# JULY/AUGUST 2017 MAGAZINE



# DAVID GOLDRAKE



# FREE ADMISSION FOR KIDS

Children 12 and under receive free admission with the purchase of one full-priced adult ticket. One child per adult. Must be redeemed at time of purchase to guarantee adjacent seats. Based on availability. Cannot be applied towards previously purchased tickets. Management reserves all rights. This promotion is subject to change without prior notice.

TUESDAY - SUNDAY AT 7PM



# Sasiale NEVADA Magazine











# **Up Front**

8 Las Vegas Golden Knights, Carson Valley Glider, Maria Perry, & More

### History

22 Nevada's Outlaws

# City Limits

28 Nevada Photo Tours

# Best of Nevada

36 20th Annual Readers' Survey

### **Events & Shows**

- 49 Horse-racing Events
- 50 Bruno Mars
- 52 Statewide Events & Shows
- 54 'Zoom into Nano'

# Scavenger Hunt

68 Silver State Scavenger Hunt

### In Every Issue

- Nevada Wide Web
- 4 Editor's Note & Letters
- 6 Know Your Nevada
- 7 Nevada Map

Cover Photo: Eric Cachinero

# **GREAT NEVADA PICTURE HUNT**

# "Home Means Nevada"

2017 marks the 40th anniversary of our **Great Nevada Picture Hunt (GNPH).** and we couldn't be more excited!

For 40 years, we've showcased the most beautiful images from around the Silver State, captured by local photographers. This year, we offer two different opportunities for showing off your photographic talents.

begin **MAY 19!** 

Contests nevadamagazine.com/gnph for official rules and how to submit.

Contests end **JULY 19!** 

### "HOME MEANS NEVADA" POSTER PRIZES:

Photographers whose work is chosen for the limitededition poster will receive \$50 per chosen image + 10 copies of the poster.

### **GNPH PRIZES:**

- Entry to the 2018 Eagles & Agriculture event in the Carson Valley, sponsored by the Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce. Includes tours, Falconer's Dinner and photography workshop, plus complimentary accommodations for two nights at the Carson Valley Inn.
- Entry to the 2018 Nevada Northern Railway Winter Steam Photo Shoot Spectacular. Includes complimentary accommodations for three nights at the Ramada Copper Queen in Ely.
- Entry to the 2018 Shooting the West Symposium in Winnemucca, a \$145 value, with a \$200 credit to attend workshop(s).
- Two \$100 gift certificates to Nevada Fine Arts.
- Gift certificates to Gordon's Photo Service.
- Home Means Nevada™ clothing and swag.













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NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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# On NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM

# WEB EXTRAS

### Summer

temperatures might be soaring, but there are plenty of ways to beat the summer heat with some of Nevada's cooler offerings: waterfalls, caves, and kayaking. From Lehman Caves to Lamoille Canyon, Lake



Mead to Kings Canyon, the driest state in the Union has plenty of ways to cool off naturally. By Paul Sebesta and Nevada Magazine staff





Yesterday: "The Sheepmen" by Robert Laxalt originally ran in June 1997. Laxalt, the consummate Nevada author, wrote about the tradition of the Basque sheepherders, how life was changing on the open range, and the impending demise of this chapter in Nevada's history. His beautiful story about his Basque heritage reveals a rich, culturally important history.

# **FEATURED** Instagram



Use #nvmag for a chance to be featured in future issues of Nevada Magazine.

# CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!





# **FEATURED VIDEO**

see how Nevada Magazine Art Director Kippy Spilker cools off naturally in the Silver State.



### **LETTERS**

### WE COULDN'T AGREE MORE



When it comes to tourists visiting our lovely state of Nevada, their first thought is probably casinos, restaurants, hotel rooms, clubs, etc., but most probably never consider

seeing the many ghost towns. Belmont, Berlin, Como, Goldfield, Johnnie, Rawhide, and Rhyolite just to name few relatively well known to residents of Nevada. The various ghost towns played key roles historically on how Nevada started specifically through the mining industry. The towns during the great mining period housed many residents, had businesses, and were extremely vibrant before they went bust. In some instances ghost towns still have residents who live there, such as Goldfield, but they are few and far between unfortunately. Ghost towns have been used for filming of various both western and war movies to provide authenticity. Ghost towns may not be the foremost thought on tourist's minds when visiting Nevada, but do urge them to if both interest and time permit them. Ghost towns are a crucial part of Nevada's history that needs to be both preserved and appreciated since it gives a look back at how our state came into being. - Bill Miller, Las Vegas

(Our yearlong ghost town series is available at nevadamagazine.com/shop - MM)

### WHERE TO NEXT?

I just spent a blissful two hours poking happily through the latest edition, making copious notes, and deciding where I wanted to go next. Thank you again!

- Judith Filangeri, Las Vegas

### READY TO HUNT

Once again we look forward to the Silver State Scavenger Hunt.

Last year we completed the hunt with a hot springs tour. It was great fun going to all these places and staying in campgrounds we would otherwise pass by. This year we will combine another tour along with the hunt. We will also have another couple following us on this adventure. They are very excited to make this trip with us. Thanks for all your efforts in putting these hunts together.

— Tracy Huttman, Silver Springs



### **WE VALUE YOUR INPUT**

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

### **CONTRIBUTORS**

### RON SOODALTER



In addition to authoring "Hanging Captain Gordon" and "The Slave Next Door," Ron Soodalter is featured in five other books and has had more than 230 articles published in such periodicals as "Smithsonian,"

"True West," "American Cowboy," "Civil War Times," "American History," "Wild West," and "Military History." He is a regular columnist for "America's Civil War." Ron is the recipient of the International and Regional Magazine Association's 2010 Gold Award and 2014 Award of Merit. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln Institute.

■ PGS. 22-27

### ALFZA FREEMAN



lem Post," "Conde Nast Traveler's Network," "Los Angeles Times," Vegas.com, Vegas Seven, and the Nevada section of onlyinyourstate.com. She's been quoted as an expert source on Vegas by "USA Today," Today.com and "Travel Weekly."

■ PGS. 44-47

### PAUI **SEBESTA**



Few people know more about the Silver State than Paul Sebesta. Paul is a professional photographer who has spent more than 10 years traversing Nevada to personally visit and document all of the state's 271 state historical markers. He loves to laugh and lives for good grub, good music, and great light! He now lives with his wife in Bend, Oregon.

■ at nevadamagazine.com

# FUTURE OF TOURISM RISES IN THE EAST.

evada's travel and tourism sectors are on a roll. Last year alone, more than 56 million people visited the Silver State, up 2.4 percent from 2015. Occupied room nights at our hotels and domestic and international passengers landing at our airports are on the rise, as well. In Nevada Magazine's November/December 2016 issue, I wrote about the importance of expanding Nevada's presence to our overseas visitors. By building partnerships with international markets, Nevada has the opportunity to preserve and grow our largest industry: tourism. Last year, India presented our state with significant opportunities for growing our global footprint, and in January 2016, we did just that, opening Nevada's first-ever travel and tourism office in the country.

Opportunities also awaited the Silver State in China. A thriving economy and a growing middle-class population eager to travel abroad make the country a strategic market for our state's tourism sector. I'm happy to report that at the end of April, I—along with a delegation of Nevada travel industry professionals—returned from a two-week trip to China where we explored future opportunities for partnership and recommitted Nevada to

the Chinese travel market.

Our delegation traveled throughout the country, spending time in Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Xi'an, Shanghai, and Beijing. In Shanghai, we met with Chinese tourism officials and spoke with airline executives about adding new direct flights from China to Nevada. In Beijing, we met with the Deputy Minister of China's National Tourism Adminis-

tration and talked with the media about the multitude of wonderful spots in Nevada for travelers. In Xi'an, we met with China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and learned about the culture and historical customs of the country.

With 2.6 million Chinese visitors traveling to the U.S. in 2015 alone, the country now ranks as the third largest overseas travel market to the U.S. just behind the United Kingdom and Japan. By 2021, the U.S. Travel Association expects China to be the largest overseas tourism market for the U.S. Here at home, Chinese travelers account for our state's fifth largest international market and just over 10 percent of all international travelers visiting our state.

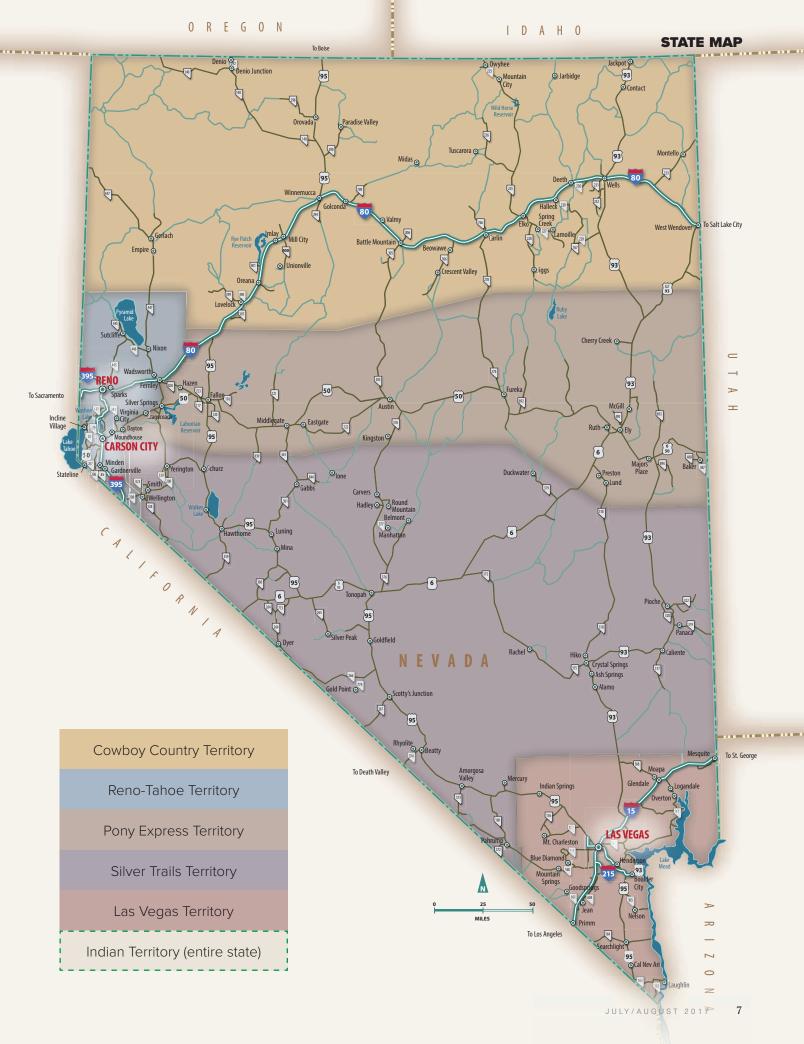
China will continue to play an integral role in the overseas travel market throughout the U.S., and Nevada is committed to providing Chinese travelers the perfect international destination. Our trip to China illustrated the importance of highlighting all Nevada has to offer, while ensuring our guests receive excellent treatment when far from the comforts of home. From the exciting nightlife and entertainment options offered in Las Vegas to the beautiful landscape of Lake Tahoe, the availability of family-friendly, adult, and outdoor

activities, our all-in-one state makes Nevada a premier destination for our current and future Chinese travelers.













































Gerard Gallant

### **SPORTS**

# The Vegas Golden Knights prepare for inaugural season

The National Hockey League (NHL) expansion team in Las Vegas—Vegas Golden Knights—has hired Gerard Gallant as the club's first head coach. Gallant, a former power forward with the Detroit Red Wings, most recently coached the NHL's Florida Panthers. He led Florida to the best record in franchise history (47-26-9) in the 2015-2016 season, served as a coach at the NHL All-Star Game and was nominated for the NHL's coach of the year award.

As the team prepares for its inaugural 2017-2018 season, the Golden Knights made their first splash in free agency, landing highly-coveted center Vadim Shipachyov from Russia's Kontinental Hockey League. Although 30 years old and yet to play professionally in North America, Shipachyov has starred in his home country and for Russian



FRANKIE FOLLGANTHIN

national teams for years as one of the world's best playmakers not in the NHL.

The Golden Knights also entered into a landmark radio partnership with Lotus Broadcasting. The partnership calls for all games to be broadcast LIVE on FOX Sports 98.9 FM/1340 AM (KRLV). Following the team's plans of connecting with all potential fans in the Las Vegas area, select games





will be broadcast live in Spanish on ESPN Deportes 1460 AM.

More than doubling the size of the team's business staff the past three months, the Golden Knights have also begun a series of initiatives introducing youth hockey to children in the area. This included striking a partnership with Nevada Storm youth hockey, which will be rebranded as the Vegas Jr. Golden Knights and play out of the team's practice facility, which is currently under construction in Summerlin. *Courtesy Dan Marrazza*, *Vegas Golden Knights Senior Writer* 

vegasgoldenknights.com, 775-321-5830

# Notable Nevadans

Known to many as Mama Maria, Maria Perry has created a culinary institution in Las Vegas. She and her husband, Al, opened their first restaurant in 1949 and she hasn't slowed down since. She recently turned 100, and while playing host to such celebrities as Howard Hughes, Marlene Dietrich, and Sammy Davis Jr., Maria raised a family including her daughter, Lorraine Hunt-Bono, Nevada's former lieutenant governor. Our Carrie Roussel recently got the lowdown on Mama Maria's thoughts about her adopted state.



# MARIA PERRY

Question: Where were you born?

Maria Perry: Fort William, Ontario, Canada, March 13, 1917, 100 years ago.

Question: Where do you live now?

Maria Perry: I live in Las Vegas in my own townhome near my daughter, Lorraine Hunt-Bono, and son-in-law, Dennis Bono.

Question: What originally brought you to Nevada?

Maria Perry: My husband, Al, and I moved out to Las Vegas from Niagara Falls, New York, for health reasons in 1943. We went to work in a restaurant and I became a Las Vegas chef, serving customers like Bugsy Siegel, Howard Hughes, and Frank Sinatra.

Question: **What is your favorite thing about living in Nevada?** Maria Perry: I love Nevada for its healthy weather and the job opportunities it offers ambitious, hardworking people.

Question: Do you have a favorite Nevada memory?

Maria Perry: My favorite memory is coming into the state for



the very first time, driving across the country from Niagara Falls to arrive in Boulder City in December 1943. When we left Niagara Falls, it was snowing; in fact it was a blizzard. When we arrived four days later, the sun was shining and people were dressed in shorts, watering their green lawns. My husband and I thought we had died and gone to heaven!

Question: What is your favorite Nevada event or festival?

Maria Perry: I always love Helldorado Days in Las Vegas and the celebration of the Old West. I also love the old train stop called Las Vegas.

Question: What is your favorite Nevada thing to show/do with out of town guests??

Maria Perry: Two favorite things to show friends are the fabulous Las Vegas Strip and the majestic beauty of Lake Tahoe.

# Question: Who do you consider to be a notable Nevadan? Why?

Maria Perry: I consider my daughter, the 32nd Lt. Governor of the state of Nevada, to be a notable Nevadan. She loves Nevada and did many good things for our state, from north to south and in the rural areas during her eight years serving the people of our state. I'm very proud of her!

Question: What does being Battle Born mean to you?

Maria Perry: Battle Born signifies the strength and determination of the pioneers and people who have strived and continue to strive to maintain the entrepreneurial spirit that makes Nevada a great state in which to live.



### **UP FRONT**



- McCarran International Airport has recruited three hologram workers to help direct passengers toward tram connections headed out of the D-Gate satellite concourse. The lifelike video projections dispense advice and have been in place since mid-December and have the capacity to eventually interact with passengers. mccarran.com, 702-261-5211
- Frontier Airlines will launch eight new routes this summer to Las Vegas. New service will fly between Las Vegas and Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa; Madison, Wisconsin, and Memphis, Tennesee. Four other routes were previously announced, and those will operate between Las Vegas and Bismarck, North Dakota; Indianapolis; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Washington-Dulles. flyfrontier.com, 800-401-9000
- Frey Ranch Estate Distillery, one of the only estate grain distilleries in the country, won Gold and Silver Medals at the 2017 San Francisco World Spirits Competition (SFWSC) for the Frey Ranch Barrel Finished Gin and the Frey Ranch Reserve Absinthe, respectively. freyranch.com, 775-423-4000
- The Nevada Department of Transportation recently raised the speed limit on a portion of Interstate 80. The highway from Fernley to Winnemucca—excluding a section through Lovelock—is now an 80 mph speed limit. It was 75 mph before the change. nevadadot.com, 775-888-7000
- The **Mob Museum** in Las Vegas has announced a slew of renovations coming in early 2018. The 5-year-old museum is planning a working distillery and speakeasy, both of which will have educational components; an exhibit on organized crime today; a hands-on crime lab; and a firearms training experience. **themobmuseum.org**, **702-229-2734**

### MUSEUMS

# WWI Exhibit at Nevada State Museum

The Nevada State Museum, Carson City has a new exhibit in remembrance of the United States' entry into World War I, 100 years ago this April.

"Remembering the Great War: 1914-1918," will be on display in the museum's South Gallery into 2018 and features artifacts including historic photographs, patriotic posters, a U.S. Army captain's uniform from the



balloon corps, helmets, and a silent film of American troops in France.



The centerpiece of the exhibit is the photographs, all taken by the photographic section of the French Army. How the photos came from France to Carson City

isn't known, but they were part of a larger collection acquired by the museum from Carson City history buff and collector Daun Bohall.

This is the first time the images have been publicly displayed. Thousands of Nevadans volunteered or were drafted into military service during WWI, many of them serving in the Army's 91st Division, also known as the "Wild West Division." There were 116,798 Americans who died in the war, including 197 from Nevada. nvdtca.org, 775-687-4810





Learn more at VisitMesquite.com

### **UP FRONT**



- Wallethub.com has named Nevada 2017's Most Fun State and Best
  Summer Vacation Spot in America. The financial website compared the 50 states using key indicators measuring a good time that won't break the bank.
  wallethub.com
- A wakeboard cable park opened at Lake Las Vegas in late April. Cable wakeboarding is a surface water sport with participants pulled by an overhead cable system. Lake Las Vegas also offers flyboard, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, pedal boats, and the *La Contessa* yacht. lakelasvegaswatersports.com, 702-600-9860
- The 8th annual **Fallon Ranch Hand Rodeo** will be held Aug. 4-6 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds. Before the event on Saturday, a youth play day will be held that includes barrel racing, poles, figure 8, goat tying, and more.

visitfallonnevada.com,775-423-5358

■ The **Reno Bighorns** basketball team has changed its colors to purple, gray, and black. The change is to more closely align the development team with its NBA affiliate, the Sacramento Kings.

reno.dleague.nba.com, 775-853-8220

- The town of **Gardnerville** was awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$539,350 for renovation of the Gardnerville Station. The building renovation will include a visitor information center, a bus stop, and electric vehicle charging station, among other improvements. **gardnerville-nv.gov**, 775-782-7134
- Gordon Ramsay is opening the first-ofits-kind **Gordon Ramsay Hell's Kitchen** located at Caesars Palace Las Vegas this winter. The restaurant will seat nearly 300 guests, feature indoor and Strip-adjacent patio dining, a daily themed brunch, dinner, and spirited bar menu.

caesarspalace.com, 866-227-5938



MICHAEL MCCOC

**PHOTOGRAPHY** 

# Henderson photographer wins national contest

Michael McCook of Henderson was named one of 11 contest winners of the National Park Foundation's "Share the Experience" annual photo contest. McCook's photo of Hoover Dam won the historical and cultural category.

More than 16,500 photos were submitted with more than 710,000 photo views during the contest, which ended Dec. 31, 2016.

The National Park Foundation is the national nonprofit partner to the National Park Service. The annual contest invites photographers to submit their favorite photos showcasing the more than 500 million acres of federal lands. nationalparks.org, 202-796-2500

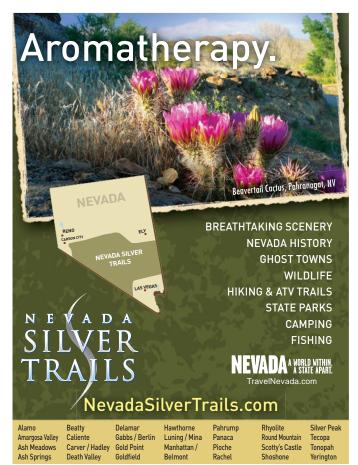


# Ruby Mountains have yearround lodging options

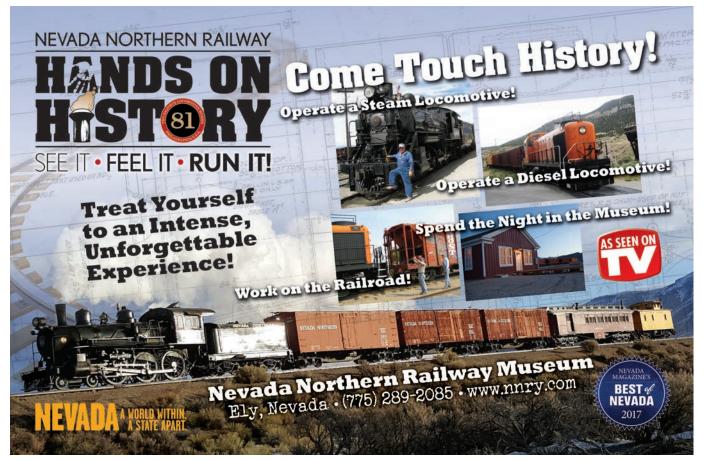
The ski season may be over in the Ruby Mountains, but adventure still exists. The new Ruby 360 Lodge is closed for the summer and fall, but the Ruby High Yurt offers a backcountry adventure like few others.

Located at 9,700 feet in the Ruby Mountains, the yurt is accessible by a two-four hour hike that will ascend 2,700 feet from the parking lot. Guests supply their own food which must be carried or air lifted in for an additional fee. Mule teams are another option for carrying supplies. Finally, guests can opt to be flown in by helicopter, for an additional fee.

For a slightly less elevated experience, the Conrad Creek Yurt is located at 7,000 feet and is accessible by car. Both yurts have the option of having meals catered and guides are also available. **helicopterskiing.com**, **775-753-6867** 







### **UP FRONT**



Just 17 days after Revision Brewing Company's soft opening, Brewmaster Jeremy Warren and Head Brewer Jeb Taylor's Revision IPA won the first-place gold medal at the 20th annual IPA Festival at the Bistro in Hayward, California.

revisionbrewing.com, 775-331-2739

- The annual Carson City Ghost Walk's evening walking tours will run July 8, July 22, Aug. 5, and Aug. 19 this year. The spirit-led, guided tours wander through historic neighborhoods. carsoncityghostwalk.com
- The Virginia & Truckee Railroad's ninth season taking passengers from Carson City to Virginia City is underway. On July 15 and Aug. 12, special themed evening trains offer "Dinner & a Melodrama." Other themed trains run through the season. virginiatruckee.com, 775-847-0380
- The Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival's Showcase Series is set for 2017. Eight Monday evening performances—in addition to the mainstage plays-offer the Reno Philharmonic, Sierra Nevada Ballet, the Reno Jazz Orchestra, and other performers. laketahoeshakespeare.com, 775-832-1616
- Wynn and Encore Las Vegas won eight awards at the 2017 Southern Nevada Hotel Concierge Association's Choice Awards. Wynn and Encore won best production show, best spa, best brunch, best Italian, best seafood, best steakhouse, best day club, and best nightclub. The awards recognize the most recommended activities in the destination. wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-7000
- Minor League Baseball is seeing a rise in attendance. The Las Vegas 51s, in its first 16 games this year, has averaged 6,303 people in attendance. The Triple-A affiliate club has had three sellout games so far this season. Iv51.com, 702-943-7200



### **ADVENTURE**

# Airbus Perlan Mission II soars above Carson Valley

Airbus Perlan Mission II—an initiative to fly a glider without an engine to the edge of space—returned to flight this spring at its U.S. headquarters at the Minden-Tahoe Airport.

Perlan pilots Jim Payne and Miguel Iturmendi soared the pressurized glider to its highest altitude to date, reaching 30,615 feet. The Minden-Gardnerville area is widely known for its soaring, thanks to thermals that regularly climb to 18,000 feet due to the conditions created by the surrounding mountains.

The Perlan 2 spent the spring soaring in the rising wind currents—called mountain waves—in the skies above the Sierra Nevada, before deploying at the end of May to Argentina for its second year of flight operations in Patagonia. mindentahoeairport.com, 775-782-9595

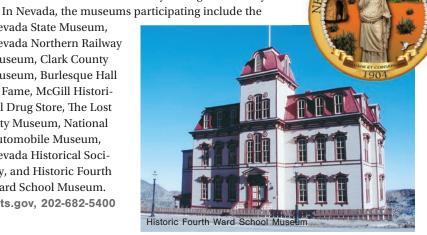
### MUSEUMS

# Free admission to museums for military

The Blue Star Museums program is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America, Each summer since 2010, Blue Star Museums

have offered free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families—including National Guard and Reserve—from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Nevada State Museum. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Clark County Museum, Burlesque Hall of Fame, McGill Historical Drug Store, The Lost City Museum, National Automobile Museum, Nevada Historical Society, and Historic Fourth Ward School Museum. arts.gov, 202-682-5400







# PLATINUM TOURS



# GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM TOUR

- FULL DAY TRIP TO GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM IN A MERCEDES 12 SEAT SPRINTER
- BREAKFAST INCLUDED AT DIAMOND LOUNGE
- PROFESSIONAL GUIDED TOUR
- MULTIPLE PANORAMIC VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES.
- PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT HOOVER DAM
- LUNCH INCLUDED AT NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VISITOR CENTER
- IMAX THEATER MOVIE

\$239 \$199

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS
GRAND CANYON
HELICOPTOR FLIGHT - \$220

# HOOVER DAM DELUXE TOUR

- VISIT ONE OF THE MAN-MADE WONDERS OF THE WORLD
- PHOTO STOP AT THE LAS VEGAS SIGN
- HALF-DAY TOUR LETS YOU EXPERIENCE THE DAM THEN BACK TO THE ACTION
- INCLUDES THE GOVERNMENT GUIDED INTERIOR TOUR
- LUNCH INCLUDED

# \$99 \$89

# ADDITIONAL OPTIONS HELICOPTER TOUR - \$99

- BREATHTAKING VIEWS OF LAKE MEAD AND HOOVER DAM BY HELICOPTER
- LUXURY MILLION-DOLLAR HELICOPTER RIDE

# GRAND CANYON WEST RIM TOUR

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- BREAKFAST INCLUDED AT DIAMOND LOUNGE
- PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AT HOOVER DAM OVERLOOK
- HOME OF THE WORLD FAMOUS GRAND CANYON SKYWALK
- INCLUDES LUNCH AT THE CANYON
- INCLUDES STOPS AT EAGLE POINT, GUANO POINT AND HUALAPAI RANCH

\$259 \$239

### **ADDITIONAL OPTIONS**

GRAND CANYON SKYWALK - \$25 HELICOPTER & BOAT - \$261 HELICOPTER, BOAT, SKYWALK - \$286 HELICOPTER NO BOAT - \$226 WEST RIM FLY OVER - \$99

# HOOVER DAM RIVER RAFTING TOUR

- VISIT ONE OF THE MAN-MADE WONDERS OF THE WORLD
- PHOTO STOP AT THE LAS VEGAS SIGN
- HALF-DAY TOUR LETS YOU EXPERIENCE THE DAM THEN GET BACK TO THE ACTION
- INCLUDES THE GOVERNMENT GUIDED INTERIOR TOUR
- SNACK INCLUDED AT DIAMOND LOUNGE
- SPECTACULAR HOOVER DAM VIEWS FROM THE COLORADO RIVER.
- 30 MINUTE RIVER RAFTING TOUR

\$169 \$149

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# STRIP NIGHT TOUR WITH CHAMPAGNE TOAST

- Photo stop at the "Las Vegas" sign
- Light show at Fremont Street Experience
- Experience Mirage Volcano
- Hotel pick up and drop offAir conditioned Motor Coach
- Must be 21 years of age



\$8 \$30.00 Experience The Strip

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- Las Vegas strip helicopter tour at dusk with roundtrip hotel strip transportation.
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- Experience the Las Vegas Strip & Downtown from the top of our London style double decker bus
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• All tours are DOT and FAA certified • Sightseeing Tours Unlimited will not be responsible for unexpected delays, loss of visibility or itinerary changes caused by traffic, weather, etc.



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# **HELICOPTER & AIR TOURS**

# AIRPLANE & HELICOI GROUNI COMBOS + Amazing aerial

- Amazing aerial views of Hoover Dam & Lake Mead
- See the extinct volcano "Fortification Hill"
- Breathtaking flight of the Grand Canyon

\$129 Flight Only West Rim

\$269 West Rim with Skywalk

279 South Rim
\*Add Helicopter \$175

\$439 West Rim Adventure
\*Airplane/Helicopter/
Boat

# HELICOPTER AIR & GROUND COMBOS

- Amazing aerial views of Hoover Dam & Lake Mead
- See the extinct volcano "Fortification Hill"
- Breathtaking flight of the Grand Canyon
- Land next to the mighty Colorado River
- Enjoy a champagne picnic

Skywalk Express Tour

\*Certain options change package itinerary call for details \*

# **GRAND CANYON TOURS**

# 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
- View the widest and deepest parts of the Grand Canyon

# \$180 | \$91

Add IMAX \$15 Add Pink Jeep \$99 Add Helicopter \$195

# 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

# \$241 | \$135

Add Skywalk \$25
Add Heli \$181
Add Helicopter/Boat \$216
Add Helicopter/Boat/
Skywalk \$241

# **HOOVER DAM**

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

# 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
- Includes Lunch

- Includes Lunei

\$82 |\$52 | Add Heli

# GRAND CANYON WEST RIM FLIGHT WITH HOOVER DAM TOUR

- Complimentary hotel pick up
- Board the airplane equipped with high wings and large windows for optimum viewing and air-conditioned comfort.
- Enjoy the scenic route flying over Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, the Colorado River and Grand Canyon West.
- Visit one of the man-made wonders of the world
- Includes the government guided interior tour

|\$**23**9 | \$179

# \$72 \$42

# **LAKE MEAD CRUISES**

# HOOVER DAM & LAKE MEAD CRUISE

# Mississippi Style Paddle Wheel Boat

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

# LAKE MEAD DINNER CRUISE

## Mississippi Style Paddle Wheel Boat

- Relaxing evening cruise at dusk
- Photo Stop at The Las Vegas Sign
- Calm and romantic cruise on Lake Mead
- Three course dinner

Tour operates seasonally



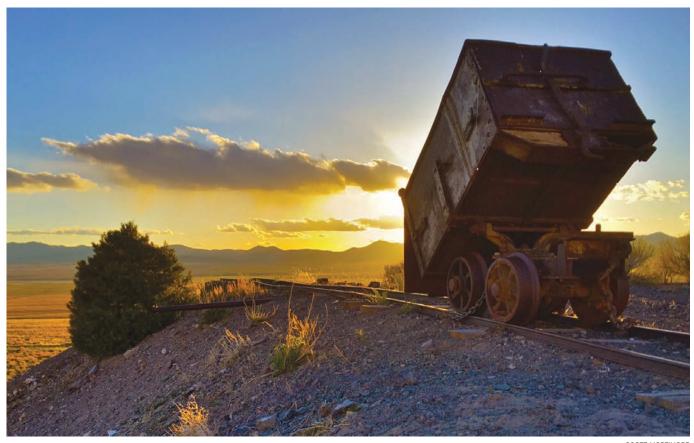
\$149 \$119 Dinner Cruise



\$1\5 \\$82 Day Cruise







SCOTT MORTIMORE



GRETCHEN BAKER

### **VISIONS**

Pages 18-19: "While most eyes were gazing toward the Las Vegas Strip and the renowned 4th of July fireworks displayed by the big casinos and hotels, my camera was directed a little closer to home," says photographer Nancy Good, who captured this photo from atop Frenchman Mountain. "I captured more than 1,200 images that night, but this was most definitely the first and best keeper."

Opposite Top: Photographer Scott Mortimore attempted to capture some astrophotography using this ore cart at Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, but ended up having the planets align in different manner. "I intended on capturing some shots of the Milky Way spilling out of this ore cart, but it never happened," he says. "I instead tried to capture the notion of a cart dumping a sunset into the evening sky."

Opposite Bottom: Photographer Gretchen Baker photographed this scene during an astronomy program at Great Basin National Park. "During the telescope viewing, no white lights are allowed, only red lights so that everyone's night vision is preserved. I was a little surprised by just how much people do move in five seconds!"

Right: "I thought this was odd to say the least," says photographer Taylor James, who captured this image in downtown Reno. "Why would a tree need a sweater, especially in the middle of summer?" The practice is called yarn bombing, and involves knitting or crocheting colorful sleeves for trees.



TAYLOR JAMES



# FACEBOOK GROUP CHOICE

"I decided to check out the local rodeo my daughter was selling her work at," says photographer Barb Swetzof Lund, who snapped this shot during mutton bustin'. "I was walking around the arena, when all of a sudden this cute little girl comes out of the chute. It was like she was in slow motion, which helped me capture this image."

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



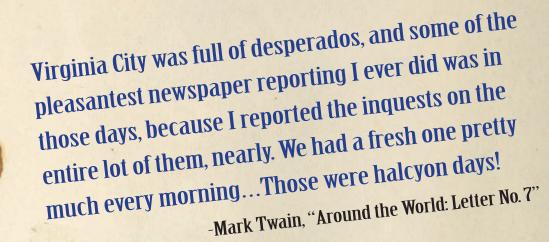
BARB SWETZOF LUND

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

# 11/4/4

# STAND and DELIVER!

Nevada's outlaws earned their fearsome reputations.



If you were to ask the average Western history buff to name the most infamous desperados of the late-19th century frontier, he would no doubt rattle off such names as Jesse James, John Wesley Hardin, and Billy the Kid. It is highly unlikely that such monikers as "Big Jack" Davis, "Three-Fingered Jack" McDowell, "Fighting BY RON SOODALTER Sam" Brown, or "Farmer" Peel would ever come up. And yet, these products of a raw and often lawless Nevada, as well as dozens of their contemporaries, were every bit as piratical as their more notorious counterparts.

In retrospect, it is clear that from its very inception, Nevada was a magnet for evil-doers. While the bars and gaming tables in the cow towns of Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska saw a brief flood of coins and currency from the short-lived cattle industry, for nearly half a century Nevada's miners hacked and blasted enough silver out of its rocks and soil to help win a war and keep the nation solvent. Nevada's legendary silver mines

Law enforcement was sporadic at best. Inevitably, some of the less successful immigrants would condrew countless bold and desperate men from all over the world. clude that mining was a brutal, soul-crushing enterprise, especially when the fruits of other men's labors could be acquired in a matter of minutes with nothing more than a mask, a Colt revolver, and a fast horse. Such a man was Andrew Jackson Davis.

# THE SAGA OF "SMILING JACK" DAVIS

A.J. Davis—"Smiling Jack" or "Big Jack" as he was often called—was an imposing figure of a man: tall, well built, personable, highly intelligent, and reputedly well-educated for his time and place. As did many who ultimately "went bad," Davis began his frontier career with the best of intentions prospecting in the Sierra Nevada. After finally laying down his pick, he immigrated to the Comstock diggings of Nevada Territory, where he opened a stable. However, shoveling the byproducts of his business while searching for fodder soon lost its fascination, and Smiling Jack entered into a new business.

Davis bought a stamping mill a few miles outside Virginia City, hired men to run the machines, and proceeded to process ore for shipping. In a short time, the affable and industrious Davis was accepted into the company of the region's governing class, while

his open-door hospitality at home won him countless friends among the miners.

Apparently, though, he was shipping considerably more processed ore than he was buying. Many in the community suspected that he was behind a number of stagecoach robberies but, due to his popularity as well as the resentment felt toward Wells Fargo for charging usurious fees, the locals looked the other way. While he and his gang were committing a stagecoach robbery between Reno and Virginia City, a passenger recognized his voice and Jack was subsequently arrested and tried. The jury, however, refused to convict, by which time a chastened Wells Fargo was mounting shotgun guards on its coaches.

Unwilling to risk an encounter with a 10-gauge shotgun, Davis turned his attention to trains. On the evening of Nov. 4, 1870, in what was the first train robbery to be staged west of the Rockies,



he and his cohorts held up the Central Pacific Overland Express between Reno and Verdi, escaping with more than \$40,000 in gold. This time, he and his entire gang were apprehended, and Smiling Jack received a 10-year sentence.

Davis was pardoned for good behavior after five years—and immediately returned to robbing stagecoaches. Although he was successful for a time, perhaps he should have stuck by his earlier resolution not to risk running afoul of the Wells Fargo shotguns. On Oct. 3, 1877, as he and two others attempted to rob a coach some 40 miles south of Eureka, the shotgun messenger emptied his heavy load of buckshot into the outlaw's back. Smiling Jack Davis died the next day, while being transported back to Eureka-by stagecoach.

# "THREE-FINGERED JACK" AND THE DALY GANG

When Irish immigrant and Mexican War veteran John "Three-Fingered Jack" McDowell drifted into the wide-open mining town of Aurora in 1860, the last thing on his mind was a partnership. However, when he met John Daly, each recognized in the other a kindred spirit. Both men were utterly unscrupulous, and both made a living by hiring out their guns.

The two went partners on a saloon, which soon became the scourge of Aurora. The games were rigged, the drinks watered, and the management intolerant of complaints. John and Jack divided their time between running the saloon and serving as

# The two went partners on a saloon, which soon became the scourge of Aurora. The games were rigged, the drinks watered, and the management intolerant of complaints.

hired killers for the local Pond Mining Company in its ongoing war with a neighboring concern.

In a short time, the two formed a gang, which cut a wide swath, robbing and pillaging throughout the area, and killing anyone who dared to object or resist.

Somehow, Daly managed to get one of his men elected city marshal, whereupon he appointed his gang members as policemen, providing an air of legality to their depredations. Finally, the gang went too far.

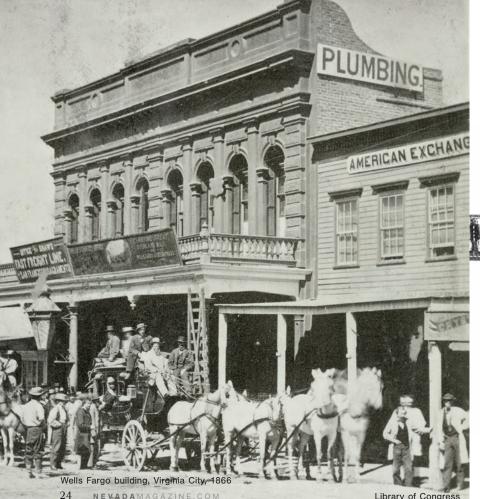
When gang member James Sears stole a horse, the animal's owner appealed to local station-master William R. Johnson for help. The civic-minded Johnson ordered his hired hand, John Rogers, to pursue the thief. Sears refused to surrender, whereupon Rogers shot him out of his saddle, and brought his body back to town.

Furious that anyone would dare to kill one of his men, Daly determined to do away with both Rogers and Johnson. Rogers

> was out of town, so Daly and a cohort ambushed Johnson, shooting him in the head and cutting his throat.

The citizens were outraged. Johnson was a well-liked member of the community, and his brutal slaying aroused the town to action. Hundreds of men formed a "Safety Committee," and on Feb. 5, 1864 seized Daly, McDowell, and two other gang members, and on a swiftly-built gallows administered

frontier justice.



McDowell sought to cheat the noose. While standing on the scaffold, he said, "Goodbye, boys!" drew a derringer, turned it to his chest, and pulled the trigger. When the gun misfired "Three-Fingered Jack" proclaimed, "The son-of-a-b!\*c# of a pistol has fooled me!" The rope did not.

# **HISTORY** Nevada's Outlaws

# SAM BROWN'S COMEUPPANCE



Library of Congress

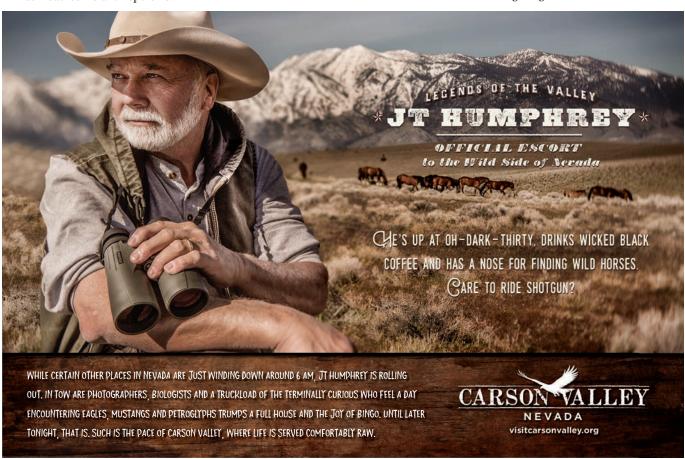
Ranking among the deadliest of Nevada's early-day desperados was "Fighting Sam" Brown. Nobody liked Sam, and with good reason. For one thing, he was a vicious bully. According to his contemporaries, he was a bear of a man, standing a hulking 6 feet tall and weighing in excess of 200 pounds with "a broad, full chest, probably possessing double the physical strength of ordinary men." In a time and place where bathing was an occasional diversion, he was considered particularly offensive, refusing either to wash himself or trim his bushy red whiskers, which he reportedly knotted beneath his chin. One chronicler described him as "loathsome and repulsive."

Worst of all, Sam Brown truly enjoyed killing. It was an accepted fact that his victims were either unarmed or unsuspecting when he dispatched them. He is known to have fatally shot one man in the back in Carson City, and knifed Virginia City's town drunk for sport. Before coming to Nevada, Brown had left a trail of corpses in Texas and California, including three or four Chilean miners, for whose murders he earned himself a brief stretch in San Quentin. Lawmen avoided the homicidal Brown, and even the rugged miners of the Comstock steered clear of him.

Then, on the evening of July 6, 1861, Sam picked on the wrong man. Henry Van Sickle, a taciturn, universally-liked innkeeper whose tavern stood 3 miles south of Genoa, was chatting with the 20 or so locals gathered around his porch, when two men approached on horseback. One was Sam Brown.

Henry offered the big man a drink; instead, Brown drew and cocked his pistol, stating that he was going to kill Van Sickle, citing some obscure and probably imagined ancient offense. As the unarmed Henry ran into the tavern, Brown shouted, "You'd better run!" and went in search of him. Henry had hidden himself well, however, and Brown rode off muttering, "I would have killed him as quick as I would a snake."

Convinced his life was in peril, Henry loaded a shotgun and set off in pursuit. His first shots missed the killer, but apparently struck his horse, slowing Brown's progress. Finding himself on the receiving end for the first time, Sam Brown lost his nerve, and attempted to find shelter in a nearby house. A determined Henry was not to be put off, however, and his next shot hit the bad man. The next round left Fighting Sam dead in the road.



# **HISTORY** Nevada's Outlaws

Nevada's citizens breathed easier with the news of Sam's demise, and widely praised Henry for his grit in bringing the killer to bay. According to the coroner's report, the local justice, "knowing the ferocious disposition of Brown, ordered Vansickle's [sic] discharge."

# "FARMER" PEEL, GENTLEMAN KILLER

The sudden removal of "Fighting Sam" Brown from the census rolls left an open slot for the region's top gun; it wasn't long in filling. In that time, those who rose to the top of the gunfighter roster were referred to as chiefs, and "Farmer" Peel was the acknowledged chief of Virginia City.

The image of Old West gunfights in which two adversaries confront each other face to face is largely a product of Hollywood. If a man resented another sufficiently to wish him dead, the last thing he would do was to give him an even chance, as such legendary pistoleers as "Wild Bill" Hickok, John Wesley Hardin, Billy the Kid, and Jesse James lived just long enough to discover. Farmer Peel, however, was the exception. Reputedly the author of at least a dozen shooting deaths, the Irish-born gambler and gunfighter was widely respected for his practice of giving his opponents fair play. Relying on his speed and accuracy, he refused to shoot a man who was unarmed or at a disadvantage.

In 1865, Peel formed a friendship with an Englishman named John Bull. Peel and Bull, who had established his

own reputation as a gunman, left Virginia City for Montana, intending to make their fortunes in the rawboned mining camp of Helena. The two fell out, however, while drinking in a local saloon. Peel, who often became a hellion when in his cups, slapped the unarmed—or unheeled—Bull and ordered him to "heel himself." Bull got his gun, and apparently lacking Peel's scruples hid behind a stack of boxes. As Peel walked past, Bull shot him dead.

A hung jury soon freed John Bull. Farmer Peel's finely-carved oaken headstone reads in part, "Vengence [sic] is Mine, Sayeth the Lord. I Know that my Redeemer Liveth." It was, in fact, to be a case of vengeance denied; John Bull died of natural causes, at the age of 93.

# THE BAD OLD DAYS

While such settlements as Dodge City and Tombstone have earned reputations as wide-open frontier towns with their proverbial "dead man for breakfast," they were no wilder than Pioche, Virginia City, or Carson City in their heyday. Ultimately, the law prevailed—first, at the business end of a vigilante's rope or a peace officer's gun, and finally in the courts. But while the days of the desperados are long past, their stories remain, a spicy addendum to the fitful settlement of Old Nevada.





We Love "Selfies" with Wendover Will!

Send your photo with your name, age and where you're from to: wendoverwill@westwendovercity.com images posted\* on westwendovercity.com/wendoverwill with a pin on the world map.

\* Please submit only tastefully done images. No image deemed to be offensive will be posted.





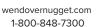


















# Nevada Magazine staff embarks on educational photography escapade.

The bacon wave at Valley of Fire State Park. A sunset at Lake Tahoe's Bonsai rock. The International Car Forest of the Last Church in Goldfield. Iconic images are everywhere in Nevada, but capturing them in photos can be tricky. Taking a photo tour with a professional photographer can bring it all into focus. This year, we'll highlight some of the photographers offering tours and workshops across Nevada.



### INTRO BY KIPPY S. SPILKER

I call myself a professional photographer, but there's a lot of wiggle room in a title like that. I've reached a few personal milestones including having photos chosen as *National Geographic*'s Daily Dozen. Over the years there have been billboards, magazine and book covers, websites, family portraits, events, product photography, and studio work. The beauty about photography is, no matter how many successes I realize, I know there is always more to learn.

When Larry Burton (featured in January/February 2017) proposed taking our team on a photo tour, everyone was excited about it, though there were concerns. Am I good enough? I don't know how to use my camera. I don't even own a camera. Can I shoot with my cellphone?

On the following pages you'll read our experiences about the day and see some of the photos we took. What I'm sure will become evident is that from cellphone to point-and-shoot to heavy-duty DSLR, everyone got some great photos.

# JANET GEARY, PUBLISHER Shooting with a Samsung S5

I knew everyone was going to take way better photos than me because I was just using my cellphone. Being the publisher, I know I should own a sophisticated camera—one that will keep my staff from laughing, but alas, a phone is all I have.

When we got to the first location, I immediately started snapping my "camera." When I saw the first attempts, I was really surprised at the quality of the color and clarity of the photos.

Larry showed me all these settings under the camera icon, but since I'm really not a phone person, nor a camera person, I thought I better stick with what I was doing.

As the day continued, I kept getting these great images—everyone said they were surprised that a cellphone could take such great photos—and I realized anyone can get out into this beautiful state and shoot images they can be proud of.







PHOTOS: JANET GEARY

# CITY LIMITS | Nevada Photographers

# MEGG MUELLER, MANAGING EDITOR Shooting with a Nikon D5200

I've always loved photography, and I have always taken pictures just because they made me feel something in the moment. That said, I'm not a photographer, but I am a person who has a nice camera. I know very little about how to use it, however.

I'd met Larry before we took our photo tour, and while I knew he was very nice and incredibly kind, I admit I was intimidated to let him know just how chronically lame my skills are. I should not have been worried.

I told Larry how confused I get when thinking about aperture, ISO, white balance, etc. For example, I've screwed up so many photos trying to adjust my aperture and doing it poorly, I was pretty much resigned to the automatic setting. The smaller the aperture number, the larger the opening for light—yeah, that's not confusing. But Larry explained how the depth of focus also changed, and by using his hands to create large and small circles, I was able to finally understand how that smaller circle

allowed me to shoot far distances more clearly, and finally the larger number had context for me. I applied that quixotic knowledge to my shots, and while I probably explained it poorly, it makes sense to me.

Whenever I had a question about the shots I was taking, he'd slip in a lesson along with his feedback, and before I realized it those scary, nebulous topics became concrete information I could understand. In just a few hours, I found more ease with my camera, my knowledge, and my shots.

What was even more fun—because really, learning isn't always fun—was witnessing the same place and time through another's eyes. From Larry to my coworkers, it was astonishing just how many different versions there were of one subject. I've never gone out and taken photos with other people, just to take photos.

It's an incredibly easy, informative, and wonderful experience I didn't anticipate. I can't wait to do it again.







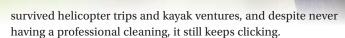


# ERIC CACHINERO, ASSOCIATE EDITOR Shooting with a Nikon D3200

My camera is abused. It spent the better part of 2016 prowling through ghost towns, traversing rusty nails, navigating boulders, and being held over deep mine shafts. It has survived four separate years of dust at Burning Man. It was exposed to radiation at the Nevada National Security Site. It was splashed by the spray of a jetpack in Pahrump, heavily hailed upon in Lamoille Canyon, and covered in mud at Cathedral Gorge State Park. It has



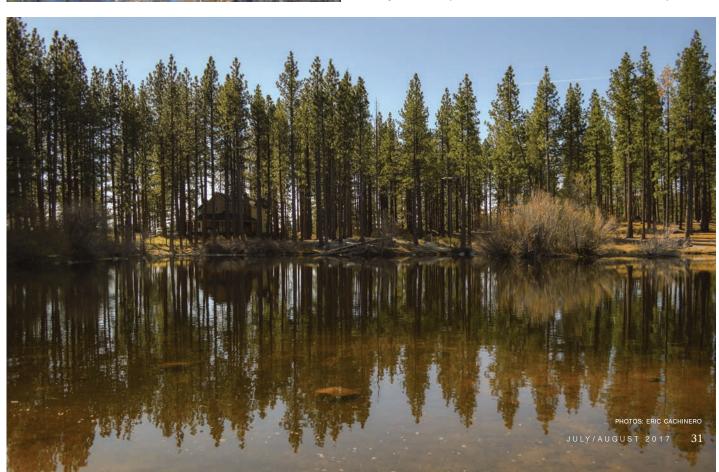




My camera is a necessity for my job, and is typically used to take photos that provide our readers with a visual aid to accompany a story. I rarely consider my photography artistic, because most of the time I just focus on getting the best photo to tell the story. This is why I was so thrilled to take a photo tour with Larry, because I was able to focus on a type of photography that I rarely get to shoot. I tried to take artsy photos during his tour, which introduced me to an entirely different facet of photography.

Larry told us that you don't need an expensive camera to take great photos. That message sticks with me because it really goes against everything I have learned about photography in the past. I'm a Jeep owner, and I've really subscribed to the "spend as much as possible" philosophy on Jeep parts, and I believe the same holds true for many photographers and their equipment. It was great, however, to see Larry taking photos on a simple and cheap point-and-shoot that were spectacular in quality.

Because my poor, neglected DSLR takes so much abuse, I'm really looking to take Larry's advice to heart and get a cheap point-and-shoot that can stand up to how I treat cameras. Maybe if I get a virtually indestructible one, it will last me till next year.



# CARRIE ROUSSEL, CIRCULATION MANAGER Shooting with an iPhone 6s

As a working parent of two active kids, I usually end up capturing our adventures on my phone simply for the convenience. When I prepped for the outing with Larry, I opted for just my mobile device. For the most part I just try to take as many shots as necessary until I get both kids looking at me or capture one with great smiles. Then I leave them on my camera until it's too full and I *have* to download. Larry, though, mentioned that he downloads every day, which made total sense, as it's his passion and his job. It made me realize, however, that I could better manage these captured moments if I do it more often. Organizing by date and location makes things much easier when trying to locate images later on, so I've implemented this technique already and look forward to finding photos with ease from now on.

Casual conversations with Larry throughout the day had me trying out different filters on my phone, and because we were exploring new places, it gave me a chance to slow down and see things from a different perspective. I didn't expect to make huge strides in my photography skills on our outing, but I definitely gained a bit of knowledge by the interactions throughout the day, whether one-on-one, or as a group.

I feel so fortunate to work at the magazine with people who have become family, and that I made a new friend in Larry as well. Hearing stories of previous photo tours had us smiling as we munched on brown bag lunches, along with the many treats Larry provided. The thermoses of hot water for tea and coffee were perfect on a chilly spring outing, but the best part is that we will always have our great photos to remember the trip.









PHOTOS: CARRIE ROUSSEL

# JODY CORY, SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER Shooting with a Nikon D5100

Destination one exceeded my hopes, destination two exceeded my dreams, and destination three iced the cake with a view high above Reno.

I am no professional photographer, but I do consider myself a photo enthusiast. I seldom revisit the techniques of photography and it's already been 10 years since I last directed photography. I was thrilled for this opportunity and with Larry's



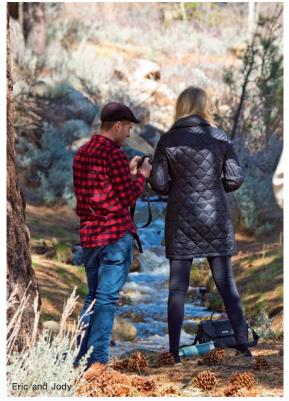
help it didn't take long before I got out of my shooting rut and I started viewing my focal points differently. He impressed me with his wealth of knowledge and most importantly, he made sure everyone was learning, engaged and getting the most of our trip.



# CITY LIMITS | Nevada Photographers

And kudos to our Associate Editor, Eric, for his patience and very helpful advice. My camera settings thank you.

For anyone who wants to discover the real gems of Nevada, get off the beaten track, get a little muddy, and get some great exercise in the process, hire yourself a photo tour guide today!







PHOTOS: JODY CORY

# KIPPY SPILKER, ART DIRECTOR Shooting with a Canon 5d mkiii, DJI Mavic drone, and iPhone 6.5

As previously mentioned, I consider myself a pretty experienced photographer, but in addition to discovering three new local shooting locations, I learned so much just in observing Larry. He was approachable and helpful and absolutely made—and I do mean made—this day fun for everyone! Had we gone to these beautiful locations and taken photos on our own, an integral part of the experience would have been lost. Larry brought us together and helped us challenge ourselves and support each other's efforts. We had a professional guide helping us discover what we were doing right and what we could do even better.

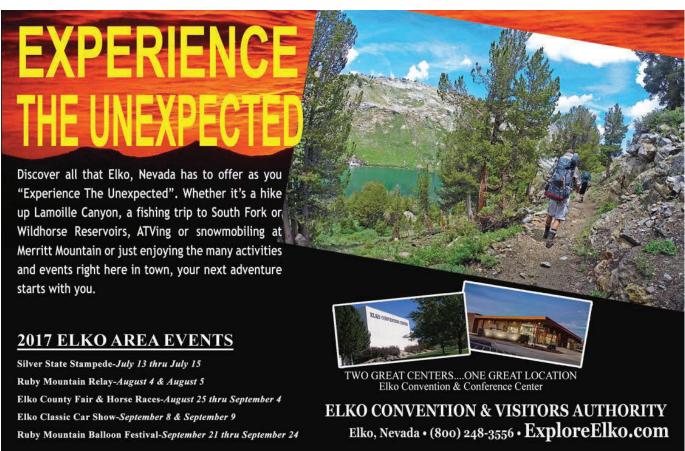
I'm writing this several days after our field trip and staff members are still talking about the experience. They continue to share their images with each other and are excited to explain the ways in which they are applying what they learned, whether for family snapshots or more professional shoots for the magazine.

You may hear photographers say that they are making photographs, rather than taking them, but not me. With my own work, I believe that I "take" something with me when I'm photographing—whether it's a person, a landscape, or even an animal. I extract and greedily retain a secret moment, emotion, or experience. When I take a photograph, my life has been changed in some way. For me, this is what Larry provided—a series of special moments and emotions for each of us to take and hold close. What a priceless gift.

Burk Uzzle, the youngest photographer ever hired by *Life* magazine, said "Photography is a love affair with life." If you are looking for something special to do for a photographer you know (even if it's yourself), consider hiring a photo tour guide. Life is out there, awaiting its latest love affair.









NEVADA MAGAZINE'S

BEST OF

NEVADA

2017

In the July/August 1998 issue, the Best of Nevada contest was born with a whopping 31 categories. Best revue, lounge act, and hotel reservation service were among the choices readers voted on that year, but today most folks wouldn't even know what a hotel reservation service was (hint: It wasn't Google). We did, however, grab a few of the categories from that first contest for our 20th survey, plus we added a few new ones, just for fun.

We had thousands of votes this year as folks voted for their favorites in the north, south, and everywhere else. We had a number of repeat winners—people are loyal to their choices!—but we got some fun new winners, too.

Thanks as always to our incredible readers who voted; this contest is nothing without you. And to the winners we say congratulations! Your hard work has paid off.

The 2018 Best of Nevada survey will be posted in March next year on nevadamagazine.com, be sure to remind your friends and family to vote for their favorite businesses and attractions!

This year's winners are ...



North: Rock of Ages, Eldorado, Reno

**South:** "O" Cirque Du Soleil, Bellagio, Las Vegas

Rural: Bath Tub Races, Ely



**North:** Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille/Atlantis Casino Resort

Spa, Reno

South: Bacchanal/Caesars Palace,

Las Vegas

Rural: Rum Jungle Buffet/Casino

Fandango, Carson City



North: Atlantis Casino Resort

Spa, Reno

**South:** Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa, Las Vegas

Rural: Casino Fandango, Carson City



North: Atlantis Casino Resort

Spa, Reno

**South:** Mandalay Bay Resort And Casino, Las Vegas

Rural: Aquarius Casino Resort,

Laughlin





North: Reno

South: Henderson

Rural: Carson City

North: Great Basin Brewing Company, Sparks South: PT's Brewing Company, Las Vegas

Rural: Frey Ranch Estate Distillery, Fallon



North: Lakeridge Golf Course, Reno

South: Angel Park Golf Club, Las

Vegas

Rural: Genoa Lakes Golf Club &

Resort, Genoa







BREWERY/DISTILLERY

### BEST OF NEVADA 2017

PHOTO SPOT

First: Lake Tahoe

Second: Red Rock Canyon National

Conservation Area

Third: Valley of Fire State Park



North: Hot August Nights, Reno

South: Pahrump Grape Stomp,

Pahrump

Rural: Nevada Northern Railway

Polar Express, Ely





First: Hiking

Second: Anything at Lake Tahoe

Third: Visiting Great Basin

National Park













**BEST PLACE** TO TAKE KIDS

North: Terry Lee Wells Discovery Museum, Reno

South: Springs Preserve, Las Vegas

Rural: Carson City Children's Museum, Carson City



North: Chapel Of The Bells, Reno

South: Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel, Las Vegas

Rural: Aquarius Casino Resort, Laughlin





North: Terry Lee Wells Discovery

Museum, Reno

South: The Mob Museum,

Las Vegas

Rural: Nevada Northern

Railway, Ely



North: Lex Nightclub, Grand Sierra

Resort, Reno

South: SG Bar, Las Vegas

Rural: Splash/Aquarius Casino

Resort, Laughlin



North: Little Nugget Diner, Reno

South: Bachi Burger, Las Vegas

Rural: Café Aquarius/Aquarius Casino Resort,

Laughlin



North: Justin Impossible

South: Adam London

Rural: David John And The Comstock Cowboys



North: Spa Atlantis/Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno

**South:** The Spa Red Rock/Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa,

Las Vegas

Rural: 1862 David Walley's Hot

Springs Resort, Genoa



North: Tahoe Ridge Winery

South: Pahrump Valley Winery

Rural: Churchill Vineyards, Fallon



TOURS

North: Thunderbird Lake Tahoe Tours/

Lake Tahoe

South: Maverick Tours, Las Vegas

Rural: Nevada Northern Railway, Ely





North: Reno High School, Reno

South: Bishop Gorman Catholic High School,

Las Vegas

Rural: Carson High School, Carson City

Congratulations to

Bob Lilienthal

for being the lucky winner

of a deluxe northern

vacation package

from the Atlantis Casino

Resort Spa in Reno!



North: Rancho San Rafael Regional Dog Park, Reno

South: The Hydrant Club, Las Vegas

Rural: Fuji Dog Park, Carson City



North: Sky Terrace Sushi Bar/Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno

South: Hiroba Sushi, Las Vegas

Rural: Kei Sushi, Carson City





**North:** Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off,

Sparks

South: Las Vegas Greek Food Festival, Las Vegas

Rural: Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry, Virginia City



North: The Summit, Reno

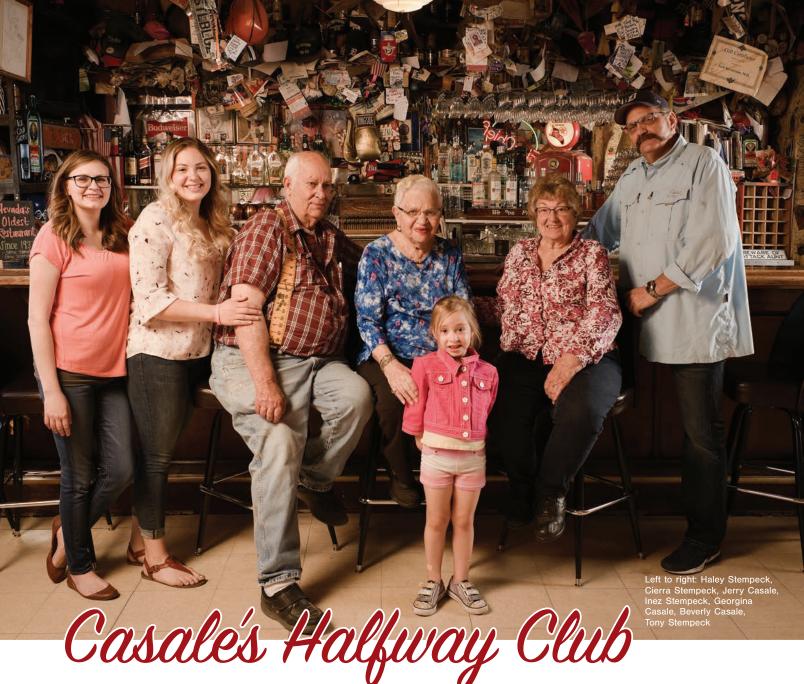
South: Downtown Summerlin, Las Vegas

Rural: The Purple Avocado, Carson City



KIPPY S. SPILKER





Family passes sauce and traditions through five generations.

# STORY BY ALEZA FREEMAN PHOTOS BY ASA GILMORE

The night "Mama" Inez Casale Stempeck was born at her family's dairy on the outskirts of Reno, her father, John Casale, also welcomed 11 cows.

"He was more excited about the cows," Inez jokes.

Inez is the longtime proprietor of Reno's iconic Casale's Half-way Club, the oldest continuously family-owned and operated restaurant in Reno.

Four years later, her brother Jerry came along.

"I tried to sell him for a quarter," teases Inez. She changed her mind about the sale mid-transaction, but still got to keep the money.

Decades-old tales and tidbits like these are a dime a dozen at Casale's Halfway Club, celebrating 80 years as a family-run

business in Reno this fall. On any given day at the Italian eatery, you could come face to face with family members, and even customers, spanning four of five generations.

Jerry and Inez were among the second generation to take the reins at the restaurant. With Inez turning 90 earlier this year, it's the fourth generation's turn to step in and help keep the family tradition alive.

### HEART OF THE HOME

Casale's Halfway Club stands at its original location on East 4th Street, once considered the halfway point between Sparks and Reno. Up close, the vintage exterior begs for its moment on Instagram, though the road is temporarily rife with construction.

Inside, the equally picturesque restaurant oozes authenticity and charm, with countless signatures of customers in black

pen on the roof and wall. As Frank Sinatra croons over the speakers, flavorful Italian scents and friendly laughter fill the air.

On this particular day, a handful of family members covering three generations— Mama Inez, Jerry, Bev Cassale, Tony Stempeck, Haley Stempeck, and Cierra Stempeck—sit in the back of the dining room at a table with a white and red-checkered tablecloth. They sort through decades-old family photographs—newly discovered—and debate particulars of the family's history; details, which they admit, vary from person to person.

Still, there's always one recurring factor: the restaurant.

"This is where my sister re-met her fiancé after they had graduated high school," says granddaughter Cierra. "This is where my boyfriend met my dad and my grandma and my sister for the first time. This is where everything important happens."

"I met my wife here," agrees her dad, Tony. "It's the first place I brought my daughters on their way home after they were born."

Bev adds, "This is where I met him" as she points to Jerry, her husband.

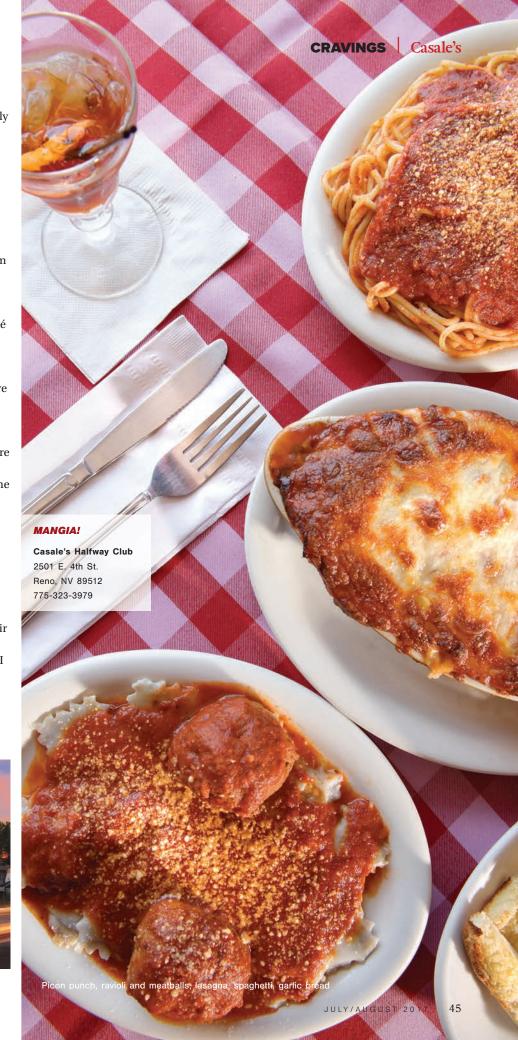
"Everything happens here," says granddaughter Haley. "It's not just a restaurant, it's a home."

The restaurant actually was the family home up until 1980 and serves as a touchstone for all in the large family. Even if they've gone off to do their own thing at some point, "they always come back to their roots," says Cierra.

"I hated it when I was little, and I swore I would never come into this business. But I was always here," agrees Inez.

"It's like 'The Godfather," says Tony.
"Every time you try to get out, it sucks you back in."





Ravioli dough with the family's original rolling pins brought from Italy

Casale's Halfway Club started with the Great Depression. The Casale's dairy went broke in 1929 but the Italian-American family persevered by opening a fruit stand outside their home. It later grew to include a deli with salami and take-out raviolis. By 1947, the home had transformed into a full-fledged restaurant with seating (1937 is considered the official establishing year). Many family members would continue to live on property until around 1980.

Inez stepped up to the stove when her husband, Casimir "Steamboat" Stempeck, passed away unexpectedly in 1969.
Steamboat (as he's still affectionately called) was partner in the business with his brother-in-law Jerry. Inez had six children with Steamboat, and Jerry had six children with Bev. Now there are grandchildren and great grandchildren.

### FOOD, FLAVORED BY FAMILY

Affectionately considered "the boss" by everyone in the family, Inez broke her hip three years ago and is confined to a wheelchair. Still, her granddaughters say she keeps just as busy as before.

"She's not up at the stove, but she's doing everything else," says Cierra. "She makes all the doughs and the garlic bread."

Haley serves as restaurant manager and Cierra as kitchen manager. Jerry and Bev stop in every Tuesday to help make the week's meatballs, hand mixing 50 pounds of beef and hand grinding the veggies.

"We have so many family members who just drop in and help out," says Haley. "We couldn't do it without them."

Apart from the growing family, not much else has changed at Casale's Halfway Club. Even the dishwasher, a 1957 Hobart, was only recently replaced. The intimate dining room was recently painted and only has 10 tables. Meal pay is cash only (an ATM is available, just in case).

Jerry and Bev have won first place for their pesto in Reno's Italian
Festival, but you won't find that on the menu. Instead, the offerings are simple with basic Italian foods like spaghetti, lasagna, and ravioli with red sauce, all hand-rolled, hand-mixed, and hand-made on site. Only the loaves for the garlic bread come from outside.

"We legitimately only cook what we know," says Haley, stressing that she's not a chef. She cooks the same food her family was raised on.

"Our goal is to keep going another 80 years," adds Haley.

"There's a secret ingredient," admits a playful Jerry. "Love."

Though love is all fine and good, the family realized five years ago, for the sake of consistency, they would need to document the restaurant's recipes. Up to that point, the recipes (which Jerry says are "taste by committee" and must be "I'll have another" good) existed only inside Inez' head.

"It took us months and months to get the spices down because mom always worked with handfuls," explains Tony.

"If she knew we were watching she got nervous, she would actually start shaking," adds Haley.

"Finally, I came in the middle of the night, weighed all the spices, let her do whatever she was doing and then weighed them again when she was done," says Tony.

Looking at Inez and smiling, Haley teases, "We tricked ya."

### SECRETS WORTH KEEPING

Speaking of tricks, here's another family tidbit. If Inez ever gives you a recipe from her menu of Italian delicacies, don't trust it—it's probably not the real one.

"The last time somebody asked her for a recipe to publish she gave them this recipe we've never seen in our lives," says Cierra as Inez sits beside her, innocently sipping her coffee. "I was like 'Grandma, that's not it,' and she said 'I know."

Truth be told, Cierra and Haley say their grandmother would run the place for another 50 years if she could. In an age where family businesses rarely go two generations, she is the glue that has kept it all together.

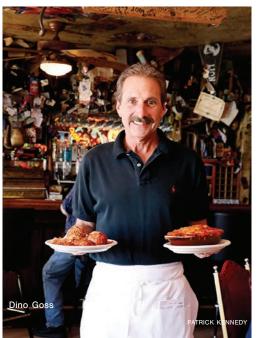
"She understands that family that cooks together stays together," Jerry says.

That's the hazard of being a grandma, the family says, keeping the family and—in this case the community—fed and happy over the years.

"She's not just our grandma," agree Haley and Cierra.

Inez smiles at the thought.

"Just don't sell me for a quarter," she teases.





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- 101 Austin Chamber of Commerce
- 102 Beatty Chamber of Commerce
- 103 Boulder City
  Chamber of Commerce
- 106 Carson Valley Visitors Authority
- 109 Fallon Convention& Tourism Authority
- 110 Elko Convention
- & Visitors Authority

  112 Nevada Commission on Tourism
- 116 Lander County
  - Convention & Tourism
- 117 Winnemucca Convention& Visitors Authority
- 119 Pony Express Territory
- 121 Town of Pahrump
- 122 Las Vegas Convention& Visitors Authority
- 123 Reno Sparks Convention& Visitors Authority
- 128 Wells Chamber of Commerce
- 133 City of West Wendover
- 135 Nevada Silver Trails

### **BED & BREAKFASTS**

401 Nevada B&B Guild

# ATTRACTIONS, GALLERIES, & MUSEUMS

- 603 Nevada Northern Railway
- 618 Springs Preserve
- 630 Town of Tonopah
- 633 Safe Haven Wildlife Sanctuary
- 634 CA Trails Interpretive Center
- 636 Nevada Discovery Museum
- 638 Nevada Historical Society

### **EVENTS/SHOWS**

- 704 Nevada's Cowboy Country
- 754 Ivory Star Productions
- 755 Daviloa Productions LLC

### WEDDING VENUES

801 Viva Las Vegas

### RECREATION

904 Sightseeing Tours Unlimited

### 925 Fast Cap Indoor Cart Racing

### **RESTAURANTS/BREWERY**

- 1007 Cactus Creek Prime Steakhouse
- 1015 Café at Adele's

### RETAIL SHOPPING

1217 Scolari's Food & Drug Company

### **RADIO**

2401 America Matters/1180AM Good Time Oldies

2402 KCEP Power 88FM

### **TELEVISION PBS**

2701 KNPB Channel 5



# NEVADA OFFERS A HOST OF HORSE-RACE HAPPENINGS.

The White Pine Horse Races have taken place since the 1920s, attracting thousands of race fans year after year. The event is one of the most popular in White Pine County, held in conjunction each year with the White Pine County Fair. This year's races take place Aug. 18-20, promising three days of hoof-stomping action. The races feature a stock dog competition, exhibit booths, ranch rodeo, barbecue, and, of course, some of the best racing horses the sport has to offer.



PINE HORSE RACES



The Elko County Fair has been bringing family fun to Elko for 97 years, offering the best in old-fashioned western fun. The fair runs from Aug. 25-Sept. 4, and treats guests with crafts and critters, carnival and fair food, horse racing, live music, a stock horse show, and more. The event also features the Cowboy Color Chase, in which runners and walkers embark on a 5k route while being covered in colorful clouds. The fair is highlighted by six full days of horse racing, offering more than \$200,000 in purse money for competitors.

### YEEHAW!

Elko County Fair

Elko

Aug. 25-Sept. 4

elkocountyfair.com, 775-738-3616



American stretch kicks off July 15 at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas and then visits more than 45 cities across the U.S. and Canada.

The 24K Magic World Tour marks Mars' first full-length tour since 2013's hugely successful Moonshine Jungle World Tour, an international blockbuster that sold 2 million tickets worldwide across 155 sold-out dates.

Mars has sold more than 170 million singles worldwide and 26 million albums worldwide, affirming him one of the best-selling artists of all time. Mars dominated charts with the worldwide smash single "Uptown Funk."

### ALSO AT T-MOBILE ARENA

Iron Maiden, July 3 UFC 213, July 8 Soul2Soul, July 13 Daryl Hall & John Oates, July 21 George Strait, July 28-29 Ed Sheeran, Aug. 4 Kendrick Lamar, Aug. 5 Lady Gaga, Aug. 11

# las vegas shows



# HOTTEST SHOWS

### **BLONDIE AND GARBAGE**

Palms July 8 palms.com 702-942-7777

### J. COLE

MGM Grand July 8 mgmgrand.com 877-880-0880

## DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL & THE ALL AMERICAN REJECTS

Palms July 15 palms.com 702-942-7777

### **DIRTY HEADS & SOJA**

Mandalay Bay July 15 mandalaybay.com 702-632-7777

### **GOOD CHARLOTTE**

Fremont Street Experience July 22 vegasexperience.com 702-678-5600

### THIRD EYE BLIND

Hard Rock July 22 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000

### **RANCID & DROPKICK MURPHYS**

Downtown Las Vegas Events Center Aug. 25 dlvec.com 800-745-3000

### FOREIGNER & CHEAP TRICK

Cosmopolitan Aug. 27 cosmopolitanlasvegas.com 702-698-7000

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Against.

International superstar **Ricky Martin** has announced his exclusive Las Vegas headlining residency, "ALL IN," at Park Theater at Monte Carlo Resort and Casino. The electrifying show is filled with incredible performances and infused with the personal magnetism that has captivated his audiences for decades. **montecarlo.com**, **702-730-7777** 

Multi-platinum rock band Goo Goo Dolls, accompanied by "American Idol" winner Phillip Phillips, take over the Downtown Las Vegas Events Center on Saturday, July 15 as part of their anticipated "Long Way Home" summer tour. divec.com, 800-745-3000

### **July 1-4**

### STAR SPANGLED SPARKS

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks nuggetcasinoresort.com, 775-356-3300

Join the all-new Nugget Casino Resort July 1-4 to celebrate Independence Day in style with live music, food vendors, patriotic bike parade, and craft booths. The event culminates with two spectacular fireworks displays in downtown Sparks on July 1 and 4.



**July 13-15** 

# SILVER STATE STAMPEDE RODEO

Elko County Fairgrounds, Elko silverstatestampede.com, 775-934-2392

Nevada's oldest rodeo, the Silver State Stampede, is back. The event started in 1913 when world-famous bit, spur, and saddle maker GS Garcia decided Elko needed a new source of entertainment. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association event showcases some of the most talented riders.

### 1-2

### BIGGEST LITTLE CITY WING FEST

Reno

visitrenotahoe.com, 800-367-7366

### 1-31

### **ARTOWN**

Reno

renoisartown.com, 775-322-1538

### 4

### 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Heritage Park, Henderson cityofhenderson.com, 702-267-2323

### 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS & PARADE

Tonopah

tonopahnevada.com, 775-482-6336

### ALAMO 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Alamo

lincolncountynevada.com, 877-870-3003

### BEATTY 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL

Beatty

beattynevada.org, 775-553-2424

### CALIENTE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Caliente

lincolncountynevada.com, 877-870-3003

### JARBIDGE 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND

Jarbidge

jarbidge.org

### PAHRUMP 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL

Pahrump

pahrumpnv.org, 775-727-5800

### 8-Aug. 27

### LAKE TAHOE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Sand Harbor State Park

laketahoeshakespeare.com, 775-832-1616

### 11-16

### AMERICAN CENTURY CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Edgewood Tahoe, Stateline

americancenturychampionship.com, 800-367-7366

### 14

### **AMERICA**

Silver Legacy, Reno silverlegacyreno.com, 775-329-4777

### 14-15

### SMACKDOWN BULL-RIDING EVENT

Tonopah Rodeo Grounds, Tonopah tonopahnevada.com, 775-482-6336

### 15

### RASCAL FLATTS

Peppermill, Reno peppermillreno.com, 866-821-9996

### 21-23

### SACRED VISIONS POWWOW

Big Bend Ranch, Wadsworth 775-815-7588

### WINNEMUCCA WHEELS CAR SHOW

Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca fifties-fever.com, 775-623-5071

### 22

### BANDA EL LIMÓN

Primm Valley Resort & Casino, Primm primmvalleyresorts.com, 702-386-7867

### 27-29

### NIGHT IN THE COUNTRY

Lyon County Fairgrounds, Yerington nightinthecountry.org, 775-463-7826

### 28-30

### WELLS FUN RUN

Wells

wellsnevada.com, 775-752-3540

### 28-Aug. 12

### CLASSICAL TAHOE

Lake Tahoe area classicaltahoe.org

### 29

### BUSH

Silver Legacy, Reno silverlegacyreno.com, 775-329-4777



### Aug. 8-13

# HOT AUGUST NIGHTS VINTAGE TRAILER REVIVAL

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Reno

hotaugustnights.net, 775-356-1956

Hot August Nights main event, Aug. 8-13, has been expanded to four-wheeled accommodations. The inaugural vintage trailer revival displays creative campers and trailers made in or before 1976. Vintage trailers add another layer of nostalgia and competition the event's 31st anniversary.



Aug. 24-27

# FALLON CANTALOUPE FESTIVAL & COUNTY FAIR

Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon

falloncantaloupefestival.com, 775-294-7969

When Bubba spoke of the many uses of shrimp in the 1994 film "Forest Gump," he probably didn't know the uses for cantaloupe far outweighed those of his beloved crustaceans. Cantaloupe daiquiri, cantaloupe doughnuts, cantaloupe pie, and myriad other uses are what make the festival so special.

### 4-5

### **RUBY MOUNTAIN RELAY**

Lamoille Canyon rubymountainrelay.com

### 5

### BUCKAROO DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF

Vesco Park, Winnemucca nevadaoutdoorschool.org, 775-623-5656

### EQUESTRIAN PARK BUCKAROO BASH

Carlin

cityofcarlin.com, 775-754-6354

### KINGSTON DAYS

Kingston

austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

### 5-6

### BRISTLECONE ARTS IN THE PARK

Elv

bristleconeartsely.com, 775-293-0527

### 5 & 19

### CARSON CITY GHOST WALK

Carson City carsoncityghostwalk.com, 775-348-6279

### 7

### "OUT OF THIS WORLD"

Sand Harbor State Park renophil.com, 775-323-6393

### 11-13

### LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Panaca lincolncountynevada.com, 877-870-3003

### JARBIDGE DAYS

Jarbidge jarbidge.org

### 12

### **BILLY RAY CYRUS**

Edgewater, Laughlin visitlaughlin.com, 702-298-3321

### DANCING WITH THE STARS: LIVE! - HOT SUMMER NIGHT

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno

grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

### 18-19

### CARLIN RANCH HAND RODEO

Carlin

cityofcarlin.com, 775-754-6354

### 25

### IDINA MENZEL

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

### 26

### BURNER CAR SHOW N' SHINE

Elquist Park, Battle Mountain battlemountainburners.com, 775-304-7800

### STEVE MARTIN & MARTIN SHORT

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

### Through Aug. 27

### CIRQUE LE NOIR

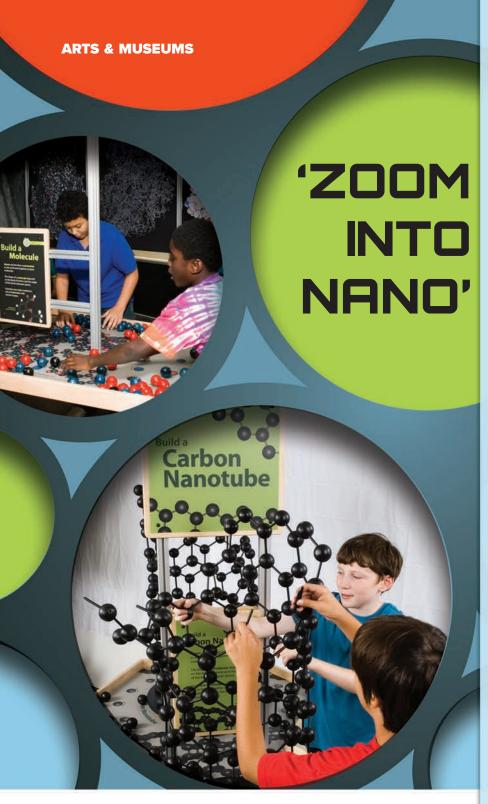
Eldorado, Reno eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700

### 27-Sept. 4

### BURNING MAN

Black Rock City burningman.org





### **ARTIFACTS & ARTISTRY**

# "CITY OF DUST: THE EVOLUTION OF BURNING MAN"

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno July 1-Jan. 7, 2018 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

### CHILDREN'S WATERCOLOR CLASS

St. Mary's Art & Retreat Center, Virginia City July 8 stmarysartcenter.org, 775-220-0325

### "FRAGILE"

Stone Soup Art Center, Las Vegas Through July 31 arts4nevada.org, 702-642-5227

# INCLINE VILLAGE FINE ART FESTIVAL

Preston Field, Incline Village Aug. 11-13 cwbevents.com, 916-936-9393

### **EXPLORE THE INVISIBLE**

"Zoom into Nano"
DISCOVERY Children's Museum, Las Vegas
Through Sept. 4
discoverykidslv.org, 702-382-3445

### CHILDREN'S EXHIBIT EX-PLORES TINY TECHNOLOGY.

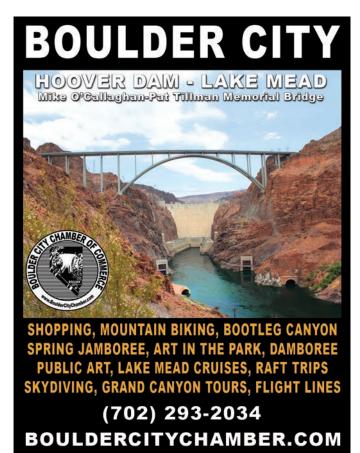
DISCOVERY Children's Museum unveiled its newest touring exhibit, "Zoom into Nano," in May. The exhibit educates and entertains museum visitors through Sept. 4.

Nanotechnology involves the creation of tiny devices smaller than 100 nanometers in size (For reference, one meter is made up of 1 billion nanometers). The new exhibit looks at how engineers and scientists create materials and new technologies by building from the bottom up with atoms—the fundamental building blocks of matter—providing visitors with a fascinating and comprehensible way to explore the invisible.

"When we first heard about this exhibit, a lot of us had the same reaction that many of our visitors probably will ask: 'what does nano mean?" says Tifferney White, CEO and president of DISCOVERY Children's Museum. "After spending time with it and exploring not only the importance of this technology, but how fun and engaging it can be from a handson perspective, all of us here were instantly excited about bringing it to DISCOVERY and our visitors."

The interactive, family-friendly exhibit demonstrates how advances in nanotechnology are likely to change the way humans design and fabricate almost everything—from faster computers and stain-repellent clothing to new medicines for the treatment of cancer and other diseases. Exhibit guests are able to zoom into tiny structures and devices to see the amazing beauty of natural manmade objects at very high magnification, as well as to immerse themselves in models of atoms and molecules that are enlarged to 1 million times their actual size.

As schools break for summer vacation, "Zoom into Nano" is a great way for families to continue learning together during the break in a unique way. The focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is at the heart of the exhibit and gives guests of all ages a new perspective on the modern amenities and technological advances many take for granted.



Nevada Historical Society

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40-Mile Desert

We have a great exhibit of Native American baskets including 10 by acclaimed Washoe basketry artist Dat So La Lee

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Visit us online: www.museums.nevadaculture.org/nhs-home Facebook: Nevada Historical Society Instagram: thenevadahistoricalsociety





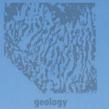
# ANCIENT NEVADA











Fourth of six-part series unearths specimens that are older than dirt.

FOSSILS

# BY ERIC CACHINERO

Evidence of ancient life is set in stone. Hundreds of millions of years ago, giant marine reptiles occupied the oceans that covered what would become Nevada. The ichthyosaur was one among many species whose bodies became entombed in mud, which solidified into rock and remained undisturbed until modern man began unearthing the fossils.

But it's not just 49-foot carnivorous reptiles that left fossil clues for us to find. Paleontologists have uncovered the remains of mammoths, giant sloths, ancient horses, bison, American lions, and many other species that existed in Nevada after the ancient seas dried up. There are hundreds of locations where these treasures can be found in the state, and more are likely to be discovered. Fossils tell a story similar to many other facets of Nevada history: the truth always lies just beneath the surface.

### FOSSIL 700

Along the northern edge of Las Vegas lies a series of light-colored badlands that gives us a window into the past. Scores of fossils have been found in Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument, ranging from several thousand to several hundred thousand years old. The National Parks Foundation has even referred to the area as "Mammoth Central" because of its sheer abundance of Columbian mammoth fossils. These massive mammals

### ANCIENT NEVADA Fossils

weighed about 10 tons (22,000 pounds) and grew tusks that could reach 16 feet in length. Their size ensured relatively conspicuous fossils were left behind.

Though the arid fossil beds are now mostly devoid of life, they used to be lush wetlands that provided sustenance for a host of creatures. Fossils of saber-toothed cats, Dire wolves, Camelops (a large version of modern Bactrian camels), and even fossilized

pollen have been discovered at Tule Springs, painting a picture of an ancient Nevada much different than today. of these giant marine reptile fossils in the world, leading to its designation of state fossil in 1977.

It's said that early miners first discovered the fossils in the late 1800s—though it's likely they didn't identify them as such—and used them for everything from dinner plates to house decorations and fire hearths. Siemon Muller of Stanford University identified the fossils as ichthyosaur in 1928, but it wasn't until











In May, I joined my friends, Brandon Wilding and Jack Hursh, on a weekend fossil trip in central Nevada. The three of us left Reno early on a Saturday en route to Middlegate opal and fossils area, located just northeast of Middlegate Station. Rolling white badlands—sometimes typical to fossil-hunting areas—informed us we'd found the right spot. The area is known for an abundance of fossilized ancient plants, along with the occasional animal and opal specimen.

As soon as we arrived at a place that looked "fossily," we began picking up pieces of white shale and examining them for any signs of ancient life. I didn't expect to see complete Tyrannosaurus Rex fossils sitting on the surface, but I did expect to see more than we did. The stop did, however, give us a chance to stretch our legs and interrupt a Pronghorn antelope that may have been doing some fossil hunting of his own.

We left the antelope paleontologist and headed south on State Route 722, before turning off on Buffalo Canyon Road en route to lone. Our next stop was Buffalo Canyon fossils and opalite area, located about 5 miles south of

the turnoff. The area is marked by similar topography to the Middlegate site, though the colors are wildly different. Thin streaks of pale blue intersect the eroding hills, and word has it those streaks are where the fossils are. We poked



Caliente gives a look at ancient life that was much smaller

in size, but much greater in numbers. Trilobites have been

extinct for 250 million years, though evidence of them can still

be easily found. These small, hard-shelled relatives of modern

crustaceans roamed the sea floor by the millions, but met their

mud. The species of trilobites found at the Oak Springs site are

demise when the sea dried up and they became fossilized in

believed to be the oldest in Earth's history, dating back 500

Amateur archaeologists should have no trouble finding a

trilobite or two at the site. The mud that trapped the trilobites

has turned into shale rock, which can be easily split apart with a



the mid 1950s that Charles Camp of the University of California, Berkley began excavations. Camp determined the Nevada ichthyosaur to be a new species entirely and designated the genus *Shonisaurus popularis*, which means lizard from the Shoshone Mountains.

There have been several hypotheses as to how and why so many ichthyosaurs ended up in such close proximity. Theories include food poisoning, beaching, toxic algae blooms, low-oxygen water, and even giant ichthyosaur-eating squid. One of the most generally accepted theories is that the creatures became stranded and isolated during unusually low tides. The truth remains, though, that we really don't know exactly why so many

are here.

Today, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park has several of these impressive fossils on display. Guests can tour the fossil house and learn about central Nevada's ancient history.



The Oak Springs Trilobites Site just off U.S. Route 93 near



million years.

rock pick.

There's something special about playing hide-and-seek with a creature that's been hiding for 500 million years. Some fossils in Nevada date back to a time when supercontinent Pangaea wasn't even formed yet. And as violent as some of the Earth's natural cycles are, many ancient plant and animal specimens have remained relatively undisturbed during this unfathomably long timespan. For some critters, home has meant Nevada for a lot longer than it has for us.

Next issue, we'll explore the ancient plants and animals of Nevada in their living form.



THOMAS BRESSON

around for a bit, finding pieces of bluish shale and delicately coaxing them open. Sure enough, we hit fossil pay dirt. We found several small fossilized plant remnants, most of which looked like twigs. We snapped some photos and were on our way.

Our next stop was Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, where we visited the fossil house. We were worried about running low on daylight at this point, so instead of touring the fossil house, we decided to hightail it to our last and final fossil stop for the day: Ikes Canyon.

Located in the Toquima Range on the northwest side of Monitor Valley, Ikes Canyon is a petri dish teeming with ancient life. We offer a second look at what first appear to be ordinary rocks, only to find that many are comprised of hordes of seashell-like marine fossils of all shapes and sizes. As we moseyed up the hill, it was tough to stay focused on one specimen before catching sight of another. Quartz veins splinter through the various pieces of shale, adding to the beauty. Just before leaving, Brandon reached down to pick up one last curious



looking rock, and to all of our amazement, he revealed a fist-sized ammonite. The find was the most exciting of the day. We photographed the fossil before Brandon returned it to its natural habitat, leaving it for someone else to find another day.

As daylight waned, we headed south through Belmont before arriving in Manhattan. We finished off the night chatting with locals in the Manhattan Bar, before exploring the town a bit and calling it a night.

PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO







### BY MEGG MUELLER

The neighboring counties of White Pine and Elko each have spectacular scenery, extraordinary vacation spots, and a whole lot of space. They both have two state parks, also, and while water plays a huge part in the boundless recreation three of the parks have to offer, one has something a little different cooking for your state park adventures.

# SOUTH FORK STATE RECREATION AREA

The South Fork Valley, rich with vegetation and a consistent supply of water from the Upper Humboldt River, lured settlers in 1867. Located about 18 miles south of Elko with the majestic Ruby Mountains in the background, the setting is as picturesque as you'll find. And thanks to the establishment of the South Fork State Park in 1983, and the creation of the South Fork Dam in 1988, the valley now has a massive, 1650-acre reservoir chock full of fish and beckoning water sports enthusiasts.



JEFF ERICKSON

Known for its trophy-sized trout—along with catfish and bass—South Fork just begs to be fished, and visitors readily comply. By boat or along the ample shores, fishermen flock to the reservoir in all seasons.

The abundant wildlife draws hunters in-season, and wildlife enthusiasts year-round. Everything from mule deer, badgers, beavers, and waterfowl call the valley home and are regularly on display throughout the park.

Camping is available at a 25-site campground—complete with restroom and showers—or along the southwest shore, primitive camping is allowed. There are no developed hiking trails, but with all that beautiful water and miles of shoreline including day-use beaches with picnic tables, why would you want to go hike? Save that for nearby Lamoille Canyon after you've had your fill of South Fork's fishing and boating fun.



### WILD HORSE STATE RECREATION AREA

About 89 miles north of South Fork—66 miles north of Elko—sits Wild Horse State Recreation Area, home to another giant reservoir. At 2,830 acres, Wild Horse is not only much larger than South Fork, its waters are stored for agricultural uses at the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

That said, the waters invite visitors all year long. As popular in winter—despite frigid temps, or because of them—as it is in the summer, Wild Horse has been a popular state recreation area since 1979. The area around Wild Horse is ripe with elk, pronghorn, mule deer, and lots of waterfowl and upland game birds. There is no hunting in the park, but the 34 campsites are a

favorite basecamp for hunters during the season. There are pull-through sites for large RVs, but no hookups.

Spring and fall offer the best chances for catching rainbow trout, German brown trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, and catfish. Diehard ice fisherman flock to Wild Horse in the winter when fish are still plentiful but temperatures have been known to get to 20-below zero (and lower). Snowmobiling, skiing, ice skating, and sledding are other prime winter activities here.

The fairly remote nature of Wild Horse is perfect for those looking to get out of town but not so far out you can't get back. If you really want to come back, that is. Because after one visit you may just want to stay.



### CAVE LAKE STATE PARK

It may be a small lake compared to the first two parks in this series, but Cave Lake State Park has big fun. The reservoir is 32 acres, but it packs in boating, fishing, swimming in the warmer months, and hosts ice fishing and ice skating in the winter, along with some wacky events all year long.

The reservoir was built in 1939 to store water for a ranch in Steptoe Valley, and in 1968, the current ranch owners sold more than 1,000 acres to the Nevada Department of Fish and Game (now Department of Wildlife) for the excellent sum of \$10. Nevada State Parks took it over in 1973, and established the park that year. The park added campgrounds, a boat dock, and day use areas, and then in 2005 the U.S. Department of Agriculture transferred land to the park, eventually making it a whopping 4,560 acres in total.

Animal lovers will find Cave Lake pretty much heaven, with elk and mule deer common in the area, and-less social but still available for glimpses—predators such as mountain lions, bobcats, and coyotes. Eagles, hawks and many other birds add to the perfect setting that is Cave Lake. Set up in one of two campgrounds, or the two picnic day-use areas and either hit the water or take a hike on one of the park's three moderate trails.

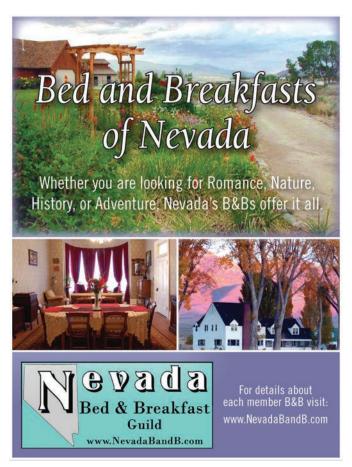
Just for the fun of it, plan your visit around one of the park's unique events. The annual Bathtub Races in June CAVE LAKE STATE PARK
U.S. Highway 93
Ely, NV 89301
parks.nv.gov, 775-867-3001

JEFF ERICKSON

feature converted bathtubs racing across the lake, along with all manner of fun during the day with rubber ducks, cocktails, and a barbecue and fireworks in the evening. For winter lovers, the White Pine County Fire and Ice Show in January has amazing snow and ice sculptures including whimsical fish, giants and anything else the creators can imagine. Bring a picnic and gather around a fire after wandering through the magical creations.













The first 25 people to complete will receive a free copy of our "Historical Nevada" book!

# THE SILVER STATE SCAVENGER HUNT

SEE NEVADA'S ARTISTIC SIDE DURING THIRD-ANNUAL EXPLORATION.

Ready, set, go! The third-annual Silver State Scavenger Hunt is now in full swing! We're celebrating outdoor art of every shape and size this year, sending scavenger hunters on a wild ride to see some of the state's most beautiful and bizarre installations.

If you already have your game plan, it's time to get out there and start exploring! Don't forget to share your adventures with us on Facebook, Twitter, Google +, and Instagram by using #nvmaghunt to document your travels. Remember, the first 25 people to complete the hunt will receive a free copy of our "Historical Nevada" book! So, for the sake of the Silver State, stay safe, have fun, and start your engines!

### THE SILVER STATE SCAVENGER HUNT DETAILS:

We've split the state into two zones—Northern and Southern—and chose 14 notable art pieces in each. Simply pick a zone, visit 10 of the 14 locations in that zone, snap a photo of yourself holding the JULY/AUGUST 2017 issue of *Nevada Magazine* at each location, and email all 10 photos to us at nvmaghunt@gmail.com.

We're teaming up with Land Rover Las Vegas and Jaguar Land Rover Reno, who will be providing this year's prizes.

Visit nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt for complete rules.

# **PRIZES**

### **Southern Nevada Grand-Prize Winner**

The southern Nevada grand-prize winner gets a choice of two distinct experiences. Choose to experience racing a 550-horsepower V8 Jaguar F-type sports car at the Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch in Pahrump, or choose an exciting Land Rover off-road adventure. See Northern Nevada Grand Prize Winner description for details about the off-road adventure.

### **Northern Nevada Grand-Prize Winner**

This grand prize includes an off-road experience in a Land Rover. The prize gives the winner a chance to explore some of the state's coolest locations while riding in a Land Rover. Breakfast and lunch are catered, and the lucky explorer gets to ride with the professionals at Land Rover.

In addition to those provided by Land Rover, participants have a chance to win other cool prizes including Nevada State Museum passes, Nevada Museum of Art passes, and restaurant gift certificates.

# **NORTHERN ZONE**

- ☐ Guardian of Eden | Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
- ☐ Ely Murals\* | Downtown Ely
- **□ Desert Tortoise** | Main Street Art Park, Fernley
- ☐ Thunder Mountain | Imlay
- ☐ Giant Boots\* | Various Locations, Elko
- ☐ Guru Road | North of Gerlach
- Believe | City Plaza, Reno
- Basque Mural | Mason's Hall, Gardnerville
- ☐ Mineral County Museum Mural | Hawthorne
- ☐ Last Chance Joe | Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks
- ☐ Zach's Lucky Spur Saloon Windmill | Kingston
- Bronze Statues\* | Capitol Plaza, Carson City
- Bike Bridge | Main Street, Gerlach
- ☐ Ely Renaissance Sculpture Park | Downtown Ely

\*In situations where multiple art pieces make up part of a larger exhibit, only one photograph is needed to satisfy the requirement.

# **SOUTHERN ZONE**

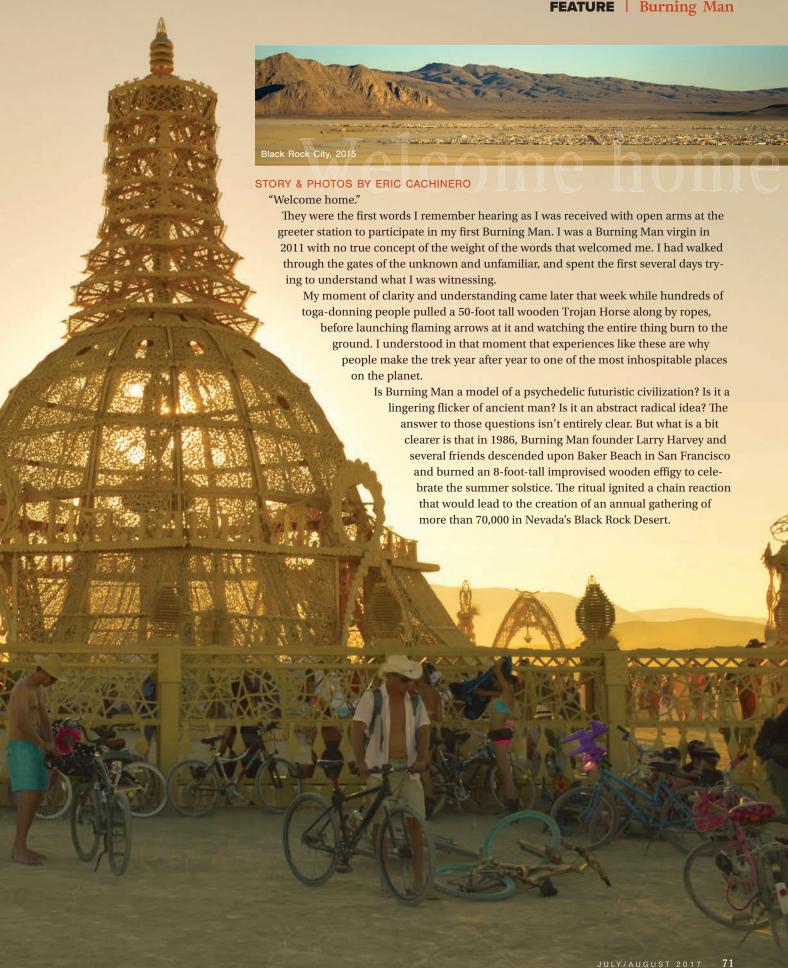
- Seven Magic Mountains | Jean
- ☐ Bliss Dance | The Park, Las Vegas
- **Double Negative** | Northeast of Overton
- ☐ Goldwell Open Air Museum | Rhyolite
- ☐ International Car Forest
  - of the Last Church | Goldfield
- ☐ Praying Mantis | Downtown Container Park, Las Vegas
- Bronze Statues\* | Downtown Boulder City
- ☐ Big Rig Jig | Fergusons Motel, Downtown Las Vegas
- ☐ Beatty Railroad Mural | Beatty
- □ Rachel UFO | Little A'Le'Inn, Rachel
- ☐ Alien Mural | ET Fresh Jerky, Hiko
- Box Car Museum | Railroad Depot, Caliente
- ☐ Pahrump History Mural | Nye County
  - School District building, Pahrump
- World's Largest Firecracker | Amargosa Valley



# BURNING

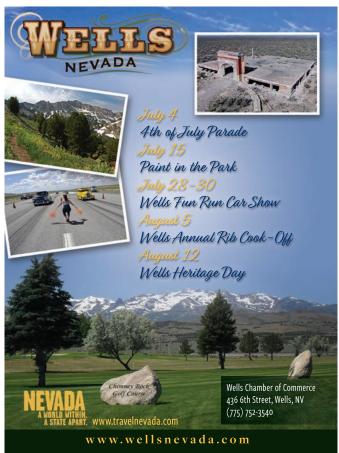
Embrace the ethos in Nevada's Black Rock Desert.











#### WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA





#### 10 Principles

Radical Inclusion
Gifting
Decommodification
Radical Self-reliance
Radical Self-expression
Communal Effort
Civic Responsibility
Leaving No Trace
Participation
Immediacy

Read about the 10 principles at burningman.org.

#### **PYRE**

The foundation on which all of Burning Man thrives is the participants, and those who attend are expected to do just that—participate. Burning Man is not a place for spectators. It thrives only when the people who comprise it participate with it. And its up to each person to decide how they will contribute. The scope of participation covers everything from volunteer work to artistic expression.

What burners do at Burning Man is entirely up to them. Upon arrival, each person is given a book that lists many of the planned events throughout the week. Burners can choose to attend activities that interest them. Between belly-dancing classes, chakra workshops, ice cream socials, and a lot of cocktail dance parties, the events are endless. But for those who burn with a bit less structure, a simple bike ride without any destination in mind can be one of the best ways to explore.

Burning Man embraces 10 main principles (see sidebar) that are vital to the event. The principles are not so much rules; they were developed to reflect the community's ever-changing ethos.

One such principal is radical self-reliance. Participants are responsible for bringing everything to ensure their wellbeing, safety, and comfort (including food and water) as they survive in the desert during the event. There are no goods purchased or sold (except ice and coffee drinks). The community operates on a gifting principal, in which gifts are given without any expectation that something will be given in return. It's principles such as these that set Burning Man apart from any other event in the world.

Black Rock City—the name given to the temporary gathering place—is a fully functioning city, complete with post office, airport, law enforcement, and intricate network of roads with speed limits and street signs. And although Black Rock City does resemble other cities in many ways, it equally embraces the bizarre. People are encouraged to radically express themselves, and artistic expression abounds throughout the city in unimaginable ways. It may be more common to see a giant flame-throwing octopus driving down the street than a normal vehicle. For more than a week the city is alive with various eccentric goings-on that disintegrate the bounds of familiarity.

The event culminates on Saturday night, when tens of thousands gather to witness the man burn. The ritual is preceded by a brilliant fireworks display, before the structure is engulfed in an unfathomable inferno.





#### They Grow up so Fast

The first wooden effigy stood 8-feet tall when it was burned in 1986. The following year it stood 15-feet tall, and was again doubled the year after that. It grew a bit more and 40 feet became standard until it was placed on a raised platform in 1996. The platform grew in size and shape over the years, and reached 104 feet in 2010. In 2014, the man was built without a platform and stood at its tallest level ever, an impressive 105 feet. The platform height and design change annually, often reflecting the year's theme.









#### Inspirations

Each burn adopts a theme for the year, and often times the art is constructed with it in mind. Past themes have included The Body (2000), American Dream (2008), Rites of Passage (2011), and Da Vinci's Workshop (2016). The 2017 theme is Radical Ritual.









18th Annual

#### World Human Powered Speed Challenge

September 11–16, 2017
Battle Mountain, Nevada



#### Come see the world's fastest bicycle race!

Athletes from around the world will attempt to break the human powered land speed record on highway SR305 just outside Battle Mountain. The World Record is currently held by Todd Reichert of Canada's AeroVelo team, at 89.59 mph.

Spectators are welcome.
Racing mornings and evenings.
Show-n-Shine Tuesday 12:00–2:00 pm
Battle Mountain Civic Center
Meet the racers and see the bikes.

For details please call L.C. Convention & Tourism 775-635-1112 or go to our website www.landercountytourism.com

#### Art Abroad

The Burning Man Regional Network plans dozens of Burning Man events across the globe, so those that want to embrace the 10 principles in other countries can do so without such a long travel. One of the most popular regional events, Afrikaburn, is held in Tankwa, South Africa, and has thousands of participants.



#### Art at Home

Along with regional burns, the community also promotes the arts. Burning Man offers art grants both for those bringing projects to the event, as well as global arts grants to share creations with the world. A separate civic arts program works with the goal of placing Burning Man art in public areas. Some of these projects have been on display across Nevada.

#### COMBUST

Burning Man is radically inclusive. Anyone with participation and adventure in their heart and who finds being covered in playa for a week satisfactory will find something that interests them. Everywhere you go at Burning Man is a chance to learn something about yourself: music you never knew you liked, foods you have never tried, art you never knew interested you, and people you never knew you'd meet.





Burning Man is a place where you can wander all day and never feel lost. You can take a sunrise yoga class, roller-skate to disco music, attend a poetry reading, and even run an ultra marathon. You can dress like a narwhal and dance for 24 hours straight. You can behold brilliant pyrotechnic displays. Or you can simply find a spot that makes you comfortable and watch the world go by.

Welcome home.









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#### **BEST SHOW IN SOUTHERN NEVADA**



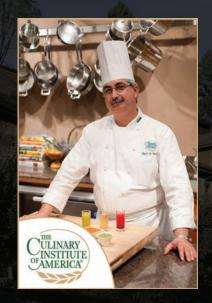
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#### Monday, August 21

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For reservations, please visit www.bonanzacasino.com/reservations



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> Cakebread Cellars



December 4 & 5
Cakebread Cellars

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