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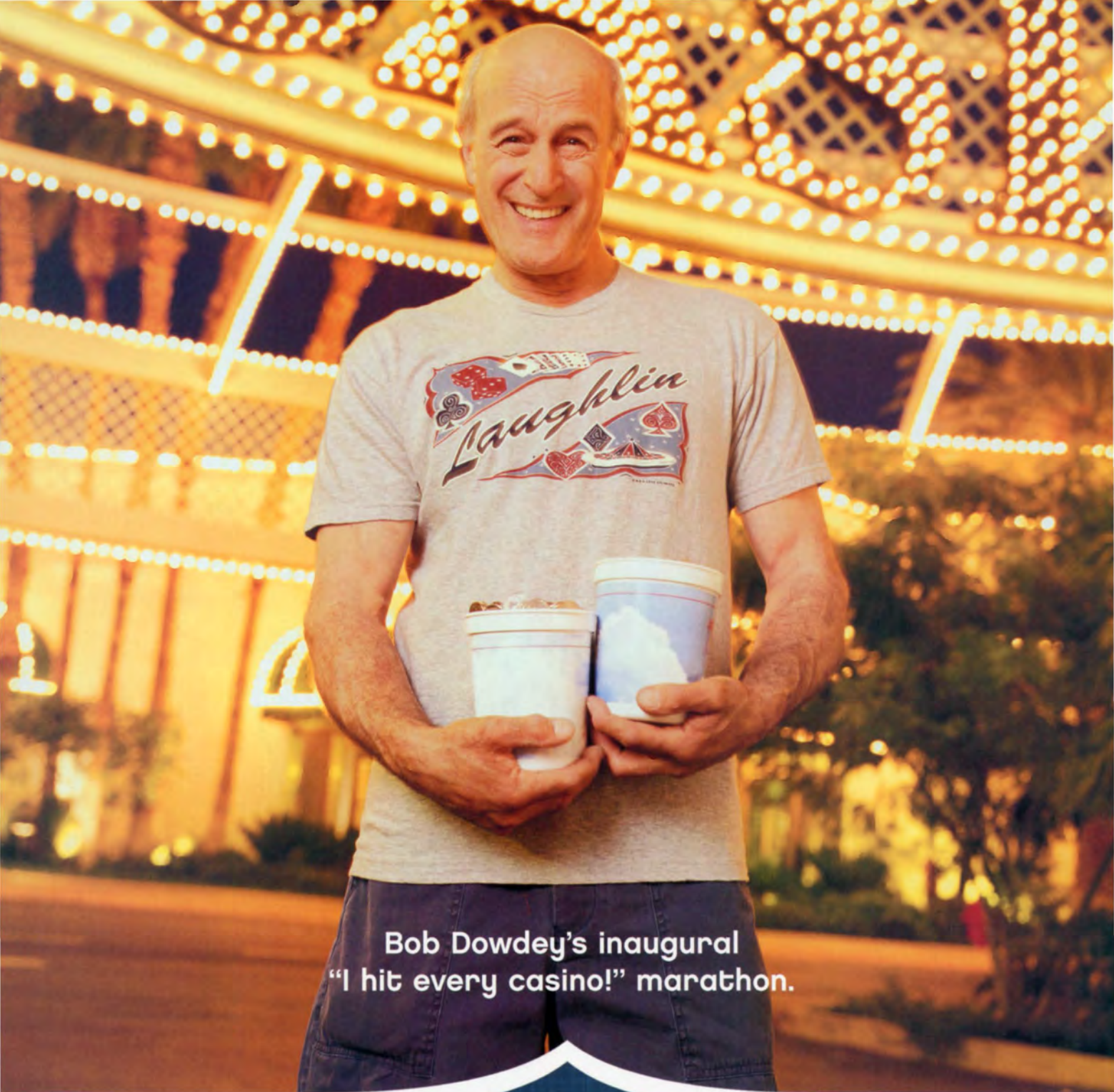
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The 17th hole at Stallion Mountain Country Club in Las Vegas.



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Jobs You Can Love

When **Vic Williams** tells folks what he does for a living, he can usually predict their response. "They immediately ask if I've got an opening," he says. "Who wouldn't want to play golf and write about it?"

As managing editor and publishing partner of Reno-based *Fairways & Greens* magazine, Williams writes about the sport he's loved since he was a teenager in Bishop, California. "The game is tailor-made for a frustrated poet," he says. "There are the courses, the equipment, the tournaments, the history, and most of all, the people you meet on all the first tees." This issue he describes the links of Reno-Sparks, the Carson area, and Truckee-Graeagle in our annual "Nevada Golf" section.

"I moved to Reno in 1984, and I've watched the area grow into a true golf destination," Williams says. Although reluctant to choose a favorite, he names Genoa Lakes, Red Hawk, Wolf Run, Edgewood Tahoe, and Whitehawk Ranch his best bets for going on a birdie (or bogey) binge along the Sierra's eastern slope.

"I could play a different course within a 90-minute drive of downtown Reno each week for a year," Williams says. "The hard part is deciding where to play next."



Williams



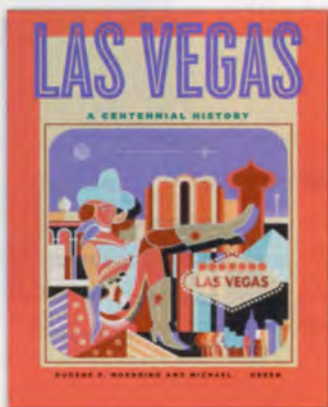
Fox

Carolyn **Fox** grew up in a family of photographers. She recalls staying up all night with her father printing photos in their darkroom. "For a safelight we had a big beer bottle with a lightbulb inside. I never could figure out how my dad got the lightbulb in there," Fox says—although the black tape he had wrapped around the bottle finally tipped her off.

On family trips Fox's father used to irritate his daughter by pulling off the road to take pictures. Fox told herself, "I'm never going to do that. I'm never going to like being out in the desert. I'm never going to like being where there's nobody." As an adult, Fox has changed her tune. She and her photographer partner, Larry Angier, travel throughout the West to capture images of empty deserts and small-town events. Fox's photos of Carson Valley Days are featured in this issue.

"I get a kick out of people saying there's nothing in Nevada," says the Jackson, California, resident. "I tell them, 'You need to stop and look at those big, wide-open spaces. And if you don't want to stop, you can take pictures through the windshield. I do it all the time.'"

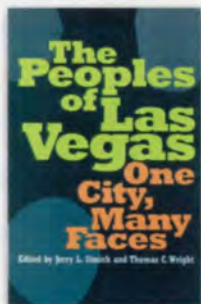
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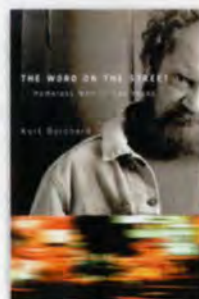
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Letters

Legislative spirits, **Sarah's statue**, and Elton John.

Spirited Lawmakers

"Ghost Town Lawmakers" by Robert Erickson in the last issue reminded me that Nevada has always been a land of golden (or silver) opportunity for the folks who had the energy and the independence to make a new life for themselves, over and over again. These were the people who had the vision to make things happen.

Nevada's highways, mail delivery, and library systems and other conveniences we take for granted came about because people in the legislature, in these cases a reporter, a miner, and a stagecoach driver, saw real needs and acted upon them. Let's hope we never lose this spirit.

Dean Carter
Jacks Valley

Celebrated Sculpture

Watching the Sarah Winnemucca statue dedication ceremony at the U.S. Capitol on C-SPAN in March, I remembered seeing a story about the sculptor, Benjamin Victor ("Sarah and the Sculptor" by Joyce Hollister), in the Jan/Feb issue of *Nevada Magazine*. I recall thinking that it was a great honor to have such an esteemed person as Sarah Winnemucca represent Nevada in Statuary Hall, and I was gratified to see the lovely bronze statue unveiled by



Benjamin Victor completed his clay image of Sarah Winnemucca in Carson City.

PHOTO: Jay Aldrich

the sculptor himself. On my next trip to Carson City I plan to visit Victor's second statue of Sarah, which I understand resides somewhere at the Capitol.

Lucy Herd
Fremont, CA

Lucy, thanks for your interest in the Sarah Winnemucca statue. Benjamin Victor's sculpture can be seen in the main hall of the State Capitol on Carson Street.—Ed.

Going Places

I always learn something new from *Nevada Magazine*, which has information about the state that I can't get anywhere else. Stories such as Ruth Anne Kocour's "Showdown in the Big Smoky" in the March/April issue take me places I never quite manage to visit. Marla Carr's "Wild Light" photos, also in March/April, were amazing. Both these pieces highlighted the rural parts of the state, which all too often get overlooked.

Merrie Leininger
Genoa

To Elton With Love

We've subscribed to *Nevada Magazine* since my wife and I started visiting Las Vegas more than 20 years ago, and each trip we make a point of seeing a show. We enjoyed Mike Weatherford's story on Elton John, "From Sir With Love," in the March/April issue. Elton's show at Caesars Palace is really impressive, and he manages to use the same technology (I consider myself a techie) in a totally different way than Celine Dion does on the same stage. That's another show we plan on seeing again.

Here's a tip from us: We really enjoyed the meal specials and karaoke at Ellis Island, a small casino behind Bally's. The people are friendly, the food is good, and the price is right.

F.R. Lee
Burlington, NC

How to Submit Letters

Readers are encouraged to comment on stories and photos in the magazine. Write "Letters to the Editor," Nevada Magazine, 401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291; fax 775-687-6159; e-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.

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History Lesson



Photographer **Susanne Reese** records an educational day at the historic one-room Elgin Schoolhouse.

Because she once taught in the two-room Mount Charleston Elementary School, Las Vegas photographer **Susanne Reese** has an affinity for the Elgin Schoolhouse near Caliente. "I understand the *Little House on the Prairie* concept of teaching different grade levels in one room," she says.

A former "Folies Bergere" showgirl, Reese is a middle-school assistant, watercolorist, and volunteer teacher at the Las Vegas Art Museum. She photographed the restored Elgin school, used from 1922 to 1968, during a reenactment organized by her husband, Gary Reese, for his Community College of Southern Nevada photography class. Caliente rancher Buffi Flake and her children dressed in period clothes for the project. Lynn Wood, whose family restored the school, hopes it can reopen permanently as a museum.

Reese interviewed locals who had attended the school. One woman told her that at lunchtime on hot days the children would eat garlic in the nearby garlic patch, knowing the teacher would send them home early.—*Joyce Hollister*





A Quiet Moment:

"If you've ever worked as a teacher, you know there are moments of peace in between chaos," photographer Susanne Reese says. "I felt this was her moment at lunch when she got a well-deserved break." Caliente rancher Buffi Flake portrays the teacher (left).

As It Once Was: "After the school closed, the Bradshaw family, who had donated the land for the school, put most of the stuff into storage. When the school was restored, they brought out the desks and the books."

Sharing a Treat: "The children had a bag of apples, and the horse came right to the window, wanting some." Quincy Flake holds the apple. Behind him stands L. Kade Flake, and in front is Maggie Flake.

Playtime: "The students would have played on the slide before school and at lunchtime. The minute school was out, everybody hightailed it home."



People

The **Killers** in Las Vegas and ranch building **rescuers** in Reno.

Band on a Run

By Doug Elfman

It was spring of 2004 when Las Vegas' future rock stars, the **Killers**, came from nowhere—the Mormon singer who bellhopped at the Gold Coast, the bassist and the drummer who marched during UNLV halftimes, and the guitarist the Killers peeled away from shirt shifts at a Banana Republic in Las Vegas.

Their unlikely fame—appearances on *Saturday Night Live* and *The O.C.*, plus three Grammy nominations—was welcomed. They wanted to be famous. The bellhop, 23-year-old singer Brandon Flowers, says, "We're not really afraid to say, 'I wouldn't mind playing in a stadium with big songs.'"

The band learned fast. That spring they looked nervous on stage. By fall they acted excited. In December they were pros, playing tightly to singalong, sold-out shows.

The smiler on stage is drummer Ronnie Vannucci, 28, who once worked as a photographer at the Little Chapel of Flowers. Blending into the stage set are guitarist David Keuning, 27 who placed the newspaper ad to start the band, and bassist Mark Stoermer, 27 who once worked as a medical courier and ran Mike Tyson's urine to a lab before a fight.

The Killers' uptempo music—new wave pop-rock that would make David Bowie and the Cure proud—didn't fit into Vegas' anemic music scene, where punk and screaming hardcore bands ruled the few



Musical Killers: Mark Stoermer (left), Ronnie Vannucci, Brandon Flowers, and David Keuning.

all-ages venues. So instead of playing out, the Killers, each either born or raised in Vegas, focused on writing songs and posting them on a Web site.

The Killers adopted their name after spotting "The Killers" written on a fictional band's kick drum in a video for the New Order song "Crystal." The band was rewarded by being discovered on the Web site, the predecessor to www.yourlocalscene.com, by a producer interested in the group's catchy moniker.

Flowers says he realized the Killers had become overnight stars last year when he stood on stage at England's huge V Festival and watched fans hold up a giant "Killers" sign made of copies of the band's "Hot

Fuss" CD. "That really hit us over the head," he says. The band members were later stoked to see their videos on MTV.

As "Mr. Brightside," the Killers' third best-selling single, climbs Billboard's Modern Rock chart, continued success eliminates the possibility of being a one-hit wonder. The group could even have—gasp—longevity. Stoermer wished for as much during an interview before "Hot Fuss" broke around the world. "When I was growing up, I always wanted a band to come out of Vegas." His is the one. ▀

Doug Elfman is a music critic for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. He also writes the syndicated video game column "The Game Dork."



Jack Sutton (left), Jack Hursh, and Loren Jahn installed this hitching post at Bartley Ranch.

Barn Rescuers

By Mark Vollmer

During the first half of the 20th century, the Truckee Meadows were dotted with barns and farm houses. Today, Reno history buffs Jack Hursh, Loren Jahn, and Jack Sutton are trying to save the last remnants of a bygone era.

"We want people to understand where we used to be," says Hursh, who photographs barns throughout the area. He met Jahn and Sutton after one of his barn photos appeared in the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. Discovering a mutual passion for old buildings, the three men founded Truckee Meadows Remembered in 2001.

Their first project was to rescue five ranch outbuildings that dated from the 1860s at the Boomtown hotel-casino near Verdi. Boomtown planned to tear down the old cookhouse, carriage house, bunkhouse, chicken coop, and granary and tool shed, which had been moved in the early 1990s from the Joe Ferretto Ranch in South Reno.

Jahn, who had admired the buildings in their original location, convinced Boomtown officials to spare them. After attaining nonprofit status, Truckee Meadows Remembered had the buildings moved to Bartley Ranch Regional Park.

Hursh, Jahn, and Sutton hired contractors to repair the buildings and then added period furniture. They rebuilt the

Jahn says, "We want people to get a slice of what Truckee Meadows life was like around the mid-1930s."

bunkhouse's porch and installed cots, a wood stove, a 1930s radio, and a 48-star American flag—an heirloom from Sutton's father. The carriage house soon housed a 1905 spindle seat runabout buggy donated by Hursh's mother, Reno artist Aleta Hursh.

"We want people to get a slice of what Truckee Meadows life was like around the mid-1930s, as though the ranchers had just left for the afternoon," Jahn says.

Visitors can relate to the ranch relics, says Sutton, whose *Nevada Back Roads* television series appears on Reno's CBS affiliate. "Just 100 years ago, 70 percent of the people in America were rural and involved in agriculture. Today, three percent are in agriculture," he says. "So for the majority of people who come by, their immediate ancestors lived like this. Their grandmother fixed a meal on a stove like that, or their great-uncle slept in a building similar to this one. They can relate to it." ■

Mark Vollmer of Reno is the author and co-photographer of Tahoe Rim Trail: Exploring the Jewel (Carmel Publishing, 2003). Contact Truckee Meadows Remembered at Box 13822, Reno, NV 89507. For tours, call project manager Jack Hursh, 775-784-6691, ext. 173, or e-mail jhursh@unr.edu. Bartley Ranch Regional Park is operated by Washoe County Parks and Recreation; call 775-828-6612 for information.

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Roadside Attractions

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NIFTY NEON

LAS VEGAS—Adults as well as kids can tour “Neon Unplugged: Signs From the Boneyard” at the **Lied Discovery Children’s Museum** as part of the Las Vegas Centennial Celebration. Among the 30 pieces on loan from the Neon Museum is the sign from the Landmark Hotel, which was imploded in 1995.

The display includes a piece of the retired Dunes marquee and letters from the Sahara and Golden Nugget signs. Although many of the signs have not been restored, several remain in operating condition.

Area fourth-grade students created a Lego version of the “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign that is in the exhibit, which will be offered until August.

The Lied Discovery Children’s Museum, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday. Admission costs \$7 adults and \$6 children, seniors, and military families. Call 702-382-3445 or visit www.ldcm.org. To tour the Neon Museum’s boneyard of old neon signs, call 702-387-NEON or visit www.neonmuseum.org for details.

Christina Leedham
watches the neon glow at
the children’s museum.



Hanging Out With Eureka History

EUREKA—If you fancy a bite of Nevada history with your soda and snack, visit the Eureka General Store, built in 1882. Contradicting local tour maps, owner Leona Rowley says the building never was a hotel. “It was actually a part of the Richmond smelter that was across the street,” she notes. “Once it was an auto court, and it’s been a saloon.”

Today the store is an atypical mini-mart. Light filters through tall front windows to reveal snacks, sundries, animal feed, and

cold drinks displayed next to old glass bottles and mining memorabilia. These bits of Nevada’s mining past are for sale, as are maps, used paperback books, and vintage magazines. Rowley’s favorite blue glass bottle with its glass stopper cannot be bought, but feel free to admire it. She guesses it once stored acid used in assay work.

When you stop for morning coffee and

doughnuts, you’ll likely meet locals who do the same. The history lessons are free, and so is the self-guided tour map of Eureka. The Eureka General Store is located at 600 South Main Street (U.S. 50) on the south end of Eureka, 242 miles east of Reno. In summer, the store is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. “most days” says Rowley; call 775-237-5333 for information.—Paula Riley



You can buy snacks and drinks as well as Nevada artifacts (right) at the Eureka General Store.





Cruisin' Tahoe The *M.S. Dixie II* circles Emerald Bay's Fannette Island, which is topped with a stone teahouse built in the 1930s by the owner of Vikingsholm, a historic mansion nearby. The Emerald Bay cruise departs four times daily from Zephyr Cove on Lake Tahoe's southeast shore. Call 800-238-2463 or visit www.laketahoe cruises.com for more information.

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The *Nevada Birding Map* identifies places for birders to view numerous species in the Silver State. The map gives driving directions and seasons when migratory birds are in residence. To assist experienced birders the map is keyed to the Nevada Department of Wildlife's list of 456 species for the state. Call State Mail Services at 775-687-0612.

Nevada State Parks has a new brochure that offers photos and descriptions of every state park, a list of each park's facilities, and phone numbers and e-mail addresses for regional headquarters. Call 775-687-4384 for more information.



Berlin Underground

GABBS—Visitors taking the Diana Mine tour at **Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park** can learn what it was like to work underground in the 1890s. "We go into the mine about 550 feet," park supervisor Mike Dinauer says. "It's as if the miners just went home and left everything in place."

Inside the tunnel, the tour guide points out artifacts like iron candleholders—called "miners' spiders"—and dynamite boxes. The Diana Mine produced silver and gold beginning in 1884. On the hour-long tour everyone wears hard hats with lights.

The mine tours are offered April 15 to October 15. Tours of the shelter enclosing the fossils of ichthyosaurs (extinct giant marine mammals) are conducted from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Visitors also can take a self-guided tour of the buildings that remain in Berlin, a 19th-century mining town.

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park is 23 miles east of Gabbs on State Route 844. Entry is \$4 per vehicle and camping costs \$8 per night. Call 775-964-2440 or visit www.parks.nv.gov for tour times and prices and other park information.—*Joyce Hollister*



Ranger Jeff Morris gives tours at Berlin's Diana Mine.

Wynn's New Resort Opens in Las Vegas

As if it were an official Las Vegas Centennial Celebration event, the \$2.7-billion **Wynn Las Vegas** was scheduled to open April 28 with suitable fanfare. Located on the site of the old Desert Inn, Steve Wynn's opulent resort is wrapped in a

copper metal that gleams in the sun. Franco Dragone, creator of Cirque du Soleil's "O" and "Mystère," designed the resort's aquatic-themed show, "Le Rêve," French for "The Dream," the name Wynn had originally chosen for the hotel. The Strip's first new megaresort since 1999, Wynn Las Vegas has an 18-hole golf course, more than 2,700 rooms, 19 restaurants, and an 117-foot mountain with waterfalls and lagoons. See www.wynnlasvegas.com.



Surfing Nevada

Nevada Wide Open, Nevada's outdoor adventure guide, is now online at www.travelnevada.com, the official site of the Nevada Commission on Tourism. You can discover the best places for hiking, biking, climbing, and off-roading as well as for backcountry, water, and air sports—choosing an activity according to your level of ability.

Nearly 125 historical Nevada photos can be seen on the Bureau of Land Management Web site www.photos.blm.gov. Most of the photos were shot between 1890 and 1980 and include wild horses, landscapes, wildlife, and early-day settlements. The images can be downloaded in low- and high-resolution versions.

Nature Trail



The Oxbow Study Area on the Truckee River, less than a mile west of downtown Reno, is a haven for wildlife. Fish, skunks, frogs, deer, and many species of birds can be seen from a one-third mile, wheelchair-accessible trail. Students often make field strips to the site, which is open daily until sunset at the end of Dickerson Road off West Second Street. Visit www.ndow.org for more information.



Personal watercraft make waves at Big Bend of the Colorado.

Fun on the River

LAUGHLIN—A swim in the river is one way to cool off at the **Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area**. Because the park is just six miles downstream from Davis Dam, the Colorado River is clear and cool all year, and there are plenty of canyons and washes to explore.

The park offers covered picnic areas and fishing. Boating is the most popular activity, but camping is limited. The river attracts waterfowl and shorebirds

such as ducks, herons, and geese. Other wildlife includes raccoons, muskrats, coyotes, snakes, and lizards.

Summer temperatures can reach 120 degrees, but visitors will find that spring and fall are comfortable and winters are mild at the park, five miles south of Laughlin on the Needles Highway. The entrance fee is \$4, and fees are charged for boating and camping. Visit www.parks.nv.gov or call 775-687-4384 for details.

EXHIBITS NEWS

From Around the State

Last winter the **Atomic Testing Museum** opened in Las Vegas with exhibits chronicling the history of the U.S. nuclear weapons tests at the Nevada Test Site. Visitors can get the feel of an actual test at the Ground Zero Theater, which offers a simulated blast that flashes and rumbles. Touch screens and motion-sensitive TV presentations make the museum interactive. The museum is located at 755 East Flamingo Road at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Call 702-749-5151 or visit www.ntshf.org for details.

A cap autographed by Herb Brooks, coach of the 1980 "Miracle on Ice" U.S. Olympic hockey team, is one of the items displayed in the **"Back to the '80s"** exhibit at the Sparks Heritage Museum. The museum is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a look at American culture during that decade. Area residents have loaned items such as a Cabbage Patch doll and a bicycle used by Tour de France winner and former area resident Greg LeMond. Located at 820 Victorian Avenue in downtown Sparks, the museum is open Tuesday to Saturday. Call 775-355-1144.

"Havens in a Heartless World: Virginia City's Saloons and Archaeology of the Wild West," which features the world's oldest Tabasco Sauce bottle and a stone cribbage board, is slated to be the first exhibit at a new cultural arts building in Virginia City. Scheduled to open this summer, the building stands on the original rail yard of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad at the corner of Union and E streets, two blocks downhill from the Bucket of Blood Saloon. A historic V&T engine will be displayed at the new facility. Visit www.nevadaculture.org.

The eight species of bats that live in Nevada are among the specimens on display in **"Bats! Champions of the Night Sky"** at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Las Vegas until the end of the year. Myths and facts about the unusual mammals are explored through interactive exhibits, text, and sound. The museum also is showing **"100 Years of Las Vegas Images"** as part of the Las Vegas Centennial Celebration. The museum, at 700 Twin Lakes Drive, is open daily. Call 702-486-5205 for information.

Announces

The Great Nevada Picture Hunt 28th annual photo contest

Show us your view



"New Year's Eve Fireworks 2001, Las Vegas" by Gary Reese won Best Event in the 2004 contest.

of Nevada... people, ghost towns, events, adventure, scenic landscapes, hotel-casinos, city life, rural life, water sports, and wildlife. The judges will be looking for the whole range of the Nevada experience.

...and you can win CASH PRIZES and the chance to be published in *Nevada Magazine* and other *Nevada Magazine* publications.

Anyone can enter. The photo contest is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. You can enter up to 7 photos or slides. Just be sure to send your entries postmarked by June 6, 2005.

The top five winners will receive \$200 for first place, \$100 for second, \$75 for third, \$50 for fourth, and \$25 for fifth. Additional winners will receive the 2006 Nevada Historical Calendar. Winners will be announced in the September/October 2005 issue of *Nevada Magazine*.

Photo Contest Rules

Photos: All photos must be unpublished and taken in Nevada. (Photos previously printed in local newspapers are eligible.)

Deadline: Postmarked by June 6, 2005.

Entry Form: This entry form must be filled out, signed, and included with photos. All entries must be mailed in. Drop-offs will not be accepted at the office.

How Many Photos: You can enter any combination of black-and-white prints, color prints, and color slides, for a maximum total of seven.

Labeling: Your name and address must be on the back of each print or slide, along with title, location, and description.

Digital Manipulation: Digitally manipulated photos are acceptable, but must be labeled as such.

Presentation: Color or black-and-white prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14" unmounted. Transparencies must be 35mm slides or larger. Please

present slides in a plastic sleeve (no metal or glass holders).

Packaging: The simpler, the better. Maximum envelope size should be 12"x16" Only one photographer with up to seven photos per package. Please write "Photo Contest" on the package.

For Return: You must enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry to ensure your photos' safe return. (No pickups at the office.)

Judging: Entries will be judged by a panel of experienced photographers and magazine staff.

Permission: Contestants grant *Nevada Magazine* permission to print winning entries in the Sept/Oct 2005 issue of *Nevada Magazine* and other *Nevada Magazine* publications. Contestants also give *Nevada Magazine* permission to make reproductions of winning entries for a traveling art show, Web site display, and Great Nevada Picture Hunt slide-show presentations.

Entry Form: 28th Annual GNPH – Deadline: June 6, 2005

Number of Photos Entered _____

Color Transparencies _____

Color Prints _____

Black & White Prints _____

Total (Up to 7) _____

Name _____

Address _____ Daytime Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address FOR OUR FILES ONLY _____

Social Security # _____

Signature _____

**NEVADA
MAGAZINE**

Send this form with your entries to: Great Nevada Picture Hunt, *Nevada Magazine*, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. Please remember to include a self-addressed, stamped return envelope. Please be advised, although we take great care to return your photos in the condition in which we received them, *Nevada Magazine* assumes no responsibility for damaged or lost material submitted.

Artful Getaways

This summer **Reno hotels** offer **whitewater, art, and golf packages** that aim to suit you to a tee.

By Joyce Hollister



Reno hotel-casinos illuminate downtown at night.

When Scott Cacchione arrives in Reno for a golf getaway, everything is ready for him. His room is booked, his tee time is reserved, his cart is waiting, and Cacchione looks forward to a relaxing weekend on the golf course.

"I've played Red Hawk and Wildcreek. In fact, I've played all the courses in Reno multiple times," says Cacchione, president of a San Francisco investment bank. "I know as I'm flying into Reno that all reservations are made. I know ahead of time what I'm doing and where I'm going. It makes life so much easier."

Cacchione says he takes a mini-vacation to Reno at least once a month, often accompanied by his wife, Michele, and their four children. They usually stay at the Eldorado, but Scott and Michele also have booked packages at Silver Legacy, Atlantis, and Peppermill.

Most Reno hotels offer packages for enthusiastic golfers who, like Cacchione, want to play the area's 40 courses without the hassle of making reservations and setting up tee times. The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority and individual hotels also can arrange a package for you and a group of your friends to see art exhibitions at the Nevada Museum



Besides admiring art and playing golf, hotel guests also can run the rapids at the Truckee River Whitewater Park.

of Art or run the rapids at the Truckee River Whitewater Park.

Art lovers can stay at five hotels that offer packages for the West Coast premiere of "Maxfield Parrish: Master of Make-Believe" at the Nevada Museum of Art from April 30 to June 26. Amy Oppio, the museum's deputy director, says, "It's one of the largest retrospectives of Maxfield Parrish that's ever been curated. Many of the works are from private collections, and you don't often see those in museums." Oppio adds, "It comes with a selection of

large-scale murals. One, the Du Pont mural, has never been seen publicly, ever."

The art-show packages include special room rates, museum tickets, and extras ranging from breakfast and dinner at the Atlantis (\$149) to show tickets at the Eldorado (\$169). John Ascuaga's Nugget (\$109), the Peppermill (\$129), and the Silver Legacy (\$109) offer food and show deals. There's also a 15-percent discount when booking with American Express.

Besides admiring art and playing golf, Reno hotel guests can run the rapids at the Truckee River Whitewater Park three blocks south of the downtown casinos. There you can climb into a kayak and join

Fun for "Rasta Joe" Alexander of Plymouth, Indiana, is a long, straight drive during John Ascuaga's Nugget Amateur Challenge in July. The avid golfer first came to the area in 1995 with his Rasta Joe's BBQ Co. at the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off. He played the Nugget tourney last year. "The golf courses we played were all five-star, the accommodations, the food, the prizes, again, all five-star," Alexander says.

The Nugget also offers numerous golf packages. Visitors can stay as long as they like and play a new course each day. Leslie Art, the Nugget's tourism sales director, says, "We have people play a mountain

When You Go

Reno visitors interested in art, golf, or whitewater packages can contact individual hotels, the **Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority** (800-FOR-RENO or www.visitrenotahoe.com), the **Nevada Museum of Art** (775-329-3333 or www.nevadart.org), or the **Reno River Festival** (www.renorigiverfestival.com). Following is a sampling of area hotels that offer activity packages. Many also offer show packages.

Atlantis: Art museum, golf, whitewater, 800-723-6500, www.atlantiscasino.com.

Boomtown: Golf packages, 877-526-6686, www.boomtownreno.com.



Hotel packages draw visitors with varied interests. A golfer at LakeRidge has a scenic view of Reno (left). Kayakers practice as sunbathers relax at the Truckee River Whitewater Park (right). Opposite page: Maxfield Parrish's "Daybreak" at the Nevada Museum of Art.

the pros and amateurs who practice flips, spins, and cartwheels in the park's man-made rapids. Or you can join spectators along the banks at the second annual Reno River Festival on May 12-15.

Working with Tahoe Whitewater Tours, several hotels offer a half or full day's run. One of the Siena's packages includes a day of kayak school.

Aspiring river runners also can take kayaking clinics at the Reno River Festival. Spectators at this year's river festival can see Reno resident Jay Kincaid, the 2004 world freestyle champion, paddle it out with 2005 world champion freestyler Eric Jackson in the Pro Freestyle Invitational. Kincaid says spectators also will enjoy the head-to-head race. "It starts four or five people at the head of the rapid, and they all go at one time," Kincaid says. "The competitors scrap a bit for position, and that makes it a lot of fun to watch."

course one day, a links course the next day, and a desert course the next."

A dozen Reno and Sparks hotel-casinos offer golf deals. The Reno Hilton has packages for up to 39 courses starting at \$79. The "Sweet Tee" deals at Harrah's Reno include two-for-one show tickets for \$79 and \$99. Circus Circus packages with food vouchers and free drinks begin at \$62.

Then there are group outings and multi-day packages like the John Ascuaga's Nugget Amateur Challenge. Barry and Nancy Whatley of Peachtree City, Georgia, played in last year's tournament and will return for the 2005 event on July 17-21.

"The minute we got home, we started talking about it to everybody we play golf with," says Nancy. "This year we've got 10 other couples from our hometown who are going to come with us." ■

Joyce Hollister is Nevada's associate editor.

Circus Circus: Golf packages, 866-230-6652, www.circusreno.com.

Eldorado: Art museum, 800-648-5966; golf, 877-670-FOR, for more information visit www.eldoradoreno.com.

Golden Phoenix: Golf packages, 800-761-7366, www.goldenphoenixreno.com.

Harrah's Reno: Golf packages, 800-874-3232, www.harrahs.com.

John Ascuaga's Nugget: Art museum and golf, 800-648-1177 www.janugget.com.

Peppermill: Art museum, 866-821-9996; golf, 866-926-4653, for more information visit www.peppermillreno.com.

Reno Hilton: Golf packages, 877-580-PLAY, www.renohilton.com.

Sands Regency: Golf packages, 866-917-GOLF, www.sandsregency.com.

Siena: Golf and whitewater, 877-590-7529, www.sienareno.com.

Silver Legacy: Art museum and golf, 800-MUST-SEE, www.silverlegacyreno.com.

Swinging With the Mary Kaye Trio

While rocking till the wee hours, Mary and Norman Kaye and Frank Ross not only made Vegas lounge entertainment cool. They invented it.

By Joan Patterson

Mary Kaye is sitting at the dining-room table of a longtime friend. She has a curtain of black bangs and deep chestnut eyes tinged with mischief. Her lipsticked smile is wide and generous.

The 81-year-old Las Vegas is talking about her children, and there's a five-year-old grandchild in her life who really pulls the heartstrings. But when she starts reminiscing about early Vegas, the heyday of the 1940s and '50s, you can almost see the colossal casinos a mile to the north lean in for a listen. This grandma, after all, was there when the whole party started.

Before gurgling volcanoes and amusement-park rides, casino entertainment was all about live acts, and the lounges put Las Vegas on the map. While partiers in New York and Los Angeles were snug in bed at dawn, gamblers in Vegas were calling for refills and sitting elbow-to-elbow to witness some of the hottest entertainment in the country.

While many attribute the beginning of the lounge scene to Louis Prima or even Frank Sinatra, it was the Mary Kaye Trio—consisting of Mary, her brother Norman, and the late Frank Ross—that pioneered the phenomenon in the late 1940s after an SRO run at the Hotel Last Frontier.

"We were in the main room for four weeks, and the local people loved us," notes Mary Kaye, who sang and played guitar. "We had standing room every night. So they recognized that. The owner,

Mary Kaye, her brother Norman (middle), and Frank Ross were the hottest act on the Strip. The trio also recorded 15 albums.



"The Mary Kaye Trio changed the history of Las Vegas. They were all over the room, and they were hysterical."



In 1954 the Mary Kay Trio played the Last Frontier's Gay Nineties Bar (above). A few years earlier Mary had suggested hanging a curtain to create a "lounge."

Jake Kozloff, went to my manager and said, 'I'd like to hold the kids over.

"I said, 'I tell you what we can do. We'll put a stage [in the bar] and a big, heavy drape around the stage so the music won't interfere with the gamblers. We won't call it a bar. We'll call it a lounge.'"

Mary got the idea from a recent engagement at a Chicago supper club, but she had no idea her off-the-cuff suggestion would become the ripple that started it all. The Last Frontier built the stage, and the trio began working the midnight-to-dawn shift, keeping tourists and locals happy with a mixture of singing, comedy, and musicianship.

Management was happy, too, because gamblers were sticking around and dropping lots of cash. Norman Kaye remembers a casino owner from down the street dropping \$60,000 one night. Soon other clubs followed suit, adding their own 24-hour entertainment and changing the entire nature of Las Vegas.

"The old mob guys understood the value of a lounge," says comedian-singer Pete Barbutti, who first saw the trio in 1960 at the Sahara. "You'd have people going to

a dinner show at 6:30, coming out at 9:30. They got two drinks and dinner for \$12, and you couldn't get any more money out of them." However, entertainment-hungry patrons would hang out for hours in the lounges. "They understood that the games were all set up by law, so the only reason you gamble at Hotel A instead of Hotel B was the entertainment in the lounge."

George Schlatter, a Vegas booking agent in the 1950s, remembers one of the trio's engagements at the Last Frontier. "By the third night you can't move. They're the biggest hit on the Strip, because at that point there was no Rickles, there was no Louis Prima, there was no Shecky Greene." The trio became a favorite of visiting stars. On any given night, celebrities like Ella Fitzgerald, Judy Garland, Betty Hutton, Phil Silvers, Milton Berle, and Liberace rubbed elbows with regular folk at the group's show.

"The Mary Kay Trio changed the history of Las Vegas," says Schlatter, who went on to produce the hit 1960s television show *Laugh-In*. "They were all over the room, and they were hysterical. Anybody

who ever saw the act realized this was the most sound you ever got out of three pieces. And goddamn, they were funny."

What made the Mary Kay Trio such a draw was the incredible blending of talent, according to contemporaries. All three were singers and musicians. In their routines they hit every genre—jazz, swing, blues, folk, ballads, Hawaiian, calypso—and then mixed it all with Ross' light-hearted, impromptu shtick, which he aimed at everyone in the room, including celebrities.

One of Ross' favorite gags was to go to the bar, toss booze of every ilk into a glass, and hand it to someone in the crowd. Ross would usually convince them to drink at least some of it.

"He would take a tablecloth and pull it, and everything would fall onto the floor," Mary Kaye remembers. "And if someone left their seat to go to the bathroom, he would put their chair up onstage, sit in it, and when they came back throw them a [fake] hotel room key and say, 'You don't have a seat—you might as well go to your room.'"

Ross, who influenced younger comedi-



Norman and Mary honed their skills performing with their father, Johnny "Ukulele" Kaaihue.



Mary, Norman, and Frank mixed with celebrities on and off stage. They shared a table with Judy Garland (above) and were photographed behind the scenes with Bob Hope (top).

ans like Don Rickles and Shecky Greene, kept his routines fresh and uncontrived.

"Frank was always in a good mood, joking around. He just enjoyed life," notes his widow, Betty Ross. "He was always the little Italian kid at the corner store who liked to entertain people, and that's how he started out."

For Barbutti, the trio's spontaneity confirmed his own desire to make the entire room a part of the act. "Frank Ross was the guy who created what we know as lounge

comedy today," Barbutti says. "He would react to what was going on in the room, whether it was a celebrity who came in or someone dropping a dish. Bartenders, waitresses—everybody was part of the routine. Before the trio, this just didn't exist.

"I was already doing that kind of humor," Barbutti recalls. "People told me for a decade, 'You can't do it that way. You need a beginning, a middle, and an end. But [after the trio] you could go beyond that.'"

While the comedy kept the party alive, the trio's music was the core of the act.

"They would always come out with a big blast," says Sheriden Bentley, a longtime friend of the Kayes who first saw the group in the 1960s. "Mary and Norman would be singing in harmony, and Mary would play one note and just blast it out. They never opened quietly."

The three would thread their very distinct voices through standards such as "My Funny Valentine" or exotic numbers like the Spanish-influenced "Toreador," written by Norman and Mary. Even folk-inspired songs became their own. "Lonesome Road" would start with finger-popping vocals, slide into some scat work by Mary, and finish like a torch song.

"They could sing and harmonize on these jazz notes and arrangements. Nobody ever heard anything like that before," Bentley says.

Their numbers included Hawaiian songs that Mary and Norman learned growing up. The Kayes had started performing at ages three and five, respectively, on the Midwestern carnival circuit with their father, Johnny "Ukulele" Kaaihue. A native of Hawaii, Kaaihue moved to the mainland and raised Mary and Norman in St. Louis. Mary learned her first guitar chords from her father and became a master player—a rare accomplishment for a woman of that era.

During the trio's Vegas shows, one particularly devoted fan would hide in the shadows and watch Mary do her "grabs,"



Mary and Norman Kaye were inducted into the Casino Legends Hall of Fame in 1999.

or impromptu chord changes, night after night.

"Elvis would come from the Sahara and stand behind a pillar where nobody could see him," Mary remembers. "Nobody knew that he was standing there, watching, hearing me sing and play the guitar, and when I came off he was waiting. I'd rush over there, and he'd give me a big hug and kiss on the forehead."

While they could easily fill a showroom, the trio became a lounge-scene staple and filled rooms at all the major hotels like the Sahara and Tropicana in Las Vegas and Harrah's at Lake Tahoe. Often they were accompanied by Robert Smale, their long-time friend, as pianist and arranger.

After more than 20 years together, the trio broke up in 1966. At the time, according to Norman Kaye, they were making at least \$11,000 a week. Mary became a solo artist, a member of Louis Armstrong's Musicians Hall of Fame, and the namesake of the Mary Kaye Stratocaster, a 1957 electric Fender guitar with 14-karat gold fittings familiar to musicians around the world.

Norman, a composer for singers such as Perry Como, Johnny Mathis, and Vicky Carr, penned the theme song for the March of Dimes, "Throw a Dime My Way," and the Variety Club International theme, "Have a Heart, Lend a Hand." In 1967 he got a call from Governor Grant Sawyer, who asked his favorite lyricist to be Nevada's poet laureate. Norman, 82, also

ran a real-estate business and has been active in many charities.

Frank Ross teamed with singer-comedian Blackie Hunt on stage and television as Ross and Hunt, including an appearance on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. Later, Ross managed other acts. He died in 1995.

In 1999 the trio was inducted into the Casino Legends Hall of Fame at the Tropicana. During their time together, they put out 15 albums, one of them a 1958 release called "Too Much!" The cover shows Mary standing in the desert wearing a slinky evening gown and mink stole, the guys sitting on either side of her

in shirtsleeves. It seems to say that nothing has been the same since the dust storm that is the Mary Kaye Trio hit town.

"They started this," notes singer-musician Buddy Greco, who first saw the trio at the Sahara in 1955. "To me they were like Sinatra. Everybody made a good living because of the Mary Kaye Trio. They were stars. They were wonderful. It was the beginning of all of us having a party up there on stage." ■

Joan Patterson is a Las Vegas writer who has long been intrigued by Old Vegas. Visit www.marykaytrio.com for music and photos.

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Carson Valley Good Ol' Days

Photographer

Carolyn Fox

presents a
snapshot of
small-town
Nevada



Parade March:

"The Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School band was marching on a side street to get to the parade. I saw all those kids and thought, 'There won't be anybody watching the parade.'"

Carolyn Fox loves to photograph rodeos and parades. She discovered both her favorite subjects at Carson Valley Days, the small-town party-with-everything held each June in Minden and Gardnerville.

"They have a really good parade. We were impressed," says Fox, who explores Nevada's towns and back roads with her partner, Larry Angier. "We go to parades all the time, and we're sort of experts. One year, we started shooting at the beginning of the parade in Minden. We had so much fun, we got in our car and drove to the other end and shot it again."

The Jackson, California, couple attended their first Carson Valley Days in 2003. They found a two-day celebration that includes firemen's waterfights, kids' games, a softball tournament, vendor booths, and an art show—more than enough activities to keep visitors hopping (see this issue's "Nevada Events and Shows"). Fox, who took these photos of the parade and rodeo last year, says, "If you try to do everything in one day like we did, you're a wreck."

Redheads Rule on the Greased Pole:

"I've never seen little kids so serious and so concentrated on trying to win the \$500 prize for the greased-pole climb. One girl kept trying over and over. You could imagine which kids would succeed in life."



Young Lady in Blue:
"Little Miss Washoe,
Kalynn Payne,
represented the
Washoe youth.
She was on top of
a truck that also had
a bark house and
other people in
traditional dress."



"It's kind
of like going
to a fair.
And we
love fairs."

—Photographer Carolyn Fox



Therein Lies a Tail: "I was trying my brand-new camera while photographing the ropers at the Ranch Rodeo. I could only aim at the middle, and I couldn't get the whole calf. I almost hit the delete button. Afterward I thought it was pretty funny."



Keeping Cool:
 "Tom Hunter and his son Hogan (middle) and Brin Hill were cute on that four-wheeler. They had two ice chests—that's your equipment for the day."



Last Big Ride: "The thing that made this picture is the flying hair. It was as if this may be the girls' last chance to act like children—next year they may be too self-conscious."

Savoring the Santa Rosas



Hunkered down at Windy Gap, I marveled at one of Nevada's most underrated and prettiest ranges.

Story and Photos by John Dalton

"I'm not going to give you a ticket, but let this be a warning to you. We'll give you 5 mph but not 10," the sturdily built, crew-cut Nevada Highway Patrolman said as he handed me my license. The trooper had pulled me over for going 80 in a 70 mph zone.

When he asked my occupation and destination, I said I intended to explore and photograph the Santa Rosa Range for a magazine article. He said, "I'd sure hate to see you publicize the Santa Rosas. They're my favorite hunting location, and I wouldn't want to see them overcrowded."

The Santa Rosa Range is not Nevada's longest or highest, but it's among the prettiest. Extending south 50 miles from the Oregon border, the Santa Rosas lie on the east side of U.S. 95, the main route between Reno and Boise, but if my expe-

rience on a Friday and Saturday in late June is any indication, the area is not in danger of being overexposed.

I pulled into the town of Paradise Valley just after noon on Friday and stopped at the small U.S. Forest Service guard station, which was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. The ranger gave me a cordial welcome, a 20-minute description of trail and road conditions, and several hiking recommendations. She further advised, "If you have the time and really want a good overview of the area, take the loop drive up and over Hinkey Summit and Windy Gap and reconnect with U.S. 95 above Orovada." After securing a write-up of trails in the area, I left to do just that.

The hamlet of Paradise Valley is located in the center of a valley with the same

name. Despite about 50 residents, it had a ghost town feel to it. Several abandoned stores stood nicely preserved among the few that were still open. Three miles north of town the pavement ended, as did its designation as State Route 290.

After crossing onto USFS land the road began switchbacking up and out of the valley—and then it switchbacked and switchbacked some more. I watched my altimeter register 100- to 200-foot increases with each turn. Because the scenery was spectacular, it was a challenge to drive and look at the same time. In fact, some of the drop-offs were steep enough to remove the inclination to do both. It wasn't easy to park, either, with my extended-cab, full-sized truck on a one-lane road climbing the side of a mountain.

For the record, the town of Paradise Valley sits at 4,500 feet and Hinkey Summit at 7,850 feet. I entered the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest at 5,200 feet and saw the first aspens in the drainages by 5,400 feet. At 6,000 feet the rock outcroppings were at my level as they marched towards the ridgeline. Then the flowers began. There were whole hillsides of the



Kids and dogs hang out near one of the few active businesses in Paradise Valley, a small ranching town 40 miles north of Winnemucca. Opposite page: Fields of lupine greet the dirt-road traveler descending Buckskin Mountain and heading toward Windy Gap.

yellow flowers known as mule's ears. As I got higher, the yellow was accented by white and purple lupine.

To the right of the flowers was a band of trees, mostly aspen, that snaked up a watercourse all the way to Hinky Summit. At the summit, I pulled off the road again. I must have made 30 or more switchbacks during the 3,300-foot climb, although I was too busy to count them. The rocks that looked two-dimensional and flat-faced from below turned out to be three-dimensional shapes from above. Some were shaped like tear drops and others more like wisdom teeth.

All in all it was a spellbinding scene and would have been even without the flowers. Once over Hinky Summit, the road dropped gently into a large meadow, passing small, lush groves of aspen and expanses of purple sage. It felt as if I were dropping into a bowl—I could see higher ridges in every direction.

After a dozen miles of graceful scenery, I reached a saddle called Windy Gap. The views extended into Oregon and California. Below, the terrain looked harsher than any I had seen that day. In fact, it was rem-

iniscent of the Scottish Highlands—grassy angular mountains, green in the shady spots and brown on the southern exposures, with few flowers.

I got out once again, and the wind nearly carried me off the mountain. That is, after it tried to tear the door off the truck. Windy Gap was well named. I hunkered down in the lee of the pickup and saw where the road dropped 3,000 feet on its way to U.S. 95.

After a few minutes I was on the highway. The drive back on U.S. 95 was just as

spectacular as was its eastern counterpart. Three peaks—Granite, Santa Rosa, and Paradise—all nudging 10,000 feet, dominated the skyline, illuminated in the warm, late-afternoon light.

Driving to Winnemucca as the landscape became more ordinary, I began to think about my earlier encounter with the patrolman. What a nice guy. I just hope I don't spoil his wilderness. ▀

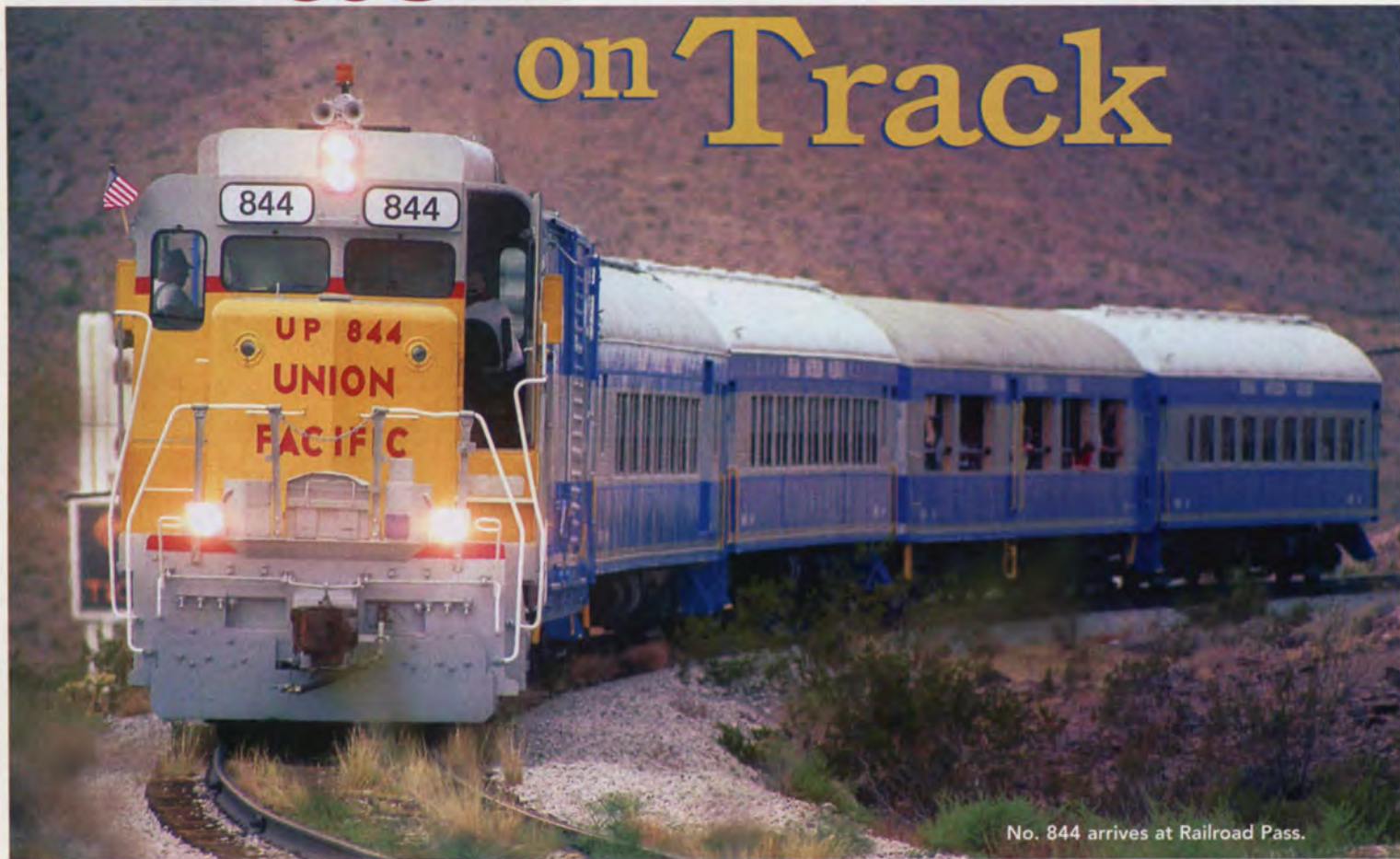
John Dalton is a Bay Area writer who often hikes in the Nevada outback.



Summer Range

To obtain maps for the Santa Rosa Range and information on the small Lye Creek Campground north of Hinky Summit, visit the U.S. Forest Service's Santa Rosa Ranger District office, 1200 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV 89445. In Paradise Valley, the USFS guard station (the building is on the National Register of Historic Places) is open only when rangers are in town; generally they are in the field, says district ranger Jose Noriega of the Winnemucca office. Call 775-623-5025 ext. 5 or visit www.fs.fed.us/r4/htnf.

Back on Track



No. 844 arrives at Railroad Pass.

The Nevada Southern Railway offers weekend excursions on the historic Hoover Dam line.

Story by Denise L. Williams, Photos by Gary Reese

The whistle of diesel locomotive No. 844 blows as conductor Tom Fleury consults his gold pocket watch and calls in a booming voice, "All aboard!" Passengers begin boarding the silver and blue Pullman cars of the Nevada Southern Railway. Soon No. 844 blasts two long whistles, the red lights flash, and the train chugs out of the Yucca Street rail yard in Boulder City bound for Railroad Pass.

Although the tourist train is in only its second year, it has become popular with rail fans, says Greg Corbin, director of the Nevada State Railroad Museum, which operates the line.

"Even after such a short period of time, we've had a number of repeat visitors," Corbin says. "People bring out their kids or their grandkids—or their grandfather who worked on the railroad and is retired."

Every weekend in spring, summer, and fall the Nevada Southern Railway offers 45-minute, seven-mile round trips on the Boulder Branch Line that once served the builders of Hoover Dam. As the train rattles past the Captain Michael L. Hyde Nevada Veteran's Nursing Home and the exclusive Cascata golf course, passengers see the River Mountains and a few brave souls parachuting over the Eldorado dry lake bed. The three enclosed passenger cars were built in the early 1900s and have been retrofitted with air conditioning and plush bench seating. An open passenger car is available for passengers who want to feel the desert air blow across their skin and view the passing cacti.

The Boulder Branch Line was laid in 1931 to deliver supplies from Las Vegas to the Hoover Dam construction site. The Union Pacific abandoned the line in 1985



Volunteers Jim Potvin (left), George Cheri, Doug Nance, and his son, Derek Nance, stand on No. 844's front platform.

and donated the land and track to the then-future museum. Corbin says, "The tracks are in excellent condition due to the dry climate."

The Nevada Southern Railway boasts a maintenance shop, a ticket office, staff office, and restrooms. Visitors can buy T-shirts, hats, and wooden train whistles at the gift shop and relax on comfortable benches in the covered seating area. The museum has no exhibits yet, but track has been laid behind the depot for a future display of steam engines and rolling stock.

For now the track is used by a bright orange speeder car known as Putt-Putt. Resembling a high-tech handcart, the gasoline-powered speeder car zips passengers at a roaring 20 mph to an enclosed yard where the rolling stock is stored.

"Kids and adults enjoy riding on the speeder car almost as much as they enjoy riding on the train," reports Chris Cheely, the station master.

The railway employs two state workers. The rest of the crew are volunteers from the community and the Southern Nevada chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. The volunteers donate hundreds of hours to operate the train and depot. They also restore equipment in the maintenance shop nicknamed the Barn.

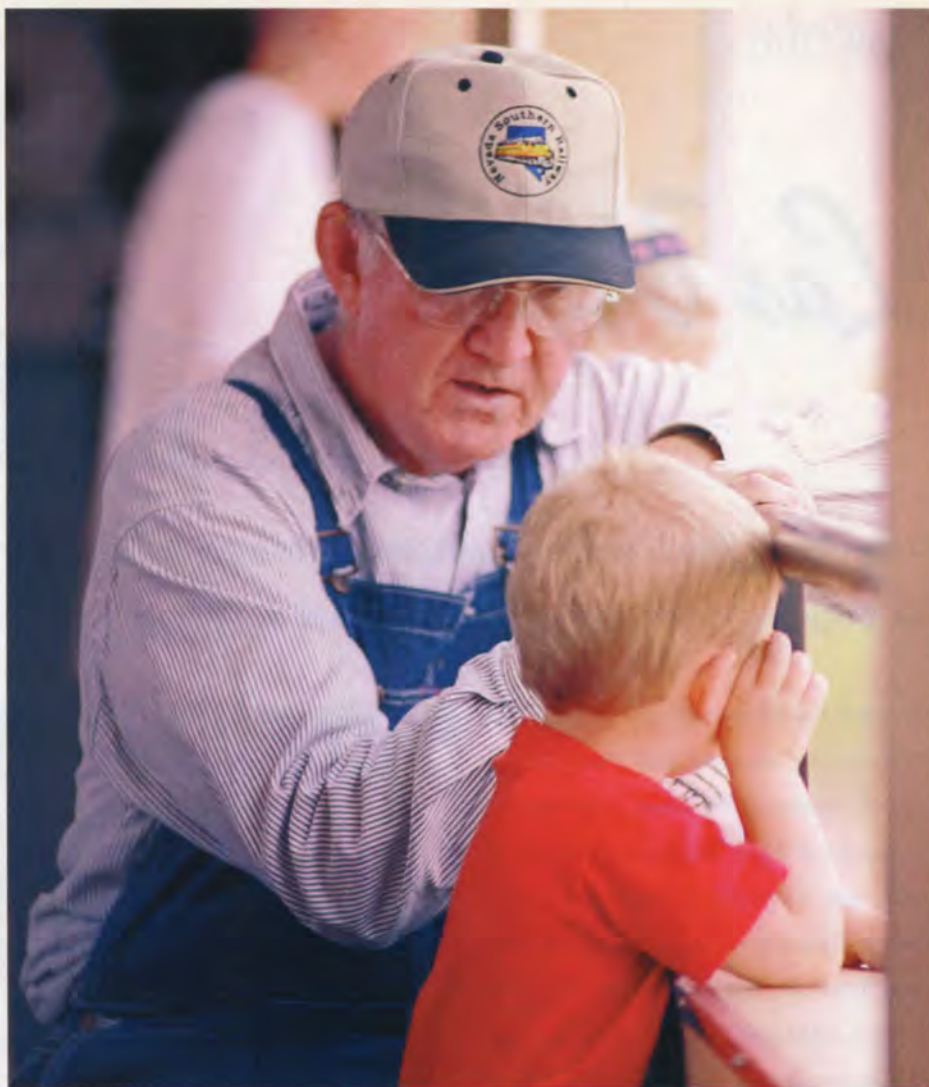
Why do they do it? "I love trains," answers Cheely, who volunteers 20 to 30 hours a week. "Trains are a part of history that needs to be saved." Volunteers receive training per Federal Railroad Administration standards as car attendants, conductors, engineers, and brakemen.

Corbin hopes visitors will learn how important Nevada's railways were to the construction of Hoover Dam. "But the biggest thing I enjoy is the thrill that passengers get from the train ride," says Corbin. "It's the fascination that people of all ages have for trains and railroads. Everybody takes something different away from the experience."

All Aboard!

The Nevada Southern Railway is based at the Nevada State Railroad Museum rail yard at 600 Yucca Street in Boulder City. Departure times are 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from April 2 until December 11, when the railroad closes for winter maintenance. Tickets cost \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and \$4 for kids 11 and under. Call Museum Director Greg Corbin at 702-486-5933 or visit www.nevadaculture.org for updates and additional information. ▀

*Denise L. Williams is a writer living in Maine.
Gary Reese is a Las Vegas photographer.*



William Millivon, in his brakeman's garb, chats with a young passenger (above). Below: Kathleen Elmquest sells tickets in the Nevada Southern Railway's Boulder City depot.



Las Vegas Turns 100

A century ago, eager bidders gathered for the birth of a railroad town

By Eugene P. Moehring and Michael S. Green

*This May, Las Vegas will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the event that founded their city—the auction of 40 blocks in present-day downtown Las Vegas. The auction on May 15, 1905, was conducted by representatives of Senator William A. Clark and his recently completed San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad. Clark had bought the land in 1902 from pioneer rancher Helen Stewart for a division point. With the help of his brother, J. Ross Clark, and attorney C.O. Whittemore, the senator created the Las Vegas Land and Water Company to run the new town. In their new book, *Las Vegas: A Centennial History*, authors Eugene P. Moehring and Michael S. Green describe the auction as it unfolded a century ago.*



A map showing Las Vegas lots hung in front of auctioneer Ben Rhoades as he took bids on May 15, 1905. Like others in the crowd, Rhoades and railroad attorney C.O. Whittemore, the tall man on the left, had removed their jackets because of the heat.

Originally, railroad executives planned to sell lots to individual bidders. The terms were 25 percent down and the rest within two months, with corner lots going for up to \$750 and interior lots for up to \$500. But with so many bidders, Senator Clark's usually silent partners at the Union Pacific demanded an auction. All agreed, but not without controversy: J. Ross Clark unavailingly argued against it, and one would-be bidder called it "the simplest way of giving everybody a fair shake(down)."

The big day was May 15, 1905, a

Monday. The railroad offered special round-trip prices of \$16 from Los Angeles and \$20 from Salt Lake City—and, as encouragement, a refund to anyone who bought a lot. It posted announcements at railroad offices all along the route. It put up an auction platform on the west side of Main Street between Fremont and Ogden. At 10 a.m., Whittemore announced that the LVL&W would guarantee to grade and oil all streets, build a depot and railroad shops to provide employment, and make water available to all lots.

Then Los Angeles auctioneer Ben

Rhoades opened the bidding. The auction ended at 3 p.m. because the high temperature that day was 110 degrees, the first truly hot day of the year, and too much for the shade from the nearby mesquite trees to overcome. The carnations that California florists sent at a cost of a dollar a dozen soon wilted. The men, attired in three-piece wool suits, removed their jackets—a major act for those raised in the propriety of the Victorian Era.

The LVL&W gave birth to a town—and a profitable birth it was. The auction sold the best 176 of the 1,200 lots for \$79,566—



Parked on a siding near today's tracks in downtown Las Vegas, this train car served as a ticket office for the recently arrived San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad. The 1905 land auction attracted crowds of speculators and prospective business owners who saw opportunity in the new town in the middle of the Southern Nevada desert.

and many went to Southern California speculators rather than to Las Vegas. Land sales resumed at 8 a.m. the next day, but this time for fixed prices rather than through an auction.

By the end of the day, about half of the lots in the Clark townsite had sold for the

The auction ended at 3 p.m because the high temperature that day was 110 degrees.

grand total of \$265,000—nearly five times what the copper baron had paid Helen Stewart, and with most of the acreage still available for sale. The railroad even made an extra \$7 by selling the lumber from the auctioneer's stand. ▀

The preceding is an excerpt from Las Vegas: A Centennial History by Eugene P. Moehring, professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Michael S. Green, professor of history at the Community College of Southern Nevada. Las Vegas: A Centennial History (296 pages, 77 b&w photos, \$44.95 hardcover ISBN 0-87417-611-5, and \$21.95 softcover ISBN 0-87417-615-8) is available from bookstores and from the publisher, the University of Nevada Press, Mail Stop 166, Reno, NV 89557-0076; call 877-NVBOOKS or visit www.nvbooks.nevada.edu for information.

CENTENNIAL REVELRY

A reenactment of the 1905 Las Vegas auction and a program celebrating the Mormons' arrival 50 years earlier are among the highlights of the city's continuing centennial revelry.

On May 10-15, **Helldorado Days**, the town's biggest event from the 1930s to the 1980s, will be recalled with a Western Village, whiskerino contest, and kangaroo court downtown at Main Street Station. On Saturday, May 14, three Helldorado parades will proceed down Fremont Street.

On Sunday, May 15, exactly a century after eager businesspeople and speculators bid Las Vegas into existence, citizens will reenact the 1905 auction at Main Street Station. During the **Happy Birthday, Las Vegas** festivities the world's largest birthday cake—a colossal confection weighing more than 100,000 pounds—will be consumed, and the Fremont Street Experience will host a street party.

Once Upon 100 Weddings on June 9 will witness a marriage of history and hoopla when 100 couples wed at the Fremont Street Experience.

Sesquicentennial Celebration: 150 Years in Las Vegas on June 11 will mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Old Mormon Fort in 1855. The event at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park includes living-history demonstrations and tours. Visit www.lasvegas2005.org for additional information on Las Vegas' centennial events.



George Burns and Gracie Allen chat with Las Vegas garage owner James Cashman (right) during Helldorado in the 1930s.

Just Dessert

Paula Riley and Heidi Walters

explore Nevada's pastry, ice cream, and candy shops and return with a list of 12 to satisfy your sweet tooth



The Chocolate Swan sells pastries, candies, wine, and gifts at Mandalay Place in Las Vegas.

Sure, you've hiked the Tahoe Rim Trail and scaled Mount Charleston, but have you discovered the best places in Nevada to get your sugar fix? After all, some of us believe that sweets constitute a necessary food group without which no day is complete.

Herewith follows a sampling of from-scratch, must-have sweet treats from north to south in the Silver State.

Winnemucca **The Griddle**

In this authentic 1960s diner, with comfy booths and a counter, you can try a light and fluffy cheesecake in a graham cracker crust smothered with a sweetened sour cream topping. Better yet, get your daily dose of fruits and veggies transformed by owner Betty Aboud into carrot cake featuring pineapple and coconut. Topped with a hot, sweet buttermilk glaze, it's

moist and dense. Open daily, except major holidays, 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 460 W. Winnemucca Blvd., 775-623-2977

Reno **Josef's Vienna Bakery and Café**

This is a perpetually sunny space with indoor and outdoor seating where owner Sonja Pasa serves Napoleons with custard-style French cream filling. Bite into a Bishop's Hat and find a chocolate-dipped marzipan cradling a cakey rum-ball center. Many customers' favorite cookie is the chewy, sticky honey-almond bar. Open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily (weekends from 8 a.m.); café meals are served until 2:45 p.m. Josef's will fill special orders. 933 W. Moana Ln., 775-825-0451.

Café Alfresco, Atlantis Resort

Says maker Willy Rodriquez of his 10-plus daily Italian gelatos, "These ice creams are

*In the kitchen,
you will find
Leopold Leberger
up to his elbows
scooping batter
from an
80-quart
bowl into flying
cake pans.*



Marisa Ayvazian Hess displays a trayful of cookies and pastries at Josef's Vienna Bakery and Café in Reno.

*Bite into a
Bishop's Hat
at Josef's and
you will
discover a
chocolate-dipped
marzipan
cradling a
cakey rum-ball
center.*

creamier and denser than American ice cream." Each is made with imported flavors and heavy cream, milk, and sweeteners. His tiramisu gelato tastes of espresso, cream, vanilla, and cocoa. For an icy tang try the water-based Wild Berry. There are sugar-free flavors, too. This indoor café is open to the Atlantis' casino, which makes it perfect for people watching. Open 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. daily. Atlantis, 3800 S. Virginia St., 775-825-4700.

Sweets Handmade Candies

This is a petite shop of rich aromas and confections that incorporate Belgian chocolate, butter, and heavy cream. Owner Becky Cavender, who says she has always been a "foodie," sometimes pairs her chocolates with Swiss raspberry purée, Italian cherries, or Florida key lime. We recommend the crunchy rich Marble Corn, which is buttered popcorn drizzled with caramel and chocolate—an original Sweets invention. The shop offers chocolate salsas and special orders, too. Open daily 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. or later. 4991 S. Virginia St., 775-827-8270.

Fallon

Cock-n-Bull Restaurant

Locals come here for the casual coffee-shop conversation and the pie. Sour cream lemon is a smooth citrus combo with a crust that is both crispy and tender.

Strawberry rhubarb pie is chock full of local rhubarb and fresh berries in season. Both pies are created from favored recipes of Cock-n-Bull owner Louella Garner, who also offers giant cookies and daily doughnuts. Smoking is allowed. Open 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily at 1350 S. Taylor St., about three-quarters of a mile west of Maine Street, 775-423-2640.

Minden

Maui Boy Bake Shop

Dessert lovers will find inventive combinations featuring seasonal, fresh tropical fruits and gourmet purées concocted by the Maui Boy himself, owner Dewayne Phillips, who says, "I stick with what I know best—Hawaiian style." Flaky butter pastry pockets are filled with guava-infused cream cheese. A traditional haupia bar is the perfect afternoon snack, layering a pudding-like topping on a crunchy coconut-macadamia crust. The light-filled shop is a bit off the beaten path and open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 2561 Business Parkway No. G, 775-267-0707

Las Vegas

Freed's Bakery

Don't be deceived by Freed's strip-mall exterior. Inside the bakery, customers jostle for position to order fancy cakes, drool over the cheesecakes, and buy bagloads of *rugulach*—a cream cheese pastry with fill-

ing inside (raspberry-chocolate chip is a rapid seller). In the family for 45 years, Freed's is the oldest bakery in Las Vegas, says manager Joni Fried (pronounced Freed, hence the shop's spelling). Her mom, Esther Fried, is the owner. "We have 30 employees, and half a dozen of them have been here 20-plus years," says Joni. "So we have longevity." Open 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. 4780 S. Eastern Ave., 702-456-7762.

Leopold's Bakery and Eatery

In the kitchen, you will find Leopold Leberger up to his elbows scooping batter from an 80-quart bowl into flying cake pans. Up front, glass cases hold hand-dipped Belgian chocolates and puff pastry stuffed with fresh custard and fruit. Leberger and his wife, Georgette, are from Belgium, and they fill the shop—owned by daughter Carole Needham and her husband, Neil—with Old Country recipes using Belgian chocolate and French flour. "If it's your life, you put your heart into the product," says Leberger. Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. 10260 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 4, 702-407-8686.

Sweet Creations Bakery

European-trained chef and co-owner Philip Gonzalez is admired for his birthday

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Café Alfresco offers a taste of Italy at the Atlantis in Reno.

and wedding cakes, but he also makes more than 100 different pastries, some inspired by his native Cuba. They're not all available at once, however, because Gonzalez and co-owner Charlotte Sijuan King-Summers like to change with the seasons. You can try the Blackout anytime. It's a double fudge chocolate cake with a layer of butter cream, topped with chocolate ganache. Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. 4523 W. Sahara Ave., 702-251-9678.

The Chocolate Swan, Mandalay Place

Nothing fortifies the soul like a hand-crafted chocolate and a glass of California wine, the offerings in the upstairs chocolate and gifts boutique at Mary and Bob Basta's two-story Chocolate Swan inside Mandalay Place. "Our wines are paired with our chocolates and our desserts," says Mary, the chocolatier. For instance, Death By Chocolate—four layers of Devil's food cake, three layers of chocolate Vienna cream, and a classic French chocolate butter cream topping—washes down nicely with Fritz Zinfandel. The Chocolate Swan's downstairs café, next to the Reading Room bookstore, serves chocolate candies and treats. The upstairs boutique is open from 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until midnight Friday and Saturday. Downstairs is open from 8 a.m. to midnight daily. Mandalay Place, 3930 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-632-9366.

Henderson Ethel M Chocolate Factory

When relatives come to town, at some point locals take them here. Not only can

you take a self-guided tour through Ethel M's factory to view the giant vats, you also can gorge yourself on mocha truffles or any other fresh chocolate droplet of goodness you fancy. After your tour, you can browse the gift shop or wander in the garden, a maze of drought-tolerant trees and cacti that blossom with flowers in the summer and twinkling lights at Christmas. Open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and until 10 p.m. during winter holidays when the garden is lighted. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 702-458-8864.

Boulder City Grandma Daisy's Candy and Ice Cream Parlor

You feel as if you are walking into a giant piece of old-fashioned candy at this pink-and-purple shop owned by sisters Krishun Stanton and Bridget O'Neill. It's packed with Victorian antiques and memorabilia from their Wisconsin childhood, plus bins and jars full of treats like ribbon candy and lollipops. You can have ice cream, try the hand-dipped chocolates, or savor a chunk of creamy peanut brittle. "In warmer weather, the chocolate-covered frozen bananas are good sellers," says Bridget. The sisters learned their craft working in sweets shops as kids, and they cook their candy the old-fashioned way—in a huge copper kettle. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. 501A Hotel Plaza, 702-294-6639.

Paula Riley, a freelance writer who lives in Reno, always travels with a snack close at hand, preferably something rich and sweet. Heidi Walters is a freelance writer and chocolate lover who lives in Henderson.

Nevada Almanac

Balanced on a precipice near **Badger Camp**, and a contest update.

Sage Advice

Stuck on a desert road,
I realized I should have
listened to my mother

By Fred B. Nelson

When friends tell me they are planning to travel in remote areas of the desert, I always give them this advice: Take extra supplies and water, and be sure to tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

A late-spring trip north of Reno reminded me of an adage my mother drilled into me, that if you give advice, you should be willing to take it, too.

I was exploring the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge when I realized how wise my mother was. Located in Nevada's extreme northwestern corner, the refuge was created in the 1930s to protect the area's pronghorn antelope herds. Meadows, snowcapped rimrock, and canyons punctuate the desert landscape, and the remains of early homesteads dot the rolling hills.

Roads in the refuge are sometimes pockmarked with holes dug by badgers, making driving tricky. While the area's main routes are graded, the primitive side roads are suitable only for high-clearance



Before getting stuck, the author passed the Last Chance Ranch, with its deserted farm house, corrals, and windmill, on the western edge of the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge.

and often only four-wheel-drive vehicles.

I was in my two-wheel-drive pickup with a top-heavy camper, trying to negotiate a primitive track leading southeast from a campground known as Badger Camp. The trail became too steep, and I lost traction. While trying to back up, I put the right rear wheel over the edge of a precipice. Making matters worse, I then put the right front wheel over, too.

Since it was almost dusk, I decided to make camp. I didn't want a strong wind to blow my teetering pickup—and me—over the side during the night, so I sought shelter in a crude line shack nearby. It was late May, and the temperature that night dipped to 10 degrees.

At dawn I gathered enough water and food to last the two days it would take to walk to Cedarville, California, about 60 miles west. At least I had brought extra supplies, even if I hadn't left word as to where I'd be in case the posse came looking.

After hoofing it for about two miles, I saw a beautiful sight—a four-wheel-drive SUV leaving a trail of dust on a crossroad a half mile in front of me. I was wearing a bright-red jacket, and when I waved it, the driver saw me. A family of rockhounds from Oregon immediately became my

best friends and took a side trip to winch me onto the road. I was on my way before I even had a chance to realize how lucky I'd been. I didn't see another trace of humanity until I was 45 miles from Badger Camp.

Needless to say, when I head into the backcountry now, not only do I have emergency supplies, I also tell someone where I'm going and when I'll be back.

Mom would be proud of me.

Antelope Country

The Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, located north of Reno on the Oregon border, can be reached via Gerlach, Denio, or Cedarville. State Route 140 leading from the Oregon state line through the refuge to Denio is paved, while other main roads in the refuge are graded in season. Road conditions are best from May to November. Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Box 111, Lakeview, OR 97630, 541-947-3315, or visit <http://sheldon-hartmtn.fws.gov/index.html>.

Fred B. Nelson of Prescott, Arizona, is a retired insurance broker turned freelance writer who also retires his cell phone except in a wilderness emergency.

Funny Stories Contest

The **Funny Stories Contest** deadline has been extended to May 15. You are welcome to share your favorite Silver State anecdotes, such as an amusing travel mishap or an oddball character or unusual place you may have encountered in Nevada. Your story should be limited to 150 words or less. Please e-mail your entries to jhollister@nevada.com or mail to Joyce Hollister, Nevada Magazine, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701



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Juli Inkster chips onto a green during the 2004 Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge at Reflection Bay.

Vegas Goes for the Green

Old inhibitions are cast aside as golf booms in Southern Nevada.

By C. Gregory Frey

If Las Vegas' old-time casino bosses could witness the current golf explosion in their gambling mecca, they would be furious that their hotel patrons would have a reason to leave the premises for several hours. The bosses would worry that their slot reels might stop turning and their blackjack dealers would have no players to deal to.

In recent years, however, emerald fairways and blue lakes have taken an increasingly firm hold in the otherwise brown Southern Nevada desert. In 1980 the Las Vegas metropolitan area had 10 public courses. Today it has 39, and there are more than a dozen others in Mesquite, Boulder City, Laughlin, Primm, and Pahrump.

Las Vegas' golf boom started slowly. The city's oldest course, the municipal Las

FORE!

Nevada Magazine presents

Nevada Golf 2005

This is *Nevada Magazine's* 12th annual Nevada Golf Guide to more than 100 courses around the state and along its borders. This year's guide includes special features on golf in Las Vegas, Mesquite, Reno, the Carson area, Lake Tahoe, and rural Nevada. Because green fees change from season to season, it's best to call ahead to confirm prices.

Vegas Golf Club, opened in 1949. By the early 1950s, the town had one resort course, at the Desert Inn, the site of today's Wynn Las Vegas. In 1953, Howard Capps, the former PGA Tour operations manager who ran the DI course, hustled the hotel's director, Wilbur Clark, to put up some prize money, and the Tournament of Champions was born. Clark presented the inaugural winner, Al Besselink, 10,000 silver dollars in a wheelbarrow.

The Stardust Hotel built a course, now called Las Vegas National, in 1961, citing that if one could keep golfers on a straight line to the hotel's own course and back, it might not be a bad idea. Green with envy, the Tropicana built its own course to lure gambling golfers, and the Dunes Hotel built a true legend, the Dunes Golf Club, in its backyard next to Interstate 15.



Wolf was the third Pete Dye course at Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort.

Hank Greenspun, founding publisher of the *Las Vegas Sun*, built his Paradise Valley Golf and Country Club after being kicked off the Desert Inn for revealing mob ties. The Showboat Hotel later purchased the course, which is today's Wildhorse Golf Club.

Still, a square foot of golf course did not seem to forecast as much profit as a square foot of casino floor, so to the dismay of all golfers the Tropicana and Dunes eventually were bulldozed to make space for the MGM Grand and Bellagio megaresorts. Even into the 1990s, many hotel executives were anti-golf, so the Vegas landscape was still dotted with only a few of the green oases.

Then in the early 1990s the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe made a bold move. With little regard for civic pressures, tribal members focused their resources on a small but scenic piece of land 10 miles north of town. They hired Pete Dye, one of the game's top designers, to sculpt the first of several world-class courses. The first, Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiv), opened in 1995, and a PGA West-style clubhouse was constructed. The Paiutes' suc-

Today anyone can play Shadow Creek if he or she wishes to shell out the \$500 fee.

cess ushered in the golden era of Las Vegas golf. As Las Vegas began to diversify as a vacation destination, national golf developers and local businessmen saw opportunity in the lack of courses. To enhance its master-planned Summerlin community, the Howard Hughes Corporation built the private Tournament Players Club at Summerlin and the public TPC at the Canyons, hosts of the PGA's Michelin Championship at Las Vegas in October.

Some of the world's best links designers have participated in the Vegas golf boom. Former Mirage owner Steve Wynn hired Tom Fazio to design Vegas' highest-rated course, Shadow Creek, which required massive earth moving and the planting of thousands of trees. After it opened in 1989, you had to be a sports star, a wealthy gambler, or President to play there. Now anyone can play Shadow Creek, which is owned by MGM Mirage, if he or she wishes to shell out the \$500 room-and-green fee.

Well-known course architects helped golf grow on the west side of the Las Vegas Valley beginning in the 1980s. Jay Morrish's Painted Desert introduced target golf—in which the desert terrain frames grassy landing areas—to the region. Arnold Palmer designed two championship courses at Angel Park. Johnny Miller, the sometimes controversial TV golf commentator, helped create Badlands.

As the golf boom gained momentum, top designers created intriguing courses in Henderson. Arthur Hills designed the Legacy, where the tough No. 11, 12, and 13 holes are known as the Devil's Triangle. Rees Jones, a leading designer whose father, Robert Trent Jones, was a pioneering golf architect, laid out Rio Secco, now owned by Harrah's.

Jack Nicklaus made the scene in 1995 with the private SouthShore at Lake Las Vegas Resort in Henderson. Three years later he designed Reflection Bay across the resort's man-made lake. Open for public play, Reflection Bay features four lakeside holes, and you're welcome to jump in after your golf ball on a hot summer day.

Nicklaus' fellow Ohio State alumnus, Tom Weiskopf, designed the Falls Golf Club, the second public course to open at Lake Las Vegas. The resort includes numerous other attractions—a Ritz-Carlton, a Hyatt, the MonteLago Village shopping area, and an exclusive atmosphere amid the palm-lined fairways.

Also in Henderson, designer Jay Morrish has sculpted hillside challenges at DragonRidge, a sloping spectacle with finely manicured fairways. At the Revere, Billy Casper and Greg Nash created two courses with revolutionary names—the Lexington and the Concord—that weave through hilly desert terrain. Golfers drive onto generous fairways at Tuscany, a Ted Robinson layout.

Maintaining its roots as an Old West town, Las Vegas has its own fast-draw golf developer in Bill Walters. You have to hand it to a man who can beat the casinos at their own game by building noteworthy golf courses in view of their penthouses.

In the 1990s, Walters, previously known mainly as a sports bettor, recruited Perry Dye, Pete's son, to design Desert Pines Golf Club, a Carolina-pines-in-the-desert track with a two-tiered driving range near downtown.

Then Walters built two courses whose themes match the creativity of the city's resorts. Complete with caddies and a castle-



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Caddies assist players at Royal Links, where the clubhouse resembles a Scottish castle.

like clubhouse, Royal Links re-creates 18 of the most famous British Open holes. (Why should this seem odd in the city where Paris, Venice, and New York all reside?) Next, Walters succeeded where others have bulldozed, building the South Seas-style Bali Hai Golf Club near Mandalay Bay on the Strip. Bali Hai has towering palms, sparkling sand, and fine cuisine for hungry golfers at Cili, an upscale restaurant.

In Las Vegas, the new millennium sparked a heightened level of golf mania. In 2001, the Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort premiered Pete Dye's third course. The 7,604-yard Wolf—one of the longest courses in the state—opened with a match between LPGA stars Annika Sorenstam and Karrie Webb on *Shell's Wonderful World of Golf*.

Designed by Robert Cupp, the 27-hole Silverstone opened the same year. The Desert, Mountain, and Valley nines have some of the longest par-fives in the area.

Also in 2001, Nicklaus debuted Bear's Best, where he duplicated 18 of his favorite holes that he has designed around the world. (This is the second Bear's Best; the first is in Atlanta.) The high-end Vegas resort course is nestled in the shadow of Red Rock Canyon.

Wherever you find Jack, there must be Arnie. Next door to Bear's Best sits Red Rock Country Club, which features 36 holes designed by Arnold Palmer. Its second 18, the Arroyo Course at Red Rock, opened to the public in 2003.

Also in the west valley, Brian Curley and

Lee Schmidt created Siena Golf Club, part of the age-qualified Siena community. If you can avoid the more than 90 white-sand bunkers, you might beat your handicap.

For the budget-minded golfer, Black Mountain in Henderson has 27 holes and is the site of U.S. Public Links qualifying. Out-of-bounds stakes and large trees abound, making straight drives essential.

Twenty-four miles south of Las Vegas, Boulder City is the only nongaming community in Nevada. But it has plenty of golf game at the Boulder City Municipal links and at the 27-hole Boulder Creek Golf Club, which opened two years ago. A resort-quality golf experience for a little less cost, Boulder Creek offers water holes, Scottish-style links holes, and, of course, desert holes.

For golfers with deeper pockets, there's Cascata, an ultra-exclusive Boulder City course owned by Caesars Entertainment. Cascata was once the sole province of selected high rollers, but other hotel guests now can play—as at Shadow Creek—if they are willing to pay serious green fees.

Speaking of Shadow Creek, Steve Wynn hired Tom Fazio once again—this time to design a course on the site of the old Desert Inn. The new layout stands next to Wynn's latest Strip resort, Wynn Las Vegas, allowing the hotel's golfing guests to recall the time Al Besselink won a wheelbarrow full of silver dollars at the Tournament of Champions.

It's always nice to find a Las Vegas casino boss who isn't afraid of golf.

C. Gregory Frey is a Las Vegas writer, golfer, and managing partner of Golf Marketing International.

Las Vegas Area Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses also rent clubs. Call ahead to confirm information. Early tee-time reservations are recommended.

BOULDER CITY

Boulder City Golf Course—Traditional city course was named Best Bargain Course by *Vegas Golfer* in 2003-2004.

Architect: William Bell. 18 holes, estab. 1972. Manager Bob Conrad, Head Pro Tony Fiorentini. Call 702-293-9236. Tees: 6,561 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$57 M-F, \$62 S-S. Clark County residents \$40, \$45. Summer rates. MC, Visa.

Boulder Creek Golf Club—The 27-hole city course was named Best New Golf Course by *Vegas Golfer*. Architect: Mark Rathert. Estab. 2003. Head Pro Andy Schaper. Call 702-294-6534, www.bouldercreekgc.com. Back tees: 7,628 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$130 M-F, \$150 S-S. Afternoon \$85, \$95. Clark County residents \$55 M-F, \$65 S-S. Afternoon \$40, \$50. Summer rates. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Cascata Golf Club—Ultra-upscale layout owned by Caesars Entertainment is for registered guests of Caesars Palace, Paris Las Vegas, Bally's Las Vegas, and Flamingo Las Vegas. Architect: Rees Jones. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Director of Golf Brian Hawthorne. For details call 877-222-2455 or visit www.caesars.com/cascata for Caesars Entertainment booking. Back tees: 7,137 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$350 M, W, Th, \$500

F-S; does not include lodging. Players are accompanied by caddies.

HENDERSON

Anthem Country Club—Private course has views of the Las Vegas Strip. Architects: Keith Foster and Hale Irwin. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Director of Golf Tony Snoey. Call 702-614-5050, www.anthemcc.com. Back tees: 7,267 yards, par 72. Member-guest. AE, MC, Visa.

Black Mountain Golf and Country Club—Mature course is a qualifying site for U.S. Public Links. Bob Baldock designed Founders-Horizon Course, George Williams designed Desert Course. Semi-private, 27 holes, estab. 1957. GM Marty Wells, Director of Golf John Fails. Call 702-565-7933, www.golfblackmountain.com. Back tees: Founders-Horizon 6,541 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$85, residents \$50. Summer rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. Yardage book.

Desert Willow Golf Club—Executive links course in Sun City McDonald Ranch. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Eric Locklar. Call 702-263-GOLF, www.desertwillowlasvegas.com. Tees: 3,811 yards, par 60. Green fees: \$24-\$55. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

DragonRidge Country Club—Course in southeast Las Vegas Valley has dramatic elevation changes and views of the Strip. Architects: Jay Morrish and David Druzisky. Private with limited public play, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Head Pro Gregg Minshall. Call 877-855-1505 or 702-614-4444, www.dragonridgecountryclub.com. Back tees: 7,039 yards, par 72. Green fees: Oct-May: \$160-\$225. June-Sept.: \$95-\$160. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

The Falls Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—Course designed by Tom Weiskopf was named No. 9 Best New Upscale Public Course by *Golf Digest* in 2004. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Director of Golf John Herndon, Head Pro Greg Brockelman. Call 702-740-5258, www.lakelasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,250 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall: \$250 M-Th, \$270 F-S. Summer: \$165 M-Th, \$190 F-S. Packages with Hyatt Regency and Ritz-Carlton. AE, MC, Visa.

The Legacy Golf Club—Links-type course has been a site of U.S. Open qualifying. Architect: Arthur Hills. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. GM Allen Jones, Head Pro Randy Weigman. For information call 702-897-2187 or 702-897-2200, www.thelegacygc.com. Back tees: 7,233 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. Major credit cards.

Reflection Bay Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—The first daily-fee Jack Nicklaus course in Nevada hosted Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge in 1998-2000 and 2003-2004. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Director of Golf John Herndon, Head Pro Dan Romstead. Call 702-740-4653, www.lakelasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,261 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and

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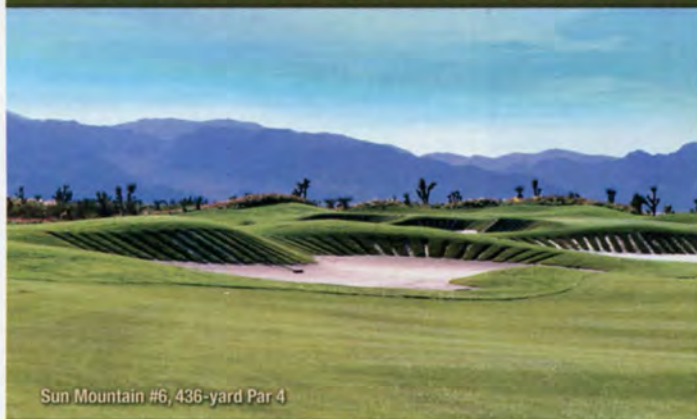
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fall: \$250 M-Th, \$270 F-S. Summer: \$165 M-Th, \$190 F-S. Packages with Hyatt Regency and Ritz-Carlton. AE, MC, Visa.

The Revere Golf Club—Like Paul Revere, the Revere runs from Lexington to Concord. Named Best Course in Southern Nevada in 2003 *Nevada Magazine* readers' poll. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Troon Golf, GM Greg Kinney. Call 877-

273-8373 or 702-259-4653, www.reveregolf.com. **Lexington Course:** Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,143 yards, par 72. **Concord Course:** Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Back tees: 7,034 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$90-\$225, vary seasonally. AE, MC, Visa.

Rio Secco Golf Club—Named one of America's 100 top public courses by *Golf Digest* in 2003-2004. Home of the Butch Harmon School of Golf. Architect: Rees Jones. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Harrah's/Rio Hotels, GM Eric Dutt, Head Pro Ken Wright. Call 888-TO-SECCO or 702-777-2400, www.riosecco.net. Back tees: 7,332 yards, par 72. Green fees: Guests at Rio, Harrah's, and other hotels pay \$125-\$275. Summer rates. AE, MC, Visa.

SouthShore Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—Private course designed by Jack Nicklaus. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Director of Golf John Herndon, Head Pro Dale Ray Akridge. Call 702-558-0022, www.lakelasvegas.com. Back tees: 6,917 yards, par 71. Member-guest.

Tuscany Golf Club—Traditional design with generous fairways and views of the Strip. Architect: Ted Robinson. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. GM Tom Vold, Head Pro C.W. Woods. Call 866-TUSCANY, 702-951-1500. Back tees: 6,906 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Wildhorse Golf Club—Traditional course has rolling terrain and plentiful water. Architects: Robert Cupp and Hubert Green, redesign by Brian Curley. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1958. GM Andy Wright, Head Pro Bill Metcalfe. Call 702-434-9000, www.golfwildhorse.com. Back tees: 6,500 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$75 M-Th, \$95 F-S. Twilight rates. AE, MC, Visa.

LAS VEGAS

Angel Park Golf Club—Angel Park has two championship courses designed by Arnold Palmer, an executive course designed by Robert Cupp and John Fought, an 18-hole putting course, and a night-lighted driving range. GM David Bogue, Head Pro Peter Niblock. Call 888-4GOLFV or 702-254-4653, www.angelparkgolfclub.com. **Mountain Course:** Subtle changes

in elevation. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Back tees: 6,722 yards, par 71. **Palm Course:** Some forced carries over water and desert. Redesigned by Robert Cupp and John Fought. 18 holes, estab. 1989. Back tees: 6,530 yards, par 70. **Cloud Nine:** The 12-hole par-3 course has nine holes lighted for night play. Architects: Robert Cupp and John Fought. Estab. 1989. Tees: 1,341 yards, par 27. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, DC, Disc., JCB, MC, Visa.

Arroyo Golf Club at Red Rock—The public Arroyo course and the private Mountain course are Arnold Palmer-designed courses. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. Head Pro Patrick Duty. Call 702-258-2300, www.arroyogolfclubatredrock.com. Back tees: 6,883 yards, par 72. Green fees: High season: \$159 M-Th, \$189 F-S. Summer rates. AE, MC, and Visa.

Badlands Golf Club—Designed by Johnny Miller with Chi Chi Rodriguez. Built around arroyos, flows with natural terrain. Resort course, 27 holes, estab. 1995. GM Chuck Afualo, Teaching Pro Jim Fonda. Call 800-675-1458 or 702-363-0754, www.badlandsgc.com. Back tees: 6,926 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$135 M-Th, \$190 F-S. June 1-Aug. 31: \$75 M-Th, \$95 F-S. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Bali Hai Golf Club—Tropically themed course is located south of Mandalay Bay on the Strip. Architects: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Walters Golf, GM Adam Owen. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,015 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$150-\$300 depending on season. Twilight rates. Major credit cards. Mandatory caddy program.

Bear's Best Golf Club—An 18-hole all-star collection of Jack Nicklaus' favorite holes that he has designed. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2001. GM Ladonice Waldrep-Neamtu, Head Pro Pat Mastandrea. Call 866-385-8500, bearsbest.com. Back tees: 7,194 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$195 M-Th, \$245 F-S. Off-season and twilight rates. AE, MC, Visa. Forecaddies mandatory.

Callaway Golf Center—Desert-style executive course near Strip's south end is lighted for night play. Architect: Robert Cupp. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1997. GM John Boreta. Call 702-896-4100. Tees: 1,230 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$37. Carts. Senior and junior rates. Nevada resident discount.

Canyon Gate Country Club—Private course has lots of water and narrow fairways. Architect: Ted Robinson. 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Steve Lind, Head Pro David Merrill. Call 702-363-0303, pro shop 702-363-0481. Back tees: 6,742 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Desert Pines Golf Club—Course near downtown Las Vegas has more than 4,000 pine trees and a climate-controlled driving range. Architect: Perry Dye. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Jim Anderson. Call 888-397-2499, pro shop 702-388-4400, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 6,810 yards, par 71. Green fees: Peak season: \$135 M-Th, \$175 F-S. Summer and twilight rates. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa.

Desert Rose Golf Course—Clark County course has moderate length, flat terrain. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. GM Bill Horrtor, Operations Manager Matt Craddock. Call 702-431-4653. Back tees: 6,511 yards, par 71. Green fees: Nonresidents \$59 M-Th, \$79 F-S. Clark County residents \$33 M-Th, \$39 F-S. Twilight rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Durango Hills Golf Club—Executive course in Northwest Las Vegas was named Best Executive Course by *Vegas Golfer* in 2004. Architects: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. City, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Head Pro Nick Spiegel. Call 702-229-4653. Tees: 3,780 yards, par 58. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Eagle Crest Golf Club/Sun City Summerlin—Executive course has one of the highest elevations in the valley. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1995. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Al Sibille. Call 702-240-1320. Tees: 4,067 yards, par 60. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Highland Falls Golf Club/Sun City Summerlin—Area's highest-elevation course at just over 3,000 feet. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1993. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Jim Neighbors. Call 702-254-7010, www.suncitysummerlin.com. Back tees: 6,512 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$110, twilight \$80. Nevada residents \$55, twilight \$40. AE, Disc., MC, Visa are accepted.

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Golf Getaways

The following are good sources of Nevada golf information:

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Information Center, 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Call 702-892-7575 or visit www.vegasfreedom.com for hotel and golf information.

Golf Mesquite, Nevada. Call 866-720-7111 or visit www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Golf and hotel-casino packages in Mesquite, 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas.

Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, Golf Information, 4590 S. Virginia St., Box 837, Reno, NV 89502. The RSCVA, which operates the Wildcreek and Northgate courses, has information on courses and golf packages. Call 800-FOR-RENO or visit www.visitrenotahoe.com or www.divinenine.com.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701. Has a color brochure on area's "Divine 9" courses. Call 800-NEVADA-1. For information visit www.visitcarsoncity.com or www.divinenine.com. Call 800-638-2321 for tee times.

Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Authority, 1513 U.S. 395 N., Gardnerville, NV 89410. Call 800-727-7677 for "Divine 9" golf brochure. Visit www.visitcarsonvalley.org or www.divinenine.com. Call 800-638-2321 for tee times.

Golf the High Sierra, an association of 20 golf courses in the Reno-Tahoe area, has a Web site where golfers can reserve packages. Visit www.golfthehighsierra.com.

For more copies of the "Nevada Golf" guide, as well as general tourist information, write the **Nevada Commission on Tourism**, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701, call 800-NEVADA-8, or visit www.travelnevada.com. Information provided in this golf guide can be found on the *Nevada Magazine* Web site at www.nevadamagazine.com.



Las Vegas Country Club—Oldest private course in Southern Nevada is host of the LPGA Tour's Takefiji Classic in April. Architect: Edmund Ault with Ron Garl redesign. 18 holes, estab. 1967. Manager Dale Telford, Director of Golf John Creaney. Back tees: 7,164 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Las Vegas Golf Club—Municipal course west of downtown is mature with lots of trees and little water. Architect: Tom Bell. City, 18 holes, estab. 1949. GM Jon Anderson. Call 702-646-3003. Back tees: 6,631 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$69 M-Th, \$89 F-S. Las Vegas residents \$26.50 to walk, \$36.75 to ride. Reduced summer rates. Major credit cards.

Las Vegas National Golf Club—Classic old-style Las Vegas course has been the site of PGA and LPGA tour events. Architect: Bert Stamps. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1961. GM and Head Pro Jeff Levin, Teaching Pro Mike Buss. Call 702-734-1796, www.americangolf.com. Back tees: 6,815 yards, par 71. Green fees: Sept-May: \$99-\$125 M-Th, \$125-\$175 F-S. June-Aug.: \$55 M-Th, \$75 F-S. Twilight rates. AE, Disc, MC, Visa.

Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort—Three Pete Dye courses are located on the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Reservation 20 miles north of downtown Las Vegas. Resort courses, 54 holes, GM Byron Cone, Director of Golf Greg Wickensimer. Call 800-711-2833, 702-658-1400, www.lvpaiutegolf.com. **Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiu)**: Elevated tees, water on seven holes, and no parallel fairways. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Back tees: 7,158 yards, par 72. **Sun Mountain (Tav-ai Kaiu)**: Generous layout, railroad-tie bunkers. 18 holes, estab. 1996. Back tees: 7,112 yards, par 72. **Wolf (Kweetoo-unuv)**: Extremely long from the back tees. The 15th has an island green. 18 holes, estab. 2001. Back tees: 7,604 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, DC, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Los Prados Country Club—Short, tight course has five par 3s and three par 5s. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1985. Golf Shop Manager Harry Keller. Call 702-645-5696, www.lospradosgolf.com. Back tees: 5,348 yards, par 70. Green fees: Nonresidents \$40 M-Th, \$65 F-S. Nevada residents \$26 M, \$35 Tu-F, \$50 S-S. Casino employees \$25 M-F. Summer rates. MC, Visa. Yardage book.

Painted Desert Golf Course—Desert target design by Jay Morrish offers lush fairway landing areas. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1987. American Golf, GM and Head Pro John

Scappatura. Call 702-645-2570. Back tees: 6,729 yards, par 72. Green fees: Vary \$60-\$89 M-Th, \$80-\$129 F-S. Twilight rates. AE, DC, Disc, MC, Visa.

Palm Valley Golf Club/Sun City Summerlin—Rolling terrain and fast bent grass greens. Architects: Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Joe Kelly, Head Pro Paul Brown. Call 702-363-4373, www.suncity-summerlin.com. Back tees: 6,849 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$110, twilight \$80 after 2 p.m. Nevada residents \$58 daily, twilight \$43. AE, Disc, MC, Visa.

Red Rock Country Club/Mountain Course—Arnold Palmer-designed Mountain course is private; the Arroyo course is public. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Head Pro Rob Blackburn. Call 702-304-5666. Back tees: 7,187 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Rhodes Ranch Golf Club—Located in the southwest corner of Las Vegas, the Ted Robinson-designed course has water on seven holes. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. GM Tom Vold, Head Pro Mike Stewart. Call 888-311-TEES or 702-740-4114, www.rhodesranch.com. Back tees: 6,909 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Royal Links Golf Club—Each hole was inspired by a famous hole on a course where the British Open has been played. Architect: Perry Dye. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Mike Severn. Call 888-397-2499 or 702-450-8000, pro shop 702-450-8123, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,029 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$200 and up, vary by season. Twilight rates. AE, Disc, JCB, MC, Visa. Caddies available.

Siena Golf Club—Part of the Tuscan-themed Siena in Summerlin community. Architects: Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Director of Golf Clay Meininger, Head Pro Thom Blinkinsop. Call 702-341-9200, www.sienagolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, and Visa. GPS in carts.

Silverstone Golf Club—Course designed by Robert Cupp has three nines with water, palm trees, and a 28th hole for play-offs. Public, 27 holes, estab. 2001. GM Tom Judson, Director of Golf Ken Kaifas. Call 877-888-2127 or 702-562-3770, www.silverstonegolfclub.com. Back tees: 7,159 yards, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall: \$125 M-Th, \$155 F-S. Summer and winter: \$79 M-Th, \$99 F-S. AE, Disc, MC, Visa. ProLink GPS in carts.

Southern Highlands Golf Club—Private course is home

of UNLV men's golf team and host of the Southern Highlands Collegiate Championship. Architects: Robert Trent Jones and Robert Trent Jones Jr. Private, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Head Pro Jay Beckman. Call 702-263-1000. Back tees: 7,510 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Spanish Trail Country Club—Designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., this private course rotates play on three nine-hole sections daily. Private, 27 holes, estab. 1984. Head Pro Warren Webster. Call 702-364-0357. Back tees: Canyon-Lakes 7,116 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Stallion Mountain Country Club—Private course may be played by guests at Las Vegas hotels and through Walters Golf Group. Architects: Jim Colbert and Jeff Brauer. 18 holes, estab. 1995. Walters Golf, Director of Golf Mike Wachtman. Call 702-450-8000 or 888-397-2499, www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,272 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for details.

Sunrise Vista Golf Course—Located on Nellis Air Force Base, each of the four nines is named after a fighter jet—Eagle, Falcon, Raptor, and Thunderbird. For use by active-duty and retired military personnel and Dept. of Defense civilian employees. Civilian guests must be sponsored; call pro shop for details. Architect: Steve Halsey. 36 holes, estab. 1967. GM and Head Pro Tony Angelico. Call 702-652-2602, ext. 10. Back tees: Eagle-Falcon 7,051 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. MC, Visa.

Tournament Players Club at Summerlin—Private course owned by the PGA Tour hosts the Michelin Championship at Las Vegas in October. Architect: Bobby Weed with Fuzzy Zoeller. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1991. GM Chuck Bombard, Head Pro Lee Smith. Call 702-256-0111, www.tpc.com. Back tees: 7,243 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Tournament Players Club at the Canyons—High-end daily-fee course owned by the PGA Tour is cohost of the Michelin Championship at Las Vegas. Architect: Bobby Weed with Raymond Floyd. 18 holes, estab. 1996. GM Dan Hammell, Head Pro Todd Hajduk. For information call 702-256-2000, www.tpcanycans.com. Back tees: 7,063 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$205 M-Th, \$260 F-S. Nevada residents \$140 and \$150. Summer twilight rates. AE, DC, MC, Visa.

The Wynn Golf and Country Club—Tom Fazio designed this new course for Steve Wynn's recently opened resort, Wynn Las Vegas, on the site of the old Desert Inn on the Strip. The exclusive resort course can be played by Wynn Las Vegas guests. 18 holes, estab. 2005. Call 888-320-WYNN or 702-770-7100, www.wynnlasvegas.com. Back tees: 7,042 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$500, does not include lodging; for resort guests only. Forecaddies available.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Aliante Golf Club—Aliante, part of a Del Webb community, has views of the city and the mountains. Architect: Gary Panks. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2003. OB Sports, Director of Operations Andy Deiro, Head Pro Nelson Mascareñas. Call 702-399-4888, www.alianteclub.com. Back tees: 7,022 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$115 M-Th, \$135 F-S, twilight \$75, \$85. June-mid-Sept.: \$55 M-Th, \$65 F-S, twilight \$50, \$55. AE, MC, Visa.

Craig Ranch Golf Course—Craig Ranch is one of the most-played courses in Nevada. Golfers showing an out-of-state ID get a free lunch. Architect: J.C. Stimson, the original owner. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1963. Managers Eddie Schmitz and Tim Schmidt. Call 702-642-9700. Back tees: 6,032 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$19 to walk, \$30 to ride. MC, Visa.

North Las Vegas Golf Course—Par-3 city course is lighted for night play. Nine holes, estab. 1971. Manager Mike Buttell. Call 702-633-1833. Tees: 1,128 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$7.50 weekdays (seniors \$6.50, students \$5), \$9 weekends. Night golf: \$9 weekdays, \$10 weekends. No credit cards.

Shadow Creek—To play you must be an MGM Mirage overnight guest. Caddies carry range finders; there are no tee signs or yardage books. Architect: Tom Fazio. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. MGM Mirage Corp., GM Mark Brennehan, Director of Golf Monte Montgomery. Call 702-791-7111, 888-778-3387 for tee times. Back tees: 7,239 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$500 for overnight guests of the Mirage, Bellagio, Treasure Island, MGM Grand, and New York-New York. Besides lodging, fees include limo, cart, and caddie service. Guests must be staying at the hotel to play at Shadow Creek.

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Golf's Fertile Crescent

Mesquite, Laughlin, Primm, and Pahrump offer Vegas-style golf vacations.

By Matt Farley

Four Southern Nevada towns have created a fertile crescent of golf. Tracing an arc from east to west within 90 miles of Las Vegas, Mesquite, Laughlin, Primm, and Pahrump combine championship-caliber courses and Vegas-style resorts featuring spas, nightclubs, and casinos.

"We build custom vacations for our guests," says John Paul, sales director at Wolf Creek Golf Club in Mesquite. "It's really the elevation and terrain that make this area great for golf. Our course is actually built inside a series of canyons."

Wolf Creek and Mesquite's four other major courses—the CasaBlanca, Palms, Falcon Ridge, and Arnold Palmer-designed Oasis—have always attracted die-hard golfers, but to draw entire families the resorts now offer massages, hiking trips, and other inducements. Golfers can choose their course (or courses) from a multiplicity of packages offered by Mesquite's hotel-casinos. Package prices range from about \$70 to \$500, depending on length of stay and your taste in links and lodging.

In Laughlin, players can link their hotel stays to a round at Emerald River or the Mojave Resort while working in a boat cruise or fishing trip on the Colorado River.

In Primm, the Tom Fazio-designed Primm Valley Golf Club houses golfers and other vacationers in three hotels with casinos, restaurants, an outlet mall, and a theater that has hosted such diversions as country act Rascal Flatts and a King of the Cage competition.

Pahrump casinos like the Saddle West, Terrible's, and the Pahrump Nugget charge less than \$100 for a midweek room and 18 holes on Willow Creek or Mountain Falls. Relatively low green fees, especially in Pahrump and Laughlin, make these towns a fertile crescent of bargains—and good golf.

Matt Farley writes for the Register-Pajaronian of Watsonville, California.



Primm Valley players will find two Tom Fazio-designed courses on the state line.

Courses Outside Las Vegas

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca Golf Club—Big Stakes Golf Tournament, May 7-17, is open to 128 teams and requires an entry fee of \$100,000 per team (visit www.bigstakesgolf.com). Closed for overseeding Aug. 29-Sept. 16, 2005. Architect: Cal Olson. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Director of Golf Bob Ault, Head Pro Gary Moore. Call 888-711-GOLF or 800-459-7529, www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Back tees: 7,036 yards, par 72. Green fees: CasaBlanca Resort guests: Oct.-April: \$80-\$95 Sun.-Fri., \$80-\$100 Sat. depending on season. Lower rates May-Sept. Nonguest rates \$15-\$20 higher. Mesquite hotel-casino packages. AE, DC, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Falcon Ridge Golf Course—Course is built with elevated tee boxes in the canyons of north Mesquite. Designer: Kelby Hughes. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2004. Director of Golf Brian Wursten. Call 877-270-4653 or 702-346-6363. Back tees: 6,550 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$45-\$110 depending on day and season. Summer rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Oasis Golf Club—Oasis earned *Golf Digest's* four-and-a-half stars in 2004. Courses will expand to 36 holes in fall 2005. Resort courses, 27 holes, estab. 1995. Director of Golf Randy Tickner, Head Pro Scott Ballif. Call 888-367-3386, 702-346-7820, www.theoasisgolfclub.com. **Oasis/Palmer Course**: Architects: Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. Back tees: 6,982 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$130 M-Th, \$140 F-S. Summer rates available. **Vistas/Canyons Course**: The 18-hole Canyons Course will incorporate the nine-hole Vistas. Back tees (when 18): 6,633 yards, par 71. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Palms Golf Club—Resort course hosts the annual Re/Max World Long Drive Championship on Oct. 18-22, 2005. Architect: William Hull. 18 holes, estab. 1989. Director of Golf Bob Ault, Head Pro Ken Turner. Call 888-711-4653 or 702-346-

5232, www.golfmesquitenevada.com. Back tees: 6,814 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates and packages. Affiliated with Oasis Resort. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Wolf Creek Golf Club—Named one of 100 Best Public Courses by *Golf Digest* in 2003-2004. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Director of Golf Steve Sargent. Call 866-252-GOLF, 702-346-1670, www.golfwolfcreek.com. Back tees: 6,939 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$80-\$180 depending on season. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

LAUGHLIN

Emerald River Country Club—Challenging target course on the Colorado River was named best rural course by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2004. Architects: Ault and Clark. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1990. American Golf, Head Pro John Duckett. Call 702-298-0061. Back tees: 6,572 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$80 M-Th, \$90 F-S. Seniors \$69 M-Th, \$79 F-S. Hotel packages with Laughlin casinos. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Mojave Resort Golf Club—Links-style course near the Avi Casino, 15 miles south of other Laughlin casinos. Architects: PGA West/Brian Curley and Grant Hesserot. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, GM Chris Stewart, Head Pro Keri Stewart. Call 702-535-4653, www.mojaveresortgolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,939 yards, par 72. Green fees: Vary by season. Discounts with Laughlin hotels. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

PRIMM

Primm Valley Golf Club—The I-15 border town of Primm boasts two resort courses designed by Tom Fazio. *Golf Digest* gave Primm Valley four-and-a-half stars. MGM Mirage, Director of Golf Mark Yelenich. Call 800-386-7867 or 702-679-5510, www.primmvalleyresorts.com. **Lakes Course**: Lakes and streams, mature pine trees. 18 holes, estab. 1997. Back tees: 6,945 yards, par 71. **Desert Course**: Blends with cacti and desert shrubs. 18 holes, estab. 1998. Back tees: 7,131 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 3-June 6: \$125 M-Th, \$150 F-S. Summer rates. Packages with Primm hotel-casinos. Major credit cards.

PAHRUMP

Desert Greens—Informal nine-hole, par-3 course. No golf carts for rent. Public, estab. 2001. Manager Jon Beesley. Call 775-751-1999. Tees: 776 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$15. Pull carts: \$1. Players can bring own electric carts (no gas). No credit cards.

Lakeview Executive Course—Elevated greens and tee boxes and four lakes. Architect: William Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1984. Manager Douglas Shaw. Call 775-727-4040. Tees: 3,587 yards, par 59. Green fees: \$18 M-F, \$20 S-S. Summer rates. Major credit cards.

Mountain Falls Golf Course—Course designed by Cal Olson has lush, rolling fairways, many bunkers, and undulating greens. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 2002. Head Pro Neil Pierce. Call 775-537-6553, www.mountainfallsgolf.com. Back tees: 7,236 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$45 M-F, \$55 S-S, after noon \$30. Summer rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Willow Creek Golf Course—Traditional golf course is the host of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Rally for the Cure. Architect: William Bell. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1980. GM and Director of Golf Frank Cox. Call 877-779-4653, 775-727-4653. Back tees: 7,025 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$40 M-Th, \$50 F-S. Twilight \$25, \$30. AE, MC, Visa.

PHOTO: J. Rick Martin



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Designs on Greatness

The Reno-Sparks area boasts courses with big-name pedigrees.

By Vic Williams



Golfers play the fourth hole at Red Hawk's Lakes Course, a Robert Trent Jones Jr. design.

A decade ago, the Reno-Sparks area wasn't a golf destination on the scale of Las Vegas or Palm Springs. Only a couple of golf architecture's big guns—Robert Trent Jones and Arnold Palmer—had left their mark on the region's public golf scene by 1995.

Then things got interesting. Tiger Woods turned pro in 1996, the game boomed, out came the bulldozers, and with them arrived another wave of design superstars, from Jack Nicklaus to Johnny Miller to Robert Trent Jones Jr. Developers doled out the bucks to attract their talents and give Reno-Sparks a leg up in the race for the golfing public's travel dollar. By the turn of the century, a half-dozen new courses popped up among the sage and pines, and what was already a fine place for outdoor adventure gained a new,

decidedly green dimension.

In fact, there are now more than 50 courses within an hour's drive of downtown Reno. A handful of the area's best, most visually splendid layouts are a wedge away from all the other outdoor (and indoor) pursuits one can muster in Reno and Sparks' city limits. Some of those courses carry the big-name design pedigree while others are below-the-radar gems.

"You know, when you come into this area, you have such a wide range of types of golf courses," says 1992 U.S. Open winner and PGA Tour legend Tom Kite, the newest name in Reno's architectural hall

LakeRidge's island-green 15th might be the state's most-recognized hole.

of fame. Kite was familiar with Reno long before he helped design the private Somerset Country Club. He's a frequent competitor in the Reno-Tahoe Open, which returns in August to Montrêux, a private Jack Nicklaus design. Kite says, "You could never get bored playing golf in Reno-Tahoe. There are some that are tightly treed, some that are relatively flat, some that are hilly and open desert de-

signs—it runs the whole gamut. When you do that, it creates a great destination for people to come and play golf."

Northern Nevada's boom was hottest in 1997-98 when four courses debuted in the

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D'Andrea Golf Club, designed by Keith Foster, rolls through the foothills of Sparks.

Truckee Meadows—two at ArrowCreek (both are now private, but one hosts groups), Wolf Run Golf Club (built by the University of Nevada, Reno and now one of the city's most popular mid-priced options), and the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-authored Lakes Course at Red Hawk, which is getting a makeover this year (including three new holes) to make room for bigger and better practice facilities.

Laced through wetlands at Wingfield Springs in northern Sparks, Red Hawk is the centerpiece of an ever-expanding resort that, when finished, will rival anything in Las Vegas for upscale amenities—in a setting that the Southern Nevada desert just can't match. Although the course is fairly flat, it's surrounded by ancient, red-tinted hills; several tee shots are set against the hulking, 10,000-foot mass of Mount

Rose and the Carson Range west of Reno.

"The new holes will make an already great course even better," says Red Hawk Director of Golf Mike Sizemore. "It's great to have owners who are never satisfied. Most courses just try to get the most out of what they have. Here we just keep adding to the experience."

Just down the road, D'Andrea Golf Club—a true desert course sharing Pah Rah Range canyon space with herds of antelope and the occasional coyote—is making the transition from semi-private to fully public. That's good news to value-conscious locals and visitors who have already made Reno's munis their own—especially city-owned Rosewood Lakes and venerable Washoe County Golf Course, a tricky track where Ben Hogan won the Reno Open in the 1940s. Its 12th hole remains one of the best par 4s in the Truckee Meadows, moving straightaway and slightly downhill from the tee to a very elusive double-tiered target.

Across town is Brookside Golf Course, once an 18-holer popular among casino denizens but reduced to a bargain nine in the 1980s. The Reno Airport Authority owns the land underneath the municipal course and wants to build a new control tower on the site, so occasional hackers

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should be sure to play it before it's paved.

Then there's LakeRidge, the oldest gun in the area's resort-course arsenal. Designed by Robert Trent Jones in the late 1960s, it boasts what might be the state's most-recognized hole. The 15th hole is a 230-yard par 3 with a 150-foot drop from the back tees to an island green, augmented by a 270-degree hawk's-eye view of the Truckee Meadows.

Variety, broad vistas, luscious weather through summer and well into autumn—what's not to like about Reno golf?

Vic Williams is publishing partner and managing editor of the Reno-based golf magazine Fairways & Greens.

Reno-Sparks Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses also rent clubs. Call ahead to confirm information. Early tee-time reservations are recommended.

RENO-SPARKS

ArrowCreek Country Club—Two private courses, one of which can be played by groups, at 5,300 feet in Southwest Reno.

GM Shawn Ygnatowicz, Director of Golf Martin Chuck. Call 775-850-4471, www.arrowcreekcc.com. **The Legend:** Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay designed this layout, which is available for outside tournaments of 12 players or more on Mon-Thurs. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,115 yards, par 72. (For groups call 775-850-4653.) **The Challenge:** Private course was designed by Fuzzy Zoeller and John Harbottle. 18 holes, estab. 1999. Back tees: 7,425 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Brookside Golf Course—Flat, open city course with water and sand bunkers on several holes. Nine holes, estab. 1956. Manager Perry Hayden. Call 775-856-6009. Tees: 3,018 yards, par 35. Green fees: Nine holes \$10, seniors \$9, juniors \$8, MC, Visa.

D'Andrea Golf Club—D'Andrea meanders through foothills and desert canyons. Back nine has views of the Reno skyline. Architect: Keith Foster. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Troon Golf, GM Ryan Wilson, Head Pro Michael Jory. Call 775-331-6363, www.dandrea.com. Back tees: 6,849 yards, par 71. Green fees: Vary \$35-\$100. AE, MC, Visa.

Hidden Valley Country Club—Nevada's oldest private course was the site of U.S. Senior Open qualifier. Architect: Billy Bell Jr., redesign by Dick Bailey. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1958. GM and Director of Golf Mike Mazzaferri, Head Pro Tom Dawson. Call 775-857-4742. Back tees: 7,302 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

LakeRidge Golf Course—This Southwest Reno layout, designed by Robert Trent Jones, features the famous 15th hole with its island green. Named Best Course in Reno-Sparks by *Nevada Magazine* readers in 2004. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1969. Owner Stan Jaksick, Head Pro Randy Beeghly, Director of Instruction Jan Usher. Call 800-815-6966, 775-825-2200, www.lakeridgegolf.com. Back tees: 6,715 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer \$85 M-Th, \$95 F-S, reduced after 2 p.m. Winter rates about \$35 less. AE, MC, Visa.

Montroux Golf and Country Club—Forested private course was designed by Jack Nicklaus and hosts the Reno-Tahoe Open on August 15-21, 2005. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Owner Stan Jaksick, Director of Golf Gus Jones. Call 775-849-

9496, www.montrouxgolf.com. Back tees: 7,472 yards, par 72. Member-guest. Laser Link systems.

Northgate Golf Club—Scottish links-style resort course was first in Nevada to host U.S. Open qualifying. Operated by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. Architects: Benz and Poellot. 18 holes, estab. 1988. GM Joe Kelley, Head Pro Eric Huzarski. Call 775-747-7577. Back tees: 6,966 yards, par 72. Green fees: Call for rates. AE, MC, Visa.

The Resort at Red Hawk—Golf complex in Wingfield Springs, seven miles north of I-80 in Sparks, has two courses, the daily-fee Lakes Course, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., and the private Hills Course, designed by U.S. Open winner Hale Irwin. Director of Golf Michael J. Sizemore, Head Pro Greg Enholm. Call 775-626-6000, www.theresortatredhawk.com. **Lakes Course:** Capitalizes on views of the Sierra Nevada as it meanders through lakes and wetlands. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Back tees: 7,127 yards, par 72. Green fees: May-Oct.: \$90 M-Th, \$100 F-S. Nov-April: \$50 M-Th, \$60 F-S. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts. **Hills Course:** Private, 18 holes, estab. 2001. Back tees: 7,106 yards, par 71. Member-guest.

Rosewood Lakes Golf Course—Scenic course has large, undulating greens and 60 acres of federally protected wetlands. Architect: Brad Benz. City, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Golf Manager Al Rogers, Head Pro Bob Forse. Call 775-857-2892, www.rosewoodlakes.com. Back tees: 6,693 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$30, seniors \$25, juniors \$20, twilight \$20. MC, Visa.

Sierra Sage Golf Course—More trees have been added in recent years to the course in Stead, 10 miles north of Reno. County course, 18 holes, estab. 1958. Director of Golf Mike Mitchell, Head Pro Dennis Oliver. Call 775-972-1564. Back tees: 6,605 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$31. Seniors and juniors \$26. Twilight and winter rates. Carts \$12.50 per person. MC, Visa.

Somerset Country Club—Champions Tour star Tom Kite helped design this private course in Northwest Reno. Architects: Tom Kite, Roy Bechtol, and Randy Russell. Private, 18 holes, with private Canyon nine, May-Oct., estab. 2003. Head Pro Kurt Vogel. Call 775-787-1800, www.somerset.com. Back tees: 7,252 yards, par 72. Member-guest.

Washoe County Golf Course—Ben Hogan won the Reno Open here half a century ago. County course built by W.P.A., 18 holes, estab. 1936. Director of Golf Barney Bell, Head Pro Darin Menante. Call 775-828-6640. Back tees: 6,695 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$31. Seniors and juniors \$26. Twilight and winter rates. Carts \$12.50 per person. MC, Visa.

Wildcreek Golf Course—Wildcreek has both a championship course and an executive layout. Operated by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. Architects: Benz and Phelps. Estab. 1978. GM Joe Kelley, Head Pro Eric Huzarski. Call 775-673-3100, 775-673-1181. **Championship Course:** Resort course, 18 holes. Back tees: 6,993 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer M-Th: \$50, after 11 a.m. \$40, after 2:30 p.m. \$30. Rates \$9 higher F-S. **Executive Course:** Nine-hole par-3 course has rolling hills, lots of water. Tees: 2,840 yards, par 27. Green fees: Adults \$15, juniors \$12, replay \$5. AE, MC, Visa.

Wolf Run Golf Club—Home of the Wolf Pack men's and women's golf teams. Matches can be settled on the "Wolfpaw" 19th hole. Architects: John Fleming and Lou Eiguren. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1998. GM Tom Duncan, Head Pro Nate Kelley. Call 775-851-3301, www.wolfrungolfclub.com. Back tees: 7,100 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 14-Oct. 18: \$60 M-Th, \$70 F-S; \$10 lower after 11 a.m. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

FERNLEY

The Golf Club at Fernley—Course has rolling topography 30 miles east of Reno via I-80. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Director of Golf Don Boyle. Call 775-835-6933. Back tees: 6,650 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer \$35 M-F, \$45 S-S. After 2 p.m. \$25. Winter rates. MC, Visa. Soft spikes recommended.

WASHOE VALLEY

Thunder Canyon—Private course has lakes, streams, pines, and deciduous trees. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. 18 holes, estab. 1994. GM Mike Roby, Director of Golf Greg Raleigh, Head Pro E.J. Pfister. Call 775-882-0882, golf shop 775-884-4597, www.thundercanyon.com. Back tees: 7,166 yards, par 72. Member-guest, reciprocal play. Major credit cards.



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Nevada Golf • Carson Area/Divine 9



Deer cross the 17th fairway at Genoa Lakes Golf Club.

A Lust for Links

Fueled by a love of golf and cold beverages, the Divine 9 tour samples the courses of Carson country.

By Vic Williams

“Wheels up at 6:30!” shouts Phil Weidinger, the fastest-talking PR guy in the West and high priest of the golf-is-fun ethic. “We’ve got a big day ahead of us.”

It also will be a long day for the couple of dozen journalists bound for Genoa Lakes Golf Club, fueled by coffee and a lust for links adventure. They are about to begin Weidinger’s annual Divine 9 golf tour, an October odyssey of nine courses in Carson City, Carson Valley, and Dayton that comprises the longest 18 holes in the known universe: more than 60 miles from first swing to final putt, all in one day.

The bleary-eyed golfers tee off in dawn’s autumn frost at Genoa Lakes, a perennial Nevada top-20 course strung through wetlands just north of Genoa, one of the state’s oldest settlements. Then they jump on a beer-fortified bus for a two-hole visit to each of the other eight public tracks before finishing—a good 11

hours and several cases later—at Carson Valley Golf Course in Gardnerville.

It takes the guts of a war correspondent, the tenacity of Woodward and Bernstein, and the instincts of a Scottish caddy to survive the Divine 9 tour, the brainchild of Weidinger, who owns a Lake Tahoe public relations agency, and Candace Duncan, executive director of the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau. Nevertheless, writers, deejays, and TV sportscasters from as far away as Texas keep showing up.

“This is my favorite day of the year by far,” confides Garrett Dearborn, sports anchor for KTVN-TV in Reno. “I start looking forward to next year’s tour right after we finish in the dark.”

Birdies are hard to come by for a group that’s more at home behind a keyboard or microphone, but now and again somebody hits a shot that gives this shiny lineup of high-desert layouts an even giddier glow. A high, soft iron over the water at

one of the Arnold Palmer-designed par 3s at Dayton Valley, for example. Or a pay-dirt-seeking putt on a big-shouldered green at Genoa Lakes Golf Resort, the former Sierra Nevada, where Johnny Miller and designer John Harbottle built a links-like layout. Or bombed drives at Eagle Valley's East and West courses, which had the Carson City golfer pool to themselves before six new courses opened in the area between 1990 and 1998.

The two newest courses, Sunridge and Silver Oak, mark Carson City's southern and northern boundaries. Sunridge is half flat, half roller coaster, and 100 percent challenging. Silver Oak, a local favorite due to its rates and conditioning, finally has a permanent clubhouse opening this spring—meaning every Divine 9 course will have a 19th hole.

Past tours have included a stop at the historic Genoa Bar and lunch at the Bliss Mansion in Carson City. As the tour progresses, sweaters and coffee give way to shorts and icy brews in the bus. The sweaters return as the day dwindles to the last four holes.

One year Weidinger shook up the rotation, ending the tour at Genoa Lakes, the usual starting point. As a full moon crawled above the Pine Nut Range and



Carson Valley is a scenic backdrop for Genoa Lakes' Resort Course, formerly Sierra Nevada.

the last green came into dusky view, the suds-soaked, golfed-out players saw they had a gallery—a doe and two fawns, no doubt puzzled about the hubbub.

As a Scottish caddy would have told them, it was a fine day for golf.

Vic Williams is a Divine 9 tour regular.

Divine 9 Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses also rent clubs. Call ahead to confirm information. Early tee-time reservations are

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recommended. For Divine 9 details visit www.visitcarsoncity.com, www.visitcarsonvalley.org, or www.divinenine.com. Call 800-638-2321 for tee times.

CARSON CITY

Eagle Valley Golf Course—Two city courses offer different challenges—one is wide open while the other is links style.

East Course: Generous fairways and large greens. Architect: Arthur Jack Snyder. 18 holes, estab. 1976. GM and Director of Golf Tom Evert. Call 775-887-2380, www.eaglevalleygolf.com. Back tees: 6,658 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer morning: Walk \$20, ride \$30. Afternoon: Walk \$15, ride \$25, juniors \$5.

West Course: Links-style course is hilly and narrow. Architect: Homer Flynt. 18 holes, estab. 1987. Back tees: 6,885 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer: \$35 morning, \$25 twilight. Winter \$25. MC, Visa.

Empire Ranch Golf Course—The 27-hole layout is set near the Carson River. Architect: Cary Bickler. Public, estab. 1997. GM and Head Pro Jeff Sparks. Call 888-227-1335 or 775-885-2100, www.empireranchgolf.com. Back tees: Comstock-River 6,840 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$40 M-F, \$45 S-S. Senior specials. Seasonal rates. MC, Visa.

Silver Oak Golf Club—Course at north end of Carson City has a new clubhouse and restaurant, elevated tees, and both flat and hilly terrain. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. GM Pete Caron, Head Pro Robert C. Mason. Call 775-841-7000, www.silveroakgolf.com. Back tees: 6,504 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer \$50, after 3 p.m. \$25. Winter \$40. MC, Visa.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Golf Course—Celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, scenic course winds through tall cottonwoods near the Carson River. Home of the Sharkey Begovich Swing for a Cure Tournament. Architect: Red Swift. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1965. Owners Tom Brooks and Manya Brooks, Head Pro Alan Hoover. Call 775-265-3181, www.carsonvalleygolf.com. Back tees: 6,020 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$27 M-Th, \$33 F-S. Carts \$11 per person. MC, Visa.

Genoa Lakes Golf Club—Designed by John Harbottle III and PGA player Peter Jacobsen, this long layout is an annual site of local U.S. Open qualifying. Three holes were redesigned in 2004. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1993. Owners Mario and Diane Antoci, Head Pro Lou Eiguren, Associate Pro Jonas Ellison. Call 866-795-2709, 775-782-4653, or 775-588-GOLF, www.genoalakes.com. Back tees: 7,357 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 1-May 27: \$80 M-Th, \$105 F-S. Twilight \$60, \$80. May 28-Oct. 2: \$100 M-Th, \$120 F-S. Twilight \$70, \$85. Fall and winter rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Genoa Lakes Golf Resort—The former Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch became Genoa Lakes' Resort Course in spring 2005. The scenic course was designed by John Harbottle III and U.S. Open winner Johnny Miller. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Head Pro Lou Eiguren, Associate Pro Marty Bluethman. Call 888-452-4653, 775-782-7700, www.genoalakes.com. Back tees: 7,358 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$50-\$105 peak-season rate. Twilight and off-season rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Sunridge Golf Club—Championship course at the north end of Carson Valley uses hilly topography and natural wetlands. Architect: Bill Wellman. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Owner Bill Wellman, Head Pro Keith Stoll. Call 775-267-4448, www.sunridgegolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,914 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$55 M-Th, \$75 F-S. Twilight and off-season rates. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

DAYTON

Dayton Valley Golf Club—Designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay, Dayton Valley has been a Stage I PGA Tour qualifying site since 1995—the longest such run in the nation. The 2005 qualifier is Oct. 16-21. A new clubhouse is due to open in 2005. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Director of Golf Jim Kepler, Head Pro Rick Vaughan. Call 775-246-7888, www.daytonvalley.com. Back tees: 7,218 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer \$85 M-Th, \$105 F-S. Twilight and off-season rates. MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

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Tahoe Traditions

Celebrity golfers, water balls, and history remade at Lake Tahoe.

By Steve Yingling

Once upon a time Edgewood Tahoe was defined by thin mountain air and spectacular views of Lake Tahoe. Now it has history as well.

In 1985, Edgewood gained attention when Miller Barber won the U.S. Senior Open at the Stateline links, which *Golf Digest* annually touts as one of the country's top courses. The U.S. Public Links was played there in 1980, and since 1990 Edgewood has given sports and showbiz stars a chance to either embarrass or elevate their celebrity status in the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship, televised on NBC.

"We have people calling from all around the country who want to make sure, when they are booking a tee time, that this is the place where the celebrity tournament is," says Randy Fox, the head professional at Edgewood.

Playing the George-Fazio-designed course, you can put yourself in the golf shoes of past celebrity players. You might wonder how Baseball Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench five-putted from 12 feet on No. 6 or how NBA Hall of Famer Charles Barkley once splashed four tee shots into a pond on the 11th en route to a 15—which, for that one hole, was 11 over par. You can picture Bill Laimbeer, the former basketball player, hitting five consecutive balls into the pond guarding the 18th green during a playoff loss to former pitcher Rick Rhoden.

"I don't think people will ever forget that one," says Laimbeer.

No wonder the tournament, July 12-17 this year, has gone to a Stableford scoring format, allowing players to pick up their ball after reaching a double-bogey score.

"They go for the gusto. They all think they are Tiger Woods," Fox says. "They are entertainers, and they want to go for the spectacular shot when maybe they shouldn't."

The views and history lessons don't come cheaply at Edgewood. Green fees



A pond and pines frame the fifth green at Incline's revamped championship course.

are \$200, although a reduced rate of \$150 is in effect from opening day, May 12, through the end of May.

The Incline Championship Course, another course with tradition, underwent a major facelift over the past year and a half. Originally designed by Robert Trent Jones, the Incline Village links debuted in 1964. Only a select few played the course last

summer, so when it reopens on May 14, the public will have a chance to appraise the \$13-million renovation by Kyle Phillips that reworked greens, tees, and bunkers. Even the clubhouse is new.

Golfers who might be distracted by postcard-blue lake views can try Lake Tahoe Golf Course, south of Stateline. Creeks wind through the course, and the cross of

snow that lingers near the top of 9,735-foot Mount Tallac might calm the player having trouble with his slice. You actually can pull out a \$100 bill and still have enough cash for dinner.

At the north shore, Northstar-at-Tahoe has two scenic nines—one on the lowlands, the other in the forest. The lake's north end has two interesting nine-hole courses, Old Brockway and Tahoe City. In all cases, watch out for the woods.

A trip to the scenic Resort at Squaw Creek puts a further premium on your supply of balls. The links-style course in Squaw Valley, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr.,

is a shotmaker's layout. But if you are a weekend duffer, don't be surprised if you go though a dozen balls—not unlike some celebrities who play Edgewood in July.

Steve Yingling is a Lake Tahoe golfer and the sports editor of the Tahoe Daily Tribune.

Lake Tahoe Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses offer twilight rates and also rent clubs. Call

ahead to confirm information. Early tee-time reservations are recommended.

LAKE TAHOE, NORTH

The Golf Courses at Incline Village—The Incline Championship Course, designed in the 1960s by Robert Trent Jones, reopens in May 2005 following a \$13-million Kyle Phillips refurbishing—new greens, irrigation system, cart paths—the works. Resort courses, May-Oct. Superintendent of Golf Operations John Nosek. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1964. Call 866-925-GOLF, 775-832-1146, www.golfincline.com. Back tees: 7,106 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$155, twilight after 4 p.m. \$100. **Mountain Course:** Also set in the forest, this executive course has 14 par 3s and four par 4s. Architect: Robert Trent Jones Jr. 18 holes, estab. 1969. Call 866-925-GOLF, 775-832-1150, www.golfincline.com. Tees: 3,513 yards, par 58. Green fees: Nonresidents \$55, after 1 p.m. \$42, after 4 p.m. \$36. AE, MC, Visa.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Golf Course—Northstar's two nines were switched in 2004. Now the front nine is tree-lined while the back nine is open. Both have good views. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1973. Head Pro Jeff Richter. Call 800-GO-NORTH or 530-562-2490, www.northstarattahoe.com. Back tees: 6,897 yards, par 72. Green fees: Thru June 16: \$59, after 2 p.m. \$45. June 17-Sept. 18: \$99, \$65. Sept. 19-Oct.: \$79, \$59. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Old Brockway Golf Course—Across the street from Lake Tahoe, Old Brockway is Audubon-certified—only organic fertilizer is used. Architect: John Duncan Dunn. Public, nine holes, April-Nov., estab. 1924. Owner Lane Lewis, Head Pro Garrett Good. Call 530-546-9909. Back tees: 6,900 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: Spring and fall \$50. Summer \$65. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Resort at Squaw Creek—Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed this course in Squaw Valley. Resort course, 18 holes, mid-May thru Oct., estab. 1991. Head Pro Eric Veraguth. Call 530-583-6300. Back tees: 6,931 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$110 M-Th, \$125 F-S high season. Twilight rates. Off-season rates. AE, MC, Visa.

Tahoe City Golf Course—Nine-hole course was initially designed by May Webb Dunn in 1917, making it the oldest course in the Sierra. Public, April-Nov., estab. 1917. Call 530-583-1516. Back tees: 5,261 yards based on 18, par 66. Green fees approx. \$50.

LAKE TAHOE, SOUTH

Bijou Golf Course—The oldest course at South Shore features an alpine-meadow setting. City course, nine holes, April-Oct., estab. 1920. Superintendent Stan Bobman. Call 530-542-6097, www.recreationintahoe.com. Tees: 2,002 yards, par 32. Green fees: Nonresidents \$18 for nine holes, residents \$15. Hand carts only, \$3. MC, Visa.

Edgewood Tahoe—One of *Golf Digest's* top 25 public golf courses in U.S., Edgewood Tahoe is located near the Stateline hotel-casinos and hosts the annual American Century Celebrity Golf Championship on July 12-17, 2005. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1968. Head Pro Randy Fox. Call 888-881-8659 or 775-588-3566, www.edgewood-tahoe.com. Back tees: 7,491 yards, par 72. Green fees: May 12-31: \$150, June 1-Oct. 15: \$200. Walking OK (same fee). AE, MC, Visa. Caddies available.

Glenbrook Club—A wooded course on Tahoe's east shore, Nevada's first golf course went private in 1998. Nine holes, estab. c. 1926. Call 775-749-5201. Back tees: 5,610 yards based on 18, par 71. Member-guest.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course—Scenic course off U.S. 50 south of Meyers has been certified as an Audubon sanctuary. Architect: William Bell. Resort course, 18 holes, April-Oct., estab. c. 1962. Call 530-577-0788. Back tees: 6,745 yards, par 71. Green fees: Call for rates.

Tahoe Paradise Golf Course—Challenging executive course, narrow with tree-lined fairways, has six par 3s. Public, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1960. Manager Dawn Steimer, Pros David Gilpin and Susan Briske. Call 530-577-2121, www.tahoeparadisegc.com. Back tees: 4,021 yards, par 66. Green fees: \$40. Senior, twilight, and early bird rates. Disc., MC, Visa.

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Tournament Time

Tournaments and special events provide the chance to watch golf stars and celebrity players at some of Nevada's top courses. Following is a sampling of those tourneys where the purses draw top players and spectators are welcome.

American Century Celebrity Golf Championship: Sports and entertainment stars play July 12-17 at Edgewood Tahoe in Stateline. Call 775-588-4591 or visit www.tahoecelebritygolf.com.



John Elway, Michael Jordan, and Mario Lemieux pose at the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship at Edgewood.

Reno-Tahoe Open: PGA Tour pros compete for a \$3-million purse August 15-21 at Montr  ux Golf and Country Club in Reno. For information call 888-848-RENO or 775-322-3900 or visit www.pgatour.com.

Michelin Championship at Las Vegas: PGA Tour pros play for a \$4-million purse October 10-16 at TPC Summerlin and TPC Canyons. Call 702-242-3000 or visit www.pgatour.com or www.michelinchampionship.com.

Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge: Stars of the PGA, LPGA, and Champions tours compete at SouthShore at Lake Las Vegas Resort on November 15, supporting the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. Visit www.wendys.com/w-7-1.shtml.

Takefujii Classic: The LPGA Tour visits the Las Vegas Country Club in April. Call 702-898-4653 or visit www.lpga.com or www.lpgatakefujiclassic.com.

Golf Groups

Nevada's golf associations are active in organizing amateur events as well as course ratings. Contact the **Southern Nevada Golf Association**, 3590 E. Patrick Lane, Suite C, Las Vegas, NV 89120 (702-458-4653 or www.snga.org) or the **Northern Nevada Golf Association**, Box 5630, Sparks, NV 89432 (775-673-4653 or www.nnga.org).

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Ask golfers in the Reno-Sparks area to name their favorite local course, and more than a few will look to the west, blurt out "Coyote Moon" or "Whitehawk Ranch," and then catch themselves. That's because "local" also means Truckee and Graeagle, California. The state line gets a little blurry when it comes to golf.

If you take a half-hour trip on Interstate 80 west from Reno or hop over the hill from Tahoe's north shore, you'll see why folks take this geographical liberty. Who wouldn't want to lay claim to Truckee's enclave of top golf courses? The lineup includes the area's original resort track at Northstar-at-Tahoe, the sublime Coyote Moon, and Tahoe Donner's 18-hole course

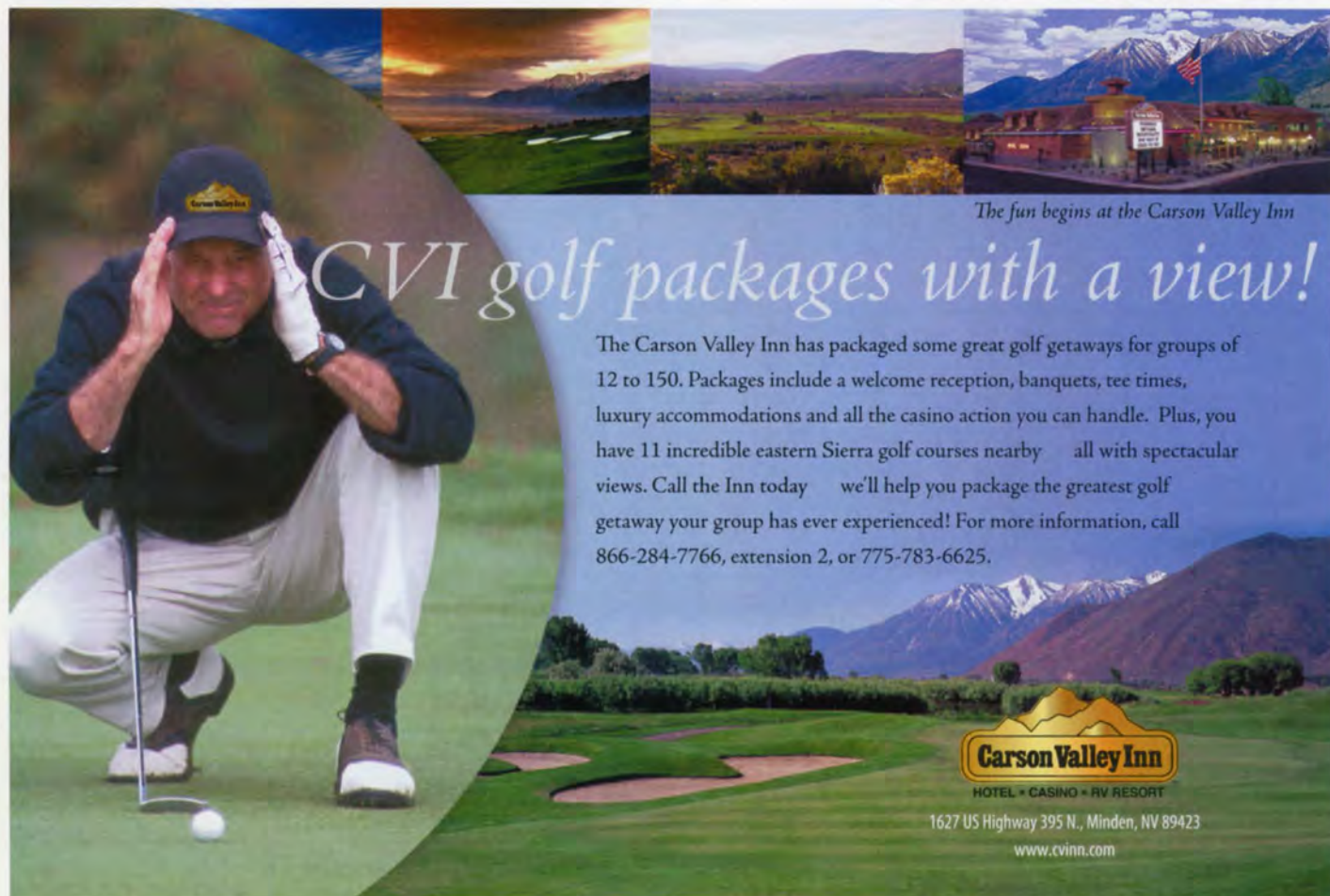
that winds through the mountains outside town. Jack Nicklaus designed Old Greenwood, a brand-new course. Truckee golf is only going to get better over the next couple of years, when PGA Tour veteran Peter Jacobsen and his design partner, Jim Hardy, open Gray's Crossing across the highway from Old Greenwood.

Last fall, Nicklaus christened the semi-private Old Greenwood by playing a round and meeting the press. He gave a hint of his strategy when sizing up such a scenic site. "I want to make sure the course is playable and user-friendly. We use what the piece of property has. We don't force things," he said. "If nobody can play it, I've failed. But here, people will have a beautiful experience. They'll have fun."



The sixth tee at Coyote Moon.

Fun is the operative word 40 miles northwest in the Graeagle area of Plumas County, where you can tap into another vein of mountain golf led by Whitehawk Ranch, the Dragon, Plumas Pines, and Graeagle Meadows. Whitehawk is as good, and as wonderfully playable, as any mountain-meets-meadow layout in the West. After opening in the late '90s it immediately landed on several "best-of" lists.



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Forested and scenic, the Truckee-Graeagle area is intriguing whether or not you're a golfer. You can bring the fishing poles, camping gear, mountain bikes, and that wide-open Nevada spirit, just as the locals do.—*Vic Williams*

Truckee/Graeagle Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses also rent clubs. Call ahead to confirm. Early tee-time reservations are recommended.

TRUCKEE AREA

Coyote Moon Golf Course—Sierra course sits among tall pines and Trout Creek. Clubhouse opens this summer. Architect: Brad Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 2000. Head Pro Dirk Skillicorn. Call 530-587-0886, www.coyotemoongolf.com. Back tees: 7,177 yards, par 72. Green fees: Vary \$95-\$150. AE, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Old Greenwood—Jack Nicklaus designed this new alpine course, which has Audubon certification. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 2004. Head Pro Bob Hickam. Call 530-550-7010, www.oldgreenwood.com. Back tees: 7,518 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$170. AE, MC, Visa. GPS in carts.

Ponderosa Golf Course—Wooded nine-hole course. Architect: Bob Baldech. Public, May-Oct., estab. 1961. GM Al Bailey. Call 530-587-3501, www.ponderosagolfclub.com. Back tees: 6,044 yards based on 18, par 70. Call for current rates.

Tahoe Donner Golf Course—Narrow fairways weave through the pines, and creek comes into play on eight holes. New clubhouse is scheduled to open in July 2005. Architects: Bob Williams (1-9), Bill Bell Jr. (10-18). Semi-private, 18 holes, May-Oct., estab. 1973. Tahoe Donner Association, Head Pro Bill Winfield. Call 530-587-9443, www.tahoedonner.com. Back tees: 6,931 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$120, reduced after 2:30 p.m. Carts optional after 2:30 p.m. AE, MC, Visa.

GRAEAGLE AREA

Dragon at Gold Mountain—Scenic 18 with views of the Sierra and Feather River. Nakoma Resort and Spa. Architect: Robin Nelson. Resort course, 18 holes, April-Nov., estab. 2000. Owner/GM Peggy Garner, Head Pro Matthew Magnotta. Call 800-368-7786 or 530-832-4887, www.dragongolf.com. Back tees: 7,077 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$130 with cart, \$100 walking; \$79 after 3 p.m. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Graeagle Meadows Golf Course—Situated on the Feather River. Represented on LPGA Tour by Emilee Klein. Architect: Ellis Van Gorder. Public, 18 holes, April-Nov., estab. c. 1968. Manager Dan West, Head Pro Bob Klein Jr. Call 530-836-2323, playgraeagle.com. Back tees: 6,725 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$45 M-Th, \$60 F-S. Twilight \$25, \$35. Disc., MC, Visa.

Plumas Pines Golf Resort—Mountain course is bordered by the middle fork of the Feather River. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, May-Nov., estab. 1980. Head Pro Brandon Bowling. Blairsden, CA. Call 530-836-1420, www.plumaspinestgolf.com. Back tees: 6,421 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$80 M-F, \$95 S-S. Twilight \$45-\$55 after 3 p.m. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Whitehawk Ranch Golf Club—Mountain course 38 miles north of Truckee winds through pines and meadows. Architect: Dick Bailey. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Doug Flynn. Call 800-332-4295 or 530-836-0394, www.golfwhitehawk.com. Back tees: 6,951 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer \$85-\$125, spring and fall \$75-\$110. Same for walkers. AE, MC, Visa.

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'Let's Play Some Golf'

Q&A: Bob Perchetti describes the joys of golfing rural Nevada.

From Round Mountain to Battle Mountain, Bob Perchetti has played every course in rural Nevada—and some of them many times. A life-long Tonopah resident, Perchetti, 66, has led a varied career in sports and tourism—as a sharp-shooting forward on the University of Nevada basketball team, motel and club owner, big-game hunter, Jim Butler Days founder, Tonopah Convention Center director, and for 12 years a commissioner on the Nevada Commission on Tourism. He recently talked to Nevada Magazine Editor David Moore about playing golf in the rurals.

What are your favorite rural Nevada courses?

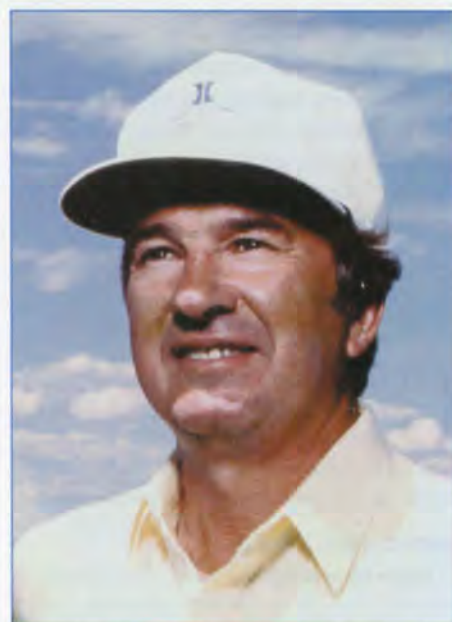
I've always loved Death Valley, which is in our Pioneer Territory, because usually

you're coming out of a cold winter, and you can go to Furnace Creek and get that warm weather. I like Round Mountain in Hadley. It's a summer course, and it's nice to look at the mountains where I grew up, where I got a couple of bucks when I was younger. I've always enjoyed Hawthorne, too.

I've played all the rural courses—Jackpot, Wells, Wendover, Battle Mountain. When I go to a town, because I've been around the state so long, there's always somebody I know, so I call them up and say, "Let's play some golf."

Any special trips come to mind?

In the late '70s, four of us from Tonopah took a motorhome and played eight courses around the state. We started



Bob Perchetti of Tonopah often drives more than 100 miles to play a round of golf.

in Hawthorne and went to Fallon, Winnemucca, Elko, and Ely. We played the Rainbow Canyon course near Caliente that was open only one year. Then we went to Mesquite and Pahrump and finished in Death Valley. We called ahead and had golfers from each town join us on their course to play golf, have dinner and cocktails and some fellowship. The next morning we'd go to the next course.

When did you first play golf?

It was Senior Ditch Day at Tonopah High School in 1956. I was 17 and a bunch of us went to the Death Valley course. We got there really early, and there was a bighorn sheep right there on the fourth hole. The girls were behind us, and we were yelling, "Bring the camera!" But the bighorn ran off. I've never seen another one there.

Other golf-course wildlife?

I saw two nice bucks in Ely. I've seen lots of coyotes. One time I was playing in a golf tournament in Las Vegas with a guy who bent down to get his ball in the brush and got bitten by a rattlesnake. He turned out fine, but we were worried at first. You sometimes see rattlers at these desert courses, but they're usually off to the side near water.

Where did you play in the early days?

Back then we mainly played Hawthorne and Bishop. Sometimes we'd hit golf balls

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off the old mine dumps above Tonopah. I'd try to hit a window in the Mizpah Hotel, but I could never quite reach it.

Do you have a favorite tournament?

We had our 10th annual William P. Beko Scholarship Tournament at Death Valley on the second weekend in February. It's named for our late district judge, Bill Beko, and raises money for scholarships for students from Hawthorne, Tonopah, Round Mountain, Beatty, and Pahrump.

What's your favorite 19th hole?

I've had a lot of fun in the clubhouse at Walker Lake, the course at the Hawthorne ammunition depot. They're a bunch of party guys. Sometimes we'd play with Joe Viani, who owns Joe's Tavern. If Joe was behind on the bet, he'd never let you leave. He'd get guys to turn on their car headlights so we could finish the last hole. Joe, I found out later, took advantage of me. He was an expert at putting under car headlights.

That's a 100-mile drive to Hawthorne.

I play Nevada's rural golf courses every chance I get. In the last four years I've had two knee replacements and two stints put in my heart, but I haven't slowed down.

Not long ago I shot a mule deer in the Kawich Range and got a bighorn sheep in the Toiyabes. I love rural Nevada.

How should city golfers play the rural links?

Get a motorhome like we did and do a rural circuit. You've got to drive there to get there, but the green fees are bargains, and you'll meet some great people. You'll have a great time.

Rural Nevada Courses

Green fees are subject to change and vary widely by season. Peak-season 18-hole fees are indicated. Courses also rent clubs. Call ahead to confirm information. Early tee-time reservations are recommended.

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Mountain View Golf Course—Rolling nine-hole layout with tight doglegs and three water hazards. Architects: John and Maria Heller. County course, nine holes, March-Oct., estab. 1991. Golf Manager Jim Falzone. Call 775-635-2380. Back tees: 6,332 yards based on 18, par 71. Green fees: \$12. Senior and junior rates. Carts \$20. Disc., MC, Visa.

ELKO/SPRING CREEK

Ruby View Golf Course—Long, rolling fairways lined

with big trees and large, well-bunkered greens. Tony Lema was head pro in 1957 at the old Ruby View. City course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1968. Head Pro Rick Longhurst. Call 775-777-7277, Mulligan's Bar and Grill 775-777-7279. Back tees: 6,945 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$21 M-Th, \$26 F-S. Carts \$12 per player. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

Spring Creek Golf Course—Target course has narrow fairways, so players must be accurate off the tees. Public, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1972. Spring Creek Association, Superintendent Ron Morley, Head Pro Jason Jerman. Call 775-753-6331. Back tees: 6,638 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$25. Cart rentals.

ELY

White Pine Golf Course—At 6,500 feet golfers will get added yardage on their shots. A variety of holes feature bunkers, trees, water, and "go for it" holes. Architect: Bob Baldock. County course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1957. Head Pro Randy Long. Call 775-289-4095, www.elygolfing.com. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$24. Carts \$12 per player. MC, Visa.

EMPIRE

Burning Sands Golf Course—Built over the years by U.S. Gypsum mine employees in the company town of Empire (pop: 350) about 100 miles north of Reno near Gerlach. Public, nine holes, estab. 1960s. U.S. Gypsum, Town Manager Dave Carter, Supervisor Bill Couk. Call 775-557-2341. Tees: 2,007 yards, par 32. Green fees: \$10 donation suggested for nonresidents. Carts not allowed.

FALLON

The Golf Course at Fallon—Construction of second nine is due to be completed in fall 2006. The nine-hole course is set on the Carson River with tall cottonwoods. Public, estab. 1958. Owners Matthew and Kenia Biddinger, Superintendent Jeff Lockwood, Head Pro Jim "Izzy"

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www.explorelko.com



Ken Power and his daughter Sherri play Spring Creek Golf Course, 12 miles south of Elko.

Isbister. Call 775-423-4616. Back tees: 6,254 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: \$25. Twilight after 2 p.m. \$15. Tuesdays \$12 all day. Active military and juniors \$20 all day. Carts \$15. AE, Disc., MC, Visa.

FURNACE CREEK/DEATH VALLEY

Furnace Creek Golf Course—World's lowest golf course, at 214 feet below sea level. Temps reach 120s in

mid summer. The Furnace Creek course stays open throughout the year, except in September, when it's closed for overseeding. Architect: William P. Bell, redesigned by Perry Dye in 1997. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1933. GM Cal Jepson, Director of Golf Matt Bryda. Call 760-786-2301, www.furnacecreekresort.com. Back tees: 6,236 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$67.50, sundowner \$42.50. Summer rates. Cart rentals. Major credit cards.

GABBS

Sandy Bottom Golf Course—Nevada's only clay course has been overrun with weeds, so play has diminished. Nine holes, estab. c. 1958. Tees: 3,010 yards, par 35.

HAWTHORNE

Walker Lake Country Club—Towering elms flank the oldest holes and shade stately military homes. Public, nine holes, estab. c. 1952. Head Pro Pete Summerbell. Call 775-945-1111. Back tees: 5,514 yards based on 18, par 68. Green fees: \$16 M-F, \$18 S-S. Carts \$16. Casino packages available. No credit cards.

JACKPOT

Jackpot Golf Club—Jackpot is a lengthy, undulating layout with coyotes, deer, and hawks. Architect: Robert Muir Graves. County, 18 holes, March-Oct., estab. c. 1970. General Manager Dave Albrecht, Manager Doug Russell. Call 775-755-2260. Back tees: 6,436 yards, par 72. Green fees: approx. \$18 M-F, \$20 S-S. Elko County residents pay a reduced rate M-F. Carts. MC, Visa.

PIOCHE

Lincoln County Golf Course—The Lincoln Links Association has fashioned seven par 3s and two par 4s with dirt fairways and artificial-turf (five in, four more this year) and sand greens. Artificial turf pads are available. A four-person scramble tournament is held during the Pioche Labor Day Celebration. Membership \$25. Desert course, nine holes, estab. 2003. Tees: 1,656 yards, par 29. Contact Dick and Peggy Decker, Box 321, Pioche, NV 89043, 775-962-5206, for information.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Round Mountain Golf Course—Nevada's longest nine-hole layout is a mining-company course in Hadley in Big Smoky Valley, 50 miles north of Tonopah. Architect: William Howard Neff. Public, nine holes, March-Nov., estab. 1991. Head Pro Apprentice Leo Vath. Call 775-377-2880, www.bigsmyvalley.com. Back tees: 7,138 yards based on 18, par 72. Green fees: \$16. Senior \$14, juniors \$5. Twilight rates. Carts \$10 per person. MC, Visa.

WELLS

Chimney Rock Golf Course—City course boasts three lakes and the fastest greens in the state. Golfers have views of the East Humboldt Range. City, nine holes, April-Nov., estab. 1976. Head Pro Ron Springsteel. Call 775-752-3928. Back tees: 6,130 yards based on 18, par 70. Green fees: \$16. Carts \$20. Disc., MC, Visa.

WENDOVER

Toana Vista Golf Course—Long, narrow target-oriented design forms an oasis near the Nevada-Utah border. Architect: Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1987. West Wendover Recreation Dept., Director of Golf Reid Goodliffe. Call 800-852-4330 or 775-664-4300. Back tees: 6,820 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$43. MC, Visa.

WINNEMUCCA

Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course—Located in town, the half-century-old course is lined with large trees. Architect: Bob Baldock. City, nine holes, March-Oct., estab. c. 1952. Head Pro Michael A. Kieser. Call 775-623-9920. Tees: 3,262, par 36. Green fees: \$14 weekdays, \$16 weekends. Carts \$20. No credit cards.

YERINGTON

Arrowleaf Golf Club—Formerly the Mason Valley Country Club, Arrowleaf was redesigned by Jack Bridge in 2005. Long, open course is easy to walk but challenging to play. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. Manager and Head Pro Tom Godman. Call 775-463-3300. Back tees: 6,616 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$30. Twilight \$20. Juniors \$8. Carts \$10. MC, Visa.

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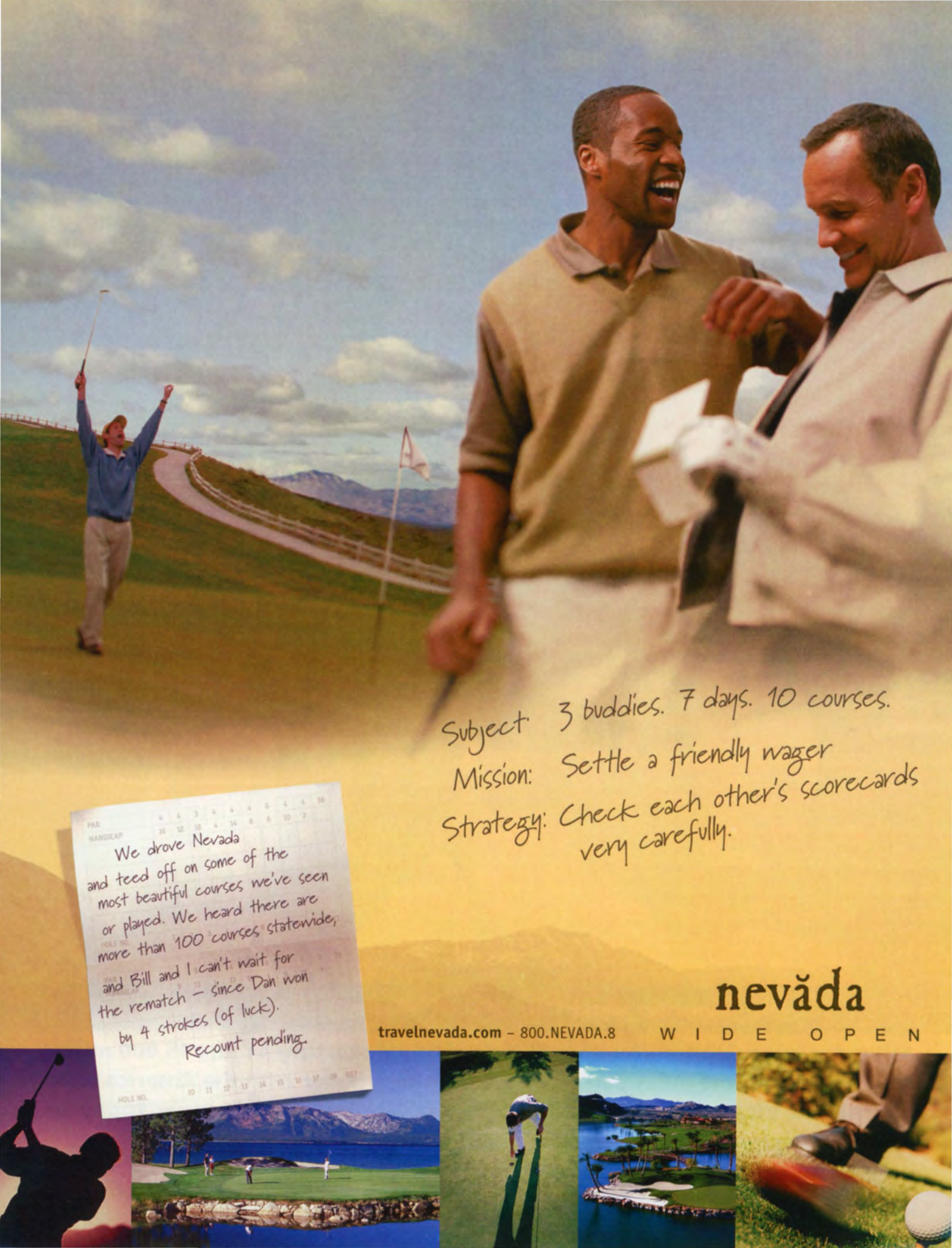
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NEVADA *Events & Shows*

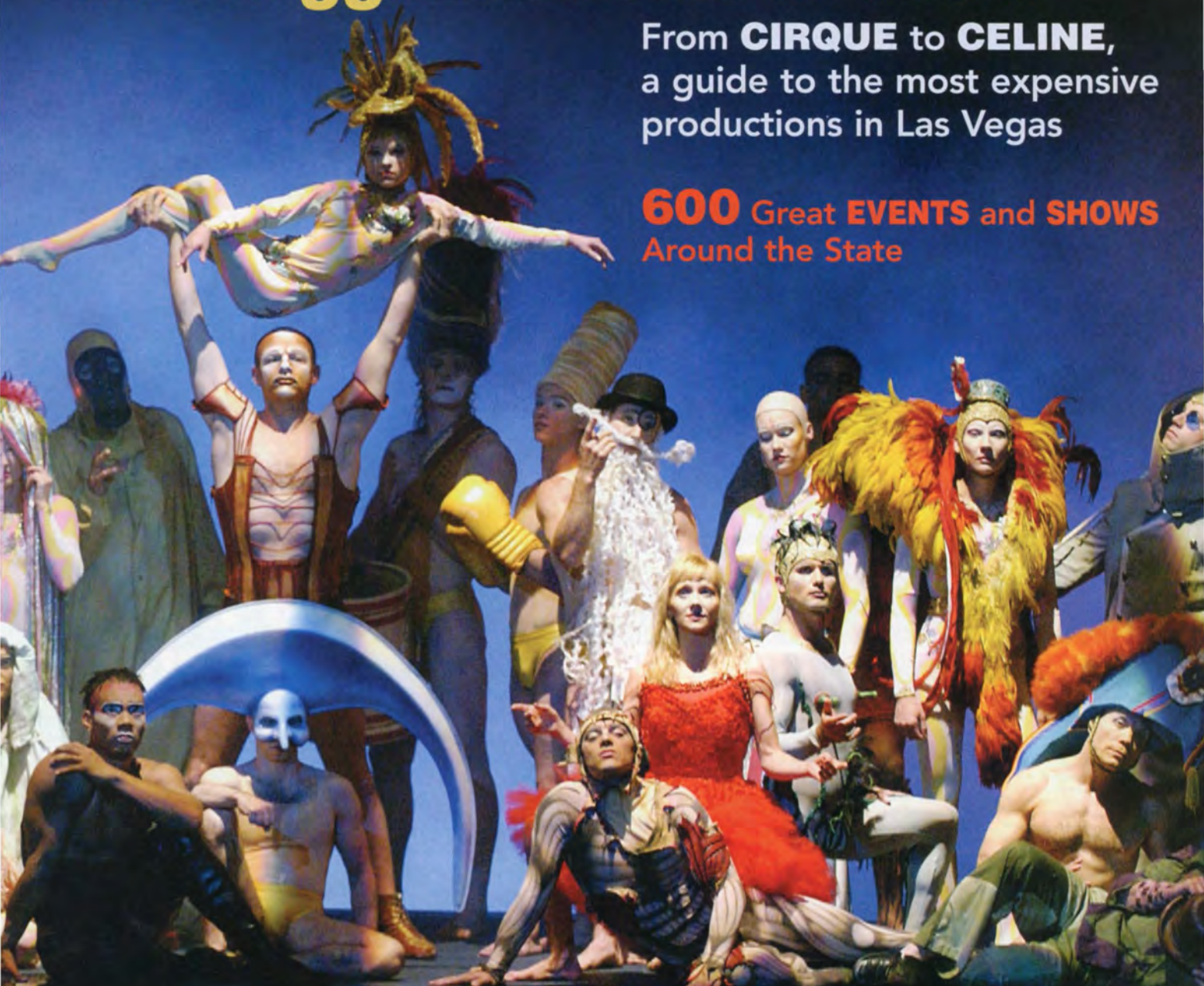
Nevada Magazine's Guide to Entertainment and Attractions in the Silver State

May/June 2005

The Biggest Shows in Town

From **CIRQUE** to **CELINE**,
a guide to the most expensive
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Poker's Big Deal



Las Vegas Area

You need more than a **poker face** and a **good nickname** when you play in the World Series of Poker **By Jack "The Bull" Bulavsky**

My wife says I have a handsome face. My mother said I had a pretty face as a baby, and my younger brother always told me I was just plain ugly.

I know what I don't have: I don't have a poker face. That leaves me out of the finals of the 36th Annual World Series of Poker, which will be held June 2-July 15 at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and at Binion's in Las Vegas. I'm somewhat disappointed because the winner has a

In this tournament it helps to have a nickname. Consider stars like Howard "The Professor" Lederer and Mike "The Mouth" Matusow.

chance to walk away with more than \$10 million, depending on the number of players who pay the \$10,000 entry fee to play in the championship event.

Not only do you need a poker face to play in this tournament, but it also helps to have a nickname. Consider poker stars like Chris "Jesus" Ferguson, Doyle "Texas Dolly" Brunson, Howard "The



Johnny Chan (left), Phil Hellmuth, and Doyle "Texas Dolly" Brunson ponder the odds.

Professor" Lederer, Johnny "Orient Express" Chan, and Mike "The Mouth" Matusow. Still, other attributes are more important if you want to play at this level.

"The really good players develop certain traits," says Ken Lambert, the World Series of Poker's tournament director. "For instance, you need patience, you need to remain focused at all times, and you need to learn to throw away a lot of hands. Most of us study the opposition and notice how certain players react to a good or bad hand or a certain bet. Plus, we have read all the books on how to play poker."

Greg "Fossilman" Raymer, last year's World Series champion, says poker playing on the Internet has led to greater participation by younger players. "You

can go on the Internet and play free money games or penny games and seriously hone your skills," Raymer says. "When I go to a casino, I play about 30 games an hour. On the Internet, I play 50 to 150 games per hour, playing multiple tables at a pace faster than a live game. So while the Internet can help develop fundamentals, it lacks the psychology of the live game."

Raymer says television has fed poker's popularity by adding drama and by letting the audience see everything via the "hold card" camera. "Viewers follow the action of every card in every hand," he explains. "When one player makes a bet and the other player folds, a viewer knows if it was a bluff and the guy made a mistake by folding, or if it was a good

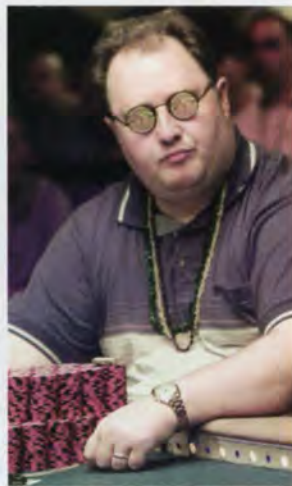


This year's 20,000 participants likely will include Hollywood stars like Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, and Tobey Maguire.

hand and the player was smart in folding."

This year's tournament is expected to draw 20,000 participants, including Hollywood celebrities like Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Tobey Maguire, and James Woods. During the games, spectators are vocal and flamboyant and follow their favorite players. When players win big hands, there are cheering and high fives all around.

Now back to me. I've been practicing my poker face, and I'm pretty good at it. I think I'll call myself Jack "The Bull" Bulavsky. Now I have to figure out if I'm a proud bull who isn't afraid to play in this tournament or just full of bull if I think I can get past the first round. ▀



Cameras roll as Ben Affleck and other celebs play Texas hold 'em at the World Series (top). Phil Ivey (left), Clonie Gowen, and defending champ Greg Raymer are leading pros.

Jack "The Bull" Bulavsky is a Las Vegas freelance writer and occasional card player.

Betting on the Draw

The World Series of Poker, the grandfather of all gaming tournaments, began as a convention for poker players at Binion's Horseshoe in Las Vegas in 1970. Or did it?

Sometimes history—especially gambling history—gets confused. According to Benny Binion, who was interviewed for the Oral History Program of the University of Nevada, Reno, Nicholas "Nick the Greek" Dandolos approached Binion in 1949 with an unusual request: challenge the best to a high-stakes poker marathon. Binion agreed to set up a match between Dandolos and the legendary Johnny Moss. The game would be open to spectators.

During the course of the five-month marathon, with breaks only for sleep, the two men played every form of poker imaginable. Moss ultimately won "the biggest game in town" and an estimated \$2 million.

Binion claimed the public gathered outside the casino each day with the fervor of dedicated sports fans, and he was amazed at the attention the event attracted. But it wasn't until 1970 that Binion decided to re-create this excitement and stage a battle of poker giants—dubbed the World Series of Poker—to determine the world champion.

The following year the winner was determined by a freeze-



out competition, with players systematically eliminated until one had all the chips. Moss again was declared champion. In 1972, when Thomas "Amarillo Slim" Preston won the title and went on the talk-show circuit, the World Series of Poker had arrived.

This summer, tournament play will be held at the Rio on June 2-July 13 and conclude at Binion's on July 14-15. Preliminary rounds were held in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, San Diego, and New Orleans. Harrah's Lake Tahoe hosts a prelim April 26-May 10, and Harrah's Laughlin holds one April 29-May 1. Call 877-367-9767 or visit www.worldseriesofpoker.com.—Jack Bulavsky

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Insider's Guide

Big Ticket Shows

Who needs Broadway?

Here's a showgoer's guide to **10** of the most **expensive productions** in **Las Vegas**.

By Mike Weatherford

When Cirque du Soleil launched its fourth Las Vegas production, "KÀ," at the MGM Grand last February, MGM Mirage officials bragged that their part of the deal, a \$135-million theater, equaled the amount of money invested in all new Broadway productions during the past year.

That comparison rings true to Las Vegas showgoers, who have seen a surge in big shows with big ticket prices and even bigger artistic ambitions. While Broadway copes with landlocked, aging theaters, Las Vegas can offer state-of-the-art technology in custom-built venues. The result is a lineup ranging from Cirque's exotic "O" to Celine Dion to the Abba-inspired "Mamma Mia!"

Here's a look at the Strip's 10 biggest shows of recent vintage, reflecting initial costs, ticket income, and scope of staging. Showgoers should call ahead to confirm times and prices. Some tickets require additional taxes or fees.



"Mystère," which opened at Treasure Island in '93, set the stage for Cirque on the Strip.

"Mystère" is closest to Cirque's vision of *le cirque réinventé*.



Sir Elton John plays his red grand piano at Caesars Palace when Celine Dion is on vacation.

1 "KÀ": Cirque du Soleil can do no wrong in Las Vegas, earning the corporate confidence needed to stage "KÀ," the most expensive live show in modern history. The Montreal-based company's first foray into linear storytelling, the show at the MGM Grand is an operatic tale of twins who undergo separate adventures in an ancient fantasy world. Cirque acrobats tackle such challenges as "The Wheel of Death," which resembles running on top of a spinning carnival ride. "KÀ" takes place on two mobile platforms. One is moved into a near-vertical position to allow the final battle scene to be viewed from an overhead perspective. The \$30-million cost for the cast, crew, and costumes comes on top of

the \$135 million in theater construction costs. *Show times: 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. daily except Wednesday and Thursday. Tickets: \$99, \$125, and \$150. Reservations: 877-880-0880, www.mgmgrand.com.*

2 "Zumanity": Cirque's third Strip show, which opened at New York-New York in 2003, is small compared to the other Las Vegas epics, opting to sex up the familiar acrobatics with a cabaret vibe. It still took upward of \$45 million to create this "human zoo." New York-New York officials agreed to gut a staid, traditional theater and turn it into what Cirque du Soleil officials term a "feminine" room that has no straight lines and a Victorian-

brothel atmosphere. *Show times: 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. daily except Wednesday and Thursday. Tickets: \$65 to \$125. Reservations: 866-606-7111, www.nynyhotelcasino.com.*

3 "Mystère": Cirque's first nontouring production opened in 1993, after "Jubilee!" and "Siegfried and Roy" inspired "Mystère's" creators to marry their flair for theater and drama with the Strip's ability to offer gee-whiz staging. The Treasure Island show is now 12 years old but remains closest to the company's original vision of *le cirque réinventé* (the circus reinvented) and many fans' favorite of Cirque's four Vegas productions. *Show times: 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday (dark Monday and Tuesday). Tickets: \$60 and \$95. Reservations: 800-392-1999, 702-894-7722, www.treasureisland.com.*

4 "O": "How can they have two Cirque shows in Las Vegas?" many people wondered before the Bellagio opened in 1998. "O" answered the question with a \$100-million production like no other. The performers vie for attention with the water they perform in. A 1.5-million-gallon pool creates a misty dreamscape, suggesting both the miracle of birth and the well-spring of imagination. *Show times: 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. daily except Monday and Tuesday. Tickets: \$93.50, \$99, \$125, and \$150. Reservations: 888-488-7111, 702-693-7722, www.bellagiolasvegas.com.*

5 "Celine Dion...A New Day": After the Canadian singer saw "O," she and manager-husband Rene Angelil decided a four-year residency at Caesars Palace wouldn't be so bad if they could hire away Cirque director Franco Dragone to work his magic around her repertoire. The \$95-million Colosseum includes 4,000 seats and the world's largest video screen, which wraps the 120-foot stage. Dragone lends an Old World, operatic drama to Dion's mini-epics such as "My Heart Will Go On." *Show times: 8:30 p.m. on May 1-8, 18-29, June 1-5, 15-30, and July 1-24 (dark Monday and Tuesday). Tickets: \$79.55, \$115.91, \$159, and \$204. Reservations: 877-4-CELINE, 800-634-6661, www.caesars.com, www.celinedion.com.*

6 "Elton John: The Red Piano": When Elton John agreed to become the Colosseum's second major tenant, filling in for some of the 12 or more weeks per year in which Dion doesn't perform, he too had an eye for the video screen. He teamed with celebrity photographer David LaChapelle to create a series of unique videos that reinterpret John's classics. At

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\$65 off
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Reg. \$80 ea. Now from only \$54.99 each
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Up to
\$94 off each
Grand Canyon Ultimate 4-Ways Tour
Reg. \$354 ea. Now from \$259.99 each person
"Airplane - Helicopter - Bus - River boat Combo!"

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

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"Mamma Mia!" offers a romantic mystery and the music of Abba at Mandalay Bay (above). Top: Celine Dion's fans can see her in "A New Day..." in Caesars' 4,000-seat Colosseum.

show's end, a set of whimsical inflatables manage to turn ice cream cones and cigarette butts into sexually suggestive pop art. *Show times: 7:30 p.m., summer dates TBA. Tickets: \$100, \$175, and \$250. Reservations: 888-4-ELTON-J, www.caesars.com.*

7 "Mamma Mia!": The musical romp cobbled together from the Abba songbook is a worldwide phenomenon. When the Las Vegas production opened at Mandalay Bay in 2003, it was one of nine companies around the world. "Mamma Mia!" may be the most cost-effective show on this list. The staging is simple, the band is small, and while the cast is of uniform quality, the show doesn't depend on any star names above the title. *Show times: 7 p.m.*

Monday to Thursday, 5 and 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; dark Friday. Tickets: \$49.50, \$71.50, \$93.50, and \$110. Reservations: 887-632-7400, 702-632-7777, www.mandalaybay.com.

8 "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor": This offbeat percussion show has been a hit since it opened at the Luxor five years ago. Indeed, the Las Vegas version of "Blue Man" was bigger than any other edition the group had tried, using some larger sequences such as a wall of drummers. Look for even bigger things when the Blue Men move into a custom theater at the Venetian in September. *Show times: 7 p.m. daily, with 10 p.m. shows sometimes scheduled on Friday and Saturday. Tickets: \$72.30, \$90.45, and*

\$107.50. Reservations: 800-557-7428, 702-262-4555, www.luxor.com for information.

9 "Manilow: Music and Passion": Barry Manilow has performed on the Strip since 1976, but this Las Vegas Hilton residency is now the only way to see him unless he reconsiders his vow to no longer tour. He calls the Hilton show "the biggest production I've ever had," although the stage design is heavy on mobile scrims. Manilow recycles two sets—a piano bar and a low-end lounge—from an autobiographical 1988 tour, and he takes a climactic "Copacabana" walk over the audience on a V-shaped trestle. *Show times: 9 p.m. Wednesday to Friday, 7:30 and 10 p.m. Saturday, on May 18-June 4 and July 27-August 13. Tickets: \$93.50, \$126.50, and \$159.50. Reservations: 702-732 5111, www.lvhilton.com.*

10 "We Will Rock You": The Queen musical at Paris follows the no-star economics of "Mamma Mia!" but offers an elaborate production to back up its sci-fi satire. Production designer Mark Fisher was behind memorable stadium tours such as the Rolling Stones' "Bridges to Babylon," and here he leads the show's token storytelling to a fist-pumping concert finale. Fisher was coincidentally hired to design the theater for "KÀ" and at one point feared both Strip shows would open in the same week. Fortunately for him—if not for MGM investors—"KÀ" was delayed a few months. *Show times: 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 7 and 10 p.m. Saturday, and 2 and 8:30 p.m. on Sunday; dark Thursday. Tickets: \$53, \$80.50, \$97, and \$113.50 for all performances except the Sunday 2 p.m. matinee (\$57.50). Reservations: 800-237-SHOW, 702-946-4567, www.parislasvegas.com.*

11 Classic Big Shows: Two showgirl spectacles, the costliest productions of an earlier era, remain on the Strip. "Les Folies Bergere" has played at the Tropicana since 1959. *Show times: 7:30 (covered) and 10 p.m. (topless) Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 8:30 p.m. (topless) Tuesday and Friday; dark Sunday. Prices are \$52.45, \$57.95, and \$63.45. Reservations: 800-829-9034, 702-739-2411, www.tropicana.lv.com. Playing at Bally's, "Jubilee!" opened in 1981. *Show times: 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. daily except Friday. All shows are topless. Tickets: \$60, \$69, \$74, and \$79. Reservations: 800-237-SHOW, 702-739-4111, www.ballyslv.com.**

Mike Weatherford is an entertainment columnist for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Las Vegas

AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS

Festivities honoring **Las Vegas' 100th birthday** continue with Helldorado parades and a Western Village in May and the **CineVegas Film Festival's** "100 Years of Vegas, 100 Years of Film" in June. **Kenny Chesney** performs at Mandalay Bay, **Jay Leno** appears at the MGM Grand, and **ZZ Top** plays at the Las Vegas Hilton. Call ahead to confirm the dates and details of events or visit www.lasvegas2005.org for Las Vegas centennial information.



Magician Rick Thomas has moved his long-running afternoon show—along with his big cats—from the Tropicana to the Stardust.

Events

Mesquite Days • April 28-May 1 • Carnival, booths, parade, fireworks, and entertainment. Old Mill Park, Mesquite, 702-346-8732, ext. 0.

Tournament of Seats Poker Tournament • April 30-May 1 • Qualifying rounds for World Series of Poker, \$200 buy-in. Harrah's Laughlin, 702-298-4600.

Spring Las Vegas Home Improvement and Decorating Show • April 29-May 1 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

"You Can't Take It With You" • April 29-May 1, 5-8 • Broadway comedy. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Desert Tortoise Interpretive Talk • May 1 • Visitor Center, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

A Taste of Mexico Family Fiesta • May 5 • Food and music. Stupak Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-2488.

'50s Dance • May 6 • Benefit dance for Opportunity Village.

Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-880-4068.

Vegas Viewed in Postcards • May 6 • Opening reception. The Post Modern (former downtown post office), Las Vegas, 702-229-1767.

Collage Dance Theatre • May 6 • The Post Modern (former downtown post office), Las Vegas, 702-229-4631.

Cars, Stars, and Guitars • May 6 • Centennial event. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Tastes and Tunes Festival • May 6-7 • Food, music, and cultural celebration. City Hall Campus, North Las Vegas, 702-633-2418.

"Tapestry" • May 6-7, 13-14, 27-28 • Youth musical. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-393-6163.

Bon Appetit Wine and Spirits Focus • May 6-8 • Food and wine tasting. Ritz-Carlton and MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-1600.

Cinco de Mayo and Las Vegas Centennial Celebration • May 7 • Clark Community School, Las Vegas, 702-365-9292.

Cinco de Mayo Community Celebration • May 7 • Rafael Rivera Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4600 for details.

Antique Air Show Parade • May 7 • More than 100 airplanes fly over the Las Vegas Strip. Event features a fly-in of an antique Jenny aircraft to commemorate the first commercial flight into Las Vegas. Air show is part of the Las Vegas Centennial. North Las Vegas Airport, North Las Vegas, www.lasvegas2005.org.

Valley of Fire Nature Walk • May 7 • One-and-a-half-mile nature walk. East entrance parking lot, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

Pioneer Gardening for Kids • May 7 • Demonstration of techniques used by Las Vegas pioneers. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Honor the Elders Banquet • May 7 • American Indian fundraiser. Moyer Student Union Ballroom, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-647-5842.

Puttin' on the Ritz • May 7 • Chefs for Kids 15th annual dinner. Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-567-4700.

Tortoise Day • May 7 • Educational program. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 13 miles west of Las



Perla Batalla, former backup singer for Leonard Cohen and k.d. lang, performs May 20 at River Mountain Park in Henderson.

Vegas, 702-515-5350 for details on the park's Tortoise Day.

ArtFest • May 7-8 • Works of more than 200 artists, music, and food. Downtown, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Las Vegas Neon Invitation Track Meet • May 7-8 • Ages five-18. Canyon Springs High School, North Las Vegas, 702-229-1646.

Spring Jamboree • May 7-8 • More than 125 booths with handcrafted items, food, music, entertainment, and a car show. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

Mother's Day Concert • May 7-8 • Las Vegas Philharmonic. Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Mesquite Senior Games • May 7-15 • Mesquite Recreation Center, Mesquite, 702-346-9112.

Cinco de Mayo Festival • May 8 • Family picnic features musical groups, food, and kids' games. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-444-4526.

Mother's Day Concert • May 8 • Walt Boenig Big Band performs. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Valley of Fire Guided Walk • May 8 • Walk to Fire Canyon Overlook. Not recommended for children under seven. Bring water and sturdy hiking shoes. Rainbow Vista parking lot, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

Nevada Archaeology Week Open House • May 8 • Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

St. Thomas Archaeology Site Tour • May 8 • Visit to old St. Thomas, covered by Lake Mead and now revealed by drought. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-897-2193.

Under the Sea Slot Tournament • May 8-10 • \$50,000 first place. Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 800-634-6441, ext. 2.

Big Stakes Match Play at CasaBlanca • May 9-15 • Golf tournament. CasaBlanca Golf Course, Mesquite, 800-896-4567.

Four Giants • May 10 • Concert features works by W. Francis McBeth, Alfred Reed, Percy Grainger, and John Zdechlik. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-652-5483.

Helldorado Charity Poker Tournament • May 10 • Plaza, Las Vegas, 702-281-0687.

Helldorado Days Western Village • May 10-15 • Livery stable, general store, entertainment, food vendors, whiskerino

contest, and kangaroo court. Main Street Station parking lot, Las Vegas, 702-281-0687 for more event information.

Spring Choral Concert • May 12 • "A Choral Testament to Freedom." Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-652-5483.

Percussion Ensemble • May 13 • Steel drum concert. Little Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-652-5483.

Civil War Weekend • May 13-15 • Battle reenactments, campsites, period baseball game, and living-history presentations. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

"The Ballet-Rodeo" • May 13-15 • Nevada Ballet Theatre centennial production. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, and Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-243-2623.

A Century of Beyond the Neon Celebration of Dance and Games • May 14 • Family day of dance and games from the last 100 years. Cimarron Rose Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-1607.

Annual Unity Festival • May 14 • Entertainment, car show, refreshments, and a gumbo cook-off. Doolittle Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-6374.

Las Vegas' 100th Birthday Celebration • May 14 • Three Helldorado parades downtown including Kiddies, Old Timers, and Hotel and Casino parades. Fourth and Fremont streets, Las Vegas, www.lasvegas2005.org.

The Best Is Yet to Come • May 14 • The former downtown post office becomes a bygone supper club. Dance to Count Basie's Orchestra. Tickets \$350 per person. The Post Modern, Las Vegas, 702-229-5902.

Moonlight Astronomy Program • May 14 • Mouse's Tank, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

Archaeology Week Petroglyph Tour • May 14 • Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Call the Nevada Rock Art Foundation, 775-315-5497.

Liberace Play-A-Like Competition • May 14 • Pianists will be judged on musical ability, with bonus points for costuming. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

Sun, Sand, and Lizards • May 14 • Guided hike to explore the Calico Hills. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-515-5350.

Kathy Mattea • May 14 • Country music concert. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Aloha Festival • May 14-15 • Las Vegas centennial cultural celebration. Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Comedian Jerry Seinfeld, former star of his own Emmy-winning TV sitcom about nothing, headlines June 10-11 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

Tee It Up Classic Golf Tournament • May 14-15 • Play at Las Vegas Golf Club. Adaptive Recreation Division, City of Las Vegas, 702-229-6721.

Happy Birthday, Las Vegas • May 15 • Re-creation of the 1905 land auction takes place at Main Street Station. The world's largest birthday cake weighing more than 130,000 pounds, and a street party at the Fremont Street Experience. Downtown, Las Vegas, www.lasvegas2005.org.

Venomous Critters Program • May 15 • Visitor Center, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

Las Vegas Jazz Society Centennial Picnic • May 15 • Professional and student will perform to celebrate the city's birthday.

Winchester Community Center Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Helldorado Charity Golf Tournament • May 16 • Silverstone Golf Course, Las Vegas, 702-281-0687.

Club Calloway • May 17 • Odyssey Dance Theater





Helldorado Days are reprised on May 14 when parades for kids, old-timers, and beauty queens take place downtown during the Las Vegas Centennial Celebration. Other mid-May events include a Western Village, the reenactment of the town's 1905 land auction, and, at 130,000 pounds, the world's largest birthday cake. Above: A Helldorado parade in the 1940s.

performance. Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite, 702-346-1757.

Bobby McFerrin Concert • May 17 • Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

International Museum Day • May 18 • Free admission. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

Helldorado Shootout Trap Shooting • May 18-22 • Las Vegas Gun Club, Las Vegas, 702-281-0687.

The Nevada Passage • May 19-24 • Made-for-television adventure race takes place in statewide rural and urban areas. Rock Climbing and Scramble takes place May 19, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Las Vegas. Personal Watercraft Time Trials take place May 20, Lake Mead, Boulder City. www.nevadapassage.com.

Perla Batalla Concert • May 20 • Former backup singer for Leonard Cohen and k.d. lang. River Mountain Park, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Downtown Cultural Series • May 20 • Noon centennial program by historian Michael Green. Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse, Las Vegas, 702-229-4614.

Poets' Corner • May 20 • Forum for poets. West Las Vegas Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4800.

'50s Dance • May 20 • Benefit for Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-880-4068.

Friday Night Cruise • May 20 • All years, makes, and models. Henderson Chevrolet, Henderson, 702-643-0000.

\$30,000 It's Raining Cash Slot Tournament • May 20-21 • Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 800-222-5361.

Virgin River Back to Mesquite Classic Car Show • May 20-22 • All makes and models. Virgin River Convention Center, Mesquite, 702-346-7777.

Astronomy at Red Rock • May 21 • Viewing and slide presentation. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area,

13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-515-5350 for information.

Sandstone Canyon Hike • May 21 • Three-hour, three-mile moderate to strenuous hike. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Roads to Las Vegas, the Army, and the Route to the West Coast 1845 • May 21 • Discussion and living-history presentation. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

All of Us Together Festival • May 21 • Car show, entertainment, crafts, and games. Chester Stupak Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-2488.

Creole Festival Internationale 2005 • May 21-22 • Las Vegas centennial cultural celebration. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Henderson Civic Symphony • May 22 • "The Creation" by Haydn. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Valley of Fire Nature Hike • May 22 • Atlal Rock picnic area, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

\$100,000 Little Italy Slot Tournament • May 27-28 • Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 800-222-5361.

Snow Mountain Powwow • May 27-29 • Costumed Native American dancers, singers, arts, crafts, and food. Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Las Vegas, 702-395-1790.

Coin and Stamp Expo • May 27-29 • Circus Circus, Las Vegas, 818-997-6496.

An Evening in Spain • May 28 • Margo Torrea Dancers. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Old-Time Barn Dance • May 28 • Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-299-6383.

Pinnacles and Peaks Hike • May 28 • Ranger-led three-mile hike to red-rock pinnacles. Not recommended for children under seven. Bring water and sturdy hiking shoes. Atlal

Rock parking lot, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

Valley of Fire Fossil Hunt • May 29 • Beehives parking lot, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 702-397-2088.

One Hundred Years: One Million Years • June 1 • Centennial event. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-3466.

World Series of Poker • June 2-July 15 • The 36th annual tournament will be held at the Rio June 2-July 13 and conclude at Binion's July 14-15. Rio and Binion's, Las Vegas, 877-367-9767.

Snow Mountain Scholarship Golf Event • June 3 • Snow Mountain Golf Course, Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort, Las Vegas, 702-395-1790.

\$50,000 Craps Tournament • June 3-4 • Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 800-222-5361.

Centennial Cruise • June 3-5 • Cars, music from the '50s and '60s. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

"Bridge to Terabithia" • June 3-5, 9-12 • Rainbow Company Youth Theatre presentation. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

Desert Survival for Kids • June 4 • Discussion and demonstration. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

"Bee-Luthes-Hatchee" • June 8-12 • Play in which an award recipient surprises a book editor. Paul Harris Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-ARTS.

Once Upon 100 Weddings • June 9 • 100 couples will be wed on the Fremont Street Experience mall to celebrate Las Vegas' centennial. Downtown, Las Vegas, for information visit www.lasvegas2005.org.

Arena Bowl Championship • June 9-12 • Super Bowl of the

Arena Football League. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

CineVegas 2005 • June 10-18 • Film festival for "100 Years of Vegas, 100 Years of Film" features actors and films that have a Las Vegas theme and will explore the city's impact on the movie industry. Actor Dennis Hopper serves as chairman. Also, a national contest is under way to choose the "Five Favorite Vegas Movies of All Time." Brenden Theatres, Palms Casino, Las Vegas, 702-229-6712.

Janis Ian • June 11 • Grammy Award-winning singer. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

America • June 11 • Stars on the Lake concert. Reflection Bay, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-1600.

Reggae in the Desert • June 11 • Centennial event. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Sesquicentennial Celebration: 150 Years in Las Vegas • June 11 • Event marks arrival of Mormon missionaries in Las Vegas. Food, living-history tours, and opening of a new museum. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Interfaith Choir • June 15-16 • Centennial event. Cashman Theatre, Las Vegas, www.lasvegas2005.org.

Friday Night Cruise-In • June 17 • All makes, models, and years. Hot Rod Grille, Henderson, 702-643-0000.

\$75,000 Desert Oasis Slot Tournament • June 17-18 • Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 800-222-5361.

Demonstration Pottery Workshop • June 17-19 • Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

The Mormon Militia, from Navoo to Las Vegas, 1830-1856 • June 18 • Discussion, living-history presentation. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Splash Box Derby • June 18 • Race and parade of home-built boats. Pavilion Center Pool, Las Vegas, 702-229-1488.

Trumpet Summit • June 19 • Blowout featuring six jazz musicians. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Slot Tournament • June 19-21 • First place \$20,000. Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 800-634-6441, ext. 2.

Courage Unlimited: Courage in Black • June 25 • Centennial celebration of the African-American culture. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-453-3855.

Hot Club of San Francisco • June 25 • Jazz ensemble. Henderson Pavilion, Henderson, 702-267-5819.

Summer Motor Jam • June 25 • PSCA final eliminations, Bigfoot vs. Snakebite Monster Trucks, Jet Funny Cars. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

\$250,000 Baccarat Tournament • June 25-26 • Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 800-222-5361.

Coming Events

Centennial Birthday Bash: Las Vegas Style • July 2 • Fourth of July party with headliners. Entertainers and location TBA, www.lasvegas2005.org.

Celebration at MonteLago Village • July 4 • Fireworks, music, and barbecue. MonteLago Village, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-564-4766.

Centennial Concert • July 4 • Hills Park in Summerlin, Las Vegas, 702-258-5438.

McMillin Nevada 1,000 • July 6-10 • A 1,000-mile Best in the Desert off-road race begins July 6 with registration at the Suncoast in Las Vegas. The four-day race in Central Nevada will be staged around Beatty, Goldfield, and Tonopah. Las Vegas, 702-641-2431.

"Guys and Dolls" • Aug. 10-13, 17-20, 24-27 • Broadway musical presented under the stars. Spring Mountain

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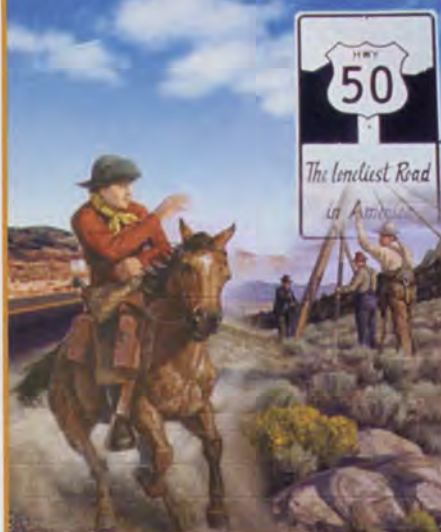


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Native American culture will be celebrated at the Snow Mountain Powwow on May 27-29.

Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.
San Gennaro Feast • Sept. 13-18 • Italian food, music, artists, crafts, and carnival. Boca Park, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

Mexican Independence Day Festival • Sept. 18 • The 194th-anniversary event features music, food, and entertainment. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 702-383-8395.

NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series • Sept. 24 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 800-644-4444.

Sparks and Las Vegas Black Tie 50/50 Ball • Oct. TBA • Held during Nevada League of Cities Meeting on Oct. 11-16. Dinner will celebrate the Sparks and Las Vegas centennials. Golden Nugget, Las Vegas, 702-229-2005.

Las Vegas Invitational • Oct. 12-16 • PGA Tour event. TPC Summerlin, TPC Canyons, and Southern Highlands, Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.

Laughlin Dragon Boat Races • Oct. 14-15 • Laughlin, 800-4LAUGHLIN.

NHRA ACDelco Las Vegas Nationals • Oct. 20-23 • Drag racing. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Professional Bull Riders • Nov. 3-6 • Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

Aviation Nation Nellis Air Force Base Air Show • Nov. 10-12 • Air races, demonstrations, static displays. Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, 702-229-2005.

National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 2-11 • Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

Las Vegas Showdown • Dec. 17 • UNLV basketball games. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

Las Vegas Bowl • Dec. 23 • College football game. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

Poker Tournaments • Daily • Golden Nugget, Las Vegas, 702-385-7111.

CasaBlanca Gaming Tournaments • Keno on Wed. and Sat. Slots on Sun. CasaBlanca, Mesquite, 800-459-PLAY.

Oasis Gaming Tournaments • Keno on Mon., Fri., and Sun. Blackjack on Mon. Slots on Thurs. No limit hold 'em on Sun. Pizza and poker on Wed. Early Bird Poker Shootout on Mon.-Fri. Bad Beat progressive jackpot poker on Wed. and Sun. Oasis, Mesquite, 800-21-OASIS.

Virgin River Gaming Tournaments • Slots on Tues. and Thurs. Blackjack on Fri. Keno on Tues. and Thurs. Virgin River, Mesquite, 800-346-7721.

On the Road: The Original Jack Kerouac Manuscript Scroll • Thru May 15 • Includes the author's edits and notes. Rainbow Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3710.

Bright Light City • Thru May 15 • Artists interpret Las Vegas. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4674.

Plaza World Poker Classic • Thru May 17 • Professional players. Plaza, Las Vegas, 702-386-2110.

Las Vegas Centennial Celebration Exhibition • Thru May 22 • Art pieces from Las Vegas casinos and resident artists. Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-8080.

One Hundred Years of Influence: The Role of Women in Shaping the First 100 Years of Las Vegas • Thru May 22 • Spotlights more than 300 influential women. Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-8000.

Riviera Celebrity Display and Photo Op • Thru May 31 • The red, white, and blue Bicentennial Rolls-Royce owned by Liberace, the first entertainer to perform at the Riviera on April 20, 1955, will be on display for photo opportunities. The exhibition is part of the Riviera's 50th anniversary. Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

Strength and Diversity: Japanese American Women of Nevada • Thru May 31 • Part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Enterprise Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3760.

Las Vegas Centennial Visionary Artist • Thru June 5 • Vicki Richardson exhibition. Summerlin Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3860.

Indulgence • Thru June 5 • Paintings, sculpture, and photographs. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Las Vegas: How It Began • Thru June 12 • Nevada Watercolor Society. West Charleston Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3940.

Nevada Camera Club Show • Thru June 21 • Whitney Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-4010.

Viva the Centennial: City of 100 Murals • Thru Aug. 26 • Bridge Gallery, City Hall, Las Vegas, 702-229-4674.

Growing Up With the Berenstain Bears • Thru Aug. 28 •

Ongoing Events

Historic Nevada Southern Railway Train Rides • Weekends • Seven-mile round trip lasts 45 minutes aboard 1911-era Pullman coaches. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City, 702-486-5933.

Spring Mountain Ranch Walking Tours • Daily • Guided 45-minute tour of the historic reservoir and Wilson Gravesite and the blacksmith shop and Sandstone Cabin, the second oldest buildings in the Las Vegas Valley. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

Free Concerts • Tues.-Sat. • Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

Poker Tournaments • Daily • Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 702-744-3261.

PHOTO: Marcia Mahone/Snow Mountain Powwow Committee



Nature walks in May will explore the sandstone landscape of Valley of Fire State Park.

Interactive exhibit includes the famous tree house of Bear Country. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-KIDS.

Neon Unplugged: Signs From the Boneyard • Thru Aug. • Thirty pieces include historic photos, non-restored neon letters, and signs from historic marquees. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-KIDS.

Nevada Theatre Company • Thru Nov. • Two touring plays: "Three Ways Home: Nevada Becomes a State" and another centennial presentation about the birth of Las Vegas. Call for dates and locations, Las Vegas, 702-873-0191.

Las Vegas Lives! 100 Years of Photographs • Thru Dec. • Centennial exhibit. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Whistle Stop to Windfall: 100 Years in Las Vegas • Thru Jan. 2, 2006 • Exhibit traces the story of what made Las Vegas unique, its changing face (from tent houses to casinos), residents, and colorful characters. Clark County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Bats! • Thru Dec. 2006 • Exhibit covers the myths and facts about the winged creatures. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Janet Trobough • May 1-31 • Exhibition by mixed-media artist. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

Las Vegas 51s Baseball • The Pacific Coast League team plays May 2-5 vs. Fresno Grizzlies, May 6-9 vs. Sacramento River Cats, May 19-22 vs. Albuquerque Isotopes, May 23-26 vs. Round Rock Express, May 31-June 3 vs. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, June 4-7 vs. Fresno Grizzlies, June 17-20 vs. Tacoma Rainiers, June 21-24 vs. Sacramento River Cats, June 30-July 3 vs. Portland Beavers, July 14-17 vs. Tucson Sidewinders, July 26-29 vs. New Orleans Zephyrs, July 30-Aug. 2 vs. Oklahoma Red Hawks, Aug. 12-15 vs. Tucson Sidewinders, Aug. 20-23 vs. Portland Beavers, Aug. 29-Sept. 1 vs. Tacoma Rainiers, Sept. 2-5 vs. Salt Lake Stingers. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

Post Modern Tours • May 2-31 • Docent lead tours through the former downtown post office. The Post Modern, Las Vegas, 702-4631.

Las Vegas Farmers Market • Tuesdays May 3-July 19 at Garden Park. Wednesdays May 4-July 27 at Bruce Trent Park. Thursdays May 5-July 28 at Centennial Hills Park, Las Vegas, 702-562-CORN.

Remembering the Mexican Revolutionary Heroes • May 3-June 28 • Exhibition by Argu in honor of Mexican Independence Day. West Las Vegas Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4800.

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Centennial Community Conversations • May 4, 11, 18, 25 • Discussions on the evolution of Las Vegas. The Post Modern (former downtown post office), Las Vegas, 702-229-4631.

Drag Races at the Bullring • May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 11, July 16, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 1 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4444.

Jazz in the Park • May 7, 21, June 4, 18 • Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

News Bureau Centennial Exhibit • May 12-June 26 • Photographic history includes architecture and performers. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3400.

50-Year Photographic Survey of Canada and Its Provinces • May 28-July 24 • Exhibition by George Hunter. Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-0800.

June Exhibition • June 1-30 • Monthly event includes a variety of artists and mediums. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2198.

The 24-Hour Show: Making a Living in Las Vegas • June-Jan. 2006 • Multimedia exhibit explores the lives of casino and entertainment workers. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Shows

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • 702-293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam.

HENDERSON

Casino MonteLago at Lake Las Vegas • 702-564-4766. Bon Appetit Wine and Spirits Focus, May 6-8, Fireworks, July 4.

Fiesta Henderson • 702-558-7000: Bands play in the Lava Lounge on Fri.-Sat.

Green Valley Ranch • 702-617-7777: Jazz Club: Entertainment Fri.-Sat. Grand Events Center: Bill Engvall, July 30. Whiskey Beach: Seal, May 20. REO Speedwagon, June 18.

Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-6181: Piano music and hors d'oeuvres, 6-9pm Fri.-Sun.

Joker's Wild • 702-564-8100: Entertainment Wed.-Sun.

Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-4700: Firenze Lobby Lounge: Florentine Tea daily from 2:30-5pm.

Sunset Station • 702-547-7777: Amphitheater: Willie Nelson, May 7. Jazz Attack featuring Richard Elliott, Jonathan Butler, Rick Braun, and Peter White, May 13. Trace Adkins/Billy Currington, May 14. Lonestar, Aug. 6. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 9.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 702-477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands like Laura Ash and Inferno and the Huck Daniels Review play nightly except Tues.

Nevada Landing • 702-387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands like Drew Baker and Foreign Affair appear nightly except Wed.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 702-785-5555 or 877-333-WISH: V Theatre at Desert Passage: "V," variety show. "X," adult revue, 10:30pm nightly. "The Fab Four," Beatles tribute, dark Tues.-Wed. Call 702-932-1818. Aladdin Theater for the Performing Arts: Nelly and the St. Lunatics, May 21. Steve Wyrick Theater: Magician Steve Wyrick, dark Fri. Sinbad's Lounge: Bands play nightly. Music in the Curve nightclub 10:30pm-5am Fri.-Sat., and 7-9pm Wed. for Jazz Night.

Arizona Charlie's • 702-258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: Greg Peterson, thru May 7. 650, May 10-14. Checkmates, May 17-28. Mojo, June 7-11. Smooth, June 14-25. Karaoke 8:30pm-1:30am Mon. Jerry Tiffe plays 4-7pm Fri.

Arizona Charlie's East • 702-951-9000: Palace Grand Lounge: Checkmates, thru May 1. Perfect Choice, May 3-8. Greg Peterson, May 10-15. Randy Anderson, May 24-June 5.

Bally's • 702-739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee! Theater: "Jubilee!," dark Fri. Society of Seven with Lani Misalucha, 3pm Sat.-Thurs. Backstage Walking Tour at 2pm Mon., Wed., and Sat. Entertainment in the Indigo Lounge.

Barbary Coast • 702-737-7111: Barbary Coast Lounge: Pete Vallee as "Big Elvis," 3-6pm Tues.-Fri. Karaoke, 9pm-2:30am Mon. Bands like the Smith Brothers and Elements play Wed., Thurs., and Sun. in the lounge.

Beach Nightclub • 702-610-5237: "Laughs at the Beach," touring stand-up comedians, 8-10pm Thurs. and Sat.

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf., dark Mon.-Tues. Light Nightclub, 10:30pm-4am Thurs.-Sun. Caramel Bar, 5pm-4am Mon.-Sun. Musicians play in the Petrossian Lounge and Baccarat Bar. Fontana Room: Entertainment nightly. Tuscany Kitchen: Art of Cooking demonstrations, for reservations call 702-693-7155.



A string ensemble comprised of violin, bass, and guitars, the Hot Club of San Francisco performs jazz, Cajun, swing, and blues during a concert June 25 at Henderson Pavilion.

Binion's • 702-382-1600: Benny's Bullpen: Vinnie Favorito, stand-up comedy, dark Mon.

Boardwalk Casino • 702-735-2400: Lighthouse Lounge: Spectrum, Motown sound, indf., dark Mon. Purple Reign, a tribute to Prince, at the Boardwalk, dark Sun.-Mon.

Boulder Station • 702-432-7777 or 800-683-7777: The Railhead: Blue Oyster Cult, May 13. John Waite, June 10. Ottmar Lieber, June 11. Morris Day and the Time, Sept. 17. Maynard Ferguson, Oct. 8. Brian Culbertson, Oct. 15. Kirk Whalum, Oct. 19. Hal Ketchum, Nov. 5. Diane Schuur, Nov. 12. Don Williams, Nov. 19. Jerry Tiffe plays 2-4pm Thurs. KIXX: Shooting Stars Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.

Bourbon Street • 702-737-7200: Big Easy Showroom: "Spotlight," starring magician Will Roy, 7pm, dark Fri. The Michael Johns Show, comedy-hypnotist, 11pm Sun., Wed.-Thurs.

Caesars Palace • 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544: The Colosseum Showroom: Celine Dion stars in "A New Day..." thru May 29, dark Mon.-Tues. (call 877-4-CELINE). "The Red Piano" starring Elton John, dates TBA. Jerry Seinfeld, June 10-11. Shadow Bar: Dancers perform nightly. DJ 9pm-2am Wed.-Sun. Entertainment also can be found

in the Café Lago Restaurant, Terraza Lounge, Cleopatra's Barge Nightclub, and Galleria Bar at Caesars Palace.

Circus Circus • 702-734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts from 11am to midnight.

Excalibur Hotel • 702-597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," jousting-dinner show. Merlin's Theater: "Thunder From Down Under," all-male revue nightly except Thurs. Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club: Comedians perform at 10pm nightly and 7:30pm Thurs. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers, 10am-10pm daily. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Regales and Camelot restaurants.

Fitzgeralds • 702-388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Fitzgeralds Showroom: Bobby Ruffin's Tribute to the Drifters, 5:15pm Thurs.-Mon. "Spirit of the King" starring Steve Connolly, 7:15pm Thurs.-Mon. Jun Polistico, Philippine singer, 9pm Thurs.-Mon. Bands play daily on the First Floor Stage.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 702-733-3333 or 800-221-7299:

Flamingo Showroom: Gladys Knight, 7:30pm, dark Sun.-Mon. Frankie Valli appears on Knight's dark nights, May 3-7, 24-28, June 28-July 2, Aug. 23-27, Sept. 20-24. "Bottoms Up," comedy revue, 2 and 4pm, dark Sun. George Wallace, comedian, performs 10pm Tues.-Sat. Second City Theater: "Second City," improv comedy sketches, 8pm Thurs.-Tues, 10:30pm Thurs. and Sat. "Second City Scriptless," 8 and 10:30pm Wed., 10:30pm Tues., Fri., and Sun. Bands play in Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville.

Four Queens • 702-385-4011 or 800-634-6045.

Four Seasons • 702-632-5000: Piano entertainment during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah restaurant, 2-5pm daily.

Gold Coast • 702-367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): Lounge: Royal Dixie Jazz Band, 1-6pm Mon.-Fri. Bands like Elements, IN10CTY, Smith, and San Fernando play nightly except Mon. Gold Coast Showroom: "Forever Plaid: A Heavenly Musical Hit," dark Mon. Latin Breeze, Fri.-Sat. and Mon., indf. Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor 7-10pm Tues. Dance lessons 6-7pm. Sunday Tea Dance Party with Larry Taylor from 1-4pm. Dance lessons noon-1pm. Drama workshop, 2-4pm Tues.

Golden Gate • 702-385-1906: Live piano 6pm-midnight.
Golden Nugget • 702-386-8100: Theatre Ballroom: Downtown Gordie Brown, Fri.-Tues., dark Wed.-Thurs. Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, 10pm Mon., midnight Sat. George Benson, June 10-11. Bands play in the Show Bar Lounge. Music in the ZAX restaurant.
Golden Palm • 702-798-1111: Karaoke party, 10pm-4am.
Greek Isles • 702-737-5540: Star Theater: "Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey, and Dean," dark Fri. "The World's Greatest Magic Show," 6pm daily.
Hard Rock Hotel • 702-693-5066: The Joint: Lenny Kravitz, May 21. Eraser, May 27. Dance to DJs in Baby's Night Club.
Harrah's Las Vegas • 702-369-5111 or 800-392-9002: Clint Holmes Theater: Clint Holmes, 7:30pm, dark Sun. "Skintight," adult revue plays at 10:30pm Mon.-Wed., dark Thurs., 10pm and midnight Fri., 10pm Sat., 7:30 and 10pm Sun. Mac King, comedy magic, 1 and 3pm, dark Sun.-Mon. Improv Theater: Comedy 8:30 and 10:30pm, dark Mon. Café Andreotti: Strolling musicians on Wed.-Sun. Range Restaurant: jazz on Fri.-Sat. Piano Bar: TJ's All-Star Karaoke Party, 6-9pm nightly. Dueling Pianos, 9pm nightly. Entertainment daily in the Carnaval Court 12:30pm-1am.
Hofbräuhaus Las Vegas • 702-853-BEER: Bavarian bands play.
Imperial Palace • 702-794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," impersonator revue, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Sun. Casino Floor: Celebrity impersonators deal blackjack to gamblers. Entertainment nightly in the Kabuki Lounge. Tequila Joe's: Karaoke nightly. "Be a Legend" Amateur Celebrity Impersonator Karaoke Contest is held monthly. Poolside: Imperial Hawaiian Luau, dinner and Polynesian entertainment, 6pm Tues. and Thurs.
JW Marriott Las Vegas • 702-869-2335: Plush Ultra Lounge



Showgoers will hear "Delilah," "What's New, Pussycat," and other hits by Welsh singer Tom Jones when he appears April 28-May 11 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

and Supper Club: Music and dancing at the ultra lounge.
Krave Nightclub (Desert Passage at the Aladdin) • 702-836-0833: "The Fashionistas," adult musical, dark Sun.
Lady Luck • 702-477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Showroom: "Ovation," variety show, 7 and 9pm, dark Tues.
Lucky Louie's Lounge: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Las Vegas Hilton • 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: Barry Manilow stars in "Manilow: Music and Passion," Wed.-Sat. Damon Wayans, May 13-14. ZZ Top, June 8-10. Shimmer Cabaret: Comedian David Brenner, May 10-15, dark Thurs. Aussie Angels, 10pm, dark Sun. Dance music 10pm Wed.-Sun. Entertainment in the Benihana Lounge.
Luxor • 702-262-4555: Luxor Theatre: "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor," percussion theater. Pharaoh's Theater: "Midnight Fantasy," production show, dark Mon. Steakhouse Lounge: Piano entertainer. Performers play nightly in Nefertiti's Lounge and Ra Nightclub. Movies are featured in the IMAX theater, and tours are available at the King Tut's Museum.
Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: "Mamma Mia!," the Broadway musical based on the music of Abba, dark Fri. Matinee Sat.-Sun. at 5pm. Mandalay Events Center: Kenny Chesney, June 10-11. Reba McEntire and Brad Paisley, June 17. House of Blues: New Found Glory, May 8. Edwin McCain, May 10. Bob Saget/B.J. Novak, June 4. Dierks Bentley, July 29. Dance music, Fri.-Sun. Karaoke, 11pm Mon. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Live music Thurs.-Sun. in the Courtyard. OBA lounge atop House of Blues open late nights Mon.-Fri. AM, after-hours club at Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce, DJs and a burlesque show. Bands play in the Orchid, Island, and Coral Reef lounges. Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay open daily.
MGM Grand • 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111: MGM Grand Garden Arena: Felix "Tito" Trinidad vs. Winky Wright, prizefight, May 14. MAXXIS U.S. Open, motorcycle race, Oct. 7-9. EFX Theatre: "KÅ," the newest Cirque du Soleil show, dark Wed.-Thurs. Hollywood Theatre: Tom Jones,

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April 28-May 11, Jay Leno, May 6-7 and 13. Howie Mandel, May 12-18. David Copperfield, May 19-June 1. Ray Romano, May 20-21. Jay Leno, June 10-11. Howie Mandel, June 14-29. Jay Leno, June 17-18. David Copperfield, June 30-July 13. Jay Leno, July 22-23. David Copperfield, July 28-Aug. 10, Jay Leno, July 29-30. David Copperfield, Aug. 25-Sept. 21. Howie Mandel, Sept. 29-Oct. 5 and Oct. 25-Nov. 9. David Copperfield, Nov. 17-30. La Femme Theatre: "La Femme, topless Crazy Horse production from Paris, dark Tues. Studio 54: Dancing Tues.-Sat. Entertainment in the Teatro Euro Bar except Wed., and the Tabu and Zuri lounges. Fashion show 10pm Wed. in Tabu. Teatro Euro Bar: DJs and silhouette shows every half-hour, dark Wed.

The Mirage • 702-792-7777: Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans, dark Fri. and Mon. David Spade, May 27-29. Wayne Brady, June 24-25, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Nov. 24-25. Entertainment in the Ava and Onda lounges and Baccarat Bar. Siegfried and Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat, 11am-5:30pm weekdays, 10am-5:30pm weekends.

Monte Carlo • 702-730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician, dark Sun.-Mon. Top 40, disco, country, and classic-rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery. The Club @ The Pub: Late night bands and DJs play beginning at 11pm.

New Frontier • 702-794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Free bull rides 4-9pm Mon.-Tues. and all night Wed. Mud wrestling 10pm Wed. Free line-dance lessons 7:30pm Thurs. Bikini bull riding midnight Fri.-Sat. Line dancing 9pm.

New York-New York • 702-740-6969 or 800-693-6763: Broadway Theatre: "Zumanity," adult Cirque du Soleil production, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Wed.-Thurs. Cabaret



Polynesian dancers shake things up while showgoers dine poolside on Tuesday and Thursday at the Imperial Palace's Hawaiian Luau.

Theatre: Comedienne Rita Rudner performs nightly. The Pub at Nine Fine Irishmen: Entertainment nightly. Coyote Ugly: Dance nightclub opens at 6pm. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play from 8pm nightly and 2-6pm Fri. in the Bar at Times Square. Bands play in the Big Apple Bar. Manhattan Express Roller Coaster daily.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Gordon Lightfoot in Concert, April 28-May 1. Engelbert

Humperdinck, May 5-8. Lorrie Morgan, May 13-15. Burt Bacharach, May 19-22. Air Supply, May 26-29. Andy Williams, June 1-5. Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell, June 9-12. Neil Sedaka, June 14-19. Little River Band, July 7-10. Dion, July 14-17. Mrs. USA Pageant, July 25-28. Will the Real Rich Little Please Stand Up?, July 29-31. Donny Osmond, Aug. 4-7. Tony Orlando, Aug. 11-14. Neil Sedaka, Aug. 16-21. Engelbert Humperdinck, Aug. 25-28. Air



Discover something for everyone.

PAHRUMP

- May 1** United Way's Cinco de Mayo Celebration
Petrack Park
- May 14** Silver State Regional Chili Championship
Saddle West Hotel, Casino & RV Resort
- May 28** Saddle West Hotel, Casino & RV Park
Birthday Celebration
- June 4** Chamber Regatta
Terrible's Lakeside Casino & RV Resort

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Supply, Sept. 1-4. Bill Medley, featuring Darren and McKenna Medley, Sept. 9-11. Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A One Woman Show, Sept. 15-18. Bobby Vinton, Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Chris Botti, Oct. 13-16. Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell, Oct. 20-23. The Pointer Sisters, Oct. 27-30. Engelbert Humperdinck, Nov. 3-6. Burt Bacharach, Nov. 10-13. Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 17-20. Neil Sedaka, Nov. 22-27. Orleans Arena: Monster Truck Thunder and Fire Extravaganza, Aug. 19-20. Freestyle MotoX Championship, Sept. 23-24. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Performers like Bruce Conte appear nightly except Mon. Brendan's Irish Pub: Bands McDonald and Front Page play nightly except Mon. Jazz on Tues., Blues Zydeco on Wed. Irish acoustic sing-a-



Singer Frankie Valli takes the stage at the Flamingo Las Vegas when Gladys Knight is not appearing. Valli's show dates are May 3-7 and 24-28, June 28-July 2, August 23-27 and September 20-24.

long on Sun. "Rock This Town Live," tribute to Elvis, Buddy Holly, and Jerry Lee Lewis, Tues.

Palace Station • 702-367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Laugh Trax Comedy Club: Comedians perform Tues.-Sat. Jack's Irish Pub: Entertainers perform nightly.

The Palms • 702-942-7777: Entertainment in Rain, ghostbar, and the Lounge.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Theatre des Arts: "We Will Rock You," production based on the music of Queen, nightly except Thurs., matinee 2pm Sun. Cools Theater: Anthony Cools Experience, hypnotist, dark Sun. Bands play in Le Cabaret Lounge, Napoleon's Lounge, and Ah Sin Restaurant, entertainment nightly. Dancing 10pm-4am Wed.-Sun. in the Risque nightclub. Eiffel Tower rides 10am-1am daily.

The Plaza • 800-634-6575: Plaza Theatre: Celebrity Sunday Brunch, 10:30am-2:30pm. Guest celebrities drop in to entertain. Larry G. Jones, singing comedy-impressionist, 6pm nightly except Fri.

Rampart Casino at the Resort at Summerlin • 877-869-8777: Addison's Lounge: Rock, oldies, and R&B bands perform in the lounge from 8pm-midnight Fri.-Sat. Round Bar: Entertainment nightly.

Rio All-Suite Hotel • 702-252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO: Samba Theater: Penn and Teller, comedy-magic show, dark Tues. Scinta Showroom: Scintas, musical revue, dark Thurs. "Eroctica," adult revue, 10pm, dark Thurs. Chippendales Theater: Ultimate Girls' Night Out. The 400-seat theater

features private sky boxes, cocktail lounge, and the male revue "Chippendales: The Show," 8pm Thurs.-Tues. and 10:30pm Fri.-Sat., dark Wed. Club Rio Nightclub is open for late-night dancing Thurs.-Sat. Flirt Ultra Lounge opens 8:30pm weekdays, 10:30pm weekends, dark Wed. Calypso Room: "Tony 'n Tina's Wedding," off-Broadway interactive dinner theater, nightly. "Masquerade Show in the Sky": Carnival-themed parade above the casino daily at 3, 4, 5, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, and 9:30pm. Bikinis Beach and Dance Club: Nightclub opens 10pm Thurs.-Sun. Sexy swimwear competition on Thurs. Bands play nightly upstairs in the high-rise Voodoo Lounge. I-Bar Ultra Lounge: Opens daily at noon with beverage entertainers.

Riviera • 702-794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," production show, dark Mon. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue, 8pm, dark Tues. "The Amazing Johnathan, bizarre magic, 10pm, dark Thurs. Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls" adult revue, dark Tues. "Riviera Comedy Club, 8:30 and 10:30pm nightly. Le Bistro Theatre: "Neil Diamond Tribute Starring Jay White," 7pm Sun.-Thurs. Dr. Scott Lewis: Outrageous Comedy Hypnotist, 10pm Mon. Le Bistro Theatre converts to Syn City, the Nightclub 10pm-4am Wed.-Sun.

Royal Resort • 702-339-5200: Cosmo's Ristorante: "Dinner With Mama, interactive dinner theater, 7pm Mon.-Thurs. Sahara • 702-737-2515: Sahara Theatre: Entertainment TBA. Congo Room: Coasters, Platters, and Drifters. Hypnotist Justin Tranz, 10pm, dark Wed. Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 702-454-8048: Sam's Town Live: Dennis Bono, radio show with guest celebrities. Bands play in Roxy's Saloon. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, and 10pm.

San Remo • 702-739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic," revue, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Bonne Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe Station • 702-658-4900: Showroom: Michael Lington, Sept. 10. Memphis Championship Barbecue: Rocksicle, 10pm Sat.

Silverton • 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Showroom: Three Dog Night, May 6-7. "Rocky Mountain High, a Tribute to John Denver starring Jim Curry, May 13-14. Mermaid Restaurant and Lounge: Mermaids perform hourly in a 117,000-gallon saltwater tank from 6-11pm. The Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World attraction features a 40,000-gallon freshwater aquarium.

Stardust • 702-732-6325: Wayne Newton Theatre: George Carlin, June 2-15. Rick Thomas Show, magic production, 2 and 4pm. Ba-Da-Bing Room: "Ba-Da-Bing," interactive dinner show. Starlight Lounge: Karaoke Mon. and Fri.

Stratosphere • 702-382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Theater of the Stars Showroom: "American Superstars, impersonator revue, dark Thurs. "Bite, topless revue featuring evil vampires, 10:30pm, dark Thurs. "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Outdoor Events Center: Entertainment TBA. Images Lounge: Huck Daniels performs 10pm-2am Mon. Bands like Vision and Stinger play 10pm-3:30am Tues.-Sun. Candace Davis Martin plays nightly thru May 1 in the Top of the World Lounge, dark Mon.-Tues. Crazy Armadillos: Karaoke on Tues.-Wed. DJ Dance Party on Thurs.-Mon. Bands play Thurs.-Mon. Stratosphere Thrill Rides: Insanity is the latest tower thrill ride; the others are X Scream, Big Shot, and High Roller. Suncoast • 702-636-7111: Suncoast Showroom: Franky Perez and the Highway Saints, Cuban-inspired music, 8-

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11pm Thurs. Debbie Reynolds, April 29-May 1. David Sanborn, May 6-8. Sha Na Na, May 13-15. Tony Orlando, May 20-22. Southern Fried Chicks, May 27-29. Paul Williams, June 3-5. Trent Carlini, June 10-12. Larry Carlton, June 17-19. Ramsey Lewis, June 24-25. Alter Ego, July 1. Spyro Gyra, July 8-9. The Lettermen, July 15-17. Collin Raye, July 22-24. James Darren, July 29-31. Connie Stevens, Aug. 5-7. Bob James, Aug. 12-13. Jack Jones, Aug. 19-21. The Bellamy Brothers, Aug. 26-28. Tower of Power, Sept. 2-4. Debbie Reynolds, Sept. 16-18. Rita Coolidge, Sept. 23-25. Rich Little, Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Michael Franks, Oct. 7-9. Roger Williams, Oct. 14-16. The Smothers Brothers, Oct. 21-23. Air Supply, Oct. 28-30. Vicki Lawrence and Mama, Nov. 4-6. Roy Clark, Nov. 18-20. Bill Acosta, Nov. 25-27. Suncoast Lounge: Bands like Conte and Front Page play nightly except Mon.

Terrible's • 702-733-7000: Stage Bar Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.

Treasure Island (TI) • 702-894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère," dark Mon.-Tues. Entertainment in the Mist and Breeze lounges. Tangerine Nightclub opens at 4pm Wed.-Sun. and features burlesque performances in the speakeasy style. The venue has a deck overlooking "The Sirens of TI," the hotel's pirate-battle attraction, which plays outside at 5:30, 7, 8:30, and 10pm.

Tropicana • 702-739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Les Folies Bergere," dark Sun. Dirk Arthur: Xtreme Magic, 2 and 4pm, Sat.-Thurs. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly. Celebration Lounge: Entertainment 8pm-1am Tues.-Sat. "Air Play," aerialists perform above the casino at 11am, 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9pm. Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition, ship's memorabilia.



"Les Folies Bergere" has appeared for 46 years at the Tropicana Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip. "Folies" presents both topless and covered shows in the Tiffany Theatre.

Tuscany • 866-830-0250: "Tribute to Streisand and Sinatra," 7pm at the Tuscany.

Venetian • 702-733-5000: Entertainment TBA. Gondola rides.

Westward Ho • 702-731-2900: Crown Room: Bands play.

Westin Casuarina • 866-837-4215: Westin Theatre: "Forbidden Vegas," satirical musical revue, dark Wed.

Wynn Las Vegas • 702-770-7000: Entertainment TBA.

LAUGHLIN

Avi Hotel • 702-535-5555: ArrowWeed Lounge: Bands play.

Colorado Belle • 702-298-4000: Entertainment nightly.

Edgewater • 702-298-2453: Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Flamingo Laughlin • 702-298-5111 or 800-435-8469: Flamingo

Amphitheatre: John Kay and Paul Rodriguez, May 4. The

Beach Boys, June 4. Kenny Rogers, Sept. 10-11. Club

Flamingo Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

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Golden Nugget Laughlin • 702-298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Nightclub: Dinner and dancing to the music of the '40s and '50s on Tues. Bands play nightly.

Harrah's Laughlin • 702-298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: "Rhinstone Cowgirls," musical revue, 8pm, thru Dec. 31, dark Sun. and Wed. "Showgirls," adult topless revue, 10pm, thru Dec. 31, dark Sun.-Wed.

Ramada Express • 702-298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theatre: Entertainment TBA. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness on Mon. American Heroes Museum of Memories: Memorabilia and speakers.

River Palms • 702-298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Bermuda Club: The Magic and Comedy of Berri Lee, 6pm Sat. Berri's Comedy Club, 9pm Tues.-Sat.

Riverside Resort • 702-298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Freddy Fender, May 3-8. Etta May and the Southern Fried Chicks, May 10-15. Franz Harary, illusionist, May 18-22. Gallagher, May 25-29. Superstars Live in Concert, July 5-Aug. 31. Gallagher, Sept. 2-4. Adventures in Parrot dice: Jimmy Buffet Tribute, Sept. 6-11. Bellamy Brothers, Sept. 28-Oct. 2. Freddy Fender, Oct. 4-9. Ricky Van Shelton, Oct. 18-23. Smothers Brothers, Oct. 25-30. Mel Tillis, Nov. 1-6. Entertainment in the Lightning Strikes Nightclub.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 702-346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Showroom: Entertainment TBA. Comedy Club: Weekends when no performers are scheduled. Entertainers appear in the Skydome Lounge nightly except Mon.

Eureka Casino Hotel • 702-346-4646: Wild Cactus Lounge: Fun Fool's Karaoke, Tues. Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Oasis • 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Club Xtreme: Karaoke, Tues. Dance music Wed., Fri.-Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Virgin River • 702-346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainers play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Cannery • 702-507-5700: The Club: Peace Frog: Tribute to the Doors, May 6-7. Black Diamond Tribute to KISS, May 13. Felix Cavaliere's Rascals and Chuck Negron of Three Dog Night, May 14. Peabo Bryson and Jeffrey Osborne, May 21. Summer Kick-Off Concert: Turtles, Vogues, Archies, Andy Kim, and Bo Donaldson and the Heywoods, May 28. Blues, Brews, and BBQ Festival with John Lee Hooker Jr., Blowin' Smoke, Blues Storm, and Section 8, June 17-18. War, June 25. Pin-Ups Bar: Bands play nightly except Mon. **Fiesta Rancho** • 702-631-7000: Club Tequila: Firefall, May 27. Nazareth, Oct. 21. David Allan Coe, Nov. 11. Superstar Tributes, Fri. Comedy Live, Sat. Music in the Cabo Lounge. Skating in the Fiesta Ice Arena.

Jerry's Nugget • 702-399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Motown Fridays, Latin Explosion on Sat., dance music.

Texas Station • 702-631-1001: Dallas Events Center: '70s Soul Jam featuring the Stylistics, the Chi-Lites, Delfonics, and Persuaders, hosted by Jimmie Walker, June 18. Merle Haggard, July 1. Norman Brown's Summer Storm, Sept. 23. The Armadillo: Kroakies Karaoke, Wed. Loveshack plays '80s music on Fri.-Sat. Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA. Bands play weekends in the lounge. Funnies Comedy Club: Comedians Fri.-Sat.

Primm Valley • 800-FUN-STOP: Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment Fri.-Sun.

Whiskey Pete's • 800-FUN-STOP: Whiskey Pete's Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment Fri.-Sun.

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Spectators will see wakeboarders perform stunts at the Sparks Marina June 3-5.

By Patrick Wampler

When Phillip Soven turns 16 on June 4, he'll have more on his mind than getting his driver's license. Soven is a professional wakeboarder, and on his birthday he'll be trying to repeat his winning 2004 performance during the **MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour** on June 3-5 at the Sparks Marina.

Last year's Nevada title was Soven's first professional victory. Later in 2004 Soven brought home the biggest title in wakeboarding, the X Games gold medal. Now Soven and the rest of the world's top wakeboarders will return to the Sparks Marina to compete for a second year.

"Winning my first event totally changed my view on competing. It gave me a lot more confidence," says Soven. "If I didn't get that first win out of the way, I probably wouldn't go on to win X Games."

Despite his young age, Soven is actually a veteran. Having grown up in Longwood, Florida, a suburb of Orlando, Soven has been water-skiing and wakeboarding since the age of two.

His parents, Dr. Wayne and Michelle Soven, are active water-skiers who taught Phillip to ski before he could walk. He became one of the youngest professionals in any sport when he competed in his first MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour events



Teenager Phillip Soven, a pro athlete since age 11, will compete in Sparks during the MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour.

Orlando native Dallas Friday, 18, has dominated the women's competitions over the past few years, winning almost every event, including the X Games.

in Orlando in 2001 at the age of 11. Competing against wakeboarders twice his age, Soven finished in fifth place.

"I watched guys like Parks Bonifay and Darin Shapiro winning events and dreamed that I could do the same thing," Soven recalls. "Now I'm doing it. I'm traveling the world and winning events. The money is nice, too."

Soven's youth and abilities have afforded him a lifestyle only imagined by most teenagers. He has appeared on TV many times and has been featured in *People* magazine and *Sports Illustrated for Kids*.

The MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour is

a weekend-long carnival of water-sports action, drawing nearly 10,000 spectators. At the Sparks Marina, the world's best wakeboarders will be competing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Wakeboarding is the fastest-growing water sport in world. It is a combination of surfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, and water-skiing. A wakeboard looks like a fat snowboard with a pair of bindings attached to it.

As the tour competitors ride behind a MasterCraft X Star wakeboard boat, they perform flips and spins and other acrobatic stunts in the air and on the water. Some athletes soar as high as 25 feet while doing maneuvers.

Twenty-three-year-old Parks Bonifay of Orlando, the present king of wakeboarding, will seek his third consecutive Pro Wakeboard Tour season championship in 2005. Bonifay and three-time X Games gold medalist Danny Harf, 20, also from Orlando, are the riders to beat. The duo finished first and second in the final 2004 Pro Wakeboard Tour season standings.

The Sparks meet is one of the few events to feature the Pro Wakeboard Tour's pro women's division, highlighted by 2004 ESPY Award-winner and Orlando native Dallas Friday, 18, who was voted by millions of fans as the top female action sports athlete in 2004. Friday has dominated the

women's competitions over the past few years, winning almost every event, including the X Games and the national and world championships in 2004.

Not all the action in Sparks will take place on the water. On land fans will find virtual reality rides, video games, music, food, and chances to win all sorts of free stuff. They also can shop at cutting-edge stores offering water-sports accessories including boats, wakeboards, wakeskates, sunglasses, and the latest in wakeboarding and surfing fashions.

Event Notes

The MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour will be held at the Sparks Marina on June 3-5. The host hotel is John Ascuaga's Nugget. For reservations call 800-843-2427 and ask for rate code GMAS-TER. Tickets, which can be purchased at the gate on the day of the event, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. Visit www.prowakeboardtour.com for information and to purchase advance tickets at a discount of two for \$10. ♡

Patrick Wampler, communications manager for World Publications, has covered the MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour since 1997. He has written for Wake Boarding, WaterSki, and the Orlando Sentinel.



Between watching flips and spins on the water, spectators can browse the wakeboard village with its video games, music, and food.

Reno-Tahoe

AREA EVENTS AND SHOWS

Hard-riding cowboys compete in the **Reno Rodeo** and wakeboarders catch air during the **MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour** in Sparks. **Sammy Hagar** headlines at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, and "**Smokey Joe's Café**" opens at the Eldorado in Reno. It's recommended to call ahead to confirm dates and times.

Events

Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous • April 29-May 1 • Trappers, traders, black-powder shoots, and living-history demonstrations. Greenhouse Garden Center Canyon, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Become a Motorman • April 29-May 1 • Class learns to operate the Nevada State Railroad Museum's 1926 Edwards diesel-powered motorcar. The \$120 fee includes a rail-roader's cap, barbecue, qualification certificate, and hands-on experience as a motorman and conductor. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Carson Valley Inn Spring Stag Golf Tournament • April 29-May 1 • Play at Genoa Lakes and Sierra Nevada golf courses. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6625.

United States Fakes and Forgeries • April 30-May 1 • Stamp show and sale. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 775-246-4769.

"A Painter's Love Story" • April 30-May 1 • Sierra Nevada Ballet production. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-783-3223.

Virginia City Grand Prix • April 30-May 1 • Motorcycle race over a 25-mile desert and mountain course. Virginia City, 775-530-6738.

Communist Martyrs Pie Bake-Off and Art Exhibition • May 1 • Share pie and Socialist Realism artwork. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

Favorite Scenes from Opera and Musical Theatre • May 1 • Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 800-225-2277.

Martha Graham Dance Ensemble • May 5-7 • Modern dance performance. Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 800-225-2277.

"Shirley Valentine" • May 5-7, 12-14 • Play about rediscovering zest for life and love. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

RSVP Spring Fun Fair • May 5-8 • Carnival, rides, and midway. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

Comstock Theater Variety Show • May 6-7 • Gold Hill Players and Virginia City Theater Muckers. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

"Bleacher Bums" • May 6-7 • Baseball comedy. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

"The Mouse That Roared" • May 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 • Reno Little Theater production about a tiny country that declares war on the U.S. as a means of escaping bankruptcy. Hug High School, Reno, 775-329-0661.

Big Mama's Show and Shine • May 7 • Food, music, and clas-



Kayakers ride the rapids in downtown Reno during the Reno River Festival, May 12-15, at the Truckee River Whitewater Park. The event includes food, music, and entertainment.

sic cars and trucks. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-783-6455.

"Mark Twain Tonight" • May 7 • Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 800-714-5331.

Jackpot of Gems • May 7-8 • Dealers, demonstrations, and exhibits. Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-356-8820.

Topaz Sagehens Rummage Sale • May 7-8 • Topaz Ranch Estates Community Building, 775-266-1076.

Cinco de Mayo • May 7-8 • Ethnic celebration with food, crafts, music, and dance. Reno, call for location, 775-827-1818.

\$25,000 Mother Lodge of Cash Slot Tournament • May 8-9 • \$79 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-5555.

Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Week • May 8-14 • Staff will lead behind-the-scenes tours at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City on May 9-13. Call 775-687-4810 ext. 237 for reservations. The Nevada Rock Art Foundation will offer petroglyph tours to the Court Antiquity site in Reno on May 8, Valley of Fire State Park northeast of Las Vegas on May 14, and to Grimes Point east of Fallon on May 21. Call 775-315-5497 for reservations.

Arts in Bloom • May 9 • Fine art show and sale. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-7816.

Jazz in the Merry Month of May • May 10 • Mile High Jazz Band. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

National Historical Preservation Month • May 11 • Speaker Ron James. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Reno River Festival • May 12-15 • Kayak competition, food, music, and entertainment. Truckee River Whitewater Park, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.

Pot of Gold Poker Tournament • May 12-22 • Buy-ins from \$200. Reno Hilton, Reno, 888-547-2081.

Reno-Tahoe Wine and Food Festival • May 13-14 • Wine and food tasting, marketplace, and seminars. Reno Hilton, Reno, 800-648-5080.

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend • May 13-15 • Events include the exhibition "On Silver Mountain: Expectations and Realities of Chinese Americans in Virginia City," dinners, access to 1867 Silver City Schoolhouse archaeological excavation, workshops, Civil War living-history demonstrations, music and picnic, Victorian dress ball, tours, children's

chorus, and the annual silver tea. Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, 775-847-0975.

"We the People" • May 13-22 • Patriotic play. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Spring Farmer's Market • May 14 • Telegraph Square, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Sharkey Begovich "Swing for the Cure" Golf Tournament • May 14 • Carson-Tahoe Cancer Center benefit. Carson Valley Golf Course, Gardnerville, 775-782-6715.

Tour the Lear • May 14 • Tour of the historic building designed in 1939 by architect Paul R. Williams. Lear Theater, Reno, 775-786-2278.

Symphony Showcase • May 14 • Soloists from the Carson City Symphony. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

\$25,000 Winner Take All Blackjack Tournament • May 14-15 • \$500 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-5555.

Multi Cultural Festival • May 15 • Ethnic foods, traditions, dancing, music, and artwork. Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-445-4453.

Lake Tahoe Wedding Faire • May 15 • Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

International Museums Day • May 18 • Free admission to the Nevada State Museum. Native American craft demonstrations and Hispanic dance presentations. Carson City, 775-687-4810 ext. 237.

Wine Tasting • May 19 • Barton Memorial Hospital benefit. Edgewood Club House, Stateline, 530-543-5614.

Celtic Faire • May 20-22 • Music and performances. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Lake Tahoe Jazz Festival • May 20-25 • Traditional and contemporary music performed by such groups such as Cornet Chop Suey, Jazz Incredibles, Aaron King and the Imperials, and the Blues Rockers. Incline Village and Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe, 800-468-2463.

Spring Rock Dance Party • May 21 • Youth battle of the bands. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0433.

Rhythm and Rawhide: The Reno Philharmonic Orchestra with Ian Tyson • May 21 • Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-323-2810.

Carousel of Cards Blackjack Tournament • May 21-22 • Circus Circus, Reno, 775-329-0711.

Windows on History • May 21-22 • Guided tours of historic sites



This summer the Sparks Hometown Farmer's Market brings produce, crafts, and music to Victorian Square on Thursday evenings starting June 9.



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Contestants bolt out of the chute June 16-25 during the Reno Rodeo. The rodeo begins with a cattle drive from California that goes through downtown Reno. Events include saddle-bronc and bareback riding, bull riding, steer wrestling, calf roping, and barrel racing.

and cemeteries. Wild West performances, music, and entertainment. Downtown, Truckee, 530-587-2757.

Ellie Wild West Show • May 22 • Comstock Cowboys perform. Corley Ranch, Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

The Nevada Passage/Whitewater Kayaking • May 24 • Last event of the Nevada Passage, a made-for-television adventure (May 19-24). Truckee River from Verdi to the Whitewater Park, Reno, www.nevadapassage.com.

"The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" • May 27-28, June 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25 • Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

Summer Family Concert Series • May 28 • John Jorgenson Quintet. Minden Park Gazebo, Minden, 775-782-9828.

Silver Sage Race • May 28 • Adventure racing, which can include kayaking, mountain biking, trail running, and orienteering. Finish times range from two to 12 hours. Staging area at Wingfield Park, Reno, www.bigblueadventure.com.

Kit Carson Trail: Wild West Tour • May 28 • Guided walking tour of historic Carson City, hosted by character actors. Tours depart every 30 minutes. Nevada State Museum Courtyard, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Memorial Weekend Motorcycle Jamboree • May 28-29 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-265-9483.

Royal Deal Video Poker Tournament • May 30 • Circus Circus, Reno, 775-329-0711.

\$46,000 Double Diamond Slot Tournament • May 30-31 • \$299 entry fee. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-5555.

Thunder 'n Sparks • June 2-5 • Motorcycle rally has entertainment, custom bikes, trade show, demo rides, bike show, poker runs, and a bikini contest. John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-9460, ext. 215.

Vaudeville: Senior Style • June 3-5 • Talent show. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-0703.

MasterCraft Pro Wakeboard Tour • June 3-5 • Pro wakeboarders competition involves acrobatic stunts. Sparks Marina, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Carson Valley Inn Fishing Derby • June 4 • Fishing from private charter boats on Lake Tahoe for more than \$1,000 in prizes. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Kid's Fishing Derby • June 4-5 • For children three-12. Pre-registration. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-265-2825.

Minden Arts and Crafts Fair • June 4-5 • Crafts and entertainment sponsored by local businesses. Minden, 775-782-2444.

Genoa Home and Garden Tour • June 5 • Self-guided tour of

Genoa-area gardens and homes. Genoa, 775-782-4951.

America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride • June 5 • Options include a boat cruise and 35-mile fun ride, a 72-mile ride around the lake, and a 100-mile ride. Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 775-588-9658.

Restoration Shop Progress • June 8 • Illustrated talk by train restorer Chris deWitt. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

KOLO Golf Classic • June 10 • Fundraiser for CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada. LakeRidge Golf Course, Reno, 775-829-2273.

Carson Valley Inn Rafting Outing • June 10 • Guided 20-mile trip on the Carson River. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Tahoe Truckin' Fun Run Truck Show • June 10-12 • Horizon, Stateline, 775-588-6211.

\$15,000 Blackjack Tournament • June 10-12 • \$100 entry fee. Reno Hilton, Reno, 888-547-2081.

Carson City Rendezvous • June 10-12 • Living-history event features mountain men, Civil War volunteers, gunfighters, Native American dancers, Scottish clans, old-time fiddle contest, and music by the Comstock Cowboys. Mills Park, Carson City, 800-NEVADA-1.

Golf Tournament • June 11 • Shotgun start. Sierra Nevada Golf Resort, Genoa, 530-543-5614.

Richard Elloyan and Dave Stamey • June 11 • Cowboy poetry and music. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

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Stampede Car Show • June 11 • Judged classes and trophies. Diamonds Casino, Reno, 775-324-3445.

Carson Valley Days • June 11-12 • Food, music, parade, rodeo, games, and arts and crafts. Minden and Gardnerville, 775-782-8886.

Carson Valley Days Buckaroo Fest Ranch Rodeo • June 11-12 • Douglas County Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

Carson City Garden Tour • June 12 • Walking tour. Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

Christmas in June • June 12 • Cavalry Motorcycle Club gathers toys and food. Event includes lunch. Virginia City, 775-772-3223.

\$40,000 Big Moolah Slot Tournament • June 12-13 • Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-5555.

Jazz in June • June 14 • Mile High Jazz Band. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Tour de Nez • June 16-18 • Three-day celebration of cycling includes the Mighty Tour de Nez Criterium, new road race and time trial, clinics, bike swap, art exhibits, food, pro racing, dancing, and entertainment. Deux Gros Nez, Reno, 775-348-6673.

Reno Rodeo • June 16-25 • 86th annual "Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West" features a cattle drive from California that goes through downtown Reno. Activities include a parade, mounted drill team competition, women's barrel racing, team roping, horse sale, cutting competition, and team penning. Livestock Events Center and downtown casinos, Reno, 800-225-2277.

Stewart Father's Day Powwow and Reunion • June 17-19 • Event benefits a museum and cultural center at the former boarding school. Former Stewart Indian School, Carson City, 775-687-8333.

\$20,000 Slot Tournament • June 17-19 • \$100 entry fee. Reno Hilton, Reno, 888-547-2081.

Far West Regional Wheelchair Tennis Championship • June 17-20 • More than 110 tennis players compete in 14 divisions. Plumas Tennis Center and Washoe County courts, Reno, 775-852-7077.

Reno Rodeo Parade and Sparks Centennial History Fair • June 18 • Event is part of Sparks centennial celebration. Victorian Square, Sparks, www.sparks100.org.

Taste of Downtown • June 18 • Walking tour to sample fare from Carson City restaurants. Downtown Carson City, 775-883-7654.

Carousel of Cash Slot Tournament • June 18-19 • Circus Circus, Reno, 775-329-0711.

Mining and Geology Walking Tour • June 19 • Explore the Bonanza Kings' mining ventures. Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

Pops Party Concert • June 19 • Carson City Symphony and Carson Chamber Singers. Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Concert on the Green • June 19 • Genoa Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.

Pony Express Re-Ride • June 21 • Program about Snowshoe Thompson and his 19th-century mail routes. Genoa Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 775-782-4325.

Chautauqua in the Park • June 22-23 • Historic character enactments. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-6725.

Playa Papaya • June 24 • Outdoor concert. Bring a blanket, folding chair, and picnic basket. Minden Park Gazebo, Minden, 775-782-9828.

Harley's at the Horizon • June 24-26 • Motorcycle show, Horizon, Stateline, 775-588-6211.

Run What Cha Brung • June 24-26 • Car show has classes for

all makes and years. Event includes food, dance, show and shine, and car parade. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

Summer Solstice Dance • June 25 tentative • Call for location, Carson City, 775-883-9351.

Chris Proctor • June 25 • Acoustic guitar concert. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

Dinner Dance • June 25 • Mile High Jazz Band plays for Douglas County Library fundraiser. St. Gall's Community Center, Gardnerville, 775-883-4154.

Wings of Change • June 25 • Aviation open house. Minden-Tahoe Airport, Minden, 775-782-9871.

Lake Tahoe Chautauqua • June 25-26 • Portrayals of historical figures including Jefferson, Hamilton, Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. Shakespeare Stage, Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 775-784-6587.

Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews, and Blues Festival • June 25-26 •

Free outdoor party has music. Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 775-786-5700.

Tallac Site Celebration • June 26 • Arts, crafts, music, food, and tours. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

Comstock Silver Century: Nevada's Historical Bicycle Tour • June 26 • Moderate to challenging fully supported ride. Options include 60, 85, and 100 miles. Genoa, Virginia City, and Lake Tahoe, 775-588-9658.

Ongoing Events

Blackjack and Slot Tournaments • Daily. \$5 entry fee. Circus Circus, Reno, 888-682-0147.

Gaming Tournaments • Blackjack on Tues. and Sun., pai gow

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Memorial Day Weekend
May 28, 2005

This year's theme: "Wild West Carnival"

Always a popular event, this year's **Wild West Tour** will be even more fun as you stroll the tree-lined streets of Carson City's historic district and meet strongmen, snake oil vendors, and historic characters from our past. Watch out for the Nevada Gunfighters! You never know where they will turn up. The guided walking tours include visits to some of our historic homes including the home of the inventor of the Ferris Wheel. It's all right here in Carson City waiting for you to enjoy!

Guided walking tours depart from the Nevada State Museum every 30 minutes beginning at 9:30 am. Last tour departs at 2:30 pm.
\$15 adults; \$10 ages 6-12; under 6 free
Advanced ticket purchase suggested

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Riders rev their bikes during a noisy and colorful parade on C Street following a dusty day of off-road racing in the Virginia City Grand Prix. This year's event is April 30-May 1.

poker on Wed., limit Texas hold 'em on Wed., no-limit Texas hold 'em on Sun.-Thurs., slots on Thurs., keno on Sun. Peppermill, Reno, 775-689-7114.

Siena Gaming Tournaments • Blackjack on Mon., video poker on Tues. and Fri. Siena Hotel, Reno, 775-337-6260.

Blackjack Tournaments • Tues. \$20 buy-in and Fri. \$10 buy-in. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 800-426-5239.

Gaming Tournaments • Video poker on Thurs. \$10 buy-in, limit Texas hold 'em on Tues., no-limit Texas hold 'em on Thurs. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 877-783-7711.

Horizon Tournaments • Video poker Mon., slots Wed., blackjack Tues. and Thurs. Horizon, Stateline, 775-588-6211.

Weekend Craft Fairs • Horizon, Stateline, 775-588-6211.

Nevada State Museum • Visitors can take a behind-the-scenes tour on the last Friday of each month. Tour covers the anthropology, plant, and animal collections. Advance registration is required. Carson City, 775-687-4810 for additional museum and tour information.

Wine Walk on the River Walk • Third Saturday at 2pm. Free wine tasting at participating merchants with the purchase of a map and glass for \$10. River Walk Arts District, Downtown, Reno, 775-337-1717.

"Silver Key" Pittman: Nevada's Frontier Statesman • Thru May 23 • Exhibition on the life and career of Nevada's longtime U.S. senator, known as the "Voice of Silver" because of his focus on the price of silver. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Maxfield Parrish: Master of Make-Believe • Thru June 26 • Show of Parrish paintings and illustrations. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

The Sagebrush Ocean: A Naturalist's Vision of the Great Basin • Thru Aug. 21 • Photographs by Stephen Trimble. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

DeSotos, Dames, and Dudes: Divorce Reno Style • Thru Oct. 3 • Exhibit traces the period when divorcees arrived en masse to take the cure. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Back to the '80s • Thru Oct. 31 • Exhibit marks the museum's 20th anniversary with memorabilia from the era that

brought Cabbage Patch Dolls and Post-it Notes, and local artifacts such as Greg LeMond's Tour de France jersey. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144 for more museum and exhibit information.

Shadows of the V&T: The Art of Loren Jahn • Thru Oct. • Pen-and-ink drawings of the daily railroad operations. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Locomotive Stories of the V&T • Thru Dec. • Exhibition of 16 models, photographs, and artifacts. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Tireless and Unremitting: The Chinese and Nevada's Railroads • Thru Jan. 2006 • Explores the relationship of Chinese



Charo performs on June 10-11 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks.

immigrants with the railroad and other aspects of their culture and daily life in Nevada. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

The Altered Doll • May 1-30 • Quirky and oddball dolls. La Bussola Center Gallery, Reno, 775-348-8858.

The History of the Sparks Marina Park • May 2-June 19 • Photos depict the development of the park from a rock quarry. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.

Motor Car Rides • May 7-8, 21-22, June 4-5, 25-26 • Fifteen-minute excursions aboard a 1926 diesel-powered rail car depart every half-hour. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Railroad Steam-Up • May 14-15, 28-30, June 11-12, 18-19 • Rides on a train pulled by an 1881 steam locomotive. The train runs every 40 minutes. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Wally's World: The Loneliest Art Collection in Nevada • May 20-Sept. 24 • Eureka Opera House Director Wally Cuchine's collection features works by Craig Sheppard, Mary Lee Fulkerson, Jack Malotte, James Lawrence, Mary Chadwell, Jeff Nicholson, Jean LeGassic, Jim McCormick, Roy Powers, and Sidne Teske. A companion show will feature a photo exhibit by Steve Davis. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

King of the Cowboys: A Salute to Roy Rogers • June 1-July 17 • Memorabilia from the celluloid buckaroo. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.

Sparks Hometowne Farmer's Market • Thurs., June 9-Aug. 25 (except Aug. 4) • Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291.

Coming Events

Artown Festival • July 1-31 • Reno, 775-337-1717.

Star Spangled Sparks Fireworks • July 4 • Sparks, 775-358-1976.

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival • July 14-Aug. 21 • Sand Harbor State Park, Lake Tahoe, 800-74-SHOWS.

Big Easy Cajun Festival • July 16-18 • Sparks, 775-358-4771.

Hot August Nights Cars and Music Festival • Aug. 3-7 • Reno and Sparks, 775-353-2291.

Reno-Tahoe Open Golf Tournament • Aug. 15-21 • Reno, 775-322-3900.

Nevada State Fair • Aug. 24-28 • Reno, 775-688-5767.

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off • Sept. 2-6 • Sparks, 800-648-1177.

Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 9-11 • 775-826-1181.

Virginia City Camel Races • Sept. 9-11 • 775-847-7500.

National Championship Air Races • Sept. 15-18 • Reno, 775-972-6663.

Sample the Arts at Victorian Amphitheater • Oct. 2 • Sparks, 775-353-7816.

Sparks Annual Turkey Trot • Nov. 25 • 775-353-7815.

Sparks Annual Hometowne Christmas Parade and Festival • Dec. 4 • 775-353-2291.

Shows

CARSON CITY

Carson Nugget • 775-882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Lounge: Entertainers like Michael Mandella, the Motifs, Melissa Dru, Tommy Bell, Madison Avenue, and Louie Fontaine appear Tues.-Sun. in the Nugget's lounge.

Carson Station • 775-883-0900: Bands play at the Carson City hotel-casino nightly except Mon.

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Dutch Oven Demonstrations & Cook-off
Scottish Clans & Bagpipers
Camel Rides & Children's Activities
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Casino Fandango • 775-885-7000: Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge.

Piñon Plaza • 775-885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands like Midnight Riders play Wed.-Sun.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Entertainment in the Shannon Ballroom. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play for dancing, dark Mon.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 775-266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 775-825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in the Center Stage Cabaret.

Boomtown • 775-345-6000: Can-Can Theater and Dancehall: Bands like Laurie Thomas, American Made, Madison Avenue, RetroActive, and John Dawson appear Tues.-Sun.

Club Cal Neva • 775-323-1046 or 877-777-7303: Entertainment on Fri. and Sat.

Circus Circus • 775-329-0711: Circus Cabaret: Entertainment daily except Tues.-Wed. Free daily circus acts, 11am-10:30pm.

City Center Pavilion • 888-288-1833: Entertainment TBA.

Eldorado • 775-786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Eldorado Showroom: "Can't Stop Loving You: The Music of Ray Charles," April 27-June 5, dark Mon. "Smokey Joe's Café," Broadway musical, June 9-Sept. 4. Bands play nightly at the Brew Brothers microbrewery. Piano music in the Roxy Lounge. BuBing Lounge: Dance to DJs and bands Tues.-Sat. Bands play in the Casino Cabaret Thurs.-Sat.

Fitzgeralds • 775-785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands perform nightly in the Fitz Showbar.
Golden Phoenix • 775-785-7100: Showroom: "Perfect 10," musical adult cabaret, Fri.-Mon.
Harrah's Reno • 775-788-2900 or 800-HARRAHS: "Bareback," musical revue opens May 4, dark Tues. "Broadway Showstoppers," musical revue opens May 25, dark Tues. Improve Comedy Club, dark Mon.-Tues. Bands play Fri.-Sat. in the Sapphire Lounge and Virg Nightclub.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 775-356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Celebrity Showroom: Keb' Mo' May 6-7, Oak Ridge Boys, May 13-14, Three Dog Night, June 3-4. Charo, June 10-11, Merle Haggard, June 24-25. Bands play in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's. Flamenco guitarist Thurs. and jazz Fri.-Sat. in Restaurante Orozko.

Peppermill • 775-826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Entertainment TBA. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly. Piano music featuring Ron Perry or Dale Vernon nightly in the Steakhouse.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 775-359-9440: Side Track Lounge: Bands play on weekends.
Reno Events Center • 800-687-8733: Entertainment TBA.
Reno Hilton • 775-789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Outdoor Amphitheater: Charlie Daniels Band,



Sammy Hagar and the Wabos bring a taste of Baja to Harrah's Lake Tahoe April 29-May 1.

June 18. ZZ Top, Sept. 24. Bands play nightly in The Garage.

Sands Regency • 775-348-2200: Tequila Bar: Bands play Wed.-Sun. Comedians perform in the Just For Laughs Comedy Club, dark Mon.-Tues.

Siena • 775-337-6260: Lexie's Lounge: Jammin' With the Siena Jazz Ensemble Tues.-Sat. Corky Bennett performs Tues.-Sun.

Silver Club • Sparks, 775-358-4771 or 800-905-7774: Entertainment in the Casino Lounge.

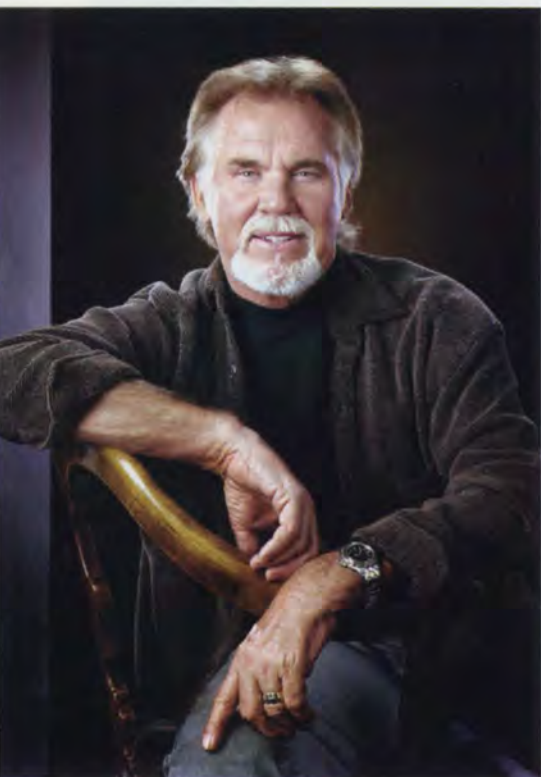
Silver Legacy • 775-329-4777 or 800-687-8733 (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Kevin James, May 6-7. Kenny Rogers, May 13-14. Thunder From Down Under, May 27-28. Music in the Rumm Bullions Island Bar. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club, dark Mon. Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

Tamarack Junction • 775-852-3600.

Western Village • Sparks, 775-331-1069, 800-648-1170.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 775-588-2455: William's Back Door Blues Club: Bands play from 9:30pm-12:30am Thurs.-Sat.
Caesars Tahoe • 775-588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Entertainment TBA. The Club Nero has dancing. Stone St. Bar and Grill: Monthly Girl Powder Concert Series, artist TBA.



Kenny Rogers sings hits like "Lucille" on May 13-14 at the Silver Legacy in Reno.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: Sammy Hagar and the Wabos, April 29-May 1. Steve Winwood, May 27-28. Rick Springfield, June 25. California Bar: Arthur Herve, Wed.-Sat. Jesse Kalin and Cool Black Kettle, Wed. Bands play in the Casino Center Stage.

Harveys • 775-588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: The Improv, comedians perform nightly except Mon. "X: An Erotic Adventure," adult musical revue, dark Mon. Outdoor Arena: Sammy Hagar and the Wabos, Aug. 13. Cabo Wabo Cantina Lounge: Bands play in after-hours nightclub setting.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 775-588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Fusion," comedy-magic revue. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge Thurs.-Sun.

Lakeside Inn • 775-588-7777: In the Tavern: Karaoke with Psycho Attitude, 11pm-3am Fri.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 775-832-4000 or 800-225-6382. Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 775-832-1234: Bands play in the Regency Grand Ballroom. Lone Eagle Restaurant: Music, Wed.-Sat. Casino Stage Bar: Pianist, Wed.-Sun.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0455.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660: Breeze Nightclub: Music nightly except Mon.

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The Nevada Passage

The tough get going during the Silver State's **made-for-television** reality competition. **By Mary Johnson**

Bikers will find rugged terrain as they cycle Day Four's 12-mile route in Lamoille Canyon.

Television cameras will capture the adventures of 20 hard-charging athletes during **The Nevada Passage**, a multi-sport competition that will visit six Silver State locations on May 19-24. The event will be made into a one-hour reality-TV show that will appear in August.

During this reality show no one will be forced to choke down a bug, match wits with Donald Trump, or undergo an extreme makeover. Instead, Nevada Passage athletes will dash from Las Vegas to Ely, Elko, Fallon, and finally Reno in a series of one-day contests. The action ranges from rock climbing to kayaking. Participants may be skilled in one or several of the challenges, but not all, which adds to the tension.

The contestants were invited by the event's organizer, TEAM Unlimited, and paired in teams—one man, one woman—by profession, such as doctor, lawyer, bartender, or teacher. They range in age from Megan Melgaard, 25, a swimwear-business owner from Atlanta, to Kent Robison, 57, a Reno attorney. Robison, who has competed in triathlons for 25 years, is one of three Nevada entrants. The others are Susan Hughes, 39, a commercial pilot from Incline Village, and Tom Lyons, 43, a Reno real-estate investor. The other Nevada Passage competitors hail from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Robison says he is anxious to show off Nevada to the out-of-staters. He compares Lamoille Canyon, the Day Four location, to the Alps, where he competed last year. "They will be blown away by untouched places of natural beauty where there are no signs of overcrowded conditions," Robison says.

One non-Nevada athlete is Brian Rothell, 41, a firefighter in Chesterfield County, Virginia.

"I'm really honored to be chosen," says Rothell, who has visited Las Vegas but not the wild rurals. Rothell has competed for six years in the Richmond XTERRA Games. "The thin air in Nevada is going to murder me," Rothell says of the biking and hiking event in Elko. He looks forward to rock climbing near Las Vegas, but kayaking in Reno has him wondering.

"I've had experience with a single-person kayak, but flipping over with two people is going to take some coordination," Rothell says. "I just might need a snorkle."

Rothell speaks highly of his teammate, Sheri Jackson, 34, a firefighter from Greensboro, North Carolina. "I met her once during a firefighter challenge competition. She's quite an athlete."

The event's sponsors, which include the Nevada Commission on Tourism, see the made-for-television Nevada Passage as a way to introduce viewers to Nevada's adventure possibilities, particularly in the rural areas. The showcase will take place in six stages.

On the Rocks: The Nevada Passage begins May 19 with a rock climb and scramble at Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 13 miles west of Las Vegas. The canyon's sandstone cliffs are popular with climbers from around the world. The teams must climb a vertical face and race back to the starting line in the fastest possible time.

Getting Wet: During the personal-watercraft time trials on May 20 at Lake Mead, both team members will climb on one craft for a race that includes stopping to complete specific tasks. The route covers approximately 60 water miles from Lake Mead Marina to Echo Bay Marina.

On to Ely: May 21 will find competitors in Ely for a four-wheel-drive rally and treasure hunt, traveling to historic areas and ghost

**"Flipping
a kayak over
with two people
is going to
take some
coordination.
I just might
need a snorkle."**

towns to collect information. Winning the off-road event is based on completing tasks, not speed.

Hike and Bike: On May 22, the action moves to Lamoille Canyon, 35 miles south-east of Elko, for a 12-mile bicycle ride and a 10-mile hike. The canyon is part of the Ruby Mountains, and competitors are likely to encounter snow and rugged terrain.

Time to Dry Out: The athletes wake up May 23 facing the prospect of sandboarding down the grainy slopes of Sand Mountain, 30 miles east of Fallon. The



Virginia firefighter Brian Rothell is a six-year veteran of the XTERRA Games.

boarders will compete on a giant slalom-freestyle course with obstacles and jumps.

The Final Day: The Nevada Passage moves to the Reno area on May 24 for kayaking from Verdi to downtown's Truckee River Whitewater Park. Paddling in two-person kayaks, participants must negotiate several level-three rapids.

The payoff for the competitors? Nevada Passage athletes have the satisfaction of traveling more than 800 miles, completing an exhausting series of back-to-back trials, and receiving more than their allotted 15 minutes of fame.

Spectators are welcome to view the action at any of the stages. The televised action will air in more than 80 markets. For details on The Nevada Passage, including events, itinerary, and contestants, visit www.nevadapassage.com.

Mary Johnson is a writer who likes to go boat- ing on Lake Mead, but without the TV cameras.

Something for Everyone



Upcoming Events in Elko, Nevada

20th Annual
Elko Mining Expo
June 6th-10th

Elko County Auto Racing
Bud Shoot Out
June 10th-11th

Elko Motorcycle Jamboree
June 17th-19th

30th Annual
Lamoille Country Fair
June 26th

National Basque Festival
July 1st-3rd

9th Annual Lake of Fire &
Elko Fireworks Spectacular
July 4th

Silver State Stampede
July 7th-9th

Elko Senior Olympic Games
August 4th-7th

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Nevada State Parks (775) 728-4460 Bureau of Land Management (775) 726-8100

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Rural Nevada

EVENTS AND SHOWS

This spring, Hawthorne hosts one of the country's largest **Armed Forces Day** celebrations. Dancers and strongmen gather for the **Winnemucca Basque Festival**, and **Bill Engvall** and **Merle Haggard** perform at Cactus Petes in Jackpot. Be sure to call ahead to confirm events' dates and times.

Events

Terrible's Town 250 • April 29-May 1 • Best in the Desert off-road race. Pahrump, 702-457-5775.

X Ride • April 30-May 1 • Bicycle tour includes a 40-mile night ride to the Area 51 mailbox. Rachel, 775-588-9658.

Winnemucca Pro-Am Golf Tourney • April 30-May 1 • More than 100 golfers compete. Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course, Winnemucca, 775-623-6326.

Drag Racing • April 30-May 1 • ET Race. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

Cinco de Mayo • May 1 • United Way fundraiser. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Perpetual Motion Dance Concert • May 5-7 • Student showcase of ballet, jazz, and tap. Great Basin College, Elko, 775-753-LEAP.

Bird Brains • May 7 • Slide program on the Einsteins of the bird world. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Carson River Canoe Trip • May 7, 14, 21 • Ranger-led canoe trip along five miles of the Carson River from Fort Churchill State Historic Park to Lahontan State Recreation Area. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and lunch. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

Pahrump Valley Equestrians • May 8 • Competition. McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Nevada Open Road Challenge • May 12-15 • 90-mile auto rally on S.R. 318 between Lund and Hiko. Staging area in Ely, 702-631-6166.

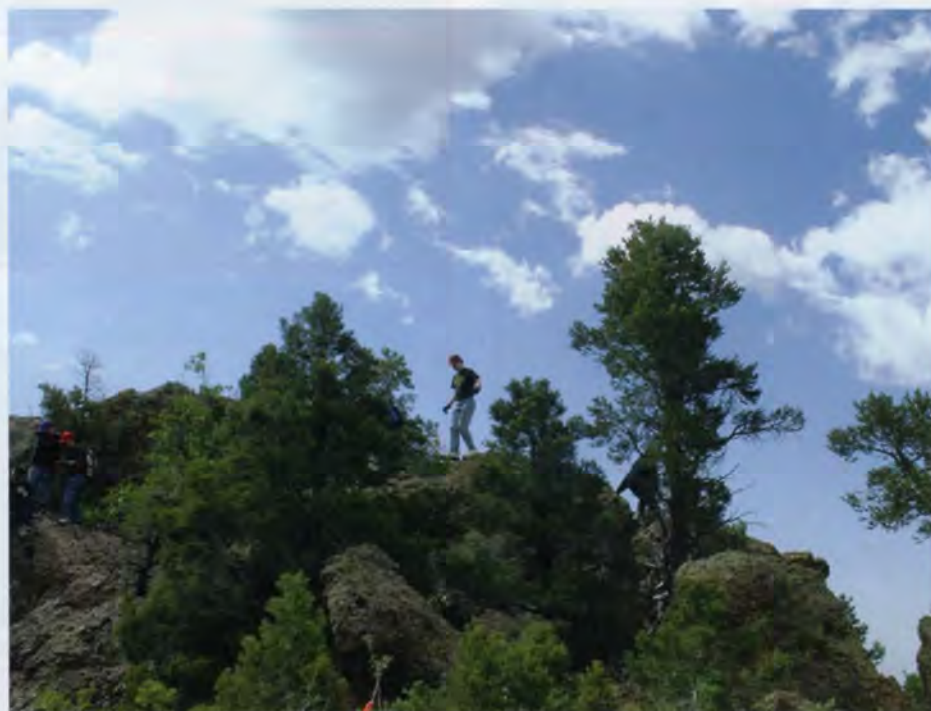
Spring Wings Bird Festival • May 13-15 • Celebration of birding in and around the Lahontan Valley includes tours, special guest John Acorn, the Nature Nut, kids activities, banquet, and nature-oriented trade show. Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Fallon, 775-428-6452.

Armed Forces Day Celebration • May 13-21 • Event includes the Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial Wall (May 18-25), Ordnance Museum, chili cook-off, arm wrestling, stock car races, karaoke, fireworks, flag ceremony, fly-over, parade, water fights, military display, contests, and entertainment. Hawthorne, 775-945-2507.

SSIR Bull Riding Competition • May 14 • Event includes barrel racing. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4674.

A Grave Matter • May 14 • Slide program on old cemeteries. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Silver State Regional ICS Chili Cook-Off • May 14 • Saddle West, Pahrump, 774-727-5800 for chili cook-off information.



Hikers and horseback riders are invited to National Trails Day events in Lincoln County's state parks on the weekend of June 4-5. Above: A hiker explores Beaver Dam State Park.

Faith Fellowship Concert • May 14 • Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Spring Show and Shine • May 14 • Car show. Truck Inn, Fernley, 775-545-4459.

Jazz Fest 2005 • May 18 • Elko Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-7281.

Navigational Geocache Rally • May 20-21 • Teams of beginning and experienced geocachers take part in daytime and night-time off-road rallies in the desert around Fallon. Great Basin and Eastern Sierra Geocachers and KPTL Radio in Carson City are sponsoring the rally, which includes a pancake breakfast and beginners' clinic. Soda Lake and Eagles Club, Fallon, 775-884-8000.

Caliente 250 • May 20-21 • Off-road race. Caliente, 702-452-4522.

Archaeology Week Petroglyph Tour • May 21 • Grimes Point petroglyph site, 10 miles east of Fallon. Call the Nevada Rock Art Foundation, 775-315-5497.

Rough Riders Gymkana • May 21 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Moonlight Walk • May 21 • Ranger-led easy walk. Bring a flashlight and wear closed-toe shoes. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

The Nevada Passage/Four-Wheel Drive Rally and Treasure Hunt • May 21 • Made-for-TV adventure competition (May 19-24). Historic sites near Ely, www.nevadapassage.com.

Lyon County Fly In and Air Fest • May 21-22 • Antique and military planes, fly-bys, ultralights, aviation swap meet, WWII commemoration, ICS chili cook-off, and pancake breakfasts. Silver Springs Airport, Silver Springs, 775-887-1294.

Big 4 and Big 5 Team Roping Classic • May 21-22 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-7093.

The Nevada Passage/Bicycle Climb and Hike • May 22 • Made-for-TV adventure competition (May 19-24). Lamoille Canyon, 20 miles southeast of Elko, www.nevadapassage.com.

The Nevada Passage/Giant Slalom/Freestyle Sand Dune Trials • May 23 • Made-for-TV adventure series (May 19-24). Sand Mountain, 30 miles east of Fallon, www.nevadapassage.com.

Run-A-Mucca Motorcycle Rally • May 27-29 • Concerts, cruises, bike show, vendors, poker run, poker staggers, games. Downtown, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

NQHA Memorial Day Circuit • May 27-30 • Horse riding. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-463-2977.

Lincoln County Homecoming Weekend • May 27-30 • Country fair theme features an art show, entertainment, softball and horseshoe tournaments, Dutch-oven dinner, barbecue, and

demolition derby. Caliente, 775-726-3109 for information.

Wells Senior Pro Rodeo • May 27-30 • Points event for the national finals. Wells Rodeo Grounds, Wells, 775-752-3540.

Jim Butler Days • May 27-30 • Annual party celebrating the town's mining heritage features a parade, dance, games, and entertainment. Tonopah, 775-482-9676.

Picture Perfect • May 28 • Slide program and discussion on improving your photographs. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Saddle West Birthday Celebration • May 28 • Saddle West Hotel-Casino, Pahrump, 775-727-1111.

IDES Portuguese Festa • May 28-29 • Ethnic celebration of Portuguese culture and immigrants. St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and Pershing County Community Center, Lovelock, 775-723-7213.

Memorial Day Weekend Celebration • May 28-29 • Jarbidge Community Hall, Jarbidge, 775-488-2325.

Slot Tournament • May 28-29 • Stockmen's and Commercial, Elko, 775-777-0725.

Bangin' Bones Wild Weekend • May 28-30 • Four-wheel-drive trail ride. Elko area, 775-753-6450.

Make the Drive Show • May 28-30 • Pottery and paintings show and sale. Planet X Pottery, eight miles west of Gerlach, 775-557-2500.

Photo Walk • May 29 • Ranger-led walk to practice photographic techniques. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Memorial Day Golf Tournament • May 29 • Lakeview Executive



Harley riders will cruise into Northeastern Nevada on June 17-19 for the Elko Motorcycle Jamboree.

Golf Course, Pahrump, 775-727-5800 for information.

Pahrump Gunfighters • May 29 • Dusty Flats, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Casino West Yerington 200 • May 29-30 • VORRA off-road race. Yerington, 530-417-5333.

Mule Races, Show, and Draft Horse Challenge • June 3-5 • Event includes a 25-mile endurance race. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.



THE ULTIMATE EXCURSION

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- Senior Pro Rodeos
- Silver State Stampede
- Mule Races, Show & Draft Horse Challenge
- Bowhunters Classic
- Mining Expo
- Basque Festivals
- Motorcycle and Car Shows
- Fifties Fever
- Ranch Hand Rodeos
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Creepy, Crawly Critters • June 4 • Slide program on the world of insects. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Pahrump Chamber Regatta • June 4 • Terrible's Lakeside Casino, Pahrump, 775-751-7770.

National Trails Day • June 4-5 • Event includes four- and eight-mile hikes, ATV rides, and a 14-mile equestrian ride. Condor Canyon and other locations, call Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles north of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Portuguese Celebration • June 4-5 • Heritage celebration features a family dance, games, and food on June 4. On Sunday, a procession of the queens and their courts to the Holy Family Catholic Church. After Mass, a feast of traditional sopas. Holy Family Catholic Church, Yerington, 775-463-2763.

Elko Mining Expo • June 6-10 • Equipment and technology gathering. Convention Center, Elko, 800-248-3556.

Alumni Ball • June 11 • Pershing County High School, Sturgeon's Casino, Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Stargazing Program • June 11 • Bring a lawn chair and flashlight. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Winnemucca Basque Festival • June 11-12 • Parade, games of strength and endurance, dance, Mass, and a Basque picnic. Events Complex and Convention Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Pahrump Valley Equestrians • June 12 • Competition. McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Western Stories in the Park • June 14 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

ICRA Roping • June 15-19 • Events Complex, Winnemucca, 775-934-3139.



Birdwatchers may spot a long-billed dowitcher (above) during the Spring Wings Bird Festival on May 13-15 at the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge and other Fallon-area locations.

Gridley Days • June 17-19 • Family event features street dance, barrel racing, and gymkana. The Austin town party commemorates Reuel Gridley's efforts to raise money for the Sanitary Commission, the forerunner of the American Red Cross, in 1864. Austin, 775-964-2200.

Elko Motorcycle Jamboree • June 17-19 • Downtown, Elko,

775-777-9839 for further jamboree events information.

Long Steel Rails Festival • June 17-19 • Railroading and its history are commemorated in song, speeches, train rides, and a hobo camp. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Wells Fiddling Contest • June 18 • Eighth annual. Youth and

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adult winners represent Nevada at the nationals. Wells High School, Wells, 775-752-2236.

Koyote Cruiser's Car Show • June 18 • City Park, Winnemucca, 775-623-3741.

Bats in Your Belfry • June 18 • Slide program on bats. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Paradise Valley Father's Day Barbecue and Craft Show • June 19 • Paradise Valley, 35 miles northeast of Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Pony Express Re-Ride • June 19 • Nevada stop on the 1,966-mile ride. Nevada-Utah line, Ibapah, 775-629-0087.

Rough Riders Gymkana • June 19 • McCullough Arena, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

USA Regional Wrestling Tournament • June 20-26 • Ages six-15. Event Center, Winnemucca, 775-867-5643.

Nevada State Firefighters Association Training Conference • June 25 • Spectators are welcome to the training fun day. Pershing County Courthouse Park, Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Flint-knapping Demonstration • June 25 • Program on making arrowheads and stone tools. Cathedral Gorge State Park, two miles northwest of Panaca, 775-728-4460.

Lamoille Country Fair • June 26 • Handmade arts and crafts. Lamoille Women's Club, Lamoille, 775-738-2549.

Pahrump Gunfighters • June 26 • Dusty Flats, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Blaze Your Trail Blackjack Tournament • June 26 • Commercial, Elko, 775-777-0725.

Ongoing Events

Goldfield Historical Firehouse and Museum • Antique equipment displayed on weekends. Goldfield, 775-485-6303.

Eye Opener Slot Tournament • 9am-noon Mon.-Thurs. Saddle West, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Sturgeons Inn Tournaments • Bingo Tues. and Thurs., slot tournament Fri. Lovelock, 775-273-2971 or 888-234-6835.

Saturday Night Fever Slot Tournament • 7pm, \$10 buy-in. Saddle West, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Excursion Trains • May 1-15, weekends. May 16-Sept. 30, daily. Oct., weekends. Steam and diesel locomotive train rides. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Art Gallery Show • May 1-31 • Mon.-Fri. Courthouse, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Battle Mountain Stock Car Racing • May 1, 21-22, June 4, 18-19, July 2, 16, 30, Aug. 13-14, 27, Sept. 4, 17-18 • Battle Mountain Raceway, Battle Mountain, 775-635-2784.

Top Gun Drag Racing • May 1, 28-29, June 17-18, July 2, 16, Aug. 13, Sept. 2-4, 8, 11, 24, Oct. 30 • Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

Winnemucca Regional Raceway Clay Track Racing • May 6, 20, June 3, 17, July 1, 15, 29, Aug. 12, 26, Sept. 2, 16, 30 • Winnemucca Raceway, Winnemucca, for racing information visit www.nevadaracing.com/winnemucca.

Lahontan Oval Dirt Track Racing • May 7, 28-29, June 4, 18, July 4, 30, Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 4, 10, 24, Oct. 8-9, Nov. 12 • Lahontan Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-7483.

Two to Paint: Linda Young and Rob Schlef • May 10-June 21 • Exhibition by Hawthorne artists. Hawthorne Community Convention Center, Hawthorne, 775-945-3030.

Stock Car Racing • May 14, 27, June 10-11, 25, July 9, 23, Aug. 6, 20, Sept. 2-3, 23-24 • Summit Raceway, Elko, 775-753-5936.

Hidden Cave Tours • May 14, 28, June 11, 25, July 9, 23 • Guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site includes

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self-guided tour of Grimes Point petroglyph site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon. Confirm tour dates, 775-423-3677.

Spring Show • May 16-June 20 • Elko County Art Club, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Sunset at Steptoe • May 28, June 11, July 3, Aug. 13, Sept. 4 • Train departs on a 7pm excursion with wine service for passengers. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Art Gallery Show • June 1-30 • Mon.-Fri. Courthouse, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Entertainment at the Winery • June 5, 12, 19, 26 • Pahrump Valley Winery, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

Round Nevada Classic Car Tour • June 6-11 • Pre-1972 American cars make stops as they tour the state. Touring vehicles can be seen June 6: National Automobile Museum, Reno, Lovelock, and Winnemucca. June 7: Carlin, Eureka, and Ely. June 8: Pioche and Las Vegas. June 9: Imperial Palace Auto Collection and cruise down the Las Vegas Strip. June 10: Pahrump, Beatty, Rhyolite, Goldfield, and Tonopah. June 11: Hawthorne and Virginia City. For more information visit www.nevada-rides.com.

Fallon Farmer's Market • June 14-Aug. 30 • Vendors, entertainment, food, and kids activities 5-9pm Tuesdays. Maine St., Fallon, 775-423-4556.

Steptoe Valley Flyer Heritage Train Rides • June 18, July 17, Aug. 20, Sept. 17 • Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Hidden Empire Insect Photo Exhibition • June 20-Sept. 12 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Hats Off to Elko Exhibit • June 20-Sept. 12 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Big and Beautiful I • July 15-Aug. 23 • Exhibition by painter

Virginia Dumas. Hawthorne Community Convention Center, Hawthorne, 775-945-3030.

Coming Events

National Basque Festival • July 1-3 • Elko, 775-738-7991.

Midas Independence Day • July 2 • Parade, picnic, horseshoe tournament, and kids' games. Midas, 44 miles northeast of Winnemucca, friendsofmidas@yahoo.com.

Jarbridge Fourth of July • July 2-3 • Jarbridge, 775-488-2325.

Cattlemen's Association Kiddie Parade • July 4 • Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Carlin Independence Day • July 4 • Carlin, 775-754-6354.

Barbecue and Fireworks Train • July 4 • Train ride from Nevada Northern Railway Museum to view fireworks. Ely, 775-289-2085.

Silver State International Rodeo • July 4-9 • Fallon, 775-423-4674.

McMillin Nevada 1,000 • July 6-10 • Beatty, Goldfield, and Tonopah. Las Vegas, 702-457-5775.

Silver State Stampede • July 7-9 • Elko, 800-248-3556.

Nevada All-Indian Days Rodeo and Powwow • July 15-17 • Fallon, 775-423-4556.

Good Times Street Drags and Fifties Fever • July 29-31 • Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Wells Fun Run Car Show and Shine • July 29-31 • Wells, 775-752-2236.

Street Fever Show and Shine • July 29-31 • Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Lovelock Frontier Days • July 29-31 • 775-273-7213.

Pinenut Festival • Sept. 15-18 • Schurz, 775-773-2306.



Pam Tillis appears at Cactus Petes in Jackpot on June 24-25, followed by Merle Haggard.

Shows

AMARGOSA VALLEY
Longstreet Inn • 775-372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY
Stagecoach • 775-553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play in the lounge Fri.-Sat.

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2005 Events Calendar

- Churchill Arts Council, events all year-long
- Top Gun Raceway, Mar. thru Nov.
- Rattlesnake Raceway, May thru Oct.
- Fallon High School Rodeo, Apr. 2-3
- Rainbow Ridge Mountain Bike, Apr. 23
- Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 13-15
- Farmers Market, June thru Aug.
- Silver State Int'l Rodeo, July 4-9
- Nevada Indian Days Rodeo & Pow Wow, July 15-17
- Nevada Motocross Championships, TBD, Aug.
- Overland Hotel Chili Cook-off, TBD, Aug.
- Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 2-5
- Fallon Sr. Pro Rodeo, Sept. 24-25
- Stockhorse Spectacular, Oct. 6-9
- Fallon Harvest Days, Oct. 6-8
- WNCC Collegiate Rodeo, TBD, Oct.
- Christmas Tree Lighting, Dec. 2
- Hometown Christmas, Dec. 3
- New Year's Eve Fireworks, Dec. 31

Looking for a family adventure getaway? Call 1.866.4.FALLON to get your free adventure kit or log on to www.fallontourism.com

Exchange Club • 775-553-2368: Karaoke is scheduled on Fri.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 775-738-3181: Blue Martini, May 3-8. Kip and BO, May 10-15, 17-22. The Mix, May 24-29, June 1-5. The Hildees, June 7-12, 14-19.

Gold Country Casino • 800-621-1332: Music on weekends.

High Desert Inn • 775-738-8425: Comedy on Fri.

Red Lion • 775-738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Red Lion Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Stockmen's Hotel • 775-738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Showroom: Doubl Take, May 3-8. BBI, May 10-15. Zito, May 17-22. Octane, May 24-29. David St. Romain, May 31-June 5, 7-12. Midnight Riders, June 14-19, 21-26. Running of the Bulls, part of the annual National Basque Festival, July 1.

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 775-289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 775-423-6031.

Fallon Nugget • 775-423-3111.

Stockman's Casino and Holiday Inn Express • 775-423-2117.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 775-945-3322: Music in the Casino Lounge.

Joe's Tavern • 775-945-2302.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 775-755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: Ronnie Milsap, May 13-14. Bill Engvall, May 27-28. Pam Tillis, June 24-25. Merle Haggard, June 26. Sammy Kershaw, July 29-30. Bands play in the Cabaret.

Horseshu Casino • 775-755-2321. Cabaret: TBA.

LOVELOCK

Sturgeons • 775-273-2971 and 888-234-6835: Center Club Showroom: Bands and karaoke are featured on weekends.

PAHRUMP

Pahrump Nugget • 775-751-6500.

Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 775-727-1111: Entertainment in the Club West Nightclub.

Terrible's Lakeside • 775-751-7770.

Terrible's Town Casino • 775-751-7777.

SILVER SPRINGS

Silver Springs Nugget • 775-577-4263.

TONOPAH

Banc Club • 775-482-5409: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Tonopah Station Ramada Inn • 775-482-9777: Bands play on weekends.

WENDOVER

Montego Bay • 775-664-9100: Bands play in the lounge.

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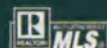
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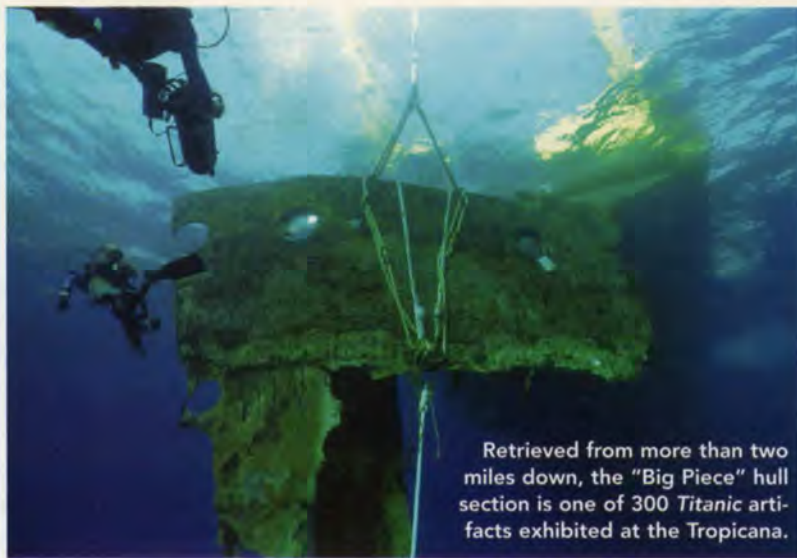
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Impersonators Wanted

The **Imperial Palace** in Las Vegas is seeking look- and sound-alike contestants for its Be A Legend Celebrity Impersonator Karaoke Contest. At stake are cash prizes and an appearance in the hotel's long-running impersonator show, "Legends in Concert." The overall winner will be selected from quarterly contests. Last year Lois Mahalia of Santa Barbara, California, won for her impersonation of Whitney Houston. Mahalia earned \$1,000 and a week-long run in "Legends."

Be A Legend perform-offs will take place May 19, August 18, and November 17 in Tequila Joe's Lounge at the Imperial Palace. For more information call 702-731-3311 or visit www.imperialpalace.com.



Lois Mahalia, pictured with emcee Jason Rooney, won the Imperial Palace's Be A Legend karaoke contest for her impersonation of Whitney Houston in 2004. This year's contestants begin their sing-off on May 19.

Titanic Treasures

Life aboard the *Titanic* is chronicled in a special show at the **Tropicana** in Las Vegas. *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* features items recovered from the wreck site such as a suitcase, a felt bowler hat, the ship's whistles, and glassware etched with the logo of the White Star Line. First- and third-class staterooms have been re-created with furnishings by the original manufacturers. An interactive feature enables museum-goers to touch an "iceberg" and sense the water's numbing cold. The exhibition, which runs through October 31, is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily in the Tropicana Pavilion. Call 702-739-2222 for information.

Star Walk

The thousands of visitors who walk the Las Vegas Strip daily have another reason to stop and gawk. Four miles of sidewalk between Sahara Avenue and Russell Road have been set aside for the **Las Vegas Walk of Stars**. The first entertainer to be honored was the *Midnight Idol*, **Wayne Newton**, whose star is embedded in front of the New Frontier. **Liberace** and female impersonator **Frank Marino** were enshrined in February, and their stars were placed in the Riviera's sidewalk. A takeoff on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Las Vegas version has the recipient's name and specialty inlaid on a three-foot-square, 180-pound

slab of polished granite. An estimated 3,000 stars could eventually line the Strip. Visit www.lasvegaskhofstars.com for more information.—Ann Henderson

Child's Play

The **Boomtown Family Fun Center** is a kid's kind of place. It has more than 200 video games, a 3-D motion theater, antique carousel, mini golf course, Ferris wheel, virtual reality roller coaster, and rodeo rider.

"We keep updating the games and rides," says Mike Rabe, technical supervisor of the hotel-casino's amusement center, which lies west of Reno near Verdi. "Kids learn the new games fast. They don't need a tutor."

The center is a big, open room brightened by a dozen vivid wall and carpet colors. The action is loudest near the games section, where cars race out of control and bells ring when prizes are won. Kids play game machines that screech and hiss and blare.

Often their parents join in, adding to the decibels by shouting, "It's my turn to pick the game." Moms watch over four-year-olds riding the carousel's horses. Benches are available for parents who want to relax and sip coffee, but the seats usually are empty.

Although the kids develop eye-hand coordination as they race cars and pitch baseballs, they develop independent thinking, too. "The other day we had a little kid on the rodeo rider," Rabe says. "He wouldn't get off it."

Visitors can buy tickets for individual rides or an all-day wristband package (\$7 to \$15). The Family Fun Center hosts birthday and team parties in which the honored guest enters a wind machine for 45 seconds and tries to catch money that's blowing around.

The Boomtown Family Fun center is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday and till midnight Friday and Saturday. A security guard enforces the center's no-smoking, no-alcohol policy. Boomtown Casino Hotel is located eight miles west of Reno at Exit 4 off Interstate 80. Call Boomtown, 800-648-3790 or 775-345-8668, or visit www.boomtownfuncenter.com, where you will find online discounts.—Wilma LaRocca

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NEVADA
MAGAZINE



The Tahoe Players performed Oscar Wilde's "The Littlest Angel" last December at St. Mary's in the Mountains.

By Joyce Hollister

The steeple atop **St. Mary's in the Mountains Catholic Church** may list slightly to the east, but its cross 170 feet above the ground continues to watch over Virginia City as it has for nearly 130 years.

The stately brick building is known by its parishioners as the "Mother of All Catholic Churches in Nevada." However, tour guide and volunteer curator Nick Nicosia says, "You don't have to be Catholic to enjoy it. We welcome Protestants, Jews, Muslims, people of all faiths."

For more than a century St. Mary's has survived the elements, neglect, and a partial dismantling of its interior that had local citizens up in arms. Thanks to ongoing restoration, the church has returned to its former gothic glory and is one of Virginia City's premier tourist attractions.

Arched front doors open into St. Mary's, which sits two blocks below C Street. Victorian-style carpeting leads visitors down the center aisle past antique wooden pews and kneeling rails to the ornate white-and-gold altar. Carved redwood encases the 12-inch-by-12-inch beams holding up the roof. Light filters through stained-glass windows.

The church was dedicated in 1877 Father Patrick "Paddy" Manogue (1831-1895), later Sacramento's Bishop Manogue, rebuilt the church on the site of an earlier St. Mary's, which burned in the Great Fire of 1875. After the silver mines played out, Nicosia explains, the town's population, including its large Irish Catholic community, declined, and so did the church.

In the late 1950s an order of monks—called the "mad monks" by outraged Virginia City citizens—removed the altar, tore out the choir loft and balcony, and replaced the stained-glass windows with clear glass. Most of the fixtures were sold, stored, or "walked away," Nicosia says.

After the monks left, the restoration of the church became a community as well as a church affair. Over the

Reviving St. Mary's

Virginia City's **St. Mary's in the Mountains** has survived the elements, neglect, and the dismantling of its interior that had local citizens up in arms.



St. Mary's was rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1875. Parishioners included Irish Catholics who worked in the Comstock's world-famous silver mines.



Museum curator Nick Nicosia shows the "mad monks" room to Carmen Santillan of Tijuana. Lining the walls are pieces of the church's original choir loft, which was removed in the late 1950s.

past four decades workmen repaired the roof and recreated the altar. Artists designed new stained glass. Portions of the church's art collection and original gaslight chandeliers have been returned, and fundraising for restoration continues.

Today, visitors can tour the church's museum, where more than 500 items relating to St. Mary's and Comstock history are exhibited. "This is the most comprehensive free attraction in Virginia City," asserts Nicosia—although a donation box sits prominently near the museum entrance.

Two years ago a chance discovery in the church made the museum possible. Father Joe Anthony was exploring the rock-walled "catacombs," a long-forgotten basement storage area that is now called the grotto. He found gold and silver vestments and chalices, historic photos, and paintings piled together and covered with an inch-thick layer of dust. Volunteers cleaned the items to display in the church's museum, which opened last July.

The museum has several rooms. In the grotto, Bishop Manogue's image is featured on murals painted by Virginia City resident Kitty Boley. In the main gallery are 18th-century German lithographs depicting the Stations of the Cross. A pump organ, shipped around Cape Horn 150 years ago, waits for its foot-operated bellows to be replaced. The "mad monks" room displays fragile pieces of the choir loft and photos of the balcony's infamous removal. Manogue's walnut bedroom furniture, ceremonial crosier, and vestments recreate his 1870s-era bedroom.

During the tour, Nicosia winds a 1908 Edison wax-cylinder phonograph—another relic found in the grotto—to play "It Sounds Good to Me." Nicosia notes that although "Paddy" Manogue didn't live to hear the recording, he thinks the venerable priest probably would have enjoyed it.

A St. Mary's Sojourn

St. Mary's church and gift shop are open daily. The museum is open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday to Wednesday. For groups of 15 or more, or for tours at other times, call 775-847-9099 or e-mail stmarysvc@earthlink.net. Mass is celebrated at 3 p.m. Saturday and 11:30 a.m. Sunday. Visit www.stmarysvc.org for more information on the church or its restoration fund. For Comstock-area information call the Virginia City Convention and Tourism Authority, 775-847-7500, or visit www.virginiacity-nv.com.

Joyce Hollister is Nevada's associate editor.



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Frank Marino

Shopping, dining, and playing **Joan Rivers**.

Female impersonator Frank Marino presents an outrageous and glamorous portrayal of Joan Rivers six nights a week as he headlines "An Evening at La Cage" at the Riviera in Las Vegas. The entertainer spends two hours a day in the makeup chair—an hour to create the facial transformation and an hour to remove the cosmetics. Onstage he changes 17 times into gowns that cost between \$1,000 and \$5,000, and his wardrobe of more than 1,000 costumes is valued in excess of \$1 million. On February 1, Marino received a star on the Las Vegas Walk of Stars in front of the Riviera, where he is celebrating his 20th year in "La Cage."

Even before I started performing on the Las Vegas Strip, my family and I frequently vacationed in the Neon Forest. We visited Las Vegas for the first time in 1980, when I was 16. At that age I couldn't gamble, but it didn't matter—there was still so much for me to do. The lights and glitter that lined this beautiful city amazed me. It was a 24-hour town where you could live like a king or queen, whichever suited you best.

Five years later, I returned to Vegas, only this time as star of "An Evening at La Cage," and I had the opportunity to see a whole new Las Vegas. There were hundreds of shows, celebrities, and movie stars everywhere, and the city that I had already loved had become a grownup Disneyland.

I wanted to impersonate a comedienne, and at the time the very famous ones were Phyllis Diller and Joan Rivers. I took the lesser of two evils. It is a lot of fun playing Joan. She is glamorous, cutting-edge, and constantly changing with the times. It keeps me on my toes.

I wasn't here



Frank Marino has starred as Joan Rivers (below and right) in "An Evening at La Cage" for 20 years at the Riviera. The Walk of Stars honoree appears in *Miss Congeniality 2*.

but six months when I was proclaimed "the Queen of the Strip"—one reason my autobiography was titled *His Majesty the Queen*. I had my own cosmetic line, and the book gave me an opportunity to share makeup tips!

Over the years I've been candid about the 10 plastic surgeries I've had. The plastic surgery started when I was 16, when my parents agreed to let me alter my nose. I always like to say I've had more parts lifted on my face than an abandoned Mercedes.

When "La Cage" began, on my one night off a week I went to see the headliners perform: Cher, Ann-Margret, and my all-time favorite diva, Diana Ross. Now it seems harder and harder to find the headliners, and Vegas has moved into high-scale production shows. (My favorite of these is "O" at the Bellagio.)

As a teenager I marveled at the

\$1.99 buffets. Now, Las Vegas has become the dining mecca of the world. I try to dine at the top-notch restaurants so I can make recommendations to the tourists who ask me questions after the show.

A couple of my favorites are Carluccio's Tivoli Gardens in Liberace Plaza, where the décor reminds me of the Rat Pack's heyday, and the Cheesecake Factory at the Forum Shops at Caesars, which is also my favorite place to shop. (The Fashion Show Mall is a close second.) The Forum Shops is where I can find the perfect pumps to match my Bob Mackie gowns. I've always said, "The ladder of success is even harder to climb wearing high heels."

Show Notes

Frank Marino headlines as Joan Rivers in "An Evening at La Cage" in the La Cage Theatre at the Riviera in Las Vegas. The celebrity female impersonator revue appears nightly at 7:30 except Tuesday. Tickets cost \$69 and \$79. Beverages are extra. For information call 702-794-9301 or visit www.rivierahotel.com or www.frankmarino.com.





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