modern additions overlooking Lake Tahoe. The hotel has cottages, a casino, two restaurants, and an outdoor spa and swimming pool. The cabaret offers dancing on weeknights and comedy on weekends.

*Information: Tahoe Biltmore Lodge and Casino, 5 S.R. 28, Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660, 800-245-8667, www.tahoebiltmore.com.*

Jackie's Club for players, the 24-hour Careful Kitty's Café, and Roberta's Steakhouse. A block east of the Fremont Street Experience, the hotel offers 401 rooms.

*Information: El Cortez Hotel and Casino, 600 E. Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-385-5200, 800-634-6703, www.elcortezhotelcasino.com.*

## Golden Gate, 100 Years

Small is beautiful at the Golden Gate. The downtown Las Vegas hotel-casino has only 106 rooms, and its claim to fame is a shrimp cocktail. But what a shrimp cocktail it is—a tulip-shaped glass full of tasty crustaceans that costs a mere 99 cents.

Such touches make the Golden Gate stand out among the larger casinos on the Fremont Street Experience. Photos of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge line the walls. A pianist plays a baby grand as customers dine in the Bay City Diner.

Also, in 2006 the small casino marks a big milestone—the 100th anniversary of its construction. Originally the Hotel Nevada, it was built in 1906, only a year after a railroad auction established modern Las Vegas. Legal gambling debuted in 1931, when the hotel was renamed the Sal Segav—Las Vegas spelled backward.

*Information: Golden Gate Hotel and Casino, 1 Fremont St., Las Vegas, 702-385-1906, 800-426-1906, www.goldengatecasino.com.*

## El Cortez, 65 Years

The El Cortez is one of the longest-operating hotel-casinos in the state. Taking advantage of Las Vegas' wartime population growth, the club opened in 1941 as downtown's first resort-style operation. An early owner was Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel before the Flamingo caught his attention.

Longtime El Cortez owner Jackie Gaughan, who with his family has owned several prominent Las Vegas properties, bought the casino in 1963. Today the El Cortez is known for inexpensive food and rooms, attracting value-minded locals and tourists. Features include ticket-in-ticket-out slot machines,

## Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall, 75 Years

When it opened in 1929, the Hotel Nevada was the Empire State Building of Eastern Nevada, standing six magnificent stories over downtown Ely. On the first floor, its casino began hosting newly legal dice and card games in 1931.

Seventy-five years later, the Hotel Nevada attracts slot players, golfers, and other travelers with 99-cent margaritas and intriguing collections such as the Roy Rogers memorabilia displayed in the restaurant. Some of the 105 rooms are named for famous guests like Jimmy Stewart, Ingrid Bergman, Tennessee Ernie



The El Cortez in the 1950s.

*David Moore, Wilma LaRocca, Alisha Wike, and Joyce Hollister contributed to this special anniversary article.*

# Birding Hot Spots

From **West Wendover** to **Lake Mead**, birdwatchers can spot eagles, egrets, and other avian stars at these six **Important Bird Areas**.

By Linda Hiller



Birders lie on their backs to count raptors for the Goshute Mountains Raptor Migration Project, held each fall.



Greater sage grouse

As

soon as you reach the top of the steep trail, the wind picks up and anticipation mounts. There are birders and spotting scopes scattered along the ridge of the Goshute Mountains in northeastern Nevada, and the fall raptor migration is under way.

"I've got two turkey vultures and four red-tails straight up," says one birder, binoculars pointed skyward.

"Visitors are welcome to come watch and learn from the experts up there "

"Looks like two of the red-tails are juveniles and two are adults—maybe it's a family trip to Disneyland!" All the birders chuckle and

get in the same awkward position to see these six large raptors, intermittently soaring and slowly flapping above the ridge.

"Awesome—hey, to the right there's a Swainson's hawk, and maybe an



Lake Mead and Lake Mohave make up one of Nevada's 39 Important Bird Areas. Birders can gather at Nelson's Landing to see birds.

American kestrel pair above it," another birder says, and everyone swivels to the right in unison, like shorebirds in flight. As the day goes on, they'll be lying down on their backs to save their spines.

This fall raptor migration is one of the reasons why the Goshute Mountains have been classified as one of 39 Important Bird Areas in Nevada, spotlighting the state's most critical avian habitats.

"The Goshutes are just a spectacular place to be in the fall—the birds are there, and the views are spectacular," says Don McIvor, founder of Nevada's Important Bird Area program. "From the ridge top looking north and south, you look along this knife-like spine of mountains, and it's staffed like a little town up there when they're monitoring the migration."

McIvor, a Carson City wildlife ecologist and Nevada director of bird conservation for the Lahontan Audubon Society, is the author of *Important Bird Areas of Nevada*, which describes the Nevada sites, why they were selected, and what significant birds can be found at each spot. Following are six of the sites where visitors can find some of Nevada's most intriguing birds.



Burrowing owl

### Goshute Mountains

Since 1980, observers and scientists from HawkWatch International, based in Salt Lake City, have been coming to the Goshutes to study the autumn migration of hawks, eagles, falcons, vultures, and owls for the Goshute Mountains Raptor Migration Project.

The 62-mile mountain range in Elko County is in a unique geographical position, funneling raptors as they move south to their wintering ranges from August to November. In a good year, HawkWatch counters might tally between 12,000 to 25,000 migrants of around 18 species, making this one of the largest raptor concentrations in western North America.

Some of the migrating raptors are also caught in a mist net and banded for research, says Emilie Turner of HawkWatch.

"We get more visitors to the Goshutes than probably any other site we monitor because this is the premier migration route where two Pacific flyways come together," Turner says.

"Visitors are welcome to come watch and learn from the experts up there. Sometimes, they can even help release a

'I finally looked up to see two sandhill cranes literally dropping from the sky talking to each other as they descended to the edge of the marsh'

bird after banding, which is a wonderful experience."

**Getting There:** Take Alt. U.S. 93 from West Wendover 24 miles south to the Nevada Division of Transportation station at Ferguson Springs, turn west, drive 4.2 miles on the gravel road to the trailhead. The hike is 2.5 vigorous miles, so it's good to be prepared.

### Boyd Humboldt Valley Wetlands

West of the Goshutes near Elko, the Boyd Humboldt Valley Wetlands Important Bird Area is located on private land, the working ranch of Jack and Andy Boyd. The Boyds welcome birdwatchers (Jack is an avid birder).

Hundreds of birds nest in this mile-wide floodplain around the Humboldt River, including white-faced ibis, long-billed curlews, greater sandhill cranes, Wilson's phalaropes, bobolinks, black



An American avocet stalks prey (left). Right: Jim Lytle and his dog Rusty look for black-crowned night herons on the Carson River.

terns, Swainson's hawks and short-eared owls. Even the Boyd's hay meadows are foraging habitat for black-crowned night herons and all three Nevada egret species—great, snowy, and cattle. In winter, you can look for bald eagles, great horned owls, rough-legged hawks, and American tree sparrows.

Visitors to the Boyd Ranch are urged to drive slowly, avoid livestock, don't block pasture gates, and most importantly, close gates. And, if Jack is haying in a nearby field, give him a wave.

*"There are literally thousands of warblers, comprised of at least 27 different species, which pass through Oasis Valley each year"*

**Getting There:** Take exit 317 off Interstate 80, 15 miles east of Elko, follow the frontage road south of the interstate toward Elburz, turn left (east) before the railroad tracks, and look for IBA signs to reach the ranch gate.

### Swan Lake

One of the most accessible Important Bird Areas is Swan Lake, which is tucked among the Reno suburbs. This wetland can fluctuate from 1,000 acres in a wet year to 50 acres in a drought.

Dr. Alan Gubanich, a retired University of Nevada, Reno biology professor, says Swan Lake was always a favorite class

field trip for his ornithology students.

"One of the unique things about Swan Lake is that it is surrounded by urban development, and you can walk out on the boardwalk and be right in the middle of it, listening to the birds, and you don't even see the houses," Gubanich says. "One of the neatest things was when we'd go out to see the burrowing owls."

A boardwalk trail takes you in among tall cattails where you can see marsh wren nests and where Virginia rails, normally reclusive, are commonly seen. Wading

birds—herons, egrets, avocets, and stilts—and ducks, geese, swans, and raptors such as northern harriers and red-tailed hawks are often seen from the boardwalk.

Birder Bob Goodman, who nominated Swan Lake for the Important Bird Area program, says he's had many memorable experiences there. "Recently, a sound surrounded me as I was on the boardwalk—a low, rolling sound, a pleasant sound," he said. "I finally looked up to see two sandhill cranes literally dropping from the sky, wings out without a flap, and talking to each other as they descended to the edge of the marsh."

**Getting There:** Swan Lake is eight miles

north of Reno off U.S. 395 at the Lemmon Valley exit. For the boardwalk, go east to Military Drive, turn left to Lear Boulevard, then right between warehouses 10990 and 10991. Follow the signs to the boardwalk.

### Carson Valley

Carson Valley, south of Carson City, is one of the most endangered Important Bird Areas due to development pressure, McIvor says. A large agricultural valley encircled by mountains and bisected by two forks of the Carson River, this site is steadily shifting from working farms and ranches to a bedroom community.

For fledgling birders, it's always thrilling to see yellow-headed blackbirds cranking their metallic call or nesting herons and egrets in a rookery, posed against the backdrop of the snow-capped Carson Range.

McIvor says Carson Valley's significance is, in part, due to the presence of migratory tri-colored blackbirds, formerly confined to a small area in central California. In winter, bald eagles migrate to the valley during calving time to scavenge on after-birth, and they're joined by numerous wintering raptors. "Eagles and Agriculture," a bird education event, takes place the last weekend in February.

**Getting There:** Carson Valley, which includes Gardnerville, Minden, and Genoa, starts three miles south of Carson City on U.S. 395. Follow the Wildlife Viewing Area signs.



This rough-legged hawk was among the winter visitors to Swan Lake Important Bird Area.

### Oasis Valley

Near Beatty is Oasis Valley, the site that McIvor says may be Nevada's most threatened due to recent development interest in about 5,000 acres. It is the Amargosa River that makes this site true to its name: an oasis. Nevada is the driest state in the U.S., and birds migrating through the Mojave Desert and Great Basin have limited food and water options.

Ken Voget, retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has been birding Oasis Valley for years and says this area is crucial. "These oasis sites are what help to perpetuate the various songbird species,

which migrate annually from as far south as South America to as far north as Canada and Alaska," he says. "There are literally thousands of warblers, comprised of at least 27 different species, which pass through Oasis Valley each year."

In addition to the warblers, willow flycatchers and yellow-billed cuckoos have also nested here, along with five raptor species including northern harriers, red-tailed hawks, great horned owls, golden eagles, and prairie falcons, while five more raptor species migrate through and winter at the site.

**Getting There:** Travel U.S. 95 north of

Beatty, look for the Torrence Ranch, a Nature Conservancy property, east of the highway, or The Narrows, south of town.

### Lake Mead

Only a short jaunt from Las Vegas is the Lake Mead Important Bird Area, covering more than 162 miles of the former channel of the Colorado River—Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. It provides resting opportunities for migrating birds as well as a habitat for year-round species.

Water birds, greater roadrunners, phainopeplas, woodpeckers, warblers, and other migrants are often seen at Las Vegas Bay and Overton Beach. On a hot summer day, when temperatures can hit 115, there's nothing like standing in the cool water of Lake Mead while birding the trees near the shore or scanning the open water with your binoculars.

Je Anne Strott-Branca, a birder for more than 30 years with a life list of 600 birds, works with the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve. She says the Important Bird Areas program is of particular relevance in rapidly-growing Southern Nevada. "The IBA has always been important to birders and birds," she says. "Especially down here with all the development, the birds are fast losing their habitat."

**Getting There:** From Las Vegas, take State Route 147 or State Route 564 (each about 15 miles) or U.S. 93 via Boulder City (40 miles), Interstate 15 via Valley of Fire (65 miles) or Overton (90 miles). For Lake Mead National Recreation Area information, call the Alan Bible Visitor Center, 702-293-8990.

## When You Go

For more information on Nevada's Important Bird Areas, visit [www.nevadaudubon.org/lba/iba.htm](http://www.nevadaudubon.org/lba/iba.htm) or call 775-882-2597. Copies of Don McIvor's 2005 book, *Important Bird Areas of Nevada*, are available through major book stores and the Lahontan Audubon Society Web site, [www.nevadaudubon.org](http://www.nevadaudubon.org), for \$19.95 plus postage. For a free birdwatchers package, which includes an excellent birding map from the Nevada Commission on Tourism, visit [www.travelnevada.com](http://www.travelnevada.com), go to Activities, Sports and Outdoors, and click on Birding, or call 800-NEVADA-8 for information.

To learn more about the Goshutes



Raptor Migration Project, visit [www.hawkwatch.org](http://www.hawkwatch.org) or call 800-726-4295, and for information on Eagles and Agriculture on February 23-25, 2007 [www.visitcarsonvalley.org](http://www.visitcarsonvalley.org) or 775-782-8144.

### Other Important Bird Areas

All 39 Important Bird Areas in Nevada are well worth a visit, including Pyramid Lake (white pelicans), Mount Grant (greater sage grouse), Ruby Mountains (Himalayan snowcocks), Great Basin National Park (black rosy-finch), and Pahrangat Valley National Wildlife Refuge (southwestern willow flycatcher).

Just remember, when birding in Nevada, it's best to start early in the day, bring water, sun block, a hat, good solid shoes, and don't forget your binoculars and camera. 📷

*Linda Hiller, a Carson Valley resident, is a life-long birder with a zoology degree from the University of Washington. She teaches bird identification at Western Nevada Community College.*

# Houseboat Heaven

Who knew that 24 hours on a **Lake Mead** houseboat could be so magical?

By Joan Patterson

**T**he night before our first houseboating trip on Lake Mead, my six-year-old daughter Gillian sticks her nose in the air and says she isn't going to swim in

the lake "with those yucky, slimy fish." "Hmm," I think. "This may be a long trip." But I figure there will be something for all of us on this 24-hour getaway, even for my little Princess and the Pea.



Mike is at the helm of the deluxe Lake Mead houseboat that he and wife Joan and their daughter Gillian took for an overnight cruise near Boulder Basin this spring.

Mike backs the **70-foot beast** out of the cove and, with a **twinkle in his eye**, realizes he is suddenly **captain of this giant toy**



Several houseboats moor in a cove at Lake Mead. In the evening passengers can build a campfire on the beach or sit on their craft's top deck to gaze at the stars.

The next day, a beautiful Saturday afternoon, my husband Mike, Gillian, and I pack the car with swimsuits, sunblock, and a cooler full of drinks. We leave our home in Las Vegas after lunch and drive down Lake Mead Boulevard which, in about 30 minutes, leads us to the giant man-made reservoir.

We're about to enter another world, one that takes us away from frenetic city life if only for an overnight jaunt. By the time we turn into Callville Bay Marina on the western edge of the lake, fast-food restaurants and traffic lights are replaced by brilliant blue water dotted with boats drifting peacefully.

Gear in hand, we traipse across the pier and find our houseboat, a 70-by-16-foot craft known as a Millennium Deluxe I model, which sleeps 12. Yes, 12. Another family was going to take the trip with us but had to cancel—which means we get the floating hotel to ourselves.

We scatter like mice. Gillian and I poke our heads into the four bedrooms and two bathrooms, open kitchen cabinets, and bounce on pull-out couches. Mike goes straight for the wall of electronics that seems to have every TV and stereo device known to man. "Never leave home without your DVD and 5.1 surround system," he quips.

Because we are novice boaters and the late afternoon winds are beginning to pick up, the boat rental company, Forever



After Sunday breakfast, Gillian passes the time by blowing bubbles over the side.

Resorts, enlists a captain to steer us out of the harbor and anchor us in a cove about a 15-minute cruise from the marina. Two more men follow to help pound long metal stakes into the ground and tie the boat down. The rest of the trip is up to us.

Our Millennium Deluxe is moored in a sheltered spot not far from Lover's Cove in Boulder Basin. The first thing we do is put on our swimsuits and plunge into the clear blue-green water. We see speed boats and

## Speed boats lap us, but, at **our much slower pace**, we feel we are the ones to actually enjoy **Mead's natural beauty.**

jet skis buzzing past the mouth of the cove. Occasionally one turns in, and passengers disembark to lie on the sandy shoreline and swim in the shallow water. But as the sun begins to set and the last boat leaves, the cove becomes our own little slice of heaven.

Gillian will not leave the water. She bounces around in her yellow life jacket and squishes her toes in the lake's mucky bottom, yucky fish or not. She teases her dad and races him back to the boat to climb aboard. Mike whooshes down a slide at the stern—a drop of about three feet—and Gillian cheers him on with a loud “Woo, hoo!”

While they play, I hike through the hills. Long, willowy desert plants bend in the evening breezes, and quail scurry as I come near. Two fisherman quietly maneuver through the shallows, edging their way along the rocks.

Back in the luxury of the houseboat, we sit in swiveling bar chairs and eat barbecued steaks for dinner. Mike cranks up the music. “Dance, mom!” Gillian commands. We twirl on the huge upper deck like ballerinas, then the three of us lounge in the hot tub, admire the stars, and listen to the cries of coyotes in the hills. Finally we are off to bed in our air-conditioned cocoon, harboring no worries of beasts or bugs.

In the morning we eat cereal and

muffins on the upper deck and enjoy the stillness of the cove. After breakfast Gillian collects rocks and dips her feet into the water while Mike and I wrench up, or rather curse, the four-foot stakes that tie us down. At last, Mike backs the 70-foot beast out of the cove and, with a twinkle in his eye, realizes he is suddenly captain of this giant toy. “We’re traveling like a Bond villain now,” he says, grinning.

It is a clear day, and the temperature is near perfect. Speed boats lap us, but, at our much slower pace, we feel we are the ones to actually enjoy Mead's natural beauty. Our measured progression allows us to look at what surrounds us: acres of sapphire water, looming hills, and dramatic outcroppings that dare you to discover what is on the other side.

Most of the morning I take photographs like a maniac and gape at the scenery. Gillian stretches out on a patio chair and

watches the boats whiz by. Now and then she blows bubbles into the wind. The captain is as happy as Popeye at the helm, blaring U2 over the speakers and testing the engines at full throttle. But our trip has to end much too soon. “The wind's picking up. Let's not push our luck,” Mike says, turning the boat toward Callville Bay.

Next time I imagine a houseboating trip with family and friends, having barbecues, splashing in the water, and exploring the lake's narrows and basins. But this trip, with just the three of us, seemed meant to be. We discovered the bells and whistles of houseboating, as well as the incredible beauty of the lake at our own back door. ▣

*Joan Patterson now lives in Boulder City.*



## When You Go

Forever Resorts rents luxury houseboats, personal watercraft, ski and fishing boats, and deck cruisers at Lake Mead's Callville Bay Marina (702-565-8958, [www.callvillebay.com](http://www.callvillebay.com)) and Cottonwood Cove Marina on Lake Mohave (702-297-1464, [www.cottonwoodcoveresort.com](http://www.cottonwoodcoveresort.com)). Prices can range from \$995 to \$6,495 depending on trip length and boat size. Guides tell the story of the Colorado River on Forever Resort's Black Canyon-Willow Beach River Adventures tours, which launch at the base of Hoover Dam (702-294-1414, [www.blackcanyonadventures.com](http://www.blackcanyonadventures.com)). Other businesses that give tours of the Colorado River and Lake Mead include Boulder City Outfitters (702-293-1190 or [www.bouldercityoutfitters.com](http://www.bouldercityoutfitters.com)), Desert Adventures (702-510-4746 or [www.kayaklasvegas.com](http://www.kayaklasvegas.com)) and Look Tours (800-LOOKTOURS or [www.looktours.com](http://www.looktours.com)).

# Karen Silveroli

Las Vegas artist mixes materials to create personalized jewelry.



**Liquid Essence:** Silveroli made this necklace with Japanese seed beads, fire-polished beads, and cording.



Las Vegas jewelry maker Karen Silveroli calls her creations “wearable art.” Her customers also like to have their jewelry personalized, she says. For example, a client who collects frogs gave Silveroli several wine corks with the word “ribbit” on each one. She combined the corks with semiprecious stone frogs in a necklace.

Silveroli mixes beads, crystal, and metal in necklaces, earrings, and

‘I want my creations to be bold, distinctive, and to make a statement.’

bracelets and in her new line of handbags. She also works with stones she picks up on hills near Las Vegas and Reno. “I use whatever I find that looks good together,” she says. “I don’t like to think inside a box, and I don’t listen to the outside world. I trust my gut.”

Silveroli studied art at San Diego State University and worked for many years at La Jolla Playhouse in La Jolla, California, before coming to Nevada in 1989. A jewelry maker for about 15 years, she attends Las Vegas Gem and

Mineral Society meetings to share her love of these materials with other members.

Silveroli focuses on the customer's personal style. "You bring me your clothes, and I will design a line of jewelry just for you," she says.

"Dainty" is not the word most people would associate with her creations, Silveroli adds. She says, "I want my jewelry to be bold, distinctive, and to make a statement." The artist is inspired by vibrant Las Vegas sunsets and the colorful formations at Red Rock Canyon and Valley of Fire State Park.

Silveroli's jewelry and other accessories can be seen at the Art Encounter, 3979 Spring Mountain Road in Las Vegas, or for information call her at 702-218-9652. Silveroli and friends Erica Hamilton and Sue Dobson own Funkadelic Designs, a custom-designed jewelry business. ▣

*Joyce Hollister*

**Swing Time:** A pendant made of dichroic glass is combined with Japanese seed beads, Austrian crystals, and sterling silver in this necklace.



**Flash Dancer:** Semiprecious pearls and a dichroic-glass pendant glow in this piece, which also incorporates silver and Japanese seed beads. The silver-and-bead earrings feature semiprecious stones.





Mary Jean Lang has her hands full of pumpkins and jars of honey from Smith and Smith Farm.



Austin Piper, 13, rides the 1957 International Cub tractor past the redwood barn and the display of all the gourds and pumpkins produced at the farm.

# Putting Down Roots

The Smith family raises veggies and flowers for sale on nine acres in Dayton.

Story by Merrie Leininger Photos by Carolyn Fox

Dayton residents Ron and Carole Smith came from a long line of farmers. For many years, they were not able to afford a way back into agriculture—except for a vegetable patch outside their Carson City home. It took the next generation—their daughter, Brenda Smith, and son-in-law Kevin Piper, who both taught crop science at Cal Poly—to get their Smith and Smith Farm in Dayton going in 1996.

Carole Smith and her daughter are the Smiths of the farm's title, but most members of the family are involved in some way. Julie

Lozada, Ron and Carole's daughter, comes from Texas occasionally to help. Many of the farm hands belong to the third generation. The Pipers' son, Austin, 13, and three other grandsons—Miguel, 20, Emilio, 15, and Diego, 14, Lozada—harvest, irrigate, and plow nine of the family's 20 acres with antique tractors and two Belgian draft horses named Rudy and Sparky.

The farm grows vegetables and more than 20 varieties of flowers, including lilies, dahlias, sunflowers, and sweet peas. Every week in the summer the family delivers wooden crates full of ripe vegetables to subscription customers. From 3:30 to 7 p.m. each Thursday through the end of September, the farmers sell vegetables and flowers outside Adele's restaurant in Carson City.

In October, the Smiths hold a customer appreciation day in which their subscribers can pick up free pumpkins and spend a day on the farm. Kids ride on the tractors and a hay wagon pulled by the draft horses. Besides pumpkins, customers usually walk out with their arms full of flowers, fresh honey, winter squash, and corn stalks for Halloween decorations.



Two youngsters take a ride on one of the antique tractors.

*Merrie Leininger is a Reno Gazette-Journal entertainment reporter who goes to farmer's markets every chance she gets. Carolyn Fox is a photographer living in Jackson, California.*

# Touring Washoe Valley

Fall is a good time for a bike ride.

A ride in Washoe Valley north of Carson City can be a pleasant fall excursion for casual bikers. One good trip makes a loop from Bowers Mansion on the west side of Washoe Lake to Washoe Lake State Park on the east side.

Bowers Mansion Regional Park, 10 miles north of downtown Carson City on Old U.S. 395, is a good place to begin because there is plenty of parking. Since the 10-mile sightseeing tour can take two to three hours to finish, it's best to start early in the morning to miss the afternoon winds.

On the first leg, peddlers make their way from Bowers Mansion



Rose and Mike Wolterbeek of Reno pedal past Bowers Mansion as they begin their ride to Washoe Lake State Park.

for .8 miles south on Old U.S. 395 and turn right on Franktown Road, riding past picturesque barns and horse-filled pastures with Slide Mountain as a backdrop. Riders reconnect with Old U.S. 395 after completing the five-mile Franktown loop and continue south to East Lake Boulevard (1.3 miles), passing beneath the bridge over U.S. 395 to reach Washoe Lake State Park.

Bicyclists can stay for as long as they wish at the park. The Wetland Migration Site near the entrance has viewing stands for birders. South Beach offers picnic tables and shade trees. A boat ramp, pier, picnic tables, restrooms, and camping also are available. User fees vary. On the trip back to Bowers Mansion, you can retrace the Franktown loop or take the shorter route by continuing north on Old U.S. 395.

For details about Bowers Mansion visit [www.washoecounty.parks.com](http://www.washoecounty.parks.com) or call the park headquarters at 775-687-4319. For more information about Washoe Lake State Park visit [www.parks.nv.gov](http://www.parks.nv.gov). —Alisha Wike



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# Nevada Almanac

Hoover Dam tour, Fascinating Facts, and a contest.

## New Dam Tour

Hoover Dam opens sections closed since 9/11

By Alisha Wike

Today, visitors to Hoover Dam can see areas that had been closed since 9/11 for security reasons. The dam's historical tour was restricted to a balcony overlooking the generators in the power plant's Nevada Wing. But the spring reopening of the penstock-viewing platform allows tour-goers to marvel at the pipes—each 30 feet in diameter—that carry water from Lake Mead to the power plant.

"We are thrilled to be able to expand the tour route to again include the viewing platform," says John Keys, recently retired Bureau of Reclamation commissioner. "We think this will significantly increase the Hoover Dam experience for our visitors."

## Fascinating Dam Facts

- 1 Hoover Dam cost \$175 million to build in the 1930s.
- 2 The dam contains 3.25 million cubic yards of concrete—enough to pave a two-lane highway from San Francisco to New York.
- 3 Hoover Dam is 726 feet tall, which is 171 feet taller than the Washington Monument and more than twice as tall as the 338-foot, pyramid-shaped Luxor Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas.
- 4 Each of the 30-foot-diameter penstocks—water pipes—can carry enough water to fill 900 100-gallon bathtubs or 960,000 12-ounce soda-pop cans in one second.
- 5 There were 111 fatalities during the construction of the dam. Contrary to a popular myth, no one is buried in the dam.  
—Richard Moreno and Alisha Wike



Life-size models and detailed dioramas are found among the new exhibits at Hoover Dam.

After the guided tour, guests can visit the original exhibit gallery that was closed in 2005 for remodeling. New exhibits offer large-scale photos and murals that show the dam's construction from 1931 to 1935. A life-size diorama depicts the workers placing concrete. In one exhibit, visitors can walk through a full-size replica of a hydroelectric turbine generator. Touch-screen computers explain how electricity is generated.

"We think these new exhibits will greatly contribute to the visitor's understanding of Hoover Dam—why and how it was built, how it operates, how it is maintained, and where its water and power products go," Keys says.

Visitors also learn about the Bureau of Reclamation, the federal agency that maintains Hoover Dam. A large three-dimensional map of the Colorado River basin explains the river's watershed and the distribution of the water and power from Hoover and other Colorado River dams.

Hoover Dam is located on U.S. 93 eight miles east of Boulder City and 34 miles east of Las Vegas. The tour center opens at 9 a.m. daily and the last tour is at 5:15 p.m. Ticket prices are \$11 for adults, \$6 for ages seven to 16, and \$9 for seniors. For more information call 702-494-2517 or visit [www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam.html](http://www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam.html).

*Alisha Wike is a Carson City freelance writer.*

## Hoover Dam Contest

What were the purposes of Hoover Dam as stated by the Boulder Canyon Project Act of 1928?

Email your answer to [jhollister@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:jhollister@nevadamagazine.com).

**Contest deadline is September 21.**



Hoover Dam was built in the 1930s.

# NEVADA Events & Shows

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

September/October 2006

## Vegas' Wild and Wacky Shows

King of Props

**Carrot Top**

Hysterical Hypnotist

**Anthony  
Cools**

Magic Schtick

**Amazing  
Johnathan**

Nutty Nuptials

**"Tony n'  
Tina's  
Wedding"**



Carrot Top



Anthony Cools

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"Tony n' Tina's Wedding"



Amazing Johnathan

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# Wild and Wacky

Las Vegas' offbeat comedy shows redefine what **tickles the funnybone**

By Richard Moreno



The bridal couple in Tony n' Tina's Wedding stumble to the altar, involving showgoers in the prenuptial dinner show at the Rio All-Suite Hotel. Top: Carrot Top, the bushy-haired prop jock of comedy, unloads trunks full of "visual aids" during his show at the Luxor.

Few places can match Las Vegas when it comes to offbeat comedy acts. Where else can you catch Carrot Top holding up a John Deere hat with a tassel and calling it a "redneck graduation cap." Or see the Amazing Johnathan, an illusionist, trying to magically pass a pair of scissors through his assistant's head and getting them stuck?

These days, Las Vegas comedy acts are sometimes silly, often strange, and always unexpected. Following are some of the city's wilder and wackier acts that have helped redefine what tickles the funny bone.

## The Prop Master: **Carrot Top**

Sight gags and goofy props abound in a Carrot Top show. In fact, the orange-haired comedian, whose real name is Scott Thompson, specializes in the art of the groaning laugh—you can't help but



The grossly funny magician Amazing Johnathan staples cards to the forehead of his assistant, Psychic Tanya, at the Sahara. Below: Dogs and cats charm showgoers during Greg Popvich's Comedy Pet Theatre at the Aladdin.

**"Tony n' Tina's Wedding,"** is a real "tour de farce" involving the marriage of beer-swigging bride Tina Vitale and her equally brutish groom, Tony Nunzio.

laugh because the humor is so patently dumb.

During a typical performance, Carrot Top drags out as many as nine large trunks containing visual aids. They include his idea for a new envelope in which to mail tax returns to the IRS—shaped like a hand with an extended middle finger. His Rush Limbaugh microphone dispenses pills. There's his red-neck iPod—an old turntable with a shoulder strap. His doll-sized luggage is impossibly heavy while his elephant-sized backpack practically floats in the air.

During his show at the Luxor,

Carrot Top artfully mixes in jokes and stories. He often accents them with loud sound effects like squealing car tires, buzzers, and horns. He'll add impersonations, funny song lyrics, and just about anything else he can think of to elicit a laugh—which most likely will be the groaning kind.

Carrot Top appears in the Atrium Showroom at the Luxor. Shows start at 8 p.m. on Sunday through Monday and Wednesday through Friday; 7 and 9 p.m. on



# Other Wild and Wacky Las Vegas Shows

**Penn & Teller** combine world-class illusions (often involving seemingly deadly or violent acts against Teller), witty humor, and political observations. The duo appear Wednesdays through Mondays at the Rio. Show time: 9 p.m. Tickets \$75. Call 702-777-7776.

**"Menopause the Musical"** incorporates classic pop tunes with humorous, new lyrics while celebrating women on the brink of "the change." Shimmer Cabaret, Las Vegas Hilton. Show times: 7 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, 2 p.m. Wednesdays, 4 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 and 5 p.m. Sundays. Tickets \$59.46. Call 702-732-5755.

**"The Soprano's Last Supper"** is an interactive dinner show that parodies the popular *Sopranos* television program. Krave Nightclub, Aladdin. Show time: 6 p.m. Thursday through Tuesday. Tickets \$97.90-\$132, which includes a four-course dinner. Call 800-944-5639.

**A Touch of Mystery Cruises** on Lake Mead invites guests to solve a murder mystery during a dinner cruise on the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler. With a new "who-dunnit" each month, participants interact with a large cast of characters, each of whom seems to have plenty of motives for committing the crime. The next shows are September 29 ("Murder Wasn't On The Menu") and October 27 ("The



The retro-musical "Shag With a Twist" plays at Krave Nightclub.

Family Reunion—1940s"). Show time: 7 p.m. Tickets \$84. Contact Lake Mead Cruises, Boulder City, 702-497-7936.

**Vinnie Favorito** spars with his audience using deft putdowns and edgy comments—he's been described as a latter-day Don Rickles. The comedian performs twice nightly at O'Sheas/Flamingo Las Vegas. Show times: 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Tickets \$39.95 to \$49.95 plus taxes and fees. Call 702-733-3333.

**Shag With a Twist** is a campy retro musical set at a 1960s Tupperware party that weaves classic '60s rock 'n' roll music with hip artwork, period choreography, and whirling psychedelic colors. Krave Nightclub at the Aladdin. Show time: 9:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday and mid-night Tuesday through Thursday. Tickets \$45 to \$55. Call 888-515-SHAG.



"Soprano's Last Supper" dinner theater at Krave Nightclub at the Aladdin.

Saturdays. Ticket prices are \$57.95, \$60.95, and \$68.95 (must be 18 years of age or older). For reservations call 702-262-4900.

## Animal Planet: Greg Popovich's Comedy Pet Theatre

Moscow Circus veteran Greg Popovich has a way with animals. In fact, he cajoles more than two dozen of them, including 15 cats and eight dogs rescued from shelters. Under his guidance the animals dance, jump, balance on balls, and perform other amazing tricks during his afternoon shows in the V Theatre in the Miracle Mile Shops (formerly Desert Passage) at the Aladdin Hotel.

Popovich's act, however, is much more than cats and dogs. Reflecting his circus roots, the show features his wife, daughter,

## Hypnotist

## Anthony Cools

makes his  
volunteer subjects  
do anything he  
wants. Anything.

and several assistants, who combine climbing, balancing, hula hooping, juggling, sight gags, playful clowning, and other slapstick derring-do. Much of the show is performed in the silent-clown tradition of European circuses, with Popovich showing off his juggling skills. And the show is one of the few in Las Vegas that is family friendly.

Greg Popovich's Comedy Pet Theatre is presented at 3:30 p.m. Saturday through Thursday in the V Theatre in the Miracle Mile Shops at the Aladdin. Tickets cost \$34, \$20 children two to 12. For reservations call 702-892-7790, ext. 228.

## Family Is Funny: Tony n' Tina's Wedding

Some weddings are train wrecks, a fact played for laughs during "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive dinner show that incorporates the audience members into

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Anthony Cools' hypnotized subjects give outrageous performances at the Excalibur.

the wedding party. The show, playing nightly at the Rio All-Suite Hotel, is a real "tour de farce" involving the marriage of beer-swiggling bride Tina Vitale and her equally brutish groom, Tony Nunzio.

Part of this dysfunctional nuptial's charm is that the 25 actors never break character. They mingle with audience members waiting in line and sitting at the banquet tables, talking to them as if they are relatives or friends of one of the two families—who, naturally, don't like each other. There are plenty of twists and turns, such as the groom chasing the bride's ex-boyfriend around the room, that make the audience wonder if the wedding will even take place. At least dinner is guaranteed.

With such a large cast of characters sitting at different tables throughout the room, nearly every member of the audience can have a different experience. Additionally, the wedding's entertainment—a band known as Donny Dulce and Fusion—offers appropriately off-kilter covers of wedding standards like "Boogie Oogie Oogie."

Of course, in the end Tony marries Tina. Love is blind.

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding" is staged nightly at 7 p.m. in the Calypso Room at the Rio All-Suites Hotel. Tickets cost \$86.85 to \$137.50 and include dinner (must be 5 years old or older). For show reservations call 702-777-7776.

### Magic Gone Wild: Amazing Johnathan

The Amazing Johnathan doesn't care if you like him. His shtick is to feign indif-

ference whether he's tormenting a volunteer from the audience or his trusty sidekick, Psychic Tanya. Yet despite his cruel jokes, sexist and racist humor, and often-obscene language, he makes you laugh.

It's difficult to put a label on the Amazing Johnathan's act. It's a magic show—although Johnathan makes much of the fact that he actually performs very little magic—combined with comedy that has a caustic edge. You might not want to laugh at some of what he does, like stapling playing cards over Tanya's eyes to keep her from cheating while she shows off her alleged psychic powers, but you can't help yourself (and somehow you know he's not actually stapling the cards to her face).

While Johnathan is not for everyone, he's been filling Las Vegas showrooms for nearly eight years, including the Congo Room at the Sahara, where he currently tortures Psychic Tanya. Check him out if you dare.

The Amazing Johnathan appears at 10 nightly except Thursday in the Congo Showroom at the Sahara. Tickets are \$49.95 to \$54.95 plus tax and ticket fee (must be 18 years old or older). For reservations call 702-737-2515.

### Hysterical Hypnosis: Anthony Cools

Anthony Cools' hypnosis act isn't kid stuff. The Canadian-born Cools caters to adults with his no-holds-barred brand of hypnosis. Cools, who appears at the Excalibur, specializes in embarrassing his volunteers. Using his considerable talent for quickly putting folks under his spell, Cools makes them do anything he wants. *Anything.* That might include getting them to play an imaginary musical instrument or having a conversation with a body part or getting intimate with a piece of furniture.

Ironically, Cools initially used hypnosis as a tool to help people give up smoking or lose weight. He became a hypnotist-comic to promote his therapy business but gave it up after discovering he had a knack for getting people to make fools of themselves.

And believe it or not, they volunteer for the privilege.

Anthony Cools appears at 9 nightly in the Minstrel Lounge at the Excalibur. Tickets are \$44 plus tax (must be 18 years old or older). For reservations call 702-597-7600. ♣

*Richard Moreno was once hypnotized into believing he was Nevada Magazine's publisher.*

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# Road to Statehood



Celebrations mark Nevada's role in the abolition of slavery and the Silver State's birthday. **By Alisha Wike**

As the Civil War was coming to an end, President Abraham Lincoln needed another free state to promote his reconstruction program for the South. On October 31, 1864, after receiving the state's constitution by telegraph from Carson City, Lincoln proclaimed Nevada the 36th state. The telegram was the longest transmission at the time and took two days to reach Washington, D.C. at a cost of \$4,303.27 Today, residents honor statehood with a state holiday—Nevada Day.

On February 16, 1865, the Nevada legislature ratified the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery. After having been ratified by 27 states, the required number, the amendment was given final approval by the U.S. House of Representatives on December 6, 1865.

These moments in Nevada's history will be celebrated this fall in Northern Nevada when festivities and exhibits recall events of the Battle Born state's earliest days.

In Virginia City, the national exhibition "Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation," which opened in July, will be displayed at the Historic Fourth Ward School Museum through October 20. Virginia City is one of three locations in the West featuring the Lincoln exhibition, which consists of 60 reproductions of rare historical documents, period photographs, engravings, lithographs, and political cartoons. Other cities hosting the exhibit are San Diego and Park City, Utah. "Forever Free" consists of six panels, which, when placed together, are 75 feet long.

"The exhibit is phenomenal," says Barbara Mackey, director of the Historic Fourth Ward Museum. "There are wonderful documents and photographs that you don't normally see. The exhibit has copies of Lincoln's original letters discussing his decision-making process for framing the emancipation. The photographs are not just of Lincoln but also of different battle scenes from the Civil War and key players of that time in our nation."

With topics such as "Young Lincoln's America: The Dividing House" and "War for the Union and Freedom," the exhibit informs visitors about slavery, racism, and the black fighting men who contributed to the Union's victory.

"The exhibit offers an opportunity to learn more about how Abraham Lincoln decided upon the emancipation of the slaves, even as he tried to hold together a fragile coalition of states in order to preserve the Union," says Christy Strange, Storey County School District librarian, who wrote the grant that brought the exhibit to Virginia City.



The Nevada Day parade is on Saturday, October 28. Top: One of the last photos taken of Abraham Lincoln, spring 1865, by Alexander Gardner, is on display in Virginia City.

In Carson City, the Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk kicks off a week of activities on October 21, marking the annual celebration of statehood, Nevada Day.

This year's celebration theme is "Nevada Day Meets the Virginia and Truckee Railway," and visitors can ride historic trains in Virginia and Carson cities. Festivities include the state's biggest parade, a beard contest, the 1864 Grand Ball, concerts, a chili feed, carnival, a run/walk, the 32nd annual World Championship Rock Drilling Contest, a golf tournament, and amateur boxing.

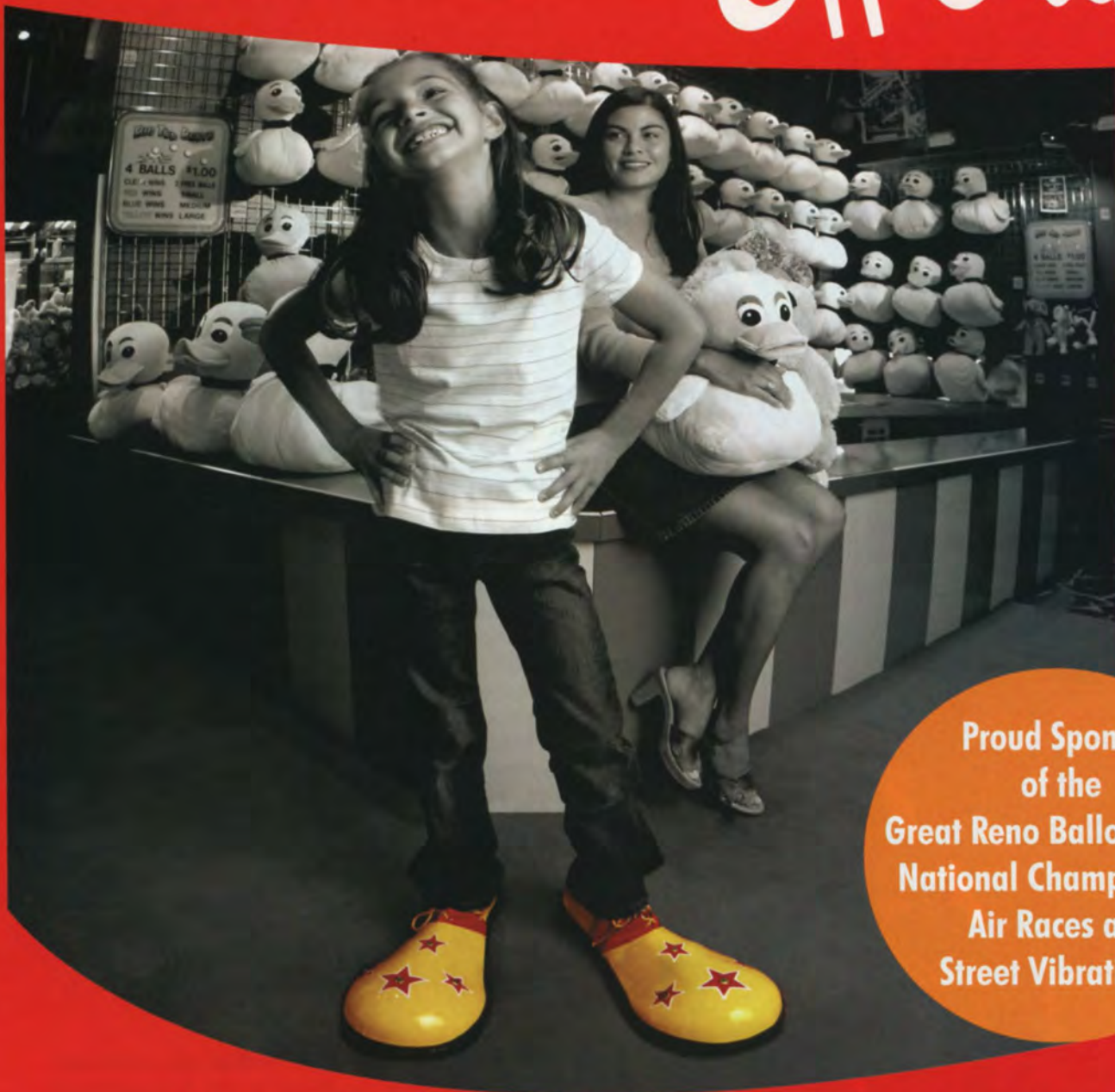
## When You Go

"Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation" is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through October 20 at the Historic Fourth Ward School Museum in Virginia City. Admission to the museum is \$5 for adults, \$3 children six to 12, and free for under six. Call 775-847-0975 or visit [www.fourthwardschool.org](http://www.fourthwardschool.org) for information.

Nevada Day activities in Carson City begin with the Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk on October 21 and the Ride the Rails steam train ride on October 22. The RSVP Nevada Days carnival and midway runs October 26-29, and the Nevada Day parade begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 28, followed the next day by another Ride the Rails train ride. The state-observed holiday is Friday, October 27 making it a three-day Nevada Day weekend. For information on events call 866-NVDAY4ALL or visit [www.nevadaday.com](http://www.nevadaday.com).

Alisha Wike is a Carson City freelance writer.

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# Crazy for Cantaloupe

Fallon's festival celebrates **nature's gold**.

By Teri Russman



Amber Stevenson of Fallon goes for a strike during cantaloupe bowling at last year's Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival at the Churchill County Fairgrounds. Kids can also take part in the junior rodeo.



Kids load a wagon full of melons at Lattin Farms in Fallon.

**Y**ou can sink your teeth into the sweetness of summer during the Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival and Country Fair, held September 1-4 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds in Fallon. The annual Labor Day party celebrates a unique cantaloupe cultivated since the early 20th century by Fallon farmers.

"At peak production in the 1920s, the Hearts O' Gold cantaloupe were grown for taste, but sales have gradually declined, giving way to modern-day hybrids developed for easier shipping and longer shelf life," says Rich Lattin, one of a handful of local farmers who still grow the heirloom melon.

Vendors offer cantaloupe daiquiris, cantaloupe salsa, cantaloupe breads, and cantaloupe cookies.

As a salute to the Hearts O' Gold, vendors offer cantaloupe daiquiris, cantaloupe salsa, cantaloupe breads, and cantaloupe cookies. Visitors can taste roasted sweet corn and local honey and buy Nevada-made crafts. "It's all good, but my favorite has to be the cantaloupe à la mode," said Fallon resident Shelley Decker, who attended the event last year.

Old-fashioned family fun includes food booths, exhibits, shows, concerts, a carnival, parade, and junior rodeo.

The Swan Brothers Circus returns this year with its slapstick comedy and magic. "The best thing about what we do is earning smiles and laughter from the kids," said Zippy the Clown. Joining the fun on the festival stage are comedy-hypnotist Barry Jones, Wildlife Wendy and her tropical birds, and the "Lights, Camera, Action" baboon show.

Visitors can compete in karaoke contests and bet on Cook's

Racing Pigs. The animals race around a 90-foot track in just under seven seconds. During the mud volleyball tournament, up to 24 teams slosh in knee-high to thigh-high sludge.

Heartbreak Tonight, an Eagles tribute band, takes the stage on Saturday evening, followed by the California Cowboys playing country-Western music. American Made, singing cover songs from the 1940s to current hits, performs Sunday evening. The Battle of the Bands features five groups who each play for 20 minutes.

Monday, Family Day, begins with a pancake breakfast and parade through downtown Fallon. Kids 12 and under get in free to the festival and may compete for prizes in several contests and games, including cantaloupe eating and bowling and the Little Cowboy and Cowgirl competitions. Dinner tickets, at \$10, allow you to taste the results of the Amateur Backyard Grillers Championship, a sell-out favorite.

## When You Go

The Hearts O' Gold Festival and Country Fair is held September 1-4 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds in Fallon. Cost is \$5 adults and \$3 children. Weekend passes are \$10 and \$6. For a schedule of events or more information call the Fallon Chamber of Commerce at 775-423-2544 or visit [www.fallonchamber.com](http://www.fallonchamber.com).

*Teri Russman, a Reno freelance writer, is a big fan of Fallon cantaloupes.*



Dakota Bomback takes a break after competing in the cantaloupe-eating contest at the Fallon harvest event.

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# NEVADA

## Events & Shows

Nevada Magazine's complete guide to activities and entertainment. Call ahead to confirm details.

## Las Vegas

### AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS

#### Events

**Las Vegas 51s Baseball** • The Pacific Coast League team plays Sept. 1-4 vs. Fresno Grizzlies. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

**Harvest Fest** • Sept. 2 • Arts and crafts, educational booths, children's programs. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 10 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-515-5367.

**PSCA Labor Day Nationals** • Sept. 2-3 • Drag racing. The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**AVP Beach Volleyball Tour** • Sept. 7-9 • Professional athletes compete in the Roman Plaza, Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7110.

**Michael Feinstein/Linda Eder** • Sept. 8 • Stars on the Lake outdoor concert takes place on a floating stage. Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-795-SHOW.

**Harvest Festival** • Sept. 8-10 • Arts, crafts, food, entertainment. Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-451-0344.

**Las Vegas Primm 300** • Sept. 8-10 • SCORE International, sponsored off-road race. Primm, 40 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15, www.score-international.com.

**Henderson Live** • Sept. 9 • Music and brewfest. Special Events Plaza, Henderson, 702-267-2171.

**Ash Grove Trail Hike** • Sept. 9 • Easy hike covers the flora, fauna, and history of the ranch. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Black and White Party** • Sept. 9 • 20th annual AIDS of Nevada fundraiser. Palms Resort, 702-382-2326, ext. 2235.

**Astronomy Night** • Sept. 9 • Program by the Las Vegas Astronomical Society. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 10 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-515-5350.

**Liberace Museum** • Sept. 10 • An exhibit of the shoes worn by Mr. Showmanship opens. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

**Mexican Independence Celebration** • Sept. 10 • Event features music, dance, exhibits, displays, food. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-649-1198.

**Peruvian Dance** • Sept. 10 • Traditional program. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

**San Gennaro Feast** • Sept. 12-17 • Fireworks, traditional Italian



Kerri Walsh, left, and Holly McPeak face off during the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour September 7-9 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and September 14-17 at MontBleu Resort (formerly Caesars Tahoe) in Stateline.

procession, carnival, music, strolling accordionists, food, midway, pony rides, petting zoo, face painting, vendors. Grand Canyon Shopping Center, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

**"Steel Magnolias"** • Sept. 14-16 • Virgin Valley Theatre Group presentation. Virgin Valley Auditorium, Mesquite, 702-346-4980.

**Friday Night Cruise** • Sept. 15 • All years, makes, models. Hot Rod Grille, Henderson, 702-643-0000.

**Las Vegas BikeFest** • Sept. 15-16 • Motorcycle rally. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**Ratt Rocks BikeFest** • Sept. 16 • Free concert. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**Soldiers of the Old Fort** • Sept. 16 • Rifle musket demonstration and living-history program. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

**Chris Botti** • Sept. 16 • Stars on the Lake outdoor concert takes place on a floating stage. Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-795-SHOW.

**Mandy Patinkin in Concert** • Sept. 16 • Tony- and Emmy-Award winning performer. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Evening of Ethnic Expression** • Sept. 16 • Cultural celebration. Mesquite Recreation Center Park, Mesquite, 702-346-5295.

**American Originals: Boulder City Chautauqua 2006** • Sept. 16 • Scholars who have studied famous characters in America's history take on the personas of Senator Joseph McCarthy, Buffalo Bill Cody, Edward R. Murrow, and Margaret Breen. Historic Boulder Theatre, Boulder City, 702-293-7688.

**Pacific Islands Festivals** • Sept. 16-17 • 17th annual Ho'olaule'a cultural celebration features music, dance, and history. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-210-1340.

**Celebrity Poker Run** • Sept. 17 • Corps of Compassion fundraiser features Branscombe Richmond, Mondo of Denver's Choppers, and celebrities such as Lorenzo Lamas and Angie Everhart. The event is held in conjunction with Las Vegas BikeFest. Registration at Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-544-1400.

**Sandstone Canyon Hike** • Sept. 17 • Three-hour moderate-to-strenuous walk, with some boulders. Bring water, snacks, comfortable hiking shoes. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Fiestas Patrias** • Sept. 17 • Mexican Independence celebration. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

**Super Run 2006 Car Show** • Sept. 21-24 • More than 1,000 vehicles, classic cars, street rods, hot rods, muscle cars, motorcycles. Free concert, Sept. 22 with Little Anthony and Imperials, and on Sept. 23, Herman's Hermits and the Monkees. Downtown Henderson and the District at Green Valley Ranch, Henderson, 702-643-0000.

**Las Vegas Greek Food Festival** • Sept. 21-24 • Food, music by The Olympians and Fotia, dance, ethnic goods, children's entertainment, church tours, lectures. Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Las Vegas, 702-248-3896.

**International New Music Festival** • Sept. 22-24 • Contemporary chamber music compositions feature guest artists Henri Bok, Nebojsa Zivovic, and Ben Toth. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-LIVE.

**Golf Fest Vegas III** • Sept. 22-24 • Events include free golf instruction by PGA pros, hitting cages, contests, virtual golf simulator, fashion show, beer garden. Paid admission includes a free round of golf. South Coast Hotel, Las Vegas, 858-586-1202.

**NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series** • Sept. 23 • 10th annual event covers 146 laps around the Super Speedway, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**Art and Innocence** • Sept. 23 • Fundraiser for critically ill and abused children will be hosted by Jay Leno and feature World Class Rockers, former members of Santana, Journey, Steppenwolf, Toto, and Lynyrd Skynyrd. Event includes art and Brett Torino's rare muscle car collection. World Market Center, Las Vegas, 702-434-3699.



**Comedienne Rita Rudner opens October 2 at Harrah's Las Vegas on the Strip.**

**Petroglyphs for Kids** • Sept. 23 • Rock art program. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

**Living-History Presentation** • Sept. 23 • First-person interpreters introduce some of the ranch's famous owners. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Pops at the Pavilion** • Sept. 24 • Outdoor concert features the Las Vegas Philharmonic. Henderson Pavilion at Liberty Pointe, Henderson, 702-895-2787.

**Nigerian Music** • Sept. 24 • World Vibrations Music Series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

**YMCA Golf Tournament** • Sept. 25 • 13th annual fundraiser. TPC Summerlin, Las Vegas, 702-877-7233.

**Las Vegas Civil War Roundtable** • Sept. 27 and Oct. 25 • Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

**Shakespeare in the Park, 20th Anniversary** • Sept. 28-30 • "Comedy of Errors," Sept. 28 at Lake Las Vegas and Sept. 29-30 at Wildhorse Golf Club, Henderson, 702-221-7431.

**Murder Mystery Cruise** • Sept. 29 • Interactive dinner theater

**Trucks race at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway September 23.**



on board the paddlewheeler, *Desert Princess*, during its cruise of Lake Mead. Play is "Murder Wasn't on the Menu." Lake Mead Cruises, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.

**Seal** • Sept. 30 • Stars on the Lake outdoor concert takes place on a floating stage. Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-795-SHOW.

**Sandstone Canyon Hike** • Sept. 30 • Three-hour moderate-to-strenuous walk, with some boulders. Bring water, snacks, comfortable hiking shoes. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**What a Relief! Benefit** • Sept. 30 • Outdoor benefit for Make-A-Wish Foundation includes scenes from 2006 Super Summer Theatre's musicals, family activities, jugglers, magicians, face painting, games. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-655-3293.

**VW Car Show** • Sept. 30 • Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**Las Vegas Bug-In** • Oct. 1 • All-Volkswagen drag racing, swap meet, car show. The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**Second Annual Paranormal Conference** • Oct. 1-2 • Midnight séance, cocktail party, ghost hunt, discussions. Palace Station, Las Vegas, www.TLVPC.com.

**Art in the Park** • Oct. 1-2 • More than 400 vendors, artists, craft, and food vendors. Government Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

**Bayanihan Philippine National Dance Company** • Oct. 3 • First Filipino group to perform on Broadway and first non-American company to perform at Lincoln Center. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Las Vegas Corvette Club Roulette** • Oct. 5-8 • Autocross, car show, rally, awards banquet. Stardust, Las Vegas, 702-453-2134.

**Imperial Palace Golf Classic XIV Tournament** • Oct. 6-7 • \$299 entry fee includes play at Rhodes Ranch Golf club, lunch, two-night stay, transportation, reception, awards party, \$10,000 in prizes. Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 800-634-6441, ext. 2.

**Shakespeare in the Park, 20th Anniversary** • Oct. 6-8 • "Hamlet, Prince of Denmark." Clark County Government Center Amphitheater, Henderson, 702-221-7431

**Viva Laughlin!** • Oct. 6-9 • Latino Heritage Month celebration features music, dancers, themed parties. Community casinos, Laughlin, 800-452-8445.

**Las Vegas Basque Festival** • Oct. 8 • Mass, Basque music, dancers, games, food, drink. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Las Vegas, 702-361-6458.

**Classic Car Show** • Oct. 8 • Competition, entertainment. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson. Call 702-564-4766 for details.

**Japanese Dance** • Oct. 8 • Dance depicts village life. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

**FRYS.com** • Oct. 9-15 •

24th annual PGA tournament. Event was the first PGA victory for Tiger Woods. Play at TPC Summerlin and TPC Canyons, Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.

**Joe Williams Music Scholarship Concert** • Oct. 10 • Fundraiser honors the famed Las Vegas musician. Nicholas Horn

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

**Logandale Bluegrass Festival** • Oct. 12-15 • Local, regional, and national bands, food, crafts, workshops, and RV and tent camping. Clark County Fairgrounds, Logandale, 702-564-5455.

**Renaissance Festival** • Oct. 13-15 • Medieval games and pageantry. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

**Hispanic International Parade** • Oct. 14 • Downtown Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**Living History Program** • Oct. 14 • Guided tour led by historic interpreter O.D. Gass. Old Las Vegas Mormon Historic State Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

**Masterworks I** • Oct. 14 • Las Vegas Philharmonic and guest conductor David Commanday and violinist Lara St. John. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787.

**Boulder City 31'ers Annual Luncheon** • Oct. 14 • Gathering of Hoover Dam construction workers, their families, and anyone who has resided in Boulder City for 31 years. Community Building, Boulder City, 702-294-1988.

**Rockabilly Rod Reunion** • Oct. 14 • Pre-1965 hot rods, kool customs, kulture midway, swap meet, nostalgia drag racing, DJ, bands. The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**Pioneer Living** • Oct. 14 • Old-time skills, crafts, Dutch-oven cooking, spinning, weaving, black-powder demonstrations, needlework, hay rides, free chili samples. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Fall Fine Arts Festival** • Oct. 14-15 • Show attracts more than 60 regional fine artists. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Liberace Celebration Weekend** • Oct. 14-15 • Annual Play-A-



Frank Mullen will play Edward R. Murrow at the Boulder City Chautauqua on September 16.

**Like Competition**. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

**LA Lakers vs. Phoenix Suns and Sacramento Kings** • Oct. 15 and 17 • NBA preseason games. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-FANS.

**1 Musici** • Oct. 18 • "The Musicians" interpret the style and taste of chamber music composers. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Dance Concert** • Oct. 18 • Ballet, modern dance, jazz, tap, ballroom, yoga, Middle-Eastern. Nicholas Horn Theatre,

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- Return to the rim by helicopter for a 5-mile guided bus tour.
- Enjoy a BBQ meal on Canyon Rim 4000ft above the river
- Return flight

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- Return by Motorcoach to Las Vegas.

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Regular Price: \$349

- Fly over Hoover Dam, Lake Mead and Fortification Hill.
- Enter the cliffs of the Colorado Plateau and Grand Canyon.
- Descending 4000ft. into the canyon, landing on the floor for an enjoyable champagne meal.

**VALLEY OF FIRE ATV TOUR** **\$179<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$199

- You experience the Mohave Desert driving your own All Terrain Vehicle, following a guide through hills & valleys that can only be seen by ATV
- See native animals like mustangs, Bighorn sheep, burros & lizards.
- Also see ancient Anasazi Indian petroglyphs & rock formations.
- 16 yrs. & up to operate ATV's
- Refreshments & meal included

**GRAND CANYON DELUXE AIR TOUR** **\$109<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$149

- Narrated flight over Boulder City, Lake Mead, Hoover Dam and the Grand Canyon.
- View the brilliant colors of the Canyon Walls two billion years old.
- Return flight

**GRAND CANYON WEST RIM BUS TOUR** **\$119<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$149

- Your journey to the Hualapai Indian Reservation located at the West Rim of the Grand Canyon will begin with a photo stop at Hoover Dam.
- Travelling along the southwest desert of Arizona you will see the beautiful 900-year old Joshua Tree forest and some history of early inhabitants.
- As you arrive at Grand Canyon the Hualapai Indians will give you a guided tour.
- Plenty of time to walk along the rim for photos
- Sit on the edge of the Canyon overlooking the Colorado River 4000ft. below.
- Hualapai Indians prepare a BBQ meal.

**GRAND CANYON INDIAN COUNTRY AIR & GROUND** **\$175<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$199

- Your flight begins over Boulder City, Lake Mead & the Grand Canyon
- Land and be greeted by Hualapai Indians who will give you a guided 5 mile bus tour along the Rim of the Canyon
- Tour will stop at scenic points for picture taking.
- Enjoy a complimentary BBQ meal on the Canyon Rim 4000ft. above the mighty Colorado River.

**VEGAS LIGHTS AT NIGHT** **\$59<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$79

- Vegas Lights at Night by Helicopter.
- Narrated 14 minute flight over the Las Vegas "Strip" and downtown Fremont, Experience Glitter Gulch.
- Complimentary glass of champagne.

**HOOVER DAM DELUXE** **\$28<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$49

- Relaxing in modern motorcoach through Boulder City, Lake Mead & 2-hour Stay at Hoover Dam.
- Buffet meal stop included
- Ethel M Chocolates Factory & Botanical Gardens included.

**HOOVER DAM MINI TOUR** **\$23<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$39

- Enjoy your travel through Boulder City, Lake Mead to Hoover Dam
- 2-hour stay at the Hoover Dam
- Interior tours & exhibits are available, but optional.

**GRAND CANYON WEST RIM VOYAGER** **\$219<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$249

- 3 in 1 Tour Bus-Helicopter-Boat
- Relaxing motorcoach ride thru Boulder City, Lake Mead, and across the Hoover Dam.
- Arrive at Grand Canyon West Hualapai Indian Reservation.
- Board a jet helicopter & descend 4000ft below the rim to the Canyon floor.
- Board a pontoon river boat for a cruise down the Colorado.
- Return to the Rim by helicopter for a 5-mile guided bus tour.
- Enjoy a BBQ meal on Canyon Rim 4000ft above the river.
- Return to Las Vegas by motorcoach.

**GRAND CANYON HUMMER EXPERIENCE** **\$189<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$249

- Your day travelling in a hummer will be a great experience, drive over Hoover Dam.
- View remote areas of the Coconino Plateau, Joshua Tree Forest, the Grand Canyon located on the Hualapai Indian Reservation.
- Meal served on Canyon rim 4000 ft. above Colorado River.

**CANYON HELICOPTER & HUMMER TOUR** **\$239<sup>99</sup>** Per Person  
Regular Price: \$299

- Grand Canyon air tour above/below the rim.
- Soar over Hoover Dam by helicopter, with views of Lake Mead and Fortification Hill.
- Descend below the rim of the Grand Canyon with a landing at Grand Canyon West.
- Hummer trip to the edge of the Canyon.

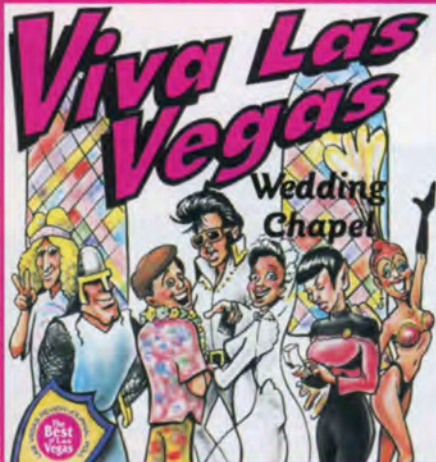


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Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-LIVE.  
**One-Act Play Festival** • Oct. 18-22 • Paul Harris Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Pomegranate Festival** • Oct. 20-21 • Crafts, art, demonstrations, food. Old Logandale School Historical and Cultural Center, Logandale, 702-398-7273.

**"Hello Jerry!"** • Oct. 21 • Tribute to the music and lyrics of Jerry Herman stars Las Vegas performer Paige O'Hara (the voice of Belle in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*) and Jason Grace who plays Sparky in "Forever Plaid." Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Halloween Spooktacular** • Oct. 21 • Pumpkin-carving, ghost stories around a campfire. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Wine Tasting** • Oct. 21 • Silent auction to benefit the Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-8000.

**Hawaiian Isles Festival and Outrigger Canoe Regatta** • Oct. 21-22 • Fifth annual festival and race. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-210-1340.

**Native American Music** • Oct. 22 • World Vibrations Music Series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

**RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship** • Oct. 23-28 • Golfers compete for a \$400,000 purse. Palms Golf Course, Mesquite, 800-896-4567.

**NHRA ACDelco Las Vegas Nationals** • Oct. 26-29 • Drag racing at the Strip, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**Murder Mystery Cruise** • Oct. 27 • Interactive dinner theater on board the paddlewheeler, *Desert Princess*, during its cruise of Lake Mead. Play's plot involves a 1940s family reunion. Lake Mead Cruises, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.

**The Great Mesquite Chili and Arts Festival** • Oct. 27-28 • Paintings, photography, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, basketry, weaving. Virgin River Convention Center, Mesquite, 702-346-1338.

**Civil War Reenactment** • Oct. 27-29 • Event celebrates Nevada's admission day. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**Halloween Festival** • Oct. 28-29 • Entertainment, trick-or-treat for kids. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas Resort, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Women's Collegiate Showdown** • Oct. 30-Nov. 1 • National golf championship tournament. Anthem Country Club, Henderson, 702-242-3000.

**Nevada Day Celebration** • Oct. 27-31 • Third annual party includes a haunted corn maze, barbecue, country band. E. Glendale Blvd., Glendale, 702-864-2277.

**Nevadaween** • Oct. 28 • Nevada's Admission Day and Halloween are celebrated with games, contests, living-history program, soup contest, and tastings. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.



Roy Lichtenstein's pop-art prints will be displayed at the Las Vegas Art Museum September 10-November 20.

**The 24-Hour Show: Working 'Round the Clock in Las Vegas** • Interactive permanent exhibit profiles the lives of casino workers—from cooks to wig stylists. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205 for museum exhibit information.

**Africa: The Source** • Permanent collection of contemporary and traditional African masks, textiles, and sculpture. Left of Center Art Gallery, Las Vegas, 702-647-7378.

**Las Vegas Farmer's 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 Farmer's 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.

**Across the Divide** • Thru Sept. 3 • Exhibition by Chinese artists. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

**Movies al Fresco** • Thursdays, thru Sept. 7 • Free outdoor movies. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Savage Ancient Seas** • Thru 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.

**Lakeside Concert Series** • Saturdays, thru Oct. 28 • Barbecue and concerts. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Bringing Up Baby** • Thru Nov. 5 • Exhibit covers family life and products used by children, such as baby buggies and cradleboards. Clark County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

**Jazz on the Lake** • Fridays, thru Nov. 17 • Outdoor concerts. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Ansel Adams: America** • Thru May 2007 • Exhibition of 50 works by the American photographer. Bellagio, Las Vegas, 888-987-6667.


**Valley of Fire Art Show** • Sept. 1-30 • Boulder City Art Guild artists. Visitor Center, Valley of Fire State Park, Overton, 702-293-2138.

**Boulder City 1931-2006** • Sept. 1-Nov. 30 • Exhibit celebrates Boulder City's 75th anniversary. Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum, Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 702-294-1988.

**First Friday** • Sept. 1 and Oct. 6 • Theater Series. Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

## Ongoing Events

**Free Concerts** • Tues.-Sat. on 1st and 3rd streets stages. Showgirls stroll the plaza 7-10pm, Mon.-Wed., weather permitting. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.



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**NASCAR Racing** • Sept. 2, 16, 30, Oct. 7, Nov. 2-4. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444 for additional racing information.

**UNLV Football** • The Rebels play Sept. 2 vs. Idaho State, Sept. 30 vs. UNR Reno, Oct. 14 vs. New Mexico, Nov. 4 vs. TCU, Nov. 18 vs. Wyoming, and Nov. 24 vs. Air Force. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

**Drag Racing** • Sept. 2-4, 15-16, 23, 27, 29-30, Oct. 1, 13-15, 18, 26-29, Nov. 1, 2-5, 8, 10-12, 17-19, 22-26, Dec. 1. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

**Quilt Display** • Sept. 5-30 • Fine Arts Center, Mesquite, 702-346-5295.

**"Lend Me a Tenor"** • Sept. 8-24 • Comedy revolves an aspiring understudy who steps into a role when the lead actor doesn't know he's been replaced. Las Vegas Little Theatre, Las Vegas, 702-362-7996.

**"Noises Off"** • Sept. 8-9, 14-16, 21-23 • Outdoor Super Summer Theatre Broadway musical involving a daffy maid, an illicit affair, a drunken burglar, and a couple hiding from the tax collector. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

**Moonlight Concerts** • Sept. 9, 16, 30 • Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

**Wine Walks** • Sept. 9, Oct. 14 • Taste a different wine at 10 shops. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

**Roy Lichtenstein Prints 1956-1997 Exhibition** • Sept. 10-Nov. 20 • Comic book images by the American pop artist. Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-8000.

**Cirque du Monde Photography Exhibition** • Sept. 15-Oct. 15 • Cirque du Soleil photo display depicts circus workshops. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

**Dam Short Film Festival** • Monthly screenings on Sept. 16, Our Furry, Four-Legged Friends. Oct. 21, Halloween Spooktacular '06. Nov. 18, The Little Things in Life. Dec. 16, Doing the Right Thing. Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 702-293-4848.

**"The Laramie Project"** • Sept. 22-24, 26-Oct. 1 • Drama about the murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student. Black Box Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Architectural Display by Eric Strain** • Oct. 3-Nov. 4 • Fine Arts Center, Mesquite, 702-346-5295.

**"Cheaper by the Dozen"** • Oct. 6-8, 12-15 • Comedy about an eccentric father and his 12 children. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

**"Private Lives"** • Oct. 6-8, 13-15 • Noel Coward's comedy about divorces and honeymoons. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**"All My Sons"** • Oct. 13-15, 20-22 • Drama involves a World War II businessman who knowingly sells defective airplane parts to the army, resulting in the deaths of 21 men. BackStage Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-LIVE.

**Las Vegas Wranglers ECHL Professional Hockey Team** • plays Oct. 24 vs. Phoenix Roadrunners, Nov. 3-4, and 7 vs. Victorian Salmon, Nov. 24 vs. Bakersfield Condors, Dec. 15 vs. Stockton Thunder, Dec. 16 vs. Fresno Falcons, Dec. 18 vs. Bakersfield Condors, Dec. 22 vs. Victoria Salmon, Dec. 23 vs. Fresno Falcons, Dec. 28-29 vs. Utah Grizzlies. Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, 702-471-7825.

**"The Book of Nights"** • Oct. 27-29, 31-Nov. 1-5 • Drama revolves around a safe house for abused and battered women. Black Box Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

**Day of the Dead** • Oct. 27-Nov. 24 • Mexican-themed, juried art show. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.



"Cheaper by the Dozen" plays Las Vegas' Reed Whipple Center on October 6-8 and 12-15.

## Coming Events

**Laughlin International Rally and Motorsports Festival** • Nov. 10-12 • 800-4LAUGHLIN.

**Mountain Man Rendezvous** • Nov. 10-12 • Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

**AHDRA World Finals** • Nov. 11-12 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

**PSCA Street Car Super Nationals** • Nov. 17-19 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

**The Comedy Festival** • Nov. 17-19 • Caesars Palace and Flamingo Las Vegas, [www.thecomedyfestival.com](http://www.thecomedyfestival.com).

**Downtown Hoedown** • Nov. 29 • Free concert with Deana Carter, Trick Pony, Little Texas, Ricochet. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**National Finals Rodeo** • Nov. 30-Dec. 9 • Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

**Bellagio Five Diamond World Poker Classic** • Dec. 15-19 • Las Vegas, [www.worldpokertour.com](http://www.worldpokertour.com).

**New Year's Eve Celebration** • Dec. 31 • Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.

**NBA All-Star Game** • Feb. 12-19 • Las Vegas, 702-895-FANS.

## Shows

### BOULDER CITY

**Hacienda** • 702-293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam. Karaoke, Wed., music Thurs.-Sun.

### 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 • 702-564-8595: Frankie

Moreno/Frank Joseph, Sept. 1. Frank Joseph/Jump, Jive, and Wail, Sept. 2. Flip Street/Rob Garret, Sept. 8. Rob Garret/Melanie Moore and Friends, Sept. 9. Darrin Michael Band/Wayne Gray, Sept. 15. Wayne Gray/Boy Katindig, Sept. 16. Cat Daddy/Frank Joseph, Sept. 22. Frank Joseph/Rick Arroyo and the Latin Percussion, Sept. 23. Island Tyme/Frank Joseph, Sept. 29. Frank Joseph/Yacht Club, Sept. 30.

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

**Joker's Wild** • 702-564-8100: Free entertainment offered Fri.-Sat.

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

**Sunset Station** • 702-547-7777: Latin Nights Fridays in Club M.

**JEAN**  
**Gold Strike Hotel** • 702-477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play daily.

**Nevada Landing** • 702-387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Weekend en-

tertainment. Call the hotel-casino for more information.

### LAS VEGAS

**Aladdin** • 702-785-5555 or 877-333-WISH: V Theatre at Miracle Mile Shops: Fab Four, dark Fri. "V," variety show, nightly. "X Girls: The Show," adult revue, dark Fri. Magician Nathan Burton, 2pm, dark Fri. and Sun. "Popovich Pet Comedy Show," 3:30pm, dark Fri. 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 opens in fall. Entertainment in Sinbad's and Curve. **Krave Nightclub**: 702-836-0836: "The Fashionistas," adult musical, dark Wed. **Funny Business Comedy Club**, nightly. **Sopranos Spoof**, 6pm dinner show, dark Wed. "Shag with a Twist," retro-musical revue, dark Fri.-Sat. The Aladdin will become Planet Hollywood in spring 2007.

**Arizona Charlie's** • 702-258-5200: Greg Peterson, Aug. 22-Sept. 2. Area 51, Sept. 5-9. Randy Anderson, Sept. 12-23. Vision, Sept. 26-30. Perfect Choice, Oct. 3-7. Rhythm Nation, Oct. 10-14. Karaoke, Mon. Jerry Tiffe plays 4-7pm Fri.

**Arizona Charlie's East** • 702-951-9000: Skip Eaton, Aug. 31-Sept. 9. Perfect Choice, Sept. 5-10. Greg Peterson, Sept. 12-17. John Grieco, Sept. 14-23. The Vegas Road Show, Sept. 19-24. Randy Anderson, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Vic Saldino, Sept. 28-Oct. 7. Daemine, Oct. 3-8.

**Bally's** • 702-739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: "Jubilee!," production show, dark Fri. "Price is Right," game show, 2:30pm Tues.-Sat., 8pm Fri. Entertainment in the Indigo Lounge and Tequila Bar.

**Barbary Coast** • 702-737-7111: Pete Vallee as "Big Elvis," 3 and 6pm Mon.-Thurs. Bands perform Tues.-Sat.

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**Bellagio** • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf., dark Mon.-Tues., 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: Toto, Sept. 1. Paul Brown, Sept. 2. Ray Scott, Sept. 8. Josh Gracin, Sept. 9. Arrested Development, Sept. 15. Kansas, Sept. 23. Don Williams, Sept. 29-30. Quiet Riot, Oct. 6. The Yellowjackets, Oct. 7. Peabo Bryson, Oct. 13. Dave Mason, Oct. 14. Sammy Kershaw, Oct. 20. The Commitments, Oct. 28. Diamond Rio, Nov. 11. Marshall Tucker Band, Nov. 17. Diane Schuur, Nov. 18. Tracy Lawrence, Dec. 8-9. 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...." Sept. 1-3, 6-7, 20-24, 28-Oct. 1, Oct. 4-8 (call 877-4-CELINE). "The Red Piano" starring Elton John, Oct. 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, 20-22 (888-4-ELTONJ). AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour, Sept. 7-9. The Comedy Festival, Nov. 15-18. Jerry Seinfeld, 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: Entertainment TBA.

**Circus Circus** • 702-734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts daily. Adventuredome Theme Park, noon-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 Coole: "Raw and Uncensored," hypnotist, dark Wed. Entertainment in the Casino Floor Lounge, Camelot Steakhouse, Regales Restaurant, and Fantasy Faire Midway and Magic Motion Rides.

**Fitzgeralds** • 702-388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): "Spirit of the King," starring Steve Connolly, Thurs.-Tues. 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.

**Fleming Las Vegas** • 702-733-3333 or 800-921-7299: George Wallace, comedian, indf., dark Sun.-Mon. Toni Braxton: Revealed, indf. Second City Theater: "Second City," improv comedy sketches, dark Wed. Bands play in Dublin Up Lounge, the Main Stage, Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville.

**Four Seasons** • 702-632-5000: Piano 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.

**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: Tool, Sept. 1. Godsmack and Rob Zombie, Sept. 24. Entertainment in Pink Taco, Simon Kitchen and Bar, and Body English Nightclub.

**Harrah's Las Vegas** • 702-369-5111 or 800-392-9002: Comedienne Rita Rudner opens Oct. 2. "Skintight," adult revue, dark Thurs. "Bareback," musical revue, Fri.-Wed. 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, Penazzi's Restaurant, and Carnival Court.

**Hofbräuhaus Las Vegas** • 702-853-BEER. Bavarian bands.



Blue men throw paint, bang drums, create artwork out of odd objects, and interact with audience members during the "Blue Man Group" show at the Venetian.

**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., thru Oct. 28. Entertainment in Beacher's Rockhouse. Karaoke, third floor next to sports bar, nightly.

**JW Marriott Las Vegas** • 702-869-2335: Music and dancing.

**Las Vegas Hilton** • 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Barry Manilow stars in "Manilow: Music and Passion," Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 6-9, 27-30, Oct. 4-7, Nov. 8-11, 15-18, Dec. 13-16. Kem, Sept. 12. John Secada, Sept. 15. Las Vegas International Mariachi Festival, Sept. 16. Jamie Cullum, Sept. 24. George Lopez, Oct. 13-14. Donna Summer, Nov. 3-4. Johnny Mathis, Nov. 24-25. Big and Rich: Kenny Alphin and John Rich, Dec. 1-3. Brooks and Dunn, Dec. 4-6. Vince Gill, Dec. 7-9. "Menopause: The Musical," dark Fri., matinee Wed., Sat.-Sun. Bands play in the Shimmer Cabaret.

**Liberace Museum** • 702-798-5595, ext. 13: "A Musical Tribute to Liberace: The Showmanship Years," starring Wes Winters, 1pm Tues.-Wed., Sat.

**Luxor** • 702-262-4555: Carrot Top, comedy, dark Tues. and Sept. 19-Oct. 3. "Fantasy," production show, dark Thurs. Entertainment in Nefertiti's and Ante Room lounges and clubs. Movies featured in the IMAX theater, tours 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. The Doobie Brothers, Sept. 1. Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, Sept. 1-3. Toby Keith, Sept. 23. House of Blues: Tesla, Sept. 2. James Gang, Sept. 3. Paramore, Sept. 8. Rock 'n Roll Wine Amp'd Festival, Sept. 9, wine tasting, music by Chris Clouse and Jeremy Cornwell. Dave Matthews Tribute Band with Alan Smithee, Sept. 9. Jurassic 5, Sept. 13. Candlebox with Driveblind, Sept. 14. Ian Gillan: The Voice of Deep Purple, Sept. 17. Asia, original members, Sept. 21. Richard Jeni, Sept. 30. An Evening with Queensryche, Oct. 6. Celtic Frost, Oct. 9. Pogues, Oct. 15. An Evening with Queensryche, Nov. 30. 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 Sun.-Mon. and Sept. 5-9, Nov. 7. David Copperfield, Sept. 1-20, Nov. 9-29, Dec. 21-31. Mary J. Blige, Sept. 2. "Delirium," production set to Cirque du Soleil music, Sept. 7-9. Dennis Miller, Sept. 21-25. Frozen Fury 9, NHL all-star players, Sept. 23. Lewis Black, Sept. 26-Oct. 3. Mariah Carey, Sept. 30. Barbra Streisand, Nov. 18. Tom Jones, Dec. 7-20. "La Femme," topless Crazy Horse production from Paris, dark Tues. Entertainment in Studio 54, Teatro Euro Bar, Tabu, Zuri, Vida at Diego, Centrifuge.

**The Mirage** • 702-792-7777: "Love," Cirque du Soleil production set to Beatles music, dark Tues.-Wed. Danny Gans, dark Sun.-Mon. and Thurs. David Spade, Sept. 1-2, 15-16, Oct. 27-28. Dana Carvey, Sept. 8-9, Nov. 17-18. Jay Leno, Sept. 22-23, Oct. 6-7. Ray Romano, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Oct. 14-15, Nov. 10-12. Brad Garrett, Nov. 3-4. Wayne Brady, Nov. 23-24. Entertainment in the Jet and Onda lounges, and Siegfried and Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat.

**Monte Carlo** • 702-730-7000: "Lance Burton, Master Magician," dark Sun.-Mon. and Sept. 4-18. Robert Schimmel, Sept. 8-9, 15-16. Entertainment in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery and Houdini Lounge.

**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 Mon.-Tues. and Oct. 17, Dec. 6-21. 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** • 702-733-3333: "Buckle Up," Vinnie Favorito comedy show, Tues.-Sat.

**The Orleans** • 800-ORLEANS: Air Supply, Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Righteous Brother Bill Medley, Sept. 7-10. Vicki Lawrence and Mama, Sept. 14-17. Mr. Olympia, Sept. 27-28. Neil Sedaka, Oct. 4-8. Dionne Warwick, Oct. 12-15. The Smothers Brothers, Oct. 26-29. Suzanne Somers, Nov. 9-12. Ann-Margret and Company, Nov. 23-26. Donny Osmond Christmas Show, Dec. 14-17. Orleans Arena: Down Home Blues Festival, Sept. 1. Lipizzaner Stallions, Sept. 8-10. Double Down Throwdown, concert, Sept. 16. Freestyle

Explosion, Sept. 23. Joe Weider's Olympia Weekend, Sept. 28-Oct. 1. Entertainment in the Bourbon Street Cabaret, 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: "The Producers," Broadway musical comedy opens in fall. 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: Joe Cocker, Sept. 2. A Tribe Called Quest, Sept. 8. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Oct. 13-14. The Family Stone, Nov. 17-18. Entertainment in Rock's Lounge.

**Rio All-Suite Hotel** • 702-252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO: Penn and Teller, comedy-magic show, dark Tues. 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 'n' 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. A high-end bowling center, martini lounge, and café are scheduled to open fall 2006.

**Riviera** • 702-794-9301: Second Deck: Outdoor Country-Western Show, barbecue, Wed., thru Nov. 15. "Splash," production show, nightly. "Riv It Up," free open-air variety show,



**Sammy Kershaw appears at Boulder Station on Boulder Highway October 20.**

12:30, 2, 3:15, and 4:45pm. "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," tribute 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 midnight-4am Wed.-Sun. Bands play 5:45-7pm Fri.-Sat. in Le Bistro Theatre, and daily in the open-air casino stages.

**Sahara** • 702-737-2515: The Scintas, musical revue, indf., dark Sun.-Mon. "Buck Wild," country variety show, dark Sun. Amazing Johnathan, 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 Thursdays, thru Dec. 31. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, and 10pm.

**Santa Fe Station** • 702-658-4900: Maynard Ferguson, Sept. 9. Larry Coryell, Victor Bailey, and Lenny White Trio, Sept. 22. Marion Meadows, Sept. 23. Nashville Star with Chris Young, Matt Mason, Casey Rivers, and Nicole Jamrose, Sept. 30. Craig Morgan, Oct. 13. Ray Price, Oct. 14. Michel Lington, Oct. 21. Arturo Andoval, Oct. 27. Weekly Free Blues Series, Wed. in the Chrome Showroom.

**Silverton** • 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Hootie and the Blowfish, Dec. 31.

**Stardust** • 702-732-6325: Gerry McCambridge: The Mentalist, dark Sun. Don Rickles/Peggy March, Sept. 14-16. The Temptations/The Four Tops, Sept. 21-23. Tim Conway/Harvey Korman, Oct. 4-7. Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Oct. 26-28. Rick Thomas Show, magic production, 2, 4, and 7pm, dark Sun. Hypnotic Lounge: "Hypnosis Gone Wild," adult show nightly. "Hypnolarious" starring Michelle Van Ree, Wed.-Sun. Starlight Lounge: Karaoke Mon. and Fri.

# NEVADA T-Shirts



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**Stratosphere** • 702-382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: "American Superstars," tribute 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.

**Suncoast** • 702-636-7111: Al Martino, Sept. 8-10. Rich Little, Sept. 16-17. Jazz guitarist John Pizzarelli, Sept. 22-24. Dr. John, Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Bill Acosta, Oct. 13-15. Roy Clark, Oct. 20-21. Ramsey Lewis Trio, Oct. 27-29. Vanessa Williams, 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. Glen Campbell featuring Debby Campbell, Dec. 7-10. Paul Revere and the Raiders, Dec. 15-17.

**Terrible's** • 702-733-7000: Bands play nightly.

**Treasure Island (TI)** • 702-894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère," dark Mon.-Tues. and 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., thru Jan. 2. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," nightly. Attractions: "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition," daily 10a.m.-10pm. "Bodies: The Exhibition," whole-body specimens and organs offers a look at human skeletal, muscular, respiratory, and circulatory systems, 10am-10pm. Entertainment in the Celebration and Tropics lounges.

**Venetian** • 702-733-5000: "Blue Man Group," percussion theater, nightly. "Phantom: the Las Vegas Spectacular," Broadway musical, dark Tues. Comedian Gordie Brown opens this fall. Gondola rides on the canal.

**Wynn Las Vegas** • 702-770-7000: "Le Rêve," dark Tues.-Wed.

## LAUGHLIN

**Aquarius Resort** • (formerly Flamingo Laughlin) • 702-298-5111 or 800-435-8469: Little Joe I. La Familia, Sept. 7. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 23-24. Bill Engvall, Oct. 20. Creedence Clearwater Revisited, Oct. 4. Randy Travis, Nov. 4. Little Anthony and the Imperials, Nov. 25. The Comedy Stop, thru Sept. 3.

**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.

**Golden Nugget Laughlin** • 702-298-7111 or 800-237-1739: DJ's play top-40 music Thurs-Sat.

**Harrah's Laughlin** • 702-298-4600 or 800-447-8700: "Rhythm and Flair," dance styles revue. "Strip!" adult revue, dark Sun.-Mon., thru Sept. 2.

**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: Christopher Cross, Aug. 31-Sept. 3. The Bellamy Brothers, Sept. 5-10. Seals and Seals, Sept. 12-17. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Sept. 19-24. Restless Heart, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. La Mafia, Oct. 4-8. The Osmond Brothers, Oct. 10-15. The Kingston Trio, Oct. 17-22. Mark Chesnut, Oct. 24-29. Frankie Avalon, Oct. 31-Nov. 5. Entertainment in the Lightning Strikes Nightclub.

## MESQUITE

**CasaBlanca** • 702-346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Kenny Rogers, Sept. 22. Bellamy Brothers, Sept. 29. JoDee Messina, Oct. 21. Comedy Club, weekends when no performers are scheduled. Entertainment in the Skydome Lounge.

**Eureka Casino Hotel** • 702-346-4646: Bands play Tues.-Sun.

**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: Star Spangled Weekend: End of Summer Bash starring The Kingsmen, Sonny Geraci of The Outsiders, Looking Glass, Jimmy Beaumont and The Skyliners, Billy Hinsche of Dino, Desi and Billy, Sixtiesmania, Sept. 2. Peter and Gordon, Sept. 9. The Guess Who, Sept. 16. Freddy Cannon, Sept. 22. Ronnie Milsap, Sept. 23. Rocktoberfest: "Heartbreaker Tribute to Led Zeppelin," and "Bella Donna: Tribute to Fleetwood Mac," Sept. 30. Aloha Festival and Concert, Oct. 6-8. The Ventures, Oct. 21. Guy Lombardo Orchestra, Nov. 24-25. Entertainment in Pin-Ups Bar.

**Fiesta Rancho** • 702-631-7000: Entertainment in 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: Brian McKnight, Sept. 15. The Oak Ridge Boys, Feb. 16. The Armadillo: Kroakies Karaoke, Wed. Loveshack plays '80s music on Fri.-Sat. Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm.

## PRIMM

**Buffalo Bill's Resort** • 800-FUN-STOP: Alan Jackson, Oct. 28. 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.

# ELKO NEVADA



• Elko County Fair  
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[www.elkocountyfair.com](http://www.elkocountyfair.com)



• Morrodders Car Club  
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[www.exploreelko.com](http://www.exploreelko.com)



• Jeep Jamboree USA  
September 15-16, 2006  
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• Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival  
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**Jack's World**  
Gaming According  
to Jack Bulavsky

# It's Time for Pigskin Parties

There are two things that keep me going through the sauna-like days of summer. First, knowing that daytime temperatures will eventually drop to a comfortable 101. Second, the end of summer is the beginning of football—and that means I'll be at my favorite sports books betting and watching National Football League teams compete.

Here are five football-betting rules I have followed over the years:

- The guys who make the lines (the betting odds or point spread) in Nevada know what they are doing.
- Any divisional NFC South game will be decided by three points.
- Always bet against Green Bay's Brett Favre in a dome.
- Injury reports matter.
- If a team blows out its opponent on Monday Night Football, bet against them the following Sunday.

No, I don't make a lot of money betting on football, but I have had a lot of fun in the more than two decades of hanging around Nevada sports books.

In recent years, casinos have turned their sports and race books into beautiful, sophisticated rooms. In Las Vegas, the remodeled MGM Grand sports book has 36 60-inch plasma televisions, eight 42-inch plasmas, six electronic display boards, and 17 separate race-betting counters. The book also offers "skyboxes" complete with plasma TVs and surround-sound audio. Best of all, the sports book is next door to the Stage Deli, which serves the best corned beef on rye in town.

Down the Strip at the Imperial Palace, the sports book conveys the atmosphere of a neighborhood sports bar with lots of betting options, including fantasy matchups. On Sunday, viewing parties are held in the casino showroom. Plus, tasty nachos, hot dogs, and pretzels are served by Imperial Palace Princesses dressed in short shorts and snug football jerseys.

The Harrah's Reno sports book offers

bright and easy-to-read Trans-Lux multi-color LED displays that ensure the accuracy of lines, scores, and messages that keep bettors up to date on team injuries and if it is snowing prior to kickoff in Cleveland. Ron Ulman, the Harrah's Reno race and sports book manager, notes that technology—including nine big projection screens and 12 new TVs—keeps his customers on top of the action.

## LET'S PLAY

In non-football news, the poker room at **Harrah's Laughlin** has been expanded and now features six tables, higher-limit games, and six regular no-limit hold 'em tournaments, including a \$30 buy-in tournament at 10 a.m. weekdays; a \$40 buy-in tournament at 10 a.m. on Saturday; and

a \$100 buy-in tournament at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Also, players earn \$50 in chips when they get the featured "hand-of-the-day."

The **Carson Valley Inn** holds \$1,500 blackjack tournaments on the last Tuesday of each month. The entry fee is \$25, signups start at 6 p.m., tourney play starts at 7 p.m., and play is with no-cash-value tournament chips. The top finishers each month win cash prizes and entry into the Tournament of Champions scheduled for December 12. ♣

*Jack Bulavsky, who follows the football fortunes of the Kansas City Chiefs, is a Henderson writer whose gaming column is a regular Nevada Magazine feature. You can reach Jack at [editor@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:editor@nevadamagazine.com).*

## Living in the Moment



Photos by Geoff Arnold and Elaine Swanson

## Wells

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**SENIOR PRO RODEO**  
MAY 26TH-29TH

**NEVADA STATE FIDDLING CHAMPIONSHIP**  
JUNE 17TH

**WELLS FUN RUN CAR SHOW & SHINE**  
JULY 28-30

**RACE TO THE ANGEL**  
SEPT 9

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# Reno-Tahoe

## AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS



Historic displays, aerobatics, and racing at speeds up to 500 mph liven the National Championship Air Races, September 13-17 in Reno.

## Events

**Burning Man 2006** • Aug. 28-Sept. 4 • Counterculture event culminates in the burning of a 40-foot-tall effigy. Black Rock Desert, northeast of Gerlach, [www.burningman.com](http://www.burningman.com).

**Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off** • Aug. 30-Sept. 3 • Annual barbecue competition that includes tastings, crafts, entertainment, concerts. John Ascuaga's Nugget, Victorian Square, Sparks, 800-648-1177.

**Labor Day Weekend Outdoor Show** • Sept. 1-4 • Fine art and arts and crafts. Miller's Outpost parking lot at the "Y," South Lake Tahoe, 530-577-0965.

**Lake in the Sky Air Show** • Sept. 2 • Military and general aviation aircraft display, 5K run, pancake breakfast, helicopter and airplane rides, vendors. Lake Tahoe Airport, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-0480.

**Outdoor Movies** • Sept. 2-3 • Free admission. The Village at Northstar, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 800-GO-NORTH.

**Numaga Days Powwow** • Sept. 2-3 • Dancing, crafts, food. Hungry Valley, north of Sparks, 775-329-2936.

**Northstar Tennis Open** • Sept. 2-4 • Men's and women's. Northstar Resort, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 800-GO-NORTH.

**Civil War Volunteers Reenactment** • Sept. 2-4 • Dance, parade, the "Battle That Should Have Been," luncheon, tea, and fashion show. Virginia City, 775-847-4386.

**Labor Day Weekend Celebration and Steam-Up** • Sept. 2-4 • Rides aboard train pulled by 1888 steam locomotive. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Alpen Wine Fest** • Sept. 3 • Fundraiser for Jimmie Heuga Center includes wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-584-6267.

**Fireworks Extravaganza** • Sept. 3 • 30-minute display set to music broadcast over KRLT-FM 93.9 and KOWL-AM 1490. South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.

**Valhalla Arts and Music Festival** • Sept. 3 • Sweetfoot performs. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

**Full Moon Guided Hike** • Sept. 6-9 • Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

**Sink 'Em and Hold 'Em Golf and Poker Tournament** • Sept. 7 • Fundraiser includes dinner. Championship Golf Course, Incline Village, 775-298-0004.

**Movies in the Park** • Sept. 8 • Bring a picnic and lawn chair. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-7134.

**Great Reno Balloon Race** • Sept. 8-10 • Eyes look skyward during the 25th anniversary festival featuring more than 100 balloons competing for cash and prizes. Event begins with a Dawn Patrol followed by a mass ascension. Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Reno, 775-826-1181.

**Carson Valley Inn Mixed Scramble Tournament** • Sept. 8-10 • Golfers play for \$3,500 in cash prizes at Empire Ranch Golf Course. Event includes reception and awards banquet. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

**Virginia City International Camel Races** • Sept. 8-10 • Jockeys hang on as they race aboard camels and ostriches. Virginia City Arena, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

**"Wrong Turn at Lungfish"** • Sept. 8-10, 15-17, 22-24 • Comedy involves a blind man, a con artist, and a thuggish boyfriend. Little Theater at Hug High, Reno, 775-329-0661.

**Governor's Tin Cup Tea and Chuckwagon BBQ** • Sept. 9 • Fundraiser features food, music, silent auction, mansion tours. Advance reservations required. Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-687-4810, ext. 222.

**African American Art** • Sept. 9 • Alejandra Carpenter's oils, watercolors, and acrylic paintings. The River Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2298.

**Lake Tahoe Food and Wine Festival** • Sept. 9 • Wines from more than 20 West Coast wineries and cuisine from regional restaurants. Fundraiser for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Sand Harbor State Park, Lake Tahoe, 800-747-4697.

**Minden Arts and Crafts Fair** • Sept. 9-10 • More than 125 artisans, entertainment, refreshments. Esmeralda Ave., Minden, 775-782-2444.

**Motor Car Rides** • Sept. 9-10, 16-17 • Rides aboard a train pulled by 1926 diesel-powered engine. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Tour de Tahoe Bike Big Blue** • Sept. 10 • Bike riders traverse 800- and 1,000-foot climbs during a 72-mile ride around Lake Tahoe. Event includes a 35-mile ride and boat cruise. Lake Tahoe, 800-565-2704.

**Jazz and Poetry** • Sept. 12 • Big band music and local poets. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

**Vapor Trails** • Sept. 13 • Program by Peter Abramowitsch on operating steam locomotives in Poland. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Cool September Days Car Show** • Sept. 13-17 • Horizon Casino, Stateline, 530-541-7300.  
National Championship Air



"Let the Good Times Roll," the family-friendly musical revue, plays at Harrah's Reno.

**Races** • Sept. 13-17 • Six classes of aircraft compete in pylon racing; some craft reach 500mph. Event includes military and historic displays and aerobatics exhibitions. Stead Airport, Reno, 775-972-6663.

**"Chicago"** • Sept. 14-17 • Broadway Comes to Reno. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 800-714-5331.

**Fridays @ 3rd** • Sept. 15 • Street dance. Carson City, 775-884-4411.

**Manhattan Short Film Festival** • Sept. 15-16 • Event precedes the Reno Film Festival, May 2-6. Screenings at Truckee Meadows Community College and Grand Sierra Resort (former Reno Hilton). Reno, 775-334-6707.

**Salsa y Salsas Festival** • Sept. 16 • Mariachi, folkloric dancers, bands, salsa-tasting, dance competition, crafts, food, entertainment. Legislative Plaza, Carson City, 775-887-1294.

**Virginia City 100-Mile Endurance Horse Ride** • Sept. 16 • Each horse and rider must complete three loops with elevations between 5,000 and 7,000 feet and cross the finish line within 24 hours. Open to all riders. The Depot, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

**Tahoe Rim Trail Hike-a-Thon** • Sept. 16 • Fundraiser features a scenic hike along the ridge tops of the Sierra Nevada surrounding Lake Tahoe. [www.tahoerimtrail.org](http://www.tahoerimtrail.org).

**Virginia City Hill Climb Ferrari Races** • Sept. 16-17 • Virginia City Truck Route, Virginia and Silver cities and Gold Hill, 775-847-4386.

**Bark Festival** • Sept. 16-17 • Dog-themed event features a parade, costumes, art, music. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-9247.

**Victorian Detours** • Sept. 17 • Walking tour of Virginia City includes refreshments at the John Piper/Beebe-Cleff Mansion and Victorian clothing presentation. Advance ticket purchase required. Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

**Concert on the Green** • Sept. 17 • Bring a blanket, folding chair, picnic. Genoa Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.

**Carson City Basque Festival** • Sept. 17 • Food and entertainment sponsored by St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-882-2079.

**Street Vibrations** • Sept. 20-24 • Harley-Davidson motorcycle show, concerts, parade, poker run, vendors. Downtown Reno, 800-200-4557.

**Thunder on the Comstock** • Sept. 22-25 • Motorcycle rally. C St., Virginia City, 775-847-4386 for information.

**Pioneer Family Dance** • Sept. 23 • Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-889-9351.

**Tahoe Sierra Century Bike Race** • Sept. 23 • 30-, 60-, and 100-mile routes for riders of all abilities. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, for information visit [www.tahoesierracentury.com](http://www.tahoesierracentury.com).

**Reno Chamber Orchestra** • Sept. 23 • Soloist Sergei Babyan, music by Dvorak, Mozart, Brahms. Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-348-9413.

**Tahoe Big Blue Adventure Race** • Sept. 23 • Multisport event includes kayaking, mountain biking, trail running, orienteering. Lake Tahoe, 530-546-1019.



Comedian Howie Mandel spins tales September 16 at John Ascuaga's Nugget.

**Weekend Steam-Up** • Sept. 23-24 • Rides aboard a train pulled by an 1888 steam locomotive. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Genoa Candy Dance and Craft Faire** • Sept. 23-24 • About 300 crafters and 25 food vendors are expected, and more than 4,000 pounds of homemade candy will be sold to raise money—in lieu of taxes—for the town. Event includes a barbecue, Indian tacos, and dinner-dance. Genoa, 775-782-8696.

**OATBRAN: One Awesome Tour Bike Ride Across Nevada** • Sept. 24-30 • Fully-supported 420-mile bike ride across U.S. Highway 50 from Lake Tahoe to Great Basin National Park, 800-565-2704.

**High Noon at the Nevada Historical Society** • Sept. 25 • *Diving Lake Tahoe* video presentation. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

**Lake Tahoe Marathon Race Week** • Sept. 26-Oct. 1 • Events include the Sept. 30 Tahoe 72-Mile Ultra, which circles Lake Tahoe, the 20-Mile Power Walk and Run for recreational walkers and runners, and the Marathon, Half-Marathon, and 10K events. The Three-Day Triathlon begins Sept. 28 with kayaking or swimming, cycling, and running, as well as 72-mile and 35-mile bike races on Sept. 29. The Tahoe Triple starts Sept. 28, wraps around Lake Tahoe, and meets with the Sat. marathoners. Also scheduled are Extreme Golf, which has golfers running the course as they play, a 5K run, and a kids' fun run. Call 530-544-7095 or visit [www.laketahomarathon.com](http://www.laketahomarathon.com) for more information.

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Arron Moon Jr. inspects a jack-o'-lantern at the Corley Ranch Harvest Festival, held weekends in October in Gardnerville. Families can explore a corn maze and take hay rides.

"Magic That Rocks" • Sept. 28 • Curtis Adams performs. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 800-714-5331.

Lake Tahoe Autumn Food and Wine Festival • Sept. 28-Oct. 1 • Grape stomp, culinary classes, reserve wine tastings, grilling demonstrations, wine auction. North Lake Tahoe and Truckee locations, 800-824-6348.

Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1 • Sept. 29 • The press stamped coins at the U.S. Mint, which today is the location of the Nevada State Museum. Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Wealth and Health on the Comstock • Sept. 30 • Event recalls the days when millionaires ruled the Comstock. Champagne, tours, dinner. Advance ticket purchase required. The Castle on B St., Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

Stroke to Help Fight Breast Cancer Golf Tournament • Sept. 30 • Fundraiser includes barbecue. Eagle Valley Golf Course, Carson City, 775-882-3051.

Oktoberfest • Sept. 30 • Music, brews, dancing. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-584-6268.

Nissan XTERRA USA Championship • Sept. 30-Oct. 1 • Athletes from 50 qualifying events compete for \$110,000 in prize money in swimming, mountain biking, and trail running. Event includes an expo with food, climbing walls, product displays. Lake Tahoe, 877-751-8880.

Wa-Pai-Shone • Oct. 6 • Cultural program honors the Washoe, Paiute, and Shoshone tribes. Gardnerville Elementary School, Gardnerville, 775-265-8632.

"Jekyll and Hyde" • Oct. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 • Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-4386.

Big Blue 24 Lake Tahoe • Oct. 7 • 24-hour adventure race includes a 15-mile kayak competition, 45-mile bike ride, 10-mile trail run, and orienteering and navigation. Spooner Lake, Lake Tahoe, www.bigblueadventure.com.

Scarecrow Festival • Oct. 7 • Make-and-take scarecrow event for kids. Minden Park, Minden, 775-782-7629.

Oktoberfest • Oct. 7 • Carson City Library Foundation fundraiser has food, drinks, games, and music by Sauerkraut German Band. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 775-887-2244.

Great Italian Festival • Oct. 7-8 • Grape stomp, spaghetti-eating, food booths, face painting, farmers market, enter-

tainment. Eldorado, Reno, 800-879-8879 for information.

World Championship Outhouse Races • Oct. 7-8 • Decorated conveyances careen down C St., Virginia City, 775-847-4386.

Donner Party Hike • Oct. 7-8 • Guided hikes along the Emigrant Trail from Truckee to Donner Summit, Lake Tahoe area, 530-587-2757.

Kokanee Salmon Festival • Oct. 7-8 • Celebration marks the running of the salmon. USFS Visitor Center, Taylor Creek, South Lake Tahoe, 530-543-2600.

Old Town Days • Oct. 7-8 • Civil War reenactment, concert featuring David John and the Comstock Cowboys, Civil War ball, barbecue. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-7134.

Family Farm Harvest Day • Oct. 8 • Antique tractor rides,



On the "cute" scale, the Bark Festival, September 16-17 at Squaw Valley USA at Lake Tahoe, rates a 10. There will be a pooch parade, costumes, art, and music during the weekend.



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draft horse demonstrations, music, and pumpkins. Smith and Smith Farms, Dayton, 775-847-0975.

**Autumn Jazz** • Oct. 10 • Big band music. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

**2006 Museum Exhibits Update** • Oct. 11 • Presentation by Peter Barton on changes to the museum. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**"Un-Blind" Justice** • Oct. 14 • Mock historic trial, courthouse and jailhouse tours, and lunch. Advance ticket purchase required. Storey County Courthouse, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

**'50s Car Show** • Oct. 14 • Hobby cars on display, food, music, used-car-parts swap meet. Heritage Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-0548.

**Nevada Opera Tea Dance** • Oct. 15 • Fundraiser for the



Runners take off during the Lake Tahoe Marathon Race Week, September 26-October 1.

Tickets at 847-0975

# Virginia City's Witching Hour



6:00 O'Clock PM - 9:00 O'Clock PM

Fourth Ward School  
Piper's Opera House  
Silver Terrace Cemeteries  
St. Mary's Art Center

Shows Run Every 30 minutes

Great Package Deal - All Four  
Adults \$15  
Family \$50

## Halloween Night

opera company. Reno, 775-786-4046 for event details.

**Carson Valley Inn Fall Fun Stag Golf Outing** • Oct. 19-21 • Event includes a reception, banquet, and play at the two Genoa Lakes courses. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

**Annual V&T History Symposium** • Oct. 19-22 • 35th annual event includes a photo shoot, presentations, banquet, and rides aboard a train pulled by an 1888 steam locomotive on Oct. 22. Theme is "The V&T and Beyond: Nevada Railroads in the First Decade of the 20th Century." Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1** • Oct. 20 • The press stamped coins for the U.S. Mint, which today houses the Nevada State Museum. Carson City, 775-687-4810.

**Oktoberfest** • Oct. 20 • German food and the Al Gruber Band. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6611.

**Ghostly Weekend** • Oct. 20-22 • Douglas County Historical Society offers three events: Haunted Gardnerville, Genoa Cemetery Tour, and Haunted Genoa. 775-782-2555.

**Off Limits: The Fourth Floor of the Fourth Ward** • Oct. 21 • Tour and stories about the infamous upper floor. Event includes drinks and supper. Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

**Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk** • Oct. 21 • "Ghosts" portray scenes from the past during a tour of historic homes. Carson City, 800-638-2321.

**Carson Valley Pops Orchestra Fall Concert** • Oct. 21 • CVIC Hall, Minden, 775-267-9363.

**Reno Chamber Orchestra** • Oct. 21 • Soloist Ellen de Pasquale, assoc. concertmaster of the Cleveland Orchestra. Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-348-9413.

**Carson City Symphony** • Oct. 22 • Guest soloists Carla Trynchuk and Stephen Framil. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

**High Noon at the Nevada Historical Society** • Oct. 23 • Video presentation, *Old Post Offices of Nevada*. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

**Nevada Day Celebration** • Oct. 26-29 • Admission day party includes the state's largest parade, mining contests, food, music, carnival. Carson City, 800-683-2948.

**Governor's Ball** • Oct. 28 • Nevada Day celebration

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dance. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-4386.  
**Nevada Day Steam-Up** • Oct. 29 • Rides aboard a train pulled by an 1888 steam locomotive. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.  
**Halloween Witching Hour** • Oct. 31 • Trick or treat on C Street and look for ghosts at historic landmarks such as Piper's Opera House and the Comstock Cemetery. Virginia City, 775-847-0975.  
**Halloween Party** • Oct. 31 • Genoa Town Hall, Genoa, 775-782-8696.  
**Trick or Treat in the Streets** • Oct. 31 • Four galleries offer a "not too scary" haunted house and candy for kids. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

## Ongoing Events

**Nevada Railroads in the 20th Century** • Rotating exhibits of models, artifacts, photographs. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.  
**Harvest Festival** • Fri.-Sat., Oct. 6-29. Pumpkin patch, corn maze, petting zoo, bounce house, gold panning, pumpkin carving, face painting, pig races, hay rides, produce market, wagon rides. Corley Ranch, Gardnerville, 775-265-3045.  
**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.  
**First Friday** • Art, wine, shopping, dining, music. Downtown Tahoe City, [www.visittahoe.com](http://www.visittahoe.com).  
**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.  
**Carson City Farmer's Market** • Wednesdays • Mills Park, Carson City, 775-646-5024.  
**Daniel W. Cheek: Abandoned Houses of the West** • Thru Sept. 3



Grapes are stomped and spaghetti stirred and tasted during Reno's Eldorado Italian Festival, October 7-8.

# CARSON CITY



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"Prisoners" perform in the Broadway musical "Chicago," playing in Reno September 14-17.

• Exhibition. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.  
**Bears by the Lake** • Thru Sept. 5 • Outdoor public art display of fiberglass life-sized bears. South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.  
**Wednesday Walkabouts** • Thru Sept. 6 • Ranger-led evening

hike. Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 775-828-6642.  
**"Show Boat in Concert"** • Fridays, thru Sept. 15 • Broadway musical performed by Nevada Civic Light Opera aboard the *M.S. Dixie II* on Lake Tahoe. Includes a Cajun-style dinner.

Lake Tahoe Cruises, Zephyr Cove, 800-23-TAHOE.  
**Still Waters: An Installation by Marlene Alt** • Thru Sept. 17 • Exhibition. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.  
**Horizon Summer Craft Fairs** • Thru Sept. 24 • Fri.-Sun. at Horizon Casino, Stateline, 775-588-6211.  
**Gardnerville Farmer's Market** • Wednesdays thru Sept. 27 • Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.  
**Selections from the John and Mary Lou Paxton Collection** • Thru Oct. 1 • Exhibition. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.  
**Guided Hikes on the Tahoe Rim Trail** • Thru Oct. 1 • Lake Tahoe, 775-298-0012.  
**Pierce Arrow Collection** • Thru Oct. 6 • Exhibit. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.  
**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.  
**Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation** • Thru Oct. 20 • Exhibition traces Lincoln's life from an Illinois lawyer to the Great Emancipator. Historic Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.  
**An Archeological Dig Through Women's Purses** • Thru Oct. 29 • Exhibit compares what women have carried through the years. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.  
**Bloom: The Paintings of Mary Warner** • Thru Nov. 5 • Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.  
**Alexander Calder: The Kite That Never Flew** • Thru Nov. 12 • Exhibition. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.  
**Locomotive Stories of the V&T** • Thru Dec. • Models, photographs, artifacts. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.



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## Ghostly Weekend

**T**om Hickey portrayed Judge James Hickey and Michele Leonis played Mack Brown during last year's Douglas County Historical Society's Cemetery Tour (top). The society is sponsoring three ghostly events on October 20, 21, and 22. For details, call 775-782-2555. Left: Visitors listen to the tour guide on the Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk, which will be held on October 21. For information on tickets and packages, call the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 775-687-7410.

**Life and Times of Mimi Jobe** • Thru Dec. • Exhibition. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

**Still a World Apart: Visual Profiles of Contemporary Railroaders** • Thru Dec. • Photo exhibition of American railroad workers. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

**Guided Tours: National Automobile Museum** • Sept. 1-Oct. 31 • View more than 200 vehicles. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

**The Artwork of Robert Cinkel** • Sept. 1-Oct. 31 • Large-scale oil paintings depict automobiles in their historical context and scenes of the Truckee River. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

**Art and Architecture of Frederic J. Delongchamps** • Sept. 15-Dec. 31 • Opening reception Sept. 15. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

**UNR Football** • The Wolf Pack plays Sept. 16 vs. Colorado State, Sept. 22 vs. Northwestern, Oct. 21 vs. San Jose State, Oct. 28 vs. New Mexico State, Nov. 11 vs. Utah State, Nov. 25 vs. Boise State. Mackay Stadium, Reno, 775-784-6900.

## Coming Events

**19th Annual Rhymers Rodeer** • Nov. 3-4 • Minden, 775-783-6679.

**"Brigadoon"** • Nov. 4-19 • Carson City, 775-445-4249.

**Nevada Opera's "La Traviata"** • Nov. 10 and 12 • Reno, 877-840-0457.

**Veteran's Day Parade** • Nov. 11 • 775-847-4386.

**"Camelot"** • Nov. 24-26 • Reno, 877-840-0457.

**Sparks Hometown Christmas** • Dec. 2 • 775-353-2291.

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African American art will be on display at  
Reno's River Gallery September 9.

"Nutcracker" • Dec. 8-10 • Reno, 877-840-0457 for details.  
Victorian Home Christmas Tour • Dec. 10 • Carson City, 800-  
638-2321.

"Spelling Bee," Broadway Comes to Reno • Dec. 12-17 • Reno,  
877-840-0457.

## Shows

### CARSON CITY

**Carson Nugget** • 775-882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Entertainers in the lounge.

**Carson Station** • 775-883-0900: Entertainers like Amy Clawson, Stew Stewart, Midnight Riders, Manny B and the Rhythm Knights, City Zu, Shake, Rattle, and Roll, and Steppen Stonz appear in the lounge.

**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: Joker's Wylde, Aug. 29-Sept. 3. The Fabulous Cut-Ups, Sept. 5-10. Manny B and The Rhythm Nights, Sept. 12-17. Shake, Rattle, and Roll, Sept. 19-24. Michael Chain, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Oktoberfest: Al Gruber Band, Oct. 20. "Hotel California: A Tribute to the Eagles," Nov. 21-26.

**Sharkey's Nugget** • Gardnerville, 775-782-3133: TBA.

**Topaz Lodge** • Topaz Lake, 775-266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

### RENO/SPARKS

**Atlantis** • 775-825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands play in the lounge.

**Boomtown** • 775-345-6000: Lounge entertainment.

**Circus Circus** • 775-329-0711: Cabaret: Entertainment except Tues.-Wed. Free daily circus acts, 11am-10:30pm.

**Eldorado** • 775-786-5700, 800-648-5966: "Balagan," thru Sept. 9, Cirque-style production, dark Mon. Siegfried and Roy present "Darren Romeo, The Voice of Magic," Sept. 18-Nov. 18, dark Mon. "Spirit of Christmas," Nov. 22-Dec. 29, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Brew Brothers microbrewery, Roxy, BuBing, Casino Cabaret.

**Fitzgeralds** • 775-785-3300 or 800-648-5022: Music Wed.-Sun.

**Harrah's Reno** • 775-786-3232 or 800-HARRAHS: Harrah's

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Plaza: Free concerts are held Fri.-Sat., thru Sept. Sammy's Showroom: "Let the Good Times Roll," family musical revue, thru July 7, 2007. Sapphire Lounge entertainment Fri.-Sat.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget** • Sparks, 775-356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Howie Mandel, Sept. 16. David Lee Roth, Sept. 23. Oak Ridge Boys, Oct. 5-7. Michael Feinstein, Oct. 20-21. Clint Black, Oct. 27-28. Entertainment in the Cabaret, Trader Dick's Restaurant, and Orozko Lounge.

**Peppermill** • 775-826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Dexterity/Pocket City/Patton Leatha, Aug. 28-Sept. 3. Entertainment in the Cabaret Lounge and the Steak House restaurant.

**Reno Events Center** • 800-687-8733: Def Leppard and Journey, Sept. 3. Mary J. Blige, Sept. 9. George Lopez, Sept. 16. Blue Man Group, Nov. 2.

**Grand Sierra Resort (formerly Reno Hilton)** • 775-789-2285 or 800-648-3568: Entertainment TBA. 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: Thunder From Down Under, Sept. 1-2. Dwight Yoakam, Sept. 15. Doobie Brothers, Sept. 22-23. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 29-30. Music in the Rum Bullions Island Bar. Comedians perform in the Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club, dark Mon. Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

**STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE**

**Bill's Lake Tahoe** • 775-588-2455: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

**Harrah's Lake Tahoe** • 800-HARRAHS: Tower of Power, Nov. 24-25. Entertainment in the California Bar, Casino Center Stage, and Altitude Nightclub.

**Harveys** • 775-588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: "Debbie Loves Dallas: The Musical," adult revue. Comedians Howie Nave, Lisa Lampanelli, and Wendel appear in the Improv, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Cabo Wabo Cantina.

**Horizon** • 775-588-6211 or 800-322-7723: The Chipper Lowell Experience, variety show, dark Tues. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

**Lakeside Inn** • 775-588-7777: Karaoke Wed-Fri.

**MontBleu Resort (formerly Caesars Tahoe)** • 775-588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Best of the Beach: AVP Volleyball, Sept. 14-17 in the MontBleu Outdoor Sports Pavilion. MontBleu Theatre, moe., Sept. 21. Entertainment in the Opal Eurasian Cuisine and Ultra Lounge, Blu Nightclub, HQ Center Bar.

**NORTH LAKE TAHOE**

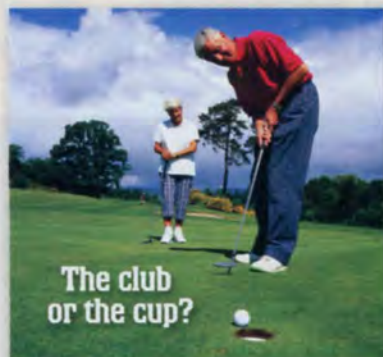
**Cal-Neva Resort** • Crystal Bay, 775-832-4000 or 800-225-6382: Bands on Sat.

**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, and Casino Stage Bar.

**Tahoe Biltmore** • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660: Entertainment TBA.

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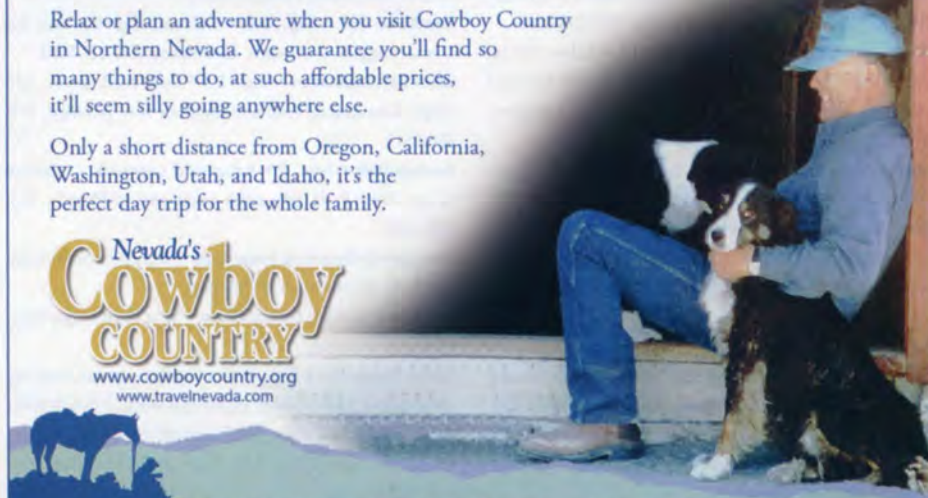
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*Nevada*  
 EVENTS AND SHOWS  
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# Rural Nevada

## EVENTS AND SHOWS



Cameras point skyward when hot-air balloons launch during the Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival, September 22-24. There will be an evening glow in Elko and tethered rides for those gathered to watch the colorful and novel shapes rise and float above Spring Creek near Elko.

## Events

**Elko County Fair** • Aug. 26-Sept. 4 • Arts, crafts, livestock exhibits, horse racing and showmanship, snaffle bit, flower show, parade, dance. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

**Winnemucca Fair and Stampede** • Sept. 1-3 • Labor Day includes the 85th annual pro rodeo, Tri-County Fair and Carnival, music, and dances. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Western Art Roundup** • Sept. 1-3 • Artists, poets, and demonstrations. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival** • Sept. 1-4 • Cantaloupe foods, exhibits, shows, concerts, a carnival, parade, mud volleyball, and junior rodeo. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-2544.

**Pioche Labor Day** • Sept. 1-4 • Parades on Sat. night and Mon. morning, softball and golf tournaments, mining events, 10K run, Heritage Plays, music, and craft fair. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

**Farmer's Market** • Sept. 2 • Crafts and produce. Community Center, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

**The Lost '49ers** • Sept. 2 • Slide program details the arduous trek of the gold-seekers that took a local "short cut."

Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Snake Valley Days BBQ and Dance** • Sept. 2 • Barbecue at Baker Ranches Cookhouse at 5pm, dance follows at Border Inn, Baker, 775-234-7119.

**Hawthorne 250** • Sept. 2-3 • Off-road, four-lap race for trucks, buggies, and quads. Hawthorne, 530-417-5333.

**Labor Day Celebration** • Sept. 2-3 • Corn feed, music, and bingo. Community Hall and Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311.

**Geology Walk** • Sept. 3 • Ranger-led easy walk. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

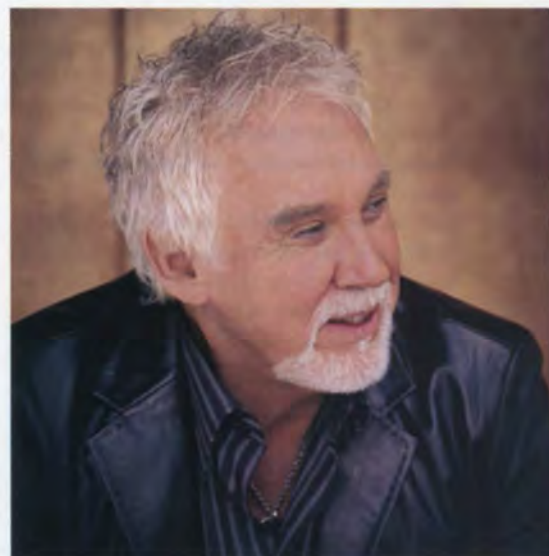
**International Motorcycle Speed Trials** • Sept. 3-7 • Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 530-272-4310.

**Morrodors Gamblers Run Car Show** • Sept. 8-10 • City Park, Elko, 775-777-7896.

**Lander County Fair** • Sept. 8-10 • Exhibits, games, and entertainment. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-2881.

**Paradise Valley Beef Rib and Chili Cook-Off** • Sept. 8-9 • Music, drink, and rib tasting. City Park, Paradise Valley, 775-578-3533.

**ACTRA NV/ID Finals** • Sept. 8-10 • Bi-state roping event for cash and prizes. Winners go on to the national finals.



Singer Kenny Rogers performs September 22 at the CasaBlanca in Mesquite, September 23-24 at Flamingo Laughlin, September 29-30 at Silver Legacy in Reno, and October 1 at Cactus Petes in Jackpot.

Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071 for details.  
**Lion's Club Golf Tournament** • Sept. 9 • Fundraiser. Mountain Falls Golf Course, 775-727-5800.

**Race to the Angel** • Sept. 9 • Walkers, runners, and mountain and road bikers race from downtown Wells to Angel Lake on a 13.1-mile course that climbs nearly 3,000 vertical feet. Wells, 775-752-3540.

**Dutch Oven Cook-Off** • Sept. 9 • Open to all cooks. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Fernley Foundation Dinner and Auction** • Sept. 9 • Dinner's dress code is formal wear and tennis shoes. Fernley Chamber of Commerce, Fernley, 775-575-6497.

**Demolition Derby** • Sept. 9 • Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-777-7345.

**World of Speed** • Sept. 13-16 • Land speed racing time-trials on the Bonneville Salt Flats includes 130-mph street class, electric bar stools. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-485-2662.

**Silver State Classic Challenge** • Sept. 14-17 • Open-road high-speed race from Lund to Hiko on S.R. 318. Headquarters in Ely, 775-289-8877.

**Walker River Paiute Tribal Pine Nut Festival** • Sept. 15-17 • Horseshoes, handgames, round dances, powwow, pine nut blessing. Schurz, 775-773-2306.

**Jeep Jamboree** • Sept. 15-17 • Rally open to licensed jeeps. Elko, 775-738-6965.

**Fernley Centennial Celebration** • Sept. 16 • Games and events at Out-of-Town Park, Fernley, 775-575-9717.

**Gans-Nelson Fight Centennial Celebration** • Sept. 16 • Boxing exhibition in Goldfield, followed by a film festival and barbecue in Tonopah. Vendors will sell boxing memorabilia. Call for details, 888-900-3336.

**"Varmints!"** • Sept. 16 • Slide program about coyotes, foxes, bobcats, and mountain lions. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**National Senior Pro Rodeo** • Sept. 16-17 • Out-of-Town Park, Fernley, 775-575-7472.

**Cory Melville Memorial Men's Softball Tournament** • Sept. 16-17 • City Parks, Wendover, 775-664-3289.

**Winnemucca Pro-Am Golf Tourney** • Sept. 16-17 • More than 100 duffers compete. Municipal Golf Course, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Dayton Valley Days** • Sept. 16-17 • Tours of Dayton's historic schoolhouse museum, jail, and firehouse, and a street fair and festival. Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-4457.

**Open Horse Show and Cow Horse Futurity** • Sept. 16-17 • Working cow horses compete. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Winnemucca Fall Cribbage Tournament** • Sept. 22-24 • Cash prizes. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival** • Sept. 22-24 • Balloon glow Fri. at Great Basin Community College, Elko. On Sat.-Sun. at Spring Creek Sports Complex in Spring Creek there will be mass launches at 6am, including novelty-shaped balloons, and tethered rides. Elko, 775-738-7135.

**"The Little Mermaid"** • Sept. 23 • Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

**Man-Mule Race** • Sept. 23 • Annual contest to determine who is fleet of foot and hoof. Elko and Lamoille, 775-753-6164.

**Astronomy is Looking Up at the Gorge** • Sept. 23 • Las Vegas Astronomical Society's annual viewing. Day includes a morning ranger-led walk. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Fallon National Senior Pro Rodeo** • Sept. 23-24 • Fifth annual event. Rough stock, barrel racing, and roping events.

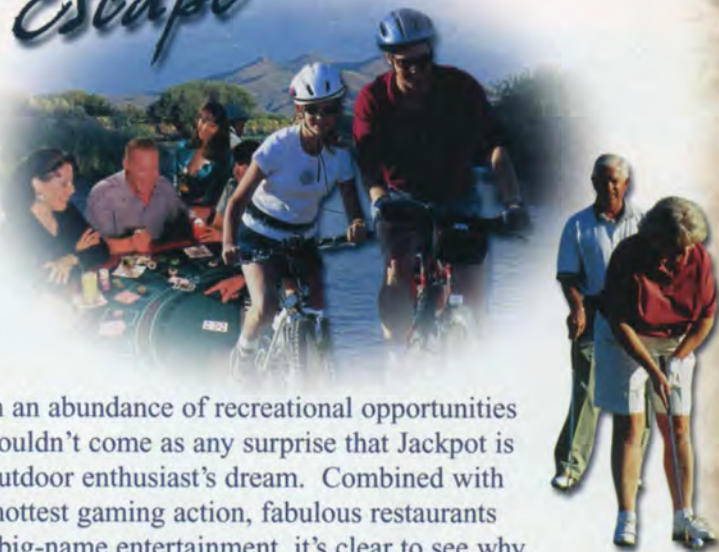
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**Pioche:**

Heritage Plays, July 13–15, & Sept. 3, 2006

**Panaca:**

Pioneer Days Celebration, July 22, 2006

**Pioche:**

101st Labor Day Celebration, Sept. 1–4, 2006

**Pahrump:**

Wild West Extravaganza, Sept. 22–24, 2006

**Pahrump:**

Fall Festival, Sept. 29–Oct. 1, 2006

**Beatty:**

Beatty Days, Oct. 27–29, 2006

**Pahrump:**

Pahrump Social Powwow & Indian Rodeo, Nov. 17–19, 2006

**Amargosa:**

Nevada Boomtown Event, Feb. 16–17, 2007

**Hawthorne:**

Armed Forces Day, May 19, 2007

**Goldfield:**

Centennial Celebration of the Gans/Nelson Fight, Sept. 16, 2006

For more information, call 1-877-848-5800 or visit our website at [www.thesolitudes.com](http://www.thesolitudes.com)

Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4556.

**OATBRAN:** One Awesome Tour Bike Ride Across Nevada • Sept. 24-30 • Fully-supported 420-mile bike ride across U.S. Highway 50 from Lake Tahoe to Great Basin National Park, 800-565-2704.

**Wild West Extravaganza** • Sept. 22-24 • Old West "boomtown" event features entertainment, rodeo, gunfights, and Pony Express trail ride. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

**Hunter Jumper Classic** • Sept. 28-Oct. 1 • Horse show. Horse Palace, Spring Creek, 775-753-6295.

**Fall Festival** • Sept. 29-Oct. 1 • Carnival, entertainment, pro rodeo. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5107.

**Centennial Celebration** • Sept. 29-Oct. 1 • Weekend marks the arrival of trains into Ely with Copper Spike reenactments, rides on trains pulled by historic engines, silent and live auctions, Velocipede Races (one-man handcar), barbecue, pancake breakfast, dinner, concert featuring the Comstock Cowboys, burial of a time capsule. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

**Grape Stomp** • Sept. 30 • Pahrump Winery, Pahrump, 775-751-7800.

**Nuts About Pines** • Sept. 30 • Slide program on pine nuts and where to look for them. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**World Human Powered Speed Challenge** • Oct. 2-7 • Specially designed enclosed recumbent bicycles race on S.R. 305 at speeds near 80mph. Battle Mountain, 775-635-8245.

**Richard Elloyan** • Oct. 6 • Singer, songwriter, and poet performs in concert. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

**No-Hill Hundred** • Oct. 7 • 100-mile bike ride. Fallon, 775-423-0532.

**Moonlight Walk** • Oct. 7 • Ranger-led easy hike. Bring a jacket and flashlight. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Hard Times Dance** • Oct. 7 • Lion's Club, Fernley, 775-575-1008.

**Searchlight 108th Birthday Party** • Oct. 7 • Games, barbecue, Clara Bow and Rex Bell movie screening, silent auction, antique appraisal. Community Center, Searchlight, 702-297-1642.

**Elko County Barn Tour** • Oct. 7 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Cemetery Tours** • Oct. 12 and 19 • Guided tour. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Harvest Wine Tasting** • Oct. 14 • Jazz, food, and wine. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**"Deer Me: Beyond Bambi"** • Oct. 14 • Slide program about the secret lives of deer, elk, and antelope. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Spook Walk** • Oct. 14 • Cubbyholes in the nature study area are filled with scary items and frightening monsters. Chinese Garden, Carlin, 775-754-6354.

**Oktoberfest** • Oct. 14 • Fundraiser. Honeysuckle Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

**Halloween Haunted House** • Oct. 20-21, 26-28, and 31 • Horse Palace, Spring Creek, 775-753-6295.

**Nevada Trivia** • Oct. 21 • Slide program tests the Silver State's facts and lore. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Nevada Day Parade** • Oct. 27 • Admission Day celebration. Downtown, Elko, 775-738-7991.

**Beatty Days 2006** • Oct. 27-29 • Bed races, chili and Dutch-

(Continued on page 84)

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Ghost Train of Old Ely



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## Tourism Authorities/ Chambers of Commerce

**101 Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce**—High desert region, U.S. 50 (Loneliest Road in America), history, mountain biking, hunting. 775-964-2200, [www.austinnevada.com](http://www.austinnevada.com).

**102 Beatty Chamber of Commerce**—Beatty, the Gateway to Death Valley National Park, has history, birdwatching, and Rhyolite. 866-736-3716, [www.beattynevada.org](http://www.beattynevada.org).

**103 Boulder City Chamber of Commerce**—"The city that built Hoover Dam, golf, outdoor sports, and Lake Mead. 866-297-4336, [www.bouldercitychamber.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.elynevada.net).

**108 Eureka Opera House**—Built in 1880 and restored in 1993, the Eureka Opera House is located on U.S. 50 (Loneliest Road in America). 775-237-6006, [www.co.eureka.nv.us](http://www.co.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.travelnevada.com) for more information.

**115 Virginia City Chamber and Tourism Authority**—Step back in time and visit historical Virginia City. 800-718-7587 [www.virginiacity-nv.org](http://www.virginiacity-nv.org). Halloween Night Witching Hour tickets, call 775-847-0975.

**116 Lander County Convention and Tourism Authority**—Battle Mountain is between Winnemucca and Elko on I-80. 775-635-1112, [www.battlemountain.org](http://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](http://www.winnemucca.nv.us).

**119 Pony Express Territory**—The Pony Express Trail (1860-1861) parallels U.S. 50 (Loneliest Road in America) in Pony Express Territory. For additional information call 888-359-9449, visit online at [www.ponyexpressnevada.com](http://www.ponyexpressnevada.com).

**122 Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority**—Information on restaurants, shopping, entertainment, events, gaming, lodging, golf. For more information 877-VISIT-LV, [www.visitlasvegas.com](http://www.visitlasvegas.com).

**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](http://www.pahrumpchamber.com).

**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](http://www.californiatrailinterpretivecenter.com).

**129 Greater Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce**—Five state parks, Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge, ghost towns, mining camps. 775-962-5271, [www.lincolncountynevada.com](http://www.lincolncountynevada.com) for more information.

**132 Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority**—Official guide to Tahoe hotels, cabins, lodging, rates, reservations, and vacation packages, Nevada and California. 800-AT-TAHOE, [www.virtualtahoec.com](http://www.virtualtahoec.com).

**133 City of West Wendover**—Swimming, golfing, horseback riding, fishing, birdwatching, casinos, hotels, dining, and entertainment. 866-BZYCITY, [www.westwendovercity.com](http://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 877-848-5800, [www.thesolitudes.com](http://www.thesolitudes.com).

**140 Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce. Overton**—Southern Nevada Bluegrass Festival October 12-15, off Interstate 15 between Las Vegas and Mesquite. For information 702-398-7160, [www.moapavalley.com](http://www.moapavalley.com).

## 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](http://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](http://www.cvin.com).

**208 John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks**—Off I-80, gaming, John's Club, eight restaurants, wedding chapel, pool, health club, and convention facilities. For information 800-648-1177, [www.janugget.com](http://www.janugget.com).

**209 Peppermill, Reno**—Gaming, eight restaurants, 14 themed bars, free cabaret entertainment, pool, spa, salon, senior specials, and convention space. 800-648-6992 (mention HNVMA4), [www.peppermillreno.com](http://www.peppermillreno.com).

**212 Circus Circus Reno**—More than 22,000 square feet of meeting and convention space and 65,000 square feet of gaming space. 800-648-5010, [www.circusreno.com](http://www.circusreno.com).

**215 Saddle West, Pahrump**—Rooms and suites, restaurant, buffet, RV resort, golf packages, convention facilities, Players Club, and slot tournaments. For information 800-433-3987, [www.saddlewest.com](http://www.saddlewest.com).

**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](http://www.carsonstation.com). Piñon Plaza has 148 rooms, 70 RV spaces. For details 877-519-5569, [www.pinonplaza.com](http://www.pinonplaza.com).

**232 Wendover Peppermill**—Has 300 rooms and suites, three restaurants and themed bars, special events, meeting facilities, golf packages. 800-537-0207, [www.peppermillwendover.com](http://www.peppermillwendover.com).

**234 Red Garter Casino, Wendover**—Internet room special, up to 10 free casino drawings daily, Garden Room dining specials, 100 rooms, Jacuzzi suites, golf packages. 800-982-2111, [www.redgartercasino.com](http://www.redgartercasino.com).

**236 Wendover Nugget Hotel Casino**—Group special, three restaurants and four themed bars, gaming, entertainment lounge, banquets, 500 rooms and suites, golf packages. 800-848-7300, [www.statelinenugget.com](http://www.statelinenugget.com).

**244 Luxor Las Vegas**—A 30-story bronze pyramid resort housing the world's largest atrium, 100,000 square feet of casino space, nightclub, nightly entertainment including Carrot Top, themed restaurants, and retail shopping. 888-777-0188, [www.luxor.com](http://www.luxor.com).

**257 Rainbow Wendover**—Has 450 deluxe rooms or suites, four restaurants, five themed bars and lounges, live entertainment, golf packages. 800-537-0207 [www.rainbowwendover.com](http://www.rainbowwendover.com).

**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.montegobaywendover.com](http://www.montegobaywendover.com).

## Golf

**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 for more details, [www.westwendovercity.com](http://www.westwendovercity.com).

## Shows

**510 Carrot Top, Luxor Las Vegas**—Carrot Top totes trunks of inventions and props on stage along with his brand of red-headed humor nightly at Luxor. Purchase show tickets at 702-262-4400 or [www.luxor.com](http://www.luxor.com). Purchase group tickets at [www.showtimemarketing.com](http://www.showtimemarketing.com).

## Show Tickets

**515 Tix4Tonight**—For the best selection of Vegas' top shows, 877-TIX4TNT, or visit [www.tix4tonight.com](http://www.tix4tonight.com).

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## 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](http://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. 866-40-STEAM, [www.nnry.com](http://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**—Lovelock to Wendover, hotels, casinos, gaming, outdoor adventure, ranches, rodeos, Basque culture, gold mines. For information 877-626-9268, [www.cowboycountry.org](http://www.cowboycountry.org).

**717 Carson City Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk**—Ghostly guides tell the stories of Carson City's most famous ancestors while touring historic homes, Saturday, October 21, 2006. 800-NEVADA-1 or 775-687-7410, [www.visitcarsoncity.com](http://www.visitcarsoncity.com). Advance tickets: [www.ActivityTickets.com](http://www.ActivityTickets.com).

## 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](http://www.vivalasvegasweddings.com).

**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](http://www.nevadaweddings.org) or contact President Teri Sweeney at [tsweeney@ridge-resorts.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.looktours.com).

**917 Best Tours, Grand Canyon and Hoover Dam Adventure Tours, Las Vegas**—Airplane, helicopter, bus, and hummer tours, 702-851-8436, [www.BestToursLV.com](http://www.BestToursLV.com).

## 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.

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## 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](http://www.gamblersgeneralstore.com).

**1205 University of Nevada Press, Reno**—For the University Press' large selection of books on Nevada subjects visit [www.nvbooks.nevada.edu](http://www.nvbooks.nevada.edu) or call 877-682-6657 to receive a University Press catalog.

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The Bonneville Salt Flats near Wendover hosts the International Motorcycle Speed Trials, September 3-7 and the World of Speed, September 13-16, where cars reach 130 m.p.h.

## Rural Nevada

(Continued from page 81)

oven cook-off, Old West shoot outs and quick-draw contest, antique car and biker show, and music. Cottonwood Park, Beatty, 775-553-2424.

**Halloween Party** • Oct. 28 • Jarbidge, 775-488-2311.

**"Bats in Your Belfry"** • Oct. 28 • Slide program on the flying mammals. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

**Pahrump Gunfighters** • Oct. 29 • Old West demonstrations. Dusty Flats, Pahrump, 775-751-1914.

**Punkin Festival** • Oct. 31 • Haunted house and businesses dispense treats. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-1112.

## Ongoing Events

**Nevada Artists** • Permanent museum exhibit features works by Cliff Segerblom, Sharon Rhodes, Don Farmer, and Mildred Byers. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Nevada Maze at Lattin Farms** • Daily except Sundays during Oct. • Visitors can explore a cornfield maze. Fallon, 866-638-6293.

**The Story of the Elko County Fair** • Thru Sept. 12 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Fallon Farmer's Market** • Thru Sept. 12 • Tuesdays, Maine St., Fallon, 775-423-4802.

**Historic Train Rides** • Steam or diesel locomotives run daily thru Sept. 28 and weekends thru Oct. 29. Sunset at Steptoe Wine excursion, Sept. 9. Oktoberfest diesel locomotive runs Sept. 16, 23, and 30. Centennial Celebration, Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Haunted Ghost Trains, Oct. 7, 14, 21, and 28. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

**Riva Grant Exhibition** • Thru Nov. 1 • Oil paintings. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Elko Stock Car Racing** • Sept. 1-2, 22-23 • Summit Raceway, Elko, 775-753-5936.

**Top Gun Drag Racing** • Sept. 1-3, 7-10, 23, Oct. 12-15, 21 • Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

**Farmer's Market** • Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 • Train Depot, Caliente, 775-726-3109.

**Rattlesnake Raceway Schedule** • 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, www.rattlesnakeraceway@tripod.com.

**Battle Mountain Stock Car Racing** • Sept. 9, 16-17 • Battle Mountain Raceway, 775-635-2784.

**Elko County Art Club Fall Show** • Sept. 5-Nov. 21 • Juried show. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Hidden Cave Tours** • Sept. 9, 23 and Oct. 14, 28 • 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.

**Tonopah Stock Car Racing** • Sept. 9, 23-24. Tonopah Speedway, 775-482-7738.

**Pahrump Valley Rough Riders Gymkhana** • Sept. 9, Oct. 21, Nov. 18 • Equestrian event. McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

**Nolan Preece: Nevada Photographs** • Nov. 1-March 1 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

## Coming Events

**Swing That Music Jazz Concert** • Nov. 3 • Eureka, 775-237-6006.

**Northeastern Nevada Museum Birthday Ball** • Nov. 4 • Elko, 775-738-3418.

**National Finals Senior Pro Rodeo** • Nov. 1-4 • Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

**Snowmobile Grass Drags** • Nov. 10-12 • Elko, 775-738-2111, ext. 550 for information.

**Pahrump Social Powwow** • Nov. 17-19 • 775-209-3444.

**Chariot Races** • Nov. 17-19 • Wells, 775-752-3540.

**Parade of Lights** • Dec. 9 • Elko, 775-778-9555.

## 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: Bands like Octane and Midnight Rides perform in the showroom.  
High Desert Inn • 775-738-8425: Karaoke, Thurs.

**Red Lion** • 775-738-2111 or 800-545-0044: Entertainment in the lounge.

**Stockmen's Hotel** • 800-648-2345, ext. 498: Entertainers like Corky and Jan, Kip and Bo, and the Hildiees perform in the showroom. Dark Mon.

**HAWTHORNE**

**El Capitan** • 775-945-3322: Bands play Wed.-Sun.

**JACKPOT**

**Cactus Petes** • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: David Allen Coe, Sept. 8-9. Don Williams: The Farewell Tour, Sept. 22-24. Kenny Rogers, Oct. 1. 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 featured on weekends.

**PAHRUMP**

**Pahrump Nugget** • 775-751-6500: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.  
**Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park** • 775-727-1111: Entertainment Fri.-Sat. on selected dates in the Club West Nightclub. Special Event: Wild West Extravaganza, Sept. 22-24, featuring entertainment, barbecue, vendors.

**TONOPAH**

**Tonopah Station Ramada Inn** • 775-482-9777: Bands play during special-event weekends.

**WENDOVER**

**Montego Bay** • 775-664-9100: Bands play Tues.-Sun. Special Event: Third Anniversary Party, Oct. 13-14.

**Peppermill** • 775-664-2255 or 800-648-9660: Retroactive, Sept. 19-Oct. 1. Touch of Silk, Oct. 3-15.

**Rainbow Casino** • 775-664-4000: Prime Time, Sept. 12-24. Tony Vee, Sept. 26-Oct. 8. Nathan Owens, Oct. 10-22. Heartache Tonight, Oct. 24-Nov. 5. Rhythm Nation, Nov. 7-19. Atomica, Nov. 21-Dec. 3.

**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.



Richard Elloyan, singer and poet, performs at the Eureka Opera House October 6.

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## Magical "Mystère" and Spins Win

With the summer opening of "Love," Cirque du Soleil's latest production in Las Vegas, it was time to revisit "Mystère," the first Cirque show to play the city. "Mystère" opened at Treasure Island in 1993, spawning "O" at the Bellagio, "Zumanity" at New York-New York, "KA" at MGM Grand, and now "Love," a Beatles-themed show at the Mirage.

After more than 12 years, I discovered, "Mystère" was still fresh and visually stunning and continues to pack in audiences, at least judging by the full house at a recent matinee. Surely this is a circus-style production that is unlike any Barnum and Bailey show.

It's a good idea to arrive early for "Mystère," as some of the best comedy took place about 30 minutes before curtain time. A rumpled "maitre d'" led unsuspecting showgoers astray, throwing their tickets away, changing their seats at random, and confiscating buckets of popcorn. I'm still digging kernels out of my purse after a popcorn bath.

Following a gut-tingling opening scene featuring Japanese taiko drummers, 11 acts unfolded seamlessly in a theater decorated in vivid purple, red, and magenta. There was no interruption in the flow during set-ups for the aerial and acrobatic acts. There was always a distraction, such as dancers in colorful, often bizarre costumes, or a comic interlude with the pre-show maitre d'.

Popping in and out of the production was Baby, clad in diaper and bonnet and carrying a large bottle. He got himself in a series of funny predicaments and adopted a Daddy from the audience.

(I suggest paying the extra money for seats down front. With 1,629 seats, the showroom is large, and "Mystère" has very little dialogue. Being able to see Baby's expressions or perhaps be part of the show would be worth the extra \$35 a ticket.)

The audience alternated between fascinated silence and loud cheers. You could hear "wows" for the Chinese Poles, acro-



"Mystère," the first of five Cirque shows in Las Vegas, staged its 6,000th show in August.

bats who jumped from pole to pole, each hanging from only one arm or leg. Hand to Hand, a two-man act, elicited surely-that-must-hurt groans, as, muscles trembling, the two men moved slowly into contorted positions. When acrobats bounced back and forth on two vertical trampolines, a young showgoer said loudly, "Hey, I want some of those." Jaws dropped when six bungee divers dangled and spun from the ceiling in perfect precision. Their timing was impeccable—after all, they've practiced flying for 12 years.

"Mystère" plays Wednesday through Sunday at Treasure Island. Tickets cost \$60, \$75, and \$95. Call 702-796-9999 or 877-2SHOWLV or visit [www.cirquedusoleil.com](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com) for information.

### SHOPPING SUMMIT

The Summit Sierra, a 64-outlet upscale shopping center anchored by Dillard's, Orvis, and Old Navy, opened last spring in south Reno at U.S. 395 and Mount Rose Highway. Other stores include Coldwater Creek, Gap, Williams-Sonoma, and Pottery Barn. The Summit recently was named the best place to shop in Northern Nevada in the annual "Best of Nevada" *Nevada Magazine* readers' poll. For information visit [www.thesummitonline.com](http://www.thesummitonline.com).

### THE FLAVORFUL ONE

In Reno, the Club Cal-Neva's new Mexican restaurant received its name after the casino asked the public for suggestions. Reno resident Hector Santos' entry, *Muy Sabroso*, means "the flavorful one." For his winning entry Santos received \$500 and a menu sampling for 20 friends.

### COME ON DOWN!

Showgoers can win cash and prizes during "The Price is Right—Live," Bally's afternoon show on the Strip. Patterned after the long-running daytime television program, the Las Vegas version also features familiar games, including Plinko. Show times are 2:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 8 p.m. Friday.

### TRIBUTE TO MLK

Madame Tussauds Las Vegas has added a likeness of Martin Luther King Jr. to its "Spirit of America" room, which includes prominent Americans and former presidents. The museum is located in the Venetian on the Strip. Call 702-862-7800.

### ATTENTION, HOOTIE FANS

Hootie and the Blowfish have extended their partnership with the Silverton in Las Vegas until December 2007. The band has agreed to perform December 31 and give three performances in 2007. For details call 702-263-7777.

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

# Blessing of the Pine Nuts

Walker River festival offers traditional ceremony, All-Indian rodeo, and powwow dancing.

The Walker River Paiute Tribe welcomes visitors to the annual Walker River Pine Nut Festival held on September 16-17 in Schurz, the tribe's ancestral home near Hawthorne.

Native Americans wearing eagle- and hawk-feather headdresses and intricately beaded buckskin outfits ride floats in Saturday's parade. Powwow dancing follows. Children, youths, men, and women compete in such categories as the fancy, jingle, and sneak-up dances.

The festival's highlight is the pine nut blessing conducted by tribal elders Saturday evening. The ceremony thanks the Mother Earth for a good harvest of the nuts, which grow on piñon trees on the hillsides around Schurz. Pine nuts have been a Paiute food staple for generations.

The blessing begins with the circle dance, and visitors can join the dancers as



they move clockwise around a piñon branch attached to a pole. Native drum and singing groups provide the music. Elders walk the inner circle and toss pine



Miss Tiny Tot 2005, Talina Hicks, waves from her float in the parade. Left: Powwow dancers in full regalia.

nuts on the soil, symbolizing the reseeded of next year's crop. Every participant at the festival receives a small bag of pine nuts.

Powwow dancing, an all-Indian rodeo, hand games, and other activities are slated for both days. Most events are held at Wovoka Memorial Park in downtown Schurz, including Saturday's barbecue

lunch where everyone, including visitors, are fed free. Schurz is 39 miles south of Fallon on U.S. 95. Call 775-773-2306 for information.—Tom Straka and Bob Wynn

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# David Copperfield

Cosby, Sinatra, and the magical journey of a star-struck illusionist.

*With a wave of his arm, David Copperfield has "vaporized" an airplane, a Ferrari, and the Statue of Liberty, and has walked "through" the Great Wall of China. Copperfield first performed in 1968 at age 12 as Davino, Boy Magician. At 16, he taught magic at New York University. Also an actor and producer, Copperfield is the resident magician at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas where he surprises showgoers with illusions on a grand scale.*



David Copperfield mystifies audiences at the MGM Grand.

When I was a kid in Metuchen, New Jersey, we had every album Bill Cosby had made, and my family and I would listen to them over and over and laugh our butts off.

I was maybe six when we went to Vegas on vacation, and Cosby's name was on the billboard at the Frontier. I think I jumped about a foot from a sitting position—right there in the back of the cab between my parents—straight into the air. My first levitation.

That night we went to Cosby's show, where we sat "ringside," as they used to call it. Cosby saw me there with my mom and dad and brought me up on stage and started to ask me questions. I looked out at my parents. They were sitting there beaming.

I froze. Bill asked me what my name was, and I just sort of gurgled. He wiped off the microphone, and the audience went nuts—they loved it. I broke into my first flop-sweat. He asked me some more questions, but when I tried to talk, all I made were monkey noises. Cosby was nice and gracious, and I felt like I totally failed him. When I got back to my seat, my parents treated me as if I had just won the heavyweight championship of the world.

Fifteen years later, I played Vegas for the first time. I was the opening act for Bill Cosby. As luck would have it, when I

walked on stage at that first show, I looked out and saw my parents in the audience. They were sitting ringside, and they were beaming once again.

I started getting steady work in Vegas as an opening act for some really great people. Around that time I was beginning to do a lot of television, including the annual special for CBS television. Caesars Palace was the first to ask me to headline.

One night after I finished the show, there was this humongous guy in my dressing room. He had a glass eye and white hair in a kind of Caesar-style haircut. "I'm Jilly Rizzo," he said. Jilly Rizzo was a legend. He was Frank Sinatra's best friend, bodyguard, drinking buddy, confidante—you name it. He cut a very intimidating figure.

"Frank says you're making a lot of noise," he said. "The word is good on you. He wants to come to the show." For the second time in my life, I was speechless. I thought, "Tell him to buy a ticket like anyone else." Just kiddin' What I said was, "Wow."

After the show, Sinatra came backstage. "I saw you make that Lear jet disappear on TV," he said. "How did you do that?"

"It's a secret," I said. "I can keep a secret," Frank shot back. Jilly closed the conversation. "We'd like to know how you did it. Frank would like to know." I explained in detail how I did it.

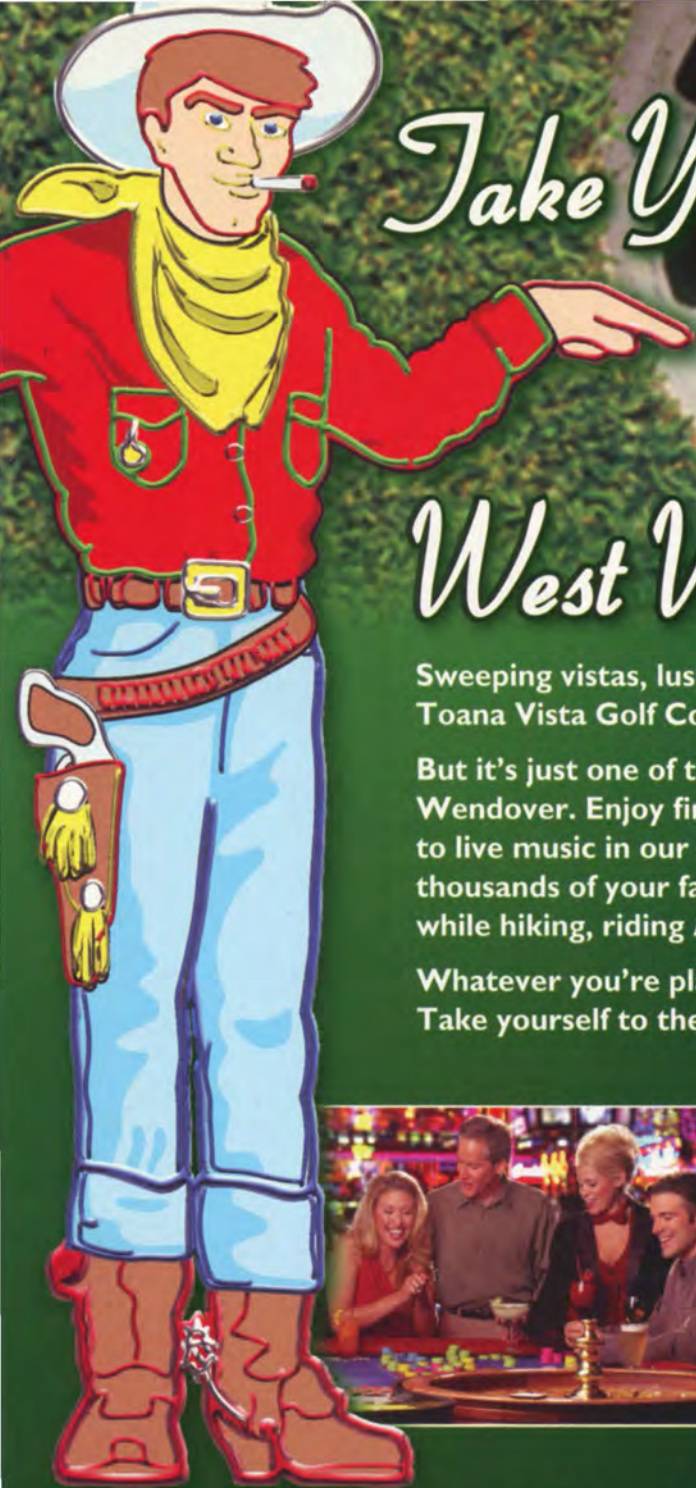
"You got a lot to look forward to in this business," Sinatra said. "That was a great show. And I don't say that lightly."

"He don't say that lightly," Jilly said.

Frank got up and finished his drink. When I reached for his hand, he grabbed my cheek, pinched it, and gave me a hug. After they left, I wrapped Frank's empty glass in a towel and put it away as a keepsake. Should I admit this? OK: I still have it.

## Show Notes

David Copperfield has three dates this fall and winter in the Hollywood Theater at MGM Grand in Las Vegas. On August 24-September 20, show times are 7:30 and 10 p.m., with 4:30 p.m. matinees on September 2-4, 9, and 16. On November 9-29, show times are 7:30 and 10 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. on November 11, 18, 22-25. December 23-January 3, 2007 times are 7:30 and 10 p.m., and an afternoon performance at 4:30 on December 24 and 26. Four performances are scheduled for December 25, 28-30 at 2, 4:30, 7:30, and 10 p.m. New Year's Eve schedule is 1:30, 4, 7 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$97 which includes tax. It is a good idea to verify holiday prices, which could be higher. Call 702-891-1111, 800-929-1111 or visit [www.mgmgrand.com](http://www.mgmgrand.com) for information. ▀



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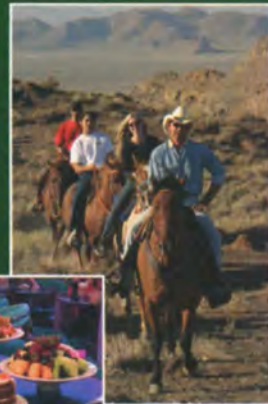


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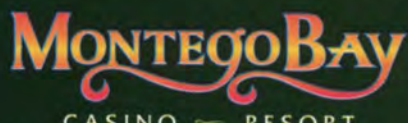
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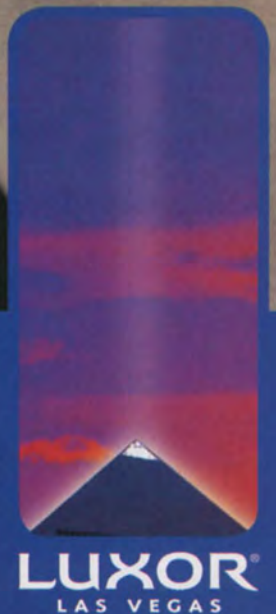
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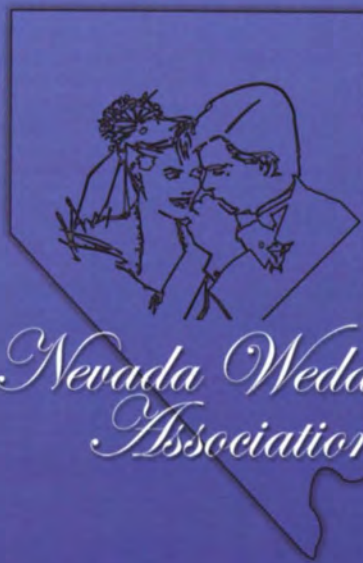
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