LAS VEGAS TERRITORY SPECIAL EDITION

NEVADA MAGAZINE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011



Touring Southern Nevada's Towns

Plus:

- Main Attractions
- Off the Beaten Path
- Parks & Recreation
- Potosi Mine
- Influential Entertainers

Las Vegas' Fascinating History

Q&A With Governor Brian Sandoval

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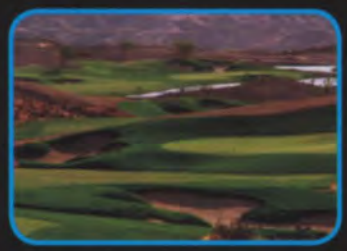
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NEVADA VISITOR'S GUIDE



The statewide 2011 Nevada Visitor's Guide is the perfect complement to this Las Vegas Territory Special Edition. Learn more inside. 43

DEPARTMENTS

up front

8 Death Valley National Park, Mechanical Bull-Riding in Las Vegas, Mark Twain's Autobiography and Incline Village Cultural Center, & Reno's Nevada Heritage Wall

advertorial

28 Make a Memory With Forever Resorts

city limits

30 Southern Nevada's Main Attractions

wide open

34 Off-the-Beaten-Path Excursions

38 Parks and Recreation

history

44 Potosi Mine, Nevada's First Lode

47 Looking Back

events & shows

54 The 10 Most Influential Acts in Las Vegas History

66 12 Southern Nevada Events to Plan for in 2011

IN EVERY ISSUE

3 Nevada Wide Web

4 Editor's Note/Letters to the Editor

5 Territory Intro/Map

52 Events & Shows Column

58 Southern Nevada Events & Shows

68 Northern Nevada Events & Shows

80 Your Nevada

Cover Photo: Anders Sorensen

The "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada" sign at 5100 Las Vegas Boulevard South has been appearing in family photo albums for more than 50 years. This particular photo "was taken at night using a selective focus lens, which has the ability to be articulated so that the center of focus is not at the center of the photo frame," Sorensen says.

LAS VEGAS TERRITORY SPECIAL EDITION

FEATURES

Q&A With Governor Brian Sandoval 6



On January 3, Brian Sandoval officially takes over as Governor of Nevada, in what is perhaps the most crucial term in the state's history. With an emphasis on economic development and education, learn what issues Sandoval and his administration consider essential to boosting Nevada's struggling economy.



12

PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

Tales From Las Vegas

Ever wonder what Las Vegas might have looked like through the eyes of the very people whose experiences shaped the city? We considered many perspectives, from early Mormon settlers to the mega-resort tycoons of the late 20th century. The ones we ultimately chose focus on some of the most pivotal times in the city's history. The narrators are fictional, but the events and times they represent are not.

Touring Southern Nevada's Towns 22

From Blue Diamond to Searchlight, the towns in Las Vegas Territory are historic and varied. Take a journey—a mini Tour Around Nevada, if you will—through 16 Southern Nevada burgs, from their origin to what they offer travelers today.



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THIS ISSUE ON NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM

- In January 1942, actress **Carole Lombard** and other passengers died in a Potosi Mountain (above) plane crash. Read more about the tragedy and how to hike to the crash site. By Jim Boone
- **Lake Mead** is home to millions of striped bass. Learn how to bait them and, more importantly, reel them in. By Lee Allen
- New Mexico's **Jamey Stillings** shares his photographs of the evolution of the recently opened Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge.
- **The Vegas Mob Tour** and **Haunted Vegas Tours** give participants a unique look at Las Vegas' scandalous and ghostly past.
- Discover the small town of **Tecopa** and its Hot Springs Resort.

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WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

cityoffernley: @Nevada_ Magazine Thanks for the great [Flickr] pics of the Hoover Dam Bypass. They are incredible.—Twitter

Nevada Tumbleweed: I get out of breath just looking at this!—Flickr, commenting on the November/December 2010 cover (hiker on top of Boundary Peak)

sonia: Nice post. We are a retired couple who have nothing to do but travel. We are planning to go and see NV this January. It would be our first time in NV.—Blogger

TheLowe4: I don't know if it's just a cloud or something, but at the beginning at the top right hand corner you can see something that looks like a UFO.—YouTube, commenting on "Extraterrestrial Highway (375)"

WORTH A CLICK

nps.gov/history/museum/exhibits/death_valley/index.html

The National Park Service has launched a multimedia "Virtual Museum" highlighting hundreds of items from Death Valley National Park's collection.

FEATURED PHOTO COLLECTION

Las Vegas Territory: Visit our Flickr profile, and click on "Collections" to see images from our travels in Southern Nevada, including a helicopter tour over Hoover Dam and daytrips to Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort and Valley of Fire.

FEATURED PHOTO COLLECTION

75 Years of Covers: 2011 marks *Nevada Magazine's* Diamond Anniversary. Enjoy 75 years (1936-2011) of *Nevada Highways and Parks* and *Nevada Magazine* history by clicking on the Cover Images "Collection" at Flickr.

FEATURED BLOG

Cirque du Soleil: Click on our Events & Shows blog to read about an exclusive backstage experience being offered in collaboration with BestofVegas.com. The deal provides showgoers with an insider's look at "LOVE" or "O."

75 reasons to celebrate

Since January 1936, *Nevada Highways and Parks*—now *Nevada Magazine*—has been telling the Silver State's story. What a wonderful trip it's been.

This issue marks our 75th anniversary, which we will celebrate throughout 2011. Recently we completed production of our 75th-Anniversary Edition, now available for purchase on nevadamagazine.com or by calling 877-904-7953. The nearly 200-page issue features 24 reprinted stories from the 1930s through 2010. Creating the special tribute gave our staff (pictured at right) the opportunity to rediscover not only Nevada's past, but also the magazine's past.



Left to Right, Back Row: Melissa Loomis, Tony deRonnebeck, Pati Stefonowicz; Middle Row: Carrie Roussel, Janet Geary; Front Row: Charlie Johnston, Matthew B. Brown, Sean Nebeker.

In doing so, we have a newfound appreciation for the dedicated employees who have advanced this publication from a 20-page black-and-white bulletin to the beautiful modern magazine it is today.

I also want to take this opportunity to say that I'm extremely proud of our eight-person staff (the magazine's smallest in many years) for maintaining the quality that our readers have come to expect in our six annual issues, all while managing an award-winning website, staying active in social media, producing our annual Nevada Historical Calendar, and assisting the Nevada Commission on Tourism in the yearly production of the Nevada Visitor's Guide.

To make 2011 special for our readers and for Nevada tourism, we have decided to dedicate each one of our six issues to Nevada's six territories, starting with Las Vegas Territory in Southern Nevada (for more information on Nevada's territories, visit travelnevada.com). The territory, as you will learn in this issue, encompasses much more than fabulous Las Vegas.

This year is also about tradition. Look for "Reflections"—excerpts from our archives—throughout our 2011 issues. Also, we felt it was important to bring back another tradition: introducing our next Governor. Paul Laxalt, Mike O'Callaghan, and Robert List once greeted Nevadans in the pages of *Nevada Magazine*. On page 6, newly elected Governor Brian Sandoval discusses the challenges that face our state as we enter the New Year.

As Governor Sandoval says in his interview, here's to another 75 years.

Matthew B. Brown, Editor

PEAK PERFORMANCE

I enjoyed and had to chuckle at the "Two For the Road" article—and the great cover on your November/December 2010 issue. I had just returned from yet another trip on the back roads of your great state. My dad started taking me there in our '37 Chevy right after the big war. I am still enjoying the backcountry in my Toyota.



[The picture above] is of myself at the top of Wheeler Peak. Notice the resemblance to your cover? I guess it is the natural reaction to such a high. So here's to many more great treks and back roads! Watch your back and rearview mirror—you may see a little old lady dressed in blue!

Agnes L. Walker, Penn Valley, California

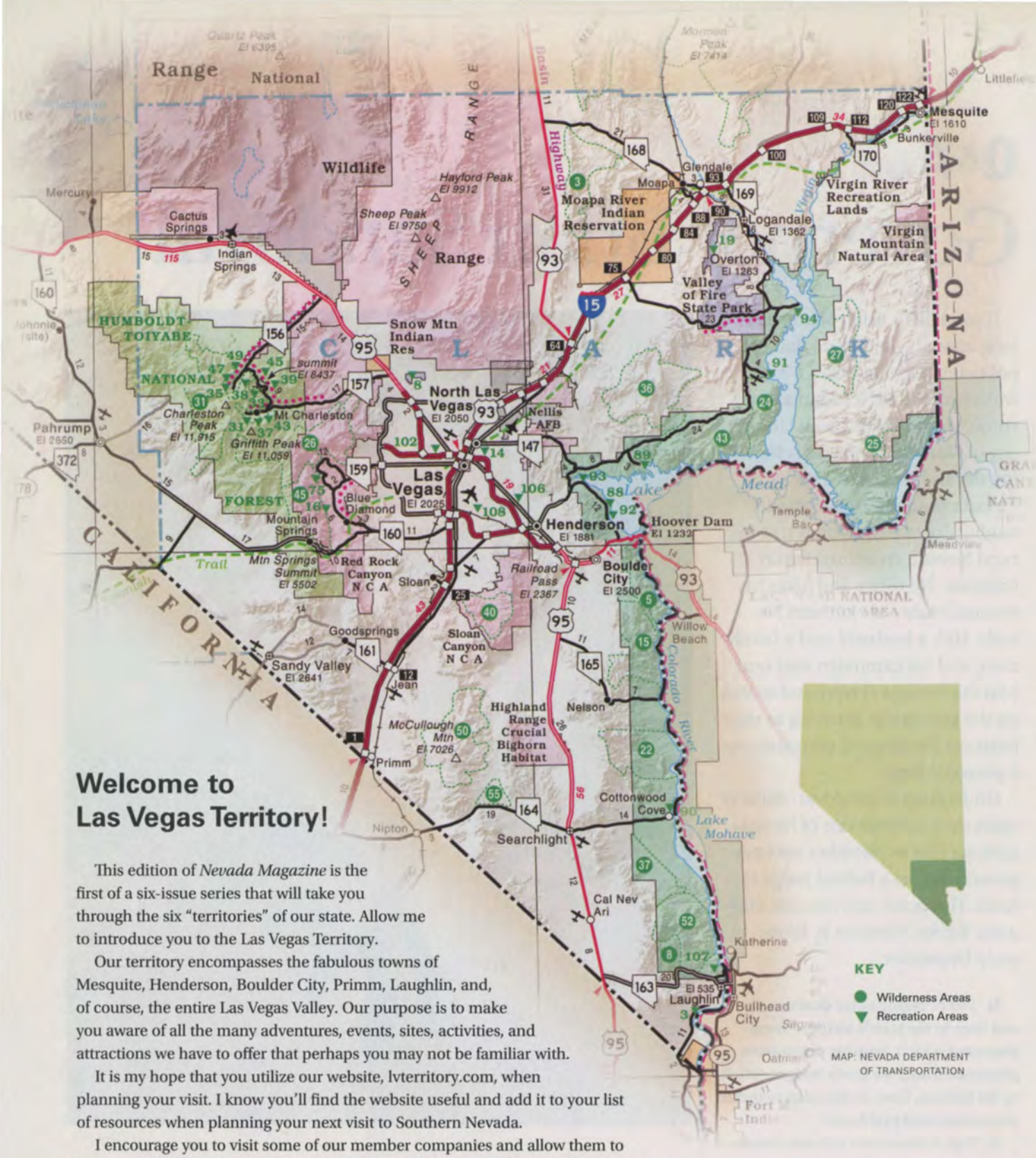
ONE FOR THE ROAD

I am looking forward to driving across the new [Hoover Dam] Bypass/bridge, since it is just about the only [paved] road in Nevada I have not driven. Your "Two for the Road" joint article brought back fond memories of my adventures in most of the places you referenced and some other lesser-known Nevada locations I have enjoyed: Vya, Hamilton, Aurora, Montello, Uvada, and Carp, among others. Thanks for the memories.

Peter Holden, Holden, Missouri

Correction: We learned two very important lessons in our November/December 2010 issue: a). Don't get a politician's party affiliation wrong, and b.) Don't get it wrong during an election month. As many pointed out, President Herbert Hoover was a Republican, not a Democrat, as we incorrectly printed on page 45.

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.



Welcome to Las Vegas Territory!

This edition of *Nevada Magazine* is the first of a six-issue series that will take you through the six "territories" of our state. Allow me to introduce you to the Las Vegas Territory.

Our territory encompasses the fabulous towns of Mesquite, Henderson, Boulder City, Primm, Laughlin, and, of course, the entire Las Vegas Valley. Our purpose is to make you aware of all the many adventures, events, sites, activities, and attractions we have to offer that perhaps you may not be familiar with.

It is my hope that you utilize our website, lvterritory.com, when planning your visit. I know you'll find the website useful and add it to your list of resources when planning your next visit to Southern Nevada.

I encourage you to visit some of our member companies and allow them to roll out the welcome mat and make you feel at home! Thank you for visiting Southern Nevada.

Sincerely,

Teri Laursen

Teri Laursen
Las Vegas Territory Chair

Q&A with Governor Brian Sandoval

If you talk to Brian Sandoval long enough you realize that his politician persona belies a man whose core is as Nevadan as they come. He graduated from University of Nevada, Reno and is for all intents and purposes a lifelong Nevada resident. He has made cutting down a Christmas tree in rural Nevada an annual family tradition. He fishes and hikes in the mountains of Northern Nevada. He's a husband and a family man, and his campaign that won him the Nevada Governorship was on the strength of listening to state business leaders and educators on a personal level.

On January 3, Sandoval officially takes over as Governor of Nevada, after serving as Nevada's attorney general and as a federal judge in Reno. He spoke with *Nevada Magazine* Editor Matthew B. Brown in early December.



Q You're taking office during a pivotal time in the state's history. Unemployment is high, housing prices have plummeted, and we face a budget deficit in the billions. How do you plan to tackle these economic problems?

A First, I understand that our state is facing some extreme challenges that we haven't confronted in the history of our state. My number-one priority for my administration is to bring jobs to the State of Nevada and protect the jobs that we have. So I think it's extremely important that the Governor be very aggressive in terms of attracting business to the State of Nevada in that regard, and I've already begun calling the CEOs of companies that are considering relocating their businesses to our state. I think the time has come for the Governor of Nevada to be personally involved in that effort and act as the number-one recruiter for bringing new businesses. That would be my first approach.

My second is that I think it's important that Nevada have a stable tax policy. It's rated the No. 4 state in the country in terms of business environment because we do have a very positive tax environment for businesses. I think it's important that we keep taxes on Nevada citizens and businesses low.

Q You've said that economic development is your number-one priority. Please elaborate.

A I think it's important that the director of the Commission on Economic Development for the State of Nevada become a cabinet-level position. This is an individual who I'll want to report to me on a weekly basis in terms of what's happening and what the state is doing to attract new business.

I'm also going to work very closely with the Lieutenant Governor, Brian Krolicki, who's been chairman of the Nevada Commission on Economic Development. He understands that it's an extremely important role for the next four years.

As part of my campaign, I visited 100 businesses across the State of Nevada. As I visited those businesses, I talked to those employers to see the situation that they're in, let them know it's important that we take care of them, and ensure that we have a positive business environment so that none of them look to go to another state.

Q Education is another area you'd like to improve upon. How do you plan to do so?

A Like I visited those 100 businesses, I also visited 100 schools throughout the State of Nevada. I visited schools in rural areas, Las Vegas, Northern Nevada; grade schools, elementary schools, high schools, middle schools, charter schools, private schools, because I felt it was important to listen to the teachers, parents, students, as well as the principals and superintendents of all the schools across the State of Nevada to assess the situation. It's unacceptable to me that we're ranked last in the country in graduation rates.

I have two kids in the public school system in Washoe County. That's why public education is extremely important to me.

And, also, as I traveled to those schools, I want to compliment so many dedicated teachers who are working so hard for our kids.

Q What do you see in Nevada's tourism future?

A Nevada's always been an incredible place to visit. I think our future's very, very bright. People love to come here because of our incredible natural resources, to fish, to hunt, to attend special events, and obviously to visit Las Vegas, the casinos, the Strip, and to eat at the great restaurants and watch the wonderful shows. I personally don't believe there's another state in the country that provides the diversity we do. Skiing is another one. There are not too many places like Northern Nevada, where you can snow ski in the mountains [in the morning] and then water ski in the afternoon. It's just a really special state and a state that I'm proud of.

"I understand that our state is facing some extreme challenges that we haven't confronted in the history of our state. My number-one priority for my administration is to bring jobs to the State of Nevada and protect the jobs that we have."

Q What's your opinion on Nevada's green-energy potential?

A That's something that I'm going to pursue very aggressively. I'm going to work with the Department of the Interior to ensure the permitting process is expedited so that we can get more projects on the ground. Truly Nevada can be the leader in the country in terms of producing and being an exporter of renewable energy, which in turn will bring a lot of projects to our state, as well as long-term jobs, and create a niche for us at both UNLV and UNR.

Q It says on your website that you like to travel with your family. Where do you like to travel in Nevada?

A We go all over the place. We have an annual trip with some friends of ours. We go to Ione to cut our Christmas tree. One of our traditions is we will stop at the shoe tree between Fallon and Austin. We'll throw some shoes up there, and then we turn [east off of State Route 361] before you get to Gabbs and go over the summit before you drop down into Berlin, and that's where we cut our tree because we like to get a piñon pine every year, a nice Nevada tree. We go visit Berlin, and then we go on into Ione.

I recently visited Midas, which is a great historical community. We as a family went to Ely to the annual crab crack. That's an event we really enjoy. We like to visit the various state fairs. We recently went to Great Basin [National] Park and went into Lehman Caves, and that was extremely fun. We like to go to the mountains in Northern Nevada and go hiking. So we try to go to as many places as we can—Red Rock in Southern Nevada—and visit all the state parks and go fishing whenever we have an opportunity. I guess there's so many wonderful places to visit, I don't know if there's a favorite one for us.

Q *Nevada Magazine* is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2011. How do you view the publication's place in Nevada history?

A It's extremely important. When you publish your magazine, people become aware of these wonderful opportunities and jewels that we have in the state like the living ghost towns, and it might inspire them to go visit them. We mentioned Ione, Belmont—there are so many different celebrations. You can go to Jim Butler Days in Tonopah; there are a lot of folks who are unaware of all the opportunities there are across the state. Your magazine is a gateway for the people of the state, as well as the other subscribers, to become aware of everything Nevada has to offer. So hopefully you guys have another 75 years.

NEVADA ONLINE

Read the complete interview with Governor Sandoval at **nevadamagazine.com**.

NEVADA news

✦ Madeleine Pickens recently purchased the 14,000-acre Spruce Ranch east of Elko that she plans to use as a wild-horse sanctuary. The wife of billionaire oilman T. Boone Pickens is negotiating with the Bureau of Land Management to move 1,000 mustangs to the ranch. savingamericasmustangs.org

✦ Plans to open the **Black Rock Desert's Fly Geyser** to the public sometime this year are underway. The resort, near Gerlach, would include geyser-viewing opportunities, hot-spring swimming and bathing, and camping and lodging options. gotgeysers.com, blackrockdesert.org

✦ Reno's homegrown clothing outlet, **Reno eNVy**, recently opened its second store at The Summit Reno. The new store features co-branded Reno eNVy and **Reno Aces** (Triple-A baseball) merchandise, new winter selections, and standby originals. renoenvy.com, 775-747-3125

✦ Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe's **Lone Eagle Grille** and Lakeside Ballroom in Incline Village recently completed a $700,000 renovation. Improvements include a new alpine-modern design and expanded bar seating. laketahoe.hyatt.com, 775-886-6899

✦ A new visitor center was opened late last year at the **Galena Creek Recreation Area and Regional Park** south of Reno. The center provides park visitors with natural, historical, and recreational information and resources and includes a weather station, exhibits, gift shop, and bookstore. co.washoe.nv.us/parks

PARKS

Conservation at Death Valley National Park

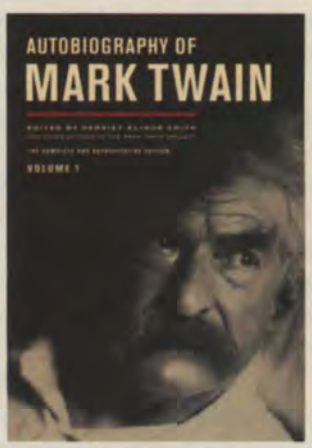
The endangered one-inch-long Devils Hole pupfish are found in only one tiny part of the world—a hot desert pool about as big as a mid-size pickup. Devils Hole is protected as part of Death Valley National Park. To preserve the site and ensure the safety of visitors and the fish, the park has installed a new removable research platform and ladder, expanded security fences, and built a new access path for improved viewing. The park has also restored the Cook House at Scotty's Castle. The house's original main dining room will be open to the public and provide space for interpretive talks and temporary exhibits. The Furnace Creek Visitor Center was closed in November for extensive remodeling and is scheduled to reopen in 2012. In the interim, an adjacent temporary visitor center will serve park visitors. Finally, the park has launched a "virtual museum," accessible from its website. **nps.gov/deva, 760-786-3200**



MARK TWAIN

An American Legend Lives On

When celebrated novelist, humorist, and journalist Samuel Langhorne Clemens—better known by his pen name Mark Twain—passed away, he asked that his autobiography be held secret for 100 years. Twain was born only weeks after Halley's Comet's 1835 appearance and predicted that he would die the next time the comet passed. The comet appeared again April 20, 1910, and Twain died the following day. On the 175th anniversary of the author's birth, November 30, 2010, renowned Twain impersonator McAvoy Layne read from the first of three volumes of the *Autobiography of Mark Twain* at the new Mark Twain Cultural Center in Incline Village. The center features musical and theatric performances and, of course, frequent appearances by Layne. **ghostoftwain.com, 775-831-2820**



To order the *Autobiography of Mark Twain, Volume I,* visit **ucpress.edu** or call **800-777-4726**.

MECHANICAL BULLS

Ride 'Em, Cowboys and Cowgirls

It is only fitting that Las Vegas, home of the National Finals Rodeo and Professional Bull Riders World Finals, would host an assortment of establishments where city folk can try their hands—and sore backsides—at mechanical bull riding.

PBR Rock Bar and Grill inside the Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood is Las Vegas' newest bull-operating destination and offers rides for tips. The hydraulic bull is rumored to frequently dip forward, throwing unsuspecting riders over the horns and onto their haunches.

The restaurant/bar/nightclub offers breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late-night dining, indoor and outdoor seating and bars, nightly live music and DJs, a state-of-the-art sound system, and 115 flat-screen TVs. **pbrrockbar.com, 702-750-1685**

Cadillac Ranch at Town Square offers bull rides for $3. Ample airbags around the electric bull ensure that only your pride will hurt after you're thrown. **cadillacranchvegas.com, 702-294-7300**

Gilley's inside Treasure Island offers rides for $10. The bar's hydraulic bull is said to feel more like the real thing than electric bulls. **gilleyslasvegas.com, 702-894-7111**

Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill inside Harrah's offers free rides. Vegas.com says the bull "really bucks with power" and prescribes the signature Whiskey Girl cocktail to cure riding-educed ailments. **harrahslasvegas.com, 702-369-5000**

Stoney's Rockin' Country south of the Strip offers rides for tips. The hydraulic bull draws a big crowd of onlookers at the largest country-themed nightclub in Las Vegas. **stoneysrockincountry.com, 702-435-2855**



The PBR Rock Bar and Grill inside the Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood is Las Vegas' newest bull-operating destination and offers rides for tips.



LAS VEGAS HAS GROWN FROM

800

RESIDENTS IN 1905 TO ABOUT

620,000

ESTIMATED IN 2010— THAT'S MORE THAN 16 NEW RESIDENTS EVERY DAY FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS!

GETAWAY

Winter Break Bash

Reno's Grand Sierra Resort offers a four-day, all-inclusive winter break package for $399, January 14-17. The second annual Winter Break Bash features three nights at the resort, a two-day lift ticket and transportation to Northstar-at-Tahoe or Alpine Meadows, three daily meals at The Lodge Buffet, a 72-hour open bar at Xtreme Sports Bar and Lounge, a midnight pool party at The Beach, poker tournaments, late-night bowling, and beer-pong tournaments. **collegewinterbreak.com, grandsierraresort.com, 775-572-8289**

NEVADA ski news

✦ **Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe** recently installed top-to-bottom snowmaking on the Silver Dollar Trail at the Slide Bowl, allowing for early season access to the new Winters Creek Lodge. Also new on the mountain, three windspires at Winters Creek Lodge will provide eco-friendly wind power and help offset the resort's environmental impact. The resort's 3rd Day Free pass offers three consecutive lift tickets for $138, and Bonus Mondays feature $39 lift tickets. **mtrose.com, 775-849-0704**



Diamond Peak

✦ **Diamond Peak** opened its new Skier Service Building, which houses ski patrol, the child ski center, ticket windows, and the ski and snowboard schools. **diamondpeak.com, 877-468-4397**

✦ **Squaw Valley USA** is bringing back last season's popular free mountain tours with Chief Mountain Host and Olympic Gold Medalist Jonny Moseley. New this year, Ski with Julia Days offer free skiing and boarding with Olympic Gold Medalist and local hero Julia Mancuso. **squaw.com, 800-403-0206**

✦ The new **Pacific Crest Heli-Guides** is offering Lake Tahoe's first heli-skiing service in partnership with **HeliTahoe**. Full-day trips start at $899 per person. **pacificcrestheliguides.com, 888-792-9222; helitahoe.com, 530-544-2211**

SPECIAL EDITION

Nevada Magazine Celebrates 75 Years



In January 1936, a 20-page bulletin with the name *Nevada Highways and Parks* presented Nevadans and visitors with information about the state's new byways and the unique, interesting locales they led to—75 years later that unassuming publication has grown into the official tourism magazine of Nevada. If you are enjoying the magazine in your hands, you are sure to delight in *Nevada Magazine*'s 75th-Anniversary Edition, 192 pages of some of the best stories to ever grace our pages accompanied by superb historical and modern photos. Get your copy while supplies last. **nevadamagazine.com, 877-904-7953**

ART

Nevada Heritage Wall

The Artists Co-op Gallery in Reno features the works of its 20 members and more than 100 guest artists. The gallery's Nevada Heritage Wall, a new ongoing exhibit, features the works of renowned Nevada artists for sale. The award-winning lineup includes Ruth Hilts, William Moore, Velda Morby, Mahree Roberts, and more. Hilts is best known for her "Native Earth" series and is a charter member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Moore is recognized for his wildlife and Nevada landscape paintings, which have been shown at such prestigious institutions as the Smithsonian. Morby is lauded for her work with numerous challenging styles and techniques and is a charter member of the Artists Co-op Gallery. Roberts is a favorite at the Co-op for her moody and sensitive paintings of Nevada. **artistsco-opgalleryreno.com, 775-322-8896**

RESTAURANT

Rum Roundup

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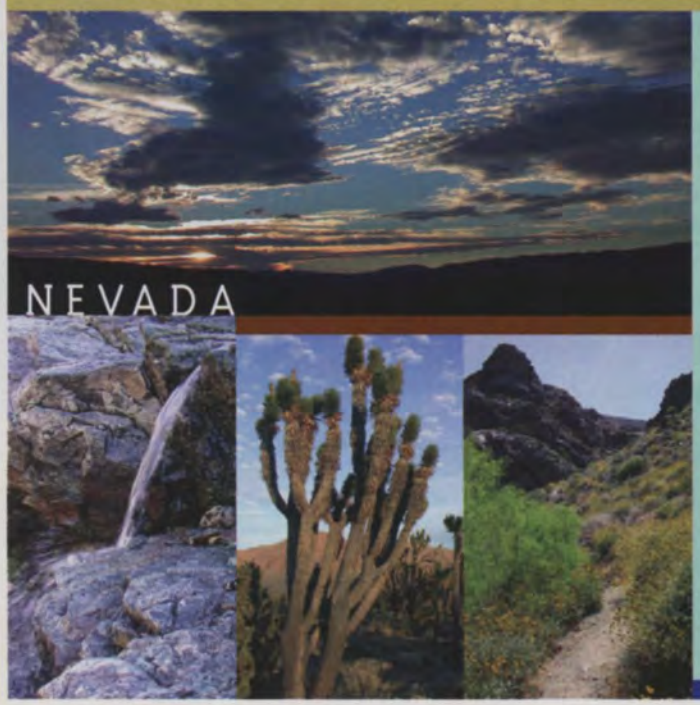
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Tales from Las Vegas

From its humble beginnings to its place among the world's most famous cities.

BY CHARLIE JOHNSTON

Las Vegas. The words—like the city—stand alone. What started as a dusty railroad stop in the early 1900s is a household name today, a metropolis whose global recognition ranks with the likes of New York, London, and Paris. But America's City of Lights has not always been so highly esteemed. One of the founders of what would become the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, John F. Cahlan, said of the dusty town in 1929, "I thought this was the least likely to succeed of any [city in] the United States. I made up my mind that I was going to stay here about a year, then try my luck back in New York or Chicago."

Today, more than 40 million visitors a year are a strong indication that such sentiment could not have been further from the truth. Consider this: When the City of Las Vegas was founded on May 15, 1905, it had a population of about 800. Estimates of the city's 2010 population range as high as about 620,000—that's more than 16 new residents every day for more than 100 years.

Each of those people came for a unique reason and each had a unique experience in the ever-changing city. Some came with nothing and made it big; some came with everything and busted. Some built empires, some built dams. Some gained fame in the spotlight, and some gained notoriety in the back alleys.

The following sections are tidbits of what *Nevada Magazine* thinks Las Vegas might have looked like through the eyes of the very people whose experiences shaped the city. We considered many

REFLECTIONS



Prime target for nearly everyone headed for Las Vegas is the Strip, that brilliant, neon-bathed avenue where the big shows and the big-name entertainers hold forth. The Strip at night is Broadway, Coney Island, and the World's Fair all rolled into one, a carnival which swings in quick tempo in each of the luxurious resort hotels until the wee hours of the morning.

"Las Vegas"
Nevada Highways and Parks, No. 2 1962

LAS VEGAS *Timeline*

1905 LAS VEGAS POPULATION ABOUT 800

1829 – Rafael Rivera becomes the first non-Indian to view the valley. It is later named Las Vegas, Spanish for "the meadows."

1844 – John C. Fremont arrives in Las Vegas and keeps a journal describing two natural springs.

1855 – Mormon settlers build an adobe fort in Las Vegas Valley, roughly halfway between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

Early 1900s – Las Vegas is established as a stop on the new railroad linking Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

May 15, 1905 – The City of Las Vegas is established following the auction of 110 acres of land.

1906 – The Hotel Nevada (now the Golden Gate) opens in downtown Las Vegas.

July 1, 1909 – Clark County is created with Las Vegas as the county seat.

March 16, 1911 – Las Vegas is incorporated.



PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

1930 – LAS VEGAS POPULATION SURPASSES 5,000

1940 – LAS VEGAS POPULATION SURPASSES 8,000

1914 – The Arrowhead Trail (later U.S. 91 and I-15) facilitates travel to Las Vegas from Los Angeles and Salt Lake City.

1931 – Construction begins on Hoover Dam, bringing an influx of workers and corresponding population boom.

March 19, 1931 – Gaming is officially legalized in Nevada.

September 30, 1935 – President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicates Hoover Dam.

1941 – The El Rancho and El Cortez hotel-casinos open, making Las Vegas a resort destination.

1941 – The Las Vegas Army Air Field (now Nellis Air Force Base) is commissioned to train World War II pilots.

November 1944 – Liberace makes his Las Vegas debut.

December 26, 1946 – Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel's Flamingo Hotel opens.

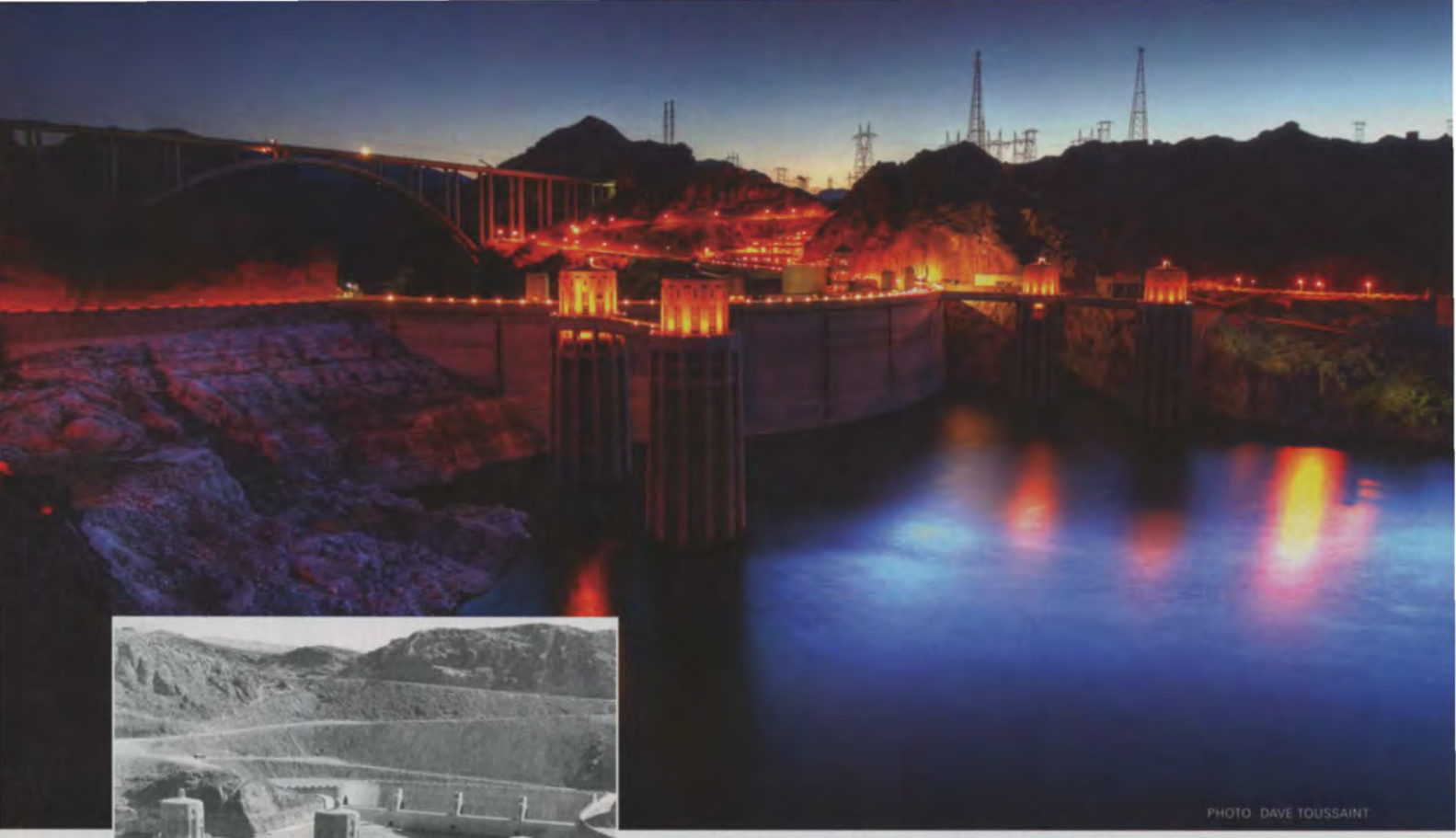


PHOTO: DAVE TOUSSAINT



PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

Today, tourists have the new Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge (top left) to get a bird's-eye view of Hoover Dam. In 1938 (above), they had to be a bit more creative.

perspectives, from the early Mormon settlers to the mega-resort tycoons of the late 20th century. The perspectives chosen focus on some of the most pivotal times in the city's history. The narrators are fictional, but the events and times they represent are not.

Sure, it is a major deviation from the tried-and-true chronological recap of history paradigm we are all so familiar with (the accompanying timeline satisfies that standard), but what better way to share the story of a city that became so successful despite being "the least likely to succeed of any [city in] the United States?"

THE DAM

When the rain stopped I knew it was only a matter of time before the crops went, too. Making ends meet after the stock-market crash was hard enough; with no farm, it would be impossible. Word had been going around for a while that a huge dam—the biggest in the world—was being built out West. I hadn't known nothing but farming my whole life, but knew I had to do something. My family was starving.

Hopeless and hungry, we sold the farm and everything on it for practically nothing and spent damn near every penny we had to get to

▼ **1950** – LAS VEGAS POPULATION NEARS 25,000

1948 Clark County buys Alamo Airport, which later becomes McCarran International Airport.

January 27, 1951 – The first atomic bomb is detonated at the Nevada Test Site, 65 miles north of Las Vegas.

1953 Fremont Street is featured on the cover of the June-December issue of *Nevada Highways and Parks* (now *Nevada Magazine*).

1955 – Las Vegas claims nearly 8 million annual visitors.

April 23, 1956 – Elvis Presley makes his Las Vegas debut.

September 10, 1957 – First classes are held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

1959 The "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign is designed by Betty Willis.

April 29, 1959 – The Las Vegas Convention Center opens.



PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

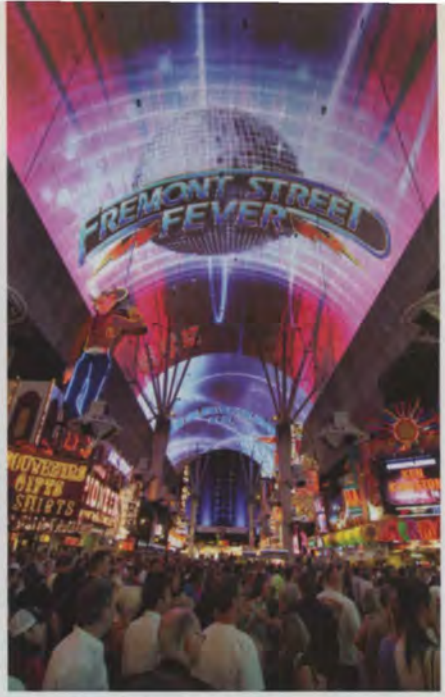


PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

The modern Golden Nugget on Fremont Street (above) opened in 1946, making it one of the oldest casinos in Las Vegas. The property, located near downtown's Fremont Street Experience (right), dates to 1905, the year Las Vegas was established.

Las Vegas, Nevada.

The city seemed overrun with out-of-work men and their families, thousands of people vying for a handful of jobs. Construction on Hoover Dam started in the spring of 1931, and by the time I got there late in the winter of '32, jobs were slim.

It was a while before I finally got work. I started as a mechanic's assistant for 50 cents an hour. Years of fixing machinery on the farm paid off, and in a few months I was promoted to mechanic at 75 cents an hour. I was making almost four times as much as I had during even the best years on the farm. We moved into a nice little house in Boulder City, a government town built for dam workers and their families. A lot of the men went into Las Vegas on the weekends to blow all their earnings in the saloons and brothels on Fremont Street. I knew the dam would be completed soon and decided to save whatever I could. Times had been hard not long before, and I knew they could be again.

There was a lot of competition for jobs on the dam, so everyone worked very hard. So hard, in fact, that it was finished more than two years ahead of schedule. President Franklin D. Roosevelt himself came to dedicate the dam on September 30, 1935. Some work continued until March of '36, lucky for me, because as long as machines were running, mechanics were still needed.

Years of farming had taught my family and me a hard lesson in being frugal, and so when the dam was completed I had enough money saved to open a small auto repair shop and filling station on Highway 91 on the way to Los Angeles. With gambling legal since 1931 and more and more tourists driving to Las Vegas to try their luck, business was great. I never grew a taste for cards or slot machines myself, but still felt a connection to the motorists who stopped in for tires, gasoline, or repairs—coming here was a pretty big gamble for me, too.

1960 LAS VEGAS POPULATION NEARS 65,000

1960 – The Rat Pack makes its Las Vegas debut.

1963 – Wayne Newton makes his Las Vegas debut.

November 27, 1966 – Howard Hughes arrives in Las Vegas.

1967 – Siegfried and Roy make their Las Vegas debut.

1970 – LAS VEGAS POPULATION SURPASSES 125,000

1987 – McCarran International Airport expands to accommodate the city's immense load of visitors.

November 22, 1989 – Steve Wynn's Mirage opens.

1990 LAS VEGAS POPULATION SURPASSES 250,000

December 14, 1995 – The Fremont Street Experience opens.

April 30, 1996 – The 1,149-foot-tall Stratosphere Tower opens on the Strip. It is the tallest structure west of Chicago.





Las Vegas in the late 1960s (above) was a far cry from its modern appearance, which has given rise to such nicknames as Glitter Gulch. It was even more modest in 1939, when this picture of Las Vegas High School (right) was taken. The Art Deco-style school was built in 1930.

PHOTOS: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2000 LAS VEGAS POPULATION NEARS 500,000

2010 LAS VEGAS POPULATION ABOUT 620,000

October 15, 1998 – The $1.7-billion Bellagio opens on the Strip.

1999 – With 37 million annual tourists, Las Vegas becomes the most visited place in the world.

2005 – Las Vegas celebrates its centennial.

2007 – Clark County's population surpasses 2 million.

June 2007 – Springs Preserve opens at the site of the springs that gave Las Vegas its name.

December 16, 2009 – The nearly $9-billion CityCenter opens on the Strip.

October 16, 2010 – The Hoover Dam Bypass opens to alleviate traffic over the dam.

March 16, 2011 – Centennial of the incorporation of the City of Las Vegas.

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If you were to say there are no two entertainers more iconic of Las Vegas than Liberace and Elvis Presley, you wouldn't be setting yourself up for much of a debate. Both of their legacies live on today in tribute shows across Nevada.

THE GANGSTERS

I remember the first time I met Bugsy. I was a rookie reporter at the *Las Vegas Evening Review-Journal*, anxious for any ink about anyone, especially the owner of Las Vegas' latest and greatest resort. I was ecstatic to land a story about Benjamin Siegel's new Flamingo Hotel. It was a grand, gaudy place with landscaped gardens, a pool, health club, tennis, golf, horse stables, and even a waterfall near the front entrance. It doesn't sound like much by modern Las Vegas standards for garishness, but in 1946, it was quite the site to behold. And I guess that's part of what made such an impression. This unknown guy from New York had come up with *this*! I had no idea at the time that I was front row to one of the events that would shape the entire future of Sin City.

At first, no one seemed to know where Bugsy got the more than $6 million it took to build the Flamingo. But by the time he was killed in June 1947, rumors about Mob ties were going around, and in the following years it became common knowledge that the Mafia controlled most of the casinos in Vegas.

In New York, Chicago, and other Eastern cities, guys like Bugsy, Meyer Lansky, Anthony "The Ant" Spilotro, Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal, and the rest of "The Boys" were criminals and thugs. In Las Vegas, they ran entire casinos and often gave the appearance of upstanding citizens. The *Review-Journal* and *The Las Vegas Sun*, once word broke, weren't shy about running stories about mob ties, but for a long time, no one seemed to care all that much.

In fact, a lot of people credited the Mafia with keeping the city relatively safe and crime free—aside from the millions and millions of dollars being skimmed in the resorts. Casino man Bob Stupak mused that, "It was like we had two police forces.

REFLECTIONS

...Las Vegas became a Mecca for outcasts from the laws of other constituencies, mobsters and minions of the big boys who became the giants of this new entrepreneurial paradise. And these giants, with renewed faith in their religion—gambling—and houses of worship—casinos—gave the desert town of 30,000 a cachet that has rarely been equaled since.



"The Entertainment Capital"
Nevada Magazine, December 1988



Showgirl Linda Lawson is crowned "Mis-Cue" in 1955 for the misfiring of Operation Cue Bomb.

We had the regular police, you know, and we had the boys."

By the mid-1960s, state officials had grown weary of the dirty money and mobsters, and Federal officials were cracking down hard with wiretaps, raids, and indictments. The Corporate Gaming Act of 1969, backed by Governor Paul Laxalt and casino moguls such as Bill Harrah, was aimed at combating Mafia ownership of casinos and attracting legitimate investors. The gangsters invariably found ways around the Gaming Control Act, but the tide was clearly turning in favor of the law. In 1983, the gaming licenses of the Stardust and Fremont—the last bastions of mob-control in Vegas—were revoked and the hotel-casinos were handed over to Boyd Gaming.

Las Vegas' years under mob rule are often looked at nostalgically, like a perverse tourism draw. I can't speak to any of that, but it sure was fun to chase a lead for a story deep into the webs of Sin City's adopted mobsters.

THE KING

My folks were never big fans of Elvis Presley. I couldn't tell you how often I was scolded to "turn that racket down!" as a rock 'n' roll-obsessed teenager, or how many exasperated sighs and eye-rolls my slicked-back hair got at the breakfast table before school. That's why I was so surprised when, during a vacation to Las Vegas in April 1956, mom and dad presented my brother and me with tickets to a special Elvis matinee show. Years later I would learn that the King's first engagement in Vegas—two weeks at the New Frontier in an act headlined by Shecky Greene—was met with little more than lukewarm amusement. As far as my brother and I were concerned, his performance was the best thing we'd ever seen.

Over the years I grew more and more fixated on Elvis, his music, his persona, and that first show I watched in Las Vegas. I became a musician in my own right and in the late '60s moved to Las Vegas with dreams of making it big. The city was nothing like I remembered it being in the late '50s. The handful of casinos and hotels on the Los Angeles Highway had exploded into the Strip. Glittering resorts like The Aladdin, Caesars Palace, Desert Inn, Tropicana, and Stardust lined the once-calm street. Even the New Frontier—renamed The Frontier by its new owner, the enigmatic billionaire Howard Hughes—was nothing like I remembered it. The excitement and energy in the city was palpable.

I played lounges and even opened for some middle-of-the-road acts and was

WORTH A READ

A Short History of Las Vegas
By Barbara and Myrick Land
University of Nevada Press
unpress.nevada.edu
775-784-6573

Howard Hughes: Power, Paranoia, & Palace Intrigue
By Geoff Schumacher
Stephens Press
stephenspress.com
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Coincidentally, Mrs. Lawson (top left) worked for the Sands Hotel (above). The famous hotel-casino operated from 1952 to 1996 and, in its heyday, consistently drew such stars as Sammy Davis Jr.

having a lot of fun, but I never lost my passion for Elvis. I was ecstatic when The International signed the King in July 1969 for four weeks of performances, two times a year. I bought my ticket to the first show immediately. When Elvis was in town, I went to his show at least once a week. By 1977, when he died, I had seen Elvis perform more than 100 times.

Elvis songs had always been a big part of my act—every show included a handful of his greatest hits. His death left a lot of people with a strange emptiness, myself included. Impersonators had been popping up since the mid-'70s, so I knew there was a market for it when one night, in homage to the King, I dressed the part and performed his hits. Apparently my two-decade obsession paid off; everyone loved it, and I have performed as Elvis ever since. Sure, it's a fantasy, but that is what this city is all about. Las Vegas was and is the only place on earth where such a thing could happen—where a sweet-voiced Southern boy could become a king and where countless devoted fans like myself could themselves reign over his kingdom in his stead, if only momentarily.

THE EMPEROR

It was about a week before Christmas when we realized Mr. Hughes had no intentions of vacating his two floors at the Desert Inn. It never crossed our minds that anyone would defy a simple request to leave before the holiday rush. Frankly, we were dumbfounded. Then, he bought the place. In March 1967, after zero face-to-face negotiations, and for the sum of $13.25 million, Howard Hughes became my boss and the owner of the Desert Inn.

It was reasonable enough that a man with such an unblemished record could so easily sidestep regulations to obtain a gaming license—his investments in the state would drastically improve its image, and state officials were desperate for good PR. But so much of his behavior was just plain bizarre. He never so much as toured the resort he just purchased—or anything else he bought during his four years in Las Vegas. He just stayed on the ninth floor of the Desert Inn, watching over his growing empire like a giant game of chess.

I never met or spoke to the man, though I did—like a handful of other managers and executives—receive an occasional letter. All of our dealings went through Robert Maheu, Hughes' Nevada business overseer and alter ego. Even Maheu, with his half-million dollar salary, never officially met Hughes. After the Desert Inn, Hughes went on a buying spree. In June, he bought a ranch near Red Rock Canyon. In July, he bought the Sands and a small airline. By the fall of 1967, Hughes had added to his growing collection Castaways and Frontier, the North Las Vegas Air Terminal, and the television station KLAS Channel 8. All told, in his first year in Las Vegas, Hughes spent about $100 million.

One of the strangest things Hughes ever did was buy the tiny Silver Slipper in 1968. He complained that the revolving sign, which he apparently could see from his perch, disturbed his rest. It cost Hughes more than $5 million to shut off that pesky light. Over the next couple years, Hughes bought more than 500 mining claims throughout the state, several lots on the Strip, the struggling Landmark, and another airline. He also leased Harolds Club in Reno.

Hughes had even greater aspirations for Las Vegas. He wanted to build the largest hotel-casino in the world and a new international airport. But then, on the eve of Thanksgiving, four years almost to the hour after his arrival, Hughes disappeared, never to set foot in Las Vegas again. State officials were terrified, as were the more than 8,000 people employed by Hughes. The management of his Nevada holdings was eventually settled. Even in departing, as it had during his entire stay, Hughes' secrecy ironically only added to the buzz. And after only four years, the top two floors of the Desert Inn were finally vacated in time for the holiday rush.

REFLECTIONS

The town Siegel helped define in 1946 with his trend-setting Flamingo now has nine of the 10 largest hotels in the world. Most Las Vegas casinos operate under a corporate umbrella, and gaming stocks are respected on Wall Street. Siegel, a New York bootlegger, bookmaker, and hit man associated with the most infamous names in organized crime, wouldn't stand a chance in a Gaming Control Board license hearing today.

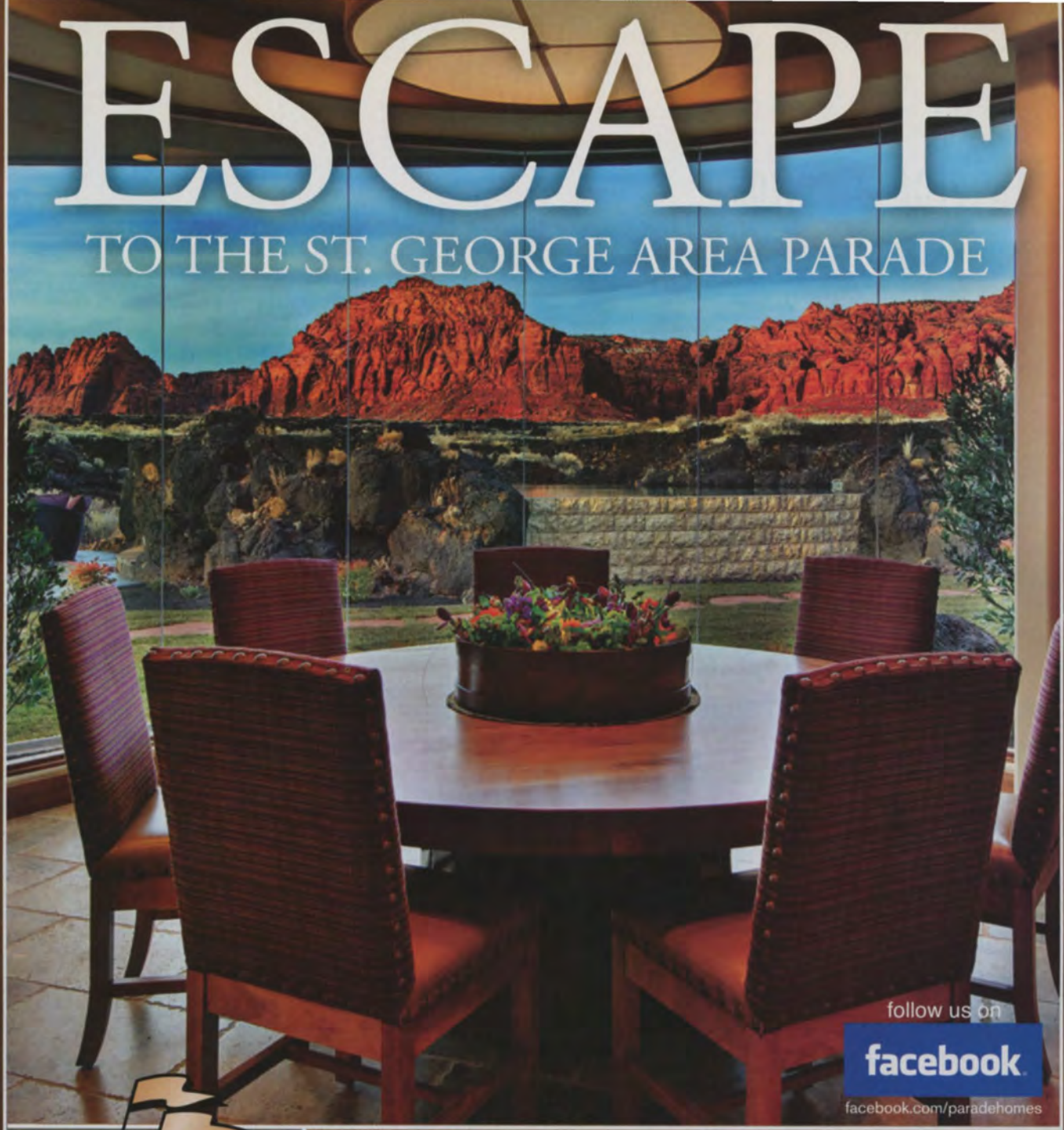


"In Search of Bugsy Siegel"
Nevada Magazine, June 1994



PHOTO: SUMMA CORPORATION

By 1970, Howard Hughes owned six Las Vegas casinos—Castaways, Desert Inn, Frontier, Landmark, Sands, and Silver Slipper—and was leasing Harolds Club in Reno. Hughes arrived in Las Vegas in 1966 and proceeded to live in isolation at the Desert Inn for four-and-a-half years.



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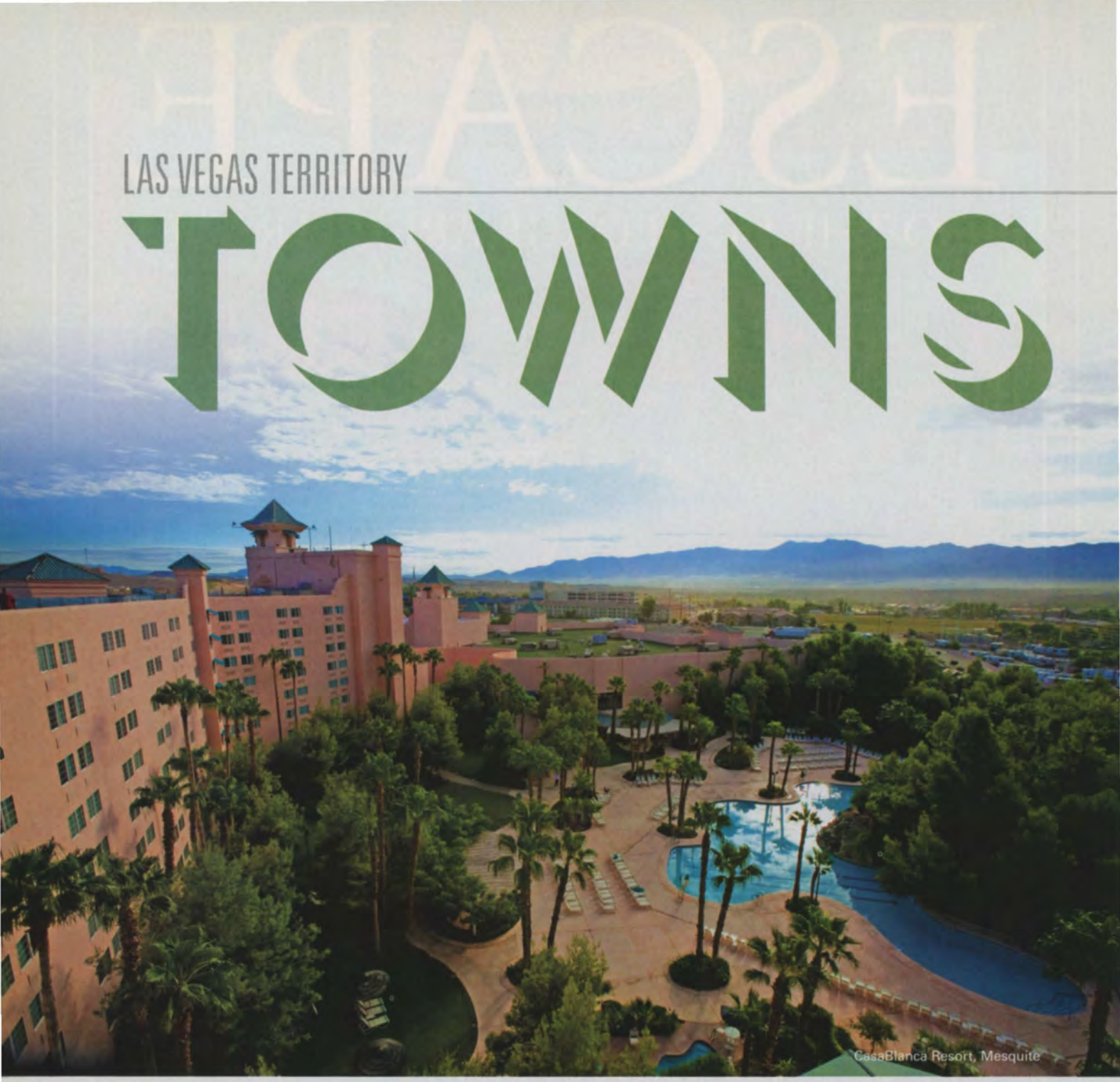
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LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

TOWNS



CasaBlanca Resort, Mesquite

BY CHARLIE JOHNSTON

SEE MAP ON PAGE 5 FOR TOWN LOCATIONS.

During a recent visit to Las Vegas, I had a conversation with a bartender that reminded me many people—even residents—are completely unaware that anything aside from sand and snakes exists outside of the Las Vegas Valley. "What brings you to town?" she asks. "A marathon in Mesquite," I reply. Blank stare. She's never heard of it. "It's a town about 80 miles north on the 15," I say. Still nothing. "New to town?" I ask. "No," she says, seeming a little offended. "I've lived here a couple of years."

It's understandable that Southern Nevada's smaller communities can be overlooked—they lay in the shadow of one of the world's most ostentatious cities. But visitors and locals who pull their attention from the neon buzz for a stopover in any of these burgs will be glad they did.

MESQUITE

During the late 1800s, it took three groups of pioneers to establish a permanent settlement at Mesquite Flats. The frequent floods of the Virgin River drove out the first two groups. The clichéd third try turned out to be the charm when six families from nearby Bunkerville successfully subdued the river's flooding in 1894. From its beginning, Mesquite, about 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas, has always been adjacent to a major southwestern thoroughfare, starting with the Old Spanish Trail and Mormon Trail, and continuing through today with Interstate 15. Tourism in the town saw substantial increases after the Interstate's completion through Mesquite in the 1970s, and the town itself started to boom when it was incorporated in 1984. Today, more than 20,000 people call Mesquite home.

Like its Southern Nevada neighbor, Laughlin, Mesquite is renowned as an affordable retreat and snowbird getaway, and resorts such as CasaBlanca, Virgin River, and Eureka Casino offer all the amenities expected from a Nevada hotel-casino at a fraction of the cost of similar offerings in the state's larger tourism centers. Golf is a big draw to the area, which boasts seven courses, and the sunny warm desert climate ensures that visitors and locals can hit the links most days of the year. CasaBlanca Spa is major draw to the city, and spa and room packages make the treatments more affordable than typical hotel mini-bars.

Warm winter months allow the city to entertain locals and guests with such events as the Mesquite Open Dutch Oven Cook-off, January 7-8, Mesquite Motor Mania classic car show and Smokin' Big Chili Challenge, January 14-16, and Mesquite's BransonFest Out West, February 7-10.

CONTACT

City of Mesquite
10 E. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite
mesquitenv.com
702-346-5295



REFLECTIONS

Take note: Staying off the beaten path can get you four-star experiences and three-star prices. The three-bedroom, three-bathroom, private patio [Mesquite's CasaBlanca corporate] bungalow is a steal if you split the cost with friends, and the luxury is something we could never afford if we were in a major city.

"Chick Trip"
Nevada Magazine, September/October 2008

BLUE DIAMOND

Tiny Blue Diamond was founded in 1940 as a company town for the nearby Blue Diamond Gypsum Mine. The community of fewer than 300 is within the boundaries of Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area about 20 miles west of Las Vegas. Its proximity to Red Rock Canyon and Spring Mountain Ranch State Park make it a history or outdoor enthusiast's dream. "We're outside of the lights and sounds of Las Vegas and right on the edge of Red Rock," says Sheryl Fretwell, who moved to Blue Diamond from Summerlin five years ago. "It's a tight-knit community and a great place to live." While many similarly sized Nevada towns are devoid of services, Blue Diamond is home to a gas station and convenience store, bike shop, school, post office, and public library.

BOULDER CITY

The once government-run town of Boulder City was established in 1931 to house Hoover Dam construction workers and their families. The burg was set to be dismantled after the dam was completed, but by that time, residents had grown very comfortable in Nevada's answer to Mayberry. The friendly, orderly town remained under government control until it was officially incorporated in 1960.

Today, Boulder City is home to nearly 15,000 people. Though barely 20 miles from Las Vegas, the quaint city feels like a different planet—where local shops and charming homes dot the tree-lined streets and gambling is not permitted.

Some of Boulder City's must-see attractions include the historic Boulder Dam Hotel bed and breakfast, the Boulder Dam Theatre, and Bicentennial Park, where festivals such as the 4th of July parade and Art in the Park are held.

No trip to Boulder City would be complete without a visit to the impetus for the town's existence, nearby Hoover Dam, and the Nevada Southern Railroad Museum is among the finest tributes to trains in the state. If one day proves inadequate to explore Boulder City's offerings—trust me, it is—consider Milo's Inn at Boulder. The bed and breakfast includes a popular wine lounge and restaurant, Milo's Cellar and Sidewalk Café. Other destinations for gastronomic gold include Boulder Dam Brewing Company, Tony's Pizza, and from "Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives" fame, the World Famous Coffee Cup.

CONTACT

Boulder City Chamber of Commerce
465 Nevada Way, Boulder City
bouldercitychamberofcommerce.com
702-293-2034



PHOTO: CHRIS NUNEZ

CAL-NEV-ARI

Founded in 1965 by pilots Nancy and Slim Kidwell, Cal-Nev-Ari—an abbreviation of California-Nevada-Arizona—is found 70 miles south of Las Vegas. Now home to 300-plus residents, Cal-Nev-Ari was once just a sign next to U.S. Highway 95 that read, "Cal-Nev-Ari, Population: 4 (Nancy, Slim, their dog and cat). Watch Us Grow." In addition to Kidwell Airport, the entity that heralded the birth of the town, Cal-Nev-Ari now boasts a casino, restaurant, motel, RV park, and convenience store.

In summer 2010, the outpost went up for sale. The price tag? A cool $17 million.

CONTACT

Cal-Nev-Ari
calnevari.net
702-870-7171

GOODSPRINGS

A saloon near the end of the pavement on a lightly traveled state highway might not seem like most people's idea of a destination, but a closer look at Goodsprings will convince you it is worth the 34-mile drive from Las Vegas. The early-1900s mining town is home to one of Nevada's quirkiest watering holes, the Pioneer Saloon. The bar dates to 1913 and stands as an artifact-filled time capsule of the town's history.

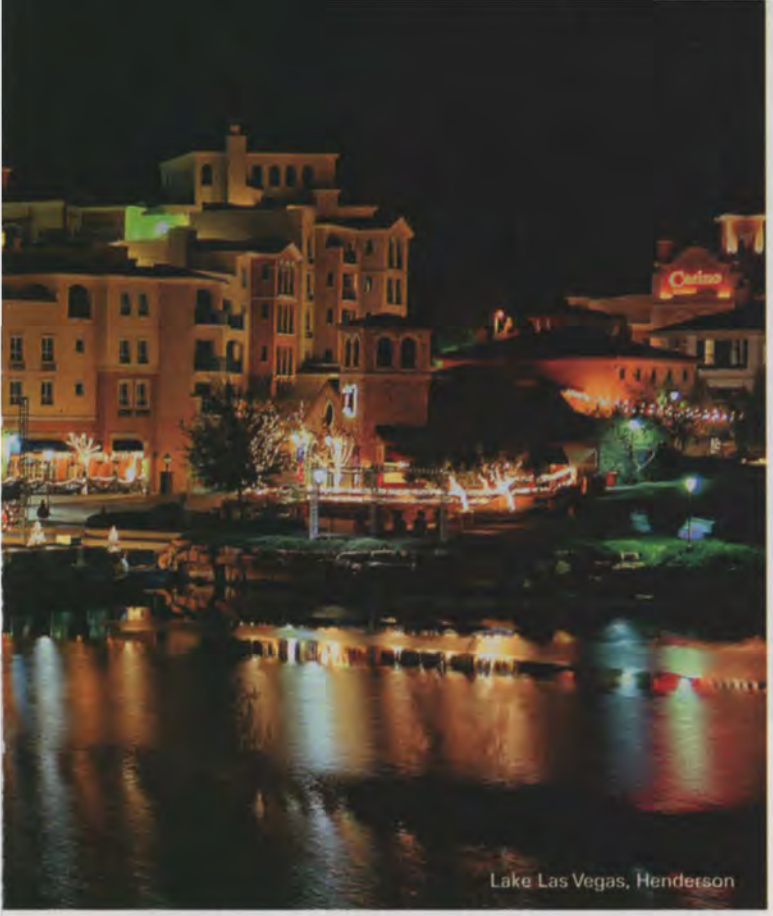
The Goodsprings General Store, next door, has many interesting souvenirs to commemorate your visit, plus meats and other grilling accoutrements to barbecue on the saloon's backyard grills. No visit to Goodsprings would be complete without a stop at the schoolhouse. Built in 1913, it is among Southern Nevada's oldest schools and on the National Register of Historic Places.

CONTACT

Pioneer Saloon
310 W. Spring St., Goodsprings
pioneersaloon.info
702-874-9362



Pioneer Saloon, Goodsprings



Lake Las Vegas, Henderson

incorporated in 1953. In the following 50-plus years, Henderson's population exploded at a rate rivaling that of any other city in the southwest, and it is today the second-largest city in the state with more than 270,000 residents.

Often pigeonholed as "Las Vegas metropolitan area," Henderson is in fact a thriving community all its own and home to some of the most desirable, upscale neighborhoods in the southwest such as Anthem, Green Valley, and Lake Las Vegas. The city has the most extensive network of parks and recreational facilities in Southern Nevada, and major casino-resorts such as Green Valley Ranch Resort & Spa, Aston MonteLago Village Resort, Loews Lake Las Vegas, Lake Las Vegas Resort, M Resort Spa Casino, and Sunset Station are on par with anything offered on the Las Vegas Strip.

Henderson's proximity to Lake Mead National Recreation Area provides countless options for fun under the sun, and more than 57 miles of urban trails earned it billing as one of America's best walking cities in *Prevention* magazine in 2007.

CONTACT

City of Henderson Department of Cultural Arts and Tourism
200 Water St., Henderson
hendersonlive.com
702-267-2171



REFLECTIONS

...the Pioneer Saloon offers a chance for a cold drink and human contact. Inside the saloon...old chandeliers cast a dim light on the dark interior. A brass foot rail runs the length of the mahogany bar, and a four-drawer antique cash register rests on the cherry-wood back bar. Red Christmas bulbs illuminate neat rows of dusty liquor bottles.

"Almost A Ghost Town"
Nevada Magazine, August 1985

INDIAN SPRINGS

The Indian Springs Air Force Auxiliary Field, built in 1942 as a gunnery range for nearby Las Vegas Army Air Field, heralded the birth of the community of Indian Springs. The town of about 1,300 residents is named for a nearby artesian spring. For its entire history, Indian Springs has been tied directly to the base, now called Creech Air Force Base. About 50 miles north of Las Vegas on U.S. Highway 95, Indian Springs houses employees of Creech and the nearby state prison and supports Indian Springs Casino, a motel, restaurant, RV park, and a couple of gas stations.

HENDERSON

The southern part of the Las Vegas Valley has been inhabited since about 1910 when the Jericho Ranch was founded near the present-day intersection of Boulder Highway and Lake Mead Parkway. During the construction of Hoover Dam, the area—known as Midway for its position between Las Vegas and Boulder City—supported an amalgam of tents and shacks occupied largely by jobless families.

In the early 1940s, the construction of the Basic Magnesium Plant in support of the war breathed new life into the area and Basic Townsite was born. When WWII ended, the need for magnesium sharply decline and the plant closed, heralding an exodus of the company town. Despite the departure of so many residents, the town held on, and the City of Henderson was officially

JEAN

Jean was born near the beginning of the 20th century when ore from nearby Goodsprings was transported there to be loaded onto trains. Originally called Goodsprings Junction, the name was changed in 1905 to Jean by the postmaster in honor of his wife. The town is about 27 miles southwest of Las Vegas on Interstate 15. The Gold Strike Hotel and Gambling Hall is more or less the only business in Jean today and offers comfortable hotel rooms, Nevada-style entertainment, and four restaurants.

CONTACT

Gold Strike Hotel and Gambling Hall
goldstrikejean.com
800-634-1359



Aquarius Casino Resort, Laughlin

LAUGHLIN

In the mid-to-late 1940s, the South Pointe Bar and Motel occupied a lonely spot on the Nevada shore of the Colorado River across from Bullhead City, Arizona. Construction workers from Davis Dam frequented the establishment until the dam was completed in 1951, and South Pointe fell into disrepair. In 1964, Don Laughlin saw an opportunity for a resort destination along the river and purchased the land to build his Riverside Resort. Laughlin recommended the names "Riverside" and "Casino," but the postal inspector instead named the town for its founder.

Today, the narrow piece of land supports a mini-Strip of nine high-rise casino-resorts and attracts almost 3 million annual visitors. The city of about 9,300 residents is renowned among tourists for its comfortable wintertime temperatures—typically into the 60s—and affordable lodging, food, and entertainment. "The biggest [draw] is that prices are a quarter of what they charge in Vegas," Laughlin says. "We've got a view of the Colorado River, good lounge entertainment, and a down-home atmosphere."

In addition to Vegas-style gaming and entertainment, the city takes full advantage of the Colorado River with tours, dinner cruises, private beaches, and high-speed water sports.

CONTACT

Laughlin Visitor Information Center
1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin
visitlaughlin.com
702-298-3022

MOAPA VALLEY

The Moapa Valley is home to the four communities of Glendale, Logandale, Moapa, and Overton. Before Mormon pioneers settled the area around the Muddy River for farming in the 1800s, the valley was home to ancient American Indian populations as early as 350 B.C. The rich history of these cultures can be explored at the Lost City Museum in Overton and nearby Valley of Fire State Park.

The burgs enjoy a friendly small-town vibe and a refreshingly rural atmosphere. Their proximity to Valley of Fire and Lake Mead make the towns ideal base camps for adventures into both parks. Prior to the creation of Lake Mead, the valley included the town of St. Thomas, which was flooded by the lake in 1938. Almost 5,800 people call the valley and its four towns home, and locals and visitors alike favor annual events such as the Clark County Fair & Rodeo in April and the Pomegranate Arts & Crafts Festival in November.

CONTACT

Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce
moapavalley.com



REFLECTIONS

The Moapa Valley in Southern Nevada is known as one of the finest bottomless treasure chests of ancient history. When you start digging, archaeologists say, call us right away. Residents of Overton and Logandale have found ancient burials in their yards, and farmers pick up broken pottery in their fields along the Muddy River.

"Lost City"
Nevada Magazine, No. 3 1976

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Born in 1917, North Las Vegas prospered in the 1920s and early '30s as a haven for bootleggers and grew a reputation as a lawless, rough place. Originally called Vegas Verde, the community, like its neighbor on the south side of Las Vegas, Henderson, attracted a large number of out-of-work families who lived in tents and shacks. The opening of Las Vegas Army Airfield—now Nellis Air Force Base—in 1941 brought good news to North Las Vegas with new construction of homes and services to support the expanding base. The city incorporated in 1946 with a population of nearly 2,900.

The city followed the trend of other Las Vegas Valley communities in the following five decades with enormous growth. Estimates of North Las Vegas' current population range as high as 224,000, making it the state's third-largest city. In addition to supporting Nellis and many of its 12,000 employees, the city is home to resorts such as Aliante Station Casino and Hotel, Cannery Casino and Hotel, and Fiesta Rancho Casino Hotel—all on par with the offerings found in the resorts of the Strip but without the more frenetic pace of Las Vegas Boulevard.

CONTACT

City of North Las Vegas
2200 Civic Center Dr., North Las Vegas
cityofnorthlasvegas.com

PRIMM

Tourists driving to Nevada from Southern California on Interstate 15 recognize Primm as the unofficial gateway to Las Vegas. The border town—known as State Line until 1996—traces its beginnings to a 1920s gas station in the same location on the border. One of Primm's resorts, Whiskey Pete's, is named for the old station's owner, a well-known bootlegger of the era. The town of about 1,100 is centered on Whiskey Pete's and two other resorts (Primm Valley Casino Resort and Buffalo Bill's), two golf courses, and the popular mall, Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas. The Desperado rollercoaster at Buffalo Bill's is one of the tallest in North America with a 225-foot drop, and the Star of the Desert Arena attracts top-notch entertainment.

CONTACT

Terrible's Primm Valley Casino Resorts
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

SEARCHLIGHT

The far-southern Nevada town of Searchlight's biggest claim to fame is that it is the birthplace of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. Long before the Senator called Searchlight home, the town came to be following the late-1890s discovery of gold in the region. Searchlight boomed around 1902 and reached a population of about 1,500 by 1907, roughly twice as many residents as still-unincorporated Las Vegas claimed during the same time. When the mines failed, the population dwindled, but the town held on as a stop along the Arrowhead Highway and later thanks to its proximity to Hoover Dam.

Today, Searchlight is home to nearly 600 residents. Services are typical of like-sized towns: there is a motel, historic museum, senior citizens center, post office, elementary school, and a couple of churches. The town's proximity to Lake Mohave at Cottonwood Cove and location about halfway between Las Vegas and Laughlin are its main draws.



Primm

FOREVER RESORTS

Make a Memory

BY LEE ALLEN

Houseboating in Nevada can be boatloads of fun—in all seasons and for many reasons. Send the invitation out to members of your extended family, or limit attendees to a select group of close friends. Because you're the skipper, the selection of deckhands is yours to make aboard a Forever Houseboat.

Stay—and play—on the water as you cruise on your houseboat, an adventure that allows you to relax and still keep all the creature comforts with you. Just like a floating condo on the water, the houseboats come packed with enough goodies to keep the adventurous active—and the low-keyed laid back.

Ranging from 50 to 75 feet in length, houseboats have been likened to large recreational vehicles that run on water instead of a paved highway. Smaller houseboats are ideal for four to six people, while larger houseboats sleep from six to 12.

Depending on the houseboat selected, amenities aboard include: hot tub, flat screen marine satellite TV with home-theater system, wet bar with mini-fridge and icemaker, gas barbecue grill, and a waterslide off the upper deck. Don't forget additional day trips centered around runabouts, kayaks, wakeboards, and tubes, and the variety of recreational possibilities—from swimming, fishing, and water skiing to hiking and camping on the beach with your own private bonfire.

You can add to your houseboating experience with another type of float-in-the-boat option—rafting the Colorado River. You get to sit back surrounded by nature's wonders and enjoy the scenery while someone else takes charge of steering the raft.

Black Canyon/Willow Beach River Adventures transports sightseers through subterranean corridors to the base of Hoover Dam, giving a rare view and a different perspective. From the launch area, boaters board large motorized rafts and cruise the river as knowledgeable guides share the history and geology of the area. The face of the dam, the new bypass bridge, the high canyon walls, and a chance to spot a bighorn sheep or bald eagle leaves visitors with a lasting impression of this desert landscape.



At mid-journey, rafts stop along the



Few places on earth match the raw, natural beauty of the southwest and its waterways. Renting a Forever Resorts houseboat can put you in the middle of it all, whether your idea of the perfect vacation is jet skiing, fishing, lounging, hot tubbing, kayaking, or rafting.

shore for a chance to wade in the cool waters and dine on lunch packed in a souvenir cooler bag before ending the trip on the Arizona side of the river at Willow Beach, where return transportation back to civilization awaits.

For landlubbers, there are several options for spending time at the lake, from beachfront lodging to staying aboard houseboats at the dock. And while you enjoy it all in this beautiful recreation area, please help preserve it. A goal at Forever Resorts is to provide a memorable, fun experience while conserving and maintaining natural resources for future generations to enjoy.

Forever's corporate philosophy is to be an industry leader in preserving and protecting the environment. The latest example of this commitment is building and seeking the nation's first LEED-certified floating building, which will also be the new boat rental office at Cottonwood Cove Resort & Marina on Lake Mohave.

All marinas within Lake Mead National Recreation Area are Clean Marina-credentialed with developed programs to address pollution and the environment from a variety of sources. Annual ecology dives and shoreline clean-ups are held at each of the Forever Resorts operations in this busy national recreation area.





FOREVER RESORTS

FOREVER RESORTS

Forever Resorts offers recreation destinations in Nevada on Lake Mead at Callville Bay Resort & Marina (CallvilleBay.com), Echo Bay Marina (EchoBayMarina.com), Lake Mead RV Village (LakeMeadRvVillage.com), and below Hoover Dam on Lake Mohave at Black Canyon River Adventures (BlackCanyonRiverAdventures.com) and Cottonwood Cove Resort & Marina (CottonwoodCoveResort.com).

Lake Mead National Recreation Area encompasses Southern Nevada and northwestern Arizona; you'll also find Forever Resorts sites at Temple Bar Marina (TempleBarMarina.com) on Lake Mead and at new facilities at Willow Beach Harbor (WillowBeachHarbor.com) on Lake Mohave, Arizona.

CONTACT

ForeverHouseboats.com
800.255.5561
480.998.1981







Southern Nevada's Main Attractions





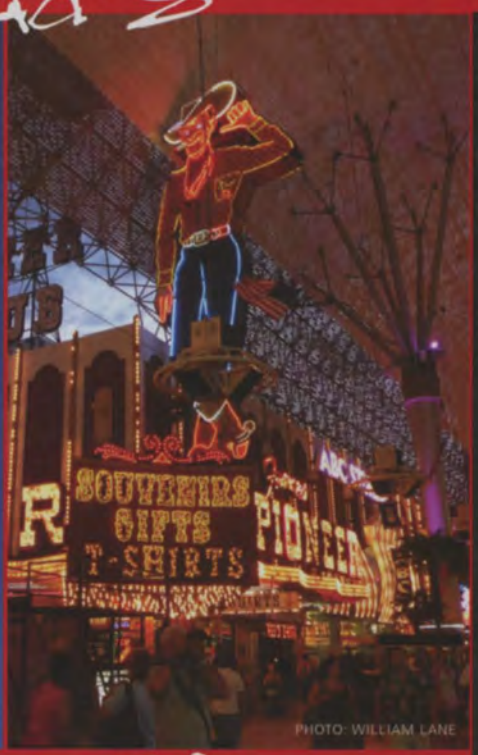


PHOTO: WILLIAM LANE

Clockwise From Top Left:
"Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada" sign, Las Vegas Strip, Fremont Street Experience, Stratosphere Tower, Fountains of Bellagio.



REFLECTIONS

Besides creating the largest artificial lake in the world, 115 miles long, covering 145,000 acres, containing over 30 million acre feet of water, Boulder Dam also completes a highway loop which ties together the greatest scenic section in the nation, if not in the world.

"Boulder Dam Also 'Builds a Bridge'"
Nevada Highways and Parks, May 1936



PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

You aren't a Las Vegas veteran until you've experienced the awe of these eight wonders.

BY ERIC GLADSTONE & CHARLIE JOHNSTON

Not even the in-flight cocktail has managed to calm your nerves as the plane touches down on the tarmac at McCarran International Airport. Your mind is racing with images of "What Happens in Vegas..." commercials as you track down your luggage and climb into a cab. Your attention is pulled in every conceivable direction as you're whisked along the Strip to your hotel.

It doesn't matter if this is your first trip to Las Vegas or your 100th, the city oozes an excitement so palpable even the most cantankerous naysayer can't help but lust over its sights and lights. Following are some of the stops that have won Sin City its place in the hearts of so many.

"WELCOME TO FABULOUS LAS VEGAS NEVADA" SIGN

Las Vegas' propensity for doing away with the no-longer-garish-enough rivals the makeover tendencies of television's "Dr. 90210." Well-appointed suites are remodeled into lavishly appointed suites, 2,000-room resorts are toppled to make space for 4,000-room mega-resorts, big makes way for bigger, and extravagant is tossed aside in favor of over-the-top. Through the constant transformations, the comparatively understated symbol of the city—the "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada" sign—has remained unchanged for more than 50 years. It is likely the most photographed sign in the world.

The sign—on Las Vegas Boulevard South about 1,000 feet south of the intersection with Russell Road—is so popular that the city built an adjacent parking lot to cater to the throngs of tourists who pose daily with the Sin City symbol.

A replica was installed on Boulder Highway north of Tropicana Avenue in 2007, and a "Welcome to Fabulous Downtown Las Vegas" sign erected in 2002 marks the entry to downtown on Las Vegas Boulevard just north of Wyoming Avenue.

CONTACT

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas
visitlasvegas.com
702-892-0711

FREMONT STREET

Some might see the Fremont Street Experience as nothing more than a tourist attraction. The world's largest video screen, rows of souvenir kiosks, street artists, and yard-long margaritas will give that impression. A new zipline even races along under the canopy. But a closer look reveals something more. Much like other famed streets of the world—Champs Élysées of Paris, New York's Broadway, or London's Piccadilly Circus—Fremont is a crossroads of humanity. I've conversed with everyone from high rollers to panhandlers and visitors from countries I can barely spell to third-generation Las Vegans. The street has been a mainstay of the city for more

than a century and epitomizes "Old Las Vegas". And on the other side of Las Vegas Boulevard, the new bars, galleries, and restaurants of East Fremont have become a magnet for downtown's artsy types.

CONTACT

Fremont Street Experience
vegasexperience.com
702-678-5777

HOOVER DAM

It is more than 725 feet high, contains 840 miles of pipes, is built from almost 4.4 million cubic yards of concrete, weighs 6.6 million tons, produces 4 billion kilowatt hours of electricity annually, and holds back a lake of 9 trillion gallons. As big and impressive as the numbers are, they still fail to convey the grandeur of one of the country's most staggering engineering feats and one of Nevada's most visited attractions. More than 9 million visitors—almost a quarter of Las Vegas visitors—see the dam each year. You can drive and walk across it, walk through its maze of tunnels and passageways, or marvel at it from a helicopter above, raft below, or new bypass bridge from the front.

CONTACT

Hoover Dam
Bureau of Reclamation
usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam
866-730-9097

LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

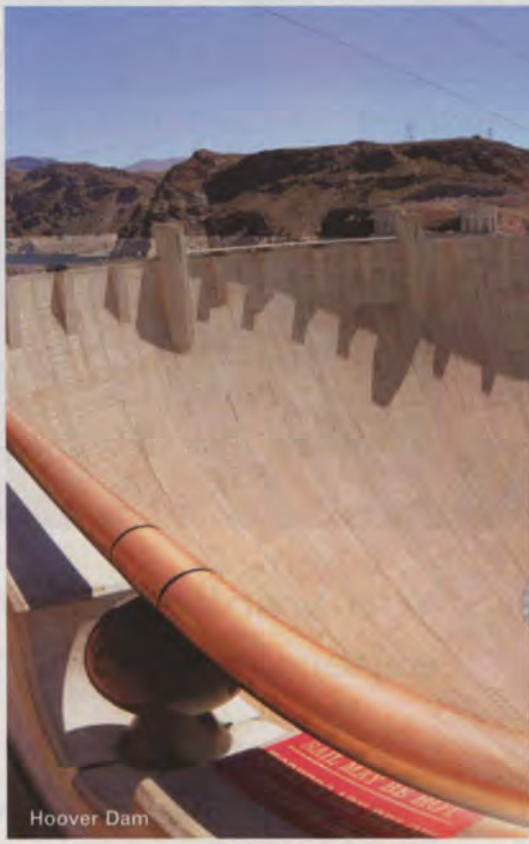
Auto racing may be thought of more as a Southern-based sport, but few cities have a longer tradition with it than Las Vegas. And it's not just about the NASCAR Sprint Cup every March—the speedway, originally configured for Indy cars, also holds an NHRA drag strip, bullring, and dirt track on its 1,500 acres and hosts the NHRA Nationals, World of Outlaws dirt-track event, and Camping World Truck Series. You can also get behind the wheel with several driving schools and experiences organized by racing greats such as Mario Andretti and Richard Petty and tour the Carroll Shelby factory and museum down the street. The speedway itself, 1.5 miles long, has almost 150,000 seats, and if there's a nicer place to breathe the thrilling fumes of burning gas and tires west of Talladega, we haven't seen it.

CONTACT

Las Vegas Motor Speedway
7000 Las Vegas Blvd. N., Las Vegas
lvms.com
800-644-4444

LAS VEGAS SKI & SNOWBOARD RESORT

What makes Southern Nevada—and all of Nevada, for that matter—stand out is the staggering diversity of entertainment options. That variety is most prevalent in the case of Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort, and one needn't look any farther than the name for evidence. Winter sports. Las Vegas. Together. The best part is that the resort isn't a fanciful indoor mountain like in Dubai, or a nearly flat hill coated in artificial snow. It's a real mountain, thousands of feet above the valley floor. Less than an hour from the Strip in the Mount Charleston Wilderness, the resort is home to 11 trails and two lifts that take skiers to almost 9,400 feet—plenty high enough for an average snowfall of about 10 feet. Early snowfall this winter allowed the resort to open in November, and expanded snowmaking abilities will ensure that skiers and boarders can get in plenty of runs for the rest of the season regardless of snowfall.


Hoover Dam

CONTACT

Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort
State Route 156, Mount Charleston
skilasvegas.com
702-385-2754



Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard

PHOTO: MATTHEW B. BROWN



STRATOSPHERE TOWER

Las Vegas defies expectations so often that we've come to take it for granted. Take this for example: The tallest structure west of Chicago. It laughs at Seattle's Space Needle, San Francisco's Transamerica Pyramid, and Los Angeles' U.S. Bank Tower. It's so tall that you can orient yourself anywhere in the entire valley by finding its iconic spire.

And, this being Las Vegas, not only can you eat atop it (and eat well, now that chefs Claude Gaty and Rick Giffen have taken over) but strap into rides that spin around (Insanity), drop (Big Shot), and lean over the side (X-Scream)...one ride even permits you to jump off of it (SkyJump).

CONTACT

Stratosphere
2000 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas
stratospherehotel.com
702-380-7777

FOUNTAINS OF BELLAGIO

They rank among the most famous fountains in the world. Every half-hour the sidewalks surrounding the fountains fill with hundreds, occasionally thousands, of onlookers who gaze in amazement at the free show. The choreographed 12,000-nozzle, eight-acre Fountains of Bellagio are operated and maintained daily by 33 full-time staffers under the supervision of Water Entertainment Technologies, the world's leading designers of water and fire installations. Having the opportunity to chat once with WET technologist Jason Baldwin on the power of the Bellagio's water cannons, he told me their only limitation: "We can't go higher than the building. Everything above that is FAA territory."

CONTACT

Bellagio
3600 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas
bellagio.com
888-987-6667

THE STRIP

I like to joke that I remember the Strip when you could see daylight through the buildings. That was just a little more than a decade ago, but in the years since, Las Vegas Boulevard has surpassed all questions like "can we do it?" or "how?" (and certainly "why?"). Even before we created such improbable edifices as MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, Bellagio, Luxor, Excalibur, New York-New York, Paris, Trump, Wynn, and CityCenter, the lights of the Strip held a wonder like few other places in the world. It's hard for me to recall my own initial reaction. But I see it on the face of my six-year-old daughter every time she asks me to drive past "the shiny hotels" at night. Believe me, it never gets old.

CONTACT

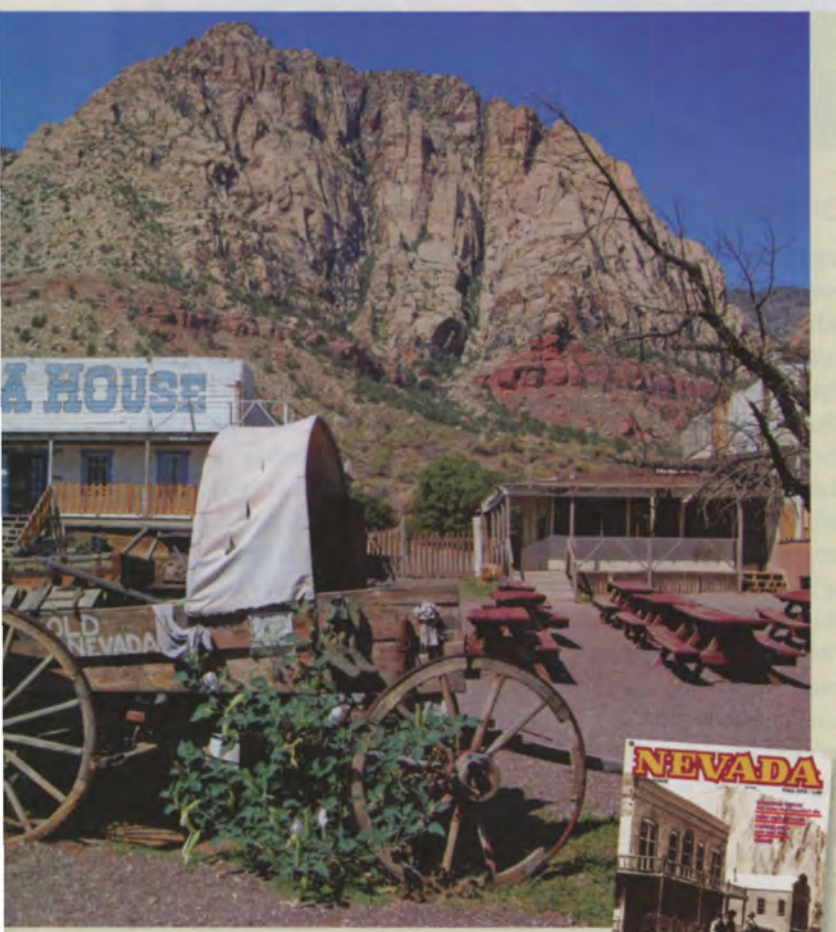
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas
visitlasvegas.com
702-892-0711

off the beaten path

Southern Nevada has a wealth of places to satisfy your craving for adventure.

BY CHARLIE JOHNSTON

Some of Southern Nevada's best attractions aren't so universally known. These off-the-beaten-path stops are generally every bit as easy to get to as the heavy hitters, but offer smaller crowds and a feeling of discovery that is as real-Nevada as sagebrush and silver mines. So gas up the rental, dust off your spirit of adventure, and explore some of these hidden gems—maybe you'll find a few more secrets on the way.



Guests of Bonnie Springs Ranch, open Wednesday to Sunday year round, can witness a melodrama, hanging, or posse show.

BONN E SPR NGS

In 1952, Bonnie Levinson, a former Las Vegas showgirl, and her husband, Al, set out to reinvent the Old West. After tireless historical research their dream was realized in Bonnie Springs Ranch near Blue Diamond.

The 1880s mining town replica, ranch, motel, and restaurant is a 25-minute drive from Las Vegas but feels like a world—and a century—away from the Strip.

Activities for children and adults abound. In addition to the facsimile 19th-century town, there are gift shops, a petting zoo, horseback riding, scenic tours, and frequent reenactments of Old West standbys such as shootouts and hangings. The onsite restaurant and bar keeps visitors content and fueled for their frontier adventures, and the motel offers accommodations that range from simple to Jacuzzi suites.

CONTACT

Bonnie Springs Ranch
16935 Bonnie Springs Rd., Blue Diamond
bonniesprings.com
702-875-4191



REFLECTIONS

The boarded sidewalks snap under your heels, the sounds, the sights, and smells are at once foreign but somehow familiar. The Old West lives again, and, by golly, you're standing smack-hold-your-hat-dab in the middle of it.

"Bonnie Springs Old Nevada"
Nevada Magazine, Fall 1975



Sitting comfortably—but moving swiftly—in paragliding harnesses, passengers of Bootleg Canyon Flightlines enjoy dramatic desert views.

BOOTLEG CANYON

As Southern Nevada destinations go, quaint, laid-back Boulder City is about as far off-the-beaten-Strip as you can get. But for a truly offbeat adventure, consider Boulder City's Bootleg Canyon. The canyon and surrounding mountainsides are crisscrossed with almost 40 miles of world-class mountain-biking trails, with rides to match everyone from beginner to advanced adrenaline junkie. Bootleg's trails are designated as "epic rides" by the International Mountain Bicycling Association.

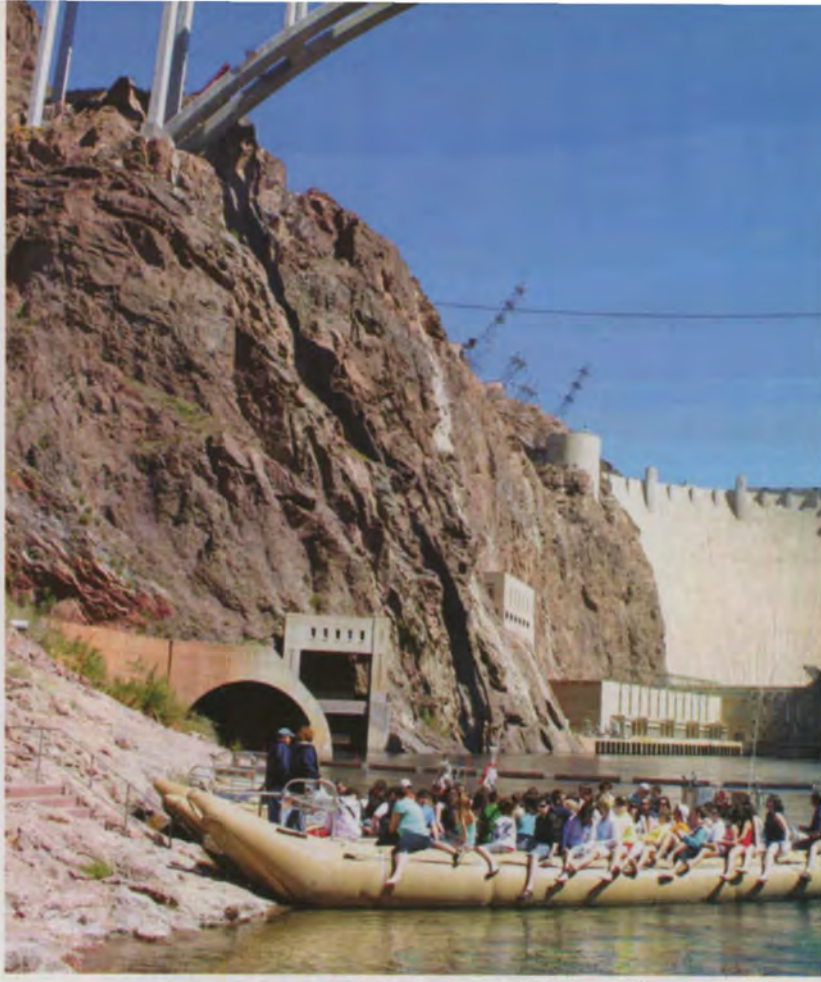
If rattling over rocks and dirt on two wheels sounds a little too high-impact for your taste, consider rising above the dust with Bootleg Canyon Flightlines. After orientation and training, guests are shuttled to the top of Red Mountain where one of four zip lines will take them down the mountain and across canyons back to the bottom at speeds up to 50 mph. Views from the top and during the descent include Las Vegas, Lake Mead, and Boulder City. The zip lines range in length from 1,150 to 2,550 feet, and the overall outing lasts about two-and-a-half hours.

CONTACTS

Bootleg Canyon Mountain Bike Park
bootlegcanyon.org

Bootleg Canyon Flightlines
1512 Industrial Rd., Boulder City
bcflightlines.com
702-293-6885





Black Canyon River Adventures' Colorado River Raft Tours allow visitors to soak up the history, wildlife, and beauty of Black Canyon.

BLACK CANYON

Literally in the shadow of the mighty Hoover Dam (see photo)—one of Southern Nevada's most visited attractions—lies a much less frequented destination that is every bit as worthy of attention and even provides a unique perspective on the towering concrete barrier. Below the dam and the new Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Bridge, the Colorado River meanders through the 2,000-foot depths of Black Canyon.

Black Canyon River Adventures, in partnership with Forever Resorts, offers tours through the desert stronghold. Roundtrip transportation is offered from Las Vegas to the rafts that launch from the base of Hoover Dam. Knowledgeable guides share interesting information on the area's history and unique geology, and tours often include chance sightings of such desert animals as bighorn sheep and osprey. Lunch is provided, and guests are invited to take a dip in the chilly river during stops along the shore.

CONTACTS

Black Canyon River Adventures
blackcanyonadventures.com
800-455-3490

Forever Resorts
foreverresorts.com
800-255-5561





PHOTO: CHARLIE JOHNSTON

Grapevine Canyon, not far north of Laughlin in the Newberry Mountains, is one of Nevada's lesser-known petroglyph sites. It's assumed that the Mojave Indians or their ancestors conceived the rock art.

GRAPEVINE CANYON

Nothing can spoil a great archaeological site quite like a jumble of interpretive and warning signs, throngs of people, and scratched Lexan shields covering the finds. While it is perfectly understandable that this is the price we pay to preserve some historical treasures, it is nice to encounter places that don't feel like outdoor museums.

Grapevine Canyon near Laughlin is mercifully devoid of the trappings of some similar sites. Thousands of petroglyphs dating to as early as 1100 A.D. plaster the rock faces at the entrance to the canyon, an easy quarter-mile hike from the gravel parking lot. The rock etchings of bighorn sheep, snakes, and other as yet undeciphered meanings are close enough to touch—but we advise against doing so if you want them to remain that way. Farther up the canyon, a freshwater spring feeds lush vegetation such as cottonwood, arrowweed, and canyon grape in non-drought years.

CONTACT

National Park Service
601 Nevada Way, Boulder City
nps.gov/lake
702-293-8990



NELSON

According to local legend, the area around Nelson and Eldorado Canyon has been mined for precious metals as far back as the early 1700s by American Indians, and later, Spanish explorers and Mormon settlers. During the area's most productive years—from the early 1860s until the mid-1900s—a handful of mines produced more than $5 million in gold and silver ore. Like most Nevada mining towns, Nelson and the rest of the region were abandoned when the mines busted, left to be reclaimed by the desert.

In the mid-1990s a family from Boulder City purchased the 50 acres that included the ruins of the old town and a handful of mines, including one of the region's most productive, the Techatticup Mine. They restored buildings such as an old company store, stamp mill, bunkhouse, and a few cabins. They also equipped part of the mine with steel walkways, lights, emergency equipment, and proper ventilation to make it safe for public tours. Tours at Techatticup, about 45 minutes south of Las Vegas, bring visitors 500 feet into the mine and give a realistic look at what life was like for the miners who toiled in its depths.

CONTACT

Eldorado Canyon Mine Tours
eldoradocanyonminetours.com
702-291-0026





PHOTO: ANDERS SORENSEN

Eldorado Canyon Mine Tours offers visitors to the ghost town of Nelson (above) one-hour tours of the Techatticup Mine, seven days a week.

ST. THOMAS

When the construction of Hoover Dam in Southern Nevada was officially announced in 1928, almost everyone in Southern Nevada was elated—emphasis on *almost*. Residents in St. Thomas didn't take the news so well, and who could blame them? The dam's construction was going to flood their town. Local legend holds that in 1938, Hugh Lord, the last resident to leave, paddled away from his home as the rising lake reached his front porch.

Today, the waters that drowned St. Thomas have receded to unprecedented levels, leaving the mud-encrusted foundations of the former town high and dry. A 2.5-mile loop trail leads to the ruins amid desert shrubbery from St. Thomas Point, easily accessed from State Route 169 and a well-marked gravel road. The town cemetery, relocated to nearby Overton in 1935 before the waters came, can be visited today. While in Overton, check out the Lost City Museum.

CONTACT

Lake Mead National Recreation Area
601 Nevada Way, Boulder City
nps.gov/lake
702-293-8990





PHOTO: CHARLIE JOHNSTON

A 2.5-mile loop trail gives hikers access to the ruins of St. Thomas, vacated by the majority of its residents in the early 1930s.



REFLECTIONS

The men and women who lived in St. Thomas, who worked its fields and danced at its harvest festivals, never dreamed that one day everything they had built would disappear under 80 feet of black water.

"The Mormon Atlantis"
Nevada Magazine, December 1993

Grant Supports Specialty Crop Enhancing Projects

- Nevada receives federal funding to enhance Specialty Crops such as fruits, legumes, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, nursery crops, and floriculture.

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Nevada Department of AGRICULTURE

Nevada Department of Agriculture
405 S. 21st Street • Sparks, NV 89431
775-353-3639 Fax: 775-353-3638
kjameson@agri.state.nv.us

Applications available this spring. *For information visit:*
www.agri.state.nv.us • www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp



parks and recreation

Valley of Fire State Park

Nine diverse, scenic places to take the family and explore Southern Nevada.

PHOTO: ANDERS SORENSEN

BY REBECCA THEIM

Although known worldwide for the Las Vegas Strip, Southern Nevada is also a recreational and outdoor mecca, offering everything from encounters with our prehistoric past to the opportunity to scale lofty mountains.

These nine geological and recreational gems are all within a 90-minute drive of Las Vegas and promise a different kind of indulgence for Nevada visitors.

VALLEY OF FIRE STATE PARK

Visitors traveling from Las Vegas via Interstate 15, Exit 75 shouldn't let the inauspicious southwest border of Valley of Fire State Park fool them. The modest sign that marks the boundary of the more than 40,000-acre state park—Nevada's biggest and oldest—belies the raw beauty and encounters with the dinosaur age that visitors experience as they travel among the park's notable geologic and prehistoric features.

Named for its red sandstone formations that often appear to be on fire when reflecting Nevada's incessantly shining sun, the park's prominent attributes include petrified logs that washed into the area an estimated 225 million years ago and Mouse's Tank, a natural basin named for the renegade Paiute who used the area as a hideout in the 1890s. "I'll never forget how the landscape transformed as darkness fell," says Henderson resident George Molnar, who recently spent a day at the park with his family. "It's truly a stunning place that's only 55 miles—yet literally worlds away—from Las Vegas."

REFLECTIONS

The wildness of these eroded areas has a strong, universal attraction. Close to the land, we are aware of energies larger than our own, of nature's great designs.



"Desert Passages"
Nevada Magazine, May/June 1981

Visitors with interest in more contemporary events will appreciate the park's role in pop culture: Valley of Fire has been the backdrop for a number of notable movie scenes, including the site of Captain Kirk's death in "Star Trek Generations."

CONTACT

Valley of Fire State Park
29450 Valley of Fire Rd., Overton
parks.nv.gov/vf.htm
702-397-2088

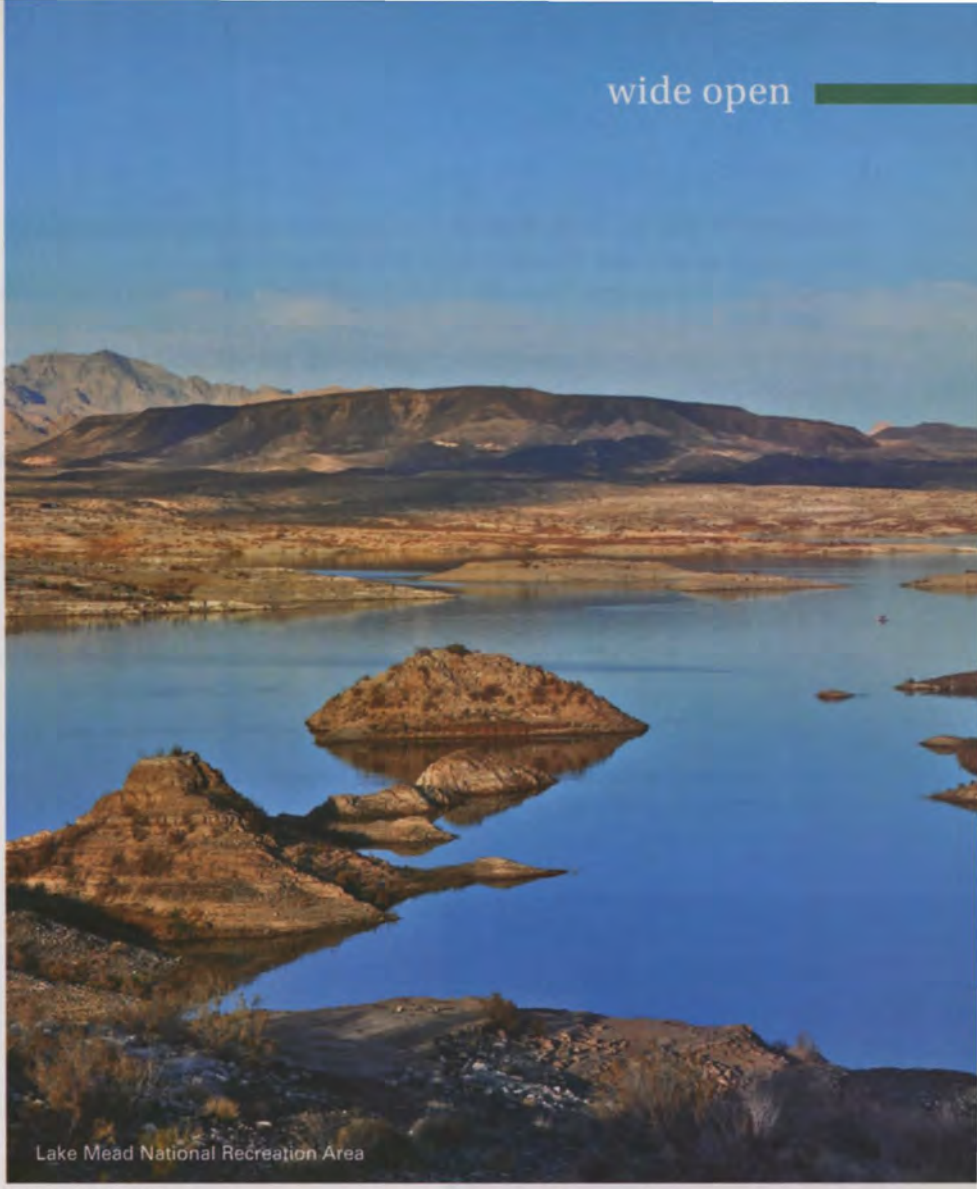
LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

When native New Zealander Melina Laredo traveled from her Chicago home to Southern Nevada to compete in her first Ironman-distance triathlon, the annual Silverman Triathlon, she didn't expect the natural splendor she would encounter during the 112-mile cycling portion of the endeavor. Her journey along the western edge of the 1.5-million-acre Lake Mead National Recreation Area and its Las Vegas Bay included more than 9,000 feet of climbing and elevations ranging from 1,200 to 2,400 feet. "I was on the bike for eight hours, but I didn't know it until the eighth hour because the whole ride was so amazing and beautiful," Laredo says. "It's something you can't get anywhere else. This was another type of magnificent."

Besides endurance competitions, the recreation area offers hiking, camping, boating, and water sports.

CONTACT

Lake Mead National Recreation Area
601 Nevada Way, Boulder City
nps.gov/lake
702-293-8990



Lake Mead National Recreation Area

PHOTOS: KEVIN DYER



Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

With its Yosemite-sized walls, the 197,000-acre Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area—located in the heart of the Mojave Desert—is known for its abundant and geologically beautiful hikes and rock climbs.

The area's nearly 20 trails take hikers through a maze of canyons, peaks, ledges, chimneys, chutes, and gullies.

La Madre Mountain, containing the park's highest peak at 8,154 feet, is part of a massive wall of rock alternately referred to as Wilson Cliffs or Keystone Thrust, which attracts rock climbers from around the world. One such climber is Bill Ramsey, who moved from Indiana to Las Vegas so he could climb year round.

"Las Vegas is the only place I can think of where you can do extremely difficult rock climbs all year," Ramsey says. "I love the craziness of Las Vegas—how you can have these amazing urban lifestyle experiences, but then drive 25 minutes and be in an area as remote and primitive as any place in the country."

Red Rock Canyon offers a 13-mile scenic byway, also a challenging and popular cycling loop, with breathtaking views as it gains 1,000 feet in elevation, almost all in the first five miles. The area also provides one developed campsite with year-round facilities.

CONTACT

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr., Las Vegas
nv.blm.gov/redrockcanyon
702-515-5000

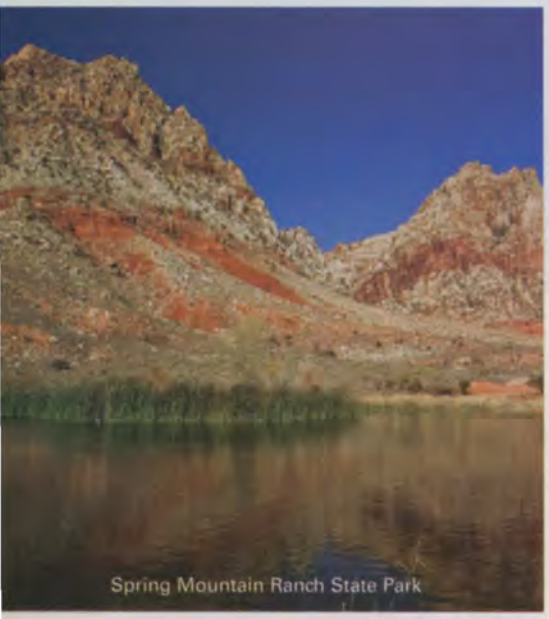

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park

PHOTO: MIKE GALLAGHER

SPRING MOUNTAIN RANCH STATE PARK

Located within Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Spring Mountain Ranch was once a haven valued for the many springs that flowed into the area. That water supply in the blazing-hot Mojave attracted Paiutes, mountain men, and early settlers alike. The 520-acre tract was developed into a combination working ranch and luxury retreat owned by a string of notable individuals, including millionaire Howard Hughes.

Even before construction of the ranch, its natural assets had a long and colorful history. The wash that runs through the ranch became an alternate route to the Old Spanish Trail in the 1830s and attracted pack and wagon trains until the arrival of the railroad in 1905. American Indian slave traders, horse thieves, and bandits preying on passing caravans also used the secluded trail extensively.

Modern visitors may tour the original main ranch house and take guided excursions throughout the historic area.

CONTACT

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
P.O. Box 124, Blue Diamond, NV 89004
parks.nv.gov/smr.htm
702-875-4141

OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON STATE HISTORIC PARK

A group of more than 30 Mormons arrived at the future site of the Las Vegas Mission in June 1855, after being called on by Brigham Young to establish a way station for pioneers traveling between Salt Lake City and the Pacific Coast. The settlers built an adobe fort along Las Vegas Creek and successfully farmed the area. Their efforts to convert the local Paiutes were less successful. After the mission failed two years later, the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort had an eclectic life, serving briefly as a military outpost, ranch, resort, and cement-testing facility for the construction of Hoover Dam.

It came alive again in June 2005 as descendants of the original Utah pioneers congregated at the fort to commemorate the 150th anniversary of its opening. "It's the oldest building in town and the birthplace of Las Vegas," says Jason Coffey, president of the Southern Nevada Living History Association, which participates in the fort's annual Settlement Day parade and holds monthly reenactments of the 1867-69 occupation of the fort by Company D of the 9th U.S. Infantry.

Located near downtown Las Vegas, the fort complex includes a visitor center, full-size reconstruction of the original structure, and the last remaining wall of the original fort.

CONTACT

Old Las Vegas Mormon State Historic Park
500 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas
parks.nv.gov/olvmf.htm
702-486-3511


Old Las Vegas Mormon State Historic Park

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

BIG BEND OF THE COLORADO RIVER STATE RECREATION AREA

Big Bend State Recreation Area is five miles south of Laughlin on the Needles Highway. Big Bend, which opened in 1996 and is Nevada's newest state park, is on the shore of the Colorado River near Nevada's southern tip. The park offers dramatic views of the river and surrounding mountains, camping, hiking, and group facilities. In 2009, about four miles of hiking trails were added throughout the park. Other popular activities at Big Bend include picnicking, boating, fishing, and swimming.—*parksnv.gov*

CONTACT

Big Bend of the Colorado River State Recreation Area
P.O. Box 32850, Laughlin, NV 89028
parks.nv.gov/bb.htm
702-298-1859



PHOTO: ANDERS SORENSEN

MOUNT CHARLESTON WILDERNESS

The 57,442-acre Mount Charleston Wilderness area extends across the highest elevations of Southern Nevada's Spring Mountains range, including the magnificent 11,918-foot Charleston Peak, which is visible from much of the Las Vegas Valley.

The wilderness area's high country offers some of the only natural relief from the scorching Mojave summer heat. Short, steep-walled canyons dot the range, which is covered by 18,000 acres of Western bristlecone pine, the largest such stand in the world.

The varying altitudes support a wide range of habitat, geology, and microclimates and sustain several endemic plant communities found nowhere else on earth.

Some 40 miles of trails offer strenuous, but beautiful, hiking. "The Bristlecone Trail is remarkable for its flora—the bristlecone pines ooze with sap and are wonderfully colorful," says avid Mount Charleston hiker Jack Pate. The area is also home to Raintree, one of the oldest trees in North America.

CONTACT

Mount Charleston Wilderness
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr., Las Vegas
fs.fed.us
702-515-5400



REFLECTIONS

Brushed by clouds and alpine breezes, Mt. Charleston is a majestic island of pines and firs surrounded by a fierce sea of desert. Charleston is the highest peak in Southern Nevada, and the views from its top—more than 11,000 feet above sea level—are awesome.

"Walking the Trails of Charleston"
Nevada Magazine, Summer 1979



DESERT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The Desert National Wildlife Refuge was established in May 1936 and is the largest national wildlife refuge in the continental United States. Encompassing 1.5 million acres of the Mojave, it contains six major mountain ranges, the highest rising from 2,500-foot valleys to nearly 10,000 feet. One of the refuge's main purposes is to create and improve a perpetuating habitat for desert bighorn sheep.

Visitors enjoy camping, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, and bird watching. The Corn Creek Field Station, about 23 miles northwest of Las Vegas, is the major entrance to the range, accessible via a four-mile gravel road off U.S. Highway 95.

Because of the expansiveness and remote nature of much of the range, visitors are advised to fill their gas tanks, ensure proper working order of their vehicles, bring sufficient water, and notify someone of their travel plans. The Refuge Visitor Contact Station is open Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Labor Day through Memorial Day.

CONTACT

Desert National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuges
702-879-6110



Desert National Wildlife Refuge

PHOTO: MARK PETTERSON



NEVADA ONLINE

For a status update on the proposed Tule Springs Ice Age Park in the Upper Las Vegas Wash, visit **nevadamagazine.com**

MOAPA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Dwarfed in size by many of Nevada's parks and refuges, the 117-acre Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge is among the state's youngest. In 1979, its five natural thermal springs and Muddy River system became the foundation of the first secure habitat in the federal wildlife refuge system for an endangered fish: the Moapa dace, found nowhere else in the world. "I love the mission and vision of why it was established: to conserve an endangered species," says Refuge Manager Amy Lavoie. "A healthy ecosystem typically equates to good water quality, so the health of this fish can also be beneficial to humans."

Some Las Vegans fondly remember the Desert Oasis Warm Springs Resort, which operated from the 1970s until a wildfire destroyed it in 1994. What many people don't realize, Lavoie says, is how detrimental the concrete hot tubs and swimming pools that captured the thermal spring waters were to the environment. One of the first things the Fish and Wildlife Service did when it acquired the property was remove the concrete.

Because of its small size, fragile habitats, and ongoing restoration work, the refuge, located about 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas, is only open Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Labor Day through Memorial Day.

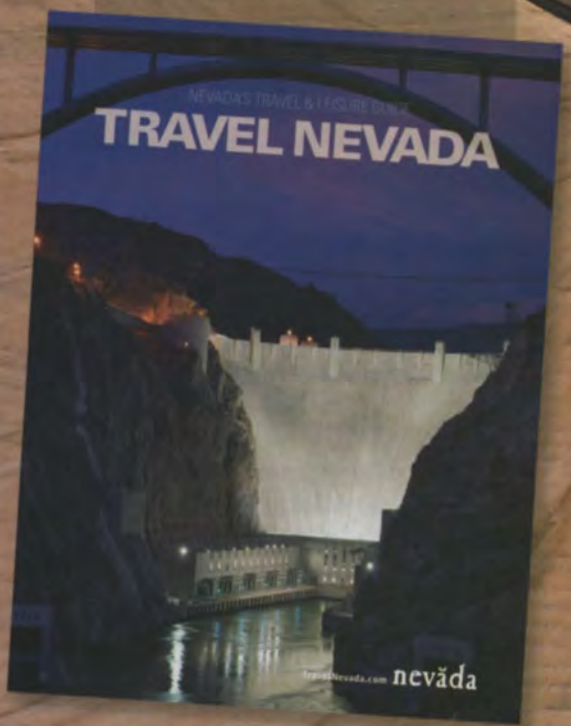
CONTACT

Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuges
702-879-6110

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Photos by Kevin Dyer and Jamey Stillings (cover)

Nevada Magazine is a division of the Nevada Commission on Tourism.

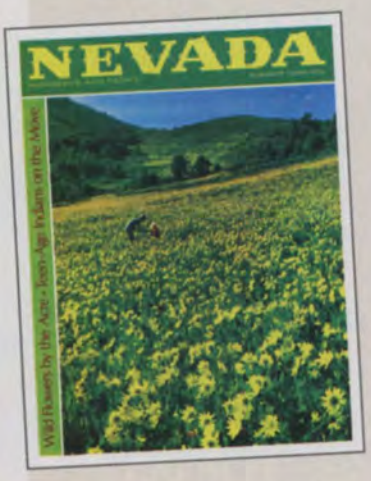


HAULING ORE FROM POTOSI MINE LAS VEGAS NEVADA.

PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

THE STORY

"Potosi Mine" was originally published in the Summer 1968 issue of *Nevada Highways and Parks*, as was the graphic on page 45. The flowery cover photo, by David Muench, was taken at the base of the Jarbidge Mountains. The issue also featured stories about Red Rock Canyon and the town of Jarbidge.



POTOSI MINE



BY ELIZABETH HARRINGTON
SUMMER 1968

High up in the mountains, 35 miles southwest of Las Vegas, is found one of the places most significant to Nevada's early history. This is the old Potosi Mine, the first lode mine ever worked in the state. Located near 8,514-foot Potosi Mountain, south of Las Vegas off the highway to Pahrump, the old mine is but a short distance from the historic Old Spanish Trail. An unpaved dirt road leads to Potosi, and to travel over it a jeep or pickup truck is advised.

History does not reveal exactly when Potosi was discovered. Most historians are loathe to commit themselves definitely when discussing the early history of Southern Nevada—wisely so, because no maps or records of the Spanish period are known to exist. Many will speculate, however, and say that it is possible and even probable that a group of Spanish missionaries, the Franciscans, with a group of Mexican peons, sailed from Mexico up the Colorado River in 1776 as far as the big bend, near the present site of Hoover Dam, with the idea of teaching Christianity to the Indians and exploring the land and seeking wealth in the mountains.

Then, proceeding from this assumption, we can believe that these padres explored the area, looking for silver and turquoise. They opened silver mines, the workings of which are said still to be in evidence, and they eventually left the area for reasons we cannot know. Substantiating the theory that the Spanish were here in 1776 are the lingering stories, mostly handed down by such Las Vegas old-timers as the late Helen Stewart, that coins and religious articles of

the period have been found in the area. A rosary, for example, is supposed to have turned up in one of the old abandoned mines and attached to it were coins from the Island of Luzon, from which the padres had sailed in 1767

The first known trail near Potosi was blazed in 1829 by Rafael Rivera, chief scout and guide for the historic Armijo Party that was sent out by Jose Antonio Chavez, Governor of New Mexico, to determine the shortest route between Santa Fe and California for the trading caravans of the day. The old Escalante Trail to Southern Utah had earlier been established. The Armijo Party now had to bridge the gap between Southern Nevada and California. Rivera scouted the mountains and the entire area around Potosi, and the route finally taken by Armijo was that which became the Old Spanish Trail.

The modern-recorded history of Potosi began in 1855 when the Mormon Church sent colonists into what they thought was a part of Southern Utah to start a farming community. (Actually, at the time the area that is now Southern Nevada belonged to the New Mexican Territory and, later, to Arizona Territory.) Four years earlier, in 1851, the Mormons had started another settlement at San Bernardino, and it was while some of these colonists were traveling over the mountains from Las Vegas to that growing town that they came upon Potosi. After exploring the mine and finding it rich with lead and other metals, the nature of which they could not determine, they lost no time in sending word to Brigham Young about the find. Lead was badly needed by the Mormons for making bullets, so Young immediately dispatched an experienced mining man, Nathaniel V. Jones, to take charge.

Probably it was Jones who gave the mine its name—after the Potosi district in southwest Wisconsin, where he had lived as a young man. The Mormons proceeded to dig a well near a running spring and build a number of log cabins in the three-mile ravine below the mine. They first tried to smelt the ore at the mine, using pitch and cedar wood for fuel, but because the water supply proved inadequate, they decided to haul the ore down to Las Vegas where springs were in abundance.

Authorities differ on the subject, but it seems fairly clear from the journals they wrote in Las Vegas that the Mormons now built a small smelter inside the walls of the Las Vegas stockade and successfully recovered lead, which they sent back to Utah. This, then, was the first smelter west of the Missouri and the first ever to operate in Nevada.

Oxen and burros—mainly the latter—were pressed into service to haul the ore (see photo on page 44), and evidently some of the burros wandered off or were released to go wild. At least numbers of these lowly animals still roamed the hills around Potosi as late as 1919.

Packing ore down over the mountains was a slow, tiresome task for the heavily laden animals, but the Mormons fortunately were able to establish a rest stop on



a level spot part way down where there was running water. Here they set up a camp that thereafter was always known as the Old Mormon Camp.

After two years working the mine, during which time they founded a thriving farming community at Las Vegas, Young suddenly ordered the Mormons to return to Salt Lake because of serious trouble between the Federal Government and the Mormon Church, and on February 3, 1857, the colonists left Las Vegas and the mine—and thereby Potosi became the first ghost town in Nevada.

Following the departure of the Mormons, mining activities at Potosi continued sporadically for the next 40 years. According to existing records, several large firms, such as the Silver State Mining Company in the '70s, were active during the period. However, much of the development at Potosi and nearby claims was performed by prospectors working on their own.

After the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad (now the Union Pacific) was built through Southern Nevada in 1905, new assays of the complex ore were made. When it turned out that, in addition to its rich lead and silver deposits, the ore also contained large zinc content, Potosi was reactivated. The Yellow Pine railroad outlet was established in 1910, a smelter built at nearby Goodsprings, and Potosi then became one of the major producers of zinc, a metal in great demand throughout the country.

Next to exploit this rich zinc deposit was a large company, The Empire Zinc Company of New Jersey, with main offices in Denver, which took over the mine in 1913. Here in the ravine where the Mormons had built their log cabins 58 years earlier, the Empire Zinc Company built an attractive little camp with comfortable houses and other necessary buildings all of a uniform gray. The company installed an electrical plant and built a calciner near the mine. An excellent road was constructed and maintained from Potosi to Arden, over which the ore was hauled in large trucks to the railroad, there to be shipped all over the country.

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, Potosi was classified as a priority defense project, producing badly needed zinc, silver, and lead. As level after level was worked and hollowed out, the old mine literally gave her all towards the war effort.

Besides all the war activity, the summer of 1918 was a productive one for the little camp in other ways—as is evident from the following excerpt taken from the *Las Vegas Age* of August 3, 1918:

POPULATION INCREASED AT THE POTOSI MINE

Born — To Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Smith, July 27, 1918, at the Potosi Mine in Clark County, Nevada, a daughter, Barbara Jane. Mr. Smith is the Engineer at the mine.

— To Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Stephens, July 30, 1918, at the Potosi Mine, Clark



PHOTO: JIM BOONE

Potosi Mountain (above), east of the former Potosi Mine, holds a poignant place in Nevada history. On January 16, 1942, actress Carole Lombard and 21 other passengers died when a DC-3 airplane crashed into one of these rocky peaks. Read more about the crash, and how to hike to the crash site, at nevadamagazine.com.

County, Nevada, a son, William Winchel. Mr. Stephens is Superintendent of the mine.

— To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Harrington, August 1, 1918, at the Potosi Mine, Clark County, Nevada, a son, Vincent Bailey. Mr. Harrington is the Bookkeeper at the mine.

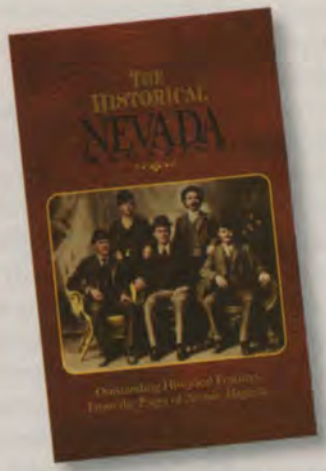
—The arrival of the three babies at the Potosi camp within five days, and the fact that they are the first babies ever born at the mine, constitute a remarkable coincidence. The Age is happy to extend the congratulations of the county to all concerned.

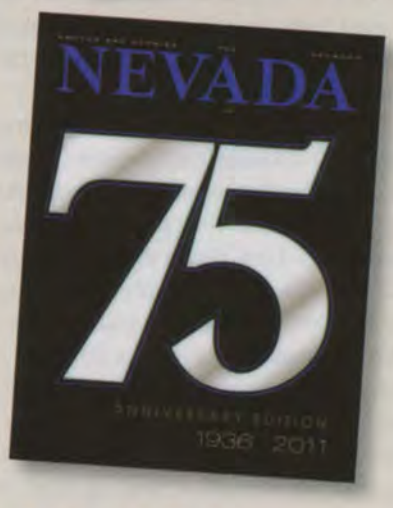
After the armistice was signed in 1918, the Empire Zinc Company began cutting forces rapidly as it was evident that it could not continue working the old mine on a large scale. By late spring of 1919, the large force of men had dwindled to only a few. The office force was also reduced. Ralph Smith, the engineer, was the first to go. He was sent to the main office in Denver. Next to be transferred was the superintendent Frank Stephens. The foreman of the mine, Samuel Rowe, left to make his home in Long Beach, California.

The only remaining member of the office force was the bookkeeper Arthur Harrington. The Empire Zinc Company placed Mr. Harrington in full charge of supervising the dismantling of Potosi. By fall, the mine was completely shut down, and dismantling was in full progress. The equipment was shipped to other mines belonging to the Empire Zinc Company, and the buildings were sold. Some were dismantled and reassembled in Las Vegas.

After the Empire Zinc Company abandoned Potosi, it was leased by A.J. and A. R. Robbins of Goodsprings. In 1925, the old mine produced 31,000 tons of zinc. Hearing of this huge output, the International Smelting Company sent engineers to look over the property in 1926. The assays made at this time showed much promise, and the company leased the mine for two years. But again it proved too expensive to operate, and Potosi was abandoned after a few months.

And so this old mine, after yielding fortunes in silver, lead, and zinc, and after enriching Nevada and the entire nation so handsomely, at last stands retired and deserted. But surely, having played a part for so many years in western history, Potosi is indeed worthy of honor in Nevada's pioneering past.





NEVADA HISTORY BUFFS

If you enjoyed the preceding article, from a 1968 issue of *Nevada Highways and Parks*, you will want to add to your collection *Nevada Magazine's* 75th-Anniversary Edition, now available. To experience 24 more stories from past issues of *Nevada Magazine*, visit nevadamagazine.com or call 877-904-7953 to place your order.

Also consider...*The Historical Nevada Magazine* book, with historical features from the pages of *Nevada Magazine*. To order the 75th Edition and the book for a special price of $29.95, e-mail jmgeary@nevadamagazine.com or call 775-687-0603.

LOOKING BACK



This image of Fremont Street marked the first time Las Vegas was featured on the magazine's cover. "We have tried to capture the youthful, buoyant, liberal spirit of Las Vegas..." *Nevada Highways and Parks* wrote.

January-June 1953

JANUARY

2, 1941 – The City of Las Vegas buys an airstrip run by Western Air Express and leases it to the Air Corps for the eventual construction of Las Vegas Army Air Field, today's Nellis Air Force Base.

4, 1960 – Boulder City's incorporation ceremonies take place, after the government relinquishes control of the city—established in 1931 for workers building Hoover Dam—in 1959.

11, 1951 – The Nevada Test Site, 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, is established. Nuclear testing occurs there until the early 1990s.

16, 1799 – Jedediah Smith is born in Bainbridge, New York. Twenty-eight years later, he becomes the first American to explore and eastwardly cross the Sierra Nevada and the Great Basin.

16, 1942 – Actress Carole Lombard and other passengers of a DC-3 airplane crash into Potosi Mountain, southwest of Las Vegas, killing all on board.

FEBRUARY

1, 1935 – The filling of Lake Mead begins, even before the last concrete was poured for Hoover Dam in May 1935.

7, 1959 – After spending a record 64 days, 22 hours, and 21 minutes aloft, Pilot John Cook and businessman Bob Timm land their Cessna 172 in Las Vegas.

9, 2001 – The 3-millionth marriage certificate is recorded in Clark County.

11, 2006 – Federal, state, and local officials congregate in Boulder City to break ground on the 64-megawatt Nevada Solar One power plant.

16, 1965 – Astronauts Neil Armstrong, Dick Gordon, Buzz Aldrin, Dave Scott, and Rusty Schweikart begin three days of training at the Nevada Test Site. They learn how to conduct geological and geophysical studies while wearing suits similar to what they would wear on the moon.

Nevada Magazine volunteer Elmer Wolf provided this information.


NEVADA TEST SITE


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CAROLE LOMBARD


LAKE MEAD



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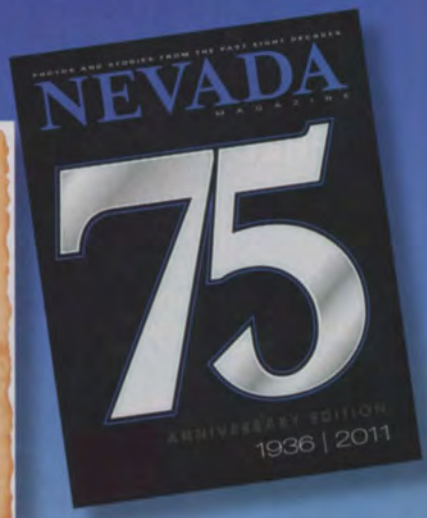
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nevada museum of art turns 80

As *Nevada Magazine* celebrates its 75th anniversary throughout 2011, the distinguished Nevada Museum of Art in Reno will honor its 80th with a series of fascinating exhibits and special events.

Kicking off the festivities is the *John James Audubon and the Birds of America* exhibit, running through February 13. Audubon studied birds extensively in the 19th century and depicted them in dramatic and life-sized watercolor paintings. The Lahontan Audubon Society will host two bird walks at Reno's Virginia Lake on January 8 and 15.

Of the myriad 2011 exhibits at NMA, also of note are *Running the Numbers: Chris Jordan* (April 23-July 17), *To Live Forever: Egyptian Treasures* (June 11-September 4), and *A Lasting Legacy: Church, Cutts, and the Founding of the Nevada Museum of Art* (August 27-January 16, 2012).

Jordan takes statistics that are too big for the mind to grasp—e.g., 2 million plastic bottles used every five minutes—and represents them in shockingly beautiful digital prints. The Egyptian collection features more than 120 objects, some dating to more than 5,000 years ago, and the latter exhibit celebrates NMA's early founders and origin.

Rural Nevada art buffs should consider a visit to Churchill Arts Council's Oats Park Art Center in Fallon. In addition to concerts and a February film series, visitors can enjoy *Painted Deserts*, featuring the works of four landscape artists, through March 11. There will be a panel discussion on January 29.

Springs Preserve is one place in Las Vegas to satisfy your love of art and photography. *Bridge at Hoover Dam*, on display through January 23, features more than 30 Jamey Stillings photographs of the evolution of the recently opened Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge. Also, on Saturdays and Sundays through February, guests can catch "Wings Over the Springs," a live show starring soaring birds of prey.

Be sure to scan the proceeding listings for a ton more events and shows to help plan your winter vacation in Nevada.



BRING THE FAMILY

› Stratosphere unveiled a special tribute to NASCAR hero **Dale Earnhardt** in December. The showcase, on display until April 29, includes a limited-edition Camaro and Earnhardt artifacts such as his Winston Cup jacket.

› **Diamond Peak Ski Resort** in Incline Village hosts **Family Fun Day** on January 23 and February 6. If you live in Carson City, Minden, Gardnerville, or Dayton, you ski for $25.

› Boulder City's **Dam Short Film Festival** returns for a seventh year, February 9-12. More than 100 films—none longer than 35 minutes and a number of them family friendly—will be screened at the historic Boulder Theatre.

This column is meant to help guide you through the extensive Southern and Northern Nevada Events & Shows listings that follow. To submit a listing or contact the editor, e-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.

WHAT'S NEW



› In December, Wynn Las Vegas celebrated Frank Sinatra's 95th birthday with a premiere performance of **"Sinatra Dance With Me."** The show will continue Monday through Saturday through January 29, with the possibility of an extension.



› Magician and entertainer **Aaron Radatz** began afternoon performances of his new illusion and magic show in November at Clarion Hotel Las Vegas. **Larry G Jones**, **Naughty Boys Hypnosis** (above), and **Tanyalee Davis** are also performing at the resort's new Wolf Theater.

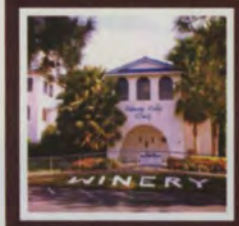
MISCELLANEOUS



› Barry Manilow's nonprofit, the **Manilow Music Project**, gave more than $500,000 worth of musical instruments to 15 Clark County School District middle schools and high schools during an October ceremony at Valley High School.



› Blue Man Group recently announced the **Invent an Instrument National Program**, inviting students grades 5 to 9 to build instruments out of existing objects. Learn more at **blueman.com/instrument**.



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10 THE 10 MOST INFLUENTIAL ACTS IN LAS VEGAS HISTORY

BY CHRIS CARNEY

Las Vegas has long been synonymous with great entertainment. From gambling to burlesque, magic to impersonation, Las Vegas has a long and steady history of producing laughter, smiles, and yelps of joy. By most measures, Las Vegas can claim Entertainment Capital of the World.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the city's incorporation, *Nevada Magazine* has compiled a list of the 10 most influential acts in Las Vegas history—in no particular order but alphabetical. We have purposely chosen entertainers that span a wide range of styles, eras, and personalities so that readers can come away with a better understanding of the history, heart, and soul of this city in the desert.



CELINE DION

Celine Dion's presence on this list may engender doubtful mutterings and irritated scowls from some Las Vegas purists who pine for the days of Old Vegas, but a short look at her domination of the Strip in the 2000s makes her influence undeniable.

In 2003, the Canadian songstress began a residency at Caesars Palace that would, over the next five years, gross a staggering sum and dominate the Vegas landscape. Not only did "A New Day" shoot the bar for Vegas shows into the upper atmosphere, it altered the way entertainers worldwide performed. To really entertain, Dion implied, performers needed an extravaganza of lights, dance, and sound.

It was in Las Vegas that she went from performer to entertainer, and on March 15, she returns to the Colosseum that Caesars originally built for her. Her legend is sure to grow.



PHOTO: TOMASZ ROSSA

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Another relative newcomer to Las Vegas, Cirque Du Soleil has—from "Mystére," through "O" and "Zumanity," and culminating with the recent unveilings of The Beatles "LOVE" and "Viva Elvis"—come to dominate the Strip as no other





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PHOTO: LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU





Clockwise From Top Left: Celine Dion; Elvis Presley; Joey Bishop, Frank Sinatra, and Dean Martin of The Rat Pack; Wayne Newton; Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère," and Liberace. Dion will begin her tenure at the Colosseum at Caesars Palace on March 15. Of deceased performers, Elvis' legacy endures most, with myriad ongoing tribute shows in his honor around the state. Rat Pack tributes still frequent Nevada showrooms as well. Show buffs can still catch Newton on occasion and enjoy seven current Cirque shows in Las Vegas. Saxe Theater is currently hosting a Liberace tribute.

entertainment entity has before.

From its humble street-performer origins in Montreal, Cirque has grown into an entertainment juggernaut with nearly $1 billion in yearly receipts. It has been estimated that on any given night, five percent of Vegas visitors attend a Cirque show.

The production company's influence is so pervasive that visitors now plan trips to Vegas around Cirque, and the premiere of such a show draws a cavalcade of movie stars and other notables.

DEAN MARTIN AND JERRY LEWIS

Some consider 1950s Las Vegas the city's heyday. Sin City was edgy and hip, glamorous and hedonistic, and populated by mobsters and starlets. It was on the stage of the legendary Copa Room at the Sands where the hottest acts of the day performed. Few acts can be said to be more Vegas than the musical comedy duo of Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis.

Vegas made Martin and Lewis, then it broke them. In 1989, after decades of animosity, the original dynamic duo of the Strip reunited during one of Martin's last run of shows. While other entertainers made more money, earned more fame, and had longer runs, Martin and Lewis can rightfully claim to be among Vegas' founding icons.

ELVIS

It is 1956, and 21-year-old Elvis Presley has just performed his first show on the Vegas Strip. Though it may be impossible to imagine today, Vegas pundits of the day dubbed the crooner a "bore."

This kid from the South wouldn't return to Vegas for 13 years, and when he did, it wasn't to perform, but to film the hit movie, "Viva Las Vegas." The town that had snubbed him came to adore him as it adopted the film's theme song as its own.

Vegas embraced Elvis, and he repaid that love with more than 800 straight performances at The International in the 1970s. Legend has it that when Elvis was in Las Vegas, half of the visitors to the city took in his show. That makes Elvis Presley not only the King of Rock, but also the King of Vegas.

FRANK SINATRA AND THE RAT PACK

Call it the "swingers effect," but there is something about Frank Sinatra that transcends generations. Old Blue Eyes is as cool, suave, and hip today as he was in the 1960s when he was The Rat Pack's Chairman of the Board.

All the rave when they descended on Las Vegas in 1960 to film "Oceans 11," The Rat Pack would grab a hold of Las Vegas and not let go for the better part of a decade.

Comprised of Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Lawford, and Joey Bishop, The Rat Pack was famous for impromptu guest appearances at each other's gigs. So beloved were these shows that fans would flock to Vegas, often sleeping in their cars, just to catch one of their performances.

LES FOLIES BERGÈRE

No act in the history of Vegas has been more responsible for popularizing the naughty nickname Sin City than "Les Folies Bergère." This infamous burlesque show, wherein dozens of beautiful, topless women pranced and preened onstage, may seem tame today, but in the late '50s, during the height of the Red Scare, it truly made the "better folk" of the country see crimson.

Imported from Paris two years after the Tropicana opened its doors in 1957, "Les Folies Bergère" was, until its sad demise in 2009, the longest continually running show in Vegas history. It titillated, embarrassed, and opened the minds of millions. No trip to Vegas was complete without a visit with these high-stepping beauties.

LIBERACE

Glitz, glitter, and gaudy costumes have long been a staple of Las Vegas, but no entertainer in the city's history of flamboyant excesses comes close to matching Liberace for sheer extravagance.

Revered as Mr. Showmanship, Liberace was the highest-paid entertainer in the world from 1950 to 1970. His residencies at Riviera and later the Hilton set the bar for the city's future performers.

Despite critics' harsh evaluations of his musical ability, fans adored the over-the-top performer. He played for President Harry Truman, Queen Elizabeth II, and millions of fans worldwide all while dressed in costumes so garish as to make a matador blush.

While the world seems to have moved on—Las Vegas' Liberace Museum closed in October, and Liberace impersonators have joined the endangered species list—his indelible influence can be seen on stages across the world.

MERV GRIFFIN

By the time Merv Griffin came to Las Vegas, first in the 1960s and permanently from 1970 into the 1980s, his singing and acting careers had become dim memories. His mark on Vegas would be made in other ways.

One of the first media moguls, Griffin's résumé shames others who claim the title. Among his brainchildren were "Jeopardy," "Wheel of Fortune," and "The Merv Griffin Show."

At the height of his popularity, Griffin brought his talk show to Caesars Palace, where a rotating stable of Vegas notables became frequent guests. These daily visits into the homes of millions created a fascination among Middle Americans for all things Vegas, and tourism to the city soared. Other entertainers may have dominated the box office, but without Griffin, their showrooms and wallets would have been a lot emptier.

SIEGFRIED AND ROY

Say the words entertainment and Las Vegas, and invariably images of Siegfried and Roy and their magnificent white tigers dominate the imagination. While other legends can lay claim to the nicknames the Chairman, The King, or Mr. Las Vegas, few can compete with this magician duo's longevity, popularity, and influence.

These German born émigrés were an

inseparable team for 50 years, performed 5,750 shows together, and in 2000 were a notch below Steven Spielberg as the ninth highest-paid celebrities.

Siegfried and Roy seemed eternal until that fateful day of October 3, 2003, when their tiger, Montecore, attacked Roy onstage. Miraculously, Roy survived. In 2009, the duo performed one last time, capping a career unlike any Vegas has ever seen, or will likely see again.

WAYNE NEWTON

Only one man has earned the nickname Mr. Las Vegas. And that man is the incomparable Wayne Newton.

Best known for his hit "Danke Schoen," Newton has entertained millions from many generations. From the time he first stepped onto a Vegas stage at age 16 until today, nobody has performed more times than Newton. Truth be told, with 30,000 solo performances to his name, it is unlikely that any entertainer will ever come close to surpassing him.

So iconic a figure is he to the culture of Las Vegas that the city named the road serving McCarron International Airport after him.

HONORABLE MENTION

Numerous deserving entertainers were invariably left off this list. Here are a few close calls that deserve a shout out:

Cher
Clint Holmes
Danny Gans
Don Rickles
Lance Burton
Penn and Teller
Tom Jones
Tony Bennett



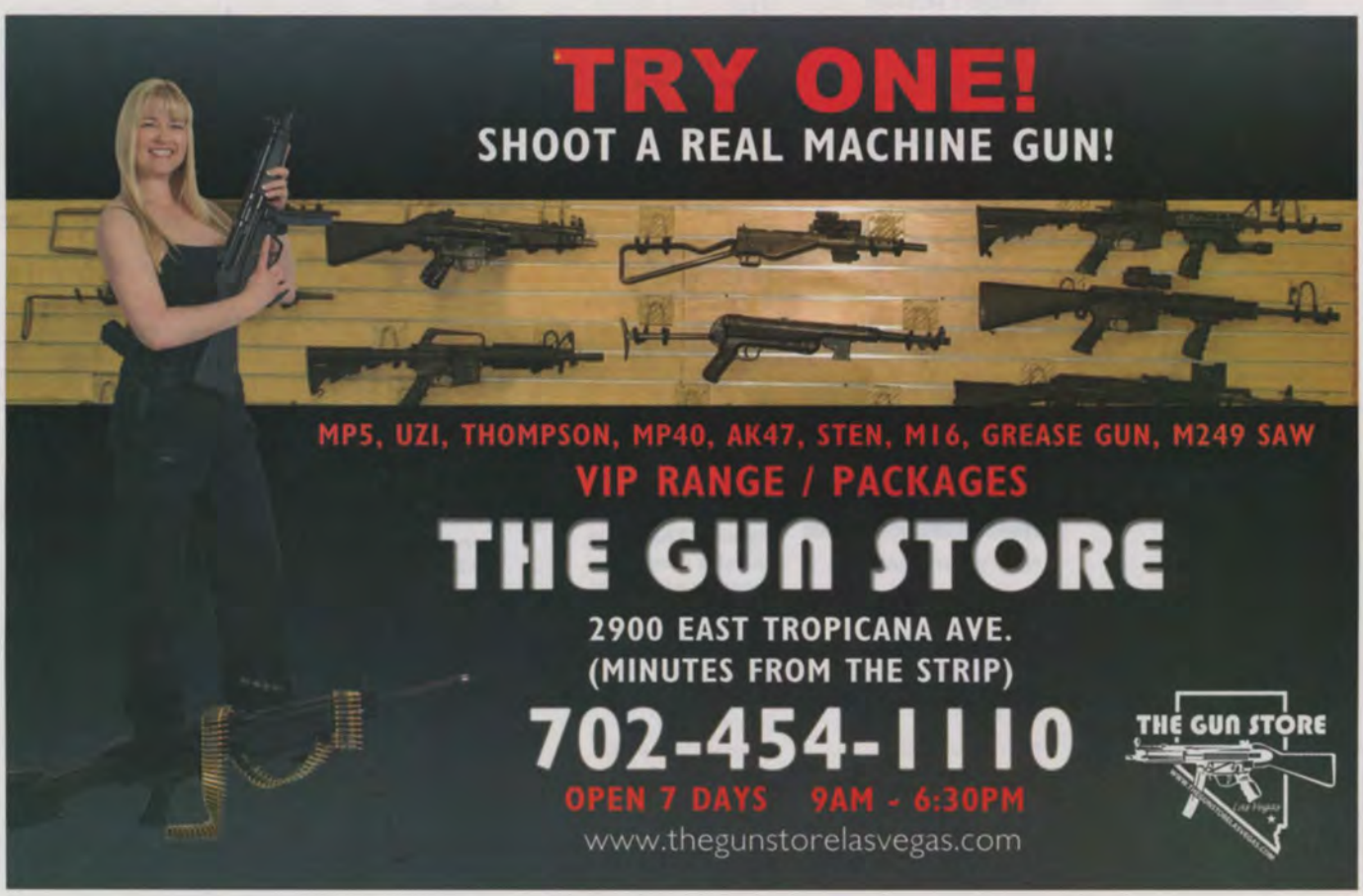


LASTING LEGACIES

Although most of these icons are no longer performing, their spirit lives on in Las Vegas in these attractions and shows:

Big Elvis—Bill's Gambling Hall & Saloon
"The King" starring Trent Carlini—Hilton
"The King Lives!"—Hooters
"Liberace Music & Memories"—Saxe Theater
"The Rat Pack is Back"—Plaza Hotel
"Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show"—Riviera
Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden & Dolphin Habitat—The Mirage
"Sinatra Dance With Me"—Wynn Las Vegas
"Viva Elvis" by Cirque du Soleil—Aria Resort

See the proceeding listings for more details.





SOUTHERN NEVADA

january/february

All listings are in Las Vegas unless otherwise noted. Multiple-day events are listed on the first day. Dates are subject to change. Call or go online to confirm details such as times. "Dark" means the event or show is closed that day(s). For more Southern Nevada happenings, visit nevadamagazine.com. To submit an event or show, e-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.

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State of the Art
Sam's Town
samstownlv.com
800-897-8696

(Dec.31-Jan. 2)
Tribute Palooza
Fremont Street Experience
vegasexperience.com
702-386-8100

(Thru Jan. 1)
Ethel M Chocolates' Holiday Cactus Garden
Henderson
ethelm.com
800-680-0150

(Thru Jan. 1)
In A Fect
Sam's Town
samstownlv.com
800-897-8696

(Thru Jan. 1)
Magical Forest at Opportunity Village
opportunityvillage.org
702-880-4038

NEVADA ONLINE

For more events and shows in the Silver State, visit **nevadamagazine.com.**

(Thru Jan. 2)
Mystic Falls Park Winter Wonderland
Sam's Town
samstownlv.com
800-897-8696

(Thru Jan. 2)
"Sugar Confection Recollection"
Historic Fifth Street School Gallery
By appt.
artslasvegas.org
702-229-1012

(Thru Jan. 2)
Torn From Home: My Life as a Refugee
Lied Discovery Children's Museum
ldcm.org
702-382-3445

(Thru Jan. 2)
Winter Wonderland
Bellagio's Conservatory & Botanical Gardens
bellagio.com
888-987-6667

JANUARY

1 SATURDAY



NEW YEAR'S DAY

DJ Grandmaster Flash's Birthday
Palms
palms.com
866-725-6773

Larry Liso Band
Rampart Casino
rampartcasino.com
702-856-5300

Tiësto
Hard Rock
hardrockhotel.com
800-HRD-ROCK

UFC 125: Resolution
MGM Grand
mgmgrand.com
800-745-3000

(1-2)
Adam Ferrara
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(1-2)
Sinbad
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(1-2)
Super Boogie
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

4

(4-9)
Happy Birthday to The King: Starring Don Rose
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

5

(5-9)
Against The Grain
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

6

(6-9)
International CES
Various locations
cesweb.org
866-233-7968

7

The Slackers
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

(7-8)
A Celebration of the King's Life
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(7-8)
Las Vegas Vintage Flat Track Race & Mid America Motorcycle Auction
South Point
southpointeventscenter.com
866-796-7111

(7-8)
Mark & The Martinis
Rampart Casino
rampartcasino.com
702-856-5300

(7-8)
Open Dutch Oven Cook-off
Mesquite
e-mail: cadderson@blackgaming.com

(7-9)
Chillin' On the River Classic Car Show
Laughlin
Riverside
rivercruizers.com
800-227-3849

(7-9)
Davy Jones
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(7-9)
Las Vegas Circus Spectacular
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(7-16)
World Famous Cloud's Jamboree
Rock, gem, jewelry, arts-crafts, & mineral outdoor show
Laughlin
Avi Resort
cloudsjamboree.com
800-284-2946

8 SATURDAY

American Bully World All In Bully Bash
Cashman Center
visitlasvegas.com
408-930-4795

Astronomy in the Park
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
lvastronomy.com
702-461-1390

Calico Run Race
Boulder City
Boulder Beach
bouldercitychamberofcommerce.com
702-617-3213

Dennis Wise
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

La Original Banda Limon de Salvador Lizarraga
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

Laughlin Regional Chili Cook-off
Laughlin
The Nugget
chilicookoff.com
775-727-9790

Mark Wood & The Parrot Head Band— A Tribute to Jimmy Buffet
Laughlin
Tropicana
tropicanax.com
800-243-6846

Miss Greater Las Vegas & Miss Clark County Scholarship Pageant
Clark County Library Theater
missgreaterlasvegas.com
989-213-1750

Pepe Romero
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

Sin City Rollergirls vs. Emerald City Skatesaphrenics
Riviera
sincityrollergirls.com
702-530-1370

(8-9)
A Jew Grows In Brooklyn
Suncoast
suncoastcasino.com
877-677-7111

9 SUNDAY

Nevada State Chili Cook-off
Laughlin
The Nugget
chilicookoff.com
775-246-3863

Pauly Shore's Vegas is My Oyster Variety Show
Palms
ticketmaster.com
800-745-3000

(9-12)
PCMA Vegas Convening Leaders
MGM Grand
pcmavegas.com

(9-13)
Winter Break
50-plus festival
Primm
winterbreak.us
480-926-5547

11

(11-16)
Carl Hurley & Jeanne Robertson
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

12

(12-13)
Brad Garrett
Tropicana
troplv.com
800-829-9034

(12-16)
Disney On Ice Presents "Let's Celebrate!"
Thomas & Mack Center
unlvtickets.com
866-388-3267

(12-16)
M.O.C.C.A.
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

13

(13-16, 20-22)
Drew Carey
MGM Grand
mgmgrand.com
800-929-1111

14

Brian Posehn
Henderson
Sunset Station
sunsetstation.com
702-367-2470

Smokey Robinson
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

(14-15)
Bella Donna
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(14-15)
Dodge California Circuit Finals Rodeo
South Point
southpointevents center.com
866-796-7111

(14-15)
Keith Sweat
Silverton
silvertoncasino.com
702-263-7777

(14-16)
Connie Stevens
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(14-16)
Coin, Currency, Jewelry, & Stamp Expo
Sahara
shows.bickinternational .com
818-997-6496

(14-16)
Frankie Avalon & Bobby Rydell
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(14-16)
Mesquite Motor Mania
Classic car show
Mesquite
mesquitecarshows.com
702-281-4027

(14-16)
The Original Comets
Rampart Casino
rampartcasino.com
702-856-5300

(14-16)
SCORE Laughlin Desert Challenge
Laughlin
score-international.com
818-225-8402

(14-16)
Smokin' Big Chili Challenge
Mesquite
CasaBlanca
casablancaresort.com
928-753-7993

(14-30)
"Bedroom Farce"
Las Vegas Little Theatre
lvlt.org
702–362-7996

15 SATURDAY

Air Supply
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

★ ONGOING

Aaron Radatz, Magical Entertainer
Clarion
Dark Tues. & Wed.
aaronradatz.com
800-595-4849

The Amazing Johnathan
Harmon Theater
Dark Sun. & Mon.
harmontheater.com
702-836-0836

The Amazing Kreskin
Riviera
Dark Sun. & Mon.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

"America's Soul Music"
Clarion
Dark Mon. & Tues.
americassoulmusic .com
702-463-8186

"American Storm"
Male revue
Variety Theater
Fri. & Sat.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"American Superstars"
Stratosphere
Dark Thurs.
stratospherehotel.com
800-99-TOWER

Andrew Dice Clay
Hilton
Jan. 6-9
lvhilton.com
702-732-5755

Anthony Cools
Paris
Dark Mon. & Wed.
parislasvegas.com
877-374-7469

Art & Wine: A Perfect Pairing
Bellagio Gallery
Second Wed. of the month
bellagio.com
877-957-9777

ARTsWALK on Third Thursday
Henderson
Water Street District
hendersonlive.com
702-267-2171

Barry Manilow
Paris
Jan. 7-9, 14-16
manilowparis.com
800-745-3000

"The Beatles LOVE," by Cirque du Soleil
The Mirage
Dark Tues. & Wed.
mirage.com
800-963-9634

"BeatleShow!"
Variety Theater
Nightly
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

Big Elvis
Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon
Dark Sat. & Sun.
billslasvegas.com
866-245-5745

"Bite"
Stratosphere
Dark Thurs.
stratospherehotel.com
800-99-TOWER

Blue Man Group
The Venetian
Nightly
venetian.com
800-BLUE-MAN

Brad Garrett's Comedy Club
Tropicana
Nightly
troplv.com
800-829-9034

Bridge at Hoover Dam Exhibit
Springs Preserve
Thru Jan. 23
springspreserve.org
702-822-7700

"Burlesque— The Show"
Topless revue
The Westin Casuarina
Dark Wed.
burlesqueshowlv.com
702-946-8986

Carrot Top
Luxor
Dark Tues.
luxor.com
702-262-4400

★ ONGOING continued

Celine Dion
Caesars Palace
Mar. 15-16, 19-20, 22-23, 25-26
caesarspalace.com
800-745-3000

Cher
Caesars Palace
Jan. 11-12, 15-16, 18-19, 22-23, 25-26, 29-30
Feb. 1-2, 4-5 (final shows)
cher.aeglive.com
866-510-2437

Chinese New Year: Year of the Rabbit
Bellagio's Conservatory & Botanical Gardens
Jan. 9-March 5
bellagio.com
888-987-6667

Chippendales
Male revue
Rio
Nightly
riolasvegas.com
888-746-7784

Circus Acts
Circus Circus
Daily
circuscircus.com
702-734-0410

City of Las Vegas Employee Art Exhibit
Bridge Gallery, City Hall
Dark Sat. & Sun., thru Jan. 28
artslasvegas.org
702-229-1012

Country Superstars Tribute
Golden Nugget
Dark Sun. & Mon.
goldennugget.com
702-386-8100

"Crazy Girls"
Topless revue
Riviera
Dark Tues.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

"Crazy Horse Paris"
Topless revue
MGM Grand
Dark Tues.
mgmgrand.com
800-929-1111

"CRISS ANGEL Believe" by Cirque du Soleil
Luxor
Dark Sun. & Mon.
luxor.com
702-262-4400

"Cubism Juxtaposed" by Dayo Adelaja
West Las Vegas Arts Center Community Gallery
Dark Sun., thru April 30
artslasvegas.org
702-229-4800

"DAO—The Asian Celebration"
Riviera
Dark Tues.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

David Copperfield
MGM Grand
Thru Jan. 11
mgmgrand.com
800-929-1111

"Defending the Caveman"
Excalibur
Daily
excalibur.com
702-597-7600

Dirk Arthur's "Wild Magic"
O'Sheas
Dark Sat. & Sun.
harrahs.com/osheas
800-221-7299

The Dirty Joke Show
Hooters
Dark Fri. & Jan. 1
hooterslv.com
866-584-6687

"Disney's The Lion King"
Mandalay Bay
Dark Fri. & Jan. 31-Feb. 6
mandalaybay.com
877-632-7000

Donn Arden's "Jubilee!"
Topless revue
Bally's Las Vegas
Dark Fri.
ballyslasvegas.com
800-237-SHOW

Amargosa Talks & Outings: Tecopa Basin
Shoshone, CA
Amargosa Conservancy Office
pahrumpvalleychamber.com
760-852-4339

Joe Satriani w/ Ned Evett & Triple Double
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

Julio Iglesias
Henderson
Green Valley Ranch
greenvalleyranchresort.com
702-617-7777

Lisa Lampanelli
Palms
ticketmaster.com
800-745-3000

LIT
Laughlin
Harrah's
harrahslaughlin.com
702-298-8510

Masterworks III
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

Miss America Pageant
Planet Hollywood
missamerica.org
609-653-8700

Purr & Pooch Party
Mesquite
CasaBlanca
mesquitenv.com
702-346-4515

5k Run & 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk
W. Wayne Bunker Family Park
spirittherapies.org
702-219-1728

(15-16)
Lena Prima—Tribute to Louis Prima
Suncoast
suncoastcasino.com
877-677-7111

16 SUNDAY

No Use For A Name
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

Styx
House of Blues
ticketmaster.com
877-632-7400

17



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

National Service Day
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
parks.nv.gov/smr.htm
702-875-4141

18

(18-23, 25-30)
"The Rat Pack is Back"
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

19

(19-23)
Dangerous Curves
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

20

Silverstein
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

(20-21)
Social Distortion
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

21

The Fab—The Beatles on Sullivan!
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

RX Bandits
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

(21-22)
Bridal Spectacular Expo
Cashman Center
visitlasvegas.com
702-368-0088

(21-23)
Kathleen Madigan—Gone Madigan
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(21-31)
"Lonely Planet"
Las Vegas Little Theatre
lvlt.org
702-362-7996

22 SATURDAY

Al Green
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

BYU International Dance Ensemble
Mesquite
Virgin Valley High School Theater
mesquitenv.com
702-346-5966

Euge Groove
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

Gladys Knight
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

Jägermeister Music Tour Featuring Buckcherry
Hard Rock
hardrockhotel.com
800-HRD-ROCK

Tango Buenos Aires
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

Weezer
Hard Rock
hardrockhotel.com
800-473-7625

(22-23)
Paula Poundstone
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

Rob Garrett's Tribute to Neil Diamond
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(22-23)
Early Clover
Rampart Casino
rampartcasino.com
702-856-5300

23 SUNDAY

The Wailers
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

25

Railroad Earth
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

27

Count Basie Salutes Marlena Shaw
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

28

Aaron Lewis
North Las Vegas
Aliante Station
aliantecasinohotel.com
877-477-7627

Lee Brice
Santa Fe Station
santafestationlasvegas.com
866-264-1818

Ozzy Osbourne
Mandalay Bay
mandalaybay.com
877-632-7400

Underoath
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

(28, 30)
"Disney's Aladdin for Kids"—Fern Adair Conservatory of the Arts
Henderson
Events Plaza
hendersonlive.com
702-267-2171

(28-29)
The Detroit All-Stars
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(28-29)
Ronnie Rose
Rampart Casino
rampartcasino.com
702-856-5300

(28-30)
Diamond Rio
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(28-30)
"The Fantasticks"
The Judy Bayley Theatre
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

(28-31)
JAMZ Youth National Championships
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

29 SATURDAY

Black & White Ball
Aria Resort
nevadaballet.com
702-243-2623 x.222

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

MMA Explosion
Hard Rock
hardrockhotel.com
800-HRD-ROCK

moe.
Hard Rock Café
hardrock.com
702-733-7625

Strunz & Farah
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

(29-30)
Camp Rock—Fern Adair Conservatory of the Arts
Henderson
Events Plaza
hendersonlive.com
702-267-2171

(29-30)
Foghat
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

30 SUNDAY

Las Vegas Bridal Expo
MGM Grand
lasvegasbride.com
702-792-2378

31

Post-Midterm America: Where Do We Go From Here?
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

FEBRUARY

1

Led Zeppelin 2—A Tribute to Led Zeppelin
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

(1-5)
Diamond Rio
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

(1-6)
"Lonely Planet"
Las Vegas Little Theatre
lvlt.org
702-362-7996

2



GROUNDHOG DAY

(2-6)
Fast Lane
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

3 SUNDAY

Russian National Ballet
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

(3-5)
Duel in the Desert
Amateur golf tournament
Mesquite
thegolfchannel.com
407-355-4653

(3-6)
Drew Carey
MGM Grand
mgmgrand.com
800-929-1111

(3-6)
"The Fantasticks"
The Judy Bayley Theatre
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

4

Eddy Raven
North Las Vegas
Aliante Station
aliantecasinohotel.com
877-477-7627

Go Red American Heart Campaign
Fremont Street Experience
vegasexperience.com
877-VEGAS4U

(4-5)
"Macbeth"
North Las Vegas
Nicholas J. Horn Theatre
csn.edu/pac
702-651-5483

(4-5)
"Winter Dance Party"—A Tribute to Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, & The Big Bopper
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

(4-6, 10-13)
"Sagebrush Stories"
Reed Whipple Cultural Center
rainbowcompany.org
702-229-6553

5 SATURDAY

Badfish—A Tribute to Sublime
House of Blues
ticketmaster.com
877-632-7400

Blue Oyster Cult
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

George Strait
MGM Grand
mgmgrand.com
800-745-3000

Tiësto
Hard Rock
hardrockhotel.com
800-HRD-ROCK

Ultimate Bass Fishing Tournament
Boulder City
Cottonwood Cove
bouldercitychamberofcommerce.com

6 SUNDAY

Cradle of Filth: Creatures From the Black Abyss Tour
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

Super Bowl XLV
Check various casinos for special events

7

(7-10)
BransonFest Out West
Mesquite
CasaBlanca
mesquitebransonfest.com
888-711-4653 x.17

8

(8-12)
CHARO—"Hot Flamenco Night"
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

★ ONGOING continued

Donny & Marie Osmond
Flamingo
Dark Sun. & Mon.
flamingolasvegas.com
800-221-7299

Dr. Scott Lewis, Outrageous Comedy Hypnotist
Riviera
Mon.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

"Echoes of the '60s"
Variety Theater
Dark Sun. & Mon.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

Elvis Artwork Exhibit
Steve Connolly paintings
Southern Nevada Center for The Arts
lvartdistrict.com
877-849-2911

"Emergy" by Maria Michails
Charleston Heights Art Center
Dark Sun., thru Feb. 17
artslasvegas.org
702-229-6383

The Fab
Beatles tribute
Eastside Cannery
Tues.
eastsidecannery.com
702-856-5470

"Fantasy"
Topless revue
Luxor
Nightly
luxor.com
702-262-4400

"Fear & Laughing in Las Vegas"
Hooters
Dark Thurs. & Fri. & thru Jan. 2
hooterslv.com
866-584-6687

First Thursday at The Corner Gallery
Boulder City
bcnv.org
702-501-9219

First Friday Art Celebration
Downtown Arts District
First Fri. of each month
firstfriday-lasvegas.org
702-384-0092

"Fitz of Laughter"
Starring Kevin Burke
Fitzgeralds
Nightly
fitzgeraldslasvegas.com
702-752-7000

Frank Caliendo
Monte Carlo
Dark Sun. & Mon.
montecarlo.com
877-386-8224

Frank Marino's "Divas Las Vegas"
Imperial Palace
Dark Fri.
imperialpalace.com
888-777-7664

Frankie Moreno Band
Golden Nugget
Dark Mon. & Tues.
goldennugget.com
800-634-3454

Garth Brooks
Wynn Las Vegas
Jan. 21-23
Feb. 11-13, 25-27
wynnlasvegas.com
702-770-1000

George Wallace
Flamingo
Dark Sun. & Mon.
flamingolasvegas.com
800-221-7299

Gordie Brown
Golden Nugget
Dark Sun. & Mon.
goldennugget.com
866-946-5336
323-769-4600

"Greg London—Impressions That Rock!"
Riviera
Dark Tues.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

Haunted Vegas Tours
Nightly
vegasexplorers.com
866-218-4935

9

(9-12)
Dam Short Film Festival
Boulder City
Historic Boulder Theatre
damshortfilm.org
702-447-4747

(9-13)
In-A-Fect
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

10

USA Sevens Rugby Opening Party
Fremont Street Experience
vegasexperience.com
877-VEGAS4U

11

Guitars & Saxes 2011
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

Henderson Symphony Orchestra: Master Series III
Henderson
Convention Center
hsorch.org
702-267-2171

Jim Norton
Henderson
Sunset Station
sunsetstation.com
702-367-2470

(11-12)
Heart Alive
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(11-12)
***Sports Life* Red Carpet Event**
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(11-13)
Crystal Gayle
South Point
southpointcasino.com
866-796-7111

12 SATURDAY

Christopher Cross
Henderson
Sunset Station
sunsetstation.com
702-367-2470

The Georgia Satellites
Red Rock Resort
redrocklasvegas.com
702-797-7777

Johnny Gill
North Las Vegas
Texas Station
texasstation.com
866-264-1818

Muay Thai
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

Rising Star Valentine's Concert
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

(12-13)
NHRA Pacific Division National Open
Las Vegas Motor Speedway
lvms.com
800-644-4444

(12-13)
USA Sevens International Rugby
Sam Boyd Stadium
unlvtickets.com
866-388-3267

14



VALENTINE'S DAY

(14-20)
The Oak Ridge Boys
Laughlin
Riverside
riversideresort.com
800-227-3849

15

Debussy, Penderecki, & Ravel
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

16

(16-20)
BroadBAND
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

(16-20)
Spring One Acts
The Paul Harris Theatre
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

18

Al Di Meola
Henderson
Green Valley Ranch
greenvalleyranchresort.com
702-617-7777

Robin Trower
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

(18-19)
Hootenanny Western Program
Mesquite
Community Theatre
mesquitenv.com
702-345-3055

(18-19)
Led Zepagain
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(18-20)
Coin, Currency, Jewelry, & Stamp Expo
Laughlin
Colorado Belle
shows.bickinternational.com
818-997-6496

(18-20)
JAMZ All-Star National Championships
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(18-20)
PSCA Record Breaker
Las Vegas Motor Speedway
lvms.com
800-644-4444

(18-20, 25-27)
"Why Torture is Wrong, and the People Who Love Them"
North Las Vegas
BackStage Theatre
csn.edu/pac
702-651-5483

(18-21)
Great Backyard Bird Count
birdsource.org/gbbc
800-843-2473

(18-21)
Las Vegas Classic Volleyball Tournament
Cashman Center
visitlasvegas.com
714-917-3595

(18-27)
St. George Area Parade of Homes
St. George (Utah)
paradehomes.com
435-674-1400

(18-March 6)
"Prelude to a Kiss"
Las Vegas Little Theatre
lvlt.org
702–362-7996

19 SATURDAY

Atlanta Rhythm Section
Red Rock Resort
redrocklasvegas.com
702-797-7777

Dwight Yoakam
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

George Jones
North Las Vegas
Texas Station
texasstation.com
866-264-1818

Joe Bonamassa
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

Linkin Park
MGM Grand
mgmgrand.com
800-745-3000

Sin City Rollergirls (doubleheader)
Riviera
sincityrollergirls.com
702-530-1370

Wynton Marsalis & The Jazz Orchestra at Lincoln Center
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

(19-20)
NY City Dance Alliance On-Stage Nevada Competition
Cashman Center
visitlasvegas.com
212-686-5678

20 SUNDAY

Less Than Jake
House of Blues
houseofblues.com
323-769-4600

21



PRESIDENTS DAY

Elk's Crab Crack Dinner & Dancing
Tonopah
Elk's Hall
tonopahnevada.com
775-482-6850

(21-23)
Celebrity Impersonators Convention
Fremont Street Experience
vegasexperience.com
877-VEGAS4U

★ ATTRACTIONS

The Adventuredome Theme Park
Indoor theme park
Circus Circus
Daily
adventuredome.com
702-794-3939

The Auto Collections
Imperial Palace
Daily
imperialpalace.com
888-777-7664

BODIES... The Exhibition
Full body, organ, & partial body specimens
Luxor
Daily
luxor.com
800-288-1000

The Carousel at the District
Henderson
The District at Green Valley Ranch
Daily
thedistrictatgvr.com
702-564-8595

CityCenter Fine Art Collection
Vdara
Daily
vdara.com
866-745-7111

Cloud Nine Balloon Ride
Mandalay Bay (across from)
Daily
cloud9vegas.com
702-932-5777

CSI: The Experience
MGM Grand
Daily
mgmgrand.com
702-891-1111

Dale Earnhardt Showcase
Stratosphere
Thru April 29
stratospherehotel.com
800-99-TOWER

Dealertainers
Dealers impersonate stars
Imperial Palace
Daily
imperialpalace.com
888-777-7664

The Desperado Rollercoaster
Primm
Daily
primmvalleyresorts.com
702-679-7433

Don Laughlin's Classic Car Collection
Laughlin
Riverside Resort
Daily
riversideresort.com
702-298-2535

Eiffel Tower Ride
Paris
Daily
parislasvegas.com
877-374-7469

Fantasy Faire Midway
Excalibur
Spongebob Squarepants 4-D ride, daily
excalibur.com
877-750-5464

Fountains of Bellagio
Water, music, & light show
Bellagio
Daily
bellagio.com
702-693-7111

Goldwell Open Air Museum
Rhyolite
Daily, free admission
goldwellmuseum.org
702-870-9946

Ice Skating at MonteLago Village
Henderson
Lake Las Vegas
Thru Feb. 14
montelagovillage.com
702-286-0178

Indy Film Showcase
Hilton Giordano Theatres
Daily
giordano entertainment.com
702-650-7677

Las Vegas Mob Experience
Tropicana
Daily
lvme.com
702-589-9450

The Lion Habitat at MGM
MGM Grand
Daily
mgmgrand.com
877-880-0880

Madame Tussauds Las Vegas
Celebrity wax figures
Daily
mtvegas.com
702-862-7800

Mirage Volcano
The Mirage
Daily
mirage.com
800-627-6667

The Roller Coaster
New York-New York
Daily
nynyhotelcasino.com
800-689-1797

Shark Reef Aquarium
Mandalay Bay
Daily
mandalaybay.com
702-632-4555

Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden & Dolphin Habitat
The Mirage
Call for hours
mirage.com
800-627-6667

Strike Zone Bowling Center
Henderson
Sunset Station
sunsetstation.com
702-547-7467

Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit
Luxor
Daily
luxor.com
800-557-7428

VivaVision
High-tech videos
Fremont Street Experience
Nightly
vegasexperience.com
702-678-5600

NEVADA ONLINE

For more events and shows in the Silver State, visit nevadamagazine.com.

23

Harlem Globetrotters
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

(23-27)
Basix
Eastside Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-856-5300

24 SATURDAY

"Macbeth" by Shakespearean Festival
Mesquite
Virgin Valley High School
mesquiteartscouncil.org
702-346-2787

25

The Berenstain Bears in Family Matters, The Musical
The Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
pac.unlv.edu
702-895-2787

BYU Young Ambassadors—"The Music of Life"
Henderson
Henderson Pavilion
hendersonlive.com
702-267-4849

(25-26)
Gospel Fest
Henderson
Black Mountain Recreation Center
hendersonlive.com
702-267-4040

(25-26)
Face to Face: A Billy Joel, Elton John Tribute Show
North Las Vegas
Cannery
cannerycasinos.com
702-617-5550

(25-27)
The Music of Duke Ellington Meets the Music of Count Basie
North Las Vegas
Nicholas J. Horn Theatre
csn.edu/pac
702-651-5483

26 SATURDAY

Amargosa Talks & Outings: Ice Age Tour of Shoshone Village
Shoshone, CA
Amargosa Conservancy Office
pahrumpvalleychamber.com
760-852-4339

In-Laws From Hell
The Orleans
orleanscasino.com
800-675-3267

Los Tigres del Norte
Primm
Star of the Desert Arena
primmvalleyresorts.com
800-386-7867

Mel Tillis
Boulder Station
boulderstation.com
702-367-2470

Spotlight Events Regional Dance Tournament
Cashman Center
visitlasvegas.com
208-939-2015

27 SUNDAY

Mrs. Nevada-America & Nevada Princess Pageants
Suncoast
suncoastcasino.com
877-677-7111

WORTH A CLICK

Check out the Nevada Events & Shows Blog at **nevadaeventsandshows.blogspot.com.**



★ ONGOING continued

"Hitzville—The Show"
Motown revue
Variety Theater
Dark Sun. & Mon.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

Human Nature
Australian Motown
Imperial Palace
Dark Fri.
imperialpalace.com
888-777-7664

"Hypnosis Unleashed"
Harmon Theater
Nightly
harmontheater.com
702-836-0836

The Improv Comedy Club
Harrah's
Dark Mon.
harrahslasvegas.com
702-369-5223

Jackpot Bird Show
Las Vegas Rocks Café
Mon. & Tues.
jackpotbirdshow.com
702-966-9770

Jay Jarrett Gallery Exhibit
Henderson
Multigenerational Center
Thru Jan. 18
hendersonlive.com
702-267-2171

Jay Leno
The Mirage
Jan. 22
mirage.com
800-963-9634

"Jersey Boys"
The Palazzo
Dark Wed.
palazzolasvegas.com
866-641-7469

"KÀ" by Cirque du Soleil
MGM Grand
Dark Sun. & Mon.
mgmgrand.com
866-774-7117

"The King" starring Trent Carlini
Hilton
Dark Mon. & Tues.
lvhilton.com
800-222-5361

"The King Lives!"
Hooters
Dark Mon., Tues., & Fri.
hooterscasinohotel.com
866-584-6687

Larry G. Jones
Clarion
Mon., Wed., & Fri.
wolftheaterlasvegas.com
702-990-1524

Las Vegas Wranglers
ECHL hockey
Orleans Arena
(home dates only)
Jan. 14-16, 18, 21-23
Feb. 1, 4-5, 8, 10-11, 13
lasvegaswranglers.com
702-471-7825

"Le Rêve"
Wynn Las Vegas
Dark Tues. & Wed.
wynnlasvegas.com
888-320-7110

"Legends in Concert"
Harrah's
Dark Thurs.
harrahslasvegas.com
702-369-5111

Lewis Black
The Mirage
April 22-23
mirage.com
800-963-9634

"Liberace Music & Memories"
Saxe Theater
Dark Fri.
saxetheater.com
702-260-7200

Louie Anderson in "Louie LOL"
Palace Station
Dark Sun. & Mon.
palacestation.com
702-547-5300

The Mac King Comedy Magic Show
Harrah's
Dark Sun. & Mon.
harrahslasvegas.com
800-392-9002 x.5111

"The Magic & Tigers of Rick Thomas"
Sahara
Dark Mon.
saharavegas.com
702-737-2515

Marc Savard—Comedy Hypnosis
Variety Theater
Dark Fri.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"Marriage Can Be Murder"
Fitzgeralds
Nightly (holiday-themed show thru Jan. 9)
fitzgeraldslasvegas.com
702-388-2400

Martini Time with Chef Tina Martini
Live cooking show
Henderson
M Resort
Thurs.-Sun.
themresort.com
877-673-7678

"Matsuri"
Imperial Palace
Dark Tues.
imperialpalace.com
888-777-7664

Matt Goss
Caesars Palace
Fri. & Sat.
caesarspalace.com
800-745-3000

"Men of X"
Male revue
Hooters
Fri.-Sun. thru Feb. 1
hootersIv.com
866-584-6687

"Menopause The Musical"
Luxor
Nightly
luxor.com
702-262-4400

"The Mentalist"
Variety Theater
Dark Wed.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"MÜS.I.C.," by Jabbawockeez
Monte Carlo

★ ONGOING continued

Dark Tues. & Wed.
montecarlo.com
877-386-8224

"Mystère," by Cirque du Soleil
Treasure Island
Dark Thurs. & Fri.
treasureisland.com
800-392-1999

Nashville Unplugged
Henderson
Green Valley Ranch
Jan. 14, 28
Feb. 11, 25
greenvalleyranchresort.com
702-617-7777

Nathan Burton
Flamingo
Dark Mon. & Sat.
flamingolasvegas.com
800-221-7299

Naughty Boys Hypnosis Show
Clarion
Wed., Fri.-Sun.
wolftheaterlasvegas.com
702-990-1524

"Nunsense"
Hilton
Dark Tues.
lvhilton.com
800-222-5361

"O" by Cirque du Soleil
Bellagio
Dark Mon. & Tues.
bellagio.com
888-488-7111

"PEEPSHOW"
Topless revue
Planet Hollywood
Dark Wed.
planethollywoodresort.com
877-333-9474

Penn & Teller
Rio
Dark Thurs. & Fri.
riolasvegas.com
888-746-7784

Pete's Dueling Piano Bar
Town Square Las Vegas
Dark Sun. & Mon.
petesduelingpianobar.com
702-220-7383

"Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular"
The Venetian
Dark Sun.
venetian.com
866-641-SHOW

The Platters, The Cornell Gunter Coasters, & The Marvelettes
Rio
Nightly
thecrownvegas.com
888-727-6966

Popovich Comedy Pet Theater
Variety Theater
Dark Wed.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"The Price is Right Live"
Bally's Las Vegas
Dark Sun. & Mon.
ballyslasvegas.com
800-237-7469

Psychic Universe
O'Sheas
Nightly
lasvegaspsychic.com
800-221-7299

Purple Reign: The Ultimate Prince Tribute Show
Hooters
Dark Mon.-Wed. & Jan. 6-9
hooterscasinohotel.com
702-739-9000

"The Rat Pack is Back"
Plaza Hotel
Nightly
ratpackisback.com
702-386-2444

Ray Romano & Kevin James
The Mirage
Feb. 25-26
mirage.com
800-963-9634

Red Skelton Tribute
Las Vegas Rocks Café
Mon.-Tues.
lasvegasrockscafe.com
702-227-5872

Rita Rudner
Harrah's
Mon., Wed., & Sat.
harrahslasvegas.com
800-392-9002

Ron White
The Mirage
Feb. 11-12
mirage.com
800-963-9634

"Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show"
Riviera
Dark Sun.
rivierahotel.com
877-892-7469

"Show in the Sky"
Rio
Thurs.-Sun.
riolasvegas.com
888-746-7784
866-932-1818

"Sinatra Dance With Me"
Wynn
Dark Sun, thru Jan. 29
wynnlasvegas.com
702-770-9966

"Sirens of TI"
Treasure Island
Nightly
treasureisland.com
702-894-7111

Striptease The Show
Topless Revue
Sahara
Nightly
saharavegas.com
702-737-2515

Stripper 101—Learn How to Pole Dance
Variety Theater
Daily
stripper101.com
702-260-7200

Stop the Car, Dad!
Mesquite
Mesquite Fine Arts Center
Feb. 7-April 1
nac.nevadaculture.org
702-346-1338

Supernatural Santana—A Trip Through the Hits
Hard Rock
Jan. 5, 7-9, 12, 14-16
April 20, 22-24, 27, 29-May 1
supernaturalsantana.com
702-693-5583

"Superstars of Magic"
Las Vegas Rocks Café
Dark Mon. & Tues.
lasvegasrockscafe.com
702-227-5872

Tanyalee Davis
Clarion
Sat.-Sun., Wed.-Thurs.
wolftheaterlasvegas.com
702-990-1524

Terry Fator
The Mirage
Dark Sun. & Mon.
mirage.com
800-963-9634

"Thunder From Down Under"
Male revue
Excalibur
Nightly
excalibur.com
702-597-7600

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding"
Variety Theater
Dark Thurs.
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"Tournament of Kings"
Excalibur
Dark Tues.
excalibur.com
702-597-7600

Train Rides
Boulder City
Nevada State Railroad Museum
Sat. & Sun.
nevadaculture.org
702-486-5933

"Triumph"
Hilton
Dark Fri. & Sat. & Jan. 2-13
lvhilton.com
800-222-5361

UNLV Rebels Men's Basketball
Thomas & Mack Center (home dates only)
Jan. 5, 8, 19, 22
Feb. 2, 12, 16, 26
unlvrebels.com
866-388-3267

UNLV Rebels Women's Basketball
Thomas & Mack Center (home dates only)
Jan. 11, 15, 26
Feb. 5, 9, 19, 23
unlvrebels.com
866-388-3267

"V—The Ultimate Variety Show"
Variety Theater
Nightly
varietytheater.com
866-932-1818

"Vegas—The Show"
Las Vegas Rocks Café
Fri.-Sun.
lasvegasrockscafe.com
702-227-5872

"Vegas! The Show"
Saxe Theater
Dark Sun.
vegastheshow.com
702-260-7200

Vinnie Favorito
Flamingo
Nightly
flamingolasvegas.com
800-221-7299

"Viva ELVIS" by Cirque du Soleil
Aria Las Vegas
Dark Sun. & Mon.
arialasvegas.com
877-25-ELVIS

Wings Over the Springs—Live Birds of Prey
Springs Preserve
Sat. & Sun.
springspreserve.org
702-822-7700

World Famous Cloud's Jamboree
Laughlin
Avi Resort
Jan. 1-31
cloudsjamboree.com
800-284-2946

"X" Burlesque
Topless revue
Flamingo
Nightly
flamingolasvegas.com
800-221-7299

"Zen Magic"—Starring Ai & Yuki
Saxe Theater
Dark Fri.
saxetheater.com
702-260-7200

"ZUMANITY, the Sensual Side of Cirque du Soleil"
New York-New York
Dark Mon. & Thurs.
nynyhotelcasino.com
866-606-7111



SCORE Laughlin Desert Challenge



Aviation Nation PHOTO: CHRIS NUNEZ


Las Vegas BikeFest


BransonFest Out West


Clark County Fair & Rodeo

southern by the dozen

Discover 12 Southern Nevada events you don't want to miss in 2011

JANUARY

SCORE LAUGHLIN DESERT CHALLENGE

For the 17th year, **January 14-16**, **Laughlin** hosts this SCORE International off-road race. Several classes of desert cars and exotic trucks compete from sunrise to sunset on a specially designed, rugged six-mile course in the Mojave Desert on the outskirts of Laughlin. During the exciting Laughlin Leap contest, drivers send their vehicles airborne for a distance of 100 feet or more. Racers from around the world participate in this inaugural race of the SCORE Desert Series 2011 schedule. Last year's event saw riders compete in 19 classes for nearly $300,000 in prize money.

score-international.com, 818-225-8402

FEBRUARY

BRANSONFEST OUT WEST

If there's one out-of-state town that would fit pretty well in Nevada, it's Branson, Missouri. Performers who have made their mark in the mid-America "Showsville" will descend on **Mesquite**, **February 7-10**, for BransonFest Out West, sponsored by the Mesquite Resort Association. Among the groups performing in the CasaBlanca Event Center will be Elvis tribute artists ERocK and Matt Joyce; Apple, a Beatles tribute band; and Cat's Pajamas, a vocal band that performed at Oprah Winfrey's 50th-birthday party. Other activities include a line-dance class in the CasaBlanca Ballroom and a variety show with senior entertainers in the CasaBlanca Event Center.

mesquitebransonfest.com, 888-711-4653 x.17

MARCH

NASCAR WEEKEND

The 2011 NASCAR Weekend, **March 4-6**, will kick off with qualifying for the Kobalt Tools 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on Friday, March 4 at **Las Vegas Motor Speedway**. The Sam's Town 300 NASCAR Nationwide Series is set for Saturday, March 5. The Kobalt Tools 400, the granddaddy race and the 14th NASCAR Sprint Cup event to be held at LVMS, will take place March 6 on the 1.5-mile superspeedway. It's not just about burning rubber on the track, though, as 2010 citywide celebrations included an auction, parade, and charity track walk, among others. NASCAR fans can also catch the Dale Earnhardt Showcase display at the Stratosphere through April 29.

lvms.com, 800-644-4444; stratospherehotel.com, 800-99-TOWER

APRIL

CLARK COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

The Clark County Fair & Rodeo, **April 7-10** in **Logandale**, has been entertaining western revelers annually for nearly 50 years. What began as Overton's Moapa Valley Fair in 1965 has grown into a popular Thursday-through-Sunday event complete with art and photography exhibits, concerts, a junior livestock show, and—of course—a rodeo. In fact, the fair was the impetus for the creation of Clark County Fairgrounds, when, in the 1980s, a committee led by Grant M. Bowler obtained 190 acres in Logandale from the Bureau of Land Management.

ccfair.com, 888-876-3247

APRIL & MAY

SPRING JAMBOREE

Boulder City takes the word jamboree to heart in this 36th annual two-day event, this year **April 30-May 1**. Past years have featured such activities as a 5K run, beauty pageant, fashion show, car show, carnival rides, train rides, climbing wall, arts and crafts, a Bark in the Park dog show, comedians, impersonators, and musicians. Participants particularly look forward to the Saturday night street dance.

springjamboree.com, 702-293-2034

MAY

ARTFEST OF HENDERSON

The annual Mother's Day tradition ArtFest of **Henderson**, this year **May 7-8**, offers an opportunity to spend the day strolling through various arts and crafts booths courtesy of vendors across the nation. Two stages provide a variety of acts, including jazz, folk, reggae, and light rock. Local children also star onstage, all accompanied by fine food that will tempt your taste buds. In the heart of Water Street District, this street fair is a cultural experience for the whole family.

888artfest.com, 888-278-3378

MAY

HELLDORADO DAYS

From **May 12-15**, celebrate **Las Vegas'** tribute to the wild west in this outdoor community event produced by the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks Lodge. Helldorado Days, which celebrated its 75th anniversary last year, is the longest-running civic event in the history of Las Vegas, originally created as a means to encourage tourism to the city upon completion of Hoover Dam. Helldorado Days offers a four-day pro rodeo, parade, carnival, treasure hunt, golf tournament, poker tournament, art show and auction, trail ride, exhibits, and food.

elkshelldorado.com,
e-mail: ecarter@lasvegasnevada.gov,
702-870-1221

JULY

ROCKETS OVER THE RIVER

This annual **July 4** fireworks extravaganza over the Colorado River is free to the public, most of whom gather along the **Laughlin** River Walk and the area casino-resorts. The long, uninterrupted shows—some in the past have gone as long as 25 minutes—are choreographed to traditional patriotic music.

visitlaughlin.com, 800-452-8445

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

LAS VEGAS BIKEFEST

One of Nevada's premier motorcycle gatherings, **Las Vegas** BikeFest will take place **September 29-October 2**. "In addition to Vendor Village, entertainment during the day, the casinos, the restaurants, the clubs, and the cruising on the Strip, Las Vegas BikeFest will have a full schedule of activities to keep you busy," reads the official website. Slot tournaments, poker runs, bikini contests, and custom bike shows are a small sampling of such activities.

lasvegasbikefest.com, 866-BIKEFEST

OCTOBER

FALL FESTIVAL & CAR SHOW

On **October 15**, at the grassy **Overton** Park, spectators can enjoy the town's largest car and motorcycle show free of charge. Vendors dish up tasty food, while a live band entertains patrons. There is a $25 fee to showcase your car and a $50 vendor fee. A breakfast is provided for all registrants.

overtonfallfestivalcarshow.angelfire.com,
e-mail: carshow@mvdsl.com

NOVEMBER

AVIATION NATION

One of the largest free public events in Nevada returns to **Nellis Air Force Base**, **November 12-13**, when the U.S. Air Force hosts the annual air show Aviation Nation. The two-day event also depicts the history of American aviation and salutes the recent accomplishments of America's military operations around the globe through numerous military and civilian ground displays.

nellis.af.mil/aviationnation, 702-652-7469



PHOTO: CHRIS NUNEZ

DECEMBER

LAS VEGAS GREAT SANTA RUN

The Las Vegas Great Santa Run, **December 3**, brings together thousands of Santas from around the world. In 2009, nearly 9,000 participants flooded the streets of **Town Square Las Vegas**. The event's proceeds benefit the men and women of Opportunity Village, a city charity. A morning 5K is immediately followed by a 1-mile Kris Kringle Jingle.

opportunityvillage.org, 702-880-4038



NORTHERN NEVADA

january/february

All listings are in Reno unless otherwise noted. Multiple-day events are listed on the first day. Dates are subject to change. Call or go online to confirm details such as times. "Dark" means the event or show is closed that day(s). For more Northern Nevada happenings, visit nevadamagazine.com. To submit an event or show, e-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.

(Thru Jan. 2)
Holidays at Squaw
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

(Dec. 25-Jan. 1)
"Masters Of Magic"
Stateline
MontBleu
montbleuresort.com
888-829-7630

(Dec. 25-Jan. 2)
Nathan Owens Motown After Dark
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

(Dec. 26-Jan. 1)
Chi of the Shaolin: The Tale of the Dragon
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
800-648-3568

(Dec. 27-Jan. 1)
Atomika
Atlantis
atlantiscasino.com
800-723-6500

(Dec. 28-Jan. 2)
Powerlight
Atlantis
atlantiscasino.com
800-723-6500

(Dec. 28-Jan. 2, 6-9, 13-16)
Siegfried & Roy Present Darren Romeo
Eldorado
eldoradoreno.com
800-648-5966

(Dec. 30-Jan. 1)
The Voltones
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
janugget.com
800-648-1177

(Dec. 31-Jan. 1)
Hired Gunnz
3rd St. Bar

sandsregency.com
866-FUNSTAY

(Dec. 31-Jan. 1)
Just Us
Harrah's
harrahsreno.com
800-HARRAHS

JANUARY

1 SATURDAY



NEW YEAR'S DAY

"A Tribute to Pink Floyd" Eclipse
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Fallon Trap Club Multiplex Shoot
Fallon
fallontrapclub.com
775-427-4556

New Year's Day 5K Fun Run/Walk
Fallon
Veteran's Park/Elk Club
churchillcounty.org
775-423-7733

(1, 8)
Nevada Northern Railway Ghost Train
Ely
nnry.com
866-407-8326

2 SUNDAY

Volcom Peanut Butter & Rail Jam
Sierra-at-Tahoe
sierraattahoe.com
530-6"9-7453

6

Acoustic Guitar Master Adrian Legg
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(6-17)
Factory Discount RV Sale
Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center
visitrenotahoe.com
775-329-3441

7

The Chop Tips
Knitting Factory
re.knittingfactory.com
775-323-5648

M.C. Hammer
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Vinyl
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(7-8)
Learn With the Ladies Clinic
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

(7-9, 14-16, 21-23)
"Over the River and Through the Woods"
Reno Little Theater
renolittletheater.org
775-329-0661

8 SATURDAY

Annual Cookie Kick-Off Event
Reno-Sparks Convention Center
gssn.org
800-222-5406

National Winter Trails Day
Lake Tahoe
tahoerimtrail.org
775-298-0012

OK Go
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Ozomatli
Stateline
MontBleu
montbleuresort.com
888-829-7630

Rock Around the Clock Bingo Tournament
Peppermill
peppermillreno.com
866-821-9996

Stargazing Snowshoe Tour
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

USASA—Slopestyle
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426-3666

"The Who Tribute" Who Too
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

50th-Anniversary Celebration
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

(8, 15)
Lahontan Audubon Society Bird Walk: Morning Birding
Virginia Lake
nevadaart.org
775-972-7848

(8-9)
Women's Freeskiing Camp
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

9 SUNDAY

Grand Bridal Showplace
Reno-Sparks Convention Center
lockettshows.com
775-849-8000

Learn To Ski & Ride Day
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

USASA—Superpipe
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426-3666

(9, 11)
"Simply Profound"
Pioneer Center
renophil.com
775-323-6393

10

(10-14)
Learn to Ski & Ride Week
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

11

DCHS's Young Chautauqua Program Meeting
Gardnerville
Carson Valley Museum
visitcarsonvalley.org
775-782-2555

Tahoe Star Tours
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

(11-13)
Seniors All-Mountain Adventure
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

13

Black Rock Design Institute—Citizen Architect: Samuel Mockbee & the Spirit of the Rural Studio
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

The Harlem Globetrotters World Tour
Lawlor Events Center
unr.edu/lawlor
775-784-4444

14

Brew HaHa
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
sierra-arts.org
775-329-2787

Joe Satriani
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
800-648-3568

The Mark Sexton Band
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Styx
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

Workshop & Social For Seniors
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

(14-15)
Guided Moonlight Snowshoe Tours
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

(14-15)
J4/JO Qualifier
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

(14-15)
Petty Theft—A Salute to Tom Petty
Harrah's
harrahsreno.com
800-HARRAHS

15 SATURDAY

Alpenglow Demo Day & Ice Bar Kickoff Party
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

Howie Mandel
Atlantis
atlantiscasino.com
800-723-6500

Styx
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Tea Leaf Green
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Temptations & Four Tops
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

Toad the Wet Sprocket
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Vishten
Minden
Civic Hall
cvartscouncil.com
775-782-8207

(15-16)
White Pine Fire & Ice Show
Cave Lake State Park
parks.nv.gov/cl.htm
800-496-9350

(15-16)
Wild Winter Weekend
Animal Ark
animalark.org
775-970-3111

16 SUNDAY

The Glitch Mob
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
800-648-3568

Jazz Brunch
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Julio Iglesias
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Winter Greens Tour Featuring Rebelution
Stateline
MontBleu
montbleuresort.com
888-829-7630

(16-17)
USCSA
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

17



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

18

Sugarpill w/ Fancy
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

★ ONGOING

A Tribe of Artists: Costumes & Culture At Burning Man
Truckee Meadows Community College
Thru Jan. 14
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-674-7698

A Tribe of Artists: Costumes & Culture At Burning Man
Winnemucca
Humboldt County Library
Jan. 24-March 18
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-623-6388

Advanced Ski Clinics
Squaw Valley USA
Jan. 7-9, 21-23
Feb. 7-9, 25-27
squaw.com
530-583-6985

An Art Community
McKinley Arts & Culture Center, West Gallery
Thru Jan. 28
cmasseyart.com
775-334-2417

Arlington Square Ice Skating Rink
Carson City
Thru Jan. 22
visitcarsoncity.com
800-NEVADA-1

Beer Pong Tournament
Club Cal Neva
Fri. & Sat.
clubcalneva.com
775-954-4185

Beer Pong Tournament
Harrah's
Fri. & Sat.
harrahsreno.com
800-HARRAHS

Behind-the-Scenes Tours In Natural History
Carson City
Nevada State Museum
Once a month
nevadaculture.org
775-687-4810 x.237

Bethany Owen: One Voice
Stateline
Horizon
5 nights/week
ticketmaster.com
800-683-8266

Bill Harrah 1911-78: Legendary Collector
National Automobile Museum
Thru Dec. 31
automuseum.org
775-333-9300

"Bounce"
Circus Circus
Dark Sun. & Mon.
circusreno.com
800-648-5010

Cabaret Acts
Jackpot
Cactus Petes
Dark Mon.
ameristar.com
800-821-1103

Cabo Wabo Cantina Lounge Acts
Stateline
Harveys
Various nights
harveystahoe.com
775-586-6648

"Carnival Cabaret"
Stateline
Horizon
Wed.-Sat.
ticketmaster.com
800-683-8266

The Cartesian Medium: Ben Hoffman
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru Feb. 6
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club
Silver Legacy
Dark Mon.
silverlegacy.com
800-MUST-SEE

★ ONGOING continued

Celtic/American Tune Session
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Fourth Fri. of the month
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

Coin Press No. 1 Demonstration
Carson City
Nevada State Museum
Last Fri. of the month
nevadaculture.org
775-687-4810 x.237

Community Drum Circle
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Last Sat. of the month
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

David R. Stoecklein—Cowboys
Elko
Northeastern Nevada Museum
Thru Feb. 1
museumelko.org
775-738-3418

Downtown Wine Walk
Carson City
First Sat. of the month
visitcarsoncity.com
775-883-2211

Eat Well, Play Well
Elko
Northeastern Nevada Museum
Feb. 5-May 8
museumelko.org
775-738-3418

Emilie Sayward Henry Mixed Media
Truckee Meadows Community College
Thru Jan. 27
artgalleries.tmcc.edu
775-674-7698

Even in Africa—Paintings By Robert Cinkel
National Automobile Museum
Thru Jan. 5, 2012
automuseum.org
775-333-9300

First Thursday
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Fleischmann Planetarium & Science Center
Exhibits & films
University of Nevada, Reno
Dark Wed. & Thurs.
planetarium.unr.edu
775-784-4812

Frances Humphrey Lecture Series
Carson City
Nevada State Museum
Once a month
nevadaculture.org
775-687-8323

Free Second Saturdays
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

"Get Hypnotized!"
Pioneer Underground
Fri. & Sat.
renohypnotist.com
775-324-7474

Great Basin Exteriors: A Photographic Survey
Lovelock
Pershing County Library
Jan. 7-March 4
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-273-2216

Great Basin Cowboy Gear Show & sale
Elko
Northeastern Nevada Museum
Jan. 18-Feb. 6
exploreelko.com
775-738-4091

19

Community Appreciation Day
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

Moonlight Snowshoe Tour
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

20

Educators' Evening—Explorer, Naturalist, Artist: John James Audubon & the Birds of America
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Rail Jam w/ The Pimps of Joytime
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

21

Dawes
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Michael P. Branch on John Kirk Townsend
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

On the Trail: YTA's Annual Benefit Silent Auction & Concert
Yerington
Historical Jeanna Dini Center
yeringtonarts.com
775-463-1783

Rehab w/ Moonshine Bandits
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(21-22)
Sheep Dip
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
janugget.com
800-648-1177

(21-22)
Sheepherder's Reunion
Baker
greatbasinpark.com
775-234-7300

(21-23)
Ullr Fest
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

22 SATURDAY

Caboose Kickers Park Comp
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

Dennis Quaid & The Sharks
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Full-Moon Snowshoe Tour
Royal Gorge
royalgorge.com
530-426-3871 x.103

Gabba Gabba Heys (A Tribute to the Ramones)
Knitting Factory
re.knittingfactory.com
775-323-5648

M. Ward
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

No Use For a Name
Sparks
The Alley
thealleysparks.com
775-358-8891

Papa Grows Funk
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Queensryche
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

Wylie & The Wild West
Fallon
Oats Park Art Center
churchillarts.org
775-423-1440

(22-23)
Beaver Bowl Banzai
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

(22-23)
Reno Chamber Orchestra
Nightingale Concert Hall
renochamberorchestra.org
775-348-9413

23 SUNDAY

Carson City Family Fun Day
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

"Clytmestra" by Jim Martin
Brüka Theatre
bruka.org
775-323-3221

Coldstream Terrain Park Comp
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

Food & Wine Pairing Classes
Minden
Tahoe Ridge Winery
tahoeridge.com
775-783-1566

Silverstein
Knitting Factory
re.knittingfactory.com
775-323-5648

Tahoe Rim Tour & Race
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

(23, 30)
USASA Skier/Boarder X
Kirkwood
kirkwood.com
209-258-6000

(23-25)
NASTC All Conditions/All Terrain
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

NEVADA MAGAZINE'S Best of Nevada 2010

THE WESTERN FOLKLIFE CENTER PRESENTS

THE 27TH NATIONAL

COWBOY POETRY GATHERING ELKO, NEVADA

The nation's oldest and largest cowboy poetry and music festival.

JANUARY 24 - 29, 2011



Featuring horsemen from the great plains of Hungary.

WESTERN FOLKLIFE CENTER

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WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO WEEKEND

March 2 - 6, 2011

Join us in Winnemucca for Nevada's premier western event! Featuring the Ranch Hand Rodeo, Western Trade Show, Cow Dog Trials, Bull Sale, PeeWee Events, and the Ranch, Rope & Performance Horse Sale!

www.RanchRodeoNV.com

*Visit our website for more western events!



Contact us Today for a FREE Visitors Guide and more Information:

www.WINNEMUCCA.com or 1-800-962-2638

★ ONGOING continued

Guided Tours
Nevada Museum of Art
Thurs., Sat., & Sun.
*Spanish-language tours by appt.
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Hidden Cave Tours
Fallon
Churchill County Museum (starts)
Second & fourth Sat. of the month
ccmuseum.org
775-423-3677

Historical Lecture
Gardnerville
Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center
Second Thurs. of the month
historicnevada.org
775-782-2555

"History Of America Abridged"
Brüka Theatre
Feb. 18-19, 24-27
March 3-5, 10-13, 17-19
bruka.org
775-323-3221

Honoring the Horse
Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center
Thru March
knowledgecenter.unr.edu
775-682-5665

Imperial Acrobats of China
Circus Circus
Dark Wed.
circusreno.com
800-648-5010

The Improv at Harveys
Stateline
Harveys
Dark Mon. & Tues.
harveystahoe.com
775-586-6266

John James Audubon & The Birds of America
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru Feb. 13
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

John Reid: The Fishman Project
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru Jan. 9
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

JR Johns
Pet show
Circus Circus
Dark Tues. & Thurs.
circusreno.com
800-648-5010

Just for Women Ski Clinics
Squaw Valley USA
Jan. 12-14, 21, 29-30
Feb. 4, 9-11
squaw.com
530-583-6985

Karaoke
Jackpot
Horseshu Saloon
Sat.
ameristar.com
800-821-1103

Karaoke Idol IV
Club Cal Neva
Fri., thru Feb. 26
clubcalneva.com
877-777-7303

Karaoke Nights
Circus Circus
Fri. & Sat.
circusreno.com
800-648-5010

KidScape Improvisational Acting Class—K-6th Grade
Brookfield School
Session 3: Thru Jan. 26
Session 4: Feb. 2-March 16
kidscapeproductions.com
775-313-3900

KJZS Live Jazz Night
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
Wed.
janugget.com
800-648-1177

▶ 24

(24-29)
National Cowboy Poetry Gathering
Elko
westernfolklife.org
800-880-5885

▶ 25

Virtual Boy
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(25-26)
Ailey II
Grand Sierra
renoisartown.com
800-648-3568

▶ 26

moe.
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(26-29)
Safari Club International Convention
Reno-Sparks Convention Center
showsci.com
888-746-9724

▶ 27

Ama Dablam: A Himalayan Tale of Adventure and Responsibility
Tahoe City
Sawtooth Ridge Café
530-583-6917

▶ 28

"Bums on the Plush" Utah Phillips Memory Tour
Eureka
Eureka Opera House
eurekacounty.com
775-237-6006

The Guess Who
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

Kathy Griffin
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Meet the Artist: Watercolorist Timothy J. Clark on Expressive Luminescence
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

(28-29)
Life in the Fast Lane—A Tribute to the Eagles
Harrah's
harrahsreno.com
800-HARRAHS

(28-30)
"Legally Blonde": Broadway Comes to Reno!
Pioneer Center
pioneercenter.com
775-686-6600

▶ 29 SATURDAY

Albino! w/ Diego's Umbrella
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Ely Rotary Club Ice Fishing Derby
Cave Lake State Park
parks.nv.wgov/cl.htm
775-289-4689

Luna Chix Telemark Camp
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

Painted Deserts Panel Discussion
Fallon
Oats Park Art Center
churchillarts.org
775-423-1440

Slide Back Retro Day
Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe
mtrose.com
800-SKI-ROSE

(29-30)
Babes in the Backcountry Tele Clinic
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

(29-30)
Jr. Tahoe Freeride Series
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

(29-30)
Scout Weekend USASA Boardercross
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426-3666

▶ 30 SUNDAY

Make a Birdfeeder
Nevada Museum of Art
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Ozzy Osbourne & Slash
Reno Events Center
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Women's Snowshoe Trek
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

FEBRUARY

▶ 1

(1-3)
USSA NorAm Hole Shot Tour—Ski Cross & Boarder X
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

▶ 2



GROUNDHOG DAY

▶ 3

Rail Jam w/ Bob Marley Tribute
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512







CARSON CITY'S
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- 50% off room rates and more lodging offers

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VOTED BEST BASQUE RESTAURANT in Nevada. Home of the famous Picon Punch. Dinners served family-style with authentic specialties such as paella, shrimp and tongue Basquaise, oxtails, tripas callos, lamb chops and sirloin steak. Fish served daily. Lunch Tuesday-Saturday. Dinner nightly 5-9:30pm. Reservations suggested. Banquet facilities up to 125 people. Located East of the Bowling Stadium and the Downtown Events Center. Free parking.

301 E. Fourth Street, Reno
(775) 323-7203

LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER

On The Trail

YTA's Annual Benefit
Silent Auction & Concert

at the Historical Jeanne Dini Center
January 21 at 6:00pm

Featuring Brenn Hill



Silent Auction ~ Live Concert
Food & Cocktails

Benefiting the historical Jeanne Dini Center & YTA
for tickets, upcoming events, & info visit us on the web
www.yeringtonarts.com
or Call 775-463-1783

This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Nevada Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Promotional funding provided by a grant from the Lyon County Room Tax Board.

★ ONGOING continued

Large Bills Accepted
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Mon.
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

Last Tracks
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

Lehman Caves Tour
Great Basin National Park
Daily
nps.gov/grba
775-234-7331

The Lingo of Our Calling
Nevada Historical Society
Thru Jan. 28
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-688-1190

The Lingo of Our Calling
Northwest Library
Feb. 1-March 24
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-787-4100

Live Band Karaoke
Eldorado
Mon.
eldoradoreno.com
775-786-5700

Lyrical Poetry & Stories
Nevada Historical Society
Once/month
nevadaculture.org
775-687-8323

Micqaela Jones Crouch—Contemporary Indian Art
Elko
Northeastern Nevada Museum
Thru Feb. 11
museumelko.org
775-738-3418

Mile High Jazz Band
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Second Tues. of the month
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

Nevada Heritage Wall
Artists Co-op Gallery
Ongoing
artistsco-opgalleryreno.com
775-322-8896

Nevada Northern Railway Train Rides
Ely
Call or visit website
nnry.com
866-407-8326

Nevada Wolf Pack Basketball
Lawlor Events Center (home dates only)
Jan. 8, 20, 22, 27
Feb. 5, 19, 24, 26
nevadawolfpack.com
775-348-7225

Nevada Wolf Pack Women's Basketball
Lawlor Events Center (home dates only)
Jan. 1, 6, 8, 29
Feb. 3, 10, 12, 26, 28
nevadawolfpack.com
775-348-7225

New York to Paris Automobile Race
Exhibit
Featuring 1907 Thomas Flyer
National Automobile Museum
Thru Jan. 5, 2012
automuseum.org
775-333-9300

Nike Run Club
Sparks
Legends at Sparks Marina
Mon. & Sat.
experiencelegends.com
775-358-3800

Nugget Folies
Carson City
Carson Nugget
Mon.
ccnugget.com
775-882-1626

4

Blue Oyster Cult & Foghat
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

BLVD w/ Pink Mammoth
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Creedence Clearwater Revisited
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Hoods
Sparks
The Alley
thealleysparks.com
775-358-8891

(4-6)
Burton Super Demo Tour & AM Series
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

5 SATURDAY

Adam Carolla
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
janugget.com
800-648-1177

Alpine Club Party Featuring the Jamaica Ski Team
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

The Biggest Little Tailgate Party
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Fallon Trap Club Multiplex Shoot
Fallon
fallontrapclub.com
775-427-4556

Lisa Lampanelli
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

The Racing Gnome Snow Run
Royal Gorge
royalgorge.com
530-426-3871 x.103

Tower of Power
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

(5-6)
Banzai Series
Kirkwood
kirkwood.com
209-258-6000

(5-6)
Gatorade Free Flow Tour
Sierra-at-Tahoe
sierraattahoe.com
530-659-7453

6 SUNDAY

"Clytmestra" by Jim Martin
Brüka Theatre
bruka.org
775-323-3221

Learn To Ski & Ride Day
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

Super Bowl XLV
Check local listings for special events

USASA Slopestyle
Kirkwood
kirkwood.com
209-258-6000

7

(7-8)
WWSRA
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

(7-11)
USSA Revolution Tour
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426–3666

8

(8-10)
Seniors All Mountain Adventure
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

9

Badfish: A Tribute To Sublime
Knitting Factory
re.knittingfactory.com
775-323-5648

11

(11-12)
Learn with the Ladies Clinic
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

(11-13)
Balloon Lovers Aloft
Lovelock
loverslock.com
775-273-7213

(11, 13)
Samuel Barber's "Vanessa"
Pioneer Center
pioneercenter.com
775-686-6600

12 SATURDAY

Caboose Kickers Park Comp
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

Disgruntled Chukar Hunters Shoot
Eureka
Perdiz Sport Shooting
eurekacounty.com
775-237-7027

King of the Mountain
Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe
mtrose.com
800-SKI-ROSE

Sertoma Crab & Tri-Tip Feed
Minden
CVIC Hall
visitcarsonvalley.org

Ski the Huts Tour
Royal Gorge
royalgorge.com
530-426-3871 x.103

Snowshoe Social & Race
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

Nevada Style Real Estate Services



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- Minden, Genoa
- Gardnerville
- Virginia City
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- Homes, Land
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Photo by Robin Wilson.

FEBRUARY 25-27
Eagles & Agriculture

This remarkable interaction between nature and agriculture attracts photographers, birders, and nature-lovers of all kinds who come to closely observe bald and golden eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, and a variety of other bird and wildlife species.

MAY 5-8
Genoa Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival

Nationally known Western poets and entertainers gather for this annual event in the Town of Genoa, Nevada's oldest settlement. More than music and poetry, the festival features cowboy dinners, dances, art galleries, workshops, and much more!

Northern Nevada's Carson Valley offers a thousand reasons to visit.

Check **www.visitcarsonvalley.org** for events and more. We're "mobi-friendly!"
Or call us at **775-782-8144** or toll-free at **800-727-7677**
Carson Valley Visitors Authority / 1477 US Highway 395, Suite A / Gardnerville, NV 89410

★ ONGOING continued

Once (Upon) A Forest
Carson City
Capital City Arts Initiative
Courthouse Gallery
Thru Jan. 14
arts-initiative.org
775-450-3842

Open Mic Night
Java Jungle
Mon.
javajunglevino.com
775-329- 4484

Open Mic Night
Carson City
Comma Coffee
First Fri. of the month
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

Party Poker Tournaments
Harrah's
Fri. & Sat.
harrahsreno.com
775-788-2900

Painted Deserts
Fallon
Oats Park Art Center
Thru March 11
churchillarts.org
775-423-1440

Philomena Musician Series
Nevada Historical Society
Once a month
nevadaculture.org
775-687-8323

Pipes on the River
Trinity Episcopal Church
Fri.
trinityreno.org
775-329-4279

Quirky Rides
National Automobile Museum
Thru Oct. 17
automuseum.org
775-333-9300

Reno: Biggest Little City in the World
Nevada Historical Society
Wed.-Sat.
nevadaculture.org
775-687-8323

Reno Bighorns
NBA D-League Basketball
Reno Events Center
(home dates only)
Jan. 1-2, 5, 15-16, 28-29
Feb. 2, 11-12, 27
renobighorns.com
775-284-2622

Reno Beer Crawl
Fourth Sat.
renobeercrawl.com
775-996-1811

Reno Chess Club
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Thurs.
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

Reno Fun Train
Feb. 11, 25
March 4, 11
keyholidays.com
800-783-0783

Reno Snow Train
Feb. 8, 15, 22
March 1, 8
keyholidays.com
800-783-0783

"Richard III"
Brüka Theatre
Jan. 14-15, 20-22, 27-30
Feb. 3-5
bruka.org
775-323-3221

Riverwalk District Art Walk
First Thurs. of the month
renoriver.org
775-825-9255

Riverwalk District Wine Walk
Third Sat. of the month
renoriver.org
775-825-9255

Saturday Night Tribute Bands
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
775-789-2000

USASA Slopestyle
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426-3666

Voice of the Wetlands All-Stars
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

(12-13)
Kona Bike Fest
Kirkwood
kirkwood.com
209-258-6000

13 SUNDAY

Coldstream Park Comp
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

Telemark 1-Day Camp
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

USASA Superpipe
Boreal Mountain Resort
borealski.com
530-426-3666

14



VALENTINE'S DAY

An Evening w/ Bernadette Peters
Grand Sierra
renoisartown.com
800-648-3568

Lock Your Love
Lovelock
Pershing County Courthouse
loverslock.com
775-273-7213

Stargazing Snowshoe Tour & Tahoe Star Tours
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

Valentine's Day Dinner at Snowflake
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
diamondpeak.com
877-468-4397

Valentine's Dinner
Minden
Tahoe Ridge Winery
tahoeridge.com
775-783-1566

15

KidScape Productions Show
Trinity Church
kidscapeproductions.com
775-787-3900

Social Distortion
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
800-648-3568

17

Adventure Through Imagery
Tahoe City
Sawtooth Ridge Café
530-583-6917

Chromeo
Knitting Factory
re.knittingfactory.com
775-323-5648

Red Priest
Nightingale Concert Hall
unr.edu/pas
775-784-4046

(17-18)
Moonlight Snowshoe Tour
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

18

Bonnie Raitt
Grand Sierra
grandsierraresort.com
800-648-3568

Colin Ross Band
Eureka
Eureka Opera House
eurekacounty.com
775-237-6006

George Jones
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

(18-19)
Audioboxx
Sands Regency
sandsregency.com
866-FUNSTAY

(18-19)
Guided Moonlight Snowshoe Tours
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

(18-20)
"A Chorus Line": Broadway Comes to Reno!
Pioneer Center
pioneercenter.com
775-686-6600

(18-20, 25-27)
Meshuggah-Nuns!
Carson City
Brewery Arts Center
breweryarts.org
775-883-1976

(18-21)
Great Backyard Bird Count
birdsource.org/gbbc
800-843-2473

19 SATURDAY

Full-Moon Snowshoe Tour
Royal Gorge
royalgorge.com
530-426-3871 x.103

Ice Bar Party
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

Martin Short
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Montgomery Gentry
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

(19-20)
Reno Chamber Orchestra
Nightingale Concert Hall
renochamberorchestra.org
775-348-9413

Elko, Nevada



Elko Convention Center

Elko Convention & Visitors Authority
700 Moren Way • Elko, NV 89801 • (775) 738-4091

www.ExploreElko.com



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- *Hunting • Snow Sports • Race Cars*
- *Ski Boats • Water Sports & more!*

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- *All the Latest in Home Remodeling*
- *Solar Energy Solutions • DIY Projects*
- *Organic Gardening • Interior Design*
- *The Newest in Landscape Materials & the Reno Pet Show* ***"Pug Parade"***



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★ ONGOING continued

Rubber Biscuit's Rockin' Blues Review
Harrah's
Feb. 17-April 24
harrahsreno.com
800-HARRAHS

Selections from the Edgar F. and Ella C. Kleiner Collection
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru March 13
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Slot Machines: The Fey Collection
Carson City
Nevada State Museum
Wed.-Sat.
nevadaculture.org
775-687-4810 x.237

Steakhouse Wine Tastings
Harrah's Reno
Last Tues. of the month
harrahsreno.com
775-788-2929

Stop the Car, Dad!
McKinley Arts Center
Thru Jan. 28
nac.nevadaculture.org
775-334-6264

Sunday Music Showcase
Java Jungle
javajunglevino.com
775-329-4484

Sundays Uncorked
Wild River Grille
renoriverroom.com
775-284-7455

Tim Hawkinson: Totem
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru Jan. 30
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Topaz Lodge Fishing Derby
Topaz Lake
Jan. 1-April 10
topazlodge.com
800-962-0732

Tuesday Jazz Night
Wild River Grille
renoriverroom.com
775-284-7455

Turtleneck Tuesdays
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

"Way to Grow" Gardening School
Moana Nursery
Second Sat. of the month
moananursery.com
775-825-0602 x.130

Weekly Slot Tournament
Crystal Bay
Tahoe Biltmore
Thurs.
tahoebiltmore.com
800-BILTMORE

Weekly Wine Tasting
Java Jungle
Wed.
javajunglevino.com
775-329-4484

Wild Women Artists
Elko
Duncan Little Creek Gallery
Jan. 11-29
wildwomenartists.com

World Dance Open Floor Night
Carson City
Comma Coffee
Third Fri. of the month
commacoffee.com
775-883-2662

The Wrong Side of Reno: Three Decades of Punk & Hardcore Music in The Biggest Little City
Nevada Museum of Art
Thru March 6
nevadaart.org
775-329-3333

Youth Ski Program
Incline Village
Diamond Peak
Jan. 8, 22, 29
Feb. 5, 12
churchillcounty.org
775-423-7733

(19-20)
Trout Derby
Wild Horse State Recreation Area
parks.nv.gov/wh.htm
775-758-6493

(19-20)
Wild Winter Weekend
Animal Ark
animalark.org
775-970-3111

20 SUNDAY

ALO
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Food & Wine Pairing Classes
Minden
Tahoe Ridge Winery
tahoeridge.com
775-783-1566

Rick Springfield
Sparks
John Ascuaga's Nugget
janugget.com
800-648-1177

21



PRESIDENTS DAY

Presidents Cup Race
Royal Gorge
royalgorge.com
530-426-3871 x.103

22

Breakfast Club
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

24

(24-26)
NASTC All Conditions/ All Terrain
Squaw Valley USA
squaw.com
530-583-6985

(24-27)
North American Freeskiing Championships
Kirkwood
kirkwood.com
209-258-6000

(24-27)
Telemark & Freeride Festival
Alpine Meadows
skialpine.com
800-441-4423

25

Air Supply
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

The Dan Band
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Red Chamber
Minden
Civic Hall
cvartscouncil.com
775-782-8207

(25-26, March 2-6)
"Fat Pig"
Redfield Studio Theatre
unr.edu/nevadarep
775-784-4444

(25-27)
Eagles & Agriculture
Carson Valley
visitcarsonvalley.org
800-727-7677

(25-27, March 4-6, 11-13)
"Terra Nova"
Reno Little Theater
renolittletheater.org
775-329-0661

26 SATURDAY

B.B. King
Silver Legacy
silverlegacy.com
800-687-8733

Bluegrass Giant Sam Bush
Crystal Bay
Crystal Bay Casino
crystalbaycasino.com
775-831-0512

Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros
Stateline
Harrah's Lake Tahoe
southshoreroom.com
800-427-7247

Jam For the Cure
Sugar Bowl
sugarbowl.com
530-426-9000

"Late Night TV Shows"
Brüka Theatre
bruka.org
775-323-3221

Marshall Tucker Band
West Wendover
Peppermill Concert Hall
wendoverfun.com
800-217-0049

Savor The Flavor—Soroptimists International of Carson Valley
Genoa
Genoa Lakes Resort
visitcarsonvalley.org
775-783-6341

Transworld TransAm
Northstar-at-Tahoe
northstarattahoe.com
800-466-6784

27 SUNDAY

Carson City Symphony Concert
Carson City
Community Center
ccsymphony.com
775-883-4154

Reno Bighorns Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
Reno Events Center
renobighorns.com
775-334-7063

NEVADA ONLINE

For more events and shows in the Silver State, visit **nevadamagazine.com**.



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Reference Promotional Code: LPR

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RENO, NV 89502
775-826-2500 • 800-233-1234
www.hyattplacerenotahoeairport.com
Reference Promotional Code: HPRNO

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www.marriott.com/RNOFI
Reference Promotional Code: LPR

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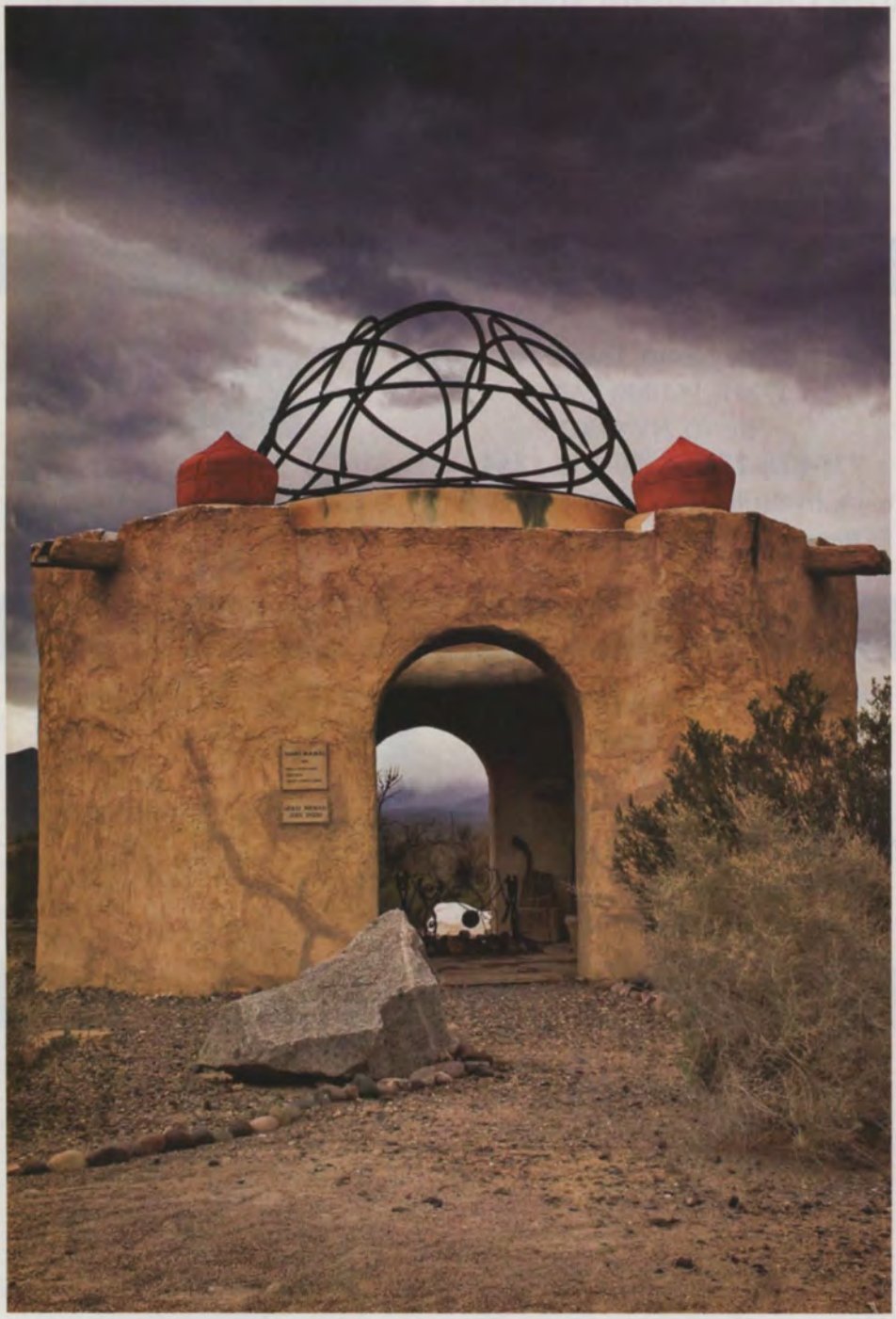
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Dedicated in 1993 by Genevieve Vaughan to fulfill a vow made to the Egyptian Goddess Sekhmet, this temple stands visible from U.S. Highway 95, about 1,000 feet south of the highway near the small settlement of Cactus Springs (west of Indian Springs). The sand-colored stucco temple opens to the north, south, east, west, and skyward. "Peace and reverence live within the temple, welcoming all that come," reads the website. "...All are invited to pray, meditate, and connect with the Divine Feminine that is within and around us." **sekhmettemple.com, 702-569-0630**

PHOTOS BY ELLEN SARGENT

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