

















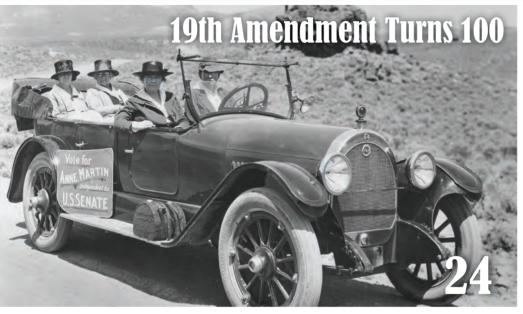




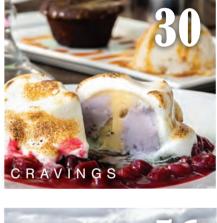


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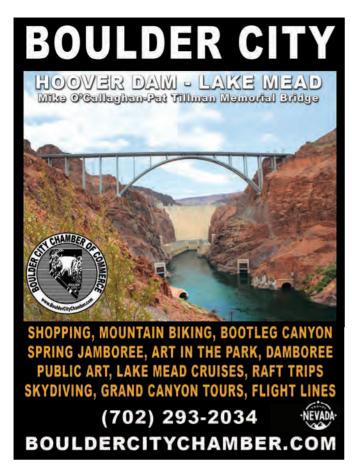
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Cover Photo: Tom Jones, IV

Snow blankets the landscape at Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area near Las Vegas.







JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 VOLUME 80, NUMBER 1

401 N. Carson St. • Carson City, NV 89701-4291 855-729-7117 • 775-687-5416 Ext. 3 • 775-687-6159 (fax) editor@nevadamagazine.com • nevadamagazine.com

**Subscriptions and Customer Service:** 775-687-0610

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For media kit, click on "Advertise" at nevadamagazine.com.

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Nevada Magazine, a division of the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, is self-funded and dependent on advertising and subscription revenue.

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Subscriptions/Customer Service: Write to Nevada Magazine Subscriptions, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701-4291, call 775-687-0610, or visit nevadamagazine.com. Please allow at least six weeks for subscription fulfillment or change of address.

Nevada Magazine (ISSN 0199-1248) is published bimonthly by the State of Nevada at 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701-4291. Copyright ⊚ 2020 State of Nevada. Subscriptions are \$21.95 per year (international costs vary). Periodicals postage paid at Carson City, NV, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Nevada Magazine Subscriptions, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701-4291.

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#### WEB EXTRAS

▶ Yesterday: Driving into History: Three quarters of a century ago, women drivers were viewed not only as a danger to themselves and others but also as a threat to society and family life. A few women endeavored to overcome this stereotype, however, among them Alice Huyler Ramsey of Hackensack, New Jersey.

With a green Maxwell automobile as her transport and a brave, pioneering spirit, Ramsey became the first woman to drive across the U.S. Her historic travel in summer 1909 led her to Nevada across present-day U.S. Route 50. This story first appeared in our April 1992 issue. **By Philip I. Earl** 

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EVADA



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#nvmag and let us know
about your #Nevada adventure!







#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

# SCANNING THE ORIZON

2020 is upon us, my friends. I mentioned last issue that, to me, 2020 is the year of hindsight, but I realized after writing that while there's something to be gained from looking back, the real joy comes in looking forward. A new decade is here, and with it—for me—comes a renewed sense of hope and faith in the future.

It also brings a whole lot of ideas about how to have some more fun in the pages of this magazine. We've put ghost towns aside this year, and while Associate Editor Eric Cachinero and I find ourselves a bit adrift without our usual roadtrip, we're looking forward to shifting our focus as we continue to travel around the state. Eric's been with the magazine about 6+ years and I'm about a year behind him, so between the two of us, we've seen a lot. It can make deciding what to write about and where to go challenging, but luckily, we both like finding the road less traveled and the places less visited.

Whatever you're looking forward to in 2020, I hope your year is full of a lot of adventure, a few challenges, and plenty of dirt roads.

#### SOME HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

As mentioned last issue, we're exploring Haunted Nevada this year, and that will take many forms, so to speak.

This time around, we've located a few historically haunted locations in Carson City; read about them on page 42. From spirits to aliens, we turn to page 36, where we visit an area in the south that is home to some of our state's most awesome landforms.

Keeping the fantastical themes going, we're looking at some mysteries, myths, and legends this year, and you can find our first story full of lost airplanes, mysterious mine bodies, and more on page 62.

We've got a story on a very cool documentary about the life of today's cowboys, and it features some Nevada cowboys working their ranches. The story is written by one of the film's participants and you can read it on page 56.

A new feature debuts this issue, and it's all thanks to you. We're asking our readers to share their photos of their favorite Nevada...something! Each issue it'll be a different theme, and we're starting out with your favorite Nevada view. Check out the great photos on page 16.

There's more good stuff inside, so turn the page and find your favorite story. I look forward to hearing about what you liked and what you'd like instead. Happy New Year!

Megg Mueller, Managing Editor mmueller@nevadamagazine.com

#### **LETTERS**

#### **BLOWN AWAY**

Megg and Eric, this is the best cover photo ever (November/ December 2019)! It definitely indicates "The Journey's End," yet it also signifies, "The Journey's Beginning" for those who decide to go out and explore the places you've so aptly described. As you've both found, "The journey is indeed the reward," when it



comes to discovering or rediscovering Nevada. Thanks for your soulful, heartfelt words, and thought-provoking photos. The experiences you've uncovered are worth more than gold! Also, plaudits to Kippy and Alexandria for the cover layout and color selection. I could see this cover on a T-shirt. — Craig MacDonald, via email

#### GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE



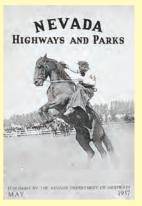
I would like to renew my subscription and receive your 2020 calendar. Nevada Magazine is a perfect magazine. Thank you for its publication.

— Richard Taylor, North Charleroi, Pennsylvania

#### DIGITAL DEJA VU

I'm a digital subscriber and I can't describe the great pleasure I've had looking at the old issues now available. I've read through 1936. What a treat! A great magazine!

- John H. Harris, via website



#### **NEW FAN**

My grandson Simon is pretty excited about being published in Nevada Magazine (November/ December 2019)! I submitted this photo I took of Simon last January when we visited Guru Road. He says he wants to frame it! - Liz Huntington, via email



#### WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

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

#### CONTRIBUTORS

#### **KRISTA** DIAMOND

Originally from New Hampshire. Krista Diamond is a former national parks employee turned professional writer who lives in Las Vegas. She writes for digital



and print publications including "Eater," "Desert Companion," and "Time Out" along with blogs for outdoor retailers such as Marmot, Osprey, and Superfeet. She is also a contributing editor for "Helen Literary Magazine." ■ PGS. 30-35

#### CHIP **CARROON**

Chip Carroon worked in the San Francisco Bay area for many years as he specialized in location photography for annual



later years, he has returned to the interest of his youth-landscape photography-while continuing his work in magazine photojournalism.

■ PGS. 36-41

#### **JOLYN** YOUNG

Jolyn Young lives with her cowboy husband and their three small kids in Fallon, In addition to her full-time gig as her family's household



manager, taskforce director, and comptroller, she freelances for various publications and writes a monthly humor blog about the adventures of being married to a cowboy. Real Life Ranch Wife appears on westernhorseman.com. In her spare time, she...just kidding, she has no spare time.

■ PGS. 56-61

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



#### Virginia City unveils historical cemetery audio tour

Virginia City's historic Silver Terrace Cemetery is one of the town's top tourist attractions, in part because of its stately headstones and incredible location on a steep hillside. In the 1860s, burial grounds for the local civic, fraternal, and religious groups were carved into the hillside. Most of the gravesites are home to immigrants, not people born in Virginia City—a testament to the rush of The Comstock Lode and those who came from all around the world to be a part of it.

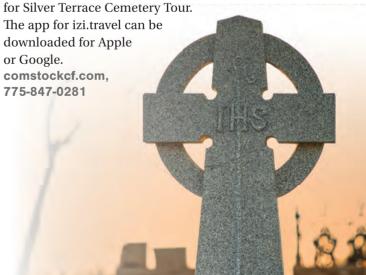
Today, an average of 50 people per day visit the cemetery, which is under the auspices of The Comstock Cemetery Foundation (CCF). A national landmark district, the foundation is responsible for repairs and maintenance. For 20 years, a way to tell the stories of the structures and gravesite has been sought, but installing numerous signs wasn't an option. That goal was recently

PHOTOS: LIZ HUNTINGTON

realized through the creation of an audio tour people can access via computer or cellphone.

A local Eagle Scout—Callum Bodington of Troop 847—selected the creation of this audio tour as his 2019 Eagle Scout project. In one day, Bodington and the CCF recorded 25 voices talking about 29 stops along the tour. The tour can be accessed via the Internet or downloaded as an app. The tour can be taken in the order it was created, or users can skip to areas they want to see and access the information they seek, when they want it. The entire audio tour is about 90 minutes, and the terrain is considered a medium strenuous walk. For those unable to visit, the tour can be taken wherever you have an Internet connection.

To listen to the tour online, visit izi.travel and search for Silver Terrace Cemetery Tour.



#### **MUSEUMS**

# First Lady donates inaugural gown to museum

Nevada First Lady Kathy Sisolak continued a tradition in Nevada by donating the gown she wore at her husband's inaugural ball to the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.

Joined by Gov. Steve Sisolak and former Nevada First Lady Dema Guinn, Kathy Sisolak signed a formal Deed of Gift document for the Dolce & Gabbana gown, which she purchased online and wore at the inaugural balls in Reno and Las Vegas.

"She's now a part of Nevada history," Gov. Sisolak says. "One hundred years from now, folks will be able to see the dress, which is pretty exciting."

The donation brings the museum's collection of First Lady gowns to 16, notes Jan Loverin, curator at the Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textiles Research Center, where the gowns are kept.

"They range from the earliest, which was worn by Una Riley Dickerson in 1909 up until our current donation, Mrs. Sisolak's in 2019," Loverin says.

Former First Lady Marjorie (Guild) Russell, the namesake of the research center and daughter of Nevada State Museum founder Clark Guild, started the tradition of donating the gowns to the museum in 1964.

The First Lady Gowns Collection will be the focus of a new exhibit at the Nevada State Museum in 2020. carsonnymuseum.org, 775-687-4810

#### **UP FRONT**



- McCarran International Airport welcomes a new nonstop flight from Frankfurt, Germany. Lufthansa Group subsidiary, Eurowings, launched a new route that will fly during the winter travel season until March 28. The Frankfurt-Las Vegas route operates three times per week with an Airbus A330-200. mccarran.com, 702-261-5211
- Dayton has been named the nicest place in Nevada in the third annual "Reader's Digest" contest searching for the nicest places in America. From reader submissions, "Reader's Digest" editors and a panel of judges selected the 50 nicest places in America—one for each state.

  rd.com/nicest
- The only resort golf course on the Las Vegas Strip recently returned to Wynn Las Vegas with the grand reopening of the **Wynn Golf Club**. The original 18-hole championship course established in 2005 has been reimagined by golf course architect Tom Fazio. The course sits on 129 acres with eight all-new holes and 10 revamped holes. Lush landscapes include water features and streams, and 7,000 mature trees, many that date back to the 1950s when the land was home to the historic Desert Inn Golf Club. **wynnlasvegas.com**, 702-770-4653
- The 2019 Grand Sierra Beer & Chili Festival at Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno raised more than \$7,800 for local charities, including the Reno Rodeo Foundation, the Reno Firefighter Community Assistance Program, Honor Flight, Step2 Reno, Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation, and Dress for Success Northern Nevada chapter.
- grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000
- Lip Smacking Foodie Tours recently introduced a new itinerary—the eclectic Arts District Lip Smacking Tour. Guests will get a taste of the best the Arts District has to offer as they meet some of its most distinctive chefs. This experience escorts groups to up to four locations, with each restaurant presenting an array of distinctive dishes. vegasfoodietour.com, 888-681-4388

#### ART

#### 'Tulips' by Jeff Koons returns to Las Vegas

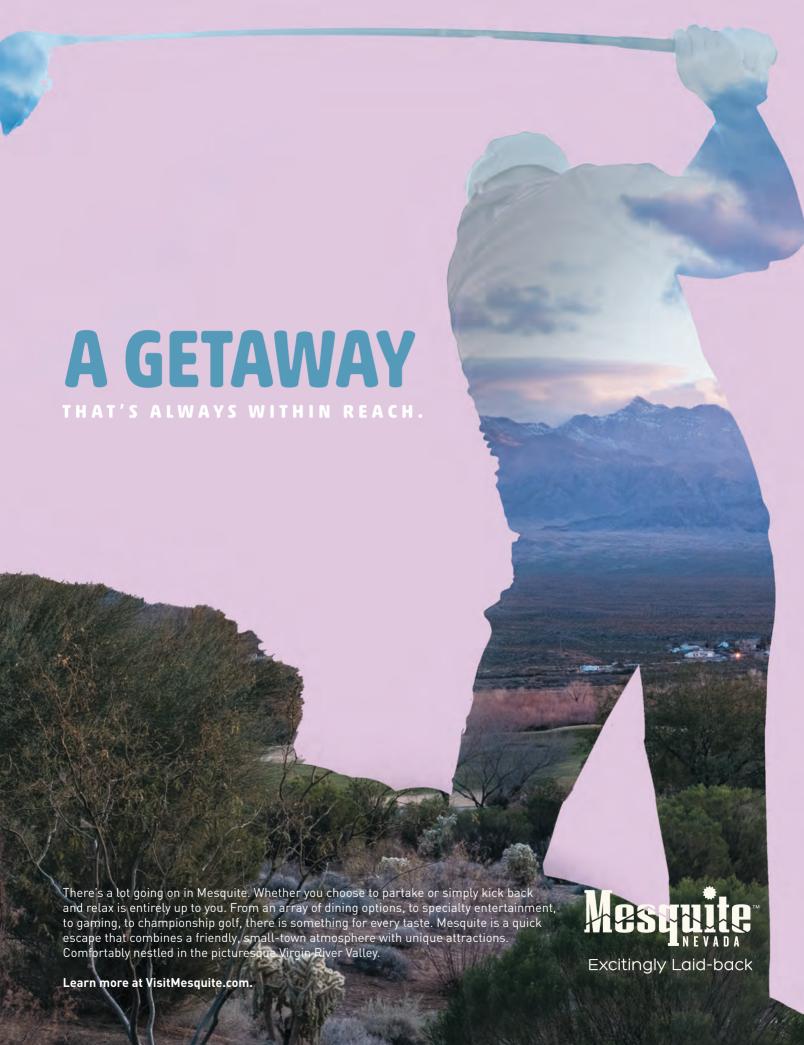


BARBARA KRAFT

Wynn Las Vegas welcomes the return of "Tulips" by renowned artist Jeff Koons, now on public display in Wynn Plaza. The sculpture of balloon flowers was previously at Wynn Palace in Cotai, China, for more than three years. Originally installed at Wynn Las Vegas from 2013–2016, the showpiece quickly became an icon of the Las Vegas art scene and a must-see for art lovers from around the world. "Tulips" was acquired by Steve Wynn at an auction in 2012 for \$33,682,500.

The sculpture represents a bouquet of twisted balloon tulips fashioned in stainless steel, then plated in a vivid spectrum of color brought to a mirrored shine. The gleaming surfaces reflect both the viewer and the artwork itself, resulting in a kaleidoscope of infinite replications. Although the sculpture implies weightlessness it is paradoxically heavy, made from more than three tons of metal.

wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-4653



#### **UP FRONT**



- Atlantis Casino Resort Spa has added the first skill-based gambling video game—Nothin' But Net 2—in northern Nevada. The game brings the fun and interactivity of a video game to the casino, where the player's skill is a key factor of winning. atlantiscasino.com, 775-825-4700
- Known primarily as a safe haven for hundreds of species of resident and migratory birds, the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve now boasts a honeybee exhibit where guests can gain an understanding into bees' day-to-day activities and their role in the ecosystem. The observation hive is inside the visitor center where admission is free. Visitors can see how bees build comb, store honey, and raise a brood. There is also signage explaining how to identify the queen. cityofhenderson.com, 702-267-4180
- The Las Vegas Aviators—a Triple-A affiliate baseball club—is pleased to announce the launch of new Hispanic social media channels. The new Instagram and Facebook channels—@Ivaviadores and Los Aviadores de Las Vegas—are now active. aviatorslv.com, 702-943-7200
- Don McLean received a star on the Las Vegas Walk of Stars in November. The "American Pie" artist joins Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Wayne Newton, Donnie & Marie, and many others. McLean was honored at an unveiling ceremony held in front of the Paris Hotel and Casino on Las Vegas Boulevard.

lasvegaswalkofstars.com, 702-655-7827

■ Museum of Selfies, an interactive museum that explores the history of the selfie, has opened at the Miracle Mile Shops. The interactive experience provides guests premium selfie opportunities featuring works from several visionary artists. Museumgoers will leave with Instagram-worthy photos and a better understanding of the selfie and its meaning.

selfievegas.com, 702-518-2277

#### WILDLIFE

#### Lahontan cutthroat trout stocked in Lake Tahoe



The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Lahontan National Fish Hatchery Complex, for the first time ever, stocked large (12-14 inch) Pilot Peak Lahontan cutthroat trout into their home waters of Lake Tahoe. In October, with Nevada Department of Wildlife, the hatchery stocked some 5,000 fish on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe. The fish have identifiers to help track their movements after being released.

The Lahontan cutthroat trout is the largest inland cutthroat trout in the world and the only trout native to the Tahoe Basin. This species was once the lake's top predator, but disappeared from Lake Tahoe due to land-use changes and overfishing. fws.gov/lahontannfhc, 775-265-2425

#### **SPORTS**

#### Knights get high-flying livery from Allegiant



Allegiant, Las Vegas' hometown airline, is honoring its second season as the official domestic airline of the Vegas Golden Knights with the debut of an exclusive Vegas Golden Knights livery on a Las Vegas-based Airbus A319.

"Allegiant is delighted to 'knight up' our aircraft and take our support for the Vegas Golden Knights to the skies," says Allegiant Chief Marketing Officer Scott DeAngelo. "As we extend the excitement of the Vegas Golden Knights experience to our passengers, we honor the immense impact this organization has had on the city that we both proudly call home."

Each side of the aircraft features a dark gray backdrop with the classic Allegiant sunburst on the tail of the plane and is emblazoned with the Vegas Golden Knights logo. The Airbus A319 also features two powerhouses in the right and left wing positions with a pair of twin engines donning the instantly recognizable Vegas Golden Knights signature crossing swords and four-pointed star insignia. vegasgoldenknights.com, 702-790-2663



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RESORTS AT WENDOVER















#### **UP FRONT**



■ The Reno Aces—a Triple-A affiliate baseball club—are set to install extended protective netting around the diamond at Greater Nevada Field, and will be ready for the 2020 season set to open April 9. Aces President Eric Edelstein said safety is the top priority and the club was responding to fan feedback.

renoaces.com, 775-334-4700

- The \$15 million renovation of the **Plaza Hotel & Casino** transformed more than
  120 guest rooms on the top floors of
  the North Tower. Significant infrastructure
  changes were made to create rooms that
  average 325 square feet, and 16 rooms
  were combined to create eight new suites. **plazahotelcasino.com**, 800-634-6575
- M Resort Spa Casino is undergoing an official partnership with the National Football League Raiders. The partnership designates M Resort Spa Casino as the "Official Raiders Team Headquarters Hotel" at the nearby Raiders Performance Center in Henderson which is under construction. M Resort will also open an official Raiders branded restaurant currently being referred to as the Raiders Bar & Grill in 2020.

  themresort.com, 702-797-1000
- The Colosseum at Caesars Palace unveiled significant technical and design upgrades in early September, including a new state-of-the-art sound system, moving light fixtures, and high-definition LED video wall. The venue now features entirely refurbished seating, none of which is more than 145

caesars.com, 866-227-5938

feet from the stage.

■ Las Vegas' newest wedding chapel,
Reverend Scott Polek's Chapels at the
Pawn has opened at Pawn Plaza. Wedding
services include The Pawn Stars Experience
Wedding Package, vow renewals, and "Las
Vegas Friendship Ceremonies" for best
friends, sorority sisters, family members,
best buddies, coworkers, fraternity brothers,
and neighbors.
pawnplaza.com, 702-499-5036

#### RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

#### Tasty dining and imbibing news from Las Vegas

NoMad Las Vegas has launched a celebration of classic American cuisine with playful renditions of time-honored favorites that blur historical definitions of ubiquitous dishes through theatrical tableside presentations, bold flavor profiles, and a side of Las Vegas spectacle. Highlights include a



Brussels sprout wedge salad, mac & cheese with king crab and truffle, and white truffle tagliatelle. nomadlasvegas.com, 702-730-6785

The soup dumplings once described by the late Pulitzer Prize winner Jonathan Gold as "small miracles" will find a new home as **Din Tai Fung** announces its first Las Vegas location at ARIA Resort & Casino. The esteemed Taiwanese dumpling and noodle house, with more than 170 restaurants in 13 countries, will debut in the former ARIA Café space mid-to-late next year. **aria.com.** 866-359-7757

Santos Tacos Guisados & Beer announces a new mezcal bar and cocktail menu to be served in their expanded bar. Santos Guisados Tacos & Beers is Las Vegas' first guisado taco shop. Located in Downtown Las Vegas, Santos pays homage to the homestyle dishes owner Eduardo Cordova enjoyed growing up in Mexico, featured in a taco format made with homemade tortilla. santostacoslv.com, 702-826-3515

Bellagio plans to change the way visitors think about a night on the town with the launch of **The Mayfair Supper Club**. Inspired by top supper clubs in London and around the world, The Mayfair will redefine the traditional "dinner and a show" with a restaurant that evolves throughout the evening. Guests will indulge in contemporary American cuisine while enjoying live entertainment performances nightly, set to the greatest backdrop in the world—the Bellagio Fountains. bellagio.com, 888-987-6667



Hungry? Grab your Nevada ID and discover some of the best lunch deals on The Strip for locals. **Jaleo** by José Andrés is offering locals a complimentary glass of their Sangria de vino tinto or Sangria de cava with the purchase of the "Lunch Like a Spaniard"

threecourse menu

(\$30). Famous for its \$29 three-course lunch menu, **Estiatorio Milos** serves authentic Mediterranean fare flown directly from the Mediterranean just 36 hours before your visit—it doesn't get any fresher than that. **LAGO** by Julian Serrano at Bellagio offers a three-course tasting menu available exclusively at lunch. Guests select one soup or salad and an entrée, with the chef rounding out the meal with a special dessert.







#### **UP FRONT**



- Understanding the importance of wetlands to Nevada's ecological, economic, and social health, the **Nevada Division of Natural Heritage** (NDNH) is set to advance its Wetland Program by leveraging a \$516,771 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Over the next two years, NDNH will expand its inventory and assessment of Nevada's wetlands, conduct field studies focused on wetland-dependent plant and wildlife species, and leverage the best available science and climate data with increased partner collaboration. **heritage.nv.gov/ecology, 775-684-2900**
- Local nonprofits in the Tahoe area were presented \$100,000 in donations from the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and American Century Championship. The funds were a result of money raised during the 2019 celebrity golf tournament at Edgewood Tahoe. Representatives of 38 nonprofits were presented with donations. tahoesouth.com, 800-288-2463
- In October 2019, the Las Vegas
  Convention and Visitors Authority marked
  the Las Vegas Convention Center's
  construction milestone, with completion of
  more than 50 percent of the 1.4 millionsquare-foot expansion. Construction is
  expected to be completed in December
  2020. Ivcva.com, 702-892-0711
- Wynn Las Vegas has announced free valet parking at **Wynn and Encore** for all guests, without limitation, and without the need for validation. The new policy went into effect on Sept. 30, 2019. Self-parking remains free for all visitors at both Wynn and Encore self-park garages.

  wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-4653
- Downtown Grand Hotel & Casino has been accepted into membership of Preferred Hotels & Resorts—the world's largest independent hotel brand that represents more than 750 distinctive hotels, resorts, residences, and unique hotel groups across 85 countries.

downtowngrand.com, 702-719-5100

#### RAILROADS

### Boulder City's Rail Explorers' tours now available all year



Rail Explorers—the family-friendly, outdoor-adventure attraction at the Nevada State Railroad Museum featuring pedal-powered rail bikes—now has year-round tours. Located in Boulder City, the museum's Rail Explorers offer guided excursions in two- or four-seat rail bikes along the same tracks used during construction of Hoover Dam.

Tours include Southwest Ramble, a four-mile pedal-powered daytime ride; the Sunset Tour, a picturesque ride in the evening as the sun sets; and the Evening Lantern Ride, a one-of-a-kind experience illuminated by the moon and stars. All rides start at the Nevada State Railroad Museum and continue downhill to Railroad Pass. Each tour includes a ride back in one of the museum's historic trains, along with free museum entry.

boulderrailroadmuseum.org, 702-486-5933

#### **DISCOVERY**

#### Dinosaur tracks discovered in southern Nevada



The Las Vegas Natural History Museum has announced the discovery of the first Triassic period vertebrate tracks found in Nevada, at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The tracks were discovered in 2018 by University of Nevada, Las Vegas student Alex Purcell. The museum's paleontology team—Dr. Josh Bonde and paleontologist Becky Humphrey—announced the discovery

to colleagues at the Geological Society of America's annual meeting.

These tracks offer a glimpse of southern Nevada 240 million years ago. The Triassic is the first period of the Mesozoic Era and was known as the Age of Reptiles because of the crocodile-like animals that populated the planet along with early dinosaurs.

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum opened in July 1991, exhibiting a varied collection of wildlife and prehistoric exhibits on loan. Since then, the museum has obtained its own multi-million-dollar, world-class collection. lvnhm.org, 702-384-3466



Virgin Valley Artists Association

Mesquite

Feb. 17 — April 10

Eureka

Jan. 6 — Feb. 28

Nevada State College

Henderson

Dec. 16 — Feb. 7



Funding for the Nevada Arts Council is provided by

NEVADA

NATIONAL ARTS



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

We asked to see your favorite view for this issue, and you responded! From shots out the backdoor to those that required long hikes and everything in between, we received photos that demonstrate just how much beauty Nevada has to offer.

Thank you to all those who shared their favorite Nevada view!

See more favorite views at nevadamagazine.com/articles/ your-favorite-nevada-view/

## March-April theme:





Williams' back yard, Las Vegas

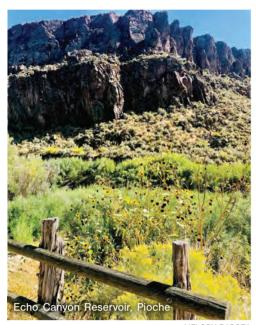
DAVID QUANDT



KAREN BALL



#### YOUR FAVORITE NEVADA | View





MELODY RAPOZA

DENNIS DOYLE





CHERIE GARRISON







#### **VISIONS**



MATT CONDON



Pages 18-19: "The view was remarkable." says Martin Gollery of his shot of Diamond Peak Ski Resort. "I found a tree branch to duck behind, protecting the image from lens flare. I used a telephoto lens to focus on a small portion of the mountain. so that the rays of light streaming through the snow would be visible."

Opposite page, top: Matt Condon captured this shot at Lunar Lake dry lakebed. "I found out about a couple land sailors traveling from dry lakebed to dry lakebed in Nevada, Utah, and southern Oregon, so I followed them around for a couple weeks. This was the second or third night we were at Lunar Lake after spending a good portion of the day sailing. Everyone gathered around a small fire pit, drank beer, and shot the breeze."

Opposite page, bottom: "In February [2019], I spent three days in Ely photographing the trains at Northern Nevada Railway," says Barb Swetzof Lund. "On the last day, they took us out on one of their locomotives to get shots of the trains in the surrounding areas. Being able to ride on the train and grab a picture of it in its natural element was an amazing experience."

Right: Roger Van Alyne snapped this winter shot in the Carson Valley. "I was out looking for raptors last February and found this bald eagle in a tree at the Dangberg Home Ranch Historic Park," he says. "While I was taking pictures, the eagle launched and headed toward me."



ROGER VAN ALYNE



#### **FACEBOOK GROUP CHOICE**

Tim Torell captured this shot at the north end of Pyramid Lake. "I saw this grove of trees and thought how cool it would be to set up my wall tent, hang a lantern inside, and paint the trees with light. As with most of my successful images, it takes a little planning. I used a large flashlight to paint the trees with light, which took some trial and error, but finally some 50 images and several hours later, I had what was needed to create the image."

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

#### JOIN OUR NEVADA PHOTOGRAPHERS **FACEBOOK GROUP**

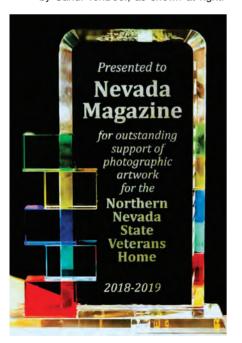
facebook.com/groups/nevadasnaps



## **Veterans Home in Reno Showcases Incredible Nevada Images**



Top: Entry fover to the Northern Nevada State Veterans Home. Bottom: Award of gratitude presented to Janet Geary and Kippy Spilker, by Sandi TenBoer, as shown at right.



BY JANET GEARY

In August 2018, I was contacted by Connie Johnson and Sandi TenBoer from the new Northern Nevada State Veterans Home in Sparks that was scheduled to open in mid-2019, asking if we could sell them some photos for the facility. They had a limited budget and tried purchasing Nevada photos from a stock photo company, but were disappointed in the choices.

I talked with our Art Director Kippy Spilker, which led to one of the most rewarding projects I've ever been involved in. Kippy has a close relationship with our contributing photographers, managing the Nevada Photographers Facebook page and holding several FOCUS events around the state (more on FOCUS below).

She felt some of the photographers would be interested in donating their art and then the only expense to the home would be printing and framing. She put the word out on Facebook and the response was overwhelming! Within a half hour of the post, images started coming in from all over the state. The photographers were very excited about this project and in the end more than 750 photos were donated for consideration.

Comments from the donors were so positive:

Sounds like a wonderful project. I am interested as well. With so many fantastic photographers donating, the results will be stunning.

What you are doing for the photographers here is amazing. What a way to promote our great state and recognize the great photographers.

Then the real hard work began. Each wing of the facility had a different theme, so the photos needed to be organized into categories, such as aspen, bristlecone, bighorn, and coyote. The staff at the home sent a list of their choices and the photographers sent Kippy and Senior Graphic Designer Alexandria Olivares-Wenzel their high-resolution images.



The photographers were offered the chance to dedicate images to family or friends that were veterans, and it was touching to see these dedications next to many of the photos. The results were a huge success. The staff of the new facility held a reception for the contributing photographers and magazine staff in October 2019. We were honored to see the photos, each

professionally framed by Nevada Fine Arts in Reno with brass plaques containing the photographers' names and dedications.

This was an emotional experience for all concerned, and the incredible imagery will live on in the hallways of this beautiful facility for years to come. Thank you to Connie and Sandi for allowing us to be a part of this project and a big congratulations to Kippy, Alex, and our Nevada photographers for the generous donation of their time and talents to this worthwhile project.

> Northern Nevada State Veterans Home 36 Battle Born Way Sparks, NV 89431 avalonhealthcare.com/nnsvh, 775-827-2955

FOCUS stands for Friendship Open-mindedness Collaboration Understanding Success. The sixth and seventh photography seminars are scheduled in Las Vegas in February 2020 and Carson City in summer 2020, respectively. Each event is set to feature great speakers who generously donate their time and talents to assist those looking to gain new photography skills. To attend this all-day seminar visit nevadamagazine.com/focus.



#### **VISIONS**

Left: Artists, residents, and Nevada Magazine staff attending the artists' open house.

Below left: Two Lake Tahoe photos taken by Kippy S. Spilker, dedicated to the service of Dennis Geary, husband of *Nevada Magazine* Publisher Janet Geary, in the Vietnam War.

Below right: Photographer Mark Vollmer has his photo taken next to one of his donated images.

Bottom left: An example of the entry to themed wings, this one featuring a photo taken by Jackie Gorton, dedicated to her father-in-law, who served in the Korean War.

Bottom right: The restaurant area in the quail wing, featuring photos taken by Sandra Whitteker—with a dedication to her father's 30 years in the United States Marine Corps—and Lydia Bruegge.









#### Special thanks to the following photographers who generously donated images, and our apologies to anyone we inadvertently missed.

Klaus Altemueller, Carol Foldvary Anderson, Paul Anthony, Lauren Arends, Lori Bellis, Lydia Bruegge, Larry Burton, Joshua Buscay, Terryn Cassar, Christine Dallas, Maria Denzler, Dennis Doyle, Lori S. Drew, Steve Dudrow, Brett Fisher, Kathy Fisher, Lizzie Flower, Sean Gallian, Scott W. Gonzalez, Jackie Gorton, Wally Hawkins, Michael Herzog, Lori Hibbett, David Homen, Fred Howland, Nancy Hulsey, Janis Knight, Melissa Knight, Kazue Kurebayashi, Kent LeFevre, Neil Lockhart, Tiffany Miley, Lee Molof, Rick Mosher, Lora Myles, Bradley O'Connell, Vivan Powers, Kimberly Reedy, Steve Rymers, MaryLou Schindler, Linda Seibert, Paige Shaw, Kippy S. Spilker, Lynn Starnes, Kim Steed, Deborah Sutherland, Sharlea Taft, Theresa Vankuiken, Mark Vollmer, Denise D. Walker, Matthew Welch, Cindy Whitaker, Laura White, Sandra Whitteker, Michelle Yup

# ACENTURY 1

# OF SUFFRAGE

The 19th Amendment gave women

a voice, and an obligation.

BY MEGG MUELLER

In 1910, the penalty for stealing (or kidnapping) a girl in Nevada was five years in prison or a fine of \$2,000, while anyone convicted of stealing a horse could be imprisoned for 14 years. At the same time, if a U.S. woman married a foreigner, she lost her citizenship. Another law during the early 1900s, this one concerning community property between a husband and wife, allowed a man to sell or will community property without the consent of his wife. And finally, any wages a woman earned while living with her husband were not deemed her property unless her husband allowed her to use the wages, which were then considered a gift from him.



Miss Bird M. Wilson

First vice-president of Nevada Equal Franchise Society, distinguished lawyer, and the only woman stock-broker in Nevada. President of Esmerelda County Equal Suffrage League, Goldfield



Mrs. Rudolph Zadow

President of the Eureka County Equal Suffrage League, Fureka



Mrs. H. C. Taylor

President of the Churchill County Equal Suffrage League, Fallon



Mrs. F. P. Langan

President of the Storey County Equal Suffrage League



Mrs. Florence **Humphrey Church** 

Former president of the Washoe County Equal Suffrage League

These are just a few of the laws of the time, shared in the pamphlet "Women Under Nevada Laws," written in 1913 by Goldfield attorney Bird Wilson. Wilson was concerned at how little women (and men) knew about the rights women had at the turn of the century.

The rancor felt about the above-noted laws being created without any say from female constituents was grow-

ing, and the cry of "taxation without representation" was reborn. While that sentiment was enough to ignite the American Revolution, it sparked little fire with the male citizens of the young nation. It took until 1920 before half of the citizens of the U.S. were granted the right to vote. But the fight began long before.





Mrs. Sadie
D. Hurst
First female
legislator in Nevada



Mrs. R. D. Eichelberger State treasurer of the Nevada Equal Franchise Society



Mrs. J. E. Bray President of the Ormsby County Equal Suffrage League, Carson



Mrs. W. H. Bray
President of the
Sparks Equal
Suffrage League



Mrs. M.S. Bonnifield
President of the
Humboldt County
Equal Suffrage
League, Winnemucca



Mrs. S. W. Belford Secretary of the Nevada Equal Franchise Society



### **FACTS**

- In 1869, Wyoming granted women the right to vote when it was still a territory, and in fact refused to be admitted to the Union as a state "without the women." When it was granted statehood in 1890, the 44th state was the first to allow women to vote. The Western half of the U.S. was much more amenable to women's rights than its eastern brethren; in all, 18 states had already allowed women to vote in state elections before the 19th amendment was ratified.
- 21 states did not grant women the right to vote until the 19th Amendment was adopted, including 11 of the original 13 colonies. Only New York and Rhode Island gave women the vote prior to the adoption.

#### **BATTLE BORN CRY**

Almost 100 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, giving the nation freedom from Great Britain, America's women were still living under tyranny. Susan B. Anthony was arrested in 1872 for voting, and while other women were arrested as well, it was Anthony's profile as a well-known suffragist that made her a target worthy of setting an example. She was charged with voting for a representative of Congress without having the right to vote. Adding insult to injury, she was declared incompetent to be a witness at her own trial, because she was a woman.

As far back as 1869, when Nevada's first legislation regarding women's votes was introduced, the Silver State's women had been pressing for the right to vote. The issue would return to the Legislature—five times, in fact—but would fail to pass one legislative branch or the other each time, until 1911 when it passed both houses. However, the measure had to pass a subsequent legislative vote in 1913 before it was put before the people for a vote.

Nevadan Anne Martin had recently returned to her home state after a stint in England where she was an active and some say aggressive activist for the feminist cause. Martin had been the founder and first chairman of the Department of History at the University of Nevada but resigned after her father died in 1901. She went to England to study, and it is there she received an activist's education, even being arrested during a protest.

When she returned to Nevada in 1911, she immediately became active in the Nevada Equal Franchise Society, founded in Reno, and in early 1912 she was named its president. Bird Wilson was vice president, and together, they spent the nine months leading up to the 1913 election blanketing the state with suffrage news, speakers, and lecture tours. Discovering the rural towns were as equally interested as the larger cities, Martin helped societies form in outlying counties, and found women in every town—sometimes just one—to help distribute pamphlets and spread the word about the suffrage movement.

The groundswell in Nevada was largely positive, with more national aversion than local countering the movement. Wilson's pamphlet saw more than 100,000 copies distributed statewide in two years, and it was seen as very successful in softening the views of many male voters. It also enlightened many women who previously had very



PHOTOS: NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### **EVENTS**

The Nevada Women's Suffrage Celebration Committee, through its members, is hosting a number of events in 2020 to commemorate the 19th Amendment. On Feb. 7, the photo showing Governor Emmett D. Boyle signing the resolution for ratification of the amendment will be recreated at the capitol, with Governor Steve Sisolak and other dignitaries. For a full list of events, visit nv19thamendmentcentennial.com.



little idea what their rights were under the law. The most influential opponent turned out to be banker and miner George Wingfield. So opposed to women voting, Wingfield—who owned the "Reno Evening Gazette"—wrote editorial after editorial against the movement, and once, even threatened to close his mining and ranching enterprises and leave the state if women won the vote.

On election day, Nov. 3, 1914, voters passed the resolution 10,396 to 7,258 with just four counties—Washoe, Storey, Ormsby, and Eureka—voting against it. The negative vote from the four most populous counties proved

#### **HISTORY** 100 Years of the Vote

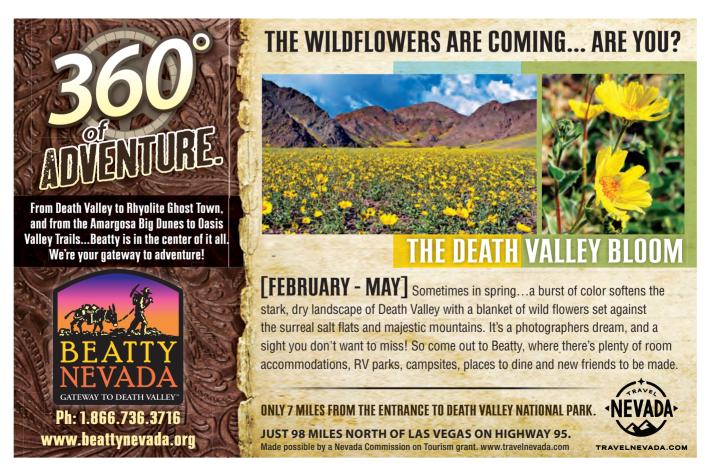
Martin was right to focus so much attention on the rural voters instead. She'd felt the liquor and gaming interests would have too much sway in the more populated areas, and had seen the anti-temperance movement squash more than one suffrage vote. Raising awareness and culling support in Nevada's smaller towns, without temperance as an issue, proved a smart move.

#### THE FEDERAL VOTE

After the Nevada women won the right to vote in state elections, the federal vote was the next target. That year, Martin wrote an article in "Good Housekeeping" magazine, where she stated, "The question we must

have answered in the coming campaign is not 'What shall women do for the political parties?' but 'What shall the political parties do for women?' "

The answer was just what she'd hoped. The 19th Amendment was passed during a special congressional session in summer 1919. It was then sent on to the states for ratification, with 36 states needed to ratify it. The state of Nevada ratified the amendment on Feb. 20, 1920, and Tennessee became the required 36th state when it ratified it on Aug. 18, 1920. The amendment was officially adopted to the Constitution on Aug. 26, 1920.



#### **HISTORY** 100 Years of the Vote

Women had won the right to vote, but getting them to exercise that right was a struggle. In the first election in 1920, just 36 percent of eligible women voted. Literacy tests, residency requirements, and poll taxes were a few of the reasons that kept women from the polls. It wasn't until 1960's presidential election that women voted in greater numbers than men.

Women of color faced even more obstacles when trying to exercise their new right to vote. Black American, American Indian, and Latin women faced state loopholes such as literacy tests and poll taxes, and some had to deal with fraud, intimidation, and even violence when attempting to vote. A group of women in Birmingham, Alabama, were beaten in 1926 when attempting to register to vote. Immigration laws kept Asians from getting citizenship until 1952, but it wasn't until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that things really began to change. The Act prohibited racial discrimination in voting, forbidding states from creating discriminatory restrictions.

#### TODAY'S CAUSE

Inexperience with voting and a lack of education were two of the issues that hindered Nevada's early women voters, and they are issues that still concern Molly Walt today. Molly is the executive director for the Nevada Commission for Women (NCW) and she is also the chairperson for the Nevada Women's Suffrage Celebration Committee which is dedicated to "educating Nevadans on the suffrage movement and the historic importance of the ratification of the 19th Amendment."

The two organizations are held together by Molly's leadership and the united goal of education about suffrage, and women's equality issues today. Molly became the NCW's leader two years ago, and the committee sprang from her research about plans for celebrating the 19th Amendment's 100th anniversary.

"No one had a set-in-stone plan, which made me decide to form a statewide committee where we could all work together to coordinate events," Molly explains. "We want all these events to be successful. We need to celebrate the 70plus years that it took to get women the right to vote."

The NCW was created as an information clearinghouse in 1991, and while it was dormant for a few years, it was reactivated in 2014 by Governor Sandoval. Its purpose is to advance women toward full equality, in all areas, and to Molly that goal starts with educating people about how far women still have to go to attain equality. Correcting gender



In 2019, 32 women held seats in the 80th Legislature, making Nevada the first state to have a legislative body where women were the majority.

disparity is a main goal, but so is creating awareness about how—despite 100 years since the vote was passed—the role of women in leadership still needs to be addressed.

Women often won't apply to boards and leadership committees if they don't feel qualified, Molly claims, while men apply to what interests them and let the interviewer decide they are qualified. It might seem a small distinction, but it can keep women from seeking opportunities in which they may be successful. The socioeconomic factors that influence women are another area the NCW studies, along with providing advice to legislators on the effect of proposed legislation on women. Keeping the media informed about women's issues, and recognizing and promoting the contributions women in the state make is also important to the commission, as is educating young people about how far women's rights have come, and how far they still have to go. As a former teacher and mother of four, it's the education component that keeps coming back to the forefront for Molly.

"My daughter is a senior in high school, and she spent one day learning about women's suffrage," Molly says. "This is important to me because of my daughters; my kids. Women aren't treated equally, they often aren't paid equally, and the opportunities aren't equal."

There are studies that show it could be another 60 years for women to be paid the same as men, Molly says, and her concern is that the right to vote is being taken for granted.

"Change still needs to happen," she says. "I just want my daughters to be given the same opportunities, and I want to be part of that change. So this year, we celebrate the women who did fight for those opportunities."

#### **LEARN MORE**

Nevada Commission for Women
515 E. Musser St, Ste. 303
Carson City, NV 89701
admin.nv.gov/commissionforwomen, 775-684-0296

Nevada Women's Suffrage Celebration Committee nv19thamendmentcentennial.com. 775-684-0296



#### **SUPPORT**

A specialty license plate commemorating women's suffrage will be available for one year. It is available at the Department of Motor Vehicle offices and online at dmvnv.com/platescharitable.htm. The license plate is a fundraiser with \$25 of each plate's sale going to the committee.

# **BED & BREAKFASTS**

#### OF NEVADA

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

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







CALIFORNIAT RAILCENTER. ORG

# VEGENATION.

The power of the plant grows in

#### BY KRISTA DIAMOND

"A lot of times when you go to a restaurant and you're a vegan, you are kind of treated as an afterthought," says Donald Lemperle. "But that's changing in Las Vegas."

He would know. A vegan for 16 years, Donald is chef of VegeNation, a plant-based restaurant with locations in Downtown Las Vegas and Henderson. VegeNation serves flavorful fare that just happens to be meatless—not the other way around. Diners will find sun-dappled spaces that feel industrial and verdant at the same time. The eclectic menu, which contains everything from sushi to tacos to spaghetti, reads like an exceptionally comprehensive answer to the question "What should we have for dinner tonight?"

"A LOT OF TIMES WHEN
YOU GO TO A RESTAURANT
AND YOU'RE A VEGAN, YOU
ARE KIND OF TREATED AS
AN AFTERTHOUGHT."

- DONALD LEMPERLE





PHOTOS: JACKIE SOBON

There's American comfort food in the form of chicken pot pie gnocchi garnished with pie crust; classic Vietnamese pho loaded with seasonal vegetables; and pizza topped with vegan sausage, jalapenos, and pineapple. According to Donald, vegan diners will often eat at VegeNation several times in a single week while visiting Las Vegas. It's easy to see why. The menu makes it possible to have curry noodles one night and burgers the next, all while sticking to a plant-based diet.

#### TAKING STOCK

Donald wasn't always a vegan. Originally from New York, it was while living in Scottsdale, Arizona, in 2005, that a diagnosis of multiple myeloma caused him to reevaluate his lifestyle.

"It was really shocking because my children were still in junior high school and I was too young to die," says Donald. "I really examined my life and one of the things I looked into was eating a plant-based diet. The chloroform of green vegetables adds oxygen to the blood and oxygen is the enemy of cancer."

Donald quit his habit of drinking a gallon of diet soda a day and switched to green smoothies every morning. He also began exercising and meditating. "I really had to clean up my act," he says. "Everything's been fine since."

After relocating to Las Vegas, Donald opened VegeNation on Carson Avenue in 2015. At the time, vegan dining was not an often-heard phrase in Las Vegas. Travelers sometimes associate Las Vegas with decadent but often unhealthy dining choices. But such is the genius of VegeNation's menu, which is a far-cry from the diet of lettuce and sprouts that are stereotypically associated with vegan dining.

#### DELICIOUS CHOICES

"The menu is not health food," says Donald. "I don't pretend that it is. It's a spectrum of vegan food that's got really



healthy, raw stuff and also chicken sandwiches and burgers that are still plant-based but aren't healthy."

The diverse clientele at VegeNation reflects this. On an average day, it's common to see devoted carnivores dining alongside vegans, digging into warm biscuits smothered with mushroom-based gravy for breakfast, fighting for the last buffalo cauliflower wing over lunch, and splitting baked Alaska made with local plant-based ice cream and toasted meringue for dessert.

"I was nervous before we opened up," admits Donald.
"I walked down Carson and the street was dark at night.
Nobody was out there. It was a big risk, but fortunately we were very well received and we took off from the get-go."



#### PLANT POWER GROWS

Since then, the vegan dining scene has exploded in Las Vegas. Plant-based locals can easily find vegan and vegetarian options in their off-Strip neighborhoods, including Chef Kenny's Asian Vegan Restaurant (a favorite of Donald's) and Veggie House Vegetarian Restaurant in Chinatown; The Modern Vegan near the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and Tacotarian in Rhodes Ranch. For tourists who prefer not to stray from the Strip and Downtown Las Vegas, options are still plentiful. There are strictly plant-based restaurants like VegeNation and Simply Pure plus omnivore establishments that offer vegetarian and vegan menus, including just about every restaurant at the Wynn and Encore, as well as SushiSamba at the Palazzo and Guy Fieri's Vegas Kitchen & Bar at the LINQ.

The city also celebrates plant-based eating with a vegan dining month called Veganuary. Held in January, the event challenges Las Vegas restaurants to offer vegan menus in support of the Nevada Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. It's put on by Vegans, Baby, a dining website run by Diana Edelma—author of "Vegans, Baby: Las Vegas Vegan Food Guide."

Another vegan dining event that has gained popularity in recent years is the annual Vegas VegFest. Held near Downtown Las Vegas at the Clark County Amphitheater, this free festival for both vegans and "veg-curious friends"





#### **CRAVINGS** | VegeNation



JACKIE SOBON

includes vendors selling plant-based food, such as cinnamon rolls from Cinnaholic, pizza from Pinky's Up Gluten Free Pizza, and burgers from **GFY Burgers and** Fries. The September 2019 festival included a presentation on giving up dairy from Jodi Paige of Virgin Cheese, whose local, cashew-based artisanal cheeses are featured as a part of VegeNation's popular cheese board.

Utilizing local Las Vegas products is a cornerstone of VegeNation's ethos. In addition to Virgin Cheese, Donald also offers craft beer from Las Vegas-based brewery Crafthaus, spirits from Las Vegas Distillery, and tea from Desert Bloom Eco Farm in Tecopa, California, which is in the nearby Mojave Desert between Las Vegas and Death Valley National Park.



#### PLANTING A SEED

Donald doesn't just believe in sourcing locally. He also believes in growing locally. Through his involvement with the Southern Nevada nonprofit Create a Change Now, Donald sponsors gardens at local elementary schools. Children learn to plant and grow edible gardens at their schools and are then taught how to harvest vegetables and cook plant-based meals. Create a Change Now also uses produce from these elementary school farms as a part of an annual benefit dinner that invites local chefs to each prepare part of a five-course plant-based meal that rolls its proceeds directly back into the nonprofit's programs. This past year's event featured courses prepared by Donald plus Mario Tapia and Shane Stuart of The Green Heart, Kenny Chye of Chef Kenny's Asian Vegan Restaurant, Scott Pajak of Lagasse's Stadium, and Shayanne Nelson of Bleu Moon Bakery.

"We are trying to generate a local food community here in Vegas," says Donald.

For VegeNation, that means offering an affordable, approachable menu to locals who want plant-based options, tourists who want a break from pricey steakhouses and anyone who just wants a crispy Nashville-style chicken sandwich without the chicken. Donald is in talks with the T-Mobile Arena about opening up a kiosk which would make it possible for diners to enjoy plant-based food while





PHOTOS: ASHLEY REBOSA

cheering on the Vegas Golden Knights. He is also open to growing the VegeNation brand outside of Las Vegas.

"We have people come in from all over and say, 'I need one of these where I'm from,' " says Donald.

"There's a really big demand," he says. "People realize the food is good and it's a win-win for everyone. The environment, the compassion for the animals, and for yourself; to me it's the food of the future."

#### **VEG OUT, DELICIOUSLY**

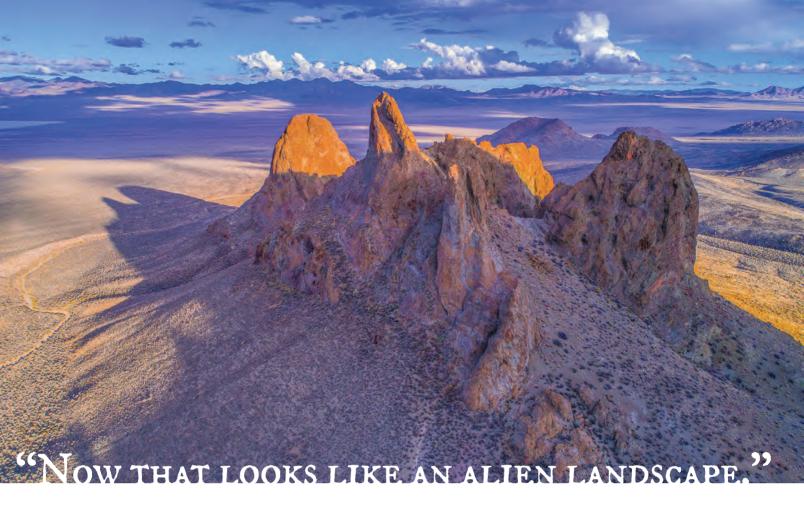
616 E. Carson Ave., Suite 120 Las Vegas, NV 89101 702-366-8515 10075 Eastern Ave. Henderson, NV 89052 702-527-7663

vegenationly.com



# ALJE OUTBACK Reveille Range in southern Nevada showcases an otherworldly landscape.





#### STORY & PHOTOS BY CHIP CARROON

On my frequent trips between northern and southern Nevada, I have a lot of time to look at the landscape. As I pass close to Area 51, I keep a keen eye out for alien or unusual phenomena.

As some know, Area 51 is a highly classified and restricted U.S. Air Force base that is rumored to be used for the testing of weapon systems and aircraft. However, the secrecy of the base has made it the topic of conspiracy theories and unidentified flying object myths.





#### IT'S OUT THERE

Sure enough on a recent drive on State Route 375—affectionately called the Extraterrestrial Highway—as I gaze off to the west, there are astonishing vertical-sided pinnacles lined up in a row. "Now that looks like an alien landscape," I think. I've been leery about approaching the strange forms, but on this trip I decide to take a look.

There is a simple dirt road leading up the hill to what I surmise is the aliens' den, and when I arrive at the base of the pinnacles, I am not disappointed.

There lie a number of volcanic structures, each about 500-feet tall with near-vertical sides, composed of erosionally resistant rock (dacite) that somewhat resembles granite. The clue that suggests they are volcanic is the



#### WIDE OPEN | Alien Outback

endemic columnar jointing which is a typical feature in near-surface tabular igneous bodies. The jointing forms as the molten rock slowly solidifies and contracts. This whole affair formed quite a while ago in the Miocene as a relatively silica-rich magma intruded outward as a vertical-sided dike from the Pyramid Spring caldera. Over millions of years, the Reveille Range has been uplifted and eroded to reveal the erosional remnants of the dike that are now in the form of our alien landscape.

These lands are part of the South Reveille Wilderness Study Area, a landscape that is so unusual and unique as to be considered for more protective status. Part of the allure is that the very remote location enables many wild animals to call it home. As you climb to the top of one of the pinnacles at sunrise, you may hear coyotes yipping in the distance, hear cliff-dwelling birds nearby, see a group of deer and then pronghorn run by far below, and even possibly see elk and bighorn sheep.

#### BOLDLY GO WHERE FEW HAVE GONE BEFORE

It is somewhat akin to a fantasyland so you may want to take some pictures. As a professional photographer, I feel quite excited at the prospects. The dramatic and repetitive vertical cliffs are hard to beat. Hiking access to the area is reasonable, but a climb to the top of the mountain ridge to the west takes some time. Only one of the steep-sided pinnacles can be easily climbed, but such a pursuit is well worth the effort. The 360-degree views are spectacular and there are many photographic opportunities. As usual, the weather is the determining factor as to whether you will get some good shots or not. This arid region has clear skies most of the time, but passing weather fronts offer multiple possibilities.

On your next trip across the state, take a walk on the wild side of Area 51, and check out the alien landforms in the Reveille Range of Nye County.







BY MEGG MUELLER & ERIC CACHINERO

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

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

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

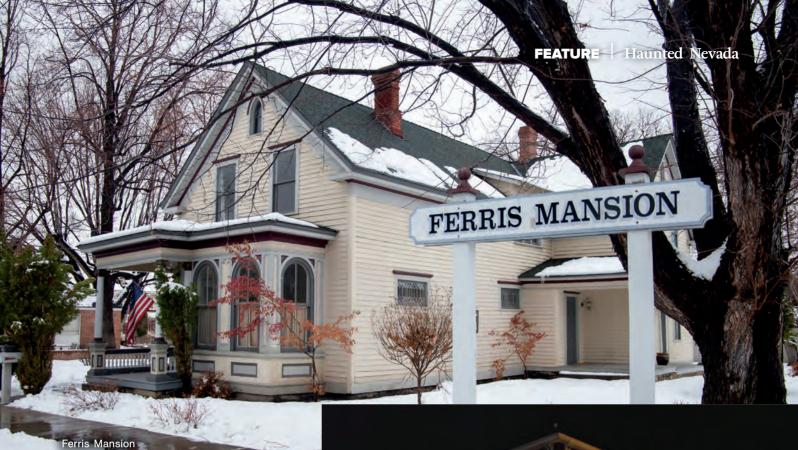
Mine replica underneath the Carson City Mint

KIPPY S. SPILKER

#### CARSON CITY MINT

As The Comstock mines boomed in Virginia City in the early 1860s, it became apparent that the region needed an efficient way of turning silver ore into silver currency. The mint was in its early planning stages in 1863, though it wouldn't start turning out coinage until Feb. 4, 1870. Just several years later, though, the mint would come to bear the burden of a grizzly scene. On Dec. 12, 1872, a mint worker named Osborne Parker was working in the basement when some equipment fell on top of him, crushing him to death.

Parker's unfortunate demise has reportedly been the cause of many ghost sightings at the mint, which now serves at the Nevada State Museum. Adding to the spookiness is the museum's full-sized underground mine replica, which guests and museum staff report hearing footsteps inside. In addition, the museum's elevator is said to occasionally operate by itself, which believers attribute to Parker's lost soul still showing up for work all these years later. *–Eric Cachinero* 



#### FERRIS MANSION

The creation of the Ferris Wheel isn't the only thing renowned inventor George Washington Gale Ferris Jr. is remembered for. The Ferris Mansion—once home to Ferris Jr.—in Carson City holds a tale that takes people on an amusing ride.

Ferris Jr. died in 1896, and just four years later, a wedding took place at the mansion. But a third bride showed up, by all accounts, uninvited.

Guest of the wedding report that there were two brides attending, and even report speaking to the second bride. It was later discovered that there had been another wedding at the mansion years prior, and

that the second bride was a ghost showing up to watch over the proceedings. Guests of the mansion today report seeing the ghost bride wandering the halls, and even peeking out of windows. Reports of a strong aftershave scent are also common, and it is believed that Ferris Jr.'s father was known for his generous application of the pungent liquid. *-Eric Cachinero* 

#### ST. CHARLES HOTEL

On April 1, 1862, construction was started on the three-story St. Charles Hotel in Carson City. The same year, the "Silver Age" newspaper gave the hotel gleaming reviews, touting it as the, "the pleasantest resort in



PHOTOS: ALEXANDRIA OLIVARES-WENZEL

Carson and where everything kept by the bar is the best quality." During the next decade, the hotel was frequented by famous Nevada figures, including renowned stage driver Hank Monk, and provided lodging for legislators and other upper-class Nevadans.

As The Comstock began to play out, though, so did the novelty of the St. Charles Hotel. In 1874, the "Daily Appeal" reported that a man killed himself inside the hotel by taking a fatal dose of strychnine—a highly toxic, colorless poison. Hotel visitors report hearing and seeing evidence of the tortured soul still roaming the halls to this day.

#### **FEATURE** Haunted Nevada

Additional reports include the apparition of heavy-weight boxing contender Larry Duncan, who boxed under the name "Fighting Irish Pat Duncan." Duncan lived at the hotel during the late 20th century, and is said to have died in his room. Many paranormal investigators claim to have seen and felt his spirit wandering the hotel. Also joining the other spirits at the hotel is a spectral feline, though all reported accounts claim they hear the cat meowing, but never see it. –*Eric Cachinero* 

#### **BLISS MANSION**

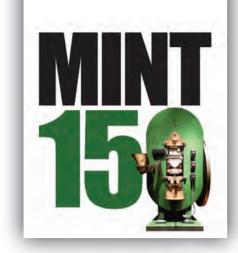
Millionaire Duane L. Bliss' three-story home on Carson City's west side was completed in 1879 and was home to Bliss and his wife Elizabeth. Bliss chose the spot for his dream home, never letting the fact it was the site of a cemetery sway him; some reports indicate it was an American Indian burial ground. He's said to have had all the bodies exhumed and relocated before building, but some say there were many bodies still buried beneath the home.

Reports from visitors and people who've stayed at the house say the spirits of those people roam the house, as does Bliss, who loved his home so much, he apparently never left when he died in 1907. A child died in the house in the 1980s, and some have said his death was at the hands of the spirits that still live there. The home was a bed and breakfast in the 1990s but is now closed to the public although it does open for public tours and also occasionally hosts art and music events. *-Megg Mueller* 



PHOTOS: ALEXANDRIA OLIVARES-WENZEL







#### SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EVENT, FEBRUARY 4, 2020

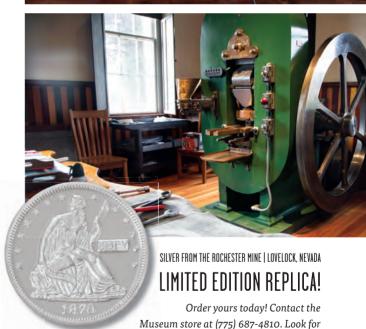
Join us on February 4 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of when the Carson City Mint issued its first coin in 1870. Special guests will be on hand to make the ceremonial first strikes on Coin Press No. 1 of a special sesquicentennial .999 fine silver medallion. Events will take place throughout the day, as well as the entire week, including two special children's minting days.

Free admission on February 4. Children 17 and under are always free. For a full schedule of events, visit

MINT150.COM









the 150 Sesquicentennial Special Medallion at

our Anniversary Event, February 4, 2020!

#### **GOVERNOR'S MANSION**

For the first 40 years of statehood, Nevada's governors were responsible for their residences, but then Mrs. T. B. Rickey sold 1.8 acres of land to the state for \$10. Legend has it she was upset with her husband's lengthy business trips, and upon his return, he was unhappy but didn't want to renege on the deal.

The Governor's Mansion was completed in 1909, and Governor Denver S. Dickerson was the first governor to occupy the residence. His daughter June is the only child ever born in the Governor's Mansion.

The mansion is said to be haunted by June and her mother Una, and former employees at the mansion have reported hearing cold wind blowing from an antique grandfather clock that also swings open periodically without assistance. Former First Lady Sandy Miller's brother-in-law is said to have seen the appari-

tion of a woman in a white gown. The woman is believed to be Una Dickerson, dressed for the mansion's opening in 1909.

-Megg Mueller

#### BREWERY ARTS CENTER

Built in 1865 by the Carson Brewery, the building contained a brewery and a bar on the first floor and



PHOTOS: ALEXANDRIA OLIVARES-WENZEL

the upper floor served as the Masonic Lodge from 1865 to 1919. It changed hands several times before closing in 1948, making it the longest running brewery in the state when it closed at 88 years old. With all that history, there's no wonder there have been spectral sightings.

The most consistent haunting is said to be the work of a well-mannered and dapper maintenance worker. James P. Maar has been said to appear in a brown-checked suit and yellow tie, reminding employees to remember such tasks as turning off the lights and locking the doors. A member of the Masonic organization, he was also the caretaker and continues to oversee his duties to this day.

The building today is an arts center, open to the public. -Megg Mueller



# CARSON CITY GHOST WALK

Carson City's rich and intriguing history is explored and theatrically relived every year, thanks to the Carson City Ghost Walk Tour. It's a spooky and enjoyable way to experience the city's rich Victorian Era history, learn about lingering spirits, and hear haunted and paranormal stories.

Carson City's most entertaining character, Madame Curry—wife of Carson City founder Abe Curry—leads the ghost walk. The fictionalized portrayal of Madame Curry is the work of Mary Bennett, who has been involved in the ghost walk since it began in 1993. She and her daughter Baylee Biber have run the business since 2011.

"The first time I did the ghost walk, many years ago now, I fell in love with the moments of history that were presented, the architecture, and the personalities," Mary says.

As the producing artistic director at the Bruka Theater in Reno, Mary's love of the theatrical was a perfect fit, and came to inform how she wanted to entertain and educate people during the ghost walk.

The tour includes the
Governor's Mansion; the
Krebs-Peterson house where
John Wayne's last movie, "The
Shootist," was filmed; Bliss
Mansion; and the home of
George Washington Gale Ferris
Jr., inventor of the Ferris Wheel.
Tours are given annually in the
summer months and in October.

For more information visit carsoncityghostwalk.com or call 775-348-6279.





The Nevada Arts Council Grants Program reflects a significant commitment by the State of Nevada to support the creation of art and access to the arts for its citizens.

#### FY21 PROJECT GRANT FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Deadline: March 20, 2020 Applications open: January 1, 2020

#### **FY21 ARTS LEARNING PROJECT GRANT**

Deadline: April 3, 2020 Applications open: January 1, 2020

#### FY21 PROJECT GRANT FOR ARTISTS CYCLE A

Deadline: May 1, 2020 Applications open: March 2, 2020

#### FY21 ARTIST FELLOWSHIP GRANT (Literary and Performing Arts)

Deadline: April 15, 2020 Applications open: February 3, 2020

#### **FY21 FOLK ARTS FELLOWSHIP GRANT**

Deadline: April 15, 2020 Applications open: January 1, 2020

#### CYCLE B

Deadline: November 2, 2020 Applications open: September 1, 2020



nvartscouncil.org | 775.687.6680

Funding for the Nevada Arts Council is provided by





#### THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS - FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THEIR WEBSITES

**Austin Chamber of Commerce** austinnevada.com **Beatty Chamber of Commerce** beattynevada.org **Boulder City Chamber of Commerce** bouldercitychamber.com Cactus Creek Steakhouse bonanzacasino.com **California Trail Interpretive Center** californiatrailcenter.org **Carson Valley Visitors Authority** visitcarsonvalley.org City of West Wendover westwendovercity.com Cowboy Arts & Gear Museum cowboyartsandgearmuseum.org Elko Convention & Visitor's Authority exploreelko.com **KNPB Channel 5 PBS** knpb.org **Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority** visitmesquite.com **Mesquite Gaming** casablancaresort.com **Nevada Arts Council** nvculture.org Nevada B & B Guild nevadabandb.com **Nevada Department of Tourism** travelnevada.com **Nevada Historical Society** nvhistoricalsociety.org **Nevada Silver Trails** nevadasilvertrails.com **Nevada's Cowboy Country** cowboycountry.com **Pony Express Territory** loneliestroad.us **Renown Regional Medical Center** renown.org St. George Area Parade of Homes paradehomes.com **Shooting the West** shootingthewest.org **Town of Pahrump** visitpahrump.com **Town of Tonopah** tonopahnevada.com White Pine County Tourism & Rec. Board elynevada.net Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority winnemucca.com



#### PROFESSIONAL TEAMS SQUARE OFF AT LAS VEGAS BALLPARK.

rofessional Rugby returns to Las Vegas for the 11th year as Major League Rugby (MLR) plays five of the 2020 regular season matches in Las Vegas as part of the Major League Rugby Vegas Weekend, Feb. 9 and Feb. 15-16 at Las Vegas Ballpark.

The matches kick off on Sunday, Feb. 9 with newcomers the New England Free Jacks, taking on last year's semi-finalists Rugby United New York in the team's inaugural MLR match. This game serves as a precursor to the official MLR Vegas Weekend, consisting of double-header matches on Saturday, Feb. 15 and Sunday, Feb. 16.

The MLR event is the first of its kind to be hosted at the award-winning Las Vegas Ballpark. The new world-class stadium opened in April 2019 and in true Las Vegas style, it features a sideline pool for front-row viewing. Previously the USA Sevens hosted an annual tournament in Las Vegas, and the MLR Vegas Weekend is an opportunity for professional rugby to return to the city.

"We know that Las Vegas and rugby go well together. We wanted to give our fans the opportunity to support their team on the road and take in a whole weekend of MLR action, all under the bright lights of Vegas. We can't wait for February," says MLR commissioner Dean Howes.

The official MLR Vegas Weekend schedule is as follows:

#### Sunday, Feb. 9

New England Free Jacks vs Rugby United New York at 1 p.m.

#### Saturday, Feb. 15

Utah Warriors vs New England Free Jacks at 11:30 a.m. Rugby United New York vs Austin Herd at 3:30 p.m.

#### Sunday, Feb. 16

Toronto Arrows vs Houston SaberCats at 11:30 a.m. San Diego Legion vs Glendale Raptors at 3 p.m.

#### PLAN YOUR TRIP

Major League Rugby Vegas Weekend Las Vegas Ballpark, Las Vegas Feb. 9, 15-16 thelvballpark.com, 702-486-3511





### DIERKS BENTLEY

#### COUNTRY ARTIST BRINGS FIERY TOUR TO THE CHELSEA.

he Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas has announced that three-time Country Music Award-nominee Dierks Bentley is bringing his "Burning Man Tour" to The Chelsea Feb. 14-15. Known for his genuine performance and full-throttle production, the seasoned entertainer delivers his authentic set with special guest Caylee Hammack.

Considered "one of country music's most enviable brands, equal parts affability and authenticity" by "Forbes," Bentley continues to be a dominant voice for the genre with more than 6.4 billion overall digital streams. He has also created professional endeavors outside of the music industry with his Desert Son clothing collection and four Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Row restaurant locations across the country.

Caylee Hammack constantly felt like a self-described "hippie in a hillbilly town" in her tiny hometown of Ellaville, Georgia. Her self-penned songs tug on her own life story-bad decisions, broken hearts, and a quirky family lineage. Hammack's current Top 40 breakout single "Family Tree," which she co-wrote and co-produced, was the most-added single on country radio by a female in more than three years.



WHERE

The Chelsea at Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas



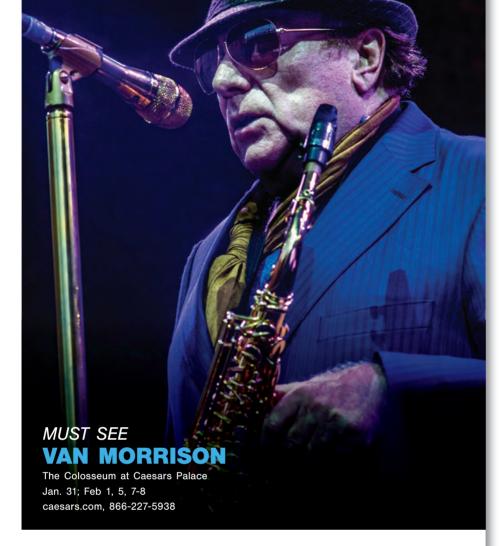
WHEN

Feb. 14-15



**TICKETS** 

cosmopolitanlasvegas.com 702-698-7475



Legendary Grammy Award-winner Van Morrison has announced a five-night run of shows at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, 5, and 7-8.

Van Morrison grew up on his father's collection of blues, country, and gospel music early in life and by the age of 13 was working as a traveling musician playing guitar and saxophone in several bands. In 1964, he formed the group Them, which would go on to record the much-covered hits "Gloria" and "Here Comes the Night." A few years later, he released the Top 40 pop sensation "Brown Eyed Girl" and began his career as a successful solo musician. He has since released more than 35 albums and has created one of the most revered catalogues in music history, including singles "Moondance," "Have I Told You Lately," and "Days Like This."

#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The "Ladies Night Out Comedy Tour" is coming to Las Vegas for one night only on Saturday, Feb. 15 in the Paris Theater at Paris Las Vegas. Celebrity host Nene Leakes leads an all-star lineup of talent including Adele Givens and special guests Loni Love, Sherri Shepherd, Kym Whitley, and B Simone—a cast of comediennes sure to leave audiences cracking up.



#### **TICKETS**

parislasvegas.com, 702-946-7000

Held every third Friday of the month at Grouchy John's Coffee, "The Vegas Voice" showcases five artists including writers, singers, poets, comics, authors, and storytellers. On Jan. 17, the event showcases local and acclaimed artists including author and storyteller Holly Mack, writer Veronica Klash, writer Drew Cohen, novelist A.D. Hopkins, and poet Rodney Lee.



#### **TICKETS**

grouchyjohns.com, 702-778-7553

#### HOTTEST SHOWS

#### **LION FIGHT**

Hard Rock Jan. 11 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000

#### THE EMO NIGHT TOUR

Hard Rock Jan. 17 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000

#### TOOL

T-Mobile Arena Jan. 17 t-mobilearena.com 702-692-1600

#### **GEORGE STRAIT**

T-Mobile Arena Jan. 31; Feb. 1 t-mobilearena.com 702-692-1600

#### **BRIAN MCKNIGHT**

Wynn Feb. 8 wynnlasvegas.com 702-770-9966

#### LOS TEMERARIOS

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

#### **SARA MCLACHLAN**

Mandalay Bay Feb. 19 mandalaybay.com 702-632-7777

#### **CHER**

MGM Feb. 19, 21-22, 26, 28-29 parktheaterly.com 877-880-0880



Jan. 23-26

#### **EAGLES & AGRICULTURE Carson Valley** carsonvalleynv.org

775-782-8144

Eagles & Agriculture returns for another year of winged action. The event highlights in-thefield eagle and raptor viewing, giving photographers and avian enthusiasts a chance to view the birds interacting with the beautiful Carson Valley.



Jan. 24-26

#### **MESQUITE BALLOON FESTIVAL**

Mesquite visitmesquite.com 702-346-7529

Come watch colorful hot air balloons fly through the scenic Virgin Valley near Mesquite. The Stars and Stripes balloon takes the lead each morning, accompanied by more than 40 others. As the sun sets, spectators get an up-close view of balloons as they put on a glow show.

#### 7-10 DREAMLAND XR

Alexis Park All Suite Resort, Las Vegas dreamlandxr.com

#### 10-11 GARY ALLAN

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

#### 16-18 SHEEP SHOW

Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno wildsheepfoundation.org, 406-404-8750

#### **17** STYX

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

#### 17-19 MESQUITE MOTOR MANIA

Mesquite visitmesquite.com, 877-637-7848

#### 18 FIREWORKS EXPRESS

Nevada Northern Railway, Ely nnry.com, 775-289-2085

#### 18-19 WHITE PINE FIRE & ICE SHOW

Cave Lake State Park elynevada.net, 800-496-9350

#### 24-25 ZEPARELLA

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

#### 28-Feb. 14 RENO/TAHOE SENIOR WINTER **GAMES**

Reno/Tahoe reno.gov, 775-657-4602

#### 29 BLACK VIOLIN

UNLV Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas unlv.edu, 702-895-2787

#### 31 ROYAL BLISS

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



CHARLIE JOHNSTON



Jan. 27-Feb. 1

#### NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Western Folklife Center, Elko nationalcowboypoetrygathering.org, 775-738-7508

On Jan. 27-Feb. 1 The National Cowboy Poetry Gathering returns to the Western Folklife Center in Elko. Now in its 36th year, the event once again allows guests to get their fill of arts, culture, and traditions of the rural West. The event features poetry, music, storytelling, dancing, workshops, exhibitions, discussions, food, and fellowship.



Feb. 14-16, 21-23

#### WINTER STEAM SPECTACULAR

Nevada Northern Railway, Ely nnry.com, 775-289-2085

The Winter Steam Spectacular, held annually at the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely, is a one-of-a-kind event that invites photographers of all skill levels. The event allows attendees to photograph steam trains operating in low temperatures, resulting in spectacular displays. Train crews dress in era attire, adding to the experience.

#### 4 CARSON CITY MINT CELEBRATES 150 YEARS

Nevada State Museum, Carson City mint150.org, 775-687-4810

#### 8 REO SPEEDWAGON

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

#### 8 THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT SALOON CRAWL

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

#### Feb. 13-16 DAM SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Boulder Theatre, Boulder City damshortfilm.org, 702-509-4326

#### 14 JOHNNY MATHIS

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

#### 14-15 JERROD NIEMANN

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

#### 15 "THE BACHELOR LIVE ON STAGE"

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

#### 21 DIAMOND RIO

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

#### 21 SEBASTIAN MANISCALCO

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

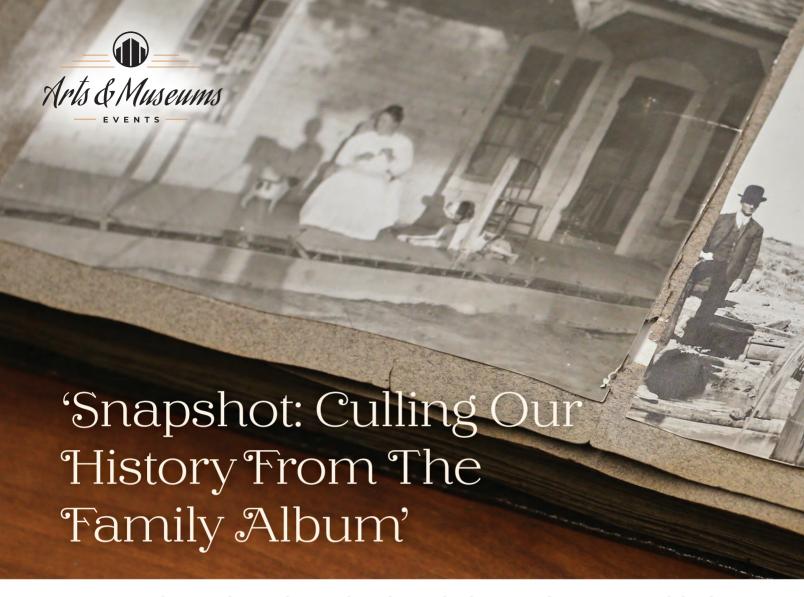
#### 26-March 1 WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO

Winnemucca Events Complex, Winnemucca ranchrodeonv.com, 775-623-5071

#### 29 RICHARD MARX

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





#### EXHIBITION PRESERVES MEMORIES THROUGH TREASURED HEIRLOOMS.

As part of the Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series, a new exhibition—"Snapshot: Culling Our History from the Family Album"—is running at the Nevada Humanities Program Gallery in Las Vegas. The exhibition is presented in partnership with the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) University Libraries Special Collections and Archives. The exhibition is on display through Jan. 23.

Family albums are often treasured heirlooms preserving memories passed from generation to generation. But for Las Vegas historians, the albums that have made their way to Special Collections and Archives in the UNLV University Libraries hold much more than the faces of past residents. They provide a window into the past and a glimpse of family and social life in historic Las Vegas.



PHOTOS: UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

"It is an amazing revelation to understand the history of a city through the family albums that each of us hold dear. In this way, deeply personal history becomes public history. Our intimate stories become part of a larger shared narrative that defines us all," says Nevada Humanities Executive Director Christina Barr. "I will never look the same way at my family albums again, and neither will visitors after they see this exhibition."





#### WHERE

Nevada Humanities Program Gallery, Las Vegas



#### WHEN

Through Jan. 23



#### **TICKETS**

702-800-4670



#### **WORTH A CLICK**

nevadahumanities.org

#### 'THE FIRST CLEAN POWER: THE SCIENCE OF **NUCLEAR ELECTRICITY GENERATION'**

National Atomic Testing Museum, Las Vegas Jan. 12

nationalatomictestingmuseum.org, 702-794-5151

#### 'KING OF BEASTS: A STUDY OF THE AFRICAN LION BY JOHN BANOVICH'

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through Feb. 16 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

#### 'DECORATIVE ARMS: TREASURES FROM THE ROBERT M. LEE COLLECTION'

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno Through Feb. 16 nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

#### 'THE FORGOTTEN COWBOYS'

Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko Through Feb. 20 museumelko.org, 775-738-3418

# MEVADA COWBOYS

RIDE ONTO THE BIG SCREEN



New movie takes an authentic, in-depth look at the working-ranch lifestyle.

BY JOLYN YOUNG

A cowboy trots briskly across an expansive meadow, riding toward an unknown destination. He is a solitary figure in a black hat and brown chaps, accompanied only by his horse. The meadow they quickly cover provides feed for the ranch's cattle and is flanked by snow-capped mountains that showcase the vastness of Nevada's open country.

Ranchers, urbanites, and all others interested in the cowboy way of life can ride

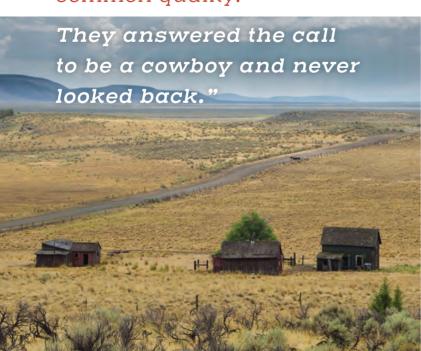
along with this Nevada buckaroo and other working cowboys featured in "Cowboys: A Documentary Portrait." This feature-length film chronicles life on a modern-day ranch, as portrayed and narrated by the cowboys themselves. Filmmaker Bud Force and acclaimed photographer John Langmore teamed up with creative producer Felicitas Funke to tell the story of the cowboys and their families who make a living—and a life—in the saddle and on the range.

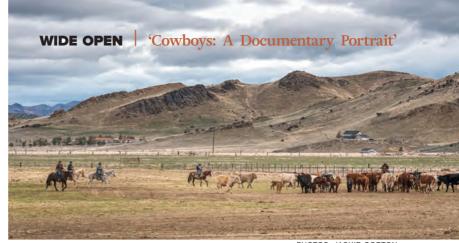


The cowboy culture is an integral part of Nevada's history. The term buckaroo originated from the word vaquero, which is Spanish for cowboy. In the 1600s, vaqueros traveled from Spain to the New World and they used their specialized methods of riding and roping to help settle California. From there, the vaquero ways traveled to Nevada, where they rooted firmly with the Great Basin buckaroos during the mid-1800s.

Today, a strong buckaroo presence continues to thrive in Nevada. Cattle ranching, and subsequently cowboys, remain a pillar of the state's economy in its vast rural regions. Here, tourists seeking an authentic Western adventure can experience all things cowboy, from family-owned saddle shops to ranch rodeos.

"They hail from different states and represent different stages of life, but they all share a common quality:





PHOTOS: JACKIE GORTON

#### RIDING ONTO THE BIG SCREEN

This new film covers all four seasons and every aspect of ranch life, from pulling calves in the spring to feeding hay in the winter. The muted smell of sagebrush after a rainstorm, the lazy swirling of roll-yer-own smoke drifting skyward, the bawling of cattle in the corrals at shipping time, the rhythmic force of a bronc ride—these scenes and more come alive during the film.

"The audience is going to ride side-by-side with the cowboys and learn not only their day-to-day workings, but also their personal stories and challenges unique only to this lifestyle," says Bud.

In order to accurately depict life on a modern-day big outfit, the directors chose to film only on ranches that run full cowboy crews in eight Western states, including three ranches in Nevada. Many ranches have stopped using horses and cowboys in favor of four-wheelers and hydraulic chutes. Force and Langmore carefully selected filming locations to capture the traditional Western lifestyle they sought to portray.

The film's overall impact far exceeds practical education, though. "I would consider it a biopic about this singular character being

the 'cowboy,' but as told by multiple people who are each in essence that same character," says Bud.

"Cowboys" deconstructs the romantic notions of the cowboy life-

style typically portrayed by Hollywood movies and paperback novels. Throughout the film, working cowboys explain ranch work and their dedication to the lifestyle in their own words. They hail from different states and represent different stages of life, but they all share a common quality: They answered the call to be a cowboy and never looked back.

"Cowboying isn't what you do. It's who you are," says one weathered cowboy.

Stories and explanations are carefully paired with corresponding scenes throughout the movie to guide the viewer through the ranch life, but the overall message resonates with a unifying theme that transcends the boundaries of life on the ranch.

"People are people, and some of those people are cowboys. Whether you live in the mountains, on the prairie, or in the desert, there's still that tie, no matter where you are," says Bud.

#### WIDE OPEN | 'Cowboys: A Documentary Portrait'



#### WRANGLING THE LIFESTYLE

For a deeper look inside the ranching lifestyle, "Cowboys" includes a woman's perspective. The camera crew visited me and my family at our remote cow camp home while we lived in Arizona. I shared my experiences of living four hours from town with no clothes dryer, an unreliable power supply, and two small children. Footage of me taking laundry off the line and my kids twirling on a tire swing in the golden late afternoon light are featured alongside the cowboy crew branding calves through white clouds of dust.

"Outside of interviews, we did not stage a single scene in this movie," says Force.

This staunch adherence to the truth results in a movie that is gritty, raw, and wholly authentic. It captures a snakebit horse, rows of cattle carcasses bloated and blackened by wildfire, and a family's grief over their young son's death from a ranching accident.

"It's a privilege to be out here," says one cowboy. "But you pay a price."

For those willing to assume the risks, the big outfit lifestyle also provides plenty of unexpected levity alongside the

darkness. "Cowboys" includes a montage of bronc rides, punctuated with photographs of a cowboy mid-air and a trio of horseback gents with their heads thrown back in laughter. Langmore's black-and-white still images are regularly interspersed throughout the movie, inviting the viewer to quietly deliberate the livestock, gear, and rugged scenery along with the

interview subjects.

"We wanted to convey how deeply these men and women reflect on their lifestyle," says Langmore.

In addition to the workload and the livestock, the landscape of ranch country greatly shapes the lifestyle and character of the contemporary working cowboy. The film includes both moving and still images of the vast sagebrush flats, steep mountains, and rocky canyons where cowboys live and work every day. The combination of stunning aerial footage and an impressive original musical score that swells and falls with the canyon walls draws the viewer deeply into film's beauty.

"They've been talkin' about the cowboy dyin' for over 100 years, ever since the trail drive days.

But, he's still here, and always will be."





& Gear Museu





SUSANNE REESE

Cowboys may live far from town in the wide-open spaces, but they have modernized to some degree since the days of the cattle drives. Despite cell phones, WiFi, and indoor plumbing, men and women still earn a living by taking care of

cattle with a horse and saddle. One of the movie's cowboy storytellers summed up the film's everlasting theme:

"They've been talkin' about the cowboy dyin' for over 100 years, ever since the trail drive days. But, he's still here, and always will be."

#### COMING TO NEVADA

After making its rounds on the film festival circuit, it won the audience choice award at the Austin and Rockport Film Festivals. "Cowboys" is set to venture to Nevada for a public screening at the 2020 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Jan. 27-Feb. 1. Local ranches featured in the film include the Spanish Ranch and the YP, both located north of Elko. Along with the "Span," as it is commonly called, the film also features still images



DAVID QUANDT

from the TS Ranch, located near Beowawe.

Several local buckaroos are featured prominently in the movie. Ira Wines of the Spanish Ranch provides spoken insight into the cowboy subculture. Greg Snow, cowboss of the YP, also provides substantial narration throughout the film. Native buckaroo Woody Harney is interviewed alongside his son, Junior. Both are employed at the Span, where they continue the family tradition of roping and riding bucking horses every day.

To experience the scenic locations and traditional lifestyle featured in the film, visitors can drive past (or through, in some cases) the historic ranches featured in the film. The roads are rough and dusty, but those willing to make the drive from town will not be disappointed. A trek will be rewarded with scenic vistas of cattle grazing on native hay meadows, ranch headquarters that spring up like unexpected neighborhoods in the middle of nowhere, and centuries-old wooden barns still in everyday use.

There's a good chance of seeing real cowboys in action, too. Cowboys often drive cattle down the main roads, so you just might get up close to someone featured in the movie. If you're feeling friendly, roll down your window and say hi. Cowboys that far from town are usually up for fresh conversation with someone who doesn't live in the same bunkhouse as they do.

#### WATCH IT

"Cowboys" can be seen at select screenings throughout the first part of 2020. Later, it will be available on DVD, BluRay, and streaming services. For more information, visit thecowboymovie.com or check nationalcowboypoetrygathering.org for screening details.



#### 'Open Range'

Photo book portrays the working cowboy from the bunkhouse to the branding corral.

BY JOLYN YOUNG

Acclaimed photographer
John Langmore's latest book,
"Open Range," far surpasses all
expectations of quality coverage
of the working cowboy and his
lifestyle. Langmore has long
photographed ranches around the
West, some of which he worked on
as a cowboy in his younger years.
His work is known worldwide for
accurately depicting the American
cowboy at work, leisure, and
home—usually in a bunkhouse.

For "Open Range," Langmore spent 6 years shooting all 4 seasons on 14 of the nation's most historic ranches. He visited Nevada several times, capturing scenes from the Spanish, TS, and YP Ranches. While at these historic locales, Langmore used his analog camera and cowboy intuition to capture more than what meets the eye. A scene of two cowboys standing beside their saddled horses, covered in sweat and dirt,

conveys the tiredness felt by all four. In another image, long-sleeve shirts and blue jeans decorate a tree while a nearby dirt tank welcomes a crew of cowboy-hat-clad swimmers. All his pictures were made with black and white film, a medium that conveys the timeless nature of the working cowboy's lifestyle.

Included within "Open Range's" 144 pages are 30 pages of text that simultaneously educate and entertain. Langmore's writing is rooted in his childhood summers spent working as a cowboy on a Montana ranch, making him uniquely positioned to tell the story of the modern-day big outfits. He hung up his spurs in his twenties, choosing to use his freshly-earned law degree to make a living. Throughout the ensuing decades, Langmore has actively maintained his ties to ranches and the cowboy community at large.







In his book, Langmore writes about branding calves, cutting colts, camping out with the wagon, running mustangs, eating in the cookhouse, and buck-offs he survived. He explains the modern cowboy code in a way that merits the cowboys' approval and remedies the city slicker's ignorance.

"The next

rule you're likely to confront is more contemporary than traditional, as it governs the order in which horses are loaded into a trailer. First, deference is given to where in the lineup the cow boss or buckaroo boss wants his horse. You basically look to him to tell you it's okay to load your horse...To understand the rule's significance, imagine a bunch of siblings stuck in the back seat of a car kicking and biting each other with a thousand pounds of force."

The cowboy/photographer/lawyer deftly weaves humor into his stories as well.

"Another time, I ill-advisedly got on a horse I had no chance of riding. He made that point by bucking me off in two jumps and then kicking me in the chest for good measure. Afterwards, Benny begrudgingly drove me to the Miles City hospital. After examining me, the doctor said that if the kick had landed a few inches differently in either direction, the results might have been altogether more disastrous. Benny dismissively replied, 'Ah, those doctors always say it could have been worse.'"

Langmore optimistically chronicles the cowboy's enduring presence in American society.

"New technology...may alleviate the need for some long rides, but nothing can track a cow like a horse. And no amount of modern breeding can remove a cow's unique ability to hide in a stand of brush or turn on a dime in an effort to undermine man's efforts to control her destiny."

For more information or to order a copy of "Open Range" directly from the publisher, visit Twin Palms Publishers.

twinpalms.com, 505-988-5717



## LOCAL LORE & MYSTERIOUS MATTERS Episode 1: Misplaced mine bodies, the Garden of Eden, and the Nevada Triangle.

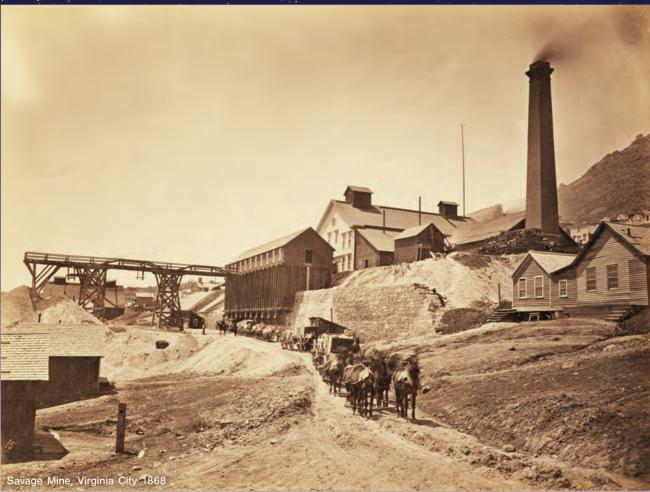
BY ERIC CACHINERO

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

-NARRATOR ROD SERLING. "THE TWILIGHT ZONE"

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

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



PHOTOS: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

#### MISPLACED MINE BODIES

In the late 1860s, workers at the Savage Mine in Virginia City ended their shifts. As the men ascended from the deep mineshafts, they had a story of horror to relay. Mine workers had discovered the body of a man in the sump—a drainage hole that routed boiling water out of the mines. The body was badly decomposed and deformed—cooked from the scalding water—and was found with the tattered remnants of a fancy coat and upscale boots. The remains were removed and taken to the morgue, though strangely, no one was reported missing. The tally sheets of the Savage Mine were surveyed by the miners' union, and everyone was accounted for.

So where did the man come from, and how did he end up thousands of feet below ground? Was it murder?

Several years earlier, in a seemingly unrelated event, San Francisco stock speculator William Meeker was vacationing and boating near Carnelian Bay at Lake Tahoe, when he discovered a small whirlpool on the surface of the lake. Intrigued, Meeker fashioned a makeshift fishing rod, added a length of line, tied a stone on the end, and dropped the stone into the whirlpool. After about 100 feet of line had gone out, something began tugging furiously on the end, and the line began flying off the rod with such violence that it snapped.

Meeker deduced that the water was escaping the bottom of the lake somehow, but he wasn't sure exactly where it was flowing to. He recruited the help of fellow speculator Colonel Clair, who was described as "one of the heaviest and most

unscrupulous operators in the market and a member of the biggest firms on the street." The duo hit the books, examining underground waterways of the region, and eventually discovered that the waters of Lake Tahoe were the source of the flooded mines of Virginia City, located some 20 miles away.

Being the investors that they were, Meeker and Clair formulated a plan to cap the lake's water flow, and also profit from the venture. The plan was to lower a large plug into the hole, with a giant chain attached to the end so they could control the flow. The two aimed first to completely cut the water flow,

but not before they invested heavily in the Savage Mine. Shutting off the water would allow them to rake in millions as the drained Savage Mine revealed rich ore deposits, and turning it back on again by removing the plug would allow them to short the market and flood the mines once more, again profiting majorly.

The plan worked.

Meeker and Clair bought long and short positions in the market as they pleased, using the plug to allow water to flow in and out of the Savage Mine.

One night as Meeker was on the lake pulling on the chain and removing the plug, a boat ominously



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

approached him, and he feared his unscrupulous venture had been discovered. Meeker's panic turned to relief, though, as it was Clair that had found him and come aboard.

"I have your share deposited in the Nevada Bank," Clair told Meeker, "and it is now over 2 million."

A smile came over Meeker's face as he continued to pull the plug out.

"How big the moon looks over yonder," Clair added. *Thwack!* 

As Meeker turned his head to look, Clair took a heavy iron bar to the back of Meeker's skull. Clair tied a weight to the body, threw it overboard, and let it sink. Before leaving, Clair lowered the plug into place once more.

Though this story was dreamt up
by Nevada newspaperman Samuel
Post Davis in his famous fictitious
1901 piece titled "The Mystery of the
Savage Sump," tales of underground
water tunnels connecting Lake Tahoe with
surrounding areas have been around for years.
Rumors abound of similar underground tunnels connecting Lake Tahoe and Pyramid Lake.

Is Davis' account of the sump body partially rooted in truth? Do people that go missing in Lake Tahoe end up deep beneath The Comstock or on the bottom of Pyramid Lake?



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION, ALFRED BENDINER MEMORIAL COLLECTION

#### ADAM AND EVE'S PLACE

"WAS THE GARDEN OF EDEN LOCATED IN NEVADA?"

That fervid headline in the Aug. 17, 1924 issue of the "San Francisco Examiner" certainly jumped off the page, though the words that followed would be treated with the same intensity.

"We have found what appears to be the evidence of the oldest civilization in the world—the oldest writing, the oldest art, the oldest sacrifice, the oldest worship, the oldest burial."

The words could be attributed to the "Examiner's" Sunday editor Edward Clark, though they were set in motion by geologist and engineer captain Alan Le Baron, who had made the greatest archeological discovery the world had ever seen. In 1923, Le Baron—who had lived in Egypt

and spent time in Mesopotamia—stumbled upon a special plot of land along the Walker River that contained a wealth of historical artifacts, writings, and remains. Le Baron had discovered bones of prehistoric camels, lions, and elephants interspersed with petrified remains of ancient forests. Most interesting about Le Baron's discovery, though, was that he believed the thousands of petroglyphs in the site were Egyptian and Babylonian in origin.

"The writings have been checked by every method of my command and I am prepared to say positively that this is not the work of Indians," he explained.

Through a series of sensational articles published in the "Examiner," Le Baron would continue to tell of his new discoveries. These were even backed by Stanford Professor Dr. H. R. Fairclough, who later wrote, "I should not be at all surprised if ultimately it will be found that the earliest human life in America was in some such region as that of Nevada," and University College of London professor Eliot Smith, who added this of Le Baron's discoveries: "No such monument has ever before been reported in this continent...nothing like it has ever be found; it is isolated in a region where none but Indians were known to have lived."

In a follow-up article in the "Examiner" published Aug. 19, Le Baron prefaced a lengthy penning with the words, "Paradise regained!" He wrote of the discovery of what



he would call the Hill of a Thousand Tombs—a burial site so old, that bones had turned to a chalky blue-yellow dust that was buried among the stones. It is here that he claimed Adam and Eve themselves had sojourned. He surmised that because of the massive quantity of sun symbols on the rocks, the area must be a "place of worship." Le Baron led several archaeological excavations of the site, though they had to be abandoned because of water flowing into holes once they were dug. Nonetheless, he claimed that rocks at the site were carefully placed to seal rock tombs, even writing that "you could roll that stone away like the one that was rolled from the tomb of Christ."

Le Baron's claims—along with those of a litany of prestigious scholars—wouldn't soon fade from the spotlight. His works would go on to be published in several books and magazines, including "Theosophy" magazine in 1925, and historical geographer Richard V. Francaviglia's book "Believing in Place: Spiritual Geography of the Great Basin."

His research and articles led to semi-stardom in Yerington for a time, though strangely, his presence didn't last long. It's like he almost vanished into thin air.

In the July-August 1993 issue of *Nevada Magazine* author Harry A. Chalekian wrote that Le Baron, "was last seen working with a road crew on a highway project between Fernley and Yerington."

Once Le Baron faded from the public eye, the fallacies and misrepresentations of his works gathered momentum like an out-of-control snowball. Experts examined the petroglyphs Le Baron had claimed were Egyptian or Babylonian and concluded that they were definitely American Indian in nature and were no older than several thousand years. Additionally, it was discovered that the ancient "bone dust" at the Hill of a Thousand Tombs belonged to native fauna.

So why did the world believe Le Baron for so long? How did so many profound scientists agree with his works, only to have them seemingly easily dismissed years later? And what really happened to Le Baron?



RICHARD MASSEY

Walker River

#### THE NEVADA TRIANGLE

At around 8:45 a.m. on Sept. 3, 2007, pilot, sailor, and adventurer Steve Fossett departed from the Flying-M Ranch in Smith Valley in his single-engine Super Decathlon.

He never returned.

After his disappearance, search and rescue teams hunted for a month, but were unable to locate Fossett or the plane. There was no SOS signal emitted from the plane's emergency locator transmitter. Eventually, the search was called off.

Then on Sept. 29, 2008, a hiker discovered Fossett's identification cards high in the Sierra Nevada range in California. Several days later, the crash site was identified, some 65 miles away from the Flying-M Ranch. In addition, bones were found a half mile from the crash site, and were confirmed to be Fossett's.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering a dynamic recitation competition to high school aged participants across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life.

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#### nvartscouncil.org | 775.687.6680

Nevada Poetry Out Loud is a partnership of the National Endowment







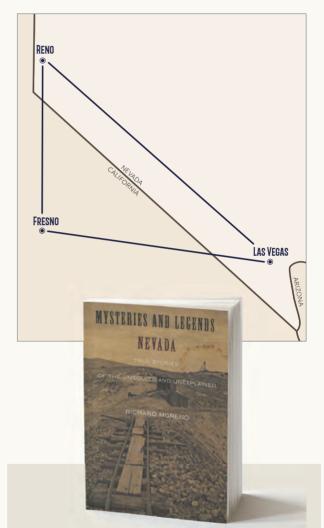
ance is part of a much larger trend
of plane disappearances reported in what
has become known as the Nevada Triangle—an area
defined as a triangle spanning from Reno at the top;
to Fresno, California at the bottom; and Las Vegas at
the east. The Smithsonian Channel, KRNV Channel 4
Reno, and Nevada Public Radio claim more than 2,000
planes have gone missing in the area during the last 60
years, with many of the crash sites never found.

One of the first planes to go missing in the area was a B-24 bomber. On Dec. 5, 1943, the plane—piloted by 2nd Lieutenant Willis Turvey and co-piloted by 2nd Lieutenant Robert M. Hester, along with four other crew members—departed Fresno, California on a routine training mission. It would disappear completely. The following day, nine B-24 bombers were sent to search for the missing plane. Tragically, one of those nine also went missing during the search.

The second missing plane was found to have crashed into Huntington Lake reservoir, though it wasn't recovered until 1955 when repairs to the reservoir's dam required the water to be drained. The plane was found resting 190 feet below the surface, with five crewmembers still at their stations. The first missing B-24 wreckage wasn't discovered until 1960, and was found in and around a remote unnamed lake high in the Sierra.

A multitude of theories exist as to what has caused such an anomalous series of wrecks and disappearances in this Nevada Triangle. One of the most-accepted chalks it up to wind downdrafts—downward air currents that have the potential to reach several hundred miles per hour—though ominous theories also abound. Because of the triangle's proximity to the renowned Area 51—a "secret" and highly-classified Air Force base located deep in the Nevada desert—people have theorized that missing pilots may have seen something they weren't supposed to see.

What really caused more than 2,000 planes to crash or go missing in the Nevada Triangle? Will we ever know the true cause of the missing planes? And does Area 51 have anything to do with it?



#### **READ MORE ABOUT IT**

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





# FINDING FEATHERS

Nevada offers a lengthy list of upland game bird-hunting opportunities.

#### BY ERIC CACHINERO

"Your first time chukar hunting is for fun. Every time after that is for revenge." —every chukar hunter

Each seasoned bird hunter knows the feeling. The perfect conditions lead to the perfect day hunting. A warm sun complements solitude offered atop the mountain peaks, hunting dogs bound and leap with electrified energy searching for birds, and a light layer of snow on the ground reveals hundreds of tiny chukar footprints. Suddenly, the hunter hears the intoxicating and familiar chirping of dozens of chukar high on the mountain above him.

Chuck chuck.

The familiar chukar calling gets louder and louder as strenuous hiking leads the hunter to the most rugged and nearly impassible rocks on the steepest, nastiest mountain he can find. Nausea from exhaustion is quickly forgotten as the excitement builds. Then, just as he reaches the top of the mountain where the chukar reside—nothing...no sounds, no footprints, nothing. Frustrated and drained, the hunter starts walking

to the next mountaintop, only to hear the chukar start chirping again, "laughing" at him from the place he just left.

Some say you'd have to be stupid to hunt chukar, and this author and chukar hunter agrees wholeheartedly. But that's all part of the fun—the exhaustion, the magnificent views, time in the field, time spent working with man's best friend, and the overwhelming sense of accomplishment when you retrieve a downed bird.

Nevada's bird-hunting opportunities expand far beyond just chukar, though. Numerous game-bird species span almost the entire state, and can be hunted by a variety of methods.

But don't make the fatal mistake that every bird hunter makes at least once in their lives by thinking, "bird hunting is easy!"

"YOUR FIRST TIME CHUK AR HUNTING IS FOR FUN. EVERY TIME AFTER THAT IS FOR

**REVENGE** 

-EVERY CHUKAR HUNTER



# FEATURE | Bird Hunting

# **GETTING STARTED**

There are several requirements to hunt upland game in Nevada. Foremost, according to the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), anyone born after Jan. 1, 1960, must complete or show proof of completion of a hunter education course valid in either the U.S. or Canada, Information on course scheduling and requirements is available at ndow.org. Once the hunter education requirement is fulfilled, Nevada residents 18 and older have the option of purchasing either hunting or hunting-fishing combination licenses, while Nevada residents ages 12-17 may only purchase the hunting-fishing combination. Non-resident youth and adults have the option of choosing hunting-fishing combination licenses, or combination oneday permits with the option of adding consecutive days. In addition to the aforementioned options, several other specialty licenses including senior, military, apprentice,

and Native American are available. Each year, NDOW publishes the "Nevada Small Game Hunting Guide," which provides pricing, season dates, legal information, and a host of other hunting information, and can be found at ndow.org, any NDOW field office, and some sporting goods stores.

With a valid Nevada hunting license in hand, hunters simply have to use their "Nevada Small Game Hunting Guide" to ensure they are within legal hunting areas during the correct seasons and using the correct weapon, and then go afield.

# **BIRDS**

Nevada's selection of upland game birds is extensive. The following list describes each game bird along with a rough outline of where they can be found. All bird descriptions are provided and written by NDOW.

# **BIRDS ON** THE BBQ



ERIC CACHINERO

The physical act of hunting upland game birds only covers half the excitement. Chukar are delicious. They can be prepared in a number of different ways (barbecue, crock pot, stovetop), but I prefer baking them whole in a cast-iron skillet, using seasonings that go well with chicken. Many Cornish game hen recipes can be completed using chukar.



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

# **BLUE GROUSE** (DUSKY O AND SOOTY @ GROUSE)

Range in size from 15 to 20 inches and weigh from 26 to 46 oz. Dusky grouse inhabit central Nevada from around Austin, east to the Nevada/Utah border and north to the Idaho/Nevada border. Sooty grouse inhabit extreme western Nevada along the California/Nevada border in mountain ranges such as the Carson Range, Sweetwater, and White Mountains.



# **CHUKAR PARTRIDGE**

Nevada's most popular upland game bird. Widely distributed across the state and much of the Great Basin. Coloration is grayish brown with a buff belly. Chestnut and black barring on flanks with a black line through eye connecting at the throat. Length is 13.4 to 15 inches and weighs from 19 to 27 oz. Inhabits steep, rocky habitat exemplified by talus slopes and cliffs.





# **RUFFED GROUSE**

Reddish-brown or gray with dark bars and spots. Weighs between 16 and 26 oz. and is much smaller than a blue grouse. Translocated populations exist in northeastern, central, and portions of northwestern Nevada.

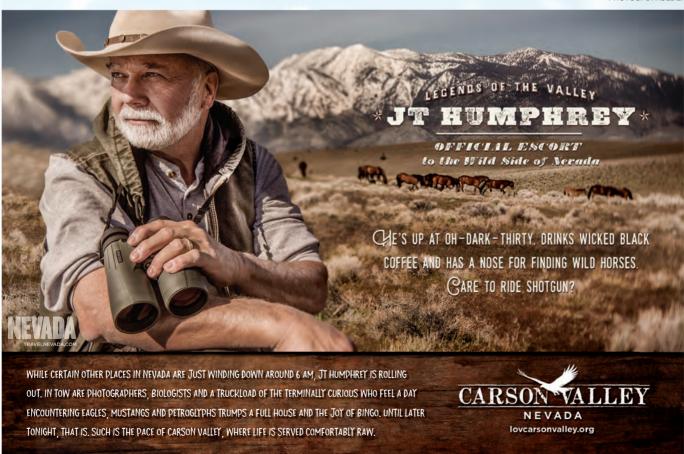


# **HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE**

Officially known as the Gray Partridge. Ranges in size from 11.8 to 13 inches in length and from 13.6 to 17.6 oz. Grayish brown with chestnut barring on wings, dark reddish U-shaped patch on belly, and a reddish throat patch.

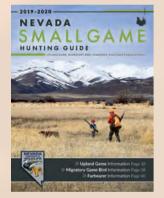


PHOTOS: DFAULDER





# "NEVADA SMALL GAME HUNTING GUIDE"



Available at any NDOW field office and some sporting goods stores, the "Nevada Small Game Hunting Guide" is a great resource for hunters. Updated annually, the quide details hunting seasons and regulations, and is a musthave for anyone wanting to hunt legally in the state. The guide is also available in digital format at ndow.org.

Males are a strikingly beautiful bird with a distinctive green iridescent neck, red face, and white collar around the base of the neck. The body has a copper coloration with black spots and the tail is long and pointed with black barring. The female is dull brown in coloration with black spotting on the sides and a shorter tail than the males. Ranges in size from 19.7 to 27.6 inches in length and weighs from 1.1 to 6.6 lbs.

# **GREATER SAGE-GROUSE**

The mating display of sage-grouse is very distinctive as the males inflate large yellow air sacs surrounded by white pin feathers and create a series of odd plops and swishing sounds. Males also fan out their spiny tail feathers during the display. Their coloration closely resembles their habitat with a grayish brown appearance and white mottling throughout. Males can be almost twice as large as females. Range in size from 22 to 29.5 inches in length and weigh between 3.1 to 6.4 lbs. Lifespan is from 3 to 6 years with females tending to live longer than males.



LARRY BURTON

# HIMALAYAN SNOWCOCK

A large upland game bird introduced into Nevada in 1963. Ranges in size from 22 to 29 inches and weighs from 4.4 to 6.8 lbs. Gray in color with a white throat and chestnut stripes on the sides of the head. Sexes are monomorphic except for size as the female is smaller in stature. Only exists in Nevada's Ruby Mountains and East Humboldt Range in North America.



# **MOUNTAIN QUAIL**

The top knot of this species is straight and long compared to California or Gambel's quail. Chestnut throat patch and chestnut flanks with white bars are distinctive of this species. Ranges in length from 10.2 to 12.2 inches and weight from 6.7 to 9.2 oz.



PHOTOS: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



# **GAMBEL'S QUAIL**

Distribution in Nevada includes Clark, Lincoln, and Nye Counties. Similar in color pattern and size to California quail, but male Gambel's quail have a prominent black belly patch. Range in length from 13.4 to 14.2 inches and weigh between 5.6 to 7.1 oz.



Length is from 9.4 to 10.6 inches and weighs in at 5 to 8 oz. Males are distinguishable from females by the black face outlined in bold white stripes and the larger, comma shaped head plume or "top knot" while females are plainer brown and lack the facial markings and have a relatively shorter and fairly straight top knot.





# Crow

GORDON LEGGETT

# **CROW**

The crow (17.5 inches) is bigger than a blackbird (9 inches) and noticeably smaller than a raven (24 inches). Crows often flock, while ravens are more solitary birds. Note that the crow's bill is much smaller than the raven, and that its tail is square. The raven's heavy bill, shaggy throat feathers, and wedge-shaped tail also set it apart from the common crow.

# OPERATION GAME THIEF



Sportsmen are committed to protecting Nevada's wildlife from poachers and will go to great lengths to do so. Operation Game Thief provides a confidential, easy, and effective way to inform the Nevada Department of Wildlife of poaching. Call 800-992-3030 to report a wildlife violation.



SANDRA WHITTEKER

# MORE SMALL GAME ANIMALS

In addition to the upland game birds, Nevada allows hunters to try for a host of migratory game birds, including duck, merganser, scaup, geese, coot, snipe, and swan. Doves can also be hunted in the state, and are considered a migratory upland game bird, meaning they fall under

special regulations that don't apply to normal upland game. Nevada also offers turkey hunts. Hunting turkey and migratory game birds also requires different licenses and regulations than upland game, so be sure to consult the "Nevada Small Game Hunting Guide" before pursuing.



# **HUNTING, NOT KILLING**

In January 2019, my wife Jill and I—along with our German Wirehaired Pointers Opal and Genoa—went on a chukar hunt in the Humboldt Range south of Imlay. We were on the road early, hoping to reach our hunting area just as the sun started to rise over the range. At the time, Opal and Genoa were a couple months shy of a year old, and it was only the second time they'd ever been on a chukar hunt.

We start at a low elevation, with the goal of hiking up into the steepest and rockiest area we could see. In my experience, I've been most successful employing this tactic.

As we hike up the mountain, Jill and I take turns practicing commands with the dogs, hoping to get them accustomed to the sights, sounds, and scents of hunting country. We hike for what seems like hours, before the signs of the elusive bird begin revealing themselves.

Chukar hunting can be calm at times, and then sharply interrupted by explosive excitement. One minute a person can be walking along hearing and seeing no signs of birds, completely confident that there aren't any for a hundred miles. And then bam! A covey of dozens pops up 20 yards away with a thunderous orchestra of flapping wings. If a person isn't careful, by the time they hear the flapping wings and realize what's happening, it can be too late to get a shot off.

We're greeted with this almost exact scenario. Even the dogs don't find the chukar before they're up in the air flying in all different directions. With this particular covey, I do manage to get a couple shots off, but I'm sure I miss. We nonetheless send Opal and Genoa in search of any downed birds, but they come up empty pawed.

Further on up the mountain we climb, and now the chukar really start making noise. It sounds like there are hundreds of them at the top. Once we finally arrive on top of the ridge, though, nothing. Silence. Even with the innate instinct of finding and pointing birds, not even the dogs find one.

# FEATURE | Bird Hunting



We search for a while before moving on, and sure enough, once we get a couple hundred yards away, we hear the chukar start making noise again—laughing at us. This leads to a bit of back-and-forth game as we try to locate them, while they stay quiet right until we turn around and walk away.

Eventually we locate where they are, and, of course, they're at the top of a nearby peak, 10 times steeper and rockier than the one we just spent hours climbing. We decide to pass on them, because I'm convinced we'll end up at the top of Mt. Everest eventually if we continue playing their game. We opt instead to start making our hours-long hike back to the vehicle.

That's why they call it hunting and not killing. Sometimes hunters may think they go home empty handed, but the reality is that each and every second spent in the field hones a hunter's skills. Upland game bird hunting can be challenging and physically demanding, but it's always rewarding. To me, hunting, like ghost towns, is simply just an excuse to get out and experience the beauty of Nevada nature.



# FEATURE | Bird Hunting

Upland game isn't just reserved for birds either. Upland game hunters can also try their luck with several different rabbit species, including cottontail, pygmy, and whitetailed jackrabbit.

birds. The sport can be challenging, but the results are rewarding, and pretty tasty, too. Just remember, you'll have fun the first time, but after that, it's all for revenge.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Nevada Department of Wildlife Main Office 6980 Sierra Center Parkway #120 Reno, NV 89511 775-688-1500, ndow.org

# **GO AFIELD**

No matter where you live in Nevada (and even if you don't), there are places where you can hunt upland game

# 2019-2020 CHUKAR FORECAST

Each year, NDOW conducts surveys to determine how many chukar hunters can expect to find in each hunting area/county. Here is the 2019-2020 forecast, written and published by NDOW:

# **Churchill County**

Chukar numbers and productivity continue to be good in several mountain ranges in this county. Overall, productivity exceeded 9.0 chicks per adult, so ranges such as the Clan Alpine and Stillwater Ranges should be worth investigating this year.

# **Elko County**

It appears that winter mortality during 2019 reduced the population of chukar in Elko County. That being said, there may still be some areas in the southwestern portion of the county worth exploring. Hungarian partridge numbers appear to be up in this and other portions of the county.

# **Humboldt County**

Overall numbers of birds in Humboldt County appear to be down this year. This is largely due to a very poor survey in the Santa Rosa Range (zero birds observed) and fewer birds observed in the Pine Forest Range. Moderate to good numbers of birds were observed in the Black Rock Range with fair to good production. Aerial bighorn surveys conducted in the Jackson Mountains indicated moderate numbers of birds.

#### **Lander County**

Sample sizes were small across the surveyed transects, but production appeared to be relatively good within the Fish Creek Range and moderate in the Shoshone Range. Hunting in Lander County is expected to be fair this season.

#### **Lyon County**

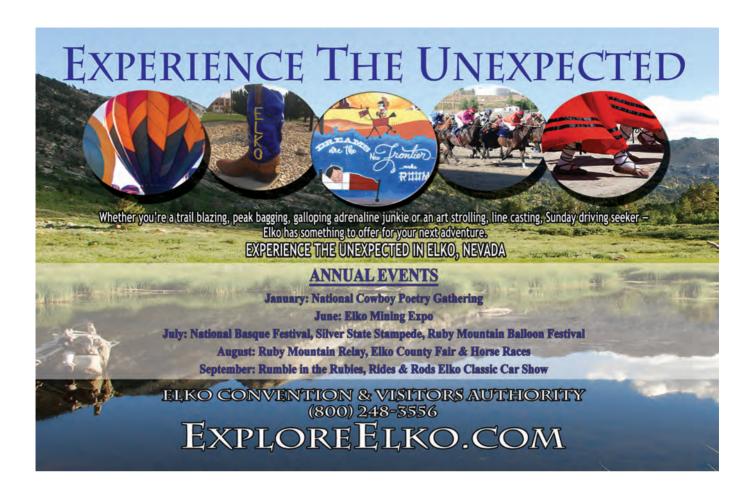
For those upland game hunters wanting to stick closer to the Reno, Carson and Gardnerville area, Lyon County should offer some improved opportunity compared to past seasons, especially around the East Fork of the Walker River and the Singatse Range near Yerington.

# **Mineral County**

Mountain ranges within this county often get overlooked by chukar hunters, but bird numbers and productivity of 5.8 chicks per adult suggest that portions of the Wassuk and Gabbs Valley Range might be worth a look this season.

#### **Pershing County**

This area of the state appears to be a tale of three cities. Surveys conducted in the western portion of the county did not find much in the way of bird numbers, and thus, production. The situation improved in the central portion of the county with production averaging around 5.0 chicks per adult and should offer good hunting. Production tapered off in the eastern portion of the county with the exception of the East Range where productivity was estimated at 8.0 chicks per adult; however, this sample size was less than adequate to truly obtain a reliable estimate.















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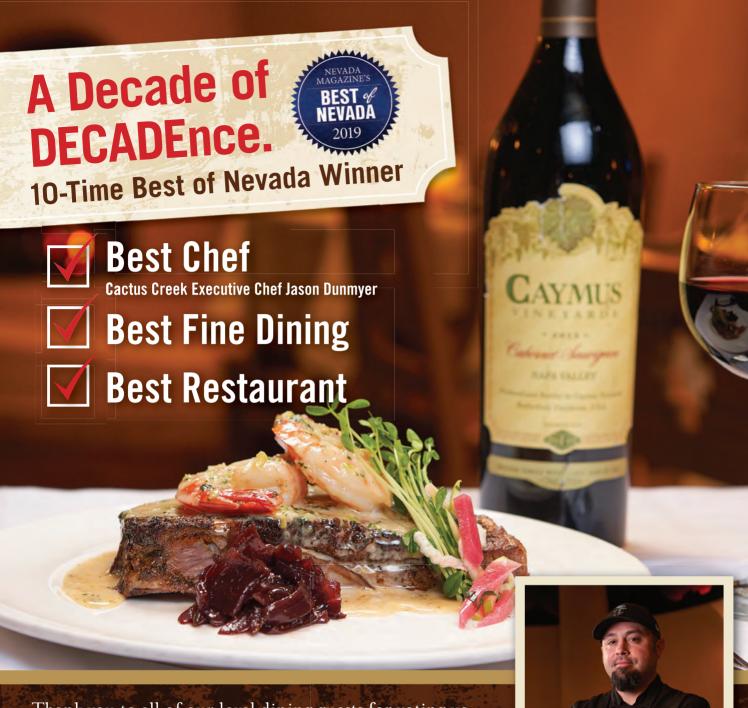
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