SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL EDITION

NEVADA

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014

M A G A Z I N E

Cheers to 150 Mears!

Love Letters to Nevada

Sandoval's Silver State

Reader Photos

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Cover Photo: Steve Ellsworth

Photo taken in December 2013, just north of Sand Harbor at Lake Tahoe.

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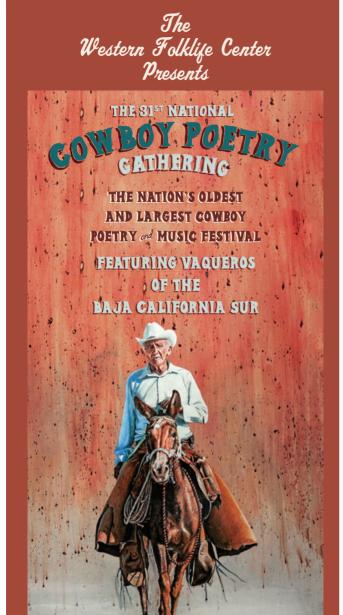
SPECIAL SECTION

Love Letters To Nevada



26 Why do you love Nevada? Starting in January, we set out with the goal of finding out just what our readers loved the most about the Silver State. And—in true Nevada fashion—they responded with persistent passion. We received an enormous collection of colorful answers, emotional answers, poems, photographs, and everything in between. Reading about so much Nevada love made us feel all warm and fuzzy inside. Check out some of our readers' responses, and we bet you'll feel the same.

Background Image: Anthony Mair
Mount Charleston



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We asked readers why they love Nevada. Our staff says:



I love the sense of adventure you can find around every corner. From the rivers and lakes to high desert camping and vast mountain vistas, Nevada has my heart. – Carrie No matter how much you think you've done here in Nevada, there is always something new to try. I too love the adventure Nevada brings. – Danny



Contributing Writers: John Peltier, Ron Soodalter

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WEB EXTRAS

- ► The Battle Born Express—a special commemorative Union Pacific train took a historic journey through 150 years of Nevada's railroad history. Check out the photos, and read a little about what the journey—and our sesquicentennial-meant to our Lieutenant Governor. By Megg Mueller
- As we highlight the reasons our readers love Nevada, one story deserved a little more room. Karen Cazier's family has lived in Nevada for more than 122 years, and she's got the photos to prove it. Check out her amazing pictures, and read her story. By Karen (Lani) Cazier



TOUR AROUND NEVADA 2015

Six years ago, you voted for your favorite towns in Nevada. It's time to vote again and see if there will be any repeat winners, or if new favorites will emerge. Each issue, we'll write about the town that receives the most votes, plus we'll visit and

present them with a special plaque and a customized Nevada Magazine cover. Send your vote to editor@nevadamagazine.com with the town and "Tour Around NV" in the subject line. Only one vote per email address. For full rules and information, visit nevadamagazine.com/tour.

For September/October we asked: what's your favorite Nevada wine bar/brew pub?

And, the brews have it. From north to south, we only received answers about your favorite Silver State brew pubs. The winners are Great Basin Brewery in Reno and Sparks, and Tenaya Creek Brewery in Vegas. A few comments:

John Bokelmann: Great Basin Brewing Co. has the best beer in Reno/Sparks. A great assortment of brews from Icky IPA, to hot-and-spicy Cerveza Chilebeso.

J.T. Dutrow: Spending a good amount of time in Vegas, we really enjoy Tenaya Creek Brewery. They're putting out some great product and being a bit of a hop head, I really enjoy their Hop Ride IPA and the Tandem Double IPA.

D.J. Rogers: Great Basin Brewing has my vote. They do a great job with the beer, especially the lcky IPA—and the

CONNECT WITH US —















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

Why I Love Nevada Magazine





Above, from left: Janet and her husband, Dennis, travel Nevada on their unique trike. Photo of Janet's family (Janet is far right), featured on the front page of the *Henderson Home News* in 1958.

I certainly didn't think I would be writing on why I love Nevada when I first moved here! I was just a child and my father moved us to Las Vegas because of the construction boom. It was in the 50s when Las Vegas was just beginning to grow with homes and hotels being built everywhere.

We came by way of Globe, Ariz., through the Hoover Dam area, pulling a mobile home with an old Coca-Cola truck! I remember my brother Keith and I rode with my dad in the truck and my mom followed with the rest of my siblings.

It was the middle of July, and I'd never been so hot! We couldn't find a place to park the trailer and had to spend a week behind a gas station in Henderson with no electricity. That meant no air conditioning; I thought I was truly going to melt. Of course, when you're young, you hate everything and I sure hated my first taste of Nevada.

To think that this many years later that I can truly say I love this state is a real testament to Nevada and its people.

Since becoming an adult, I have lived several other places, mostly in Oregon and Washington. I don't think I every really appreciated the beauty and serenity of this state until I moved away. Living in the Pacific Northwest with its abundant trees and beautiful coastlines only made me more homesick.

And after reading all the responses from our readers I can now put it into words...why I love Nevada. It's the beautiful desert and mountains that turn red and purple at sunset. It's the wild horses and deer that wander onto the streets of Carson City. It's knowing everyday when I wake up it will be sunny and the sky will be blue and at night it'll hold the most stars you will ever see. And being able to share it with everyone that I love is the best feeling of all.

I am so proud to be a part of this *Nevada Magazine* team, bringing you the awesome sights that permeate our state and

only hope that through our pages, you will see the Nevada that I see and learn to love it just as much.

IN THIS ISSUE

Our final issue of 2014 is almost entirely devoted to our readers. We received so many cards, letters, emails, and photographs when we asked that simple question "Tell us why you love Nevada." We have included as many as we could in a special section this issue, but look for them to show up all through 2015, too. There were just too many and we want everyone's "love letter" to be seen.

We've got some tasty treats in our Cravings department on page 22 this month. We talk to a chef in Reno who is turning up the heat on the local foodie scene, plus he shares a special recipe that is perfect for the holidays.

Turn to page 68 for a catalog of fun and unique items we found, made right here in Nevada. They make the perfect gift for any Silver State fan. And last, but by no means least, on page 56, we present to you the final chapter in our eight-part sesquicentennial series on Nevada's history. Ron Soodalter has taken us on a journey from the state's beginnings as a territory, up to the issues and triumphs of today, and he ends the series with a very special interview you won't want to miss.

Janet Geary, Publisher jmgeary@nevadamagazine.com

Land M Georg



TRIP INTO THE WILD

Hi Megg and Eric,

I wanted to reach out and let you know how much I enjoyed reading your "Wide Open" article in the latest *Nevada Magazine*! As a fairly new Nevada resident, I poured over the details, and have started planning my family's trip to our state's northwest corner. Thanks for the tips and the great read!

Tracie Barnthouse, Reno

Tracie, welcome to Nevada! So glad we could be a resource for your family trips. We'd love to hear about your adventure, too! - MM

KEEPS GETTING BETTER

Just received our Sept./Oct. copy and have read it cover to cover. This issue is many times better than the last one. Every time I thought "This is it; It has to be the best article in the issue," I found an even better article on the next page. I will go back to spend more time with the feature article since there are things I want to visit. But finishing with those incredible photos was genius.

Kay Loudon, Reno

Kay, thank you! We were pretty proud of this issue too, and we loved the photo contest winners. Make sure you check out the staff picks on our website for more great contest photos. - MM

HELP WITH BORDERS AND NAMES

Love Nevada. Love the magazine. Home is Nevada. While I have no "tall tales" to present, there are a couple of clarifications

to note in the Sept./Oct. issue:

Among the Nevada Silver Trails adventures (ad, page 25) Death Valley/Scotty's Castle are listed. They are in California so don't get lost. And if you do, the areas of Nevada east of Death Valley offer spectacular exploring.

High Rock Canyon is mentioned as home to "pronghorn antelope" (page 32). Pronghorns are not "antelope," although they are so often mistakenly identified as such it's become the colloquial truth. Happy sesquicentennial!

Janet Thorpe

Janet, the Nevada Silver Trails group does know those areas are in California, but as many tourists base their Death Valley adventures in Nevada, they have included it in their territory advertisement, which isn't subject to our editorial influence. The pronghorn antelope term is, as you say, a colloquial truth; the BLM, Nevada Department of Wildlife, and the Friends of the Black Rock each refer to the animals in High Rock as the pronghorn. We got our information from those sources. Thank you so much for taking the time to write us. We always strive to be 100 percent accurate, and it's readers like you who help us! - MM

CORRECTION

In our Sept/Oct. issue, page 56 incorrectly states that the cost of constructing of the Basic Magnesium, Inc., plant in Henderson was "\$150 billion." The actual cost was a little over \$130 million. Thank you, Burt Nemcher, for your awesome attention to detail, and taking the time to let us know.

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.

Nevada knows how to party



From left: President and CEO of the Smith Center Myron Martin, Chairman of the Board of the Smith Center Don Snyder, Lieutenant Governor Brian K. Krolicki, and Governor Brian Sandoval attend the Sesquicentennial All-Star Concert at the Smith Center in Las Vegas in September.

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe we've come to the end of our sesquicentennial celebration, but here we are looking back at a year filled with fantastic, once-in-a-lifetime events and reflecting on this wonderful state we call home. My tremendous pride in our citizens and love for our state have never been stronger, and serving as chairman of the Sesquicentennial Commission has been one of the highlights of my public service.

When Governor Brian Sandoval challenged the commission to sponsor at least 150 events, it seemed like a tall order, but I am so proud that we more than tripled the request with more than 470 events during our year-long party. Watching the folks of our state come together with clever, unique, and special ways to honor Nevada and her birthday has truly been a joy to behold.

The Smith Center Sesquicentennial All-Star Concert was a magical evening. Entertainers of every variety—from Wayne Newton and Jerry Lewis to Cirque du Soleil and the Jersey Boys—came together at the fabulous Smith Center in Las Vegas to wish Nevada a happy 150th birthday. Hats off to Myron Martin, president and CEO of the Smith Center and a dedicated Nevada 150 commissioner, for producing a show for the ages. It was so exciting to see young, new artists, long-time performers, historical figures, and our most recent Olympic gold medalist, David Wise, all come together and entertain a sold-out crowd!

Between hot air balloon races, Mark Twain's "Home Means Nevada" show at the historic Eureka Opera House, phenomenal corn mazes celebrating the sesquicentennial (that have garnered international attention!), haunted train rides in Ely, an ultra marathon, Nevadaween at the Old Mormon Fort, and the Pinenut Festival Powwow in Schurz...there was something for everyone.

And just as I hoped, Nevada Day weekend is shaping up to be a grand grand-finale! The Governor's Banquet is starting off the festivities, the Springs Preserve is dedicating a depiction of 20th century life in Las Vegas, and the first ever Nevada Day parade in Las Vegas is honoring former Nevada Governors and Mrs. Dema Guinn as the grand marshals.

Our "Home Means Nevada" sing-along is one of the highlights, when people from all around Nevada will be singing our state song at the same time as a tribute to our 150th birthday. We may even set a record for the most sites of a simultaneous sing-along!

On Saturday, the Carson City Nevada Day Parade honors Mrs. Kay Winters—the matriarch of one of Nevada's pioneering families—as the Grand Marshal. And as the parade and the sesquicentennial celebration winds down, my family and I—aided by my loyal volunteers—have the pleasure of once again serving free chili to one and all at the annual Krolicki Chili Feed where—in a fitting tribute to our special birthday—Mark Twain is set to regale us with his musings on Nevada and her history.

As I said earlier, it's hard to believe our incredible year has come to an end. But it has, and we did it with style, grace, and flair. I would have expected nothing less!

Happy birthday, Nevada. Here's to another 150 years!



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

O R E G O N I D A H O STATE MAP



Up Front



Above, from left: Tesla Motors' Elon Musk, Governor Brian Sandoval, Senator Dean Heller, and Steve Hill of the Governor's Office of Economic Development announce Nevada's selection as site of the battery factory. Right: Elon Musk. Below: the Tesla Roadster 2.5.

BUSINESS

Nevada chosen as site for world's largest battery factory

Governor Brian Sandoval and Elon Musk, Chairman and CEO of Tesla Motors, announced in September that Nevada was selected as the official site for the Tesla Gigafactory. The factory will be built at the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, nine miles east of Reno, and will supply batteries for Tesla's electric cars.

"This is great news for Nevada. Tesla will build the world's largest and most advanced battery factory in Nevada, which means nearly \$100 billion in economic impact to the Silver State over the next 20 years. I am grateful that Elon Musk and Tesla saw the promise in Nevada. These 21st century pioneers, fueled with innovation and desire, are emboldened by the promise of Nevada to change the world. Nevada is ready to lead," stated Governor Brian Sandoval.

A week after the announcement, the Nevada Legislature approved all four bills required for Tesla to begin building the gigafactory. Governor Sandoval signed the bills in a ceremony open to the legislature and the public on Sept. 11.

The factory will employ approximately 6,000 when open and create an immediate 3,000 construction jobs. It is slated to create an additional 16,000 indirect jobs in the local community. The new plant will be self-sustaining, through a combination of solar, geothermal, and wind power.

When open, Musk said the factory would offer tours for visitors wishing to see the 5-million-squarefoot battery plant.

teslamotors.com, 888-518-3752

NEVADA BOOKS

The Curious Life of Nevada's LaVere Redfield: The Silver Dollar King
By Jack Harpster

Eccentric multimillionaire LaVere Redfield (1897-1974) was Reno's most prodigious gambler for nearly four decades, and possibly Nevada casinos' first "whale." The following is an excerpt from Harpster's biography, to be released Nov. 4, 2014 by The History Press of Charleston, S.C.

A March 5, 1952 article in the San Francisco News stated LaVere Redfield was, "One of less than 20 [gamblers] with



REDFIELD FAMILY PHOT

Nell and LaVere Redfield, circa 1940, in their front yard in Reno.

unlimited credit in Reno's top casinos, who could present a \$10,000 bill and have it cashed without a blink of the cashier's eyes."

During the late 1940s and early 1950s, when he played roulette regularly at the Mapes Hotel-Casino's fabulous Sky Room, he would go in on a weekday, during the small hours of the morning when he could have the wheel to himself, and try some elements of the betting system he was developing. Redfield would buy a large stack of \$10 chips to test his theories, and because he was alone at the wheel he could methodically record all the numbers as they fell. He was betting a "repeating numbers" system, and on each losing number, Redfield would add another \$10 chip, also playing a "progressive betting" system.

Nevada gaming pioneer Warren Nelson once remarked about his friend's play: "He was a 'system' player...and system players who have unlimited money are hard to beat...but although it takes more time, the house eventually wins." Nelson related a story that had occurred while he was working at the Mapes in the early 1950s. The Mapes had extended its normal betting

limits for Redfield, allowing him to bet

up to \$250 on a single number (at 35-to-1 odds, a payoff of \$8,750 when he won) and \$10,000 on an even money bet like red or black, odd or even.

"At that time, that was an amazingly high limit, but he seldom bet it unless he was losing, when he would begin systematically progressing his bets higher with each loss and each roll of the ball, looking for the winner," Nelson said.

After 30 days of losing continually to Redfield, the Mapes' bosses decided to shut him off.

Nelson pleaded to be given one more week to allow the law of probability to catch up with
Redfield. The bosses relented. After a few more days, Redfield's luck did indeed turn, and he
was forced to bet the limit repeatedly, hoping to recoup his losses. But the losses continued,
and they began to approach the \$100,000 limit Redfield had deposited at the Mapes. Finally, it
all came crashing down. Redfield had multiple bets spread around the entire layout—all at the
top of his limit—and as the roulette wheel spun one way and the ball the other, he deftly moved in

and switched all his bets in an instant, a tactic that was allowed. The ball dropped into the number 3 slot—in the inside column of the betting layout from where Redfield had just moved his chips—and he was wiped out. Redfield's \$100,000 loss is the equivalent of about \$880,000 today.

"He had a sharp pencil and a pad on which he recorded every winning number," Nelson said, an indication of a repeating numbers system; "and when he finished writing down the number three, he remained motionless for many minutes... there's not much you can say to a man who's just lost \$100,000," Nelson said.

IN 1976,

LAVERE REDFIELD'S HOARD OF 400,000 SILVER DOLLARS

SOLD AT AUCTION FOR \$7.3 MILLION.

UP FRONT



- Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort is set to offer winter snow tubing at the ski area for the 2014-15 season. It will be open weekends and holidays throughout the winter. Advance purchase tickets for 90-minute sessions cost \$20 and include an inner tube rental with access to a tubing lift. skilasvegas.com, 702-385-2754
- ♦ Nordyke Ranch House in Lyon County, south of Yerington, was listed in the Nevada State Register of Historic Places in September. As one of the few remaining buildings of the small ranching community, the ranch house stands as a visible reminder of Mason Valley's agricultural development in the early twentieth century. nvshpo.org, 775-684-3448
- ♣ Richard Petty Driving Experience—a NASCAR racing attraction—at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway offers free rides from the Strip. Purchase any driving experience and receive roundtrip transportation from your choice of five locations on Las Vegas Boulevard. drivepetty.com, 800-237-3889
- ★ The Assistance League of Reno-Sparks, through its Links to Learning philanthropic program, presented \$50,000 to Sparks High School to continue a technology upgrade. Assistance League selected Sparks High School because the school qualifies for federal funding but does not receive any.
 renosparks.assistanceleague.org,
- ★ Circus Circus Reno has upgraded the following: new HD 42-inch flat screens in every room, added repeaters to provide better cellphone reception, and installed electric car charging stations to the north parking garage. circusreno.com, 775-329-0711



PHOTOS: LOST CITY MUSEUM

MUSEUMS

Native American Day returns to the Lost City Museum

Native American Day will take place Nov. 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lost City Museum in Overton. This annual event gives the community and visitors an opportunity to learn about Native American culture, traditions, and crafts.

Featured at the event will be performances by traditional dance groups and demonstrations by Native artists and craftsmen. Food will be available for sale, and visitors will have the opportunity to purchase hand-made Native American crafts and jewelry.

museums.nevadaculture.org, 702-397-2193





ATTRACTIONS

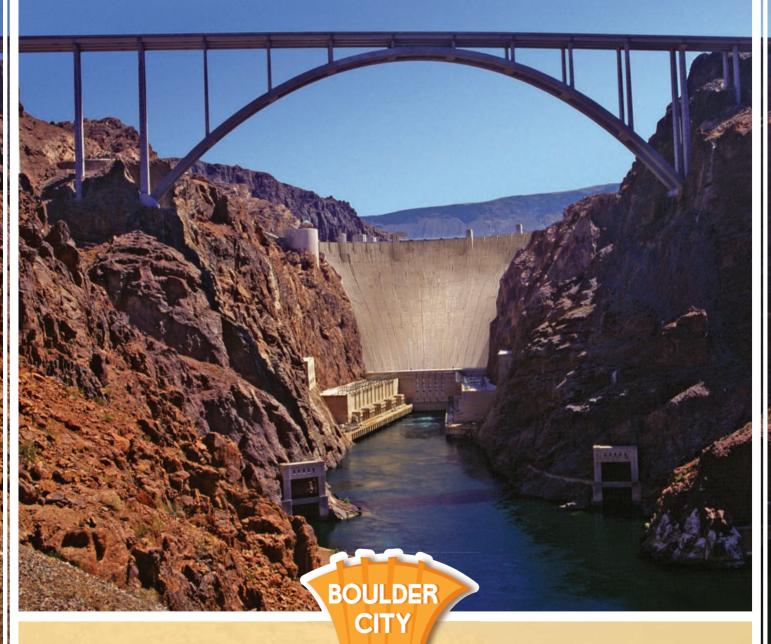
The Hulk smashes into Las Vegas

Madame Tussauds Las Vegas unveiled Marvel's biggest Avenger, the Incredible Hulk. At 15-feet high, this is the largest figure by far in the Madame Tussauds Las Vegas attraction. It took 15 sculptors months to complete the sculpture which included 33-feet of human hair that was cut and sculpted. The Hulk's debut follows the opening of Madame Tussauds Las Vegas' Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience. madametussauds.com/lasvegas, 866-841-3739

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Nevada

Aworld away

about Hoover Dam, sit down for breakfast or lunch at our family-owned restaurants, or find a quiet park for a nice picnic. Don't be a stranger. Just swing by when you want a quick break. **VisitBoulderCity.com**



- ◆The V&T Railroad in Carson City and the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely will again be running "Polar Express Trains" on weekends in November and December. Based on the book "The Polar Express," both trains offer a chance for kids to visit with Santa and his helpers while riding specially decorated trains. Early reservations are strongly recommended.

 nnry.com, 866-407-8326

 vtrailway.com, 877-724-5007
- → Gem Faire is set for Nov. 28-30 at the Reno-Sparks Events Center. Find fine jewelry, precious and semiprecious gemstones, beads, crystals, gold and silver, minerals, and more at manufacturer's prices from more than 60 exhibitors. gemfaire.com, 503-252-8300
- ♣ Former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Glenn Carano has been promoted to general manager of Silver Legacy Resort Casino. Carano had served as director of marketing since the casino's opening in 1995. silverlegacy.com, 775-325-7401
- ★ The Virginia City Tourism Commission has updated its app, Ye Olde Virginia City app, to include an audio tour of more than 30 historical locations around the Comstockera town. The free app is available for Android and Apple devices. visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500
- ♣ Andre's Restaurant & Lounge at the Monte Carlo Casino in Las Vegas is launching Thanksgiving To Go, a special menu for meals for up to 12 people. Michelin-starred chefs will prepare a Thanksgiving feast available for pick up hot, or ready to reheat. andrelv.com, 702-798-7151

GAMING

Historic Minden garage finds new life as casino

The C.O.D. Casino, a 14,300-square-foot casino in Minden, has opened. It is housed in the historic C.O.D. Garage which has been a fixture in the small northern Nevada town since it was opened by Clarence Oliver Dangberg in 1910. The garage and auto dealership was the oldest continually running dealership in Nevada until it closed in 2003; the garage history is remembered in a small museum in the casino.

In addition to slot machines and a live keno game, the casino plans to offer sports betting and live poker games, plus a bakery/restaurant. There is also a meeting space, a free soda and coffee bar, plus a regular bar.

The building is still owned by the Hellwinkel family but gaming operations and licensing is owned by Scott Tate, president of W.C.W. Corp., which also operates gaming establishments in Fernley, Fallon, Silver Springs, and Carson City.









PHOTOS: MEGG MUELLER

WRITERS

Nevada selected as sole state for writing contest entrants

Nevada poets and fiction writers can compete for an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City to meet with top literary professionals, including editors, agents, publishers, and prominent writers. Poets & Writers, the nation's largest nonprofit organization serving creative writers, has selected Nevada as the only state to participate in its annual Maureen Egen Writers Exchange Award program.

Each year, Poets & Writers invites poets and fiction authors from a selected state to apply for the award. Nevada residents are eligible, provided that they have published no more than one full-length book in the genre in which they are applying.

One winner in each category will be selected for the trip and experience. Each winner is also invited to spend a month at the Jentel Artist Residency Program in Banner, Wyo. pw.org, 212-226-3586

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UP FRONT



- ◆ Eldorado HoldCo LLC, parent of Eldorado Resort Casino Reno has merged with MTR Gaming Group of Chester, W. Va. The new company, Eldorado Resorts, has six properties across Nevada, Ohio, West Virginia, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania. The Eldorado Casino in Reno had been family owned since 1973. eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700
- ◆The Western Folklife Center is asking for donations to help bring seven working vaqueros, leatherworkers, musicians, and community scholars from Baja California Sur, Mexico, to the 31st National Cowboy Poetry Gathering. The guests are set to host performances and school programs, lead cooking workshops, demonstrate leatherworking, and more. westernfolklife.org, 775-738-7508
- Author James Frey's new novel, "Endgame: The Calling," features an interactive puzzle, which when solved, allows readers a chance to be the first person to find a key and unlock \$500,000 worth of gold on display at Caesers Palace in Las Vegas. The book, released in October, features clues that will lead to the location of the hidden key. The second and third books in a planned trilogy are set to have prizes of \$1 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. caesarspalace.com, 866-227-5938
- ◆The 2015 Nevada Historical Calendar-produced by Nevada Magazine-is now available for purchase. To order a copy, visit nevadamagazine.com, or call 775-687-0610.







RECREATION

Ruby Mountain heli-skiing experience upgraded, prices dropped

Celebrating its 38th year offering backcountry skiing and snowboarding excursions near Elko, Ruby Mountains Heli-Experience has announced some upgrades to its winter 2014-15 season. The heli-ski operation is discounting pricing for late-season. packages; skiers pay half price from March 25 until the end of the season. Weather cooperating, RMH will operate from January into April. Regular prices range from \$1,475 for the single-day package to \$4,650 per person for the three-day package. All packages include lodging and dining options.

Also, in March 2015, a heated backcountry yurt located at 9,700 feet will facilitate guided tours and overnight accommodations for four. It will be accessible seven days a week by helicopter, snowcat, or skinning.

The Ruby Mountain range has 10 peaks higher than 11,000 feet, and the Ruby Mountains Heli-Experience tailors backcountry skiing and boarding excursions for both experts and non-experts. helicopterskiing.com, 775-753-6867



TECHNOLOGY

Nevada's Comstock era featured in sim game

Developer SomaSim has released an expansion pack game based around Nevada's Comstock Lode for its simulation game, 1849.

A video game in the style of the classic SimCity, 1849 has 20 levels that take place in existing California towns, where players grow the local economy and balance citizens' needs against the backdrop of real Gold Rush scenarios and challenges. The new 1849: Nevada Silver expansion pack carries this simulation into Nevada, presenting players with new scenarios set in the Comstock Lode area. Should Dayton be a mining town, a farming community, or a hub for trade? Will the pioneers flocking into Virginia City become productive prospectors or devolve into unruly drunks at the local casino? You get to decide. The game and expansion pack are available for PC, Mac, iPad, and Android tablets. somasim.com



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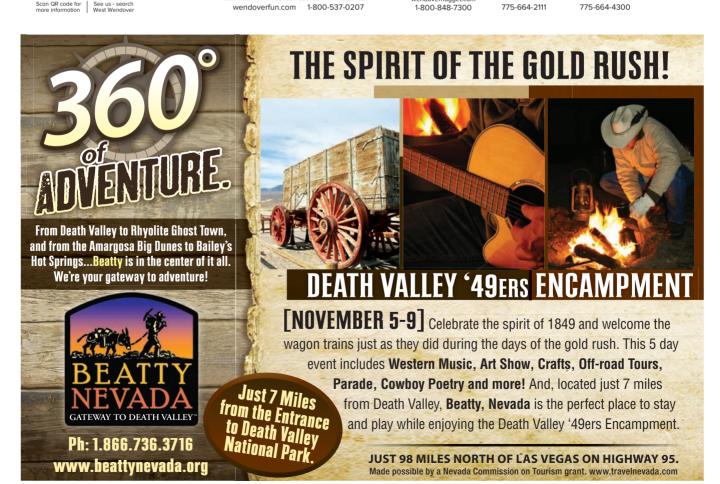
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*Add Skywalk

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*Certain options change package itinerary call for details *

GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM TOUR

- Photo stop at Hoover Dam
- National Geographic Visitors Center and IMAX Theater
- Visit Bright Angel Lodge and Mather Point lookout
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GRAND CANYON WEST RIM TOUR

- Photo stop at Hoover Dam
- Experience both Eagle and Guano lookout points
- Visit the Hualapai Village & Hualapai Ranch
- See Native American Dancers and Wild West shows
- View the historic new Skywalk

\$175 | \$85

Add IMAX
Add Pink Jeep
Add Heli

\$240 | \$119

Add Skywalk \$35 Add Heli/Boat \$195 Add Heli/Boat Skywalk \$230

HOOVER DAM AND LAKE MEAD CRUISES

HOOVER DAM EXPRESS TOUR

- Photo stop at The Las Vegas Sign
- Up to 2 hours at Hoover Dam
- Government Guided Interior Tour
- Departs twice daily

\$69 \$39

 Access to the Newly Opened Visitors Center, Museum, Monuments, and Gift Shop

Add Heli

HOOVER DAM DELUXE TOUR

- Photo stop at The Las Vegas Sign
- Up to 2 hours at Hoover Dam
- Government Guided Interior Tour
- Access to the Newly Opened Visitors Center, Museum, Monuments, and Gift Shop
- Ethel M's Chocolate Factory & Cacti Gardens
- Includes Lunch

\$79

Add Heli \$99

HOOVER DAM & LAKE MEAD CRUISE

- Photo Stop at The Las Vegas Sign
- Up to 2 hours at Hoover Dam
- Government Guided Interior Tour
- Ethel M's Chocolate Factory & Cacti Gardens
- 90 Minute Lake Mead Cruise
- Includes Lunch

\$104 \$79

LAKE MEAD DINNER CRUISE

- Photo Stop at The Las Vegas Sign
- Scenic ride through the Lake Mead recreation area
- 2 Hour Cruise aboard The Desert Princess viewing Hoover Dam and Dead Man's Island
- Champagne toast, dancing and four-course Dinner
 - *Seasonally

\$120 \$99 Dinner Cruise

NIGHT TOURS

THE VEGAS MOB TOUR

- Tour of Vegas Mob Hangouts.
- Visit to Sites Where Murders and Mob Criminal Activity Occurred.
- Geno's Pizza Party.
- "Casino" The Real Story.
- A SpineTingling Look into the Dark and Mysterious Side of the Neon City.
- 2.5 Hours of Mob Facts, Food

\$99 Experience Mob History

STRIP NIGHT TOUR WITH CHAMPAGNE TOAST

- Photo stop at the "Las Vegas" sign
- Inside look at the Bellagio Conservatory
- \bullet View the amazing Fountains of Bellagio
- Light show at Fremont Street Experience
- Hotel pick up and drop off
- Rock star bus amenities: air conditioning and neon lights
- Must be 21 years of age

\$50 \$29 Experience The Strip

SPECIALTY TOURS

Day Cruise

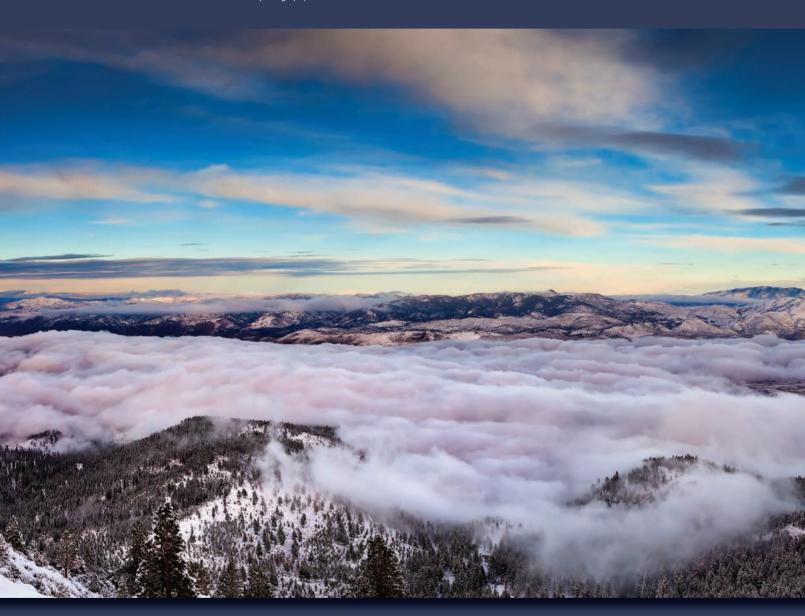
Hop On, Hop Off City Tour	\$38
Haunted Vegas Ghost Hunt	
Red Rock Canyon	
Valley of Fire Hiking Tour	
Black Canyon River Rafting	
Bootleg Canyon Zip Line	
Hollywood Tour	
Death Valley	
Vegas Balloon Ride	

sNOw Town

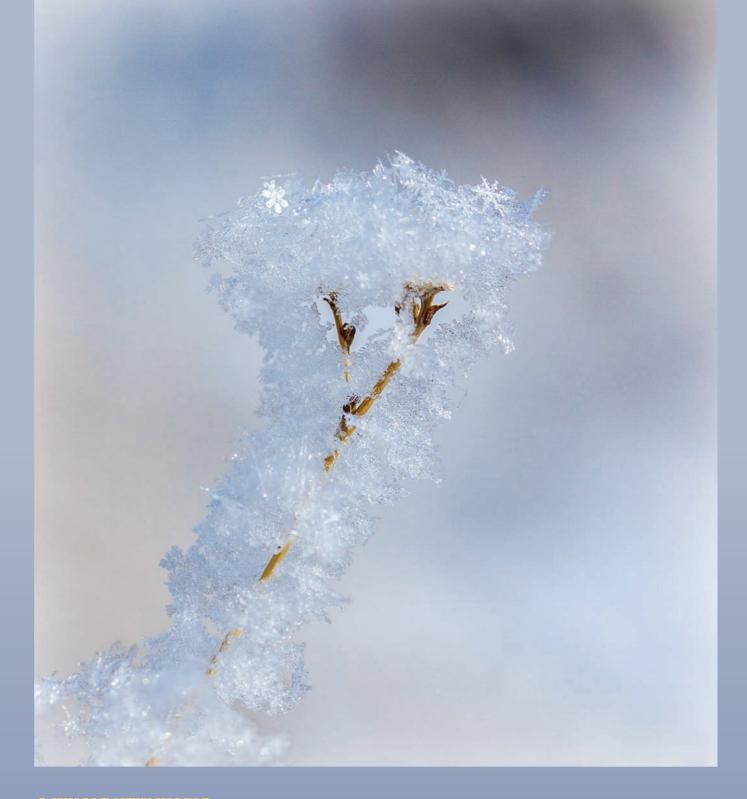
"Photo ops come when you least expect them," says photographer Neil Lockhart. "Looking up at the heavy clouds from Reno almost stopped me from going out." Lockhart decided to make the drive anyway, and it paid off in his stitched panorama of Reno and Washoe Valley. "While driving up Mt. Rose Highway toward Lake Tahoe, I was amazed to see how low the clouds actually were, and that I was above them!" Lockhart is the winner of the 2013 Great Nevada Picture Hunt.

PHOTO BY NEIL LOCKHART

See more of Lockhart's work at neillockhartphotography.com







A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Photographer Merry Muller captured this shot while testing out a new macro lens. "Whenever I see pogonip developing, I can't resist going out and taking pictures," Muller says. Braving the bitter cold, she discovered a new take on a familiar subject. "It's amazing what you can see with macro photography," she adds. "It's a whole new world of beauty."

PHOTO BY MERRY MULLER

See more of Muller's work at merrymullernhotos.com

ART DIRECTOR'S CHOICE

Each issue, Nevada Magazine Art Director Sean Nebeker chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page. E-mail your photos to snebeker@nevadamagazine.com.



FB GROUP CHOICE Each issue, our Nevada Photographers Facebook group votes for their favorite photo out of three selected by Nevada

RUSTIC RANCH

Nevada is chock-full of photogenic treasures, illustrated by this incredible shot taken in Dixie Valley by photographer Lee Molof. "The picture is of an abandoned barn or out-building in the old settlement area," Molof says. "It was part of one of the ranches that were abandoned when the Navy bought all of the ranchers out, I believe, in the 80s."

PHOTO BY LEE MOLOF

See more of Molof's work at leemolofphotography.com

STAG IN SNOW

"Majestic is what came to mind when I spotted this handsome stag so near where I live," says photographer Sandi Whitteker, who snapped this shot near her home in Carson City. "Such easy access to wildlife is one of my favorite reasons for living in Carson City," she adds. "It sure made my day when a light snow began falling just as he looked over his shoulder to check me out."

PHOTO BY SANDI WHITTEKER

See more of Whitteker's work at pbase.com/sandiwhi

STAFF PICK

Each issue, the staff of Nevada Magazine chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page.







Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse

New chef surprises and delights, all thanks to the family.

STORY & PHOTOS BY MEGG MUELLER

Nevada is a land of contrasts, and nowhere is that more evident than the Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse at the Bonanza Casino. One of Reno's smaller local casinos, the Bonanza offers the charm of the city's rustic edge; no flashy foyers or marble fountains. What you'll find is gaming, lots of local color, and quite honestly and surprisingly, one of the best chefs around.

Chef Adam Ornellas is a diamond in the rough, and not just because his food is spectacular, but because of the passion he brings to his kitchen. Ornellas has been on the job for about a year, and his commitment to raising the bar for what he calls "comfortable fine dining" is palpable.

"We're known for our prime rib," he explains of the five-time Best of Nevada winner. "Our prime is here to stay. But I want people to realize the heart and passion that's going into our food. We're trying to do something different for this town."

Chef Adam Ornellas and the Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse

Different. Like alligator hush puppies, which were incredibly popular, but also different like switching to fresh cherries instead of dried for his Cherry Duck recipe. Different like a deconstructed PBJ, with noodles made from jam, plus peanut butter powder and toasted bread that tastes somehow like the old favorite, only better. And different, like with a keen eye toward molecular gastronomy. I had to ask, too; this is the technique behind how something like a lemon foam is made, imparting a bright 3D flavor unexpected in so light a presentation.

For 26 years, Chef Adam has been cooking, and learning. A Michelin-trained chef, he has worked in restaurants from the Bay Area to the Big Apple, but found himself drawn to a simpler lifestyle, and a more intimate kitchen. He speaks of his team as if they are family, and it rings true. I asked how he comes up with his imaginative creations.

"It's a group effort; we're like family. We do this together," he says of his team, Rigoberto Rodriguez, Cesar Partida, and Claudia



Top: Chef Adam's pan-seared sea scallops with winter English peas, Benton's bacon, artichoke bottoms, baby gem lettuce, toasted pecans, and lemon egg yolk béarnaise. Above: His southern turkey dinner, with flour-dusted fried turkey cutlets, cranberry spotted mashed potato puree, spiced pickled vegetables, and prickly pear relish.





Chef Adam Ornellas isn't afraid to mix it up when it comes to cooking.

"Don't be intimidated! As long as you cook from the heart and mind, then put both together on the plate, you'll be fine."

When he started working at Cactus Creek, one of his first tasks was changing the name of the menu's farm-to-table section to Harvest. To Chef Adam, the distinction is important.

"I'm trying to present things in a different way. I'm all about the freshness, and the farm-totable idea, but to me, harvest means seasonal changes. My menu reflects the quality and the availability of local ingredients."

For those ready to cook with the season, he shares with us one of his favorite side dishes, perfect for paring with poultry, beef, or any other main dish during the holiday season.

"It's so good," he said. "Besides, you can only do so many mashed potatoes."

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse

Ronanza Casino 4720 N. Virginia St., Reno 775-323-2724 bonanzacasino.com

PUMPKIN RISOTTO with **CRISPY HAM**

Makes about 4 servings

Risotto

- 2 cups Arborio rice (Risotto)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 cups chicken stock (or water)

Pour Arborio rice into a pan along with olive oil-brown rice until caramel in color. Add water or chicken stock and bring to a boil. Lower heat to a simmer. When stock or water has evaporated, add more water or stock to fill the pan half way. When rice has doubled in size and is al dente, pull pan from heat (there should be very little liquid left). Pour risotto onto baking sheet and spread evenly; let cool to room temperature.

Pumpkin

- Small whole pumpkin
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- · Salt and pepper

Seed and peel pumpkin. Cut into medium pieces and place into a large bowl. Pour olive oil onto pumpkin; salt and pepper to taste. Arrange onto sheet pan and bake at 450 degrees until pumpkin is golden brown. Remove from oven and let cool.

Crispy Ham

- · Prosciutto, country ham, or other ham
- Oil for frying

Slice ham very thin and pour enough oil until sauté pan has a 1/2 inch. Heat until oil is hot, about 325 degrees; lower heat. Test the heat of oil by adding one piece of ham; it should come to a soft fry. If it fries too quickly and becomes too dark, your oil is too hot. Lower heat and when oil is ready, add ham, one piece at a time. When it becomes crispy and caramel colored, remove and place onto plate lined with paper towels. Let sit until ready to serve.

Putting it together

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- · Shallot, sliced
- Leeks, sliced
- · Garlic, chopped
- 1/2 cup chicken or vegetable stock
- · Handful fresh basil
- · Handful fresh grated parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper
- Heavy manufacturing cream

(has more butterfat than heavy whipping cream)

Take sauté pan, and heat to medium heat. When pan is hot add olive oil, then add shallots, leeks, and garlic. When garlic is toasted, add a splash of white wine; reduce slightly. Add cooked rice, and move contents around, then add stock. Add chopped roasted pumpkin (can cut pumpkin into desired size). Reduce until rice has soaked up liquid, then add a splash of heavy manufacturing cream. If risotto looks too thick, add more stock until it reaches desired texture. Note: risotto should not look like oatmeal; rather you should be able to see the kernels of rice. Add basil and parmesan cheese.

To Serve

Place into desired plate or bowl: top with crispy ham, shaved parmesan and thinly sliced fresh basil. Best served with poultry, pork, or beef.



Love Letters To Mevada

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE DURING THE SILVER STATE'S SESQUICENTENNIAL.

We can't believe it's almost over...more than one year of celebrations, events, and history in the making, and you helped make it possible. In January, Nevada Magazine set out with the goal of finding out what our readers love most about Nevada, and you answered that question with incessant vigor. We received genuine answers, quirky answers, poems, short stories, and everything in between. But almost every answer resonated with a sense of pride in the Silver State. So let us reflect on the past 150 years as we wrap up this sesquicentennial year, and usher in an outstanding 150 more!

In order to preserve the voice of our readers, Nevada Magazine has made minimal edits to the following content.

I love the fact that Nevada is a land of unparalleled contrasts: It's a State most think of as desert, and yet the most mountainous State in the Union: It's a State with pious. Mormon beginnings, but which today thrives because of its unequaled open-mindedness; It's a State whose three nicknames bespeak a contrast of barren desert wilderness (the Sagebrush State), the explosive population growth associated with mining (the Silver State) and the sometimes difficult and confrontational past out of which its character of tolerance and brotherhood eventually emerged (the Battle Born State).

Howard Siegel

New York and Las Vegas

History is etched in Nevada, Each time I walk in its remoteness I can imagine the pioneers and settlers that came before me. Just wonderful!

Mavis Sare

Pine Grove, Calif.

I live in Indiana and as a kid my dad took us to Las Vegas and I will never forget the feeling of being connected to the moment like I did then, and for that to happen to a 9-yearold boy, there has to be magic there. I am 43 and try to visit every year; I get that same feeling and I can't explain it. When I climb or hike Mt. Charleston I look out and feel drawn to everything; or in the Rhyolite and Nelson ghost towns you just feel and can hear and see the past come to life, like you're not alone. So how do you express why you love Nevada when it's so hard to put into words?

Michael Carr

I love Nevada because at the casinos I can feel anonymous. Also I feel welcome and not strange at a casino bar or restaurant when I am alone. I also love the wide-open spaces and well-planned roads in Sparks where I live.

M. Morgan



NEVADA MAGAZINE STAFE





NEVADA MAGAZINE STAFF

First, the wide open spaces and the sparse population. As you drive southwest out of Ely on US Highway 6 there is a road sign: "Next Gas, 167 miles on US 6." That says it all. Not even Texas can boast 167 miles between gas stations on a US highway!

Second, Basin and Range. As you drive across Nevada (east to west or west to east) you go up a mountain range, down a mountain range, across a valley, up a mountain range, down a mountain range, etc. I love it.

Bob Stevens

Las Vegas

I live in France and I discovered Nevada when my daughter worked in Las Vegas five years ago. I love Nevada because there are a lot of things to do and a lot of beautiful landscapes. I would like to live in Nevada when I retire so I could take your country like it is now and protect every area.

Patrick Mortureux

France

One of the basic reasons I love Nevada is, of course, the weather. I have been coming to Nevada for over 40 years and love it. I take part in the gaming, but also like exploring the old mining towns (like Rhyolite) and other areas. Red Rock Canyon is also a favorite place, but so is Lake Tahoe. There is never a dull moment spent in Nevada, and I will continue to visit your beautiful state until I can no longer travel!!

Joan C. Mundth

Mineral Point, Wisc.

You can't beat Nevada for weather, ghost towns, and railroad history.

Richard & Betsey Clauser

Las Vegas

There are many reasons; one special reason that I love Nevada is the pungent smell that occurs in the desert immediately following a rain. The combination of Petrichor (rainfall meeting dry earth) and rain falling on the creosote bush and sagebrush creates a lovely, intoxicating, and distinctive pungent smell that reminds of life, rebirth, freshness, etc. I wish I could bottle that unique aroma.

Charlie McKnight







VIRGINIA CITY PR

My wife and I made our first trip to Las Vegas on our honeymoon in February 1976. We instantly fell in love with everything about it. We love the gambling, shows, buffets, attractions, and everything else about it. Since our first trip there we have been back to Las Vegas more than two dozen times including last October, and we still enjoy it as much as we did the first time. We have expanded a lot of what we see and do when we go and your magazine has a lot to do with it. We have been to the Hoover Dam and Lake Mead countless times as well as Mt. Charleston. We discovered the National Pinball Hall of Fame and we like the Fremont Street Experience. I could go on and on about Las Vegas...but then I would not have time to tell about Reno/Lake Tahoe.

From our first ski trip there in 1977, we have enjoyed what I consider the most beautiful place on Earth; Lake Tahoe. We generally stayed in Incline Village for our annual trips, but occasionally we would stay on the South Shore. I think the beauty of the area is only part of the appeal as we enjoy so much else around the area including the history. Some of our favorite places over the years: the Donner Museum, Truckee, The Ponderosa, the CalNeva, The Harrah Automobile Collection, Emerald Bay, Virginia City, Reno, Carson City and the museum there, as well as the fantastic skiing and snowmobiling options. Once again, our appreciation of the state has been enhanced with our subscription to your magazine and I don't know that we would have seen some of these places without your articles.

We have visited many places but cannot think of another one that holds the appeal of Nevada. Whether it is the crisp cool mornings of the Desert, or the beauty of the mountains and lakes, my wife and I as well as our grown kids, love the state and it is always in our vacation planning conversations.

Thanks for a great state and a wonderful, informative, magazine!

Joe Pelletier Plano, Texas

What's Not To Love???

Luci Heine

I can be enjoying the glamour and excitement of the Strip and 30 minutes later can be hiking in the outdoors all by myself. Nevada is spirit of the Wild West.

yolevyolev

Lots of off-road trails.

Johnathan King Las Vegas



LVCVA

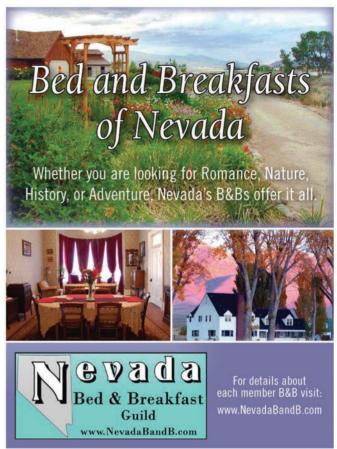


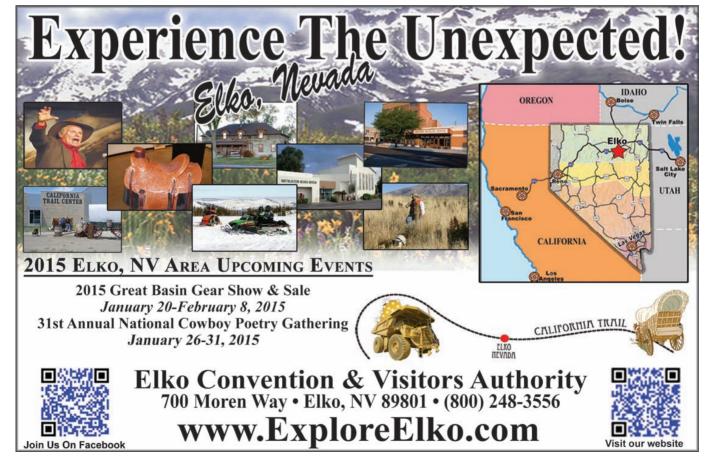
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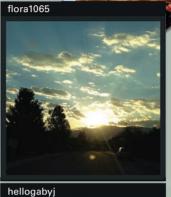
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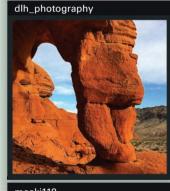
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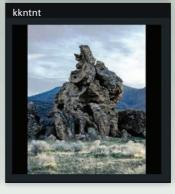




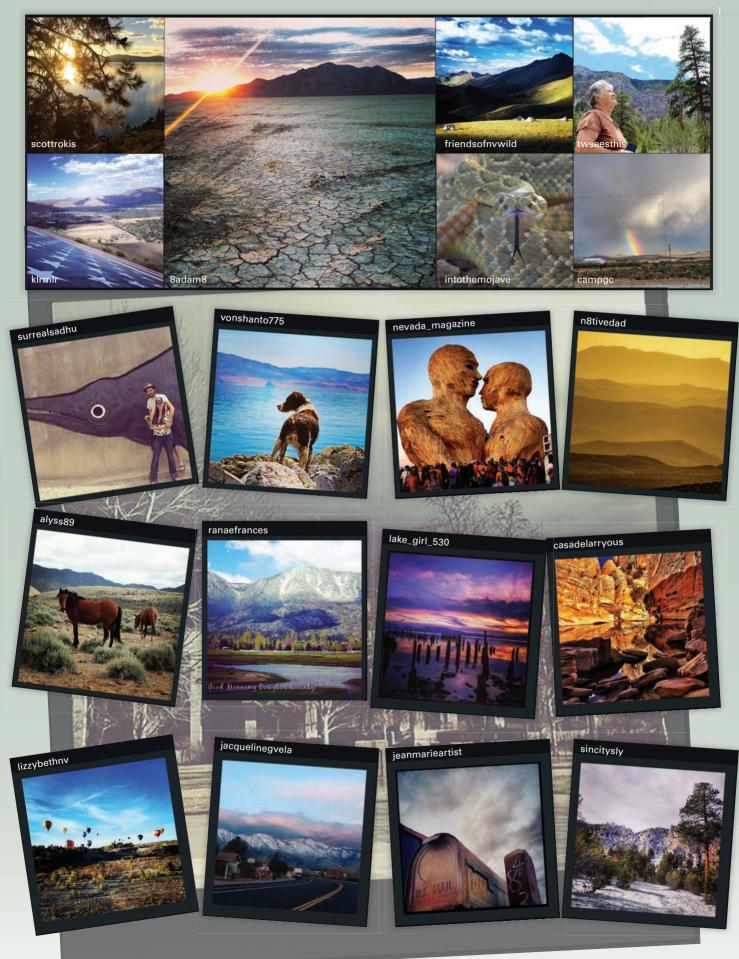












There are many reasons I love Nevada, but my favorite is I can enjoy all of them day and night without having to swat a single mosquito.

Gerald Vlasak

....because of its Big Open—its inhabitants and cultural and natural beauty.

Mark Vollmer

The reason why I love Nevada is hard to put into words, but it's essentially because of all the wonderful memories I have of visiting the Silver State over the past 45 years. Whether honeymooning at Lake Tahoe in 1984, hitting Vegas in the '70s as a youth, exploring intriguing ghost towns such as Rhyolite, enjoying Reno's Hot August Nights and Street Vibrations, or just taking in the spectacular scenery from Pyramid Lake to Valley of Fire—Nevada has never failed to leave me with great memories of fun times.

My wife and I unfortunately can't visit Nevada as often as we used to, but I read each issue of Nevada magazine as soon as it comes. We hope to return to Nevada this year for a road tour to commemorate our 30th anniversary, to experience once again many memorable moments, and to create fond memories of those places we have yet to visit.

Ken Barker

Allison Park, Pa.

Hi. If I love Nevada state, it is because of its inhabitants more than the scenery, the open space country, etc...the Nevadans are still hooked on what I value more: respect, responsibility, freedom...these three moral concepts that you have to fight for everyday, and certainly that you can't take for granted. Stick to your western way of thinking, Nevadans, and I shall come to your state as often as I can, even from France; that is not next door! I have been coming to Nevada for 40 years, and the state grew up, but still have this atmosphere of "freedom, I-have-my-life-in-my-hands attitude and nobody is going to tell me where to go in my lifetime, as long as I respect the others." Keep rolling, Nevada. Yee haw.

Jean-Yves Mazere

I went to Nevada first time in March 2012. I loved your state for many reasons. Your landscape is very enchanting. The colors of the rocks, the cities in the middle of deserts, etc. The people are very graceful everywhere. The attractions, especially in Vegas, are plenty to enjoy. That's the reasons for me thinking to come back to your state soon.

Sérgio Caldeira Belo Horizonte, Brazil





HOT AUGUST NIGHTS





AM VIAOHTIAA



HAROLD WICKHAM



Why I Love Nevada? Now there is a really tough question. Because there are as many reasons as there are things to do here. Camping, hunting, skiing, fishing, best restaurants, best entertainment, beautiful cities, and quaint towns etc. I could go on all day...I guess for me; my favorite reason is because I am a hang glider pilot and now an ultralight trike pilot. There are so many spectacular places to see in Nevada both on and above the ground. Nevada offers beautiful mountains to hang glide from and on the other end of the spectrum has an abundance of dry lakes and open areas to launch and land ultralight aircraft. Not to mention the weather here is so nice for either of these passions.

Harold Wickham

I was born and raised in So Cal, lived in Wichita, KS, Lake Charles, LA, Mesa, AZ, then came to northern Nevada because my folks had moved here. After having been all those places, this is by far the best place to live. The seasons are lovely, the people are wonderful, prices are good and there's fun to be had in town, in the mountains, on the trails, on the rivers…everywhere!

My oldest son summed it up pretty well when we were in Anaheim. We were heading up Harbor Blvd toward Fullerton and he's looking out the window at the houses going by. He says 'Mom, these people have a freeway running right through their yards!' Because Harbor is several lanes wide, he thinks of it as a freeway! I love northern Nevada!

Sheila Cartwright

First of all, I was born in the Battle Born State in the year of 1922! 325 Chestnut Street, Reno...now the site of the Arlington Hotel! Chestnut Street was later renamed Arlington Street. Secondly, Nevada is the treasure trove of whatever you are looking for, be it United States history, or Indian history, or the history of the Earth in its geology; and also the history of nuclear energy and the mining of silver!

Ace C. Young Sacramento, Calif.

I have traveled in 48 states I have been around the world three times serving in the military. I vacation every year to Las Vegas with my wife for the past 10 years. I fly most of the time but always rent a car when I get there. I drove from Pittsburgh once; it was the best vacation I ever had. I have driven from Las Vegas to Reno spent time in Carson City, Virginia City, Sparks and Lake Tahoe. I really enjoyed Virginia City the best. The drive from Las Vegas to Reno was absolutely wonderful. I couldn't believe how beautiful it was. I also liked seeing Fallon; I spent about a month there when I served with the Navy. I have been to Mesquite, Valley of Fire, Mt. Charleston, Ely, Lovelock, Pahrump, Laughlin and Rachel (Area 51). I was in Vegas in 2005 for the 100th and we will be there for Nevada's 150th. I really love your state and I hope some day I can live there for the rest of my life. I've have been there at different times but I have tried every month to see what it would be like. I can tell you I have never had a rough time until I have to leave. It's the most beautiful state I have ever been to.

Jim Gubash, Pittsburgh, Pa.

I guess what I love the most about Nevada is its smell. Sage, alfalfa, and onions.

Steve Chism

Yerington

You don't look a day over 125. I love urban hiking in the old southwest portion of Reno-looking at neat houses and gardens. I love Pyramid Lake off-season-it's so, so quiet. I love the events in downtown Reno and Sparks. I love my neighborhood park watching the people floating by on the Truckee River. Yes, I love this place.

Francine Burge

Reno

Clean air, unbelievable cloudscapes, summer thunderstorms that wake the sagebrush and end as quickly as they came. Lakes to swim in, waterski on and sleep on the shores of...but the best of all...my family is there.

Suzanne Kessler

Santa Fe, N.M.

First and foremost I love Nevada because it means home to me! I was born in Carson City and my family lives in northern Nevada. But I also love the changing seasons, the beautiful Lake minutes away, the pretty sunsets, the wonderful view of the heavens after dark on a clear night, lots of things that I would (and did) miss if I moved away.

Tammy Meckler

Reno

I was only there once, I love the weather!

Ronald Kruzel

As a visitor I love Nevada for its vast country spaces and free spirit atmosphere. Valley of Fire, Lake Mead, US Hwy 50 and Carson City cultural sites like the state museum I just saw in May. Happy 150th!

manativeptwesterner

I love that Nevada is NOT California.

Robin Archuleta

Because it's been home for my family since before it was a state. And it's pretty desolate so you can escape it all.

Gary Bodell



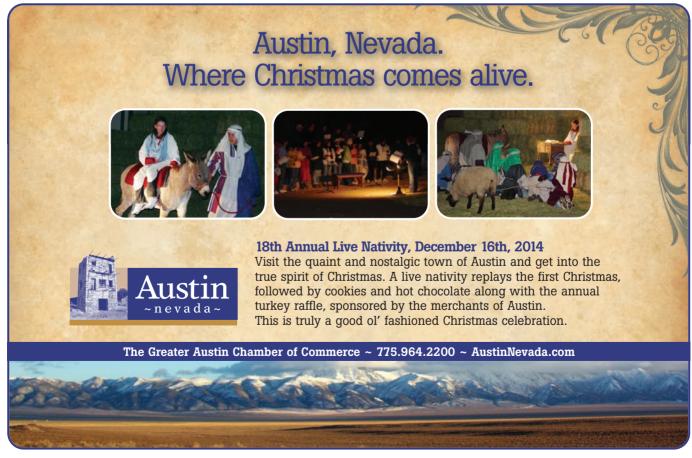
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SPECIAL SECTION

Instagram









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maaki118



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alyss89





stephanerector

shelbyscarlett











#NVMAGLOVE





SPECIAL SECTION

Because they do not have income tax on social security. It is our goal to retire there.

Kimmie

As a veteran in the late 1960s, I was honored to go to the best small state university in America. No other university was nearly as welcoming as the U of N. There were probably 3500 to 4000 students at most. Yet, we had professors like James Hulse and Jerome Edwards. Dr. Bushnell and others took individual interest in each student and demanded a high standard of performance and more importantly a real understanding of the subject matter not just grades. Dr. Hulse would say because we are from Nevada we want our graduates to be truly educated. I'm a lawyer in rural south Texas and have been for over 35 years. I can't tell you how many times my liberal arts wellrounded education outshone lawyers who had graduated from some of the "great Universities of America." I am not only a proud graduate of the U of N but always say the best people I ever encountered were those in Reno and all of northern Nevada.

Jon Kelly

For her rich and exciting history, perpetually clear blue sky over wide expanses of land, and the smell of sagebrush.

Kate Morra

Carson City

I love Nevada because the cost of living isn't too bad, but mostly I am a shooter, I reload, cast bullets, develop loads and shoot for fun. Nevada is one of the few states that allow gun freedom within normalcy, and Nevada obviously supports the 2nd amendment. The people are nice and not in a rush or shocked when you talk to them (courteous). I have recently moved here and plan on retiring here in 15 or so years.

Robert German

Carson City

- I grew up here. This is home. 24-hour lifestyle. Very convenient.
- UNLV Rebels & Nevada Wolf Pack. Great North/South rivalry.
- The Las Vegas Strip, Fremont Street Experience, Lake Tahoe, Reno.

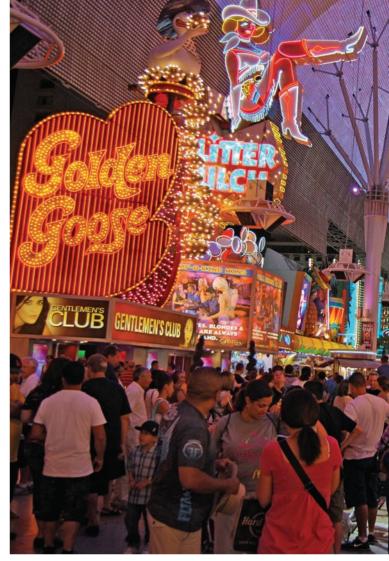
Alvin Tabor

Las Vegas

I think we have the best four-season climate on earth (in Reno anyway).

Pat Martin

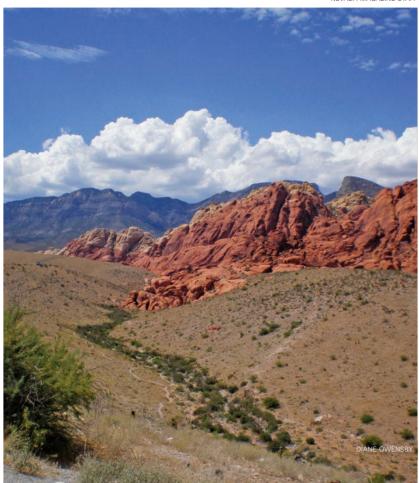
Reno







NEVADA MAGAZINE ST



Nevada Jeels Like Yesterday

Nevada feels like yesterday; time stopped on the plains. Hardy cattle; wild horses, blankets of snow on their manes. The howl of a coyote, windswept mountains in winter, buckaroos and cowboys rough and tumble as ever.

Reno and Vegas open their arms.

Petticoats and prostitutes,
ruffle the towns.

Good times and hard times
and men who mine ore,
sheep herders, railroaders,
rowdies that roar.

Will James and Waddie,
speak of her heart;
Nevada's stories and poems that set her apart.

She whines and she cries with a whinny and a slap the spin of the wheel and the toss of a hat. The echoes of Indians who once rode her trails, The Basque and the Spaniards, who together prevailed, between saddle creaks and sunsets she calls out her name Nevada, Nevada, may you always remain.

Corinne Joy Brown

I want to tell my story of why I love Nevada. As helicopter parents of a Nevada transplant, my husband and I decided to embrace Nevada when our son moved there for work in October of 2006. Prior to this, we had never been to Nevada. Well, embrace it, we have. We will be making our 18th trip there this year. Where else can you see the wildest sights in the world and just moments later, the most serene! You look out into the distance and can always see something thought provoking, whether a mountain, or the new giant wheel. When I'm at work in Michigan, or driving through snow drudgery, I think about my next trip to Nevada and this cheers me up! The picture I'm sending is of Red Rock Canyon. We love the canyon so much, we have many pictures like this one enlarged and hanging throughout our house.

Diane Owensby Sterling Heights, MI

DEEP ROOTS FUEL THIS NEVADA FAMILY

I guess you'd say I am "embedded"—it's in my blood. Nevada is where I was born, where my mother and father were born, where my paternal grandfather was born; yes, we go back 122 years. Our family roots grow deeper, to when our forefathers emigrated from European countries, lured to eastern Nevada in the 1880s by mining and the hope of unearthing treasures.

These photos are of places near Ely where my family has lived. The Yellands are my mother's family, and the Lanis from Hamilton are my father's family. Most of the Spring Valley pictures are relating to the Yellands; however, the Lanis also lived in that area in the 1930s.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Lani Cazier-Ely



My sister and I: Nancy, left, and Karen Lani, photographed in 1944 in Spring Valley, where we lived.



The J.P. Withington Hotel taken in 1957.



Josh Yelland came to Cherry Creek, in 1880 from England, and settled on a ranch in Spring Valley. He is my great-grandfather on mother's side. Photo taken in the early 1900s.

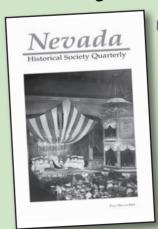


Picture circa 1900 of the residents of Hamilton, in front of the J.P. Withington Hotel. My great grandparents, Luigi & Angela Lani, are in the center back row with their children. Luigi, with mustache & hat, Albert (my grandfather) in front of him, Angela, Treasure, Ben, and baby Margaret being held by man in front of Angela. All children were born and raised in Hamilton. I found this picture in the early 1950s. My aunt and I were digging in ruins of the old Carl Muir houses, when I came across it in trash. I had no idea my family was in the picture until years later when I gave the picture to my Grandmother Lani. See more photos and read more about Karen's family adventures online at nevadamagazine.com.





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.

Published since 1957, the Quarterly documents the history of the Great Basin, Nevada and the West.

Nevada Historical Society

1650 N. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89503 To Subscribe call **775-688-1190** or go to: **museums.nevadaculture.org**





The energy and attitude of Las Vegas started John's roadtrip off on the right foot.

I Want To Go Home

BY JOHN STETZ

There's no place like Nevada in these United States. When I'm there, I feel a profound sense of freedom. Nevada has the remnants of the old west—mixed with dynamics of the new west.

The general perception of Nevada is that it's Las Vegas and a lot of desert; occasionally, a soul might mention Reno and Lake Tahoe. Vegas is, without a doubt, a world-class destination and for some, a state of mind... "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas." The town has the dubious moniker "Sin City" but I've heard that the residents of Las Vegas have the largest Sunday church service attendance for a city of that size in the nation! Yes, Las Vegas can be crazy, racy, etc., but like most cities, there is both sinning and praying going on in equal measure.

On my last trip, after spending a few days in Sin City, I headed north on U.S. Highway 95 to Tonopah and Reno. There I found the other Nevada, or as a friend up north says, "there is Vegas and the rest of us."

Even in Las Vegas, you will see Nevada's contribution to the nation's defense and technology, like Nellis Air Force Base. As you head north you pass Creech Air Force Base, the Nevada Test Site, and the infamous Yucca Mountain nuclear depository.

Further north is the ammo depot in Hawthorne and the Naval

Air Station Fallon that is home to the Top Gun pilot's school. Nevada's contribution to this nation's defense runs the gamut from mystical Area 51 to the drone command at Indian Springs. Nevadans have always served with pride, from the silver Abraham Lincoln needed to win the Civil War, to the technology to compete in 21st century warfare.

As you leave Clark County, Nevada becomes a vast encompassing and dynamic experience. In many ways, this world of rural cattle guards, wild horses, small mining, and ghost towns, is a journey on what poet Robert Frost called "a road less traveled." Rural Nevada is vast and serene and has a calming influence and natural beauty that has not been a casualty of historical progress.

The first crossroads leads to Amargosa Valley where there's a gas station, store, and little else—a far cry from the hustle and bustle of Las Vegas. Just a nudge north is Beatty that sits at the tip of Death Valley National Park. It's a small town—where I stopped for gas. There, I met a local gentleman with a sun-worn face who told me he was done with city life. Not too far from Beatty is Rhyolite, a ghost town with a unique bottle house and an amazing arts colony.

The highway was fast and wide open and the sky seemed engulfing. A short time later, I approached Goldfield. I came to a sudden stop, followed by red lights. "Twenty five miles an hour

means 25 miles an hour," a local constable told me. He gave me a warning and told me to "watch the limit in town." I drove away without a ticket and the recipient of some western hospitality. Everywhere in Goldfield, there were monuments to Nevada's past such as the Goldfield Hotel and Esmeralda County Courthouse. I walked around the tiny town accompanied by an old brown German Shepard, who seemed to be an ambassador of sorts.

I arrived in Tonopah a day ahead of my planned visit, so I spent the night at the old Mizpah Hotel. The Mizpah is a part of Nevada's past, with beautiful rooms filled with antiques. Tonopah is a small resilient place halfway between Las Vegas and Reno and has the most beautiful night skies I've ever seen.

After a few days, I resumed my journey to Reno, driving through Luning and Mina, both small towns with gas, food, and little else. Down the road, I ran into a semi-mountainous area that included Hawthorne and Walker Lake, a refreshing contrast to the desert. After spending only two hours in Hawthorne, I continued north through Paiute Indian country into Yerington.

Next stop was Fallon. The town is an agricultural mecca with a small town feel about her.

Finally, I arrived to see a friend in Reno, "The Biggest Little City in the World." Reno to me is home. I miss the events such as the Air Races, Hot August Nights, and Street Vibrations.

I love Reno for her innate qualities and her proximity to three of my favorite places—Lake Tahoe, Virginia City, and Carson City.

Lake Tahoe is simply magnificent and is one of God's jewels on Earth. I have parasailed over it, driven around it, took a glider near her and finally took a tour of her in a biplane. I've also skied Mt. Rose and taken the back road from Reno through Incline Village.

I also love Virginia City, with St. Mary's, the Boot Hill Cemetery, and the Gold Hill Hotel (in Gold Hill). Virginia City is history thriving and kept alive with her many celebrations. And finally, there is Carson City, the state capital. Carson City is rich with history, from the museums to the State Capitol building and the Governor's Mansion.

I miss Nevada, where history is preserved and cherished. California no longer has the sense of freedom and unwavering hospitality and spirit that is the norm in Nevada. There's the zany "go-go" of Las Vegas and the "other Nevada" full of nature's wonders. Nevada is wide open and vastly beautiful with a vibe of simply "Don't Fence Me In." In Nevada, I found a place and people very different from the image I was expecting. I found people to be open, free-spirited, sincere, and kind in a down-to-earth place.

I miss this place of tremendous contrasts and beauty and the souls that inhabit her, and an occasional visit won't cure my desire. Nevada's State Song is "Home Means Nevada."

Simply put,

I want to go home and live as a Nevadan.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. John Stetz-Garden Grove, Calif.



NEVADA MAGAZINE STAFF



TONY VITAL



ERIC CACHINERO

No matter where he went, John Stetz found something to love. Top: He won his first-ever jackpot at the Mizpah.

Middle: His first sight of Lake Tahoe left him speechless. Bottom: The Gold Hill Hotel is one of John's favorite places.



A visitor from the Netherlands recounts her favorite Silver State sights.

STORY & PHOTOS BY RITA VAN IMPELEN

When I was in Carson City last January, I picked up this magazine with your question: What do you love about Nevada?

There was a very popular song a long time ago: "I Lost my Heart in San Francisco." But I definitely lost my heart and soul in Nevada. Ever since I was a little girl, I've always been reading fascinating stories about the Wild West. The adventures of a cowboy named Eagle Eye and an Indian named White Feather. I dreamed a lot about the beautiful mountains, rivers, lakes, and the endless desert with the wild horses. And I promised myself when I'm old enough and have enough money saved I have to go there and see for myself.

Well, I did. I traveled almost the entire United States. Thirteen years ago I got stuck in Nevada, because I found everything that I'd been reading and dreaming about when I was a little girl. I found my cowboys and Indians, the beautiful mountains, the endless prairies with the wild horses, the deserts, the lakes, and rivers. What a wonderful diversity of regions! I love your beautifully designed capitol building in Carson City and the countless little villages along your highways.

One of my friends took me on an unforgettable ride on a Harley Davidson to Pyramid Lake through an Indian reservation. Thank goodness there was no police then! We went 100 miles per hour...just for a few minutes. It was great!

And of course I enjoyed the Biggest Little City in the World: Reno. I experienced Hot August Nights, the Riverwalk along the Truckee, the cozy restaurants, and the entertainment. I enjoyed the endless rides through Nevada with the amazing sunsets, great travel stops, motels, etc. And then, of course, Las Vegas. They call it Sin City, but for me it's fun, pleasure, amazing shows, entertainment, and delicious food.

On top of everything if you do play whatever, you have the chance of winning your money back! In Nevada I enjoy each and every season, no matter how hot or cold it is!

Congratulations, Nevada, with your 150th birthday!

Fondest Regards,

Mrs. Rita Van Impelen – The Netherlands







Top: Mt. Rose. Middle: Highway 445 toward Pyramid Lake. Bottom: The Nevada State Flag on Memorial Day at the Netherlands American Cemetary.



Wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons! From all of us at *Nevada Magazine*.



Peace & Love, Happy Holidays Merry Christmas Happy Holidays!

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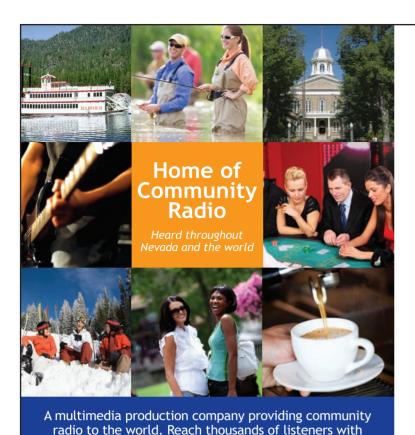
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2402 KCEP Power 88FM

LAS VEGAS GREAT SANTA RUN

DON YOUR KRINGLE SUIT AND GET DASHIN', DANCIN', AND PRANCIN'.



Santa Clauses are coming to town to participate in the 10th annual Las Vegas Great Santa Run benefitting Opportunity Village on Saturday, Dec. 6. One of the largest gatherings of Santa-clad runners in the country takes place in downtown Las Vegas, beginning at Fremont Street Experience and spanning across popular downtown venues.

Registration for the 5K run or one-mile Kris Kringle Jingle Walk includes a five-piece Santa suit and a runner goody bag from event sponsors. Participants are also encouraged to bring their canine companions, who can join in on the fun for \$10 and receive a doggie bag full of treats and toys.

The Great Santa Run raises funds and awareness for Opportunity Village's programs, which provide opportunities, enrichment, and support to nearly 3,000 citizens with disabilities and their families throughout the Las Vegas Valley.

Last year, singer and Grand Marshal Shania Twain joined more than 11,000 Santas. After a morning of festivities including live entertainment and a costume contest, Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman declared the day the official Las Vegas Great Santa Run Day.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Las Vegas Great Santa Run Downtown Las Vegas Dec. 6 opportunityvillage.com, 702-259-3700

MORE LAS VEGAS RUNS

LAS VEGAS NATIONAL VETERANS DAY RUN

Bruce Trent Park, Las Vegas Nov. 9

veteransdayrun.org

ROCK 'N' ROLL MARATHON

Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas Nov. 16

rocknroll.competitor.com 858-450-6510

UGLY SWEATER RUN

Downtown Las Vegas Dec. 20

theuglysweaterrun.com





las vegas shows



DON'T MISS

JEFF DUNHAM

Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino Nov. 28-30; Dec. 3-7, 10-14, 26-28, 31 Showtime: varies planethollywoodresort.com, 800-745-3000

Having toured and performed to sold-out venues across the globe during the past 28 years, comedian Jeff Dunham is set to call Las Vegas his exclusive home with the announcement of his residency show, "JEFF DUNHAM: Not Playing with a Full Deck," opening Nov. 28 at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino.

Joining Dunham on stage in his new Las Vegas home is his famed troupe of sidekicks: Walter the Grumpy Retiree, Achmed the Dead Terrorist, redneck Bubba J, the manic purple creature Peanut, José Jalapeño, and dummy Little Jeff, a mini-version of the ringmaster himself. They may have all been conceived and handcrafted by Dunham, but his characters, who are anything but dummies, have now taken on a life of their own.



Rock of Ages—a feel-good love story celebrating the great rock songs of the '80s—is now going to be rocking the stage at The Venetian nightly. The show begins at 8 p.m., and features classics like "Don't Stop Believing," "Here I Go Again," "Wanted Dead or Alive," "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," and more. rockofagesvegas.com, 866-641-7469

Ja-Makin'-Me Laugh—the hit ventriloquist comedy act starring Matilda and Patrick Murray—is the newest residency at the D Las Vegas with daily performances at 2:30 p.m. Ja-Makin'-Me Laugh features the duo of vibrant comedy star and "Jamaica's No. 1 Comedienne" Matilda along with her sidekick, Second City-trained ventriloquist Patrick Murray. thed.com, 702-388-2111

SHOWS OF INTEREST

KISS

Hard Rock Hotel Nov. 5, 7-8, 12, 14-15, 19, 22-23 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000

TIM ALLEN

The Venetian Nov. 8 venetian.com 702-414-1000

JUDAS PRIEST & STEEL PANTHER

The Palms Nov. 14 palms.com 702-942-7777

ALICE COOPER

The Palms Nov. 26 palms.com 702-942-7777 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

MGM Grand Nov. 28 mgmgrand.com 702-891-1111

HANK WILLIAMS JR.

The Golden Nugget Dec. 4-6 goldennugget.com 866-946-5336

RODNEY CARRINGTON

MGM Grand Dec. 7-13 mgmgrand.com 702-891-1111

LISA LAMPANELLI

The Venetian Dec. 26-27 venetian.com 702-414-1000

EVENTS & SHOWS Statewice

FVFNTS

CARSON CITY NEVADA DAY PARADE

Carson City
Nov. 1
nevadaday.com, 775-882-2600

SOUTHERN PAIUTE VETERANS POWWOW

Moapa Travel Center, Moapa Nov. 1-2 sopva.com, 702-362-9799



HENDERSON NEVADA DAY CELEBRATION

Henderson Nov. 1 702-331-9935

LT. GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL CHILI FEED

Carson Nugget, Carson City Nov. 1 775-684-1921

NEVADA DAY GOVERNOR'S MANSION TOURS

Governor's Mansion, Carson City Nov. 1 775-687-3000



CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park Nov. 1-2 parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

NEVADA STATEHOOD AND CONSTITUTION SYMPOSIUM

University of Nevada, Reno Nov. 6 unr.edu, 775-784-6852

SANDSTONE CANYON FULL MOON HIKE

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park Nov. 6 parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

LAUGHLIN FREEDOM FEST

Tropicana, Laughlin Nov. 7-9 visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

TRAVELING TRIBUTE WALL

Laughlin Riverwalk Nov. 7-10 visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

MOUNTAIN MAN RENDEZVOUS

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park Nov. 8-9 parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

VIRGINIA CITY VETERANS DAY PARADE

Virginia City Nov. 11 visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Eureka Opera House, Eureka Nov. 14-15 co.eureka.nv.us, 775-237-6006

POLAR EXPRESS

Eastgate Depot, Carson City Nov. 20-Dec. 22 vtrailway.com, 775-291-0208

RENO COMIC CON

Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno Nov. 21-23 wizardworld.com

ASH GROVE NEW MOON HIKE

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park Nov. 22 parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

SORORITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Toiyabe Cafe, Austin Nov. 22 austinnevada.com, 775-964-2593

POLAR EXPRESS

Nevada Northern Railway, Ely Nov. 22-Dec. 27 nnry.com, 775-289-2085

THE SIGHTS, SOUNDS, AND SMELLS OF CHRISTMAS

Ely Nov. 29-Dec. 6 elynevada.net, 775-289-3720

WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas Dec. 4-13 nfrexperience.com, 702-260-8605

CHRISTMAS ON THE COMSTOCK

Virginia City
Dec. 6
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

ELY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Elv

Dec. 6 elynevada.net, 775-289-3720

OLD-FASHIONED COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Eureka Dec. 6 eurekacounty.com, 775-237-5484

VOICES OF THE RIVER CHRISTMAS GALA/CONCERT

Aquarius, Laughlin Dec. 12 928-542-4994

WINTER WONDERLAND AND TOY DRIVE

Kershaw-Ryan State Park Dec. 13 parks.nv.gov, 775-726-3564

LIVE NATIVITY, LIGHT JUDGING, AND TURKEY RAFFLE

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, Austin Dec. 16 austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

OLD-TIME HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park Dec. 20 parks.nv.gov, 702-875-4141

WILD WEST NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Virginia City Dec. 31

visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

SHOWS



BASSNECTAR

Montbleu, Stateline Nov. 6 montbleuresort.com, 755-588-3515

WINDSYNC

Nightingale Concert Hall, Reno Nov. 6 windsync.org, 908-723-2115

SPECTRA

Eldorado, Reno Through Nov. 9 eldoradoreno.com, 800-648-5966

SOUTHERN SOUL ASSEMBLY

Whitney Peak, Reno Nov. 15 whitneypeakhotel.com, 775-398-5400

CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

Eldorado, Reno Nov. 18-Dec. 27 eldoradoreno.com, 800-648-5966

CHEAP TRICK

Montbleu, Stateline Nov. 21 montbleuresort.com, 755-588-3515

RODNEY CARRINGTON

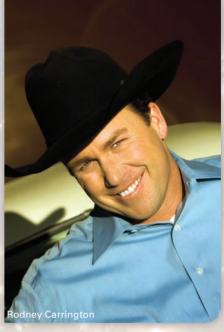
Peppermill Concert Hall, Wendover Nov. 22 wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

NOAH GUNDERSEN

Whitney Peak, Reno Nov. 23 whitneypeakhotel.com, 775-398-5400

BRET MICHAELS

Montbleu, Stateline Nov. 29 montbleuresort.com, 755-588-3515



WAYNE NEWTON

Edgewater Casino Resort, Laughlin Dec. 6 visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

THE GUESS WHO

Peppermill Concert Hall, Wendover Dec. 19 wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

MYSTIC INDIA

Eldorado, Reno Dec. 30-Jan. 4, 2015 eldoradoreno.com, 800-648-5966



ST. MARY'S ART AND RETREAT CENTER

HISTORIC COMSTOCK BUILDING HOUSES CREATIVE MINDS.





PHOTOS: FRANCES MELHOP

As a major icon in the Nevada arts community, St. Mary's Art and Retreat Center in Virginia City provides a place for creativity to flourish. Constructed in 1876 as the St. Mary Louise Hospital, the historic building has had several uses in the past nearly century and a half, and now serves as an artists' retreat and public area dedicated to the celebration of the arts.

The center has six gallery spaces, each with the work of a different artist. It also offers the use of creative spaces, which include a large open studio; a photographic darkroom; a workroom for printmakers; and an area that hosts workshops, yoga, and more.

St. Mary's has recently established a resident artist program, inviting artists—both nationally and globally—to participate and create projects and instruction workshops over the course of a one-to-two month residency at St. Mary's. There are usually two artists in residence with their own living spaces and studio spaces. The concept has brought in a concentration of fresh new ideas and creative methods and art practices, which may not have been ordinarily seen by the public.

The center offers guided historic and art tours and visiting hours, in which anyone can come in and spend time at the center, visit the resident artists in their studios and view the artworks and historic building at their leisure.

JOIN IN

LEARN TO PAINT ARCHITECTURE
WITH TERI SWEENEY
Nov. 7-9

PLEIN AIR OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH MONIKA JOHNSON Nov. 14-16

> FILMMAKING WORKSHOP WITH VALERIE BISCHOFF Nov. 21-23

PLAN YOUR TRIP

St. Mary's Art and Retreat Center 55 N. R St., Virginia City, NV 89440 stmarysartcenter.org, 775-847-7774

EVENTS & EXHIBITS

FAMILY FUN SATURDAY: DAY OF THE DEAD

Nevada State Museum, Carson City Nov. 8 museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

NATE CLARK: FOUR BY FIVES

University of Nevada, Reno Through Nov. 14 arts4nevada.org, 775-784-4278

MAGNIFICENT MINIS

Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko Through Nov. 21 arts4nevada.org, 775-738-3418

STORYLAND: A TRIP THROUGH CHILDHOOD FAVORITES

DISCOVERY Children's Museum, Las Vegas Through Jan. 4, 2015 discoverykidslv.com, 702-382-3445

LITA ALBUQUERQUE

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through Jan. 4, 2015 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

LATE HARVEST

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through Jan. 18, 2015 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

ETHEL M HOLIDAY CACTUS GARDEN

COLORFUL CACTI SHINE DURING 21ST ANNUAL EVENT.

Ethel M Chocolates lights up the night with the 21st annual Holiday Cactus Lighting event on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 5-8 p.m. Recognized as the ultimate community holiday kickoff event in southern Nevada, the Holiday Cactus Lighting is widely supported by local entertainers and personalities. One of Las Vegas' favorite radio hosts, Mercedes of MIX 94.1, is set to emcee the event with a holiday performance by famed acapella entertainers MO5AIC and a special guest appearance from former Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman.

While the Holiday Cactus Lighting event is free to the public, tickets are required for admission. Beginning Nov. 1, a limited number of tickets will be available at the Ethel M Chocolate factory in Henderson. Guests are asked to bring one new, unwrapped toy in exchange for a family four-pack of tickets to the event (limit eight tickets per family). Toys that are collected from this event will be donated in the annual



KLUC Toy Drive. Toys will also be accepted for tickets the night of the event, while supplies last.

This year's Holiday Cactus Lighting event takes place at the three-acre botanical garden adjacent to the Ethel M Chocolate factory in Henderson. The countdown to the lighting of more than half a million colorful lights takes place at approximately 6 p.m. on Nov. 13.

In addition to the awe-inspiring lighting, the evening features holiday festivities including photos with Santa, chocolate samples, face painters, balloon artists, raffles, and more. Ethel M will also sell hot chocolate and bottled water for \$1 each, with all proceeds going to the global charity Smile Train.

The Ethel M Holiday Cactus Garden will be open every evening through Jan. 1 and is free to the public. The garden glows nightly from 5-10 p.m. Additionally, visitors can peek into the factory where Ethel M Chocolates are crafted using time-honored methods and only the finest, fresh ingredients.



Part VIII: Looking Forward, Looking Back

Nevada rides the mining rollercoaster...again.

BY RON SOODALTER

Ghost towns are romantic. Sure-thing tourist attractions, they call to mind an earlier era. And Nevada purportedly has more ghost towns than any other state in the Union. Romance aside, however, it must be remembered that each of those historic towns, complete with shuttered buildings and deserted streets was once a thriving, bustling community, many if not most of them staking their very existence on a mining boom. And time after time, as the color faded from the "diggings," the town went from boom to bust. This trend first revealed itself during Nevada's earliest territorial days, and continued well into the 20th century. And still, developers, investors, and large corporations continued to put money into the latest strikes, only to be eventually disappointed.

The mid-1970s saw a number of dramatic changes in Nevada's mining industry. Most significantly, after reigning over the state's commercial mineral output for six decades, copper production slowed radically, initiating the closing of one operation after another. However, other minerals-most notably, molybdenum and barite-had come along to take its place, and as metal prices rose both here and abroad, production increased exponentially. Companies that had put their proverbial eggs in the copper basket were now pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into the development of other minerals. The Anaconda Copper Company invested some \$200 million in a huge molybdenum operation near Tonopah, and other developers and investors followed suit elsewhere in the state. Between 1979 and 1982, mining production more than

doubled, topping out at an impressive \$526 million. Nevadans awaited a boom that would dwarf all that had come before.

As the 1970s ended, however, Nevada's mining industry once again began to undergo the familiar dizzying rise and fall that had plagued it for more than a century. By 1982, molybdenum and barite followed copper in a rapidly spiraling decline, as a number of the major mines closed, causing a drop in employment that was the worst in decades. Only a growth in the extraction and processing of gold, coupled with expansion in the oil industry, saved the state's mining business.

If Nevadans were looking for a balanced economy, mining was not the answer. As state historian Russell R. Elliott accurately pointed out, since Nevada's earliest days, "not a single town based on mining went on to develop the stability and prosperity of Reno and Las Vegas." However, the "stability and prosperity" that illuminated Nevada's two largest gaming communities did not come without a cost. The decade of the 1980s did not always reflect Nevada in the best possible light. As the state saw a major population boom, it's share of troubles often seemed to grow commensurately. While its reputation took a hit, and some unsavory characters moved to the Silver State, truth is, by this time, the days of organized crime in Nevada were numbered.

MODERNIZING LAS VEGAS

Since the early 1940s, the Mob had been insinuating itself into Nevada's gaming industry. With the coming of gaming regulation and legitimate moneyed investors, however, the face of gambling in the state would rapidly improve. The late 1950s saw the advent of the Gaming Control Board, at which point, as University of Nevada history professor William Rowley







Mining continues to serve as an integral part of big business in Nevada. Comstock Mining, Inc. currently mines gold and silver near Virginia City and Gold Hill.



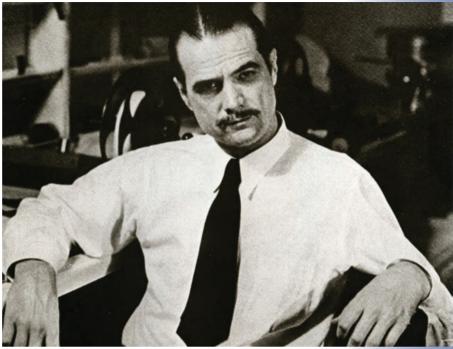
put it, "the industry begins to attract legitimate capital into casino investments. The world was invited to invest in Nevada gambling." Organized crime still maintained a strong presence, purchasing Caesars Palace and Circus Circus with loans from the Teamsters Union's Pension Fund, but insofar as the Mob's involvement in Nevada's gaming industry was concerned, the writing was on the wall.

One of the first large-scale "non-Mob" investors—and clearly the most visible—was billionaire Howard Hughes. In the 1960s, he bought the Desert Inn, the Sands, and the Frontier. At the same time, and into the 1970s, fellow mogul Kirk Kerkorian was buying and building high-end casinos on the Strip. Suddenly, it became not only highly profitable, but respectable, to invest in Nevada's gaming industry.

In 1989, Steve Wynn opened a megaresort the Mirage Hotel and Casino with partial funding by financier Michael Milken. It represented a whole new way of doing business. In the words of historian Michael Green of the Community College of Southern Nevada, "As big as the Mob was, they couldn't work through Michael Milken or the stock market."

With the 1990s came the steady demolition of the Strip's old casinos, as huge billion-dollar mega-resorts took their place, each with its own theme. They competed for top-name acts, and created what amounted to theme parks to attract families from all over the world. Almost overnight, guests were invited to sail in a pirate ship on a man-made sea, meander through a recreation of Victorian New York City, or ascend a dizzying 46 stories to the observation deck of a scale replica of the Eiffel Tower.

Perhaps the most perfect marriage of artist and venue occurred in 1993, when the iconic Canadian acrobatic show Cirque du Soleil gave its first Las Vegas performance. It was so successful, that the Mirage built a theater to the troupe's specifications, and signed a 10-year contract. Cirque du Soleil has since staged performances at most of Vegas's resorts, with several different shows running



LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

Las Vegas tycoon Howard Hughes played a major role in changing the image of the casino business in Nevada. Hughes was considered one of the wealthiest people in the world.

simultaneously. To accommodate their performances, the MGM Grand built a vast, \$165-million theater that features a 40-ton rotating stage.

By the advent of the millennium, annual revenues from gaming in Clark County were measured in the billions of dollars. Despite a trend that saw the opening of casinos nationwide, Las Vegas has effortlessly maintained its hold on its unofficial title, Gambling Capital of the World.

COOL, CLEAR WATER...

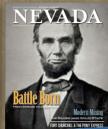
Las Vegas uses a massive amount of water daily. Upon first witnessing the spectacular fountains at the Bellagio, the pirate "ocean" at the Treasure Island Hotel and Casino, and the nearby 320-acre manmade Lake Las Vegas, an out-of-state visitor might easily assume that the region's water supply is bottomless. And yet, the establishment of a viable water source has been a challenge for Nevada since its territorial days. The state's farmers and ranchers have long sought to survive in

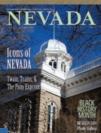
a land where water is scarce, and subject to the whims of nature. It is not simply a rural problem; the phenomenal growth of Las Vegas in the last few decades, coupled with the stunning surge in the state's population, has made it a pressing urban issue as well. Nevada has a 9-inch average of rainfall per annum, making it the country's driest state. It would not be farfetched to suggest that Nevada's very survival is inextricably linked to the search for, and storage and distribution of, water.

Much has been written in previous chapters about Hoover Dam and the vast body of water it created. Lake Mead—the nation's largest reservoir—currently supplies some 90 percent of the water to southern Nevada, including Las Vegas. In 1963, the federal government followed suit by damming Glen Canyon on the Colorado River, creating Lake Powell. It was designed as a water storage facility for the states of the Upper Basin, with the provision it supply a fixed amount of water annually to the Lower Basin states—including Nevada.

While supplies last... Sesquicentennial Collectible Series



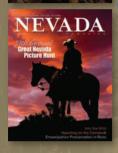


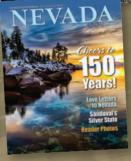






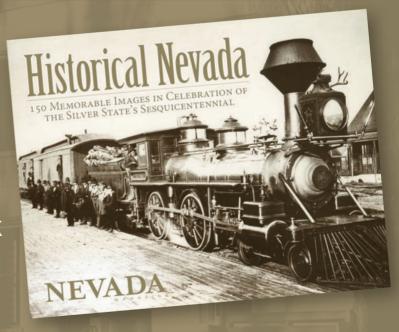






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Telling the Silver State's story since 1936.



In 1971, the Southern Nevada Water System, developed to treat and deliver Colorado River water to the Las Vegas Valley, became operational. By the end of the '80s, however, with people moving into the state by the hundreds of thousands, another solution was sought. A regional approach to water management was implemented in 1991, through the establishment of the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). Consisting of seven member agencies throughout the state, the SNWA became responsible for managing Nevada's limited water, as well as negotiating for additional water resources, operating the regional water treatment and delivery system, conducting water-related research, and promoting conservation. By the dawn of the millennium, a severe drought was already making an impact on the state, and in 2001, the federal government placed the Southern Nevada Water System under the Water Authority's control.

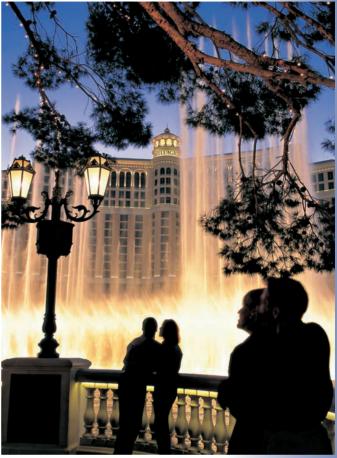
However, the SNWA can only do so much, especially when confronted with a 14-year drought that has become the worst in state-recorded history. The Water Authority's current goal is to change water-use habits without causing an adverse impact on quality of life. The agency "offers rebates and services that help reduce outdoor water use, and supports a number of public outreach activities to educate the public about conservation." Under the SNWA's Water Smart Landscapes rebate program, the state has seen the removal of more than 160-million-square-feet of lawn, and its replacement by xeriscape—a form of landscaping that minimizes or eliminates the need for water.

Meanwhile, the drought has radically reduced the Colorado River's flow, and brought water levels in lakes Mead and Powell to an alarming all-time low. Rose Davis, spokesperson for the Bureau of Reclamation, stated in a recent article in *USA Today* that Lake Powell is currently at 52 percent of capacity and if the drought continues to force water levels down, it could well bring about a cut in water deliveries for 2016.

For many of Nevada's farmers, the situation is already desperate. In a July 30 article titled, "Nevada Farmers Watch the Land Die in Drought," the *Reno Gazette-Journal* reported on the dire conditions in the Lovelock area. Said one stricken farmer, "It's as bad as you can get. It is a grief to be a farmer without water and not be able to plant or harvest...." A Fallon-based crops specialist with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension agrees: "It's the worst I've seen, without a doubt."

Predictably, stock grazing has suffered as well. According to a statement by the Bureau of Land Management, "conditions have stressed all resources on the public lands, making grazing throughout most of Nevada unsustainable at permitted levels."

As water levels have plummeted, Nevada's population has skyrocketed—from fewer than 500,000 in 1970 to a current high of nearly 2.8 million, plus an annual tourist population of some 40 million. Ultimately, necessity will drive Nevadans to seek new methods of procuring and distributing water. The SNWA has proposed constructing a buried pipeline system to carry groundwater from central and eastern Nevada to southern Nevada to



BELLAGIO

The Fountains of Bellagio use more than 1,200 nozzles to create one of the most spectacular choreographed fountain shows in the world.

enhance the area's increasingly limited water resources, while taking some of the pressure off the struggling Colorado River. If approved, the construction will take time. For the immediate present, however, as a journalist for the *Las Vegas Sun* recently wrote, "Water should be a top priority this election year, and candidates should be pressed to address the issue. Southern Nevada drives the economy, and the economy needs water."

LOOKING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

One area in which Nevada is, in fact, trumping Mother Nature—and working toward a major contribution to global wellbeing—is in the field of renewable energy. The state is a natural location for the development of alternative energy solutions. Blessed with an average of more than 250 days of sunshine a year, Nevada "has the greatest solar energy resources in the country, and…abundant wind and geothermal energy to boot" according to the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The first approach to finding an alternative for traditional fuel was adopted in the early 1970s, by the newly formed Nevada



The Crescent Dunes Solar Energy Project near Tonopah is expected to be operational by the end of 2014, and has the capacity to power up to 75,000 homes during peak electricity periods. The project uses 17,500 mirrors to focus the sun's energy, heating salt to molten temperatures. The molten salt is then used to create steam that spins turbines, which creates electricity.

State Office of Energy (NSOE). In the face of what was referred to as an "energy crisis" brought on by actions in the Middle East, the NSOE took as a primary task the "development and implementation of a contingency plan for petroleum shortages." In 1983, the agency reorganized and was placed within the Governor's Office of Community Services. Restructured again 10 years later, its funding was increased, as were its assigned functions.

In 1997, the state legislature passed Nevada's first renewable portfolio standard, creating specific goals for the state's use of renewable energy. Four years later, the NSOE became the Nevada Governor's Office of Energy (GOE), with its administrator assigned a cabinet position. The GOE's avowed mission is to "ensure the wise

development of Nevada's energy resources in harmony with local economic needs and to position Nevada to lead the nation in renewable energy production, energy efficiency, conservation, and the exportation of energy." Due in large measure to the efforts of the GOE, Nevada currently ranks as one of the leading states in the implementation of sustainable energy. The agency-which has formalized a strong working relationship with the Bureau of Land Management—is responsible for advising the governor on energy policy, overseeing existing energy programs, and coordinating the various local, regional, and federal players to ensure a consistent approach to new developments.

Nevada's quest for and development of renewable energy has continued to

grow in importance. The much-improved current portfolio standard requires that 25 percent of state utilities' power be generated by renewable sources by 2025, with 6 percent to derive from solar energy alone by 2016. According to a study by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the generation of just 7 percent of the state's electricity from in-state renewable sources will create more than 2,500 jobs, and generate \$310 million in revenue each year.

A number of schools, small businesses, public buildings, and residents are currently generating their own solar energy with the help of rebates provided by Nevada's SolarGenerations program. Meanwhile, money and expertise for developing renewable resources are being heavily invested in geothermal, biomass, and wind

energy. The possibilities are staggering. It has been estimated that "using a mere 2 percent of Nevada's enhanced geothermal resource potential could yield some 146 gigawatts of new electrical capacity—enough to power nearly 15 percent of the entire United States."

Since 2010, the state has invested some \$5.5 billion in clean energy projects, resulting in the generation of more than 1500 megawatts of clean energy. This year, asserting its position as an acknowledged hub in the field, Nevada is hosting four major trade conferences for national renewable energy groups.

NEVADA IN POPULAR CULTURE

It comes as a surprise to many out-ofstaters to discover the extent to which Nevada is reflected in popular culture. From literature, to art, dance, cinema, and television, the state is well represented and growing more active all the time.

Since its birth, Nevada has found its way into literature. As detailed in earlier issues of Nevada Magazine, writers such as Mark Twain and Dan DeQuille made a success of lampooning everyday occurrences for a gullible Eastern readership. Within the past 40 years, many highly regarded authors have crafted books around Nevada's history and geography, peopling them with a panoply of unique characters. According to one chronicler, Nevada in the 1970s and '80s saw "booming literature in the fields of sociology, anthropology, and cultural studies." Fiction has also been well represented by nationally known authors. One of the most popular, Louis L'Amour, worked in Nevada's mines before turning his attention to writing. In 1981, he published "Comstock Lode," a swashbuckling tale of the early silver strikes. L'Amour always matched his larger-than-life heroes with strong frontier women, and "Comstock Lode's" leading lady, Grita Tredaway—"a radiantly beautiful actress driven by an unfulfilled need"—is no exception.

Not surprisingly, Las Vegas has always been a popular subject for writers of both

fiction and non-fiction, right up to the present moment. Earlier this year, investigative writer Doug J. Swanson came out with his definitive study of an infamous Vegas gambler, innovator, and alleged Mob boss, titled "Blood Aces: The Wild Ride of Benny Binion, the Texas Gangster Who Created Vegas Poker."

The last few decades have also seen an impressive growth in cultural centers and venues, focusing on both the visual and performing arts. Museums, theaters, and studios dot the state, and since 1996, Reno has transformed into Artown each July. The cultural event is recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts, and presents nearly 500 events during the month.

Nevada has always served as a location for Hollywood movies, and literally dozens of films have been shot here since the 1970s. The landscape provided a classic venue for Westerns during the "cowboy craze" of the '70s and '80s. Valley of Fire State Park provided the backdrop for 1975's "Bite the Bullet," a fictionalized take on an endurance race held at the turn of the century. And the following year Carson City's historic Krebs-Peterson House served as a location for "The Shootist." The poignant story of a famed westerner dying of cancer, it was John Wayne's last film.

Again, it is Las Vegas that has come in for more than its share of cinematic attention, with movie themes ranging from comedy (the "Ocean's Eleven" franchise, "The Hangover"), to tragedy ("Leaving Las Vegas"), to spectacle ("Showgirls"), to science fiction ("Independence Day"), to crime drama ("Casino," "The Closer").

For more than half a century, Las Vegas has provided the theme for a number of television series and programs, and the number is growing exponentially. One of the most successful of the current offerings is "CSI: Criminal Scene Investigation," which has inspired a number of spin-offs. And the recent advent of reality television has spawned a trio of offbeat viewer favorites: "Pawn Stars," "Counting Cars," and "American Restoration."



Memorable Nevada Events

(1970-present)

1976 Las Vegas tycoon Howard Hughes dies

1980 MGM Grand Las Vegas fire kills approximately 85 people

1986 Great Basin National Park is established

1987 Colorado Belle opens in Laughlin

1995 World's first Hard Rock Hotel & Casino opens in Las Vegas

1996 The Stratosphere Hotel opens as the tallest building west of the Mississippi

2000 The Mapes Hotel in Reno is demolished

2004 The Ponderosa Ranch in Incline Village closes

2010 Mike O'Callaghan–Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge opens

2011 Crash at National Championship Air Races kills 11 and injures approximately 69

2014 Tesla Motors chooses Nevada as the location to build its gigafactory



Governor Brian Sandoval in West Wendover, looking across the Bonneville Salt Flats. This is the only place you can see the curvature of the Earth.

Nevada Magazine: As a student of history, is there a period in Nevada's past that fascinates you more than others?

Governor Sandoval: [Laughs] That's like asking me to pick a favorite from among my kids. There really isn't one specific time that I'd put ahead of another. I'm just proud of where the state is now, and how it's evolved—and frankly, how it's responded to some pretty difficult fiscal challenges. As I look back, I see various periods in our history where Nevada had to pivot, and to find new ways to survive. I think about the mining, the ranching, the professional boxing, the atomic testing, the evolution and modernization of gaming—particularly in Southern Nevada. I look at the maturation of the military in the state, from the very beginning right up to where we're on the ground floor for the next big thing in aviation, the development of the UAVs [unmanned aerial

vehicles, or "drones"]. Also the Nevada of today is a national leader in renewable energy. We've come a long way in a relatively short time.

NM: From its earliest days as a territory, Nevada survived on what has been termed a "boom-or-bust"—"boom-town-toghost-town" economy. Have any aspects of that pattern translated themselves into present-day Nevada?

GS: We're actually experiencing that right now with regard to the mining industry. Although mining has become a lot more sophisticated than it was back then, there's been a dramatic drop in the price of gold per ounce. However, one good thing about the state today is that we've evolved; we've diversified our economy, so the drop in mining production doesn't bring down our state as much as it had before.

When I became governor, the bottom had just fallen out of the economy. Nevada had become heavily reliant on gaming, and on the tourism that it generated. For 20 years, Nevada was the fastest-growing state in the country, and the tourism industry in Las Vegas really dominated things. You had between 10 and 15 of the biggest hotels in the world right here. There were "super-resorts," which resulted in a lot of staff and construction jobs. With construction on the Strip moving at a tremendous pace, 15 percent of all the employment in the state was accounted for by construction jobs, at a time when the national average was 5 percent.

So when the recession hit, tourism to Las Vegas dropped dramatically, both nationally and internationally, and Nevada felt the impact as hard as, or harder than, any other state. When we lost all those construction jobs, it really hurt us. Unemployment in the state went from 4 percent to more than 14 percent. We led the country in foreclosures, and we led the country in bankruptcies.

I came into office when things were at their worst, which is why a large part of my efforts have gone into building a state economy that's recession-proof and diversified, so that we're not reliant on just one industry. The whole concept of diversification moves the state forward from a time when, if a major industry failed, there was nothing to fall back on. Today's gaming industry is a good example of successful diversification. It grew exponentially by evolving the dining experience, the entertainment experience, and the shopping experience, to meet the needs, wants, and tastes of the new millennium. As a result, only around 40 percent of the industry's revenues actually come directly from gaming.

NM: The federal government owns around 86 percent of Nevada's land. Do you find the government disposed to allowing the use of its land for the state's purposes?

GS: Nevada has the highest amount of federal land in the country. There is a strong desire among the people of Nevada to have more access to, and more use of, federal lands. If there's mineral or other natural resource development, there is an auction process for leases, through the BLM [Bureau of Land Management]. And there's a very sophisticated permitting process by which the ranchers have the ability to lease grazing lands throughout the state. But at the end of the day, I think most if not all Nevadans, including me, would like to see more of the federal land turned over to the state, for us to manage and care for ourselves.

NM: From the time of the Civil War, Nevada has been a major contributor to the nation's economy, and its very survival, largely through the mining of its ores and minerals. What do you see as Nevada's most viable contribution to America today?

GS: There are many. One that comes immediately to mind is Hoover Dam, which—at the time of construction—was categorized as one of the wonders of the modern world. It ranked as one of the greatest achievements ever built by man, especially given what it accomplished in generating energy and preserving water.

National security is another major con-

tribution, from the establishment of the first test site, and the testing that subsequently went on there. We also have three major bases—Nellis Air Force Base, Naval Air Station Fallon, which is where Top Gun is located, and Creech Air Force Base, where they control the drones in the war against terror. Mining's contribution—that goes without saying. In terms of tourism, Las Vegas has always led the way in showing the newest and greatest products when it comes to attracting visitors. It's what makes it one of the most-visited cities on the planet.

Renewable energy is another major development area with national ramifications. Nevada, I believe, is third in the country for most installed solar fields, and second for most geothermal installations. And there's a new technology in Tonopah with regard to solar generation that is unlike any place else in the world. Looking

"I'm just proud of where the state is and how it's evolved."

ahead, within the next five to 10 years, you'll see Nevada leading in two other evolving areas. For one, Nevada was one of six states designated as a development and training site for UAVs. And finally, there's data storage. Most people are unaware that the largest data storage facility in the world is in Las Vegas. It's called Switch Supernap. Free from the threat of flood, tornado, hurricane, and earthquake, Las Vegas is the perfect environment for the storage of data, which is fast becoming a vital component of the future. That's just a smattering of things, both historically and currently, that reflect some of Nevada's contributions to the nation.

NM: When many Americans think of Nevada, Las Vegas and Reno are the names that most often come to mind. What other cities, towns, or natural sites could you point to as deserving of special mention?

GS: [Laughs] That would be impos-

sible! I travel extensively through Nevada, and I have so many favorite places and people to visit throughout the state. But I'll try to limit my comments, and mention just some of them. One special place that people love to visit in northern Nevada is Virginia City. It's a historical town—the scene of the fabulous Comstock Lode—and most of it is preserved. You can have an authentic western experience there.

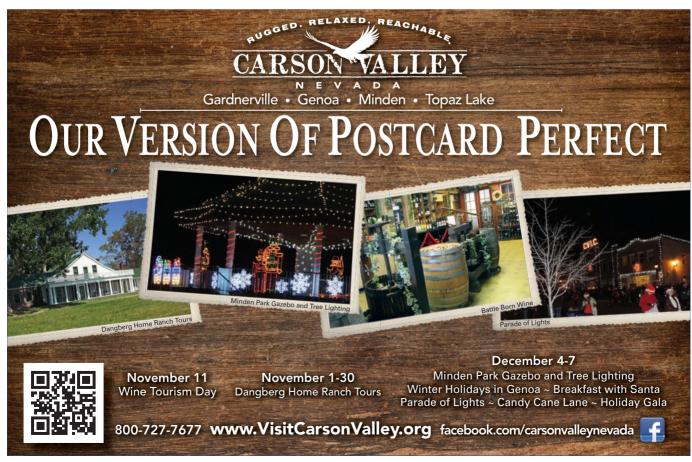
Another one of my favorite places is Pyramid Lake. They've just discovered 11,000-year-old petroglyphs, which are as old as anything found in North America. It's also a great place to visit for people to learn about the state's Native Americans and their history. The famous scout and soldier John C. Frémont visited Pyramid Lake when he passed through Nevada in the early 1800s. It's just a special place, and when you visit, you'll see it just as Frémont saw it, and the Native Americans before him.

Elko is always a great stop, especially during the annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering. I guess you could call it a western religious experience! Elko also has the Star, which I consider to be the best Basque restaurant in Nevada. Boulder City is another place I love to visit, given its history with Hoover Dam. It is, I believe, the only community in Nevada that doesn't have gaming. It does, however, have a train museum, which is one of the best you'll ever see.

Hawthorne is a small community in central Nevada that started out as a military ammunition depot, but if you've ever been there on Armed Forces Day, they host a parade, and honor the men and women of the armed services in a way that I've never seen anywhere else. In nearby Tonopah there's the Mizpah Hotel, which was once the tallest building in Nevada. There's a lot of history in that hotel, and it's been completely restored to the way it looked when it opened back in 1905.

The state has great state parks as well. There's the Valley of Fire, which has its own share of amazing petroglyphs. The Great Basin National Park near Ely is also a very special place. The Ichthyosaur is the





official state fossil, and a state park in central Nevada has a completely preserved Ichthyosaur skeleton. It's right next to a ghost town named Berlin, where a number of the original buildings are still standing. But there are so many other places worth visiting—Ely, Fallon...[laughing] and sure as anything, someone from Wells, or Winnemucca, or Battle Mountain, is going to say, "Why didn't you mention us?"

Red Rock Canyon is also a "can't-miss" scenic experience. The hiking and scenery are breathtaking. And Lake Tahoe, which is one of the prettiest places on earth.

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the tremendous outdoor activities Nevada offers, in the way of hiking, biking, camping, hunting, and fishing. There are pristine rivers and lakes, amazing mountain ranges, truly stunning scenery. Visitors are coming to Nevada in increasing numbers—especially the millenials—to take advantage of the state's natural beauty. You can be in the middle of Las Vegas, with all the lights, sights and sounds of a world-class gaming and entertainment hub, and within 20 minutes, be standing where you can enjoy as much solitude as you could ever ask for.

NM: In what ways do you see Nevada keeping in touch with, and preserving, its frontier past?

GS: We automatically preserve our past because it never really left us; it's still very much a part of our way of life. There are fourth- and fifth-generation families that are out there ranching or farming the land. I think there are 17 or 18 Native American tribes in the state whose ancestors have been here thousands of years. So you really don't have to go far to share an authentic Western experience, with unbroken ties to the past. That's part of what makes Nevada really special.

NM: I would imagine the old families still maintain a strong sense of frontier independence.

GS: They absolutely do. Just recently, a four- or five-generation family completed what they called a "grass march." They travelled by horse and wagon from Battle Mountain to Carson City, which is about a 180- or 200-mile trek. They didn't make

the grueling trip for recreation, but to emphasize some concerns they had about how they were being treated by the BLM. If you'd seen the little two and three year olds, and then if you saw the patriarch and matriarch of the family, you would have been really impressed. They talked about how they'd been working that land since the 1860s. It really made me proud. These



"Visitors are coming to Nevada in increasing numbers—especially the millenials—to take advantage of the state's natural beauty."

folks, and so many like them, are out there raising their cattle and their crops just as their forebears did more than a century and a half ago.

All of this is not to say we don't have our special events to commemorate Nevada's history. One of my favorites is the Stewart Father's Day Powwow, which is held at the historic Stewart Indian School, just outside of Carson City. It's one of only two preserved Native American boarding schools still standing in the country, as far as I know, and I'm firmly determined to help in its preservation. I took my dad to

the Powwow two years ago, and I try to go every year, for the tribal dancing and the Native American crafts and food. During its operation, students were enrolled from tribes all over the southwestern United States. I don't believe this is an especially proud part of history for the U.S., because at the time, young men and women were removed from their reservations and brought to the Stewart Indian School. It was in operation for 90 years, from 1890 right up until 1980, and is open for tours, both online and in person.

NM: What do you see as Nevada's future path, both immediate and long-range? How do you visualize your role in making it happen?

GS: I think Nevada's future is bright. One essential vision I have for Nevada's future is to have an educated and healthy citizenry. We haven't ranked well in education and health, and I have a lot of programs that I have pushed for in the last session of the state legislature, and will continue to push for in the upcoming legislative session, in terms of strengthening our young people's K-through-12 education. Nevada's demographic makeup has changed radically over the past few years. People are coming here in increasing numbers for the job opportunities, and as a result, the state population is much different than it was 50, or even 20, years ago. For example, the Clark County School District is one of the five largest in the country, and only around 38 percent of the school population is Caucasian. There has been a tremendous growth in the Hispanic population in the state, and there are more than 150 languages now being spoken in the Clark County School District alone. We must work to ensure that we can meet the needs of this newly diverse population in our schools.

Also, I plan to continue the growth of a vibrant and diverse economy, safe and livable communities, and efficient government. We are now the second-fastest growing state in the country when it comes to job growth. As chairman of our Economic Development Board, I've been working really hard to attract manufacturing and technology-based



MEGG MUELLER

Governor Brian Sandoval and Lt. Governor Brian K. Krolicki take a ride in the General's Jeep at the Historic Wendover Airfield before embarking on a tour of the airfield that was the once the home of the Enola Gay.

companies to Nevada. Both northern and southern Nevada are great logistical hubs for distribution of goods throughout the western United States. A lot of these bigger companies are starting to locate here to distribute their goods.

And we are growing. Traditionally, Nevada has been called the Silver State; some people are now referring to us as the "Start-up State" because we've really begun to engage in innovations in technology. And with the new aviation programs, we see ourselves as a growing hub for the manufacture and testing of UAVs. And we're doing nothing but growing in the area of renewable energy as well.

Many companies are recognizing that this is not only a great place to do business, but also a great place to raise a family and enjoy a high quality of life. I'm very pleased but know that we must continue moving Nevada forward.

NM: At one point, you stated that you have the best job in the world. Do you still feel that way, now that you've sat in the governor's chair for four years?

GS: Absolutely. It is such a blessing to be able to serve as the governor of this state at this time. I just held a cabinet meeting, and I'm really excited about my cabinet members' creativity, and their efforts to make sure the state is the best that it can be. It's a team effort. The people of Nevada are feeling better than they did, but nobody's satisfied with where we are. We know we have a ways to go, and we're going to continue to strengthen our K-through-12, strengthen our higher education system, and ensure that every child who grows up here has opportunity.



Gifting the Spirit of the Silver State

BUY LOCAL, GIVE LOCAL, SUPPORT LOCAL.



EBIC CACHINERO

Buy Nevada First Founder and Owner Dave Asher and Store Manager Shelly Jackson pose with several Nevada-themed gift baskets available for purchase at the Reno store.

BY NEVADA MAGAZINE

Giving. The word encompasses so much during the holiday season; joy, sharing, spending time with loved ones. And although the holidays evoke the gifting spirit, shopping for the perfect gift for that special someone can often times evoke other, less-desirable spirits, like stress. But this year, take a bit of stress out of your holiday shopping by purchasing items made exclusively in the Silver State.

With the increasingly popular trend of giving back to the local economy, supporting local products and businesses is as simple as getting your holiday shopping done by buying in Nevada first. And to accommodate this trend, several business across the state are selling only products that have been made in Nevada.

BUY NEVADA FIRST

As a champion for the support of Silver State businesses, the Buy Nevada First Gift Shop and Visitor's Center—located in Reno Town Mall—has been making strides in supporting the buy-local movement. The shop sells only products that are Nevada made or grown, and locally owned. They operate as a consignment store for vendors across the state to sell their art, music, books, food products, and even local inventions.

Dave Asher, founder and owner of Buy Nevada First, sees the impact buying local has on the local economy and jobs, and hopes it will influence Silver State businesses. "We want to link to every business that is Nevada-based and locally owned," Asher says. "We're Nevadans supporting Nevadans."

As a third-generation Renoite, Asher truly has roots in the local com-

munity. "What's really cool is most of this stuff is one-of-a-kind, made by hand, so it's made with love," Asher says. "We're selling Nevada love in here, so take some Nevada love with you."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Buy Nevada First
Located in Reno Town Mall
4001 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502
buynevadafirst.com, 775-384-3153

Nevada-Made Catalog

Ditch the stress and embrace the Nevada love in your holiday shopping this year and consider some of these Nevada gifts. All of these items can be purchased at the Buy Nevada First store in Reno, or by visiting each product's respective website. Prices reflect those of the Buy Nevada First store.



PLUMB2

Level Hangers \$9.95

This fully adjustable picture hanger allows for easy and precise installation of wall décor without the need for special tools.

plumb2hangers.com, 775-691-5072



EZ GRIP

EZ Grip Pen \$2 each, or six for \$10

As a solution to writers' cramp, the EZ Grip Pen is perfect for people with arthritis. The pen is refillable, flexible, and comes in multiple colors. **buyezgrip.com**, **775-267-7554**



B-DUBB'S

Sweet Heat Extreme\$4.55Sweet Heat Chocolate Inferno\$4.70Sweet Heat Inferno\$4.70Chow-Chow Sweet Vegetable Relish\$5.85

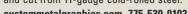
From ghost pepper hot sauce to vegetable relish, B-Dubb's products mix sweet and heat in creative and tasty ways.

sweetheatnv.com, 775-217-5888

CUSTOM METAL GRAPHICS

Fish Sculpture

Custom Metal Graphics specializes in quality yard art and custom cutouts made to order and cut from 11-gauge cold-rolled steel. custommetalgraphics.com, 775-530-0102





CLOCKWORK MONSTER STEAMPUNK JEWELRY

Octopus Earrings Postage Stamp Necklace \$25

Clockwork Monster creates one-of-a-kind steampunk and dieselpunk jewelry. Artist Shelly Jackson makes pieces that can be worn to the office or to add a finishing touch to your costume.

clockworkmonster.indiereno.org, 775-240-8053







CAFE PERLA COFFEE

El Capitán Medium-Dark, 12 oz. \$9.99 Empalizada Dark Roast, 12 oz. \$9.99 House Reserve Medium Roast, 12 oz. \$9.99

Purchased directly from farmers in Peru and roasted in Reno, Cafe Perla coffee is organic, sustainably harvested, and of specialty grade. cafe-perla.com, 775-240-1341



MT. ROSE DRINKS

Classic Margarita Mix, 1 qt. \$5.45 Strawberry Margarita Mix, 1 qt. \$5.45 Sweet & Sour Mix, 1 qt. \$5.45 Agave Nectar, 25 oz. \$10

Mt. Rose Drinks offers a plethora of beverage mixes and tasty drink additives.

mtrosedrinks.com

JJ'S CREATIONS

Homemade Soap \$6.50 Bottle Lamps \$50

JJ's Creations has an entire line of homemade soaps, lamps, note cards, matted and framed photos, and canvas art. Types of soap include bayberry spice, creamy eucalyptus, cucumber melon, lavender, lemon grass, and more.

facebook.com/jjscreations, 775-233-6453



LOGAN'S WOOD & GLASS CREATIONS

Etched Shot Glass \$5.75 Etched Glass Mug \$13.75

Logan's Wood & Glass Creations specializes in barware, cutting boards, glassware, kitchenware, and more.

loganswoodnglass.storenvy.com



4 GOODNESS SAKE

Apple Cider Vinegar, 5 oz. \$5
Pear Jelly, 8 oz. \$7
Cherry Limoncello Jam, 8 oz. \$7
Midnight Pomegranate Soap \$7
Midnight Pomegranate Lotion \$7
Shaving Soap \$7
Spiced Plum Jam, 16 oz. \$11.50

4 Goodness Sake is a family-owned business specializing in homemade jams, jellies, syrups, soaps, and more. The business uses homegrown Jonathan apples, Concord grapes, English lavender, Bartlett pears, plums, prickly pears, and quince.

ectownusa.net/livelocalrenosparks/mem_4goodnesssake, 775-338-0603

JOHANNE'S HANDMADE TREASURES

Crocheted Bumble Bee Lovey \$25 Crocheted Lady Bug Lovey \$30 Crocheted Elephant Lovey \$30

Johanne's Handmade Treasures offers an assortment of crocheted items, including hats, scarves, and clothing for babies.

ectownusa.net/livelocalrenosparks/mem_johannestreasur, 775-972-3554









KIMMIE CANDY COMPANY

Natural ChocoRocks \$2.98
Sunbursts Chocolate-Covered Sunflower Kernels \$7.48
Nevada Container ChocoRocks \$13.60
Natural Dark Chocolate-Covered Pistachios \$17.42

Kimmie Candy Company's mission is "to create unique, delicious, high-quality products for demanding, loyal customers." The Reno-based candy company is doing just that by offering a selection of delectable chocolates and treats. kimmiecandy.com, 775-284-9200

MOTIYOGACHI

Exercise Video \$20

This fun, low-impact movement class is designed to strengthen the body, energize the spirit, and calm the mind. The ethos combines tribal movements with the meditative movements of tai chi, chi kung, and yoga. **motiyogachi.com**, **866-482-4244**





NATIVE NEVADAN CLOTHING COMPANY

T-Shirt \$20 Long-Sleeved Shirt \$25

The Native Nevadan brand reflects the pride that Nevadans share. The company sells men and women's shirts, hoodies, caps, and more, that are designed and made in Nevada.

nativenevadanclothing.com, 775-750-9596



PONSART PHOTOGRAPHY AND PAINTING

Reno Postcard \$1
Coaster \$3.50
Bird Photo Greeting Card \$3.50
Notecard Set \$10 (set of 4)

Pamela Ponsart is a Reno photographer who specializes in photo greeting and notecards, postcards, photo coasters, and photo prints.

etsy.com/people/ponsartpamela

PEAVINE POTTERY

Batter Bowl \$27 Pie Plate \$35 Rolling Pin \$50

Peavine Pottery offers an assortment of handmade kitchen and specialty pottery and wooden items that make great gifts for cooks and decorators alike.

775-677-1103



PURPLE GODDESS DESIGN

Yarn \$22

Do you like knitting or crocheting? Purple Goddess Design offers top-quality, handcrafted knitting supplies, jewelry, and more. etsy.com/shop/purplegoddessdesign



SAWDUST ALPACAS

Small Teddy Bear \$33.95 Large Teddy Bear \$39.95 100 Percent Alpaca Yarn \$22.95 Alpaca Blanket \$319.95

All Sawdust Alpacas products are made with genuine alpaca fiber, taken from alpacas raised in Reno. The business sells alpaca hats, scarves, sweaters, yarn, blankets, and stuffed bears.

sawdustalpacas.com, 775-972-4201

TAHOE TOFFEE

Coffee Toffee, 4 oz. \$6
Caramel Corn, 5 oz. \$6
Tahoe Toffee, 4 oz. \$9
Tahoe Toffee, 8 oz. \$12

Founder Mindy Miller created Tahoe Toffee with the desire to share her original recipes with the world. From sweet butter hard toffee with chocolate and chopped almonds to hand-dipped honeycomb, Tahoe Toffee offers an assortment of treats that are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth. tahoetoffee.com, 775-790-1271



BEAD SKULLS BY ROSS BEVANS

Multiswirl Large Skull \$75 Diamond Small Skull \$70

Comstock Cemetery Foundation Chairman Ross Bevans created these beaded skulls. These unusual works of art make for creative and festive holiday decorations. ectownusa.net/livelocalrenosparks/mem_thebeadheaded, 775-313-3113



Las Vegas Distillery

Nevada 150 Straight Bourbon Whiskey

\$100

Take a sip of southern Nevada with Nevada 150 Straight Bourbon Whiskey, produced by Las Vegas Distillery. The bourbon was created with Nevada's sesquicentennial in mind, and is distilled and bottled exclusively in the Silver State. Check out lasvegasdistillery.com to order.

The distillery is open for guided tours Monday-Saturday.

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Las Vegas Distillery

7330 Eastgate Road, # 100 Henderson, NV 89011 lasvegasdistillery.com, 702-629-7534





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YE OLDE TURNINGS

Seam Ripper \$20 Toothbrush And Stand \$35 Sedona Gold Rollerball Pen \$48 Mach3 Razor & Stand \$55 30.06 Pen & Pencil \$90

Have you ever seen a pen and pencil made from a genuine 30.06-caliber rifle casing? How about a one-of-a-kind Mach3 razor with matching stand? These custom handmade pens and gift items are perfect for that person who just seems to have everything. 775-425-5967



WOLF'S FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Giclée Print On Wood \$75

Since 1966, Wolf's Fine Art Photography has been known for landscape, animal, flower, and stone images printed on canvas, ceramic tiles, wood, fabric, glass, plates, and more. wolf-products.com, 775-267-3131



MORE NEVADA-THEMED BUSINESSES & LOCATIONS

FLAG STORE SIGN & BANNER

Since 1986, the Flag Store has been manufacturing and distributing flags, flagpoles, signs, and banners. The Sparks location also carries a large selection of Nevada-themed apparel and locally produced items.

eventflags.com, 775-355-0506

MADE IN NEVADA

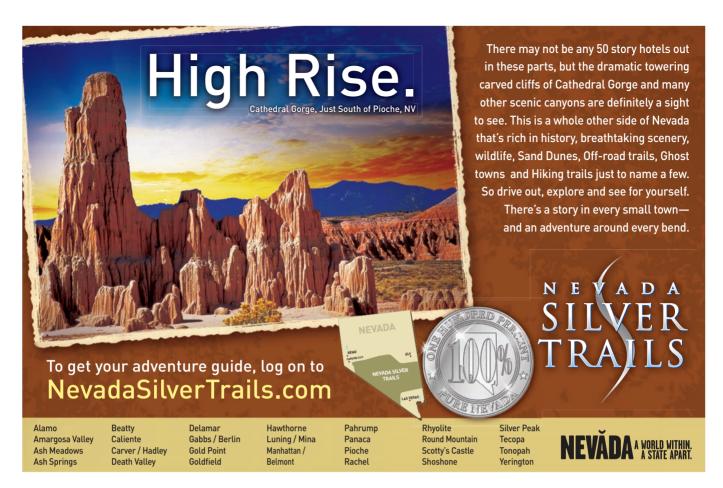
For nearly 25 years, Made in Nevada has been promoting Nevada products and helping member businesses grow. The company provides resources, brand recognition, and vital connections to its more than 125 members. The Made in Nevada website provides a member directory with information on Made in Nevada products and businesses.

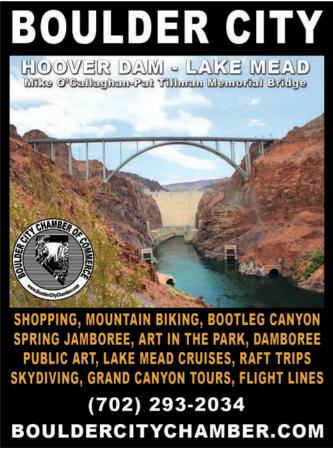
madeinnevada.org, 775-622-9900

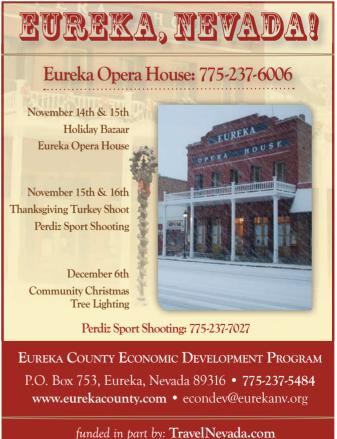
NEVADA LEGISLATIVE GIFT SHOP

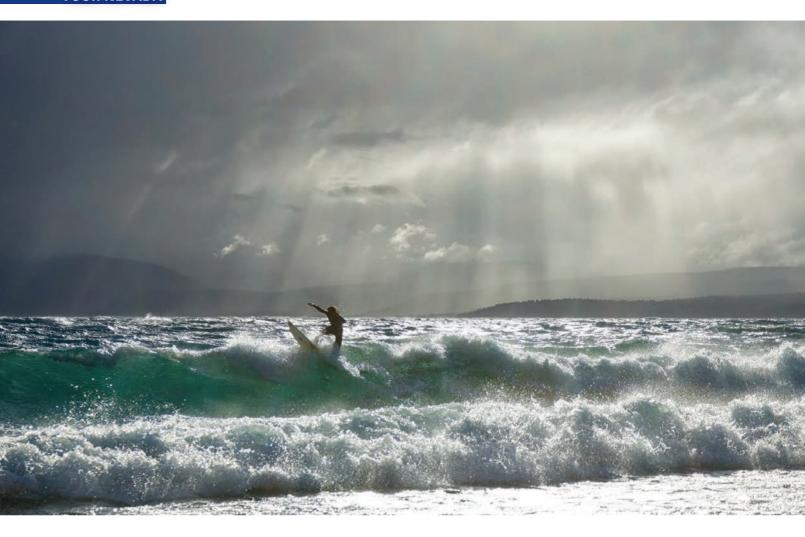
Located inside the Nevada Legislature in Carson City, the Nevada Legislative Gift Shop is stocked with Nevada gifts. The store carries an array of Nevada apparel, jewelry, food items, glassware, and soaps, as well as Nevada 150 merchandise and sesquicentennial medallions.

leg.state.nv.us, 775-684-6835









Right Place, Right Time

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOHN PELTIER

Driving home along the east shore of Lake Tahoe, you usually see kayakers and paddle boarders cruising along the placid waters. It's not too often you see guys in wetsuits tackling 6-foot waves with their surfboards. That's what happened on Sept. 25 and it was one of those times I was glad I always carry my camera gear with me.

I pulled off the highway near Hidden Beach and ran down to the shore. Five surfers in wetsuits were running between the cold water and the sand. The conditions have to be just right for these kinds of waves and it only happens a couple of times per year.

The sun was about an hour from setting and was moving in and out of the clouds, creating dramatic lighting. My goal was to capture the mood of the bitter wind, cold water, and stormy conditions on the lake that day, and how people can still manage to make the best of it! Love Tahoe!

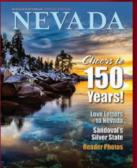
See more of John's work at jmpeltier.com





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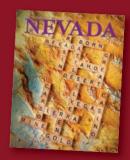
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