

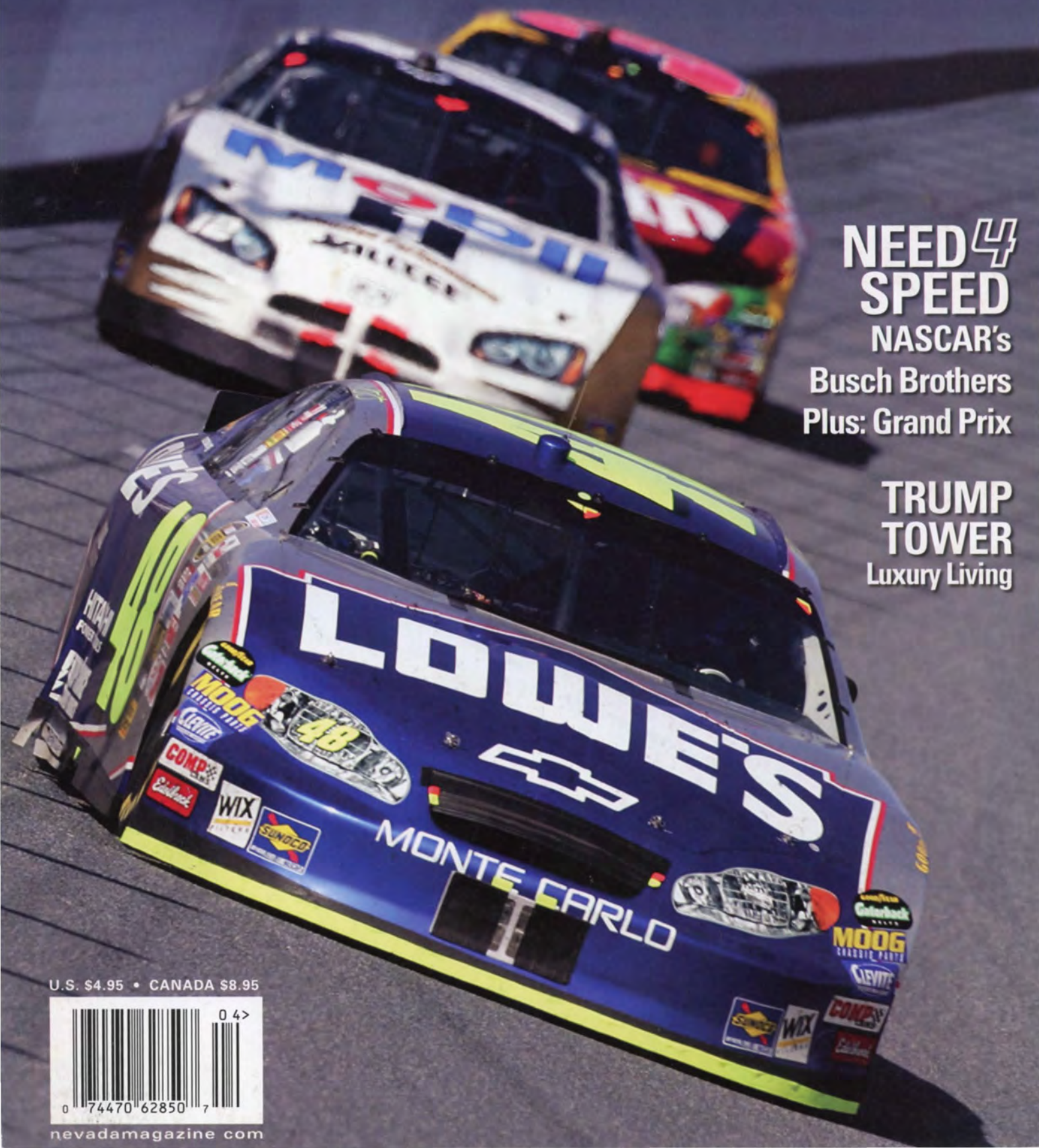
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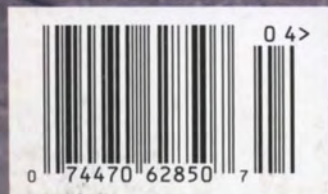
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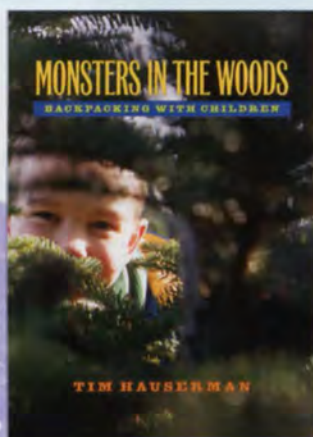
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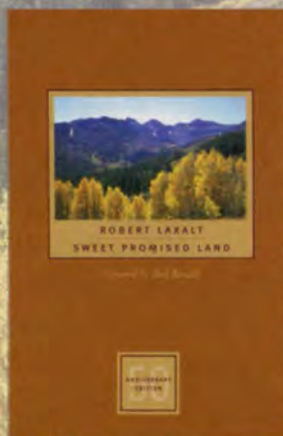
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nevada dreaming

As far back as I can remember, I dreamed of being a cowboy in the West. Not just any cowboy mind you—but a boots- and spurs-wearing, horse-riding, calf-roping cowboy, on a ranch at the base of white-capped mountains. This was quite an aspiration for a young girl growing up in the concrete jungle of Chicago.

When other little girls were dressing up as ballerinas, I gravitated toward Levis and boots and, on occasion, even wore a set of holsters complete with toy six shooters (that's me below). My mom and dad indulged my fantasy by letting me skip a few ballet lessons now and then and rent a horse at a local stable instead. My dream materialized as I rode in the round pen at an urban stable—skyscrapers in the distance, but a western landscape playing on the big screen of my imagination. In 1984 I was fortunate enough to get a

job assignment at Lake Tahoe. Nothing could have prepared me for the moment I drove over the hill from Reno and saw the "big blue" that lay at the bottom of the most beautiful snow-covered mountains I had ever seen. I knew I had found home. What I didn't know was that the love affair was just beginning.

I bought a home in Nevada in 1985, and even before I purchased my first piece of furniture, I bought a horse. I've spent 22 years exploring Nevada's vast and diverse terrain on horseback, four-wheeler, mountain bike, dirt bike, snowmobile, snowshoes, and skis. I have delighted at the grandeur of the Las Vegas Strip from a rented Italian convertible and navigated its nightlife in high heels. I've spent many a barefoot summer day on lakes Tahoe, Mead, and Lahontan. I have experienced Nevada from every possible angle, yet every day its beauty manages to take my breath away.

My love and awe of Nevada is what I hope to bring to *Nevada Magazine*. I want to showcase Nevada from every possible angle. The new format and departments of *Nevada Magazine* are designed to celebrate our state, its awesome landscapes, enterprising people, eclectic dining, imaginative entertainment, and amazing attractions, as well as its diversity and ever-changing skylines. Our new nevadamagazine.com completes the picture with expanded stories and details.

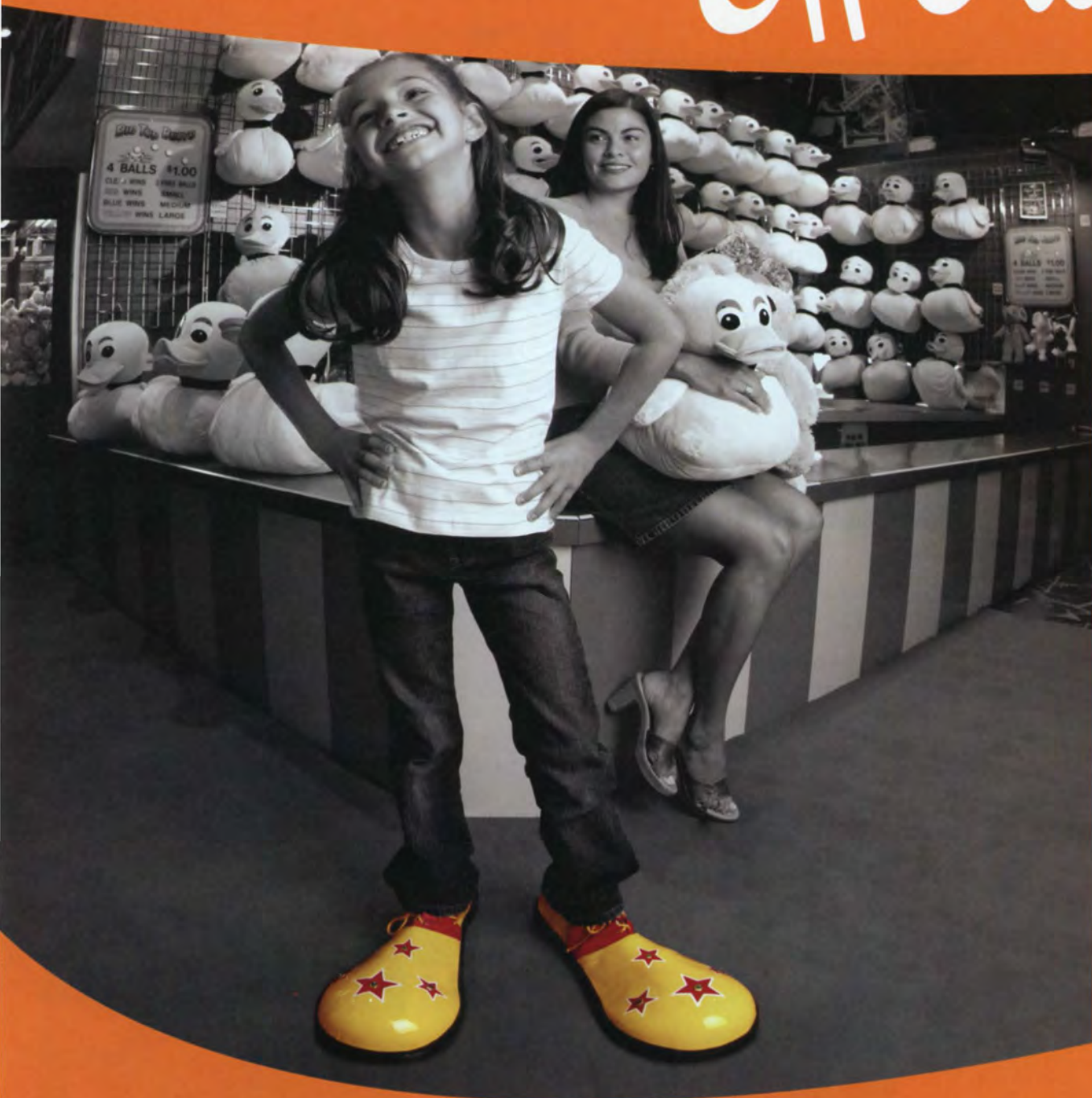
I hope you enjoy the new *Nevada Magazine* and join me in my love affair with this great state.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deb Dudley".

Deb Dudley
Publisher

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HOMETOWN HEROES 42

Brothers Kurt and Kyle Busch make Las Vegas NASCAR fans proud. Plus, the Speedway's \$35-million renovations and the Vegas Grand Prix.

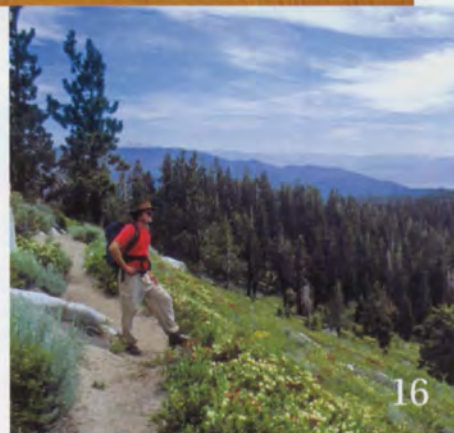
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vegas on a dime

You don't have to be a high roller to enjoy Glitter City.

BY ROGER NAYLOR

Las Vegas is a town noted for freebies. Some, like the Bellagio dancing fountains, generate plenty of publicity. Others fly under the radar. Here are a few free (or nearly so) diversions to fill time on the Strip while giving your ATM card a breather.

It's M&M's World—you just bounce off the walls. This Strip-side, four-story, 28,000-square-foot monument to the legendary candy includes an array of merchandise, M&Ms in unheard of colors, and a free 3-D film, *I Lost My M in Vegas*. Rumor has it Robert DeNiro offered to undergo a complete dye job to play the role of Green but was turned down. On your way out, before purchasing a bushel basket of purple M&Ms, remember the slogan "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" does not apply to calories. 702-736-7611, mms.com.

Unlike misleadingly named casinos, the Flamingo delivers what it promises: gawky pink birds with backward knees. They're residents of a lush wildlife habitat, adjacent to the pool, along with a host of feathered friends like sacred ibises



M&M's World snuggles next to GameWorks on the Strip (top).

Above: The roller coaster at New York-New York.



and black swans. Bird trainer Clint Carvalho offers photo sessions, where you can have your picture taken with a parrot on your head. The habitat is open 24/7 702-733-3349, flamingolv.com, topbird.com.

If you go to Vegas and don't catch an Elvis impersonator, have you really been to Vegas? One of the best, Pete Vallee, better known as Big Elvis, performs in the Barbary Coast lounge at 3 and 5 p.m., Monday to Thursday. A behemoth of a talent who perfectly captures the King's phrasing and range, he also throws in a tasty Louis Armstrong as a mid-set bonus. 702-737-7111, barbarycoastcasino.com.

Sure, Mirage's famous volcano blows its fiery top every few minutes, but ask yourself: does watching the spectacle make you yearn for an island hammock and a pair of flip-flops? If the answer is no, then belly up to Volcano Bar in Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville. In the evenings the three-story volcano

erupts, spilling—you guessed it—margaritas into two giant 300-gallon blenders. Watching the eruption is free; imbibing in a glass of the salty overflow will cost you. 702-733-3302, margaritavillelasvegas.com.

Faux cities abound along the Strip. For sheer coolness factor, none tops New York-New York. Stroll the Greenwich Village-style blocks near the eateries and you might not feel transported to the Big Apple, but you will be entertained by the staggering attention to detail—from steam clouds rising out of manhole covers to a melancholy strand of Christmas lights flickering behind curtains. Look for the window with the Jackson Pollock print. 702-740-6969, nynyhotelcasino.com.

For the most part Vegas is an indoor town, but at Harrah's Carnaval Court

the freewheeling festivities spill into the street to raucous results. Bottle-flipping bartenders (below) entertain crowds while bands crank up the tunes. Don't expect introspective folkies crooning tortured ballads. The Court is party central, and loud and danceable are the norm. They also serve grub and on weekends drag out blackjack tables. 702-369-5000, harrahs.com.

It's good to be king. The throne comes with plenty of perks, like unlimited naptime. Or so it seems when you visit the kings of the neon jungle



at MGM Grand Lion Habitat (top). They feed, groom, and romp, but mostly they snooze. Yet you are so up close and personal, including walking through

a glass tunnel which is totally like Tarzan's subway, that just watching them saw logs is pretty darn majestic. 702-891-3051, mgmgrand.com.

Before Cirque there was plain old Circus. Seems kind of quaint with Cirque du Soleil-spawned shows dominating the Strip landscape, yet Circus Circus has delivered Big Top classics since 1968. Billed as the world's largest permanent circus, jugglers, acrobats, highwire, and trapeze artists perform acts of heart-stopping derring-do from 11 a.m. to midnight. Come early and prepare to pick your jaw up off the floor. 702-734-0410, circuscircus.com.



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The Far East Corner, 100 N. Arlington Ave. #101, features Asian furniture, jewelry, décor, gifts, and a line of bamboo clothing. 775-324-4423.

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wild for whitewater

Kayakers flip for Reno's Truckee River Whitewater Park.

BY TERI RUSSMAN

FLOWING THROUGH THE HEART of downtown Reno, a short walk from casinos, restaurants, theaters, and specialty shops, is Nevada's premier kayaking park and slalom racing course. The Truckee River Whitewater Park, a vibrant river playground that has become the catalyst to downtown revitalization, attracts a growing number of locals as well as visitors.

Kayakers now have year-round water just minutes away from home or work. "We used to have to drive two and a half hours to run a river, arrange a shuttle, and park," says Mike Washburn, a local kayaker and kayak department manager at Reno Mountain Sports. Washburn often ran the American River in Northern California. "Now it's park and play in one convenient spot," he says. "I've been to the river about 130 times this past year."

Completed in November 2003, the park is comprised of north and south channels totaling 2,600 feet. Boulders have been strategically placed to form 11 drop pools. On a scale of 1-6 in difficulty, the rapids are rated class 2 and 3, novice to intermediate. Smooth, flat rocks installed along the banks allow easy river access and up-close public seating. In addition to kayaks, canoes, rafts, and inner tubes are welcome.

Wingfield Island (inset, opposite page) separates the two channels, providing a grassy park and outdoor amphitheater, a site of free public concerts and entertainment. Bridges, walking paths, and sitting areas invite people to bring a picnic and watch paddlers as they practice cartwheels, spins, flips, and loops (opposite page). Inner tube-laden youths bob in the river, and sunbathers soak up rays.

The best in world-class whitewater kayaking is showcased at the park during the annual Reno River Festival, set for May 10-13. Now celebrating its fourth year, the festival (above) features competitions, an industry expo, demos, vendors, music, and food booths. A variety of free kayak clinics are offered for all skill levels. "If you've never tried kayaking, here is your chance," says Jon Fairchild, owner of Different Strokes Kayaking, organizer of the clinics.

Following on the success of the Reno park, a new whitewater park is planned in Sparks, three and a half miles downstream, alongside Rock Park. Construction on the family-oriented recreational-use park is scheduled to begin this summer. When it opens, water enthusiasts will have two convenient river sites to paddle and play in the Reno-Sparks area.

TAHOE TRAILS

wide open



to each his own

Hikers and bikers no longer have to share the trail to Marlette Lake

BY TIM HAUSERMAN

Hikers now have access to beautiful Marlette Lake in Lake Tahoe-Nevada State Park without worrying about bike users, and bikers can grunt up to the lake or ride swiftly down a route less congested with hikers.

In 2005, in order to reduce conflicts between hikers and mountain bikers on the four miles of trail leading from Spooner Lake to Marlette Lake—and the start of the very popular Flume Trail, which is used primarily by mountain bikers—a new Marlette Lake Trail was constructed for hikers only. Now, bikers have more space to ride, and hikers get to walk on a quiet, single-track trail.

But the trail builders didn't just build an alternative route, they built a beautiful trail through the aspens and past Secret Harbor Creek to the shores of Marlette Lake. The trail is alive with springtime wildflowers as it passes by the remains of a loggers' camp from the late 19th century. Views of the 9,214-foot Snow Valley Peak and the lush Snow Valley are plentiful. In several spots along the trail you get brief glimpses of the mountain-biking route, aka North Canyon Road, which parallels the Marlette Lake Trail.

Once you have hiked the four miles to Marlette Lake, you can enjoy the sunshine, take a dip in the lake, or check out the Fish Spawning Station. This small station is located on the south end of the lake, a short distance from where the trail meets the road circling Marlette. Here a little fish ladder system was constructed to trap hundreds of brook, rainbow, and Lahontan trout attempting to spawn. Fish are raised to supply other lakes in the region. Look for the fish in the early summer. Beginning last summer, limited fishing is allowed for the first time in several decades. No fish can be removed from the lake, as it is catch and release only, using barbless hooks.

In the fall, the thousands of aspens in North Canyon and Snow Valley turn gold, making this one of the most beautiful autumn hikes in the Sierra. And if you thought the colors were great on the way up, wait until you get to the lake. Huge groves of brilliant aspens serve as a backdrop to the blue water.

TRAILHEAD INFO

To access the Marlette Lake Trail, go to the Spooner Lake parking area on Spooner Summit. From Carson City it is a 10-mile drive up U.S. 50 from its intersection with U.S. 395 to S.R. 28, where you turn right. Go about half a mile to the Spooner Lake entrance on your right.



NEVADA ONLINE

To learn about the Spooner Lake cabins, where hikers can stay, visit nevadamagazine.com.



Opposite page: A hiker views the North Canyon Road (top). Bottom: Marlette Lake sits above Lake Tahoe (left). The Marlette Lake Trail leads to the Flume Trail (right).

historic getaway

The silvery dome of the Capitol towers over Carson City's Old Town

BY WILMA LAROCCA

WITH ITS BLEND OF TRADITIONAL BRICK and stone buildings and lively, small shops, Old Town Carson City is the ideal place to explore America's Western heritage. The capital retains many of its late Victorian structures, including the state museum, the Capitol, and the 1890 federal courthouse (right). In Old Town you can enjoy a historic vacation getaway at a leisurely pace.

"We see lots of interest in our nation's heritage lately," says Capitol Police Corporal Randal Smith, as he greets visitors in the Capitol lobby. "We see parents taking their vacations so they can show their children all the state capitols."



INFORMATION

For visitor information and a list of lodgings and restaurants, visit the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson St., No. 100, Carson City, NV 89701, 775-687-7410, visitcarsoncity.com.





The best way to see Nevada's capital is on foot, carrying the brochure, "Old Town Carson City."

The best way to see Nevada's capital is on foot, carrying the brochure, "Old Town Carson City." It contains a map and is available at hotels, shops, and at the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau. As you walk, you can see architectural details sure to be overlooked if you're driving.

Part of the Kit Carson Trail, Carson Street runs north and south and is enhanced with wrought-iron fencing and replicas of gas street lights. You can begin at Washington Street where you pass the state museum as you head south to Fourth Street.

You can visit the museum now or return when you have more time to spend. The museum has exhibits of Nevada's natural history, anthropology, and culture. Originally built as the Carson City Mint in 1869, the museum displays the coin press used to stamp over \$50 million in gold and silver coins. Visitors can view the 13-foot-tall imperial mammoth, excavated in 1972, and explore the replicas of a ghost town and an underground silver mine.

You'll walk by shops and restaurants located in historic buildings. At Fourth Street, cross Carson Street to the Capitol Plaza. With its wide walkways and benches, the plaza serves as a city park. In summer, locals attend concerts in the small amphitheater. You'll smile at the statue of Abe Curry, the "Father of Carson City," pointing toward the Capitol, and admire the sculpture of Kit Carson on horseback, carrying a rifle.

The historic Capitol (above) was a simple octagonal structure when President Theodore

Roosevelt visited Carson City in 1903. North and south wings were added, and the building has undergone extensive rehabilitation, but it retains its 1876 Italianate appearance. Improvements include the Alaskan marble floor added in 1917.

A statue of 19th-century Native American activist Sarah Winnemucca greets visitors in the lobby. Beginning in 1879, the Legislature commissioned portraits of each governor, and today 27 gubernatorial images are displayed. A history exhibit is housed on the second floor, and the old Supreme Court room is open to the public.

The shops on Carson Street include the Country Corner (601 North Carson) where you can find antiques and gently used musical instruments. Carson Jewelry and Loan (308 North Carson) has antiques and estate jewelry, and Hanifin's Antiques (201 North Carson) is stocked with European furniture. There are interesting shops on intersecting streets: Cigar Bar (108 North Telegraph Square), Aoneflax, gifts and health-care products (220 B West Telegraph), and Scandia Fine Gifts (333 North Curry).

Carson City's historic homes district (opposite page, bottom), included on the Kit Carson Trail, lies a few blocks west of Carson Street. Among the dwellings are the Governor's Mansion. An information board on each house tells its story. You can walk or drive using a brochure, map, and a CD guide (available for rent with a \$5 refundable deposit or purchase for \$5) from the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau.



LODGING

Bliss Mansion

A bed-and-breakfast facility in an 1879 mansion (above). The suites are furnished in Victorian style. A full breakfast is served on a 15-foot handcrafted dining table. Internet available. 608 Elizabeth St. 800-887-3501, 775-887-8988, blissmansion.com.

City Center Motel

A Carson Nugget property. With large, well-furnished rooms, it's a popular lodging for golf groups. 800 N. Carson St. 800-338-7760, ccnugget.com.

DINING

Adele's Restaurant and Lounge

Owned by third-generation restaurateurs and set in an 1864 historic home-turned-restaurant, Adele's offers fine dining in a Victorian ambiance. 1112 N. Carson St. 775-882-3353, adelesrestaurantandlounge.com.

Garibaldi's Ristorante Italiano

Classical Italian food served in a large Renaissance-style dining room with small bar. The menus include pasta with meat sauces, gnocchi, veal, and seafood. 307 N. Carson St. 775-884-4574.

The Basil

Thai cuisine includes mild and spicy dishes with a choice of beef, chicken, pork, and seafood. 311 N. Carson St. 775-841-6100.

Carson Nugget Steak House

Menu favorites include pasta, filet mignon, prime rib, rack of lamb, chicken, lobster, and seafood. Dinner only. 507 N. Carson St. 775-882-1626, ccnugget.com.

have a cuppa joe



YOU CAN FIND COFFEE AND TREATS WITH A TWIST IN CITIES AND TOWNS AROUND THE STATE.

BY CHARLIE JOHNSTON
WILMA LAROCCA
MERRIE LEININGER

COFFEEHOUSES ARE BLOOMING IN NEVADA. Big chains are finding competition from mom-and-pop stores that boast muffins and scones like grandma used to bake. Beverages other than coffee are served, and many places feature music, lectures, art shows, and open-mic nights.



Nevada Magazine writers visited coffeehouses around the state, sipping lattes and tea and savoring baked goods made on the premises. Here is a sampling of what they found.

SHADY GROVE, GARDNERVILLE

"This building was originally a tractor store," says John Luoma, owner of Shady Grove coffeehouse in Gardnerville. A lot has changed since then. The tractors have been replaced by a book exchange, paintings, and photos from local artists and a creative selection of coffee and snacks.

Luoma says that he and his wife, Ashley, wanted their store to be a place where the community could come together, not just a

quick, in-and-out, coffee-to-go establishment. Customers can sit in the book corner to read, coffee cups at their elbows. Contemporary furniture and clean lines belie the store's origins. Special drinks like orange truffle and chipmunk (caramel) lattes join chocolate-drizzled

macaroons, fresh cinnamon rolls, and crepes (previous page). The French-style crepes are baked on a special griddle, then folded onto a small plate and served with fresh fruit or jam and whipped cream. Above, David Comstock spreads batter on the hot griddle.

Shady Grove, at 1411 Main Street in Gardnerville, is open 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and hosts live music. 775-782-8000.

REJAVANATE COFFEE LOUNGE, LAS VEGAS

The reJAVAnate Coffee Lounge is homey with easy chairs, books for browsing, and walls decorated with local artists' paintings and stained-glass hangings for sale. The menu board features breakfast pastries and desserts. Caffè D'arte, an Italian roast popular in Seattle,

is served as espressos and frozen drinks.

On any evening you're likely to find a religious or activist group—either far left or right—holding a monthly meeting. The coffeehouse also offers free Wi-Fi Internet service and a computer for customers' use. Managing owners Greg Davis and Bruce Ewing give free concerts and host civic events, as well as Jazz Night on Thursday and Open Mic Night on Friday.

Davis and Ewing, performers in the long-running musical "Forever Plaid," continue with their musical careers. Ewing is a cast member of "Phantom," now playing at the Venetian.

The reJAVAnate Coffee Lounge, at 3300 E. Flamingo Road at Pecos, is in the Renaissance III Shopping Plaza, next to Food 4 Less. The store is open from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. 702-253-7721, reJAVAnateCoffee.com.

JAVA JUNGLE, RENO

Java Jungle always seems to be bustling: The jumble of old and new furniture sits on a mosaic tile floor and is surrounded by green plants and murals of clouds and wild animals. Customers take advantage of the free wireless Internet or grab a cup of gourmet coffee and a House of Bread pastry or sandwich to go. In the summer, crowds of people lounge on the patio and spill into Reno's Truckee River Whitewater Park's plaza. Music is provided by the pierced baristas and their iPods.

Java Jungle owner Matt Polley opened a sleek wine bar, Jungle Vino, next door in December 2004. The long, narrow room with its old wood bar is a great spot to warm up with mulled wine on winter nights. On the third Saturday of each month, Jungle Vino is one of the stops on the Truckee River Wine Walk.

Java Jungle, 248 West First Street, and Jungle Vino, 246 West First Street, are open from 6 a.m. to midnight daily. 775-329-4484, qmcorp.com/edge/merchants/java_jungle.

COFFEEHOUSES

AROUND THE STATE

Of course, you can't walk more than a block in almost any city in the country without encountering Starbucks. In Las Vegas, you'll see the familiar logo in many casinos; below we note two. We also visit three homegrown coffee spots.

TREASURE ISLAND STARBUCKS

On the Strip, close to Mystère Theatre. 3300 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-894-7304, starbucks.com.

GOLDEN NUGGET STARBUCKS

Downtown Las Vegas, indoor-outdoor seating. Customers can watch the Fremont Street action. 129 E. Fremont St., 702-386-8187, starbucks.com.

COWBOY JOE

Cowboy poetry meets Seattle-grunge band at this downtown favorite. 376 5th St., Elko. 775-753-5612.

DELIZIOSO

Check your email or relax in this cozy locals' hangout. 508-A W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, 775-625-1000.

JAVA WORLD

Locals love the homemade pastries like coffee cake and cinnamon streusel muffins. 55 S. Maine St., Fallon. 775-428-2400.





Art lines the walls of these three Nevada coffeehouses:
 Gardnerville's Shady Grove (top), reJAVAnate Coffee Lounge
 in Las Vegas (left), and Java Jungle in Reno (right).

PHOTOS: MATT SMITH (TOP), SHELLY DONAHUE (LEFT), JOYCE HOLLISTER (RIGHT)

endless possibilities

A MontBleu chef's take on food mirrors Tahoe resort's sleek makeover

BY MATTHEW B. BROWN

AS A BOY, BRAD NUSS scarfed Italian Sunday dinners at his grandmother's house and learned how to craft a mean meatball spaghetti. But the budding chef in him envisioned a world beyond pasta dishes. "Endless possibilities," says the Reading, Pennsylvania native when asked why he loves cooking. It turns out Nuss's maxim on food also describes dining at MontBleu, where he is executive chef at South Lake Tahoe's newest casino and resort.

Advertising itself as "cosmopolitan by nature," the former Caesars features a sleek line of dining options. Nuss played a central role in the menu creation for Ciera Steak and Chophouse, del Soul Mexican Grill, 20 Four Continuous Cuisine, and the unbuffet, which emphasizes quality. The four eateries, plus the Zone Race and Sports Book and Starbucks Coffee, opened in 2006 and are an integral part of the MontBleu extreme makeover that includes the Blu Nightclub, HQ Center Bar, and Opal Ultra Lounge.





CIERA CRAB CAKES

Brad Nuss (left), executive chef at MontBleu, offers his recipe for this tantalizing appetizer served at Ciera Steak and Chophouse.

- 1 pound cooked jumbo lump crab meat
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1/2 red pepper, finely minced
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 3 tablespoons bread crumbs
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon Tabasco
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning
- 1 teaspoon olive oil

Lightly sauté

the pepper and garlic in olive oil. In a bowl combine the sautéed mixture along with egg, Worcestershire sauce, mayo, mustard, lemon juice, Old Bay, and Tabasco. To the mixture add the crab meat and bread crumbs. Fold the mixture gently to avoid breaking up the lumps. Allow the mixture to sit in the refrigerator for at least a half hour but not more than overnight.

Divide the crab mixture into five equal-sized portions for appetizers, or six equal portions serving two for an entrée. Sprinkle the crab cake with additional bread crumbs. In a sauté pan, sauté the crab cakes in olive oil until they are golden brown, flip them over and cook until they are brown on the second side. Serve.

The crab cakes can be served with many different accompaniments. "We serve them at Ciera with mizuna greens and a chipotle remoulade," Nuss says. "I suggest serving them with baby greens tossed in a light citrus-based vinaigrette." The greens and the vinaigrette will be light and refreshing on the palate, pairing well with the rich crab cakes.



DINING AT MONTBLEU RESORT CASINO & SPA

Address: 55 Highway 50, Lake Tahoe, NV 89449

Web site: montbleuresort.com/dining.php

Reservations: 800-648-3353

20 FOUR CONTINUOUS CUISINE

The Look: A warm, nostalgic atmosphere transcends the '50s diner (opposite page)

The Taste: American comfort food 24/7

Must Try: Shake, six different flavors (\$3.50); meatloaf dinner (\$13.50)

The Time: All day, every day

CIERA STEAK + CHOPHOUSE

The Look: Stylish and chic, yet intimate, fine-dining atmosphere

The Taste: Savory cuts of meat, fresh seafood, and a wide variety of wines and champagnes

Must Try: Crab cake (\$12), 32-oz. cowboy ribeye steak dinner (\$49)

The Time: Dinner only: 5:30 to 10 p.m., Sunday to Thursday; 5:30 to 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday

DEL SOUL MEXICAN GRILL

The Look: Colorful Southwestern décor with a vibrant bar

The Taste: Wash down authentic and California-style Mexican food with a custom margarita

Must Try: Chicken flautas (\$14.50), tacos al carbon (\$16.50)

The Time: Dinner only: Bar and lounge open 4 p.m. to 1 a.m., daily; restaurant open 5 to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday

THE UNBUFFET

The Look: Clean and spacious; plenty of room on the table for all your plates

The Taste: Sets a precedent for freshness

Must Try: Prime rib, rotisserie chicken

The Time: 5 to 9 p.m., Sunday to Thursday (\$14.95 per person); 5 to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday (\$19.95 per person)

Nuss, 29, arrived at MontBleu late in 2005 as a traveling chef for Columbia Entertainment Corporation, a subsidiary of Columbia Sussex, which purchased the property in June 2005. He was offered a job and couldn't resist the challenge of inventing MontBleu's dining experience. "We made 200 soufflés—if not more—before we got it right," says Nuss, who struggled to perfect one of Ciera's desert delicacies in Tahoe's high altitude. Nuss learned how to prepare the zesty Mexican dishes that are del Soul staples and helped open six restaurants in six months. "We went from zero to 60 in one day," he says. "It was crazy around here."

At age 21, Nuss graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. In three years, he became executive chef at Marriott in Williamsburg, Virginia. He was working in the Cayman Islands when he was summoned to MontBleu. "I came here for what was supposed to be three weeks—it's been a year," he says, laughing. It's a busy life compared with his younger days in Reading, where his mother and grandmother's dedication to food clearly rubbed off. "I knew when I was 10 years old what I wanted to be the rest of my life," Nuss says.

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beyond THE LOUNGE

revolution

Vegas ultra lounges fill a niche between relaxation and a driving beat.

BY MIKE WEATHERFORD

JUST WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ULTRA LOUNGE—a buzzword tossed around so freely in the new Las Vegas, yet one that's lacking a standard definition?

Larger nightclubs are known for "a DJ, driving music, and a dance floor," while a regular lounge is "a place you want to relax," says Jean-Francois Bouchard, a Cirque du Soleil creative director. So he figures the ultra lounge—including the new Revolution that he guided through development at The Mirage—must fall somewhere between.

You can relax with a martini, Bouchard says in English heavily accented with his native French, but there is a DJ, "and it's possible you dance on the table or on the floor or on the bar. It's possible you even dance in the bathroom."

So there you have it. The danceable bathroom and other design secrets behind some of the biggest little hotspots on the Strip.

REVOLUTION

You see the name of this Beatles song in 11-foot letters on the outside. But once you go in, the only letters illuminated from the reverse side spell out "LOVE"—your clue if you still need one that the new lounge is a counterpart to the Mirage's Beatles-themed Cirque du Soleil show. The club designed by several Cirque artisans evokes the Beatles while avoiding a literal, Hard Rock museum-memorabilia approach. "For me it was very important to be timeless," Bouchard says.

octane



trig



pussycat dolls lounge



tabu



When Bouchard visited the famed Abbey Road Studios in London for inspiration, the first thing to strike him was the respectful graffiti on the outside walls. Bouchard's team decided it would be cool if Las Vegas lounge lizards could write their own messages on the tables with a finger. When the maitre d' comes by and swipes his hand across your "like magic" table, your artwork is transmitted to a wall for all to see.

TRIQ

TRIQ belongs to Steve Wyrick, the first Las Vegas magician to operate his own club. The ultra lounge is a component of Wyrick's theater complex in the Desert Passage mall next to the Aladdin (soon to be Planet Hollywood). The lounge will double as a staging area for those holding tickets to Wyrick or three roommate shows in the 500-seat theater upstairs. But there won't be anyone doing card tricks at the tables.

"It's built for club kids," Wyrick says. "I really wanted to capture that niche in the marketplace." That said, Wyrick didn't entirely abandon the traditions of stage illusion. "I designed it to be very mystical, as far from industrial [design] as I could go," he says of the project overseen by architect Lindell Mains.

Curves, circles, and orbs produce a circular effect, Wyrick says. The white onyx bar is trimmed with red neon backlighting pieces of polished shattered glass. Lights are aimed through crooked lattice work to throw odd silhouettes and shadows all over the walls.

There is one magic trick of sorts: A kiosk that sells magic merchandise in the early evening transforms itself into a shot bar as the night goes on.

PUSSYCAT DOLLS LOUNGE

Even if nobody ever heard of a Pussycat Doll, this Caesars Palace venue would likely succeed merely by being attached to the insanely popular Pure nightclub. But club operator Robert Frey hit the daily double when the Pussycat Dolls went on to become a brand in their own right. Founder Robin Antin was casting a second troupe of singer-dancers to open the Las Vegas lounge in April 2005 when the original L.A.-based Dolls released "Don't Cha," the first of five hit singles.

The Dolls' crib is the rare ultra lounge to offer live performances, a salute to the days of burlesque, with two stages, a giant champagne glass, and two swings. The design strives for "an intimate feeling," Frey adds, with dark woods, leather chairs, and marble tables.

"It has a very easy feel to it. It's for people who want to experience a nightclub but don't necessarily want to dance," Frey says. "They want to be entertained."

HOT VEGAS HANGOUTS

Nothing better sums up Las Vegas' ever-pliant ability to change and adapt: The puppet show at the Excalibur, hailed as part of a new family direction for the city in 1993, is now a lounge called **Octane**, complete with bartenders in black biker leather.

Though not an "ultra lounge" per se—one difference being the now old-fashioned presence of live entertainment—Octane carries on the "flair" tradition of having the staff break into dance routines when the classic rock overtakes them. excalibur.com

The new room joins other hot hangs:

Tabu The king of the small clubs reigns at the MGM Grand. Some tables are reinforced to dance upon. Others are "interactive" with changing designs. mgmgrand.com

Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce This small room at Mandalay Bay is inspired by back-alley burlesque clubs of the 1950s. Every 90 minutes or so, things come to a halt for a burlesque routine by women schooled in the old ways. fortydeuce.com

Tangerine This Treasure Island hotspot is divided into indoor and outdoor areas. The former offers its own brand of burlesque, while the outside patio has a prime view of the "Sirens of TI" pirate battle. treasureisland.com

CONTACT

Beatles Revolution Lounge,

mirage.com

Triq, triqlv.com

Pussycat Dolls Lounge, caesars.com

**CLASSY CHIC**

Paint the town red in an elegant knee-length bubble dress, cinched high on the waist for a graceful look that lengthens and flatters on the dance floor or by the bar.

Bubble dress, \$88, brass buckle belt, \$38, Kirby crisscross peep-toe, \$128. bananarepublic.com or Banana Republic stores nationwide.

**URBAN SEXY**

Dress up a tank top with brazen jewelry and a knit conductor's hat, and not only will you stay cool on the dance floor, your hair will stay in place.

Gap (PRODUCT) RED tank top, \$28. gap.com or Gap stores nationwide.

Burton K-Moss beanie, \$25. burton.com.

Thea Grant jewelry. theagrants.com.

**HOLLYWOOD CASUAL**

Contrast sleek denim with a cherry-red T-shirt for a look that will take you through cocktail hour deep into the night. We suggest Nine West's Lilianna platform heel with this outfit...because even Penelope Cruz couldn't get into a club barefoot.

Gap (PRODUCT) RED word T, \$28, Gap (PRODUCT) RED jeans, \$150, jacket, \$148. gap.com or Gap stores nationwide.

Lilianna platform heel, \$89.99. ninewest.com.

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A percentage of the sale of (PRODUCT) RED merchandise is given to the Global Fund, which helps women and children affected by HIV/AIDS in Africa. joined.com.

color is back. .and it's red hot!

THE DAYS WHEN BLACK was the only clubbing color are over. Step into the red zone and stand out even amid the lights of the South Strip. The design of today's clubs—such as the Beatles Revolution Lounge in Las Vegas or MontBleu's Opal at South Lake Tahoe—means that the fashion trends are as varied as your experiences.

Don a red-hot cocktail dress one night and your favorite T-shirt under a sleek jean jacket the next. Pair it all with a stiletto heel and hit the dance floor...or the blackjack table...or the plush loveseat by the bar. We'll give you suggestions on how to get dressed, but what goes on afterward? Well, that, as they say, stays in Vegas—or Tahoe.

—ANNE BERNARD



Best of Nevada

2007 Official Ballot

Cast Your Ballot!

10TH ANNUAL
NEVADA MAGAZINE READER'S POLL

PRESENTED BY

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MAGAZINE

Attached to this page is the 10th annual *Nevada Magazine* "Best of Nevada" ballot. We want to know what you think are Nevada's best places and attractions—so please fill out the form and mail it back to us before **March 30, 2007**. The results will appear in the July/August 2007 issue of *Nevada Magazine*.

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at the
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Carson Valley house makes use of recycled materials and energy from the sun.

going green



BY SANDI HOOVER

WITH THE NATION'S second highest number of annual sun-filled days, Nevada is nearly unsurpassed as a place to make use of solar energy. Suzanne Johnson, whose 3,450-square-foot solar home in Northern Nevada has received numerous awards for innovative use of renewable resources, believes more Nevadans could readily afford to "go green."

For example, the cost of the solar radiant heating system is comparable

to what a conventional forced air heating system would be for a house of similar size.

And it is a lovely house. Visitors to Johnson's home often are pleasantly surprised by the confluence of sun-washed rooms and the pervading serenity. "When I moved in, the young men in their 20s who were helping me move said it reminded them of Mr. Miyagi's house in *Karate Kid* because it had such a peaceful feeling," Johnson says.

Rising from the eastern Sierra hillside, Johnson's eco-modern-style home overlooks the Carson Valley. The house, completed in 2004, has two bedrooms, a sleeping loft, an office, a guest house, and three bathrooms. A visitor would never suspect that the walls are made of straw bales or that despite an expanse of windows, Johnson's total power bill runs about \$60 a month.

Skyrocketing costs of heat and electricity and an interest in health-

ful living are compelling more people like Johnson to turn to renewable or “green” resources. Green building materials range from salvaged products, such as the maple wood flooring in some parts of Johnson’s home, to renewable resources, such as the solar panels and the straw bales used to insulate the house.

A retired chemist and computer-science whiz, Johnson moved to Nevada six years ago from the San Francisco Bay Area. She had taken a passive solar and ecological design class and was convinced she could build an environmentally friendly home.

The class instructor, David Arkin of Arkin-Tilt Architects in Berkeley, California, eventually designed Johnson’s house. Her builder, Rick Walters of SAGE Design/Build in Minden, supported their vision. “Rick was not at all fazed by some of the oddities of building this house,” she says, laughing. “We tried very hard for sustainability, to use resources in such a way that future generations would have access to those resources.”

Although a well-insulated home offers greater energy savings and a more comfortable living environment than a drafty one, it can also trap noxious gases such as combustion products and formaldehyde. Hence, the heating system was chosen to avoid combustion, and building materials, paints, and coatings were chosen to eliminate volatile organic compounds. Johnson’s house is completely electric—she uses no gas or fossil fuels. The exterior is outfitted with five kilowatts of solar photovoltaic panels.

“The idea is that I try to generate enough electricity during the day, especially in the summer, to make up for what I use at night and during the winter...when there are long periods of no sun,” she says. Battery backups help her avoid power outages. “I’m a big fan of backup because I do a lot of computer

work, and it helps if the computer stays on.”

The house is oriented toward the sun, a key element in solar design. “I wanted a lot of natural light inside, so it is shaped a certain way and oriented toward the south and east to adjust for the mountains to the immediate west,” she says.

The straw-bale walls were sprayed with an earth-plaster mix containing cement, water, and site soil to create a harmonious blend with the surrounding environment. The interior, except for an area around the fireplace, has a grout wash for a smooth, plastered finish. The plaster is three to six inches thick, and the finished walls are two feet thick.

The home’s décor is what Johnson calls “eclectic and evolving, with a heavy South-western influence.” Recycled materials were used liberally throughout the home, not only for functionality, but to add beauty. The maple hardwood flooring was salvaged from an old school in San Francisco. Broken pieces of purple manganese glass from the Nevada desert sparkle from countertops. Wood from old vinegar barrels make up Johnson’s bedroom ceiling.

“You can get a great deal more character by using recycled materials—and definitely not wind up with something every house on the block has in a different color,” she says.

With so much light and charm, it’s no wonder Johnson is content with her decision to go green.

“I asked for a home with a lot of natural light and many comfortable places to sit and read, without the need for supplemental lighting,” she says. “The overall feeling is one of being peacefully insulated from the rougher elements outdoors—wind, snow, and cold—yet at the same time, very much a part of the surroundings. I like peace and quiet, so this works well for me.”



Opposite page: Photovoltaic panels capture solar energy, and a rooftop garden helps insulate the house. Above: Adjustable airplane wing flaps shade tender plants from the intense summer sun.

CHECK IT OUT

Truckee Home & Building Show: May 25-27, Truckee High School, Truckee, California. 530-587-2955, sigba.org.

Sustainable Living and Renewable Energy Roundup: Bently Science Center, Minden, August 11-12. 775-782-7353.

Smart Living Expo 2007: Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, September 22. 775-746-9310, smartlivingexpo.com.

Northern Nevada Solar Tour: Reno area, October 6. sunrisenevada.org.

NEVADA ONLINE For more green-building information and a glossary of terms, visit nevadamagazine.com.



TOP OF THE LINE

nevada living





IT'S A TRUMP LIFE

DONALD TRUMP BUILDS A LUXURY
CONDO TOWER ON THE STRIP.

BY JESSIE LANGLEY
PHOTOS BY SHELLY DONAHUE

IT'S BEEN CALLED THE ULTIMATE VEGAS ADDRESS.

For Las Vegas real estate investor Al Thomas, the Trump International Hotel and Tower will be the sweetest slice of Manhattan swank transported to the heart of the Las Vegas Strip when it opens in time to ring in 2008.

The entrepreneur said he plans to welcome the new year with friends and family in his one-bedroom unit.

"I'll be in a tuxedo with a bottle of champagne in hand," he said. "My place has a beautiful view, straight down the Strip. You can see everything. This is just like a New York penthouse."

Thomas, who made his fortune in network marketing, paid more than \$2 million for two hotel-condominiums (the other one is a studio) days after the project was announced in 2004 on New York City real-estate mogul Donald Trump's hit TV reality show, "The Apprentice," which airs on NBC. Thomas said he believes the 24-carat gold glass-encased tower "will reinvent the New York of the West Coast."

"We've changed," he says. "We've gone from sleazy gangsters and \$1.99 buffets to a sophisticated city.

This is truly the New York of the West Coast because it is the only city here that never sleeps."

Like many of those who purchased units in the Trump Tower, Thomas has his sights set on renting them out as an investment. He says he has plans to purchase two more of the units, which are priced from \$700,000 to \$7 million. Thomas chose Trump Tower because of Trump's track record and the clientele his New York properties tend to attract.

"I didn't want to buy at several other hotels because I could just see some weekend party warrior tearing it up," he says. "Here I see a gentleman 59 to 60, salt-and-pepper hair, in a tux with his wife going to dinner and a show, and money is not an object."

On the other hand Thomas has some plans of his own for his new digs. He loves that the hotel has 24-hour concierge service, white-gloved doorman included, and he plans to spend weekends shopping at the nearby Fashion Show Mall, taking in a few shows at the Wynn—which is located across the street—and sampling the fine dining at gourmet rooms such as his favorite, Café Ba-Ba-Reeba!, which is in the mall.

DECADENT DIGS

Al Thomas inspects one of the European kitchens equipped with Wolf, Bosch, Dacor, and Sub Zero appliances in the Trump International Hotel and Tower model room on the Strip (opposite page). Thomas purchased two units in the tower, which will house studios, one-, two-, and three-bedroom units and penthouse suites (artist's rendering, above).



"I can just see myself walking across the street to do a little shopping at Nordstrom, bringing the bags over to the doorman to put in my room, and then going back out to see a show and have dinner at the Wynn," he says. "I'm looking for that lifestyle, and when I or my family and friends are not using it, I'll rent it out."

Like many "Trumpies," investors who study Trump's business philosophy, Thomas has a Donald story. "I was showing a friend my unit [at the \$3-million temporary sales office at 3128 Las Vegas Boulevard South, on the northwest corner of the Las Vegas Strip and Fashion Show Lane] when the project manager told me Trump's plane had landed. Ten minutes later I was talking to him. It was amazing."

According to Thomas, Trump, who is known for his attention to detail, asked for Thomas'

opinion on the interior design. "I told him I thought the couch's fabric could be a softer texture. And I thought there could be more space at the end of the bed by removing the footstool," Thomas says. "He later implemented my ideas."

Indeed, Trump is known to be a stickler for details. According to Jack Christie, the project's vice president of sales and marketing, Trump has tweaked the interior look of the units, replacing the marble tile, carpet, and furnishings. In fact, on one Las Vegas visit Trump didn't think the marble in the entry and bath looked elegant enough, so in less than a week he had 18,000 square feet of Breccia Oniciata marble tile shipped from Italy to New York and then to Las Vegas.

"I have never heard him say, 'How much is it going to cost?'" Christie says. "It's always 'Let's do the best.'"

TRUMP LIVING

Remember those old science fiction movies where the guy goes into the bathroom to shave and the mirror turns into a TV? The Trump Tower's new mirror TVs are almost as cool. Thomas checks his tie while watching a video (opposite page, top), and admires the room's Breccia Oniciata Italian marble (bottom). Thomas and his son, Avery, relax in the Trump model room (above).

For more information call 877-878-6711 or visit trump.com.



STRIP SKY LORDS

Sleeping giants are rising above the Las Vegas Strip and luring second-home buyers and investors from across the globe. Here are a few under construction:

■ **COSMOPOLITAN:** Resort and casino with hotel and hotel-condos on the Strip between MGM Mirage's CityCenter Project and the Bellagio. Slated to open in 2009. 702-309-6300, grandlasvegas.hyatt.com.

■ **PANORAMA TOWERS:** This aqua-blue glass high-rise stands 400 feet above Bellagio. The first tower is complete and two more are on the way. Tours available. 702-736-5008, panoramatowers.com.

■ **PROJECT CITYCENTER:** MGM Mirage's \$7-billion Project CityCenter opened its \$24-million sales center with two scale models on January 1. The project, to open in late 2009, will include hotels, casinos, dining, and retail outlets. 702-590-5999, citycenter.com.

■ **THE RESIDENCES AT MGM GRAND:** MGM Mirage and Turnberry Ltd. began building condo-hotels two years ago. Towers A and B are sold out. When the last, Tower C, is completed next year, the entire project will be called Signature at MGM Grand. 702-891-5555, mgmgrandresidences.com.

■ **SKY LAS VEGAS:** This high-rise near the Stratosphere will open later this year. In addition to penthouse suites, the development offers three-story units with rooftop garden patios. 702-877-4759, skylasvegas.com.

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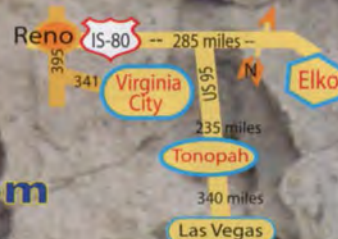
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RACING

feature





HOMETOWN HEROES

[BROTHERS KURT AND KYLE BUSCH MAKE
LAS VEGAS NASCAR FANS PROUD.]

WHEN LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY is packed with revved-up racing fans for the 10th annual UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 on March 11, the Busch brothers—Kurt and Kyle—will serve as the area's ambassadors to NASCAR nation. About 160,000 are expected to attend the race that Sunday afternoon, and none of the 43 stock-car drivers who compete on the 1.5-mile tri-oval will want to win more than Kurt and Kyle, native Las Vegas still yearning for a home-sweet-home celebration in victory lane.

BY JEFF WOLF



NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson has won consecutive Nextel Cup races at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, but just two years ago brothers Kyle and Kurt Busch captivated their hometown fans by taking second and third, respectively. In 2006, Kyle drove his No. 5 Kellogg's car—next to Kurt's Miller Lite-sponsored No. 2 on the previous page—to a third-place finish. Native Las Vegas, the Busch brothers (top pictures, page 42) have been competitive racers since they were young teenagers.

NASCAR WEEKEND

Where: Las Vegas Motor Speedway

When: March 9-11

Practice and Qualifying
Friday, March 9

Sam's Town 300 (Busch Series)
Saturday, March 10

UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 (Nextel Cup)
Sunday, March 11

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Worth a Click:

nascar.com
kurtbusch.com
kylebusch.com

In 2005, a Vegas victory narrowly escaped both brothers. In his first full NASCAR Nextel Cup season, Kyle was runner-up to Jimmie Johnson at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Kurt took third, his best finish at the speedway during his six-year career on the Cup circuit. Johnson won again in 2006, and Kyle finished third.

The speedway, which opened in 1996, has hosted the largest crowd for a sports event west of Fort Worth, Texas, every year since its first Cup race in 1998. The Vegas stop has grown increasingly more popular on the NASCAR tour. This year, the Strip will be inundated with nearly 100,000 visitors—sporting colorful attire of their favorite drivers full of sponsors' logos—each night of NASCAR weekend. Many will wear No. 2 Miller Lite apparel to support Kurt or No. 5 Kellogg's merchandise to back Kyle.

The Busch brothers graduated from Durango High School in southwest Las Vegas and grew up dreaming that they'd be stars on racing's big-time stage. Mission accomplished. Kurt, 28, was the 2004 Nextel Cup champion, and 21-year-old Kyle took 2005 Cup rookie-of-the-year honors. The annual race weekend in their hometown gives them an opportunity to see old friends, and it's the trip of the year for most drivers, crew members, and sponsors. The track is roughly 10 miles from world-class resorts and casinos, in contrast to most other tour stops.

For the brothers, Las Vegas isn't for frequenting top restaurants or gambling and entertainment. It is a return to the area where they honed their racing skills. Credit for on-track nurturing goes to their father, Tom, while responsibility for classroom prowess goes to their mom, Gaye. Tom worked as a mechanic and later owned a tool sales route. Gaye was a secretary for the Clark County School District.

"I got a good basis in car mechanics from my father," Kurt said. "He wanted us to know the fundamentals and setup and all the geometry needed for making cars win races." Kurt adds that if he and Kyle didn't work on their cars and carry good grades, they weren't allowed to race.

Kurt was 14 when he began racing at Pahrump Valley Speedway with his dad in Dwarf cars, which are low-budget replicas of 1940s race cars powered by motorcycle engines. Four years later he was racing entry-level stock cars at what is now the Bullring at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Kurt won at every level and combined his verve with his dad's training to become an elite NASCAR driver. Kyle, who started racing in the Legends series at age 13, has emulated Kurt and been

victorious in every series in which he's competed.

Their parents moved to Las Vegas from the Chicago area in 1977 five years after visiting the city on their honeymoon. Tom and Gaye had no idea Nevada would be fertile ground for their sons to become millionaires before turning 23.

"It's amazing how different forks in the road come up in life before you're even conceived," Kurt says. "Who knows? If my parents hadn't moved to Las Vegas, I [could] be racing on dirt tracks in the Midwest."

In an already distinguished career, Kurt has won 15 races and nine poles and posted 50 top-five finishes. He's won \$36 million for Roush Racing and Penske, the team he joined before the 2006 season. Kyle didn't take long to make an impact on the Cup circuit. After one year in the Busch Series, when Kyle was rookie of the year with five wins and second in points, he moved up to NASCAR's premier series in 2005 with Hendrick Motorsports and registered one victory, nine top-fives, and one pole. Last year, he finished 10th in points. In his short career he has generated \$9.5 million in winnings for his team. The annual income for Kurt and Kyle has been estimated to be between \$3 and \$5 million.

A few years ago the Busch families moved to the Charlotte, North Carolina area, which is the hub for NASCAR drivers and teams. But they continue to carry the banner for Las Vegas on the racing circuit.

Kurt touts area attractions like Red Rock, Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, and nearby sand dunes where he enjoys occasional forays. "I'll always have warm fuzzies for Las Vegas," says Kurt.

Kyle was too young to be a club hopper before last May, but he was never overeager to explore Vegas' city life. He prefers visiting the Fast Lap indoor go-karting facility west of the Strip. "That's a blast," he says.

Kurt tries to visit Las Vegas at least six times a year. His vacation philosophy is like that of many visitors. "I try to stay at as many places as I can to experience them and the people," Kurt says. "It's a great time. The nightlife has been on a speeding elevator straight up 100 floors since I moved away."

The racing elevator the Busch brothers have been riding has shot up even faster.

GLORY ROAD

Kurt Busch: Six full Nextel Cup seasons (2001-06); 2004 Nextel Cup Champion; 2000 Craftsman Truck Rookie of the Year.

Kyle Busch: Two full Nextel Cup seasons (2005-06); 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year; 2004 Busch Rookie of the Year.

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SummitRacing.com Nationals, NHRA drag racing, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, April 12-15, nhra.com, lvms.com, 800-644-4444, 702-644-4444

AMA Supercross, Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, May 5, supercross.cc.com, unlvtickets.com, 702-739-FANS

SCORE Terrible's Cup III, Las Vegas Motor Speedway Dirt Track, July 19-21, score-international.com, lvms.com, 800-644-4444, 702-644-4444

SCORE Las Vegas Primm 300, Desert Race, Primm, September 7-9, score-international.com, 818-225-8402

NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, September 22, nascar.com, lvms.com, 800-644-4444, 702-644-4444

U.S. Open, Supercross, MGM Grand Garden Arena, October 12-14, ussx.com, 800-929-1111, 702-474-4000

ACDelco Las Vegas Nationals, NHRA drag racing, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, October 25-28, nhra.com, lvms.com, 800-644-4444, 702-644-4444

LVMS TRADES SMOOTHNESS FOR SPEED

The 1.5-mile tri-oval at Las Vegas Motor Speedway was as smooth as any racing surface on the NASCAR circuit, and Kyle was one driver who scratched his head when he learned nearly all of it was to be ripped out and rebuilt.

Kyle had reason to be leery. He finished third in the 2006 Nextel Cup race at the speedway, the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400. "I didn't think anything was wrong with the old track," Kyle says during a December testing session.

But track officials believed the fan experience needed to be enhanced. Two changes nearly doubled the banking in the four corners to about 20 degrees and narrowed the entrance into the corners to produce more exciting racing.

About a month after the March 2006 race at the facility between Interstate 15 and Nellis Air Force Base, a fleet of construction vehicles moved in to begin a \$35-million modernization project of the 11-year-old complex. Work on the race track is only part of the changes that will greet fans on NASCAR weekend, March 9-11.

Pit road has been moved 200 feet closer to the main grandstand to provide spectators with a close-up view of pit-stop action. Demolition included the massive media center and three of four race-car garages.

In their place, a more compact media building sits across from the start/finish line. The biggest impact on those attending the Cup race and the Busch Series Sam's Town 300 the previous day will be the new Neon Garage infield area.

Four new garages have been built in a diamond formation, creating a large, open-air venue with concession stands and a performance stage for those who purchase Neon Garage passes. The two-story garages have windows on both levels where fans can watch teams work.

But the main reason people attend racing events is for the competition, and speeds are certain to be substantially higher than in previous years. During the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series race in September 2006, the only race held on the new track, qualifying records were shattered by nearly 15 mph.

Kyle thinks the Cup and Busch series cars also will be faster. "Right now we're running 30-seconds flat," he says of his December test laps. Ryan Newman won last year's Vegas pole with a lap of 31.080 seconds at 173.745 mph. The track record was set in 2004 by Kasey Kahne at 30.874 seconds at 174.904 mph.

Vegas has lost its reputation for being a smooth track. "It's pretty bumpy, but it's not that bad. It won't affect the racing," Kyle says.



CONTACT

For more information or to order tickets, visit vegasgrandprix.com or call 877-795-RACE. To volunteer, see the Web site or call 702-944-8661.

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VEGAS STREET PARTY

There is no more distinct and thrilling sound than the high-pitched whine of 750-horsepower open-wheel race cars zipping through city streets at 180 mph. These sights and sounds will greet Las Vegas visitors, April 6-8, when the inaugural Vegas Grand Prix invades Glitter Gulch.

The lightweight, aerodynamic, rear-engine machines, sporting bright colors and wings, have never navigated the streets of Las Vegas, although they did run on the Caesars Palace parking lot from 1981 to 1985 and for two years—2004 and 2005—on the Las Vegas Motor Speedway tri-oval.

With a five-year agreement—and an option for five more—the Vegas Grand Prix will add its brand of adrenaline to the city for years to come, offering a combination of concerts, boxing matches, poker tournaments, extreme sports demonstrations, and world-class auto racing.

The internationally televised Vegas Grand Prix will kick off the 2007 Champ Car World Series season and bring back one of the city's lost

attractions. Motor sports were once a downtown fixture every April from 1968 to 1985 when Fremont Street hosted tech inspection for the annual Mint 400 Desert Race. The event attracted crowds of people each year as about 400 off-road vehicles were reviewed prior to the annual race.

"The Mint 400 tech inspection used to draw thousands of spectators, and I'm certain that Champ Car racing will attract the type of crowd that we haven't seen downtown for years," said K.J. Howe, former race director of the Mint 400 and special consultant for the Vegas Grand Prix.

The Vegas Grand Prix will host a full slate of open-wheel racing—a term for cars with the wheels located outside the car's main body—including Champ Car, Champ Car Atlantic, and Historic Grand Prix events. The race course, starting at South Grand Central Parkway, will be 2.44 miles in length and include a challenging 12-turn route that rips past the Clark County Government Center and circumnavigates Fremont Street and the downtown casinos.—Mike Henle



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Q&A with Harry Reid



Nevada's senior senator reflects on past campaigns and future issues

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada, 67, grew up in Searchlight—a mining town 60 miles south of Las Vegas. His father was a miner; his mother raised four sons in a cabin without indoor plumbing. Reid boarded with a family while attending Basic High School in Henderson. One of his teachers was Mike O'Callaghan, who in 1970 became Nevada's governor; 30-year-old Reid was lieutenant governor, the youngest in Nevada history. Reid also served in the Nevada Assembly, as well as two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives beginning in 1983. Reid won his fourth term in the U.S. Senate in 2004 and was unanimously elected by Senate Democrats as the minority leader. He became majority leader when the Democrats gained control of Congress after last November's election. Just before Christmas, Reid talked with *Nevada Magazine* editor Joyce Hollister before going home to his wife of 47 years, Landra, in Searchlight.

Q How did your childhood in Searchlight work as a source of motivation in your career?

A Where you're brought up has tremendous impact on you. I think as a result of my upbringing I can relate to people who don't have much. I try to be aware of people who are down and out, people who don't have as much as I and others have.

Q Could you describe for our readers what the majority leader does?

A The majority leader is the leadership position of the majority party that runs the senate. He determines what legislation is brought to the floor, schedules the senate, appoints the committee members. In recent years Sen. [Bob] Dole has been majority leader, Sen. [Tom] Daschle, Sen. [Robert] Byrd, Sen. George Mitchell from Maine, Lyndon Johnson, and Mike Mansfield—people like that.

Q Since you've been in Washington, have people from other states changed their opinion about Nevada?

A I can remember when people thought Nevada was just a place for dumping nuclear waste and other things that people don't want. I think people have come to realize that Nevada is a beautiful state. We have great wilderness areas with deer, elk, mountain sheep, mountain goats. We have Lake Tahoe—which we share with California—that Mark Twain said was the fairest place in all the earth. We have the bright lights of Las Vegas and Reno. It's a great state to represent, and I think more people learn about it from my being in Washington.

Q What is the future of Yucca Mountain?

A One thing that Nevadans have agreed on, Democrats and Republicans, is that Yucca Mountain is not good for Nevada. In addition to that, people from all over the country believe that Yucca Mountain is not good because it affects them, because the most poisonous substance known to man, plutonium, would have to be hauled on our highways and railways, right by schools, churches, people's homes. I don't believe that's ever going to happen.

Q It seems to be important to you to stay in touch with the rural folks...

A I think John Kerry lost the [presidential] election because he didn't communicate with rural America. I'm from rural Nevada, and I think rural Nevada is important. In this last election that was proven in Nevada. John Kerry won in Reno, won in Las Vegas. He did better in Reno than any Democrat had done in many, many elections, so he came out of Reno and Las Vegas ahead, but he failed to do very well in the 15 rural counties. He lost an average of two to one in all those counties and lost the election by 2 percent. That's why I campaign in rural counties.

Q I have read that you are a former amateur boxer. What did you like about the sport, and how has the experience helped you?

A I wouldn't recommend it for any young person [laughs], quite frankly. I really wouldn't. I'm not certain why I did it. [Maybe] it was to prove to myself how tough I was.

Q How do you react to criticism?

A One time when I was lieutenant governor, I was waiting to go speak to a large group of people. While I was waiting, I heard someone say, "I just can't stand him" — talking about me. Oh, that broke my heart, but after the speech was over I thought, "I don't know that person; that person doesn't know me." I thought he must feel about me the way I feel about the New York Yankees. I hate the New York Yankees. I don't have a real good reason why, but I do. It's really serious with me. Any World Series is good if they don't win it. That's how I feel about people who criticize me. It's the New York Yankees syndrome. They don't know who I am. I'm confident if I got to know them, and they got to know me, we'd get along a lot better.

Q You have five children and 16 grandchildren. Do you ever get a chance to be together all at one time?

A We get together for a family vacation every year in August. The grandchildren range in age from 16 to little babies. I have one named Harry. That's my next-to-last grandchild. When my son called us to tell us, "We're going to name the baby Harry," I didn't realize how happy that would make me. As soon as I got over the elation, I called my other four children—and disowned them. Because you see they had opportunities.... [laughs] One of my boys, when I gave him the speech about disowning him, said, "But Dad, I had girls."

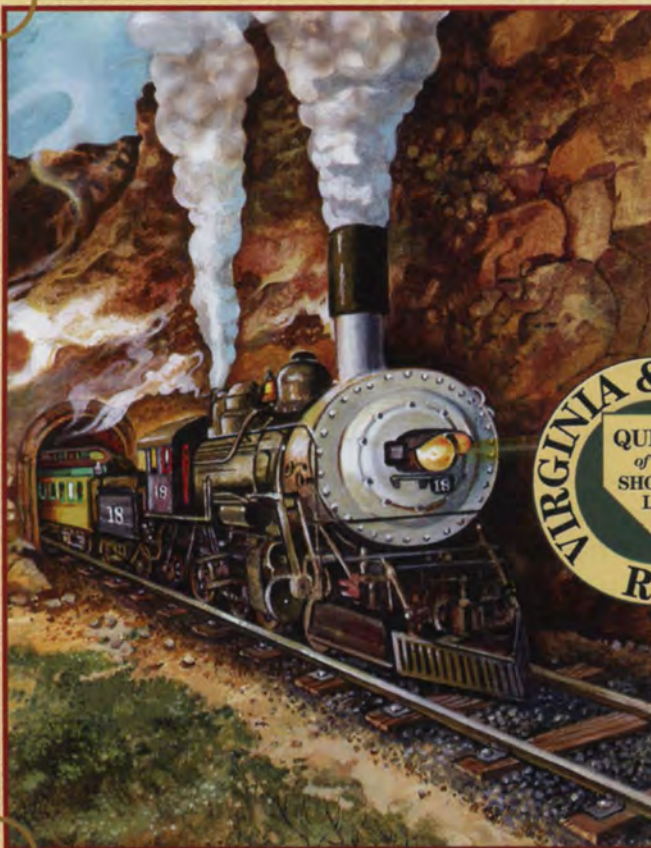
Q You've read *Nevada Magazine* for many years...

A I read it religiously.

Q Did you see that in our January-February issue, we had a story on Great Basin National Park?

A That's my park, you know. I'm proud of my work to create it, and I want to continue protecting Nevada's beauty. We're doing some of that now at Lake Tahoe, but I'm hoping to do more as majority leader. We can always do more.

NEVADA ONLINE 
For more of the interview
with Sen. Harry Reid visit
nevadamagazine.com.



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800-NEVADA-1 • visitcarsoncity.com

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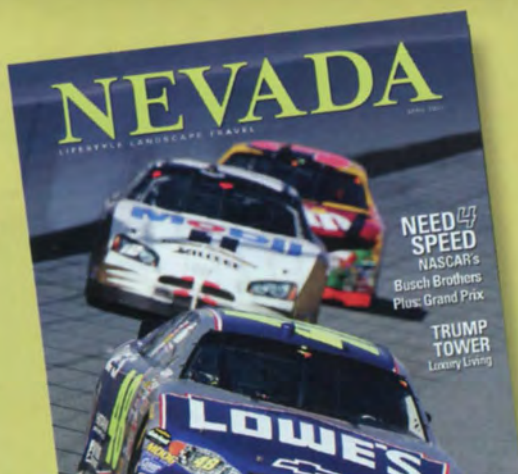


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www.jackpot-nevada.org

JACKPOT
Nevada

PHOTOS BY JOSEPH ROYER

See How We've Changed.



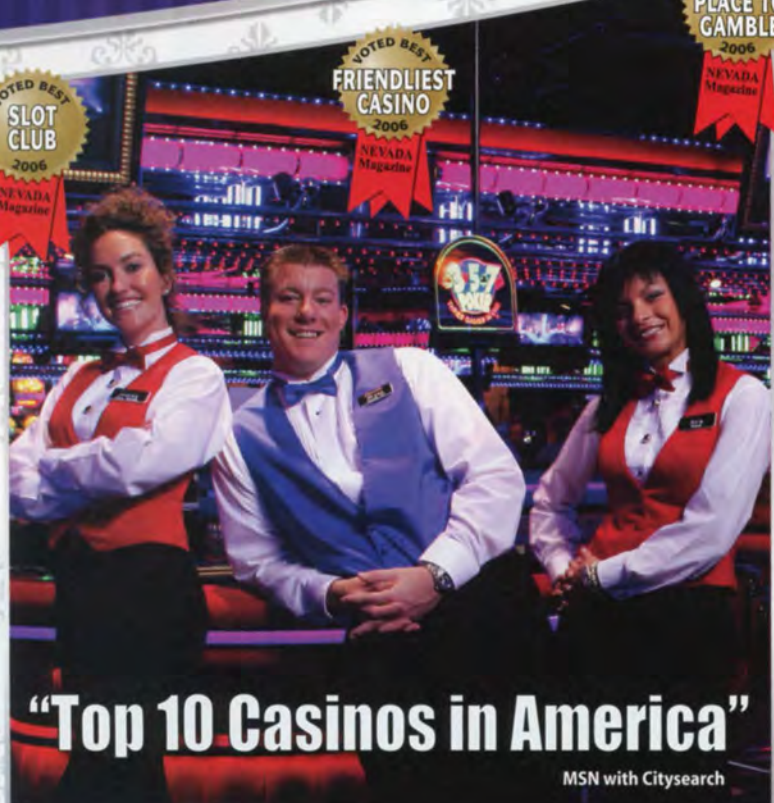
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EDITOR'S CHOICES

Check the listings for more headliners.



■ Celine Dion,
Caesars
Palace

■ Wayne Brady,
Silver Legacy

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

4

Hot Ticket ►

"The Producers," starring hunky David Hasselhoff, plays at Paris Las Vegas.

877-374-7460
parislasvegas.com



6

Free Entertainment Alert!

Nightly concerts & laser shows, Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas.

702-678-5600
vegaseperience.com



12

◀ Ronn Lucas

Ventriloquist & his sidekick, Scorch, appear afternoons at the Aladdin.

702-650-5081
vegas.com



18

Ye Be Stylin'

Freestyle skiers head for the slopes for the Pinball Rally in Truckee, CA.

800-GO-NORTH
northstarattahoe.com

19

Looking Back

Nevada becomes the first state to legalize gaming in 1931.



20

25

Check Out America

It's a good time to visit the Ansel Adams photo exhibit at Bellagio.

702-693-7111
bellagio.com

26

Movie Star in Virginia City

A historical talk on Mary Pickford and her Nevada ties.

775-688-1190
nevadaculture.org

27

Big Leaguers in Vegas

The Cubs & Mariners square off this weekend, March 30-31.

702-386-7200
lv51.com

march

W E D N E S D A Y

1



◀ In the Extreme

Advanced skiers & boarders
March 1-4 at Lake Tahoe's
Backcountry Festival.

209-258-6000
kirkwood.com

S A T U R D A Y 3

High Kicks

BYU folk dancers appear
in Henderson.

702-267-2171
visithenderson.com



8

◀ Pedal to the Metal

NASCAR fans flood
Las Vegas for the big
weekend, March 9-11.

702-644-4444
lvms.com

9

"Blackjack Bottom"

An original Western
musical plays in Minden
March 9-11, 23-25.

775-782-3670
cvinn.com

10

Eric Clapton

The mega-performer
headlines at the
MGM grand.

702-891-7777
mgmgrand.com

14

◀ Take Your Best Shot

Shooting the West photo
conference runs thru
March 18 in Winnemucca.

775-623-5071
winnemucca.nv.us

15

"AIDA" Rocks

Elton John & Tim Rice's
pop musical plays
Reno March 16-18.

877-840-0457
pioneercenter.com



17

◀ The Red-Haired One!

Carrot Top is the grand
marshal for Henderson's
St. Patrick's Day party.

702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

21

Celebrate Spring

Visit the spectacular
floral display at the
Bellagio Conservatory.

702-693-7111
bellagio.com

22

Saturday Night Date

Check on tickets for the
ballet, "Sleeping Beauty,"
March 24 in Reno.

877-840-0457
pioneercenter.com

23

Hang in There

The Red Rock Rendezvous
rock climbing festival, thru
March 25 in Las Vegas.

800-829-2009
mgear.com/rr

24

Bring Your Ear Plugs!

The big trucks are
in Henderson during
Monster Jam.

702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

28

Do It in the Dirt

Rodeo action at the
Laughlin River Stampede,
March 29-April 1.

702-298-3022
laughlinnevadaguide.com



30

◀ Return of Rock 'n' Roll

Best-selling music
legend Rod Stewart
appears in Reno.

775-784-4444
tickets.com

31

Native American Arts

Dancers, music, and
food this weekend
in Henderson.

702-455-7955
accessclarkcounty.com/parks

EDITOR'S CHOICES

Check the listings for more headliners.



■ Barry Manilow, Las Vegas Hilton

■ Toni Braxton, Las Vegas Flamingo



MONDAY 2

◀ Heading for Wendover

Comedian Jay Leno appears April 6 at the Peppermill.

775-664-2255
wendoverfun.com

TUESDAY 3

Carry a Big Stick

The Las Vegas Wranglers pro hockey team takes on Long Beach.

702-471-7825
lasvegaswranglers.com

8

The Elusive Bunny

Kids scramble for Easter eggs in Genoa.

775-782-8696



10

◀ Party On

"Party Girls," the adult revue at Harveys, plays Tues.-Sat. at Stateline.

800-HARRAHS
harrahs.com

15

Vegas Mobsters

Last night to see the musical "It's Only Business" in North Las Vegas.

702-651-LIVE
ccsn.edu

16

Hilarious & Fun

"Menopause: The Musical" is drawing big audiences to the Las Vegas Hilton.

702-732-5755
lvhilton.com



22

Hot Tunes

Popular musicians perform during the Las Vegas Jazz Society Picnic.

vegasjazz.org



24

◀ Oh, So Rita

Funny lady Rita Rudner is appearing thru Sat. at Harrah's Las Vegas.

702-369-5111
harrahs.com

29

Soap Star in Concert ▶

Kevin Spirtas, former *Days of Our Lives* doctor, performs in Las Vegas.

702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org



april



THURSDAY 5

◀ Street Racing ▶

Downtown becomes a race course for Vegas Champ Car Grand Prix, April 6-8.

702-944-8661
vegasgrandprix.com

FRIDAY 6

Mr. Smooth ▶

Singer Josh Groban headlines at the MGM Grand.

702-891-7777
mgmgrand.com



11

Country Festival

Families expect good times at the Clark County Fair April 12-15 in Logandale.

888-876-FAIR
ccfair.com



13

◀ One of the Boys ▶

Comedian Jim Gaffigan headlines at Mandalay Bay.

877-632-7400
mandalaybay.com

14

Take a Hike

Four-mile ranger-led hike at Cathedral Gorge.

775-728-4460
cathedralgorge_vc@
turbonet.com

18

◀ Comedy & Impressions ▶

Gordie Brown has moved his show to the Venetian on the Strip.

702-733-5000
venetian.com

19

Comic Duo ▶

Ray Romano & Brad Garrett perform April 20-21 at The Mirage.

702-792-7777
mirage.com



21

Going to the Birds

Take binoculars to the Walker Lake Loon Festival in Hawthorne.

775-945-8243
mineralcountychamber.com



26

◀ Harley & Friends ▶

Motorcycle riders party April 25-29 during the Laughlin River Run.

949-502-3434
laughlinriverrun.com

27

Saving the Day

"Orpheus" music protects sailors against the sirens tonight & Sun. in Reno.

877-840-0457
pioneercenter.com

28

Risky Business

Motorcycles race this weekend during the Virginia City Grand Prix.

775-530-6738
vcgp.com



music of the night

Las Vegas version of "Phantom of the Opera" at the Venetian earns its "Spectacular" rating

CHANDELIERS WHIRL OVERHEAD and lightning and fireworks explode onstage during "Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular," the Venetian's version of the classic "Phantom of the Opera." For more than 80 years, the story of unrequited love and vengeance has been playing to movie and live-theater audiences since Lon Chaney Sr. made his debut as the ghoulish Phantom in the 1925 silent movie version.

Special effects and a \$40-million custom-built theater, which features box-seating for a faux 1881 audience, set the Las Vegas concept apart from the dozens of adaptations over the years, including a rock 'n' roll version, "Phantom of the Paradise," in 1974.

Showgoers can expect Andrew Lloyd Webber's score, a full orchestra, colorful spare-no-expense costumes, and

complicated big-budget sets, including the Phantom's underground lair, which is reached by a gondola-style boat. There in the spooky labyrinth, the Phantom (either rotating stars Brent Barrett or Anthony Crivello) and Christine (Sierra Riggess or Elizabeth Loyacano) perform the opera's two most recognizable songs, "The Phantom of the Opera" and "The Music of the Night." Crivello is a Tony Award-winner and graduate of the Broadway "Phantom," as is Tim Martin Gleason who appears as Raoul, Vicomte de Chagny, Christine's love interest.

"Phantom of the Opera" has all the elements of an old-fashioned melodrama, but the Venetian has infused it with a bit of Las Vegas magic, including a Phantom who disappears in a puff of smoke.

—ANN HENDERSON



SHOW NOTES

"Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular" plays nightly except Wednesday at the Venetian in Las Vegas. Tickets cost \$82, \$107, \$132, and \$157 for VIP, which includes tax and fees; beverages extra. For information call 866-641-7469 or 702-414-9000, or visit phantomlasvegas.com.



MORE MESMERIZING MUSIC

From glamorous plays to high-energy bands, Nevada has entertainment choices for any taste.



■ BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY

Above: Known for their trademark suits, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy looks more like '40s-era gangsters than a hot New Orleans-inspired jazz band. The group performs hits such as "Zig Zagitty Woop Woop" and "Don't You Feel My Leg" on March 2-3 at Harrah's Tahoe. Reservations, 800-HARRAHS or harrahs.com.

■ **ZZ TOP** The bearded ones perform March 30-31 at the Hilton Las Vegas, April 20 in Wendover, and April 27-28 at the Laughlin River Run. Described as a mix of Texas blues and Memphis soul, the trio's high-tech rock music evolved from a 1969 psychedelic band. The good-time band's lyrics are often humorous and suggestive. Fans can expect to hear "Waitin' for the Bus/Jesus Just Left Chicago," "Tush," "Gimmie All Your Lovin'," and with enough encouragement from showgoers, "Viva Las Vegas," which they recorded in 1992. Reservations, lvhilton.com, wendoverfun.com, and in Laughlin, 949-502-3434.

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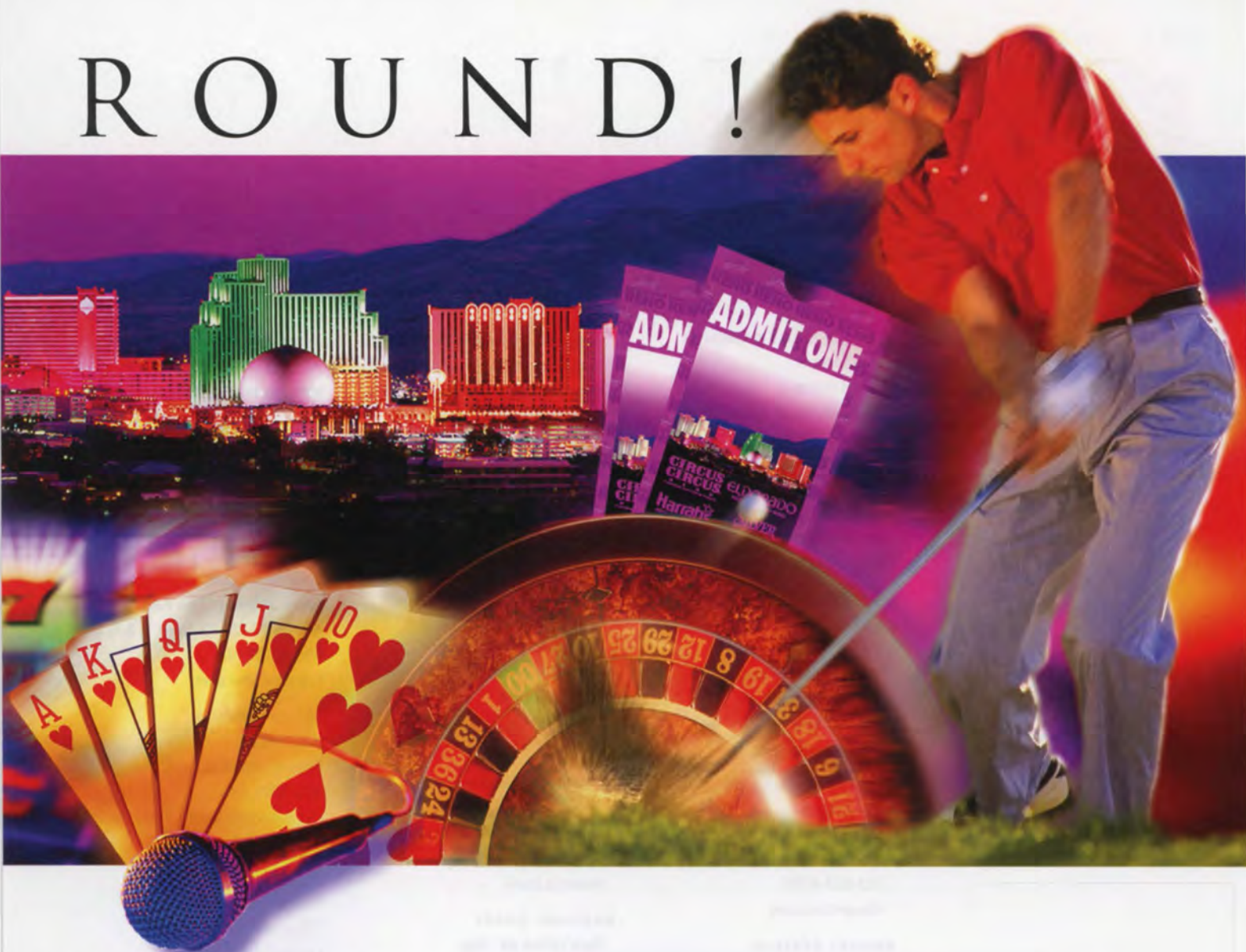
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march/april

Nevada Magazine's guide to Las Vegas area entertainment. Call ahead to confirm details. All performances take place in Las Vegas unless otherwise noted.

GREEN VALLEY RANCH
 Henderson

HEADLINER

Bill Engvall, October 20
 702-617-7777
 The District at Green
 Valley Ranch
 Outdoor concerts TBA
 702-564-8595
 stationcasinos.com

HYATT REGENCY
LAKE LAS VEGAS

Henderson
 Piano music & hors
 d'oeuvres Fri.-Sun.
 702-567-6181
 loewshotels.com

RITZ-CARLTON LAKE
LAS VEGAS

Henderson
 Florentine Tea Sun.-Thurs.
 702-567-4700
 ritzcarlton.com

SUNSET STATION

Henderson

HEADLINER

Al Stewart, March 24
 702-547-7777
 stationcasinos.com

ALADDIN/PLANET
HOLLYWOOD

aladdincasino.com

ONGOING

VTheatre at Miracle Mile Shops
 Fab Four, dark Fri.
 "V," variety show, nightly
 Magician Nathan
 Burton, dark Thurs.
 "Popovich Comedy Pet
 Show," dark Fri.
 702-932-1818
 varietytheater.com
 Steve Wyrick Entertainment
 Complex

Magician Steve Wyrick, dark Fri.
 Ventriloquist Ronn Lucas, dark Fri.
 Singer Martin Niviera, dark Fri.
 "Defending the
 Caveman," comedy
 702-650-5081
 vegas.com
 Harmon Theater
 "Hypnosis Gone Wild,"
 with Johns & Stokes
 Funny Business Comedy
 Club, nightly
 "Sopranos Last Supper,"
 dinner & spoof show
 702-836-0836

BALLY'S LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

"Jubilee!," production
 show, dark Fri.
 "Price is Right," game show
 702-739-4111
 harrahs.com

BARBARY COAST

Pete Vallee as "Big
 Elvis," Mon.-Thurs.
 702-737-7111
 barbarystcoastcasino.com

BELLAGIO

ONGOING

Cirque du Soleil's "O," dark
 Mon.-Tues., April 9-17
 702-796-9999
 cirquedusoleil.com

BOULDER STATION

HEADLINERS

Boney James, March 9
 Loverboy, March 10
 Blue Oyster Cult, March 24
 The Gatlin Brothers, March 30
 Morris Day & The Time, April 13-14
 Eddie Money, April 20
 Sawyer Brown/
 Bucky Covington, April 27
 Alan Parson Live Project, April 28

Jerry Tiffe plays 2-4pm Thurs.
 702-432-7777
 stationcasinos.com

CAESARS PALACE

ONGOING

Celine Dion in "A New Day...,"
 March 1-4, 8-11, 14-18, April 12-
 15, 18-22, 26-29, thru Dec. 15
 877-423-5463
 celinedion.com
 Elton John in "The Red Piano,"
 March 27-28, 30-April 1, 3-4, 6-8
 888-4ELTONJ
 ticketmaster.com

CIRCUS CIRCUS

ONGOING

Free circus acts daily
 702-734-0410
 mgmmirage.com

EXCALIBUR HOTEL

"Tournament of
 Kings," dark Tues.
 "Thunder From Down
 Under," male revue
 Louie Anderson: "Larger
 Than Life," dark Fri.
 702-597-7600
 excalibur.com

FITZGERALDS

ONGOING

Breck Wall's "Bottoms
 Up," comedy revue
 Larry G. Jones, impersonator
 "Spirit of the King,"
 starring Steve Connolly
 702-388-2400
 fitzgeraldslasvegas.com

FLAMINGO LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

George Wallace,
 comedian
 Toni Braxton, "Revealed,"
 thru March
 Society of Seven w/Lani



Sir Elton John,
 Caesars Palace

Misalucha, thru Jan. 1, 2008
"Second City," improv
comedy sketches
702-733-3333
harrahs.com

FOUR SEASONS

ONGOING

Daily Traditional
Afternoon High Tea
702-632-5000
fourseasonshotel.com

GOLD COAST

ONGOING

"Forever Plaid,"
comedy, thru April 1
702-367-7111
goldcoastcasino.com

GOLDEN NUGGET

"Simply Ballroom," thru March
702-386-8100
goldennugget.com

GREEK ISLES

ONGOING

"Tribute to Frank, Sammy,
Joey, and Dean"
"The World's Greatest
Magic Show"
702-737-5540
ratpackres@trpshows.com

HARRAH'S LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

Comedienne Rita Rudner, thru
March 3, 5-6, 8-9, 12-17, 19-31,
April 1-14, 16, 18-21, 23-28
Mac King, comedy magic,
dark Sun.-Mon.
Improv Theater,
comedy, dark Mon.
702-369-5111
harrahs.com

HOOTERS CASINO HOTEL

Lounge entertainment
702-739-9000
hootercasinohotel.com

IMPERIAL PALACE

ONGOING

"Legends in Concert,"
tribute revue, dark Sun.
Dealertainers deal
blackjack to gamblers
Karaoke nightly
702-794-3261
imperialpalace.com

JW MARRIOTT LAS VEGAS

Music nightly
702-869-7777
jwlasvegasresort.com

LAS VEGAS HILTON

HEADLINER

George Lopez, March 2-3
Brooks & Dunn, March 7-10
ZZ Top, March 30-31

ONGOING

Barry Manilow, March 13-17,
21-24, April 3-7, 17-21, 25-28
"Menopause: The
Musical," dark Fri.
702-732-5755
lvhilton.com

LIBERACE MUSEUM

ONGOING

"Musical Tribute to
Liberace w/Wes Winters
702-798-5595, ext. 13
liberace.org

LUXOR

ONGOING

Carrot Top, comedy, dark Tues.
"Fantasy," adult revue
702-262-4555
luxor.com

MANDALAY BAY

HEADLINER

Rascal Flatts, March 10
Jim Gaffigan, April 13

ONGOING

"Mamma Mia!" Broadway
musical, dark Fri.
House of Blues Headliner

Taking Back Sunday, March 10
Jeremy Camp, March 30
877-632-7400
mandalaybay.com

MGM GRAND

HEADLINER

Bob Seger, March 3
Eric Clapton, March 10
Dave Matthews Band,
March 23-24
Josh Groban, April 7

SPORTS

De La Hoya vs. Mayweather
Super Fight, May 5
Coming Soon
Academy of Country
Music Awards, May 15

ONGOING

"KÀ," Cirque du Soleil
production, dark Sun.-Mon.
& March 20, May 13-21
"La Femme," topless
production
702-891-7777
mgmgrand.com

THE MIRAGE

HEADLINER

Jay Leno, March 23-24,
30-31, April 13-14, 27-28
David Spade, March
2-3, Aug. 17-18
Ray Romano, March 9-10
Ray Romano and Brad
Garrett, April 20-21

ONGOING

"Love," Cirque du Soleil
production, dark Tues.-Wed.
Danny Gans, dark Sun.-
Mon. & Thurs.
702-792-7777
mirage.com

MONTE CARLO

ONGOING

Magician Lance Burton,
dark Sun.-Mon.
702-730-7160
montecarlo.com



"Simply Ballroom"
(top), Golden Nug-
get, Las Vegas,
Dave Mathews
Band, MGM Grand



Dennis Miller (top),
The Orleans,
Al Stewart, Sunset
Station, Henderson

NEW YORK-NEW YORK

ONGOING

"Zumanity," adult
production, dark Mon.-
Tues. & April 2-10, June 6
702-740-6969
nynyhotelcasino.com

THE ORLEANS

HEADLINER

Neil Sedaka, thru March 4
The Magic of Rick Thomas,
March 1-3, 5-10, 12-14, 16-
17, 19-24, 26-28, 30-31
Doodlebops Live!,
children's show, March 5
My Chemical Romance, March 7
Bill Engvall, March 8-11
Donny Osmond, March 15-18
Speedway Ice Racing, March 17
Jamz Cheerleaders &
Dance, March 23-25
Sinbad, March 23-25
Jon Lovitz, March 30-April 1
NHL Alumni & Celebrity
Classic, March 31
The Magic of Rick Thomas,
April 2-4, 6-7, 9-11, 13-14,
16-21, 23-25, 27-28, 30
Guns & Horses Charity
Hockey Game, April 5
Dennis Miller, April 6-8
The Temptations, April 12-15
Craig Ferguson, April 20-22
Comedian Richard
Marx, April 27-29
800-ORLEANS
orleanscasino.com

PALACE STATION

ONGOING

Earl Turner, cabaret performer
702-367-2411
stationcasinos.com

PARIS LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

"The Producers," starring
David Hasselhoff

Hypnotist Anthony
Cools, adult material
877-374-7469
parislasvegas.com

THE PLAZA

ONGOING

"Shag with a Twist,"
retro-musical
800-634-6575
plazahotelcasino.com

RED ROCK STATION

HEADLINERS TBA

Lounge entertainment
702-797-7777
stationcasinos.com

RIO ALL-SUITE HOTEL

Penn and Teller, comedy-
magic show, dark Fri. &
March 8-9, April 2-6
"Chippendales: The
Show," male revue
"Erocktica Live!" adult revue
"Tony n' Tina's Wedding,"
dinner theater
702-252-7776
Club 3121
Prince, Fri.-Sat.
Club Azucar w/Grupo
Fantasma, Thurs.
702-777-7776
harrahs.com

RIVIERA

ONGOING

"Riv It Up," Tues.,
Thurs., Sat.-Sun.
"An Evening at La Cage,"
impersonators
"Crazy Girls" adult revue
Riviera Comedy Club, nightly
"Neil Diamond Tribute
starring Jay White"
Hypnotist Dr. Scott
Lewis, Mon. only
"Barbra & Frank: Concert
That Never Was"

"American Storm," male
revue, dark Mon.
702-734-5110
rivierahotel.com

SAHARA

ONGOING

The Scintas, musical revue
Amazing Johnathan,
bizarre magic
Platters, Drifters, &
Coasters, nightly
Trent Carlini: The Dream King
702-737-2515
saharavegas.com

SANTA FE STATION

HEADLINER

Lee Ritenour, March 3
Ty Herndon, March 24
Candy Dulfer, March 30
Brian Culbertson, April 13
Chris Young/Heartland, April 14
702-658-4900
stationcasinos.com

STRATOSPHERE

"American Superstars,"
tribute revue
"Viva Las Vegas,"
musical revue
702-382-4446
stratospherehotel.com

SOUTHPOINT

Silver Dollar Circuit, world-
class horse show
March 13-18
702-796-7111
southpointcasino.com

SUNCOAST

Air Supply, March 2-4
Ragus, the Irish Dance
Show, March 9-11
Gino Vannelli, March 23-25
Trent Carlini, March 30-April 1
Rain, A Tribute to the
Beatles, April 6-8
Frankie Avalon, April 13-15

Najee, April 20-22
Taylor Dayne, April 27-29
702-636-7111
suncoastcasino.com

TREASURE ISLAND

ONGOING

"Mystère," dark Mon.-
Tues. & March 21
702-894-7111
mgmmirage.com

TROPICANA

ONGOING

"Les Folies Bergere,"
production show
"Extreme Magic"
with Dirk Arthur
"The Comedy Stop," nightly
702-739-2411
tropicanalv.com

VENETIAN

ONGOING

"Blue Man Group,"
percussion theater
"Phantom: The Las
Vegas Spectacular"
Dark Wed.
phantomlasvegas.com
Comedian Gordie Brown
702-733-5000
venetian.com

WYNN LAS VEGAS

ONGOING

"Le Rêve," dark Tues.-Wed.
Monty Python's "Spamalot,"
opens March 31, dark Thurs.
702-770-7000
wynnlasvegas.com

AQUARIUS RESORT

Laughlin
Cabaret entertainment
702-298-5111
aquariuscasinoresort.com

EDGEWATER

Laughlin
Entertainment TBA
702-298-2453
edgewater-casino.com

GOLDEN NUGGET LAUGHLIN

DJs Thurs.-Sat.
702-298-7111
gnlaughlin.com

HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN

HEADLINER

Tanya Tucker, April 14
702-298-4600
harrahs.com

RAMADA EXPRESS

Laughlin
Lounge entertainment
702-298-4200
ramadaexpress.com

RIVER PALMS

Laughlin
ONGOING
"Fusion," variety show
702-298-2242
river-palms.com

RIVERSIDE RESORT

Laughlin
Glen Campbell, thru March 3
Roy Clark, March 6-11
Irish Passion, March 13-18
Collin Raye, March 20-25
Trent Carlini: The Dream
King, April 3-8
702-298-2535
riversideresort.com

CASABLANCA

Mesquite
HEADLINER
Randy Travis, March 24
Trace Adkins, April 13
702-346-7529
casablancaresort.com

OASIS

Mesquite
Bands play Tues.-Sun.
702-346-4646
oasis-resort.com

VIRGIN RIVER

Mesquite
Lounge entertainment
702-346-7777
virginriver.com

CANNERY

North Las Vegas

HEADLINER

Viva! Tribute to
Santana, March 2-3
Confederate Railroad, March 9
Rattle and Hum: Tribute
to U2, March 16-17
The Freddy Eckstine
Experience, March 23-24
TG Sheppard and Exile, April 7
The Fabulous
Thunderbirds, April 14
Pure Aloha Festival and
Concert, April 20-22
702-507-5700
cannerycasinos.com

TEXAS STATION

North Las Vegas

HEADLINER

Soul Jam 2007 with The
Stylistics, The Emotions, Harold
Melvin's Blue Notes, The
Delfonics, Cuba Gooding Sr. &
Jimmie J.J. Walker, March 9
Isaac Hayes, April 28
702-631-1001
stationcasinos.com

BUFFALO BILL'S RESORT

Primm
Weekend entertainment
800-FUN-STOP
primmvalleyresorts.com

PRIMM VALLEY

Primm
Weekend entertainment
800-FUN-STOP
primmvalleyresorts.com

WHISKEY PETE'S

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Nightly entertainment
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Blue Man Group
(top), Venetian,
Roy Clark, Riverside,
Laughlin,
Trace Adkins,
Casablanca,
Mesquite

march/april

All listings are in Reno or Sparks unless otherwise noted.
Dates are subject to change, so call ahead to confirm.

reno-tahoe

CARSON NUGGET

Carson City

Bands play in the lounge
775-882-1626
ccnugget.com

CARSON STATION

Carson City

Lounge entertainment
775-883-0900
carsonstation.com

CASINO FANDANGO

Carson City

Music in the lounge
775-885-7000
casinofandango.com

CARSON VALLEY INN

Minden/Carson Valley

Bands play Tues.-Sun.
775-782-9711
cvinn.com

TOPAZ LODGE

Topaz Lake

Bands play Fri.-Sat.
775-266-3339
topazlodge.com

ATLANTIS

HEADLINER

Diamond Rio, March 2-3
775-824-4467
atlantiscasino.com

BOOMTOWN

Verdi

Cabaret entertainment
775-345-6000
boomtownreno.com

CIRCUS CIRCUS

Circus acts daily 11am-10:30pm
775-329-0711
circuscircus.com

ELDORADO

HEADLINER

12 Irish Tenors, thru March 17
775-786-5700
eldoradoreno.com

FITZGERALDS

Music Wed.-Sun.

775-785-3300
fitzgeraldsreno.com

HARRAH'S RENO

ONGOING

"Rock My Ride," adult revue
Thru July 21
"Let The Good Times
Roll," family musical
Thru July 21
775-788-2900
harrahs.com

JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET

HEADLINERS

Craig Chaquico, March 2-3
The Lettermen, March 8-10
Travis Tritt, March 10
Eddie Money, March 16-17
Del McCoury, March 24
Triad, March 31
Three Dog Night, April 6-7
Joe Piscapo's Tribute to
Frank Sinatra, April 13-14
Chris Isaak, April 20-21
775-356-3304
janugget.com

PEPPERMILL

Nightly lounge entertainment
775-826-2121
peppermillreno.com

RENO EVENTS CENTER

HEADLINER

Brooks & Dunn, March 15
800-687-8733
silverlegacypreno.com

SANDS REGENCY

Comedy club, dark Mon.

Bands Wed.-Sun.

775-348-2200
sandsregency.com

SIENA

Jazz on Tues.-Thurs.

775-337-6260
sienareno.com

SILVER LEGACY

HEADLINER

Styx, March 2
George Carlin, March 3
Wayne Brady, March 24
Brian Regan, April 21

ONGOING

Comedy Club, dark Mon.
800-MUST-SEE
silverlegacypreno.com

BILL'S LAKE TAHOE

Stateline

Bands play Fri.-Sat.
775-588-2455
billslaketahoe.com

HARRAH'S LAKE TAHOE

Stateline

HEADLINER

Big Bad Voodoo
Daddy, March 2-3
Michael Crawford, March 17
The Yardbirds, March 31
Paul Anka, April 28
800-HARRAHS
harrahs.com

HARVEYS

Stateline

ONGOING

"Party Girls," adult revue
The Improv, dark Mon.
775-588-2411
harrahs.com

LAKESIDE INN

Stateline

Karaoke, Wed., Fri.-Sat.
775-588-7777
lakesideinn.com



George Carlin
(top), Silver Legacy,
Brooks and Dunn,
Reno Events Center,
and The Lettermen,
John Ascuaga's
Nugget

MONTBLEU RESORT

Stateline

HEADLINER

Chelsea Handler, March 10
775-588-3515
montbleuresort.com

CAL-NEVA RESORT

Crystal Bay

Bands on Sat.
775-832-4000
calnevaresort.com

HYATT REGENCY LAKE TAHOE

Incline Village

Entertainment Wed.-Sat.
775-832-1234
laketahoe.hyatt.com

rural nevada

LONGSTREET INN

Amargosa Valley

Weekend entertainment
775-372-1777

STAGECOACH CASINO

Beatty

Bands Fri.-Sat.
775-553-2419
oasisvalleyhotels.com

COMMERCIAL HOTEL

Elko

Lounge entertainment
800-648-2345, ext. 498
commercialcasino.com

HIGH DESERT INN

Elko

Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.
775-738-8425
playelko.com

RED LION

Elko

Lounge entertainment
775-738-2111
playelko.com

STOCKMEN'S HOTEL

Elko

Bands play in the lounge

800-648-2345, ext. 498
stockmenscasino.com

EL CAPITAN

Hawthorne

Bands play Wed.-Sat.
775-945-3322
elcapitancasino.com

CACTUS PETES

Jackpot

HEADLINERS

Paul Revere & The
Raiders, March 16-17
.38 Special, March 30-31
Ray Price, April 13-14
800-821-1103
ameristar.com/cactus

HORSESHU CASINO

Jackpot

Bands Thurs.-Sun.
775-755-2321
ameristar.com/horseshu

STURGEONS CASINO

Lovelock

Weekend entertainment
775-273-2971

PAHRUMP NUGGET

Pahrump

Bands Thurs.-Sun.
775-751-6500
pahrpumpnugget.com

SADDLE WEST HOTEL

Pahrump

Bands during special events
775-727-1111
saddlewest.com

TONOPAH STATION**RAMADA INN**

Tonopah

Bands on special occasions
775-482-9777
tonopahsta@frontiernet.net

MONTEGO BAY

Wendover

Bands play Tues.-Sun.
775-664-9100
wendoverfun.com

PEPPERMILL

Wendover

HEADLINERS

Foreigner, March 2
JoDee Messina, March 9
Clay Walker, March 10
LeAnn Rimes, March 16-17
Randy Travis, March 23
Jay Leno, April 6
Ronnie Milsap, April 13
ZZ Top, April 30
Paul Anka, April 27
775-664-2255
wendoverfun.com

RAINBOW CASINO

Wendover

Lounge entertainment
775-664-4000
wendoverfun.com

STATE LINE NUGGET

Wendover

Karaoke on weekends
775-664-2221
wendoverfun.com

WINNERS HOTEL

Winnemucca

Entertainment Thurs.-Sat.
775-623-2511
winnershotel.com

MODEL T

Winnemucca

Bands during special events
775-623-2588
modelT.com

CASINO WEST

Yerington

Music on weekends
775-463-2481

DINI'S LUCKY CLUB

Yerington

Music during special events
775-463-2868
dinisluckyclub.com



LeAnn Rimes
(top), and ZZ Top,
Wendover, Chelsea
Handler, MontBleu
Resort

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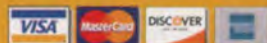


even if you're late¹

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- Approx. 3.5 hours hotel to hotel

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- 1. Airplane: Las Vegas to Hoover Dam & Grand Canyon Western Rim (Return flight to Las Vegas by airplane too!) • 2. Helicopter: Descend 4000 ft from the Rim to the Canyon floor and land down (Return ascent by helicopter too!) • 3. Riverboat: Relaxing 20 minute cruise along the Colorado River • 4. Bus Tour: Scenic tour along the rim with Indian guide • Stand along the Canyon edge • BBQ style meal overlooking Grand Canyon • Approx. 6 hours hotel to hotel

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- Breakfast & lunch rides available from \$99.99 per person

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BY MATTHEW B. BROWN
AND ANN HENDERSON



a dozen spring flings

WACKY WINTER ANTICS AT NORTH TAHOE

At the North Lake Tahoe Snow Festival Parade, it's easy to be mesmerized by snow plows popping wheelies or the marching team with their twirling snow shovels. If you're a woman, though, don't be caught gazing—these are the kind of unsuspecting spectators the Vulcans prey on. Dressed in devilish Viking suits with coal-black faces, it's the Vulcans' job to mark females with the unofficial festival stamp, a sloppy kiss that leaves an unappealing smudge on the victim's face.

Such is the quirky nature of the 10-day North Lake Tahoe Snow Festival, March 2-11, which celebrates its 26th anniversary in 2007. "It's your chance to scream, yell, laugh, and be goofy," says Dana Leonard, a 25-year Tahoe City resident. "It gets the locals through the winter doldrums."

The parade in Tahoe City on March 3 is one of a number of off-the-wall events that make up the festival, which attracts 15,000 to 20,000 people each year, according to executive director Ruth Schnabel. Also on March 3, thousands will line Gar Woods Grill & Pier to watch about 50 good sports plunge into Carnelian Bay. "Those people are a little bit wacky to swim in the lake at that time of year," Schnabel says about the Polar Bear Swim participants.

Opening ceremonies at Squaw Valley USA on March 2 will feature fireworks, a laser show, and a torchlight parade. The next day, children—and those young at heart—can become one with the winter air by participating in the Ice Cream-Eating Contest. There are other kid-friendly events, such as the Dress-Up-Your-Dog Contest at Kings Beach on March 10.

The icy swim is a festival regular, but other attractions keep it fresh. "As old as it is, it runs the risk of becoming stale, but this community has done a good job of coming up with new events that are fun and exciting," Schnabel says. "Nobody ever gets tired of it."



Top to bottom: Snow Festival participant gets a smooch, polar bear swimmers escape frigid waters, and dogs bring glory to their owners.

CONTACT

For a list of events, visit tahoesnowfestival.com.

For specific information, call 530-583-7167.

GIN'S IN, IN ELKO

Drinks are on the house during the Halleck Bar Party, March 9, at the Northeastern Nevada Museum. It's worth repeating: the booze is free, but a \$20 donation is appreciated. The party, which began in 1970 and is a highlight of Elko's social season, is a fund-raiser for the museum in honor of deceased local ranchers Art and Norm Glaser.

The two men lived in Halleck, now a ghost town 30 miles east of Elko, and hoisted a few drinks at the Halleck Bar during its pre-1960 heyday. They restored the saloon's bar, built in 1916, and donated it to the museum on the condition that Beefeater Gin be served at an annual party.

There will be a full bar during the evening, and a toast will be made by the Glasers' descendants.

■ Contact: For information call 775-738-3418 or visit elkocva.com.

FANCY STEPS IN HENDERSON

Dancers dressed in intricate and colorful regalia are the biggest attraction at the 18th annual Invitational Native American Arts Festival, held March 30 to April 1 at the Clark County Museum in Henderson. Participants from several American Indian nations perform traditional dances, such as the Fancy, Hoop, and Jingle. Their clothing's complex beadwork, ribbons, and headdresses can cost thousands of dollars. Much of the dancing has a sense of spirituality and heritage. For example, if an eagle feather—which is sacred to Native Americans—falls during a dance, movement ceases until the feather has been returned to its proper place. As a measure of respect, the audience stands



quietly during the process. Visitors should ask permission before taking photographs.

Between performances, you can wander the marketplace, which features wares from 60 tribal artisans, and sample Indian tacos, fry bread, and buffalo stew.

During the festival you can also tour the museum and its streets featuring early Las Vegas homes. On Friday morning, March 30, the Native American Arts Festival is open to groups of touring elementary school children and the public.

■ Contact: For information call 702-455-7955 or visit accessclarkcounty.com/parks



MORE RITES OF SPRING

■ **Lake Tahoe WinterFest**, Gay and Lesbian Ski Week, March 4-11, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050, laketahowinterfest.com

■ **Cowboy Jubilee & Poetry**, March 10, Carson City, 775-883-1532, visitcarsoncity.com/events

■ **Extreme Thing Music & Skateboarding Festival**, March 31, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340, accessclarkcounty.com/parks

■ **Children's Festival**, April 14, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340, accessclarkcounty.com/parks

■ **Boulder City Fine Arts Festival**, April 21, 702-293-2138, boulder-city-chamber.com

■ **Walker Lake Loon Festival**, April 21, Hawthorne, 775-945-8248, mineralcountychamber.com

■ **International Food and Folklife Festival**, April 21, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200, accessclarkcounty.com/parks

■ **Reno Jazz Festival**, April 26-28, 775-784-4046, tickets.com

■ **Reno River Festival**, May 10-13, 800-367-7366, renoriverfestival.com

march/april

Nevada Magazine's guide to spring activities. Call ahead to confirm details. All events take place in Las Vegas unless otherwise noted.



Red Rock Rendezvous rock-climbing festival is March 23-25.



NEVADA ONLINE

For more events in the Silver State or to receive a free copy of *Nevada Magazine*, visit nevadamagazine.com. For tourism information visit travelnevada.com.

las vegas

MOTOR SPORTS

Kawasaki Team Green Laughlin
U.S. Hare Scrambles

March 2-4
Off-road race
702-457-5775
bitd.com

NASCAR Weekend
RaceJam
NASCAR-related concerts @
Fremont Street Experience
March 9-11
vegasexperience.com
UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400,
practice & qualifying
March 9
Sam's Town 300 NASCAR
Busch Series race
March 10
UAW-DaimlerChrysler
400 NASCAR Nextel
Cup Series race
March 11
702-644-4444
lvms.com

Monster Jam World Finals
March 24
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

Vegas Champ Car Grand Prix
April 6-8
702-944-8661
vegasgrandprix.com
SummitRacing.com
NHRA Nationals
April 12-15
Drag racing
702-644-4444
lvms.com

Laughlin River Run
April 25-29
Motorcycle event

HEADLINERS

ZZTop, April 27-28
The Fabulous Thunderbirds,
April 27-28
949-502-3434
laughlinriverrun.com

SPORTS

Laughlin River Stampede
March 29-April 1
Pro rodeo
702-298-3022
laughlinnevadaguide.com
Big League Weekend:
Cubs vs. Mariners
March 30-31
702-386-7200
lv51.com

FEI World Cup Finals
April 18-22
Horse jumping & dressage
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Valley of Fire Ancient
Petroglyph Tours
Overton

Second Sat. of the
month thru May
702-397-2088
parks.nv.gov

Old Las Vegas Mormon
Fort State Historic Park
March 17, 28, April 14, 21, 25
Living-history programs
702-486-3511
parks.nv.gov

St. Patrick's Day
Parade & Festival
Henderson
March 17
702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

St. Patrick's Day Celebration
March 17
Downtown block party
vegasexperience.com

Spring Festival
March 18
Hispanic cultural celebration
702-444-4526
lasvegasparksandrec.com

Red Rock Rendezvous
March 23-25
Rock-climbing festival
800-829-2009
mgear.com/rrr

Invitational Native
American Arts Festival
Henderson
March 30-April 1
Dance, art, demonstrations
702-455-7955
accessclarkcounty.com/parks
Clark County Fair & Rodeo
Logandale
April 12-15
888-876-FAIR
ccfair.com

International Food &
Folklife Festival
April 21
25 ethnic & cultural groups
702-455-8200
accessclarkcounty.com/parks
Boulder City Fine Arts Festival
April 21-22
702-293-2138
bouldercityartguild.org

ART EXHIBITS

20th Century Pueblo
Printmakers
Henderson
Thru May 26
702-455-7955
accessclarkcounty.com/parks

Ansel Adams: America
Thru May
Photo exhibition
702-693-7111
bellagio.com

Marcella Brendible
Photo Exhibition
Overton
March 1-31
702-397-2193

MUSIC/THEATER

"The Emperor Jones"
North Las Vegas
March 2-4, 9-11
702-651-LIVE
ccsn.edu

BYU Folk Dance Ensemble
Henderson
March 3
702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

Mercy Me
March 4
Christian rock concert
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

Golden Dragon Acrobats
March 4
702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org

An Afternoon w/Lindell Blake
March 10
Storytelling & dance
702-229-4800
artslasvegas.org

**"The Male Intellect:
An Oxymoron"**
March 11
Comedy starring Robert Dubac
702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org

"Fusion, Fire, & Ice"
March 16-18
Nevada Ballet Theatre
702-895-ARTS
nevadaballet.com

"Jake's Women," by Neil Simon
March 23-April 8
702-362-7996
lvlt.org

Mariachi Plata Las Vegas
March 24
Traditional music
702-229-1515
artslasvegas.org

**Henderson Symphony
Orchestra**
March 25
702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

"Proof"
March 30-April 15
Pulitzer & Tony award-winner
702-581-5008
stagedoorlv.com

**Rick Arroyo & the
Latin Jazz Quintet**
March 31
Concert & salsa
dance workshop
702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org

"The Masks of Riocloria"
April 6-8, 10-15
Drama
702-895-ARTS
nct.unlv.edu

"It's Only Business"
North Las Vegas
April 13-15, 20-22
Musical about Vegas mobsters
702-651-LIVE
ccsn.edu

Las Vegas Philharmonic
April 14
702-258-5438
lvphil.com

Nevada Jazz Orchestra Concert
April 15
vegasjazz.org

**"Always: The Love Story
of Irving Berlin"**
April 15

**Mark Nadler & KT
Sullivan perform**
702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org

**"You're a Good Man,
Charlie Brown"**
April 20-22, 26-29, May 3-6
702-895-ARTS
nct.unlv.edu

Las Vegas Jazz Society Picnic
April 22
vegasjazz.org

Mythili Prakash
April 22
Dances of India
702-229-6211
artslasvegas.org

Jazz in the Moonlight
April 28
702-507-3711
ccsn.edu

**Kevin Spirtas in
"Night and Days"**
April 29
Concert
702-229-6383
artslasvegas.org

FAMILY

Springsational Heritage Parade
Henderson
April 21
702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

**Sesame Street Live:
"Elmo Makes Music"**
April 26-29
702-739-FANS
unlvtickets.com

Berenstain Bears on Stage
Henderson
April 28
702-267-2171
visithenderson.com

GENERAL INTEREST

World Poker Tour Championship
April 21-27
worldpokertour.com



Robert Dubac (top) stars in "The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron" on March 11; Henderson's St. Patrick's Day celebration is March 17; & BYU folk dancers perform March 3.

march/april

All events are in Reno or Sparks unless otherwise noted.
Dates are subject to change, so call ahead to confirm.

reno-tahoe

MOTOR SPORTS

Virginia City Motorcycle
Grand Prix
April 28-29
775-530-6738
vcgp.com

SPORTS

Tahoe Freeheel Open, ski event
Lake Tahoe
Thru March 4
970-390-9730
toughguyproductions.com

Backcountry Festival/Adv.
Skiers & Boarders
South Lake Tahoe
March 1-4
209-258-6000
kirkwood.com

Jeep Terrain Park
Challenge, ski event
North Lake Tahoe
March 3
530-426-9000
sugarbowl.com

Tahoe Rim Trail Winter Hikes
Incline Village
March 3, 10, 17, 24
775-298-0231
tahoerimtrail.org

The Great Ski Race (30K)
Tahoe City, CA
March 4
530-583-5475
thegreatskirace.com

The Ski Tour: Skiercross
& Halfpipe
North Lake Tahoe
March 8-11
530-583-6985
squaw.com

Last Tracks w/wine tasting
North Lake Tahoe
March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14
775-832-1177
diamondpeak.com

Spring Loaded '07
North Lake Tahoe
March 13-April 14
Spring break skiing & riding
800-HEAVENLY
skiheavenly.com

Pinball Rally, freestyle ski event
Truckee, CA
March 18, April 14
800-GO-NORTH
northstarattahoe.com

Far West Giant Slalom
Championship
North Lake Tahoe
March 30-31
530-583-6985
squaw.com

Telegrass Festival, ski & music
South Lake Tahoe
March 31-April 1
530-659-7453
sierraattahoe.com

Diamond Peak Dummy
Downhill, ski event
North Lake Tahoe
April 1
775-832-1177
diamondpeak.com

USASA National
Championship, snowboarding
Truckee, CA
April 1-5
800-404-9213
northstarattahoe.com

Glen Plake's Gunbarrel 25
Lake Tahoe
April 7
Mogul marathon
800-HEAVENLY
skiheavenly.com

Billy Dutton Uphill, ski event
North Lake Tahoe
April 8
530-583-6985
squaw.com

Carson Valley Inn Spring
Stag Golf Outing
Minden
April 26-28
775-782-9711
cvinn.com

Lake Cushing Classic,
pond-crossing ski event
North Lake Tahoe
April 28
530-583-6985
squaw.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Piper's Opera House
Mardi Gras Celebration
Virginia City
March 2-4
775-847-0433
virginiacity-nv.org

North Lake Tahoe Snow Festival
March 2-11
530-583-7167
tahoesnowfestival.com

WinterFest Gay &
Lesbian Ski Week
South Lake Tahoe
March 4-11
877-777-4950
laketahoewinterfest.com

Cowboy Jubilee Poetry & BBQ
Carson City
March 10
775-883-1532
visitcarsoncity.com

St. Patrick's Day Irish Feast
Minden
March 17
775-782-9711
cvinn.com



Ski Lake Tahoe

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Virginia City

March 17

775-847-0311

virginiacity-nv.org

**Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders
Spring Rendezvous**

Carson City

April 28-29

Living-history event

775-687-7410

visitcarsoncity.com

ART EXHIBITS

Locomotive Stories of the V&T

Carson City

Ongoing

Models, photographs,
& artifacts

775-687-6953

nevadaculture.org

**Liberty Belle Slot
Machines Exhibition**

Carson City

Thru Jan. 2008

775-687-4810

dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/
museums/cc/carson.htm

Havens in a Heartless World

Virginia City

Thru March

Virginia City Saloons & the
Archeology of the Wild West

775-687-8323

nevadaculture.org

Hot Rods: Cool on Four Wheels

Thru April

775-333-9300

automuseum.org

**Time Capsule: The Back
Roads of Northern Nevada**

Thru May

775-333-9300

automuseum.org

MUSIC/THEATER

"The Fix," musical

Carson City

March 2-3

775-883-1976

prosceniumplayers.org

Orrin Starr in Concert

March 3

775-348-4692

nevadabluegrassproject.org

Reno Pops Orchestra

March 3

775-673-1234

renopops.org

Reno Philharmonic
Master Classics

March 4 & 6, April 1 & 3

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

Vishten in Concert

March 8

Irish & Scottish music

775-784-4444

tickets.com

"Blackjack Bottom: Original
Western Musical"

Minden

March 9-11, 23-25

775-782-3670

cvinn.com

Reno Chamber Orchestra

March 10-11

775-348-9413

renochamberorchestra.org

My Chemical Romance w/
Underoath, Rise Against,
& Taking Back Sunday,
alternative rock

March 16

775-784-4444

tickets.com

Elton John's & Tim
Rice's "AIDA"

March 16-18

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

Celtic Variety Show

Virginia City

March 17

775-847-0433

virginiacity-nv.org

Battle of the Bands

Gardnerville

March 24

775-782-9828

visitcarsonvalley.org

A.V.A. Ballet Theatre:
"Sleeping Beauty"

March 24

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

Newboys w/Kutless &
Stellar Kart, concert

March 27

775-784-4444

tickets.com

Rod Stewart, "Rockin'
in the Round"

March 30

775-784-4444

tickets.com

"You're a Good Man,
Charlie Brown!"

Carson City

March 30-April 8

775-445-4249

visitcarsoncity.com

Reno Chamber Orchestra

April 14-15

775-348-9413

renochamberorchestra.org

A Vocal Celebration of
Jazz w/CeCe Gable

Carson City

April 20

775-445-3238

visitcarsoncity.com

"Lend Me a Tenor," farce

Carson City

April 23-24, 30-May 2, 8-9

775-883-1976

prosceniumplayers.org

Reno Jazz Festival

April 26-28

775-784-45046

tickets.com



Elton John's "AIDA"
is March 16-18.

John Scofield Jazz Trio

April 27

775-784-4444

tickets.com

Nevada Opera "Orpheus"

April 27 & 29

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

FAMILY

Nevada State Museum

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

Carson City

Last Friday of the month

775-687-4810

dml.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/

museums/cc/carson.htm

Annual Oyster Fry

Virginia City

March 17

775-847-0311

virginiacity-nv.org

Samarabalouf, Gypsy

jazz music

Crystal Bay

March 23

530-546-4602

"The Wiz"

Carson City

April 6-7, 13-14

775-883-1976

breweryarts.org

Easter Egg Hunt

Genoa

April 8

775-782-8696

Chili Cook-Off & Craft Fair

Minden

April 28-29

775-266-3468

fritz@GBIS.com

GENERAL INTEREST

Wine Walk on the River Walk

Third Saturday at 2pm

775-348-8862

renoriver.org

Savor the Flavor

Gardnerville

March 3

Wines & microbrews

775-782-4322

visitcarsonvalley.org

Historical Lecture: Bob Stewart

Gardnerville

March 8

775-782-2555

visitcarsonvalley.org

"The Legend of Kate Shelley"

Carson City

March 13

Railroad history lecture

775-687-6953

nevadaculture.org

Smart Talk Lecture

Series: Susan Powter

March 19

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

World Poker Challenge

March 25-28

worldpokertour.com

High Noon at the

Historical Society

March 26

Video presentation

on Mary Pickford

775-688-1190

nevadaculture.org

Exposed to the West: Black

Rock & Other Stories

Carson City

April 12

Book signing & lecture

775-445-3000

wncc.edu

Historical Lecture: Stan Paher

Gardnerville

April 12

775-782-2555

visitcarsonvalley.org

Brunstrokes Art Adventure

Virginia City

April 14

Art sale

775-847-7774

Smart Talk Lecture

Series: Nancy Grace

April 16

877-840-0457

pioneercenter.com

rural nevada

MOTOR SPORTS

Top Gun Raceway Drag Racing

Fallon

March-Nov.

775-423-0223

fallontourism.com

Lahontan Auto Racing Season

Fallon

April-Nov.

775-423-7483

fallontourism.com

Winnemucca Raceway

Winnemucca

775-625-4111

nevadaracing.com/

winnemucca

Battle Mountain Raceway

Battle Mountain

April-Sept.

775-635-2784

nevadaracing.com/

battlemountainraceway

Summit Raceway

Elko

April-Sept.

775-753-5936

summitraceway.com

Terrible's Town 250

Pahrump

April 28-29

Off-road race

775-727-5800

bitd.com

SPORTS

Ranch Hand Rodeo

Winnemucca

March 3-4

775-623-5071

winnemucca.nv.us



Vishten performs
March 8.

Adventure Hike

Cathedral Gorge State
Park, Panaca

April 14

Four-mile ranger-led
hike/moderate terrain

775-728-4460

cathedralgorge_vc@
lcturbonet.com

Baker, CA to Las Vegas Relay

Pahrump

April 21-22

Law enforcement runners

775-727-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Rainbow Ridge Challenge
Mountain Bike Race

Fallon

April 22

775-423-7483

fallontourism.com

FESTIVALS/FAIRS/CULTURE

Halleck Bar Party

Northeastern Nevada
Museum, Elko

March 9

Two ranchers' legacy

775-738-3418

elkocva.com

Renaissance Faire

Pahrump

March 9-11, April 20-23

Medieval encampment

775-727-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

St. Patty's Day Parade & Picnic

Pahrump

March 17

866-722-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Walker Lake Loon Festival

Hawthorne

April 21

Birding event

775-945-8243

mineralcountychamber.com

ART EXHIBITS

Hispanic Heritage of
the High Desert

Elko

Historic & contemporary
imagery & artifacts

888-880-5885

westernfolklife.org

Nevada Artists

Elko

775-738-3418

museum-elko.us

Through the Needle's Eye

Elko

Thru April 17

Smithsonian embroidery
exhibition

775-738-3418

museum-elko.us

MUSIC/THEATER

The Platters

Elko

March 23

775-738-5475

elkocva.com

"Fools" by Neil Simon

Pahrump

March 30-31

775-727-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Craicmore

Eureka

April 13

Celtic music

775-237-6006

co.eureka.nv.us

Bronn Journey Concert

Elko

April 26

775-738-5475

elkocva.com

FAMILY

Lehman Cave Tours

Great Basin National
Park, Baker

Daily cave tours

775-234-7331

nps.gov/grba

Nevada Northern
Railway Museum

Ely

Historic operating
railroad equipment

775-289-2085

nnry.com

Hidden Cave Tours

Fallon

March 10, 24, April 14,

28, May 12, 26

Archaeological sites

775-885-6000

ccmuseum.org

Cathedral Gorge State
Park events

Panaca

April 7, 21, 28

Ranger-led activities

775-728-4460

cathedralgorge_vc@

lcturbonet.com

Lahontan Easter Egg Hunt

Silver Springs

April 7

775-577-2235

parks.nv.gov/lah.htm

GENERAL INTEREST

Shooting the West

Winnemucca

March 15-18

Photography conference

775-623-5071

winnemucca.nv.us

BizExpo 2007

Pahrump

April 13-15

866-722-5800

pahrumpchamber.com

Earth Day

Pahrump

April 21

866-722-5800

pahrumpchamber.com



Craicmore plays
Eureka April 13.



NEVADA EVENTS

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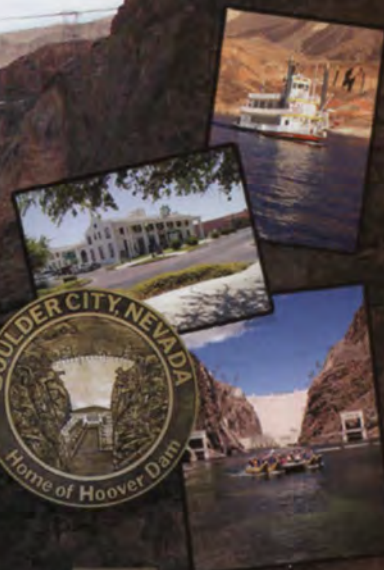
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show me the green

The best hand wins at the World Series of Golf



BY JACK BULAVSKY

REMEMBER THAT TELEVISION COMMERCIAL where someone accidentally dropped a chocolate bar into a jar of peanut butter and, presto, Reese's Peanut Butter Cup was born?

Well, someone accidentally dropped a poker table on a golf course and, presto, the \$750,000 World Series of Golf was born. The inaugural tournament, May 13-17 at the Primm Valley Golf Club, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15, will introduce a sporting event that combines the skill of golf with the wagering savvy of Texas Hold 'Em poker. It will be televised June 23-24 on NBC-TV.

Terry Leiweke, president and CEO of the World Series of Golf, says 180 amateur golfers each will ante up \$10,000 to play in the tourney.

And those 10 large ones can be won back by advancing to the second round after the first day of player elimination.

Due to the large purse and the unique method of play, Leiweke says participants must go through an accreditation process to substantiate their golf handicap to ensure an even playing field.

The three-round tournament was conceived by Las Vegas businessmen and golfers Kenneth Maul and John Slitz. The Mirage is the host hotel.



how to play “This is how it works,”

Terry Leiweke explains. “Players ante up before teeing off at each hole. Depending on the outcome of the tee shot, the player can raise, call, check, or fold on subsequent shots with the winner of the hole collecting the pot. That’s it. Each golf shot is important, as is the wagering strategy on each shot.”

When a player no longer has enough purse money to match the ante on the next tee, Leiweke says, he or she is eliminated. The winner of each group moves on to the next round until the final field yields the champion golfer. So, as in poker, the player with the most money at the end of the tournament, collected during three rounds of play, wins. And that first prize is \$250,000.

A rules official and croupier will be assigned to each foursome on the course to advise them of their purses and how to play. “It takes a couple of holes to fully grasp the game, but when that light bulb does go on, players will get it,” Leiweke says. “Actually, I want participants to play familiarization rounds to become comfortable with the betting format, which can be arranged any time before the tournament begins.”



Tournament organizer Terry Leiweke explains how the series works (above). To sign up, visit worldseriesofgolf.com. In the photo at top is a view of the desert hills near Primm Valley Golf Club. Opposite page: The clubhouse looks over lush greens. For details, visit primmvalleyresorts.com.



GAMING NEWS

BLACKJACK SWITCH

Trading cards between two blackjack hands, usually considered cheating, is now legal in the new table game, Blackjack Switch, at Harrah’s Reno. Players make bets of equal size and are allowed to trade cards between two hands. Call 800-HARRAHS or visit harrahs.com.

MAGIC MONEY Entrants pay \$199 to play in the \$50,000 Magic Money Hi-Lo Slot Tournament, March 25-26, at the Peppermill in Reno. First prize is \$12,000. Call 775-826-2121 or visit peppermillreno.com/gaming/tournaments.

WORLD SERIES OF POKER There’s big money at stake during the World Series of Poker, April 23-May 2, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. For information call 702-731-7110 or visit harrahs.com.

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Petrack Park

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Earth Day
Honeysuckle Park

APRIL 13-15
Chamber of
Commerce
BizExpo 2007

APRIL 28
Terrible's 250
Off-Road Race



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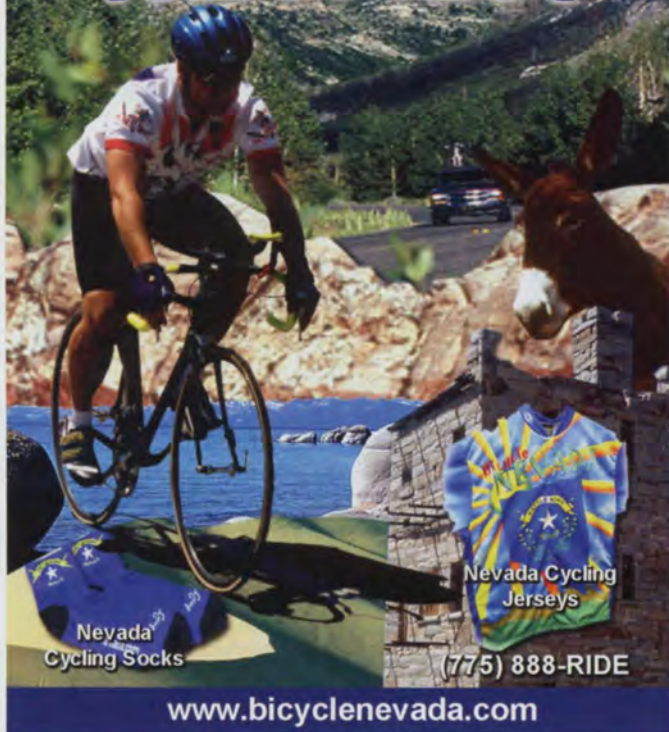
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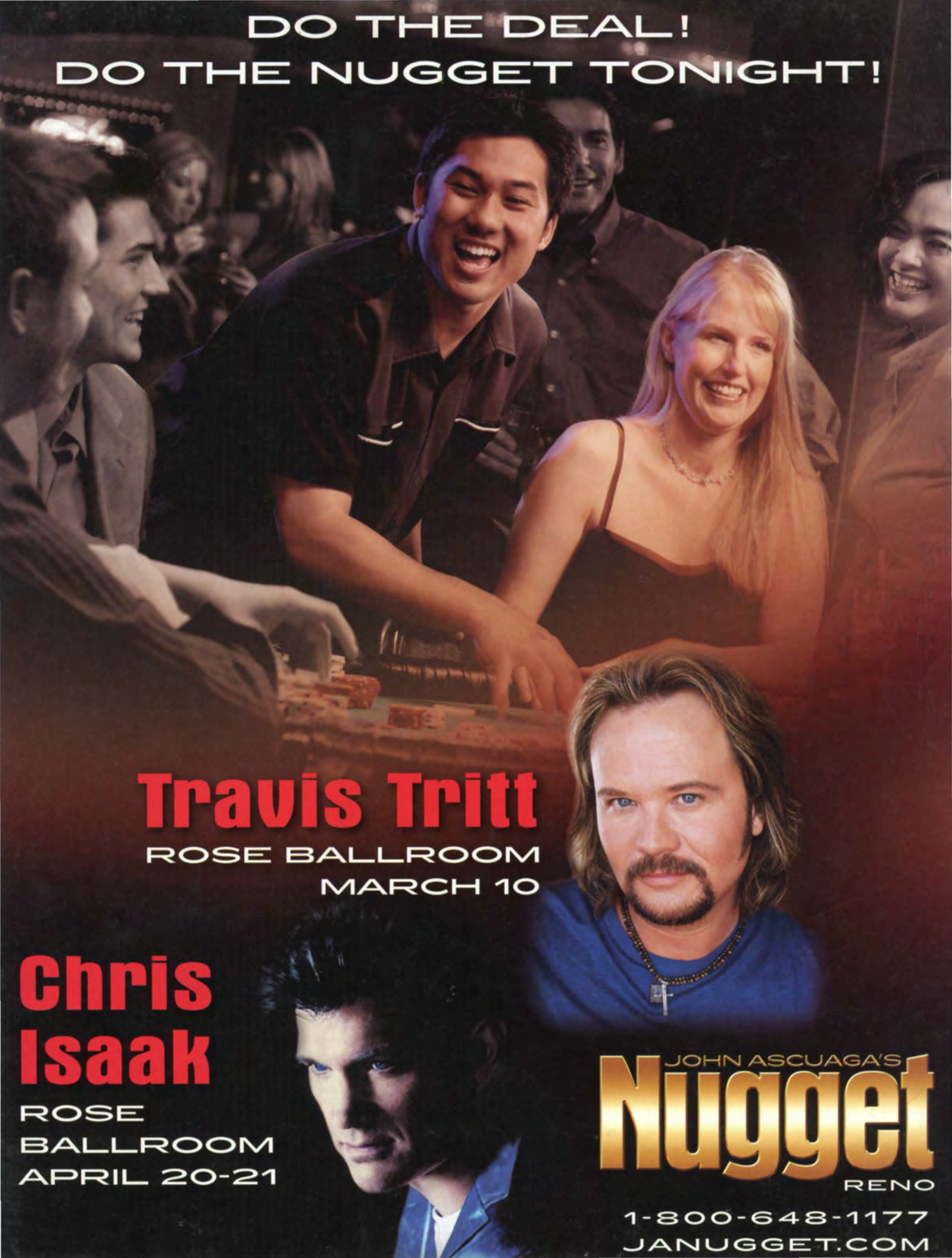


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