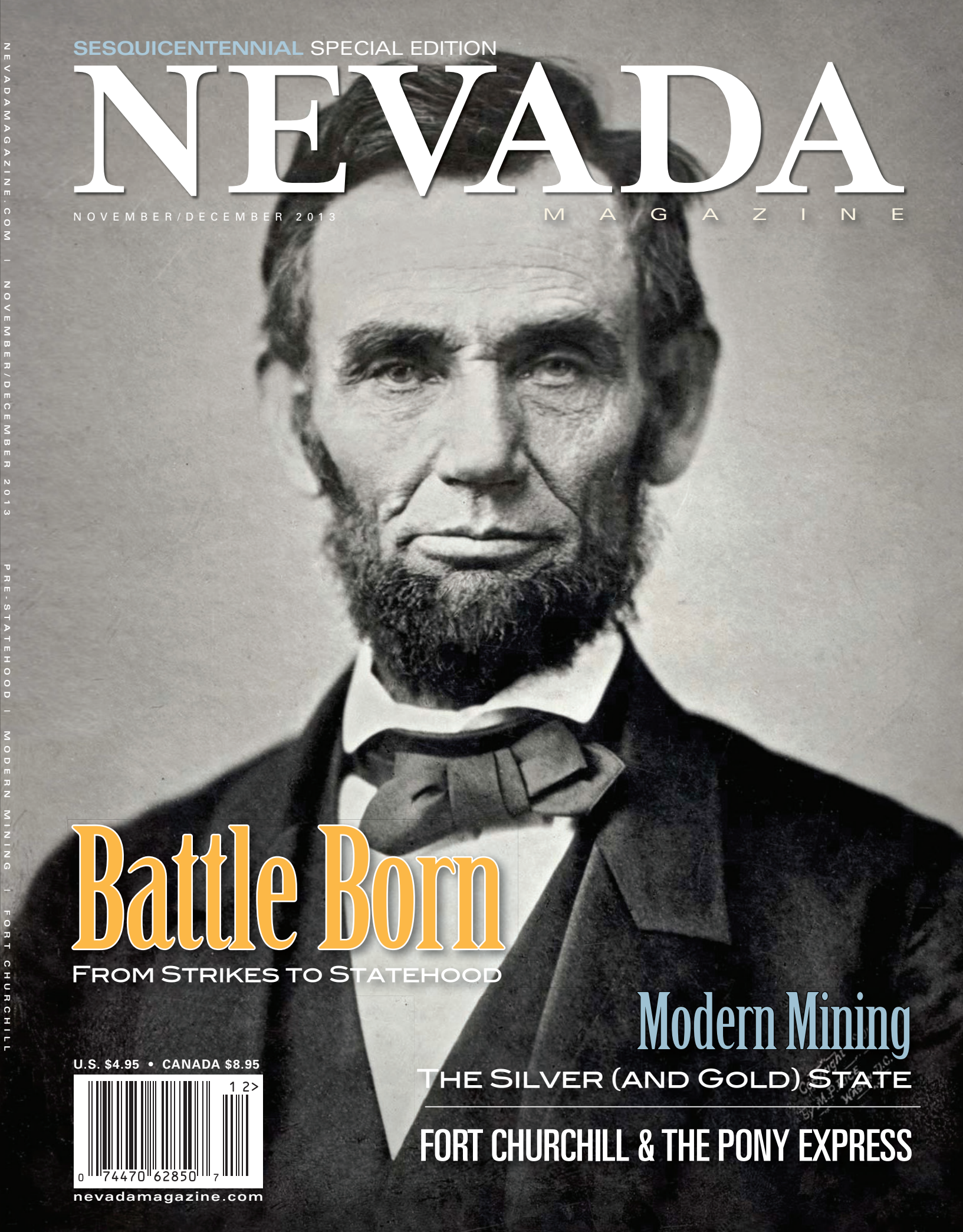
SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL EDITION

NEVADA

MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013



Battle Born

FROM STRIKES TO STATEHOOD

Modern Mining

THE SILVER (AND GOLD) STATE

FORT CHURCHILL & THE PONY EXPRESS

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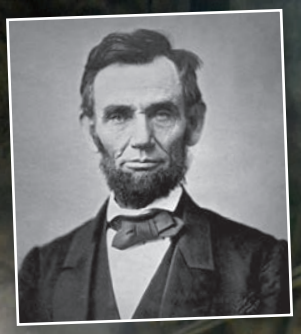
Cover Photo: This portrait of former President Abraham Lincoln was taken on November 8, 1863, less than a year before Nevada became a state.

Background Image: Matthew B. Brown
Barrick Gold Corporation's Goldstrike property includes underground operations.

SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL EDITION

FEATURES

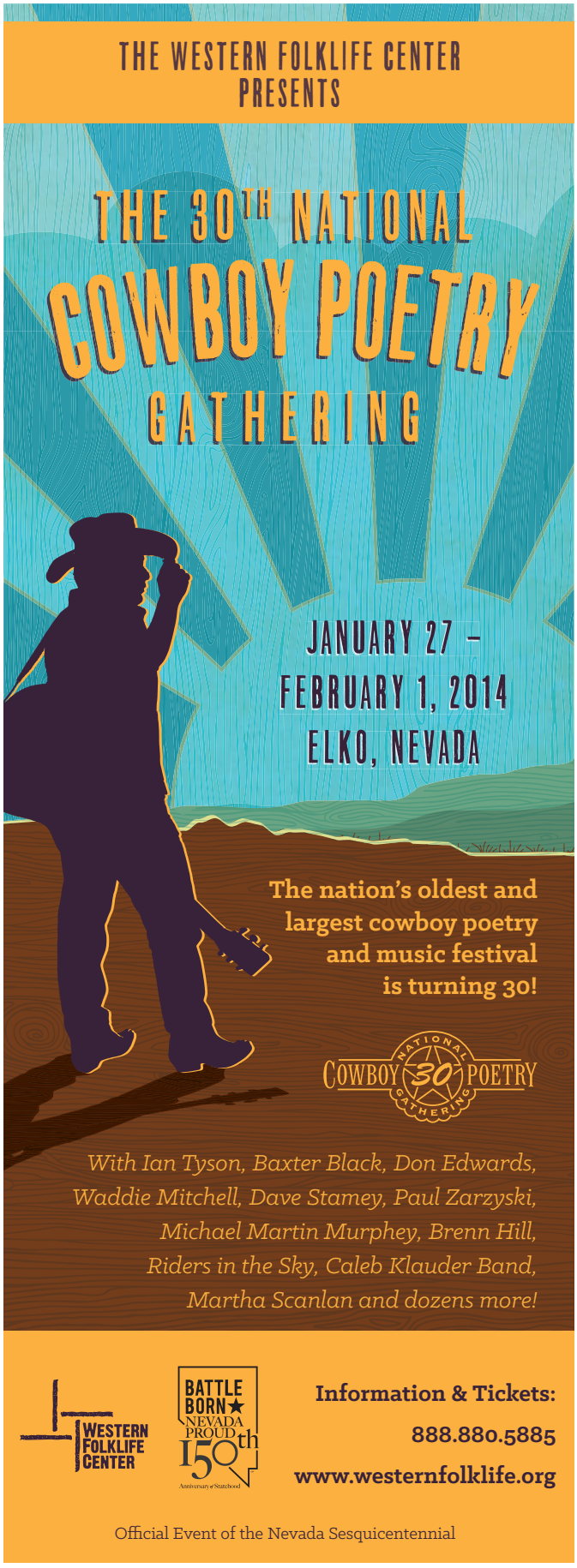
FROM STRIKES TO STATEHOOD



56 In the early 1850s, few were especially anxious to settle in what would one day become Nevada, at the time part of Utah Territory. Suddenly, a seemingly limitless cache of mineral riches focused global attention on this sparsely settled region and all but ensured Nevada's rapid rise from a land that no settler seemed to want to its annexation as the nation's 36th state, the Silver State.

MODERN MINING

68 Boosted by modern technology, improved processing methods of rich ore bodies, and high gold and silver prices, recovery of precious minerals is profitable again. We take an in-depth look at how today's technology allows the state's major mining companies to extract these high-in-demand metals.



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SCOTT NEUFFER

WEB EXTRAS

▶ The **Sweetwater Mountains**, which straddle the Nevada-California border, are full of vibrant color and texture. The author has been hiking and camping in the range since he was a boy and recently revisited the area, including Wellington's Heyday Inn (above). **By Scott Neuffer**

▶ In early September, a group of men mountain-biked from **Carson City to Virginia City** via off-road trails. Coincidentally, the author is shown riding in the advertisement opposite of page 1 in this issue. **By Jeff Moser**

▶ What's new in **Laughlin**? Find out what our editorial duo uncovered during their Laughlin Press Tour in October.

RADIO SHOW

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nevadamagazine.com/nevadamatters
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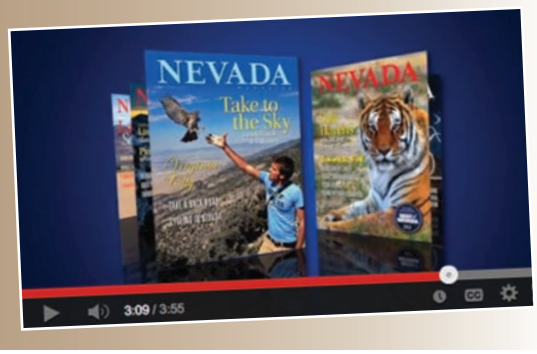
FEATURED VIDEO

Visit our YouTube page to watch our new *Nevada Magazine* promotional video, produced by Lake Tahoe's THS-Visuals. Learn about our publication's 77-year history and why you should be a subscriber.



WORTH A CLICK

biddingforgood.com/nevadanorthernrailway

There are more than 100 ways to support Ely's national treasure in the "All I Want for Christmas is to be the Engineer at Nevada Northern Railway" auction. Bid on this and more starting in mid-November.

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Look for this icon through November/December 2014. It means you're reading special coverage of the state's 150th birthday.

Salutations From a Mining Brat

If it were possible to be a mining brat, I would definitely classify as one. My father, Blake Brown, worked in gold mining for many years and now inspects mines for the State of California.

I was born in Spearfish, South Dakota, where Blake was employed by Homestake Mining Company. I have fond memories playing in my backyard as a young child with a picturesque view of the Black Hills (you may have heard of Black Hills Gold) in the background.

In 1987, Blake was transferred to Lake County, California, where I lived until I attended California State University, Chico from 1999 to 2003. The moral of the story is that the mining industry offers lengthy careers—lifelong in some cases—to many of its employees. It's the reason why many children become Nevada residents, growing up in towns such as Carlin, Elko, or Winnemucca.

During our tour with Coeur Rochester in September, General Manager Robert Stepper told us that he commutes daily more than 70 miles one way from Winnemucca. His son is studying mining law currently in Montana. In other words, mining is a way of life for many Nevadans and their families. In one of this issue's feature stories, we delve into modern mining and the technicalities of extracting gold and silver from Nevada's dirt and rocks.

We understand that mining can be controversial, and we're most definitely not choosing sides. We're merely illustrating in words and photos that the industry is again booming in the Silver State, and its connection to Nevada's roots can't be ignored.

Rewind 150 years from now, and President Abraham Lincoln was able to rush Nevada into statehood based on the strength of a single industry: mining. That is the focus of our second feature story. Author and historian Ron Soodalter continues his eight-part sesquicentennial series with Part II, which explains how the innovative and lucrative Comstock district propelled Nevada into statehood in 1864. We thought it very appropriate to put the iconic Lincoln on the cover.

Also in this issue are other homages to Nevada's pre-statehood era, including Fort Churchill State Historic Park and Sand Springs Pony Express Station. Enjoy our second of eight Sesquicentennial Special Editions. At *Nevada Magazine*, we recognize that this is a special time for Nevada and Nevada lovers, and we are honored to celebrate Nevada's 150th birthday in our pages.

Matthew B. Brown, Managing Editor
editor@nevadamagazine.com
linkedin.com/in/matthewbbrown

Associate Editor Eric Cachinero and I had the pleasure of touring Coeur Rochester's mine, northeast of Lovelock, on September 27. Behind me, one of Coeur's 100-ton trucks collects dirt.

Congrats to our Staff

2013 Nevada Press Association Awards

- General Excellence
- Best Overall Design
- Best Page Designer—Sean Nebeker
- Best In-House Promotion—Sean Nebeker & Carrie Roussel

Eric Cachinero (left) & Matthew B. Brown at the NPA awards dinner in Elko.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PECULIAR LENTICULARS

We watch the Nevada clouds a lot and have never seen anything like this [see photo]. We took pictures from our back patio, facing north, after a particularly windy day [in late September].

Miles Micya, Fernley

Thanks for sharing your images with us, Miles. Interestingly, due to their shape, lenticulars have been offered as an explanation for some UFO sightings.

EDITOR

FOND GHOST TOWN MEMORIES

Since the 1980s, my brother-in-law, Len Sjosten [of Petaluma, California], and I have spent a week each summer traveling Nevada to photograph ghost towns and other scenes. In your [September/October 2013] edition, there are features on ghost towns and the photo contest. We entered those contests many times. The edition arrived at my house just a week after Len's sudden and untimely death. He would have enjoyed that issue so much.

Ed Peoples, Forestville, California

PHOTO CONTEST FEEDBACK

I noticed that very few photographs [in the 2013 Great Nevada Picture Hunt photo contest] are a natural representation. In other words, they appear to be heavily enhanced and manipulated with software such as Photoshop. Perhaps two classes would be appropriate. One natural, which would demonstrate a photographer's skill at capturing a natural image, and another demonstrating a photographer's skill with editing software.

Not to diminish the images in any way; they are truly amazing. I just think these capabilities are not available to a great many who capture spectacular natural images and have no desire to "enhance" them in order to cater to a fashionable trend such as HDR. How about it for next year? Real shots of real things by real people with real cameras.

The selection process is clearly slanted in a particular area, if not toward a particular group of people who—while producing incredible results—have an advantage.

Chris Carling, Reno

Your input is much appreciated, Chris. We are constantly thinking of ways to improve our photo contest, so perhaps readers will see something akin to a "Natural" category in 2014.

EDITOR

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

Write to editor@nevadamagazine.com or via mail at 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. You can also comment on stories and read more letters at nevadamagazine.com. Letters and comments are subject to editing.

CONTRIBUTORS

GREG MCFARLANE

A Canadian transplant, Greg McFarlane settled in the Las Vegas Valley 17 years ago. He's traveled from Denio to Laughlin, and just about everywhere in between, always looking to unearth the idiosyncratic and irregular. He says, "If I could create a state from scratch, it'd have a sparse population, an arid climate, endless mountains, and thousands of fascinating places laying dormant, just waiting to be discovered. Fortunately, Nevada already exists." On most weekends, McFarlane, his notebook, and his steadfast Ford Explorer can be found somewhere along the state's myriad miles of wide-open roads. For this issue, he traveled to Fort Churchill State Historic Park and Sand Springs.

■ PGS. 26 & 30

THOMAS LERA

Thomas Lera, the Winton M. Blount Research Chair at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, has written more than 100 articles and six books on stamps and their history. "We take stamps for granted, but they are miniature works of art and give people a glimpse into the past and present," Lera says. Currently living in Virginia, he fills the ever brief moments between his many pursuits as adventurer, traveler, photographer, conservationist, and scholar as a pretentious literati.

■ PG. 38

JONATHAN SHIPLEY

Jonathan Shipley, a freelance writer living in Seattle, has always been interested in footnotes in history. Rather than writing about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, he wrote a piece about the man who assassinated the man who assassinated Lincoln. Rather than writing about the dark world of Al Capone, he wrote a piece about Al Capone's brother, a lawman in Idaho who fought bootleggers. Rather than writing about Frank Sinatra's ties to John F. Kennedy, for this issue he wrote a piece about the kidnapping of Frank Sinatra Jr. (while listening to "Strangers in the Night").

■ PG.42

Let the Sesquicentennial Celebration Begin!

KNOW YOUR NEVADA

Dear Friends,

Nevada's yearlong birthday party is officially underway—and what a kickoff it was!

The festivities started on October 24 with the Governor's Banquet in Reno. Hundreds of people joined Governor Brian Sandoval and me to celebrate our state's great history and heritage.

The next day, the first commemorative sesquicentennial silver medallion was struck on Historic Coin Press No. 1 at the old Carson City Mint, now the Nevada State Museum. These beautiful medallions were minted with pure Nevada silver, generously donated by Coeur Rochester, Inc. from its Pershing County mine, and are now available for everyone to own. Also available are beautiful copper medallions. Go to **nevada150.org** (or turn to page 10) to learn how you can purchase these mementos.

Kickoff week continued with Carson City playing host to the 75th annual Nevada Day Parade. Thousands of folks lined Carson Street in anticipation of the parade—many arriving before dawn to secure their favorite location to watch this great tradition. As the parade marched on, hundreds of hungry parade-goers found their way to the Carson Nugget and filled up on free chili at my annual Nevada Day Chili Feed.

With the Governor's Mansion open for tours, plus the annual beard-growing contest and hard-rock drilling competition, there was something for everyone. Later that afternoon the Nevada Wolf Pack celebrated homecoming by hosting the UNLV Rebels during the traditional battle for the Fremont Cannon. It was a special Nevada Day.

Not all the fun was in the northern part of our state. In Las Vegas, the Springs Preserve and neighboring Nevada State Museum were in full Nevada Day spirit, opening their doors for a free admission day on October 25 in honor of our 150th anniversary. Up the road, at Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, children—and those who are young at heart—participated in "Nevadaween," a combined celebration of Nevada Day and Halloween. It was a day full of pumpkins being painted, historical costumes being judged, and delicious soups being prepared, along with pioneer activities and games and prizes for all ages. In northeastern Nevada, Elko held its Nevada Day Parade and celebrated our Nevada spirit and heritage in its unique Cowboy Territory style.

The governor and I will end our week in Las Vegas, where we'll celebrate Nevada's statehood with fourth graders. We'll then head to Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, where we'll meet with a group of dedicated Boy Scouts working on a project to replace 25 Nevada Centennial Markers erected in 1964 on the Old Spanish Trail. We'll be there for the dedication and unveiling of the first replacement marker, along with the Old Spanish Trail Association and Friends of the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort.

What happens next? There are going to be fun, wonderful, outstanding, and meaningful events throughout the state, all year long. Take a look at some of the upcoming activities to put on your calendar in celebration of Nevada's birthday:

NOVEMBER - On November 6, the Sierra Watercolor Society opens a new Nevada outdoor watercolor exhibit at the Wilbur D. May Museum in Reno. On November 11, Las Vegas hosts the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi honoring 150 years of Nevada veterans. In Virginia City on November 21, University of Nevada School of Medicine's Office of Rural Health will honor Nevadans who have made significant contributions to medicine and health care.

DECEMBER - Gardnerville kicks off Carson Valley's Christmas season with an old-time celebrtion that includes carolers, bell ringers, and fireworks. Sparks Hometowne Christmas is December 6-7 and includes our largest holiday parade.

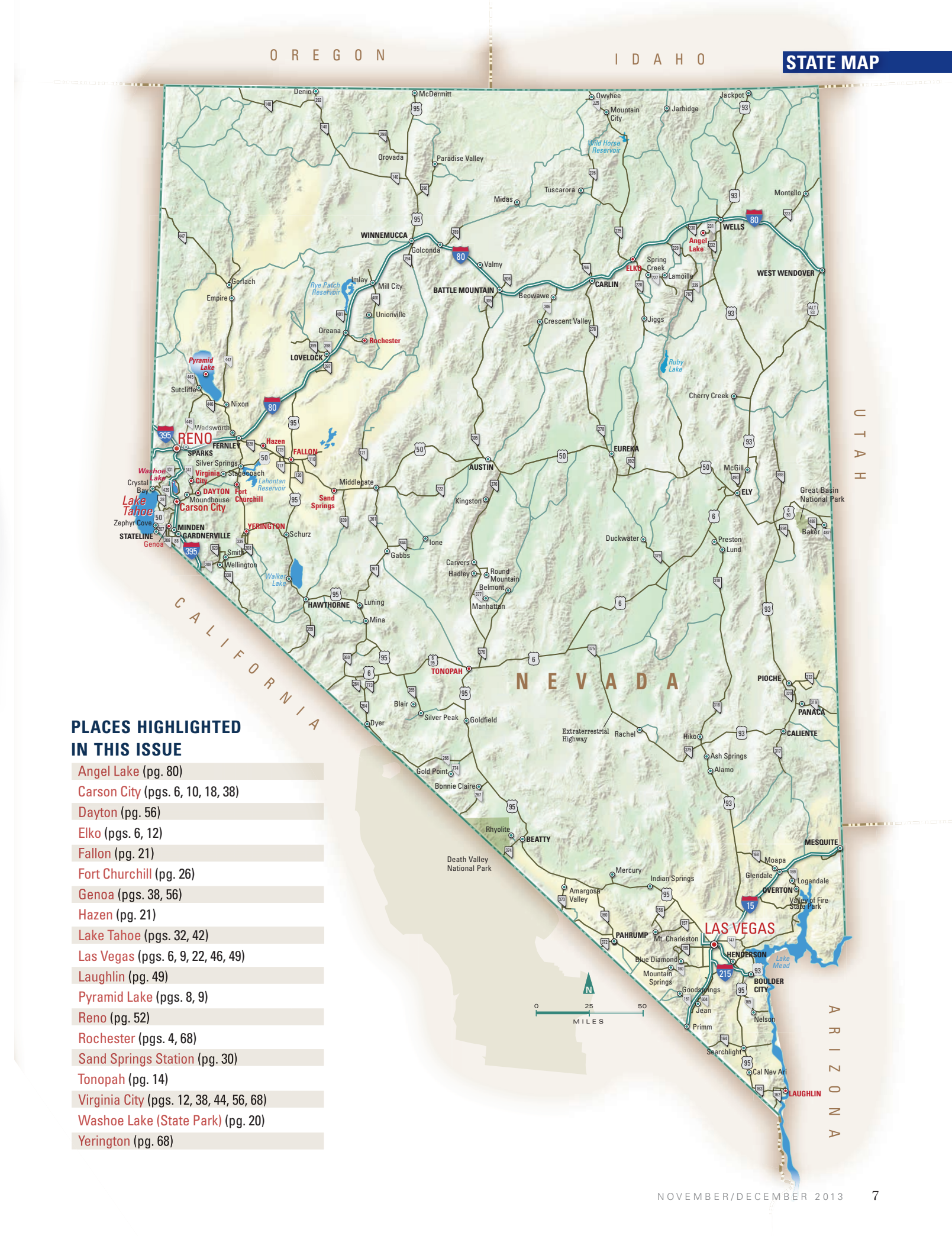
JANUARY - The 30th annual National Cowboy Poetry Gathering—a grand and world-renowned celebration of western people, lifestyles, and traditions—will be in Elko from January 27 to February 1.

Keep your eye on this column and **nevada150.org** to find out what else is happening around our great state as she turns 150 years old.

Lt. Gov. Brian K. Krolicki

Brian K. Krolicki
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman—Nevada Commission on Tourism & Nevada 150 Commission
ltgov.nv.gov

Editor's Note: *For more information about Nevada 150 happenings, turn to page 10.*



PLACES HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS ISSUE

- Angel Lake (pg. 80)
- Carson City (pgs. 6, 10, 18, 38)
- Dayton (pg. 56)
- Elko (pgs. 6, 12)
- Fallon (pg. 21)
- Fort Churchill (pg. 26)
- Genoa (pgs. 38, 56)
- Hazen (pg. 21)
- Lake Tahoe (pgs. 32, 42)
- Las Vegas (pgs. 6, 9, 22, 46, 49)
- Laughlin (pg. 49)
- Pyramid Lake (pgs. 8, 9)
- Reno (pg. 52)
- Rochester (pgs. 4, 68)
- Sand Springs Station (pg. 30)
- Tonopah (pg. 14)
- Virginia City (pgs. 12, 38, 44, 56, 68)
- Washoe Lake (State Park) (pg. 20)
- Yerington (pg. 68)

Up Front

PHOTOS: RICHARD MASSEY

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum and Visitor Center Director Shannon Mandell (above) poses inside the intriguing building, which houses a treasure trove of artifacts and history and is located in Nixon on State Route 447. The structure (exterior shown below) was designed by the late Native American architect Dennis Numkena to resemble a tepee.

MUSEUM

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum and Visitor Center beckons tourists

On a rise, northwest of the intersection of State Routes 446 and 447 in the town of Nixon, is a beautiful conical-shaped structure that is home to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum and Visitor Center. This is where you can find information about the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's history and culture as well as the natural history of the area. The museum contains a gift shop, plus information on camping and fishing at Pyramid Lake as well as day-use permits.

Dennis Numkena (a member of the Hopi Nation) was the designer/architect. His goal was to establish a space that reflected a profound spiritual sense and represented something unique and beautiful. Visitors will be convinced that Numkena succeeded.

On Saturday, November 16, the center is hosting a grand opening of several new exhibits that incorporate interactive kiosks, plus an intimate "cave" where viewers can watch recently produced films about the Paiute culture and the Pyramid Lake area. Admission is free, and it is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for this special occasion.

Winter museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. It's closed on weekends and holidays.—*Richard Massey*

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum & Visitor Center
709 State St., PO Box 256, Nixon, NV 89424
plpt.nsn.us/museum
775-574-1088

HISTORY

Nevada petroglyphs are oldest in North America

Ancient rock etchings along dried-up Winnemucca Lake have been confirmed to be the oldest recorded petroglyphs in North America, dating at least 10,000 years.

The petroglyphs found on limestone boulders near Pyramid Lake are similar in design to etchings found in Oregon that are believed to be at least 7,600 years old. Unlike later drawings that sometimes depict a spear or antelope, the carvings are abstract with tightly clustered geometric designs—some are diamond patterns, others have short parallel lines on top of a longer line. Scientists can't tell who carved them, but they were found on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's reservation land.

The petroglyphs could be as much as 14,800 years old, according to Larry Benson, a geochemist who used radiocarbon testing to date the etchings. Benson is a former research scientist for the U.S. Geological Survey and current curator of anthropology at the University of Colorado Natural History Museum.—*Associated Press*

Editor's Note: The exact location of the petroglyphs has been omitted here at the request of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, which adamantly discourages the public from visiting the historical site.

NEIL LOCKHART

Fossil found in Red Rock Canyon might be oldest discovered in Nevada

A brown disk of rock that was plucked from the desert 20 miles west of the Las Vegas Strip is being hailed as the oldest fossil of a land animal ever found in Nevada. Now researchers are trying to figure out what long-gone creature the vertebrae belonged to.

A survey team led by UNLV paleontologist Josh Bonde spent a weekend at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park combing the area where the rock was found earlier this year. They discovered two more backbones and some fossilized bone fragments—not enough yet for a positive identification. "It's something big," says Bonde, who is an assistant professor of geoscience at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The fossils come from a layer of rock that dates back to the late Triassic period, some 220 million to 230 million years ago, "right at the dawn of the age of dinosaurs," Bonde says.—*Las Vegas Review-Journal*

NEVADA news

✦ **Ghostbar**, the boutique nightclub located on the 55th floor of the Ivory Tower at Palms Casino Resort, has been given a makeover in a palette of black, white, and fuchsia. It's part of the Palms' property-wide $50-million renovation. **palms.com, 702-938-9999**

✦ **Bally's** renovated Jubilee Tower rooms now encompass 450 square feet and offer magnificent views of the Las Vegas Strip. The suites in the tower are also being redesigned with more information coming later this year. **caesars.com, 702-785-6995**

✦ Nite Tours International is offering a new tour called **"Vegas Party Bus Express,"** during which guests enjoy an all-inclusive club crawl for $69 per person. **nitetours.com, 702-877-6483**

✦ As part of Donald Trump's platform for TRUMP WELLNESS, **TRUMP Hotel Las Vegas** kicked off a new boot camp that takes guests and locals up and down the Las Vegas Strip for the ultimate fitness workout. The class is every Friday at 7:30 a.m. for $12. **trumplasvegashotel.com, 702-982-0000**

✦ The **Golden Nugget Laughlin** recently introduced its newest accommodations along the Colorado River with the Gold Rush Villa (below). With more than 2,900 square feet of space, the Gold Rush Villa offers a stylish new way to experience the Southern Nevada town of Laughlin. **goldennugget.com, 800-950-7700**

NEVADA news

✦ To honor the state's 150th birthday in 2014, Matt Hufman and Mike Smith—journalists at the **Las Vegas Sun**—are going on a series of road trips under the title of "Finding Nevada" and using hashtag **#findingnv** on social media. **lasvegassun.com/findingnevada**

✦ **KRNV News 4** in Reno is doing a "Nevada Proud" video series, which is also related to Nevada's sesquicentennial. Some recent installments are "Fort Churchill" and "The Rise and Fall of Harold's Club, Reno's Iconic Casino." **mynews4.com**

✦ **The Mark Twain Cultural Center** & Toccata-Guttman Music Hall in Incline Village has re-opened. The center is planning a yearlong celebration of Nevada's 150 years of statehood. **marktwainculturalcenter.com, 775-833-1835**

✦ **"Home Means Nevada,"** the state song, officially turned 80 years old earlier this year. In 1933, Governor Fred Balzar made it official when he signed Senate Bill 7. The tune made its public debut, however, at the Nevada Native Daughters picnic at Bowers Mansion on July 31, 1932.

✦ The **Ely Renaissance Society** acquired a former bank on the west end of the eastern Nevada town and have converted it into a cultural center called Art Bank. **elyrenaissance.com/bankproj.html**

✦ Christopher Bently, a Carson Valley entrepreneur and businessman, announced in September that he will lead the conversion of the historic Minden Flour Milling Company building into a craft distillery named **Nevada Heritage**. **nevadaheritagecraftdistillery.com**

SESQUICENTENNIAL

Nevada 150 medallions in high demand

Although the first mintage of Nevada's sesquicentennial silver medallions has sold out, additional mintages have been approved for further pre-orders. The first production date took place October 25, the observance of Nevada Day, at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.

"While demand for the medallion has been overwhelming, it is our intent to continue to fulfill these orders and allow anyone who wants to order the first of four sesquicentennial medallions to do so through January 31, 2014," says Kara Kelley, executive director of the Nevada 150 Commission.

Orders taken for the exclusive first mintage—which were produced from a 1,000-ounce bar of silver donated by and mined from Coeur Rochester, Inc.'s Northern Nevada mine—will be fulfilled before the holiday season. Orders taken from subsequent mintages will not be fulfilled until the first quarter of 2014.

Each one-ounce silver piece containing the Nevada 150 design on one side and the official Nevada state seal on the other are available to the public at $100.50 each. Medallions can be purchased online at **leg.state.nv.us** or in person at the Legislative Gift Shop, located at 401 South Carson Street in Carson City.

Sesquicentennial copper medallions have the same design and are also available for sale through the LGS at $15 each.

For more information about Nevada 150, visit **nevada150.org**.

"These medallions are truly a special piece of Nevada history marking the state's 150th birthday."—*Lieutenant Governor Brian K. Krolicki*

NEVADA 150 SIGNATURE EVENTS	PLACE	DATE
Vegas Valley Book Festival	Las Vegas	Oct. 30-Nov. 2
Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade	Las Vegas	Nov. 11
Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade	Sparks	Dec. 6-7

HENRY COMSTOCK,

FOR WHOM THE FAMOUS COMSTOCK LODE IS NAMED, IRONICALLY DID NOT STRIKE IT RICH. IN FACT, HE ULTIMATELY

COMMITTED SUICIDE IN 1870,

AFTER SELLING HIS MINING INTERESTS FAR TOO QUICKLY AND FAILING IN BUSINESS AND MARRIAGE.

WHOLESOME,

MEET AWESOME.

BOULDER CITY
Nevada
A world away FOR A DAY

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NEVADA news

✦ There is a new paved and dirt hiking and biking trail system at the **Mesquite Sports and Events Complex**. The new trails provide just the right mix of terrain to allow both casual walkers and energetic hikers to move at their preferred pace. **mesquitenv.gov, 702-346-8732**

✦ The **Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas** transforms its iconic Boulevard Pool into an intimate lodge experience with the return of The Ice Rink on Friday, November 22. The Ice Rink will feature an expanded skating area, new cocktail and culinary offerings, and more. **cosmopolitanlasvegas.com**

✦ Nearly 200 people helped the **Tahoe Rim Trail Association** celebrate the move to its new home—128 Market Street in Stateline—in September with a ribbon cutting and open house. The TRTA welcomes anyone who is looking for information about using the 165-mile trail or would be interested in volunteering. **tahoerimtrail.org, 775-298-4486**

✦ 16-year-old Lauren Dunn of Truckee, California snagged what is believed to be the new Junior Female World Record for a Lahontan Cutthroat Trout on October 1 at **Pyramid Lake**. The fish weighed in at more than nine pounds. **pyramidlakeflyfishing.com, 775-742-1754**

✦ Beginning in September, the **World Series of Poker** now offers real-money online poker in the State of Nevada. Anyone of legal age in the Silver State with an internet connection and a mobile phone can play. **wsop.com**

TOURISM

Virginia City's C Street named a Top 10 Great Street

Each year during National Community Planning Month, the American Planning Association's Great Places in America program names 30 exemplary streets, neighborhoods, and public spaces.

This year, APA singled out Virginia City's C Street for its views of surrounding mountains, including its famous 100-mile-view over Nevada's basin and range; authentic Old-West character; countless 19th-century buildings; as well as efforts by local officials, businesses, residents, and the state to maintain the authentic experience for nearly a million visitors annually. **visitvirginiacitynv.com, 800-718-7587; planning.org/greatplaces**

California Trail Center in Elko named a must-see museum

In August, the California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, eight miles west of Elko, was listed No. 5 on *True West Magazine's* "Top 10 Must-See Museums" list. Visitors to the center have the opportunity to experience multimedia exhibits, life size dioramas, original art, and video productions. They can also hike trails, attend interpretive programs, and learn from knowledgeable staff.

The Trail Center is closed, unfortunately, until the government shut down is resolved. **californiatrailcenter.org, 775-738-1849**

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NEVADA BOOKS

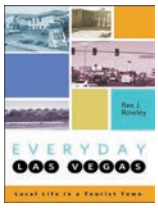
THE CAREGIVER'S JOURNAL

By Marie Gibson, the-caregivers-journal.com, 775-720-3282

If you have a family member or loved one in a hospital or rehab facility, your life may need simplification. *The Caregiver's Journal* will make the visit easier and allow you to maintain control. Coordinate communications among multiple caregivers. Refresh your memory about visits with medical staff, doctors, and therapists. Jot notes to yourself, the patient, and other caregivers... you will appreciate this easy-to-use tool! Gibson, from Reno, is a business consultant and award-winning college instructor.

EVERYDAY LAS VEGAS: LOCAL LIFE IN A TOURIST TOWN

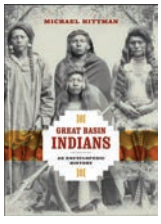
By Rex J. Rowley, University of Nevada Press, unpress.nevada.edu, 800-621-2736, 272 pages



Every year, more than 35 million people visit Las Vegas. Another 2 million call the city home. *Everyday Las Vegas* takes a close look at what life is like for locals in Sin City, a place that the rest of the world sees as an exotic, even decadent, vacation destination. Using interviews with more than 100 local residents, Rowley examines the routines of everyday life in a place that has long sold itself as the No. 1 escape from reality.

GREAT BASIN INDIANS: AN ENCYCLOPEDIC HISTORY

By Michael Hittman, University of Nevada Press, unpress.nevada.edu, 800-621-2736, 512 pages



The Native American inhabitants of the Great Basin have a long, eventful history and rich cultures. This book covers all aspects of the world of the Shoshone, Ute, Washoe, Paiute, and others in Nevada, California, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon. Hittman's history is organized in an A-to-Z format to allow full discussion of many diverse topics, including geography, religion, culture, art, and artifacts.

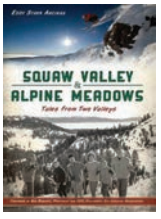
HISTORICAL NEVADA: 150 MEMORABLE IMAGES IN CELEBRATION OF THE SILVER STATE'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

By Nevada Magazine, RR Donnelley, nevadamagazine.com, 775-687-0610, 159 pages

In honor of Nevada's 150th birthday in 2014, *Nevada Magazine* has published a special book. This is a great way for Nevadans and Nevada enthusiasts to celebrate the state's heritage. The cover shows the Virginia & Truckee Railroad as it was in 1876 Carson City. The book also pays homage to *Nevada Magazine's* annual Nevada Historical Calendar, because the 150 images showcased are the most intriguing and memorable from 36 years of calendars (1978-2013).

SQUAW VALLEY AND ALPINE MEADOWS

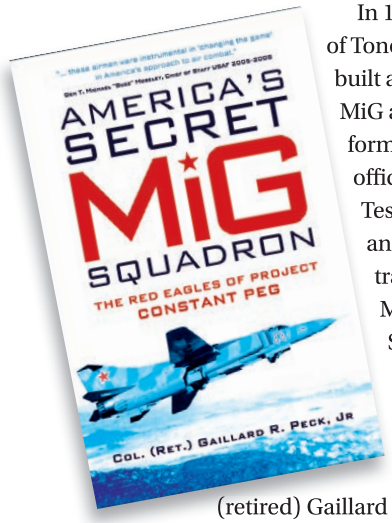
By Eddy Starr Ancinas, The History Press, historypress.net, 843-628-9003, 160 pages



In this account, longtime skier Ancinas shares the histories of Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows as they've never been told before, including the stories of John Reily, Wayne Poulsen, and Alex Cushing—the visionaries whose dreams and determination forever transformed North Lake Tahoe. Squaw Valley made a name for itself on the world stage as host of the 1960 Winter Olympics.

For many more Nevada book summaries, visit **nevadamagazine.com**.

Tonopah squadron's story brought to light in retired colonel's book



In 1978, outside the sleepy town of Tonopah, the U.S. Air Force built an airfield and placed Soviet MiG aircraft there. The squadron formed to operate the airfield was officially known as the 4477th Test and Evaluation Squadron and provided air-to-air combat training to Air Force, Navy, and Marine aircrews with actual Soviet-built aircraft. Known as the Red Eagles, the unit operated in secrecy until 1988. The first commander of the 4477th at Tonopah was Col. (retired) Gaillard R. Peck Jr., who has written the book, *America's Secret MiG Squadron: The Red Eagles of Project CONSTANT PEG*. Peck, now a resident of Las Vegas, will be inducted into the Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame on November 9 in Henderson.—*Jim Keys*

Order Peck's book at **ospreypublishing.com.**
Learn more about the squadron at **4477reaa.com.**

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & CIRCULATION

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C. Total paid circulation	13,125	12,711
D1/E. Total free distribution	3,919	3,067
F. Total distribution	17,044	15,778
G. Copies not distributed		
1. Office use, leftover, unaccounted, spoiled	867	1,200
H. Total	17,911	16,978
I. Percent Paid Circulation	77%	81%

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A Capitol Christmas

This photo was taken Christmas night of 2012 in Carson City during a major winter snowstorm that rendered travel extremely difficult. But Spilker and her husband, Jeremy, weren't going to be denied. "We covered my off-camera flashes with Ziploc bags, to keep them protected from the wet, heavy snow," she says. "It took a little maneuvering, because the master flash wouldn't always trigger the others, but the results made it totally worth it."

PHOTO BY KIPPY SPILKER

See more of Spilker's work at geminai.com.

A WASHOE AUTUMN

This scene was captured at Washoe Lake State Park, north of Carson City, in early November 2012. "We had great colors last year, and those old, majestic cottonwoods at the south end of the park offer endless photo ops," Phelps says. "Their twisting arms make for so many different compositions with unique perspectives."

PHOTO BY DIANNE PHELPS

See more of Phelps' work at diannephelpsphotography.com.

LEAF LEGACY

Petersen produced this image in January 2011, but the date isn't nearly as important as the result. "It's part of an ongoing series called 'Leaves of Ice' that I've been creating since 1997," he says. "It was taken in one of the many irrigation ditches in Fallon. These scenes last only a few hours, and then melt away and are gone forever." Members of our Nevada Photographers Facebook group are treated daily to Petersen's creative and imaginative work.

PHOTO BY ROBERT PETERSEN

ART DIRECTOR'S CHOICE

Each issue, *Nevada Magazine's* Art Director Sean Nebeker chooses a photo from our Nevada Photographers Facebook group to be showcased on this page.

PURPLE HAZEN

On September 15, 2013 behind the Hazen Market, west of Fallon off U.S. Highway 50, this sensational sunset presented itself—but Smith had to be patient. "I took a few photos on the railroad, and then I spotted this tree," he says. "The longer I waited, the better it got." He used HDR editing to combine three images into one.

PHOTO BY HEATH SMITH

See more of Smith's work at 500px.com/heathsmith.

GROUP CHOICE

Each issue, our Nevada Photographers Facebook group votes for their favorite photo out of three selected by the *Nevada Magazine* production staff.

JOIN OUR NEVADA PHOTOGRAPHERS GROUP
facebook.com/groups/nevadasnaps

THE LINQ

Open-air retail, dining, and entertainment district aims to create a new type of visitor experience on the Las Vegas Strip.

BY JOANNA HAUGEN

Las Vegas resort-casinos have historically been designed to keep visitors inside, without clocks, windows, or easy access to exits. With several dining options; a variety of entertainment choices, gaming opportunities, and accommodations; a selection of pools; and an array of spa services and shopping all contained in a single place, the resorts on the Las Vegas Strip serve as one-stop shops. The theory is that guests never have to leave their property of choice.

This on-Strip standard of confinement is being reimagined and redefined with the introduction of The LINQ, an open-air retail, dining, and entertainment district anchored by the world's tallest observation (Ferris) wheel—known as the High Roller. A Caesars Entertainment project, The LINQ is located between The Quad Resort & Casino and Flamingo Las Vegas (both of which open to The LINQ), directly facing Caesars Palace.

The area was formerly an alleyway leading into a parking garage that an estimated 20.4 million people pass by annually, which made the decision to build the project in this space a no-brainer for Caesars Entertainment. "The goal in mind is really to create a critical mass of nightlife, dining, and entertainment," says Jon Gray, general manager of The LINQ. "A lot of great cities have cool streets to walk through, and we saw that there was a void in Las Vegas."

Live entertainment and al fresco (outdoor) dining throughout The LINQ are expected to create a vibe that appeals specifically to Generation X and Generation Y (ages 21 to 46, roughly), but there is something for everyone in this new development. "We're creating an elevated experience on the Strip, but we don't want it to be intimidating," Gray says. "We didn't want to offer another high-end shopping center."

More than 30 retail, dining, nightlife, and entertainment venues will line the street at The LINQ. "In the conception of The LINQ, we knew we wanted to have new Vegas offerings, things that had never been done before," Gray adds. "But we knew we wanted to have a balance, so we also wanted tenants that had great brand awareness. However, we pushed those tenants to do something unique."

Among The LINQ tenants are:

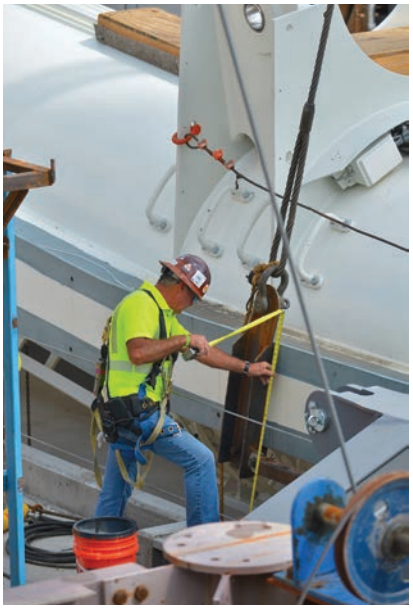
BROOKLYN BOWL – This multidimensional entertainment venue, popular in New York City, will have a 2,000-person performance area, 32 lanes of bowling, and a nightclub. "There will be a concert every night of the week; an incredible mix of huge name bands and great indie bands, too," Gray says. A performance lineup has not yet been announced for Brooklyn Bowl at The LINQ, but the New York venue has hosted artists such as Adele, Kanye West, Guns N' Roses, and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs.

CHAYO COCINA – For one of the best views of The LINQ, visitors may want to visit Chayo Cocina, which will have a balcony overlooking the whole area and the High Roller. The menu at Chayo Cocina will have food made exclusively from authentic Mexican ingredients, and there will be a large tequila selection available.

F.A.M.E. – Combining food, art, music, and entertainment, F.A.M.E. is a two-story dining experience. "On the first floor is an Asian market, but with a new-age twist. Think Asian food trucks," Gray says. The second floor will house a sushi lounge and grill.

GOORIN BROS. – Cassel Goorin began making hats in 1895, and the tradition continues today at this neighborhood shop. Men and women can choose from a selection ranging from classic to modern, including ball caps, fedoras, bowlers, knit caps, and more.

RENDERING



HIGH ROLLER

BY THE NUMBERS

3.5 million — pounds of steel used in construction
44,000 — weight of each cabin (pounds)
550 — height (feet)
225 — length of cables (feet)
112 — # of cables used in construction
40 — # of guests each cabin holds
30 — time (minutes) it take to make one full revolution
28 — # of spherical passenger *cabins

*The cabins will feature dynamic video and music shows that will fade away to show riders impressive views of the Las Vegas valley.

OTHER LAS VEGAS PROJECTS

VOODOO ZIP LINE

VooDoo Zip Line (rendering is shown above), which offers magnificent views of the Las Vegas Strip, will debut at Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino in early November. It connects the two towers of the Rio—beginning on the patio of VooDoo Steakhouse, located on the 50th floor of the Masquerade Tower—and propels riders at speeds of up to 33 mph to the adjoining 20-story Ipanema Tower. Guests will make a return trip back to the starting point, traveling backwards at 20 mph.

voodoozipline.com, 866-746-7671

GANSEVOORT LAS VEGAS

Caesars Entertainment Corporation has partnered with New York-based luxury hotel brand Gansevoort Hotel Group and nightlife impresario Victor Drai to create a unique Las Vegas Strip boutique resort experience, coming in early 2014. Gansevoort Las Vegas will feature 188 guest rooms and suites, a 40,000-square-foot casino, a restaurant by celebrity chef and *Food Network* host Giada De Laurentiis, and a signature lobby bar. The lifestyle resort will be the result of a $185-million renovation of the former Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon.

gansevoortlv.com

LAS VEGAS RENAISSANCE

EHB Companies, developer of Las Vegas' One Queensridge Place and Tivoli Village, plans to build a 700,000-square-foot enclosed shopping mall development named Las Vegas Renaissance. Located 15 minutes west of the Strip, adjacent to Tivoli Village, the mall should be open for the 2015 holiday season. Meanwhile, construction of Tivoli Village's phase II is underway and on schedule for a holiday 2013 opening. Hops & Harvest, Chef Bradley Ogden's new restaurant, opened at Tivoli Village earlier this year.

tivolivillagelv.com, renaissancelv.com

RENDERING

The LINQ, Caesars Entertainment's $550-million open-air retail, dining, and entertainment district, will boast a plethora of new-to-Las Vegas tenant brands, including the *Polaroid* Fotobar retail store and museum, Chilli Beans sunglasses, Vanity Style Lounge, and Goorin Bros. hat shop. The LINQ is located directly across from Caesars Palace, between The Quad Resort & Casino and Flamingo Las Vegas.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

The LINQ
caesars.com/thelinq
702-785-6492

OFF THE STRIP – A bistro with a history in Las Vegas, this Italian restaurant is already a locals' favorite. Menu items include steak, pasta, chicken, and fish dishes along with traditional American comfort food.

***POLAROID* FOTOBAR** – People who have thousands of photos on their phones but haven't done anything with them can finally liberate their images at Fotobar. "You can walk in with your phone and turn the photos into Polaroids that you can walk out with," Gray says. There are also options to turn those images into wall art murals and other forms of art.

RUBY BLUE – Designed to feel like a burlesque dressing room with sparkling red walls and royal blue upholstered insets, Ruby Blue will carry a wide variety of women's accessories. Handbags, costume jewelry, and novelty legwear share the space with a collection of sexy games and toys.

SPRINKLES – This cupcake bakery creates handcrafted goodies in small batches with ingredients that contain no preservatives, trans fats, or artificial flavors. It will be the first Sprinkles location to feature artisan ice cream flavors and red velvet ice cream cones as well as a cupcake ATM.

THE STOMPING GRAPE – "Couples will love to hang out here," Gray says. This wine bar features a casual lounge, an extensive selection of wines, and light, contemporary California Wine Country cuisine.

YARD HOUSE – A locals' favorite when it comes to dining in Las Vegas, Yard House at The LINQ will be located near the High Roller, and it is expected to be different than the others found around the city. "This is the biggest one in their portfolio," Gray says. "They're adding a balcony and have a great covered-patio experience."

Construction on this pedestrian-friendly space began in November 2011, and by New Year's Eve, the first phase of The LINQ—including O'Sheas, a popular Irish pub—will be open. The majority of The LINQ should be open by the end of February 2014, with the High Roller debuting shortly thereafter.

Topping out at 550 feet, the High Roller will be the largest observation wheel in the world. Twenty-eight spherical cabins will each hold 40 guests. Traveling at one foot per second, the High Roller will take roughly 30 minutes to make one full revolution. In creating the wheel, designers learned from the engineering of the London Eye and Singapore Flyer.

"We really wanted to create a new icon on the Las Vegas Strip, and I think we've achieved that," Gray says. "I think the High Roller will be something that everyone needs to ride—and will want to ride, both tourists and locals."

Tenants at The LINQ are currently setting their hours. Brooklyn Bowl plans to host a concert, DJ set, and potentially an after-hours set nightly. The High Roller is expected to be open from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. "We may also have sunrise flights if we see a great demand," Gray says. Ticket pricing for the High Roller is still being finalized. As a local-friendly attraction, Gray says he anticipates there will be a lower price point for Nevada residents.

From the streets of the pedestrian-friendly outdoor walkway to the top of the High Roller, the overarching goal of The LINQ is to create a place where people can easily hang out unconfined by the walls of the typical Las Vegas casino resort—a visionary concept that has the potential to change how people embrace their experience on the Strip.

"There are a million scenarios that can pan out once people enter The LINQ," Gray says. "It's a great spot for tourists and locals to meet up and start their night, be there the entire night, or end their night."

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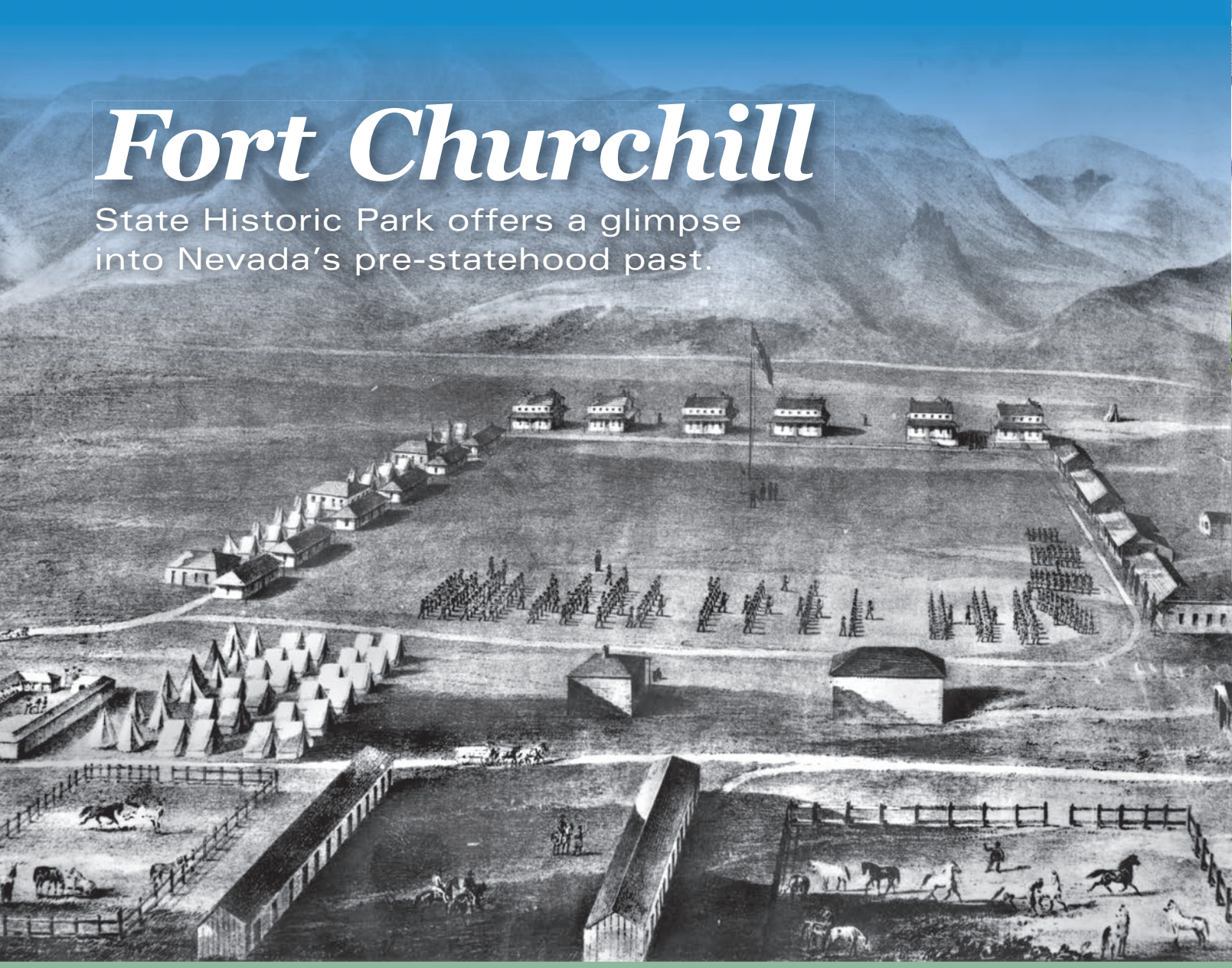
Fort Churchill

State Historic Park offers a glimpse into Nevada's pre-statehood past.



NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Construction of Fort Churchill began in summer 1860. The above illustration depicts life on the fort after or about the time the U.S. Army commissioned it in 1861. Total cost of the fort was about $180,000, and its adobe bricks—which now make up the iconic ruins of the State Historic Park—came from the local area.

BY GREG MCFARLANE

Almost everything about life in mid-1800s Nevada seems difficult to fathom and even more difficult to have endured. We no longer worry about hostile natives, high infant mortality, and taking weeks to cross the desert on horse-drawn wagons, but at one time such ordeals were commonplace. That onerous era is on permanent display at Fort Churchill State Historic Park, a living commemoration of many of the people and events that helped forge this resilient state.

Every Nevadan who passed high school civics knows that the state was admitted to the Union during the throes of the Civil War (our motto, "Battle Born," provides a clue). But The War Between the States wasn't the only—or the earliest—conflict to have played a vital part in Nevada's formation. A year before the infamous shots were fired at Fort Sumter, The Paiute War was in full swing at Pyramid Lake and the surrounding region. That struggle, and its aftermath, led to the founding of one of the state's most fascinating historical sites, located east of Carson City.

GREG MCFARLANE

The Fort Churchill State Historic Park visitor center displays information and artifacts of the fort's history, such as this Civil War era three-inch ordnance rifle (left). Originally, there were six individual Officers Quarters (below) on the fort complex, which were described in their day as "comfortable" and "elegant."

EARLY HISTORY

In 1861, with violence between Indians and settlers at its peak, and blood having long been shed on both sides, the United States Army commissioned Fort Churchill so that an influx of new settlers from the East could live in some semblance of peace. The fort housed as many as 300 soldiers, providing a bulwark against Paiute forces. The Army selected for its base a site on the northern banks of the Carson River, a well-traveled area that had come to the attention of explorers a few years earlier.

In the midst of a lifetime full of superlatives and pioneering feats, Colonel John C. Fremont was the first explorer to pay a visit to what is now Fort Churchill. Traveling with legendary frontiersman Kit Carson, Fremont mapped the region in 1843. By the end of the decade, the area was overrun with fortune seekers heading west to lay their claim to California gold. It's estimated that more than 150,000 speculators passed through.

Directly past the park's entrance are the adobe ruins of the fort itself—once a functioning and modern military outpost. Its main compound included six officers' quarters, an armory, and multiple barracks. There are also the vestiges of a quartermaster's operation and, tucked discreetly in at the back, the laundresses' building. As park ranger and historian Mike Dinauer explains it, on a compound populated with lonely young men thousands of miles from home, some of the more enterprising laundresses were rumored to offer services that had little to do with the cleaning of garments.

The Paiute War was bloody but brief, its outcome a decisive victory for the United States. With Indians no longer posing a serious threat, Fort Churchill was decommissioned in 1869. The federal government wanted to hand the complex over to a young and burgeoning state, but a lack of funds forced the Nevada legislature to politely decline. (In fact, it wasn't until 1957 that the Nevada Legislature authorized the purchase of the entire property and made Fort Churchill part of the Nevada Division of State Parks.)

MATTHEW B. BROWN

THIS LAND IS BUCKLAND'S

With the state initially refusing to take on the responsibilities of stewarding Fort Churchill, it became time to solicit offers from private interests. A plucky young Ohio transplant named Samuel Buckland made the successful bid, paying $750 for close to eight square miles of stark but strategically situated land. It would turn out to be one of the best real estate deals in Nevada history.

Buckland was a rancher, innkeeper, and the 19th-century equivalent of a tollbooth operator, the latter two occupations working in tandem to make him affluent. He operated the sole bridge that would transport passengers over the Carson River, which today trickles through the park with just enough flow to hydrate the cottonwoods on its banks.

If a traveling party was too late for the last crossing of the day, they were welcomed to patronize Buckland's other venture—the nearby boarding house that also served as a neighborhood gathering place and Pony Express station. Ever the resourceful entrepreneur, Buckland used materials from the vacated fort buildings to construct his boarding house.

Buckland died in 1884. W.J. Marsh bought the estate for $50,000, meaning that a modest investment grew to 67 times its original size under Buckland's care. Buckland Station sits across the highway from the rest of Fort Churchill, the two-story ranch house a beautifully maintained reminder of a hardier era. Inside are displays of everyday frontier life, along with a small theater that shows a 12-minute film about the station's history.

SAVING THE FORT

While Buckland Station prospered, Fort Churchill itself stayed untended, teetering on the verge of literal collapse. Years of neglect turned into decades, as the Earth reclaimed the withering clay structures for itself. By the Great Depression, local members of the Daughters of the American Revolution had had enough. They began laying plans for preserving this important chapter of Nevada's history. These determined women convinced the federal government to transfer the fort buildings, or what was left of them, to state control. Then, the Civilian Conservation Corps got to work not only staving off the pending ruination of the fort, but erecting several other buildings on the property that are still in use.

In 1994, the state bought the Carson River Ranches, five square miles of riparian plots southeast of the main entrance, and transferred them to the park. Visitors use the ranches primarily for camping, horseback riding, and fishing (smallmouth bass and carp being the most abundant species). The following year Buckland Station was annexed, and the park took on the boundaries that it currently holds.

An unassuming hill overlooks the park's administrative offices, and atop that hill sits a solemn remembrance of the harshness of existence back in territorial days and nascent statehood. The fenced and gated cemetery once marked the final resting place of 46 Union soldiers who had served at Fort Churchill. In the 1880s, 44 of their bodies were exhumed (as for the remaining two, it's possible that they were never buried there in the first place).

The bodies were removed to Lone Mountain Cemetery, eight blocks from the state Capitol in Carson City. The depopulated Fort Churchill cemetery continues to sit largely empty, its only occupants being Samuel Buckland, his wife Eliza, and their children.

TODAY AT FORT CHURCHILL

These days, park supervisor Scott Egy oversees a staff of six, including three part-timers. Together they keep the park clean and functioning for visitors and the occasional dignitary. Last summer, Governor Brian Sandoval enjoyed lunch in The Orchard, a pastoral day-use area that abuts a lightly traveled section of Alternate U.S. Highway 95. Sandoval was one of an

ROBERT ROLLINS

GREG MCFARLANE

Photographers such as Robert Rollins flock to Fort Churchill State Historic Park year round for its dramatic sunrises and sunsets. At left, seemingly aglow, is the Barracks. Unlike the comfortable Officers Quarters, the Barracks were dirt-floored and crudely furnished with bunks and chairs. However, unlike most early-frontier posts, the men at Fort Churchill were afforded the luxury of their own bunk.

estimated 20,000 guests the park saw that year, the majority of them stopping by in the spring and fall.

There are several day-use areas throughout the park, along with dozens of campsites. Given Fort Churchill's remoteness and quietude, the park does attract its share of characters. One group of 15 or so "mountain men" takes over a campground every spring, sleeping in tepees and carrying black-powder muskets and tomahawks to complete the picture.

The tranquility at Fort Churchill is sporadically interrupted by the rush and hue of a freight train, coursing a track which has bisected the fort since its founding. The valuable right-of-way once belonged to the Carson & Colorado Railway, a narrow-gauge line that transported ore from Inyo County, California. Should you see a train at Fort Churchill now, it'll be standard-gauge Union Pacific rolling stock, the C&CR having ceased operations in the 1960s.

Those who cannot document the past are condemned to forget it, thus Fort Churchill keeps many of its artifacts displayed for posterity's sake. Open daily, the Col. Charles McDermit Visitor Center contains maps, ordnance, army supplies, and even full-scale replicas of the same Union troops who brought peace to the land a century and a half ago.

Fort Churchill's resident coyotes seem to outnumber the overnight human guests. The park is one of the most peaceful locales in the state—an irony, given the fort's origins—and is easily accessible. Even at its busiest, Fort Churchill offers plenty of opportunity for solitude and serenity.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Fort Churchill State Historic Park
10000 Highway 95A,
Silver Springs, NV 89429
parks.nv.gov
775-577-2345

ADMISSION

$7; $5 for Nevada residents

Sand Springs Station's (right) Pony Express connection is highlighted on the sign (below) that baits travelers on U.S. Highway 50, near Sand Mountain.

SANDS OF TIME

Former Pony Express station is well worth the short Highway 50 detour.

STORY & PHOTOS BY GREG MCFARLANE

No American institution that lasted a mere year and a half—not Zachary Taylor's presidency, the Tennessee Oilers, nor the "Da Ali G Show"—is remembered as nostalgically as the Pony Express. The revolutionary service, which began in April 1860, was defunct by the fall of 1861.

When the Pony Express debuted, a series of courageous riders and horses was heralded as the fastest way to deliver mail from San Francisco to St. Joseph, Missouri: the journey took 10 days. The following year, the transcontinental telegraph rendered the Pony Express obsolete.

Though the Pony Express route crossed such obstacles as the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, the stretch through the Great Basin was as inhospitable as any. The terrain was mostly flat, but the punishing heat and lack of water on the Nevada leg made the trek arduous for both carrier and mount.

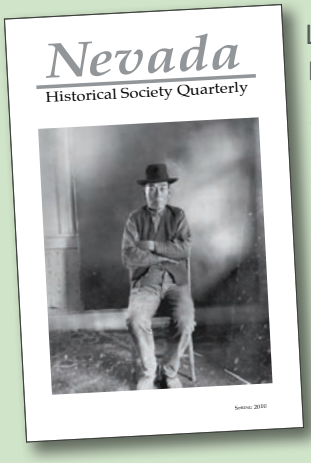
Of the 43 Pony Express stations in Nevada, most have disappeared without a trace, existing only in ledger books and maps of the time. Buckland Station (see article on page 26) is the best preserved of those that remain. Forty-five miles east lies another, at one of the route's most desolate points. Riders were never so thankful to find respite than at Sand Springs Station, at the edge of Fourmile Flat in Churchill County.

Located within a mile of U.S. Highway 50, the few remains of the station are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Not that there was much more to it in its heyday. The "building"—really just volcanic rocks arranged in the form of a foundation—contained a stable, a tack and storage shed, a telegraph room, a kitchen that doubled as a blacksmith room, a corral, and a tiny living room.

Sir Richard Burton, the legendary English explorer who'd witnessed horrors and destruction throughout four continents, saved some of his most vivid prose for Sand Springs: "The water near this vile hole was thick and stale with sulphury salts…filthy and squalid." As for the riders themselves, they were all "cretins, except one who lay on the ground crippled and dying." This description from a man who'd spent the previous decade fighting natives in India and tropical diseases in Tanganyika.

The way to Sand Springs Station's remnants is clearly marked, but most visitors drive by without a glance. Instead they're en route to the area's featured attraction, nearby Sand Mountain. A 600-foot-high wall of silica, the mountain is renowned as a playground for off-highway vehicles. If you're in the neighborhood, whether towing a dune buggy or just passing through, the detour is well worth the few minutes of your time.

What will the next 150 years bring?



Learn more about the past 150 years of Nevada's statehood with a subscription to Nevada's oldest academic publication, the Nevada Historical Society Quarterly.

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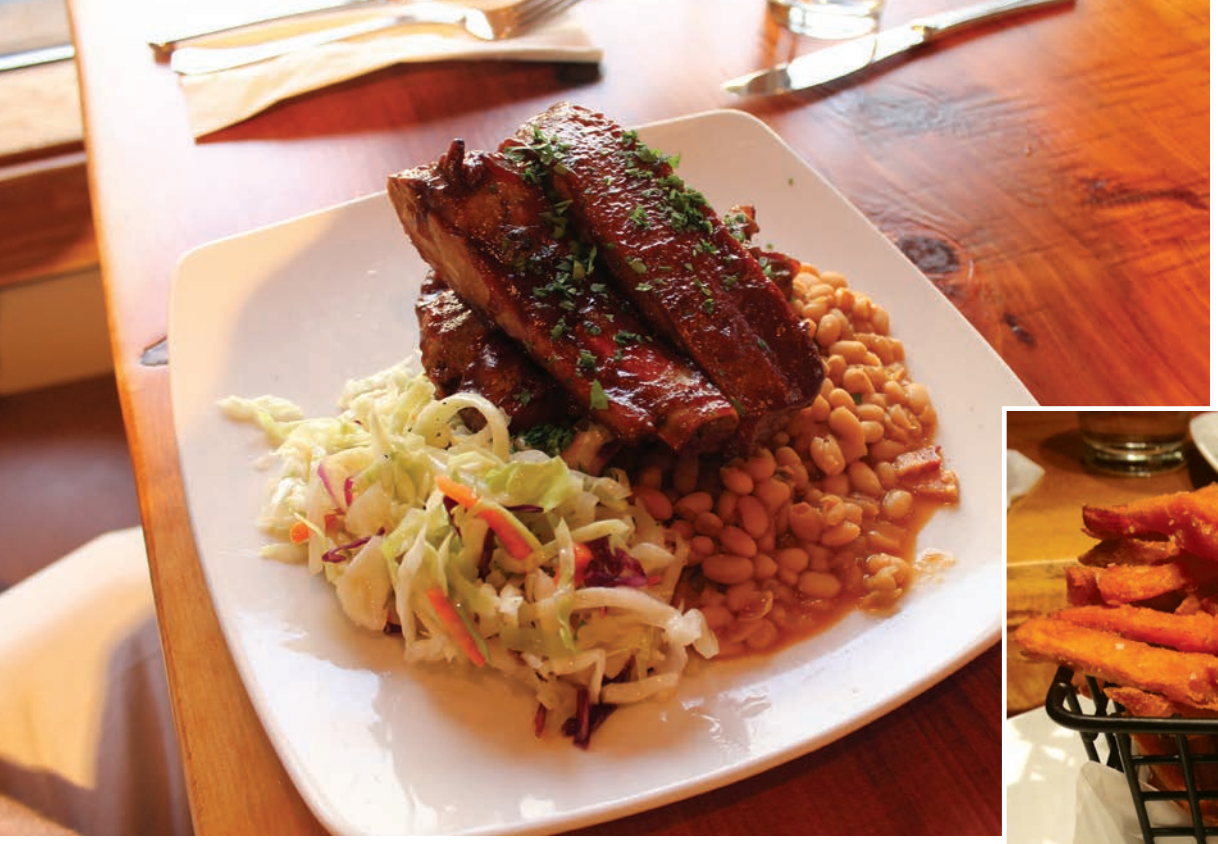

St. Louis short ribs (left) is one of several scrumptious entrées at South Lake Tahoe's Gunbarrel Tavern. The sweet potato fries (below) are served with truffle-chive cream, jalapeno ketchup, and Dijon aioli dipping sauces.

Gunbarrel Tavern

South Tahoe's newest eatery serves up high-caliber cuisine.

Opposite page: Gunbarrel Tavern (top) is the newest addition to Heavenly Village, priding itself on fresh, seasonal ingredients and a welcoming atmosphere. The artichoke ravioli (bottom) is accompanied by Gunbarrel's jalapeno-and-bacon mac n' cheese.

BY ERIC CACHINERO

Nestled neatly amongst the boutiques and cafes of Heavenly Village on Lake Tahoe's south shore is a dining experience sure to ignite your powder keg.

Complementing perfectly the already stellar reputation of the area, the Gunbarrel Tavern & Eatery, the village's newest addition, offers a comfortable, rustic atmosphere that caters to anyone seeking an exceptional dining experience. In a recent visit to Gunbarrel, my girlfriend, Jill, and I were fortunate enough to see what all the hype was about.

Behind the fully stocked wooden bar complete with rusted metal accents, Gunbarrel's bartenders began concocting the evening's libations. Serving up an assortment of innovative "COCKED-Tails," Gunbarrel blends bold ingredients while still offering a series of traditional favorites. Having ordered from the Fired-Up Favorites section of the drink menu, Jill's eyes light up as her Firing Squad is brought to the table, and I am lucky enough to sneak a quick sip.

The recipe accentuates each element of the peppery beverage. The blend consists of Herradurra Blanco tequila and melon liquor, supplemented by the Gunbarrel's house-made roasted jalapeno and cilantro honey simple syrup, topped off with fresh mint, a splash of pineapple juice, and a squeeze of lemon served on the rocks. As a man of simpler tastes, I side with one of the five beers offered on tap, noticing the impressive selection of wines and bottled beers.

Next come the appetizers. First on the list is the fire-roasted cauliflower, which places a unique twist on this age-old vegetable dish. The well-balanced crunch provided by the scrumptious tidbits pairs nicely with the Achiote oil and toasted lemon zest. As we nosh, more plates filled with droves of different culinary creations accompany the appetizer. Jalapeno-and-bacon mac n' cheese, lamb lollipops, and my favorite appetizer of the night—the sweet potato fries. The scrumptious salty sweet potatoes are fried to an ideal crispiness and accompanied by the choice of three dipping sauces—truffle-chive cream, jalapeno ketchup, and Dijon aioli. Before we know it, it's time to order our entrées.

"I highly recommend the PBR beer can chicken," owner Alex Cox says. Cox, Lake Tahoe basin resident and owner of another one of the area's signature eateries, 22 Bistro, has been working tirelessly to provide innovative and creative dishes, while also sticking to the dishes that have proven successful. "We've incorporated some of the favorites from Bistro 22," Cox adds.

After much deliberation I decide to go with the artichoke ravioli, while Jill orders the Brie grilled cheese, both of us confident that our choices will be as tasty as the appetizers.

Maestro of the evening's banquet is executive chef Billy Mc-

Cullough. As a connoisseur of exceptional food and drink, McCullough shares his love for fresh, seasonal ingredients with Gunbarrel patrons. Once our entrées arrive, we waste no time digging in.

Though not taking Cox's advice to try the PBR beer can chicken, I am still thrilled with my choice: an artichoke heart center delicately swathed in soft pasta, tossed with a white wine cream sauce, and accompanied by baby spinach and sliced cherry tomatoes. The golden morsels are finally sprinkled with a mixture of basil, feta, and toasted pine nuts.

After practically inhaling the first half of my raviolis, I look to Jill's sandwich and am immediately overcome with plate envy as she takes her first bite of the Brie grilled cheese. Two delectable slices of sourdough bread cushion the sandwich's contents. Arugula, tomatoes, caramelized onions, and a balsamic glaze accompany the melted Brie, with a portion of house-seasoned chips on the side.

As the evening winds down, we chat with friends in the Gunbarrel's comfortable dining room. With satisfied stomachs Jill and I depart for the night, unable to stop talking about which dishes we can't wait to try the next time we visit the Gunbarrel Tavern.

PBR Beer Can Chicken

Water	1 gallon
Kosher salt	2 1/2 cups
Sugar	2 cups
Bay leaves	4
Thyme	2 tablespoons
Roughly chopped garlic	8 tablespoons
Juice and rind of lemons	2
Whole black peppercorns	1/4 cup
Ice	5 gallons
Pabst Blue Ribbon beer	1 can (12 oz.)
Whole chicken	1 (4 oz.)

PREPARATION AND COOKING

Mix water, salt, bay leaves, thyme, garlic, peppercorns, sugar, lemons rinds, and lemon juice. Bring mixture to a boil. Strain boiled mixture through a chinois sieve into ice to cool. Remove brine from ice by sifting into large pot or container. Submerge chicken in cooled brine. Brine overnight.

Preheat oven or grill to 350 degrees. Empty out one quarter of the beer and place on cookie sheet. Seat chicken rear end down (giblets removed) onto beer can and roast to an internal temperature of 165 degrees. Serve over mac n' cheese and drizzle with brown gravy.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Gunbarrel Tavern & Eatery
1001 Heavenly Village Way
South Lake Tahoe,
CA 96150
gunbarreltavern.com
530-542-1460

KAYLI BARKER

Sixteen-year-old Las Vegan Kayli Barker made history in October when she became the first female champion of one of the three NASCAR classes at the Bullring racetrack at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. With a fourth-place finish in the 30-lap NASCAR Super Stock feature on October 5, Barker emerged as the 2013 NASCAR Super Stock points champion.

Barker needed to place sixth or higher to win the championship. After losing the car's nose in the qualifying heat, which resulted in a flapping hood that blocked visibility during the rest of the heat, Barker started the Super Stock feature race second to last. Painted "Bug Blue," a color mixed especially for Barker, car No. 34 plus 2 made it across the finish line in fourth place at about half of its former glory.

A junior at Mountain View Christian School in Las Vegas, Barker earns straight A's and hasn't missed a single day of class. She is also the spokesperson for Project 150, a program dedicated to offering supportive services to homeless high school students throughout Clark County. **kaylibarkerracing.com**

In our July/August 2013 issue, we asked our readers what acquaintances or friends they know who have made a difference in the quality of life of our great state. We thought, who better to tell the story than the reader themselves? Below are five recommendations we received:

RYAN GROWNEY

Ryan Growney, general manager of the South Point Hotel, Casino, & Spa, is what we call a true Las Vegan. Born and raised, Growney is irrefutably a luminous representative of the community and offers both personally and professionally a vision of what makes this city one of the best in the world. His passion for the Las Vegas community and his career sets him apart from other young professionals and has undoubtedly made him into the successful man he is today.

Growney has built South Point to be an instrumental participant in some of the largest western lifestyle events in Las Vegas including the National Finals Rodeo, Professional Bull Riders Built Ford Tough World Finals, and the World Series of Team Roping. His efforts and work with the equine community have not gone unnoticed by some of the most influential media outlets, which have established the property as one of the finest horse facilities in the country.

With 11 years working in the Las Vegas hotel and casino industry, Growney has played many vital roles in the development and success in many of the city's largest events which have not only put this town on the map but has introduced a new light on the Las Vegas market.—*Jaclyn Dadas*

NANCY LAIRD

I would like to nominate Nancy Laird, founder and director of the nonprofit Wild Animal Infirmary For Nevada (WAIF). Nancy is a living legend in my eyes. Since 1976, she has rescued injured birds of all kinds, specifically large raptors such as hawks, eagles, and owls. With her skills as wildlife nurse, she's returned them to Nevada's skies once again.

I recently met Nancy, a former ER nurse, at an open house at her Washoe Valley home. She is a tiny woman, now 82 years old. Her two-acre facility includes a converted garage that is a "bird room" for creatures needing intensive care, and outside are flight cages in which larger birds learn to hunt and fly again.

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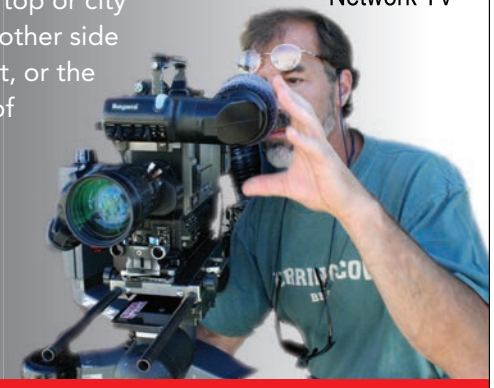

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—Jeanie Giannotti

WAYNE POULSEN

One of the West's most extraordinary, courageous, and influential ski pioneers, Wayne Poulsen was known for the initial development of Squaw Valley. His love of skiing and determination to develop a ski resort in Squaw Valley eventually led to America's first Olympic Winter Games in 1960. His real passion, however, was not just to develop a world-class ski area, but share his love of the mountains with family and friends—guiding them to his favorite fishing spots; hiking, camping, and riding with them in the back country in summer; and, of course, skiing in the winter.

Poulsen's life was deeply embedded in skiing. From ski mountaineering as a youth, he would eventually become a national class jumper, one of the Far West's outstanding four event skiers, and a college ski coach who led his team to two national championships.

Poulsen, a Reno native, died in 1995 but left a lasting legacy in the Lake Tahoe area. Read more about him at **talesfromtwovalleysbook.com/excerpts.**—*Eddy Ancinas*

HARRY REYNOLDS

My grandfather, Harry Reynolds, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor while serving in the U.S. Army during the Indian Wars of the 1870s; he served using the alias of Robert Smith. Harry is buried in my hometown of Elko and, according to the Medal of Honor Historical Society, is the only MoH recipient buried in Nevada, to date.

Harry Reynolds (middle) and his sons, Dale and Mann.

I thought you might want to include something about Harry in one of your upcoming issues concerning the sesquicentennial celebration. To me, this is an interesting story relative to Nevada history.—*Jerry Reynolds*

Editor's Note: Harry Reynolds died in 1930, living the last 40 years of his life in Elko. Born in 1847, he enlisted in the Civil War at just 14 years old, serving as a drummer boy. His detailed story is told in a Fall 2012 issue of *Northeastern Nevada Museum Quarterly.*

ROBIN RIGGS

Recently you asked for suggestions for people to profile in your magazine. We have a suggestion: Ranger Robin Riggs of Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park. When my wife and I traveled there last year, we thought, "Who would be the ranger out here in this lonely place?" Well, we found out. One of the fastest, funniest, nicest people you'll ever meet. He has a really interesting back story, unique storytelling style, and an outlook on life I think we could all learn a little from.

I'm sure you will have some stories on historical figures, people doing good and creating change, and of course the movers and shakers. But we know you also like to profile "off beat, salt-of-the-earth" characters as well. It would do you good to load up the truck and go visit him.

We love your magazine and always keep it front and center on the coffee table so we always have one foot in Nevada at all times (even way up here in Canada).—*Gabe Dennis*

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German artist Hans Meyer-Kassel immigrated to Nevada in 1937 and painted the above image, which was repurposed on the Nevada First Settlement Centennial stamp of 1951. Meyer-Kassel died a resident of Genoa in 1952 at the age of 80. Henry Comstock and other early Nevada pioneer miners were depicted on the Silver Centennial stamp of 1959. The colorful scene on the Nevada Statehood Centennial stamp caused a great deal of controversy before its release in 1964. Many thought it to be an image depicting Virginia City, but the U.S. Post Office Department clarified that it was meant to typify an "old-time Nevada community." All three commemorative stamps are shown on the opposite page.

Commemorative Stamps

Nevada has recognized its milestones through the years on various U.S. postage.

BY THOMAS LERA

NEVADA FIRST SETTLEMENT CENTENNIAL

On October 3, 1945, Nevada Senator Pat McCarran wrote to Postmaster General (PMG) Robert Hannegan, suggesting the issuance of a commemorative stamp for the first post office established in the Territory and State of Nevada.

Within two weeks, McCarran met with Robert E. Fellers, director of the U.S. Post Office Department (POD) Stamp Division, and all of the details were worked out. However, things moved slowly. It was nearly six years later before Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson issued the three-cent Nevada First Settlement Centennial commemorative stamp.

On June 18, 1951, Governor Charles H. Russell issued a proclamation marking July 14, 1951 as Nevada First Settlement Centennial Day, with a celebration to be held in historic Genoa. Assistant Postmaster General Osborne A. Pearson, representing Donaldson, gave a speech on the occasion.

Pearson said, "The little settlement at Mormon Station, which later became Genoa, proved to be a life line to those early pioneers who pushed the frontier of the young nation westward." The stamp's design was taken from a pastel and tempera painting by Professor Hans Meyer-Kassel, once a Genoa resident. The stamp was printed on a rotary press and issued in sheets of 50.

Steven A. Kinsey and Colonel John Reese established Genoa, Nevada's first permanent settlement, in spring 1851, when the men opened a trading post on the Overland Trail. They arrived in Carson Valley with 13 wagons loaded with eggs, bacon, flour, grain, and more and soon established a blacksmith shop, livery stable, and nearby flour and saw mills.

On November 12, 1851, the group formed a settlers' or squatters' government. They adopted rules for "taking up" land and elected Reese recorder and treasurer. In December 1852, Reese, a Mormon, recorded the first claim in the new Utah Territory settlement he named Mormon Station. Those who settled there traded produce to travelers for whatever was usable. The Post Office was established December 10, 1852 with the appointment of E.L. Barnard as postmaster.

In 1854, the Utah Territorial Legislature organized Carson County, Utah. Governor Brigham Young appointed Mormon Apostle Orson Hyde to serve as probate judge and spiritual head

SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

of the community. Hyde later changed the name of the community to Genoa (for Genoa, Italy) and made it the county seat.

Between 1856 and 1876, John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson delivered mail between Placerville, California and Genoa, and later Virginia City. Despite his nickname, he did not make use of the snowshoes native to North America, but rather traveled with 10-foot skis and a single sturdy pole generally grasped with both hands. He was never paid for his 20 years of service.

Genoa was a regular stop for the Pony Express during its 18-month heyday from 1860-61. Many famous people have frequented Genoa over the years, among them Mark Twain, presidents Ulysses S. Grant and Theodore Roosevelt, Kit Carson, John C. Fremont, and Captain James H. Simpson.

SILVER CENTENNIAL

The Comstock Lode is one of the most important mining discoveries in American history and was the landmark event in 19th-century Nevada. The design of the Silver Centennial stamp suggested by Governor Russell and the Nevada Silver Centennial Committee was based on an early woodcut depicting Henry Thomas Paige Comstock, Peter O'Riley, and Patrick McLaughlin at the time of the discovery of the Comstock Lode.

In January 1957, the State of Nevada passed Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 relative to the issuance of a centennial stamp in commemoration of the discovery of the Comstock Lode and mailed a certified copy to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield. On November 22, 1958, after much back and forth between congressman and legislators, the Nevada Silver Centennial Committee learned their request for a silver centennial stamp had been denied.

Two weeks later, on December 16, 1958, Nevada Congressman Walter Baring wrote to L. Rohe Walter, special assistant to the PMG. Baring reminded Walter of the past Nevada State Legislature requesting the PMG issue a commemorative centennial stamp recognizing the discovery of the Comstock Lode. He also attached U.S. Senate Concurrent Resolution 52, passed by the House and Senate in

August 1958, congratulating Nevada citizens and the Nevada Centennial Committee upon the occasion of their commemorative celebration on the 100th anniversary of the first significant discovery of silver in the United States.

Almost two months later, on January 23, 1959, Walter called Senator Allan Bible to inform him the request for a stamp had been denied. The Nevada political machine flexed its muscles, and the POD ultimately reversed its decision. In an April 30, 1959 letter to Walter, new Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer thanked him for his letter of April 23 announcing the Silver Centennial Stamp would be issued in Virginia City on June 8, 1959.

There were several proposed designs leading up to the final version by Robert L. Miller and W.K. Schrage of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The stamp was printed by rotary process in shades of black and white to simulate the color silver.

NEVADA STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL

Throughout Nevada's early years, the Postal Service followed the wagon trains and mining wagons westward. In 1860, Carson City became the permanent territory/state capital and an authorized Pony Express station. On April 12, 1860, when a Pony Express rider brought mail and dispatches from St. Joseph, Missouri, Carson City telegraphed the news onto California. Communication, the lifeline of progress, now spanned the continent.

In 1864, three Congressional votes were needed for the necessary two-thirds vote to pass the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. The divided nation needed another Free State to ratify its constitution, so President Abraham Lincoln looked anxiously to the Territory of Nevada. Nevada became the 36th state on October 31, 1864, and three months later Congress passed the 13th Amendment.

Skip ahead nearly a century, and Nevada was approaching an important anniversary. On March 2, 1960, Nevada transmitted to President Eisenhower a copy of Nevada Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, requesting the POD issue a commemorative stamp in honor of Nevada's 100th anniversary of admission into the Union. A year later, on March 8, 1961, a similar Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 was sent to newly elected President John F. Kennedy. The White House forwarded both resolutions to the POD.

PMG J. Edward Day visited Reno in June 1962. He met with the chairman of the Nevada Centennial Commission, Effie Mona Mack, whom he assured a commemorative stamp for the Centennial would be issued. Upon receiving this assurance, comprehensive plans were begun for a celebration of Nevada's centennial in 1964.

The Nevada Commemorative Centennial Stamp Committee suggested a design for the four-cent stamp unaware the Post Office would raise the first-class postage rate to five cents on January 7, 1963. In an April 18, 1963 letter to Day, Governor Sawyer made a formal request to issue a Nevada Commemorative Centennial Stamp; he also sent one to Sidney W. Bishop, acting PMG, restating this request. He suggested the stamp be issued on Lincoln's Birthday and that the iconic president's image be used.

On September 9, 1963, Thomas Wilson, Chairman of the Nevada Centennial Commission, suggested the design of "The Lone Indian" on horseback in the "End of the Trail" pose. The drawing also featured a globe with Nevada highlighted and a native yucca plant in the lower right corner.

Michael Monroney, executive assistant to PMG John A. Gronouski, wrote Senator Bible on November 18, 1963, advising him the stamp would be issued in Carson City on Lincoln's birthday (February 12, 1964) if the design could be approved within two months. Later, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing artists suggested several designs including an outline of a map of the state, the Capitol, the emblem from the state flag, the state bird (mountain bluebird), the state flower (sagebrush), mining symbols, and even Mark Twain. These proposals are still in the PMG's collection.

On the same day, Baring wrote "at the time of PMG Day's resignation, all of the arrangements to issue the stamp at Carson City on February 12 were on schedule. The information I received this morning assured me all appropriate Washington officials had

POSTMASTER GENERAL COLLECTION

approved the stamp and final approval was on the PMG's desk for signature. Dr. Effie Mona Mack heard, either officially or unofficially, the issuance of the stamp was being held up…Please advise me if there is at this time any hitch which would affect the efforts of Centennial Stamp Committee."

Gronouski wrote Congressman Baring on November 18 explaining, "The stamp design would be unveiled on Lincoln's birthday and is scheduled to be issued at Carson City. Sometime in April 1964 we will set the date for the ceremony."

After the unveiling ceremony on February 18, 1964, Reno Postmaster E.J. Arch wrote, "Since the announcement and publishing of a photograph of the commemorative stamp honoring Nevada's centennial, there have been several 'complaints' made by citizens who state the scene depicted of Virginia City in the proposed design is incorrect. The so-called complaints are basically resolved to the fact that the depicted scene is in reverse to actuality. The scene was incorrectly published in the *Vacation Guide to Nevada*. The POD made it clear in its explanations the design merely typifies an old-time Nevada community, and there was no intention to identify the scene with any actual location."

Finally, on July 22, 1964, five months after Lincoln's birthday, Tyler Abell, assistant PMG representing President Lyndon B. Johnson and Gronouski, issued the stamp in Carson City. It was printed on a Giori press designed to print three colors from a single plate by applying ink to separate parts of the design with three rollers. The three colors used were red, yellow, and blue, which—by the use of the bleeding technique—created green, brown, and purple, resulting in six distinct colors.

It took 19 years and the involvement of four presidents, two governors, seven senators, four congressmen, the Nevada Centennial Committee, and countless Nevada residents working with four different postmaster generals to issue three commemorative centennial stamps recognizing the accomplishments of the Battle Born State.

2014 SESQUICENTENNIAL STAMP

The State of Nevada is working with the U.S. Postal Service on a 150th-anniversary stamp, to be issued some time in 2014. What would your Sesquicentennial Stamp design be? E-mail your artwork to editor@nevadamagazine.com for possible publication in *Nevada Magazine's* January/February 2014 issue.

Although the final Nevada Statehood Centennial stamp of 1964 was horizontal in shape (see page 39), many other designs were suggested—some of them vertical. As seen on the opposite page, top to bottom, a mountain bluebird (the state bird), a symbolic image of a pioneer miner, and a Capitol building/California Trail hybrid were all possibilities. These proposals are still in the Postmaster General's collection.

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SINATRA JR.

Looking back at the botched abduction of a Las Vegas crooner 50 years later.

BY JONATHAN SHIPLEY

While lounging around in a T-shirt and a pair of underwear, Frank Sinatra Jr. enjoyed a chicken dinner seemingly without a care in the world. Joined by John Foss, trumpet player for the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra—the group Sinatra Jr. was singing for—the two gazed at the heavenly winter scene taking shape outside. It was Sunday, December 8, 1963, the sixth day of a three-week stint at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, where they had a 10 p.m. show in the lounge downstairs. Then, someone knocked on the door of their room—417.

"Hi, guys," a man said. "I've got a package for you."

Sinatra Jr. opened the door and said, "Put it over there." The man entered the room and brandished a revolver. Then, a second gun-toting man entered Room 417. "Don't make any noise, and nobody gets hurt," he warned.

They bound the trumpet player in masking tape. Allowing Sinatra Jr. to get more fully dressed, they blindfolded him, forced him in the back of a Chevy Impala, and headed off to Canoga Park in Los Angeles, where the kidnappers would hole up awaiting the ransom money.

And so begins the failed attempt by a desperate man trying to become rich by kidnapping the son of one of America's most beloved entertainers.

The Culprit's Context

Twenty-three-year-old Barry Keenan grew up in Los Angeles. He went to University High School, the same school that Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland attended. Living amongst the upper crust at his school, he wanted money, and lots of it. His classmates included Nancy Sinatra (eldest child of Frank Sinatra), William Jan Berry, Dean Torrence (of the surf-pop duo Jean and Dean), and other illustrious peers.

As a young man, Keenan quickly gained affluence. While attending UCLA, he began making sound real estate investments. He became the youngest person ever on the Los Angeles Stock Exchange. But eventually life took some hits on Keenan, and he wasn't bouncing back. He got into a car accident in 1961 that led to a pain-medication addiction and a divorce, followed by the stock market crash of 1962 that brought him to his knees.

RENO EVENING GAZETTE

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Storm Backs Up Roadblocks

KIDNAPED SINATRA HUNTED

Singer Abducted From Lake Motel

Sinatra Kidnap Account

Americans Still Held In Bolivia

The December 9, 1963 edition of the *Reno Evening Gazette* (above) reports—misspellings and all—on the Lake Tahoe kidnapping of Frank Sinatra Jr. (opposite page), who was freed on December 11, 1963.

The Brains Behind the Abduction

Keenan visited with his pal, the aforementioned Torrence, about his get-rich-quick scheme because he would need around $5,000 to get started. Torrence wanted to know what Keenan planned to do with the loan. Keenan told him was planning a celebrity kidnapping; he'd considered nabbing Bing Crosby's kid, or Bob Hope's adopted son, but he settled on Frank Sinatra Jr. He'd ask Sinatra Sr. for $100,000, with which he could play the stock market, buy some real estate, make his million, and then repay the ransom money over time. It was a sound business decision. No one would get hurt. Everyone would come out of this OK.

Torrence gave Keenan $500. That'd be enough to get started, Keenan thought. Whatever Torrence thought of Keenan's plan, he later said he thought Keenan was just bluffing.

An accomplished singer and pianist, Sinatra Jr. made his debut during a 36-week tour with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra (Dorsey died in 1956, but his orchestra lived on) in April 1963 at the Royal Box nightclub. His father was in the audience, glowing. Sinatra Sr.

KIDNAPPED

December 8, 1963

had sung for the same orchestra years ago.

Keenan knew he couldn't nab Sinatra Jr. alone and that he needed some help. School chum and abalone diver Joe Amsler would help for $100 a week. House painter John Irwin, who once dated Keenan's mother, would help for $100 as well.

They first hoped to nab Sinatra at the Arizona State Fair in October 1963; however, the plan fell through. Their next failed attempt happened in early November, when they'd hoped to grab him at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. Next, they tried on November 22, 1963; however, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, causing Sinatra Jr.'s shows to be canceled.

So, on December 8, 1963, the men drove to snowy Lake Tahoe with no money in their pockets and an ill-conceived plan.

A Plan in Action

Ten minutes after Sinatra was shoved into the back of the Impala, the trumpet player escaped his binds and alerted their road manager, who promptly informed the police and soon had more than 100 cops and dozens of FBI agents swarming in search of Sinatra Jr.

Sinatra Sr., who heard the news while filming "Robin and the 7 Hoods" with Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Bing Crosby, rushed to Nevada and set up headquarters at the Mapes Hotel in downtown Reno.

The kidnappers had no idea how to contact Sinatra Sr. They asked his son for his phone number, and junior refused. Keenan heard on the radio, however, where Sinatra Sr. was staying in Reno. They made a call in.

The kidnappers placed their first call to Sinatra Sr. 23 hours after the abduction. Sinatra offered $1 million, in a press conference, for the safe return of his son, but all the kidnappers wanted was $240,000. On December 11, an FBI agent made a drop of $240,000 in a bag between two school buses at a gas station on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Keenan nabbed the cash (while being filmed by authorities) and went with Amsler to their hideout. Irwin, however, was not there. Nor was Sinatra Jr. Irwin had gotten spooked and drove junior to the Mulholland Drive overpass, where he freed him. Sinatra Jr. walked to nearby Bel Air and asked a security guard for help. He was taken to his mother's house. Sinatra Sr. was there (as were the press having heard the news that junior was safe).

An Ephemeral Triumph

The kidnappers reveled in their newfound wealth. They spread it out, danced on it, lit cigarettes with it, and threw wads of bills at each other; they were rich! They did this while authorities, such as J. Edgar Hoover, his agents, and law enforcement, closed in.

The victory was short-lived. Irwin bragged soon after to his brother that he was in on the kidnapping. The brother called the police, Irwin was arrested, and he quickly ratted out Keenan and Amsler. They, too, were quickly arrested. Of all the loot, they spent a total of $6,114 of it, most for a furniture set Keenan bought to impress his ex-wife.

The three were in a courtroom two months later. The defense lawyer, Gladys Towles Root, was their representative. She made the audacious claim that the kidnapping was planned by Sinatra Jr. himself as a way to boost his career. Of course, she had no evidence of this, but nevertheless grilled both Sinatras on the bench about their involvement in the kidnapping.

Her argument failed, the three were convicted, and Keenan and Amsler were sentenced to life plus 75 years. Irwin was to be sent to jail for 16 years. However, after some legal wrangling and maneuvers, Amsler and Irwin were released from prison three and a half years later; Keenan four and a half years later.

After prison, Keenan became the millionaire he always wanted to be through sound real-estate investments. Still alive, he's busy at work on a book about the kidnapping. Amsler had a brief career in show business, and in 2006 died of liver failure. Sinatra Jr. still performs. He's set for a performance in Palm Desert, California in February 2014.

MR. CACHINERO'S WILD RIDE

ELIZABETH CUMMINGS

Cachinero rides alongside A.J. Frels, executive director of the Carson Valley Visitors Authority.

NEIL LOCKHART

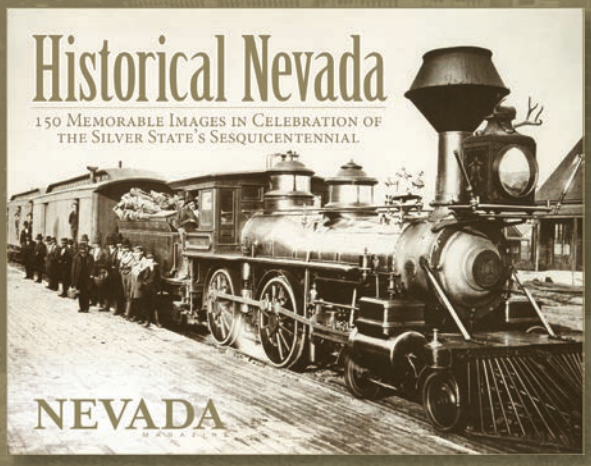
ASSOCIATE EDITOR GETS OVER THE HUMP AT CAMEL RACES.

"Riding camels is dangerous. You could break your arms, legs; you could easily break your neck. It's serious; not just some pinochle game." This is how Joe Hedrick, announcer for the International Camel Races in Virginia City, gives me the crash course prior to my debut as a camel jockey on September 7, 2013.

Before I have time to rethink my decision, I'm perched atop a camel in the starting gates. Suddenly, the gates fly open and my camel begins to gallop down the track. To my surprise, we're in first place. We make the turn, and just as victory seems inevitable, my camel makes an executive decision to spin in circles instead of proceeding the 15 yards remaining to the finish line.

Though my camel and I aren't immortalized in Virginia City lore, I walk away with my third-place ribbon, feeling lucky that I don't have to look back on Hedrick's warning from a hospital bed.—*Eric Cachinero*

Holiday Gift Ideas!



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NEVADA MAGAZINE

BRITNEY: PIECE OF ME

LEGENDARY POP SUPERSTAR REVEALS TWO-YEAR RESIDENCY AT PLANET HOLLYWOOD.

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WHEN
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Dec 31, 10 p.m.

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WORTH A CLICK
britneyspears.com

ALSO AT PLANET HOLLYWOOD

SHOWS
"Dancing Queen," dark Tues.
Sin City Comedy, nightly

Boasting one of the most distinguished careers in pop history, Britney Spears announced she is coming to Las Vegas this December for a two-year residency at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. "Britney: Piece of Me" will captivate audiences with some of Spears' greatest hits, along with fresh material from her highly anticipated eighth studio album.

Spears will perform in the newly remodeled theater at Planet Hollywood. The intimately sized theater promises state-of-the-art technology and high-end fashion, with exclusive table and bottle service.

The announcement of Spears' residency was such big news that it could literally be seen from space. In September, more than 1,300 people gathered in a remote location in the Nevada desert to create an announcement sign 10 stories long and seven stories wide that could be seen from a satellite in Earth's orbit.

Show dates have been announced through February 22. Several ticket packages are available, including meet-and-greet options.

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las vegas shows

DON'T MISS

THE NUTCRACKER

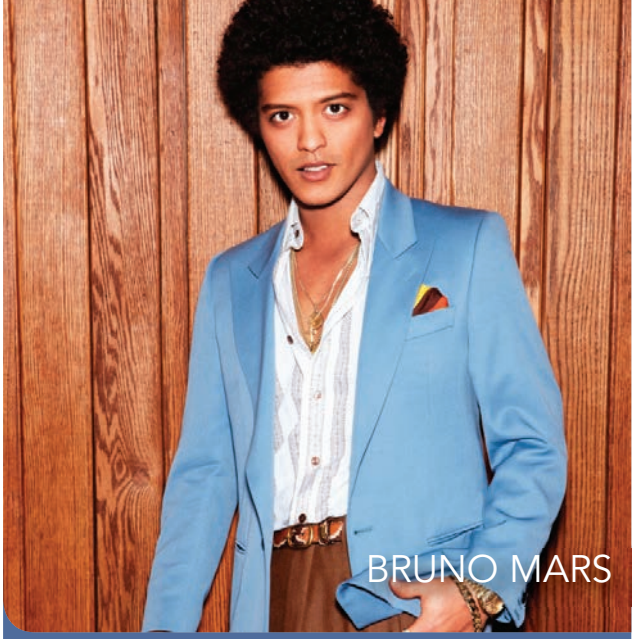
The Smith Center for the Performing Arts
Dec. 14-15, 18-22
nevadaballet.org, 702-749-2000

The Nevada Ballet Theatre is bringing this Christmas classic to The Smith Center for the Performing Arts in December. While still recognizing the traditional ambiance of "The Nutcracker," the Nevada Ballet Theatre promises some exciting new elements. The Reynolds Hall stage features grand sets, costumes, and the amazing choreography of Nevada Ballet Theatre Artistic Director James Canfield.

Showtime: 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

ALSO AT THE SMITH CENTER

Clint Holmes, Nov. 1-3
Tony Hsieh, Nov. 5
Las Vegas Contemporary Dance Theater
Fall Concert Series, Nov. 8
Chris Mann, Nov. 8-9
Judy Collins, Nov. 10
Mariza World Tour, Nov. 11
James Tormé, Nov. 15-16
Michael Feinstein:
The Gershwins and Me, Nov. 16
Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, Nov. 17
"The Blues" featuring Keb Mo and Shemekia Copeland, Nov. 18
Brubeck Brothers Quartet, Nov. 22-23
Evita, Nov. 26-30, Dec. 1
A Mari-achi Christmas, Dec. 3
Tom Dreesen, Dec. 13-14
Danny Wright, Dec. 15



The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas
Dec. 29, 31
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com, 800-745-3000

Grammy Award-winning recording artist and critically acclaimed performer Bruno Mars is coming to The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas this December. The two performances are set to inaugurate The Cosmopolitan's new venue, The Chelsea. Mars is scheduled for six additional appearances at The Chelsea in 2014.

SHOWS OF INTEREST

ROD STEWART
The Colosseum at Caesars Palace
Nov. 6, 9-10, 13, 16-17, 20, 23-24
thecolosseum.com, 866-227-5938

KATT WILLIAMS
Hard Rock Hotel
Nov. 8-9
hardrockhotel.com, 866-946-5336

GARTH BROOKS
Wynn Las Vegas
Nov. 8-9
wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-1000

CIRQUE WEEK
Various Las Vegas locations
Nov. 9-16
cirquedusoleil.com, 702-894-7111

ZOÉ
Hard Rock Hotel
Nov. 13
hardrockhotel.com, 866-946-5336

NINE INCH NAILS
Hard Rock Hotel
Nov. 15-16
hardrockhotel.com, 866-946-5336

TIM MCGRAW & FAITH HILL
The Venetian
Nov. 15-16, 17-18
venetian.com, 702-414-1000

BILL COSBY
Treasure Island
Nov. 29
treasureisland.com, 702-894-7111

WILLIE NELSON
The Golden Nugget
Dec. 10-11
goldennugget.com, 702-385-7111

JEFF DUNHAM
The Colosseum at Caesars Palace
Dec. 12
the colosseum.com, 866-227-5938

JAY Z
Mandalay Bay
Dec. 13
mandalaybay.com, 877-632-7800

CELINE DION
The Colosseum at Caesars Palace
Dec. 30-31
thecolosseum.com, 866-227-5938

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Laughlin Veterans Festival
Tropicana Hotel & Casino, Laughlin
Nov. 8-10
visitlaughlin.com, 702-795-7772

From November 8-11, the American Veterans Traveling Tribute is displaying the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Laughlin. The public is invited to view the wall, which honors, remembers, and pays tribute to the brave soldiers who have made sacrifices to protect freedom and liberty in the United States.

The 370-foot-long replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington D.C. contains more than 50,000 names as inscribed on the original. The 80-percent scale reproduction stands eight feet tall at its apex. The wall can be viewed 24 hours a day in the north parking lot of the hotel and is free to the public. Visitors are invited to make rubbings of the names of their fallen loved ones.

There are donation boxes on site for Operation Gratitude, an organization that sends care packages filled with snacks, entertainment items, and personal letters of appreciation addressed to individually named U.S. Service Members deployed in hostile regions across the world.

MORE VETERANS DAY EVENTS

WOMEN VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY
Pahrump
Nov. 9
pahrumpchamber.com, 775-727-5800

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST
Battle Mountain
Nov. 10
battlemountainchamber.com,
775-635-8245

1,000 FLAGS OVER MESQUITE
Mesquite
Nov. 10-17
mesquitenv.gov, 702-346-5295

ELKO VETERANS DAY PARADE
Elko
Nov. 11
elkocountynv.net, 775-738-5398

ORANGE BALLOON RELEASE & OPEN HOUSE
Veterans Guest House, Reno
Nov. 11
veteransguesthouse.org, 775-324-6958

RENO VETERANS DAY PARADE
Downtown Reno
Nov. 11
reno.gov, 775-334-4636

VETERANS DAY POWWOW
Duck Valley Reservation, Owyhee
Nov. 11
500nations.com, 775-757-3161

VIRGINIA CITY VETERANS DAY PARADE
Virginia City
Nov. 11
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

LAS VEGAS VETERANS DAY PARADE

Las Vegas pays tribute to the men and women who serve our country during the annual Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade. This signature Nevada 150 event is one of the largest Veterans Day parades in the country, attracting tens of thousands of spectators. Each year, the parade recognizes a particular service branch; this year being the United States Air Force.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade
Downtown Las Vegas
Nov. 11
veteransparadelv.com,
702-384-4161

SANDOVAL ANNOUNCES VETERAN INITIATIVES

Governor Brian Sandoval is working to improve the quality of life for Nevada's veterans. Via executive order, he recently created the Governor's Military Council, and Nevada has been selected for a National Governors Association Policy Academy on veterans.

HOLIDAY EVENTS & SHOWS

ETHEL M CHOCOLATES HOLIDAY CACTUS GARDEN
Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Botanical Garden, Henderson
Nov. 13-Jan. 1
ethelm.com, 800-471-0352

GLITTERING LIGHTS LAS VEGAS
Las Vegas Motor Speedway
Opens Nov. 15
glitteringlightslasvegas.com

HOLIDAY BAZAAR
Eureka Opera House, Eureka
Nov. 15-16
eurekacounty.com, 775-237-6006

SORORITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Toiyabe Cafe, Austin
Nov. 16
austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

THE POLAR EXPRESS
V&T Railroad Depot, Carson City
Nov. 22-Dec. 22, Fri.-Sun.
vtrailway.com, 775-291-0208

THE POLAR EXPRESS
Nevada Northern Railway, Ely
Nov. 23-Dec. 28
nnry.com, 866-407-8326

LAKE TAHOE FESTIVAL OF TREES & LIGHTS
MontBleu Convention Center, Stateline
Dec. 4-8
festivaloftreeslaketahoe.org, 530-543-5909

SPARKS HOMETOWNE CHRISTMAS
Victorian Square, Sparks
Dec. 6-7
cityofsparks.us, 775-353-5555

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Genoa Town Hall, Genoa
Dec. 7
genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING
Eureka Opera House, Eureka
Dec. 7
eurekacounty.com, 775-237-5484

HOLIDAY DECORATION-MAKING EXTRAVAGANZA
Cathedral Gorge State Park
Dec. 7
parks.nv.gov, 775-728-4460

THE GREAT SANTA RUN
Downtown Las Vegas
Dec. 7
opportunityvillage.org, 702-259-3741

CHRISTMAS ON THE COMSTOCK
Virginia City
Dec. 7-8
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

SPIRIT OF THE SEASON
Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno
Dec. 7-8
renophil.com, 775-323-6393

SANTA TRAIN
Nevada Southern Railway, Boulder City
Dec. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22
nevadasouthern.com, 702-486-5006

WINTERFEST
Henderson Convention Center, Henderson
Dec. 12-14
hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2171

VOICES OF THE RIVER CHRISTMAS GALA
Aquarius Hotel, Laughlin
Dec. 13
mccgalatickets.com, 928-542-4994

THE NUTCRACKER
Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno
Dec. 13-15
avaballet.com, 775-762-5165

RENO SANTA CRAWL
Downtown Reno
Dec. 14
renosantacrawl.com

WINTER WONDERLAND & TOY DRIVE
Kershaw-Ryan State Park
Dec. 14
parks.nv.gov, 775-726-3564

THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM: A LIVING NATIVITY
First United Methodist Church, Carson City
Dec. 14-15
775-882-1436

RANCH CHRISTMAS
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Dec. 15
parks.nv.gov, 775-875-4141

LIVE NATIVITY
Austin
Dec. 17
austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

CHRISTMAS AFTER HOURS
Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko
Dec. 19
elkonevada.com, 775-738-7135

EVENTS

POMEGRANATE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL
Clark County Fairgrounds
Nov. 1-2
moapavalleyartguild.net, 702-397-6444

LAS VEGAS WRANGLERS (HOME GAMES)
Orleans Arena, Las Vegas
Nov. 1-3; Dec. 6, 8, 16-17, 27-28
lasvegaswranglers.com, 702-284-7777

AMERICAN INDIAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS BANQUET
Governor's Mansion, Carson City
Nov. 2
nic.nv.gov, 775-687-8333

FANTASIES IN CHOCOLATE
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Nov. 2
grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

FARE WALK FOR FOOD ALLERGY
Green Valley Ranch Resort, Henderson
Nov. 2
foodallergywalk.org, 310-883-8644

FULL MOON HIKE INTO ASH GROVE
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Nov. 2
parks.nv.gov, 775-875-4141

HAMMAGREN HOME OF NEVADA HISTORY
Las Vegas
Nov. 2-3 (public tours)
nevadadays.org

FULL MOON HIKE INTO SANDSTONE CANYON
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Nov. 3
parks.nv.gov, 775-875-4141

MARK TWAIN'S SESQUICENTENNIAL SALUTE TO NEVADA
Sparks Museum & Cultural Center
Nov. 7
sparksmuseum.org, 775-355-1144

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL
South Lake Tahoe
Nov. 8-10
caesars.com

GLOWBALL NIGHT GOLF
Eagle Crest Golf Course, Las Vegas
Nov. 9
golfsummerlin.com, 702-240-1320

HENDERSON STROLL 'N' ROLL
Multigenerational Center, Henderson
Nov. 9
bikehenderson.org, 702-267-4000

LAMOILLE WOMEN'S CLUB FALL CRAFT FESTIVAL
Spring Creek High School, Spring Creek
Nov. 9-10
lamoillewomensclub.org, 775-748-5235

MOUNTAIN MAN RENDEZVOUS
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Nov. 9-10
parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

BOCCE ALL-STAR CLASSIC
Peppermill Resort Hotel, Reno
Nov. 14-16
peppermillreno.com, 775-826-2121

ARENOCROSS
Livestock Events Center, Reno
Nov. 15-17
arenocross.com, 630-768-4990

NEVADA BROADBAND SUMMIT
University of Nevada, Reno
Nov. 18
connectnv.org, 775-343-9600

THE ICE RINK
The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas
Nov. 22-Jan. 5
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com, 702-698-7000

WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO
Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas
Dec. 5-14
prorodeo.com, 719-593-8840

RENO BIGHORNS (HOME GAMES)
Reno Events Center, Reno
Dec. 6, 14-15
renobighorns.com, 775-853-8220

SHOWS

GOV'T MULE
Harrah's, Stateline
Nov. 2
southshoreroom.com, 800-745-3000

JOHN FORD COLEY
Eureka Opera House, Eureka
Nov. 2
eurekacounty.com, 775-237-6006

WANDA SYKES
Silver Legacy, Reno
Nov. 2
silverlegacy.com, 775-325-7401

ARTOWN ENCORE PRESENTS DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Nov. 16
grandsierraresort.com, 800-648-3568

"SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE" TOUR
Silver Legacy, Reno
Nov. 16
silverlegacyreno.com, 775-329-4777

ICE FANTASY
Eldorado, Reno
Nov. 19-Jan. 26
eldoradoreno.com, 800-648-5966

ALICE COOPER
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Nov. 22
grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

PRETTY LIGHTS
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Nov. 27
grandsierraresort.com, 775-648-3568

BONEY JAMES
John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks
Nov. 29
janugget.com, 800-648-1177

RODNEY CARRINGTON
Silver Legacy, Reno
Nov. 29
silverlegacyreno.com, 775-325-4701

SAMMY KERSHAW
Boomtown Casino, Reno
Nov. 30
boomtownreno.com, 775-345-6000

ARTOWN ENCORE PRESENTS PINK MARTINI
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Dec. 1
grandsierraresort.com, 800-648-3568

MERLE HAGGARD
Silver Legacy, Reno
Dec. 6
silverlegacyreno.com, 775-325-4701

DANIEL TOSH
MontBleu Resort, Stateline
Dec. 21
montbleuresort.com, 800-648-3353

NEVADA CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
Reno Chamber Orchestra, Reno
Dec. 26-31
renochamberorchestra.org, 775-348-9413

CHERRY POPPIN' DADDIES
Boomtown Casino, Reno
Dec. 28
boomtownreno.com, 775-345-6000

BEATLES VS. STONES
Harrah's, Reno
Thru Jan. 19
harrahsreno.com, 775-786-3232

VALLEY ARTS RESEARCH FACILITY

RENO RESTORATION PROJECT ENCOURAGES CREATIVE EXPRESSION.

Located at 420 Valley Road in Reno, the Valley Arts Research Facility is a thriving artists' collective. As a creative center that encourages unique artistic expression, its ambition is to transition from a private members' venue into a powerful public community center. The immediate goal is to raise funds to provide the public free or cheap dynamic arts activities.

Live music, book discussions, poetry readings, movie nights, and a wide range of art and food-art classes are a few of its potential offerings. "We want this project to be a microphone for the community," says Shawn Carney, who has been restoring the 1907 building along with Ryan Fassbender and Eric Brooks since last year.

Currently, artists pay $75-$100 monthly for 24/7 studio access. A full organic kitchen, sleeping areas, and laundry facilities are being installed to help residents maintain creative momentum.

Valley Arts is poised to be part of the Fourth Street corridor restoration that includes the old Morris Hotel and Flanagan Building. Additionally, the Valley Arts building once housed the Valley Print & Mail shop owned by experimental artist Art Marston, who died in his creative prime. "His rich legacy alone is definitely worth preserving," Carney says.

To open publicly, the building must meet code inspections. All the work has been done on a volunteer basis, but donations and skilled labor are needed.

If interested in joining Valley Arts or attending one of their upcoming donation dinners, please contact Carney at 775-954-6968 or shawn@auxch.com.

—*Christina Nemec*

The Valley Arts Research Facility in Reno hosts myriad dynamic art activities including live music, book discussions, poetry readings, movie nights, and a wide range of art classes. The building (above, right) is in transition to becoming a powerful public community center. An artist's nook (right) provides residents with creative space for artistic expression.

EVENTS & EXHIBITS

TOULOUSE-LAUTREC & LA VIE MODERNE: PARIS 1880-1910
Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
Nov. 2–Jan. 19, 2014
nevadaart.org, 775-329-1541

ARTS & FLOWERS ARTISAN MALL AND LUNCHEON
Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
Nov. 6
nevadaart.org, 775-329-1541

HISTORY OF THE RENO-AREA DITCHES
Nevada Historical Society, Reno
Nov. 6
museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-688-1190

IDENTITY: THE MILITARY'S OTHER HALF
Sierra Arts Foundation, Reno
Thru Nov. 8
sierra-arts.org, 775-329-2787

BENEATH ONE SKY
Stremmel Gallery, Reno
Thru Nov. 9
stremmelgallery.com, 775-786-0558

T VÁSQUEZ: FINIS EX DIFFERENTIA
Sierra Arts Foundation, Reno
Nov. 13-22
sierra-arts.org, 775-329-2787

NEVADA PERSPECTIVES
GBC Art Gallery, Elko
Thru Nov. 15
arts4nevada.org, 775-756-6569

LOST AND FOUND PROPS WITH LADY HULL
Brüka Theatre, Reno
Nov. 16
bruka.org, 775-323-3221

FRANCES HUMPHREY LECTURE SERIES: THE BLACK ROCK DESERT
Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Nov. 21
museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

A TASTE FOR THE ARTS GALA
Boulder Creek Golf Pavilion, Boulder City
Nov. 22
visitpublicartexpo.com, 702-293-7731

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS IN NATURAL HISTORY
Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Nov. 22
museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

MESQUITE
Clark County Government Center's Rotunda Gallery, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 22
arts4nevada.org, 702-455-7340

CHIMERA & CHICANERY
Oats Park Art Center, Fallon
Thru Nov. 23
arts4nevada.org, 775-423-1440

DON'T TEAR MY PLAYHOUSE DOWN
Oats Park Art Center, Fallon
Thru Nov. 23
arts4nevada.org, 775-423-1440

PERCEPTIONS IN TRANSLATION
Left of Center Gallery, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 23
leftofcenterart.org, 702-647-7378

ART OF MUMMIFICATION
Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas
Nov. 24
lvnhm.org, 702-384-3466

BURLESQUE POP-OUT
Emergency Arts, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 24
emergencyarts.com, 702-686-3164

UNESCO ITALIA
Arte Italia, Reno
Thru Nov. 24
arteitaliausa.com, 775-333-0313

DEMONSTRATION OF COIN PRESS NO. 1
Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Nov. 29
museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

CERAMIC REFLECTIONS
CSN Artspace Gallery, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 29
www.csn.edu/pac, 702-651-4146

MIXED REALITIES
OXS Gallery, Carson City
Thru Nov. 29
nac.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-6680

IMAGININGS THROUGH ILLUSTRATIONS: WORK BY CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATORS
Historic Fifth Street School, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 30
artslasvegas.org, 702-229-1012

PENUMBRA
303 North Studio, Las Vegas
Thru Nov. 30
303northstudio.tumblr.com, 702-742-6241

WILDLIFE PRESERVED
Springs Preserve, Las Vegas
Thru Dec. 1
springspreserve.org, 702-822-7700

CHAUVINISM AT WORK: ROLE EVOLUTION?
CSN Fine Arts Galley, Las Vegas
Thru Dec. 6
csn.edu/pac, 702-651-4146

NEON METROPOLIS
Sin City Galley, Las Vegas
Thru Dec. 23
sincitygallery.com, 702-608-2461

WORDS+IMAGES: BROADSIDES FROM THE BLACK ROCK PRESS
Western Folklife Center, Elko
Thru Dec. 23
westernfolklife.org, 775-738-7508

INSIDE OUT: FROM VEGAS TO WHALES
Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas
Thru Dec. 28
artslasvegas.org, 702-229-6383

ITALIAN HERITAGE EXHIBIT
Sparks Museum & Cultural Center, Sparks
Thru Jan. 4, 2014
sparksmuseum.org, 775-335-1144

50 GREATEST PHOTOGRAPHS OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
Imagine Exhibitions Gallery, Las Vegas
Thru Jan. 13, 2014
venetian.com, 702-414-9000

NEVADA REFLECTIONS: THE SILVER STATE IN BLACK & WHITE
Springs Preserve, Las Vegas
Thru Jan. 20, 2014
springspreserve.org, 702-822-7700

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING ART SHOW
Legislative Building, Carson City
Thru Jan. 31, 2014
arts4nevada.org, 775-684-1400

FRANKLIN EVANS: TIMEPATHS
Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
Thru Apr. 20, 2014
nevadaart.org, 775-329-1541

Looking for more **Nevada events & shows?**

We invite you to visit our Nevada tourism partners.

Refer to the full-page map on page 7 for city and town locations.

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LAKE TAHOE

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority
tahoesouth.com, 530-544-5050

North Lake Tahoe Visitors Bureau
gotahoenorth.com, 888-434-1262

NORTHERN NEVADA

City of Reno
reno.gov, 775-334-INFO

Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority
visitrenotahoe.com, 800-FOR-RENO

Battle Mountain (Lander County Convention & Tourism Authority)
battlemountaintourism.com, 775-635-1112

Black Rock Desert (Friends of Black Rock High Rock)
blackrockdesert.org, 775-557-2900

Carlin (City of)
explorecarlinnv.com, 775-754-6354

Carson City Convention & Visitors Bureau
visitcarsoncity.com, 800-NEVADA-1

Carson Valley Visitors Authority
visitcarsonvalley.org, 800-727-7677

Dayton Chamber of Commerce
daytonnvchamber.org, 775-246-7909

Elko Convention & Visitors Authority
exploreelko.com, 800-248-3556

Eureka County Economic Development Program
eurekacounty.com, 775-237-5484

California Trail Center, Elko

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Fallon Convention & Tourism Authority
visitfallonnevada.com, 866-432-5566

Fernley (City of)
cityoffernley.org, 775-784-9800

Gardnerville (Town of)
gardnerville-nv.gov, 775-782-7134

Genoa (Town of)
genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

Hawthorne Convention Center
visitmineralcounty.com, 775-945-5854

Jackpot (Cactus Petes)
jackpotnevada.com, 800-821-1103

Jarbidge
jarbidge.org

Lovelock
loverslock.com, 775-273-7213

Mason Valley Chamber of Commerce
masonvalleychamberofcommerce.com, 775-463-2245

Minden (Town of)
townofminden.com, 775-782-5976

Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation
pyramidlake.us, 775-574-1000

Sparks (City of)
cityofsparks.us, 775-353-5555

Spring Creek (Association)
springcreeknv.net, 775-753-6295

Virginia City Tourism Commission
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 800-718-7587

Wells Chamber of Commerce
wellsnevada.com, 775-752-3540

West Wendover (City of)
westwendovercity.com, 866-299-2489

White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board (Ely)
elynevada.net, 800-496-9350

Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority
winnemucca.nv.us, 800-962-2638

SOUTHERN NEVADA

City of Las Vegas
lasvegasnevada.gov, 702-229-6011

Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority
lasvegas.com, 877-847-4858

Beatty Chamber of Commerce
beattynevada.org, 866-736-3716

Boulder City Chamber of Commerce
bouldercitychamber.com, 702-293-2034

More Nevada events and shows: **travelnevada.com/events-shows**

Lamoille Canyon

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Goldfield Chamber of Commerce
goldfieldnevada.org, 775-485-3560

Henderson (City of)
hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2171

Las Vegas Welcome Center at Primm
Located at the Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas, 702-874-1360

Laughlin Visitor Information Center
visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

Lincoln County
lincolncountynevada.com, 877-870-3003

Mesquite (City of)
mesquitenv.gov, 702-346-5295

Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce
moapavalleychamber.com, 702-398-7160

Nevada Welcome Center at Boulder City
visitbouldercity.com, 702-294-1252

Nevada Welcome Center at Mesquite
visitmesquite.com, 877-637-7848

Pahrump
visitpahrump.com, 866-722-5800

Primm (Valley Resorts)
primmvalleyresorts.com, 888-386-7867

Rachel
rachel-nevada.com, 775-729-2515

Tonopah (Town of)
tonopahnevada.com, 775-482-6336

TERRITORIES

Cowboy Country
cowboycountry.com

Indian Territory
nevadaindianterritory.com, 775-687-8333

Las Vegas Territory
lvterritory.com, 702-348-4708

Nevada Silver Trails
nevadasilvertrails.com

Pony Express Territory
ponyexpressnevada.com, 888-359-9449

Reno-Tahoe Territory
renotahoe.com, 775-687-7410

ART/PERFORMING ARTS

Arts Las Vegas
artslasvegas.org, 702-229-6511

Brewery Arts Center, Carson City
breweryarts.org, 775-883-1976

Brüka Theatre, Reno
bruka.org, 775-323-3221

Eureka Opera House
eurekacounty.com, 775-237-6006

Goldwell Open Air Museum
goldwellmuseum.org, 702-870-9946

Oats Park Art Center, Fallon
churchillarts.org, 775-423-1440

Pioneer Center, Reno
pioneercenter.com, 775-686-6600

Piper's Opera House, Virginia City
piperslive.com, 775-847-0433

Reno Little Theater
renolittletheater.org, 775-813-8900

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts
thesmithcenter.com, 702-749-2012

Western Folklife Center, Elko
westernfolklife.org, 775-738-7508

Yerington Theatre for the Arts
yeringtonarts.com, 775-463-1783

For more arts events in the state:

arts4nevada.org

NATIONAL PARKS

Great Basin National Park
nps.gov/grba, 775-234-7517

Death Valley National Park
nps.gov/deva, 760-786-3200

STATE PARKS

Nevada State Parks
parks.nv.gov, 775-684-2770

PRE-NEVADA

Part II: From Strikes to Statehood

BY RON SOODALTER

By the early 1850s, it had become apparent that the gold strikes recently made in the West were game changing and would significantly impact the nation's future. California, a recent prize in a war of acquisition with Mexico, had already established itself as a mecca for westward immigrants; the discovery of gold simply provided added incentive.

On the other hand, few were especially anxious to settle in what would one day become Nevada, at the time part of Utah Territory. Suddenly, a seemingly limitless cache of mineral riches focused global attention on this sparsely settled region and all but ensured Nevada's remarkably rapid rise from a land that no settler seemed to want to its annexation as the nation's 36th state, the Silver State.

ROUGHING IT IN THE GOLD & SILVER FIELDS

Although the initial strike was made in California in 1849, it wasn't long before a number of frustrated '49ers shifted their operations to neighboring Nevada. While most of the early settlers of Genoa (originally known as Mormon Station) applied themselves to making their mark—or at least their living—through business or farming, many Argonauts came looking for fast fortunes in gold and silver. Some chose to prospect around Genoa, while most made their way to the aptly named Gold Canyon, near Dayton.

Typical of the exuberant hopefuls who sought wealth on both sides of the Sierra Nevada were Hosea B. and E. Allen Grosh, two young sons of a Pennsylvania minister. Their story is chronicled in the University of Nevada Press book, *The Gold Rush Letters of E. Allen Grosh & Hosea B. Grosh*. The Grosh brothers' story demonstrates the hardships and tragedies that faced these fortune seekers.

The siblings left their family home in 1849 for the promise of riches across the continent in what only a year before had been part of a foreign country. There was no easy way to get there. Rather than risk a slow cross-continental journey by wagon, or a costly and perilous voyage around Cape Horn, the brothers—22 and 24—set sail for Tampico, Mexico in March 1849. From there, they trekked overland toward Mexico City, securing passage to San Francisco.

Illness—all too common among western emigrants—delayed their arrival in the California gold fields until summer 1850, by which time the "easy pickings" (if in fact such had ever existed) were long gone. Some prospectors still hunkered alongside likely looking creeks; however, placer mining was now the most effective system of operation, involving various processes of sluicing away the hillside dirt to expose the gold underneath. In a matter of months, the region had become dotted with placer mines, and the two brothers joined the hunt for riches.

Although Allen and Hosea were constantly inventing devices to improve their odds—including an improved sluice box and what they referred to as a "perpetual-motion machine"—riches eluded them. More and more fortune seekers poured into the California gold fields, as less and poorer land became available, and the diggings yielded ever fewer results. There was no lack of physical afflictions in the camps, however, and the brothers suffered from dysentery, rheumatism, scurvy (with its resultant loss of teeth), and what one of them described as "cholera morbus, or something of the sort."

Nonetheless, they persisted in the face of hardship and deprivation, acknowledging in a letter home, "For the past year we have made our own clothes, and…have bought two pairs of shoes! As to boots they were not to be thought of." Finally, in July 1853, the Grosh Brothers decided to try

Evidence of the Comstock District's mining past is all around Virginia City, Gold Hill (this page), and Silver City today. Former cyanide-leaching vats (left) and other dilapidated mills act as a virtual outdoor museum—although many are on private property and can only be appreciated from a distance. With other famous historical landmarks such as Gold Canyon and Devil's Gate also in the general vicinity, the area is a must-visit for Nevada history buffs.

PHOTOS: MATTHEW B. BROWN

their luck on the other side of the mountains, and—after writing their father, "We will start for Carson Valley tomorrow.... Ho! For the Mountains!"—they crossed the Sierra Nevada to Mormon Station. After several weeks of fruitless effort, they moved their camp to the more promising vicinity of Gold Canyon.

Here in the Great Basin, there were considerably fewer miners at work, and the possibility of extracting precious metals was far greater than in the overcrowded, increasingly depleted hills of California. The new region was ideal for those who knew how to build and operate a placer mine, as the brothers wrote: "The miners here are about two or three years behind the age, so one acquainted with the machinery now used...in California has at least five chances to their one of making money."

The brothers, however, elected to go a different route. Eschewing the washing of dirt that defined the placer process, they followed the advice of a local prospector to whom they referred to as "Old Frank" and set about hunting solid veins in the surrounding rocks. The ore they chose to focus on near Gold Canyon was not gold, but silver.

Hosea and Allen were, to a large extent, naive. There was considerably more to the mining of silver than chiseling it from the rock. Once discovered as veins, the processing of silver required an enormous outlay of manpower, capital, and technology. According to a centuries-old Mexican proverb, "It takes a gold mine to run a silver mine." When silver finally did become the ore of choice during Nevada's Comstock period, it was due in large part to the gold that existed in close proximity, as well as the financial ability of the owners to mine and process the silver.

As Virginia City author and journalist William Wright—writing in the 1800s with the pen name of "Dan DeQuille"—pointed out, "The discovery of silver undoubtedly deserves to rank in merit above the discovery of the gold mines of California, as it gives value to a much greater area of territory and furnishes employment to a much larger number of people."

Nonetheless, the Grosh brothers spent nearly a year prospecting in the Great Basin before returning to California. They revisited Nevada twice more, in 1856 and 1857, still looking for the silver strike that would make them rich. Although they wrote their father that they had discovered "a perfect monster" of a vein, they never found their fortune. Some historians have posited that this "monster" ledge was, in fact, part of what would later become the Comstock Lode.

As for the Grosh Brothers, although their names have become inextricably linked with the early days of the Nevada strikes, neither was fated for a happy end. In August 1857, on their third sojourn into Gold Canyon, Hosea swung a pickax into his foot, inflicting a painful and serious injury; the wound festered, soon killing the younger brother. A grief-stricken Allen wrote his father, "God has seen fit in [H]is perfect wisdom and goodness to call Hosea, the patient, the good, the gentle to join his mother in another and a better world than this."

The boys' heartbroken father wrote back, "I have no words that will describe our grief and sorrow....There is something very painful in the idea of your remaining in Utah....arising from your utter loneliness there." Worse news was yet to come.

Just weeks later, while attempting to re-cross the Sierra, Allen was caught in a blizzard and spent four days half-buried in snow with neither fire nor food. By the time he reached shelter, he had become badly frostbitten. Apparently, he had no idea of the severity of his condition. A light-headed Allen wrote home, assuring his father that he would survive, but feeling "very much ashamed at the confused note I have written you." A postscript to the letter, written in pencil by a friend, states merely, "Allen died Dec. 19, 1857."

NEVADA'S '59ers

From 1850-59, between 100 and 180 miners worked claims in the Gold Canyon area, taking from their works some two-

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Brothers E. Allen and Hosea B. Grosh are shown in this 1849 photo, before they left Pennsylvania for the California gold fields. The brothers eventually tried their luck on the Comstock in the 1850s, just missing out on the prosperous Comstock Lode. Both died tragically in 1857.

WORTH A READ

The Gold Rush Letters of E. Allen Grosh and Hosea B. Grosh

Edited by Ronald M. James and Robert E. Stewart, University of Nevada Press, unpress.nevada.edu, 775-784-6573

Brothers Allen and Hosea Grosh left Pennsylvania in 1849 to join the droves of men hoping to find a fortune. The brothers' search for wealth brought them to Nevada's Gold Canyon, where they prospected for gold and silver. The letters they sent back to their family offer vivid commentaries on the turbulent western frontier, the diverse society of the gold rush camps, and the heartbreaking labor and frustration of mining.

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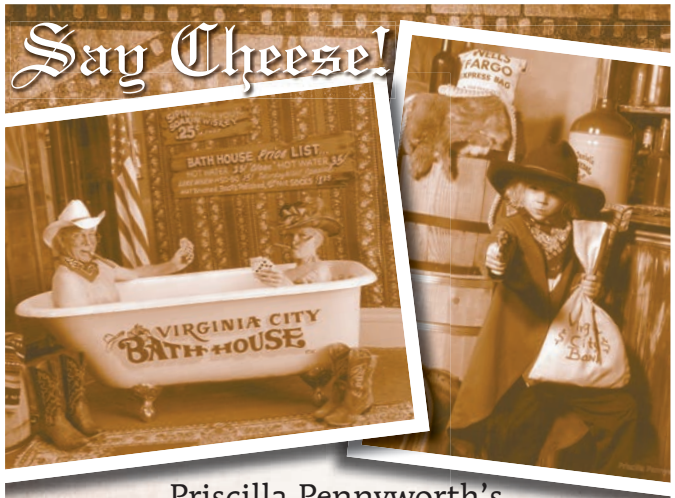

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thirds of $1 million—an amount worth nearly $26 million in today's currency. In the process, they discarded the dark sand that seemed to continually clog their rockers and slow the work. Only later would the "annoying blue stuff," as they called it, prove to be a rich concentrate of silver, worth thousands of dollars per ton.

Then came the strikes that would impact the nation, create vast fortunes overnight, and forever change the history of Nevada. "What-ifs" are rarely useful in the study of history, but there is a possibility that, had the Grosh Brothers lived another two years, they would have played a significant part in the discovery of the massive gold and silver strike known as the Comstock Lode. In fact, after the brothers perished, their family hired an attorney in an unsuccessful attempt to secure a part of the discovery.

As it was, in January 1859, four men—including James Finney, known to the mining community as "Old Virginny"—found another section of "monster" ledge on nearby Gold Hill. Less than six months later, two other miners, Peter O'Riley and Patrick McLaughlin, followed this discovery with another—a silver- and gold-rich ledge of huge proportions—in Six Mile Canyon. The two discoveries heralded what would become one of the most profitable and productive periods in the history of American mining.

In the squabbles for ownership that followed these two extraordinary finds, one name continued to surface—that of Ontario-born former trapper Henry Thomas Paige Comstock. Variously described by contemporaries and historians alike as a lazy, "half-mad, loud-mouth trickster," a "scoundrel," and—worst of all—a "claim-jumper," Comstock succeeded in pushing his claim to part-ownership in the discovery that ironically came to bear his name by "proving" that the spring on which the miners had been working belonged to him and his partner, Emanuel Penrod. The four agreed to share the claim. Ultimately, two other men were brought in specifically to crush the ore, and a six-way partnership was agreed upon.

At first, the discovery drew little notice, but when the ore from these and other local finds assayed at nearly $4,000 per ton, at a time when a value of $100 a ton was considered impressive, word spread rapidly. First reported in the July 1, 1859 edition of the *Nevada Journal* of Nevada City, California, by the following summer the diggings had triggered a response comparable to the 1849 Gold Rush. In fact, many of the miners and prospectors still struggling fruitlessly in California abruptly headed east across the Sierra.

The community that formed around the diggings was known as the Comstock Mining District. The concept of the mining district originated during the California rush and relied upon the formation of codes and selection of governing bodies from among the miners themselves, in the absence of formal local government.

The purpose of the mining district was laid out in the minutes of the Gold Hill Mining District: "[T]he isolated position we occupy, far from all legal tribunals, and cut off from those fountains of justice which every American should enjoy, renders it necessary that we organize in body politic for our mutual protection against the lawless, and for meting out justice between man and man...."

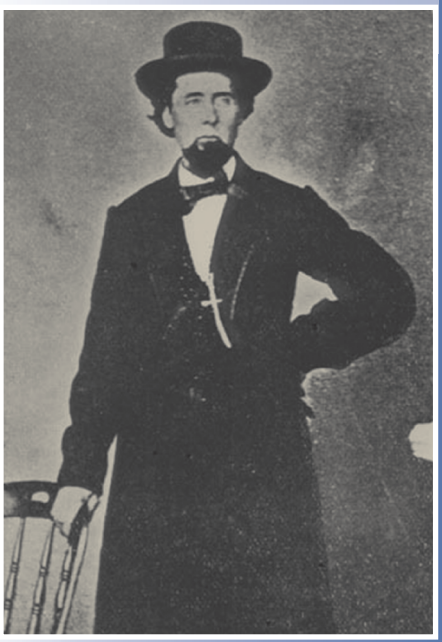
In extreme cases, "justice" as meted out by a miners' court took the form of a short rope and a sudden drop, although surprisingly fair and equitable verdicts were more often the result.

Thousands of hopeful prospectors poured into the region from all corners of the globe, and settlements swiftly sprang up near the various sites: Silver City, Gold Hill, and—reputedly named for "Old Virginny" Finney—Virginia City. The official establishment of Nevada as a territory in 1861 only added legitimacy to the rush of humanity and the overnight erection of boomtowns.

Meanwhile, the unscrupulous Henry Comstock, who managed to insinuate himself into the greatest find of the century, sold his interest for thousands of dollars—an impressive sum, but only a pittance compared to the millions his claim

MATTHEW B. BROWN

A visit to the Gold Hill Hotel & Saloon, established in 1861, is a great way to get a feel for what life might have been like during the Comstock's heyday, when men like Henry Thomas Paige Comstock (below) lived there. Although undeservedly, his last name is forever linked to the famous Comstock Lode. His deceptions and failures caught up with him, and he took his own life in 1870.



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was actually worth and the hundreds of millions the lode would generate over the next two decades. He bought businesses, which failed, and married a Mormon wife, who left him shortly thereafter. In 1870, his money drained and nothing left to show but his name in the annals of Nevada history, he took his own life.

The new communities boasted all the amenities one would expect to see in a thriving mining town. There were saloons and brothels of every description, some specifically suited to the ethnicity of their patrons. And it seemed there was always someone waiting to separate a miner from his "goods." The same prospects of easy money that in later years lured gamblers to the Wild West boomtowns of Deadwood and Tombstone attracted cardsharps to the dens of Silver City and Virginia City in 1859.

For every miner who "struck pay-dirt" during the day, there was a gambler poised to take it away from him at night. And if he managed to hold onto his poke long enough to avoid the tables, a miner was easy prey for the dozens of "soiled doves" who practiced their trade in such saloons as Virginia City's Old Washoe Club, or in the row of tiny "cribs" that stood along D Street's "Sporting Row."

The most famous of these ladies of the demimonde was Julia Bulette, who began plying her wares in Virginia City in 1863 and whose legend far outstrips the facts of her life. She has been variously described as willowy, wealthy, beautiful, and the "queen of Sporting Row." Her earnings on any given night exceeded $1,000, payable in cash, jewels, or bullion.

According to former Nevada State Archivist Guy Rocha, she was none of the above, simply a popular prostitute who had the misfortune to be murdered. The local law apprehended, tried, and convicted James Millian of robbing and killing Bulette, and an estimated 4,000 spectators attended his hanging in 1868.

There was, however, more to the mining towns than their red-light districts. There were also stores of every description, elegant hotels, fine restaurants, schools, and—in Virginia City—an opera house and Nevada's first newspaper, the *Territorial Enterprise*, which had relocated from Genoa. Courtesy of its bombastic writers, such as Dan DeQuille and Mark Twain, it boasted articles with such seductive headlines as "Dead Man Turns to Stone," "Dead Indian Found in Water Tank," and "A Gorgeous Scandal."

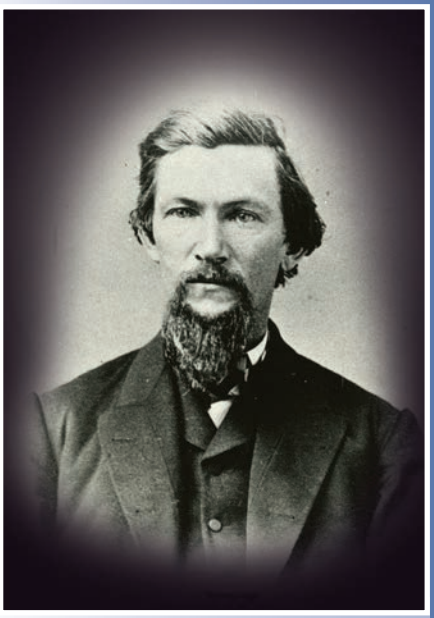
INNOVATION ON THE COMSTOCK

Hard-rock mining had little to do with the earlier image of the lone prospector bent over a cold mountain stream, panning for "color." The wealth of Gold Hill, Six Mile Canyon, and the other sites of the Comstock Lode was not simply lying about, to be scooped up and carried to the nearest assay office. Men had to go in, and down, after it.

As Allen and Hosea Grosh were among the first to realize, the gold and silver ore lay in veins in the rock, and beneath the ground, and had to be hacked out, crushed, and processed—all highly labor-intensive and costly steps. Would-be inventors that they were, the Grosh Brothers would have been impressed by the ingenious innovations devised for the extraction and processing of the precious metals that lay buried in the earth.

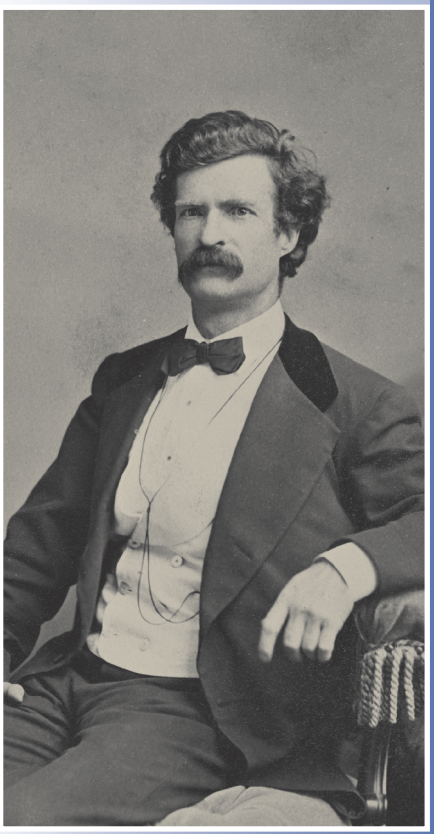
One of the first and most vital laborsaving systems was created in 1860, when Almarin Paul developed an ore-processing mill that became the standard among the miners. At the time of the Comstock discoveries, there were only two systems used for the extraction of silver—direct smelting and amalgamation through the use of mercury. Smelting, used only for the highest-grade ores, was costly; consequently, a cost-effective, predictable method of amalgamation was sought.

After much trial and error, Paul updated and applied a system that had been used in Mexico in the mid-1500s. It required crushing the silver ore to a fine slurry in stamp mills, mixing it with mercury, salt, copper sulfate, and water, and spreading out, re-crushing, and mixing the resulting "soup" in enclosed, steam-heated



UNR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The *Territorial Enterprise* (opposite page) was a Virginia City newspaper staffed by distinguished authors William Wright (Dan DeQuille; above) and Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain; below). The writer will discuss the two men in more detail in next issue's Part III.



NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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iron tanks known as pans. In a matter of hours, the silver could be separated from the mercury, although the exact effects of the various ingredients remain a mystery to this day. Paul's "Washoe Pan Process," as his system was known, was successfully used for decades.

German engineer Philipp Deidersheimer introduced an invention that saved countless miners' lives in late 1860. He had been hired to improve the unreliable underground support system at the Ophir Mine. As the miners hammered and chipped ore from the cave walls, veins widened, the quartz that had previously held the ore became unstable, and the supports grew weaker and often collapsed. Cave-ins, costly in terms of both lives and profits, were not uncommon.

Deidersheimer devised a system in which pre-fabricated timbers, seven feet tall and four to six feet wide, and capable of supporting tremendous weight, were introduced into the mines. It was known as the "square-set timber method," and—despite the additional cost of timber—it became the generally accepted system of support for the next half-century.

Other methods and tools were invented that had long-term, worldwide application. Elevator cages used for lowering miners thousands of feet into the ever-deepening shafts of the hard-rock mines were made possible with the development of the flat wire cable. Standard hemp rope proved too weak, and round wire cable tended to kink as it was wound. In 1864, a young transplanted Englishman named Andrew S. Hallidie solved the problem by simply flattening the wire, thereby keeping its strength, but making it easy to spool. So successful was the method that San Francisco used it for its cable cars.

Over the next several years, more and more innovations were applied to the extraction and processing of the precious metals, as well as to the improvement of the quality of life. One, the Comstock Water System, proved to be an extraordinary feat of engineering and earned global acclaim. Potable water—or, rather, the lack of it—had plagued the miners and settlers since their arrival in Carson County. The early settlers of Virginia City had relied on a system that pumped barely usable water from the mines. There was plenty of pure water in the Sierra, some 30 miles distant; the challenge was getting it down to and across Washoe Valley, up 1,500 feet to Virginia City, and another 500 feet to a likely reservoir site.

Hermann Schussler, another German civil engineer, having already demonstrated his uncanny ability in San Francisco, created a complicated but reliable water system for the burgeoning town. The Comstock's location, however, presented the problem of scope. If successful, it would be twice the size of anything Schussler had built before.

Designing a complicated system of tunnels, flumes, and reservoirs, he built a pipeline that carried fresh water from the mountains, into the valley, and up to Virginia City. He created a type of inverted siphon that sent water uphill without the use of pumps. In all, he used some 700 tons of iron and more than 1,500 lead-sealed joints. So successful was the system that Schussler was hired to install versions of it in Tuscarora and Pioche. His work was solid; the dams and tunnels he built for the city of San Francisco in 1864 survived the devastating earthquake of 1906.

In mines the world over, the problems of flooding and poor ventilation have plagued the miners since time immemorial. In the mid-1860s, an enterprising businessman named Adolph Sutro established a company for the express purpose of draining and ventilating the mines. He proposed driving a three-mile-long tunnel from the Dayton vicinity to the Virginia City mines. So accurate were his calculations that when the tunnel finally met the Savage Mine, it was a mere 18 inches off target.

Unfortunately, it took so long to run his tests, obtain approvals on both project and budget (the cost reached a staggering $2 million), and complete the tunnel (nine years, finishing in late 1878), that the Comstock mines were waning just as Sutro's tunnel became operational. Nonetheless, it was one more in a stunning parade of inventions that forever changed the face of mining.

In 1864, production at the Comstock flagged for the first time, causing many to abandon the mines for more promising prospects in central Nevada. It also provided the opportunity for the newly founded San Francisco-based Bank of California to establish a branch in Virginia City, loan money to the beleaguered local mine owners, and—when they were unable to pay back the bank due to the continuing depression—foreclose. In a short time, the "bank crowd" owned seven mills, as well as control of the leading mines. Soon, the Comstock would reveal new strikes, prompting a renewal of activity and making fortunes for owners and managers.

NEVADA BOOMS OUTSIDE THE COMSTOCK DISTRICT

The Comstock's production slowed in the late 1860s, prompting some miners to leave Carson County to explore the possibilities in eastern Nevada, where a recent strike had produced silver assaying at $15,000 per ton—more than three times the value of the best Comstock ore. This find resulted in the establishment of White Pine County, with Hamilton named its seat. As quickly as the boom hit, however, it busted, just as the Comstock again showed strong signs of life.

And so it went: Miners would deplete the ore in one region, then move to another, and another, blanketing the Great Basin with brief but dramatic strikes. From Hamilton, they rushed northeast to Cherry Creek, and when the color faded there, back to the Comstock, where—in 1873—a truly phenomenal strike, the "Big Bonanza," put the Lode on the map again.

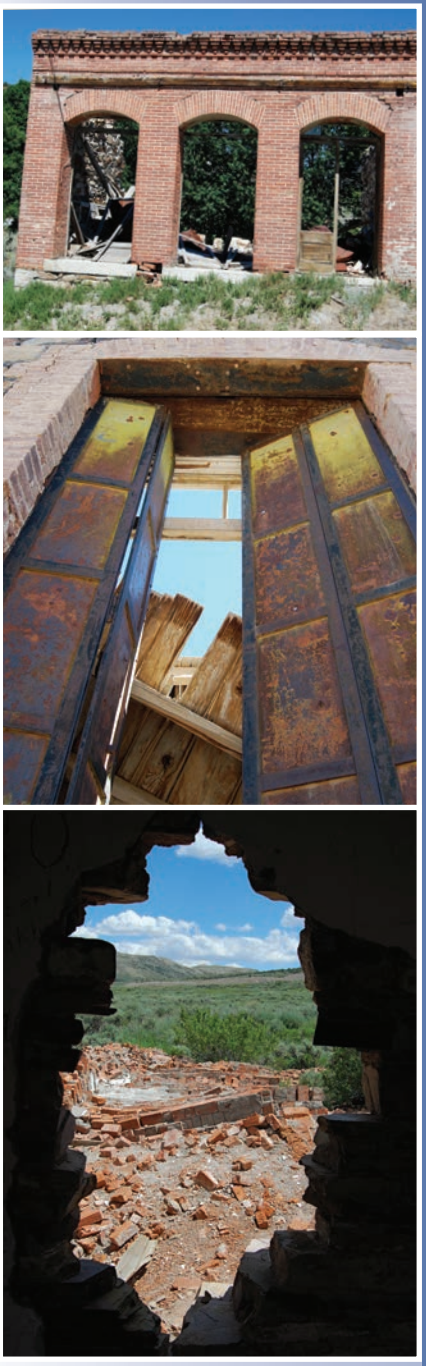
This boom-and-bust mining pattern repeated itself throughout Nevada well into the late 19th century. New mineral districts at Unionville and Reese River developed outside the Comstock. Dozens of strikes, in such locations as Austin, Aurora, Belmont, Candelaria, Eureka, Pioche, and Tuscarora, dotted the landscape, attracting miners in numbers beyond the capacity of each strike to support. Each in its turn had its day, then petered out. Typical of the pattern was Aurora, which produced nearly $30 million in her first 10 years, earning a political status commensurate with her wealth. Predictably, the ore slowed, and along with her luster, Aurora eventually lost her position as county seat.

Despite the flash of new discoveries across Nevada, the Comstock remained by far the most productive. By 1880, the Comstock Lode had generated more than $300 million, out of a total territorial and state production of nearly half a billion dollars.

FROM TERRITORY TO STATEHOOD

Throughout the 1850s, as the region continued to produce large amounts of gold and silver, more and more of its citizens pushed for separation from Utah's territorial government. Finally, over the strong objections of the Mormon administration in Salt Lake City, and after 10 years of effort and frustration, western Utah Territory achieved autonomy in 1861.

The delegates to the Nevada territorial legislature met three times—in 1861, 1863, and 1864. They strove to address a number of issues, the resolution of which



Remnants of Nevada's pre-statehood past are strewn about rural Nevada in the form of ghost towns...and living ghost towns. Top to bottom: Belmont still holds onto a small population; Candelaria ghost town's tall bank door is one of its main draws; the brick ruins of Hamilton ghost town belie what was once the seat of White Pine County.

PHOTOS: MATTHEW B. BROWN

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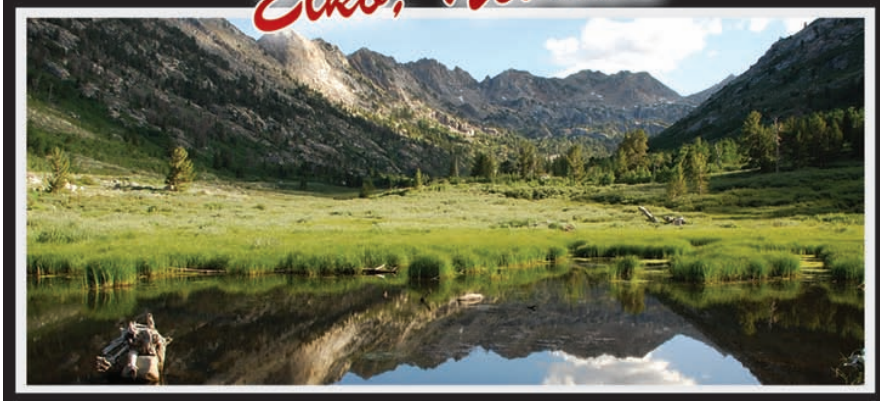

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NEVADA MAGAZINE

would prepare the territory for its leap to statehood. Carson City, earlier named the seat of Carson County, would become the capital. The first legislature established and named a total of nine counties; by the time Nevada achieved statehood three years later, there would be 11. As for the name of the new territory and, hopefully, state-to-be, various options were examined, the first and erstwhile favorite being "Washoe." Other likely choices were Humboldt, Esmeralda, and Nevada—the last of which was chosen by the delegates and announced in the November 7, 1863 issue of the *Virginia Evening Bulletin*.

The legislature eventually created some 28 toll roads to enhance the territorial budget and somewhat prematurely assigned several railroad franchises—none of which were used. The railroad was still in Nevada's future. Interestingly, one of the first laws passed by the territorial legislature banned gambling. This law would remain in effect until 1869, at which time the legislature repealed it—over the governor's veto.

The most vital task before the legislators, however, was the creation of a constitution, without which statehood would be unattainable. This proved to be a more difficult task than anyone had anticipated. While the residents voted strongly in favor of statehood in 1861, as late as 1863 the proposed constitution was overwhelmingly defeated by a vote of 8,851 to 2,157. The main reason generally given for the failure to adopt the constitution was an ongoing conflict regarding whether, how, and how much to tax the mines.

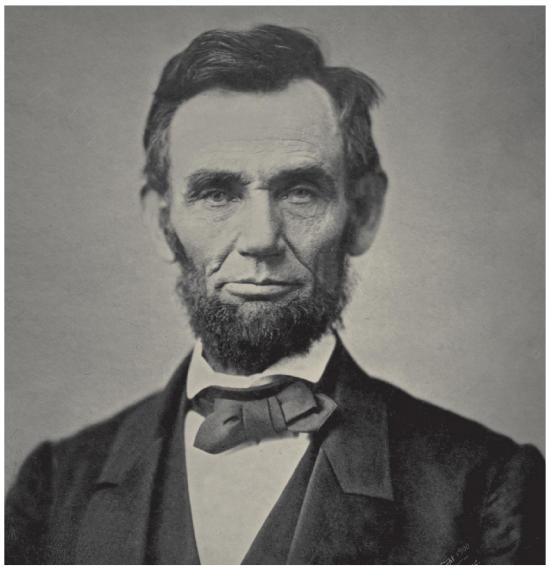
Enthusiasm for statehood was strong across the territory, however, and the 1863 defeat of the constitution did nothing to lessen it. By the following year, it was an aspiration shared by Congress and President Abraham Lincoln as well. In early 1864, both houses of Congress passed an Enabling Act for Nevada, setting certain conditions for its annexation. Among these were the drafting and acceptance of a constitution that was supportive of both the federal Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

Another provision specified that Nevada would allow neither slavery nor involuntary servitude. By this time, the United States had been involved for three years in a Civil War that showed little sign of slacking. If the new constitution was accepted, Nevada would enter as a Union state in the strictest sense of the word. It was time for Nevada's citizens—most of whom wanted badly to move up from what they perceived as "second-class citizenship"—to step up and approve a constitution.

James W. Nye, territorial governor appointed by Lincoln three years earlier, called for an election to select delegates to create a state convention that conformed to the terms of the Enabling Act. Initially, the process became an exercise in mudslinging, name-calling, and character defamation among the leaders of the pro- and anti-constitution factions. Old issues, earlier thought resolved, reared up again. At one point, even the choice of the name "Nevada" was belatedly called into question, and the former alternatives—Washoe, Humboldt, and Esmeralda—were brought up anew as possible substitutes. This issue was abruptly resolved when J. Neely Johnson, president of the constitutional convention and former governor of California, reminded the assemblage:

"Congress has provided that a State called the State of 'Nevada' shall be admitted after certain proceedings have been had, and the President is authorized to declare by proclamation the admission of the State of 'Nevada' into the Union.... Now the child is named; it had been baptized by the name of Nevada, and nothing short of an act of Congress can change that name."

As before, the delegates debated taxes, railroad subsidies, and education. And most relevant to the current political situation, they argued over the subject of loyalty to the Union. After considerable effort, however, 30 of the 35 delegates signed the document, and on September 7, 1864 in an overwhelming display of support for statehood, the new constitution was rati fied by a staggering vote of 10,375 to 1,284.



President Abraham Lincoln (above) and James W. Nye (below) were instrumental in Nevada's rise to statehood on October 31, 1864. Lincoln was anxious to add Nevada as a Union state for political support, but also to help pass the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery. Nye was appointed by Lincoln to serve as territorial governor in the early 1860s.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Austin and the surrounding Reese River District were founded in 1862, prior to Nevada becoming a state, as part of a silver rush. The above image shows Austin as it was in 1867. Located essentially in the center of the state, today's Austin is a popular stop for travelers on U.S. Highway 50—"The Loneliest Road in America."

So anxious was Governor Nye to present the constitution to Washington in time for the November 7 presidential election that—rather than risk sending it by sea or overland mail—he elected to transmit it by telegraph. The resulting message took two days—October 26-27—to send and was the longest, most costly telegram ever transmitted up to that time. It consisted of 16,543 words, at a cost of $4,313.27 (around $60,000 today).

In an unusual gesture, Congress—which, according to tradition, approves state constitutions after their ratification by the people of a given territory—authorized President Lincoln himself to accept Nevada's constitution, and to declare it a state, providing it met all the conditions of the Enabling Act. It did. On October 31, 1864, Lincoln proclaimed Nevada the 36th state in the Union.

By endorsing statehood for Nevada, Lincoln executed a political maneuver that is still debated among scholars and historians. Some chroniclers argue that he did this to avail the beleaguered Union of the fabulous riches flowing daily from western Nevada's mining operations; this was not the case.

Lincoln was a consummate politician, and he was facing a reelection campaign that he legitimately feared would result in his defeat. He needed as many votes as he could get, and by inviting Nevada—as well as the states of Colorado and Nebraska—into the Union as Republican states, he was ensuring a block of votes that would help put him across the finish line in first place.

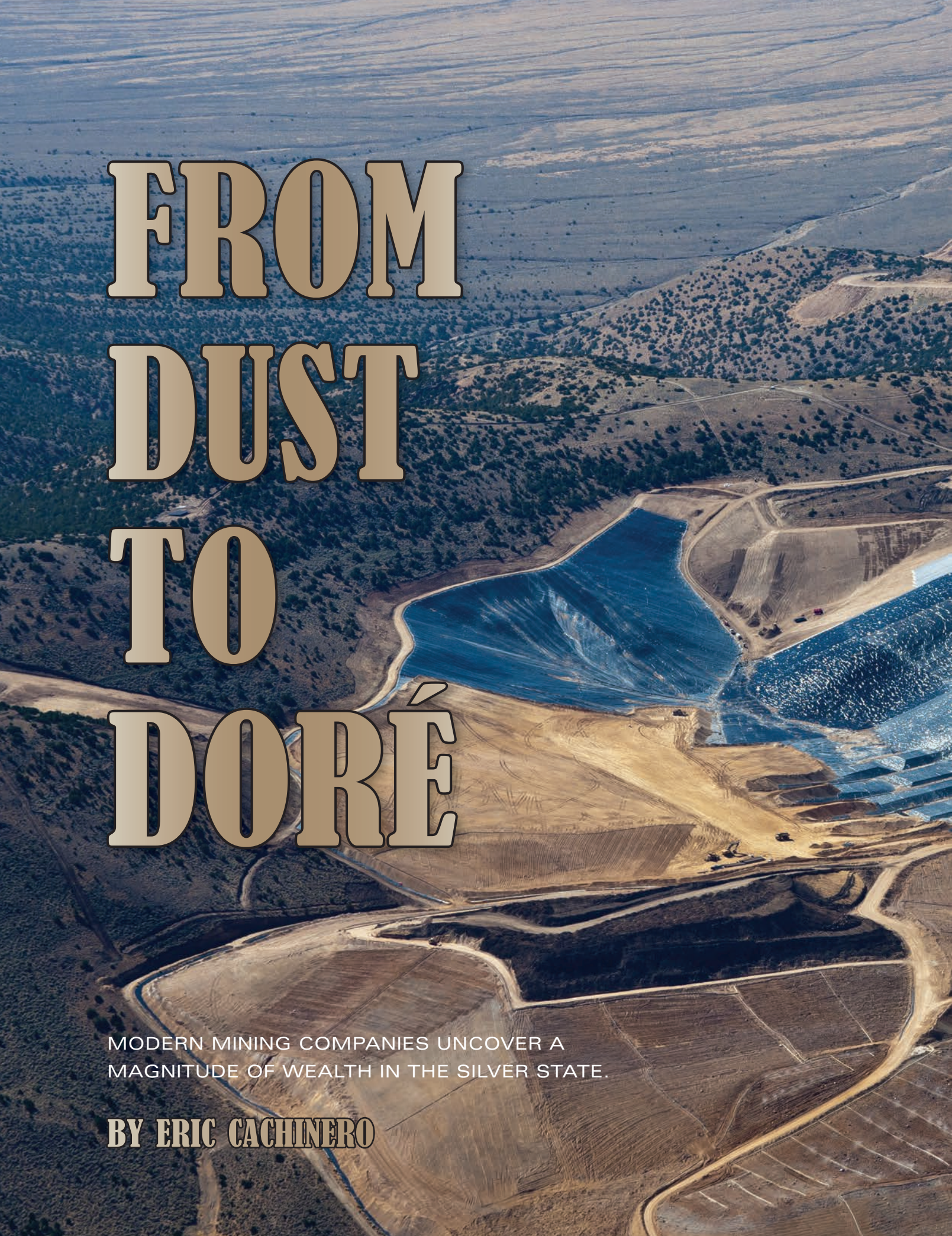
Even more vital to Lincoln's legacy than his reelection, however, was the need to pass the Thirteenth Amendment, which would finally and unalterably abolish the institution of slavery in the United States. By proposing the annexation of Nevada, Colorado, and Nebraska as slave-free states, Lincoln was hoping to provide enough support to ratify what would, in the end, become one of his greatest contributions to the growth of America as a free nation.

Nevada's development in a few short years was nothing short of meteoric. No one living in the first few decades of the 19th century would have believed such a thing possible. During the days of the Spanish Empire, it represented a land to be crossed only when necessary. Then, when the trappers arrived, the so-called "Unknown Territory" briefly became a wild and often inhospitable source of furs, until they were depleted beyond profitability. For the emigrants heading west to Oregon or California, Nevada—and its vast Great Basin—merely presented a seriously challenging leg in a long and arduous journey to more promising climes.

But from the first discovery of precious metal in Carson Valley, and the establishment of Mormon Station and Dayton as the region's first settlements in the mid-1800s, to the unimaginable riches hewn from the Comstock rock in the 1850s, Nevada's future was clear. In less than two decades, it had gone from a prospector's seasonal camp to the Battle Born State.

COMING UP JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

Part III will address the "civilizing influences" on Nevada, during its pre-statehood and early-statehood days. We will look at such icons as the Pony Express and Wells, Fargo in folklore, fact, and fiction; acquaint the reader with such bombastic pioneer newspaper men as Mark Twain and Dan DeQuille; introduce Jack Slade, the notorious pistoleer who wore his foe's ears on his watch chain; describe the bloody Pyramid Lake War between Paiutes and settlers; and chronicle the dramatic establishment of Nevada's railroads.



FROM DUST TO DORÉ

MODERN MINING COMPANIES UNCOVER A MAGNITUDE OF WEALTH IN THE SILVER STATE.

BY ERIC CACHINERO

At Coeur Rochester, Inc.'s mine northeast of Lovelock, the stage three heap leach pad is being constructed as part of the resumption of mining at the site in late 2010. Much of the ore seen here is being mined from material stockpiled at the site between 1986 and 2007.

A series of conveyer belts carries mineral-rich ore to the top of Comstock Mining's heap leach pad. The leach pad currently processes 1 million tons of mineral-rich ore per annum (year).

The thunderous crack of massive colliding stones fills my ears as I stand on the observation platform of Coeur Rochester, Inc.'s rock crusher. Awestruck by the colossal machinery surrounding me, I am overcome by the illusion that the advancing conveyer belt wielding a blend of loose soil and half-ton boulders is ready to crush me where I stand. Then, just at the last second, the dirt and rocks avalanche under the deck beneath my feet and make their way into the crusher.

As I stand watching the impressive gears of modern mining turn before my very eyes, my mind wanders to the boomtown turned ghost town that once served as the epicenter of mining activity in the district—Rochester. The rickety mine shafts and skeletons of rusted cars that make up the abandoned settlement now rest several miles from Coeur's Nevada operations, symbolizing the decay of the mining days of yesteryear and the advance of the revolutionary mining industry of the modern age.

NEVADA'S MINERAL LEGACY

When the first pickaxes began penetrating the Nevada desert in the mid-1800s, modern mining in Nevada was born. The desire to strike it rich flowed through the veins of Nevada prospectors, just as the glittering gold deposited there flowed through quartz veins millions of years prior.

Nevada's history is largely one of boom and bust, mines and metal, and success and failure—all for the elusive gold and silver that rested in the ground under the prospector's boots.

And so began the process of extracting these precious metals from the earth, a fundamental piece of Nevada's history. Though much has changed since the early days of Nevada mining, large-scale mining operations continue to serve as an essential keystone of the Silver State.

MODERN MINING

People often assume that the old-timers got all the state's gold and silver during Nevada's boom days more than 150 years ago, an assumption that couldn't be more inaccurate. Although many factors are involved in the resurgence of mining in Nevada, modern technology, improved processing methods of rich ore bodies, and high gold and silver prices have made recovering these precious metals from the ground profitable again.

Nevada is home to geological features like the Carlin Trend—North America's most prolific gold-producing district and the second-largest known gold resource in the world—which makes one thing certain: Nevada is rich. So rich, in fact, that besides having more gold mines than any other state, Nevada accounts for more than 75 percent of the total gold produced each year in the United States.

Between the abundant gold-bearing deposits of the Carlin Trend, the renowned silver district of the Comstock, and many other productive mineral deposits across the state, mining in Nevada continues to be a lucrative industry.

PHOTOS: MATTHEW B. BROWN

Left: Comstock Mining Inc. president and CEO Corrado DeGasperis gives a company overview on September 12, 2013. Comstock Mining's open-pit operation (above) mines in the historic Comstock district of Gold Hill and Silver City, near Virginia City. The company is planning to reclaim the area to what it looked like pre-1850.

THERE'S GOLD (AND SILVER) IN THEM THAR HILLS

Mining in Nevada began with the earliest inhabitants searching for geological formations that contained deposits suitable for fashioning various tools and hunting equipment. Obsidian, jasper, agate, and quartz were necessary for making spearheads, arrowheads, and various other tools essential to early life in the region. Turquoise mining by the Ancestral Puebloans was evident in present-day Clark County, but is now covered by the waters of Lake Mead in Southern Nevada. Fast-forward thousands of years to the discovery of placer gold in Gold Canyon below Virginia City in 1849—and you have the beginning of modern mining in Nevada.

Sporadic placer mining across the region eventually led to the first major discovery of silver ore in the U.S. in 1859—the Comstock Lode. This discovery sparked one of the largest booms in Nevada's history. This boom era lasted into the 1880s, when once-profitable centers across Nevada began to see major declines.

The next boom periods took place in the early 1900s with the discovery of gold and silver in the towns of Tonopah and Goldfield. Both towns celebrated significant mineral recovery until eventually tapering off in the late 1910s and early 1920s.

Silver and gold mining in the state remained relatively stagnant through the depression years, seeing a brief period of recovery due to a government-mandated gold price increase in the early 1930s, before sinking to a near-record low in 1961. In 1962, however, the first significant discovery on the Carlin Trend resulted in the revival of precious-metal mining in Nevada.

Over the next few decades Nevada mining companies such as Comstock Mining Inc., Coeur Mining, Inc., Barrick Gold Corporation, and Newmont Mining Corporation acquired properties and developed projects across the state.

COEUR ROCHESTER, INC.

Located approximately 25 miles northeast of Lovelock lies Coeur Rochester Inc.'s mine. Mining in the district began as several small underground mining operations in the late 1800s. Ending an extensive hiatus in regional mining operations, Coeur began large-scale open-pit mining in the area in 1986.

As the largest primary silver mine in Nevada, Coeur operates with approximately 270 full-time employees and 35 to 40 contractors on site, many making the daily commute from surrounding communities such as Lovelock and Winnemucca—even Reno. However, Coeur Rochester General Manager Robert Stepper explains that the economic impact on nearby communities is much greater than just people employed with the mine. "Between machinery repairs, maintenance mechanics, outside services for fixing our haul trucks, vendors for leach pads and reagents, and fuel, a tremendous amount of people are involved in what we do," Stepper says. Stepper adds that the mine indirectly supports hundreds of additional jobs in nearby communities.

Besides impacting local jobs, Coeur supports Nevada's future generations. In 2013, the company distributed approximately $15,000 for mining-related scholarships to students in surrounding communities. Coeur has also had a major impact on Nevada's sesquicentennial celebration. In July, the company donated a 1,000-ounce bar of silver that was melted into 1,000 silver medallions at the Carson City Mint.

In order to keep the operation up and running, the mine staff takes major steps to ensure goals are achieved. "Our top two things on this property are safety and the environment," Stepper says. "We firmly believe that if you don't take care of both of those, you don't produce anything." In order to take care of the safety aspect, Stepper says mine staff must undergo relentless safety training. "When you're doing the right things all the

CHARLIE JOHNSTON

PHOTOS: MATTHEW B. BROWN

Clockwise from far left to right: Two mining technicians operate heavy machinery at Barrick Gold Corporation's Goldstrike underground operation. A piece of large machinery sits docked in Coeur Rochester's maintenance bay. Gold- and silver-bearing material waits as it is funneled into the rock crusher before being loaded onto a conveyer belt at Coeur. Tons of rock and dirt travel down a conveyer belt before being fed into Coeur's rock crusher.

time, you don't have to have conversations you don't want to be having," he adds. "And that's all due to really good engineering, planning, and good training."

From late 2007 until late 2010, work at the Coeur Rochester mine halted due to low silver and gold prices. Greg Robinson, assistant general manager at Rochester, explains how precious metal prices have driven production in Nevada. "Silver and gold prices were fairly low throughout the 2000s, with gold at about $200-$600 [per ounce] and silver at $4-$10 [per ounce]," Robinson says. "But during 2009-10, metal prices started climbing, and suddenly the silver and gold that was left in the ground becomes economic again." 2013 production at Rochester is expected to be 3.7 to 4 million ounces of silver and between 34,000 and 36,000 ounces of gold.

COMSTOCK MINING INC.

Comstock Mining Inc. is a Nevada-based gold and silver mining company operating in the Comstock District of Silver City and Gold Hill. Working in the most historic mining district in the state, Comstock Mining plans not only to recover precious metals from the area, but has also been facilitating restoration projects of several historic Nevada buildings both directly and through the newly formed Comstock Foundation for History and Culture.

With approximately 110 full-time employees, and 100 more contractors on site, Comstock Mining operates seven days a week to get the gold and silver out of the ground. The operation covers 6,000 acres and includes seven resource areas. In 2013, Comstock Mining set the goal of removing 20,000 ounces of gold from the mineral-rich area. As of September they were squarely on track for achieving that goal and have estimated twice that amount for 2014.

During a recent visit to Comstock Mining's operation in Silver City, Editor Matthew B. Brown and I set out in hopes of grasping a better understanding of modern mining in Nevada. We accompanied president and CEO of Comstock Mining Inc. Corrado DeGasperis as he showed us how mining in the area has changed since the days of the pickaxe, pan, and pack mule.

As the operator of one of the newest gold- and silver-mining operations in the state, DeGasperis checks constantly to ensure everything is running smoothly. This involves everything from minimizing dust kick-up on roads to inspecting the heap leach pad—an area designed to remove gold and silver from the dirt. Comstock Mining's leach pad currently processes 1 million tons of mineral-rich ore per annum (year).

On the hillside adjacent to the heap leach pad sits an old Virginia & Truckee Railroad car, while a solitary wild mustang grazes the dry grass amongst the intricate exposed geology of the Comstock. These days, the V&T serves tourists who visit the region. "One of the most commonly asked questions on the V&T was, 'Is there any modern mining happening on the Comstock?'" DeGasperis says. "Up until now the answer's been no."

Comstock Mining believes its reclamation projects are as important to the company as mining gold and silver. They are taking major steps in returning the landscape to its natural state; even looking back to the era before pickaxes first made cuts into Nevada soil.

A 100-ton-capacity dump truck (below) collects a load of pay dirt ready to be carried to the next step in the removal process. Mine workers (middle) lay out strips of felt, bentonite, and plastic liner that make up the bottom layer of a heap leach pad. Several layers (far right) of the heap leach pad are laid over the meticulously prepared soil.

PHOTOS: MATTHEW B. BROWN

Dave Thomas, director of mining operations with Comstock Mining Inc., says the company has extensive plans for reclamation. "When we're done extracting the minerals we want to return the land to the condition it was pre-1850," Thomas says. The reclamation process involves reforming the landscape and planting new vegetation.

Besides just reclaiming the land, Comstock Mining has also purchased the Gold Hill Hotel—the oldest continuously operating hotel in Nevada established in 1861—with plans already in motion revive the declining business.

BEFORE THE BULLION

Although Comstock Mining and Coeur Rochester each have several differences in the metal-extraction method, the process is fundamentally the same. Both companies use an industrial mining process called heap leaching to extract gold and silver from the ore.

The process begins by surveying the ground to see if it has a mineral content that is considered profitable. Once a profitable section has been discovered, the mineral-rich ore is loaded into dump trucks capable of transporting enormous amounts of material (100 tons at Coeur and 40 tons at Comstock Mining). The material is then loaded into a series of devices called crushers, which break rocks into more manageable sizes and eventually into the ideal size to begin extracting precious metals.

The main crusher at the Coeur mine is an impressive piece of machinery which does one thing best—crush rocks. The dump trucks at Coeur line up to empty their 100-ton loads into a hopper, which collects ore and feeds it through a series of different processes. While moving down a conveyer belt, a powerful magnet as large as a pick-up truck removes any scrap metal—including old pick axes, mining carts, and other metal pieces abandoned during the past century—from the ore and deposits it into a container. The ore then feeds into the crusher, which uses large metal slabs to crush and grind rocks into smaller sizes.

The crushed material then travels over a series of conveyer belts before it is again loaded into a dump truck. The material is then loaded onto a heap leach pad, where a cyanide solution penetrates the material, extracting the gold and silver from the rest of the dirt (see sidebar on page 75

THE ANATOMY OF A HEAP LEACH PAD

The heap leach process of removing gold and silver from mineral-rich ore begins at ground level. Once an area has been selected to build a heap leach pad, the ground is made smooth before laying down a geomembrane that consists of two layers of felt and one layer of bentonite. This combination protects against penetration by sharp rocks and moisture. The final top layer is an 80-millimeter sheet of plastic, which acts as a barrier for the gold- and silver-containing solution that eventually reaches the liner. Prior to placing ore for processing, a vacuum tester is run across the entire pad, ensuring that no leaks exist.

Once the barrier layer is established, millions of tons of mineral-rich ore is piled on top of the pads, before a cyanide solution is introduced to the top layer of dirt and rock using a drip irrigation system similar to those used in household gardens. The solution then permeates the material working its way down at around two feet per day. Over a period of many months, the cyanide solution works its way down to the plastic barrier layer, bringing most of the gold and silver with it. Once the solution reaches the liner, it is then pumped to a process facility to undergo the next step in the recovery process.

PHOTO: MATTHEW B. BROWN

Coeur Rochester General Manager Robert Stepper chats with a hual truck operator. Barrick Gold Corporation's Meikle Mine Brass In Board (middle) ensures the mine will not initiate a detonation if anyone's "brass" is left on the board, rendering them unaccounted for. A miner (bottom right) dons the required safety equipment for working in an underground mine.

PHOTOS: CHARLIE JOHNSTON

for more information). The solution then becomes "pregnant" with gold and silver, before it is treated to remove the target metals. This leaves a remaining gold-silver mixture called doré, which is processed and refined to separate the gold and silver.

Though Coeur and Comstock are both open-pit mines that use the heap leach process, there are several other mining companies across the state that employ the heap leach process in combination with other techniques.

BARRICK GOLD CORPORATION

After acquiring the Goldstrike mine—located northwest of Carlin—in the late-1980s, Barrick Gold Corporation has since recovered billions of dollars in gold. The company now operates or holds an interest in a total of seven operations in Nevada, including a discovery called Goldrush, which is in the early development stage.

In the first half of 2013 alone, the Goldstrike mine produced 417,000 ounces of gold. The operation utilizes a combination of open-pit and underground mines, which follows the Carlin Trend. The property consists of two processing facilities: an autoclave circuit, which is used to process the sulfidic refractory ore (mineral-bearing material that is resistant to recovery by standard cyanide extraction), and a roaster, which is used to treat carbonaceous refractory ore that is not suitable for autoclaving.

The Goldstrike mine takes advantage of what geologists call "disseminated gold," which means the gold is spread throughout an area. The gold is so spread out, in fact, that it generally takes a microscope to see it.

Although the gold is microscopic, it hasn't stopped Barrick from collecting a lot of it. At the Goldstrike site alone, Barrick has produced more than 40 million ounces and estimated that 12.3 million ounces of proven and probable gold reserves still remain.

NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION

Newmont Mining Corporation has been mining in Nevada for nearly 50 years, pouring their first gold bar on May 4, 1965. Newmont's Nevada operations mostly focus on gold recovery; however the 14 open-pit mines, four underground mines, and 14 processing facilities in the state also produce silver and copper.

Newmont's properties include the Phoenix gold/copper mine, located 10 miles south of Battle Mountain, the Twin Creeks mine, located approximately 30 miles north of Golconda, and the Midas mine, which resides near the town of Midas, and Carlin, which takes advantage of mining the prolific Carlin Trend. Newmont also partakes in the Turquoise

NEVADA COPPER

In October, Nevada Copper Corp. announced the positive results of a feasibility study, which examined the technical and economic viability of constructing and operating a stand-alone 70,000-ton-per-day open-pit copper mine in Yerington. The stage two open pit operation would be located near the Pumpkin Hollow Copper project's 6,500-ton-per-day stage one operation, which is currently under construction and due to commence production in 2015. The new operation is targeted to commence in 2016, and during the first five years is expected to produce an annual average of approximately 285 million pounds of copper, 45,000 ounces of gold, and 1.1 million ounces of silver.

pumpkinhollowcopper.com, 775-463-3510

Ridge joint venture with a subsidiary of Barrick Gold Corporation.

MINING'S HEAVY LODE

Mining in Nevada has come a long way since the Comstock days. The evolution of mining techniques and technology over the past century and a half has drastically changed the face of mining in Nevada. In the end, though, the modern mines share the same mission as the old-timers that set foot in the rich Nevada soil so many years ago: get the precious metals out of the ground.

Man's yearning for gold and silver has been engrained in our culture since long before the machines now designed to recover it came to fruition. And as society's ever-growing consumption of precious metals continues to transform, so the odyssey of mining in Nevada remains malleable to our wishes.

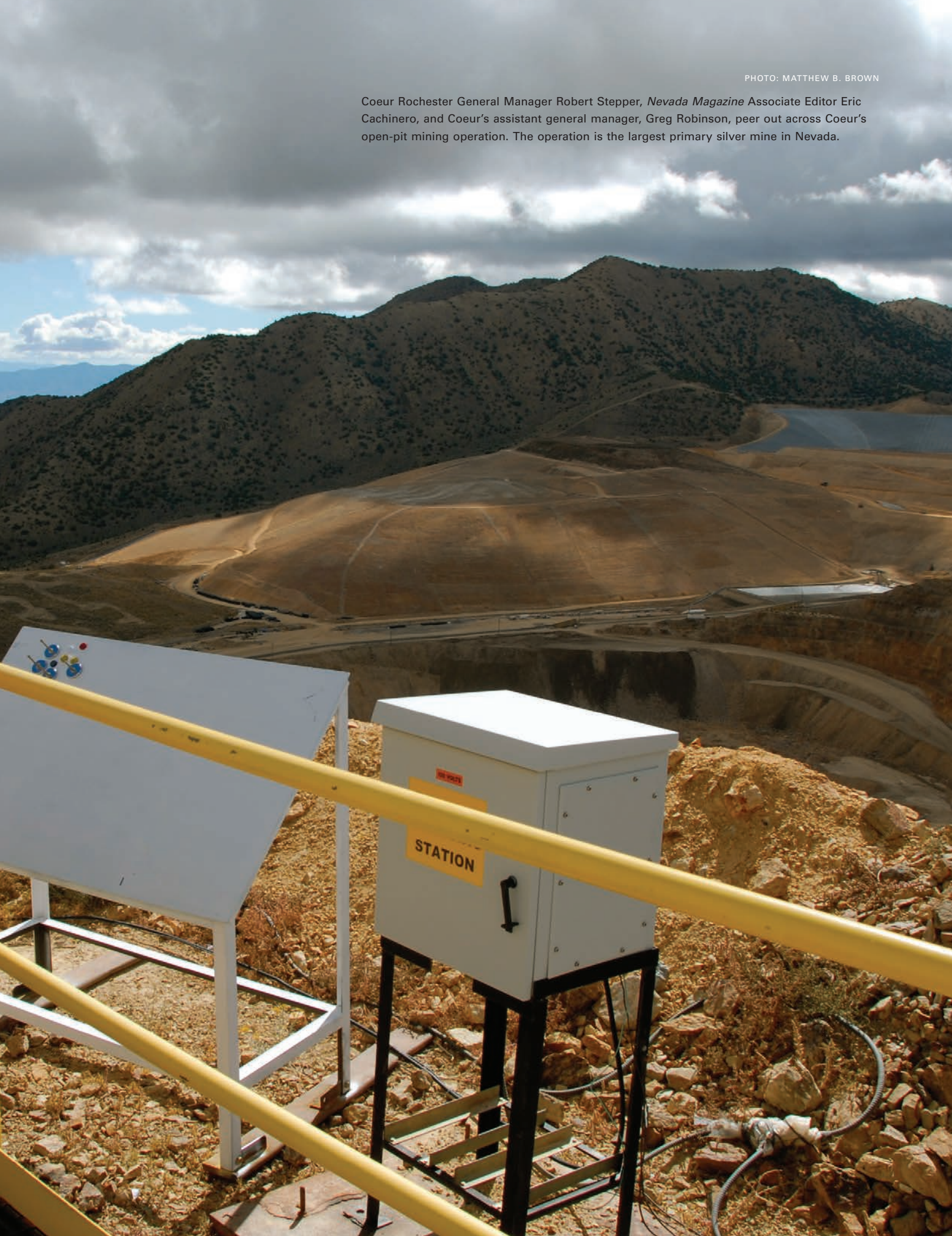
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Coeur Rochester, Inc.
coeur.com
312-489-5800

Comstock Mining Inc.
comstockmining.com
775-847-5272

Barrick Gold Corporation
barrick.com
800-720-7415

Newmont Mining Corporation
newmont.com
303-863-7414



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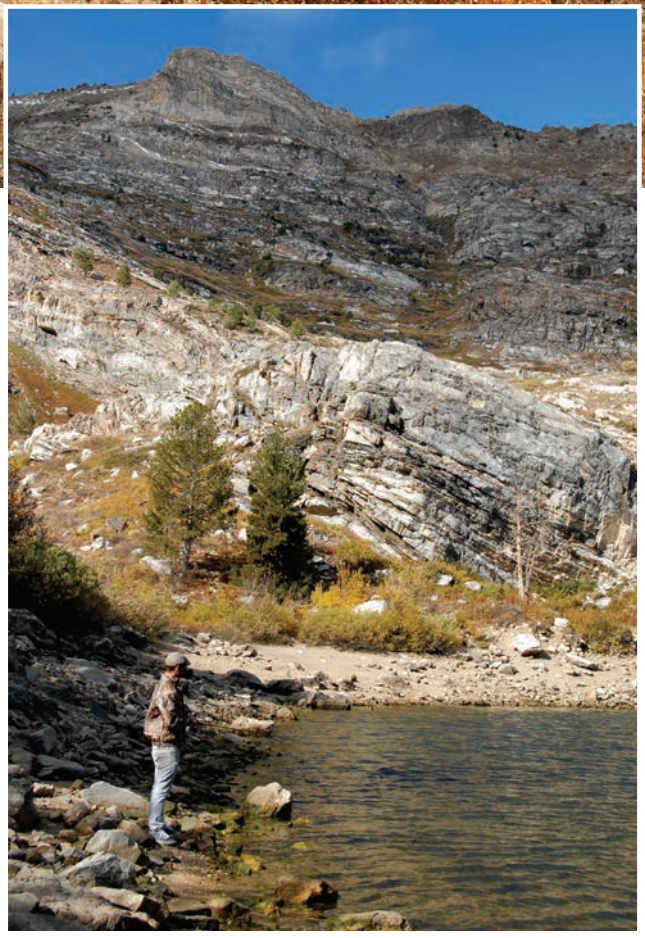
Coeur Rochester General Manager Robert Stepper, *Nevada Magazine* Associate Editor Eric Cachinero, and Coeur's assistant general manager, Greg Robinson, peer out across Coeur's open-pit mining operation. The operation is the largest primary silver mine in Nevada.



Autumn at Angel Lake

On September 29 and 30, 2013, *Nevada Magazine's* editorial duo of Matthew B. Brown and Eric Cachinero spent a windy night and morning at Angel Lake, southwest of Wells. The trout fishing at the lake was excellent, however, which is one way to make any outdoorsmen forget about blustery, cold conditions.

The small body of water, with a surface area of less than 15 acres and a maximum depth of 35 feet, is the prize for travelers who take the scenic byway of Angel Lake Road, or State Route 231. Easy-to-moderate hiking trails allow visitors to snap photos from almost any angle—the top image is a perspective of the lake from its southern end.

The natural lake, perched at an elevation of more than 8,000 feet, is only 12 miles from the northeastern Nevada town of Wells. The fall colors burst at the height of autumn, and spring wildflowers bloom in bunches in the general area, which features two seasonal campgrounds. The byway is open year round, but be especially careful of snow in the colder months.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW B. BROWN

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