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Cover Photo: Kippy S. Spilker







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Governor: Steve Sisolak



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WEB EXTRAS

▶ Yesterday: The Arrowhead Man: About 40 years ago, we published the story of a Fallon man who had collected one of, if not the, largest private collection of arrowheads in the world. At the time of the story, he was





77 years old and had more than 40,000 arrowheads. George Luke donated many of his best artifacts to the Churchill County Museum in Fallon. This story first appeared in our Spring 1976 issue **By Brenden Wesley**

DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER PERKS

We're working hard to upload every issue of *Nevada Magazine* ever created. We now have every issue from 1936-1996 and 2013-2020 available for viewing in a digital flipbook. A digital subscription gives you full access to our website, including the stories listed above. Digital subscriptions are just \$9.95 per year, or add it to your print subscription for an extra \$5 per year.





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Nevada Magazine? Use
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about your #Nevada adventure!







LOOKING FOR SO

Putting together the March/April issue is often a contradictory event for me. We work months ahead, so right now, it's early February as I type this. The groundhog did not see its shadow this year so purportedly, an early spring is on its way. And while it snowed on Monday, a few days later as I write this, it's 60 degrees out. You have to love springtime in Nevada, no?

Mother Nature makes it difficult to know whether a weekend outdoor adventure is on the horizon or whether my chore list will be acknowledged instead. It's as if the change in seasons is really a roller coaster, soaring toward sunny, warm days before plummeting back down to frigid temperatures. I'll say this, it keeps you on your toes.

Creating this issue is a similar ride, or more accurately, a tightrope walk between planning stories that fit one season or the other. A few years back, we had a story all about backcountry skiing in northern Nevada that had been in the works for months, when lo and behold, we found ourselves smack dab in the middle of one of the driest winters in recent memory. But the show must go on, and so must the issue, so the story ran as more of a "here's something to put on your radar for next year" piece.

We spend a lot of time working on the timing of our stories so our readers can use the magazine to plan their adventures and travel, but sometimes, stories just need to be told as they unfold, or as my grandfather would say, "sometimes you gotta get while the gettin' is good."

This issue, we got, and was it good. Associate Editor Eric Cachinero and I traveled in January to southern Nevada, collecting stories and photos for the next couple of issues. We visited a number of places we'd never been to, and to be honest, the weather ran the gamut during our visit. It made for challenging packing, but you know what? I've decided, regardless of the season, there are no poor adventure options in Nevada...only poor clothing choices.



HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

Nevada Outlaws returns this issue. In part three, we learn about a handful of our state's bad boys from days of yore. Check out these dastardly dudes on page 30. After that, dive into some industrial fun with a story about the container parks that have popped up around Nevada; these parks have found their niche, offering entertainment, food, libations, and more. Read about them on page 56.

Back for another episode, our Nevada Twilight series takes a look at three more cases of mysterious matters that are sure to leave you puzzled and intrigued. You can find that story on page 62. A story about Lee Canyon begins on page 70, and you won't want to miss a detail about this incredibly cool destination in southern Nevada.

And finally, our Web Extra this month—available only on our website—recounts the story of the world's largest arrowhead collection as it stood in 1976. A Fallon man spent his life exploring the Nevada desert, and his efforts were well-rewarded.

Welcome to spring!

Megg Mueller, Managing Editor

mmueller@nevadamagazine.com

LETTERS

PERFECT SHOT

I really enjoyed the last issue (January/
February 2020) of *Nevada Magazine* with the statewide bird hunting coverage. My son-in-law is a big game hunter and bird hunter and he is teaching my grandson about bird hunting. They have an amazing German shorthaired bird dog that just loves working in the field with all sorts of birds. I gave them my copy of the magazine and he loved it. — **Ray Fox**, via email

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

A LITTLE HELP

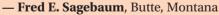
I just wanted to say a special thank you to Carrie for all the time and effort she took getting me online. I am reading and having a ball! Now we will go visit some of the old ghost towns. — **Valeria Miller**, Pahrump

STILL LEARNING

We enjoy your interesting stories about the history of Nevada. We always learn something we didn't know about this great state. — **Roger & Karen Wilbur**, Henderson

FOREVER FAN

I'm subscribing to *Nevada Magazine* for another year. I'm 76 years old now and have subscribed since the late '70s. While I haven't been there for about 25 years and know things change, I still enjoy the ghost town articles and the stories of smaller towns and rural areas.



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CORRECTIONS

In our January/February 2020 issue, we misspelled Diana Edleman's name in the story on VegeNation. Diana is the author of "Vegans, Baby: Las Vegas Vegan Food Guide."

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

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

CONTRIBUTORS



RON SOODALTER

In addition to authoring "Hanging Captain Gordon" and "The Slave Next Door," Ron Soodalter is featured in five other books and has had more than 400 articles published in such periodicals as "Smithsonian," "True West," "American Cowboy," "Civil War Times," "American History," "Wild West," and "Military History." He is a regular columnist for "America's Civil War." Ron is the recipient of the International and Regional Magazine Association's 2010 Gold Award and 2014 Award of Merit, and winner of IRMA's 2016 Silver Award. He is also a member of the Western Writers of America and the Wild West History Association. He is president of the Abraham Lincoln Institute.

■ PGS. 30-37



ENGRID BARNETT

Engrid Barnett is an award-winning travel journalist, cultural geographer, and musician who explores America one ghost town, hiking trail, and desert sunset at a time. Her work has appeared in "Ripley's Believe It Or Not," *Nevada Magazine*, and "American Trails Magazine."

■ PGS. 38-43

To find out how to contribute, visit nevadamagazine.com/writer

Up Front





PHOTOS: GUY CLIFTON/TRAVEL NEVADA

CULTURE

Stewart Indian School opens museum and cultural center

The general public can now see a glimpse of life at Stewart Indian School, 130 years after the government boarding school opened in Carson City and 40 years after it was eventually closed.

The new Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum occupies what was once the school's administrative building. More than \$4.5 million in funding from the Nevada Legislature in 2017 and 2019, along with the support of governors Brian Sandoval and Steve Sislolak, was utilized for the renovation.

First opened in 1890, Stewart Indian School was operated by the federal government for 90 years before it closed in 1980. Stewart and other boarding schools across the nation, were initially set up to forcefully educate Native American children in the late 1800s. This assimilation policy impacted thousands of Native students not only from the Great Basin tribal nations, but more than 200 tribes.

Stewart alumni say every student's experience was different, ranging from traumatic to happy. Their stories are shared in the "Our Home, Our Relations," exhibit.

In addition, the Cultural Center & Museum features the Wa-Pai-Shone Gallery, a temporary gallery space for contemporary Great Basin Native art; the Storytelling Room for storytelling and craft making; a research room where relatives can research their family members who attended Stewart; and classroom space for educational activities, lectures, and public programs. stewartindianschool.com, 775-687-8333

Top left: Stewart Indian School students enjoyed great success in sports—including football, basketball, and boxing—throughout the years.

Top right: Information boards explain how students at Stewart Indian School spent their time and helped each other cope while separated from their families. Joining clubs such as band and participating in sports were two such ways.



CASINOS

Harrah's Reno sold

Caesars Entertainment and VICI Properties
Inc.—a real-estate investment trust spun off from Caesars in 2017—have signed an agreement to sell Harrah's Reno Hotel and Casino to an affiliate of Las Vegas developer CAI Investments for \$50 million. Harrah's Reno opened as the first Harrah's property in 1937.

The sale is subject to the closing of the Eldorado/Caesars merger, which is expected to occur by the end of the first quarter. Per the agreement, Caesars will continue to operate the REPORT LITTLE CITY IN THE WORLD

property for the first half of 2020 by way of a short-term lease.

CAI plans to transform the property into the Reno City Center, a mixed-use project with about 530 apartments, 150,000 feet of office space, and 78,500 square feet of retail offerings, which are set to include restaurants, a coffee shop, a bar, and a grocery store. The new space will have no gaming.

Eldorado Resort's Chief Executive Tom Reeg has said the company will consider the sale of a Las Vegas Strip casino after completing the Caesars Entertainment acquisition. caesars.com/harrahs, 775-786-3232



UP FRONT



■ The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office announced that **Boulder City and the City of Winnemucca** have received national recognition through the certified local government program for their outstanding historic and cultural preservation achievements. This national honor establishes communities as official partners in the country's historic preservation program, which engages local, state, and federal governments to promote cultural preservation at the grassroots level. **shpo.nv.gov, 775-694-3442**

Grand Sierra Resort and Casino

(GSR) was named one of the best casinos in the country in the "USA Today" Top 10 casino rankings in the category best casino outside of Las Vegas. The annual survey's panel of experts proposed 20 finalists for readers to vote on in the poll, in which GSR was the only Reno casino to make it into the top five nationally.

grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000

- The Protectors of Tule Springs has announced its spring hikes schedule, which includes a new hike on the Las Vegas Wash Trail, built by volunteers of the Ice Age Fossils State Park. That hike is set for March 14 at 8 a.m. protectorsoftulesprings.org
- Magician Mat Franco has announced that Caesars Entertainment has extended his award-winning show for five more years at The LINQ Hotel + Experience. Tickets for Mat Franco "Magic Reinvented Nightly" are available through 2020.

matfranco.com, 702-777-2782

■ The Venetian Resort Las Vegas has launched a new art tour, providing guests the opportunity to uncover hidden secrets of the resort while exploring unforgettable art and architecture. A tour guide shares the stories behind the resort's replica Italian landmarks including the Rialto Bridge, Campanile Tower, and St. Mark's Square, and will provide fun facts.

venetian.com, 702-414-1000

ARTS

Elv Film Festival launched



Celebrating Ely's rich film history, a new annual film festival will showcase the cinematic creations that were filmed in the picturesque eastern Nevada town over the years. The inaugural festival takes place March 13-15.

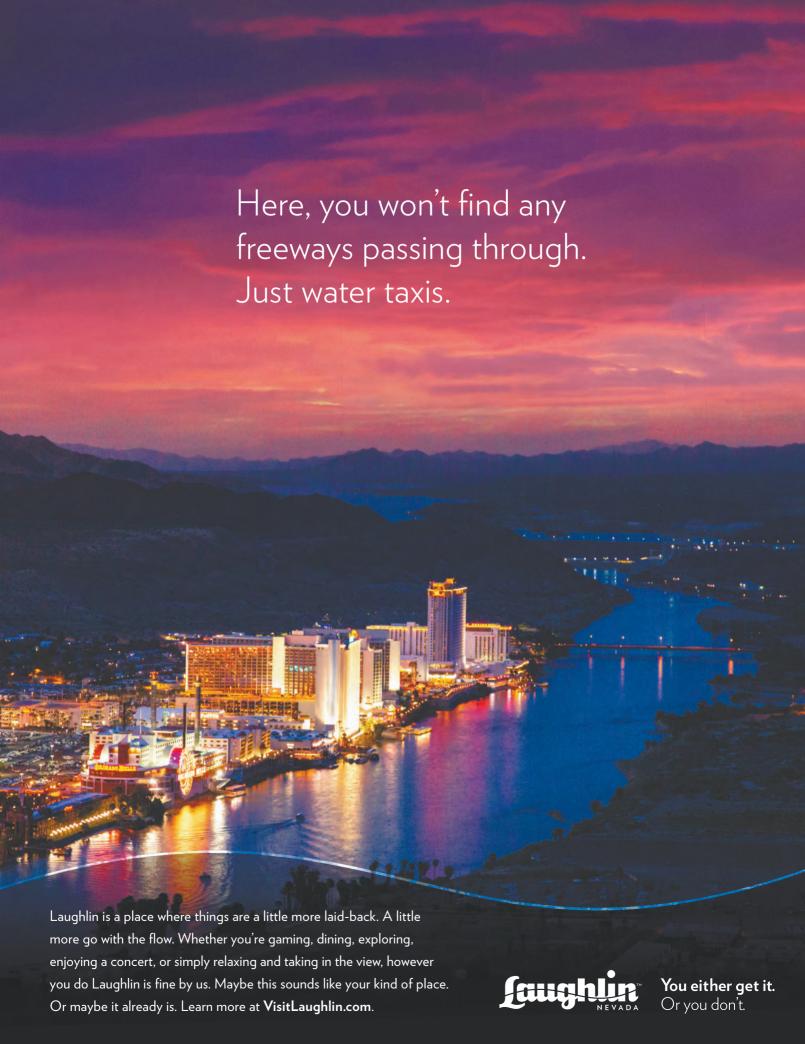
The festival will feature "The Great Darkened Days," which won five Canadian Screen Awards last year and "Infernum" a film by local artist Dutch Marich.

The festival plans to feature films that have ties to Ely and White Pine County. This isn't just a normal film festival; at this event, festival goers get to visit the sets and interact with the film locations.

The film festival also gives attendees the chance to meet the directors and crew and engage in discussion about those films. Local and amateur directors are encouraged to submit their short film to be incorporated into the festival. Festival locations include the historic Ely Central Theater, The Postal Palace, Nevada Northern Railway, and the Bristlecone Convention Center. elynevada.net/ely-film-festival, 775-289-3720



PHOTOS: MARK BASSET



UP FRONT



- AREA15—a purpose-built, experiential art, retail, and entertainment complex in Las Vegas—recently announced its partnership with chef Todd English. The culinary concept will offer a customized menu created by English exclusively for AREA15's food hall. Guests can dine casually among large-scale art installations, music, performances, and other activations.

 area15.com. 702-846-1900
- In December, McCarran International Airport welcomed its record 50 millionth passenger of 2019, a first in the airport's 71-year history. This marks the third consecutive year the airport will set an all-time passenger record, the previous was set in 2018 with 49.7 million.

 mccarran.com. 702-261-5211
- Safe Haven Wildlife Sanctuary is set to host its annual fundraiser on April 25 in Winnemucca. Dinner, live entertainment from Madison Hudson, and a silent auction are all on the agenda. Two tickets to Burning Man with parking pass, rafting trips, merchandise, and more are some of the auction items that will benefit the sanctuary. Safe Haven provides the permanent care for animals unable to be rehabilitated, along with rescuing and rehabilitating indigenous wildlife that are eligible for release back to their natural habitats.

 safehavenwildlife.com, 775-538-7093
- The city of Las Vegas will host the **2020** Las Vegas Bluegrass Festival Saturday, March 21, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Centennial Hills Park. The event is free and open to all ages. The festival will have food, beer, and craft vendors. Children will be able to enjoy a festival area designed just for them, with games and activities. artslasvegas.org, 702-229-2787
- For the third consecutive year and sixth time overall, **Las Vegas Motor Speedway** has been named Speedway Motorsports' Speedway of the Year. The facility was chosen as Speedway of the Year from among eight state-of-the-art Speedway Motorsports entertainment complexes.

lvms.com, 800-644-4444

SPORTS

National Bowling Stadium celebrates and renovates



The National Bowling Stadium (NBS) in Reno recently unveiled a \$4.5 million renovation while celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The first purpose-built, pure bowling facility in North America, the NBS has brought more than 1 million bowlers to northern Nevada since it opened in 1995. The United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Open Championships will return to the NBS March 21–July 4.

the removal of stadium seating on the fourth floor, behind the 78 championship lanes, where most of the competition is held. This allowed the settee area to be moved back 12-feet, giving bowlers necessary room for equipment, accessibility, and general comfort. New paint, carpeting, furniture, and ball racks are in place, and the fourth floor now has an open floor plan, allowing for larger corporate events, vendor exhibits, and recre-

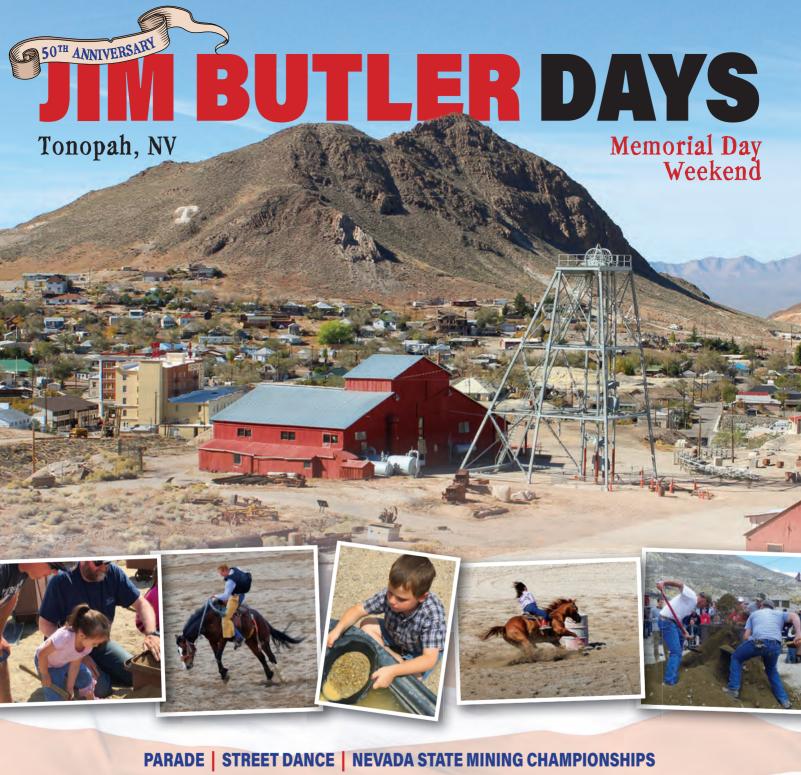
ational functions. En-

Changes to the NBS include



ergy-efficient LED lighting has been installed, along with a new air conditioning system for the south atrium. New restrooms have been constructed, and a family bathroom has also been added to the fourth floor.

In preparation for the incoming USBC event, the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame has recently been updated with historic artifacts and portraits of Hall of Fame bowlers. The museum, on the first floor of the NBS, is the only satellite location of the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame, located in Arlington, Texas. visitrenotahoe.com, 775-335-8800



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GOLD PANNING & OTHER KIDS' EVENTS | JIM BUTLER STAMPEDE
MEMORIAL CEREMONIES | AND MUCH MORE!

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UP FRONT



■ Dangberg Home Ranch Historic Park has new interpretive signs that explain the site's buildings and related history. The historic park preserves the home of the Dangbergs, a prominent ranching family in Carson Valley. The venue includes eight historic structures built between 1857 and 1917 and an original collection of 43,000 artifacts, documents, and photographs. dangberghomeranch.org, 775-783-9417

■ The House of Creed has relocated its Las Vegas boutique to The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace. The new shop boasts 1,381 square feet—the brand's largest boutique in North America and the first to house a private VIP room for top clients. Catering to global fragrance connoisseurs who love travel and appreciate artisanal scents, this new boutique immerses guests in the world of Creed.

creedboutique.com, 702-366-0574

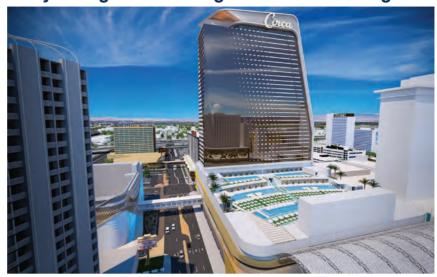
■ The Nevada Commission on Tourism approved \$301,575 in grants to promote tourism to the state's rural areas. Funding goes to marketing projects that will result in overnight stays—and local tax revenue—for those communities. Among the funded projects are the Goldwell Open Air Museum, which was awarded \$3,000 to promote "Albert Szukalski's America," a play about the Belgian artist who created some of the Goldwell sculptures; and a \$4,000 grant to the White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board to publicize a new train-and-bike experience in the city of Ely.

■ Ferino Distillery is the newest addition to the growing distillery movement on Fourth Street in Reno. Nevadan and Master Distiller Joe Cannella and his family-owned company have moved from San Francisco back to Nevada. The distillery includes a full bar program with a pour-over coffee shop that features their products as well as others. Ferino is the producer of Cannella Cinnamon Cordial, Amaro Cannella, and Fernet Ferino.

ferinodistillery.com, 775-433-2033

RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

Tasty dining and imbibing news from Las Vegas



Circa Resort and Casino has announced five restaurants that will make their home at the property when it opens later this year. The first property built downtown in decades, Circa will open with Victory Burger and Wings for the ultimate sports bar experience; Saginaw's Delicatessen for 24-hour larger-than-life sandwiches and deli favorites; Project BBQ's permanent food truck on Fremont Street; Barry's Downtown Prime with legendary steaks and mixed spirits; and 8 East, serving Asian fare with no boundaries. **circalasvegas.com**

ICEBAR is now open at The LINQ Promenade. ICEBAR encompasses 1,200 square feet kept at 23-degrees Fahrenheit and made from nearly 100 tons of ice shipped to Las Vegas from Canada and Minnesota. Twelve professional ice carvers worked around-the-clock to construct the ice bar out of 650 blocks of ice. **minus5experience.com**, **702-489-3545**

Grab your wig and walk down the runway to **House of Blues Restaurant & Bar** for Las Vegas' most fun and hilarious brunch. Drag Diva Brunch happens every Saturday through April 4 with a variety of over-the-top performers, luscious libations, and the Big and Beautiful Diva all-you-can-eat brunch buffet. **houseofblues.com**, **702-632-7600**

The Venetian has launched **Moon Palace**, a new concept from David Chang and the team behind Majordōmo Meat & Fish. Moon Palace aims to serve quick, tasty food in a fast-paced environment. The evolving menu is centered around a compact choice of Tastys, Hot Chips, and Half Dips—a Tasty is a griddled patty topped with American cheese and caramelized onions; Hot Chips are freshly fried potato chips seasoned with salt or honey butter; and a Half Dip is two pancakes filled with marshmallow fluff and half-dipped in chocolate. **venetian.com**, **866-725-2990**



ANDREW BEZEK

BED & BREAKFASTS

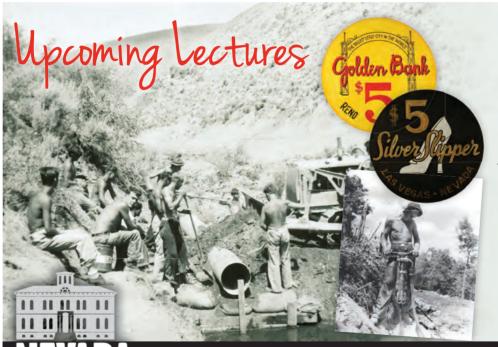
OF NEVADA

Whether you are looking for Romance, Nature, History, or Adventure, Nevada's B&Bs offer it all.

Staying at a Nevada Bed and Breakfast Guild inn is your key to unlocking the fascinating adventure that is Nevada! Each Nevada B&B invites you to share the wonder of a unique experience in the Silver State! Nevada's B&Bs encompass the diversity of deserts, mountains, lakes and historic central cities. Working ranches and historic ghost towns are homes to exciting B&Bs waiting to share their history and Western lifestyle with visitors. Consider a Nevada B&B for your Nevada wedding, honeymoon, anniversary, personal retreat, adventure holiday, or romantic getaway. No matter where you travel in Nevada, a Nevada B&B is close by, ready to enhance your adventure in the Silver State!







"CHIP ART AND DESIGNS"

with Gaming Expert Howard Herz Wednesday, March 25th 5:30-6:30pm wine and cheese reception from 5-5:30pm

"THE NEW DEAL IN NEVADA - THEN AND NOW"

Saturday, April 11th from 10:30-11:30am with Renée Corona Kolvet, National Research Associate with The New Living Deal, UC Berkeley

1650 N. Virginia St., Reno | nvhistoricalsociety.org 775-688-1190



Admission: \$5 Adults & Seniors (free for museum members & children under 17)

Open Tues-Sat: Museum & Store 10 am - 4:30 pm Research Library 12 pm - 4 pm Closed Jan. 1st, New Years Day

UP FRONT



■ A Fallen Miners Memorial has opened in Ruth. The eastern Nevada town was built in 1904 by Nevada Consolidated Copper Company and has been a mining town ever since. The memorial recognizes those who died while working in area mines. Visitors can see paintings commemorating the town and miners, historic photos, and mining equipment.

whitepinecounty.net, 775-293-6509

- McCarran International Airport and its supporting aviation system generate nearly \$35 billion in economic output, support approximately 250,000 jobs, and are responsible for 18 percent of the area's gross domestic product, according to a recent study conducted by Oxford Economics. mccarran.com, 702-261-5211
- Local nonprofits in the Tahoe area were presented \$100,000 in donations from the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and American Century Championship. The funds were a result of money raised during the 2019 celebrity golf tournament at Edgewood Tahoe. Representatives of 38 nonprofits were presented with donations. tahoesouth.com, 800-288-2463
- After nearly two and a half years, Fergusons Downtown has opened, revealing the revitalized and preserved 1940s motel which now houses Las Vegas-based businesses—the Fergusons Neighbors—where locals and visitors can eat, drink, stay, work, shop, and gather.

 fergusonsdowntown.com
- Shoaf's Ghost Town—a family-oriented haunted walk-through attraction—has opened in Virginia City. This attraction walks visitors through the many lifestyles that men and women (depicted as skeletons) of the 1800s would have had. This includes panning for gold, blasting dynamite in the mine, listening to a piano player in an old saloon, as well as seeing skeletons working near an old steam engine. shoafsghosttown.com, 775-847-0106

SPORTS

NFL Draft events announced in Las Vegas



Bringing fans and players together, the 85th NFL Draft will host various free events at iconic Las Vegas locations, April 23-25. The Draft comes to Las Vegas as the Raiders prepare to embark on their first season in the city and at Allegiant Stadium. The celebration—at the NFL Draft Red Carpet, NFL Draft Main Stage, and NFL Draft Experience—will include free immersive activities and live entertainment and performances, bringing a new level of excitement to the NFL Draft that only Las Vegas could provide.

Set against the iconic backdrop of The Strip, the NFL Draft Main Stage will be constructed next to the Caesars Forum. Free and open to the public, fans are invited to gather at the Draft Main Stage viewing zone to watch the first-round selections on Night 1 (Thursday), Rounds 2-3 on Night 2 (Friday), and Rounds 4-7 on Day 3 (Saturday). The Main Stage will also host daily performances by headlining acts throughout the Draft. nfl.com/2020draft.org

HEALTH

Non-emergency medical services for tourists



TeleMDcare—a medical concierge service—offers affordable, instant access to a medical professional via telehealth visits for Nevada visitors. Prescription services and medical equipment delivery are also available.

Guests can see a board-certified, Nevada-licensed doctor through an app on a smartphone, tablet, or laptop or directly through a website. The iVisit app is free to download, easy to use, and visits cost \$49. No insurance is necessary. Tourists can also access the TeleMDcare services via the web.

Conditions that can be treated include coughs, colds, fevers, sore throats, allergies, sinus infections, muscle spasms, pink eye, ear infections, flu, headache, rashes, and many more. **geniemd.com/nevada**



WALKER LAKE

NEVADA

RECREATION AREA

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

From camping to boating, Walker Lake Recreation Area offers fun for everyone.

Enjoy wide open spaces for boating, swimming, or lazing around on the lake.

Miles of dirt roads for OHV, ATVs, & 4x4s.

Explore ghost towns, discover breath-taking scenery, and enjoy local wildlife.

For those that want more comfort after a day around the lake, there are Hotels, Restaurants, Casinos, RV Parks and Museums, located 15 miles south in Hawthorne.

- ✓ Swimming
- ✓ Water-skiing
- ✓ Picnicking
- ✓ Mustang & Big Horn Sheep watching
- ✓ Boating, rebuilt boat ramp
- ✓ 1,000 miles of wide open dirt roads & OVH/ATV trails
- ✓ Ghost mining camps & towns
- ✓ Camp Sites & undeveloped camping areas

VISITMINERALCOUNTY.COM







PEDRO GOMEZ

Each issue we showcase what we love about Nevada. Well, now it's your turn. We're dedicating these pages to our readers this year, and we're asking you to share images of your Nevada favorites. Each issue we'll pick a theme (see below) and let our readers lead the way!

We asked to see your favorite structure for this issue, and with no guidelines other than that, our submissions ran the gamut. And we love it! From historic buildings to remnants of the past and impressive sites today, the photos on these pages reveal the Silver State is rich in structural art.

Thank you everyone who shared their favorite Nevada structure!

See more favorite structures at nevadamagazine.com/articles/your-favorite-nevada-structure/



LAURA BLAYLOCK



NATHANAEL HILL



LIZ HUNTINGTON



May-June theme:



YOUR FAVORITE NEVADA | Structure





AARON ARDLEY





JAMES MARVIN PHELPS



CONNIE KRAUSE







VISIONS



Pages 18-19: "Lahontan Reservoir is usually a place that people bypass for the allure of Lake Tahoe," says Chip Carroon. "Tahoe is certainly nice, but there are some hidden attributes to Lahontan. The reservoir is fairly small, so it is more likely that the water surface will be smooth and provide a good reflection. Also, there typically are only a few people visiting the lake at any one time."

Left: Martin Gollery captured this shot at Valley of Fire State Park. "My wife and I have hiked most of the regular trails in the park, and we particularly enjoy finding the arches. I circled around on the rock to get some blue sky behind it and realized that the moon was in nearly the perfect position."

Bottom: "I just love to capture great wide-open moments within our outback," says Wess Martin. "The true beauty of Nevada is the absence of modern living; the pure visions of a geographical marvel; to see how enchanting the creation of Earth is held in a sort of time capsule within Nevada."

Opposite page, top left: Gary Reese snapped this shot in Gold Butte National Monument. "I was trying to get the most dramatic shots of the various plant communities in southern Nevada," he says.

Opposite page, bottom left: Larry Burton captured this shot while riding in the Oatbran Bike Tour across Highway 50. "As a lifelong fan of the remote landscapes this state has to offer, I experienced it on a whole new level when slowed to the pace of a bicycle," he says. The quiet and peace of the desert surrounds you like a shroud, opening up a whole new perspective."

Opposite page, right: "I'm always looking for birds on the posts and this gorgeous bird was just basking in the sun," says Kim Steed. "I sat and photographed it for probably 15 minutes."

MARTIN GOLLERY







LARRY BURTON



KIM STEED



FACEBOOK GROUP CHOICE

Scott Blair snapped this shot near Virginia City. "I went up there that day just to shoot the wildflowers on State Route 341."

Each issue, our Nevada Photographers Facebook group votes for their favorite photo out of three selected by *Nevada* Magazine's Art Director.

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MICHAEL LINDBERG

This page: Michael Lindberg says of his "Space Whale" shot, "On this particular night, my wife and I put our daughters to sleep and I decided to sneak out to downtown. When I arrived at the plaza in Reno where the 'Space Whale' is located, I noticed lights, which are normally on, were turned off. This is significant as the angle I shot from normally has those lights reflected in the water, which distracts from the overall reflection of the whale. There are certainly other angles to capture the whale while those lights are on, but they limit getting that awesome tail."

Opposite page: Steve Dudrow captured this image in March 2017 at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Overton. "I took more than 1,500 shots that day of these talented young adults from the Moapa Valley," he says. "Where else do you have matching pink on the rider and her horse? The smiles, tears, triumphs, and defeats bring a smile to my face always."



See the May/June issue of Nevada **Magazine** for details!









From the dusty streets of a Nevada mining camp to the royal halls of Europe, the Silver State's eminent opera singer was music to the world's ears.



"The stars above in Heaven are looking kindly down The stars above in Heaven are looking kindly down The stars above in Heaven are looking kindly down On the grave of old John Brown

> Glory, Glory, Hallelujah Glory, Glory, Hallelujah Glory, Glory, Hallelujah His soul goes marching on.'

BY ERIC CACHINERO

These words danced beautifully from the lips of a 5-year-old girl in 1864 Austin. Though the melody was welcomed warmly by the crowds of miners and townsfolk that lined the streets, no one surely could have known the fate that awaited the little girl.

Emma Wixom was born on Feb. 7, 1859, in the Alpha mining camp near Nevada City, California. Her father

Dr. William Wixom moved his family to Austin to start a physician's practice shortly before Nevada achieved state-hood. It was in Austin that the girl's bright future began to shine, and her talent brightened an otherwise dusty mining camp. From there, it was only a matter of time before her mellifluence would grace the rest of the world.



SYDNEY MARTINEZ/TRAVEL NEVADA

OVERTURE

Emma's first big break is intertwined in a famous piece of Nevada folklore that took place in Austin soon after she and her family moved there. The man at the heart of the story is Reuel Colt Gridley, who owned a general store in Austin. In 1864, Gridley supported the democratic candidate for mayor in the town election, while his friend Dr. R. Herrick garnered support for the republican candidate. The two men made a bet that whoever's candidate lost the race must carry a 50-pound sack of flour through the streets of Austin, delivering it to

the other man.

Gridley would emerge from the contest vanquished, though he took his punishment with a smile on his face. The entire town showed up in exuberance to watch him carry the flour sack to his opponent. The event quickly turned into a parade, with residents flying flags and waving decorations, all following Gridley down the street. In attendance was the Austin Brass Band, who performed as Gridley made the grueling walk through town.



Also in attendance was the 5-year-old Emma, who for the first time displayed her remarkable singing talents for the town. Many accounts of the day place Emma at center-stage, something she would become quite accustomed to later in life.

Once Gridley delivered his flour sack to Herrick, someone suggested that the sack be auctioned off, with the money raised going to support the Sanitary Fund—an organization that aided disabled Civil War veterans. The sack initially sold for \$250, though the purchaser did not claim his prize, so the sack was again auctioned off for the same charity. It was auctioned in this fashion again and again so many times in Austin, that around \$8,000 was

raised for charity. Some sources claim Emma's father acted as one of the auctioneers.

When residents of Virginia City heard of the famous flour sack, they requested Gridley bring it to their town for similar treatment. From there, Gridley brought the flour sack to be auctioned in Sacramento and San Francisco, before finally taking it to St. Louis and several major east coast cities. By the time all was said and done, the flour sack had raised more than \$275,000 for the Sanitary Fund.



RECITATIVE

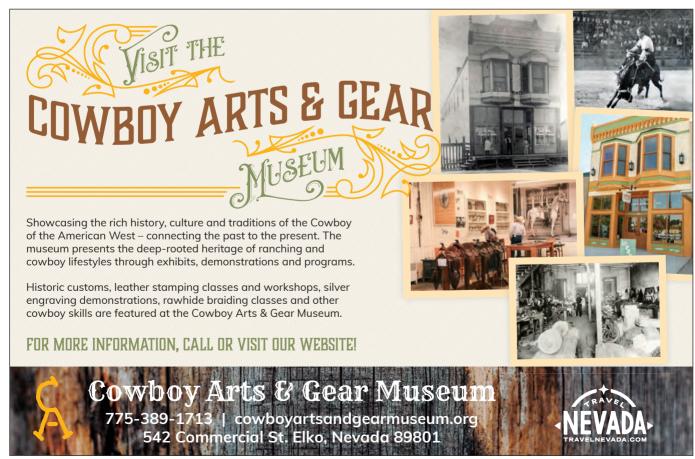
After Emma's singing debut, she continued bringing her talent to the residents of Austin. The young vocalist could often be found around town singing in public. When she was old enough, Emma joined the Austin Methodist church choir, where she would sing every Sunday. At age 10, she performed in the church with international vocalist Baron yon Netzer.

Emma was only 12 when her mother passed

away. As a result, in 1872, her father sent her to school at Mills Seminary in Oakland, where she would study voice and language. It was at Mills Seminary where Emma learned a number of European languages, including Spanish, French, German, and Italian. In addition, she would learn sign language, and even several different dialects of Native American languages.

While in Oakland, Emma attracted audiences from the surrounding areas to hear her sing. She sang in soprano, which is the highest vocal range of all singing types.





HISTORY Emma Nevada

ARIA

"La Sonnambula" in London. It was at that same perfor-From Oakland, Emma's rising fame brought her to mance, that Emma would—for the first time—perform under her eternal stage name Emma Nevada. Emma's Europe. It was there that she began to sing in the operatic style, under the direction of German opera teacher stage name payed homage to the place where she had Madame Mathilde Marchesi in Paris and Vienna. In 1880, grown up, bringing a small piece of the Silver State with Emma got her biggest break to date. She performed in her wherever she went. The stage name stuck, and historenowned Italian opera composer Vincenzo Bellini's ry remembers her primarily as Emma Nevada, instead of Emma Wixom. While in Europe, Emma's success exploded. She traveled full-time, singing in some of the most prestigious and popular operas in the world. Emma even performed for various royalty across Europe. It's rumored she was a favorite of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland's

FINALE

at \$100,000.

Throughout her luxurious and lavish career, Emma never forgot her roots. In 1885, she returned to the U.S. and performed at several venues on the west coast. That same year, Emma even returned to Austin to perform in the church as she had once done. Sources claim that crowds overflowed from the church and poured into the streets, just for a chance to hear her sing.

Oueen Victoria, who gave her a diamond necklace valued

Emma would go on to marry her manager Dr. Raymond Palmer in Paris, and continued to perform to soldout venues across the world for many years. In 1902, she performed a special opera for her alma matter at Mills

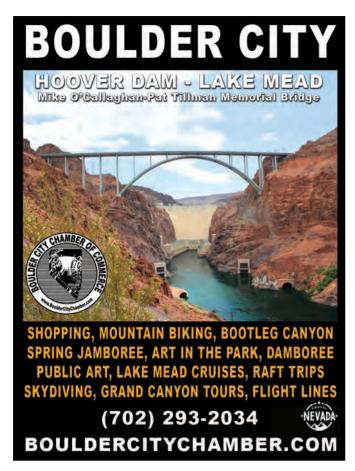
Seminary, as well as a special performance in Nevada City, California. Soon after, she retired from singing, with a brief exception to sing at the crowning of United Kingdom's King George V.

Emma had one daughter named Mignon Nevada. Mignon would be trained in classical opera singing by her mother, and would go on to lead a successful opera career.



Emma Nevada died in Liverpool, England, on June 26, 1940 at the age of 81. And though no known recordings exist of her singing, her soprano voice and Nevada pride will continue to echo throughout history.

Emma in 1901 at the Grand Opera of America









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ANOTHER ROUND OF BAD BOYS THE WILD WEST SAW MORE THAN ITS FAIR SHARE OF CRIMINAL CAPERS.

BY RON SOODALTER

Once again, we step out into the dusty street to face down a handful of early Nevada's baddest bad guys. For those who have read the first two installments of the Outlaws of Nevada trilogy, the list of desperados who chose to make their living the easy way might easily seem endless. Although a few became legend—inspiring ballads, books, and occasional stage productions that glamorized their deeds—most perished prematurely, becoming little more than a footnote in the state's pantheon of knife- and gun-toting lowlifes.

"RATTLESNAKE DICK" THE SECOND

Among the latter was highwayman John Richard Darling. Although he adopted the sobriquet "Rattlesnake Dick" he was not the first to do so, and in fact is suspected of having deliberately purloined the other Rattlesnake's nom du crime. The original Rattlesnake Dick, a Canadian transplant named Richard Barter, had tired of grubbing in the mines and turned to stealing horses, robbing mining camps, and holding up stagecoaches

during the heyday of the California Gold Rush. Until he was shot dead at 26, he was the scourge of the California gold fields.

Nevada's Rattlesnake Dick was a drunkard, wife-beater, and snitch, as well as a consistently unsuccessful thief. His first brush with prison came in 1866, when he and an accomplice robbed a man after beating him senseless. Sentenced to 14 years for assault and robbery, he was pardoned after serving just five years.

Dick was freed a short while before the Sept. 17, 1871, breakout at Carson City's Nevada State Prison—the largest prison break in U.S. history [see "Nevada Outlaws, Part 2" May/June 2019]. He lost no time in snitching on his former fellow inmates. An article in the Sept. 21 "Daily Alta California" states, "Richard Darling, Esq., was pardoned and at liberty several weeks before the break occurred, and we are reliably informed that as soon as he was released he informed an officer in Virginia City that the break would be

Nevada State Prison circa 1870

NEVADAJI A 0 22 DE 20 D.M.

NEVADA-STATE PRISON PRESERVATION SOCIETY

made, and so fearful was he that he would be implicated as assisting the prisoners from the outside, that he requested the officer to have him 'shadowed,' so that he would be able to prove an alibi in case he was suspected." The authorities ignored his warning, and the breakout went off as planned.

The following year, along with two masked associates, Dick robbed a prominent lawyer and political figure near Virginia City. Shortly thereafter, he attempted to sell the victim back his watch, and was promptly arrested, convicted, and sentenced to a term of 10 years, of which he served eight.

While inside, an altercation between Dick and a former confederate proved lethal. A journalist from the "Pontiac [Michigan] Gazette" wrote in the July 9, 1880, issue, "A dispatch from Carson, Nevada, says that W.R. Chamberlain, a convict, was killed at the state's prison Thursday by John R. Darling, alias Rattlesnake Dick, his pal in a robbery case four years ago. He was killed with a pick axe." Dick claimed self-defense, and no action was taken.

Upon his release in 1881, Dick tried honest labor for a change, taking a job as a brakeman on the Carson and Colorado Railroad. Old habits die hard, however, and so did Dick. In August 1883, he argued with a brakeman and fellow ex-convict over a prostitute. Next day, the man shot him dead. John Richard "Rattlesnake Dick" Darling was 43. The "Carson Daily Appeal" of Aug. 24 stated, "Without passing judgment on the method of 'Rattlesnake Dick's' removal, the people of Nevada generally will not go into mourning for his loss. ... He called himself 'Rattlesnake Dick,' and he very much resembled the reptile aforesaid."

There was nothing in the life of Richard Darling to inspire admiration. And although a number of folktales, songs, books, and a recent stage play extol the deeds of the late-19th century outlaw who called himself Rattlesnake Dick, they invariably refer to the other more famous iteration.



RATTLENNALE DICK" KILLED:

Removal of a Noted Desperado.

Yesterday the news was received that Richard Darling, alias "Rattle snake Dick," had been killed in Hawthorne by James Fresh. Dick was well known in this section and the verdict was general that it was not a particularly frigid day for the State when he expired. The Chronicle of last night has the fullowing account :

Richard Darling, alias "Ratt e snake Dick," was shot and killed at Hawthorne at half past 6 o'clock this morning by a man named Jimmy Fresh. Dick and Fresh had a row in a dance-house last night over a "blonde." The dispute resulted in "Rattlesnake" threatening to shoot Fresh. The men then separated. Fresh went out and got drunk, and this morning entered a saloon at Haw horne and was boasting of what he would do to his adversary should they again meet. At that instant "Rattlesnake" entered the saloon, when Fresh exclaimed. "You --- , you threatened to shoot me last n ght -take that!" and drawing his revolver shot the other twice in the head. Dick fe!l to the floor and died instantly. Fresh was arrested and lodged in Without passing judgement upon the method of Rattlesnake Dick's "removal," the people of Nevada generally will not go into mourning for his loss. Fresh, the man who did the "taking off" of the Rattlesnake, has been working as a brakemau an the C. & C. road;

The man has been several years in the State Prison, and in 1880 murdered a fellow prisoner named Chamberlain by beating him with a pick handle. He called himself "Rattlesnuke Dick," and he very much resembled the reptile aforesaid.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

BILL MAYFIELD: ALL FOR DIXIE

William Mayfield was a died-in-the-wool southerner—Georgia-born, and proud of it. And when the Civil War broke out, he was one of many in Nevada to take the Confederate side. At this time, nearly all of Nevada's magistrates and law officers were Union sympathizers. Along with a friend and fellow Southerner calling himself Cherokee Bob, Mayfield beat a territorial deputy marshal nearly to death. Before the ink on the resultant court papers had dried, Bob wounded another deputy, and fled the state, while Bill managed to kill former U.S. Deputy Marshal and then-current Carson City Marshal John L. Blackburn.

The marshal had a reputation as a tough customer, having killed at least two men who had had the temerity to speak against the Union. Apparently,

Mayfield had earlier hidden fugitive Henry Plummer in his cabin, and when Marshal Blackburn came to the door with a warrant, Bill refused him entry. Blackburn then repaired to the local saloon and proceeded to drink himself into a foul state of mind.

Mayfield later entered the establishment, whereupon the liquor-impaired Blackburn threatened to arrest him. Mayfield defied him, and by some accounts, Blackburn attempted to draw his pistol. Bill swiftly unsheathed his Bowie knife and stabbed the lawman to death. In the chaos that followed, Mayfield escaped, only to be turned in for the sizeable reward that had been posted on his head.

Bill was jailed in Carson City. When anti-Secessionists in the community threatened to save the court the cost of a trial, the governor sent 50 soldiers to protect



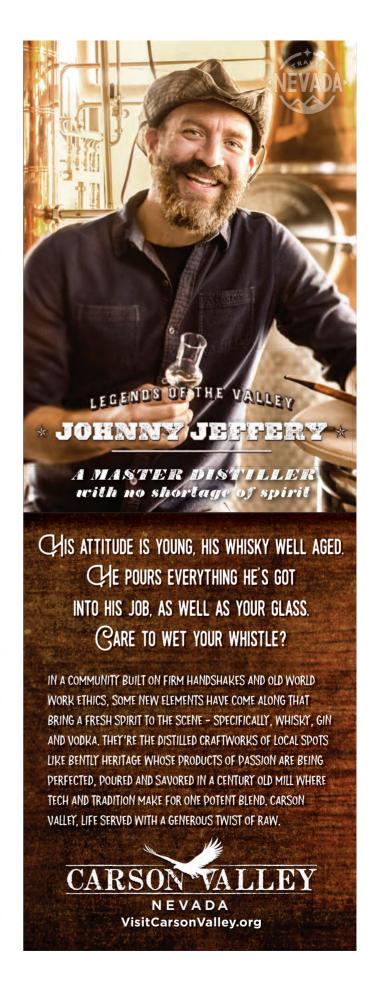
the prisoner. Despite being represented by both a Unionist and a pro-Southern lawyer, Bill was faced with an overwhelmingly Republican jury. Not surprisingly, he was found guilty, and sentenced to hang.

However, a female friend smuggled him the tools required to saw through his leg chains, and he escaped on a waiting horse. Mayfield rode to California, and then to what is now Idaho, where he reunited with Cherokee Bob. The two traveled to Florence, Idaho, where they converted a log cabin into a gambling den and became partners.

By this time, the two men had fallen in love with the same woman—an attractive red-headed divorcee named Cynthia—and in a true-life version of the movie "Paint Your Wagon," they shared her, an arrangement which, at least for the moment, suited all three. In time, however, the situation became untenable, and—friends that they were—the men allowed her to choose between them. She chose Bob, and the partners amicably went their separate ways.

Shortly thereafter, Cynthia's jealous ex-husband dispatched Cherokee Bob with a shotgun. With his dying breath, he exhorted Cynthia to return to Bill, which she did. Unfortunately, Bill soon followed his bosom friend in death when a card-player took exception to Bill's dealing skills. Lying in wait as Bill crossed a muddy street, the disgruntled player fired both barrels of his shotgun into the unsuspecting gambler and Rebel partisan, killing him instantly. Bill Mayfield's luck—he had reportedly won upwards of \$50,000 at the gaming tables—had abruptly come to an end.

After a suitable period of mourning both her paramours, the seductive Cynthia turned to prostitution, reportedly becoming even more notorious. According to one chronicler, she "continued to win admirers. Some say she caused more separations, quarrels, and deaths than any other woman in the Rocky Mountains."



33

NICANOR RODRIGUEZ, THE SPANISH KING

Young Nicanor Rodriguez came by his disdain for hard work honestly. Born to a wealthy family in Spain around 1840, he enjoyed all the luxuries, education, and travel commensurate with a youth of his time and class. And when the 15-year-old expressed a desire to see what life offered in the New World, his indulgent father sent him off to Mexico City with coins in his pocket.

The young teenager soon grew bored with life in the Mexican capital and made his way to Gold-Rush California. Seeking adventure, he joined the robber band of former physician and Mexican War veteran Tom Bell, and was soon robbing travelers in the Trinity Alps. He got more than he had bargained for, however, when a posse put bullets in his arm and leg, and hauled him in for trial.

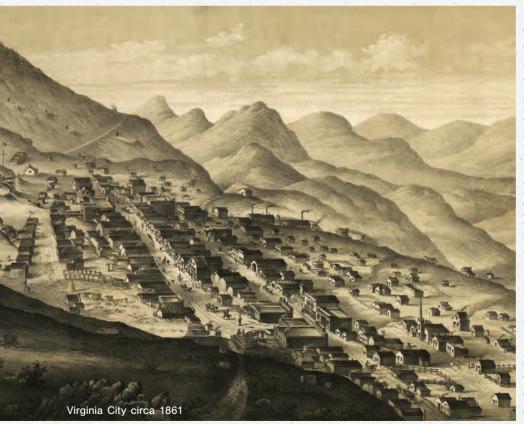
Sentenced to a 10-year prison term, Nicanor was soon granted a gubernatorial pardon due to his tender age. Failing to take advantage of this stroke of good fortune, he traveled to The Comstock, where he commenced to steal gold and silver amalgamssometimes, as much as a wheelbarrow-full-directly from the stamp mills.



PHOTOS: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Nicanor also embarked on a successful career of stagecoach robbery. On one occasion, he happened to see a driver loading three silver bars into the boot of the Virginia City-to-Reno stage. After swiftly buying a ticket, he charmed the unsuspecting driver into letting him ride "on the box" with him. Over the course of the journey, he would distract the driver by pointing out an animal, or an oddity of landscape. Each time the driver looked away, the youth would slip a bar from the boot, and throw it to the side of the road, making a mental note where each of the silver bricks landed. Immediately upon arriving in Reno, he hired a buggy and retrieved the treasure.

Nicanor eventually made his home in Virginia City, where the handsome, charming and—thanks to his illicit occupation-affluent gentleman became something of a celebrity. Known



for his elegant soirees, to which he invited local magistrates, bankers, and officers of the law, he was commonly referred to as the Spanish King.

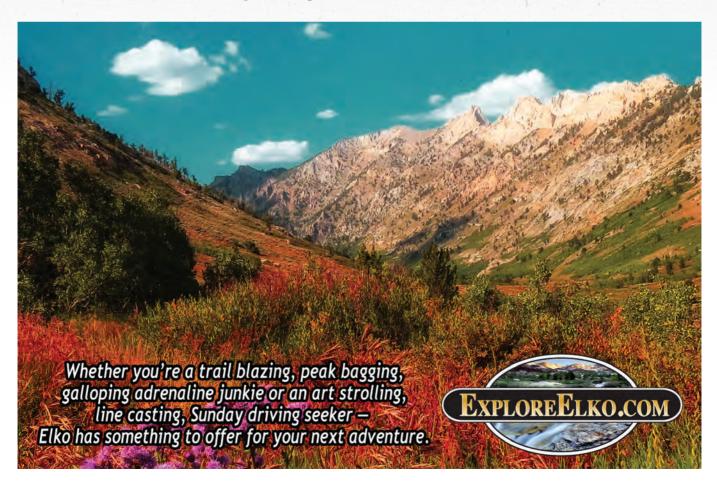
The dashing young bandit was often suspected and arrested, but never convicted. The local Mexicans looked upon

him as a Robin Hood-type figure, although—contrary to the legendary English outlaw—Nicanor stole from the rich and kept the loot for himself.

At one point, he attempted to turn an honest dollar, going into partnership in the operation of an Austin saloon with fellow thief Jack Harris. But as the big strikes moved elsewhere, the town dried up and in time, vigilantes lynched Harris for his crimes. Nicanor returned to his chosen profession and was soon caught with a sack of stolen amalgam. His lawyer, however, convinced the jury that the elegant and obviously well-heeled Spanish King had no need to steal, and he was acquitted.

By now, it had become increasingly apparent that Nicanor was indeed behind the myriad stage-coach robberies in the area. The "Territorial Enterprise" actually referred to him as the "king of Nevada stage robbers." Now the leader of a gang, he branched out into cattle rustling, stealing the beeves in Utah and driving them across the line to the butcher shops in Pioche.

Eventually, Nicanor was again arrested, and this time it looked as if the charges would actually stick. He broke jail, stole a horse, and headed for Mexico, whereupon his trail grew cold. Aside from stories that later emerged of a mysterious, wealthy, and sophisticated ranchero who raised horses near Mazatlán, no record exists of the Spanish King once he fled across the southern border.





PAINTED BY NEIL BOYLE FOR HAROLDS CLUB, RENO

BILL CARR: AN IRREDEEMABLE CAD

John William "Bill" Carr was a professional gambler who plied his trade in the early Comstock days. He was also a card sharp, and not a very good one. Deciding that his lack of finesse with the deck would eventually land him in trouble, Bill forsook the gaming tables in favor of a highwayman's lot. He established a pattern of robbing passengers as they approached the Thousand Wells Station on the Overland Trail. According to the Salt Lake City "Deseret News" of December 1860, "After each robbery he would return to the station and stay as long as his plunder lasted."

Ultimately, station manager and part-owner Bernhard Cherry figured out the nature of Bill's activities and managed to foil one of his attempts at highway robbery. Bill never forgave him. Sometime thereafter, Cherry grew ill, sold his interest in the station, and moved into a Carson City hotel. Bill, mistakenly assuming that Cherry carried the money from the sale on his person, sensed an opportunity to both enrich himself and exact revenge. He moved into the same hotel, and somehow managed to endear himself to his target. After enticing Cherry with the prospect of an investment opportunity, Bill and an accomplice walked the unsuspecting victim to a remote section of town, whereupon he shot Cherry in the head, killing him instantly. All they found in the dead man's pocket were a \$20 gold piece and a silver half-dollar.

Bill and his cohort fled to California, but the two were soon apprehended and extradited to Carson City for trial. Bill's accomplice turned state's evidence, and after a oneday trial, the robber, murderer, and former card cheat was convicted and sentenced to hang.

From Western Utah.

Sheriff Blackburn arrived in Carson, on November 13th, with Carr and Rudsill, the supposed murderers of Cherry who was killed sometime before. He had followed them over the mountains into California where he found and arrested them. A petition was circulated and signed by many citizens, asking Judge Cradlebaugh to hold an extra session of the United States District Court in order to give the prisoners a speedy trial, which, as reported, was granted and the Court was to sit for that purpose, on the 19th.

Mining business was active, and many who had been to their respective places of abode ir. California to vote at the election on the 6th of November, had returned.

There seems to be a goodly number of aspirants for office in that region, who are agitating the "Nevada Territory" question, which is all right enough. If the people wish for the organization of a new Territory and Congress will listen and hear their prayers in that respect favorably, nobody in this part of Utah will oppose the measure, although they are not very anxious about the matter, either one way or the other, having no particular fears about future collisions or "contamination,"

According to the report of Mr. Waters, census marshal, he visited 2,041 houses, in which he found a population of 6,870. In addition to this number, he took the names of—but did not include as citizens—1,091 persons, who gave their names in California. In his travels, he met with 200 deserted cabins; he found 190 farms, containing 77,076 acres, or about 405? acres to each farm; 14,865 acres of this is under fence. He reports 6,856 head of oxen, cows and calves; 600 head of horses and mules; 300 sheep and 350 hogs, with 12 sawmills in operation.

A company had been formed, called the Great Western Coal Mining Company, with Judge Cradlebaugh as president, for the purpose of testing the coal reported to have been found near the mail route, some ninety miles this side of Carson, a short time since. Mr. James, Representative from that County, informs us that there has no coal been found in that region, and that the whole concern is a humbug.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

On Nov. 30, 1860, Bill was escorted to a newly-built gallows, which the sheriff had deliberately constructed near the site of Bernhard Cherry's murder. He was walked up the steps to the platform, and his wrists and ankles pinioned. Around the scaffold stood "a crowd of spectators totaling ten thousand, including five hundred women." Just before the trap was sprung, Bill suddenly shouted, "Do you see that light? My God! I do at last!" After hanging long enough to "determine that resuscitation was an impossibility," the body of John William Carr was remanded to an unmarked grave outside of town.

A LAST WORD

In his old age, Samuel Langhorne Clemens, who as the young Mark Twain had chronicled the goings-on in Nevada's rough-and-tumble mining camps, looked back longingly on his time in the Silver State:

"If I were a few years younger I would come out. I would renew my youth...and have the time of my life. I would march the unforgotten and unforgettable antiques by and name their names and give them reverend hail and farewell as they passed[:] the desperadoes, who made life a joy...: Sam Brown, Farmer Peel, Bill Mayfield, Six-Fingered Jake, Jack Williams, and the rest of the crimson discipleship.... Those were the days, those old ones. They will come no more....They were full to the brim with the wine of life. There have been no others like them. It chokes me up to think of them."

These were, however, the romanticized reminiscences of a disillusioned, wistful old man, who apparently forgot having witnessed an execution in 1868 Virginia City: "I saw a man hanged the other day," the young Mark Twain wrote. "He was the first man ever hanged in this city..., where the first twenty-six graves in the cemetery were those of men who died by shots and stabs. I saw it all. I took exact note of every detail... and I never wish to see it again.... Ugh!"

For those lawbreakers who committed any of a compendium of offenses, a swift, brutal end was often the result. Bill Carr was far from the only desperado to grace the business end of a short rope. Yet, despite knowing the grisly fate that almost certainly awaited them, scores of Nevada's outlaws nonetheless chose to follow the path of mayhem and easy money, leaving their victims strewn along the way, and ultimately attaining for themselves a grisly death and only the merest of mentions in the annals of the Old West.

A New Spot TO SINKYOUR TEETHINTO

A delicious future awaits Reno's Rattlesnake Club.

STORY BY ENGRID BARNETT PHOTOS BY KIPPY S. SPILKER

The Rattlesnake Club offers a new vision for elevated dining in northern Nevada. At the helm of the project is pulmonologist and restauranteur Dr. Jeff Bacon. He's on a mission to bring the best in locally grown, seasonal fare to the region. To facilitate this vision, he's assembled a winning team which includes Executive Chef Ethan Phelps and Managers Trish Ide and Dave Grayden.

The Reno restaurant has overcome numerous road bumps since opening in June 2019, making the club's hard-won success all the sweeter.



A BIT OF A BITE

Renovating the restaurant came with unwelcomed surprises. What began as a quick restoration of the Country Garden Restaurant (located in the Arlington Gardens Mall) ballooned into a \$3 million construction project, including a 6,000-square-foot addition. The renovation also featured an adjoining café/coffee bar for Jeff's favorite hobby—coffee roasting. Outside, there's a 600-square-foot greenhouse, plus terraces and an expansive patio.

Along with a time-consuming property restoration, the restaurant got off to a rough start for other reasons. Within a month of opening, Jeff declared a two-week closure and saw a 50 percent staff turnover. As he explains, "The pantry was bare. The room was too boomy (we've since added sound-dampening panels), and I needed to take a more hands-on approach. I've had quite the learning curve so far. I've found [success in the restaurant business] all goes back to employees. The people helping me are key to the Rattlesnake Club's success."



New York-style cheesecake MARCH/APRIL 2020 39



After assembling a new team and revamping his role, Jeff reopened the club to rave reviews. A visit to the club today reveals that the doctor's ambitious concept continues to blossom into delicious fruition.

The menu changes about six times per year to reflect the availability of fresh, seasonal ingredients: delectable duck breast is rendered crisp and served with wild rice pilaf and seasonal vegetables; seared diver scallops rest on a bed of arugula with crispy prosciutto and carrot puree; and a bourbon-marinated bison New York steak with house-made crispy fingerling potatoes are just a few examples. Already, the Club's pizza selection has

become a favorite, with pies featuring ingredients like heirloom tomatoes, wild mushrooms, Humboldt Fog goat cheese, garden-fresh herbs, honey, and more. A gluten-free cauliflower crust is also available.

The restaurant's interior is equally stunning, boasting 25-foot ceilings and a well-appointed dining area punctuated by iced-gray Oregon granite. Outside, you'll find the club's greenhouse, which is used to produce seasonal herbs and vegetables. It also holds the distinction of being the only large on-premise restaurant greenhouse in Reno. Next to the greenhouse, guests find the inviting patio perfect for summertime dining and special events.







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TASTY TRANSMUTATION

Jeff grew up in Michigan and has fond memories of a Detroit riverfront restaurant named the Rattlesnake Club. Before relocating to Reno, he completed his residency in Salt Lake City, falling in love with the American West's landscapes and climate in the process. When it came to naming his restaurant, he looked to his old favorite and it proved an easy decision with plenty of brand potential.

When selecting a chef to head up his new venture, the decision proved trickier. Jeff explains Chef Ethan has been with the restaurant since its opening but was initially hired as the pastry chef. Allowing him more oversight as executive chef has precipitated much of the Club's current success according to Jeff.

Chef Ethan's resume includes the iconic French Laundry restaurant in Yountville, California. He's graced the Rattlesnake with exquisitely prepared American cuisine and a delectable selection of bread, patisseries, and mouthwatering goods baked daily. You can find many of these items in the adjoining café. From tantalizing frangipane-filled croissants to melt-in-your-mouth cookies, they pair beautifully with Jeff's house-roasted, fair-trade coffees.

Jeff has officially crowned the glass-lined walls of the roasting room his "office." After all, he's a self-confessed coffee-roasting addict who started in his garage with a small roaster. Jeff envisions making coffee tastings available in the future.



READY TO RATTLE

But first on his agenda remains the evolution of the restaurant side of the business. The immediate future includes an upgrade to a more formal dining establishment and an increasingly wine-heavy focus.

"The direction we're going is stocking a lot of small boutique wines. Stuff that you can't buy. You won't recognize some of the labels," he says. "That's where the training of the staff comes into play. They'll be prepared to make solid wine-list recommendations. There are a lot of smaller vendors in the Reno-Tahoe area, and we're not going to limit ourselves to utilizing just two or three of them."

Jeff also trains staff for exclusive wine tastings, and the restaurant has branched out into

winemaker's dinners, too. Jeff envisions more pairing events in the intimate setting of the establishment's greenhouse. This verdant environment will allow guests to explore the spot where many of the restaurant's ingredients are grown while savoring food that also draws on a variety of local purveyors. The Rattlesnake Club sources ingredients from Plan B Farm, Dayton Valley Aquaponics, Sierra Seafood, Sierra Meats, and G&S Packaging.

Not only will special events allow locals to get up close and personal with the food chain, but they'll also highlight the establishment's most unique feature, the greenhouse. As temperatures rise, this greenhouse will be a flurry of activity. Jeff explains, "In the next few months, we'll be spending a lot of time in the greenhouse. Last summer, I started with herbs and basics. But this year, I want it to not



only supply heirloom tomatoes but also zucchini, winter squash, carrots, peppers, and lettuce. And of course, we'll keep growing herbs, particularly lemony variants that work well with our ever-expanding cocktail menu."

One thing's for sure. Expect to see delicious developments at the Rattlesnake Club in the coming year.

TAKE A BITE

The Rattlesnake Club 606 West Plumb Lane Reno, NV 89509 rattlesnakeclubreno.com 775-384-2470

THE RATTLESNAKE CLUB'S ORGANIC LAVENDER SYRUP

Why does the Rattlesnake Club's house manager Dave Grayden love this recipe? "We use the lavender syrup produced by this recipe for our Lavender Latte, but there are infinite flavors to play with it." Look for Rattlesnake Club's forthcoming cocktail menu where Dave will work his magic, crafting a new selection of specialty drinks created to showcase local, organic ingredients.



1/2 to 1 cup of fresh lavender (de-stemmed)

- 2 cups of Demerara (or other organic raw cane sugar)
- 2 cups of water
- 1. Boil water and add sugar until dissolved.
- 2. Lower heat to simmer and add lavender.
- 3. Simmer for 10-15 minutes. Keep in mind that less time equates with less flavor, and more time means more flavor.
- 4. Let cool then strain through a fine mesh strainer. Cover and chill.
- 5. Use drops or teaspoons at a time to sweeten drinks instead of refined sugar.





BY MEGG MUELLER & ERIC CACHINERO

With an arsenal of abandoned historical buildings and eerie locations, Nevada can occasionally be spooky. Much of the energy stems from the state's mining history, which got grizzly and dark at times. Mine fires and construction catastrophes are engrained in Nevada, as are Wild West-style murders. Some people attribute these factors to the reported hauntings at many of the state's oldest mines and buildings.

Not everything paranormal needs to be scary, though. Many people believe in the presence of residents past, whose ties to a particular area simply withstand the test of time.

Whether you believe in ghosts or not, there's a strong case to be made that different buildings or areas can affect our senses in different ways. This certainly has been the case with countless paranormal investigators that have spent countless hours in the Silver State searching for something spectral.

THE MIZPAH HOTEL

"The No. 1 Haunted Hotel in America" is not a moniker some properties would enjoy, but the Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah happily embraces the lure of its past. When "USA Today" readers chose the Mizpah as the best haunted hotel in its 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards, it was no surprise—the 113-year-old hotel has long been a hotbed of paranormal rumors.

Built in 1907, the Mizpah was—at five-stories tall—for 25 years the tallest building in Nevada. It was built while the town was enjoying the riches of the silver boom, and it was built to impress potential visitors from the east with the riches and luxury Tonopah had to offer.

In the 1920s, the story of The Lady in Red was born with, sadly, a young woman's death. The tale goes that a prostitute was strangled in the hallway on the fifth floor by a jealous lover. Her spirit is the one most frequently discussed by ghost hunters and visitors who have claimed to have been visited by her during their stay. She's reportedly visited male visitors in their sleep, floated in the hallways, and has even been known to leave behind pearls.

The room where she stayed was renovated in 2011, after the property had been shuttered for 10 years. Guests who spend the night may catch a glimpse of the Lady, or perhaps the two children that have been known to roam the halls asking visitors why they are there before running away, leaving small handprints behind. It's also been reported that the spirits of two miners inhabit the basement. The two are said to have been murdered by a third who got greedy after the trio robbed a bank vault in the Mizpah's basement. Workers have said the two miners live on in the hotel, playing tricks on unsuspecting folks.





CHIP CARROON

A now-debunked story about Nevada Senator Key Pittman has drawn its fair share of paranormal enthusiasts, as well. The story went that Pittman died in the hotel just before the election of 1940, and his supporters didn't want word getting out until the election results were known. They kept his body on ice in a hotel bathroom until the election was over, and while Pittman has been placed in Reno at the time of his death, ghostly visages of the senator have been reported.

As mentioned, not all locations enjoy the haunted status the Mizpah enjoys, but the hotel encourages guests to record any encounters they have with spirits in the hotel and has even been known to leave a friendly replica of The Lady in Red in closets for lucky guests to find. Why are they lucky? Because finding the Lady results in a half-priced room for the night. And don't worry, guests are notified at the front desk of the possibility of a visitor in their closet.—*Megg Mueller*



THE GOLDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Goldfield's magnificence echoes through time. Imagine the lavish lifestyles, avant-garde architecture, and gluttonous wealth that poured from Nevada's largest town: first-class hotels, the world's richest gold mines, opulent parades featuring exotic animals, prize boxing matches in the streets, and a saloon so large it required 80 bartenders to keep up with demand. In 1907, Goldfield truly was the epicenter of Nevada, and possibly the entire U.S.

Goldfield is not without its share of gloom, though. The town's history is entangled in a host of murders, deadly fires, and abandoned buildings, leading to an environment of pungent supernatural activity.

On Aug. 4, 1907—under full Masonic ritual—the cornerstone of the Goldfield High School was laid using a trowel made from pure Comstock silver. According to the Goldfield Historical Society, "Mortar was spread on top of the stone, first pouring corn as the symbol of the heavenly bounty; second, wine as the symbol of joy and gladness; third, pouring oil, symbolic of divine peace and finished with a prayer." By Nov. 18 of that year, the high school was completed at a cost of \$100,000. The raising of the flag along with the release of two white doves marked the unofficial opening, followed by an official dedication on Jan. 31, 1908, when the first classes were taught at the school.

The three-story building held 12 classrooms, two bathrooms, an auditorium, and several storage rooms and offices, with a capacity of 450 students. The school success was short-lived, though. Goldfield's incredible wealth began to fade several years after the school was built, with the ore production dropping and the largest mine in town boarding up its tunnels by 1919. Another major blow was dealt to Goldfield in 1923, when a fire caused by a moonshine still destroyed most of the town's wooden buildings; the high school, constructed mostly of stone and brick on the exterior, survived. By 1953, the school became completely abandoned, due to a weakening foundation.

Today, the Goldfield High School oozes haunted ambiances. So much so, that the town offers paid haunted tours. According to Just Jeri Photography—the company offering the tours—guests of the haunted tour, "May hear footsteps of the long deceased teachers who taught there; and moaning from the principal who kept children locked in closets for misbehaving...Feel the spirits who haunt the school because of the tragedies that took place there."

A portion of the proceeds from the haunted tours are given to the Goldfield Historical Society, which uses the money to provide major repairs to the historic school.

—Eric Cachinero ■

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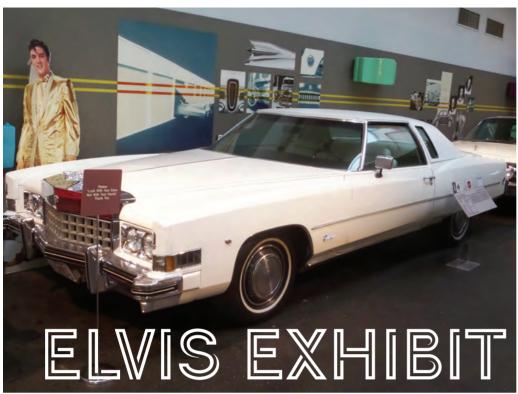
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Carson Valley Visitors Authority	visitcarsonvalley.org
City of West Wendover	westwendovercity.com
Cowboy Arts & Gear Museum	cowboyartsandgearmuseum.org
Elko Convention & Visitor's Authority	exploreelko.com
Hawthorne Convention Center	visitmineralcounty.com
Holiday Inn Club Vacations/David Walley's Resort	hcv.vacations/nevadamag
KNPB Channel 5 PBS	knpb.org
LVCVA/Laughlin	visitlaughlin.com
Mesquite Gaming	casablancaresort.com
Nevada Arts Council	nvculture.org
Nevada B & B Guild	nevadabandb.com
Nevada Department of Tourism	travelnevada.com
Nevada Historical Society	nvhistoricalsociety.org
Nevada Silver Trails	nevadasilvertrails.com
Nevada State Old Time Fiddlers' Contest	nevadafiddlerscontest.com
Nevada's Cowboy Country	cowboycountry.com
Pony Express Territory	loneliestroad.us
Renown Regional Medical Center	renown.org
Shooting the West	shootingthewest.org
Town of Pahrump	visitpahrump.com
Town of Tonopah	tonopahnevada.com





THE NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM IN RENO DISPLAYS THE KING'S RIDE.

elebrate Elvis Presley, "The King of Rock and Roll," with a visit to the National Automobile Museum and view the famous 1973 Cadillac Eldorado Coupe once owned by one of America's most important cultural forces. Born Elvis Aaron Presley on Jan. 8, 1935, the "King" would have been 85 years old this year. Elvis is regarded as one of the most significant cultural icons of the 20th century. The 1973 Cadillac Eldorado Coupe originally owned by the legendary singer and actor now resides in the National Automobile Museum in Reno. Visitors can take a step back in history with this and other star-studded favorites during their next visit to one of the top automobile museums in the country.

This spectacular Cadillac Custom Eldorado was a birthday gift to Elvis Presley from his father, Vernon Presley. Elvis drove the Cadillac as his personal car for several months until he gave it to his local karate instructor, Kang Rhee of Memphis, Tennessee, who instructed Elvis up to a 7th-degree black belt. When Elvis acquired the car, he received the full option package as well as a custom hood and radiator cap. The white exterior, white interior automobile weighs 4,897 pounds and has a V-8 cylinder OHV engine with 235 horsepower.

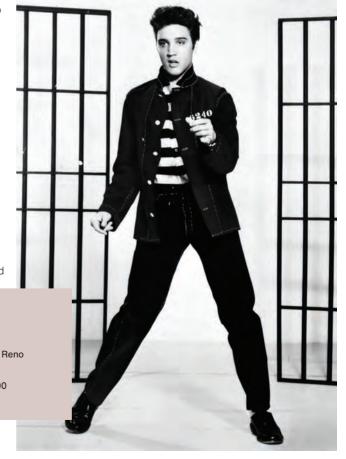
The front-wheel drive Cadillac Eldorado was first introduced in 1967 and received substantial exterior styling changes for 1973. The Eldorado Coupe sported

a bold, new "egg crate" grille attached to the front bumper. When the bumper was struck at low speeds, the entire grille retracted inward several inches, preventing damage to the grille and front-end sheet metal. The hood, trunk lid, and bumpers were redesigned, and the parking and turn signal lights wrapped around the leading edges of the front fenders. Sales of the Eldorado Coupe numbered 42,136 for 1973.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Elvis' Car Exhibit National Automobile Museum, Reno Ongoing

automuseum.org, 775-333-9300





COUNTRY-ROCK BAND BRINGS 'THE OWL TOUR' TO T-MOBILE ARENA.

ulti-platinum, Grammy Award-winning Zac Brown Band has announced an extension of the group's highly successful summer 2019 "The Owl Tour" to include spring 2020 dates. The tour makes a Las Vegas stop at T-Mobile Arena Friday, March 27 at 8 p.m.

"The Owl Tour" celebrates and features music from the band's newest album, "The Owl," as well as hits from the band's entire discography and a diverse range of cover songs that have become a signature part of any Zac Brown Band show. Featuring the dynamic melodies they have long been known for and new, genre-bending sounds, the album and tour draw inspiration from the mythology and mystery surrounding the great horned owl that can see perfectly in

the night, serving as a guide when we need sight even in the darkest of moments.

The spring 2020 leg of "The Owl Tour" follows 2019's 32-stop tour that brought the band to some of the nation's most storied music venues including Boston's Fenway Park, where Zac Brown Band played two consecutive soldout shows. The spring 2020 leg of 'The Owl Tour' features support from Amos Lee and Jason "Poo Bear" Boyd throughout the run.

"The energy throughout 'The Owl Tour' has been electric at every stop," says Zac Brown. "It's been an unforgettable year and we've had so much fun sharing the new music with our fans."



WHERE

T-Mobile Arena

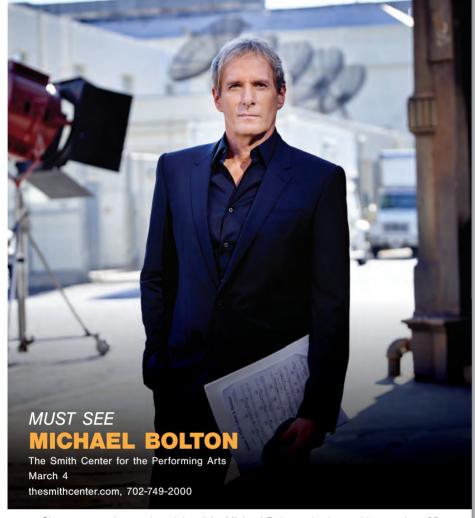


WHEN March 27



TICKETS

t-mobilearena.com, 702-692-1600



Singer, songwriter, and social activist Michael Bolton, who has sold more than 65 million records globally and continues to tour the world, performs at The Smith Center Wednesday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

2019 marked Bolton's 50th year of making contributions to the entertainment industry, having been signed at age 16. Bolton remains committed to humanitarian causes, especially through the Michael Bolton Charities, now in its 25th year.

Bolton has written with some of the greatest and most diverse talent of our time, including Bob Dylan, Paul Stanley, Lady Gaga, Diane Warren, and David Foster. Bolton's songs have been recorded by the likes of KISS, Kanye West, Jay Z, Barbra Streisand, Cher, and Marc Anthony. Continuing to tour the world each year, Michael has performed with iconic performers such as Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Renee Fleming, and BB King.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Wynn Las Vegas has announced the return of iconic singer Diana Ross with six new performances in April 2020. Ross presents her new residency show, "Diana Ross" at Wynn Las Vegas' Encore Theater on select dates from April 8-18 at 8 p.m.



TICKETS

wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-9966

Keep Memory Alive honors singer-songwriter and musician **Neil Diamond** at the 24th annual Power of Love gala on Saturday, March 7 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena. The celebration of Diamond's career includes performances by an impressive list of contemporary artists, cuisine from celebrity chefs, and live and silent auctions with one-of-a-kind products and experiences up for bid.



TICKETS

keepmemoryalive.org/power-of-love-2020, 702-263-9797

HOTTEST SHOWS

BRUNO MARS

MGM March 6-7; April 20, 24-25 parktheaterlv.com 877-880-0880

LIONEL RICHIE

Wynn March 11, 13-14 wynnlasvegas.com 702-770-9966

POST MALONE

MGM March 14 mgmresorts.com 702-891-1111

ANDRÉ RIEU

T-Mobile Arena March 20 t-mobilearena.com 702-692-1600

ANA GABRIEL

Mandalay Bay March 21 mandalaybay.com 702-632-7777

KANSAS

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts March 21 thesmithcenter.com 702-749-2000

BRYAN ADAMS

Wynn April 22, 24-25 wynnlasvegas.com 702-770-9966

LITTLE BIG TOWN

The Colosseum April 26 caesars.com 866-227-5938



March 14-15

SILVER STATE CHILI COOK-OFF

Petrack Park, Pahrump visitpahrump.com

The annual Silver State Chili Cook-Off returns to Pahrump March 14-15. The event takes place at Petrack Park and offers celebrity judges, live music, gun fighters, raffles, a car show, vendors, and much more. The event features red chili, chile verde, vegetarian chile, and many more chili varieties.



April 1-5

SHOOTING THE WEST

Winnemucca shootingthewest.org. 775-623-3501

The Shooting the West photography symposium returns to Winnemucca April 1-5, and promises another year of exciting workshops, lectures, and demonstrations for photographers of all skill levels. The event has showcased some of the west's biggest names in photography, bringing the latest trade techniques and secrets to attendees.

Through March 9 SNOWFEST!

North Lake Tahoe tahoesnowfest.org, 530-583-7167

6 JOE NICHOLS

Peppermill Concert Hall. West Wendover wendoverfun.com. 800-217-0049

6 TLC

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

6-7 BOB ZANY FEATURING ALONZO BODDEN

Cactus Petes, Jackpot cactuspetes.com, 775-755-2321

7 311

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

7 BEACH BOYS

Silver Legacy, Reno silverlegacyreno.com, 775-325-7401

14 DAUGHTRY

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

13-14 SKID ROW

Cactus Petes, Jackpot cactuspetes.com, 775-755-2321

13-15 ELY FILM FESTIVAL

elynevada.net, 775-289-3720

14 LYNYRD SKYNYRD

Reno Events Center, Reno visitrenotahoe.com, 775-335-8800

14 ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRY

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

15 FLOGGING MOLLY

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

20 JOSH TURNER

Silver Legacy, Reno silverlegacyreno.com, 775-325-7401

20-22 MONSTER JAM

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, Reno monsterjam.com, 800-745-3000

21 DANCING WITH THE STARS: LIVE!

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

21 ROB LOWE

Silver Legacy, Reno silverlegacyreno.com, 775-325-7401

27-28 DIAMOND RIO

Cactus Petes, Jackpot cactuspetes.com, 775-755-2321

27-28; April 3-4 "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"

Henderson Pavilion, Henderson hendersonpavilion.com, 702-267-4849

28 LEWIS BLACK

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



CLARK COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

Logandale ccfair.com, 888-876-3247

Approximately 80,000 people attend each spring, filling their need for carnival rides, entertainment, crafts, exhibits, a livestock show, pig racing, mutton bustin', and, of course, great food.



VIRGINIA CITY GRAND PRIX Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

C Street gets loud as the roar of motorcycles hits full throttle during the Virginia City Grand Prix, one of the largest and most competitive off-road motorcycle races in the west. The annual two-day event draws more than 1,000 racers to The Comstock to battle the rough terrain for glory.

April 8-12

April 25-26

3-4 GREAT VEGAS FESTIVAL OF BEER

Downtown Las Vegas greatvegasbeer.com

3-4 SAM RIGGS

Cactus Petes, Jackpot cactuspetes.com, 775-755-2321

5 ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

MGM Grand, Las Vegas mgmgrand.com, 877-880-0880

11 EASTER EGG EXTRAVAGANZA

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

11 HENDERSON BLUESFEST

Henderson Pavilion, Henderson hendersonpavilion.com, 702-267-4849

17-18 JOE DIFFIE

Cactus Petes, Jackpot cactuspetes.com, 775-755-2321

18 LAS VEGAS CITY OF LIGHTS JAZZ & R&B

Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas yourjazz.com

23-25 LAUGHLIN RIVER RUN

Laughlin laughlinriverrun.com, 949-502-3434

23-25 RENO JAZZ FESTIVAL

University of Nevada, Reno unr.edu/rjf, 775-784-4046

24 ELI YOUNG BAND

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

24-26 GENOA WESTERN HERITAGE DAYS

Genoa genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

25 2020 MONSTER ENERGY SUPERCROSS

Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas unlytickets.com, 702-739-3267





RENOWNED EXHIBIT RECEIVES 108 NEW ARTIFACTS.

More than 108 years since the RMS *Titanic* set sail on its fateful voyage across the Atlantic and for the first time in many years, "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition" at Luxor Hotel and Casino introduces 108 new artifacts to The Strip's premier educational attraction. The new artifacts include never-beforeseen items that have been under careful preservation since being recovered from the ocean floor and items that have never been on display in the Las Vegas exhibition.

The exhibition includes new technologies and a photo station where visitors are able to pose with prop lifejackets from a major motion picture. For the first time, visitors are also able to take personal photos within the exhibition.

The Venetian, Las Vegas
Daily
venetian.com, 702-414-1000

LOST CITY MUSEUM KIDS DAY

Lost City Museum, Overton
April 18
lostcitymuseum.org, 702-397-2193

'THE E. L. WIEGAND COLLECTION: REPRESENTING THE WORK ETHIC IN AMERICAN ART'

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through April 19 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

'PROTOTYPE FOR NEW UNDERSTANDING'

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through May 24 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333



A few highlights include:

- · Chef's Baker Hat
- First-Class Smoking-Room Chandelier
- · Sole of a Golf Shoe
- · Bain Marie Cooking Pot
- Alligator Skin Wallet
- Calling Card of Madame Zephey

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to share this special piece of history with Las Vegas and visitors from around the world," says Alex Klingelhofer, executive director of collections for Experiential Media Group. "These priceless artifacts, which have been painstakingly recovered and preserved, belonged to real people aboard the RMS *Titanic*. It's important that we're able to continue their legacies and share their stories through the display of their personal belongings and materials from aboard the ship."

The grand story of the "Ship of Dreams" is revived through "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition." With more than 400 real artifacts, guests embark on a journey to feel what it was like aboard the famous luxury liner. The exhibition includes dramatic recreations of first- and third-class cabins, a replica of the grand staircase and also houses a 15-ton section of the *Titanic*'s starboard hull. The exhibition continues to invite visitors from around the world to travel back in time and experience the wonder and tragedy of the world's most famous ocean-liner.



WHERE

Luxor Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas



WHEN

Ongoing



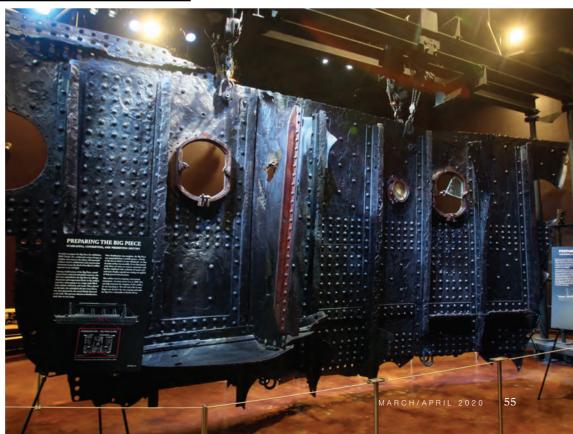
TICKETS

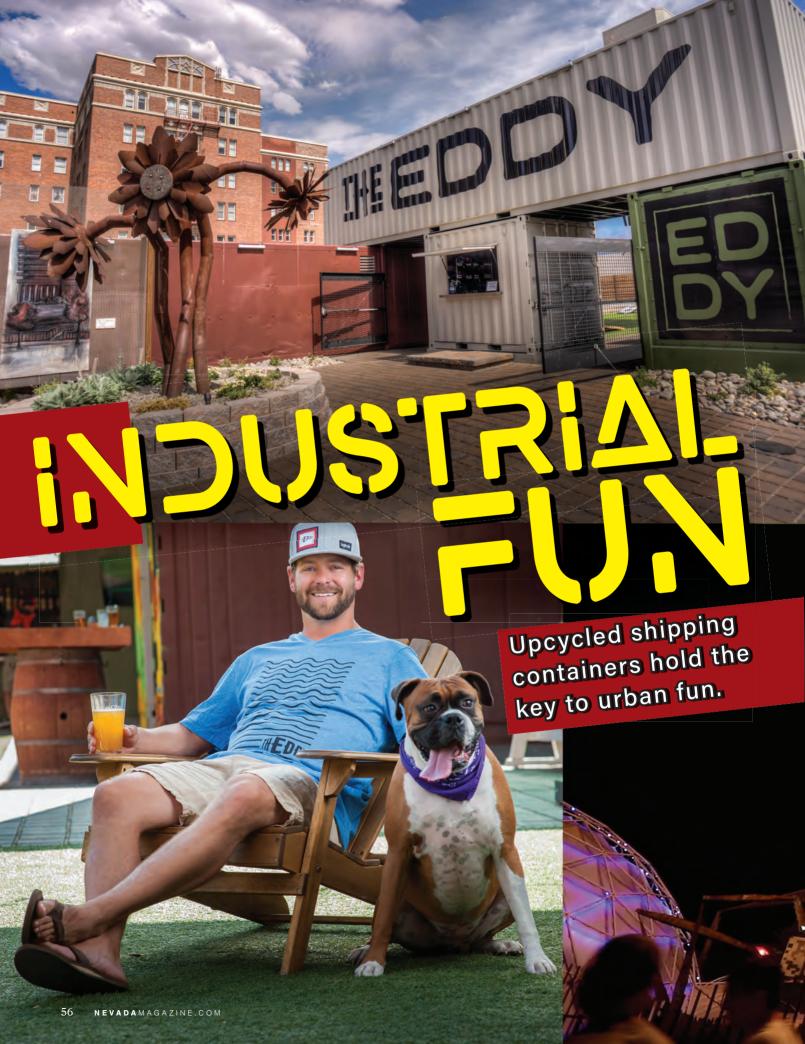
702-262-4000



WORTH A CLICK

luxor.com/entertainment







CITY LIMITS | Industrial Fun

THE EDDY

Reno's container park sprang to life in 2017 from dreams of a family-friendly community space. Co-owners Phil Buckheart and Kurt Stitser envisioned a place where families, pets, and friends could congregate downtown near the Truckee River. Phil had visited a container park near San Francisco that had a great vibe and felt the idea would translate to Reno.

"We like to visit new fun places with our families, and we enjoy going out during the day," Phil explains. "We didn't want to go indoors or to dark bars. We wanted an outdoor venue that didn't previously exist."

A long-vacant lot on the south side of the Truckee River caught their eye, and after signing a five-year

lease, the pair set to work on their community gathering place. Today, bocce ball courts, a variety of food trucks, three bar areas, places to sit and gather, and local artwork fill the once-empty space. Weekend nights bring a younger crowd, Phil says, but midweek evenings and in the daytime, The Eddy plays host to young families along with many regular visitors.

Owing to the northern Nevada weather, The Eddy is a seasonal gathering space. The space usually "A DOG-FRIENDLY, FAMILY-FRIENDLY, OUTDOOR ATMOSPHERE WHERE PEOPLE CAN LOOK AT ART, AND EXPERIENCE POPUP MARKETS, AND NONPROFIT EVENTS."

shutters after the annual Santa Crawl in mid-December and reopens for St. Patrick's Day.

"When we opened, we weren't sure if it would be seasonal," Phil says. "We decided to see how far we could go into winter, but we were just playing it by ear."

Phil and Kurt are also playing the future by ear. The question of what happens when the lease is up in 2021 is something Phil says isn't a focus right now. Instead,

The Eddy is focused on its fourth year in business and maintaining the high standards set since its opening.

"I think when we got it laid in, it's exactly what we were trying to accomplish," Phil says. "A dog-friendly, family-friendly, outdoor atmosphere where people can look at art, and experience pop-up markets, and nonprofit events. It's nice to see people who normally wouldn't have come downtown experiencing all of this."

The Eddy 16 S. Sierra St. Reno, NV 89501 theeddyreno.com, 775-276-6622









CITY LIMITS | Industrial Fun

DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK

When the Las Vegas Downtown Container Park opened in December 2013, it was an anomaly. Not just because it was an open-air shopping area constructed of refurbished shipping containers, but it was also an early salvo in the battle to bring the historic downtown back to life. Seven years later, victory can be claimed.

The park has become the heart of downtown, the community hub, and a central meeting point for people, according to General Manager Kristine Reynolds.

"When the park opened it was a little scary to come down here, even seven years ago," she says. "It's changed a ton. They are increasing the walkability on Fremont Street and once it's all done, it's going to make it a much more friendly environment for pedestrians with wider side-



walks, more trees... it's really grown into a full experience."

Downtown Container Park launched as an open-air shopping area where small businesses could build their brands and launch their companies. The

center has moved from the incubation of small businesses to a solid retail space. Today there are 21 retail/service business and 13 food and beverage tenants. There are original tenants still at the Park, and success stories of small businesses that launched and eventually left to move to larger retail locations.

The popularity of its businesses brings patrons in in droves and guiding them in like a beacon in the night is the 55-foot Mantis that stands at the entrance and shoots flames from its antenna. Mantis once reigned over the desert during the annual Burning Man festival, but she's made her home at the Downtown Container Park since its opening. Once inside, the Treehouse Play Zone draws families with its interactive playground that parents and kids can explore. Inside the gated area are massive foam building blocks, hidden stairs, a 33-foot slide, and the chance to climb to the top of the treehouse for the best view around.

Being family-friendly is a top priority; the Park has used a "stroller-count metric" since the beginning to gauge how many families visit, and each month there's programming just for kids.

"We have all kinds of special events, including live music every Friday and Saturday, wine and beer walks, plus Kid's Camp," Kristine says. "It's so family-centric here. Parents can bring their kids to play in the treehouse, then go sample some wine or beer, and then eat on the patio with the kids."

After 9 p.m. it's 21-and-older only inside the park, and Kristine notes that the mix of patrons overall is about evenly split between visitors and locals. Locals are returning over and over and the stroller count is growing each year. Discussions about improving the Park are happening, but it seems likely that any changes will continue the goal of providing downtown Las Vegas with a community hub.

Downtown Container Park 707 Fremont St. Las Vegas, NV 89101 downtowncontainerpark.com



PAWN PLAZA

Rick Harrison's Pawn Plaza has been open since summer 2015, right across the street from the famous Gold & Silver Pawn Shop. Rick saw an opportunity to provide food, beverage, and retail services to the myriad visitors to his store, who can sometimes spend hours in line to see the where HISTORY'S incredibly popular reality show "Pawn Stars" is filmed.

Brightly painted containers host such shops as Rick's Rollin Smoke BBQ, where Rick can

be found tending bar most weekend nights; Chumlee's Candy on the Blvd; Nfused Coffee, purportedly Nevada's first coffee shop to offer CBD oil supplements; Highway Radio station; Slingshot and scooter rentals at Elite Motor Rentals; Brooklyn-style pizza at Good Pie; and a taste of the Southwest at Q'Rico.

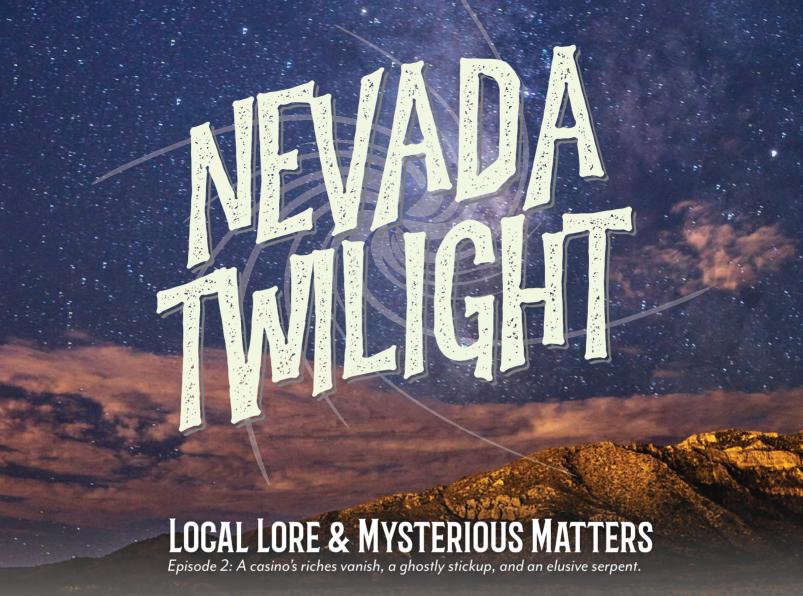


RICHARD ANBER

Rick Harrison's Pawn Plaza

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BY ERIC CACHINERO

"YOU UNLOCK THIS DOOR WITH THE KEY OF
IMAGINATION. BEYOND IT IS ANOTHER DIMENSION;
A DIMENSION OF SOUND, A DIMENSION OF SIGHT, A
DIMENSION OF MIND. YOU'RE MOVING INTO A LAND OF
BOTH SHADOW AND SUBSTANCE, OF THINGS AND IDEAS.
YOU'VE JUST CROSSED OVER INTO THE TWILIGHT ZONE."

-NARRATOR ROD SERLING, "THE TWILIGHT ZONE"

Mankind's natural curiosity for the mysterious and unexplained spans our entire history. Where is the lost city of Atlantis? Will we ever know the identity of Jack the Ripper? How were ancient sites like Stonehenge and the Great Pyramids constructed? Is Bigfoot real? What actually caused the dinosaurs to go extinct? Do aliens exist?

Nevada holds its own collection of myths and mysteries, peculiar and unexplained. Some are morbid, some are silly, but all require the reader to take a small step—or leap, if you like—into a "Twilight Zone" mindset. Sit back, relax, and enjoy, because you've just crossed over.



63

at work reading a book on the topic of changing his identity. But perhaps the most abrupt change in Brennan's behavior was the fact that he was befriended by an unnamed and untrustworthy Stardust high roller, who, according to coworkers, spent an inordinate amount of time with Brennan before the money's disappearance.

SPECIAL SECTION | Nevada Twilight

When authorities realized Brennan was missing along with the money, they raced to his home, though to their dismay, the prime suspect was nowhere to be found. They did notice another thing missing: his cat.

It was becoming clear at this point, that the silent heist was growing cold. There had been no weapons used, no police chase, no witnesses, no hostages, no security footage, no further leads, no evidence—the perfect crime.

Though was it the perfect crime for Brennan, or for someone else? Did he pay the ultimate price for his larceny?

The unnamed Stardust high roller that had befriended Brennan also disappeared, leading to perhaps the most mysterious aspect of the crime. Officials speculated whether the gambler had been in on the crime with Brennan, and whether the man had connections to the mob or other organized crime syndicates. This may explain how Brennan was able to obtain all of the necessary documents to change his identity and start a newer, richer life, if that is what happened Almost three decades have passed since the casino industry experienced one of the most mysterious unsolved heists ever, and theories about Brennan's whereabouts still abound. Some familiar with the case theorize that Brennan was able to split his loot with the unnamed gambler, and successfully start a new life in a new town. Others think he may have been nothing more than an insider pawn in an elaborate mob heist, and was killed and buried somewhere in the Nevada desert after he was no longer needed. In any case, the mystery of Nevada's own D.B. Cooper lives on. Who knows; he may even be reading this story right now.

How did Brennan manage to sneak a half million dollars out of a high-security casino unnoticed? Did he start a new life with a new identity? Or was he tricked by the mob, and discarded once he was no longer needed?



GHOSTLY STICKUP

Sometime during the latter half of 1800s Carson City, from behind cold iron bars, a solitary bandit peered at his treasure. The Nevada State Prison walls were the only thing standing in the way between him and the bundle of gold and silver wealth he had, according to him, stolen fair and square and hidden in the hills near the prison. His three accomplices had perished in the gunfight over the stolen riches, and Manuel "The Mexican" Gonzales vowed not to reveal the location of the hidden treasure, which he would later claim he could see from his cell window.

The events that lead to Gonzales' arrest unfolded during a notorious stage robbery in the town of Empire, located due east of Nevada's capital city. Gonzales, along with three other highwaymen, planned to stick up a Wells Fargo stage carrying gold and silver from Virginia City to the Carson City Mint. Just as the driver and guard relaxed with Carson City in sight, the four bandits jumped from behind the sagebrush with guns drawn, pulled the loot off of the stage, and sent the stage occupants high-tailing it with an empty load. Once the stage reached town, a posse was quickly formed and sent after the four outlaws. The



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vigilante group quickly caught up with the outlaws, and a deadly gunfight ensued, with Gonzales as the sole survivor. He was tried and sentenced to 20 years in the state prison, though even through interrogation, wouldn't give up the location where the robbers had hidden the loot before the gunfight.

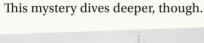
Gonzales served about eight years in prison before he came down with an incurable sickness. Nevada's gover-



SPECIAL SECTION | Nevada Twilight

nor, along with Wells Fargo, decided to pardon him for his crimes and release him from prison, with the hopes that he would try to recover the riches, leading authorities to the loot. To their surprise, that didn't happen. Though deathly ill, Gonzales kept the secret safe for some time, before a Carson City butcher called the "old Dutchman" eventually convinced Gonzales to show him the location. As the two set off to find the treasure, Gonzales suffered a massive hemorrhage, and died on the spot. So too died the location of the buried treasure.

Though treasure hunters and Nevada State Prison employees have spent countless hours metal detecting the hills around the prison hoping to uncover the famous riches, Nevada Historian Guy Rocha explained in a 2008 article that, "The story... is pure invention, first appearing in a book called 'Pots O' Gold' in 1935."





PHOTOS: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Rocha explained that book "Pots O' Gold" bears the name Matt R. Penrose on the cover. Penrose is a former Nevada State Prison warden, and the book details many notorious Nevada outlaws, Nevada's first lethal gas-execution chamber pioneered by Penrose, and more Nevada State Prison commentary.

However, in a strange twist, retired Nevada State Historical Society curator Philip I. Earl revealed in a 2005 issue of *Nevada Magazine*, that "Pots O' Gold" was actually written by John K. "Jack" Meredith,

a Nevada State Prison inmate, lifelong confidence man, and master of forgery. Meredith—who was entrusted with teaching the literacy program at the Nevada State Prison—was a ghostwriter (a term used when a writer's work is officially credited to another person) for the book, lending even more credence to the claim that the complete chronicle was concocted in canard.

His allegedly fabricated tale of the Carson City stage robbery wasn't the only thing Meredith was famous for in Nevada. After being convicted of forgery in Elko in 1933, Meredith was sent to Carson City to serve his sentence. While heading the literacy program in prison, Meredith gained the trust of prison officials, and built a reputation as a skilled inmate detective of sorts, helping lawmen solve several cases in Nevada and California.

On May 17, 1937, Sheriff Orrin Brown of Alpine County, California, asked Meredith to accompany him to Hot Springs Mountain, located in eastern Carson Valley, to search for \$10,000 of stolen jewelry that was apparently stashed beside an abandoned mineshaft. As the two searched for the jewels, Meredith waited for Brown to get a good distance away, before he ran back to steal the sheriff's car. He made it all the way to Minden in the stolen vehicle, before meeting with Clarence O. Dangberg of the C.O.D. Garage, and convincing him to lend him a different vehicle so he could go back to save the sheriff, who he claimed had fallen and broken his leg.



Meredith lead state and federal lawmen on a nation-wide game of whack-a-mole after that. His name would appear on a fake check in Seattle one day, then Indianapolis the next. Eventually he was snagged in New York City and extradited to Nevada, where he was reunited with his old prison number, and served four years before parole. He would go on to spend the rest of his days dodging lawmen and bouncing in and out of prisons across the U.S., before finally disappearing forever.

Did Meredith in fact fabricate the entire robbery story? Why did he ghostwrite the book for Penrose?

WALKER LAKE SERPENT

On May 23, 2016, "Mineral County Independent News" reporter Heidi Bunch wrote the following, "Completely

sober and reliable residents of Hawthorne claim to have seen the gigantic sea serpent, which is said to live in the depths of Walker Lake. He is said to emerge every 100 years to public gaze, but this is not credited to over-enthusiastic members of Hawthorne committees, because many local

residents have heard serpent eyewitnesses make excited reports well within the past 100 plus years!"

Bunch's account of Walker Lake serpent sightings summarizes a long history of Nevada's own Loch Ness Monster, which owes its roots to Native American legend. The Walker River Paiute Tribe's legend describes two serpents living in the lake, male and female, both of which used to be human. Though there are many different stories about the lake beasts, one notable tale tells how the serpents became separated from one another as the ancient Lake Lahontan began to dry up. The male serpent made his home in Walker Lake (one of two surviving remnants of ancient Lake Lahontan), while the female serpent made her way to Sand Mountain in the north. Sand Mountain is famous for its "singing" sands, which legend says is the lady serpent crying out for her

long-lost partner.

But Native Americans weren't the only ones to spot the elusive serpent in Walker Lake. Numerous sightings, some well-documented, have surfaced, starting with a letter in the Aurora newspaper "Esmeralda Union" in 1868. In the letter, a man by the





SPECIAL SECTION | Nevada Twilight

name of Rueben Strathers claimed to have killed a monster with "a head in shape not unlike that of a crocodile, with forefeet near the neck, with tail of enormous length, which lay perfectly quite, and only the body part moving, which apparently was covered with scales, glistening in the sun." The slayer of the mighty creature added, "The stench became overpowering and sickly" when they approached.

In 1883, another encounter with the serpent was published in the "Walker Lake Bulletin." The account describes how a group of Native Americans were camping by the lake, when they, "were awakened by a horrible soul-shrieking screech. Looking out, they plainly discerned two monster serpents fighting. The battle continued for some time and finally extended to dry land, where one of the ghoul reptiles was seriously wounded." The paper described that the Native Americans had killed the beast and measured it, claiming it to be a whopping "seventy-nine feet seven inches and a quarter in length."



Since those early days, there have been countless reports of sightings, though in 1964, the serpent would "materialize" for all to see. Cecil the Serpent, as it became known, was constructed as a large floating structure, though in 1966, the beast was lit on fire due to some out-of-control fireworks. After that, Cecil became a parade float in the Armed Forces Day celebration in Hawthorne, as well as the Nevada Day parade in Carson City.



READ MORE ABOUT IT

Former Nevada Magazine Publisher Richard Moreno's book "Nevada Myths & Legends" serves as an inspiration for several of the articles included in this series. His book explores some of Nevada's most intriguing myths & legends, and is for sale on Amazon.



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Even though Cecil has become a Nevada parade celebrity, there are still many who believe that there truly is a giant ancient serpent scouring the depth of Walker Lake. The only way to be sure is to sail out on the lake for yourself. If Nevada legend holds true, serpent seekers will probably smell the creature first.

Why have there been so many Walker Lake serpent sightings during the last 150 years? Why did newspapers publish accounts of the monster with seemingly no follow-up? If the lake serpent isn't real, what are people actually seeing?



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WHO'S THE **BEST IN NEVADA**?



LEE CANYON

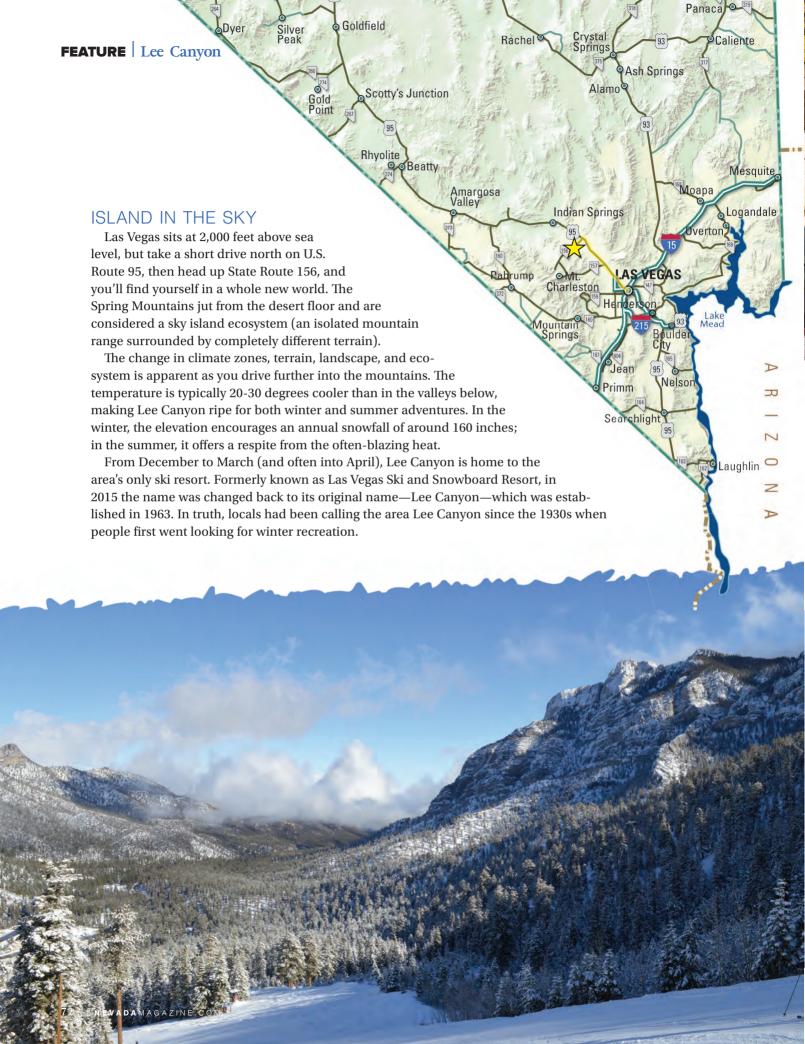
Southern Nevada's coolest destination is a year-round paradise.



BY MEGG MUELLER

Las Vegas is known for its toasty temperatures, celebrity-studded swimming pools, and steamy nightlife. It's often called an adult Disneyland where adventure and fantasy can be found around seemingly every corner, and activities of every stripe can be found. There is one thing, however, that many visitors don't know about Las Vegas: it's a great place to go skiing and snowboarding.

You read that correctly, and while no one is comparing the Spring Mountains to the Alps, with just a modicum of effort, a winter adventure awaits above the desert of southern Nevada.





SNOWBIRDS

Winter visitors are greeted with towering peaks of limestone above 445 acres of terrain that serve as backdrop for their skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, or hiking adventure. Lee Canyon has 860 vertical feet of lift-served terrain with 24 serviced snow trails and three chairlifts, plus a tubing area. Along with annual snowfall, the resort has snowmaking capabilities to assist Mother Nature. In January, 10,000-square-foot Hillside Lodge debuted, marking the biggest renovation of the resort since it opened in 1964.

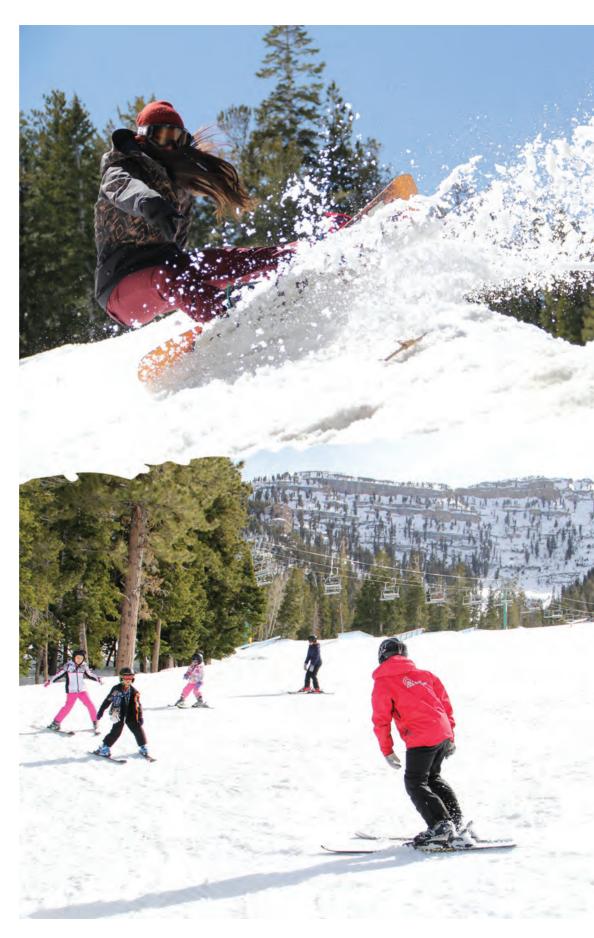


The new two-sto-ry lodge includes an outdoor heated terrace; patio dining spaces; a ski-in, ski-out bar; two dining options including a bistro with new food options and a grill for typical resort fare; and expanded restroom facilities. After a day on the slopes, the chance to sit and marvel at the breathtaking view of the hills is well-earned.

According to Jim Seely, Lee Canyon's marketing director, about 130,000 visitors per year come to do just that very thing. About 70 percent of traffic is from locals, he mentions, but visitors from Southern California, Mexico, and Brazil are common, and for some, it's an extremely memorable visit.

"We have a lot of people who come here for the first time, and they've never seen snow before," he says.

Lee Canyon recognizes that for many visitors it might also be their first time on skis or a board, so anything that can be done to facilitate newbies having a great experience, they do. Rental equipment is available for adults and children: clothing and additional gear are on sale at the pro shop; private lessons are available; and complimentary coaching is available to everyone at any time. A kids' program routinely is filled to capacity each season.







COOL, COOL SUMMER

As the winter season comes to a close, Lee Canyon transforms into—once again—the coolest destination in the Las Vegas area. With that dramatic temperature drop mentioned before, the mountain is a paradise respite from the triple-digit temperatures in the valley.

Snowy slopes make way for verdant hiking opportunities and a chance to play 18 holes of disc golf. Mountain biking on the adjacent Bristlecone Trail is popular, and the resort hopes to offer lift-served downhill mountain biking in the near future. Lee Canyon also has scenic chairlift rides, a mini skateboard ramp, archery, patio

disc golf tournament called Birdies and Beers and has live music and a beer garden. Check the calendar before you visit for events like Wine & Canvas night, too, where guests can paint the mountain landscape with the help of a local art studio while enjoying libations and appetizers.

The summer season runs from the end of May to Labor Day, weather permitting, and in that time Lee Canyon also plays host to incredibly picturesque weddings.

"Our weddings are for those looking for the most majestically natural backdrop for their special day," Jim says. "Our aspen grove ceremony site is secluded among the trees where seating for up to 120 allows guests to experience that special day surrounded by the beauty of the Spring Mountains."



DISCOVER the world of NEVADA

Finished this issue, and wishing there was more *Nevada Magazine* to read?

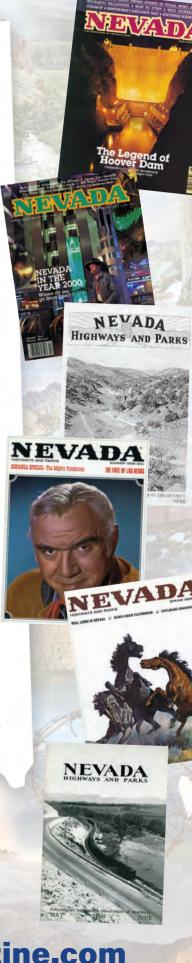
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MORE THAN A PRETTY FACE

The obvious beauty the resort offers isn't just skin deep, however. Year round, Lee Canyon operates with a solid culture of community and giving back. The Play



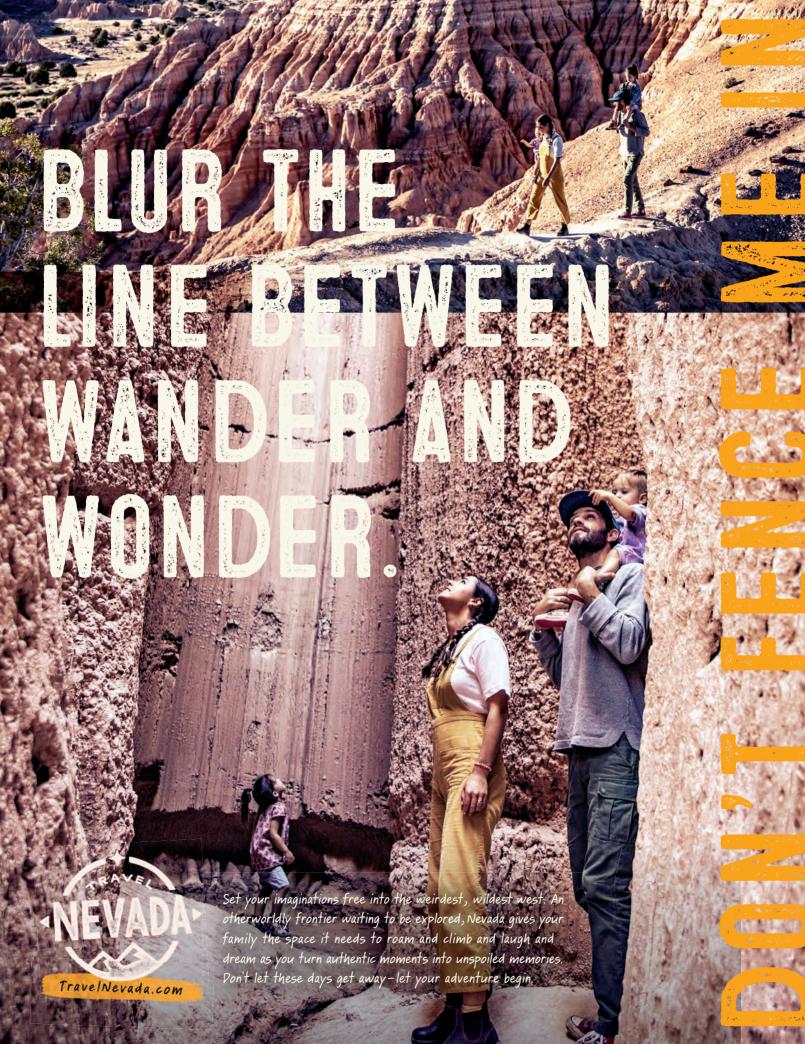
Forver initiative—fostered by the resort's parent company POWDR—is "committed to protecting the environment and inspiring participation in adventure." This translates to reducing the carbon footprint using and banking solar energy, installing LED lights, incentivizing employees to carpool, offering free water refill stations to encourage folks to ditch single-use plastic bottles, and more.

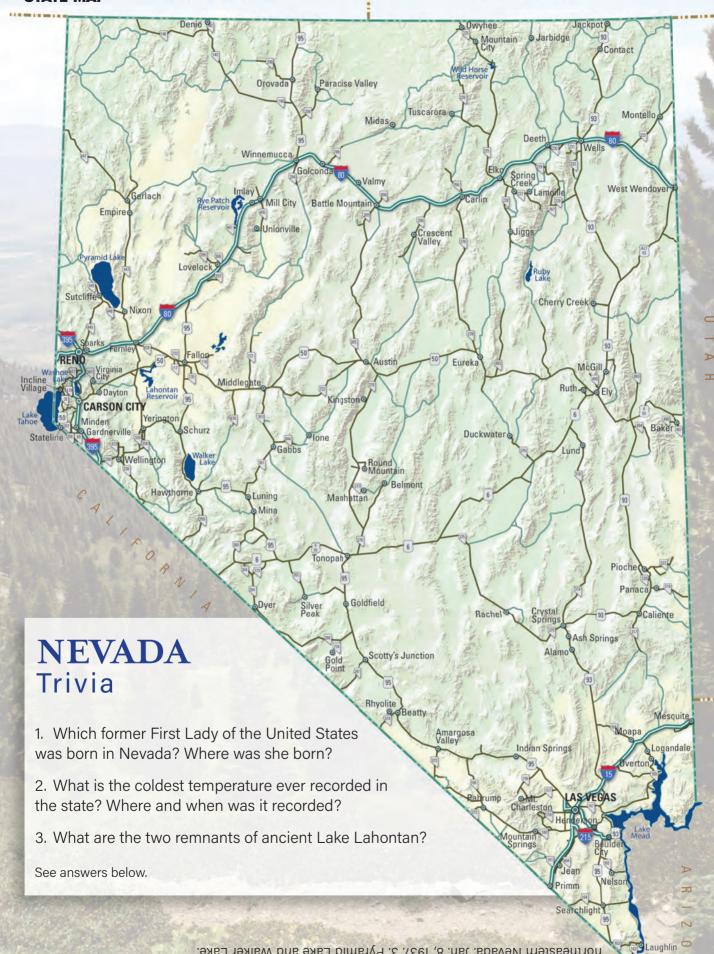
Every Friday in March, the resort offers lift tickets for just \$25. For each ticket sold, \$5 is given to the High Fives Foundation, a nonprofit that provides resources for mountain sports athletes with life-altering injuries. Last year, Lee Canyon donated almost \$21,000 to the organization through the Feel Good Fridays program.

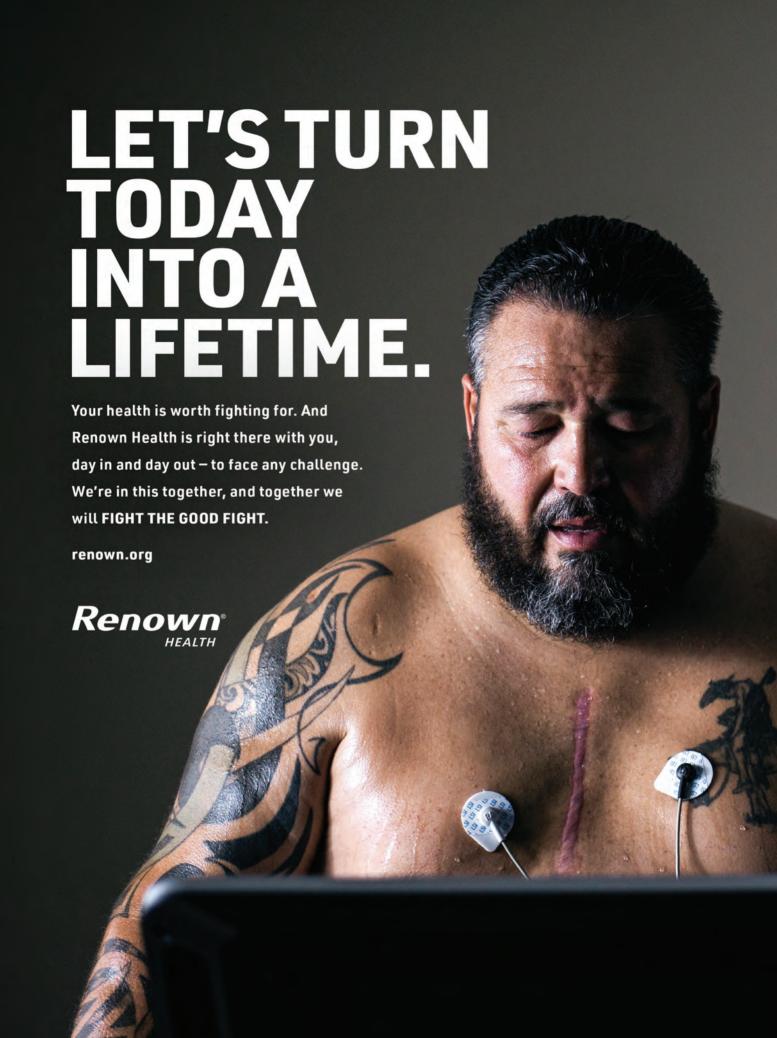
Whatever the season, Lee Canyon offers an unexpected and spectacular experience. For locals, it's a recreational haven, and for visitors, it's an opportunity to expand the notion that Las Vegas really does have everything needed for the perfect vacation.

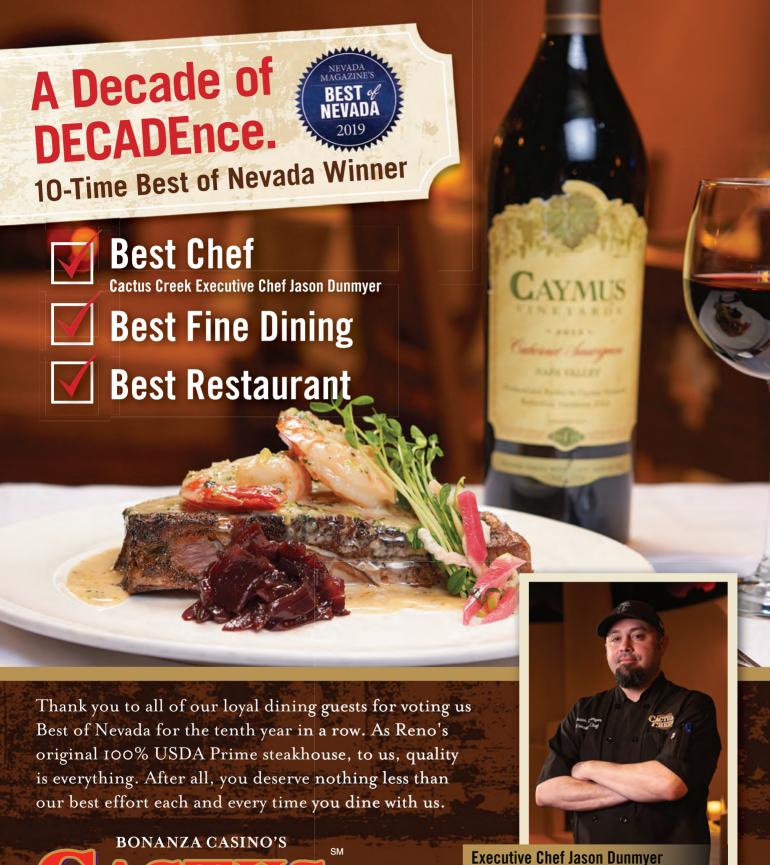
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