NEVADA

MAGAZINE

December 1997

INSIDE: Complete Guide to Events & Shows

Living It Up: Hotel Holidays

When price is no object, here's how you can splurge in style in Las Vegas, Laughlin, Reno, and Tahoe

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Tales and tips for Sierra skiers

'Dust Devils'

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"In this Nevada the word gambling is a broad term...Cattlemen are gamblers. Each season in this dry land is a gamble with them. The same with sheepmen, miners, and certainly with prospectors. Not to gamble in Nevada would mean not to be working for a living."—Max Miller, *Reno*, 1941.



On the Cover:
Enjoying the good life in the Caesars Egyptian Suite at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Photo by Dennis Gershick

Features

12
The Big Splurge

When you're ready for a casino vacation to celebrate a special occasion, here's how you can max the plastic and stay like a high roller in Las Vegas, Reno, and Tahoe. Plus, a sampling of extravagant suites, shows, and spas around the state.

By Deke Castleman

16
Dust Devils

During the early 1900s, a rancher's son comes of age on the desert in this excerpt from Nevada author **Robert Laxalt's** new novella.



Snow sports and survival: Page 24

18
Great Nevada Picture Hunt

The 20th anniversary of *Nevada Magazine's* photo contest focuses on the Silver State.

24
Skier Survival

As one California man discovered, a few survival steps can save your life if you get lost in the Sierra snow country.

By John Trent

92
Oh, Happy Days

Prospector Alice "Happy Days" Diminy of Tule Canyon was the genuine article.

By Sally Zanjani



A side trip to Hoover Dam: Page 96

Departments

5 Editor's Note This issue's contributors.

6 Letters Lake Marion and women of the rails.

8 Roadside Attractions A tall rock, cool dogs, and a wind tunnel.

75 Nevada Bookshelf Recent releases of Nevada interest.

76 People Page A culinary sleuth, a magnet collector, and a brand artist.

78 Holiday Classic: Saint Nick of the Strip On the night before Christmas, legendary gambler Nick the Greek turned Santa. **By Tricia Hurst**

80 Nevada Characters: Tuning Into Hawthorne Bob and Ginny Becker's TV 13 is a homey, small-town signal. **By Chuck Woodbury**

96 Side Trip: Good Dam Show Over, under, around—the Hoover Dam Visitor Center offers new ways to see the great dam. **By Julian Rhinehart**

Events & Shows

27 Spotlight: From Kimonos to Karaoke This winter festival brings Japanese art, music, food, and fun to Las Vegas. **By Allison Newlon**

35 Nevada Events Rodeos, holiday festivities, and a guide to ski resorts.

49 Nevada Showguide Where the stars and shows are playing.

58 Show People Carrot Top at the MGM Grand. **By Mike Weatherford**

60 Casino Notes News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**

62 Attractions, Tours & Museums Places to go and things to do.

72 Review "Smokey Joe's Cafe" at the Eldorado in Reno. **By Kim Pryor**



Christmas in Nevada: Page 42

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We'll be back next issue with the answer to another frequently asked question.

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1800 Hwy. 50 East, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701-3202
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Publisher: Richard Moreno
Editor: David Moore
Art Director: Denise Barr
Associate Editor: Carolyn Graham
Production Manager: Gary Elam
Production Assistant: Melissa Cronin Loomis
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Events Office
Events Editor: Ann Henderson
555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 486-2433, fax (702) 486-2789
e-mail: nevevents@aol.com

Main Advertising Office
Advertising Director: Patty Noll
Advertising Assistant: Susan Wunsch
Advertising Support: Ruth Buechel
1800 Hwy. 50 E., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701-3202
(702) 687-5888, fax (702) 687-6159

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Advertising Assistant: Lu Ann Terrell
555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 486-2434, fax (702) 486-2789

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Outdoor Survival

Although he's a serious sports enthusiast, **John Trent** doesn't push the envelope in the Sierra snow country. "When I ski, I'm pretty much a chicken," says John, an outdoor-recreation writer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. "I follow all the weather reports, and I have no temptation to go far into the backcountry."

So John took particular interest in writing "Skier Survival," about the dangers facing Tahoe Basin skiers who get lost and the precautions they should take. The story's main character is Alan Austin, a Bay Area lawyer who skied the wrong way during a whiteout and was lost for two days near Squaw Valley. John also talked to survival instructors such as Minden's Phil Caterino.



Jill and John Trent on the trail.

"What's interesting are the two components—the Alan Austin side, a real face, a real person who's lost and struggling to survive, and the other is the Phil Caterinos of the world who are experts in the study of snow science," John says. "So there's the cold, hard reality along with the human side of the story, and you have to consider both when talking about a survival strategy."

The 34-year-old writer says he enjoyed inteviewing Austin, who often talks to school groups about his experience. "He thinks in terms of helping others avoid his mistake. I think most of us would be reluctant to talk about such painful memories, but he's so open about it."

John has strong connections with the Lake Tahoe area. He grew up in Reno and graduated from the University of Nevada with a journalism degree. After a year at the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, he joined the *Gazette-Journal* in 1988. He recalls, "I missed Reno and the mountains."

In winter John and his wife Jill ("she's a much better skier than I am") go cross-country skiing with their two daughters, Annie, eight, and Katie, five, at Tahoe Meadows near Mount Rose. When the snow begins to melt, John turns to his most avid pursuit, trail running.

"I probably take more risks trail running than I do skiing," admits John, who competes in 50- and 100-mile races. "One time a friend and I were running up on Peavine Mountain, and there was lightning and rain all around us. It was wild." He adds, "I probably should be more careful."

Also in this issue **Deke Castleman** reviews extravagant casino vacations in "The Big Splurge." **Sally Zanjani**, author of *A Mine of Her Own*, profiles prospector Alice "Happy Days" Diminy. We also present an excerpt from **Robert Laxalt's** new novella, *Dust Devils*, about a meeting of cultures in the desert.—*David Moore*



Letters

Lake Marion and women of the rails.

Your Serve

Get out! I love it: Who would know that there's ping-pong available (besides in rec centers) in Las Vegas? It's much harder to find at Lake Tahoe, I can tell you. "At Your Service" by Kim Pryor last issue shows how much concierges have qualified as good PR agents—and the stories would fill a coffee-table book.

Pete Perazzo
Las Vegas



Overland Lake as it appeared through O'Sullivan's camera in the 1860s (left) and Wardwell's in 1948.

One Lake, Two Names

In the interest of accuracy, I would like to point out that the Timothy O'Sullivan photograph of "Lake Marion," in the story "Pioneer Photographer" by Charles Luce in the July/August '97 issue, is not identified correctly.

As per the enclosed photograph that I took in about 1948 of Overland Lake in the Ruby Mountains, it is almost exactly the same spot but about 80 years later.

As you can see, the trees in the foreground have suffered the wind and snow of winter. I do not believe Overland Lake was ever named Lake Marion. Overland Creek is fed by this lake.

Gary H. Wardwell
Elko

Gary, the National Archives photo has long been titled as Lake Marion. Thanks for leading us to the correct lake.—Ed.

A Spin on "Splash"

Although I am not a photographer, I really enjoyed looking at the winning picture, "Zoom Shot of Neon Lights, Las Vegas" by Mary W. Temple, on the entry form for the Great Nevada Picture Hunt in the July/August issue. I felt compelled to write because I recognize the image as being the "Splash" portion of the Riviera Hotel. The photograph appears to have been printed upside down. Please let me know if I was correct.

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Photos: National Archives (left), Gary H. Wardwell (right)

Vegas next year) we consider the magazine a great resource.

Penny Sures
Rockville, MD

Penny, we obviously were blinded by the lights and didn't notice the spin that was given to "Splash."—Ed.

Women on the Railroad

This is a bit of additional information for all of you who have the 1997 Nevada Historical Calendar. The August picture of seven women railroad workers in Caliente was taken in 1917, when most of the men in the community were in World War I. The woman on the far left is my great-grandmother, Lottie Hinks Corkish. She worked for the railroad from 1917 to 1921, leaving during a railroad strike. She was a widow with four children to raise. Two daughters are still alive (ages 92 and 95).

A few months ago, I was discussing the picture with my great aunts. They told me that as adolescents they babysat the children of the women in the picture while they cleaned out the railroad cars and repair shop and shoveled coal—"and were paid men's wages." They also were paid to build fires in the school on winter mornings to warm classrooms.

Lottie Corkish worked for the railroad longer than the other women and for a time was the only woman working in the yard. She was less than five feet tall. When an executive from the Union Pacific saw her shoveling coal, he asked if there wasn't some other job for her, after which she was given less physical duties. She was never again able to match her previous income. Her subsequent jobs included dishwashing and child care.

My great-grandmother moved to Caliente from Delamar (now a ghost town) after my great-grandfather died of the Delamar dust at the age of 42. His grave and headstone remain.

Alicia Smalley
Carson City



Lottie Hinks Corkish (left) worked on the railroad.

Photo: Eloise White Collection



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A Cool Treat

RENO—When it's cold outside, nothing gets the blood pumping like strapping on a pair of skates and taking a twirl on the ice.

Downtown Reno's **Rink on the River** located on the Wingfield Park island on the Truckee River is a cool place to spend a winter day. Strings of little twinkling lights give the rink a festive air, and the skaters are an equal mix of experts carving sharp figure-eights and novices clinging to the wall. Throughout the day, skaters can participate in lessons, games, hockey, and other activities, such as limbo contests and couples-only skating sessions. Some members of the staff stay in the rink to keep an eye on the skaters—they also can lend a hand if you're having trouble staying on your feet.

Hours and times vary throughout the season. For admission and skate-rental prices, call the rink hot line, 702-334-2413. Remember to wear layers of warm (and waterproof) clothing and drink plenty of hot chocolate.—*Carolyn Graham*



Ice skaters play it cool on Reno's outdoor rink, which is located downtown near the Truckee River.

Old-Time Shopping

RENO—Holiday shoppers searching for old-fashioned gifts will find unique shopping adventures in the **antique stores and malls** along South Virginia Street. Large shops often are divided into booths where dealers sell antique wares, ranging from vintage train sets and dolls to old-fashioned Christmas ornaments and fine china.

Close to downtown Reno, about half a mile south of the Truckee River, shoppers will find the **Antique Pleasure Palace** (702-324-7731) at 765 South Virginia. The store's two large rooms are filled with books and furniture. **Katie Magoo's** (702-329-8553), two blocks south on the east side of Virginia Street, is packed with old-time hats, costume jewelry, and other accessories from the '20s through the '70s.

A quarter of a mile south on the corner of South Virginia and West Arroyo is a cluster of antique malls. Shoppers can park near Statewide Lighting to visit six stores in the area. The **Virginia Street Antique Mall II** (702-324-4141), next to Statewide Lighting, has extensive collections of cameras and Matchbox cars. Two doors down is the **Antique Market Place** (702-348-6444), a cozy store that features two floors of furniture, vintage clothing, and a collection of ethnic masks and wood carvings.

Formerly a furniture store, the **Virginia Street Antique Mall III** (702-324-1980) is a large mall with many items. The big windows showcase a Herschel-Spillman wooden carousel horse and a barber's chair straight out of Floyd's Barbershop in Mayberry. Shoppers also will find such items as a turn-of-the-century roll-top desk, Victorian chests of drawers, and stained-glass windows salvaged from a local building.

One door north is the **Virginia Street Antique Mall I** (702-324-1003). Two floors are filled with *Life* magazines, china, glassware, and other collectibles. While browsing downstairs, shoppers can listen to old-time Christmas music played on a phonograph.

Next door is **Heirloom Jewelers**, which



Tara Newman of Squaw Valley inspects the Christmas stockings at All "R" Yesterdays in Reno.

Photos: Mark Studyvin/Reno Gazette-Journal (top), Joan Atkinson (bottom)

features glassware, antique jewelry, and vintage watches. Across the street at **Julie's Antiques & More** (702-329-2661), 1274 South Virginia, owner Julie Smith specializes in custom-made poodle skirts.

A mile-and-a-quarter down Virginia Street, just past the Peppermill, shoppers will find **All "R" Yesterdays** (702-827-2355) one block east at 125 Gentry Way. This mall has china and glassware sparkling in the big windows and a collection of primitive pioneer furniture. There also is a room devoted to new and antique Christmas decorations.—*Joan Atkinson*



Gardnerville-based Husky Express offers dogsled rides with fetching views of nearby Hope Valley.

Dog Days of Winter

LAKE TAHOE—Skiing isn't the only way to experience the snow this winter. For an exhilarating outing, you can glide across a snow-covered meadow behind a team of huskies, guided by Dotty Dennis, a 20-year veteran musher and owner of Gardnerville-based Sierra Ski Touring.

Dennis' **Husky Express** offers a five-mile dogsled ride through uncluttered Hope Valley, about 30 miles south of Lake Tahoe, and along the Carson River. Reminiscent of the Alaska interior, Hope Valley has remained virtually unchanged since legendary mail carrier Snowshoe Thompson skied through in the 1850s.

The dogsled ride takes about an hour, depending on the weather and the condition of the track that day. There are two sleds available with a load limit of 375 pounds each, which is equal to two medium-sized adults and two children per sled. Dennis also offers two-hour picnic rides, a popular choice for family outings. Special event rides are available, as are classes that teach you how to "mush."

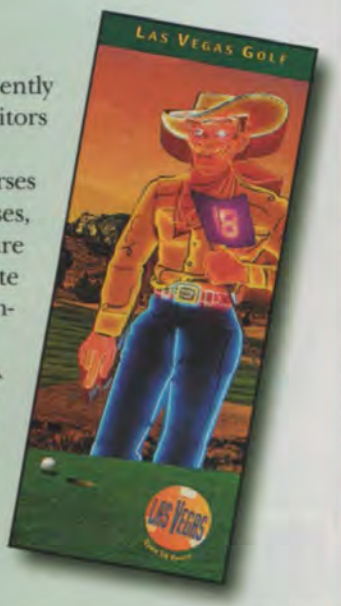
Dennis and her partner, David Beck, offer backcountry ski treks, hut skiing, and wilderness dogsled and ski expeditions as well as avalanche, snow survival, and musher courses. For more information call Dennis at 702-782-3047 or write Sierra Ski Touring, Box 176, Gardnerville, NV 89410. Reservations are required.—*Jenifer Walker*

New Link to the Links

LAS VEGAS—The new **Las Vegas Golf brochure**, recently released by the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, can help put duffers on the right course.

The full-color brochure lists more than 30 golf courses in Southern Nevada along with yardages, addresses, phone numbers, and short descriptions. The brochure includes courses in Laughlin, Primm, and Mesquite and provides a map. Also noted are courses under construction and practice facilities.

For a copy of the free brochure write the LVCVA at 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109-9096, or call 702-892-0711. For a statewide guide to golf courses, you can receive a free copy of *Nevada Golf*, compiled by *Nevada Magazine*, from the Nevada Commission on Tourism, Box 30032, Reno, NV 89502; phone 800-NEVADA-8.





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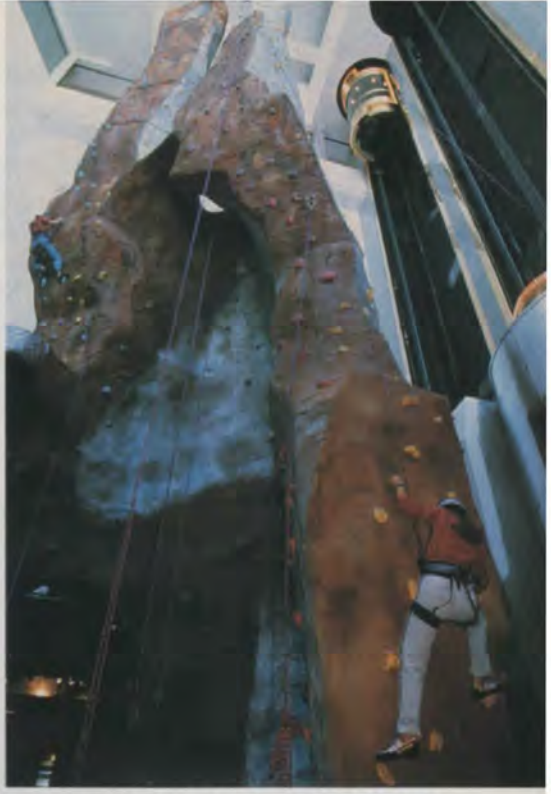
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Big Games on the Strip

LAS VEGAS—The world's tallest indoor free-standing rock-climbing structure marks the entrance to **GameWorks Las Vegas**. From the street passersby gaze upward to watch the climbers carefully choose each peg as they hoist themselves hand over hand, foot by foot, 75 feet to the top.

The rock is the centerpiece of GameWorks, a 47,000-square-foot mega-arcade that opened last May on the Las Vegas Strip. A Steven Spielberg enterprise, the complex is located below street level in the Showcase Mall next to the MGM Grand.

GameWorks offers more than 250 games, such as Wave Runner and Alpine Surfer, with rock music and raucous decor. The arcade has different zones, such as the Loft, which has a more relaxed environment for visitors over 21 and offers dart boards, pool tables, foosball, and a digital putting game. There's also an Internet Lounge, a cigar-and-martini sort of bar with computers that let you surf the Internet for 12 cents per minute. The Loading Dock downstairs is a competitive area with games such as Indy 500 Formula, where you race against eight other challengers in life-size Indy cars.

To play most of the games, debit cards can be purchased at the membership desk or at vending machines. You can wind down with a cup of joe from the Starbucks Coffee Bar or sample the pizza, sand-

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wiches, and salads at a 100-seat full-service restaurant. Gear, a 1,800-square-foot retail shop, is stocked with jackets, T-shirts, hats, and other GameWorks logo items. Call 702-597-3122 for information on the Strip attraction.—*Katherine McDonnell*

Air Time

LAS VEGAS—If you ever wanted to skydive but were afraid to try, **Flyaway Indoor Skydiving** will let you ride the wind without having to jump out of an airplane.

Flyaway, located at 200 Convention Center Drive between the Stardust Hotel and the Las Vegas Convention Center, tests your athletic skill in the sport of body flight. "It really helps to be in good shape," says Robert Ogle, assistant manager at Flyaway. "If you're the world's biggest couch potato, it's going to be tough."

The flight site is a vertical tunnel in which a giant motor-driven propeller—sounding like a jet engine—creates a column of air 12 feet across and 22 feet high that allows you to simulate the free-fall experience of skydiving.

From the observation deck you can watch flyers in blue, orange, red, and lime-green flight suits puff up with air as they begin to float five feet off the ground.



Safety classes are held every 30 minutes. Instructors discuss body control techniques and safety procedures:

Keep your chin and hands up, bend your knees, and arch your back. After class, you put on a flight suit, helmet, and soft-soled shoes. Finally you enter the tunnel.

Inside, the walls are padded, and the flooring is wire mesh. Your 15-minute flight session will be shared by no more than five flyers, with an instructor at your side. Beginners start by lying face down on the wire floor above the propeller. As the wind speed is increased, the instructor guides the flyer into the air. Ideally you want to gain enough balance to float on your own.

Being inside the tunnel can be disorienting as well as physically and mentally exhausting. Instructors use hand signals because of the engine's roar. The wind tosses flyers with ease, and falling from 10 feet up is not unusual.

Body flight is not recommended for people with physical limitations such as a back strain or bad shoulder, although Ogle says he has flown amputees as well as blind and deaf customers. "If you're normally physically active, you'll have no problem," he adds.

At Flyaway the first flight is $29, and repeat flights on the same day are $21, with flight suit and protective equipment included. Hours of operation are seasonal. For a schedule call 702-731-4768 or reach Flyaway on the Internet, pcap.com/flyaway.htm.—*Katherine McDonnell*



Illustration: Brian Crane



For some folks who have stayed in the Caesars Egyptian Suite at Caesars Palace, the elegant decor made their getaway special. For others, the butler did it.

The Big Splurge

When it's a special occasion and money is no object, here's how you can vacation like a high roller in Vegas.

By Deke Castleman

It's your anniversary. You've wanted to cut loose, kick up your heels, and blow off steam for a long time. So you've decided to treat yourself and your spouse to an extravagant three-day getaway, and what better town to paint red than Las Vegas? Picture it: Just the two of you, basking in luxurious comforts, savoring epicurean delights, relishing expensive entertainments, living the life of Riley. It's just what the stress doctor ordered—a fabulous, no-holds-barred, max-out-the-credit-cards, long weekend in Las Vegas.

It would probably sound strange to a pit boss or a blackjack player, but it is possible to have a high-roller experience in the gaming capital of the world without going hand-to-hand against the house in the gambling trenches. You don't have to make average bets the size of a car payment. Anyone can do it. All you have to do is pay for it.

And the surprise is, it won't cost you as much as you might think.

The Suite Life

You'll fly first class, of course, arriving in Sin City around noon on Friday. When you step outside the bustling McCarran International Airport concourse and into the warm, crisp desert air, waiting for you at the curb in a spiffy tuxedo, a superstretch limousine at his side, is your private chauffeur. He's holding a sign with your name on it in one hand and a complimentary long-stem rose and bottle of champagne in the other. You duck into the roomy back seat, close the privacy partition, crank up the surround sound, and pop the cork.

The superstretch (from Presidential Limousine, 702-731-5577) costs $65 an hour. Renting it to take you to and from the airport, on a sightseeing excursion, and to dinner and a show all three nights, including a generous tip for the driver, should run no more than $1,000.



Upon landing in Las Vegas, you may be whisked away in a stretch limo. Here, chauffeur Kim Richardson of Presidential Limousine has prepared a customized sightseeing tour.

Let's pause here for a moment. I'm sure you've always called every rental car company months in advance to book the rock-bottom, lowest rate for your vehicle. And I know you have a lifetime supply of coupons good for free upgrades, free days, and 10 percent off, and you pride yourself on never in your life having paid more than $60 for your weekend rental car. But this is different. Remember, we're talking about a straight-faced, spare-no-expense, wheelbarrows-full vacation here. So fork it over with a smile and enjoy it. (Or, if you're constitutionally incapable of shelling out a cool grand for a limo, skip the sightseeing, grab a cab after the show, and pay only around $400 for the fancy transportation.)

Next stop, your hotel. The top-of-the-line penthouse suites that money can buy (the legendary villas and bungalows aren't for sale; you have to be a bona-fide high

Photos: Dennis Gershick (opposite page), Chris Leedham (right)



Luxor VIP representative and concierge Frankie Helms stands in the lounge that serves suite guests. Special suites are located on the upper floors of the pyramid.



Le Montrachet at the Hilton is one of numerous elegant eateries in Las Vegas.

roller to qualify) are available at the Mirage (800-627-6667). The accommodations are 1,100-square-foot penthouses on the 29th floor (a private floor that requires special elevator keys to reach). The little love nests have two bedrooms, each with a bathroom as big as a boardroom, along with a separate living room, dining room, kitchen, and fully stocked wet bar. They average $600 per night, totaling $1,800 for the weekend.

Caesars Palace (800-634-6001) has a similar one-bedroom-suite setup, with a Jacuzzi in the bedroom, European-style bathroom with marble vanity and floor, and a parlor room with wet bar and entertainment center, for $549 per night ($1,650 for the weekend).

> You can indulge in nouveau cuisine at Napa in the Rio. Napa has a large wine store in its "cellar" with 4,000 bottles on the list.

Neither the Mirage nor Caesars Palace has a concierge level, which is something that Luxor (800-288-1000) does offer. Luxor's suites are on the 28th, 29th, and 30th floors of the pyramid; the concierge desk, which fronts a lounge, bar, and hors d'oeuvres table, is on the 28th floor. Luxor's 1,050-square-foot one-bedrooms have large sitting and dining areas and wet bar with mini-fridge, averaging $525 per night ($1,575 for the weekend). For half the price, you can get a one-room Jacuzzi suite. These occupy the corners of the pyramid and cost only $270 per night (a mere $810 for the weekend).

Epicurean Excursions

Given that you've gotten such a good deal on the suite, you can splurge in the dining department. How about a nice room-service buffet brunch? No matter where you stay, some eggs Benedict, home fries, fruit salad, fresh-squeezed juices, and bloody Marys—a cholesterol cudfest delivered to your suite every morning at 11—should cost no more than $150 for the weekend.

You won't be hungry again till dinner, at which time you can hop in your limo

(Continued on page 84)

Photos: Chris Leedham

Northern Getaways

Special max-the-cards vacations in Reno and Tahoe.

Las Vegas isn't the only place in Nevada where you can max out your credit cards. You can rack up nearly as large a tab in Reno and Tahoe, with fresh mountain air and an alpine lake thrown in for free.

When you step off the plane at Reno/Tahoe International Airport, waiting for you can be an ultrastretch limo (Executive Limousine, 702-333-3300), the largest available in Northern Nevada. Same as in Vegas, the car rents for $65 an hour, which is all you'll spend for the quick cruise to any of Reno's finest hotel-casinos.

At the Peppermill (702-825-2121), for a cool five grand you can luxuriate in the Roman Suite, a 4,000-square-foot hideaway on the 17th and 18th floors with two bedrooms, a dozen TVs, and enough Roman tapestries and statuary to make Nero feel at home in Reno.

If that's a little rococo for your blood, there's always the Reno Hilton (702-789-2000) and its huge two-bedroom Grand Suite for $850 per night, or the themed suites at John Ascuaga's Nugget (702-356-3300) that run $625 nightly. The Eldorado (702-786-5700) offers a 1,000-square foot executive penthouse with a six-person Jacuzzi, dining room, kitchenette, and three televisions at $525 per night.

A good reason to stay at the Peppermill would be to dine at the White Orchid, an intimate and elegant contemporary French restaurant (plan on $150 for two). At the Eldorado, you'll want to try Bistro Roxy, a Parisian-style bistro set among the ruins of a French medieval village ($100). At John Ascuaga's Nugget, it's Polynesian food and drinks at Trader Dick's ($100), while the treat is fine beef at the venerable Harrah's Steak House ($100).

The next morning, it's into the limo and off to Stateline at the south end of Lake Tahoe ($400 for the round-trip ride including tip). Harveys (702-588-2411) offers an 1,100-square-foot Superior Suite with marble entryway, Jacuzzi tub, steam-sauna shower, room-service breakfast, and balcony overlooking the lake for $500 ($1,000 for the weekend). Or stay across the street at Caesars Tahoe (702-588-3515) in a one-bedroom Jacuzzi suite with living room, kitchenette, and steam room for $650 ($1,300 for the two nights).

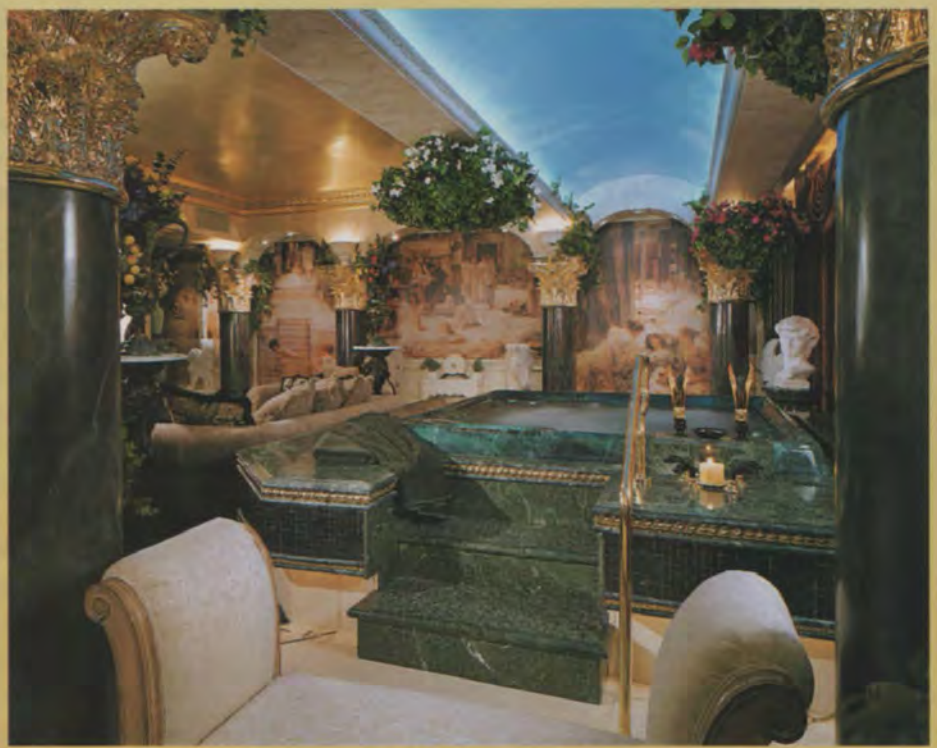
One evening you'll want to eat at Llewellyn's at the top of Harveys; try the chartreuse of squab wrapped in puff pastry and stuffed with braised cabbage (total bill $100). The next night try the Summit at the top of Harrah's. It's one of the finest restaurants in Nevada, and with a caviar appetizer, rack of lamb for two, and a good wine, you'll fork over $200.

An all-day ultrastretch limousine ride around the lake will add another $500 to the running tab. But if you really want to see the lake in style, why not charter the 41-foot sailboat *Woodwind II* (702-588-3000) out of Zephyr Cove Marina? A two-hour sunset champagne cruise with the whole boat to yourselves will cost a mere $1,000.

Pencil in another $900 for breakfast, lunch, headliner entertainment, and a day schussing down the ski slopes, and the tab comes to $5,000 for your blowout getaway weekend in the hotel-casino realm of Reno-Lake Tahoe.—*Deke Castleman*



Supping in the Summit at Harrah's Lake Tahoe.



The Roman Suite at the Peppermill has a spa and 12 TVs, and it's only $5,000 a night.



Dust Devils

During the early 1900s, a rancher's son comes of age on the desert in this excerpt from Robert Laxalt's new novella.

Indians, ranchers, and rustlers are among the characters in conflict in Nevada author Robert Laxalt's new coming-of-age novella, Dust Devils, *recently published by the University of Nevada Press. In the following excerpt, teenager Ira Hamilton gets ready to join his best friend, Cricket, a Paiute, to track down the rustlers who stole an Arabian horse he won at a rodeo. Ira's father, Indian-hating rancher John D. Hamilton, helps his son prepare for the arduous trek across the Black Rock Desert and a confrontation with the rustler Hawkeye.*

"You may think them thievin' rustlers will be the only enemies you'll face out there," John D. Hamilton by God said. Standing in the doorway to the tack room, his wide frame almost blocked out the glare of sunlight from outside. He was holding a canvas water bag in one hand. By now only a few drops were forcing their way through the woven canvas fabric that contained all the water Ira and Calico and a packhorse would start out with, signifying that the water bag was almost cured. "This will be your real enemy," John D. Hamilton said.

Ira looked up with question. He was on his knees on the board floor of the tack room, surrounded by an assortment of leather and canvas packbags, a fire-iron bent into the shape of a hairpin, a small fire-blackened coffeepot, a long-handled frying pan of paper-thin metal to save on weight, ropes and saddlebag harness, and a pile of little flour sacks containing coffee, sugar, salt, flour for baking biscuits, beans, onions, garlic, and a more than adequate supply of cayenne pepper guaranteed to disguise the taste of anything.

"Water? My enemy?" said Ira.

"The lack of it," John D. said. "Out there," waving his hand toward the desert. "Especially in heat that will suck your body dry."

John D.'s lecturing voice went on. "There's a few tricks

Illustration: Carrie Nelson House

you should know on how to outsmart the desert. They could save your life."

"Yessir," said Ira obediently.

"The most important thing is to look for mustang trails," said John D. "They go in a straight line, and they go straight to water. Follow them. Sooner or later, they will lead to a water hole. Them wild horses have done a big service for us cowboys by laying those trails in desert or mountain. They've saved our lives, and," he added emphatically, "our saddle horses' lives."

"The most important thing is to look for mustang trails," said John D. "They go in a straight line, and they go straight to water. Follow them."

"Well," Ira said. "Calico will be a big help then. He's a mustang."

John D. Hamilton was reluctant ever to acknowledge that Ira's rangy mustang was good for anything. He avoided the trap by changing the subject. "Stay around that water hole for two or three days, until your belly, your skin, and your animals are soaked with water. Then move on."

"Yessir," Ira said with impatience. He wasted no time in argument.

"Remember not to get too far from the edge of the sagebrush flats. If it rains and you are out on the Black Rock, the desert will turn into quicksand in an hour, and you'll be there for good. Get the hell to sagebrush and solid ground."

John D. Hamilton had been drumming Ira full of advice about his pursuit of Hawkeye's rustlers, while odds and ends began to be tucked away in the saddlebags, including a burlap sack partially filled with barley for the horses. When Ira appeared impatient again, John D. said, "Don't be too sparing on the barley. Your horses will need all the strength they can get. There's damned little grass in a true desert."

His father was right about that. Ira had learned a few lessons in the one and only foray he had made into the Black Rock with Cricket and Black Rock Tom. "I know that, Pa," said Ira. "I saw it for myself a long time back."

"How did that come to be?" John D. demanded.

"I went out there once with Black Rock Tom and Cricket."

"Playin' Injun," said John D. with contempt. "I should have known. Is this where Cricket was when I needed him to follow rustler tracks?"

Ira did not respond. No need, when the answer was obvious.

"The ground cloth is to keep the cold from your back," said John D. "And the wool blanket to keep you warm. People think the desert is hot. At night, you can freeze out there. Melt in the day, freeze in the night. It's a good thing to remember."

Ira nodded in assent. He had learned that lesson, too, on the horseback trip with Black Rock Tom and Cricket. His estimation of his father's knowledge of the wilderness went up appreciably.

"Don't forget there's four of them rustlers and one of you," warned John D. "That can't make for a fair fight." John D.'s voice dropped. "Be careful, son."

It was the first time Ira had heard that note of concern in his father's voice. "If I find Cricket, the odds will even up some."

"Some don't mean enough," said John D. "Those are gun slicks out there. I wish you would change your mind." The appeal was torn from John D. Hamilton in a tone that said it would be the only time in his life he would ask anything of his son.

If Ira bowed his head, it would spell out a shame he could not bear. "I can't, Pa," he said. "No more than if you were me in my time and trouble." He could not run to Papa like a boy. He was a man now.

Ira scrambled to his feet in the tangle of rope and leather spread out around the saddlebags. A flurry of hay dust flew up and powdered the faces of both father and son. Afterwards, when the tangle had untangled and the dust had settled, Ira swore to himself it was the dust that misted his father's eyes for a solitary instant.

Dust Devils is an excerpt from *Dust Devils*, Robert Laxalt's new novella, published by the University of Nevada Press. In his 13th book, the award-winning Washoe Valley author presents the coming-of-age story of Ira Hamilton, a rancher's son who was partly raised by Paiutes. The story takes place north of Reno, along the California border and the Black Rock Desert, in the early 1900s. Riding broncs, stalking rustlers, and finding love, Ira attempts to come to terms with both the white and Indian cultures that form his heritage.

Dust Devils is available in softcover (112 pages, $16.00) at bookstores or from the University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076; 702-784-6573.

The novella is the latest book by Laxalt, who was named the first occupant of the Distinguished Nevada Author Chair at the University of Nevada, Reno. His previous works include *Sweet Promised Land* (1957), *A Man in the Wheatfield* (1964), and the trilogy of *The Basque Hotel* (1989), *Child of the Holy Ghost* (1992), and *The Governor's Mansion* (1994). *The Basque Hotel* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in fiction.



Robert Laxalt

Great Nevada

The 20th anniversary of *Nevada Magazine's* photo contest brought out photographers' unusual views of the Silver State.



The winners of the 20th Great Nevada Picture Hunt all were honored for the same reason: They found unique ways to photograph the Silver State.

More than 100 photographers entered *Nevada Magazine's* annual photo contest, but the work of a few stood out. In general they did not use technical tricks. Instead they sought uncommon views of nature, people, and everyday life.

"The winners were those able to find a new and unique point of view," said Dale Smith, one of the three judges. "They were able to capture the moment." Smith, an Incline Village resident and former *Nevada* art director, judged entries with Howard Hickson, an Elkoan who ran the Northeastern Nevada Museum's photo contest for many years, and *Nevada* art director Denise Barr. Hickson added, "We wanted that uniqueness, that personal touch



SECOND: "Last Light on a Tufa Island, Pyramid Lake"
William Sides, Willits, CA

Picture Hunt



FIRST:
"Mike Olano Jr. in the Kitchen of the Winnemucca Hotel"
Larry Angier,
Jackson, CA



THIRD:
"My Dog, Shadow"
Richard Ellloyan,
Dayton



FOURTH: "A Study in Blue"
Jeanne Sharp Howerton, Las Vegas

that says, 'This is my photograph.'"

The judges awarded this year's top prize to Larry Angier for his portrait of Mike Olano Jr. at the Winnemucca Hotel, where the Olano family operates a well known Basque restaurant. Angier, who also won the 1995 Picture Hunt, lives in Jackson, California. He took the winning photo in March while attending the Shooting the West photo workshop in Winnemucca. He says, "We went over to the hotel one evening for some picon punches, and Mike Jr. invited us back there. He's proud of his kitchen." Angier used a panorama camera, in which the lens makes a 120-degree arc and shoots on a curved piece of film. Judge Barr said, "I liked the naturalness of the photo," while Judge Smith pronounced, "It's *National Geographic* quality."

Second-place winner William Sides took "Last Light on a Tufa Island" during one of many family trips to Pyramid Lake. He caught the image at sunset. "Nature is very dynamic," says Sides, who lives in Willits, California. "Suddenly the wind quieted, and the water was very still. It was just one of those moments." Judge Hickson noted, "The reflection in the photo wasn't an exact duplicate of the subject, and I liked that."

Richard Elloyan snapped "My Dog, Shadow," the third-place winner, after he spotted his son



SIXTH: "Getting Away From It All in Las Vegas"
Richard Morissette, Las Vegas

Kelly walking by his garage in Dayton. "Our dog just turned up in the photo—it was serendipitous," says Elloyan, a state health inspector and avid photographer. The judges liked the photo's originality. As Judge Smith said, "There was a picture happening, and the photographer knew it."

The same could be said for Jeanne Sharp Howerton, who took "A Study in Blue" with existing light in a vacant ranch house east of Tonopah. Howerton teaches gifted students in Las Vegas and published a book, *History of Railroad Valley, Nevada*, last year. She recalls of her fourth-place photo, "It was just one of those scenes that seems to tell a story." Judge Barr said, "The old magazines are lying there as if someone had gotten up, left, and never came back. I also liked the way the various textures all melt into two dominant colors, blue and rust."

Peter Slingland won fifth with "Bicycle Race in Reno," his study of cyclists in motion. Judge Hickson said, "Of everything we saw, it definitely had the most action."

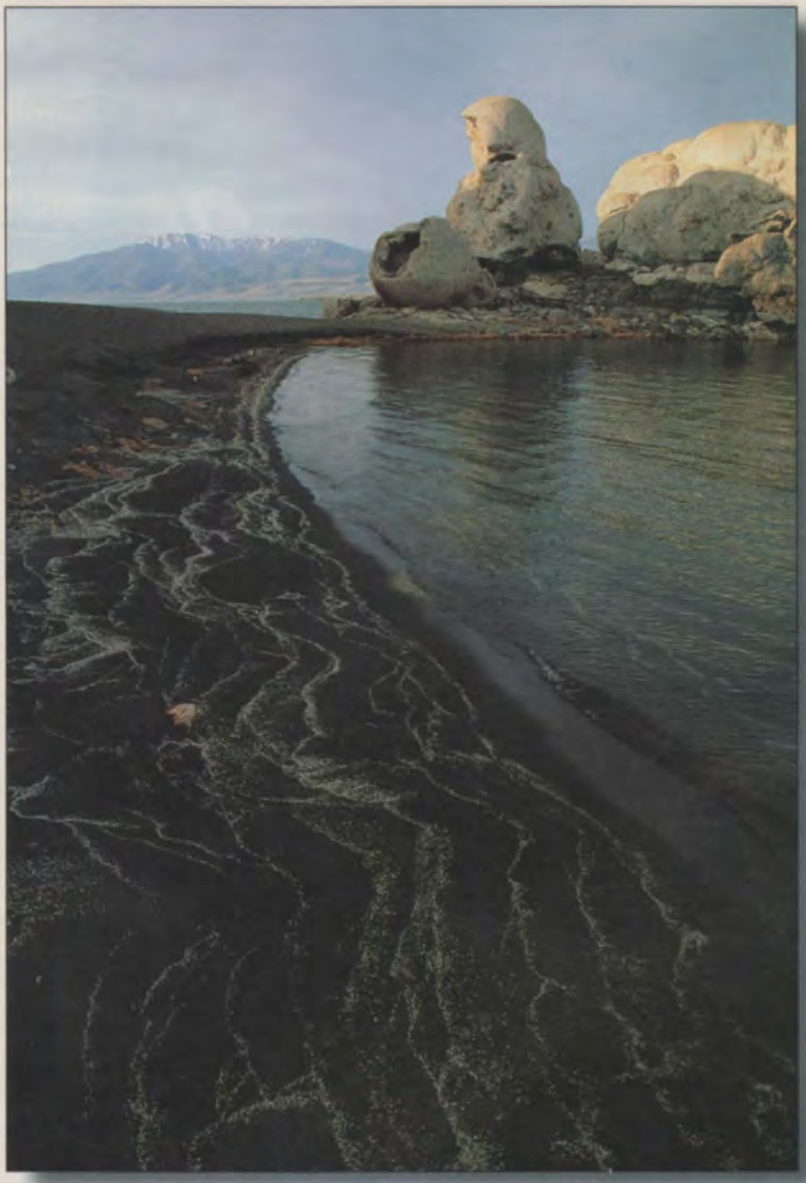
The winning photographs also will be on the move as they tour the state in a special Great Nevada Picture Hunt show. Its scheduled visits to galleries and museums will be noted in the Nevada Events and Shows section in upcoming issues.—*David Moore*



FIFTH: "Bicycle Race in Reno"
Peter Slingland, Reno



EIGHTH: "Fire Truck, State Railroad Museum"
Steve Johns, Carson City



SEVENTH: "Stone Mother and Shoreline Patterns, Pyramid Lake" William Sides, Willits, CA



MERIT AWARD: "Angel Hair/Whipped Cream"
Thomas A. Sagar, Gardnerville

1997 Great Nevada Picture Hunt Winners

FIRST: Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "Mike Olano Jr. in the Kitchen of the Winnemucca Hotel," Color Print ($250 and lunch with the editors)

SECOND: William Sides, Willits, CA, "Last Light on a Tufa Island, Pyramid Lake," Color Transparency ($100)

THIRD: Richard Elloyan, Dayton, "My Dog, Shadow," Color Print ($75)

FOURTH: Jeanne Sharp Howerton, Las Vegas, "A Study in Blue," Color Print ($50)

FIFTH: Peter Slingland, Reno, "Bicycle Race in Reno," Color Slide ($25)

SIXTH: Richard Morissette, Las Vegas, "Getting Away From It All in Las Vegas," Color Slide ($20)

SEVENTH: William Sides, Willits, CA, "Stone Mother and Shoreline Patterns, Pyramid Lake," Color Transparency ($20)

EIGHTH: Steve Johns, Carson City, "Fire Truck, State Railroad Museum," Color Slide ($20)

NINTH: Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "In the Spotlight at Shooting the West," Color Print ($20)

TENTH: Doug Bruha, Lamoille, "Dogwood Falls, Ruby Mountains," Color Slide ($20)

Merit Awards

Sam Hipkins, Capitola, CA, "Nevada Club Sign," and "Old Carson Post Office," Color Slides ($40)

Vance D. MacDonald, Las Vegas, "Robin's Breakfast, Mount Charleston," Color Slide, and "Desert Tortoise, Mesquite," Color Print ($40)

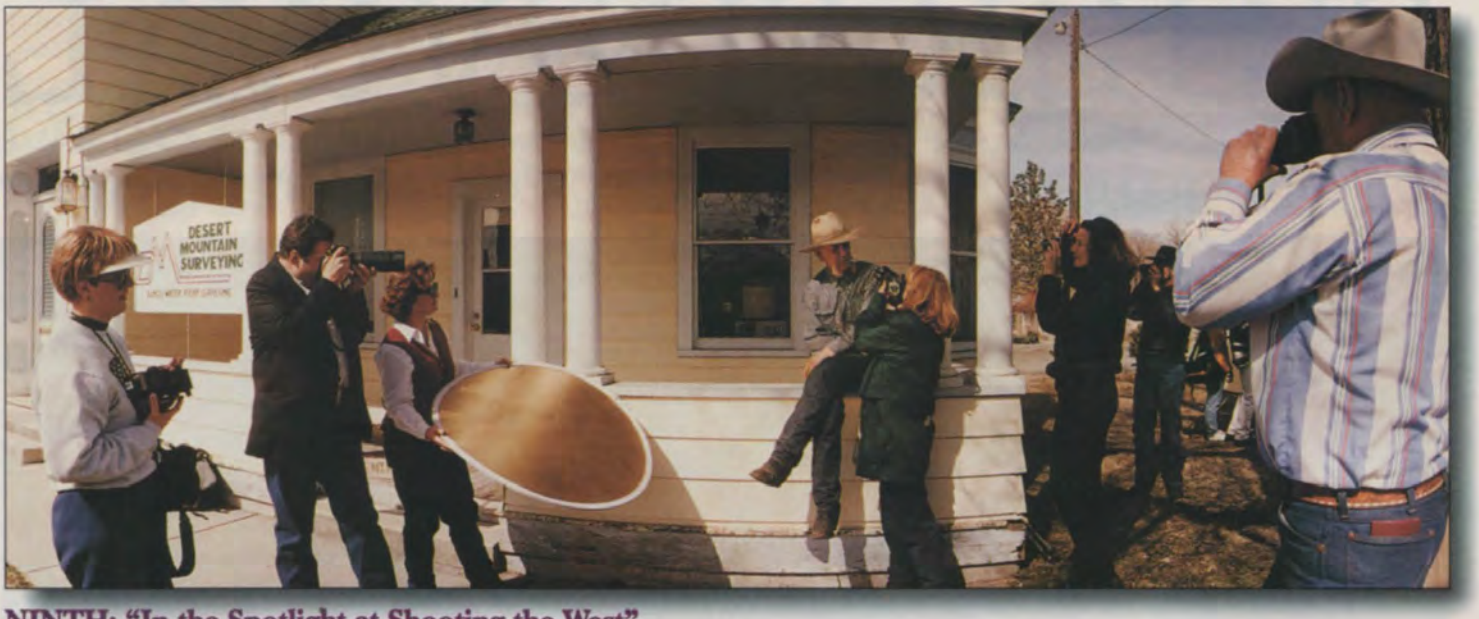
Tom Jones IV, Las Vegas, "Looking Up at Big Red," Color Print, and "Winter Runoff," Black and White Print ($40)

Jeanne Sharp Howerton, Las Vegas, "Stone House," Color Print ($20)

Janice Phillips, Las Vegas, "Spring Explosion," Color Print ($20)

Thomas A. Sagar, Gardnerville, "Angel Hair/Whipped Cream," Color Print ($20)

Chris Olesen, Gardnerville, "Autumn Hills Fire Sunset," Color Print ($20)



NINTH: "In the Spotlight at Shooting the West"
Larry Angier, Jackson, CA

MERIT AWARD:
"Looking Up at Big Red"
Tom Jones IV, Las Vegas





TENTH:
"Dogwood Falls,
Ruby Mountains"
Doug Bruha, Lamoille

SKIER SURVIVAL

AS ONE CALIFORNIA MAN D SCOVERED, A FEW SURVIVAL STEPS CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE F YOU GET LOST N THE S ERRA SNOW COUNTRY

BY JOHN TRENT



Whether in the backcountry or a resort, skiers in Nevada and the Sierra should be prepared for a beautiful day—and changes in the weather.

At the moment Alan Austin turned to his wife Marianne and daughters Lindsay and Paige, he flashed a smile his family knew well. They were relaxing in the lodge at Squaw Valley, and Austin had decided to take a final run down KT-22 to cap a day of skiing. It was about 3:45 p.m. on December 3, 1994. Although the sky was darkening, the 45-year-old lawyer from Atherton, California, had no reason to believe this final run of the day would be any different from the thousands of others he had taken during a lifetime of skiing. Later Austin explained, "I've always been a person who doesn't hesitate to stop to enjoy what life has to offer."

When he reached the top of KT-22, Austin paused near a group of other skiers. The snow began falling thick and wet. The wind picked up quickly, pelting him with blinding snow. In a matter of moments Austin wasn't sure where the other skiers were. He was caught in a whiteout.

"I thought I knew where I was, but I didn't," says Austin, who proceeded to ski downhill but fell in a mound of fresh powder. The snow sucked up one of his ski poles. He struggled to his feet before looking around. Nothing was familiar. With no idea where he was, Austin made a crucial decision, one that, three years later, he believes caused him two days of hardship but ultimately saved his life. He decided to stay put, digging a snow cave as he waited for the storm to subside and for search-and-rescue teams to find him.

"When you think about it, there are so many things in life we can control," Austin says. "You can get in a car and go. You can pick up a phone and call anyone you want. But when you get in a situation like that, you really have very little control. All the options you take for granted in life are suddenly no longer there."

Austin's situation was not unique. Each year people get lost at Lake Tahoe and the rest of the snowbound Sierra. A few perish. Nevertheless, odds are that most of the thousands of skiers who visit the mountains of Reno and Lake Tahoe this winter will have little knowledge of survival if they do get lost.

"It's not a pretty sight when you're part of the search-and-rescue team that comes in to take the bodies out," says search-and-rescue consultant Phil Caterino of Minden. "A lot of it can be prevented, if people have knowledge of what they're facing before they go in."

The key is to learn about winter survival,

Photo: Alvin McLane

Caterino says. He advises all his clients, from beginning to expert skiers, to take search-and-rescue classes. Focus is placed on awareness of surrounding terrain and escape techniques in case one is caught in an avalanche (using a swim-like motion to fight through a mass of suffocating snow). There are rules about communicating with others—never ski alone, tell others where you are going and when you will return—as well as the importance of carrying the proper safety gear (see page 26).

"Weather is usually the architect of a lot of the problems we have in the winter," says Caterino, who has studied avalanches and trained Sierra search-and-rescue teams for 20 years. "Even if it's not snowing, rapid wind can move a lot of snow in a hurry," he adds. "You've just always got to be aware of what's going on around you, what the terrain is like. The chances of you getting killed are a lot less at a big ski resort than in the backcountry."



Alan Austin returns to Squaw Valley with daughters (from left) Blythe, Paige, and Lindsay.

But above all else, as Alan Austin did, the lost skier must formulate a plan. Too often skiers become overwhelmed by their confusing surroundings and lack of resources. Instead of formulating a plan for survival, they panic. When Austin decided to stay put and build a snow cave, he was in a small but important way taking control of his situation, and his decision bought him valuable time while rescue teams scoured the area.

Several factors work against any person who is lost in the wilderness in winter. Freezing night temperatures can leave the hardiest recreationist shivering, helpless, and on the verge of hypothermia. There is often lag time between when the skier is lost and when authorities are notified. Snow conditions also play a big role. During the past five years, annual avalanche deaths in the United States have increased by 127 percent to 30, according to *The Avalanche Review*. Although there were no official deaths from avalanche at Lake Tahoe last year, the area was the site of one of the worst avalanches in the past two decades in this country. In 1982, six people were killed when an avalanche tore through the lodge at Alpine Meadows Ski Area.

However, even in the relatively safe confines of a ski resort, people do get lost. According to Adam Epstein, a backcountry skier and ski industry consultant from Truckee, this happens because many people equate ski resorts with the controlled environments of amusement parks. The fact that something can go wrong simply never crosses their minds. "There are so many people on ski slopes who are not mountain people, so it's extremely important for people to realize even before they get out there that it's not Disneyland," Epstein says. "They need to think in terms of safety. People need to take some kind of responsibility for what they're doing."

For Austin, lost in a storm, the whiteout conditions were not his biggest problem—exposure was. He had the advantage of being lost at a major ski resort (although he had wandered into an out-of-bounds section on the Alpine Valley side of KT-22), so rescue workers were not far away.

While the teams looked for him, Austin had to develop a strategy for survival. He remembered media reports about people who had survived in the wild by digging snow caves. So he used his skis and ski pole to dig a snow cave beneath a tree. He gathered pine boughs and sticks to provide insulation and keep out wind and snow. He figured he was buying himself time.

Building a snow cave is an essential part of search-and-rescue training, and for good reason. Over the past two winters snow caves and strong survival instincts helped four other people in the Reno-Tahoe area endure time lost in the wilderness. In February 1996, Shawn Daws of Incline Village used his snowboard to dig snow caves for three days while searchers looked for him on Mount Rose. He finally hiked down to U.S. 395 in Washoe Valley, where a motorist gave the 25-year-old snowboarder a lift to a market. Daws lost two fingers, but he could have lost his life if he hadn't been dressed appropriately in waterproof layers and used his snowboard to sleep on at night, lessening contact between himself and the frigid snow.



Cross-country skiers should wear protective, layered clothing and carry basic provisions.

Photos: Austin Family Collection (top), Alvin McLane (bottom)

Last December, three cross-country skiers were lost near Mount Rose Summit. Sarah Corner, 19, of Reno; her mother, Patricia Corner, 42, of Hamilton, New Zealand; and Patricia Corner's sister, Maryann Doyle, 36, of Santa Monica, California, were all experienced nordic skiers. They dug a cave between a fallen tree and a snowbank. They placed their gear—skis, packs, and poles—along the bottom of the cave to keep them from direct contact with the snow, as Daws had done. To keep warm they huddled together throughout the night as temperatures dropped to 20 degrees and winds reached 80 mph. They were rescued the next morning.



When skiers are lost and must stay overnight on the frozen tundra, finding shelter or building a snow cave (above) can be the key to survival.

Like shelter, mental toughness is critical to survival. In 1982, Anna Allen, then a 23-year-old wildlife-fisheries student from UC Davis, was buried alive for six days in the Alpine Meadows avalanche that killed six others. She says that one of the keys to survival is to not give up hope.

"I never had a question in my mind about whether I would be found," says Allen, whose right leg was amputated below the knee and who today works as an administrator at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. "I just felt I would be." Allen, a mother of two, skis almost every day during the winter and continues to maintain a fiercely defiant attitude. "I never thought of not returning to the mountains," she says. "If I never came back to ski and live here, it would have been like the mountains had beaten me."

While Alan Austin was busy digging a snow cave and preparing for a cold night on KT-22, his wife and daughters had realized something was wrong. At 4:40 p.m. they reported him missing to Squaw Valley authorities, and until 10:30 p.m. resort staff searched the mountain. But due to heavy snow and strong winds they found no sign of Austin's tracks.

"The severity of the storm made this rescue extremely dangerous and difficult, the most dangerous I have ever encountered," Squaw Valley ski patrol director Bob Cushman later told the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. "The wind and intensity of the snowfall made visibility near zero." Beginning at 8 a.m. Sunday and continuing until 10 that night, more than 40 search-and-rescue workers combed KT-22 and nearby Snow King Mountain. Austin, realizing it would be difficult for rescuers to spot him inside the cave, took periodic walks to a clearing, hoping someone would see his tracks. Snow kept filling in his footprints, so he tramped back and forth to reestablish his tracks. Austin ate snow, but he could only dream about food, since he had none.

"I tried to stay upbeat," Austin says. "I kept telling myself that if I kept my head and didn't do anything stupid, I could survive."

By Monday the search party had grown to more than 100 people. The rescuers included members of the Placer County

(Continued on page 83)

SKIER SURVIVAL TIPS

Here are some winter survival tips that alpine and nordic skiers should keep in mind while in snow country:

Never travel alone. You may need help.

Check the weather forecast.

Be prepared for the unexpected. Cross-country skiers should pack extra food, warm clothes, water, compass, matches, space blanket, knife, first-aid kit, flashlight, whistle, signal mirror, and emergency-repair ski tips. Downhill skiers should pack such items if possible.

Snowmobilers should stash fuel and parts in a convenient place and bring snowshoes, tools, and a spare drive belt.

USFS maps. Cross-country skiers should get a U.S. Forest Service topographic map of the area. Ask about avalanche warnings even when the weather looks nice—avalanches can strike days after a storm.

Let someone know your travel plans. Say where you're going, when you plan to return, what vehicle you're taking. Leave a note in your vehicle, too.

Wear several layers of clothing. Synthetic materials like polypropylene are better than cotton, which retains moisture and increases the chances of hypothermia.

Bring food. Include water, energy bars, granola, and candy. Wear sunglasses and use sunscreen.

If you get lost, search-and-rescue experts recommend:

Find shelter. If necessary, build a snow cave. Fortify and insulate the snow cave with skis, fallen tree limbs, pine boughs, and anything else you can find.

Hug a tree. That is, stay where you are—especially if you have no idea where you are. Lost skiers can trek miles away from safety without realizing it, particularly in whiteouts.

Leave a trail. Don't venture far but make an effort to leave tracks for rescuers to find.

Avalanches. If you are caught in an avalanche, try to "swim through" the snow. "Fight anyway you can," says Squaw Valley search-and-rescue team member Rick Sylvester. Use a strong and determined swim-like motion to push the snow away from you. Avalanche snow compresses quickly, like concrete, and although you may not be able to free yourself, you can create air pockets to buy you critical time for survival. It helps to immediately push the snow from around your face. To orient yourself, use spit to determine whether you are upside down or not.—*John Trent*

Photo: Alvin McLane

Nevada Events & Shows

A Section of Nevada Magazine • November/December 1997

From Kimonos to Karaoke

This winter festival brings Japanese art, music, food, and fun to Las Vegas.

By Allison Newlon



Contestants wear elegant silk gowns and elaborate hair pieces during the Japan Festival's kimono show.

Photos by TONY SCODWELL

Westerners can experience all that's different, exotic, and fascinating about the Japanese people and their culture November 7-9 in Las Vegas. During those three days, the city's second annual Japan Festival brings the flamboyance of Taiko drums, the quiet serenity and exquisite aesthetics of ikebana flower arrangements, and the giggles of children as they

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Dancers draw a crowd on Fremont Street during last year's Japan Festival. Cultural events range from a downtown parade to a tea ceremony.

learn origami, the Japanese art of paper folding.

The purpose of the festival is to promote understanding and friendship between the Japanese and American peoples as well as a mutual appreciation of each other's cultures. Last year, for example, cowboys, Elvis impersonators, and Boy and Girl Scouts participated in the Friendship Parade as ambassadors of American culture. This year, children from Las Vegas Gakkuen, the only school in Nevada accredited by the Japanese Ministry of Education for Japanese children living and studying in the United States, will join in the festival's events.

Las Vegas owes the acquisition of the event to the efforts of its Japanese-American community. Bob Jitaku, festival chairman and member of the Japan-America Society of Nevada, gave the festival's sponsor, Kintetsu International, the Japanese version of the "full-



Vibrations come in waves when Taiko drummers perform at the November festival. The traditional Japanese drums have been used in Las Vegas shows such as "Mystère."



The kimono-show participant at left is wearing a traditional wedding dress.

court press" two years ago when he sold the company on Las Vegas as a second site for the celebration. (The Japan Festival has been a successful cultural exchange in Honolulu since 1980.)

Sponsors have not been disappointed. Last year, more than 2,000 Japanese visitors came to the Las Vegas festival and joined their American counterparts to enjoy exhibits of intricate folk art, kimono fashion shows, traditional dances, and a parade. This year, vendors along the downtown parade route will sell Japanese food items and souvenirs such as paper fans.

Anyone can enter the karaoke sing-off, whether one's voice shatters glass or just one's ego.

"We have some tough decisions to make when it comes to food," says Roberto Campos, executive director of the Japan-America Society of Nevada. "The American palate responds very well to California roll or tempura. But for our Japanese community living in Las Vegas, they are dying to get a taste of things they can't normally get"—like pickled jellyfish tentacles, dried squid, or blowfish.

Festival offerings will expand out of the downtown and Strip areas to include a special Taiko drum performance at Green Valley Town Center. The drums are seen in Las Vegas production shows such as "Mystère" at Treasure Island, and the celebration will give fans of the showy skill an up-close view.

The karaoke contest is also back by popular demand. "We have some hard-core competitors coming from California and Hawaii," says Campos. "They are totally focused on giving an excellent performance." But, he adds, amateurs and first-timers also can enter. Last year, even some Spanish songs were performed. All are encouraged to join, whether one's voice will shatter glass, ear drums, or just one's ego.

A kimono fashion show featuring a famous Japanese design house is one of the festival's most stunning events. The silk gowns can amount to a four- or five-figure investment in American dollars. The elaborate process of folding, wrapping, tying, and arranging the gowns on the feminine figure requires practice often acquired by formal lessons. A woman who can put on her kimono

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Exquisitely dressed dolls are among the cultural exhibits at the Japan Festival. Other showings include ceramics, the ancient art of calligraphy, and a tea ceremony.

unassisted is considered highly skilled, and her "traditional values" are prized. During the fashion show, take note of the elaborate hairstyles and glamorous hair ornaments.

The cultural arts include origami paper folding. Experts hold demonstrations for children (or children at heart) interested in learning to make intricate three-dimensional birds, boxes, and other trinkets in an activity that is as popular among Japanese youngsters as Legos are in the States.

Westerners also will be able to observe the ancient ritual of a tea ceremony. Students take years to master the minutely detailed and tightly choreographed movements that are steeped not just in tea leaves but also in Buddhist symbolism. A word of warning: To Western taste buds, appreciation probably will lie more in observing than in drinking. The hot, frothy tea is strong and bitter. Other cultural exhibits scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Fashion Show Mall include calligraphy and ceramics.

All events are free of charge. The cultural or souvenir items for sale are offered on a cost basis, according to festival promoters.

"This event is about friendship, about getting together to experience the good things about each other's cultures," says Chris Meehan, the event's producer.



Festival participants learn about Japanese painting and origami paper folding.

"We want everyone to come out and enjoy the experience." For information on the festival's schedule of events, contact the Japan-America Society of Nevada, 702-252-0277

Be prepared to discover that things Japanese aren't always what they seem. That raspberry ice cream may turn out to be made from red bean paste, and that dried jerky may have come from creatures with fins instead of hooves. Just keep an open mind and taste first before you ask what you are eating.

Allison Newlon is a Las Vegas ad agency owner and lifelong Japanophile who has traveled in Japan and studied at Tokyo's Sophia University.



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Nevada Territories



To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into five territories: Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, Cowboy Country, Pony Express, and Pioneer. Indian Territory encompasses all of Nevada.

Map: Nevada Commission on Tourism

Nevada Events

Winter events in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and Rural territories.

Nevada travelers will find holiday festivities and winter events throughout the state. For rodeo fans, Las Vegas hosts the National Finals Rodeo, and Reno offers the National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals. The following listing is divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. Nevada's area code is 702.



Las Vegas Territory

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holiday Handicraft Sale • Nov. 1 • Bonanza Senior Center, Las Vegas, 229-6454.

Snowflake Ball • Nov. 20 • Dinner and dancing. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 259-3741.

Christmas Tree Auction • Nov. 21 • Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 293-7731.

The Magical Forest • Nov. 21-Dec. 27 • Opportunity Village's Christmas fantasyland. 6300 West Oakey, Las Vegas, 259-3741.

International Parade and Arrival of Santa • Nov. 22 • Boulevard Mall, Las Vegas, 732-8949.

Twelve Days of Christmas Festival • Nov. 28-Dec. 9 • Tree lighting, parade of lights, Christmas posada. Mesquite, 346-2553.

Christmas Tree Lighting • Nov. 29 • Entertainment. Frank Crowe Park, Boulder City, 293-2034.

NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show • Dec. 1-15 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 731-2115.

Country Holiday Festival • Dec. 1-26 • Daily performances. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

Downtown Hoedown • Dec. 4 • Nashville entertainers Ricochet will perform. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

Christmas at the Liberace Museum • Dec. 4 • Tree lighting ceremony, gold lamé-clad Santa. Admission with a new toy or nonperishable food donation for the Salvation Army. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 798-5595.

Mirabelli Christmas Craft Show • Dec. 6 • Mirabelli Center, Las Vegas, 229-6359.

Christmas Parade • Dec. 6 • Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2034.

Doodlebug Bazaar • Dec. 6 • Holiday gifts and crafts. Recreation Center, Boulder City, 293-2891.

Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • Convoy of lighted and decorated sail and motor boats. Lake Mead Marina to Hemenway Harbor, Lake Mead, 457-2797.

Christmas in Vegas! • Dec. 7 • Concert and sing-along. Community College of Southern Nevada Performing Arts Center, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

Christmas Tea • Dec. 7 • Holiday entertainment. Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 293-7731.

Holiday Celebration • Dec. 10 • Music, tree lighting, crafts, Santa's visit. Clark County Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 455-8200.

Light Up the Night • Dec. 12 • Tree lighting, ice sculpting demonstration, caroling, Santa, canned food drive for the Salvation Army. Free cookies, good cheer at festivities. Laurelwood Park, Las Vegas, 455-8393.

Luminaria • Dec. 12 • Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2034.

Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration • Dec. 13 • Historic holiday decor, craft and goodie sale, carolers, Santa, make-and-take ornaments, sing-along, and brunch and dinner (reservations required). Clark County Heritage Museum, Boulder Hwy., Henderson, 455-7955.

Henderson Annual Christmas Celebration • Dec. 13 • Santa, parade, entertainment, arts and crafts, food. Water Street, Henderson, 565-8951.

"The Nutcracker" • Dec. 13-28 • Christmas holiday classic. Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 732-3838.

Desert Chorale Christmas Concert • Dec. 14-15 • Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

"The Christmas Box" • Dec. 17 • Musical. Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite, 346-2787.

Winter Wonderland • Dec. 20 • Reindeer games, ice carving, hands-on craft projects, entertainment, food, pony rides. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 455-8206.

Walt Boenig Big Band Concert • Dec. 21 • Christmas music. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

New Year's Eve Celebration • Dec. 30-31 • Entertainment on the 30th will be free, New Year's Eve will have an admission fee. Fremont Street Experience, 678-5777.

New Year's Eve Parties • Dec. 31 • Some casinos have parties open to the public. Contact hotels for New Year's Eve events.

PERFORMANCES

"Dracula" • Oct. 30-Nov. 2 • Ballet version of Bram Stoker's classic vampire tale. Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 732-3838.

The Sabella Consort • Light jazz and New Age music. Nov.

Bulls, Broncs, and Big Bucks

The National Finals Rodeo takes over Las Vegas December 5-14 as 126 of the sport's best athletes compete for more than $3.7 million in prize money. The rodeo is a sellout, but you can catch the rodeo action at most hotels, which carry a live television feed and book country-music entertainers for the big event. A hoedown featuring the group Ricochet is planned for December 4 at the Fremont Street Experience.

Nevada Events & Shows

is a section of
NEVADA MAGAZINE

Nevada Events and Shows covers the Silver State. To list an event, contact Events Editor Ann Henderson: 702-486-2433 • fax 702-486-2789 • 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Subscription rates for NEVADA MAGAZINE: *$16.95 for one year, U.S.; $22.95 Foreign. To subscribe call toll-free:*

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Photo: Chris Leedham



Saddle Up

Cowboy artist James Reynolds appears November 8 at Moonstruck Gallery in Las Vegas for a signing of his book of Western images, *Traildust: Cowboys, Cattle, and Country.* Above is Reynolds' painting, "Arizona Cowboys."

3, Moapa Valley High School, Overton; Nov. 4, Elementary School, Sandy Valley; Nov. 5, Community Center, Searchlight; Nov. 6, Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite. 455-8242.

Deutsches Symphony Berlin • Nov. 5 • Concert. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

"The Merry Widow" • Nov. 7-9 • Operetta. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

76 Trombones Plus 4 • Nov. 7-9 • Concert. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Kyung Sun Lee and Brian Suits • Nov. 14 • Violin and piano concert. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

"Medea" • Nov. 14-23 • Euripides' tale of anger and revenge. Community College of Southern Nevada Performing Arts Center, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

Nevada Jazz Artists Concert • Nov. 16 • Big Band jazz. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

"Las Vegas and the Post-Industrial World" • Nov. 20 • Lecture by Hal Rothman, professor of history. Barrick Museum Auditorium, UNLV, 895-3401.

A Symphony for Heroes • Nov. 22 • Concert by Mahler Festival Orchestra. Community College of Southern Nevada Performing Arts Center, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

"Falsettos" • Dec. 3-9 • Musical. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

Four Shadow • Dec. 5 • A-cappella concert. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

Dance Concert • Dec. 5-6 • Commemorates 100th anniversary of Johannes Brahms' death. Community College of Southern Nevada Performing Arts Center, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

"Little Women" • Dec. 5-7 and 11-14 • Louisa May Alcott's classic tale. Rainbow Company Children's Theatre, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

Tenor Madness V • Dec. 14 • Jazz saxophonists compete. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

EXHIBITS

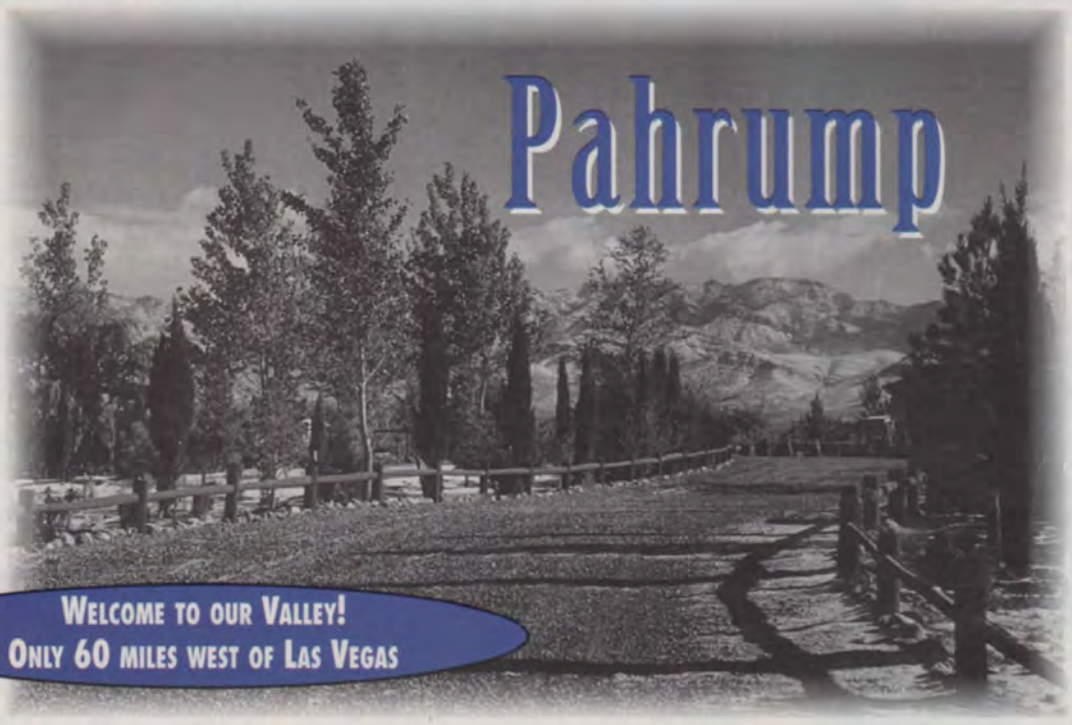
Las Vegas: The War Years • Permanent exhibit of photographs and artifacts on Las Vegas' coming of age during the 1940s. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Splendor in Stone • Thru Nov. 9 • Exhibit presents the microscopic world of rocks. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Yishai Jusidam: Pictorial Investigations • Thru Nov. 9 • Wooden spheres and oversize paintings of landscapes, portraits, and figures done by the Mexican-born artist. Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

Nevada Watercolor Society • Thru Dec. 7 • Annual fall

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competition. Sahara West Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 228-1940.

Boulder City Art Guild Show • Thru Dec. 14 • Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575.

Beautiful Southern Nevada • Thru Dec. 31 • Boulder City Art Guild members depict scenes of Lake Mead National Recreation Area at the Alan Bible Visitor Center. Boulder City, 293-2138.

National League of Pen Women, Nevada Chapter • Thru Jan. 11 • Mixed media exhibit. West Charleston Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 878-3682.

Irish Artists Exhibit • Thru Jan. 24 • Mixed media. Marjorie Barrick Museum, UNLV, 895-3381.

Willow Transformed: Baskets of the Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe • Thru March 29 • Baskets made from 1900 to 1930. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Boulder City Library Art Show • Nov. 1-30 • Framed fine art by Boulder City Art Guild. Boulder City, 293-2138.

Something That a Cowboy Knows • Nov. 15-Feb. 8 • Portraits and works of cowboy poets. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.



Get on the Stick

The Las Vegas Thunder storms into hockey season at the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas. The International Hockey League team plays the Houston Aeros on November 7 the Kansas City Blades on November 22 and 25, the Utah Grizzlies on November 28, and the Long Beach Ice Dogs on November 29.

Red and Green Show • Nov. 20-Dec. 28 • Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

SPORTS

UNLV Football • The Rebels play Nov. 1 v. Colorado State, Nov. 22 v. San Jose State. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 895-3900.

UNLV Basketball • The Runnin' Rebels play Nov. 1 v. USDBL; Nov. 9 v. Malbourne Magic; Nov. 15 v. Loyola Marymount; Nov. 19 v. Eastern Michigan; Dec. 17 v. Chicago State; Dec. 23 v. UC Irvine; Dec. 27 v. UCLA; Dec. 30 v. U of N, Reno; Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900.

Gold Eagle World of Outlaws Finale • Nov. 4-5 • Sprint car racing on half-mile dirt oval. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

Winter National Sand Drags • Nov. 5-10 • Avi Casino, Laughlin, 800-AVI-2WIN.

Las Vegas Thunder • The IHL pro hockey team plays Nov. 7 v. Houston Aeros; Nov. 22 v. Kansas City Blades; Nov.

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25 v. Kansas City Blades; Nov. 28 v. Utah Grizzlies; Nov. 29 v. Long Beach Ice Dogs. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 798-PUCK.

Laughlin Invitational Professional Bull Riders Series • Nov. 7-9 • Series finals. Special Events Center, Laughlin, 298-2214.

NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series • Nov. 7-9 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

Evander Holyfield v. Michael Moorer • Nov. 8 • Heavyweight championship, tickets $100 to $1,000. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas. Call Mirage ticket res., 800-75-FIGHT.

Nitro Long-drive Championships and Senior Series of Professional Golf Tours • Nov. 9-13 • Wildhorse and Painted Desert courses, Imperial Palace, 800-877-3977.

Great Ace Race • Nov. 15 • Running shoes, skates, bikes, skateboards welcome in 5K poker run. Orr Community Center, Las Vegas, 455-7196.

Western Athletic Conference Volleyball Tournament • Nov. 24-28 • MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 891-7777.

National U.S.A.C. Midget Championships • Nov. 29 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 5-14 • The biggest event in rodeo. Top 126 rodeo athletes compete for $3.7 million in prize money. Hotels book Western entertainers and a Cowboy Christmas Sale is held at Cashman Field. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 731-2115.

Las Vegas Rugby Challenge • Dec. 6 • More than 100 teams compete in five divisions. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 798-8345.

Karate Championship • Dec. 6 • Riverside Hotel, Laughlin, 298-2535.

Itty Bitty Rodeo • Dec. 6 • Roping, milking, stick horse barrel races, pig chase, bucking barrel events for ages three to six years. Clark County Fairgrounds, Logandale, 455-8206.

WAC Championship Football Game • Dec. 6 • Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 895-3900.

Laughlin Air Races • Dec. 6-7 • Formula One airplanes, wing-walkers, static displays, vintage aircraft, parachute teams. Bullhead City Airport, Laughlin, 298-4000.

Las Vegas Bowl VI • Dec. 20 • Championship college football game between the third-ranked WAC team and an at-large entry. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 895-3900.

Las Vegas Shoot Out • Dec. 20 • College basketball with Colorado v. UMass and Syracuse v. UNLV. Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV, 895-3900.

GENERAL INTEREST

Living History Programs • Chuckwagon and Trail Cooking, Nov. 1; Old Bill Williams: Mountain Man, Nov. 8; Jim Wilson: Civil War Veteran, Nov. 9. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141.

Psychic Fair • Nov. 1-2 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-AGENT46.

Strut Your Mutt • Nov. 8 • Music, food, costume contest, silly dog tricks. Dog Fancier's Park, Las Vegas, 455-8206.

James Reynolds Book Signing • Nov. 8 • Cowboy Artist of America member will sign his new book of western images *Traildust: Cowboys, Cattle and Country*. Moonstruck Gallery, Las Vegas, 364-0531.

Western National Collectibles • Nov. 20-23 • Antique show. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

Renaissance Feast • Nov. 22 • Nevada School of the Arts black-tie dinner. Flamingo Hilton, Las Vegas, 386-2787.

Powers Craft Festival • Nov. 26-30 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 805-481-7100.

Hillerman Country: A Discussion of Tony Hillerman and His Work • Dec. 14 • Lecture about Southwestern author's life and work by Ernie Bulow and Navajo artist Ernest Franklin. Flamingo Library, Las Vegas, 455-7955.

COMING EVENTS

January Jamboree Golf Tournament • Jan. 9-18 • Mesquite, 346-5295.

Laughlin Desert Challenge • Jan. 29-Feb. 1 • Laughlin, 298-2214.

Las Vegas International Marathon • Feb. 1 • Las Vegas, 876-3870.

African American Cultural Arts Festival • Feb. 7-8 • Las Vegas, 647-2242.

Great Mesquite Chili and Art Festival • Feb. 14-16 • Mesquite, 346-5295.

WAC Women's and Men's Basketball Championships • March 6-8 • Las Vegas, 895-3900.

Parade of Homes Hot-Air Balloon Races • March 20-22 • Mesquite, 346-5295.

Clark County Fair • April 2-5 • Logandale, 398-FAIR.

Laughlin River Stampede • April 2-5 • Laughlin, 298-2214.

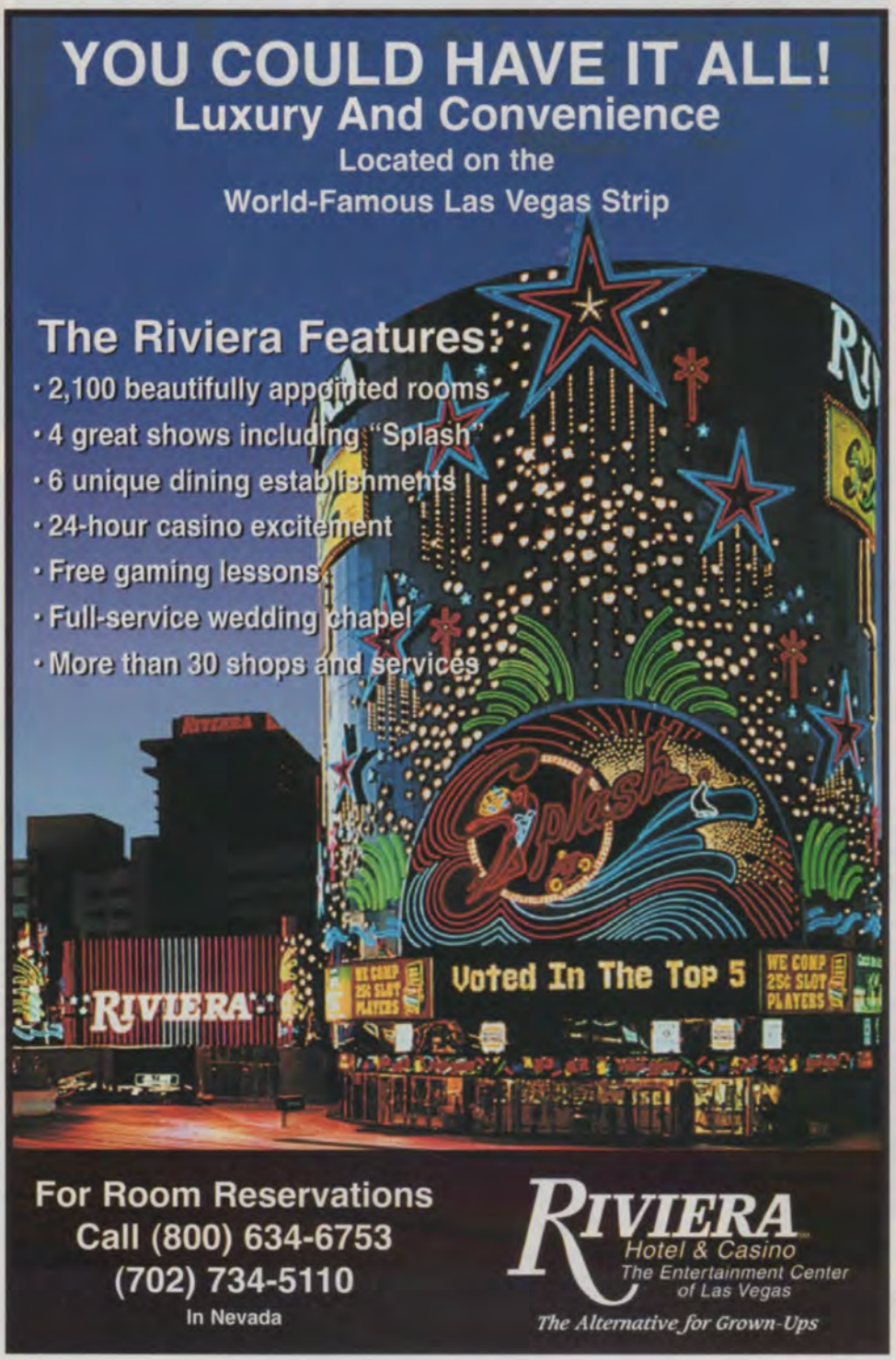
Invitational Native American Arts Festival • April 3-5 • Henderson, 455-7955.

Handcar Races • April 11 • Boulder City, 293-4857.

Henderson Heritage Days • April 17-16 • Henderson, 565-8951.

Mesquite Days • May 8-11 • Mesquite, 346-5295.

Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races • Sept. 26-27 • Boulder City, 293-4857.



Reno-Tahoe Territory

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Veterans Day Parade • Nov. 11 • Color guards, military vehicles, floats. C Street, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Valhalla Christmas Faire • Nov. 21-23 • Crafts, goodies, and seasonal beverages. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166.

Young at Heart Holiday Craft Affair • Nov. 22 • Douglas County Senior Center, Gardnerville, 265-2312.

Holiday Artisan Store • Nov. 28-Dec. 31 • Arts and crafts. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Magic of Santa Christmas Faire • Nov. 29-30 • Juried arts and crafts. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 334-2265.

East Fork Gallery Christmas Reception • Nov. 30 • Original Christmas cards, ornaments, paintings. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 782-7629.

Lighting of Minden Park • Dec. 5 • Food, music, and Santa. Minden, 782-2444.

Christmas Feed/Christmas Tree Bingo • Dec. 5 • Proceeds of the holiday feast and social gathering will provide



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family Christmas baskets. CVIC Hall, Minden, 267-3844.
Community Sing • Dec. 5 • Genoa Church, Genoa, 782-0810.
Christmas Crafts Fair • Dec. 5-7 • Community Center, Carson City, 887-1294.
Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • Night parade, booths. Minden/Gardnerville, 782-5121.
Douglas High School Craft Fair • Dec. 6 • Gardnerville, 782-4631.
Valhalla Christmas Party • Dec. 6 • Dinner, music, and entertainment. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166.
Sparks Hometowne Christmas • Dec. 6 • Parade, music, crafts, tree lighting. Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2291.
Spirit of the Season • Dec. 6 • Reno Philharmonic holiday concert. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.
Genoa Christmas Faire and Cafe • Dec. 6-7 • Crafts, Santa, carolers. Town Hall and Masonic Hall, Genoa, 782-8696.
Festival of Trees • Dec. 7 • Entertainment, street performers, crafts. Downtown Reno, 334-2417.
Genoa Christmas Potluck • Dec. 7 • Town Hall, Genoa, 782-8696.
"The Nutcracker" • Dec. 12-14 • Nevada Festival Ballet, Reno Hilton, 785-7915.
"Christmas in the Sierras" • Dec. 12-23 • Improvisational performances for children. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 323-3221.
Holiday Treat Concert • Dec. 14 • Carson Chamber Singers. Community Center, Carson City, 883-4154.
Victorian Christmas Home Tour • Dec. 14 • Decorated historical homes. Carson City, 687-7410.
Torchlight Parade and Christmas Caroling • Dec. 24 • Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-6985.
Buck n' Ball • Dec. 31 • New Year's Eve rodeo, fireworks, bands, dancing, entertainment. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.
A Cowboy's New Year's Eve Ball • Dec. 31 • CVIC Hall, Minden, 782-8679.
Ski the Eve • Dec. 31 • Torchlight parade, fireworks, music after ski lifts close. Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-4232.
New Year's Eve Parties • Dec. 31 • Some casinos have parties. Check with hotels for events.

PERFORMANCES

"Damn Yankees" • Oct. 31-Nov. 2 • Touring Broadway show. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.
Rhymer's Rodeer Cowboy Poetry • Nov. 7-8 • Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711, ext. 679.
"Brigadoon" • Nov. 7-16 • Weekend performances of the musical. Community Center, Carson City, 887-3115.
"What the Butler Saw" • Nov. 7-8, 13-15, and 20-22 • Comedy. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 323-3221.
Virginia Luque Concert • Nov. 8 • Classical guitarist. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 686-6600.
Master Classics Concert • Nov. 11 • Selections from Shostakovitch, Dvorak, and Tchaikovsky directed by guest conductor Joel Revzen. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.
Nevada's Native Americans • Nov. 13 • Traditional dances and songs with discussion of the significance and cultural importance of powwows. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1191.
Street Sounds • Nov. 14 • A-cappella quintet performs African chants, jazz, blues, R&B, gospel, rap, and calypso. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-4046.
Hand, Mind, and Spirit: Contemporary African-American Women Artists • Exhibit, Nov. 14-Dec. 11; poetry, storytelling, and performance, Nov. 20. Sheppard Art Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.
"Really Rosie" • Nov. 15-16 and 21-23 • Stage Kids musical production. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.
"Cinderella" • Nov. 22 • Missoula Children's Theatre production. South Lake Tahoe High School, 916-542-3632.
Capital City Community Band Concert • Dec. 4 • Community Center, Carson City, 883-2219.
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" • Dec. 19-



Extreme skier Ann Kanarowski at Squaw Valley.

Holidays on the Slopes

During the holidays skiers will find several snowy events to give them a lift at Tahoe Basin ski resorts. The annual Ho Ho Homewood Toy Drive on December 19 includes $5 lift tickets, and Alpine Meadows has a Ski the Eve torchlight parade on December 31.



Photo: John Clausen

Skiing Around the State

A guide to Nevada and Tahoe Basin Ski Areas.

1997-98 Downhill Skier's Guide

Area	Phone	Top Elevation	Vertical Feet	Lifts	Rating Bg-Int-Adv	Lift Price Adult/Child	Rental Adult/Child	Snow-boards
TAHOE BASIN								
Alpine Meadows	916-583-4232	8,637	1,800	12	25-40-35	$47/$10	$24/$17	Yes
Boreal	916-426-3666	7,700	500	9	30-55-15	$28/$10	$18/$12	Yes
Diamond Peak	702-831-3211	8,540	1,840	6	18-46-36	$38/$14	$20/$12	Yes
Donner Ski Ranch	916-426-3635	7,751	750	6	25-50-25	$23/$10/$5	$17/$10	Yes
Granlibakken	916-583-4242	6,480	280	2	50-50-0	$15/$8	$15/$12	No
Heavenly	702-586-7000	10,040	3,500	26	20-47-33	$47/$34/$22	$20/$10	Yes
Ski Homewood	916-525-2992	7,880	1,650	8	15-50-35	$35/$25/$11	$19/$12	Yes
Kirkwood	209-258-6000	9,800	2,000	13	15-50-35	$42/$33/$5	$20/$14	Yes
Mount Rose	702-849-0704	9,700	1,440	5	30-35-35	$38/$14	$25/$15	Yes
Northstar-at-Tahoe	916-562-1010	8,600	2,200	12	25-50-25	$46/$38/$10	$25/$15	Yes
Sierra at Tahoe	916-659-7453	8,852	2,212	10	25-50-25	$43/$33/$5	$22/$15	Yes
Soda Springs	916-426-1010	7,352	652	3	30-50-20	$15/free	$15	Yes
Squaw Valley	916-583-6955	9,050	2,850	30	25-45-30	$48/$24/$5	$25/$13	Yes
Sugar Bowl	916-426-9000	8,383	1,500	10	17-43-40	$42/$10	$21/$14	Yes
Tahoe Donner	916-587-9444	7,350	600	3	40-60-0	$26/$12	$20/$15	Yes
AROUND THE STATE								
LV Ski and Snowboard	702-646-0008	9,510	1,000	3	20-60-20	$28/$21	$16	Yes
Elko Snobowl	702-738-6125	7,000	650	2	20-60-20	$6	No	Yes
Ruby Mountains (Elko)	702-753-6867	Ruby Mt. Heli-Skiing in Lamoille offers helicopter skiing						

1997-98 Cross Country Skier's Guide

Area	Phone	Trail (km)	Trail Fee Adult/Child	Rental Adult/Child	Lessons Adult/Child	Day Lodge
TAHOE BASIN						
Clair Tappaan Lodge	916-426-3632	12	$7/$3.50	$13/$9	$14	√
Diamond Peak	702-831-3211	35	$14/$9	$15/$7	$32*	√
Hope Valley	916-694-2266	80	none	$14/$8	$28/$20	√
Kirkwood	209-258-7248	80	$15/$5	$15/$9	$35/$25*	√
Lake Tahoe Basin	916-573-2600	The U.S. Forest Service has brochures on many forest areas.				
Lake View	916-583-9353	65	$15/$6	$15/$9	$35*	
Northstar-at-Tahoe	916-562-1010	65	$16/$9	$16/$9	$39/$25*	√
Royal Gorge	916-426-3871	328	$19.50/$8.50	$16.50/$9.50	$18/$12	√
Spooner Lake	702-887-8844	101	$15/$9/$3	$15/$9/$4	$34/$25/$18*	√
Resort at Squaw Creek	916-583-6300	18	$12/$8	$13/$9	$35*	√
Tahoe Donner	916-587-9484	70	$16/$14/$9	$15/$9	$35/$29*	√
AROUND THE STATE						
LV Ski and Snowboard	702-252-8077 702-873-8800	The Ski Chalet offers x-country suggestions The U.S. Forest Service has info on camping and avalanche conditions				
Spring Valley (Eureka)	702-237-5280	Ron Carrion at the Owl Club provides directions and transportation				
White Pine (Ely)	702-289-3031 (USFS) 702-289-1800 (BLM)	Ward Mt. and Loop Trails info. available from the U.S. Forest Service and BLM				

** Includes trail pass, equipment, and lessons*

All prices are subject to change. Call resorts for information about children's programs.

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Lighting Up Christmas



Danielle Munk earns her wings as she rides the J.T. Basque Bar float in Gardnerville's first Parade of Lights, which this year is December 7.

Nevada really gets into the Christmas spirit. Throughout the state, holiday revelers will find parades with floats draped in lights, tree-decorating contests, Christmas caroling, gift fairs, and fireworks. And you don't have to travel far if you're looking for Santa Claus—he makes stops on the ski slopes, on sleighs in parades, and even in casinos.



Las Vegas neighborhoods try to out-watt the Strip with their creative Christmas scenes.



The casinos deck the halls for kids and Kriss Kringle. Here Santa visits the Excalibur.



"The Nutcracker" dances into Nevada during the holidays. The Oakland Ballet performs December 6-7 at the Lake Tahoe Horizon, the Nevada Festival Ballet will appear at the Reno Hilton December 12-14, and the Nevada Dance Theatre (left) presents its production December 13-28 at UNLV's Judy Bayley Theatre.



Tree trimmers create unusual ornaments for the Festival of Trees, scheduled this year for December 7 in downtown Reno.



Boats will brighten the waters during the Lake Mead Parade of Lights December 6.

Photos: Shirley Yvonne Fraser (far left), Chris Leedham (top left, top right), Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau (center left), Gene Hertzog (bottom right)

21 • Broadway musical. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 686-6610.

EXHIBITS

Nature Draws Development • Thru Dec. 28 • Paul Ford's soil and fiber constructions. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1191.

Oldsmobile's 100th Anniversary • Thru Dec. 31 • Highlights of Oldsmobile manufacturing. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Sierra Watercolor Society Show • Thru Dec. 31 • Heritage Bank at 1401 S. Virginia, Reno, 348-1000.

Die Cast Model Exhibit • Thru Jan. 2 • Model cars. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Home on the Road • Thru Feb. 17 • Auto camping exhibit with some of the first RVs. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Horseless Carriages • Thru March 30 • Cars from local collectors. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Manifestations of Hope • Nov. 3-Dec. 11 • Bob Hiroyuki Dix sculptures. Sierra Arts Center Gallery, Reno, 329-1324.

Fiber Celebrated VII • Nov. 14-Dec. 22 • Baskets, gourds, wearables, handwovens, tapestries, woodworks, jewelry. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 324-2323.

Danae Anderson Paintings • Dec. 15-Jan. 30 • Sierra Arts Center Gallery, Reno, 329-1324.

SNOW & SKI EVENTS

Learn to Ski Day • Dec. 6 • Lessons, trail passes, and ski rentals for $20 package. Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

Winterfair • Dec. 8 • Opening day contests and events. Sierra at Tahoe, 916-659-7453.

Buck Days • Dec. 8-9 • All lift tickets are $1. Mount Rose-Ski Tahoe, 800-SKI-ROSE.

Ho Ho Homewood Toy Drive • Dec. 19 • Donate a new toy and ski for $5. Ski Homewood, Lake Tahoe, 916-525-2992.



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Eureka County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Authority
P.O. Box 14 • Eureka, Nevada 89316

Candy Cane Children's Race • Dec. 21 • Free fun race for ages four to 14. Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

Children's Christmas Race • Dec. 24 • Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-4232.

SPORTS

Team Roping • Thru Nov. 2 • Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.

Golf Tournament • Nov. 1 • St. Ann Catholic Community Church tournament. Dayton Valley Country Club, Dayton, 246-5917.

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals • Nov. 3-9 • Top athletes 40 and older compete in the traditional events. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 788-4218.

University of Nevada Basketball • The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 11 v. Cairns; Nov. 17 v. California All-Stars; Nov. 29 v. Colorado State; Dec. 13 v. Montana State; Dec. 20 v. Baylor. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 348-PACK.

University of Nevada Football • The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 15 v. Utah State. Mackay Stadium, Reno, 348-PACK.

Championship Snaffle Bit Futurity • Nov. 20-23 • Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.

GENERAL INTEREST

La' Ka' Lel-Be Nevada Day Powwow • Thru Nov. 2 • Traditional Indian dancing, arts and crafts, food vendors. Carson Indian Colony, Carson City, 885-6818.

Foamfest • Nov. 1 • Beer festival, food, music. Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 916-581-4161.

Robert Laxalt Book Signing • Nov. 6 • Author signs new book, *Dust Devils*. Barnes and Noble, Reno, 826-8882.

Beer Tasting and Auction • Nov. 7 • Celebrates the history of brewing in Carson City. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Nevada Open Dart Tournament • Nov. 7-9 • Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 831-0660.

Carson Valley Cribbage Classic • Nov. 14-16 • ACC sanctioned. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711, ext. 625.

Turkey Poker Run • Nov. 16 • Car owners compete. Minden/Gardnerville, 265-7074.

Damn Those Yankees

A middle-aged baseball fan makes a pact with the Devil in order to become a star player in "Damn Yankees," October 31-November 2 at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts in Reno. The Broadway hit's famous songs include the sultry "Whatever Lola Wants."

COMING EVENTS

Sharkey's Serbian Christmas Feast • Jan. 7 • Gardnerville, 782-3133.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration • Jan. 16-19 • Reno, 329-8990.

U.S. Snowboard Competition • Jan. 24-25 • Sierra at Tahoe, 916-659-7453.

Snowfest! • Feb. 27-March 8 • North Lake Tahoe and Truckee, 916-583-7625.

Big West Conference Basketball Tournament • March 4-8 • Reno, 784-6900.

Lake Tahoe Winter Games • March 8-9 • Incline Village, 800-GO-TAHOE.

Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry • March 14 • Carson City, 895-3801.

Mother Earth's Awakening Powwow • March 21 • Carson City, 882-1808.

Reno Jazz Festival • April 23-25 • Reno, 784-4046.

Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Mountainman Rendezvous • April 24-26 • Carson City, 887-1221.

Fiesta Nevada Celebration • May 1-3 • Sparks, 353-2284.

Western States Association Grand Prix Motorcycle Race • May 9-10 • Virginia City, 847-0311.

Reno Rodeo • June 20-28 • Reno, 329-3877.

Father's Day Powwow • June 21 • Carson City, 882-2808.

Snowshoe Thompson Festival • June 27-28 • Genoa, 782-2518.

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Cowboy Country

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Fall Craft Fair • Nov. 1 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-7144.
Cowboy Christmas Art Show and Sale • Nov. 1-Dec. 24 • Western Folklife Center, Elko, 738-7508.
Pre-Holiday Gift Show • Nov. 22-23 • Elko Convention Center, 738-7135.
Christmas Ball • Nov. 29 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-7144.
Festival of the Trees • Dec. 1-5 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091.
Christmas on the Ranch • Dec. 4 • Concert. Pershing County High School, Lovelock, 273-2011.
All-Day Christmas Festival • Dec. 6 • Night parade, craft fair, merchant's sale, decorated trees and gingerbread village auctioned. Lovelock, 273-7144.
Christmas in the Nighttime Skies • Dec. 6 • Fireworks, Christmas music, chili, and hot chocolate. Kimberly Nurseries, Elko, 738-8011.
Nurse's Bazaar • Dec. 6-7 • Elko Convention Center, 738-5414.
Parade of Lights • Dec. 13 • Elko, 738-7135.
New Year's Eve Ball • Dec. 31 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-7144.

PERFORMANCES

10th Anniversary Gala • Nov. 8 • 45-piece Ruby Mountain Symphony in concert. Elko Convention Center, 738-4187.
John McEuen: Acoustic Travelers • Nov. 20 • Former member of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band performs with his son Jonathan. Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2082.

EXHIBITS

A Common Thread • Thru Nov. 30 • Statewide juried craft show. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.
Fall Art Show • Nov. 15-Dec. 31 • Elko County Art Club. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

GENERAL INTEREST

Nevada Cattlemen's Association Annual Convention • Nov. 13-15 • Convention Center, Winnemucca, 738-9214.
Eagles' Turkey Bingo • Nov. 22 • Play bingo and win turkeys. Community Center, Lovelock, 273-7144.

COMING EVENTS

Cowboy Poetry Gathering • Jan. 24-31 • Elko, 748-4466.
Shooting the West Photo Seminar • March 6-8 • Winnemucca, 623-6388.
Bordertown Bike Challenge • June 6 • Wendover, 208-342-3910.
National Basque Festival • July 2-5 • Elko, 738-3418.
Land Speed Opener • July 22-25 • Wendover, 801-785-5364.
Native American Festival • July 24-26 • Elko, 753-3794.
Speed Week • Aug. 21-23 • Wendover, 800-526-1805.
Elko County Fair and Race Meet • Aug. 29-Sept. 7 • Elko, 738-3616.
World of Speed • Sept. 23-26 • Wendover, 800-526-1805.



Light Houses

Visitors can admire the Christmas decorations during the Victorian Christmas Home Tour in Carson City December 14.

Pony Express Territory

GENERAL INTEREST

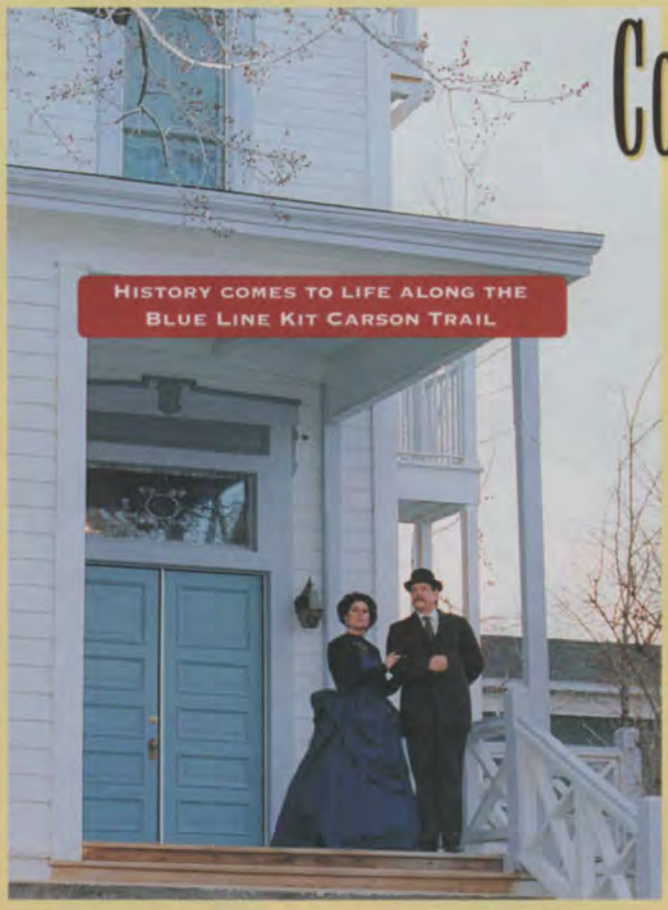
Hidden Cave Tours • Nov. 8 and 22, Dec. 13 and 17 • Free guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site. Departs from Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.
Photographer's Special • Nov. 8-9 • Workshop for photographers at historic railroad, using locomotives and other equipment. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 289-2085.

SPORTS

Top Gun Raceway • Selected weekends thru Nov. 28 • Drag races. Schurz Hwy., Fallon, 423-2544.
Rattlesnake Raceway • Selected weekends thru Nov. 29 • Stock cars. Fallon, 423-2544.
LROA Desert-Pro Challenge '97 • Dec. 5-7 • Off-road navigational run for four-wheel sport utility vehicles. Fernley, 510-606-8302.

COMING EVENTS

Silver State Classic Challenge Auto Race • May 16-17 • Ely, 289-8877.



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October 31 Nevada Day Parade & Celebration... The occasion? 133 years ago, the 36th state joined the Union. No wonder we know how to celebrate!

December 14: Victorian Christmas Home Tour... Take a leisurely walk to a truly old-fashioned holiday. From NOON to 5PM, view homes festively adorned in turn-of-the-century style, with refreshments along the way.

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For more information and lodging reservations, call:

CARSON CITY (800)NEVADA-1 (702)687-7410

Photo: Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau

Gridley Days • June 19-20 • Austin, 964-2200.
Silver State International Rodeo • July 1-5 • Fallon, 423-2544.
All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days • July 17-19 • Fallon, 423-2544.
Eureka County Fair • Aug. 8-9 • Eureka, 754-2344.
White Pine County Fair • Aug. 15-16 • Ely, 289-8877.



Acoustic Travelers

John McEuen, former member of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, appears with his son Jonathan as the Acoustic Travelers on November 20 at the Community Center in Lovelock.

Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival • Sept. 4-7 • Fallon, 423-2544.
Louis Gibellini Single Jack Mining Contest • Sept. 5 • Eureka, 237-5484.

Pioneer Territory

HOLIDAY EVENTS

St. Anne's Holiday Bazaar • Nov. 8 • Arts and crafts. Catholic Center, Yerington, 463-3842.
Veterans Day Celebration • Nov. 8-9 • Parade, waterfight, barbecue, auction, chili and enchilada cook-off. Community Center, Amargosa, 372-1515.
Christmas Lighting Party • Dec. 8 • Santa, gifts for children, carols. Pioche, 962-5215.
Christmas Celebration on Main Street • Dec. 13 • Yerington, 463-2245.

SPORTS

Fisherman's Holiday • Nov. 29 • Fishing derby. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 945-5846.

COMING EVENTS

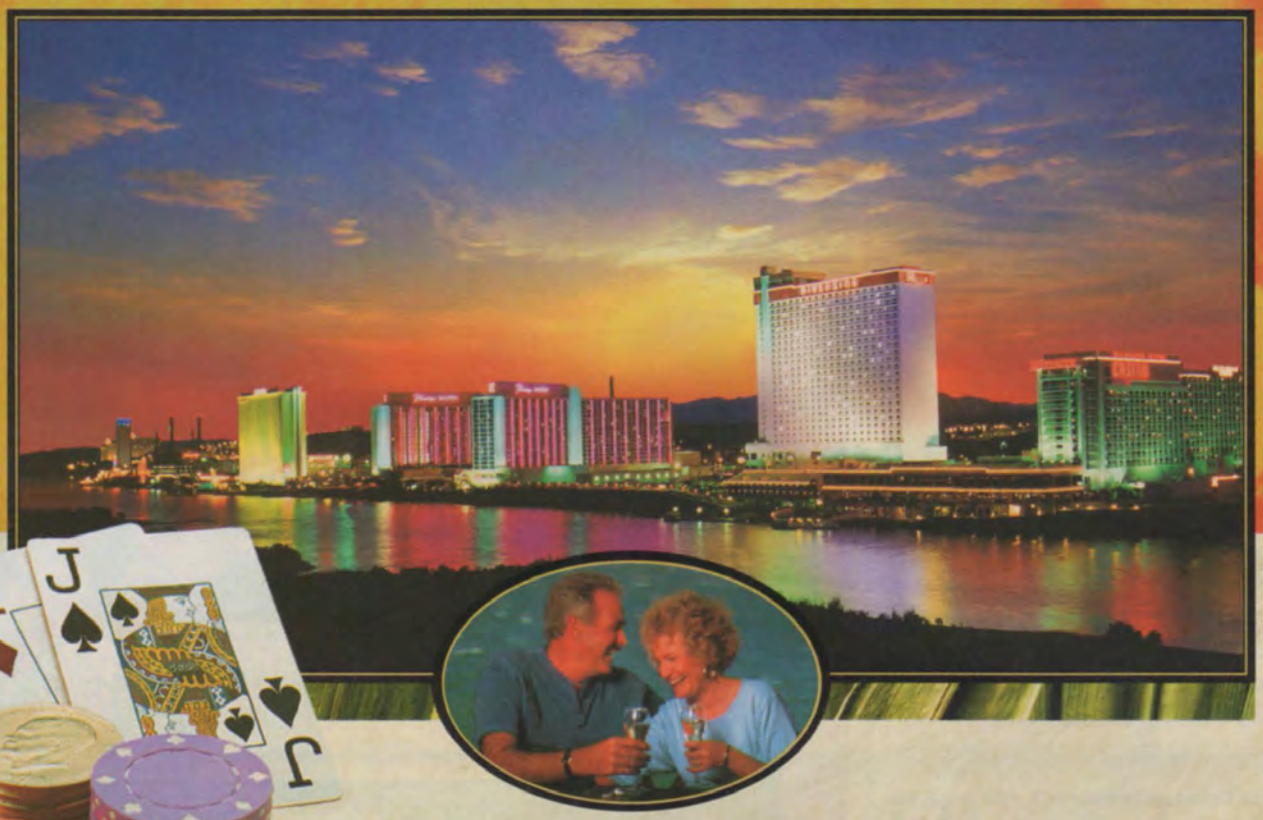
Armed Forces Day • May 16-17 • Hawthorne, 945-5896.
UFO Friendship Campout • May 23-25 • Rachel, 729-2515.
Lincoln County Memorial Day Homecoming Celebration • May 23-25 • Caliente, 726-3121.
Portuguese Festa • May 30-31 • Yerington, 463-3842.
Pizen Switch Roundup • June 28 • Yerington, 588-5372.
Jim Butler Days • July 31-Aug. 2 • Tonopah, 482-3859.
Pioche Labor Day • Sept. 5-7 • Pioche, 962-5544.
Mineral County Fair and Rodeo • Sept. 12-13 • Hawthorne, 945-5896.

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. Nevada's area code is 702.





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Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in November and December.

Nevada offers big-name entertainment and production shows at clubs and hotels. During November and December Liza Minnelli headlines at Bally's in Las Vegas, Kenny Rogers plays John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, and Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme appear at Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Showrooms often fill fast, so call for show times and reservations. Nevada's area code is 702.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Gold Strike Inn • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Country-western entertainment.

HENDERSON

Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.

Sunset Station • 547-7777: Club Madrid: Wade Hayes, Nov. 8; King Norris, Dec. 6.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play at the hotel off Interstate 15 (dark Tues.).

Nevada Landing • 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands such as Sneak Preview and Sound Chaser appear.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 736-0240 or 736-0419: Theatre for the Performing Arts: Diana Ross, Nov. 22; "Country Tonite," revue (dark Tues.); Sinbad Lounge: Entertainment nightly. The hotel closes Nov. 25.

Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: Concerts TBA.

Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: George Carlin, thru Nov. 12; Penn and Teller, Nov. 13-19; Liza Minnelli, Nov. 20-23; Dom Deluise, Nov. 28-30.

The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts TBA.

Boomtown • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Live entertainment 4pm-3am.

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Saloon: Jerry Vale, Nov. 14-15; Maureen McGovern, Nov. 29; Michael Peterson, Dec. 5; Kevin Sharp, Dec. 6; Trace Adkins, Dec. 11; Sammy Kershaw, Dec. 13; Buddy Greco Christmas Show with Lezlie Anders, Dec. 20; Johnny Rivers, Dec. 31; Karaoke sessions on Sun.

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: Julio Iglesias, thru Nov. 2; Natalie Cole, Nov. 6-9; David Copperfield, Nov. 14-30; John Michael Montgomery, Dec. 4-7; LeAnn Rimes/Ty Herndon, Dec. 11-14; Earth Wind and Fire, Dec. 27-31 (dark Dec. 29); bands play in the La Piazza Lounge, Olympic Lounge, and Cleopatra's Barge.

Casino Royale • 737-3500: Volcano Room: "Which Way to the Rat Pack?" variety show, Fri. and Sat.

Circus Circus • 734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts 11am to midnight.

Continental • 737-5555: Silver Slipper Theater: Entertainment TBA.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "The Debbie Reynolds Show" (dark Sat.-Sun. and Nov. 7-16); "Kenny Kerr Show" (dark Sun.-Mon.).

Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Showroom: The Golden Boys: Frankie Valli/Fabian/Bobby Rydell, thru Nov. 2; Neil Sedaka, Nov. 5-9; Dana Carvey, Nov. 15-18; Dennis Miller, Nov. 19-23; The Temptations/Evan Davis, Nov. 26-30; The Temptations/Evan Davis, Dec. 26-29; B.B. King, Dec. 30-Jan. 3; Starlight Theatre: TBA.

Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse and Minstrel's Theatre Lounge: Dance music nightly; Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-11pm daily.

Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Casino Stage: Lorenzo/Ray Perez, thru Nov. 2.

Flamingo Hilton • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).

Four Queens • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Royal Pavilion Room: "Comedy Fun House at the Four Queens," nightly.

Gold Coast • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon to 6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play in the East and West lounges; Karaoke Tuesdays in the West Lounge; Gold Coast Showroom: Dan Seals, thru Nov. 2; Freddy Fender, Nov. 25-29; Dance Hall and Saloon: Disk jockey Larry Taylor, Tues. and Sun.

Golden Nugget • 386-8100: The Theatre Ballroom: "Country Fever," look-alike variety revue (dark Fri.); entertainment nightly in the lounge.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or toll-free 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Concerts TBA.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or toll-free 800-392-9002: Commanders Theatre: "Spellbound '97"; "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); entertainment nightly in the Court of Two Gators Lounge.

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 730-3194: In the Lighthouse Showroom: Boardwalk Comedy Club (dark Mon.); "The Dream King" with Trent Carlini (dark Mon.); Dixie Dooley's Magic Show, 4 and 5:30pm, Tues.-Sun.

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.).

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Showroom: "The X-treme Scene," adult revue (dark Fri.).

Key Largo • 733-7777: Sand Bar Lounge: Bands provide live entertainment.

King 8 Hotel • 736-8988: Bands play nightly except Mon.



Lucas Launches Laughs in Laughlin

Ronn Lucas—"The Man Who Can Make Anything Talk"—performs stand-up comedy and ventriloquism with his puppet pals through December 3 in the Fiesta Showroom at Harrah's Laughlin.



Leaning Toward Country

The country group Diamond Rio appears at the Orleans in Las Vegas on December 7-9, in time for the National Finals Rodeo. Other country-music stars will be appearing in the hotel's showroom during the rodeo season, including Mark Chesnutt on December 4-6 and Clay Walker on December 11-13.

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Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Showroom: "Sexy Magic With Steve Wyrick."

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Starlight Theatre: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express," thru Nov. 30 (dark Fri.); Hilton Theater: Billy Davis and Marilyn McCoo, Nov. 7; Etta James and the Roots Band, Nov. 21; Bill Maher, Nov. 28; Patty Loveless, Dec. 5-6; Deana Carter, Dec. 8-9; Randy Travis, Dec. 11-13; Christmas Concert with Johnny Mathis, Dec. 22; The NightClub: Louie Louie.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Showroom: "Imagine: A Theatrical Odyssey," production show; Nefertiti's Lounge: Live entertainment.

Maxim • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.); entertainment in Muldoon's Room.

Dancing Debbie

Fans of Debbie Reynolds continue to give high marks to the unsinkable star's song-and-dance show at Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel. Reynolds will take a break from her performance schedule in Las Vegas and make appearances November 7 at the Silver Legacy in Reno and November 10-16 at the Riverside in Laughlin.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring David Cassidy (dark Thurs.); Hollywood Theatre: Carrot Top, Nov. 20-Dec. 3; Center Stage Cabaret: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club; bands play during Late Night after the comedy; Flying Monkey Bar: Bobby Dickerson (dark Mon.), Christy Bryant (dark Sun.), Chuy's Company, Sun.; entertainment in the Santa Fe Lounge, the Brown Derby, and Gatsby's; Grand Garden: Western Athletic Conference Volleyball Tournament, Nov. 24-28.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs. and Nov. 28-Dec. 25); bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

Monte Carlo • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.).

New York-New York • 740-6969: "MADhattan," musical production (dark Wed.-Thurs.); Empire Bar and Bar at Times Square: bands play nightly.

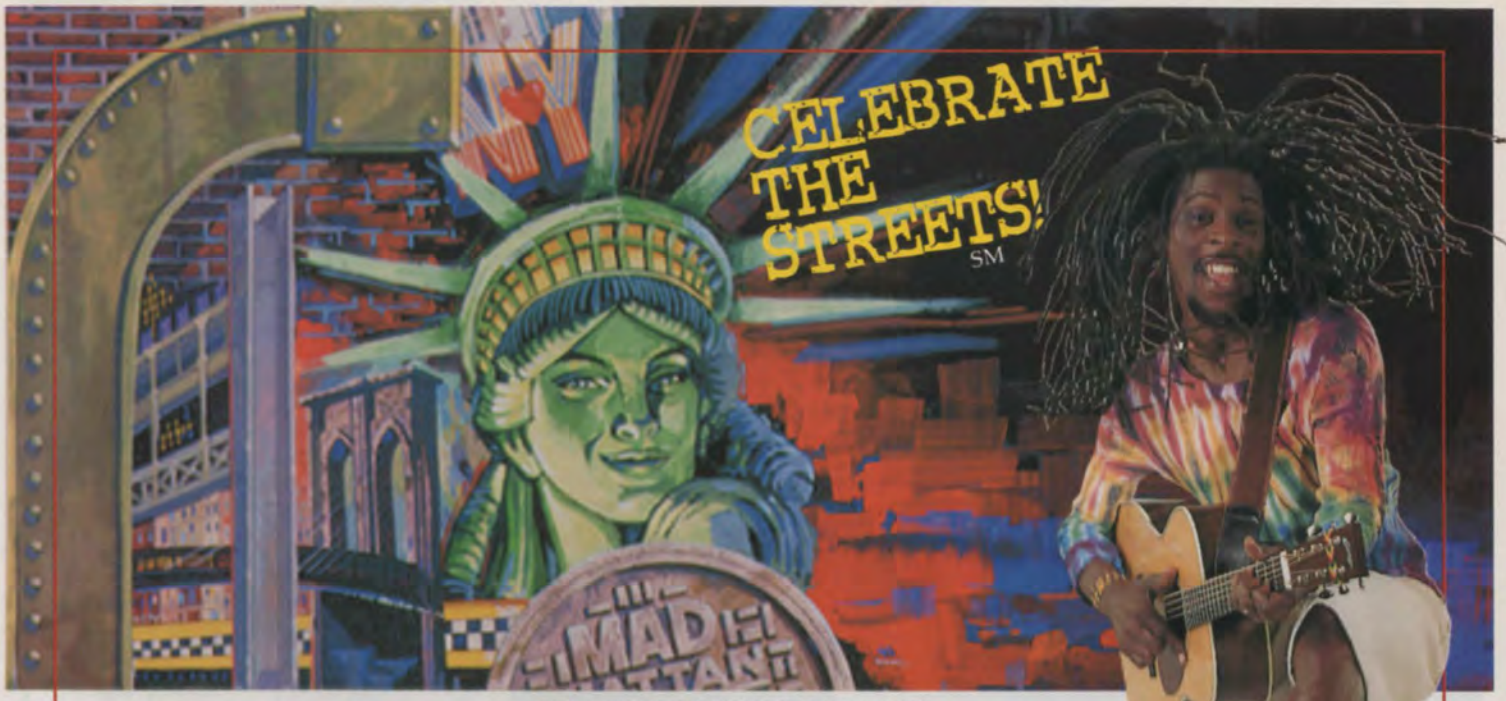
Plaid Company

Four geeky guys are stopped at the Pearly Gates and given one last shot at the big time in the '50s musical revue "Forever Plaid," appearing at the Flamingo Hilton in Las Vegas. The offbeat, off-Broadway production has been playing to capacity crowds at the Flamingo for more than two years.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Lou Rawls, Nov. 4-8; Eddy Arnold, Nov. 12-16; Ricky Van Shelton, Nov. 19; Mark Chesnutt, Dec. 4-6; Diamond Rio, Dec. 7-9; Clay Walker, Dec. 11-13; bands play in the Bourbon Street Cabaret; strolling Orleans Parade Band (dark Sat.-Sun.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Entertainment TBA.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: Impressionist Danny Gans (dark Mon.-Tues.); "Masquerade Show in the Sky," carnival-themed parade above the casino, every two hours beginning at noon Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.); Ipanema Piano Bar: Steven Boyd, indf. (dark Mon.); Shutters Piano Bar, Voo Doo



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Riviera • 794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," nightly; Grand Ballroom: Jackie Martling, Nov. 7-8; Frankie Avalon, Bobby Vee, The Tokens, Dec. 30-31; Mardi Gras Showroom (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); second floor theater: "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.); "Riviera Comedy Club"; Le Bistro Lounge: Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Mon. and Sat., indf.; bands play Tues.-Sun.

Sahara • 737-2515: Congo Showroom: Jackie Mason, thru Nov. 18; Gallagher, Nov. 20-Dec. 3; Rita Rudner, Dec. 26-31; bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play 9pm-3am; Roxy's Saloon: Entertainment noon-5am.

San Remo • 597-6028 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic," 8 and 10:30pm (late show for adults only); bands play in the Bon Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Entertainment Tues.-Sat. in the Ice Lounge and nightly in the Atrium; Grand Ballroom: Joey Dee and the Starliters appear Nov. 4-5; The Diamonds, Dec. 5-6.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Susan McDonald, Nov. 4-16; Daemine and Natalie, Nov. 18-30.

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," production show (dark Fri.); bands play in the Starlight Lounge.

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue



Fiddling With the Stars

"American Superstars," a revue featuring look-alikes of celebrities ranging from Charlie Daniels (above) and Sammy Davis Jr. to Madonna and Michael Jackson, is appearing at the Stratosphere in Las Vegas and the Flamingo Hilton Reno.

(dark Thurs.); "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue 2 and 4pm daily except Sun.; Images Cabaret: Hypnotist Marshall Sylver (dark Mon.-Tues.); L'Isles Bar: Caribbean and reggae music.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and Dec. 8-21); entertainment nightly in Captain Morgan's piano bar and the Doubloon Saloon.



Louie, Louie

Comedian Louie Anderson's dysfunctional upbringing is often fodder for his stand-up routine, which he will bring to the Lake Tahoe Horizon at Stateline November 28-29.

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs. and Dec. 14-25); Marie Osmond Christmas Show, Dec. 19-20; "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Tues.; Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly; bands play in the Atrium Lounge.
Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Entertainment and dancing Tues.-Sun.
Westward Ho • 731-2900: "Hurray America," starring Robbie Howard and Red Hot Mama and the Goodtime Jazz Band (dark Sat.).

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 535-5555: Appearances by such groups as Phoenix Rising, Diamond Head, and David St. David.
Colorado Belle • 298-4000: "D" Deck: Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians; Boiler Room Brew Pub: live entertainment (dark Mon.).
Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Sneak Preview, thru Nov. 9; Wild at Heart, Nov. 11-23; The Harry James Orchestra, Dec. 31.
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Club Flamingo: "Country Dreamin' " country music show; Outdoor Amphitheater: Paul Anka, Nov. 1.
Gold River • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Fantasy Theatre: "Flash! A Magical Mystical Adventure" (dark Mon.); Cody's Saloon: A Tribute to Patsy Cline, Nov. 1-30 (dark Mon. and Thurs.); Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club, Mon. and Thurs.
Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Calente, thru Nov. 1; Unity, Nov. 4-16; Back Beat, Nov. 25-30 and Dec. 16-21; Person to Person, Dec. 2-14 and Dec. 30-Jan. 4.
Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Ronn Lucas: The Man Who Can Make Anything Talk, thru Dec. 3; Frank Sinatra Jr., Dec. 5-13; Club La Bamba: Bands play.
Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Caboose Lounge: Gigolo, Nov. 11-30; Shake Rattle 'n Roll, Dec. 2-14; Gigolo, Dec. 16-Jan. 3.
Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Frankie Avalon, Nov. 5-9; Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 10-16; Phyllis Diller, Nov. 18-23.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Bands play nightly in the Cascades Lounge.
Rancho Mesquite • 346-4646: Live entertainment in the Wild Cactus and Scorpion lounges at Rancho Mesquite.
Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Red Boot Club: Big band dancing, Wed.; karaoke, Thurs.; dance contests, Fri.; live bands perform Fri. and Sat.; Casino Lounge: Bands play nightly.
Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Entertainment in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.
Jerry's Nugget • 399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri.-Sun.
Texas Station • 631-1000: Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge: Toby Keith, Dec. 12; live entertainment nightly.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Headliner entertainment TBA; Carolee's Theatre: "Carolee's Comedy Club," Fri.-Sun.; Stage Bar: Lounge bands like the Entertainment Committee and Jukebox Saturday Night play Thurs.-Sun.
Primm Valley • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471.
Whiskey Pete's • 382-1212 or 800-367-7383.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Speedy Garfin, thru Nov. 2.
Circus Circus • 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.
Club Cal-Neva • 323-1046: Glenn Little Swing Band, Fri.-Sat.
Comstock • 329-1880.
Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada)



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The Show Rolls On

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Jumping Geppetto

The Reno-Tahoe Players and the Reno Youth Music Program will present the children's musical "Pinocchio" on December 13-14 at the Flamingo Hilton Reno. Foys, the company that makes it possible for dancers to fly in "Aerius" at the Reno Hilton, will assist in the musical's aerial stunts.

Nevada): Hilton Theatre: "Aireus," production show (dark Nov. 4-Feb. 20); Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.

Riverboat • 323-8877.

Silver Club • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Debbie Reynolds/David Brenner, Nov. 7; Paul Anka, Dec. 27; Legacy Saloon: Wally Jones and Perry Joe Schirmer, 2-8pm (dark Mon.); bands play Fri.-Wed.

Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

CARSON AREA

Carson Nugget • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Get Ready, thru Nov. 2; Teaser, Nov. 4-9; The Act, Nov. 11-16; Stevie and the Stingrays, Nov. 18-23; Madison Avenue, Nov. 25-30; Big Tiny Little, Dec. 2-7; The Motifs, Dec. 9-14; Impact, Dec. 16-21; David Proud, Dec. 23-28.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Cabaret Lounge: The Act, Dec. 1-6; White Wing, Dec. 8-13; Whiskey Ridge, Dec. 15-20; Glenn Williams, Dec. 22-27; Shake, Rattle 'n Roll, Dec. 29-Jan. 10; Shannon Ballroom: Comedy Night Live, Nov. 21.

Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Live music Friday and Saturday.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: John Michael Montgomery, Nov. 28-30; David Copperfield, Dec. 25-30; Patti LaBelle, Dec. 31 and Jan. 2-3; Nero's 2000 nightclub has live music; Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears indf.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Evening at the Improv" and "Legends in Concert," thru Dec. 1; "Ebenezer Scrooge," Dec. 18-21; Oak Ridge Boys, Dec. 26-28; Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Dec. 29-31; Casino Center Stage: Nightly bands.

Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883 (U.S. and Nevada): Emerald Theatre: "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys," musical revue with Dick Clark as video host (dark Wed.); Llewellyn's: Ron Rose or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Showroom: "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Music of Leiber and Stoller," Broadway musical (dark Tues.); Brew Brothers: bands play nightly; piano music in the Bistro Roxy Wed.-Sun.

Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950.

Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): bands play nightly.

Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars" (dark Tues.); "Pinocchio," Reno-Tahoe Players Production, Dec. 13-14 (call 831-0379 for "Pinocchio" info); bands play in the Showspot Cabaret; music at Top of the Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "New York, New York," indf. (dark Dec. 1-25); "Heart Beat," thru Nov. 30 (dark Thurs.); The Smothers Brothers, Dec. 27-Jan. 1.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Rose Ballroom: Kenny Rogers/Mario and Daniel, Nov. 7-8; Celebrity Showroom: The Bellamy Brothers/Daniel Rosen, thru Nov. 12; Riders in the Sky, Mark Kornhauser, Nov. 13-29; Roy Clark, Kenny Davis, Nov. 30-Dec. 6; The Drifters/The Coasters, Dec. 26-31; Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Entertainment featuring groups such as Sidros Armada, Prime Time, Tommy Bell, and Zella Lehr.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 359-9440.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside



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Caesars Goes Country

John Michael Montgomery will make appearances in both Northern and Southern Nevada this winter. First stop will be the Circus Maximus showroom at Caesars Tahoe in Stateline on November 28-30. Montgomery will join other cowboy-hatted crooners during the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, where he is scheduled to appear December 4-7 at Caesars Palace.

Sound; bands play in the Emerald Party Lounge.
Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); Grande Lake Theater: Louie Anderson, Nov. 28-29; "Nutcracker" performed by the Oakland Ballet, Dec. 6-7; bands play nightly in the Aspen Lounge.
Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382.
Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Crystal Bar: Larry Keyes, thru Nov. 2; Kat Wilson, Nov. 14-16 and 21-23; Madison Ave., Dec. 12-14 and 19-21; Impact plays Dec. 23-Jan. 4.
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 832-1234.
Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.
Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Aspen Lounge: Shaboing, thru Nov. 2; Suzanne Lee Price, Nov. 4-16; The Palmores, Dec. 2-7; Surprise Package, Dec. 9-21; Siren, Dec. 30-Jan. 4; Herb McQuay Show, Dec. 31.

Cowboy Country

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Owl Club • 635-5155.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Comedy on Wed.
Holiday Inn • 738-8425: Piano bar, Tues.-Sat.; dance club, Thurs.-Sat.
Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. out-

side Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Headliners TBA; Top 40 bands, Thurs.-Sat.
Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada).

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.
Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Starship featuring Mickey Thomas, thru Nov. 2; Donna Fargo, Nov. 4-9; Janie Fricke, Nov. 11-16; The Tokens, Nov. 18-23; "An Evening at the Improv," Nov. 25-27; Little River Band, Nov. 28-29; John Conlee, Dec. 2-7; America, Dec. 30-31.
Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306: Bands often appear in Mr. B's Lounge at the Mill City casino on Interstate 80.

WENDOVER

Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Band on the Run, thru Nov. 2.
Rainbow Casino • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.
Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).
Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671.
State Line • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Entertainment TBA.

An Entertaining Jackpot

Cactus Petes in Jackpot has a full lineup of headliners this winter, including Janie Fricke and the Little River Band. Comedians will roll into town November 25-27 for "An Evening at the Improv."

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Paul Perryman, Nov. 4-16; Wheels, Nov. 18-30; Beau Davis, Dec. 2-7; RC and Lonesome Heart, Dec. 9-14; Tommy Bell, Dec. 16-21; Midnight Riders, Dec. 23-Jan. 4.

Pony Express Territory

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-3111 ext. 47.
Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

Pioneer Territory

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3322: Entertainment TBA.
Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777: Bowling alley, entertainment.
Saddle West Casino • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP: Casino-lounge entertainment.

TONOPAH

Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.
Station House • 482-9777: Bands play nightly in the casino lounge.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 463-2481 or 800-227-4661 (U.S. and Nevada).
Dini's Lucky Club • 463-2868.

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. Nevada's area code is 702. For hotels' toll-free numbers, call 800-555-1212.

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Carrot Shtick

Carrot Top, appearing at MGM Grand, is finding roots in Las Vegas.

By Mike Weatherford



Carrot Top's work as a prop comic involves trunks loaded with everyday items transformed into goofy inventions, such as this brainstorm detector. He began his career on the college circuit.

Two generations of comedy came together recently on the film set of *Dennis the Menace II.* Don Rickles, playing grumpy ol' Mr. Wilson, is the only vintage-Vegas headliner to have worked the showrooms every year since the late '50s. His costar, a slacker-generation "prop comic" named Carrot Top (for obvious pigmentation reasons), is a more surprising addition to the Hollywood Theatre stage that Rickles works at the MGM Grand.

"When I first played the MGM," Carrot Top recalls, "they even said to me, 'I don't know how this is going to work. Vegas is not that young. But when they saw the show, they said, 'Oh, this works for everybody.'"

The comedian born Scott Thompson launched his career 10 years ago on the college circuit. There he developed his psychedelic stage demeanor—picture a hippie who somehow remained too young and innocent for drugs—and his trunks full of sight gags: A cup-and-string phone system with an extra cup for call waiting. An oversized (and edible) microphone for Wynonna Judd, "to make her look thinner" onstage. A camera with spring-loaded arms and hands to keep strangers from walking into your photo opportunity.

Sophomoric, yes. But the rapid-fire gags are frequently funny and inspired.

"The show isn't really that college-oriented like it used to be," Carrot Top says. "There's still a lot of stuff that's definitely geared to a younger audience, but I keep it so fun and silly and kind of open for everybody. Most of the material is pretty broad. It's basic stuff."

Add that to television appearances that have put him in front of every demographic, and you have an unlikely new showroom star who is good for eight to 10 weeks a year in the MGM Grand showroom. The *Dennis the Menace* sequel, which follows his first major role in

Chairman of the Board, may also silence more cerebral comedians who see prop comics as ugly step cousins. Carrot Top, who plays a con man who assumes a half-dozen guises to dupe Mr. Wilson, says, "It's my chance to say I can be funny without the props."

Because of the no-brainer nature of his gags, Carrot Top has seen everything from good-natured barbs on the animated *King of the Hill*—12-year-old Bobby tries to emulate his hero, "Celery Head"—to serious anger from veteran Vegas prop punster Rip Taylor. "Comics are very cutthroat, but one thing I like about my act is that no one really is doing it," Carrot Top says. "I have my own little thing going, and I don't like to step on anybody's toes ... Plus I take it all in stride. This is what I wanted to do, and part of show biz is you've got to be able to take some shots."

"Comics are very cutthroat, but one thing I like about my act is that no one really is doing it."

Carrot Top still calls Orlando, Florida, home, but his mother, Donna Wood, moved to Las Vegas two years ago when he coincidentally started to play the city regularly. "My stepfather and her were living in Hong Kong of all places, and they just decided to go to Vegas and start anew."

Carrot Top hopes to move to Las Vegas himself next year. "It really is like my second home," he says. Working in Vegas "gives me a chance to work on new material and really polish the show. You don't get tired, because you're not traveling.

"Vegas is a good workshop for me," he adds. "When I'm not traveling, I can use all my creative energies after the show when I'm still wired. I sit up there in my room—the last time I was there I literally I came up with 30 new things."

Show Notes

Carrot Top appears November 20-December 3 in the Hollywood Theatre at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Call 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111 for reservations.

Mike Weatherford is a Las Vegas Review-Journal *entertainment reporter.*





Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. By Ann Henderson

Las Vegas Territory

Brunch Time: Strolling musicians provide atmosphere at Boulder Station's new Broiler Brunch between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Sundays. The cost is $13.95 for a mix of traditional breakfast items and fancier fare such as honey-glazed lamb chops and eggs with lobster medallions. The railroad-themed hotel is located on the Boulder Strip, four miles east of downtown Las Vegas.

Hotel Opens: The former Ambassador Hotel, three blocks east of the Strip on Flamingo Road, has been renovated, refurbished, and renamed. The 318-room, tropical-themed Key Largo Casino and Quality Inn Hotel opened this summer with 248 slots, live gaming, a swimming pool, restaurant, and entertainment in the Sand Bar Lounge.

Gone South: Decorative changes at Margarita-Grille, the Las Vegas Hilton's Mexican restaurant, include new artifacts, colorful serape-style fabrics, and classic floor tiles. The renovation of the restaurant prompted changes to the menu and the addition of lighter fare and more exotic choices such as a vegetarian spinach enchilada and Yucatan shrimp that have been marinated in grapefruit and orange juices, garlic, and cilantro. The restaurant's south-of-the-border atmosphere takes a melodic turn when the hotel's singing waiter, Jesus Luna-Moya, drops by for a tune or two.

Take Stock: It was a dream come true for Las Vegas Motor Speedway officials when NASCAR announced last summer that the Winston Cup Series will make a stop in Las Vegas the weekend of March 1. Promoted as the Las Vegas 400, the race is expected to be one of the biggest sporting events in the city's history, drawing more than 60,000 fans to see drivers such as Rusty Wallace and Bill Elliott compete.

Tiger's Teacher: Butch Harmon, golf teacher to pro stars such as Tiger Woods and Greg Norman, has opened the Harmon School of Golf at the Rio Secco Golf Club, an 18-hole championship course in Henderson acquired by the Rio Suite Hotel for its guests.

Taking It Off: In the future all performances of "Splash," the aquatic production at the Riviera, will be topless and restricted to showgoers 18 years of age and older. "Splash" joins "Folies Bergere" at the Tropicana, "Jubilee!" at Bally's, and "Enter the Night" at the Stardust as Las Vegas shows that have the traditional topless showgirls. The Riviera also announced that its long-running female impersonator revue, "An Evening at La Cage," has added a second Saturday show at 11:15 p.m.



A "Mystical" Show

The age-old struggle between good and evil is given a musical twist in "Flash! A Magical Mystical Adventure," playing at the Gold River in Laughlin (dark Monday). The hotel-casino also features A Tribute to Patsy Cline November 1-30 (dark Monday and Thursday) in Cody's Saloon.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

A Little Bit Italian: The Atlantis in Reno offers Italian combination luncheons in the hotel's Cafe Alfresco, named the city's "Best Cafe" in a readers' poll conducted by the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. Sampler-sized items include a choice of soup or salad and a personal-sized wood-fired pie or dish of pasta for smaller appetites. Hungry folks can order both items. Prices range from $5.25 to $7.95.

Adventure Rush: Fans of motion simulator rides will find dinosaurs, volcanoes, interplanetary pirates, and Robo Cop playing at Boomtown's Dynamic Motion Theater, seven miles west of Reno on Interstate 80. In mid-December the playbill will change, adding *Secrets of the Lost Temple*, an expedition "from which no one has returned," and *Smash Factory*, a chance to experience destruction auto derby-style. The two movies will rotate with *Dino Island: The Land Civilization Forgot* and *Red Rock Run*, a ride through a volcanic mine shaft. The latest additions will replace *Robo Cop* and *Moon Raid Alpha*, a space adventure.

Holiday Spirit: The Carson City Nugget will serve free dinners to needy area residents between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving and Christmas days. The holiday feasts are a four-decade-old tradition at the casino in Nevada's capital.

New Version: "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys," the light-hearted musical that pays tribute to the songs and clothes of the '50s and '60s, launched its second year at the Lake Tahoe hotel with a new version of the revue. Clark makes a video introduction of the nostalgic show, which is produced and directed by Emmy-winning Anita Mann.

Tasty Cool Jerk: With its cabaret show "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys"

in its second year, the hotel is serving showroom patrons their choice of 11 beverages. Order a "Cool Jerk," and you'll get cranberry and pineapple juices with nonalcoholic Amaretto and peach schnapps. On the alcoholic side, a "Surfin' Safari" is a frozen rum runner. Other drinks named after rock 'n' roll hits include "Reach Out" and "New Attitude."

Big Changes: The latest additions to the Silver Legacy in Reno include a themed beauty salon—a hotel first. The Barbary Beauty/Barber Salon is decorated around a 1900s story about a San Francisco saloon singer, the Lady in the Red Velvet Swing. Other improvements are a coffeehouse next to the hotel lobby; the Carriage House, which sells fine cigars and logo wear; Bonus Bank slot machines, which offer multiple ways to win; and a pavilion for high-limit slot players.

Good Deals

Takin' a Free Ride: Guests staying at the Las Vegas Resort KOA Kampground can take advantage of a casino shuttle service to the Riviera on the Las Vegas Strip. The daily service operates every hour between 5 and 11 p.m. at a cost of $2 round-trip. When riders arrive at the Riviera, they are given a $2 voucher to use in the casino.

Imagine This: The Luxor in Las Vegas has a room and show package to promote the opening of its new production, "Imagine, A Theatrical Odyssey." For $99 per person plus tax, guests get a three-day, two-night stay plus preferred seating at "Imagine." The promotional rate is good through December 13 and on December 24.

Plantation Prices: In a move that will introduce visitors to the chic Plantation Room restaurant at the Showboat in Las Vegas, 12 new entrees have been added to the menu and prices have been lowered. Selections include an 18-ounce porterhouse steak for $16.95, escargot appetizers for $5.95, and Alaskan king crab legs and filet mignon for $14.95. The Showboat is located three miles southeast of downtown Las Vegas on the Boulder Strip.

Check Your Seat: You can win money just for seeing "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller," the Grammy award-winning Broadway musical at the Eldorado in Reno. During each performance a seat number is selected, and the ticket holder can win $100 or more. The winning ticket is posted around the casino one hour after the show.



On the Town in "New York"

Sailors on shore leave in search of ladies and libations encounter misadventures in the revue "New York, New York" playing at Harrah's Reno. "New York, New York" is one of the productions offered in the casino's Night on the Town dinner and show package, which enables showgoers to enjoy the musical high jinks and add a complete dinner for about $5. The basic show price is $19.95, and you can dine in Harrah's Italian eatery, Cafe Andreotti, for the package price of $24.50 or Planet Hollywood for $26.50.







Attractions, Tours & Museums

Places to go and things to do around the Silver State.

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Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Black Canyon River Raft Tours • 293-3776.
Boulder City Historic District • Walking tour. 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.
Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum • 444 Hotel Plaza, 294-1988.
Boulder Dam Hotel • 1305 Arizona, 293-7731.
Hoover Dam and Visitor Center • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 294-3515, 293-8367, 293-8000.
Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess • 293-6180.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area • 601 Nevada Hwy., 293-8906.
St. Jude's Ranch for Children • Artifacts, tours. 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

HENDERSON

Clark County Heritage Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.
Cranberry World West • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.
Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.
Favorite Brands Marshmallow Factory • Tours. 8203 Gibson Rd., 564-3878 or 800-234-2383.
Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Free factory tours. 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.
Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.
Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Movie Museum • 733-2334.
Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat and motion simulators, 597-7777.
Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
Forum Shops at Caesars • Animatronic attractions. Caesars Palace, 893-4800.
Fremont Street Experience • Light show on the hour from dusk to midnight. Downtown, 678-5600.
Gameworks • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 597-3122.
Grand Slam Canyon • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
Harley-Davidson Cafe • Motorcycle memorabilia. The Strip, 740-4555.
Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
Imperial Palace Auto Collection • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.
Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History • 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
Luxor • Motion rides and IMAX Theatre, 262-4000.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand Adventures • Theme park, 891-7979.
Mirage • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.
Mount Charleston • Recreation info., 222-1597.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
New York-New York • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington, 486-3511.
Omnimax Theatre • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster and Big Shot ride, 380-7777.
Treasure Island • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30 p.m., 894-7111.
Ultrazone • Laser-tag arena, 734-1585.
Wet 'n Wild • Seasonal, 734-0088.
World of Coca-Cola • Museum, Showcase Mall, 270-5985.

LAUGHLIN

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area • Four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
Boiler Room Microbrewery • Colorado Belle, 298-4000.
Colorado River Museum • Arizona Hwy. 95, 520-754-3399.
Del Rio Beach Club • Colorado River sightseeing boat tour, 298-6828.
Davis Dam • Self-guided tours, 298-2214.
Grapevine Canyon • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 298-2214.
Lake Mohave Resort • 602-754-3245.
Laughlin River Tours • Colorado River sightseeing, 298-1047.
Nevada Gold Museum • Gaming memorabilia display. Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 800-FLAMINGO.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars and river tour boat, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

Desert Valley Museum • 346-5705.
Si Redd's Oasis • Gun club, hayrides, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.

OVERTON

Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Pueblo culture, 397-2193.
Valley of Fire State Park • 397-2088.

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz at Whiskey Pete's; Ferris wheel at Primm Valley Resort, Primm, 382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Gallery • 297-1540.
Searchlight Historic Museum • 455-7955.



Pterrifying Pterodactyls

Dinosaurs come to life in the motion simulator theater movie *Dino Island: The Land Civilization Forgot*, appearing at the Boomtown Family Fun Center, seven miles west of Reno on Interstate 80. Other movies include a driver's-seat view of a demolition derby and a trek through a volcanic mine shaft. Boomtown's arcade also offers an array of video games and an old-fashioned carousel.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.
Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Seasonal, Mills Park, 887-2523.
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226.
Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour. 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.
Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours. Stewart St., 687-8616.
Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.
Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-1808.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395 S., 782-2555.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • Seasonal, 782-4325.
Mormon Station State Historic Park • Seasonal, 782-4325, 687-4379.
Walley's Hot Springs • 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
Ponderosa Ranch • Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691.
Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler • Tahoe City, 916-583-0141.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • 916-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 916-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • 10 mi. north of Reno, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road, 969-3111.
Earth Window Museum • 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • U of N, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
National Automobile Museum • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.
Nevada Historical Society Museum • 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
Playland • Train, rides, picnicking. Idlewild Park, seasonal hours, 329-6008.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater • 334-2077.
Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Tours. 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665.
Sierra Arts Center Gallery • 200 Flint St., 329-1324.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
Silver Legacy • Giant mining and laser shows every hour, 325-7396.
Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

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VIRGINIA CITY

Assay Office Museum • 847-0777.
The Castle • Seasonal, 847-0275.
Chollar Mine • Tours, seasonal, 847-0155.
Fourth Ward School Museum • 847-0975.
Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 847-9394.
Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum • Seasonal, 847-0717.
Mackay Mansion Museum • 847-0173.
Mark Twain Museum of Memories • 847-0454.
Nevada Gambling Museum • Old gaming tables, devices, and other memorabilia, 847-9022.
Piper's Opera House • Seasonal, 847-0433.
Ponderosa Mine • Tours, 847-0757.
Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum • 847-0525.
Virginia and Truckee Railroad • seasonal, 847-0380.
Virginia City Radio Museum • 847-9047.
Virginia City Tours • 786-0866.
Way It Was Museum • 847-0766.
Wild West Museum • Seasonal, 847-0400.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • 345-8668.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Park • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires, seasonal, 849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • 849-0684.
Washoe Lake State Park • East Lake Blvd., 687-4319.

Cowboy Country

ELKO

Jarbidge Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508 or 800-748-4466.
Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

LOVELOCK

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 273-7213.
Pershing County Marzen House Museum • 273-7213.
Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • 623-2225.
Humboldt Museum • 623-2912.

Pony Express Territory

AUSTIN

Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

ELY/Great Basin N.P.

Cave Lake State Recreation Area • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • Tours, 289-1663.
Great Basin National Park • Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.
Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Train rides on historic locomotives, seasonal. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.
White Pine Public Museum • 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, 237-6006.
Eureka Sentinel Museum • 237-5010.

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.
Fort Churchill State Historic Park • 35 miles southeast of Fallon at Silver Springs, 577-2345.
Sand Mountain • 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

Pioneer Territory

BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits, 553-2424.
Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Beatty, 619-786-2331.
Rhyolite Bottle House Historic Site • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • 400 10th St., 945-5142.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • 945-5896.

PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Pahrump, 619-786-2331.
Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Cathedral Gorge State Park • 11 miles south of Pioche, 728-4460.
Kershaw-Ryan State Park • Five miles south of Caliente, 728-4460.
Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207.
Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 962-5207.
Spring Valley State Park • 728-4460.
Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Eagle Valley Reservoir, seasonal, 728-4460.

TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.
Central Nevada Museum • 482-9676.

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • 463-2245.

A Reminder: To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. Nevada's area code is 702.

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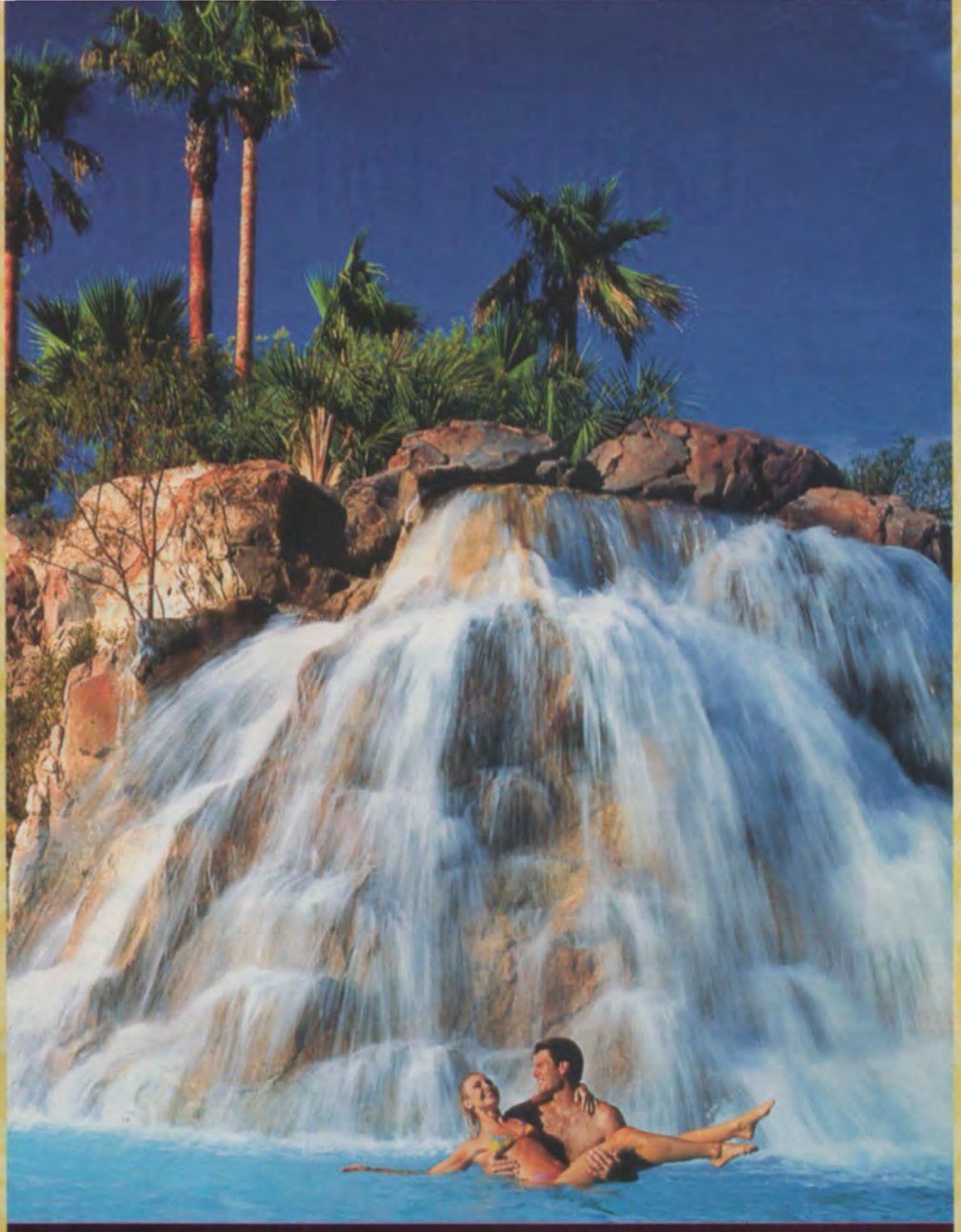


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Gaming Tournaments

A guide to hotel-casino tourneys.

Gaming tournaments are designed for players of all levels. Some hotels offer daily, weekly, and monthly tournaments, such as the blackjack competitions Tuesdays at the Showboat in Las Vegas; the entry fee is $25 to vie for $2,500 in cash prizes. Nevada's area code is 702.

Las Vegas Territory

Bingo Blowout • Nov. 2 • Showboat, 385-9123.
Two-Legged Slots • Nov. 7-10 • Riviera, 794-9587.
Pirates of the Caribbean Slots • Nov. 9-12 • Aladdin, 736-0477.
County Fair Slots • Nov. 9-12 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.
Harvest Mini Slot • Nov. 11-15 • Riviera, 794-9587.
Winter Fantasy I Slots • Nov. 14-16 • Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.
Alpine Blackjack • Nov. 21-22 • Tropicana, 739-2222.
Chocolate Fantasy Slots • Nov. 23-25 • Tropicana, 739-2222.
Winter Fiesta Slots • Dec. 1-5 and 8-12 • Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600.
Blackjack • Dec. 5-6 • Excalibur, 597-7777.
Winter Fantasy II Slots • Dec. 5-7 • Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.
Blackjack • Dec. 7-9 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 298-4200.
Winter Wonderland Slots • Dec. 11-13 • Ramada Express, Laughlin, 298-4200.
Slots • Dec. 12-13 • Excalibur, 597-7777.
Blackjack • Dec. 12-15 • Riviera, Las Vegas, 794-9587.
Grand Slam Slots • Dec. 14-16 • Showboat, 385-9123.
Twas the Tournament Before Christmas Slots • Dec. 14-17 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485.
Holiday Slots • Dec. 14-17 • Rio Suite, 247-7996.
Tumbleweed Slots • Dec. 14-17 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.
Winter Wonderland Slots • Dec. 18-22 • Riviera, 794-9587.
Winter Break Slots • Dec. 23-28 • Riviera, 794-9587.
The Land Forgotten • Jan. 11-14 • MGM, 800-929-9410.
Kick-Off to Cash Slots • Jan. 20-22 • Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Wild Wednesday Slots • Wednesdays • Caesars Tahoe, 800-648-3353.
Planet Hollywood Blackjack • Thursdays • Caesars Tahoe, 800-648-3353.
Pai Gow • Oct. 31-Nov. 2 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
November to Remember Blackjack • Nov. 9-10 • Peppermill, 689-7100.
Keno • Nov. 21-22 • Peppermill, 689-7100.
Come Get Basted Slots • Nov. 24-25 • Peppermill, 689-7100.
Golden Dollar Slots • Nov. 30-Dec. 2 • Eldorado, 786-5700.
Winter Blackjack • Dec. 5-7 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2946.
Cotton Club Slots • Dec. 12-13 • Peppermill, 689-7100.

Cowboy Country

Blackjack • Wednesdays • Longstreet Inn, Amargosa, 800-508-9493.
Video Poker • Saturdays • Saddle West, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.
Bingo • Sun.-Wed. • Longstreet Inn, Amargosa, 800-508-9493.
Bingo • Monthly • Saddle West, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.
Blackjack • Nov. 14-15 • State Line and Silver Smith casinos, Wendover, 800-848-7300.

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041 Pahrump Chamber of Commerce
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052 Winnemucca Convention Bureau
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420 Pioneer Territory
429 Nevada's Cowboy Country/Winnemucca

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RECREATION
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TOURS
562 Interstate Tours/Las Vegas
564 Flag Tours
567 Guaranteed Tours

TOUR INFORMATION
576 Las Vegas Freebies

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653 Louis' Basque Corner/Reno

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698 Nevada Corporation Headquarters/Las Vegas

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721 The Prudential/Southwest Realty/Las Vegas
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Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information. If you plan to stop by a chamber of commerce (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday. Nevada's area code is 702.

STATEWIDE INFORMATION

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 456-3838.
Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034.
Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1252.
Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951.
Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 294-3523.
Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Rest Area (8 mi. south of Jean), Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360.
Las Vegas C of C: 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616.
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711.
Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367.
Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.
Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445.
Mesquite Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902.
Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703.
Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2160.
North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565.
Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.
Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.
Dayton Area C of C: 15 Main St., Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.).
Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; 686-3030.
Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440.
Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.
Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.
North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-581-6900.



Tobogganers at Tahoe can seek out numerous slippery slopes, like this one near Incline Village.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936.
South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-541-5255.
Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976.
Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591.
Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE-4-U.
Virginia City C of C: Chamber of commerce is inside V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311.

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245.
Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135.
Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091, 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada.
Jackpot Visitor Information: Box 627, Jackpot, NV 89825; 800-411-2052.
Jarbidge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; 488-2315.
Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; for information phone 273-7213.
McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742.
Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540.

Photo: Julius Fava

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862.
Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225.
Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 964-2200.
Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720.
Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484.
Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-4556 or 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.
Fernley C of C: 485 Truck Inn Way, Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459.
Great Basin C of C: Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 90, Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302.
Greater Fallon Area C of C: 379 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544.
Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2069.
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877.

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2, Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 372-5459.
Beatty C of C: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424.
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129.
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019.
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-3453.
Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-6365.
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490.
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; 463-2245.
Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896.
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST.
Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544.
Tonopah C of C: 301 Brougher Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859.
Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah, NV 89049; for information phone 482-3558.

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 806 Holman Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 355-0600.
Indian Territory: Stewart Indian Cultural Center and Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1808.

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 619-786-2331.
Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7331.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907.
Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-4370.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 363-1921.

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997.
Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071.
Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171.
Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127.
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500.
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 873-8800.

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The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 ($), $11 to $20 ($$), $21 to $30 ($$$), and more than $30 ($$$$). To phone from out of state or long distance in-state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

Circus Circus/Circus Buffet—734-0410. B, L, D. $, major.

Circus Circus/Pink Pony Cafe—734-0410. A 24-hour cafe just off the main casino. B, L, D. $, major.

Circus Circus/Promenade Cafe—734-0410. A 24-hour cafe with a cobblestone promenade. B, L, D. $, major.

Imperial Palace Emperor's Buffet—731-3311. Carving station featuring roast baron of beef. B, L, D. $, major.

Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet/Teahouse—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. $, major.

Monte Carlo/Buffet—730-7777. Exhibition-style kitchen. B, L, D. $, major.

Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop—794-9318. Deli-style restaurant. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Caravan Coffee Shop—737-2407. Crab legs, New York steak. B, L, D. $, major.

Sahara Hotel/Casablanca—737-2407. Prime rib. D. $$, major.

Sahara Hotel/Sahara Buffet—737-2407. Pizza, roast beef, turkey, ham. B, L, D. $, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Monte Carlo/Cafe—730-7777. Traditional fare and specialties. B, L, D. $, major.

Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries, food from around the world. B, L, D. $, no CC.

Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet—794-9400. International cuisines plus prime rib. B, L, D. $, major

ITALIAN

Circus Circus/Stivali Italian Ristorante—691-5820. Italian eatery featuring homemade sauces, pastas, and Saturday champagne brunch. D. $$, major.

Circus Circus/The Pizzeria—734-0410. Fresh-baked pizza, calzones, and salads. L, D. $, major.

Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. $, major.

Monte Carlo/Market City Caffe—730-7777. Huge antipasto bar, homemade pastas, pizzas, and grilled entrees. L, D. $$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano—794-9363. Vermicelli salsa bella vista, lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D. $-$$$$, major.

ASIAN

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. $$, major.

Monte Carlo/Dragon Noodle Company—730-7777. Authentic Asian noodle dishes, tea emporium, roasted meats, chicken, and fresh seafood. L, D. $$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughy with black pepper sauce. D. $-$$, major.

MEXICAN

Circus Circus/Comida Rica Restaurant—734-0410. Fajitas, quesadillas, authentic meals from south of the border. L, D. $, major.

Sahara Hotel/Paco's Hideaway—737-2407. D. $, major.



Louis Erreguible at Louis' Basque Corner in Reno.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Circus Circus/The Steak House—794-3767. Award-winning restaurant features steaks cooked over an exhibition-style mesquite grill, prime rib, lobster, and Sunday champagne brunch. D. $$$, major.

Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan King crab legs, seafood salads. D. $$, major.

Monte Carlo/Blackstone's Steakhouse—730-7777. Mesquite-grilled steaks and seafood. D. $$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D. $$, major.

Sahara Hotel/House of Lords—737-2407. Salmon, lobster, lamb, veal, duckling. D. $$ major.

BREW PUBS

Monte Carlo/Pub and Brewery—730-7777. Six different beers brewed on the premises. L, D. $, major.

Laughlin

AMERICAN

Colorado Belle/Boiler Room—298-4000. Brew pub with hand-crafted beers, hot wings, pizza, hamburgers. L, D. $, major.

Colorado Belle/Captain's Food Fare—298-4000. Seafood buffet. B, L, D. $. No credit cards.

Colorado Belle/Mark Twain's—298-4000. Chicken and rib special, baby back ribs. D. $, major.

Colorado Belle/Paddlewheel—298-4000. Chicken-fried steak, halibut steak, fajitas. B, L, D. $, major.

Harrah's Laughlin/Colorado Cafe—298-4600. Beef broccoli, pizza, salmon, California burger. B, L, D. $, major.

ASIAN

Colorado Belle/River Wok—298-4000. Combination plates, teriyaki bowl. L, D. $. No credit cards accepted.

MEXICAN

Harrah's Laughlin/Colorado Cafe—298-4600. Sizzling fajitas, De Hacienda Burrito, fish tacos, and filet mignon on new La Parrilla side menu. D. $, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Colorado Belle/Orleans Room—298-4000. Rack of lamb, king cut prime rib, lobster tails. D. $, major.

Colorado Belle/Mississippi Lounge—298-4000. Shrimp scampi, oysters Rockefeller, seafood gumbo, peel-and-eat shrimp. L, D. $, major.

Harrah's Laughlin/William Fisk's Steakhouse—298-4600. Coconut prawns, filet mignon, broiled salmon. D. $, major.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

Carson Nugget/Buffet—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. $, major.

Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 782-4347. Steaks, seafood, and veal. L, D, Sunday brunch. $-$$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. $-$$, major.

Fitzgeralds Reno/Molly's Garden—785-3300. Omelets, prime rib, sandwiches, salads. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Fitzgeralds Reno/O'Lucky's Buffet—785-3300. Casino buffet restaurant, open daily. B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. L, D. $-$$, major.

Napa-Sonoma Grocery Co.—2309 Kietzke, Reno, 826-0595. Made to order sandwiches, quiche, salads, soups, chef's specials daily. L. $, AE, MC, V.

Ormsby House/Buffet—Carson City, 882-1890. Sunday champagne brunch, Friday seafood, daily prime rib. L, D. $, major.

Ormsby House/Coffee Shop—Carson City, 882-1890. Open 24 hours, breakfast special, one-pound T-bone steak. B, L, D. $, major.

Ormsby House/Sports Grill—Carson City, 882-1890. Sandwich and appetizer specials. L, D. $, major.

Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D. $, major.

Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Buffet with prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, home-

made ravioli, chicken cacciatore. B, L, D. $, major.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

ASIAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$, major.
Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. $, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Clam chowder, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. $, major.
Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, escargot. D. $$, major.
Fitzgeralds Reno/Limerick's Pub and Grille—785-3300. Scampi St. Patrick, Emerald Isle Herb Chicken, Erin Creme Filet. L, D. $$, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. $$, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak and lobster. L, D. $$, major.
Ormsby House/Baron's—Carson City, 882-1890. Supper club with tableside preparation and live piano music. Steak, pasta, and seafood. D, $$, major.
Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. $$, major.
Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken, seafood fettucine. D. $$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. $$, major.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. $$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$, major.
Caesars Tahoe/Pisces—Stateline, 588-3515. Salmon, lobster, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D. $$, major.

Around the State

LOVELOCK: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. $-$$$, major.
TONOPAH: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Hamburgers, steaks, seafood. B, L, D. $, AE, MC, V.
WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, rib-eye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. $, major.
WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Kentucky Fried Chicken Express—623-2588. L, D. $. No cc.
WINNEMUCCA: Winners Hotel/Grandma's Dinner House—623-2511. Prime rib, Maine lobster, T-bone steak, chicken cordon bleu. D. $, major.
WINNEMUCCA: Winners Hotel/Pete's 24-Hour Coffee Shop—623-2511. Cafe and buffet. B, L, D. $, major.

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Rockin' at 'Smokey Joe's'



Expressive singers extol the bright lights "On Broadway" in "Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Music of Leiber and Stoller."

"Smokey Joe's Cafe" at the Eldorado in Reno offers something to sing about. **By Kim Pryor**

"Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Music of Leiber and Stoller," the Broadway musical playing at the Eldorado in Reno, is no ordinary tribute to the days when couples smooched at drive-in theaters and women swooned over Elvis. "Smokey Joe's Cafe" re-creates the '50s and '60s by spotlighting the music of the era rather than the props. The simple power of the songs and the vocal talent of the cast are the true focus of a show that is concerned as much with good music as it is with good memories.

Performed in the medley style of "Ain't Misbehavin'," this Grammy-winning play tells a story through the songs of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, one of rock 'n' roll's best known songwriting teams. They've penned songs for the Drifters, the Rolling Stones, Bobby Darin, John Mellencamp, Mickey Gilley, Barbra Streisand, James Brown, Jerry Lee Lewis, the Everly Brothers, Ray Charles, George Benson, and the Beach Boys. The duo's "Hound Dog" launched Elvis Presley's career, and they wrote some of the King's other hits, such as "Love Me," "Loving You," and "Jailhouse Rock."

"Smokey Joe's Cafe" treats the audience to some of the team's best work, performed by a cast of nine singers and a seven-piece band (a live band is a rarity in casino showrooms). You'll hear "Love Potion No. 9" (made famous by the Clovers), take a trip to "Kansas City" (Wilbert Harrison), wonder why "Fools Fall in Love" (the Drifters), and listen to an unforgettable version of "I Keep Forgettin'" (Chuck Jackson).

While "Smokey Joe's Cafe" relives the music of a bygone era, the show is more about relationships. Steamy relationships. Relationships gone sour. Teary-eyed relationships. Exuberant relationships.

In "Don Juan," one of the most delightful numbers, singer Marlayna Syms hams it up to perfection as she gets sweet revenge on a playboy turned pauper. "Don Juan, your money's gone, and when your money's gone, your baby's gone," she declares. By the end of the song, when she's flapping a boa like a flamingo gone mad, the audience shares her delight.

On the spicy side, Syms and Kristin Lewis Gorman strut their stuff during "Trouble." The sultry scene begins with one long leg poking out of the curtain, as Gorman emerges to let everyone know her "middle name is Misery." Syms joins her to create a provocative yet lighthearted song and dance ("If you want to start a rumble, don't you do it alone").

"There Goes My Baby" showcases the performers' talent for conveying a million words in a single facial expression. In this scene, four of the male singer-dancers try to cover their embarrassment as a lovesick friend grovels on the floor, pining for his baby.

"Smokey Joe's Cafe" is performed in one of the state's newest theaters, the Eldorado's 580-seat, $9-million showroom. It is tiered, with each seat offering an unobstructed view of the stage. The room, the powerful songs, and the talented performers all help create a rapport between cast and audience—a warm relationship in this show about relationships.

Show Notes

"Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Music of Leiber and Stoller," plays six nights a week at the Eldorado Hotel in Reno. Show times are 7:30 and 10 p.m. except Tuesday. Adult admission is $21.95 for the 10 p.m. show Sunday through Thursday; $26.95 for the 7:30 p.m. show Sunday through Friday and the 10 p.m. Friday show; and $31.95 for both Saturday shows. Children's tickets for ages five to 12 are $17.95 for all shows. Prices do not include drinks. Call 800-648-5966 or 702-786-5700 for reservations.

Kim Pryor is a Lake Tahoe entertainment and feature writer who keeps forgetting why "Fools Fall in Love."

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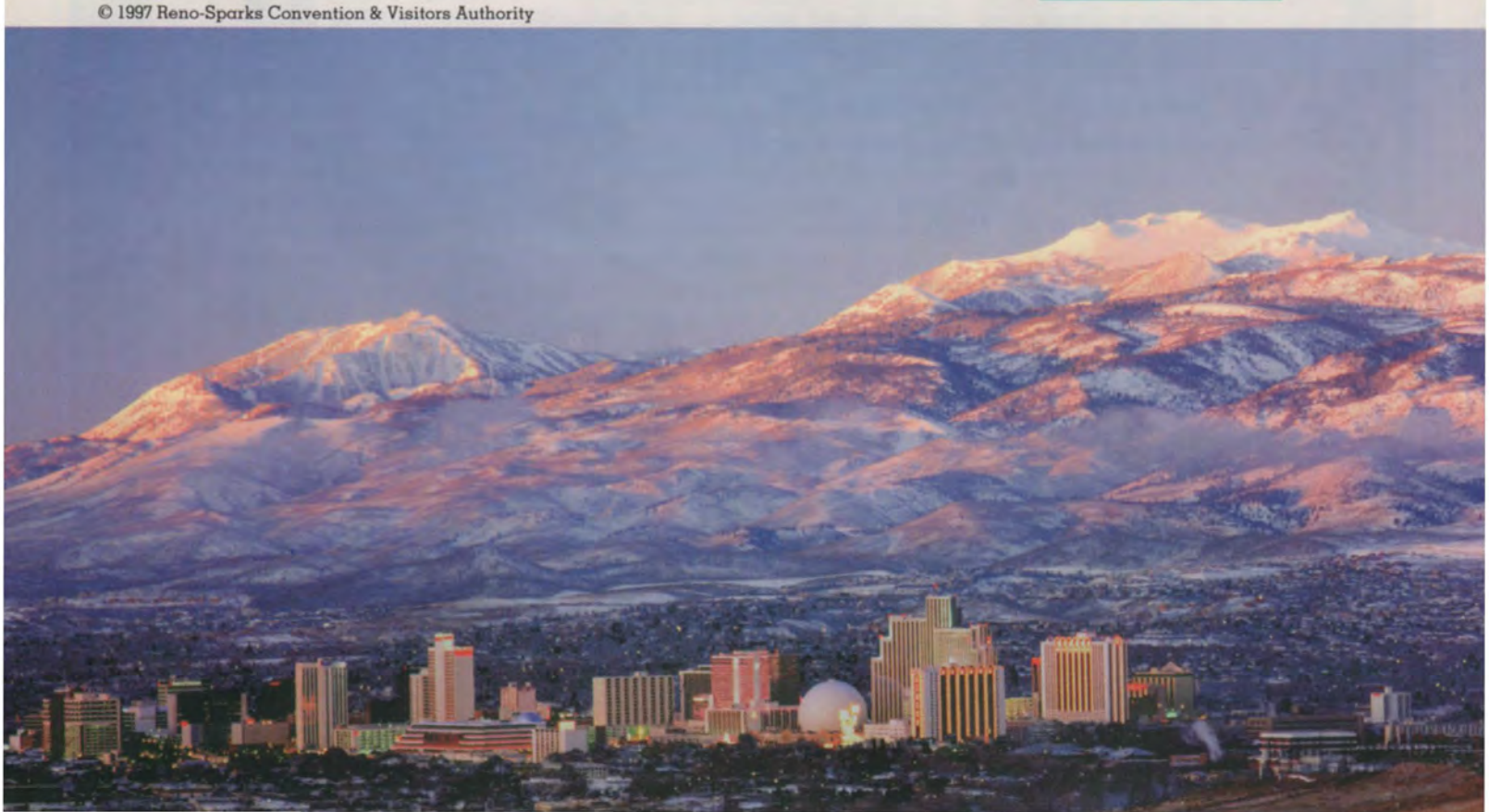
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Nevada Bookshelf

Recent Nevada releases.

The Players: The Men Who Made Las Vegas

Edited by Jack Sheehan. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076. 240 pages, $18.95, paper. The schemers, dreamers, hucksters, and hoodlums who helped to create modern Las Vegas—from Howard Hughes to Bugsy Siegel—are profiled in this collection of essays written by veteran Nevada observers, including journalists John L. Smith and Sergio Lalli, and compiled by Las Vegas writer Jack Sheehan.

Nevada Wilderness Areas and Great Basin National Park: A Hiking and Backpacking Guide

By Michael C. White. Wilderness Press, Berkeley, CA 94704. 330 pages, $14.95, paper. The trails, campgrounds, flora, fauna, and scenery of Nevada's 14 wilderness areas and Great Basin National Park are described in detail in this new hiking and backpacking guidebook. Reno writer Michael C. White also offers topographical maps of the wilderness areas and photos.

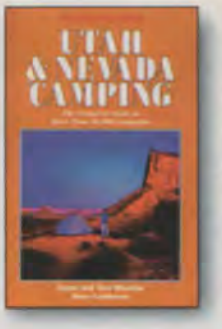


Schwa: World Operations Manual

By Schwa Corporation. Chronicle Books, San Francisco, CA 94105. 160 pages, $14.95, paper. This bizarre, tongue-in-cheek book, created by Reno artist Bill Barker, purports to be a reference manual for running a small planet (see *Nevada*, Sept/Oct '93). Allegedly compiled by a mysterious corporation known only as Schwa, the manual includes a large alien poster, postcards, stickers, an ID card, and a holographic cover. The Truth Is Still Out There.



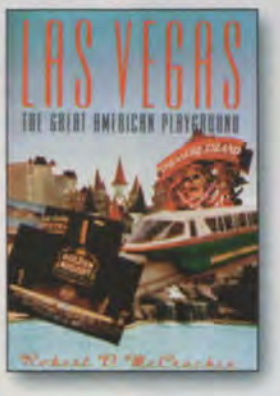
Utah and Nevada Camping: The Complete Guide to More Than 36,000 Campsites



By Gayen and Tom Wharton, and Deke Castleman. Foghorn Press, San Francisco, CA 94107. 386 pages, $18.95, paper. This new guidebook offers a comprehensive listing of more than 600 private and public campgrounds in Utah and Nevada. Frequent *Nevada Magazine* contributor Deke Castleman wrote the Nevada portions, including current information on campground regulations, overnight camping fees, and facilities.

Las Vegas: The Great American Playground

Expanded edition by Robert D. McCracken. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076. 150 pages, $15.95, paper. Robert D. McCracken, a Las Vegas-based cultural anthropologist, traces Las Vegas' history from prehistoric times to the present in an expanded and updated version of his book that was first published in 1995. The book is liberally illustrated with historic photographs.



Hiking Las Vegas: 60 Hikes Within 60 Minutes of the Strip

By Branch Whitney. Huntington Press, Las Vegas, NV 89103. 272 pages, $17.95, paper. Branch Whitney, a Southern Nevada Sierra Club hike leader, describes 40 hikes at Red Rock Canyon and 20 hikes at Mount Charleston, two scenic areas within an hour's drive of Las Vegas. The book includes maps and photos as well as detailed information on levels of difficulty and estimated hiking times.

The 101 Most Asked Questions About Las Vegas and Casino Gambling

By George Joseph. G and C Enterprises, Las Vegas, NV 89103, toll-free order number 888-224-3121. 200 pages, $17.95, paper. Using a question-and-answer format, author George Joseph, director of surveillance for Bally's Casinos, provides authoritative answers to a variety of questions related to Las Vegas' gambling industry. Topics range from what is a point spread to why dealers don't smile.

Sam Knew Them When

By Sylvia Crowell Stoddard, Great Basin Press, Box 11162, Reno, NV 89510. 187 pages, 14 photos, $9.95, paper. Carson City resident Sylvia Crowell Stoddard presents a collection of century-old writings by her grandfather, Sam Davis, editor of Carson's *Daily Appeal*. A writer once said of Davis, "Among Bohemians he is the prototype of the whole tribe," and the lively tales involve friends such as millionaire Lucky Baldwin and actress Sarah Bernhardt.

Remember Reno: A Biography of Major General Jesse Lee Reno

By William F. McConnell. White Mane Publishing Company, Shippensburg, PA 17257. 124 pages, $19.95, hardcover. Civil War historian William F. McConnell, who resides in Reno, spent seven years researching the life of the military hero for whom the city of Reno was named. Despite a stellar career and a heroic death in combat, Major General Reno (who often is confused with Major Marcus A. Reno of Little Bighorn fame) has been largely forgotten by historians.

Sierra Stories: True Tales of Tahoe

By Mark McLaughlin. Mic Mac Publishing, Carnelian Bay, CA 96140. 114 pages, $9.95, paper. Weather historian Mark McLaughlin, whose work has appeared in *Nevada Magazine*, revisits 13 historical characters and events in Nevada and Northern California. Well-researched and told, the book includes a profile of legendary 19th-century mail carrier John "Snowshoe" Thompson and the story of the West's first train robbery, which occurred near Verdi in 1870.—*Richard Moreno*



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People Page

A culinary sleuth, a magnet collector, and a branding-iron artist.

Food Detective

Anyone who has ever wanted to whip up potato skins like the ones at T.G.I. Friday's or make pizza just like Pizza Hut's will find the directions in *Top Secret Restaurant Recipes.* The cookbook by culinary sleuth **Todd Wilbur** of Las Vegas reveals the signature recipes of America's favorite restaurant chains.



Todd Wilbur of Las Vegas is making dough by deciphering top-secret recipes for popular dishes at restaurant chains.

Wilbur, the author of two previous food guides, spent a year taste testing, researching, and gaining weight in order to decode and build recipes for more than 110 restaurant dishes. The key, he says, was determining the proportions. He often coaxed the ingredients from waiters and waitresses. Later, he re-created the dishes in his kitchen, establishing the proportions by trial and error.

Modest about his detective skills, the 33-year-old Wilbur says, "Anybody can do this if they have the time." He adds, "I do think I have an acquired skill for being able to distinguish certain spices and flavors. I grow all the popular spices. I know what they look like. For instance, in a sauce or salad, I can distinguish onion from garlic or parsley from basil just by looking at it. It comes with practice."

Some recipes were harder to clone than others. Pizza Hut's dough had Wilbur stumped until he talked to a friend who owns a pizza restaurant. The secret, he discovered, is to use bread flour and let it rise in the refrigerator overnight. "It makes the crust light and crispy," he says.

Other recipes presented in the book's do-it-at-home format are fajitas from Chili's, Planet Hollywood's Chicken Crunch, Hooters' hot wings, and hot artichoke and spinach dip from the Olive Garden.

Wilbur says his curiosity was sparked in 1987 when he received a chain letter that included the ingredients for Mrs. Fields chocolate chip cookies. His *Top Secret Recipes* (1993) and *More Top Secret Recipes* (1994) described recipes for junk food such as Cracker Jacks and Twinkies. When the two books sold 250,000 copies combined, the former Philadelphia TV news reporter developed an appetite for a new career.

"I had an idea one day, and here I am 10 years later making Twinkies. It's just a fun thing to do—Twinkies at home," he says with a grin.

Top Secret Restaurant Recipes is a Plume Trade Paperback Original and a selection of the Doubleday Book Club. It retails for $12.95 and is available in bookstores. You can also check out Wilbur's Web site at http://www.topsecretrecipes.com.

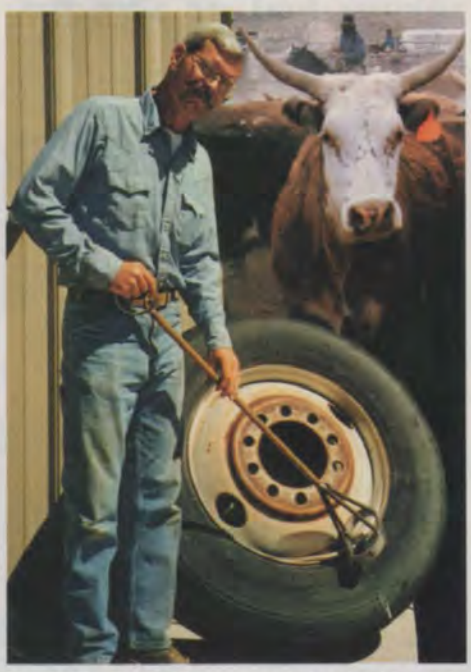
—Katherine McDonnell

A Different Brand of Artist

Bernie Westby of Winnemucca is one of the few remaining craftsmen who make branding irons the old-fashioned way—by hand.

Most brands and branding irons are made in factories, and ranchers purchase them by mail order. Westby, who has a welding and drilling business and often works for Smoky Valley ranchers, explains, "I started making irons for a couple of them just as a courtesy. The word must have spread, because pretty soon a lot of other people were calling with orders."

Why do cattlemen prefer custom-made branding irons? Danny Berg, whose family has ranched in Smoky Valley for five generations, uses a Westby-made branding iron. "A rancher's brand is the same as his signature, and that's as true today as it was a hundred years ago," Berg says. "It's a nice feeling to know we're keeping things close to the way they were in our great grandparents' time. For something like that, a



Bernie Westby of Winnemucca is leaving his mark on an old-fashioned craft.

Photos: Chris Leedham (left), Anna Macdonnell (right)

hand-made iron seems more fitting than a machine-made or electric one."

Rather than using a hammer and anvil to forge a brand, Westby, assisted by wife Inis, uses a welder. "I first break the design down into geometric components. For example, an 'A' would be made from two long bars and one shorter bar of metal, which I first cut separately. Then I weld them together."

Westby says his methods result in a brand that is easier to read. "That's really what the whole idea of a brand is about," he says. "It's a lot harder for a bad guy to try to change a mark made with one of my irons than it would be with the old ones."

Westby adds that truck drivers have begun to use brands on their big, expensive tires to deter "rubber rustlers." Westby says, "There are probably more tire than cattle rustlers out there today, so all the big trucking companies brand, just like the cattlemen."—*Anna Macdonnell*



Louise J. Greenfarb has the world's largest collection of refrigerator magnets.

Magnetic Personality

Like a magnet that won't let go, **Louise J. Greenfarb** has a hard time throwing anything out. That habit has earned the Henderson woman a place in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for having the largest private collection of refrigerator magnets.

Greenfarb's official record, determined last January, is 19,300 magnets, many of which are displayed in Las Vegas' Guinness World of Records Museum at 2780 Las Vegas Boulevard South across from the Sahara Hotel.

Greenfarb, 55, acquires magnets faster than she can tally them. "Every day in the mail I get magnets," she says. "People just send them." Her unofficial total is more than 21,000—and counting.

Greenfarb, who moved to Nevada from Washington last winter with her husband, Sandy, has been collecting for about 35 years. She has hand-crocheted magnets, animal magnets, fruit and vegetable magnets. She has a magnet that sounds like a cat meowing, another a phone that rings.

Although there is no pricing tool for vintage magnets, Greenfarb, whose Nevada license plate reads "MGNTLDY," thinks some of those first Tony the Tiger magnets that breakfasters found in Kellogg's Frosted Flakes may actually be worth something.—*Katherine McDonnell*

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Photo: Guinness World of Records Museum

Holiday Classic

Saint Nick of the Strip



On the night before Christmas, legendary gambler Nick the Greek helped sweeten the pot for 100 Las Vegas families. **By Tricia Hurst**

The other day I had to borrow 25 cents to make a phone call. As I stood in the booth listening to the ring on the other end, I was reminded of another such call years ago and my first and last introduction to Nick the Greek.

I was doing publicity at one of the casinos on the Las Vegas Strip, and famous names and faces were as familiar to me as the housewife's butcher is to her. After the thrill of rubbing elbows with the stars had worn off, I began to look around and found there was just as much poverty and pain a few minutes from the Strip as there were in any other town.

It was nearing Christmas, and I had the bright idea of soliciting funds from well-heeled hotel owners to make up Christmas baskets for needy families. In a week's time there was enough money for 100 baskets—a great deal of it coming from bartenders, showgirls, and other casino employees.

On Christmas Eve friends helped load the baskets, filled with the traditional turkey and trimmings and toys, into the casino station wagon. Just as I was leaving, the manager handed me a pickup slip and asked if I'd meet the guest who was arriving shortly at the airport.

Meeting and greeting VIPs was part of my job, so there was nothing I could do but grin, shift into first, and head for the airport with the baskets bouncing all around the car. The VIP was one Mr. Nicholas Dandolos, and he turned out to be a heavyset, graying man with not a trace of the arrogance and impatience I had encountered so many times with my pickup slips. He gave a shy smile and opened and closed the door for me when we got into the wagon.

I apologized for the crowded conditions and explained I was delivering Christmas baskets. As one of them threatened to topple over, Mr. D placed it in his lap, thoughtfully examining the contents and rearranging them.

As we neared the casinos, he spoke for the first time since we had gotten in the car. "I wonder if you would stop here and do me a favor," he said. I pulled into the driveway of a rival casino. "I'd like you to make a call for me," he said. "It's very important you let the phone ring 15 times or they won't answer." He jotted down a number with a short message on a slip of paper, and I strode into the casino muttering under my breath. Polite or not, Mr. D seemed to be as eccentric and lazy as the rest. Also, I had to use my own dime. It never seemed to occur to a big spender that a dime was still a dime.

After dialing and waiting, then redialing to be sure, I returned to the car and informed my passenger that his party had not answered. He thanked me, and three blocks later I delivered him into the hands of the casino's doorman and bellhops. As far as I was concerned, they could make his phone calls for him.

It was almost midnight when I finished delivering my baskets of Christmas cheer and fell into bed with a sense of all's right with the world and I had contributed.

It was apparent the following morning that I'd never guessed how much.

The calls started coming in during the night, and by nine in the morning the switchboard was jammed. Laughing and crying, the callers could hardly express what the baskets had meant to them:

Illustration: Brian Crane

Christmas was not Christmas without a turkey and toys for the children. And the hundred-dollar bill tucked into each basket was truly the star on top of the tree.

I was stunned, but not too stunned to realize I had been gloriously duped. Phone call indeed! I rummaged through my handbag and dialed the number on the slip of paper. No one answered, but the day after Christmas I tried it again, and sure enough, it was a Las Vegas bank—which would be closed in the evening.

Let it ring 15 times—and I had redialed to be sure. Time enough for someone to fill a hundred baskets; that is, if he were the kind of someone who walked around carrying $10,000 in hundred-dollar bills.

It didn't take long to ferret out the fact that Mr. D was *the* Nick the Greek—a legend in the gambling world and a name I had heard daily in my six months in Vegas.

According to *Life*, as his friends figured it, he had distributed $2 million in day-to-day touches during his lifetime, given at least $500,000 to charities, sent 28 children of friends to college, started 300 men in business, and paid hospital bills for 600 people. He had been quoted as saying, "Money has been made a substitute for everything. Even character. It shouldn't be an ambition. I'm sorry we have to use it. It's just a stake."

He obviously was also a man whose one ambition in life, at least for the moment, was to avoid me as if I were carrying the bubonic plague. After many unsuccessful attempts to contact him, it dawned on me that Mr. Dandolos did not want his exercise in Christianity known. I had been in Vegas long enough to learn you don't go around talking a lot about money. It wasn't that it was considered vulgar, as it might be in Boston or Philadelphia; it was just, well, you might say unhealthy.

Not that Nick the Greek was anything but a gambler and a gentleman. If he was going to take $10,000 off his income tax as a charitable contribution, I figured he could break it to the government in his own way. But I still wanted to thank him personally for a gesture that surpassed my craziest dreams.

I got the chance a week later when I received another pickup slip. Mr. D was departing, and he acted as if he had never set eyes on me in his life, but I couldn't resist one final nudge.

"By the way, Mr. D, did you ever get through on that call? I mean to the bank that's closed at night?"

With not a change of expression, my passenger looked me straight in the eye and replied, "Now why would an old man like myself ask a pretty young lady, and a very thorough one, I might add, like yourself, to run my errands? You don't think I can dial my own phone?"

As we stood at the airport waiting for the boarding call, Nick put out his hand and, hesitating only slightly, raised it to my head and patted me. Then, without a word, he strode off.

Heading for the parking lot, I heard my name called and turned to see the plane's steward running after me, waving his arm.

"The gentleman who just boarded the flight asked me to give you this," he said, catching his breath. "He must be some kind of nut or something. He tipped me a 10 spot to catch you."

The steward turned and hurried back to the plane. I looked down at the palm of my hand. In it was a dime.

Nick the Greek was a giant of his kind, and on Christmas Day in 1966 he died broke. Smart gamblers are a funny breed. They always pay their debts. Merry Christmas, Mr. D, and sleep well.

Tricia Hurst lives in Ranchos de Taos, New Mexico. "Saint Nick of the Strip" originally appeared in the Nov/Dec '79 issue.

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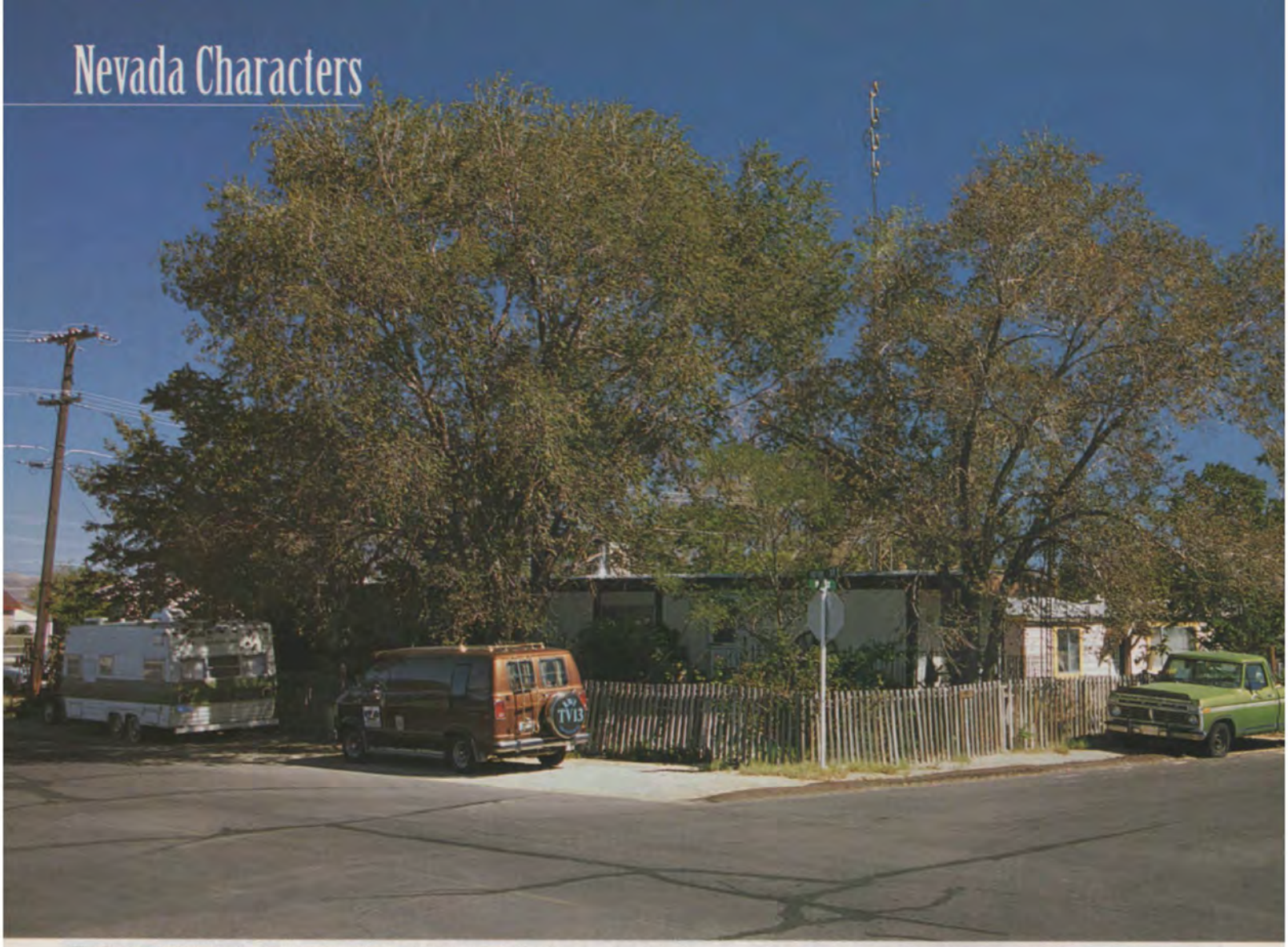
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The Beckers' TV 13 is situated in a tree-lined neighborhood in Hawthorne. The station's van is parked, ready to cover breaking news—or the spring Loon Festival.

Tuning Into Hawthorne

Bob and Ginny Becker's TV 13 provides a homey, small-town channel for Hawthorne residents.

By Chuck Woodbury

Hawthorne's TV 13 is on the air, broadcasting from a single-wide mobile home to an audience of dozens, even hundreds, of people. TV 13 is as small as a television station can get. If every resident in the area and every overnight guest at the El Capitan motor lodge tuned in, the audience might reach 4,000. Still, KWI-TV is licensed by the FCC, and owners Bob and Ginny Becker proudly call it "Central Nevada's Only Full-Service Commercial Television Station."

TV 13 began in 1993 when Bob received the low-power station as a Father's Day gift from his son Scott, who owns a similar operation in Kansas. Technically speaking, what Bob received was a construction permit for a TV station. "It came out of the blue in the mail," explains Bob. "He said it was easy. I said, 'Show me,' and he did."

Eighteen months later Bob and his wife Ginny were on the air.

KWI-TV is not just a little television station. It's an itsy-bitsy television station. The equipment includes an antique transmitter, a 50-foot tower, an old Sharp VHS camcorder, no editing equipment, no lights, a few Radio Shack microphones, a couple of VCRs, and a single satellite dish out back to bring in programming. Still,

Photos: Perry Rose

with its 10 watts of power, this blowtorch of the Great Basin can reach every person in Hawthorne and every fish in Walker Lake.

Bob, 65, and Ginny, 60, have full-time jobs, he as a maintenance man for the county, she as a nutritionist. They were well-paid executives in the Chicago-Milwaukee area 15 years ago. Then Ginny quit her job, and Bob unexpectedly lost his. They were free. Ginny had family in Hawthorne, so they headed to the seat of Mineral County, 132 miles south of Reno.

TV 13 covers its own expenses, and that's about it. But Bob and Ginny don't seem to care because they're having fun. Still, they admit that running a TV station is no easy task.

"It takes all of your time and all of your money," says Ginny. "But it's exciting, and we're giving the community something it never had before."

Until they started TV 13, the Beckers had never set foot in a television station, unless you count the time Ginny took her kids to a *Howdy Doody Show* in Chicago. Bob adds, "The closest I ever got to television was to a TV set."

Now they own the only broadcast station between Reno and Las Vegas. When Ginny introduces herself as the owner of a TV station, people get all excited, like maybe they're meeting Ted Turner.

In their mobile-home studio, videotapes are strewn everywhere, including the kitchen sink. A couple of old TVs, bought at a pawn shop, serve as monitors. Using a home-video character generator, Bob programs advertising messages to crawl across the bottom of whatever's playing. About 20 to 30 messages appear each hour. Advertisers pay $67.50 per month—a whopping nine cents an ad—and receive 720 exposures.

Advertisers include Scotty's Gas Station, Maggie's Restaurant, the El Capitan, Mother Goose's Day Care, and Woody's Automotive. Despite the low rates, selling ads isn't easy in a town of fewer than 5,000 residents. "This is a small community, and the business people never had TV available to them before," explains Ginny. "I have to educate them before I get their ad."

Most of the time, the station airs the Nostalgia Channel, which comes free by satellite. Bob and Ginny break in with something local every so often. "We don't have a news hour. In fact, we don't even have a news minute," Ginny says.

But sometimes the Beckers are able to respond to a breaking story. They rush out to videotape the incident and then drive like crazy back to the station, where the tape is popped into a VCR for broadcast. Their biggest story occurred when a potato truck overturned on U.S. 95 near Walker Lake. Last January they sent a cameraman to Yerington, 57 miles north, to videotape the area's heavy flooding.

When Ginny introduces herself as the owner of a TV station, people get all excited, like maybe they're meeting Ted Turner.

By far the most popular show on TV 13 is the taped-delayed, gavel-to-gavel coverage of the Mineral County Commission meetings, which can run up to 35 hours a month. Bob and Ginny cite this public service as an example of how their tiny station has a positive impact on the community.

Bob Lybarger, Mineral County Commission chairman, agrees. "Since the TV coverage began, the public is a lot more aware of how government functions," he says. "They're more supportive of our decisions because they understand the processes better."

TV 13 covers Hawthorne-area events such as the Loon Festival, the Armed Forces Day Parade, girls' high school basketball, the Miss Mineral County pageant, and graduation ceremonies at the high school, although not always without a glitch. Last graduation, for example, the battery went dead in the photographer's camcorder after only 23 minutes.

Other shows include *Community Calendar*, hosted by Sheriff Rocky McKellip from his desk at the sheriff's office. A more ambitious production is the monthly talk show, *Civic Roundtable.* Volunteer host Evelyn Allen sits at a round table at the library and interviews local folks about local issues. The set is a bit drab, and the sound is sometimes hard to hear, but Bob and Ginny know it and accept such limitations as part of running a mom-and-pop TV station.

For now the Beckers are keeping it simple while dreaming of the day, as Bob says, when "we can have 24 hours a day of Hawthorne."

Chuck Woodbury is editor-publisher of the on-the-road newspaper Out West, *based in Edmonds, Washington. He reported on "Betty's Mobile Beauty Salon" in July/August '93.*



From their mobile-home studio at KWI-TV, Ginny and Bob Becker use old televisions and VCRs to broadcast Hawthorne-area events, meetings, local shows, advertising, and other programming. The Beckers refer to TV 13 as "Central Nevada's Only Full-Service Commercial Television Station."

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SKIER SURVIVAL

(Continued from page 26)

Sheriff Department, Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team, the Marine Mountain Warfare Training Unit, Squaw Valley Fire Department, and ski patrol and canine units.

At about 3:25 that afternoon—almost two days after Austin had told his family he was taking one last run—he heard the low rumble of a helicopter. Screaming and yelling, Austin, dressed in a yellow ski jacket, desperately began flailing his arms. The Army National Guard Chinook hovered and then lowered to about two feet above the snow. Austin, with both feet frostbitten, was so physically drained that he had to crawl the 15 feet he needed to reach the helicopter's ramp. Then he was rushed to the hospital in Truckee.

"I talk about skiing safely," Austin says. "I focus on the idea of staying put, of hugging a tree."

Besides showing good survival instincts, Austin was no doubt helped by his mental toughness. He always believed he would survive. He always knew the rescue teams would find him.

In time Austin noticed the feeling in the toes on his right foot had returned. Only a few weeks after he was lost at Squaw, Austin went skiing again, this time at Sugar Bowl.

"I had to get back on the horse," he recalls. "The first time up, I felt a little anxiety. I wasn't exactly scared, but through the whole thing I was anxious—I fussed a lot over my preparations and the weather. But once that first weekend was over, it was back to normal."

Austin says he has had few second thoughts about his decision to stay put once he realized he was lost.

"I think that was the key decision—the decision to dig in and wait to be rescued," he says. "It's strange, because once I made the decision, I had to keep making it over and over again. It was very tempting to go and ski out. Clearly the situation called for making a cave and letting the help come to me. But it's a very difficult choice to make. There is always a very strong drive to try and get yourself out.

"But someone told me once that you have to break the chain of bad decisions with a good decision. Fortunately, I was able to do that."

However, there are other parts of Austin's ordeal that he would change. For example, skiers need to take more items on the slopes, he says. Skis, poles, and warm clothing aren't enough.

"Now I pay much more attention to what I carry with me—pocketknife, matches, a very small and lightweight space blanket, plastic whistle, a cellular phone, and some food," he says. "You just never can know for sure what you'll need."

Caterino adds that the ski industry needs to pay special attention to younger skiers and snowboarders, many of whom have a strong sense of rebellion and fail to follow warnings such as out-of-bounds signs. Young snowboarders trudge into the backcountry with little or no survival training. The results can be disastrous. "It becomes almost an authority question," Caterino says. "The ski resorts tell them, 'No, no, no, and these kids wonder why. Instead of being along the lines of, 'Don't do this, it should be more like, 'Here's why you need to know these safety considerations—considerations which could save your life.'"

To that end, Austin doesn't hesitate when a school, scout, or church group asks him to talk about being lost in the wild. He's given talks to "more than 1,000 kids," and his message seldom varies. Austin says, "Having a real-life experience has seemed to really help the kids relate to it. I talk about skiing safely, but more than that, it's about survival in snow or in windswept conditions. I focus on the idea of staying put, of hugging a tree."

Austin's memories aren't as painfully acute as in the days just after his rescue, when his feet were black and numb and his lips and face were red and stinging from exposure.

"But certainly not a month goes by when I don't think about it a little," Austin says. "For a time, I was worried my daughters might have some lingering emotional issues, but they've been wonderful, along with my wife. It was a pretty profound experience. I've got a new appreciation for many things in my life, including the idea of homelessness. The sense of powerlessness in a situation like that can be overwhelming. It's made me reflect that people don't have as much power to control things as we'd like to believe. I know that what I can control in my life, I've truly learned to savor."

John Trent is a Sierra skier and an outdoor-sports writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Big Splurge

(Continued from page 14)

and cruise in style to the most exclusive restaurants in town. One night, you might try Palace Court at Caesars (702-731-7547). You arrive at the Court's piano bar in a glass elevator or by a spiral staircase. The restaurant features a stained-glass dome and a wall of glass overlooking the pool area. Order from the a la carte menu: lobster bisque flamed with Armagnac or Beluga caviar with Stolichnaya, salmon smoked in the Palace Court kitchen, veal chop with mustard sauce, and Grand Marnier soufflé with vanilla sabayon. Plan on three hours and $300 from start to finish.

Another night, you might want to indulge in nouveau cuisine at Napa in the new Masquerade Village wing at the Rio (702-252-7777). Start off with carpaccio of ahi tuna in an anchovy emulsion or some Maui onion soup with truffle dumplings, then tuck into a little wood-grilled salmon darne with gaufrette potatoes and choron sauce. Napa also has a large wine store in its "cellar," with 4,000 bottles on the list. Have a $100 bottle of wine with your meal and the total will run about $250.



When you want to splurge and splash in the sun, you can rent a cabana tucked beyond the columns and luxuriate poolside at the Luxor (above), Caesars, Mirage, or Hard Rock.

On your last night you could head to Le Montrachet at the Las Vegas Hilton (702-732-5111), where you dine in European elegance on French-prepared steak, seafood, duck, lamb, veal, or pheasant, accompanied by a fine wine from the list of more than 400 selections ($200 for the works). Or the non-casino Pamplemousse (400 East Sahara, 702-733-2066), where the waiter recites the menu for the day, which is limited to the freshest ingredients available ($150 will do it). Figuring in room-service brunch, your total expense for the weekend's dining will come to roughly $1,000.

> You can take a Moor mud bath a desert clay body wrap an enzyme facial and a Swedish massage at the D I spa.



Golfers can tee up in the footsteps of Arnie, Jack, and other pros at the Desert Inn links.

Pampering and Recreating

The rest of the time, you'll want to be pampered at the spa, lounge around the pool, do a little sightseeing, play a few rounds of golf, and see a few shows.

You'll find yourself in some of the best hands in town at the Spa at the Desert Inn (702-733-4444), and it will take three days to experience all the massage therapies, facials, therapeutic baths, and body wraps that are offered. Perhaps you'll start out with the thalassotherapy immersion with micronized seaweed, then go for an aromatherapy salt-glow body treatment, followed by an aloe vera revitalizer. Next, you could set down your weary body on a massage table for a 60-minute Shiatsu treatment, with 15 minutes of reflexology. Finish up with a pedicure, manicure, and a precision cut and color at the Salon de Coiffure. The next day, you can take a Moor mud bath, a desert clay body wrap, an enzyme facial, and a 50-minute Swedish massage. A weekend's worth of bodywork: $700.

A round of golf, plus accompanying amenities, at the Desert Inn's championship course (702-733-4290) won't cost any more than $350 per couple. Or try the 12-hole Cloud Nine Course at Angel Park Golf Club (100 South Rampart Blvd., 702-254-4653), where all 12 holes are replicas of the most famous and challenging par-three holes from golf courses all over the world. That'll run you all of $50 for the works.

In summer, for another $250 for the weekend, you can hang by the pool at the

Photos: Gail Bandini

Mirage or Caesars or Luxor in the luxury and shade of your own cabana, which comes complete with refrigerator, television, phone, wet bar, and lounge chairs.

Show Time

A couple of nights of showgoing is, naturally, *de rigueur* in the world's Entertainment Capital. Budget $350 to see "Siegfried and Roy" at the Mirage (702-792-7777), "Mystère" at Treasure Island (702-894-7722), "EFX" at the MGM Grand (702-891-1111), or "Jubilee" at Bally's (702-739-4567) from prime center-booth seats (an average of



Showgoers can see productions like "EFX," "Mystère," and "Jubilee" (above, at Bally's).

$150 for two tickets and $25 for drinks and a generous toke to the staff).

By the end of the second day, you could be in danger of melting into a puddle of hedonistic goo, so you might want to schedule a little airborne excitement by chartering a helicopter to buzz the Grand Canyon. For roughly $1,400, you can hop aboard a Sundance chopper (702-597-5505) to get a high-speed aerial view of the Strip, suburban Las Vegas, Hoover Dam, and the Southwestern desert, then drop 3,200 feet into the great gash itself. You perch on a wide ledge for your champagne lunch and return to Las Vegas by way of Valley of Fire and Rainbow Garden.

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The author, in an extravagant mood, tests the ivories at the Liberace Museum in Las Vegas.

can have a whale of an anniversary celebration weekend in Las Vegas. And you haven't even made a single bet at a gambling table or machine.

But wait. You're not quite done yet. You can't leave town without a souvenir of your stay. How about one of Liberace's rhinestone-studded baby-grand pianos? Or a fist-sized slab of gold from the display in the lobby of the Golden Nugget? Or even a $10,000 bill from Binion's collection? I'm not sure about the cost, but if you made the right offer, you might be able take something home. What the heck. It's only money.

Deke Castleman is managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor *and author of* Las Vegas *and* Nevada Handbook. *His novel* Las Vegas 2040 *is being published by Huntington Press.*



Vicarious Vacations

A Nevada sampler of lavishly good deals.

By Sharon Carter

When celebrating a special occasion with a casino vacation, you will find lots of ways to ante up $500, $1,000, or more for a spectacular night's or weekend's lodging, fine cuisine, and entertainment. Following is a sampling of extravagantly good deals around the state. Note that many top suites can't be rented because they're reserved for invited high rollers. Rates are subject to change and may vary by day and season. The area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

Las Vegas

You can pay $2,500 per night for a fancy penthouse suite at **Bally's** (739-4111). On Sunday the Sterling Brunch offers caviar omelettes, champagne, and a fresh rose for $49.95 per person.

The 24 most expensive suites that non-rated-gaming guests can rent at **Caesars Palace** are $748 per night (731-7110). Caesars' $7,500-per-night Rain Man Suite, featured in the 1988 movie starring Tom Cruise and Dustin Hoffman, is reserved for high rollers. Caesars has cabanas by its pool (which is reopening in December).

Desert Inn guests can rent a two-bedroom tower suite for $550 per night (733-4444). The DI, also known for its spa, reportedly soon will unveil five new suites that will run $10,000 per night.

The **Golden Nugget's** two-bedroom suites are $375 (385-7111).

Suites at the celebrity-conscious **Hard Rock Hotel** are in the $500 range (693-5000). You can rent cabanas at the Hard Rock pool in warm weather; with food and beverages the daily cost is $90 weekends and $60 midweek.

The **Imperial Palace** rents one- and two-bedroom penthouse suites on the top floor for $279 to $499 per night (731-3311).

The **Las Vegas Hilton** offers a three-bedroom deluxe suite for $1,300 (732-5111). The hotel's Sky Villas and Classic Suites are reserved for gaming guests. At the Salon 3000 an ultimate facial takes 80 minutes and costs $125, and a peppermint sea twist full body wrap (55 minutes) is $85.

Photo: Chris Leedham

The concierge level at the **Luxor** offers a choice of suites, situated near a bar and hors d'oeuvres, averaging between $500 and $600 per night (800-288-1000). The Luxor has cabanas by the pool.

The **MGM Grand's** 1,200-square-foot and larger suites run $500 to $1,000 per night (891-7777). "EFX" is a pricey show at $72 for lower-room seats.

The **Mirage's** rates range from $375 to $650 for one-bedroom penthouse suites and $400 to $950 for two-bedroom suites (791-7111). Ask about the cabanas in warm weather. Siegfried and Roy are the most expensive show ticket in town at about $90.

The **Monte Carlo** has 1,200-square-foot Diamond Suites, with kitchens and Italian marble, for $300 weeknights and $400 weekends (730-7000).

The **Rio**, an all-suite hotel, has a huge wine collection from which lovers of the grape can order a bottle at approximately the cost of a penthouse apartment (252-7777).

The **Sahara** rents one-bedroom suites for $200, two-bedroom for $285 (737-2111).

The island-themed **Tropicana** has suites for getaways at varying rates (739-2222).

Laughlin

The **Colorado Belle** has Jacuzzi rooms and suites with river views that rent for $100 to $120 (298-4000).

Suites at the **Flamingo Hilton Laughlin** are $75 to $325 per night (298-5028).

Suites at **Harrah's Laughlin**, which has its own beach, range up to $180 (298-4600).

Top of the line at the train-themed **Ramada Express** is the Orient Express Suite, on the west tower's 24th floor, for $250 per night (800-AGENT-46). The hotel also has 55 Parlor Car Suites for $65 to $109.

You can ensconce in the **Riverside's** Penthouse Apartment on the 12th floor for $350 on Friday and Saturday nights and $250 the rest of the week (800-227-3849).

Reno-Sparks

Spa Tower Suites at the **Eldorado** rent for $525 to $700 (800-648-5966).

Harrah's Reno suites go up to $375 per night (788-2929). The availability of the Presidential Suite, the hotel's nicest, must be determined through VIP Services. At the Steak House you can find gastronomic heaven for more than $100 per couple.

John Ascuaga's Nugget offers top-floor suites, some with decorative themes like Tahoe Forest and French Colonial, for $625 per night (356-3304). Next to the indoor pool, Chonne's Salon presents an all-day Pamper Package with massage, manicure, pedicure, makeup, and hair styling for $260.

Besides its memorable $5,000-per-night Roman Suite, the **Peppermill** has six penthouse suites with spas and wet bars for $395 nightly (689-7180).

A two-bedroom suite at the **Reno Hilton** runs $450 per night (789-2000).

Silver Legacy Spa Suites with views of downtown or the mountains are $200 (329-4777). Dinner for two in the Sterling Seafood Steak House, with poached Maine lobster, drinks, wine, and triple fudge walnut torte for dessert, might run $150 to $200. A calming hour's massage in the spa costs $60.

Lake Tahoe

Suites at **Caesars Tahoe** have Roman, Caribbean, and other themes and rates of $500 to $1,500 per night (588-3515). Two can dine royally at the Empress Court Restaurant for $200. The Circus Maximus features stars like Tom Jones and Willie Nelson and has the lake's highest ticket prices, $40 to $60.

At **Harrah's Lake Tahoe**, suites on the 16th floor are $450 to $800 per night (588-6611). The Summit presents continental cuisine and an incredible Grand Marnier soufflé; dinner for two runs about $200.

Harveys' Lake Tower Suites feature balconies and cost $400 to $500 per night (588-2411). Llewellyn's has fine dining.

Next door at the **Horizon**, top suites run about $400 (588-6211).

The **Hyatt Regency** in Incline Village rents private lakeside cottages for $335 to $755 per night (832-1234). Two-bedroom suites cost up to $575.

Rural Nevada

A big splurge in rural Nevada will give you real bang for your buck. Less than $500 per day buys royal treatment—an upscale suite, fine dining, and even headliners—in the far corners of the state.

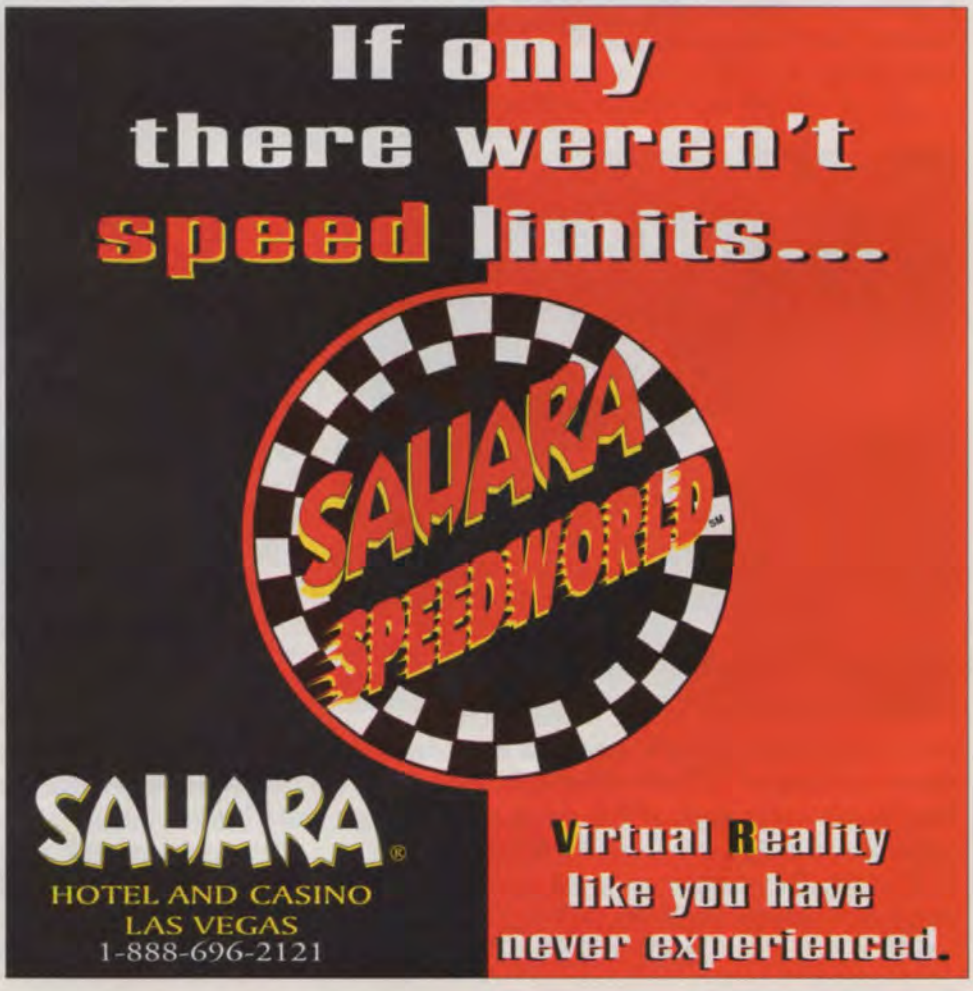
At **Cactus Petes** in Jackpot, Granite Range Suites are $150 to $180 per night (800-821-1103). Tickets for the likes of the Little River Band and Starship range from $7.50 to $25.

Suites at **Si Redd's Oasis** in Mesquite go up to $175 per night (346-5232). Guests can arrange for tee times on the hotel's three golf courses ($40 to $100 green fees).

The **CasaBlanca** in Mesquite rents bungalows with Jacuzzi and patio near the pool for $175 per night (346-7529). The hotel's spa offers a 90-minute Ultimate Body Glow for $85. CasaBlanca also has a golf course.

Suites at the **Carson Valley Inn** in Minden range up to $159 per night (800-321-6983). In winter the staff can arrange for lift tickets and transportation to Tahoe ski areas.

Sharon Carter is a Jacks Valley writer and observer of the hotel-casino scene.





New Traditional

New. Traditional. **NEVADA MAGAZINE** has a new look. It's classic but not old-fashioned. It's simple but sophisticated. You can be, too, in the New Traditional T-shirt featuring the updated **NEVADA MAGAZINE** logo in red, embroidered on an ash-colored, long-sleeve Henley shirt. This 100-percent cotton shirt is preshrunk with three woodtone buttons. Sizes M, L, XL, #THEN, $24.95; add $2.00 for XXL.

the NEVADA MAGAZINE Gift Shop

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And wear it proudly.



The Nevada Magazine Cap

Wear a hat and people can't see your face. So it's important that your hat say something about you. This all-cotton cap is embroidered with **NEVADA MAGAZINE**'s logo in blue. Available in natural (beige) with a Nevada blue brim, it has an adjustable back. We're not sure what it says about you, but it's a really cool hat. #NVCAP, $12.95.

Please use the handy merchandise order form on page 55



Wild Horses

They roam the open range. Free and independent spirits, they were born to run. You were born to wear it. The classic Nevada Wild Horse tee features an attractive wraparound design of galloping mustangs on an all-cotton, peppercorn-colored shirt. Sizes M, L, and XL, #THRS, $17.95; add $2.00 for XXL. The ash-colored sweatshirt is available in sizes M, L, XL, #SHRS, $25.95; add $3.00 for XXL. Also available in youth sizes S, M, and L, #CHRS, $11.95.



Alien Wear

Area 51. Dreamland. The Truth is Out There. The Shirt is Here. Nevada is the home of the official Extraterrestrial Highway. This deep-space black, all-cotton T-shirt has an other-worldly design of a vacationing alien created by Reno artist April Pedersen. Extra Bonus: You will receive an E.T. Highway key chain with every shirt ordered. Youth sizes M and L, #CS&K, $13.50. Also available in adult sizes M, L, XL, #S&K, $17.95; add $2.00 for XXL.

Photos by Jay Aldrich. Some models provided by *Liaison Hair Salon*, Carson City.



Wild About Nevada

Wildflowers. The name connotes chaos. The reality is beauty and order directed by nature's unseen hand. Wear your appreciation. T-shirts—Puff-printed flowers on red (#TFLR) or white (#TFLW). Sizes S, M, L, and XL, $19.95; add $2.00 for XXL. Sweats—Puff-printed flowers on red (#SFLR) or white (#SFLW). Sizes S, M, L, and XL, $25.95; add $3.00 for XXL.

The Nevada Magazine Tote Bag

To have style. It's more than driving a nice car or drinking the right wine. It's a definition. It's a declaration. Of you. And this tote bag says you. Made of natural, heavyweight canvas, the bag is all-cotton and features a double-thick bottom gusset, an outside pocket, and sturdy fabric handles. Available in natural with navy blue straps. TOTE, $17.95.



The Official Nevada-tude Coffee Cup/Travel Mug

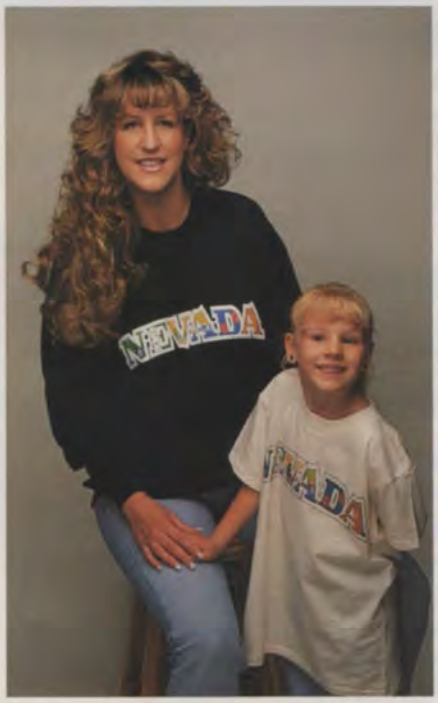


It's early. You need that first cup of "joe" to wake up. Reach for your Nevada-tude Coffee Cup/Travel Mug and fill 'er up. This insulated travel mug fits into most car drink-holders and is considerably more sophisticated than a flimsy paper cup. The Nevada-tude mug is blue plastic featuring the little dude with the Nevada-tude on one side and the **NEVADA MAGAZINE** logo on the other. #MUG, $6.95.



Nevada Suspenders

Left or right. The eternal question. Which pant leg goes on first? With suspenders it really doesn't matter. It's more a question of style. With the new **NEVADA MAGAZINE** logo printed on both straps and a cross-patch with a discreet logo, these suspenders not only hold up your pants, they answer all the questions. Suspenders are available in blue or red in regular and extra-long sizes. Regular suspenders: Blue, #SUSBR; Red, #SUSRR, $14.50. Extra-long suspenders: Blue, #SUSBX; Red, #SUSRX, $14.50.



Symbolic Nevada

A shirt should make a statement. It should be fun yet sophisticated, artful but accessible. The Symbolic Nevada T-shirt spells out those qualities that define Nevada. Wearing one says you understand, even when others cannot. Or will not. T-shirts—Full-color design on neutral (beige) (#TSYN) or black (#TSYB). Sizes M, L, and XL, $19.95; add $2.00 for XXL. Sweats—Full-color design on black. Sizes M, L, and XL, #SSYB, $25.95; add $3.00 for XXL. Beige T-shirts in youth sizes M and L, #CSYM, $11.95.



Sports Shirt

The right hair. The right shoes. The right shades. You only need the right shirt. This is it. A royal blue, all-cotton polo-style shirt with a discrete, white **NEVADA MAGAZINE** logo embroidered on the upper left. It says it all by not saying too much. Sizes M, L, XL, #PORT, $34.95; add $2.00 for XXL.



Nevada Emblem Shirts

A state's symbols are its talismans. They are those plants, animals, rocks, fish, and fowl considered sacrosanct. Carson City artist Brenda Locke-Knight has captured the essence of several of Nevada's most precious symbols in two new, full-color T-shirt designs. The Lahontan Cutthroat Trout T-shirt (right) features a beautiful image of Nevada's official state fish. The Mountain Bluebird T-shirt (left) offers the official state bird perched on a branch of a piñon pine, which is the official state tree. Both shirts are 100% preshrunk cotton. Trout T-shirts (#FISH) are printed on oatmeal-colored shirt. Sizes M, L, XL, $17.95; add $2.00 for XXL. Bluebird T-shirts (#TBIRD) are printed on a sage-colored shirt. Sizes M, L, XL, $17.95; add $2.00 for XXL.



Nevada Explorer

The ghosts have tales to tell. Hidden in remote parts of the state are the ghosts' towns. It is there that they wait. For an eternity. Speak to the ghosts for they will hear. They will know the Explorer. Gold design on green cotton T-shirt. Youth sizes M and L, #CEK, $11.50. Also available in adult sizes M, L, XL, #TEK, $15.95; add $2.00 for XXL.





Nevada-tude

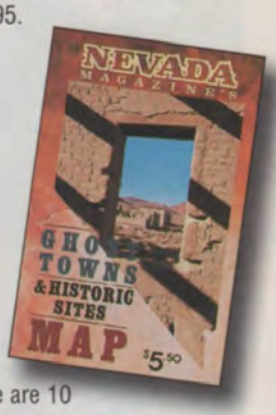
Sometimes it's not enough to have attitude if no one knows it. The Nevada-tude T-shirt shouts your intentions to the world and in return—I.R.—instant respect. Youth sizes in purple, M and L, #CTD, #11.95. For adults, the shirt comes in either black with gold lettering (#TTDB) or purple with black lettering (#TTDP), sizes M, L, XL, $15.95; add $2.00 for XXL.

The Great Nevada Food Festival Cookbook



Doctor Chili's world championship chili cook-off recipe. The "secret" ingredients for Genoa Candy Dance fudge. Basque garlic soup. Every year, Nevada hosts dozens of food festivals ranging from the Las Vegas Greek Food Festival to Reno's Great Italian Festival. Nearly two dozen food festival-inspired recipes are featured in NEVADA MAGAZINE's newest publication. 32 pages, #FFCB, $4.95.

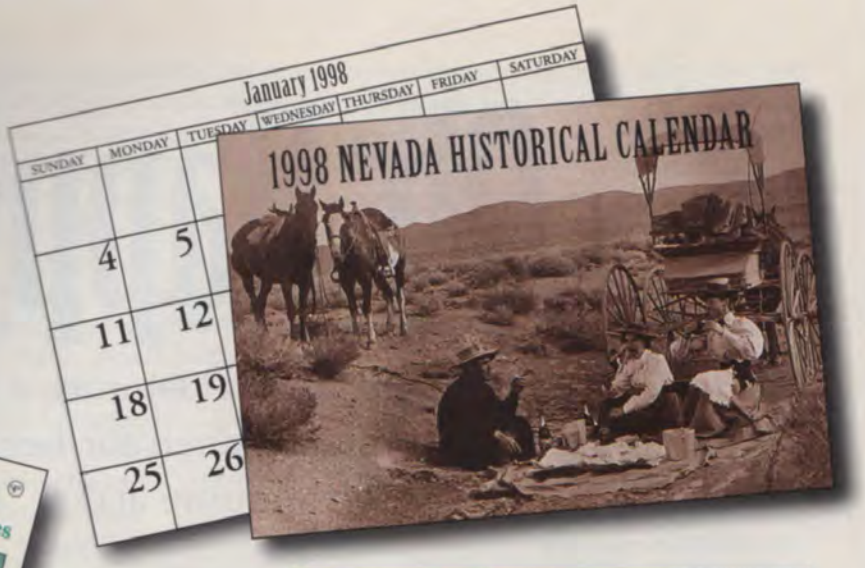
Nevada Ghost Town Map



They're fascinating. They're photogenic. And they're dead. By one estimate, there are 10 ghost town sites in Nevada for every living community. The full-color Nevada Ghost Town Map shows where the bodies are buried. #GTM, $5.50.

1998 Nevada Historical Calendar

A picture is worth a thousand words. That's an understatement when it comes to the 1998 Nevada Historical Calendar. Historic black and white photos eloquently tell Nevada's story. This oversized wall calendar has plenty of room for personal notes and includes listings for major Nevada special events and important historical dates. #C98, $7.95 (retail price is $8.75).





The Great Nevada Cookbook A guarantee. This is the only cookbook in which you'll find recipes for Basque picon punch, succotash, rabbit stew, cioppino, and Dutch Oven bread side-by-side. It's eclectic. It's Nevada. This cookbook is a sampler of 28 recipes representing various ethnic groups associated with the state. 32 pages, #CB, $4.95.

Nevada's Living Ghost Towns It's important to know the past. It could have a bearing on the future. This illustrated guidebook focuses on nine of the state's most historic living ghost towns with introductions to another 13 sites. 32 pages, #LGT, $4.95.

Great Nevada Day Hikes Nevada has more mountains than any other state. That's a fact. With more than 300 ranges, it's a hiker's paradise. This guidebook describes 15 popular day hikes ranging from easy trails marked by petroglyphs (Valley of Fire) to more challenging walks such as the Mount Rose Trail overlooking Reno and Lake Tahoe. 32 pages, #EKHIKE, $4.95.



Nevada Writing Paper

Ichthyosaurs and tortoises and trout. Oh my! This 64-page notepad features beautiful illustrations of nine of the official state symbols that make Nevada, Nevada. How else will you remember that sagebrush is the state flower or that the desert tortoise is the state reptile? One notepad, #1NOTEP, $4.50. Two notepads, #2NOTEP, $8.00.

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Oh, Happy Days

Alice "Happy Days" Diminy, a fiercely independent prospector who searched for her fortune near Goldfield, was the genuine article. **By Sally Zanjani**



Happy Days goes prospecting in the hills (above). Before acquiring a Model T, she often walked from her cabin to Goldfield, a 24-hour trek.

After the turn of the century, when Goldfield and Tonopah kindled high hopes of gold and silver strikes throughout Nevada, the pace quickened in Tule Canyon, a small camp southwest of Goldfield. The population quadrupled, and four separate towns were platted, none destined to survive and prosper. Women prospectors, perhaps unknown to one another, walked the canyon. Ferminia Sarras ran her toll road here for some years after 1885. Lillian Malcolm may well have gone this way on one of her journeys into Death Valley. Helen Cottrell and Mrs. C.A. Wright probably investigated the canyon before settling down to mine not far to the east. In the postwar era, the Death Valley country drew women prospectors even more strongly.

One who spanned both time periods was Alice "Happy Days" Diminy. She was born in 1852 in Bavaria. After her parents died, she traveled to Paris, Poland, and Egypt. She spoke German, French, Polish, and English fluently. Eventually she emigrated to New York, running a restaurant where she enjoyed dining with her customers. As a restaurateur she found the independence her father had inculcated in her at an early age: "Alice, never work for anyone. That is slavery. Work always for yourself, no matter how hard you find it."

During her next move, to Louisiana, she fell seriously ill with malaria and had to sell her silverware to pay the medical bills. After her recovery she noticed a man on the far bank of the Mississippi with a pack on his back and thought to herself how

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

delightful it would be to travel through the West in that way. After all, she no longer had any possessions to encumber her. Not one for wistful and unfulfilled yearnings, she too started westward with a pack on her back.

She had scarcely reached San Francisco when the 1906 earthquake shattered the city. She acquired a husband, but he did not accompany her when she headed for the Central Nevada mining camps, sampling Tonopah and Goldfield before she hitched a ride with a freight team heading south to Rhyolite; instead, he went in the opposite direction, to Alaska.

In Rhyolite she sold the boomers mulligan soup, a sandwich, and a beer for 25 cents, half the price of her competitors, and acquired her sobriquet. After she treated her first customer, a bum, to a free meal and gave him 50 cents, men on the street asked him how he liked the grub. Rolling his eyes in reminiscent pleasure, he answered, "Oh, happy day." The nickname suited her optimistic outlook, and it stuck. When she ran a Rhyolite saloon, she called it the Happy Days.

After the Rhyolite boom slackened, Happy Days moved on with her lover, A.W. Shipway, to Lida, a small town to the northwest. While running another restaurant there, she grubstaked Shipway, who located the Tule Canyon ground. Talking to Nevada writer Roberta Childers in the 1940s, Happy Days remembered the insidious lure of prospecting:

"Did you ever suddenly find yourself a partner in a gold mine? There's a thrill. You don't know what lays ahead, but you see yourself rolling in wealth. You quit your restaurant. You move out to your piece of sagebrush land. What if you do sleep on the ground and fight rattlesnakes and feel the hot sun cook your back as you bend over with pick and shovel, lifting the dirt you hope is full of gold? Even if there is only a little gold, it's yours." When she began this life of hard labor, Happy Days Diminy was in her mid-50s.

The publication in a mining camp newspaper of a 1906 poem by Happy Days warmly defended the practitioners of her new profession. She concluded her ode to the prospector:

Yes! Laugh, but remember while laughing
The West owes all to such men,
Our country, our history, our grandeur
Is made by them now and then.
So give them a good word while passing,
Please don't consider them scamps,
And don't for a moment consider
That all "Prospectors" are "Tramps."

Happy Days next appeared in the news in the spring of 1909 as a witness in a trial. Her lover, Shipway, had accused another man of stealing his gun, and Happy Days appeared in court to identify the weapon. The opposing attorney attempted to discredit her by forcing her to admit on the witness stand that she was living with a man not her husband. Instead of burying her face in shame, Happy Days defiantly pronounced herself a "good woman." When the attorney inquired what she meant (one almost feels the sarcasm sifting like fog over the question), he got an earful. The witness explained that a good woman, in her opinion, was one who "did no wrong to her acquaintances," "treated everyone in distress as a brother," fed the hungry, and looked after the sick. The *Goldfield News* reported, "Her living with Shipway was just for the heart to say. If she loved him and was true to him, that was all that was necessary." In mining towns, consensual unions abounded, but no one publicly asserted with flags flying that free love was a moral act. Not yet in 1909. The tongue-clucking headline in the *News* read: "Says Affinities Are Quite Proper."

Over the years her tall, slender figure, always clad in boots, levis, Stetson, and a checked shirt, became familiar to Goldfielders.

Meanwhile, her mining in Tule Canyon continued. The nuggets and coarse gold she displayed in Goldfield in the summer of 1912 aroused some interest, at least enough for San Francisco investors to sample her ground—but not to buy. She found her richest pannings in a spot where a dream had directed her. The Goldfield press did not scorn extrasensory methods as unscientific. Instead, the *Tribune* admiringly called her "a woman prospector and miner, one who is no delicate, publicity-seeking, effeminate imitation but the genuine article."

Happy Days christened the cabin she built herself the "Isle of Peace," but at times the "Den of Brawls" might have been a more accurate description. Take the spring of 1913, when a dispute between Happy Days and her hired hand, H.L. Smith, turned physical. The *Tonopah Bonanza* called it a "rough and tumble scrap." Although the 61-year-old woman held her own, a third party eventually intervened to put the finishing touches on her adversary.

Over the years her tall, slender figure, always clad in boots, levis, Stetson, and a red-and-white checked shirt, became familiar to Goldfielders. She might be absent for long periods, such as the winter when she remained snowbound at her desert outpost for four months, but she always reappeared. She would start out from her cabin at midnight walking with her two burros and reach Goldfield the following midnight; although she probably shortened the 65-mile distance over present roads by taking a more direct path, it remains a considerable walk for a woman in her later years. She always brought little vials of gold flakes to sell.

In September 1921 Happy Days took a new husband, Herbert Jester, a small, worn old man with the slightly bent posture of the prospector who has spent many years walking along with his eyes fixed on the ground. Despite his white beard and his elderly appearance, Jester was considerably younger than his 69-year-old bride. He owned the Tule Canyon mining claims adjacent to hers, a situation with great potential for disagreement, but it seemed that Happy Days had decided to love him rather than fight him. Later it became clear that the Jesters did a good deal of both. Happy Days' trips to town with her burros ceased when the Jesters acquired an old Model T Ford, over which they fought. They also mined together, hunting the ledge from which the gold flakes panned on Happy Days' claim had chipped.

In 1935 she rode the rails to call upon investors back East, where she cut an exotic figure in her boots and red-checked shirt. Whatever they thought of the "genuine article," the investors were unimpressed by Happy Days' mining properties, and she was equally unimpressed by New York. She visited briefly with relatives, who urged her to remain. "I couldn't be cooped," she declared and returned to Tule Canyon.

During the '30s, the sobriquet that had once fit her sunny disposition turned into a misnomer as Happy Days grew increasingly cantankerous. She resorted to guns and rocks in her disputes with claim jumpers and cattlemen who trespassed on her territory, and complaints against her multiplied at the county courthouse in Goldfield. On the other hand, Roberta Childers suspected that her opponents had resorted to arson on the day when Happy Days' cabin mysteriously burned down. In 1938 she assaulted the Esmeralda County

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MISCELLANEOUS

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This *Nevada Magazine* guidebook focuses on eight hiking trails, from Red Rock Canyon to Great Basin National Park, each with a map and photo. Five additional hikes in the Silver State are also listed. "Great Nevada Day Hikes" has 32 pages, with a 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" format. Send $4.95 plus $1.50 for shipping and handling to *Nevada Magazine*, 1800 Hwy. 50 East, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701.

MISCELLANEOUS

Please, will you help...?

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St. Ann is a new parish, the only Catholic Church in Dayton Valley. We want to build a church dedicated to St. Ann. We also need classrooms and a meeting hall. We are asking if you can please help us. If so, send your gift of:

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Thank you and may God bless you. We will keep you in our prayers.

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D.	Free distribution	6,104	5,459
E.	Total distribution	76,378	72,254
F.	Copies not distributed		
	1. Office use, leftover unaccounted, spoiled	4,125	5,261
	2. Return from news agents	4,501 est.	4,443 est.
G.	Total	85,003	81,958

MISCELLANEOUS



For great holiday gift ideas from the Silver State, see the special advertising section *Nevada's Best* on page 82.

BOOKS

ORDER TODAY! Only a few copies remain—The Backyard Traveler: 54 Outings in Northern Nevada by Richard Moreno. $12.50 (includes postage) to Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, 1813 North Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. All proceeds benefit the Children's Museum.

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VISITORS GUIDE

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district attorney, John Houlahan, over his refusal to arrest Herbert Jester for taking the couple's old Ford. It was a battle of the octogenarians: Houlahan was then 89; Happy Days, 86. She smashed his shining bald pate with her cane, inflicting severe injuries. The sheriff briefly clapped her in a cell. No charges were filed, but when Houlahan died less than a month later, some believed that Happy Days' cane had been a contributing cause.

Before his death, Houlahan attempted to have Happy Days committed to the state mental hospital as a person "dangerous to be at large." Childers took a seat in the courtroom at the commitment hearing: "In all my life I have never seen equaled the sheer drama of the moment that the doctors declared her not only sane, but remarkably clear-minded for her age. The court room was packed on that gray winter day with the old timers of the desert." When the verdict was read, everyone rose and cheered.

In 1942 Happy Days sued Jester for divorce. At the age of 90, after more than 20 years of marriage, a good many would have turned aside from so drastic a change, but not Happy Days. "He spoiled my happiness when he came into my home," she told the judge.

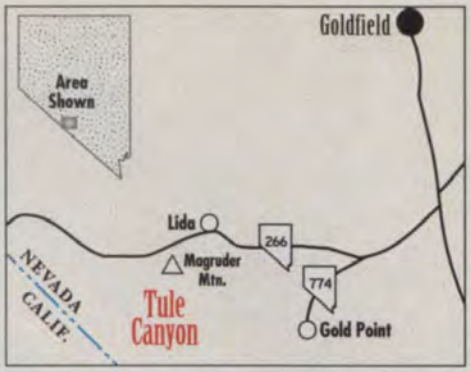
Although Happy Days declared herself perfectly content with her solitary life at the Isle of Peace, she soon embarked upon another drastic change. Perhaps, as her health worsened, the prospect of a snowbound winter alone in Tule Canyon looked more formidable than she admitted. With the coming of winter, she left for San Francisco to tell fortunes, planning to return in the spring. After her return, illness, and possibly a loss of heart, hospitalized her for a while in the spring of 1943 after another suspicious fire in Tule Canyon. She resumed fortune telling.

And that is the last that anyone heard of her. She had told Childers that she wished to be buried in a cave in the peak overlooking the Isle of Peace, and for years it was thought that perhaps her wish had been fulfilled.

But Happy Days did not receive the death she had wanted. What Nevadans in the deserts around Tule Canyon could tolerate as cantankerousness, and even admire as fiery spirit, San Franciscans considered madness. California mortality records show that in 1946 Happy Days was committed to the mental hospital at Stockton. She died there in 1948.

A few years earlier she had described her idyllic life to Roberta Childers. "This desert is a free country," she said. "Don't stay chained to a job. Get out and see the world. It's a beautiful world. And then find yourself a place on the desert, where you can be free."

Sally Zanjani is a Reno historian and an adjunct professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Reno. This story is excerpted from her latest book, A Mine of Her Own: Women Prospectors in the American West, 1850-1950 *(University of Nebraska Press, 312 N. 14th St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0484; 380 pages, $32.50 hardcover). Her* Goldfield: The Last Gold Rush on the Western Frontier *won the Westerners International Award for the best Western history book in 1992.*



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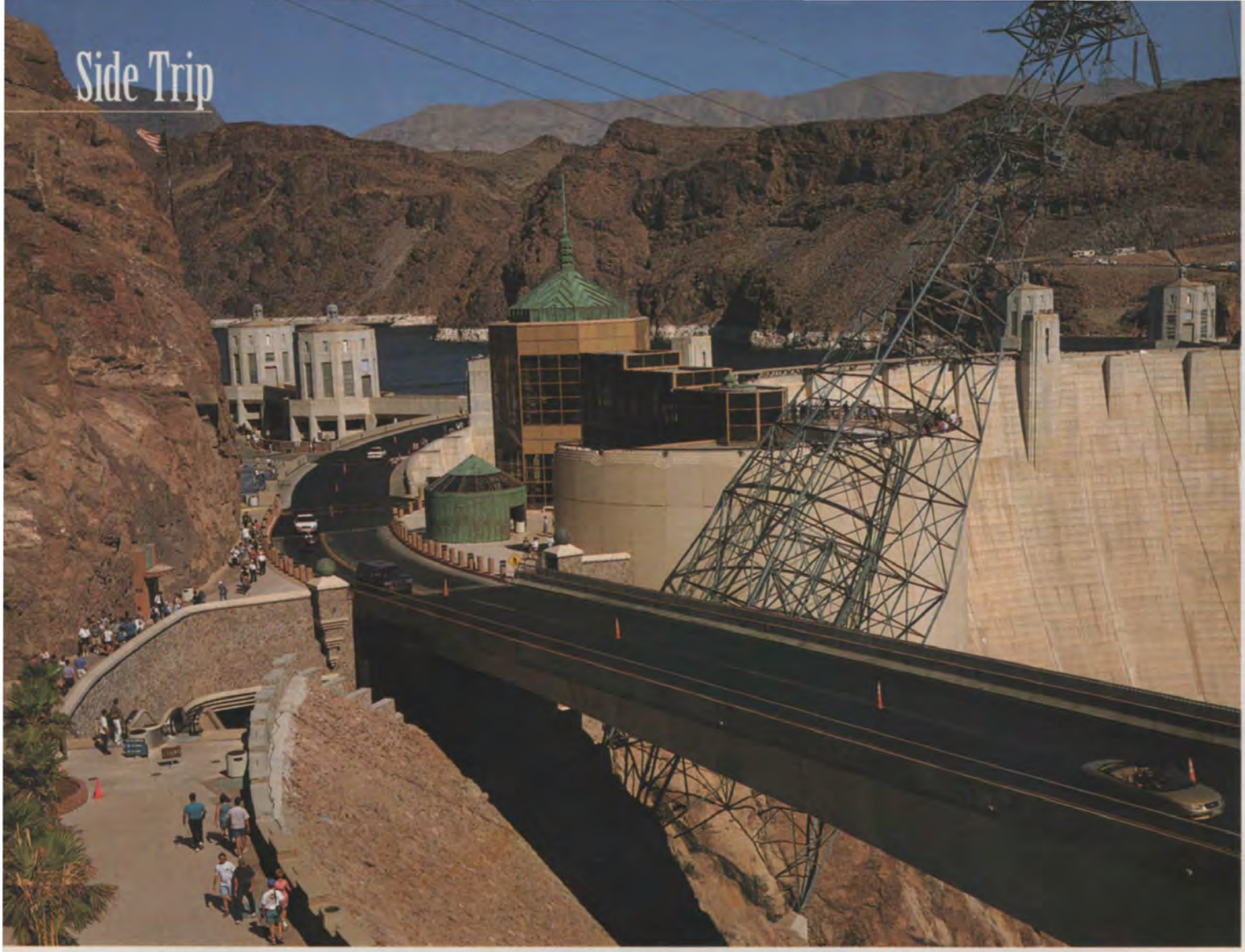
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The visitor center stands on the Nevada side of Hoover Dam. In 1996 more than a million visitors stopped to tour the dam and power plant.

Good Dam Show

Over, under, around—the Hoover Dam Visitor Center offers new ways to see the great dam.

By Julian Rhinehart

Since Hoover Dam was opened to the public in 1937, more than 32 million people have followed Bureau of Reclamation guides on walking tours of the dam and power plant. Millions of other visitors have stood at the dam's edge and peered down at the Colorado River, nearly 600 feet below.

Today, the recently completed Hoover Dam Visitor Center adds new ways to appreciate the dam and the workers who built it. Now you'll find a glass-enclosed observation tower and an outdoor deck to enjoy views of the dam, power plant, and Black Canyon that convey the enormity of the project.

You'll also find fresh perspectives inside the visitor center, where exhibits and movies tell how thousands of workers overcame heat and a relentless construction schedule to complete the "first of the big dams" in 1935. Hoover Dam, or Boulder Dam as it was known before Congress named it after President Herbert Hoover in 1947, provides flood control and generates enough electricity to power half a million homes. The planned community of Boulder City was established to house dam workers. The dam also created Lake Mead, the largest man-made body of water in the United States.

Perched high above the river on the Nevada side, the climate-controlled visitor center opened to the public in 1995. Nearly all of its interpretive features were completed last summer and fall.

Designers treat guests to both old and new attractions.

Photo: Gail Bandini

Near the entrance you'll find a 75-year-old wooden boat that surveyors used to explore the Colorado's white-water canyons. Across the lobby is an innovative "turntable" auditorium. There you can take a seat and be transported through three presentations. At 12-minute intervals the turntable base makes a one-third rotation, moving in and out of three different shows—an introductory video, a multimedia show about people and the river, and a movie on the dam and its construction.

Above the auditorium is an entire floor of exhibits and video displays. There you will find a mini-theater and a diorama simulation of a dramatic natural event that the dam was built to handle—a flash flood.

By automobile, Hoover Dam is 32 miles southeast of Las Vegas and eight miles east of Boulder City on U.S. 93. You can park for $2 in the dam's new parking garage and then proceed to the visitor center for history lessons and new dam views.

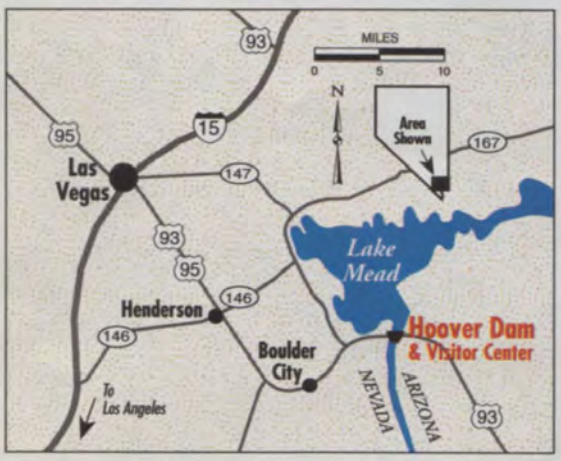
Dam Tours

The Hoover Dam Visitor Center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Christmas (until 6:30 p.m. from March 1 to November 1). Admission includes a walking tour of the dam and power plant. Prices are $8 adults, $7 seniors over 62, $2 children six to 16, and free for kids under six.

The 35-minute tours run every 10 minutes from 9:05 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; the tours are accessible to wheelchair visitors. Also, every half hour Bureau of Reclamation guides conduct "hard-hat" tours through seldom-seen tunnels and galleries of the dam. The hour-long trek costs $25, and each tour member receives a hard hat to keep as a souvenir. For tour information call 702-294-3515. For Internet access go to http://www.hooverdam.com.

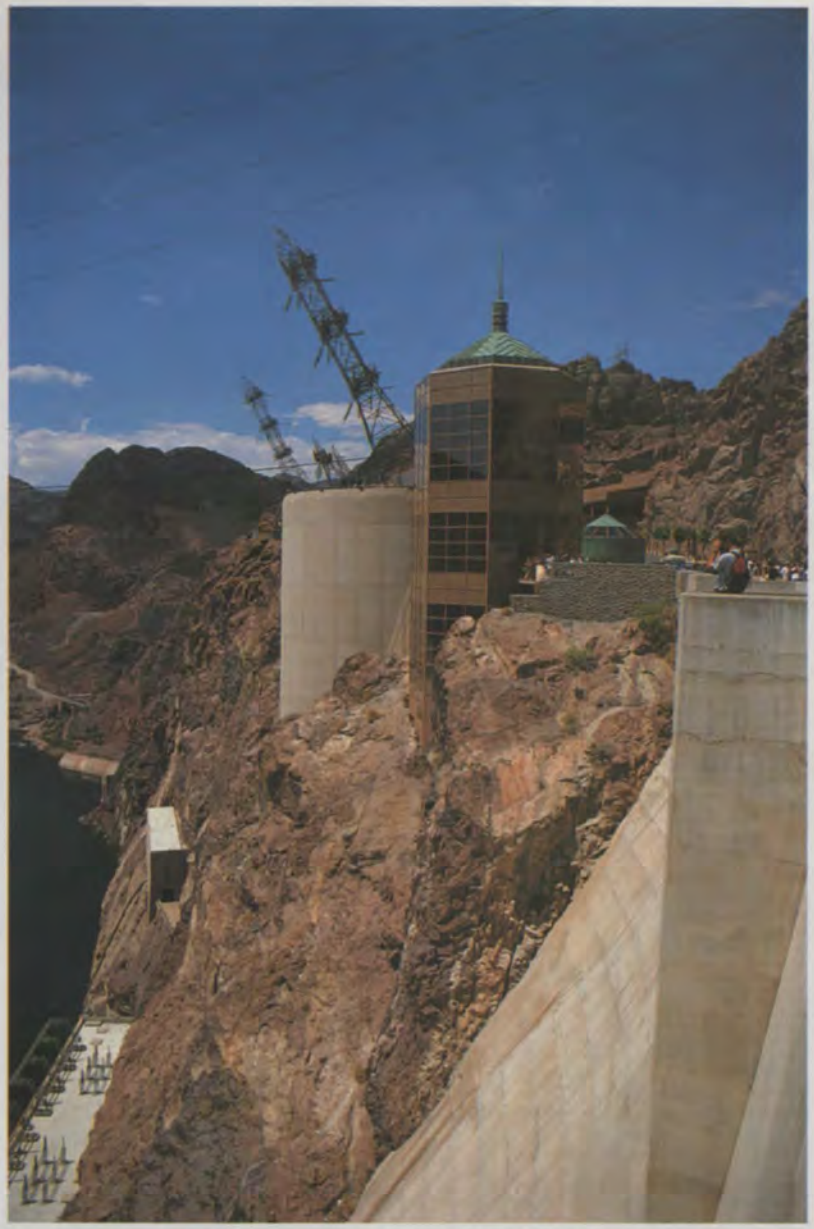
Bus tours to the dam are available from Las Vegas companies such as Guaranteed Tours (800-777-4697) and Interstate Tours (800-245-1166). Also, the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler of Lake Mead Cruises (702-293-6180) docks at Hoover Dam.

Julian Rhinehart is a Boulder City writer and retired public affairs officer for the Bureau of Reclamation. He continues to be fascinated with the dam's lore.





Exhibits tell the story of the dam, which was built during the Depression. A turntable theater transports visitors to three different shows that run a total of 36 minutes.



The $123-million visitor center was built on the edge of Black Canyon. Construction was similar to the dam's—blasting bedrock and boring an elevator shaft 530 feet downward.

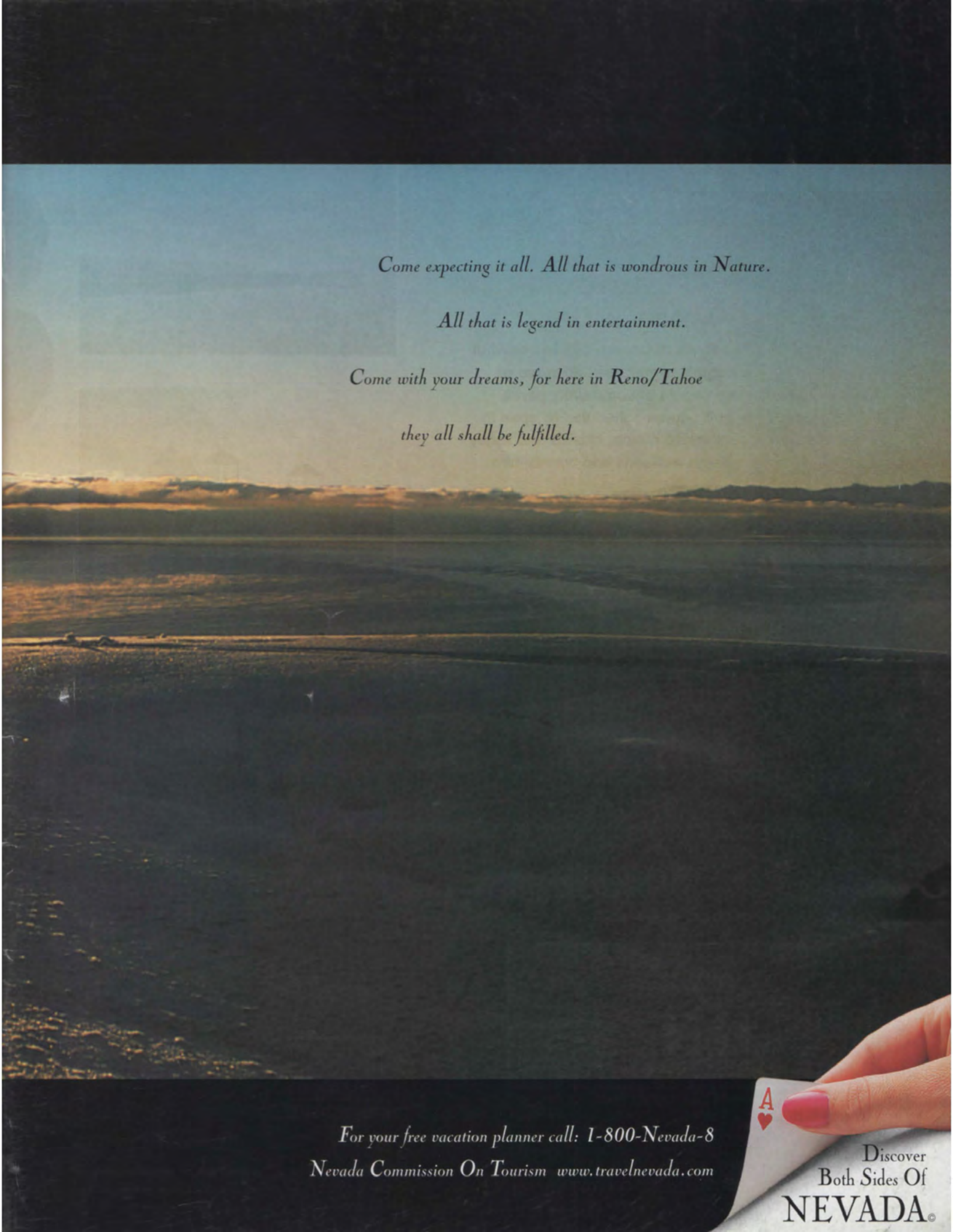
Photos: Chris Leedham

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