NEWADA

MAY/JUNE 2019

MAGAZINE

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Reno Rodeo Turns 100

Nevada's Outlaws

Perfect Las Vegas Weddings





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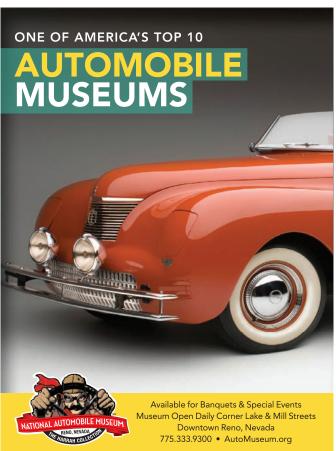
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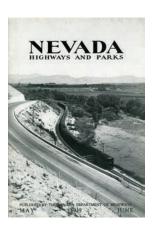


Las Vegas sign turns 60: The Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas sign is one of the most recognizable icons around the world. As it approaches its 60th anniversary this year, the neon sign designed by Betty Willis is still one of the most photographed attractions in Las Vegas. However, it isn't the city's first welcome sign. A chat with historians reveals the sign's past and how it came to be an internationally recognized symbol.

By Andrea Heerdt

RYAN JERZ/TRAVELNEVADA

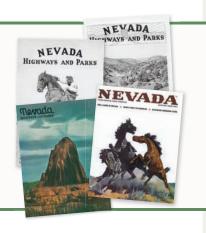
Yesterday: Nevada Mines Yield Great Wealth: "The \$1,600,000,000 of new wealth produced from Nevada's mines during the past 75 years, while of major significance, had not by any means reached its limits. In fact, men of science, after a thorough survey of the possibilities as views from all angles, are in perfect agreement that there is more wealth underground in this State than has ever been taken from the ground. It awaits only the application of intelligent effort for mankind to transpose this latent wealth from dormancy into living riches."



Visit our website to read this story, which first appeared in our May/June 1939 issue.

DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER PERKS

We're working hard to upload every issue of Nevada Magazine ever created. This issue, we're proud to announce we have 1936-1969 available for viewing. A digital subscription gives you full access to our website, including the stories listed above, which are only available with a digital subscription. Digital subscriptions costs just \$9.95 a year, or add it to a print subscription for just \$5.



Stay up to date











► FEATURED VIDEOS

Visit our YouTube channel to see a video of our latest ghost town trip, found on page 64.



NEVADA WIDE WEB

Instagram

Would you like to see your Instagram page featured in Nevada Magazine? Use #nvmag and let us know about your #Nevada adventure!







LESSONS LEARNED



Bear with me here; I'm going to gush about my job for a bit. I haven't in a while but on our latest trip I was reminded how much I've learned in my five years as managing editor.

As you might know, Associate Editor Eric Cachinero and I usually get out on the road every couple of months. We plan our trips to maximize the content we can gather for stories, and truthfully, how many dirt roads we can use during our travels. During these trips there's always a discovery or two to be made. Sometimes it's a discovery of assay crucibles at a ghost town, which prompts a web search later that evening to learn about how they were used in the mining process. Sometimes it's how a vertically challenged editor might best leverage her body in the act of changing a large tire. Obviously, some lessons are more fun than others.

While writing the True Grit series, I've upped my learning curve tenfold as I discover facts about six towns that sometimes get less attention due to a number of factors. These towns have all proven to be worth another look, as I've discovered what life is like for the residents who call them home. Looking back at the reason the towns were formed, what they've endured, and how they've survived—sometimes despite the odds or obvious reasons—has made me rethink what I think I know about Nevada's rural towns. Most don't have a shiny obvious tourist attraction, aside from the splendor of Nevada's great outdoor opportunities, but each one has a small-town soul and a huge dash of character.

For me, the towns I drive through without stopping are many; our trips are always jammed packed for maximum effectiveness. I often wonder "why is this place here, and who lives here?" and that was the genesis for this series. What I've

learned is there are many reasons for these small towns to exist, and each one has a reason worth stopping to discover.

I get paid to discover these reasons, but it's spurred a curiousness in me that I hope is contagious to all my fellow Nevada lovers. Nevada is made up of a vast and diverse population, and the places people choose to call home are as varied as there are stars in our nighttime skies. I hope the next time your travels take you through a place you've never stopped at before, you'll take a break from your day to learn something about why these towns are the backbone of our state.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS ISSUE

Continuing the gushing, I will say this is one fantastic issue. Our history stories offer fascinating looks at Nevada's only national memorial and another installment of Nevada's dastardly desperados. Find the memorial story starting on page 42, and the outlaws are waiting for you on page 28.

We head south for a look at a new restaurant in the tiny community of Blue Diamond (read that on page 22), and on page 34, the latest trends in Las Vegas weddings are revealed.

Ghost towns and True Grit are both back, each with some fascinating insights into the Silver State and its residents. Ghost towns start on page 64 and the story of Lovelock is on page 80. We also have a very special feature on the Reno Rodeo turning 100 this year. Read about it on page 72.

Megg Mueller, Managing Editor mmueller@nevadamagazine.com

CONTRIBUTORS / LETTERS

LETTERS

SUCH A WASTE

I'm a longtime subscriber to your magazine. I was in Las Vegas in February, and drove out to Valley of Fire. My friend and I noticed Interstate 15 had lots of trash on both sides of the highway. It was enough to make a grown man cry. This didn't happen overnight; maybe you could pass this letter on to your governor? From Valley of Fire to Goodsprings on I-15 there was no trash.

- Keith Baker, Port St. Lucie, Florida



GETTING OUT

We so enjoy the adventures on our exploring days. Thank you! — Carol Youngman, Reno



X MARKS THE SPOT

I picked up an issue of *Nevada Magazine's* "Events & Shows" March/April publication in the Las Vegas state parks office to see what was happening and as I got to the back page, I noticed that the map is missing a very small but significant town. Panaca is not on your map! It is located just 1 mile east of the junction of Highway 93 and State Road 56. Could you please add us into your next edition? — **Beverly Peterson,** Panaca

After weighing all the feedback our new map brought us, we've taken as many suggestions as possible and come up with a new version that we'll be using moving forward. You can find it on page 88! —Megg

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.

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In addition to authoring "Hanging

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West," and "Military History." He

is a regular columnist for "Amer-

ica's Civil War." Ron is the recip-

ient of the International Regional

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■ PGS. 28-33

2010 Gold Award and 2014

Next Door," Ron Soodalter is





Kyril Plaskon is an award-winning journalist, education information officer for the Nevada Department of Taxation Marijuana
Enforcement Division, author of "Silent Heroes of the Cold War: Declassified," and has 20 years of media and teaching experience. He's pioneered media programs for radio stations across the state, and was the first sierra reporter for Capital Public Radio. He's happiest swimming alpine lakes, camping, trail running, skiing, and biking with his two

GUY CLIFTON



Guy Clifton is a lifelong Nevadan and the author of eight books, all with Nevada themes. He is a public relations specialist for the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, and serves as spokesman for Nevada's seven state museums, the Nevada Arts Council, and Nevada Indian Commission. He lives in Reno and can often be found at Hidden Valley Dog Park with his faithful friend Scruffy.

■ PGS 72-79

ANDREA HEERDT



Andrea Heerdt has had the honor of living all over the great state of Nevada. From the blazing valley of Las Vegas to the snow-covered mountains of the north, she's called Nevada home for more than 16 years now, and there's always something new in the state that captures her heart.

nevadamagazine.com

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. 22-27

Award of Merit. He is president of the Abraham Lincoln Institute.

daughters. ■ PGS. 42-47



Glamping at Lake Tahoe

Just in time for national camping month in June, Zephyr Cove Resort on Lake Tahoe's South Shore has three new Airstream campers available year-round for those looking for an elevated camping experience.

The units can sleep up to four people, and have a fully equipped kitchen with microwave and a bathroom. The campsites have a gas grill, fire pit, two Adirondack chairs, a picnic table, and are supplied with two bundles of firewood each night of the stay.

The Zephyr Cove Resort campground is open all year and has 93 RV sites, 57 tent sites, showers, restrooms, snow-removal service, an outdoor patio, laundry facilities, and cable TV connectivity.

The *M.S. Dixie II* paddle wheeler departs daily from Zephyr Cove for scenic daytime tours and sunset dinner cruises. The largest vessel on the lake, the *M.S. Dixie II* is the only paddle-wheel experience on Lake Tahoe. zephyrcove.com, 775-589-4906





DON GRAHAM



SEAN FOSTER



ENTERTAINMENT

Sparks to get new concert, event venue

Marnell Gaming, owner of the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, has begun construction of a new entertainment and

event amphitheater across from the Nugget, on the former Bourbon Square site. The new event center will feature seating for more than 8,500 guests and expected project completion is June 2019.

Toby Keith is set to be the first act in the new center June 15. Hank Williams, Jr. is scheduled to perform Aug. 3 followed by Lady Antebellum, Aug. 17.

Marnell Gaming also built the Laughlin Event Center adjacent to two hotel casinos, the Colorado Belle and Edgewater. nuggetcasinoresort.com, 800-648-1177

CASINOS

The Stratosphere rebrands

The Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower has begun its transition to The STRAT Hotel, Casino, and SkyPod, a rebrand that embodies the revolution of the

iconic property since Golden Entertainment, Inc. took ownership in late 2017.

"The Stratosphere is a Las Vegas icon, so in acquiring the property we chose to preserve that quality while also reimagining the resort through a comprehensive remodel that spans from the tower to the main casino floor," says Steve Arcana, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Golden Entertainment.

Along with the rebrand of the hotel, The STRAT has announced SkyPod, which includes Top of the World, located on the 106th floor; 107 SkyLounge, located on the 107th floor; the Observation Deck, 108 Eats by James Trees and 108 Drinks, located on the 108th floor.

Located at the top of the tower are several thrill rides including Sky Jump, Big Shot, Insanity, and X-Scream. stratospherehotel.com, 800-998-6937



UP FRONT



- The National Endowment for the Arts has given an Art Works grant of \$30,000 to the **City of Reno** for a public art project in the Midtown District. A large-scale public art project that reflects the vibrancy and community of one of Reno's emerging cultural districts in conjunction with a street reorientation project is set to be developed. **reno.gov**, **775-334-4636**
- Nevada Northern Railway received a \$50,000 donation from Kinross Bald Mountain Mine to support the railway's fundraising effort to raise \$100,000 to help keep the historic national landmark's steam trains in operation. The funds raised will help the museum bring back to life Locomotive 81, a steam train built 102 years ago that hasn't run since 1959.

 nnry.com, 775-289-2085
- The Amgen Tour of California, a premier cycling event, returns to South Lake Tahoe for the Men's Stage 2 finish from Rancho Cordova at Heavenly Mountain Resort on May 13.

tahoesouth.com, 775-588-4591

■ With 14 years of racing history, **Ely's Fears, Tears, and Beers** is America's oldest enduro bike race. This year's event is on June 8, where racers pedal to the top of the mountain and then are timed going down specific sections of the course. Racers can choose between 2,300-5,400 feet elevation gain.

elynevada.net, 775-289-6042

■ Bing Crosby's former cattle ranch is on the market. Crosby owned Lawson Ranch—and six other properties—in Elko from 1944 to 1952. The 3,000-acre property was last purchased in 2010 and includes a 5,000-square-foot home, private airstrip and airplane hangar, plus three guest houses, and a repair shop. The asking price is \$7.28 million.

californiaoutdoorproperties.com



PHOTOGRAPHY EVENT

FOCUS 5 returns to the Brewery Arts Center

FOCUS 5 will be held on June 19 at the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City. A bi-annual award-winning photographer symposium, FOCUS stands for Friendship, Open-mindedness, Collaboration, Understanding, and Success! It is sponsored by *Nevada Magazine* and moderated by Art Director Kippy S. Spilker.

Comprised of presentations and demonstrations given by respected local photographers as well as organized photo walks and outings, the symposium is designed to be a social learning event. The event is open to photographers of all levels, and even those shooting with a cellphone will find something of value.

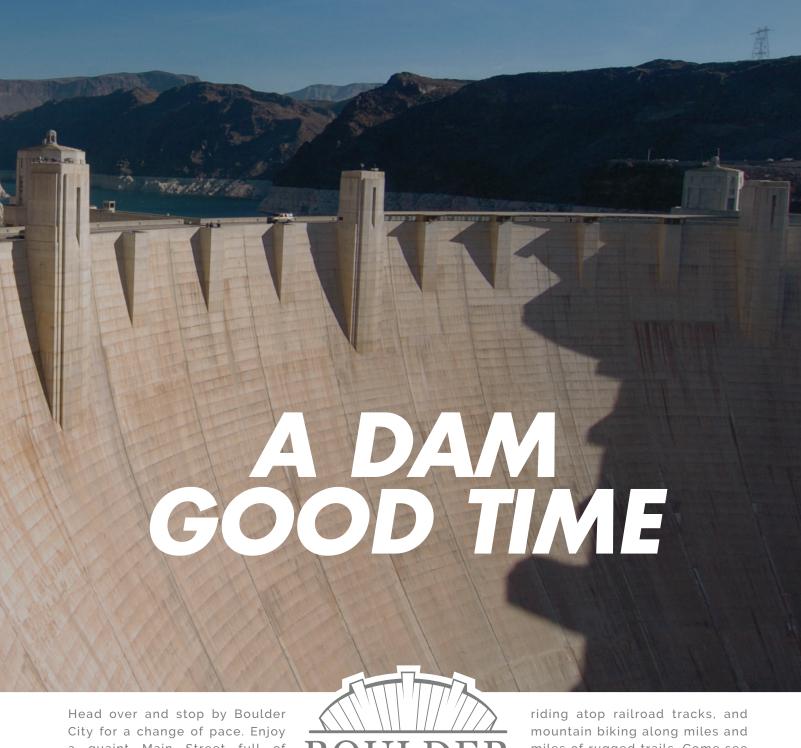
Planned features include an afternoon light-painting workshop, how to apply for financial grants from the state, and an anonymous photo critique for anyone wishing to participate.



Registration is set to begin May 1, and early registration is recommended as these events quickly fill up.

Join the FOCUS
Photographer Symposiums
Facebook group for up-todate information or to see
photos and video from past
events. nevadamagazine.
com/focus, 775-687-0606





Head over and stop by Boulder City for a change of pace. Enjoy a quaint Main Street full of antique shops, unique boutiques and places to grab a bite. Sure, it looks peaceful. But Boulder City also has an adventurous side, with people zip-lining down canyons,



riding atop railroad tracks, and mountain biking along miles and miles of rugged trails. Come see for yourself everything there is to do, whether you're looking to simply hang out or to hang on tight. VisitBoulderCity.com







UP FRONT



- The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority has contracted with **Elon Musk's**The Boring Company to design, construct, and operate a people mover for the Las Vegas Convention Center via a loop of underground express-route tunnels that could carry passengers in autonomous electric vehicles at high speeds. The project has the potential to connect Downtown, the Las Vegas Convention Center, the Las Vegas Boulevard Resort Corridor, McCarran International Airport, and beyond. The Las Vegas Convention Center hosts more than 1 million attendees annually. Ivcva.com, 702-892-0711
- Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno has earned the highly coveted Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star designation for the fourth consecutive year. **Spa Atlantis** is the only spa to attain this recognition in northern Nevada. **atlantiscasino.com**, **800-723-6500**
- The Nevada Off-Highway Vehicles Program named **Stan Harger** of the Kokopelli ATV Club as its first-ever Trail Partner of the Year. In fall 2018, Stan championed a project in Clark and Lincoln counties to address safety and signage issues. In 2019, the Kokopelli Club received a \$70,384 grant to fund trail signage along routes between Mesquite and Caliente. The project consists of about 300 miles of roads and trails to be marked with more than 500 signs. Informational safety kiosks, online maps, and GPS files will be available when the project is completed. **ohv.nv.gov, 702-486-4368**
- The Vegas Golden Knights has launched a Kids Club for fans ages 2-14. Membership includes a kit with a retro lunch box, temporary tattoos, a growth chart, custom shoelaces, and more. Members have access to special events and ticket offers throughout the year. vegasgoldenknights.com, 702-790-2663

TRAVEL INNOVATIONS

Las Vegas airport unveils technology for passengers with special needs

McCarran International Airport is the first U.S. airport to introduce a new initiative to assist travelers with cognitive special needs such as autism.

MagnusCards is a mobile app that leverages technology to empower and aid people as they engage in a variety of everyday activities. The MagnusCards app offers digital card decks that provide step-by-step instructions that walk the user through a variety of activities. McCarran's custom app offers five different card decks to help individuals make their way around the airport. These include boarding an airplane,

check-in, getting baggage, going to the restroom, and security screening. The app is free on both Apple and Android devices. magnusmode.com, 855-624-6871







AWARDS EDGEWOOD TAHOE

Edgewood Tahoe wins prestigious honor

Preferred Hotels & Resorts announced the winners of its 2019 Preferred Awards of Excellence and Edgewood Tahoe was recognized as Hotel of the Year—United States and Canada. Preferred Hotels & Resorts is the world's largest independent hotel brand representing more than 700 distinctive hotels, resorts, residences, and unique hotel groups across 85 countries.

Set along the shoreline of South Lake Tahoe, Edgewood Tahoe has been a world-class destination for lodging, golf, dining, weddings, and special events since 1968. edgewoodtahoe.com, 888-769-1924



For more information, please visit our website.









This project has been funded with assistance from the Commission of Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation

UP FRONT



■ Orleans Arena announced that it will serve as the home venue for **World Team-Tennis'** (WTT) all-new Las Vegas expansion franchise team, the Vegas Rollers, starting in July. It will also host the 2019 WTT playoffs in August. WTT introduced professional team tennis in 1974, with Billie Jean King as its co-founder.

orleansarena.com, 800-745-3000

- The Palms Casino Resort unveiled **KAOS**, a new entertainment experience consisting of a 73,000-square-foot dayclub and 29,000-square-foot nightclub. KAOS will feature exclusive residencies with such artists as Cardi B, G-EAZY, Kaskade, and Skrillex, with more to be announced. **palms.com**, 702-942-7777
- The National Endowment for the Arts announced it has awarded grants totaling \$90,000 to seven arts organizations and agencies in Nevada for projects planned in fiscal year 2019. The federal grants support projects in northern and southern Nevada. Artown; the Neon Museum; Sierra Nevada Ballet; and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas are among the recipients. nvculture.org/nevadaartscouncil, 775-687-6680
- The Naked Magicians have brought their finely chiseled magical and physical talents to Las Vegas from Australia for their first Strip residency. The R-rated magic show performs six nights a week inside Brad Garrett's Comedy Club at MGM Grand. mgmgrand.com, 866-740-7711
- The **Bicentennial Sculpture Garden** in downtown Reno is getting new permanent sculptures. The city intended to rotate sculptures each year, but is now purchasing four new sculptures and some of the existing structures are now permanent.

 reno.gov, 775-334-4666
- Families can now enjoy 365 days of glow-in-the-dark fun at **Glowzone**, which is now offering annual passes at the family-friendly arena. The passes start at \$9.99 per month. **Iv.glowzone.us**, **702-978-7790**

RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

New eateries, breweries, and more in Las Vegas

Downtown Grand Hotel & Casino has announced rising culinary star **Rhori Kow** has been appointed executive chef of Triple George Grill. Kow, who hails from Atlanta, landed his first Las Vegas gig in 2011 with The Wynn and never



looked back. Most recently serving as chef de cuisine at Wicked Spoon Buffet, he arrives at Triple George Grill with nearly 15 years of hospitality management and fine dining experience. triplegeorgegrill.com, 702-384-2761

Blue Ribbon Sushi Bar & Grill recently made its debut inside Red Rock Resort. Bruce and Eric Brom-

berg, brothers, chefs, and co-founders of Blue Ribbon Restaurants, will mark the long-anticipated return of Blue Ribbon Sushi with an all-new Japanese-style restaurant and bar featuring an indoor and outdoor dining experience complete with a traditional 12-seat walnut sushi bar, a roofed cocktail bar with patio seating, and a festive outdoor beer garden known as Kanpai Garden.

redrock.sclv.com, 702-797-7777

Doughp (pronounced dope) is coming to The Strip fresh from the Bay Area, making a new home at Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. The first Vegas location caters to the sweetest addiction of all—raw edible cookie

dough in a fun, booze-free bar environment. Cookie dough lovers will dive spoon first into endless cookie dough flavor combinations that can all be enjoyed raw or taken home to bake. miraclemileshopslv.com, 702-866-0704

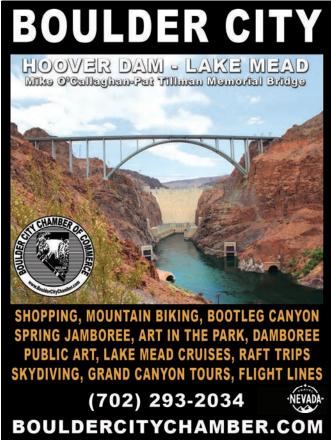
Maxie's at The LINQ Promenade debuted in March, becoming Las Vegas' newest hotspot for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Maxie's menu will feature ostentatious breakfast and lunch classics, as well as a collection of contemporary deli dishes. theling.com, 800-634-6441

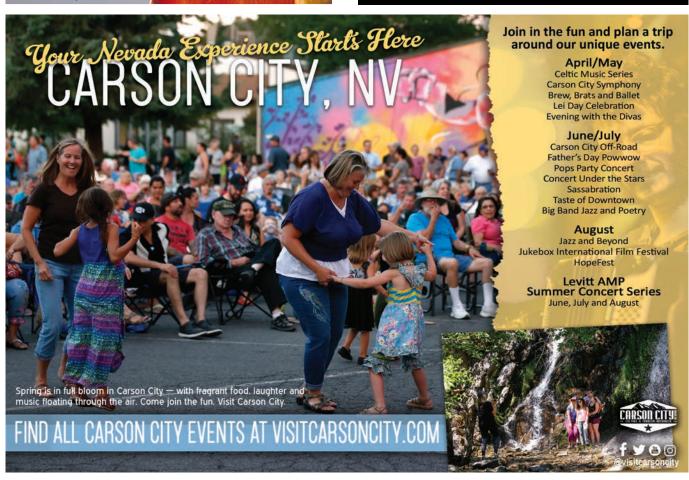
Vegas Golden Knights' superstar forward Ryan Reaves launched his brewing company 7Five Brewing Co. at Hyde Bellagio in Las Vegas. 7Five's first beer is Training Day Golden Ale. 7fivebrewing.com



Palace Station, the original Las Vegas locals' casino, has added San Diego-based taco company ¡Salud! Tacos. Set to debut inside Palace Station's Marketplace, the Mexican food eatery will debut its first Las Vegas location and serve up a wide variety of its award-winning tacos, veggie tacos, "not taco" options, sides, and dessert—all boasting an authentic Mexican taste. palacestation.sclv.com, 702-367-2411







UP FRONT



- The 2nd annual **Ely Air Races and Show** is happening June 13-15 at historic Yelland Field in Ely. Attendees of all ages are welcome to enjoy hot air balloon rides; a carnival; a car show; food; military and other aircraft displays and demonstrations; and the high-speed, featured event: Formula One pylon air racing. **elynevada.net**, 775-289-3720
- Great Basin Brewing Company was awarded a gold medal for their Outlaw Milk Stout in the sweet stout or cream stout category at the 2019 Best of Craft Beer Awards. Nevada breweries racked up nine wins including beers from IMBIB Custom Brews, Alibi Ale Works, Revision Brewing Company, Lead Dog Brewing Company, and 10 Torr Distilling and Brewing. greatbasinbrewingco.com, 775-856-1177
- Celebrating the platinum anniversary of **Paris Las Vegas**, a new nightly Eiffel Tower light show was unveiled. Inspired by the Eiffel Tower's illuminations in France, the enhanced \$1.3 million lighting attraction is a free, recurring show featuring synchronized and choreographed twinkling and colored lights.

parislasvegas.com, 877-796-2096

- The Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks will once again host its **Cuisine, Corks & Crafts** festival on Memorial Weekend, May 25-26. The festival includes a wine and spirits walk, celebrity chef appearances, cooking demonstrations, food tastings, art exhibits, craft vendors, and live entertainment. **nuggetcasinoresort.com**, **775-356-3300**
- Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas announced the return of **Downtown Rocks** with a lineup featuring a diverse range of chart-topping talent from around the world. The free concert series kicks off May 24 and runs through October. **vegasexperience.com**, **702-678-5600**

CELEBRATION

Golden Spikes recreation at Carson museum

On May 10—150 years after the original event—the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City will recreate the laying of the gold and silver spikes at Promontory Summit. This event will showcase the locomotives Inyo and Dayton as they reprise their roles in the anniversary of this important date.

Other exhibits and special events
will be hosted at the museum leading
up to this special sesquicentennial event.
nvculture.org/nevada150railroad, 775-687-6953





ATTRACTIONS

Bonnie Springs Ranch sold to developers

For 61 years, Bonnie Springs Ranch—located 35 miles west of Las Vegas—has offered visitors a taste of the Wild West with its themed town, petting zoo, restaurant, and other attractions. The family-owned business has decided to shut its doors, however, and the property changed hands in March.

The 63-acre ranch was first built in 1843 as a stopover for the wagon trains going to California along the Old Spanish Trail. In 1952, Bonnie and Al Levinson took over the ranch and after renovations, opened the tourist attraction in 1958.

A popular stop in the Red Rock Valley, Bonnie Springs added attractions over the years, including a wedding chapel, wax museum, daily performances of Wild West shootouts, shops, and more. While its popularity hadn't seen a decline and it was still owned by the Levinson family, in early 2019 it was announced the family had decided to sell.

The Clark County Planning Commission signed off on a tentative map and design details for the construction of 20 luxury homes on 64 acres. bonniesprings.com, 702-875-4191



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For Historic Site Tours Contact: INTERMOUNTAIN GUIDE SERVICE intermountainguidenevada.com or call 877-882-4386





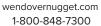


















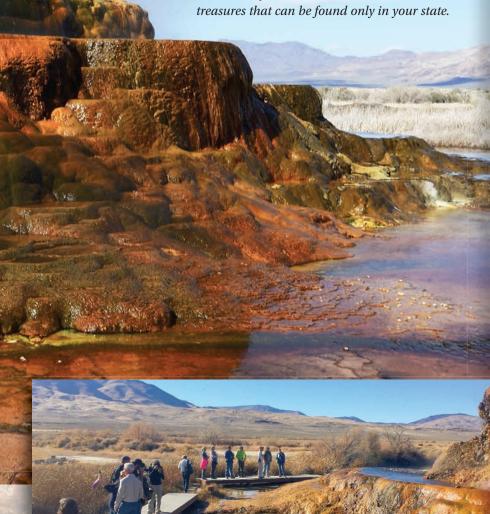
GEYSER.

Nevada has many treasures, but only some of them earn the title of truly unique.

The word unique gets thrown around a lot, and its true meaning is often muddled. Merriam-Webster defines the word as "being the only one" and "being without a like or equal." In this section, we highlight Nevada treasures that are not only special, but are truly unique

and can be found nowhere else in the world;

treasures that can be found only in your state.



ONLY IN YOUR STATE | Fly Geyser

Had Dr. Seuss had the ability to create one lasting physical memorial here on Earth, Fly Geyser would probably be his contribution. This magical manmade monument rests on the edge of the Black Rock

Desert in northern Nevada. It owes its colors to the algae that comprises it; the brick-red, forest-green, and pastel-yellow hues are characteristic of hydrophilic algae that flourishes in hot, moist conditions. But, it actually

doesn't owe its existence to Dr. Seuss (that we know of). It owes it in part to a desert driller who probably had no idea that his exploratory excavations would create such a wonderful and vibrant piece of natural art.

In 1916, a well was dug at the site by desert farmers seeking irrigation water. The resulting water that sprang up from the well was close to boiling—far too hot to use for irrigation—and the project was abandoned. Over the years, a 10-12-foot calcium carbonate cone formed, growing higher as the water that flowed from the top deposited more minerals. Then in 1964, a company seeking water for geothermal energy purposes dug a second well at the site. The second well proved to be too cold for their purposes, and the new well was capped and abandoned. The cap, however, failed to seal, resulting in the discharge from the second well, lowering the pressure in the first well, drying the original well up. Like the original cone, the new geyser has grown substantially since its creation, resulting in the brilliantly colored fountains and pools that can be seen today.

Fly Geyser's water is right around 200 degrees, and erupts constantly to about 5 feet in the air. The water contains high amounts of silica, which causes quartz to quickly form inside of the geyser. The water that exits the geyser has formed several terraces, resulting in about 30-40 pools that spread across the area.

In 2016, the Burning Man Project purchased the 3,800-acre parcel where Fly Geyser is located. Though the geyser is located on private property, Friends of Black Rock-High Rock offers guided nature tours of the Fly Ranch and Fly Geyser. Tours can be scheduled by visiting blackrockdesert. org/fly-geyser, and typically operate Friday-Sunday.







PAIGE SHAW



RUSSELL COLLETTA

Pages 18-19: "I spotted more than 30 rams together just beyond the entrance to the park," says Don McIntosh, who captured this shot of desert bighorn sheep at Valley of Fire State Park. "As I was hiking into the desert, they spotted me and stopped and stared. The older ram in the middle moved a little forward to get a better view of me and really stood out from the rest."

Opposite page, top: Paige Shaw captured this photo at the River Fork Ranch Nature Preserve in Carson Valley. "Starting at the trailhead entrance on Genoa Lane, we often walk on Muller Lane before heading back north. In a semi-abandoned ranch stood this stunning rose bush, which along with the peeling pump house evoked all things vintage."

Opposite page, bottom: Russell Colletta captured this shot of a cow elk near Cold Creek in Clark County. "I noticed strange motion on a distant hillside," he says. "I was shocked when on a second look it turned out to be a herd of elk. They move through the pinyon and juniper forest like an apparition, so it's a pretty special experience when one encounters them."

Right: "I had never taken pictures at Pyramid Lake before," says James Gurley. "I had not factored in the wind gusts of 65-plus mph, which made for some interesting pictures of the lake. However, this photo speaks for itself! False advertising indeed from the fine folks at Pyramid Lake as the bay was anything but windless."



JAMES GURLEY



FACEBOOK GROUP CHOICE

"The storm was breaking to the north as you can see in the photo," says Ronnie L. Greathouse, of his shot of the Las Vegas Nevada Temple. "When I arrived, the sky was clouded over the mountains to the west. And just before the sun started to set, the clouds parted allowing the sun to light the side of the temple."

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



RONNIE L. GREATHOUSE

JOIN OUR NEVADA PHOTOGRAPHERS FACEBOOK GROUP

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COTTONWOOD STATION EATERY

Blue Diamond posed a rough start, but restaurant aims to be a community jewel.

BY KRISTA DIAMOND

It's dusk in the tiny desert village. Through a canopy of cottonwood trees, crimson mountains turn purple in the falling light. Wild burros cross the parking lot of the gas station, which also serves as the town's general store and sheriff's department. Less than 20 miles away, rows of jingling slot machines and miles of concrete are towered over by neon signs.

These two worlds are somehow both located in Clark County. The latter is the Las Vegas Strip and the former is Blue Diamond which is home to Cottonwood Station Eatery—a culinary outpost tucked deep inside Red Rock Canyon.





DARRIN BUSH

CRAVINGS | Cottonwood Station



"The whole concept when we started this was to keep it simple and keep it clean."

Jody wanted to open a restaurant in their new hometown simply because no one else had.

"We would wake up and say, 'I wish I could go get a muffin and a chai tea right now without getting in the car and hauling into town,'" says Steve.

They were also interested in offering Blue Diamond a de-facto town meeting space to bring the population of outdoor enthusiasts, artists, and descendants from the town's original mining days together.

"The whole concept when we started this was to keep it simple and keep it clean," Jody says of creating the menu, which focuses on fresh ingredients.

Cottonwood Station Eatery uses locally sourced items from the nearby Sandy Valley and does not have a fryer, a flat top, or any decadent, greasy food. The baked goods and the restaurant's signature bread pudding are made in-house. The menu includes a pancetta fig pizza with balsamic drizzle, a panini filled with bacon, cheddar, tomato and béchamel; and a blackened broccoli salad with peanut sauce. In the morning there are waffles with plump blueberries and multigrain toast topped with ricotta cheese, apple slices, walnuts, and honey.

"On the weekend, we'll have a line out the door and Jody will bring out a whole rack of fresh baked muffins," says Steve, who speaks fondly of the restaurant's homemade chocolate chip cookies as well.

"Jody brought those into my life when we got married," he says. "And now they're here."

Other popular items include pepperoni pizza made with the creamy, savory addition of béchamel sauce; soup made in house; and the recent addition of chicken wings, which are baked rather than fried.

NOT IN MY BACKYARD

On a brisk February evening, Cottonwood Station Eatery is populated by rock climbers eating beet salads, cyclists huddled around the fire pit with wine, and local residents stopping in to order margherita pizzas to take home. It's hard to imagine that the restaurant wasn't always a fixture of the community, but getting it off the ground was a long process for Steve and Jody, who describe numerous county commission meetings and pushback from Blue Diamond residents.

"It was a game of telephone," Steve says of the rumors that circulated Blue Diamond when planning began. "Some people would come in and say 'We don't want a bar with whiskey and gun shooting and people fighting in the street' or 'We don't want drunk people driving around town.' So it was constant countering to get the truth out."

At one point, some residents circulated a petition against the construction of a restaurant in Blue Diamond.

"During the process we were asked to sell this property a few times," says Steve. "A couple of times we thought, maybe it's easier if we just let it go and don't argue and fight and have to sell our idea to everyone. But then we thought, this is our home and that is not going to change. If we just sell this property, someone is going to build something that's not acceptable to residents or to us. If it's going to change, we want to be part of that change and help steward the change into something that we're proud of."

To prove their commitment to Blue Diamond, Steve and Jody took steps to honor the concerns

of the town. They removed windows from one side of the building to eliminate light pollution, built the patio so that sound would resonate away from residences, and created signage discouraging diners from parking in front of homes. The couple even offers delivery via golf cart to village residents. Jody, who is a member of the local board and history club, curated and displayed photos of Blue Diamond from its mining days.







CRAVINGS | Cottonwood Station





"We really wanted to do something that would make Blue Diamond shine," she says.

"There were wagons that went down this road," says Steve. "That was the Spanish Trail. This was Cottonwood Spring. This was a stop on so many people's dream of going to California. So we tried to collect as much history as we could."

KEEPING THE PAST IN SIGHT

In addition to the black-and-white photos on display, Cottonwood Station Eatery also utilizes a rusted truck

that's been in town since the early 1950s as a table for eight diners. The wood of the restaurant itself, which was recycled from the original 1938 structure, also holds history.

"We tried to grab details of Blue Diamond and put them in here," says Steve. "We really hope Cottonwood lasts so we can keep expressing that to our community."

The couple believes the majority of the households that signed the petition against Cottonwood Station Eatery have been converted into fans. Steve and Jody are still hoping to please the remaining few who haven't embraced the restaurant.

"You can't please everybody, but we're sure trying," says Steve.

This year marks their one-year anniversary—a major milestone for any restaurant, even those that aren't located in small towns surrounded by desert wilderness. When looking to the future, Steve and Jody imagine live bluegrass music on the patio, outdoor barbecuing, and events that attract newcomers while honoring the community that already exists in Blue Diamond. In their opinion, Cottonwood Station Eatery has succeeded because it is the antithesis to the neon lights and gold-plated glamor that defines the culinary landscape of the Las Vegas Strip.

There are no flashing signs prompting drivers to pull off for drinks and dining, and there is no corporation

> dictating the menu. There is just Steve, Jody, the burros, the canyon, and the community.

"It's a great thing—summer evenings on this deck—when it's 110 in Vegas and it cools down to high 90s, right below body temperature," says Steve. "It's amazing to be out here and have wine or beer or coffee and just hang out. You can't see Vegas. You can't see the lights. You just see limestone mountains."



DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

Cottonwood Station Eatery
14 Cottonwood Drive
Blue Diamond, NV 89004
cottonwoodstationeatery.com
702-875-4332



EVADA'S*

PART 2 MORE TALES OF THE DASTARDLY DESPERADOS THAT ROAMED THE SILVER STATE.

BY RON SOODALTER

As described in part one of Nevada's Outlaws—published in the July/August 2017 issue—Nevada was every bit as wild as such legendary Western Gomorrahs as Deadwood, Tombstone, and Dodge City. The lure of gold and silver and the prospect of easy pickings drew lawbreakers like flies—miscreants as deadly and desperate as the Daltons, the Youngers, or the James Brothers.

Although the wild times extended well into the twentieth century (the last stage robbery occurred in 1916), the most active period for Nevada's bad men-and womenwas in the 1850-1870s, when the search for precious metals was at its height, and those who sought to benefit from the labor of others were at their busiest. It was also a time in which local citizens, in the absence of a recognized force of law, formed vigilance committees and dispensed justice with a strong rope and a short drop. And in those rare instances when the vigilantes got it wrong, an after-the-fact apology counted for little.

AN UNLUCKY DAY FOR LUCKY BILL

Such, apparently, was the case with William "Lucky Bill" Thorington. A handsome, charming six-footer in his mid-40s, Thorington first appeared in Genoa in 1853, and immediately set himself up in business. He bought a mill, operated a hotel, and opened a toll road and trading post for westering emigrants. But it was as a skilled professional gambler that he made his reputation. Although he seemed always to win (hence the



GRAVE AND BONES OF LUCKY BILL (Carson Valley, Nevada)

Lucky Bill Thorrington was hung by Mormon Vigilante Committee June 19, 1858. Buried secretly by friends at night. Grave discovered on Bassman Ranch June 17, 1941 in 6 feet of ground where it can now be seen, brought to surface, near Gardnerville, Nev.

Fhoto -Courtesy Nevada State Highway Dep

Photo of Bill Thorington's coffin and a poem

THE BURIAL OF LUCKY BILL

'Twas up in Carson Valley,
Upon a lonely hill,
They buried at night by candle light
The remains of Lucky Bill.
Few were the whispers uttered,
Though many friends were near.
Genoa Town sent Anti-s down
To shed a silent tear.

Lo, every man was solemn;
No words of tribute paid;
No minstrel noise of frontier boys,
Just swing of pick and spade.
No preacher for a sermon,
Nor notes of nocturnal song;
Old gambling Bill went o'er the hill
Who did no one a wrong.

Foes, long ago, have vanished
From ancient Mormon strand,
And shades of Hyde who cursed and lied
Are jest throughout the land.
While songs of Bill are music,
Though his grave's a secret mound.
His bones lie in the ground.

White Fox Skyhawk - No. 25 Pony Mapress Historical Serv

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

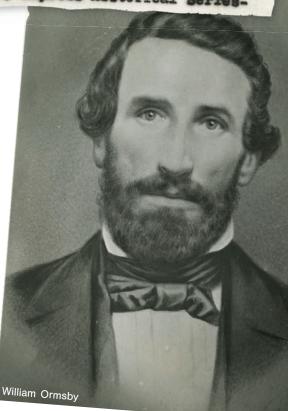
sobriquet "Lucky Bill"), he was apparently well-liked. As one chronicler stated, "Lucky Bill could make a man count it a distinction to lose his shirt at a single turn of the card."

Thorington was blessed with a young son and beautiful wife, and life was good. By all reports, he was a caring and generous member of the community. As a local later recalled, "[A] better neighbor never lived near any man, or a better friend to the weary traveler."

Unfortunately, Carson Valley had become a refuge for bad men, and Thorington was less than discerning about the company he kept, or the friends he made. This applied to women as well. Around 1856, he impregnated a woman named Martha Lamb, and moved her onto his ranch. Among the fiercely anti-Mormon members of the community, this gave rise to the idea that he was a polygamous member of the Latter-Day Saints, and according to some, this was the underlying reason he was hanged.

Around that time, William Ormsby came to Genoa. A trader by profession, he was by all accounts also vain, ambitious, opinionated, and excitable. Ormsby assumed the running of the community, including the newly-formed vigilance committee, which Thorington and others vehemently opposed. He and Lucky Bill soon became bitter enemies.

In December 1857, a man named William C. Edwards murdered the leading citizen of Merced County, and escaped to Genoa. As one historian states, "Edwards sought out a man who had a reputation for help-



HISTORY Nevada's Outlaws

ing all who asked, Lucky Bill Thorington." He told Thorington that he had acted in self-defense, and asked him to hide his money while he looked up old friends. A gullible Thorington complied.

Shortly thereafter, Edwards and his cronies murdered a cattleman and stole his herd. He returned to Thorington's door, again swearing his innocence, and seeking help in escaping. The vigilantes soon captured Edwards, and arrested Lucky Bill and several others. Edwards soon confessed, and Ormsby immediately helped organize a "trial" for Lucky Bill. Reviewing the transcript, a later chronicler wrote, "Not a thing appears there implicating Lucky Bill in anything except the attempt to secure the murderer's escape. Edwards swore positively that he had assured Lucky Bill that he was innocent."

Nonetheless, the verdict was a foregone conclusion. Even as the trial was taking place, vigilantes were constructing a gallows within earshot. The gambler died with dignity and courage, shouting, "I ain't never lived a hog, and I ain't gonna die like one, screamin' about bein' butchered!" A noose encircled his neck, and after singing "The Last Rose of Summer," he leapt to his death. Somewhere, someone owes "Lucky Bill" Thorington an apology.

THE MAN NOBODY LIKED

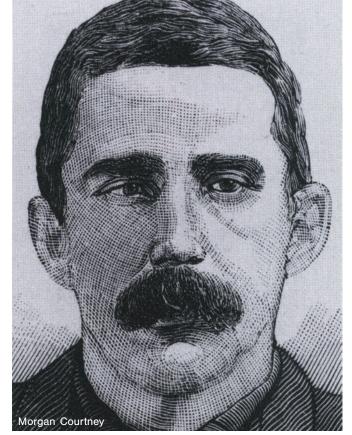
Unlike Lucky Bill, there were few if any who would speak for the moral character of Morgan Courtney. According to a contemporary article in the "Reese River Reveille," "Courtney was one of the most desperate and bloodthirsty characters that ever disgraced a mining town..." Given the roster of desperados who populated Nevada's boom towns, that speaks volumes.

Courtney, whose birth name was Richard (or John) Moriarty, was a remorseless killer. In 1868, after a brief altercation in a Virginia City saloon he shot a bartender in the back, killing him. Changing his name to Morgan Courtney, the miscreant "went on the dodge," appearing two years later in Pioche, a wideopen mining town that would host some 40 killings between 1870 and 1875. Courtney and Pioche were

"BUT IN THAT TIME AND
PLACE, CURSING A MAN BY
IMPUGNING HIS MOTHER WAS
GROUNDS FOR HOMICIDE"

well-matched.

The young thug immediately hired his gun out to a rich mining concern to drive claim



A.D. HOPKINS COLLECTION

jumpers away. He gathered a gang of like-minded hooligans, and charged the band of intruders, killing one and putting the others to flight.

Shortly thereafter, Courtney became involved in a verbal altercation with a local named John Sullivan in a saloon. Unaware of the adage about not bringing a knife to a gunfight, Sullivan pulled his knife on Courtney while swearing at him, whereupon Courtney shot him dead—at a distance of 30 feet. Courtney was tried for murder, but in that time and place, cursing a man by impugning his mother was grounds for homicide, and he was acquitted.

After a forced visit to Virginia City where he was tried and acquitted of killing the bartender, Courtney returned to Pioche, where he started keeping company with a volatile young prostitute. Customers aside, she was also showering her affections on a local named James McKinney, a whiskey and laudanum addict whom the local newspaper described as "a low order of man" who was "never known to do a day's work."

Addressing him with the same ill-chosen epithet that Sullivan had spewed at him, Courtney ordered McKinney out of town. Instead, McKinney opted to surprise Courtney, shooting him five times in the back. Not surprisingly, Courtney succumbed. Tried for murder, McKinney was acquitted, for the very reason the jury had freed Courtney: You simply didn't call a man a son-of-a-b*!ch and expect to survive it.

The local newspaper expressed little grief over Courtney's demise, describing him in words that would eventually appear on his grave marker: "feared by some, detested by others, and respected by few...."

Winnemucca 🌃



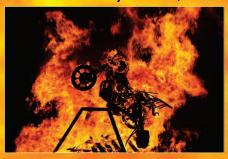




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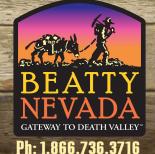
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BIG LIZZIE AND LITTLE JO

Elizabeth and Josiah Potts were an odd-looking couple. Elizabeth was a very large woman, married to a man half her size. Neither was a seasoned outlaw, but together, they authored one of the most shocking and convoluted murders in Nevada history.

The Pottses were born in England, where they wed prior to immigrating to Wisconsin. Josiah, a machinist with the Central Pacific, moved his family as the railroad ordained, first to Utah, and then to Carlin.

A brief separation resulted in Elizabeth traveling solo to Sacramento, where she met and bigamously wed an unsuspecting carpenter named Miles Faucett. Shortly thereafter, she returned to Josiah, and Miles who had told friends Elizabeth owed him moneyfollowed her, taking up residence in the Potts home until he purchased a nearby ranch.

On the night of Jan. 1, 1888, Faucett visited the Pottses, ostensibly to get Elizabeth to pay him his money. He was never seen alive again. His ranch house was found to have been ransacked, and everything of value taken. The Pottses soon moved to Rock Springs, Wyoming, after renting their house to a family named Brewer and telling neighbors that Faucett had been called away on business.

The following January, George Brewer discovered various partially burned and dismembered sections of Miles Faucett buried in the basement. Local lore insists that Faucett's ghost directed the Brewers to his resting place. The Pottses were extradited to stand trial, and subsequently convicted and sentenced to hang. "The mind naturally recoils with horror," the judge stated in passing sentence, "at the thought that anyone can become so lost to the common instincts of humanity."

Elizabeth attempted suicide by slashing her wrists, but she was revived. In Elko on June 20, 1890, loudly proclaiming their innocence, the couple died on a double gallows, before an audience of 52 lawmen and journalists. Owing to her prodigious size—she had gained even more weight in her cell—Elizabeth was nearly decapitated by the drop, whereas skinny Josiah expired of strangulation. Elizabeth Potts became the only woman in Nevada history to be executed.



Top: Gallows Bottom left: Elizabeth Potts Bottom right: Josiah Potts

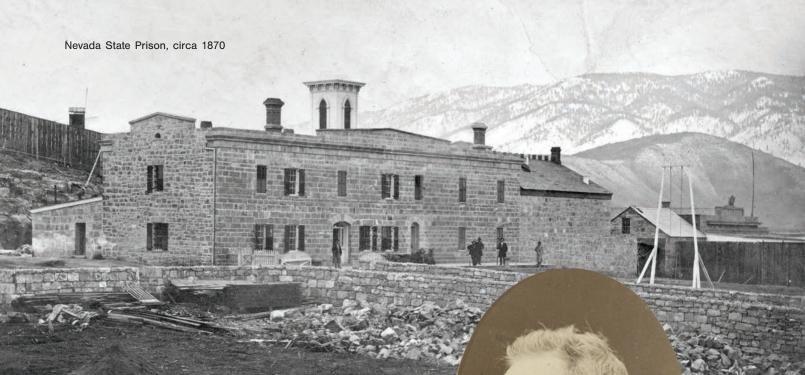
NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM

BREAKOUT

Western penitentiaries were, by design, extremely unpleasant, and some were virtually escape-proof. Such was not the case with Carson City's Nevada State Prison. On a frigid Sept.17, 1871, 29 inmates staged the largest breakout in the nation's history.

It was a Sunday, and most of the guards were off duty. As evening fell, the prisoners, using handmade weapons, overpowered a guard and climbed through a hole in the ceiling. Following the crawl space to the ceiling over the warden's quarters, they smashed through, surprising the warden's wife, daughter, and mother-in-law at dinner. Warden Frank Denver, who was also the state's lieutenant governor, rushed into the room, pistol in hand. Inmates beat him to the ground and shot him in the stomach with his own pistol.

Seizing Denver's keys, the escapees opened the armory doors and stole several rifles, pistols, and shotguns, as well as thousands of rounds of ammunition. A gun battle ensued



between the now-heavily armed inmates and the few remaining guards. The guards took the worst of it; three were wounded, and the local hotel owner, who had run to their aid, was shot dead. One inmate suffered a superficial arm wound.

NEVADA STATE PRISON PRESERVATION SOCIETY

The escapees scattered in all directions. One was captured days later while basking in a hot springs, reportedly claiming all he'd wanted was a hot bath; but the remaining 28 continued to elude pursuers, much to the embarrassment of local law enforcement. Crossing into California, five of the inmates seized a horse belonging to a teenager, senselessly killing the boy. Some histories insist that the youth was riding for the Pony Express, but that institution had ceased operations a decade before. An aroused Mono County posse immediately took up the chase, overtaking the five escapees near what has come to be called Convict Lake. In the ensuing firefight, two posse men were killed.

However, a newly formed posse captured three of the five inmates. As they were conveying their prisoners to jail, the posse was stopped by a band of vigilantes, who summarily hanged two of them. For some reason, they voted not to kill the third.

Ultimately, only 18 or 19 of the 29 escapees were recaptured. Warden Denver recovered from his wound, but not from the scandal surrounding the escape. When Governor L.R. "Old Bullhorns" Bradley ordered him to surrender his position to a new appointee, Denver refused. The governor then sent 60 soldiers and a small field piece to convince him, and Denver turned the prison over to his successor without further resistance.

LOOKING BACK

Lt. Gov. Frank Denver

Nevada has certainly had its share of bad apples. But through the influence of movies and television, and as far back as the "penny dreadfuls" of the late 1800s, there has blossomed an aura of romance surrounding the Old West's felons. In fact, the only thing that separates them from the gangsters of the 1930s or the organized crime figures of today is the passage of time. If Morgan Courtney had owned an automatic weapon, he would have used it gleefully. The real early-day heroes were not the ones who sought riches with a pistol, or who killed without remorse, but those who dug in, and scratched a living from unforgiving ground, or labored daily to turn a profit. They were the ones who paved the road to today's Nevada.

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY





In Las Vegas, people say I do with customized events.

STORY BY MEGG MUELLER PHOTOS BY JOHN GRAHAM/LV WEDDING CONNECTION

Getting married in Las Vegas—if Hollywood is to be believed—is for the young, the foolish, the headstrong, or the inebriated. In the really far-out tales, those qualities are all rolled up in one impatient, lovestruck couple who have just met and take their new-found passion all the way to the altar.

In truth, inebriated couples will be denied a marriage license. Of the 73,000 weddings performed in Clark County in 2018—that's a whopping 200 per day average—the vast majority have nothing to do with impetuous behavior. Weddings in Las Vegas are serious business, and as with any destination wedding, require planning and a level head. The options for how to tie the knot are endless and as unique as the couples coming to say "I do."

PLANNING FOR FOREVER

"People are wanting experiences, not just a wedding," explains Joni Moss Graham, CEO of LV Wedding Connection.

Joni's been helping people find their wedding bliss for 28 years, and notes the trend toward experiential activities falls right in line with the rise in destination weddings. Vegas has always been a destination for weddings, but now it's not as an after-thought or whim.

"I've got a group from Scotland, about 38 people," Joni says. "They are coming a year in advance to plan and then coming back for the ceremony."

What would warrant two international trips for such a large group? Well, love, of course, but also the ability to have the wedding of your literal dreams. For every outlandish idea, every unique wish, Vegas is ready to serve.

"Game of Thrones"-themed wedding? No problem, right down to the Tyrion Lannister-lookalike officiant.

"Elvis is alive and well and performing ceremonies at a number of Las Vegas wedding chapels."

Want to tie the knot just before you get shot 160 feet in the air at 45 mph, only to plummet seconds later, and then get shot up again? Head to the STRAT's Big Shot thrill ride and you can do just that. If getting high while getting wed sounds good, but you're not into the G-force of the Big Shot, maybe the Linq's High Roller pods are a better choice. As the pods climb to 550 feet above The

Strip, say your vows with up to 40 friends watching. Let's not forget the quintessential Las Vegas wedding: Elvis is alive and well and performing ceremonies at a number of Las Vegas wedding chapels.

SO MANY CHOICES

Whatever the idea, today's couples are taking the concept of Las Vegas' legendary buffets and applying it to their nuptials. While the major casino properties often offer more traditional one-stop wedding planning in sumptuous venues that host the ceremony, reception, after-party, and accommodations, there are myriad offerings for anyone looking to pick and choose from a variety of options.

According to Clark County Clerk Lynn Goya there are thousands of wedding professionals in Las Vegas including wedding planners, officiants, photographers, and florists standing ready to help plan your perfect day.

A professional planner can help put together weddings that involve starting at one destination for the ceremony, perhaps another for photos or taking a photo tour around the city, on to a restaurant for a wedding dinner, then to a nightclub for the reception and dancing, ending with dropping the couple off at their accommodations.

This ability to choose each locale to create a signature event for their wedding day is what makes Las Vegas so popular. You can visit the Las Vegas Wedding Chamber of Commerce's website and choose from more than 70 certified professionals that can help with the many options.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Choosing the right spot to exchange vows is generally the first step. From taking a helicopter to the Valley of Fire at sunset to standing among signs from the city's colorful past at the Neon Museum, wedding locations run the gamut. Go with a gangster theme and choose the Mob Museum for an un-forget-a-bout-it ceremony, or declare your love for







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one another and breakfast food by getting hitched at the Denny's on Fremont Street in Downtown.

Wedding chapels are still the mainstay of the industry in Vegas, however. The approximately 50 chapels offer their own unique touches, from the historic Little Church of the West where many celebrities have married to the iconic Graceland Wedding Chapel where the Elvis Presley Package gets you the voice of The King singing at your wedding. A Special Memory Wedding Chapel offers drive-through ceremonies—as do a few others—and the Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel has themed ceremonies that include Camelot, intergalactic, western, gothic, and disco among others.

Scenic weddings aren't confined to The Strip, which is a breathtaking backdrop in its own right, but within an hour (or less, depending on your mode of transportation) the splendor of southern Nevada's outdoors is ready to host the perfect ceremony.

Red Rock Canyon offers an unparalleled backdrop, especially from the helicopter-only landing pad. The limo-accessible area isn't anything to sneeze at, if flying isn't in the budget.

"Red Rock is often combined with wine tasting and dinner in Pahrump," Joni mentions. "There's a mix and match going on when planning an experience." Eldorado Canyon is another popular wedding site, thanks to its rugged beauty and quirky setting that make it picture-perfect for so many couples (think old mining town with an upended airplane). The proximity of scenic choices is almost endless.

"Springs Preserve is a gorgeous place for weddings. Lakeshore—near Summerlin—is completely beautiful. Lake Las Vegas, which is restoring its golf course, is amazing and just 30 minutes from the Strip, and Boulder City is another great romantic place offering untraditional experiences," Joni says.





"That's why getting married here is SO much fun."

The ability to create a wedding ceremony a la carte, from an almost unlimited supply of ceremony options, restaurants, party venues, and more puts Las Vegas ahead of the curve of any destination-wedding city. And while some people still associate weddings in Vegas as a flight of fancy or something out of the film "The Hangover," the truth is the ceremonies, regardless of setting or length, are deeply serious undertakings. People often ask if weddings in Las Vegas are real, and the answer is, if a marriage license is secured and signed, the wedding is as real as one performed anywhere else.

The 73,000 weddings last year didn't include all the renewals and commitment ceremonies that occur each year because they don't require a license. However, according to Lynn, starting in 2019, those who wish to can obtain a certificate for those ceremonies from the Clark County clerk's office, just like you would a marriage license.

With the ability to tailor a wedding to your wildest dreams, fangeek preferences, pop culture fascination, and everything in between, where does it end?

"It doesn't," Joni exclaims. "That's why getting married here is so much fun."

Still need nelp? Visit Ivweddingguide.com to view and

download our Southern Nevada Wedding
Guide, where you'll find tips and wedding professionals that
can help create your special day. Copies can be picked up at
all Clark County marriage license bureaus.



LOVE CONNECTIONS

Las Vegas Wedding Chamber of Commerce weddingchamber.vegas, 702-983-3933

LV Wedding Connection
lvweddingconnection.com, 702-941-1889

Denny's on Fremont dennys.com/vegasweddings, 702-471-0056

The Neon Museum neonmuseum.org, 702-387-6366

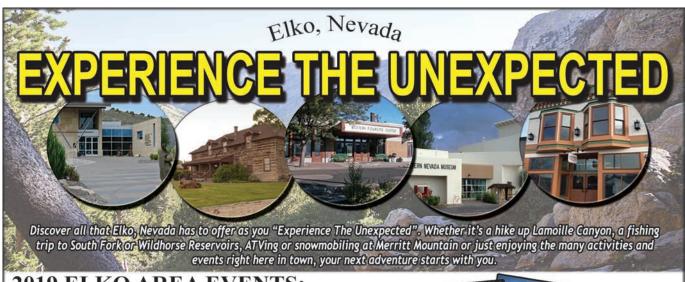
The Mob Museum themobmuseum.org, 702-229-2734

Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel vivalasvegasweddingchapel.com

A Special Memory Wedding Chapel aspecialmemory.com, 702-637-4531

Little Church of the West littlechurchofthewest.com, 702-739-7971

Graceland Wedding Chapel gracelandchapel.com, 702-382-0091



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National Basque Festival-July 5 thru July 7

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Ruby Mountain Relay-August 16 thru August 17

Elko County Fair & Horse Races-August 24 thru September 2

Elko Classic Car Show-September 6 thru September 8



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NEVADA'S ONLY NATIONAL MENORIAL

A mysterious aircraft disaster outside Las Vegas hints that Nevada has been on the cutting edge of technology for decades—secretly.



BY KYRIL PLASKON

On Nov. 18, 1955, Las Vegans awoke to a fire near the very top of Mt. Charleston where there was not a scrap of wood to burn.

"Flame, just like there was a fire," Henderson resident Lavern Hanks recalls. Her husband who worked for KLAS-TV tried to investigate. But men with rifles blocked the road to Kyle Canyon. So, he turned around and went home.

"My husband was followed all the way home by the FBI," Hanks recalls. And when he walked in and she asked

why he came home, he said the men with rifles threatened him: "You cross this line, and I will shoot you."

there along with a dozen other men.

Hanks and everyone else around the nation eventually learned that it was a plane that had crashed in a violent storm the day before. What Hanks didn't know was that her brother's body was up

"YOU CROSS THIS LINE, AND I WILL SHOOT YOU."

baddest, and blackest of black projects that was being developed at Area 51 at the time. Key project personnel were on board and the CIA and FBI urgently needed to get there to secure classified materials.

Upon their arrival, park rangers told them that the snow was so deep it would be impossible to get there until spring.

That wasn't an option.

The Air Force dispatched parachute teams to try to skydive in. The wind was so strong that the effort was abandoned. Then they tried a mountaineering team

> with skis and snowshoes. Only a few men made it in waist-deep snow and could do little more than secure the wreckage.

The military needed the expertise of Nevadans who knew these mountains, knew the routes, and had one resource the military didn't have: horses. The selected group was the sheriff's mounted posse, led by a man named Merle Frehner.

Frehner gathered a bunch of volunteers including his brother and a short, stout horse named Joe-Snip, also referred to as the "snow-buster." The posse gathered at the Mt. Charleston Lodge and took inventory of their supplies. Some of the posse members wore high-visibility rescue jackets with black and white diamonds. The military men brought cans of Spam. The sheriff's posse brought candy bars, sandwiches, cigarettes, and whiskey. Others carried no food at all.

"We figured we wouldn't be gone long," Sheriff Butch Leypoldt wrote of the plan to hike for 9 miles in waistdeep snow to an elevation of 11,000 feet.

MEN IN BLACK



No one except the U.S. military, CIA, and FBI knew that the plane—a C-54 Skymaster USAF 9068—held the key to the biggest,

BIG BROTHER

The Atomic Energy Commission—the agency tasked with assisting in the recovery—was not impressed with the plan and ordered the posse to stand down, expressing doubt that they would ever make it. But after the powers



PHOTOS: NATIONAL ATOMIC TESTING MUSEU

involved realized there was no other option, they gave the roughand-tumble Nevadans the go-ahead.

The posse set out at 4 a.m. with 17 horses. The stout little pony Joe-Snip led the way through the drifts of snow. His head would move 2 feet to either side and his neck would push the powdered snow, breaking a trail.

"Man, there were times when the snow was so deep that we'd get off [our horse] and just hang on to the horse's tail and let them pull us along on our bellies," Leypoldt wrote.

Some members of the party became sick and had to be carried down. Ice cut the horses' legs, leaving a trail of blood. After 7 hours they reached the crash site. Debris was scattered 40-50

"The oddest thing was the co-pilot. He was laying on his back some 30 feet ahead of the plane, buried in the snow. He was wearing flying shoes, which were all that was visible and those shoes looked to be a yard long. He looked like a giant from a fairy tale," wrote posse member Pat McDowell.

Air Force officers ordered the posse to wait while they secured classified materials and documented the rubble.

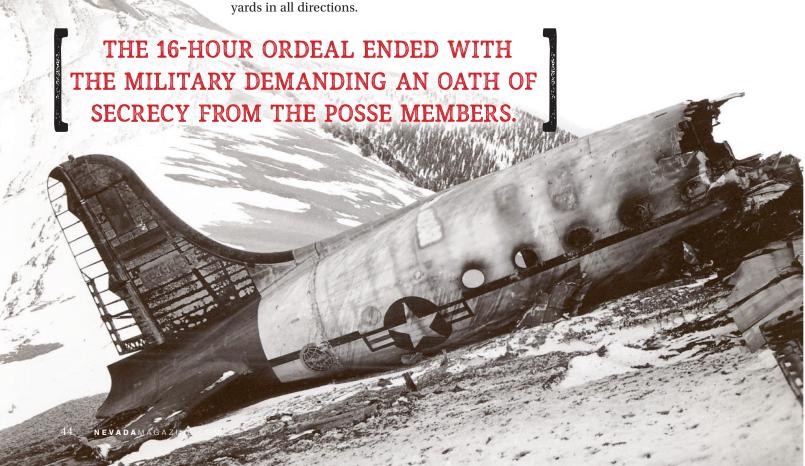
"Two Air Force colonels had ridden up with us," Frehner wrote. "The freezing wind was blowing like 60 miles an hour. 'We are going to freeze up here if we don't get started going down the mountain and so will our horses," he said to the sheriff.

That prompted the sheriff to talk to the colonels and get started with the gruesome task of removing the bodies. The horses didn't like the weather either and started bucking. One of the passengers was missing, but the posse didn't have time to worry about that.

With the bodies on the backs of the horses, the posse would have to walk. They were on their own. The trail was frozen solid. Walking on chunks of snow was like walking on boulders.

"More than once, a horse would slip and roll down the slope, and we'd have to go down there and drag him back up onto the trail and start out again," Frehner wrote.

The altitude made it hard to breathe and the men had to use shovels to clear the trail. Bodies fell off the horses and had to be left by the trail to be picked up later. In the black of night, the men began to stagger and fall.



"I drank what was left of the snake-bite medicine [whiskey]. It gave me a lift. I got hold of the horse's tail

and let her pull me along, but not for long," Pat McDowell wrote. "It suddenly seems like

THE REPORT WAS LOCKED AWAY AND FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, THAT PLANE WAS OFFICIALLY STILL OUT THERE FLYING.

doesn't mention what kind of classified work the group was doing or that they were doing it at Area 51. The report

was locked away and for all intents and purposes, that plane was officially still out there

my guts had fallen out and I couldn't go another step." He climbed on the back of his horse named Cindy, sat behind the dead body, and rode into camp at 8:20 p.m. The 16-hour ordeal ended with the military demanding an oath of secrecy from the posse members.

LOOSE ENDS

Military personnel fanned out across the United States and visited the families of the victims, bringing the message of their fate. In some cases, the message was a lie, or the military said pretty much nothing at all, just that their loved one was dead and one day the family would be proud of their work.

Behind the scenes, investigators put together a crash report detailing how the plane was blown off course due to high winds. The sign-out cover sheet for the classified crash report shows that few people ever looked at it. It flying. According to the Military Aircraft Registry, USAF 9068 was not withdrawn from service until 1970.

New information came when a man hiked up to the crash site in September 1998. By then, the crash site was just a flattened pile of wires, pipes, and wheels. Standing over the wreckage in the silence, hiker Steven Ririe had a revelation that everyone on that plane had died and someone should find out who they were.

Ririe also found the one person who had been missing from the plane: Henderson resident Bob Murphy.

He was listed on the flight manifest, but it turns out he had slept through his alarm and missed the flight. He was the missing link, connecting the crash victims to the highly classified work they were doing at the time. The victims were CIA, FBI, and private contractors working on building the most high-tech intelligence project at the time: the top-secret, high-altitude-flying U-2 spy plane. These





planes were credited with gathering critical intelligence during the Cold War and are still in use today.

Murphy says the crash paved the way for military contractors to require more experienced pilots. The crash also added to the urgency for more accurate weather data for flights.

Ririe tracked down the declassified crash report, and called the families of the victims, providing answers they had long sought.

Though he didn't stop there. He reached out to legislators and politicians, telling everyone that this story needed to be told and preserved.

"At first, I didn't pay any attention to him. His story sounded implausible" says U.S. Senator Harry Reid. "The more I talked to him, the more I realized that he was the one that was right and I was wrong. Some of them [victims] had no funerals. It is important that we recognize Cold War veterans who sacrificed so much and got no attention."



It is speculated that thousands of Americans died like this in obscurity during the Cold War, victims of secrecy. But Ririe's effort spreading this once untold story of military, FBI, and CIA victims, eventually convinced congress to approve the nation's first Cold War National Memorial. It was dedicated in May 2015 at Spring Mountains Visitor Gateway at the base of Mt. Charleston, thousands of feet below where the plane crashed. The memorial features a twisted propeller from the crash site that Ririe removed himself with the help of volunteers.

CRASH SITE TODAY

The crash site of the C-54 is near 11,000 feet, where the air is so thin most trees can't grow, and it's as desolate today as it was in 1955. The remote location has mostly preserved the site.

"Back in the '50s, there were people who made it their job to go to these crash sites just for the aluminum," says Dave Trojan, a 30-year wreck chaser who has surveyed more than 500 crash sites.

"I would say that only 10 percent of plane crashes are like this, where the whole airplane is there, just in pieces," Trojan says. He calls his work "aircraft archeology" and sites like USAF 9068 are especially valuable.

"I reinvestigate these accidents and I believe that things can still be learned from them," he says.

For instance, what proof is there that this was a top-secret military plane? The answer is in the wreckage.

Sitting among the gray rocks and bits of aluminum is a big bracket. Riveted to the bracket is a plate that says "U.S. PROP-ERTY MT-362A/A."



Through research, Trojan found that this bracket held the IFF (Identification Friend or Foe) system.

"It would have been very important on this aircraft and a must-have to be able to fly into Area 51," he says. "This system would have allowed crews on the ground to identify if an approaching aircraft was a friend or foe. If it got into the wrong hands and put on an enemy plane, they could fly into the Area 51 airspace without raising alarms. Securing classified equipment like this was critical to the Air Force on that mission to the wreckage in 1955.

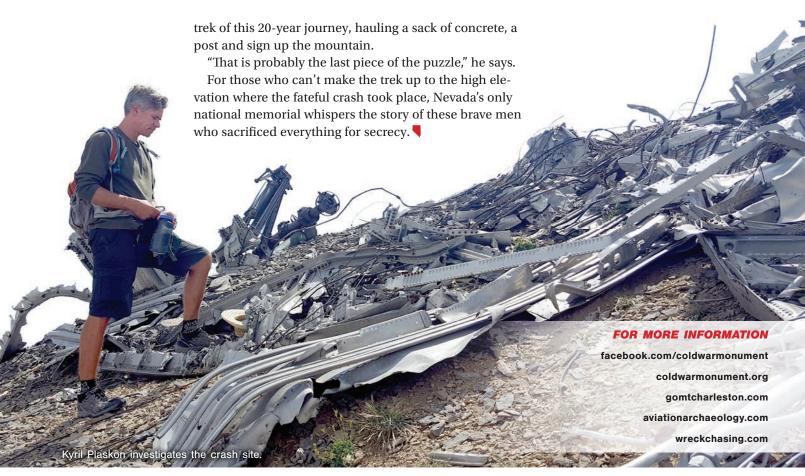
At the site, you can also view propellers, engines, wings, windows, controllers, air flow regulators, and internal communication devices.

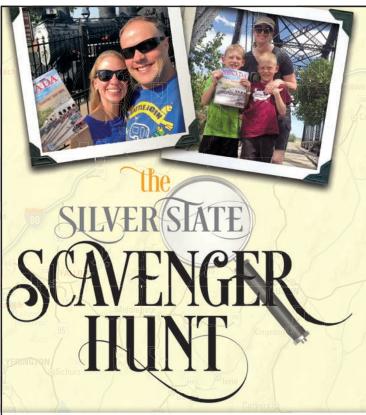
"When you see the aircraft wreckage that is all opened up, you can see the engineering aspect, which is different than what you see at the museum. You get to see the internal working parts," Trojan says. "That creates an appreciation for the engineering aspect that no longer exists in today's aircraft."

However, at the crash site, there is no identifying information. People who happen upon the site experience the same mystery Ririe did 20 years ago. Trojan says this would be a prime location for a metal post and sign.

"It helps the public so that they know what they are looking at and it helps prevent vandalism at the site," he says.

Ririe says he hasn't worked out the details with the Forest Service of where a sign identifying the crash could go, but this summer, he hopes to find himself on the final





NEVADA MAGAZINE CELEBRATES OUR STATE'S NATURAL WONDERS.

Have you ever traversed the narrow slot canyons of Cathedral Gorge? Gazed upon Lake Tahoe's most iconic bonsai tree? Hiked among the vibrant red sandstone in the Valley of Fire? Gazed across the seemingly infinite flatness of the Black Rock Desert?

Do you want an excuse to?

The 2019 Silver State Scavenger Hunt is the perfect reason to get out and explore some of Nevada's most breathtaking natural wonders.

We've split the state into two zones—Northern and Southern—and chose 10 notable destinations in each. Simply pick a zone, visit 6 of the 10 locations in that zone, snap a photo of yourself holding the JULY/AUGUST 2019 issue of Nevada Magazine at each

location, and email all 6 photos to us at nvmaghunt@gmail.com.

We're teaming up with Land Rover Reno & Las Vegas again, who will be providing this year's prizes.



The official list of destinations will be published in the JULY/AUGUST 2019 issue of Nevada Magazine. To get your copy first, subscribe to Nevada Magazine. You can also look for the JULY/AUGUST 2019 issue on newsstands. Visit nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt for complete rules.



Nevada Magazine would like to express our overwhelming gratitude to all of these incredibly generous businesses for their prize contributions.























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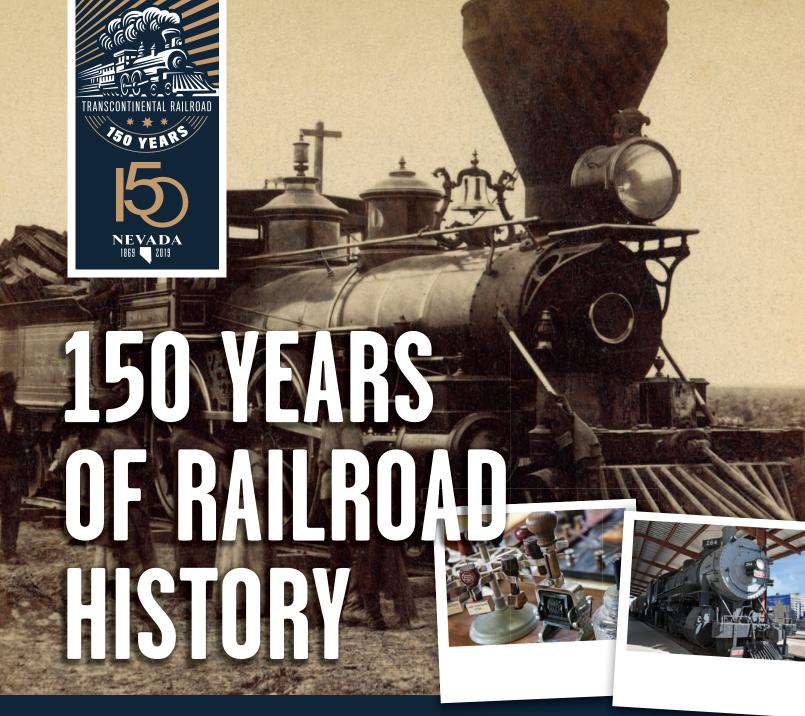
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2502 LAND ROVER/JAGUAR RENO & LAS VEGAS

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CELEBRATE THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

The Transcontinental Railroad connected a nation in May 1869, when the Golden Spike was driven at Promontory Summit, Utah. Join **Nevada State Railroad Museums in Carson City, Boulder City, and Ely** as we honor the event and 150 years of railroading history with exhibits, special events and more.

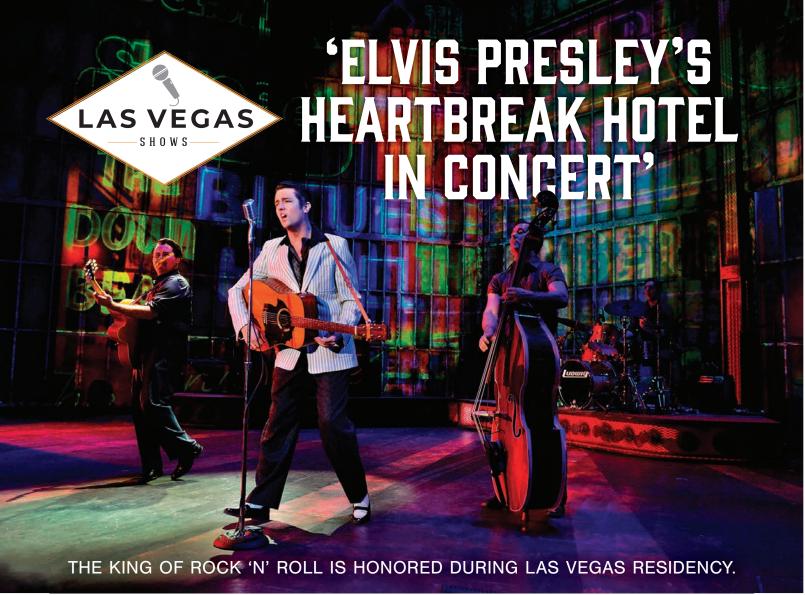
Visit Nevada150Railroad.com to see what's in store throughout the year.

A special exhibit at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City will feature:

- ✓ Two original key steam locomotives from the era
- ✓ The Central Pacific RR Director's Car—the last surviving rolling stock to have witnessed the moment

Coming May 2019!





GARY NG /OGUNQUIT PLAYHOUSE

rom the producers of "Rock of Ages" comes "Elvis Presley's Heartbreak Hotel in Concert," the ultimate Elvis hit-driven, story-telling concert experience, that opened in April at Harrah's Las Vegas. Presenting the music and the story of Elvis' meteoric rise to fame all in one night's immersive experience, the show features more than 18 Elvis songs that came to define rock 'n' roll as we know it today, while four giant LED walls present authentic imagery and scenes from his extraordinary life.

Leading the band as Elvis Presley is Eddie Clendening, who is widely regarded as one of the most genuine and true-to-life performers of Elvis. Clendening created his role while starring as the King of Rock 'n' Roll in 2,200 performances on the Broadway production of "Million Dollar Quartet." He also played Elvis in the Chicago and Japan productions of the show.

"There is no better place for 'Elvis Presley's Heartbreak Hotel in Concert' to perform than in Las Vegas, the city where Elvis Presley performed some of his most memorable shows," says Scott Prisand, producer for Robbins Lane Entertainment, who has also produced "Rock of Ages," "Legally Blonde," and other notable stage productions and feature films.

"Elvis Presley's Heartbreak Hotel in Concert" performs Wednesday through Monday at 8 p.m. with an additional 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. The show is dark Tuesdays.



WHERE

Harrah's Las Vegas



WHEN

Ongoing, Wednesday-Monday, dark Tuesdays



TICKETS

harrahslasvegas.com, 702-777-2782

ALSO AT HARRAH'S LAS VEGAS

Mac King Comedy Show, ongoing

The Righteous Brothers: Mill Medley & Bucky Heard, ongoing

Tape Face, ongoing

"Menopause the Musical," ongoing

The Comedy Lineup Starring John Caparulo, ongoing



The Hollywood Vampires—featuring Alice Cooper, Joe Perry, and Johnny Depp— have announced spring 2019 tour dates. The band performs at The Joint at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas on Friday, May 10.

Completing the Hollywood Vampires live lineup is mainstay guitarist Tommy Henriksen (Alice Cooper), along with rock star musician friends Glen Sobel (Alice Cooper) on drums, Chris Wyse (The Cult) on bass, and Buck Johnson (Aerosmith) on keyboard and vocals.

In 1969, on the Sunset Strip at the legendary club, the Rainbow Bar & Grill, the Hollywood Vampires were born in the upstairs bar. It was a gathering place for the rock stars living in or passing through L.A. "To join the club, one simply had to out drink all of the members," says Alice Cooper, a founding member of the original Vampires.

Cooper and good friend Johnny Depp got together and decided the spirit of The Hollywood Vampires should live again—minus the drinking. Cooper and Depp were joined by Joe Perry, who is an old friend of both, and the recording began—a tribute to the original Hollywood Vampires. An environment was born for great artists to hang, laugh, and play together.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The country's leading food, wine, and spirits festival, **Vegas Uncork'd** by Bon Appétit returns to Las Vegas May 9-12 with a world-class lineup of renowned celebrity chefs, restaurateurs, master sommeliers, and cutting-edge mixologists from Caesars Entertainment, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, MGM Resorts International, The Venetian Resort Las Vegas, and Wynn Las Vegas.

etian dozer egas. blank buzze

ADMIT TICKETS

vegasuncorked.com

Electronic dance music headliners from around the world come together to embark on the unforgettable adventure that is **EDC Las Vegas**, May 17-19. From unparalleled firework displays and state-of-the-art production across eight unique stages to the hundreds of costumed performers and dozens of interactive art installations that blanket the grounds, the iconic festival buzzes with incomparable energy.



TICKETS

lasvegas.electricdaisycarnival.com

HOTTEST SHOWS

NICKY JAM

The Cosmopolitan May 3 cosmopolitanlasvegas.com 702-698-7000

ARIANA GRANDE

T-Mobile Arena May 11 t-mobilearena.com 702-692-1600

CARRIE UNDERWOOD

MGM Grand May 11 mgmgrand.com 877-880-0880

DIANA ROSS

Wynn June 5, 7-8, 12, 14-15 wynnlasvegas.com 702-770-9966

ZIGGY MARLEY & MICHAEL FRANTI

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

COHEED AND CAMBRIA

Hard Rock June 28 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000

PAUL MCCARTNEY

T-Mobile Arena June 28-29 t-mobilearena.com 702-692-1600

JUDAS PRIEST

Hard Rock June 29 hardrockhotel.com 702-693-5000



May 10

ROSANNE CASH Piper's Opera House,

Virginia City pipersoperahouse.com, 775-847-0433

Rosanne Cash—daughter of legendary singer Johnny Cash—visits Virginia City in a magical, intimate evening at historic Piper's Opera House May 10. The concert benefits Community Chest, Inc., a nonprofit that offers programs and services to rural northwestern Nevada, including positive youth development, food security, employment assistance, mental-health counseling, and more.



June 15

TOBY KEITH

Nugget Event Center, Sparks nuggetcasinoresort.com, 800-648-1177

Famed country artist Toby Keith takes to the stage at the newly constructed Nugget Events Center June 15. Keith is known for his collection of country hits, including "I Love This Bar," "Red Solo Cup," "American Soldier," "Beer for my Horses," and more. The all-new entertainment and event amphitheater, located across the street from the Nugget in Sparks, seats more than 8,500 quests.

4 PYROMANIA THE DEF LEPPARD EXPERIENCE

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

9-12 VEGAS UNCORK'D

Various resorts, Las Vegas vegasuncorked.com

10 GRAND FUNK RAILROAD

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

10 WILLIE NELSON

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

11 LEANN RIMES

Nugget, Sparks nuggetcasinoresort.com, 800-648-1177

11-12 ART FESTIVAL HENDERSON

Henderson Events Plaza, Henderson cityofhenderson.com, 702-267-5707

11-12 RENO RIVER FESTIVAL

Downtown Reno renoriverfestival.com

17 BILL ENGVALL

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

17 SYTTENDE MAI STREET PARADE

Bicentennial Park, Boulder City 702-415-4764

17-18 HOT AUGUST NIGHTS SPRING FEVER REVIVAL

Downtown Reno visitrenotahoe.com, 775-356-1956

18 GARY CULMAN

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

18-19 CHILI ON THE COMSTOCK

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

24 SARA EVANS

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

24-26 RUN-A-MUCCA

Winnemucca runamucca.com, 775-623-5071

24-27 JIM BUTLER DAYS

Tonopah tonopahnevada.com

25-26 WEST FEST

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

31 ELLE KING

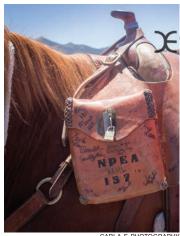
Henderson Pavilion, Henderson cityofhenderson.com, 702-267-2323

31 WORLD FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Greater Nevada Field, Reno greaternevadafield.com, 775-334-700

31-June 1 RENO-TAHOE ODYSSEY

Reno-Tahoe Area renotahoeodyssey.com, 775-825-3399



June 21

PONY EXPRESS LETTERS FOR VETERANS

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, Reno nationalponyexpress.org/ npea-events/rodeo

The National Pony Express
Association (NPEA) is delivering
letters of appreciation for
veterans via horseback into the
arena at the Reno Rodeo on
Patriots Night. NPEA and the
Reno Rodeo are asking for help
from the public to write letters
to veterans to be carried in the
mochila (mail bag) at the Reno
Rodeo. Visit the website for
details on how to submit your
letter. Deadline is June 15.



June 29-July 4

BELMONT COURTHOUSE ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Belmont Courthouse, Belmont belmontcourthouse.net, 702-335-3251

The Belmont Courthouse Arts & Crafts Show specializes in Nevada pride. While standing on the steps of the Belmont Courthouse, guests can feel the presence of the early miners and settlers who cooperated to build the majestic building in 1876. Nevada pride inspires contributing artisans to fill the courthouse with unique arts and crafts for sale. Each sale contributes toward continued courthouse restoration.

6-9 CARSON VALLEY DAYS

Lampe Park, Gardnerville carsonvalley2030.com, 775-830-4641

7-9 STREET VIBRATIONS SPRING RALLY

Reno-Tahoe area roadshowreno.com, 775-329-7469

13 SUBLIME WITH ROME

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

14-15 THE GREAT ELDORADO BBQ, BREWS, AND BLUES FESTIVAL

Eldorado, Reno eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700

14-16 STEWART FATHER'S DAY POWWOW

Stewart Indian School, Carson City stewartindianschool.com, 775-687-8333

15 WOMEN WITH WHEELS CAR SHOW

Virginia City visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

17-28 LAS VEGAS RESTAURANT WEEK

Las Vegas helpoutdineoutlv.org, 702-644-3663

20-29 RENO RODEO

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, Reno renorodeo.com, 775-329-3877

21 AARON LEWIS

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

22 JIM JEFFERIES

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

24 GOOD VIBRATIONS CELEBRATION OF THE BEACH BOYS

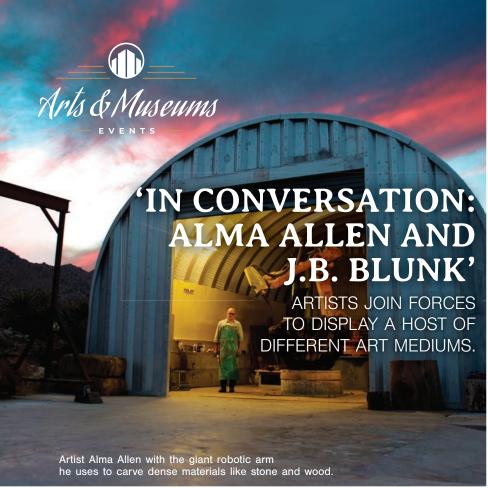
Peppermill Concert Hall, West Wendover wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

28-30 CARSON CITY OFF-ROAD RACE

Carson City epicrides.com, 520-623-1584



RICK GUN





LISA EISNER



LISA EISNER

GEORGE WAGNER

Blurring the lines between design, craft, and sculpture, "In Conversation: Alma Allen and J.B. Blunk" stages a conversation between two artists that never met, but whose work shares a deep affinity. Organized by the Palm Springs Art Museum, "In Conversation" is comprised of nearly 80 works ranging from monumental furniture and sculpture in wood, stone, and bronze to delicate ceramic plates. The diversity of creations illustrates how both artists—inspired by nature's visceral power and beauty—create evocative work from materials found on the land. "In Conversation: Alma Allen and J.B. Blunk" is on view at the Nevada Museum of Art in downtown Reno through June 23.

Both Allen and Blunk are self-taught and each began making work on a small hand-made scale, Blunk in ceramic and Allen in wood and stone. Working alone in rather remote locations—Blunk in Inverness, Calif., and Allen until recently in Joshua Tree, Calif.—gave the artists the space and freedom to expand the scale and range of their practices to encompass not only housewares, furniture, and sculpture, but also the design and building of their own homes and studios. The exhibition also features photographs by Lisa Eisner and Leslie Williamson that show how each man shaped his own environment, creating a parallel dialogue between these two contemporary photographers.

ARTIFACTS & ARTISTRY

"LECTURE: NUKING THE MOON: NUCLEAR INTELLIGENCE SCHEMES LEFT ON THE DRAWING BOARD"

National Atomic Testing Museum, Las Vegas
May 25

nationalatomictestingmuseum.org, 702-794-5151

"PERSONAL SPACE: EXPLORING STEREOSCOPIC NEVADA"

Nevada Humanities Program Gallery, Las Vegas Through May 29 nevadahumanities.org, 702-800-4670

"THE LAY OF THE LAND"

Capital City Arts Initiative, Carson City Through June 30 arts-initiative.org, 775-267-3295

YAYOI KUSAMA EXHIBITS

Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, Las Vegas Through June 30 bellagio.com/bgfa, 702-693-7871



WHERENevada Museum of Art, Reno

?

Through June 23

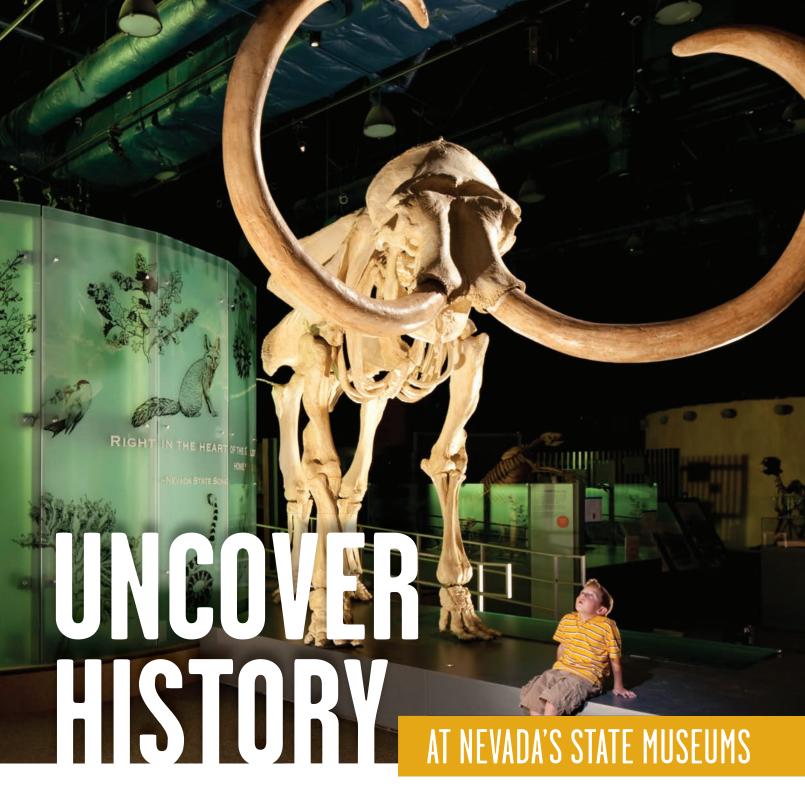


775-329-3333



WORTH A CLICK

nevadaart.org

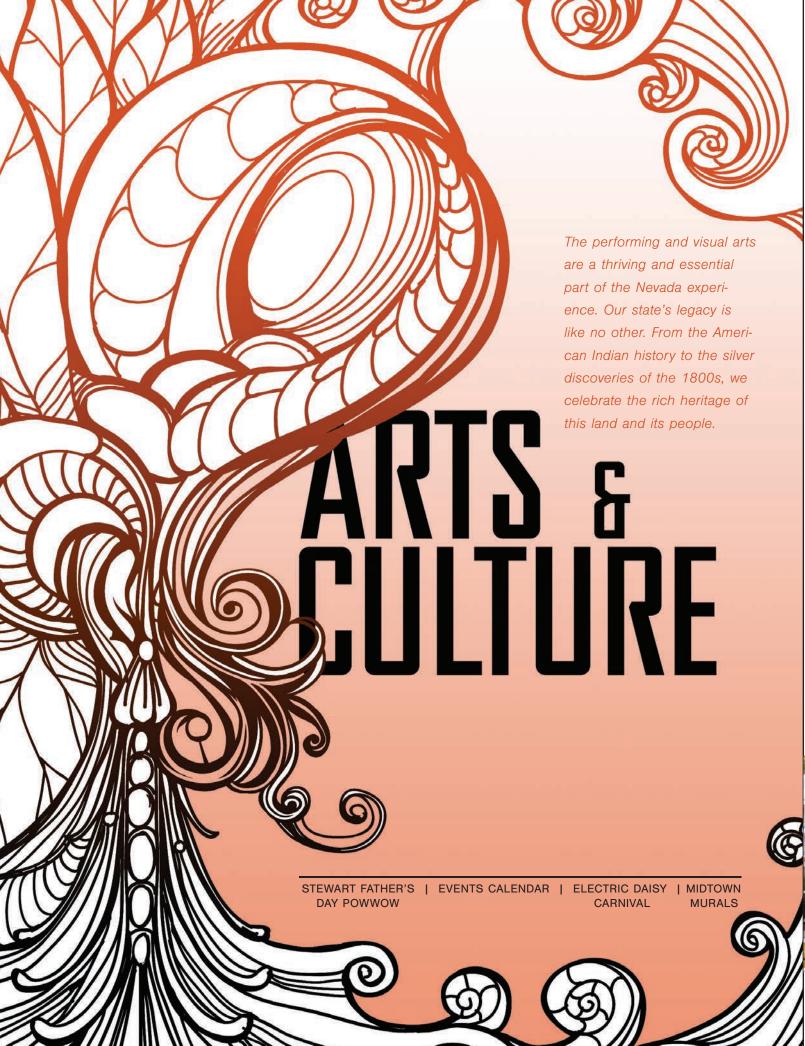


Adventure through the rich and colorful story of the Silver State as it unfolds in seven Nevada State Museums. Unearth eras marked by prehistoric giants and eons of natural splendor, experience rhythms of American Indian life and the Old West, feel the booms of mining, railroading, the atomic era, entertainment... and so much more.

Where will your **NEVADA STORY** take you?

Visit **NVMuseums.org** for museum locations, exhibits, & events. Become a Museum Member for **FREE Admission** to ALL museums.







Celebrate Father's Day Weekend, June 14-16, at the Stewart Father's Day Powwow. Bring the entire family and experience American Indian heritage, history, and pride.

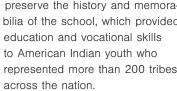
The former Stewart Indian School in Carson City comes alive with more than 200 dancers, 30 arts and crafts vendors, plus Indian tacos and other food vendors. Admission to the event is free.

The Father's Day event is part of an effort to establish the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center to preserve the site's history. The Stewart Indian School Trail is a self-guided walking tour of the campus with 20 points of interest and audio stories. Using cell phones, visitors can access recorded messages from alumni and employees about their personal experiences at the school. The "Talking" Trail tour helps preserve the history and memora-

STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL CAMPUS

5500 Snyder Ave. Carson City, NV 89701 stewartindianschool.com 775-687-8330

bilia of the school, which provided education and vocational skills to American Indian youth who represented more than 200 tribes









MAY -

JUNE CALENDAR

3-5

'The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical'

The Greek gods are real, and they're ruining Percy Jackson's life. In "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical," as a son of Poseidon, Percy has newly discovered powers



he can't control, monsters on his trail, and is on an epic quest to find Zeus's lightning bolt to prevent a war between the gods.

Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts 100 S. Virginia St., Reno pioneercenter.com, 775-686-6600

'The Land of the Dragon'

This stylized Chinese play is a fantasy, created in an ancient and delightful Chinese manner. It tells the story of the captive Princess Jade Pure and her rescue by The Road Wanderer and his pet dragon.

Charleston Heights Art Center 800 S. Brush St., Las Vegas lasvegasnevada.gov/residents/events 702-229-6011

MAY 10

Halleck Bar Party

Known as the best cocktail party in Elko for the past 40 vears. Northeastern Nevada Museum members and friends drink a Beefeater gin toast to the acquisition of the antique bar and back bar from a saloon in the once-wildand-woolly town of Halleck. This fundraising event for the Northeastern Nevada Museum gives visitors a chance to dress in costume with an old west theme, enjoy good company, good food, good gin, live entertainment, and a silent auction.

Northeastern Nevada Museum 1515 Idaho St., Elko museumelko.org 775-738-3418

MAY JUNE 31 - 2

Antique Truck Show

The American Truck Historical Society's annual convention and antique truck show hosts nearly 1,000 trucks of all shapes and sizes. At the largest antique truck show in the world, visitors can also shop the outdoor swap meet or participate in a truck memorabilia auction, in addition to checking out the vendors on the show floor.

Grand Sierra Resort 2500 E. Second St., Reno grandsierraresort.com, 775-789-2000



Concerts on the Green

On warm summer evenings in Genoa, when

the sun begins to dip behind the Sierra Nevada and the shadows grow long, people gather in the



Genoa Park with their picnic dinners to listen to music.

Genoa Town Park 2285 Genoa St., Genoa genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

JUNE 21 - 22

Lincoln County Photo Festival

A hands-on, professional photography event with workshops in some of Nevada's most incredible locations. Classes feature such photography topics as action/sports, drone, sunset, night sky, wildlife, impressionist, travel, environmental portraiture, and photo editing. Instruction will be given in the field by experienced professionals.

lincolncountynevada.com 775-962-2461



JUNE 28

DjangoVegas! Festival

The annual music event takes its name from one of jazz music's most



famous and influential figures Django Reinhardt. The celebration pays tribute to the roots, origins, and established figures of jazz. It features rising jazz stars, and this year's event features Hot Club of Las Vegas, The Lost Fingers, and Cyrille Aimee.

Historic Fifth Street School 401 S. Fourth St., Las Vegas lasvegasnevada.gov/residents/events 702-229-6011

THROUGH **2019**

'Mindbender Mansion'

Enter the wonderfully puzzling world of "Mindbender Mansion," The Discovery Museum's newest exhibition that hosts 40 different puzzles and brainteasers. The large-scale exhibition is guaranteed to test the brain power and problem solving skills of even the most experienced puzzlers, young and old.

The Discovery Museum 490 S. Center St., Reno nvdm.org, 775-786-1000



Jack Malotte

JUNE 8 - OCTOBER 20, 2019

A lifetime of artwork by this Native American artist of the Great Basin

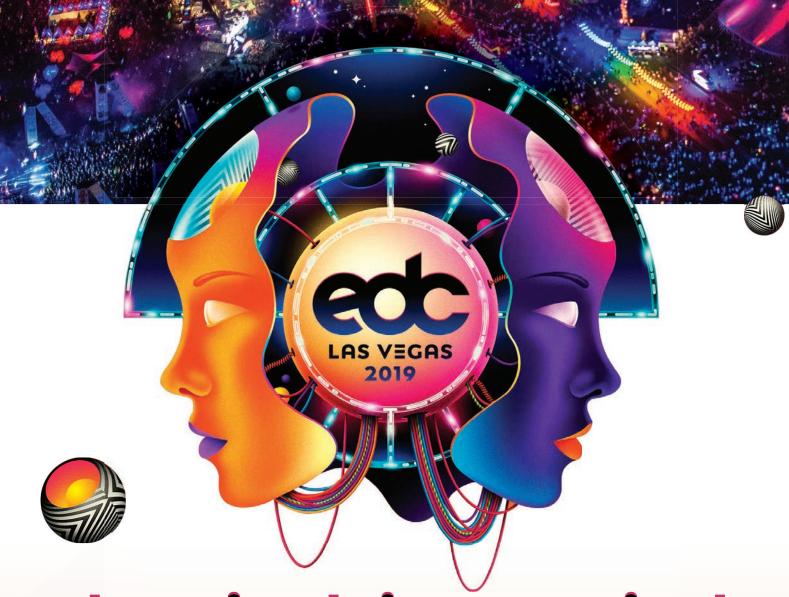
MAJOR SPONSOR: The Satre Family Fund at the
Community Foundation of Western Nevada

SPONSORS: Nevada Arts Council, Sandy Raffealli | Bill Pearce Motors

SUPPORTING SPONSORS: Anonymous, Kathie Bartlett,

National Endowment for the Arts





electric daisy carnival

The Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC) returns to Las Vegas May 17-19 to celebrate life, love, art, and music. With nine stages, pyrotechnics and performers, the unique elements that bring this event to Las Vegas will astound even the most jaded music-event lover. Participants can wander, explore, interact, connect, and let their imagination and positive energy fly free in this place. The 2019 theme is Kinetic Energy.

Now in its 23rd year, EDC hosts more than 400,000 annual participants. Most attendees come dressed to impress and ready to experience the vast open-air arenas which feature glowing neon works of art, forward-thinking music, and larger-than-life performances.



PHOTOS: ALIVE COVERAGE FOR INSOMNIAC



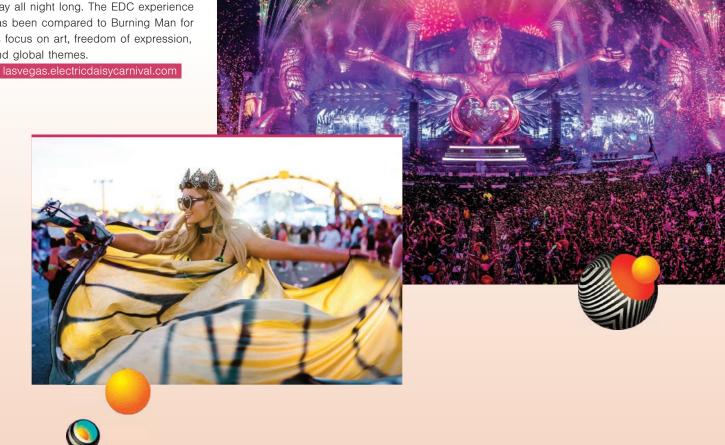
IVAN MENESES FOR INSOMNIAC



EDC takes over the 1200-acre Las Vegas Motor Speedway and becomes an oversize playground with full-size thrill rides, three-dimensional superstructures, colorful, glow-in-the-dark environments, and all manner of LED-infused flora and fauna.

A vital part of the experience is the interactive art installations scattered throughout the festival, serving as bridges constructed between nature and technology. There are more than 100 daily performers-or as EDC's website

calls them, merry bands of Funkdafied Freaks. Dancers, stilters, aerialists, circus performers, and other whimsical characters are decked out in over-the-top costumes designed to enchant, astound, and play all night long. The EDC experience has been compared to Burning Man for its focus on art, freedom of expression, and global themes.





"Un dia la ves" by Carlos Martinez; photo by Tony Fuentes.

SHOW COLORFUL SIDE OF MIDTOWN

Reno's Midtown Mural Tour showcases the beautiful, evocative, and generous murals sprinkled in this newly energized segment of the Biggest Little City.

The murals have been appearing for years, but it wasn't until Geralda Miller and Eric Brooks—co-curators of Art Spot Reno, a comprehensive website for the area's arts and events—expanded on Eric's impromptu

tours for friends, that the Midtown Mural Tour was created.

As with many inner-city gentrification projects, the murals are taking on a life of their own, and more are being commissioned and painted all the time.

The vibrant expressions of local, national, and international artists have been created out of artistic need, but also because savvy business people and artists have been working together to bring new life to Reno's admittedly aging core. The subjects run the gamut: from characters to portraits and everything in between. But there's one thing you won't find: graffiti.

"The difference between murals and graffiti is permission,"

Geralda says. "Murals are a deterrent to vandalism and tagging."

Every second Saturday at of the month, tours of the midtown neighbor-

hood murals are given. There are so many murals the tours now focus on one of two areas, the northern or southern portion of the area. Learn about the artists, their process and how this form of public art improves the life and culture of a neighborhood.

The first Saturday of the month, a two-hour, docent-led walk will give insights into the colorful murals that transformed vacant walls and alleys into an outdoor urban art gallery. The tour alternates between the downtown Reno public art tour, and the Reno mural expo tour.



Junkee clothing Exchange by Joe. C. Rock; photo by Neil Lockhart.

COMING TOURS

May 2 - Art Walk Reno

May 4 - Reno Mural Expo Tour

May 11 - Southern route of the Midtown Mural Tour

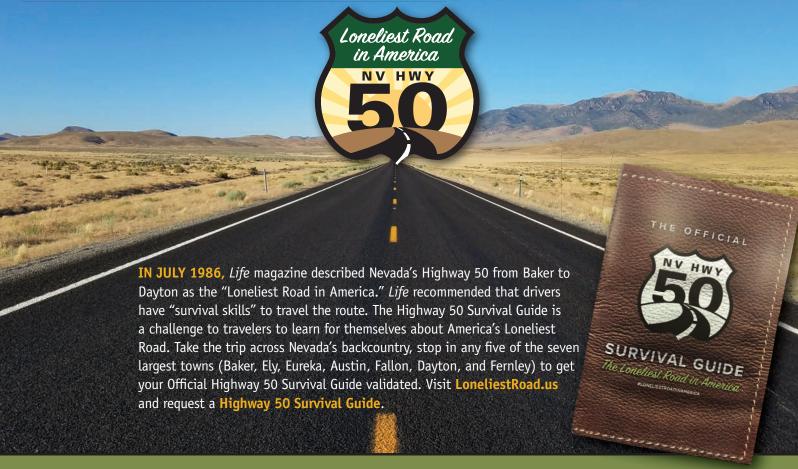
June 1 - Downtown Reno Public Art Tour

June 6 - Art Walk Reno

June 8 - Northern route of the Midtown Mural Tour

artspotreno.com

The one and only Nevada Highway 50. America's Loneliest Road.

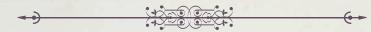


THE LONELIEST ROAD REMAINS THE ROUTE TO SOME OF THE MOST COLORFUL CHARACTERS, PLACES, AND EVENTS





CHAPTER 2



PART 9: THE LOVELOCK LION

BY ERIC CACHINERO

Just around suppertime on July 11, 1912, house-wives prepared meals, miners clocked in and out, and children played in the streets of the northwest Nevada mining camp of Mazuma. The town rested at the mouth of Seven Troughs Canyon, just below the mining camp of the same name, and on that day, everything seemed normal in this little slab of sagebrush,

save for an unusually colossal gathering of somber thunderclouds that hovered just up the canyon.

Then, amid thunderous roars and cloudburst, a biblical tsunami rained down upon the canyon as if Heaven's bathtub had swiftly cracked in two.

The Seven Troughs Cyanide Plant was the first building to be hit by the 10-foot wall of water that maniacally assaulted the canyon like a liquid freight train. To make matter worse, after the flash flood reduced the plant to splinters, it was now carrying dozens of gallons of deadly cyanide, though that fact made no difference for the unsuspecting residents down the canyon in Mazuma.

A heroic attempt was made to warn the Mazumans of the approaching wave. Seven Troughs Coalition Mining Company Engineer Ed Kalenbauch watched the deadly deluge safely from his office on a hill. After seeing the flood and where it was headed, he phoned an operator in the nearby town of Vernon, who quickly phoned a hotel owner in Mazuma. Though the two were connected, electrical interruptions caused by the weather allowed only one word through before the transmission was lost: "water."

By that time, it was too late. The flood annihilated Mazuma and in one fell swoop, claimed eight lives—nearly a tenth of the town's population. A child's body was found nearly 5 miles away.





The lives lost on that fateful day were not in vain. Lessons were learned and future warnings heeded. It's unfortunately ironic that here in the driest state in the U.S., water can often have dangerous, even deadly consequences. Flash floods are something to be wary of.

Managing Editor Megg Mueller and I are reminded of this as we set out on our third ghost town trip of the year, careening into the northwestern Nevada desert amid a "chance of scattered rainstorms," which it turns out, on this day, means it's pretty much raining as hard as possible only in the directions we want to go. Black clouds line the peaks in the distance as we turn north on Dixie Valley Road toward another handful of historic Nevada mining camps. It's not long before we pull off the main road en route to Nevada's most wonderous ghost town: Wonder.

Rich quartz veins were discovered in a dry wash in May 1906, attracting the attention of around 100 zealous prospectors, giving rise to the town of Wonder. By August, the "Wonder Mining News" newspaper was in circulation—as was a rival newspaper—and boasted that the town of Wonder had no mosquitos. Not long after that, a post office was constructed and the town's drug stores, saloons, cafes, and hotels were built so quickly it was as if they simply grew from the desert dirt. The Nevada Wonder Mining Co. kept the lights on via the reciprocal relationship between its physical ore and the paper ore of East Coast capitalists for nearly 11 years, before the mines ran dry and Wonder became wearisome.

Due to its massive size during its heyday, I'm initially surprised at how little is left of Wonder, before later learning that most of the town was packed up and moved



ERIC CACHINERO

to other mining camps. Concrete mill foundations and a collection of metallic trash mark the site, as does an old outhouse that appropriately reads, "Wonder,

Nevada Pop. 0." We poke around for a bit before heading north into the wet and wild Dixie Valley.

MEGG MUELLER

GHOST VALLEY

Dixie Valley

Though much of Dixie Valley is open to the public, the area is owned by the Naval Air Station Fallon and is used as an electronic warfare range. Skeletons of homes and ranches line much of the valley, as does a host of functional and nonfunctional military equipment. This coupled with the bleak skies, worsening muddy road conditions, and general remoteness of the valley give the drive a truly ghostly feel, but is lightened a bit by the incredibly vibrant rocks in the surrounding hills. After suffering a series of brief map malfunctions (me getting lost), we find the road we need and set off toward the foreign lands of Bolivia.

Bolivia, Nevada was formed in the 1870s as miners from nearby Unionville branched out. Nickle and cobalt were discovered in Bolivia in the 1880s, and brought rise to a leaching plant (failed), and a furnace (exploded). Nothing too spectacular ever came from the town, and it faded out around 1907.

There are wild alpacas in the country of Bolivia. It absolutely wouldn't surprise me to see one here as we ascend the canyon. Muddy roads and extreme terrain set us searching for the ghost town on foot. The jagged orange cliffs don't resemble any place I've ever seen in Nevada, and I think that this must be what Bolivia the country looks like. The search is made more difficult by the creek rushing down the middle of the road (at times, the road and the creek are indiscernible). We may as well be playing hopscotch with the amount of times we jump back and forth across the creek and are able to just barely make it without falling in. The rain worsens into







WIDE OPEN Ghost Towns



ERIC CACHINERO

a downpour just as we eventually come face-to-face with an actual Nevada waterfall about 10-feet tall. We decide that's a good place to turn around as we hike it back to the car, unsuccessful in exploring Bolivia. I grumble that I'll be back with my Jeep next time.

More map malfunctions lead us to the north end of the valley, and a sort of interior chaos

ensues. "Is that the right road?" "Didn't we turn back there?" "Are the roads too muddy?" We finally agree on a resounding yes to the last question, and decide it safest to turn around and drive the long way to our destination for the night: Lovelock. We originally had planned to traverse Dixie Valley Road and the connecting roads all the way to Winnemucca, but heed our own advice to be smart about how we travel in the remote backcountry. So, it's off to Middlegate for a much-needed burger before we start the long haul to Lovelock for the night.

PHANTOM FELINE

It rained all night.

The nighttime downpours fuel unfortunate pessimism. We awake and grab a quick breakfast before getting on the road, leaving ourselves as much time as possible should we become thwarted by rain and muddy roads once again. Luckily the first ghost town of the day—Humboldt City—is located in the Humboldt Range just off Interstate 80. We reach the ghost town with ease.

Humboldt City was formed when silver was discovered in the canyon in 1860. Initial conflicts with American Indians in the area led to stunted growth of the town; however, an 1861 rush brought 200 people and Humboldt City was up and running. On May 2, 1863, the "Humboldt Register" painted Humboldt City as, "A picturesque and beautiful village containing some 200 well-built houses, some of which are handsome edifices, and many beautiful gardens that attest the taste and industry of the inhabitants. A beautiful, crystal stream of water diverted from its natural course runs a little babbling stream through every street." At one time, plans were made to divert a 61-mile ditch from the Humboldt River to supply the town with

water, and there were even serious talks of diverting the entire river, but they never came to fruition. By 1869, the short-lived Humboldt City was no more.

As we approach the ghost town, I remark that I'm surprised we haven't seen any deer in the canyon as it looks like the perfect place for them. We step out and walk for less than 30 seconds amid the dew-kissed sagebrush before Megg abruptly shouts, "I've got an animal!" as something leaps up about 20-yards from her. The scenario is nothing out of the ordinary, and I hear a quick crashing through the tall brush and expect to see the white behind of a mule deer doe bouncing up the adjacent side hill.

That's what I expect, but it's not what happens.

We sit relatively silent looking for the deer before I make my usual go-to joke that it must have been a mountain lion. My sentence is interrupted by an unfamiliar guttural growl that slices the morning silence.

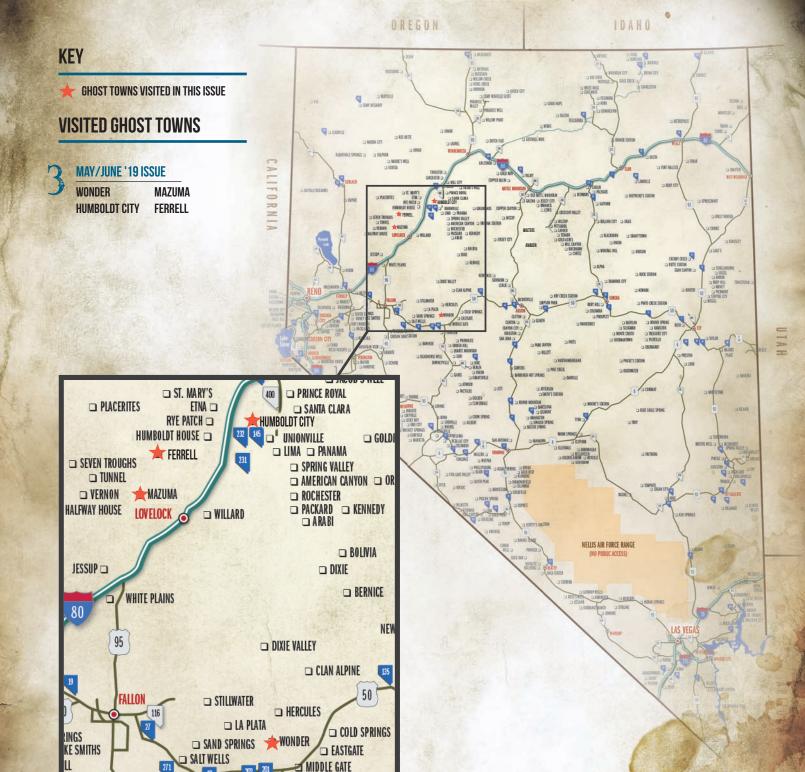
"Ggrrraaarrrhh." "Ggrrrrraaaarrhhh."

Megg and I stare silently in disbelief. We don't make a sound for another minute before the short spurts of gravelly feline snarls return, and they're close. We listen on for a couple more minutes, and the series of growls continues, then disappears completely. The situation we find ourselves in is that the cat ran in the direction of our vehicle, and the ghost town is behind us. We make the decision to move away from the cat, instead of toward it, taking quick refuge in Humboldt City's structures. After some time snapping photos, we cautiously walk back to our vehicle, and manage to escape unharmed.

I am 100 percent confident that what we experienced is, in fact, a feline growl. I am not 100 percent confident that the growl was that of a mountain lion, and could have been that of a bobcat. The only thing I'm left to do at this point is wonder; however, one more detail stands out. I didn't get a look at the animal, but Megg saw a flash of its butt, which she describes as "tan." The thing about bobcat butts is, they have a very noticeable pattern of light and dark spots on them. Mountain lion butts, on the other hand, are undeniably tan.

You decide.





NEVADA
MAGAZINE'S
GHOST TOWNS
& HISTORIC
SITES MAP



Nevada Magazine's Ghost Towns & Historic Sites map is back in stock! This Nevada treasure comes jampacked with historical information, color photographs, ghost town trip itineraries, park and territory information, fun facts, and a large state map showing the locations of hundreds of ghost towns.

Printed on tear-resistant and water-resistant paper, the map is the perfect companion for Nevada's backroads.

Maps are available for sale on our website at nevadamagazine.com or by calling *Nevada Magazine* Circulation Manager Carrie Roussel at 775-687-0610.



MUCK

The rest of the day is spent wondering out loud the identity of our (luckily) friendly feline, and experiencing the harsh reality that some days just aren't ideal for backroads ghost towning. We exit I-80 and drive about 8 miles to what we thought would be the ghost town of Tungsten.

Private property.

We turn around and hop back on the highway, driving around 40 miles west into the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

Mud.

The roads are far too sloppy for us to continue, so we turn around and head south around the west side of Rye Patch Reservoir in search of a road that our atlas tells us will take us out into the Seven Troughs Range.

No such road exists.

Feeling a bit discouraged ERIC CACHINERO at this point, we head back to

Lovelock to gas up before giving it one more shot. We drive the main roads out to the Seven Troughs area, as rainclouds release their contents as randomly as a fireworks display. Mazuma, Seven Troughs, and Farrell are the ghost towns in our cross hairs, though our struggle finally leaves us stopped in the middle of the dirt road, unable to go further.

The type of mud we encounter isn't the type that's found in a high-end spa, nor the type that lightly tamps down the dust on a warm spring day. The mud we encounter is a liar and a backstabber. It's the type of mud that rests just underneath an eighth inch of dry topsoil, waiting till you've driven just a bit too far before it reveals itself. This is the mud that acts like a trapdoor spider—once you're unfortunate enough to drive upon it, it leaps out from hiding and grabs

onto all four tires, spinning and swirling you into the roadside ditches and ruts where you encounter an even more paralyzing, binding quicksand mud that may as well just swallow entire vehicles whole.

Given that Nevada Magazine doesn't own a recovery helicopter, we admit defeat, heading back to Lovelock for the night.

CURSED

It didn't rain all night.

As I awake, sun peaks through my hotel room window swirling optimism that the roads may have dried out. Enough, at least, that we could take a second crack at finding Mazuma. We head back out and see that in fact, the trapdoor spider has retreated just enough to allow us to pass, and we reach Mazuma.

TRAVEL LOG

MILES

881

DAYS

GHOST TOWNS



ERIC CACHINERO

Mazuma—derived from a Yiddish slang word for money—was founded in 1907. The Mazuma Hills gold mine was a successful operation, attracting a host of businesses, including a two-story bank, three-story hotel, and other mainstays. The town was otherwise flourishing until the catastrophic flood that razed it. After the tragedy ensued, the town mill was reconstructed, though was only in operation until 1918.

Upon arriving to Mazuma, it's easy to see just how unlucky of a place it was to build a town. Everything looks normal, until you start to realize that every uphill canyon for miles and miles does lead right to Mazuma's doorstep. Even the recent rains have caused massive washouts—the dirt road is completely non-existent in some sections. We make a brief run over to the underwhelming ghost town of Ferrell, before turning toward town and counting our lucky stars that we managed to escape this trip without once becoming truly stuck in the mud.

GOLDILOCKS

I'll leave you with the words of Author and Environmentalist

Edward Abbey. His theory on the existence of desert water may
be almost always correct, though I'm sure the unfortunate souls at Mazuma would disagree.



MEGG MUELLER

"Water, water, water...There is no shortage of water in the desert but exactly the right amount, a perfect ratio of water to rock, water to sand, insuring that wide free open, generous spacing among plants and animals, homes and towns and cities, which makes the arid West so different from any other part of the nation. There is no lack of water here unless you try to establish a city where no city should be."

TONOPAH WWW.JIMBUTLERDAYS.TONOPAHNEVADA.com NEVADAor 775-482-6336 (OHV Friendly) Memorial Day Weekend Memorial Day Weekend Tonopah, NV PARADE - STREET DANCE - NEVADA STATE MINING CHAMPIONSHIPS SPEEDWAY RACES - ROTARY BINGO - DAVE STAMEY CONCERT GOLD PANNING & OTHER KIDS' EVENTS JIM BUTLER STAMPEDE MEMORIAL CEREMONIES AND MUCH MORE!



RENOR

A century of the Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West.

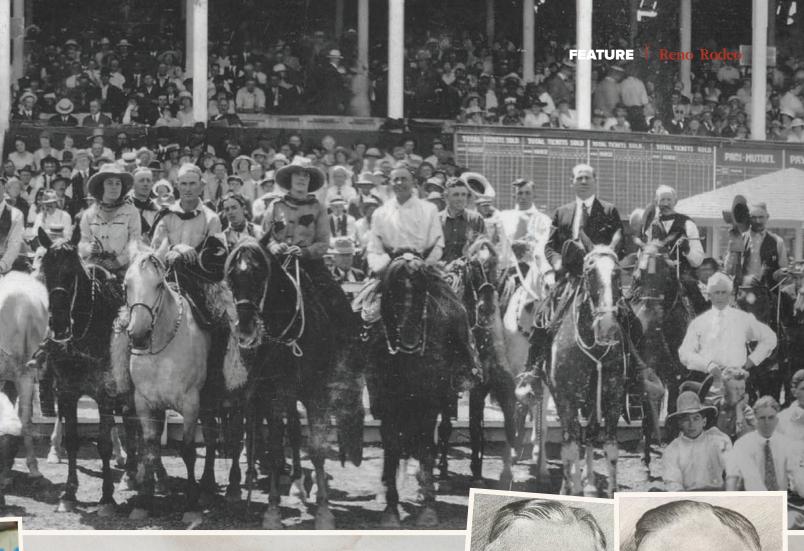
BY GUY CLIFTON



JAMES CRAWSHAW

Bradley Harter

GUY CLIFTON COLLECTION



In spring 1919, the Commercial Club of Reno—a precursor to the Reno Chamber of Commerce—created a committee known as the Reno Rodeo Association. The committee was filled with many of the city's leading citizens, including cattle baron William H. Moffat, auto dealer John C. Durham, bankers George Wingfield and Charles Mapes, and theater owner Glenn Hurst.

They were charged with a singular task: to create a Fourth of July rodeo so grand that it would attract the top cowboys and cowgirls to compete and visitors from around the country to enjoy. Community members were asked to volunteer for what was called the Nevada Round-Up: Reno's Annual Carnival of the Range.

One hundred years later, the Reno Rodeo continues to follow that same model: a volunteer army of local citizens create an event that attracts the best riders, ropers, bulldoggers, and entertainers from the world of professional rodeo and put on what is now known as The Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West.

"All the interest from around the country has been overwhelming," Mike Torvinen, 2019 Reno Rodeo Association president, says. "I've done interviews with the Wrangler Network and other national organizations have reached out. The significance of being around for 100 years and the history of the event; it's really special to be a part of it."



ROPIN' GREENBACKS

The Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West is a 10-day, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA)-sanctioned sporting event. The Reno Rodeo Association is a nonprofit organization made up of almost 1,000 volunteers. More than 140,000 fans are expected to be in attendance for the fourth richest PRCA tour rodeo. The event impacts the Reno-Sparks area with \$42 million going directly into the city's economy via hotels, retail, casinos, and dining. The Reno Rodeo has been nationally televised on CBS Sports, Fox Sports Net, Versus, ESPN, ESPN2, and ESPN Classic.

FEATURE Reno Rodeo





PHOTOS: RENO RODEO ASSOCIATION

The Reno Rodeo is the city's longest-running special event. This year's rodeo, which is set for June 20-29, is being celebrated as the 100th anniversary Reno Rodeo instead of the 100th annual because there were years in the 1920s—and one year during World War II—in which no rodeo was held.

THE BEGINNING

The timing couldn't have been better for Reno to host a big special event in summer 1919. The country was just out of The Great War, the boys returned home from Europe, and a sense of normalcy was settling in for the country.

Reno filled to capacity as throngs not seen since the Johnson-Jeffries heavyweight title fight of 1910 brought the attention of the world. The hotels were filled, tents set up in vacant lots, and a call was made to homeowners to make any spare rooms available for rent.

A carnival erected to coincide with the rodeo and provide nighttime entertainment for the masses was named Stingaree Gulch—after the notorious red-light district in Rawhide—and a former cattle rustler turned cowboy artist named Will James was asked to draw the skyline for the makeshift Western town that made up Stingaree Gulch. James was also hired to create artwork

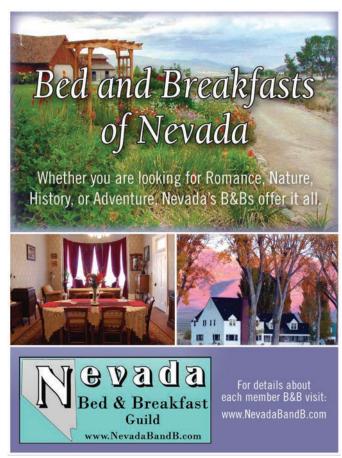


100 YEARS OF RODEO FACTS

- ★ Hippy Burmister, the first saddle bronc riding champion at the Reno Rodeo, went on to become the founder of the Rodeo Historical Society, the entity that evolved into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.
- ★ Will James' first mention in a Reno newspaper was in 1915 when it was announced he'd spent the night in the city jail in Reno before being transported to Nevada State Prison to serve a 12- to 15-month sentence for grand larceny, specifically cattle rustling in White Pine County. In 1919, he was hired to do the artwork for the Reno Rodeo program and by 1920, his art was appearing in national magazines. His most famous book, "Smoky," was published in 1926.
- ★ Viola Dana, queen of the third Reno Rodeo (then Nevada Round-Up) in 1921 appeared in more than 100 silent movies as an actress and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. She was given the keys to the city and had a reception with Gov. Emmett Boyle during the 1921 rodeo.
- * Charles Sadleir, often referred to as "the Father of the Reno Rodeo" served as the president of the Reno Rodeo and Livestock Association from 1935 until his death in 1948. A street near the rodeo arena was named in his honor in 1941, but the name was misspelled "Sadlier Way" on subsequent street signs and remained wrong for more than 50 years before history buffs, with the support of the Reno Rodeo, had it corrected.

continued on page 76







FEATURE Reno Rodeo



JULY 1-2-3-4-5, 1919





for the cover of the rodeo's program and paid \$50 for his efforts. It was the first commercial sale of artwork for the future distinguished author and artist.

The rodeo itself saw an Alturas cowboy named Hippy Burmister (a former performer in C. B. Irwin's Wild West Show in Chevenne) win the coveted bronc riding title. An African-American cowboy, Jesse Stahl, won the steer wrestling event

and also put on a popular riding demonstration by mounting a bucking bronc backwards and riding it to the whistle.

By every measure—with the exception of the bottom line the first Nevada Round-Up was a ringing success and prompted the "Reno Evening Gazette" to editorialize:

> "For an initial attempt, the rodeo was magnificent entertainment...The rodeo should be made an annual event. It should continue in the hands of volunteer citizens who have started the ball rolling so auspiciously."

- ★ Former Nevada Governor Morley Griswold served as the arena director at the 1935 Reno Rodeo.
- ★ Cliff Gardner of Washoe Valley was the all-around champion of the Reno Rodeo in 1937. It would take another 79 years before another Nevadan-Elko's Dakota Eldridgewon the all-around title. Eldridge did it in 2016.
- ★ Harry Drackert competed in the Reno Rodeo-and other major rodeos around the country-in the 1920s and 1930s and stayed involved with the Reno Rodeo for more than 50 years, serving as the Reno Rodeo president in 1968. He and his wife, Joan, operated dude ranches targeted toward divorcees.
- Western film actor Slim Pickens not only worked as a rodeo clown at the Reno Rodeo in the 1940s, he also competed in the rodeo as a bronc rider.



- ★ Casey Tibbs captured a record nine championships at the Reno Rodeo in the 1950s-five in saddle bronc, one in bull riding, and three in allaround.
- ★ Selena Ulch Pope is the only woman to hold the titles of Miss Reno Rodeo (2003), Miss Rodeo Nevada (2004), and Miss Rodeo America (2005).

continued on page 78

A PRESIDENTIAL MISCALCULATION

Organizers rode the inaugural Nevada Round-Up to successful events in 1920 and 1921 and brainstormed an idea in 1922 to bring even more national attention to Reno and the rodeo. A contest would be held to select "Nevada's Most Popular Girl," who would travel to Washington, D.C., and invite President Warren G. Harding to attend the rodeo in Reno.



RENO RODEO ASSOCIATION

Mary Harrington, a teacher at Reno's Southside Elementary School, was the top vote-getter and her trip across country to invite the president and present him with "a six-gallon hat" was well-publicized. Local newspapers carried a photo of Harrington standing alongside Harding, with U.S. Senator Tasker Oddie of Nevada and his wife.

The trip drew its share of publicity, but Harding, whose wife was seriously ill at the time, declined the invitation. In addition, the costs of the trip (along with other expenses of the 1922 rodeo), bankrupted the Reno Rodeo Association.

From 1923 to 1931, no rodeo was held as debts were paid and other special events were put on in the meantime.

It wasn't until 1932 that another successful rodeo was held in Reno, this time under the name of Pony Express Days. It was held over the Labor Day weekend as the Fourth of July was reserved for a prize fight between Max Baer and Kingfish Levinsky that was promoted by former heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey, who had settled in Reno the year before.

Dempsey became a supporter of the rodeo that year and the winner of the saddle bronc riding—Canadian Pete Knight—was presented with the Jack Dempsey trophy for winning the event.

In 1935, the Reno Rodeo and Livestock Association was formed with Charles Sadleir—the manager of the Riverside Hotel and a champion for good roads in northern Neva-

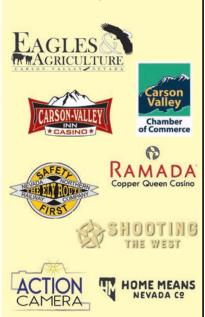


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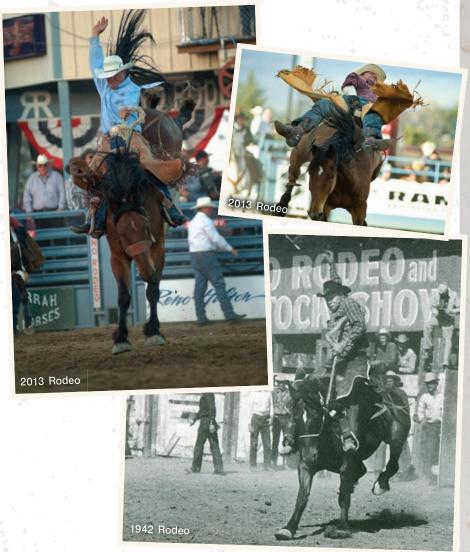
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PHOTOS: RENO RODEO ASSOCIATION

da and the Sierra—named president. This was the start of the Reno Rodeo Association as it is known today and Sadleir, whose named is preserved on a street leading to the Reno Livestock Events Center, is known as the father of the Reno Rodeo.

The event was consistently successful into the 1940s. During World War II, when gas rationing had many competitors and travelers sticking close to home, the rodeo went off with mainly locals competing. In 1944, at the height of the war, the rodeo leaders voted not to hold a rodeo.

HARRY "BY GOD" FROST

The Reno Rodeo returned in 1945 after a one-year hiatus and has been held every year since—although there was a scare in 1963 in which some rodeo leaders thought about not holding an event.

Not long after the completion of the 1962 Reno Rodeo, the huge wooden grandstand that had been in place for decades burned to the ground in a spectacular fire. Some members of the Reno Rodeo Association were worried new grandstands couldn't be completed in time and voiced concern that no rodeo should be held at all in 1963. That's when Harry Frost stood up.

- ★ Announcer Bob Tallman, voice of the Reno Rodeo since 1976, signed his first Reno Rodeo contract on a bar napkin. No announcer in history has been selected to work more National Finals Rodeo performances than Tallman. In 2004, he became the first native Nevadan elected to the ProRodeo Hall of Fame.
- ★ Only one cowboy has been killed in competition in the 100-year history of the Reno Rodeo. It happened in the bull riding event in 1947 when rookie rider Bill Brindler, a 24-year-old World War II veteran from Modesto, was bucked off and stepped on by a bull.
- ★ Buster Ivory won his first Reno Rodeo championship in saddle bronc in 1947 and his second in 1962 a record span of 15 years.



- ★ Actor Sam Elliott was the grand marshal of the Reno Rodeo Parade in 1994 and the final recipient of the Silver Spurs Award, given in Reno to the actor who best portrays the spirt of the West. Elliott was accompanied by his wife, Katharine Ross, who had won the award in 1981.
- ★ Generations of families have been involved with the Reno Rodeo, including: Charles Mapes Sr., one of the founders of the rodeo in 1919 and his son, Charles Jr., who served as president in 1966; Ray Peterson (president 1950-1962) and his son Bob (president 1971); and Jack Walther (president 1964) and his sons Jack (president 1980) and Steve (president 1989).



Frost, a tough-as-nails cowboy and former diminutive running back for the University of Nevada football team who owned the Reno Printing Company, was the incoming president for 1963 and he asserted "there would be a rodeo that year, by God, if he had to put it on by himself." Frost's assurances rallied the troops and the rodeo was a success.

This was also the year in which the leadership of the Reno Rodeo changed every year with a new president manning the all-volunteer organization.

In the last half-century, the rodeo has held to its roots and to that ideal expressed in the "Reno Evening Gazette" back in 1919: "It should continue in the hands of volunteer citizens who have started the ball rolling so auspiciously."

"When you look through the history, there were some struggles along the way, and it's kind of a testament to the people who wouldn't give up on it," Torvinen says. "It's our job now to make sure we're around for another 100 years."

School senior Mikayla de Guzman finished third.

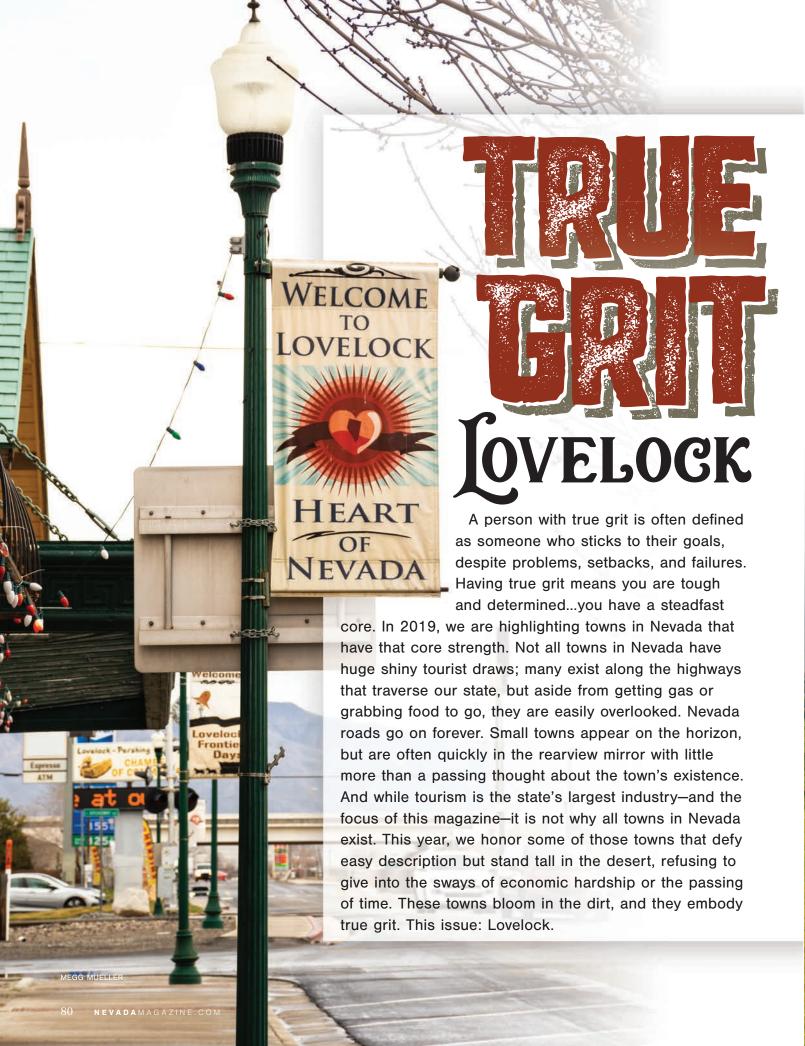


SADDLE UP

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M & CULTURAL AFFAIRS



(93)

RAILROADS TO FARMS. MINING TO TOURISM. **JOVELOCK STAYS NIMBLE.**

BY MEGG MUELLER

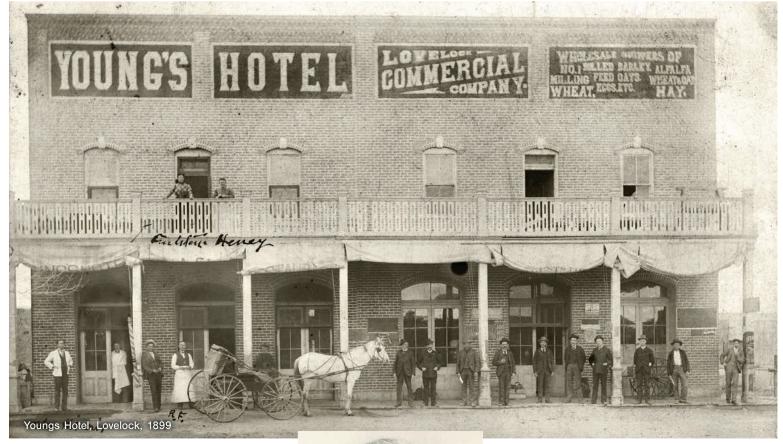
From 1841-1869, the lure of gold and silver, gentler weather, and the chance for a new life encouraged some 250,000 people to leave the comforts of their eastern homes and set out West. Many emigrants chose to follow the California Trail, and many died when they tried to cross the 40-Mile Desert, which ran roughly between Lovelock and Fernley. While it took just about a day and a half to cover it, and despite the fact that many pioneers were smart enough to travel at night, the deep sand and barren landscape offered no relief and many horses and oxen died along the route. Without a way to move forward, so did many people. If only they had chosen to stay in the lush, verdant valley, which was often a resting place before the arduous journey. The Big Meadows, as it was called during this time, was abundant with rye, hay, and most importantly, the waters of the Humboldt River.

SMART ENOUGH TO STAY

George Lovelock found his way to Big Meadows from California, where he'd landed after emigrating from England. After establishing a small town—also Lovelock in Butte County, his sawmill felt the pains of the Civil War and lumber's decreased market so he set out for new ventures in Nevada. Arriving in 1866, Lovelock bought 320







George Lovelock

PHOTOS: NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

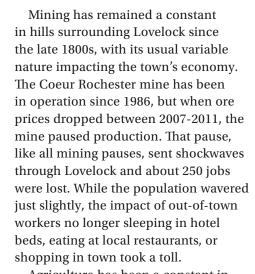


PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

acres of land and water rights from squatters. Lovelock took his turn at mining, but in 1868, the Central Pacific Railroad came calling and he gave 85

acres to establish the townsite and depot. The railroad, in turn, named the depot Lovelock.

With the railroad, Lovelock became a regular stop for transcontinental trains. By 1910, there were 1,100 people living there, and in 1917 the city was incorporated. In 1919, Pershing County was carved from Humboldt County and Lovelock became the county seat. It remains the county seat, and the county's only incorporated city. Lovelock continued to be a small yet thriving community despite the blows dealt by Interstate 80 replacing Highway 40 and removing much-needed tourist traffic, and the closure of the railroad depot in the early 1990s.



Agriculture has been a constant in the verdant valley, but there have been wrinkles there, as well. Heidi Lusby-Angvick, executive director of the Pershing County Economic Development Authority, explains that the farms use an irrigation system with water coming from nearby Rye Patch Reservoir. The lush green alfalfa farms thrive, as long as the water keeps flowing. In drought years this poses a problem, and Nevada's longest modern drought—2011-2017—saw farmers losing entire crops.

"We've just barely come out of the drought," she says.
"During that time, most of our farmers lost almost everything. It was three years with almost no irrigation water."



CALIFORNIA CONVERTS AND CONVICTS

Heidi moved to Lovelock from northern California in 2007, and despite the seemingly difficult conditions the town has seen in her time there, she maintains moving to Lovelock was the perfect choice.

"I came to town with my mom and daughters. I looked around, and it was beautiful. I knew it was where I wanted

FEATURE | True Grit: Lovelock

to be," Heidi says. "Since we moved, 14 family members have moved here, too."

That gut reaction has served her family well. All have bought homes, opened businesses, and put down roots. Heidi mentions the opportunities kids have in Lovelock, academically and through sports, which is similar to other small towns, but she takes it a step further.

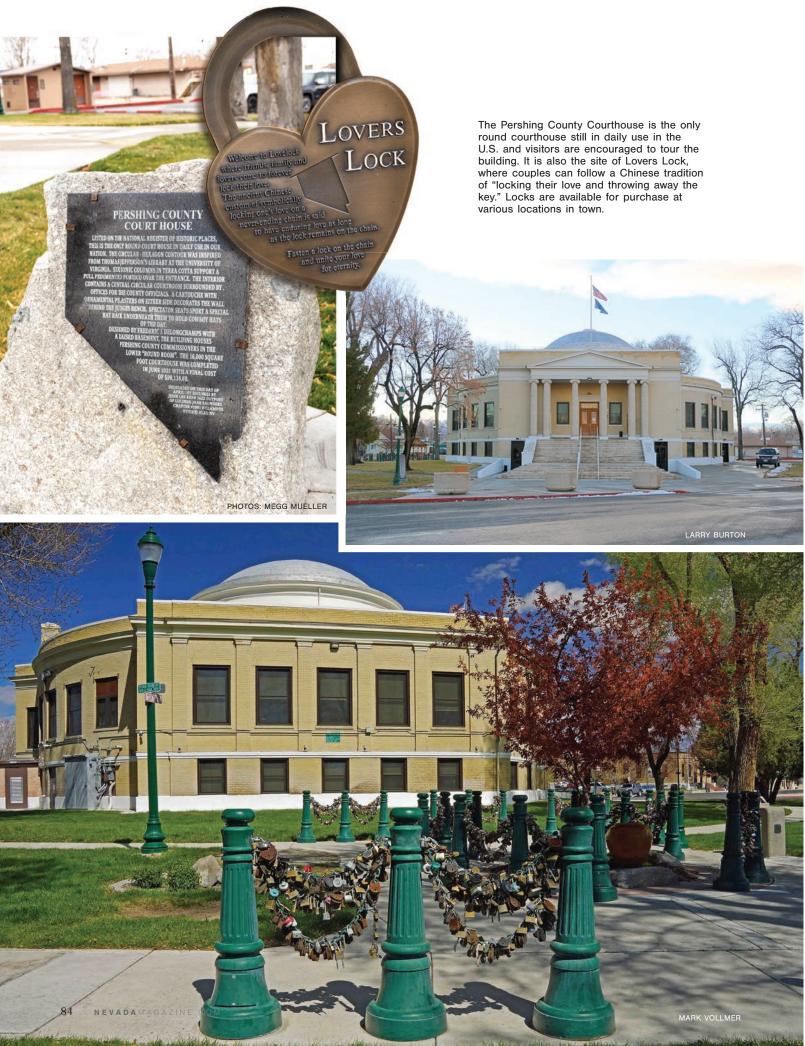
"I have no fear of letting my daughters out in this community," she says.
"This community really supports its children, it celebrates them."

The community also supports, and is supported by, a correctional facility that employs about 250 people. It housed O.J. Simpson from 2008-2017, but aside from some occasional media attention,

that particular convict never impacted the spirit of the community, which continues to seek economic diversification.

"There's a ripple effect coming from Reno and Storey County," Heidi mentions. "We are just one hour from the USA Parkway [where Tesla, Google, Apple, and other companies have facilities], and people are starting to knock on our doors."





BALANCING ACT

The interest in Lovelock as a place to live and do business is being monitored carefully. The balance of smalltown life and necessary growth is an ever-keen tightrope for city and county officials. Growth like Storey County has seen with the Reno-Tahoe Industrial Center would be hard to manage, and the people living in and moving to Lovelock want to maintain their country lifestyle.

"We want smart growth...low water usage and 10-20 jobs. If we had a mega warehouse come in and need 100 jobs I wouldn't exactly know how to find those people," Heidi explains. "We are

WE ARE SITUATED FOR GROWTH, BUT WE WANT TO MAINTAIN OUR QUALITY OF LIFE, OUR COUNTRY LIFE.

situated for growth, but we want to maintain our quality of life, our country life. We'd love to start with about five businesses with 10-20 employees."

The town hasn't seen much growth in the last 10 years, with businesses opening and closing at about the same rate, and for some, that's just fine. There are just under 2,000 people in town right now, and there's just one stop light (the only one in the county, actually). Add to that full medical services, a volunteer fire department, excellent schools, a major grocery store, and a close enough proximity to other retails services, and Lovelock looks to

be just about idyllic. But time doesn't stand still, and that's one of the reasons growth is essential.

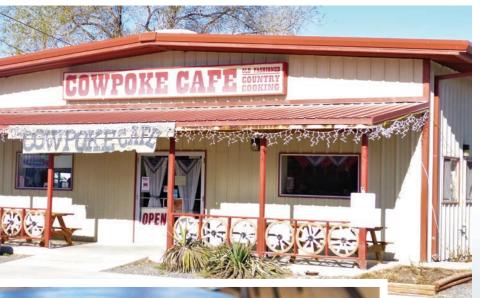
"We have high school students who are leaving and not coming back because of the opportunities

in the workforce and housing," Heidi says. "Growth is important so our families can keep our youth here, or else the town dies off."





SUSANNE REESE



CINDY WHITAKER

To that end, the agricultural industry is looking at ways to diversify its crops (corn and winter wheat are two other crops currently grown) and the way they are grown potentially, but that discussion is still in its infancy. Coeur Mining has announced a major expansion for the Rochester mine—300 people, about 60 percent from Lovelock, work there now—which when finished with all the necessary permits and approvals, will increase production and assure the mine life into the mid-2030s.

The future of Lovelock, like most small towns, will depend on a combination of smart growth, healthy crops of both alfalfa and ore, and the determination that is the hallmark of rural Nevada. If those odds seem daunting, Heidi knows Lovelock won't face them alone. The ripple effect is felt across the Interstate 80 corridor.

"It's a regional economy, really," she says. "What's going on in Fernley affects me, and what I do affects Humboldt County. But we work together with our neighbors. We aren't an island."

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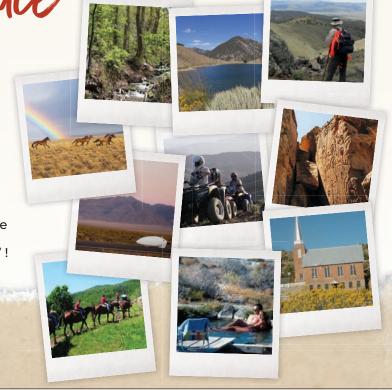
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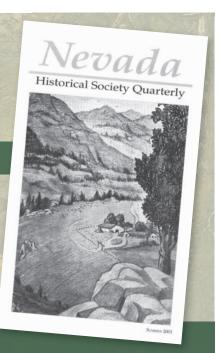
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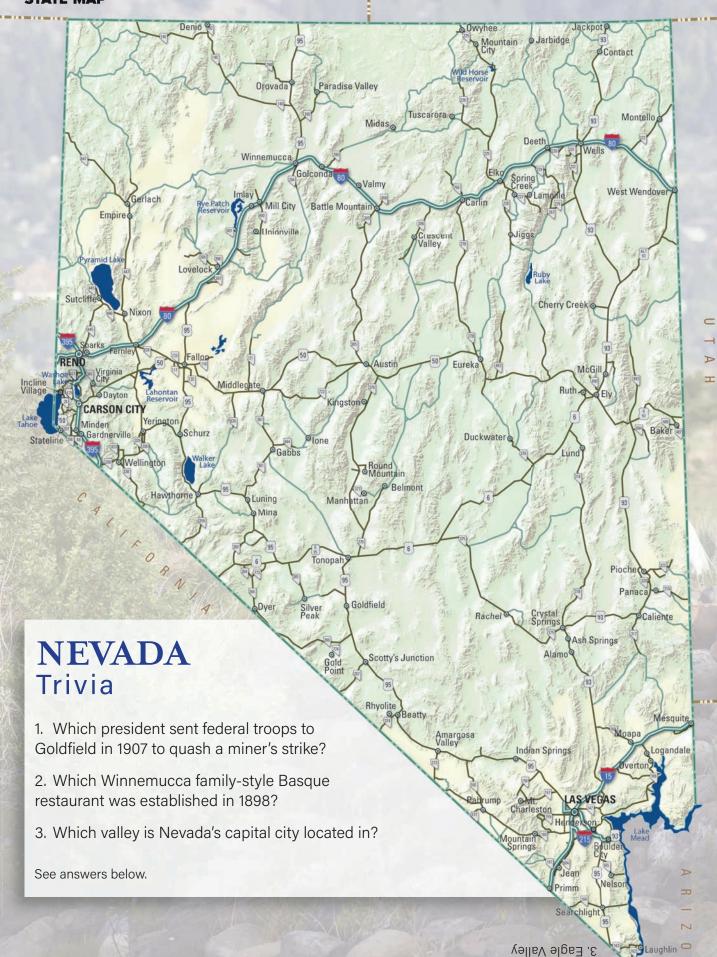
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