NEVADA
MAGAZINE

November/December 2003

INSIDE: Complete Guide to Events & Shows in Nevada

Hometown Holidays

Santa, shopping Las Vegas, skiing Reno-Tahoe, and 100 great holiday events

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NEVADA

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"We get a lot of 'Pee, uh, Pee, uh—how do you pronounce this?'"
—Keith Stever of Pioche on his town's often-mispronounced name (see page 42)



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Larry "Santa" Sims of Hawthorne poses with Dancer the reindeer (see page 15).
Photo by Tony Hughes

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Photos: Northeastern Nevada Museum (top), Barron Haley (middle)

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Skiing Scribes


Sam Bauman

Sam Bauman learned to ski in Colorado while attending the U.S. Air Force intelligence school in the 1950s. He skied in Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, Europe, and Scandinavia while working as a foreign correspondent for the *New York Herald Tribune,* Associated Press, and *Newsweek.* He also worked at *Playboy* and was editor of *Success* magazine.

"These days, I ski wherever there is snow," says Sam, who wrote this issue's "Small Is Beautiful." When he's not on the slopes, Sam mans a desk at the *Nevada Appeal,* the daily newspaper in Carson City, where he has lived for 11 years. Sam recently bought a house and writes the *Appeal's* home and garden page. "I have fun with it," he says. "When it's not fun, I won't do it anymore."

Skiing is still fun for Sam. He has skied virtually every downhill resort in the Reno-Tahoe area. Last year he and fellow *Appeal* newsmen Jeremy Evans and Karl Horeis—two of the four who conquered 10 Nevada challenges in 10 days ("An Adventure Every Day," July/August '03)—skied Les Diablieres in Switzerland.

One snowsport Sam doesn't enjoy is snowboarding. "I'm not terribly good," he says. "I have a hard time convincing myself to stick my rear end over the end of the board."

As a child **Deborah Wall** lived in Rhode Island and in winter skied Attitash Mountain in New Hampshire's White Mountains. As an adult she raced with the U.S. Ski Association Masters, but one day in the early 1990s she found herself at the bottom of a 30-foot cliff at Attitash with a broken back. "My kids begged me to quit racing after that, and I did," she says. "Fortunately I was back on skis the next season, just at a slower pace."

Deborah describes a relaxing visit to the Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort in this issue's "Skiing Vegas." She and her family have skied the Mount Charleston resort since moving to Boulder City seven years ago. Daughters Whitney, 18, and Olivia, 17 ski and snowboard, while six-year-old Charlotte skis the beginner terrain. "All trails lead to the base lodge, where we meet throughout the day," Deborah says.


Deborah Wall

A freelance writer, Deborah says her favorite subjects are hiking, canyoneering, and mountain biking; her story "Bootleggers to Bikers" appeared in the Nov/Dec '02 issue. Deborah has contributed to *Cerca* and the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* and is writing a book due out next year. She can't disclose the title or topic. "But I can say," she notes, "that it deals with an outdoor subject I love."



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Letters

Music makers, small hotels, and Pioche golfers.

All Jump, No Jive

I cannot explain why, but this last issue simply enthralled me. I am a longtime subscriber and longtime visitor to Nevada sites of interest, of which there are more than I am able to visit. I was especially captivated by "Music Makers" by Jake Garehime Jr. as told to Bob Barnes, "3 Great Small Hotels" by David W. Toll, and the "Jump and Jive" dance guide by Jen A. Casey.

Each issue provides enjoyment and imagination. I wish I could do all that *Nevada Magazine* suggests.

George W. Zeissner
Fountain Valley, CA

Music to Their Ears

The article on the Garehime family, "Music Makers" by Jake Garehime Jr. as told to Bob Barnes, was a true highlight of the Sept/Oct issue. As fellow Las Vegas High students we well remember Jake returning in his army uniform to play solos for school assemblies during World War II. He and his wife, Betty, are true Nevadans. Thank you for telling their neat story in Jake's own words.

We always enjoy anything by David Toll, and his review of the Boulder Dam Hotel was excellent in "3 Great Small Hotels" in the same issue.

Gail and Donna Andress
Nelson

Paddle Wielders

Thanks so much for the story about the Jeanne Dini Yerington Cultural Center, "principal's paddles," and the fine historic buildings within our state ("Old School Ties," Sept/Oct '03). I had heard that Basil Quilici had the school's original principal's paddle, but when I asked him, Basil said he didn't. Basil recalled being struck by paddle-wielding Principal George Daugherty, yet he couldn't remember what the paddle looked like. Trauma, perhaps.

Based on first-hand descriptions from past students, we were able to re-create the principal's paddle. The enclosed photo shows Dace Sacchini holding it. The look on her face is priceless. Dave Sanford, the editor of the *Mason Valley News* and a



As a schoolgirl, Dace Sacchini cringed when she heard students being disciplined by the principal at Yerington Grammar School No. 9. Here she holds a re-created "principal's paddle."



Pioche golfers scramble to play their first artificial-turf green at the Lincoln County Golf Course.

Photos: Jeanne Dini Yerington Cultural Center (top), Don Shanks (bottom)

Yerington Grammar School No. 9 alumnus himself, told us the paddle had holes in it for maximum sound effect.

Pat Fietta and George LeMaitre
Curators, Jeanne Dini
Yerington Cultural Center

Armed and Ready

Reading the July/August issue, I loved the "Proud Armpit" item in "Nevada Events and Shows," which described the folks in Battle Mountain and their creative response to the *Washington Post* jibe that their town is the "armpit of the nation."

By sponsoring the Old Spice Festival in the Pit last August, Battle Mountain citizens changed a snide put-down into a positive event. They prove again the adage that old promoters never die—they just move to Nevada. The spirit of the Old West lives on.

Jerry and Carol Arnold
Bend, OR

Putting in Pioche

From our home in Los Angeles my wife and I took a golf vacation to Nevada last summer. We played many good courses, but our favorite was the Lincoln County Golf Course.

Readers may remember this as the Nevada golf course without the greenery that was mentioned in "State of Golf" in the May/June '03 issue. Golf association members Dick and Peggy Decker met us at the hotel in Pioche, gave us our indoor-outdoor carpet mats, and took us to the course.

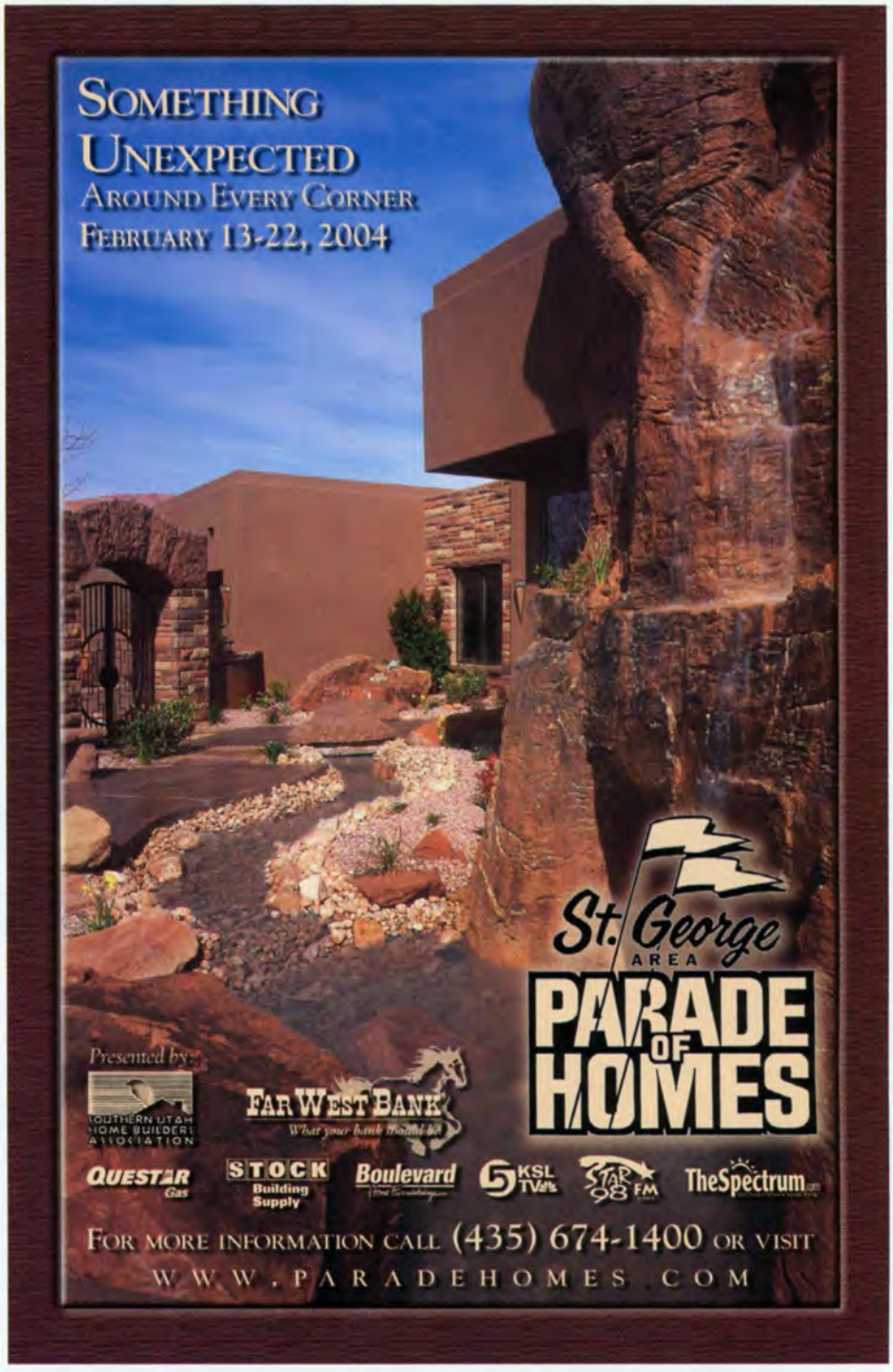
The course was challenging with narrow fairways, and it even boasted a par-4 hole. The ninth hole had a "green," and the Deckers' hospitality made playing this desert course a joy. Thanks for bringing this course to our attention.

Nicholas Novosel
Los Angeles, CA

Nicholas, we're glad you enjoyed Pioche's desert links. Dick and Peggy Decker confirm that golfers wishing to play the Lincoln County Golf Course can call them at 775-962-5206 for carpet mats and directions. "We now have three greens of artificial turf," Peggy says. "Also, we're trying to get water to the fairways." The golf association plans to plant grass seed this fall and trees in the spring.—Ed.

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Light Time

Landscape photographer Gail Bandini snaps the Strip.

Every year or so Gail Bandini lugs her 4x5 camera and tripod up and down Las Vegas Boulevard to take portraits of famous Strip hotels like the Bellagio (below), Bally's (top right), and the Stardust (bottom right). Her biggest challenge is finding uncrowded vantage points. "When I took the Bellagio photo, I was hiding in the traffic island in the middle of the Strip to get away from the crowds," says Bandini, who considers herself a landscape photographer. "When you're taking photos in the desert, you have to watch for snakes and things like that, but not people." The 20-year Las Vegas resident shoots the resorts as they illuminate at twilight, and she exposes the film for as long as eight seconds. Bandini says, "I want to show them in their best light."




BALLYS


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Roadside Attractions

Snow in Las Vegas, Reno model trains, and a Carson City gift store.

Ye Merry Magic Forest

LAS VEGAS—Snow falls infrequently on Las Vegas, yet this holiday season there will be lots of snow at Opportunity Village's **Magical Forest** thanks to Little Blizzards, machines that pump out tiny bubbles resembling snowflakes. A popular holiday attraction, Magical Forest offers tours through holiday scenes, rides on miniature trains, a carousel, and Santa Claus.

Magical Forest is the the year's biggest fundraiser for Opportunity Village, a not-for-profit organization serving people with intellectual disabilities. A local special-effects company donated the snowmaking machines, says spokesperson Darren Withers, who adds, "Everything we use at Magical Forest is donated to us." That includes snowmen and animal figures, millions of lights, Christmas trees, miniature trains, gingerbread houses, and the carousel. Big-band music is planned on Saturday nights and jazz on Sundays. Holiday presents can be purchased at Ye Merry Olde Gift Cabin.

Magical Forest is open 5 to 10 nightly November 26 to December 28. Admission is $7 for adults and $5 for children. Passports for unlimited train and carousel rides are $12 and $10. Opportunity Village is located at 6300 West Oakey Boulevard, five miles northwest of the Strip. Call 702-225-TREE for more information or visit www.magicalforest.org to order tickets.—*Joyce Hollister*



Families tour Opportunity Village's Magical Forest, a wonderland of lights, stars, and Christmas trees.

Gifts at the Brewery

CARSON CITY—While strolling the historic streets of Nevada's capital you can stop at the Brewery Arts Center Artisans' Store—formerly the Carson Brewery's barroom—for Nevada-made art and gifts.

Besides holiday ornaments the store carries the Carson City historic buildings series, whose 2003 ornament features the U.S. Branch Mint, now the Nevada State Museum. Shoppers can choose from folk art, paintings, baskets, greeting cards, and mosaic and fused glass. Silver and beaded jewelry shine in the sunlight streaming through the windows, and handmade soaps carry the scents of green tea and coffee latte. You can try on the hand-crafted woolen hats, vests, and scarves.

The shop sells the work of more than 50 local artisans, and new items arrive almost daily, says manager Jean Summerfield. The best sellers are Rakù-fired and stoneware pottery. Among the potters represented are John Rotheram, a teacher for the Brewery Arts Center, and Muffy Greil-Vhay, who started the BAC pottery studio in the mid-1970s. "Many people from around the country who are following the Kit Carson historic walking tour find us, even in the wintertime," Summerfield says.

The Brewery Arts Center, the former Carson Brewery at 449 West King Street, three blocks west of the Capitol, offers art exhibits, classes, and musical and theatri-



Carson City artist Tia Flores prepares a Christmas display at the Brewery Arts Center Artisans' Store.

Photos: Craig Malburg (top), Joyce Hollister (bottom)

cal performances year-round. The Artisans' Store is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call 775-883-1976 ext. 107 for details.—*Rebecca Loesch*

Shopping Spree

LAS VEGAS—Shoppers can cruise the bargains at Las Vegas Outlet Center, formerly Belz Factory Outlet World, in chauffeured luxury with **Ladies Day Out**. Lunch at Emperor's Garden and an afternoon stroll through Chinatown Plaza shops are included in the $135 fee. You're picked up and returned to your hotel in a stretch limousine that has plenty of room for packages. Shoppers can opt to visit the new Las Vegas Premium Outlets (see "Deck the Malls," page 32). Call 866-4-DAY-OUT or visit ladiesdayoutlv.com for information and reservations.—*Joyce Hollister*

Horseback Holiday

LAS VEGAS—Singing Christmas carols while riding horseback in the desert can be a novel way to spend the holiday. The **Sagebrush Ranch** near the Spring Mountains lets you sing "Jingle Bells" or "Silent Night" on the back of a pinto, appaloosa, or palomino. Or you can ride aboard a wagon decorated in lights, with a ho-ho-ing Santa as music director. The horses pulling the wagon are massive Belgians, and lights twinkle on their manes and tails. Cookies, hot cider, and hot chocolate are served before the ride, and at the end of the trail everyone gathers at a cowboy campfire for chili and toasted marshmallows.

The Sagebrush Ranch also offers romantic Valentine's Day rides, Fourth of July trips, and Halloween hayrides. Breakfast, lunch, and sunset dinner rides include campfire meals. The ranch, 25 miles north of the Strip at 12000 West Ann Road, accommodates group events, weddings, and private parties. Call 702-645-9422 or 702-646-9948 for additional information on holiday horseback and wagon rides.—*Elizabeth Nielsen*

Santa on Skis

Jolly Old Saint Nick entertains young guests at Squaw Valley USA on December 23-25. At right, Santa and a snowboarder climb into a Squaw Valley gondola. Night skiing, ice skating, and dining under the stars begin December 20 at the Lake Tahoe resort. Call 530-583-6985 for more information.





Gondolas at Lake Las Vegas

New gondolas with an Old Venice theme offer romantic cruises at Lake Las Vegas Resort in Henderson. Gondola Adventures' watercraft sail from the dock at MonteLago Village and will take part in the lake's Holiday Parade of Lights in December. The gondolas are manned by costumed gondoliers who, if asked, will serenade passengers. Call 877-4-GONDOLA or visit www.gondola.com for details.

A Model Store

RENO—When he was 10 years old, Bill Moffit wished for a Christmas train. "I got a used Lionel," Moffit says. "It was a simple layout already on a board." Now, 50-some years later, Moffit and his wife, Lilli, have a whole store full of toy trains.

In 1998, the Reno couple bought a former Chinese restaurant on East Fourth Street, gutted the building, and established **Reno Rails**. At first, Moffit, a data base administrator, and Lilli, a computer programmer, opened only on weekends. After a year, Moffit decided to work at the store full time. Reno Rails was an immediate success.

Customers find shelves and counters filled with miniature engines, boxcars, tracks, coaches, and parlor cars. One room holds accessories—little houses, stores, churches, semaphores, gate crossings, and railroad stations. Moffit carries controllers that make smoke pour from steam engine stacks and whistles that emit their lonesome sounds.

Patrons are evenly divided between Nevadans and people from other parts of the country. "We get a lot of tourists and people at conventions," Moffit says. His patrons have included a forensic pathologist from Chicago and an FAA official who's based in Singapore. Far-flung customers learn about the store from commercials on the Weather Channel or MSNBC News, and they can keep up with new merchandise through Moffit's Reno Rails newsletter. There are customers who don't collect trains at all. "One lady who sets up whole miniature villages wanted a trolley," Moffit says. Another buys tiny buildings to put around her koi pond.

The store is best known for its selection of 3 Rail O gauge model train merchandise. "We are one of the largest O gauge stores in the country," Moffit says. "No

Photo: Squaw Valley Ski Corporation (top)



Lilli and Bill Moffit carry myriad miniature trains and accessories for model railroad enthusiasts.

more than 12 to 20 stores carry the selection we do. For some of the brands we're the only authorized dealer in Nevada."

Although Christmas sales at Reno Rails include train layouts for youngsters, grown-up kids collect train components year-round. Some display their engines and rolling stock in wall cases. Others run trains through their gardens using Garden Gauge engines, rolling stock, and accessories, which the store sells.

Moffit recalls helping a Microsoft retiree in his 40s, who was installing a starter train in a room. Three weeks later, the retiree was back for more equipment, explaining, "The set cost me about 2,000 bucks, but that's OK. Model railroading is one of the few things that's gotten better with age."

Reno Rails, 1229 East Fourth Street, is open daily and offers extended hours during the holiday season. Call 775-337-6669 or e-mail renorails@renorails.com for information or to receive a Reno Rails newsletter.—*Connie Emerson*

Angels in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS—The **Angel Store** offers gifts with a heavenly theme. Items range from hand-carved Russian nativity collections to precious Egyptian oils. There also are religious medals, chimes, and Christmas tree ornaments. The shop is decorated with hundreds of angel figurines. Prices range from $2.95 to $4,050. Owner Becky



Angel gift items also can be ordered on the Web.

Stadtlander says buyers seem to enjoy the shop's peaceful atmosphere. The Angel Store is located on West Sahara near Fort Apache Road, a 15-minute drive from the Strip. Call 702-562-4901 or visit www.angelgiftstore.com.—*Elizabeth Nielsen*

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Photo: Joyce Hollister



People Page

Santa's reindeer keepers, a teen actor, and elk-calling kids. **By Joyce Hollister**

On Comet, On Cupid

When **Leeanne and Ken Kirby** of Santa's Reindeer and Company exhibit their reindeer during the Christmas season, children always ask the animals' names. "I tell them whichever names seem appropriate or are asked for, such as Rudolph—the most popular, of course—or Comet or Dasher, because that's what kids want to hear," says Leeanne, a third-grade schoolteacher in Hawthorne.

She has given the animals other names, often based upon their personalities. One reindeer cow's real name is Witchy Mama. "I don't take her out much because she's such a stinker," Leeanne says. "But when she *is* out, her name is Prancer."

Each holiday season, the Kirbys travel with three or more of their nine reindeer to Northern Nevada Christmas events, where the animals are exhibited in special enclosures—except Husker, who stays by Santa. "It's not that they're attack animals," Leeanne explains, "but because of their antlers, all they have to do is move their heads and they could bop someone."

While the Kirbys and two helpers care for the reindeer, friend Larry Sims portrays Santa Claus. Leeanne takes photos of visitors, both children and adults, with Santa and his reindeer.

Ken, who is Mineral County's sole animal control officer, and Leeanne also own fallow deer, peacocks, chickens, emus, and a camel named Max.

About six years ago, the Hawthorne couple bought three reindeer on a whim. The fees they charge for exhibiting and petting the reindeer and for photos with Santa help pay for the reindeers' upkeep—special feed and trips to the vet in Fallon, 72 miles away.

The reindeers' celebrity appearances begin the day after Thanksgiving at the Hawthorne Holiday Parade and Community Christmas Tree Lighting. The tour continues for about three weeks at such celebrations as the Sparks Hometown Christmas and the lighting of the Capitol Christmas tree in Carson City.

"They work for their living during December," Leeanne says. "Then they deserve a break, and so do we."



Larry Sims (center) plays Santa Claus when Hawthorne third-grade teacher Leeanne Kirby (right) and her husband, Ken, display their reindeer at holiday celebrations. At left is Dancer—that's his real name.

Screen Teen

Nico Matinata can't decide if he wants to play professional soccer or act. The 16-year-old Las Vegan can do both: He has played soccer since he was seven and has appeared on television and in films.



Nico Matinata

Nico's most recent screen role was that of Carlos, who investigates a murderous drug dealer on the NBC soap opera *Days of Our Lives*. "Shooting the episode was very, very exciting," Nico says. A drama student at the John Robert Powers acting school in Las Vegas for the past five years, he has appeared on the television show *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* and in the film *Pay It Forward*. He also recorded the voice of Oscar for the Disney Channel's animated show *Fillmore*.

When Nico completes his home-schooling course in 2005, he hopes to try out for the Major League Soccer team the Los Angeles Galaxy. Meanwhile, he plans to continue with his

Photo: Tony Hughes (top)



Elk-calling students at Jessie Beck Elementary School in Reno include (from left, front row) Ben Crowley, Adam Frisch, Haddy Beedle, Hope Loudon, (back row) Zachary Allen, Austin Bland, fourth-grade teacher and club adviser Ryan Brock, Dallas Grate, and Elizabeth Loudon (not pictured, Scott Hansen).

acting. The bilingual teen—his parents are from Argentina, although he is American-born—would like to play bad guys. "If you can make someone hate your character," he explains, "then you know you're doing a good job."

Calling All Elk

Slipping a special reed into his mouth, **Haddy Beedle** took a big breath and blew, imitating the call of a cow elk with a high-pitched "eeeeoooow!" He was one of a handful of boys and girls who learned the art of elk-speak last school year as members of the Elk Bugling Club at Reno's Jessie Beck Elementary School.

"The first time you put a reed inside your mouth, it almost makes you want to gag," club adviser Ryan Brock says.

The students met once a week and practiced their calls at home. "I drove my parents crazy," 10-year-old Haddy says.

"The first time you put a reed inside your mouth, it almost makes you want to gag," says the club's advisor, **Ryan Brock**, a fourth-grade teacher at Jessie Beck. "The reed is a half circle and fits in the top of your mouth. You blow across it and use your tongue to put on pressure for high or low notes."

Elk hunters in Northeastern Nevada use bull and cow calls to lure bull elk into shooting range. "Occasionally, cows will also come into a cow call," Brock says. "And, of course, many times hunters call in other hunters." Brock learned to hunt elk—and how to call them—in Colorado as a child.

After two months of practice, Brock's charges competed in the peewee division of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's elk-calling championship held in Reno last winter. **Austin Bland** took second, **Zachary Allen** third, and **Scott Hansen** fifth. One of the girls, **Dallas Grate**, competed in the free voice (no reed) category with adults. Other club members were **Elizabeth Loudon**, **Hope Loudon**, **Adam Frisch**, and **Ben Crowley**.

Brock plans to restart the club in December and prepare students for the elk-calling competition in February. He emphasizes that the Elk Bugling Club is not about hunting. Club members learn about elk physiognomy, diseases, and habitat, and they give school presentations.

"I want the club to be about nature," Brock says. "We talk about hunting briefly, but we mostly talk about conservation of habitat and things like that. The students are excited about the club because it is something different. It isn't math, and it isn't science. It is an appreciation for wildlife."

Joyce Hollister is Nevada's *associate editor.*

Photo: Joyce Hollister



Can You Name the Biggest Desperado Ever to Appear in Nevada?



LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

Nevada Magazine Readers Can

Sure, gunslinger Sam Brown shot up Virginia City in the 1800s, and Bugsy Siegel was no cream puff when he ruled the Flamingo in Las Vegas. But the biggest, scariest Desperado in the state is the roller coaster at Buffalo Bill's Resort in Primm (above). Located on I-15 near the California state line, the Desperado is one of the tallest—and baddest—of its kind.

Each issue, ***Nevada Magazine*** takes you on a memorable ride through the Silver State's past and present Learn all about Nevada vacation attractions, recreation, history, events, and shows six times a year for just **$18.95.** Call toll free **1-800-495-3281** or visit **www.nevadamagazine.com** to order your ***Nevada Magazine*** subscription.

NEVADA
MAGAZINE

Digital Masters

Great Nevada Picture Hunt winners use technology to help them earn top awards.





First "Wild Cow Milking, Minden Ranch Rodeo," **Larry Angier,** Jackson, CA



Second "Tahoe Dreaming, Zephyr Point," **Shirley Kagel,** Dayton

Like many professional photographers Larry Angier shoots more and more with a digital camera. He took "Wild Cow Milking, Minden Ranch Rodeo," the first-place winner in *Nevada Magazine's* 2003 Great Nevada Picture Hunt, with a digital last summer at a Carson Valley Days rodeo.

"Digital photography has opened some doors that were shut or at least closed very tightly," Angier says. "With digital you get better quality—and instant gratification, so you know if you got your shot."

The *Nevada Magazine* contributor and his partner, Carolyn Fox, were on assignment for the Carson Valley Visitors and Convention Authority. "I probably shot 1,200 to 1,500 images that weekend between the parade and the rodeo," he says. Angier printed his sepia prizewinner on his Epson printer. The sepia tones work better than the original color, he says, because of the rodeo arena's sodium vapor lights. Angier also earned honorable mentions this year for three other photos.

Shirley Kagel of Dayton also switched to a digital camera recently, and her husband, Walter, does her printing. A serious amateur, Kagel placed second with "Tahoe Dreaming," a photo she took when she and a group of friends were staying at Zephyr Point.

"I got up early before everyone else," Kagel says. "As I was taking it, the fisherman came into the picture. The lake was so quiet you could see the reflections in it, which is pretty unusual. I have tried for 15 years to get a good picture of Lake Tahoe, and I finally made it."

Steve McNeil, a Golconda truck driver, won third place with "Fast Food," capturing a hummingbird moth as it dined on a columbine. "I chased the moth around the yard for half a day," McNeil says. "I took 20 or 30 pictures of it." McNeil, also a digital photographer, bought his camera about a year ago. "I like the digital because it gives you more control from the shutter to the printing," he says.

McNeil says driving a truck in the vast expanses of Northern Nevada helps his photographic instincts. "My windshield is a frame," he says, "so it's probably imprinted on my psyche. I'm always looking through glass."

Like McNeil and Kagel, fourth- and fifth-place winner Gary Reese is a first-time picture hunt competitor. "I was



Best Night Scene
"Sekhmet Temple, Cactus Springs," **Warren Bates,** Las Vegas



Third "Fast Food, Hummingbird Moth," **Steve McNeil,** Golconda

talked into it by my fiancée, Susanne Leo," the Las Vegas resident says. Leo, a watercolorist, accompanies Reese on photo trips and often paints the same scenes he photographs.

Reese took "Winter Sunset, Upper Pahranagat Lake" on an outing near Alamo. "The shot is a good example of photographing a scene over and over until the conditions are just right," he says. He took the color transparency with a large-format camera and then increased the color saturation in the digital print.

Reese photographed the black-and-white "Bottles" at a shop in Austin. "You have to have very strong texture and shape in order to offset the lack of color," Reese says. "The bottles give the shape, and the wood on the front of the building gives the texture." Reese also earned two honorable mentions.

Judges for the 2003 contest—the magazine's 26th annual—were Belinda Grant, a photographer for the Gardnerville *Record-Courier* and a Western Nevada Community College photo instructor; Scott Klette, a photographer with the Nevada State Museum's exhibits department; and Denise Barr, *Nevada Magazine's* art director. Barr notes that three of the four top winners were first-time entrants, and all four used digital technology in some form.—*Joyce Hollister*

Top Contest Winners

First:
Larry Angier Jackson, CA, "Wild Cow Milking, Minden Ranch Rodeo" ($200).

Second:
Shirley Kagel, Dayton, "Tahoe Dreaming, Zephyr Point" ($100).

Third:
Steve McNeil, Golconda, "Fast Food, Hummingbird Moth" ($75).

Fourth and Fifth:
Gary Reese, Las Vegas, "Winter Sunset, Upper Pahranagat Lake" ($50) and "Bottles, Austin" ($25).



Fourth "Winter Sunset, Upper Pahranagat Lake," **Gary Reese,** Las Vegas

Category Awards

Best Action: **Patrick Kennedy**, Virginia City, "Expressive Motion."
Best Black and White: **Jim Galli**, Tonopah, "Red King Mine, Goldfield."
Best Event: **James Ball**, Reno, "Fireworks Falling, Fourth of July 2002, Incline Village."
Best Historic: **Sonnia Gore**, Reno, "Berlin Reflections."
Best Night Scene: **Warren Bates**, Las Vegas, "Sekhmet Temple, Cactus Springs."
Best People: **Barry Glazier**, Round Mountain, "Round Mountain Gold employee Lori Manley poses with several ounces of Nevada's bounty."
Best Photo Art: **Mary Alexander**, Las Vegas, "Wild Burros," dry Polaroid transfer on Kodak inkjet paper.
Best Rural: **Warren Bates**, Las Vegas, "Highway 93 North of McGill."
Best Scenic: **Jerome Hamilton**, Las Vegas, "Window View at Valley of Fire."
Best Sunset: **Warren Bates**, Las Vegas, "Pahranagat."
Best Wildflower: **Marla Carr**, Reno "Untitled, Paradise Valley."

Honorable Mention

Larry Angier, Jackson, CA, "Linda Dufurrena at Henry Hot Spring, Nevada," "Yellow House,



Fifth "Bottles, Austin," **Gary Reese,** Las Vegas

Hawthorne," and "Roy Ladd's Homemade Ford-Chevy, Marietta."
Paul L. Bessette, Las Vegas, "Stormy Morning Lights, Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area."
Marla Carr, Reno, "Winter Feed, Mountain City" and "Waiting for Carole Lombard, the Pioneer Saloon, Goodsprings."
Anne Carter, Las Vegas, "Autumn at the Bellagio."
Barry Glazier, Round Mountain, "Mining Frame, Manhattan."
Dave Kelley, Incline Village, "Pristine Solitude, Black Rock Desert."
Terry L. Long, Ely, "Two Sheds Reflecting, Nevada Northern Railway Yard, Ely."
LuAnn McNeil, Golconda, "I've Got Your Back."
John O'Neill, Minden, "Blazing Star, Foothill Road in Douglas County."
Jens Peermann, Carson City, "Virginia City Lifestyle."
Gary Reese, Las Vegas, "Gas Pumps" and "Truck and Courthouse after Winter Snow, Belmont."
Susan J. Traynor, Wellington, "Neon Truck."
Rhonda L. Wilson, Reno, "Hoses."



Best Photo Art

"Wild Burros," **Mary Alexander,** Las Vegas



Honorable Mention

"Two Sheds Reflecting, Nevada Northern Railroad Yard," **Terry L. Long,** Ely



Best People "Round Mountain Gold employee Lori Manley poses with several ounces of Nevada's bounty," **Barry Glazier,** Round Mountain



Best Wildflower "Untitled, Paradise Valley," **Marla Carr,** Reno

Skiing Vegas

When winter comes to Mount Charleston, I take a snow day.

By Deborah Wall

In Las Vegas we seldom see even a flurry of snowflakes, so sometimes I have to call my own snow day, throw my skis into the car, and head to the white-covered slopes of Mount Charleston.

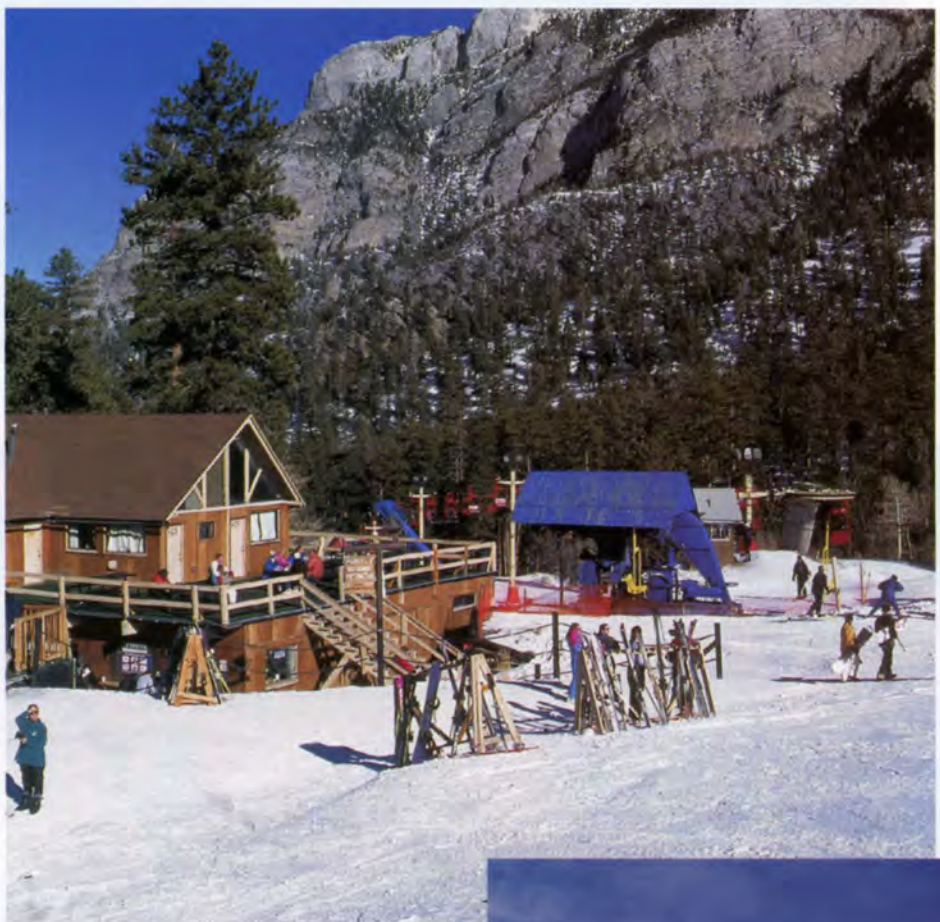
One day last winter I called a snow day to take advantage of two feet of fresh powder that had fallen at the **Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort**. Southern Nevada's only ski area, the Lee Canyon resort has a base elevation of about 8,500 feet, more than 6,000 feet higher than Las Vegas. The ski area is located less than 50 miles from a population of 1.6 million, so it didn't take long for word to spread. When I arrived at 9 a.m., all runs and lifts were open, and the place was filled with skiers and snowboarders.

The mountains and towering fir and pine trees were covered with snow. It was a perfect day. The storm had moved on, and the sun peeked from the clouds.

Pulling on my goggles and slipping my pole straps over my wrists, I skied down a narrow trail where a few moguls were starting to form. Energized, I made several runs before heading to the lodge for a drink of water.

I stopped to talk with Marcel Barel, director of the resort's ski and snowboard school. Ruggedly handsome and athletic at 70-something, Marcel was accompanied by his dog Lucky, whom he calls "the chick magnet." He also introduced me to his daughter, Gabrielle, a tall, striking blonde with an easy smile who teaches skiing with her dad. Marcel, the ski-school director since 1966, learned to ski as a child in Switzerland. He moved to Lake Tahoe to teach skiing at Alpine Meadows and then heard about the opening here. He has been skiing 130 days a season ever since.

"The scenery is in a world of its own, greater than most large ski areas, especially the views from the base lodge," Marcel said. He added, "When I came here, there was only a T-bar and a rope tow. The rope ran through a groove in the rear tire of a truck."





Skiers sit in the sun at the Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort lodge (above). Tom Scheimer of Las Vegas catches air on the Blackjack run (right).

The rope tow and T-bar were replaced long ago by chairlifts, and the resort has a two-story lodge. The ski area is small and rustic by most standards, but with a café, bar, ski shop, and locker room, it still offers virtually anything you might need. In cold, snowy weather the dining area is usually packed. On sunny days most patrons gather on the sundeck to eat and people watch. There is a charm here that is missing from larger ski areas, and I find it very comforting.

I'm a diehard skier, but I noticed that snowboarders now rule the mountain. After my break I skied over to the rail park

Photos: Chris Leedham (top), Dave Bassett (bottom)



where boarders waited to perform tricks on the rails. The snow-covered steel structures have different designs: kink rail, box rail, and square rail. One by one the snowboarders hit the rail. A few boarders got air. Most of them crashed, but all of them seemed to be having a great time.

"It has definitely turned into a snowboard resort," said Jack Bean, the resort's general manager and a fixture here since 1966. "We are planning on building a halfpipe this year or the next, but that will depend on the weather. It takes a lot of snow for one."

Formerly an avid skier, Bean, 50, said, "I snowboard now. I started three years ago, and it was an easy transition. Maybe this year I'll try some tricks." Not so for Marcel Barel, who said, "I wasn't successful. I took a lot of falls. It takes too long for my body to repair at my age." I have to agree with Marcel—it does seem that boarders spend a lot of time on their backsides.

This is not just a locals' resort. Many out-of-state ski clubs combine a Vegas visit and a ski trip. They ski or board all day, head back to the Strip to soak in a hot tub, and then hit the casino. Marcel said Las Vegas conventions often bring groups to the resort. "They come up, take a lesson, and take off on their own for the rest of the day." As I was leaving that afternoon, a Ford Expedition stretch limo unloaded six passengers who headed to the ticket and rental booths. There were only two hours left until closing time, but they seemed to know it would be worth it.

They were right. In a few hours I had 15 runs under my belt. I drove back to the valley, greeted my children with a big smile, and didn't feel the least bit guilty about taking a snow day.

Deborah Wall, a Boulder City writer, was three when she learned to ski in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Skiing Charleston

To get to the **Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort**, from Las Vegas take U.S. 95 north 30 miles to Lee Canyon Road (SR 156) and turn left. Follow for 17 miles to the parking area. The resort's snowmaking coverage extends to 50 percent of the runs. The terrain is 20 percent beginner, 60 percent intermediate, and 20 percent expert. An all-day adult lift ticket costs $30, child and senior (65 and older) $23. Children under four ski free with paying adult. Lessons and rental packages for all ages and Frosty's Ski Camp for children four to 12 are available. Call 702-645-2754 or 702-385-2754 or visit www.skilasvegas.com. Cabins at the **Mt. Charleston Lodge** begin at $250 nightly (800-955-1314, 702-872-5408, www.mtcharlestonlodge.com). Rooms and suites at the **Mt. Charleston Hotel** begin at $79 nightly (800-794-3456, 792-872-5500, www.mtcharlestonhotel.com).



Small Is Beautiful

A Tahoe skier reveals eight small and medium-sized resorts where you can have high times at low prices. **By Sam Bauman**

Savvy snowsporters know there are a lot of fine small ski resorts in the Sierra Nevada. The smaller sites just don't get the publicity the megaresorts do. They might seem less glamorous, but they're just as much fun.

For a family of four hitting the slopes at a big resort, lift tickets easily can add up to $180 a day—plus ski rentals, lodging, and $6 hamburgers (without cheese).

But wise skiers have discovered an alternate to the big show: what I call niche resorts. By niche, I mean those small and medium-sized resorts that fill the space between world-famous resorts and the tiny ski areas that boast little more than a rope tow. And Lake Tahoe has some fine ones. All offer rental equipment, ski and snowboard lessons, and dining areas. Here are eight niche resorts where the snowsporting is fun but the expense modest.

• The smallest is **Granlibakken**, which hardly earns a sniff in ski magazines or travel guides. It's on the northwest side of Lake Tahoe near Tahoe City.

Yes, just one slope on 74 acres. And only one T-bar-type lift and a couple of short surface lifts at the bottom. But it's a nice hill, well manicured and ideal for beginners. Rental gear and accessories are available, and rooms in the lodge are pleasantly Western in style. Shuttles link Granlibakken to biggies such as Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows. Call 530-583-4242 for information.

• **Homewood Mountain Resort** is a westshore gem. Each winter thousands of cars zip by en route to Squaw Valley or Alpine Meadows, ignoring what is a very nice snowsporting experience.

From the road Homewood looks modest—one quad and a few surface lifts. But take that first lift, and you're suddenly in wonderful snow country. Off to the left a trail takes you to another chair that leads to the top of the mountain. Go right and there's adventurous terrain or several pleasant intermediate runs. Go left and

2003-2004 NEVADA Ski & Snowboard RESORT REPORT



Boarders and skiers at Diamond Peak share panoramic views of Lake Tahoe from the top of the mountain. A new quad lift this year reduces the ascent time.

you head for the other side of the mountain. There's much in the way of blue (intermediate) runs, with Quail Peak the only black-diamond (expert) run at the resort.

But black diamonds aren't why you are skiing or boarding at Homewood. You're here because it's a friendly, family-oriented place where the locals drop in for a beer at day's end and lift ticket prices are modest. The parking areas are close, an easy walk even for toddlers. Also, the powder-snow stashes last much longer than at other resorts. Phone 530-525-2992.

• **Diamond Peak** in posh Incline Village is an unlikely niche resort. While lift tickets are a bit higher than at Granlibakken or Homewood, the family style of the lodge and the excellent beginner facilities go a long way toward a pleasant, low-budget experience. Condos line the hills around the resort and are often available for rental. Incline is 35 miles from Reno by the Mount Rose Highway.

Diamond Peak is laid out logically with a beginner area right below the central lodge. Short blue and black runs are near the lodge, while a number of blacks branch off from Crystal Ridge.

A special treat is the Saturday night apres-ski with wine tasting from the Snowflake Lodge. Snacks and wine are topped off with guided twilight runs down to the base lodge. Call 775-831-3211.

• Practically on Reno's doorstep is **Mt. Rose-Ski Tahoe**, a niche resort with a lot of special qualities. Lift tickets for adults are under $50, and a family of four (two adults, two kids) pays only $90. About 25 miles south and west of Reno, Rose is also served by shuttle buses from the Biggest Little City.

Rose is a favorite of local snowsporters as well as visitors staying in Reno. The lodge is warm and cheerful with a whole second floor for brownbaggers. The deck has great views. The basement is home of the rental area and ski school. Expert instructor Rusty Crook holds a free Friday morning clinic for seniors (although he has been known to let younger skiers take part). Call 775-849-0704.

Mt. Rose-Ski Tahoe is a favorite of local snowsporters as well as visitors staying in Reno.

• Two niche resorts near Donner Summit, **Boreal** and **Soda Springs**, are owned by one company. Boreal is usually the first resort to open in the winter, and since it's located on Interstate 80, it draws good crowds from the Bay Area seeking fun at lower costs. This big, sprawling resort has nine lifts and a terrain park. It also has lights for night skiing and boarding. There's a free lift, when the mountain is fully opened, for beginners and kids. And two adults can share a single lift ticket, allowing one to watch children and the other to enjoy the slopes. There's even a ski museum at Boreal. Call 530-426-3666.

Soda Springs is small but sweet, and it has what is probably the best tubing run in the Sierra. There's also a sledding area, not common in these mountains. Lift tickets for adults are under $25 and tubing under $15. Soda Springs is about a mile off I-80 at the Boreal/Castle Peak exit. Call 530-426-1010.

• **Tahoe Donner Ski Area** is a community-operated resort off I-80 near Truckee. It's your basic-basic resort with two main lifts, a long quad chair to the top of the mountain, and a shorter one for beginners. A short surface lift starts at the lodge. The main run is a long, open bowl that allows all levels to enjoy the outdoors.

Lift tickets are about $30 for adults, and

Photo: Diamond Peak Ski Resort

there is a snowplay area for tots. Tahoe Donner offers a relaxing atmosphere where neighbors greet neighbors and strangers are welcome. For the cross-country skiing family, there are 110 kilometers of trails. Call 530-587-9444.

• Last of the smaller resorts is **Donner Ski Ranch**. You can reach it off I-80 at Norden as if going to Soda Springs or Sugar Bowl on the road to Donner Lake. In fact, Donner Ski Ranch is opposite the entrance to Sugar Bowl's new lodge and makes the most of its modest prices. Lift tickets are under $30 and even cheaper at times. There are at least five lifts and trails that range from never-skied to veterans' levels.

This is old-timey snowsporting with lots of condos and a well-worn wooden lodge for comfort. Donner Ski Ranch is the kind of place where people sit around the fire and swap stories of skiing and snowboarding exploits. Call 530-426-3635.

Sam Bauman, a Carson City newspaperman, has skied all these niche resorts. He has also skied Japan's Mount Fuji.



More on Tahoe Skiing

Skiers and snowboarders can learn about Reno-Lake Tahoe skiing, rentals, events, and room and ski bargains from the **Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority**, 800-FOR-RENO or ski.reno laketahoe.com, and **Ski Lake Tahoe**, a consortium of six of Tahoe's biggest resorts, 800-588-SNOW or skilaketahoe.com.

Skiing Around the State

A Guide to Nevada and Tahoe Basin Ski Areas.

2003-2004 Downhill Skier's Guide

Area	Web Site	Phone	Top Elevation	Vertical Feet	Lifts	Rating Bg-Int-Adv	Lift Price Adult/Y/Child	Rentals Skis/Board
TAHOE BASIN								
Alpine Meadows	www.skialpine.com	530-583-4232	8,637	1,802	14	25-40-35	$39/$39/$10	$30/$35†
Boreal	www.borealski.com	530-426-3666	7,700	500	9	30-55-15	$36-$10	$28/$34†
Diamond Peak	www.diamondpeak.com	775-831-3211	8,540	1,840	6	18-46-36	$44/$35/$16	$28/$33
Donner Ski Ranch	www.donnerskiranch.com	530-426-3635	7,751	750	6	25-50-25	$20/$10	$18/$28†
Granlibakken	www.granlibakken.com	530-583-4242	6,480	280	1	50-50-0	$18/$10	$25/$30
Heavenly	www.skiheavenly.com	775-586-7000	10,040	3,500	29	20-45-35	$64/$47/$29#	$28/$32†
Homewood Mountain	www.skihomewood.com	530-525-2992	7,880	1,650	8	15-50-35	$44/$27/free#	$27/$35#†
Kirkwood	www.kirkwood.com	209-258-6000	9,800	2,000	12	15-50-35	$58/$46/$13	$30/$36†
Mt. Rose/Ski Tahoe	www.skirose.com	775-849-0704	9,700	1,440	6	30-40-30	$48/$32/$12	$29/$29†
Northstar-at-Tahoe	www.northstarattahoe.com	530-562-1010	8,600	2,200	15	25-50-25	$57/$47/$19#	$32/$39#†
Sierra-at-Tahoe	www.sierrattahoe.com	530-659-7453	8,852	2,212	10	25-50-25	$53/$43/$11	$29/$35†
Soda Springs	www.skisodasprings.com	530-426-1010	7,352	652	4	30-50-20	$24/$16/$10	$28/$34
Squaw Valley USA	www.squaw.com	530-583-6955	9,050	2,850	33	25-45-30	$59/$29/$5	$29/$37†
Sugar Bowl	www.sugarbowl.com	530-426-9000	8,383	1,500	13	17-43-40	$56/$42/$15	$32/$32†
Tahoe Donner	www.skitahoedonner.com	530-587-9444	7,350	600	4	40-60-0	$29/$12#	$20/$28#†
AROUND THE STATE								
LV Ski/Snowboard	www.skilasvegas.com	702-385-2754	9,510	1,000	3	20-60-20	$32/$25	$16/$25†
Elko Snobowl		800-428-7143	7,000	670	2	20-60-20	$15/$10	$15/$15
Ruby Mountains (Elko)	www.helicopterskiing.com	775-753-6867	Ruby Mt. Heli-Skiing offers backcountry helicopter skiing; $2,850 per person					

2003-2004 Cross-Country Skier's Guide

Area	Web Site	Phone	Trail (km)	Trail Fee Adult/Y/Child	Rental Adult/Child	Lessons Adult/Child	Day Lodge
TAHOE BASIN							
Clair Tappaan Lodge	www.sierraclub.org	530-426-3632	14	$7/$3.50	$13/$9	$14	√
Hope Valley	www.sorensensresort.com	530-694-2266	100	none	$15/$9	$35/$25	√
Kirkwood	www.kirkwood.com	209-258-7248	80	$20/$15/$6	$19/$19	$45/40/$25*	√
Lake Tahoe Basin	www.r5.fs.fed.us/ltbmu	530-543-2600	The U.S. Forest Service has brochures on many forest areas				
Northstar-at-Tahoe	www.northstarattahoe.com	530-562-1010	50	$26/$15#	$26/$15#	$30/$18#	√
Royal Gorge	www.royalgorge.com	530-426-3871	330	$25/$12	$18/$10.50	$49.50/$29.50*	√
Spooner Lake	www.spoonerlake.com	775-749-5349	91	$18/$8/$1	$17.50/$8/$1	$39/$25*	√
Resort at Squaw Creek	www.squawcreek.com	530-583-6300	12	$12/$8#	$12/$8#	$35#*	√
Tahoe Donner	www.tdxc.net	530-587-9484	110	$20/$15	$18/$10	$42*	√
AROUND THE STATE							
LV Ski and Snowboard	(Mount Charleston)	702-385-2754	The Ski Chalet offers x-country suggestions				
	www.fs.fed.us/htnf	702-873-8800 (USFS)	The U.S. Forest Service has info on camping and avalanche conditions				
Spring Valley (Eureka)	www.eurekacounty.com	775-237-5280	Ron Carrion at the Owl Club provides directions and information				
White Pine (Ely)	www.nv.blm.gov/ely	775-289-1800 (BLM)	Ward Mt. and Loop Trails info. available from the BLM and USFS				
	www.fs.fed.us/htnf	775-289-3031 (USFS)					

* Includes trail pass, equipment, and lessons.

† Resort has a half pipe for snowboarders.

2002-2003 price.

All downhill resorts have terrain parks unless otherwise noted.

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

With Every Christmas Card I Write



Elko rancher Bing Crosby fondly remembered his Nevada friends as he wished them Christmases "merry and bright"





Crosby sent Christmas cards each year to his Elko friends. Above: sons Gary, Lindsay, Phillip, and Dennis at holiday time.

By Lin Anderson

You may not recognize the verse, but you probably know the chorus by heart.

The sun is shining,
The grass is green,
The orange and palm trees sway.
I've never seen such a day
In Beverly Hills, L.A.
But it's December the 24th
And I am longing to be up North.

Irving Berlin called it "an amusing little number" when he first played "White Christmas" for Bing Crosby. It was one of the songs Berlin had written for *Holiday Inn*, a film that featured Crosby and Fred Astaire as happy-go-lucky fellows who decide to open their hostelry only on holidays. The movie would give a name to one of the world's leading hotel chains. The song, which won an Oscar, would forever link Bing Crosby with Christmas.

Crosby never got around to recording that initial verse—his producer convinced him it was out of place in the film—but the singer-actor was indeed longing to be up North when he crooned the chorus that launched 50 million records. A year after *Holiday Inn* was released in 1942, Crosby sealed a deal to buy the Jube Wright Ranch, the first of seven Elko County ranches that he would own.

In the years to come Crosby would put Elko County on the map. He served as the City of Elko's honorary mayor and in 1951 held the premiere of one of his movies, *Here Comes the Groom*, in Elko, flying in the governors of Nevada and Utah and hundreds of reporters for the event, which culminated in *The Elko Show*, a live national broadcast on CBS Radio.

But most of all, Crosby would make friends, lots of them, in this Western hamlet that barely numbered 5,000 souls. He earned their friendship by simply becoming one of them.

> **"There was never any Hollywood stuff at all. He was treated just like another guy."**

And as friends do, he sent Christmas cards. Today many of those cards are preserved in the Karl Keppler family collection at the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko. The collection spans two decades and two Crosby families.

Members of the first clan—wife Dixie and sons Gary, Phillip, Dennis, and Lindsay—were the aggregation that became familiar faces around Elko in the 1940s and '50s. Bing had sold his Elko County holdings by the time he started a family in California with his second wife, Kathryn Grant—sons Harry and Nathaniel and daughter Mary Frances—but the cards kept coming, each and every Christmas, to his friends up North.

"He was a very common, very likeable guy," recalls retired Elko physician Dr. John Martin, whose father, Jack, and his father's real estate partner, John Oldham,



Bing checks the mail at the PX Ranch, 60 miles north of Elko near Wildhorse. The crooner invited his Elko and Hollywood chums for ranch outings. At right: Crosby boys at Christmas.



Crosby called Elko County "my favorite corner of the globe."

were two of Bing's Elko cronies. "There was never any Hollywood stuff at all. He was treated just like another guy, and that's the way he wanted it. We all had a lot of admiration for him."

Bing often played golf at Ruby View, Elko's municipal golf links. John Martin recalls working in the golf shop for Tony Lema, Ruby View's pro and later a PGA Tour star, when "Bing would come out and bring the boys. He was always appreciative of what you did for him."

In his autobiography, *Call Me Lucky*, Crosby called Elko County "my favorite corner of the globe" and opined with characteristic modesty, "As nearly as I can figure it, if I'm known at all, it is simply as that fellow from California with a pretty nice cattle—cow-and-calf—operation up near Wildhorse." He added, "The principal feature of Elko County is its neighborliness."

Being neighborly was a feature of Bing Crosby, too. He made large donations to Elko's hospital and municipal swimming pool. Elkoans also recall the smaller acts of kindness that befit a man who each and every winter wished his fellows "days merry and bright."

Marianne Glaser, whose family has ranched in the Halleck area since 1872, recalled one day during World War II when her mother-in-law, Kathryn, and a friend were driving into Elko to attend a bond rally. The fund-raiser was especially important to Kathryn because her sons, Arthur and Norman, were both serving in the U.S. Navy.

But on the way to the rally their car suffered that persistent ailment of the rutted Elko County roads of those days—a flat tire.

"They were stopped, and, knowing Mom, she probably was out trying to change the tire herself, when just then a beautiful car pulled up, and Bing Crosby stepped out. He asked them if he could help, and Mom said, 'We could use some help, I guess.'"

Crosby not only changed the tire but also purchased war bonds from the stranded women—to the very melodious tune of about $5,000.

"Here's a man stopped and fixing a tire for someone, and they sell him some war bonds," Glaser says with a chuckle. "But he didn't take offense. He wasn't like that."

One of Bing's best chums during his years in Elko was realtor John Oldham, who had helped Crosby dot the i's and cross the t's of his ranch purchases. The crooner and the real estate man found in each other a kindred spirit and a lifelong friend.

"Bing and Daddy were just very close," Oldham's daughter, Kathleen Taylor, says. When Oldham was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, during World War II, Bing

Photos: Northeastern Nevada Museum

invited the family to the ranch, where he had recording equipment, so they could make a record to "send Daddy a wish."

"Mommy and Daddy would have Bing up for dinner, and one time, when I was about five or six, I just would not go to sleep," Taylor recalls. "So Bing said, 'Well, Kathleen, what can I do to help you sleep?' and I said, "Sing 'White Christmas.

"So Bing said to go jump in bed and call me when I was ready, and he sang 'White Christmas' to me," she laughs. "I believe this was in July!"

Crosby and Oldham often shared hunting and fishing adventures.

Like Crosby, John Oldham was an avid outdoorsman, and the two men often shared hunting and fishing adventures with like-minded companions such as Elko hotelier Newton Crumley. There would be jokes and stories around the campfire and, of course, more than a few songs from Bing.

Crosby's Northeastern Nevada idyll ended in 1958. Dixie had died six years earlier, and in 1957 he had married Kathryn Grant, an actress and singer. Convinced that none of his four sons wanted to follow him in the ranching business, Crosby sold his Elko holdings and embarked upon a new life in California. But the honorary mayor was never far away from his Elko constituents, many of whom were touched over the years by unexpected notes or telephone calls from



Crosby with his second wife, Kathryn, and children Mary Frances, Nathaniel, and Harry.



Crosby and Elko Mayor Dave Dotta, flanked by Lee Frankovich (left) and Dick Warren, pose in their denim tuxedos, which were made by Levi Strauss & Company. The tuxes are on display at the Northeastern Nevada Museum.

Bing and Elko

Bing Crosby's days as an Elko County resident are celebrated in an exhibit at Elko's **Northeastern Nevada Museum**, which has a sizable Crosby archive. The History Gallery exhibit includes photos of Crosby's tenure as honorary mayor and the premiere of *Here Comes the Groom*. Visitors also can admire the two denim tuxedos presented to Crosby and Mayor Dave Dotta by Levi Strauss during the Silver State Stampede in Elko in 1951. Other museum attractions include the Wanamaker Wildlife Wing and the Garcia Saddle Shop. Admission is $5 adults, $3 seniors, and $1 students and children. The museum is located at 1515 Idaho Street. Call 775-738-3418 or visit www.museum-elko.us.

Upcoming Elko events include the Western Folklife Center's **Christmas Show and Sale** on November 28-29, the **Festival of the Trees** on December 1-4, **Christmas in the Nighttime Skies** on December 6, downtown's **Parade of Lights** on December 13, and the world-renowned **National Cowboy Poetry Gathering** on January 24-31. See this issue's "Nevada Events and Shows" section for details.

The **Elko Convention and Visitors Authority** will mail its 48-page visitors guide to Elko-area attractions upon request. Call 800-248-3556 or visit www.elkocva.com.

Photos: Northeastern Nevada Museum

Crosby, inquiring after their well-being. And there was always Christmas.

"Bing sent Christmas presents to Dad every year until the year [Crosby] died," Oldham's stepdaughter, Kathy Lino, recalls. "Even when Bing had moved on to his other life, there were always Christmas presents. I remember a rifle one year. Everything was always beautifully engraved, outdoorsman-type stuff."

One mid-October day in 1977 Crosby phoned Oldham from Scotland, checking in, chewing the fat. He said he was traveling to Spain the following day.

A few days later, after finishing a round of golf near Madrid, Crosby was felled by a sudden and fatal heart attack. His last words were, "It was a great game."

The news traveled quickly, through private channels, to Elko. "Bing's head man called Dad," Lino says. "When Bing died, Dad knew about it before it was on the news. It was so depressing, sort of the end of an era for the old-time Elko people."

This Christmas season—like every Christmas season since Irving Berlin's ode to the holiday comforted wartime ears in the loving embrace of Bing Crosby's



This card, titled "London Palladium, 1976," was Crosby's last holiday greeting. He died while playing golf the following year.

incomparable voice—we'll hear "White Christmas" played and replayed. It will have special resonance, for like his pal Bob Hope, Crosby was born in 1903. Lost amid the joy of Hope's 100th birthday and the sorrow over his passing was the fact that 2003 marked the centennial of Crosby's birth as well.

For some residents of Nevada's outback the yuletide melody will stir memories of the man who made the song immortal—and who thought fondly of his Elko County friends with every Christmas card he wrote.

Lin Anderson of Elko writes for the Mail Box News *and the* Elko Independent. *For his weekly columns, including one on Bing's perennial hipness, visit www.rabbitbrush.com/lin.*



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Deck the Malls

Here's a holiday shopper's guide to 20 of Nevada's biggest malls and outlet centers.



The Fashion Show Mall.

Forum Shops at Caesars.



Las Vegas Premium Outlets.

By Carolyn Graham

For some of us, Christmas shopping is the highlight of the year. Serious shoppers will find endless holiday options in Nevada's more than 20 malls, where miles of aisles will tempt anyone with a gift idea and a credit card.

Some gift seekers gravitate to Saks or Nordstrom. Others stalk specialty shops for exotic candles and table settings. There are outlet stores that sell bargain-priced Armani bags and Liz Claiborne sweaters. If those on your list prefer the practical, you can find sales on Levi's, Reeboks, and CorningWare.

Many Nevada malls these days are as flashy as Strip casinos—especially at holiday time, when the halls are decked with more wattage than usual. Somehow gingerbread villages and North Pole re-creations manage to blend with visions of Atlantis and Arabia.

Following is a sampling of Nevada's major malls and outlet centers beginning in Las Vegas, the state's shopping capital.

Las Vegas

Surprise desert rainstorms, fortunetellers, and henna-tattoo artists are part of the mysticism of ancient Middle Eastern trade routes colorfully re-created at the **Desert Passage** at the Aladdin (3663 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-866-0710, www.aladdincasino.com). The mall has more than 130 stores, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art Store and Sur La Table. While perusing Lucky Brand Dungarees, Betsey Johnson, and Two Lips Shoes, shoppers can plan wardrobe and accessories for an evening at a Broadway show or other headliner entertainment at the Aladdin Theatre for the Performing Arts. Food is a major attraction here. Commander's Palace, imported from the raucous streets of New Orleans, brings Southern cuisine to the mall.

Offering ergonomic hardshell backpacks and bags is Sweden's Boblbee at the **Fashion Show Mall** (3200 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-369-0704, www.thefashionshow.com), which has not only stood the test of time but has quietly evolved to keep pace with its glitzy neighbors, Treasure Island, the Venetian, and the Mirage. Fashion Show has more than 200 stores and restaurants. Its eight anchor department stores include Neiman-Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Robinsons-May. A favorite with celebrities, this elegant mall recently added glam tenant Nordstrom, which offers a coffee nook at the entrance, a piano player in the shoe department, and a tidy little café on the third floor (why ever leave?). There's a runway where models show the latest fashions. Cyber-oriented kids flock to the flashy Apple store. By spring 2004, shoppers can expect a snazzy expansion, complete with a canopy stretching over the





The Grand Canal Shoppes at the Venetian.

Stripside plaza, a sprawling food court, and new stores.

There are plenty of side attractions to keep you occupied at the **Forum Shops at Caesars** (3570 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-893-4800, www.parkplace.com) even if shopping isn't your cup of tea. The mall between Caesars Palace and the Mirage has 110 shops and restaurants. The "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3-D ride is worth the trek, as are the luscious desserts at the Cheesecake Factory. Kids can try to find Nemo in the massive saltwater tank, where "aquarists," as they're called, feed the fish daily at 3:15 and 7:15 p.m. (Fish fanatics can take a "below-the-scenes" tour of aquarium facilities at 1:15 and 5:15 on weekday afternoons.) The Forum Shops helped launch the celebrity café craze when Wolfgang Puck opened Spago here in 1992. He followed with Chinois a few years later. Hollywood types also clamor for tables at Palm. La Salsa offers margaritas by the yard. Donna Karan, Louis Vuitton, bebe, and Fendi outlets will appeal to Fifth Avenue and Rodeo Drive expatriates.

A favorite with celebrities, the Fashion Show Mall recently added glam tenant Nordstrom

The **Grand Canal Shoppes** at the Venetian (3355 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-414-4500, www.venetian.com) are full of visual delights. "Shoppertainment," a lineup of strolling "street" performances, creates an atmosphere that is part Renaissance fair and part casino showroom. Beautifully costumed Italian opera singers, jugglers, and living statues entertain shoppers as they peruse Kenneth Cole, Krispy Kreme, and Houdini's Magic Shop. In all, patrons will find more than 70 shops, restaurants, and attractions. If you've shopped till you've dropped, you can climb aboard a gondola for a serenaded ride down the mall's canals; tickets are available at Emporio d'Gondola, which also sells gondola T-shirts and merchandise. Spa aficionados can stock up on bathrobes, T-shirts, videotapes, and beauty products at Canyon Ranch Living Essentials. A bit unusual for a mall is the Venus Lounge, an upscale tiki bar where stylish women wearing red dresses serve exotic drinks.

When a fashion-model lookalike at your blackjack table pulls out her Dolce & Gabbana handbag, you'll know that it may have come from the **Las Vegas Premium Outlets** (875 South Grand Central Parkway, 702-474-7500, www.premiumoutlets.com). She may have extra gambling money since the outlets there offer designer togs for up to 75 percent off the original prices. Shoppers at this outlet center—the area's newest big shopping mall—can rifle through the bargain bins at Tommy Hilfiger or Armani Exchange. Other top-name goods are found at Brooks Brothers, Calvin Klein, Eddie Bauer, and Polo Ralph



Customers at Valley Oriental Arts and Crafts in Chinatown Plaza.



Las Vegas Chinatown Plaza.

Lauren. Located near Interstate 15 and West Charleston Boulevard, the 120-store, Southwestern-themed mall has toy and clothing stores as well as play areas for kids.

When the Chelsea Corporation opened the Las Vegas Premium Outlets last summer, the company did a little shopping of its own and purchased Belz Factory Outlet World, renaming it **Las Vegas Outlet Center** (7400 Las Vegas Boulevard South, 702-896-5599, www.premiumoutlets.com). While the décor is not as flashy as other Southern Nevada malls, the center offers rock-bottom bargains for Nike, Levi's, and other top brands at the Off 5th Saks Fifth Avenue. With more than 150 shops and two food courts, the mall is located two and a half miles south of Mandalay Bay.

Many casinos have shops selling logo merchandise, but you can also find high fashion and fine art in casino stores.

Shoppers familiar with Rodeo Drive will feel at home at **Via Bellagio** (702-693-7111), on the casino's second level.

Items range from Parisian fashions for children to French pastries in the 20 or so quaint boutiques of **Paris Las Vegas' Le Boulevard** (702-946-7000). Degas and Renoir fans can visit L Art de Paris, which sells prints and reproductions of French impressionists on canvas as well as cards and coffee mugs.

Nike Golf, Urban Outfitters, and Sauvage are among the 41 upscale boutiques and restaurants occupying a skyway above the Strip that links Mandalay Bay and Luxor. The new **Mandalay Place Mall** was scheduled to open this fall on a 100,000-square-foot walkway between the two hotels, both owned by Mandalay Resort Group.

Three large malls cater to Las Vegas-area residents and visitors. The **Boulevard Mall** (3528 Maryland Parkway, 702-732-8949, www.boulevardmall.com) offers a cavernous 1.2 million square feet of shopping nirvana. The mall has more than 150 stores, from Bikini Bay to American Eagle Outfitters, and more than 20 food outlets. Anchors include Macy's, Sears, JC Penney, and Dillard's. The Boulevard, a good people-watching place, is located two miles due east of the Fashion Show Mall.

Asia meets Nevada at the **Las Vegas Chinatown Plaza** (4255 Spring Mountain Road, 702-221-8448, www.lvchinatown.com). Located a mile and a half west of Treasure Island, this intriguing mall attracts both residents and tourists with more than 30 Asian businesses and restaurants. The Ranch Market is known for its live seafood and Asian spices. Jana's Jade Gallery sells jade jewelry. The Great Wall Book Store carries Chinese books and CDs. Marco Polo Furniture sells hand-crafted Chinese furniture. Nine restaurants serve a wonderful variety of cuisines—Shanghai, Mandarin, Cantonese, Szechuan, Taiwanese, Filipino, Japanese, and Vietnamese, not to mention Hong Kong-style barbecued duck. Chinese New Year falls on January 22; the center will celebrate the holiday on January 31, hailing the Year of the Monkey.

The newly remodeled **Meadows Mall** (4300 Meadows Lane, 702-878-4849, www.meadowsmall.com) has more than 140 shops, services, and eateries. Located three miles west of downtown off U.S. 95 at Valley View Boulevard, the Meadows' anchors include Macy's, Sears, JC Penney, and Dillard's. The mall's multimillion-dollar renovation added new family restrooms, an updated food court, and new retailers such as Hollister, Torrid, Skin Nuvo, and The Limited Too.

Henderson

Galleria at Sunset (1300 West Sunset Road, 702-434-0202, www.galleriaatsunset.com) is located across the street from the Sunset Station hotel-casino. The attractive Henderson mall is packed with 140 stores such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Hollister, and bebe. Galyan's Nevada is a huge sports and outdoor-adventure store with a rock-climbing wall. JC Penney, Dillard's, Mervyn's California, and Robinsons-May are the other anchors. There are 12 food outlets, and the large food court has a children's play area sponsored by Ethel M Chocolates. Kids can't miss the big M&M machines.

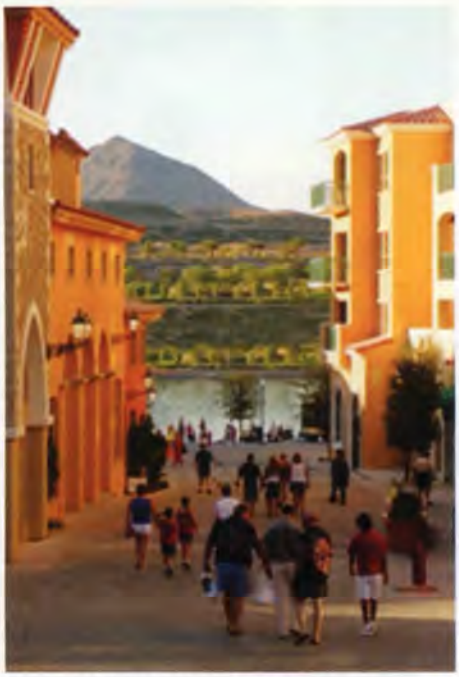
Lake Las Vegas has become a sprawling resort with chi-chi accommodations (the

At MonteLago Village you can savor crème brulée gelati as you gaze upon the harbor

where they can scour 18 elegant stores for a Tiffany bracelet or a Fendi bag.

You can look for alpaca rugs, jewelry, china, and perfume at the **Tower Shops at the Stratosphere** (702-380-7777), where more than 40 stores and carts are located

Photo: Chris Leedham



MonteLago Village at Lake Las Vegas.

Ritz-Carlton opened last summer), three golf courses, hiking, casinos, and, this fall, **MonteLago Village** (1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway, 17 miles southeast of Las Vegas, 866-752-9558, www.playlakelasvegas.com). Set amid an Italian streetscape, MonteLago Village is lining its cobblestone streets with more than 20 unusual boutiques and one-of-a-kind shops. Shoppers have a view of 320-acre Lake Las Vegas as they peruse stores such as Moonbeams, a women's specialty store imported from Del Mar, California. Da Mincci Jewelers has a workshop where artists make everything from glassware to watches. After sushi at Costa di Lago, stop at Tutti Gelati and sample crème brulée gelati while you gaze upon the harbor. At the village dock you can board an electric boat or gondola for a cruise across the lake.

Laughlin

Laughlin shoppers can scour the bargains at the **Horizon Outlet Center** (1955 South Casino Drive, 702-298-4497 www.horizongroup.com). Located across the street from the Flamingo Laughlin, the mall has 58 outlet stores, food court, and Stadium 9 Cinemas. The stores include Gap Outlet, Mikasa, Casual Corner, Reebok, Levi's, and Dockers.

Primm

Another good shopping escape is **Fashion Outlets of Las Vegas** (888-424-6898, www.fashionoutletlasvegas.com). Located in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on Interstate 15, the mall boasts designer stores like the Gap, Old Navy, Guess, and Banana Republic. Shoppers navigate in the round, pausing at the Zales diamond outlet, the Versace Company Store, the Williams-Sonoma Marketplace, and more than 100 other outlets. This is a good place to stock up on the basics. Shoppers can catch the shuttle that departs three times daily from the MGM Grand and New York-New York (tickets cost $12.99 per person, round trip). Flash your AAA card and get a free Fashion Outlets Savings Card good for discounts on merchandise and the shuttle. A shuttle also links the Primm outlets and the Desert Passage at the Aladdin—a helpful connection for holiday shoppers.

Carolyn Graham is a Los Angeles-based writer who recently accomplished a personal best: visiting six Las Vegas malls in two days.

Shopping Reno

By Rebecca Loesch

Reno's largest shopping center, **Meadowood Mall** (South Virginia Street and South McCarran Boulevard, 775-827-8450, www.meadowood.com), has more than 100 stores, including Sharper Image, Guess, Sephora, Bath and Body Works, the Gap, and Wilson's Leather, and anchors Macy's, Sears, and JC Penney. Visitors can peruse paintings at the Thomas Kinkade Gallery or choose an art poster and have it framed at Prints Plus. Shoppers often take a break and people watch near the mall's central fountain. The Palms Food Court offers Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and American food as well as fruit smoothies, pretzels, and Mrs. Field's cookies. At the Web site you can learn what is on sale and download coupons for select stores. If you're from out of town—at least 50 miles away—you can visit the information desk with a local resident and receive a "Great Savings Booklet" good at more than 50 stores.

Opened in the 1960s, **Park Lane Mall** is Reno's oldest mall (South Virginia and Plumb Lane, 775-825-7878, www.shopparklanemall.com). A 16-screen Century Theatre is located behind the mall. You can buy your movie tickets early and wander through Park Lane until show time. The mall has more than 40 stores, including Gottschalks, Tristan of Beverly Hills, Lin's Imports, and Harrell's Treasures, a specialty and antique store. Recently opened are Fashion Mart, Slot Car Warehouse, and High Sierra Music. New restaurants are Sushi Pier 2 and Subway.

The **Reno Hilton Shopping Mall** is located on the first floor of the hotel-casino (2500 East Second Street, 775-789-2000, www.parkplace.com/hilton) and houses 17 stores. Gadget Tree specializes in Frank Sinatra memorabilia. Field of Dreams has sports autographs and collectibles, and Min's Art Gallery sells paintings of 20th-century celebrities. Designer shops, including Georgiou and Supranee's Shoes, provide men and women's evening and casual wear.

Rebecca Loesch is a freelance writer and former Nevada Magazine *editorial assistant.*



Park Lane shoppers often arrange to meet friends at the mall's Victorian-style clock.



Magic Moment

A deer and a cat inspire two Lamoille women to create the children's book *Pogonip Magic.* **By Kate Butler**

Photographer Susan Zerga and writer Karen Wilson developed their story from the animals' chance meeting one winter day in Lamoille.

Susan Zerga witnessed the encounter while photographing ice-covered cottonwoods behind her Lamoille home. The winter fog that Nevada Indians call *pogonip* had frosted the branches, and the trees sparkled in the early morning light.

Through her lens Zerga spotted a black-and-white cat. As she followed the cat with her camera, she noticed a herd of deer standing nearby. Suddenly, a buck walked toward the cat, nuzzled it, and licked it with its tongue. The cat sat quietly.

Zerga took several shots, and after the animals wandered off, she developed the film in her darkroom. Later she showed the images to her friend and neighbor, Karen Wilson.

"When I saw the photographs," Wilson recalls, "I heard a children's book." Together the two women created *Pogonip Magic,* a children's book about a deer that befriends a feral cat.





Something captures the interest of these deer in a snow-covered Lamoille meadow (above). They may be watching a buck as he nuzzles a cat (opposite page), the scene that inspired the children's book *Pogonip Magic*. Susan Zerga (left) and Karen Wilson plan a sequel.



They tested ideas on their grandkids and on schoolchildren in Elko and Spring Creek. Wilson would read the story as Zerga showed her enlarged photos. They also presented the project to an adult bridge group.

"We made some changes based on the comments of the children, but the story pretty much stayed the same," Wilson says. "Once we started reading it aloud, we could hear that certain words worked better together."

Encouraged by teachers and friends, Wilson and Zerga published *Pogonip Magic* under their own label, Snowbound Books, in December 2002. Wilson says, "We think *Pogonip Magic* is a calm yet entertaining escape from the frenzy of today's world."

Wilson's husband, Stewart, adds, "It's a book about animals who behave the way people ought to behave."

Bookshelf: *Pogonip Magic* ($15.95) can be purchased through the Nevada Magazine Book and Gift Shop on the Web at www.nevadamagazine.com, from www.barnesandnoble.com, and at the bookstores and museums listed on the Snowbound Books Web site, www.deertales.com. Wilson and Zerga are working on a sequel, which they plan to publish in 2004.

Kate Butler, a former Nevadan now living in Weimar, California, is a longtime Nevada Magazine *contributor.*

Photos: Susan Zerga (top left, top right, bottom right), Kate Butler (bottom left)

Nevada Bookshelf

Recent releases of Nevada interest in time for the holidays.

In the Shadow of the Strip: Las Vegas Stories

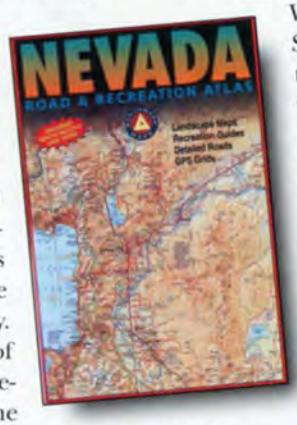
Edited by Richard Logsdon, Todd Moffett, and Tina D. Eliopulos. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076, www.nvbooks.nevada.edu. 160 pages, $16.00, paper (ISBN 0-87417-549-6). This collection of 14 short stories explores an edgy Las Vegas where the lights shine brightest in characters' dreams. "The God Gambler" by Felicia Campbell, a UNLV professor of English, involves a "bizarro" gambler named Rotten Roy who confronts his faith on the crap table. In "Big-City Detective" *Las Vegas Review-Journal* columnist John L. Smith tells the story of a one-legged fellow from Baker, California, who sneaks into the Las Vegas Country Club in search of a chimpanzee. Coeditor Richard Logsdon writes that the book aims "to make sense of this continually changing city and illuminate its always enigmatic soul." While the book illuminates the city's character, the human characters shine, too.



Tahoe Rim Trail hikers pause at the Sand Harbor Overlook. This image by Reno photographer Mark Vollmer is one of many in *Tahoe Rim Trail: Exploring the Jewel.*

A Family Affair: Harolds Club and the Smiths Remembered

By R.T. King and Dwayne Kling. University of Nevada Oral History Program, Reno, NV 89557-0099. 342 pages, $24.95, hardcover (ISBN 1-56475-381-6). Reno gaming man Dwayne Kling and editor R.T. King of UNR's Oral History Program have produced a valuable recollection of Harolds Club, the trend-setting Reno casino founded in the 1930s by Raymond I. "Pappy" Smith and his son Harold. More than 20 Harolds employees and associates, such as Reno's Roy Powers and Jack Streeter, recall the club and the Smith family. Diane Smith, daughter of Harold and his wife Lois, describes dining every night at the club (her mother didn't cook), her father's drinking, and his love of classical music.



Western Train Adventures: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

By Mark McLaughlin. Mic Mac Publishing, Box 483, Carnelian Bay, CA 96140, www.micmacmedia.com. 208 pages, $18.95, paper (ISBN 0-9657202-4-1). North Tahoe resident Mark McLaughlin has written a third volume of well-illustrated historical stories centered on Nevada and California. *Western Train Adventures* lays down tales of the Comstock-era Virginia and Truckee and train crews who struggled through Sierra snowstorms. We follow Robert Louis Stevenson on a cross-country train journey to find the woman he loved. McLaughlin also takes us on the "Short Line to Paradise," the scenic Lake Tahoe Railway.

Nevada Road and Recreation Atlas

Benchmark Maps, 34 N. Central Ave., Medford, OR 97501, 541-779-8605. 96 pages, $19.95, paper (ISBN 0-929591-81-X). Nevada travelers will enjoy exploring this large-size atlas. It offers shaded topography, lists of area attractions, and good labeling of mountains, streams, mines, ranches, and dirt roads. Separate maps delineate Las Vegas, Reno, Lake Tahoe, and the Death Valley area. Indexes point to landmarks from Adobe Summit (near Elko) to Yucca Flat (don't go there).



Tahoe Rim Trail: Exploring the Jewel

Photos by Mark Vollmer and Scott Sady, text by Mark Vollmer. Carmel Publishing Company, 800-731-3322, www.carmelpublishingco.com. 160 pages, 150 color photos, $35.00 hardcover, $125.00 hardcover in a slipcase (ISBN 1-886312-17-6). Due out in November, this book provides a well-photographed reconnoiter of the Tahoe Rim Trail, section by section. *Nevada* contributor Mark Vollmer describes the area's geology and natural history, and photographs by Vollmer and Scott Sady, a *Reno Gazette-Journal* photographer, offer colorful views of the trek. Also, Ann Ronald and Tom Killion write about the Nevada and California sides of Tahoe, respectively.

Endless Nevada: A Photo Essay

Photographs by Larry Prosor, text by Richard Moreno. Stephens Publishing, Box 1600, Las

Vegas, NV 89125, www.stephenspress.com. 180 pages, hardcover, $34.95 (ISBN 1-932173-03-X). With striking Nevada photographs and stories, this is a large-format book that deserves to spend more time in one's lap than on the coffee table. Truckee photographer Larry Prosor paints a loving picture of the state: the blue water of Lake Tahoe, the brown cliffs of Lake Mead, the historic churches of Austin, and the reflections of autumn leaves lapping against a fisherman. The author, Reno resident and *Nevada* publisher Richard Moreno, notes that "Nevada is perhaps the most misunderstood state in the Union." In text and captions Moreno helps us appreciate our land, casinos, people, and eccentricities.

The Pony Express: A Photographic History

By Bill and Jan Moeller. Mountain Press Publishing, Box 2399, Missoula, MT 59806, 406-728-1900. 170 pages, $22.00, paper (ISBN 0-87842-470-9). Readers with an interest in the Pony Express will enjoy riding with the Moellers, full-time RVers who photographed the trail and surviving landmarks from Missouri to California. The Nevada portion includes photos and descriptions of station sites such as Cold Springs, Sand Springs, Buckland's, and Fort Churchill.



Phantom Stallion: Golden Ghost

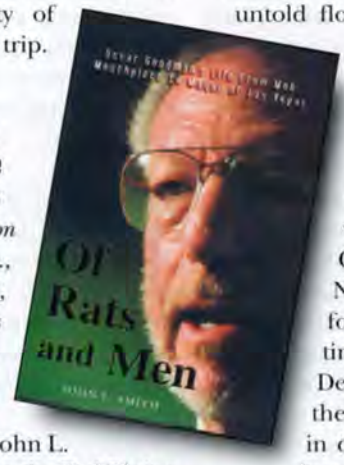
By Terri Farley. HarperCollins, New York, NY 10022. 200 pages, $4.99, paper (0-06-053726-4). Golden Ghost is the eighth book in Verdi author Terri Farley's "Phantom Stallion" series for kids 10 and older. The ninth, *Gift Horse,* is due in November, and the 10th, *Red Feather Filly,* in February. Throughout the series heroine Samantha "Sam" Forster, who lives on a ranch near the Black Rock Desert, maintains a bond with a wild stallion known as Phantom. In *Golden Ghost,* Sam finds a lone palomino in the ghost town of Nugget. She thinks the mare is missing from her best friend's ranch, but someone—is it Phantom?—is interfering with the horse's rescue. A teacher and horsewoman, Farley injects vitality into her characters—both human and equine—and her plots gallop along. Highly recommended for horse-loving preteen girls.

You Know You're a Nevadan If...

By Guy Clifton. Nevada Humanities Committee, Box 8029, Reno, NV 89507. 60 pages, paper (ISBN 1-890591-13-0). In a Nevada Day column for the *Reno Gazette-Journal,* Guy Clifton listed signs that a person might be a Nevadan, such as "you've thrown a rock down a mine shaft." Soon he was deluged with suggestions from readers. In self defense Clifton teamed with Reno artist Marilyn Melton to publish this book containing more than 300 signs-of-a-Nevadan, most related to the northern part of the state. If "you've convinced a tourist that jackalopes really do exist" or "you tip every bartender and cocktail waitress who serves you a drink," the book might be cause for self-revelation. Clifton and Melton reportedly have a second volume in the works.

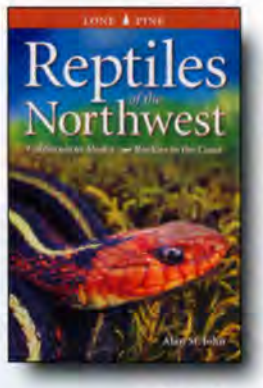
Believing in Place: A Spiritual Geography of the Great Basin

By Richard V. Francaviglia. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076, www.nvbooks.nevada.edu. 302 pages, $24.95, hardcover (ISBN 0-87417-542-9). Richard V. Francaviglia, a geographer and professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, examines the importance of spirituality and the meaning of place in Nevada and Western Utah. His scope is wide—the Native Americans who sought harmony with nature, the Mormons who sought refuge in a new Zion, dust devils, Joshua trees, and the Burning Man festival. The approach is somewhat academic, but readers who are interested in spirituality of place may appreciate the trip.



Of Rats and Men: Oscar Goodman's Life From Mob Mouthpiece to Mayor of Las Vegas

By John L. Smith. Huntington Press, 3687 S. Procyon Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89103, 702-252-0655. 440 pages (16 pages photos), $25.95, hardcover (ISBN 0-929712-98-6). Las Vegas Review-Journal columnist John L. Smith has written books on the Ted Binion murder case, casino mogul Steve Wynn, and Stratosphere founder Bob Stupak. Here Smith presents an entertaining biography of another famous Las Vegas figure, Oscar Goodman. Before winning election as mayor in 1999, Goodman was best known as the defense attorney for mob figures like Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal and Tony "The Ant" Spilotro. Although Goodman was fond of saying, "There is no mob," Smith reviews in great detail the lawyer's dealings with the city's underworld types. The author also shows us the man behind the beard, from Goodman's affection for martinis to his second thoughts about the 1995 motion picture *Casino,* in which he played himself.



Reptiles of the Northwest: California to Alaska, Rockies to the Coast

Text and photos by Alan St. John. Lone Pine Publishing, 1901 Raymond Ave. SW, Suite C, Renton, WA 98055, www.lonepinepublishing.com. 272 pages, $18.95, paper (ISBN 1-55105-343-8). Alan St. John's striking photos reveal the white and blue belly of a fence lizard and the curious eye of a Western patch-nosed snake. Even the rattlers seem to pose for his camera. The photos will help outdoor explorers identify the colors, shapes, and scales of the creatures, as will helpful "quick keys" to their body structures. St. John covers a lot of country, but Northern Nevada reptiles are well represented in this excellent guidebook.

Birds of the Lahontan Valley: A Guide to Nevada's Wetland Oasis

By Graham Chisholm and Larry A. Neel. University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076, www.nvbooks.nevada.edu. 237 pages, paper (ISBN 0-87417-479-1). The Stillwater marshes near Fallon do indeed form a "wetland oasis" for birdwatchers. Besides untold flocks of ducks, geese, egrets, and herons, the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge is known for its tundra swans and canvasbacks, and Carson Lake has colonies of white faced ibis. In their valuable guidebook Graham Chisholm, a director of the Nature Conservancy of California, and Larry Neel, longtime biologist with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, describe the birds of the Lahontan Valley in detail. Using maps and offering clear directions, they also help guide the reader through the numerous ponds, sloughs, reservoirs, streams, and levees that give the Stillwater area its marshy, scenic character.—*The Editors*

For additional "Nevada Bookshelf" notices and reviews see **www.nevadamagazine.com**.

Talking Turkey

Two Las Vegas chefs describe their special dishes for the holidays.

By Joan Patterson

There are many ways to cook the Christmas goose, and William Becker should know. Every year, the executive chef at the **Rio All-Suite Hotel** asks his cadre of cooks to develop recipes for the holiday season.

"We solicit the chefs to think about menus a good month out and have food tastings when they present them. We have 14 holiday menus to put together," he says.

The Rio's **Carnival World Buffet**, one of the largest buffets on earth, offers prime rib, goose, turkey, and ham at its carving stations during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

At **Antonio's**, last year's holiday menu included roast goose with a creamed hominy side dish. The hominy, which is coarsely ground corn, was flavored with truffle juice and oil from foie gras. One of the casino's original eateries, Antonio's has murals and a domed ceiling painted to look like the sky.

The **Fiore** steakhouse has offered foie gras-stuffed quail with black truffle risotto and celery root chips as a holiday-time appetizer. The **VooDoo Lounge** has featured a pan-roasted striped sea bass accompanied by pumpkin ravioli. The top-floor lounge overlooks the Strip.

Holiday menus at **Sao Paulo**, the Rio's 24-hour coffee shop, have included roasted turkey or ham accompanied by unusual side dishes such as corn pudding and roasted beans. The restaurant's atmosphere is warmly welcoming with its large fireplace and chickens turning on a rotisserie.

William Becker grew up in California and later attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Before moving to Las Vegas, he was executive chef at the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore.

Last holiday season Becker baked sweet potatoes with maple syrup and chestnuts at home for his family.







Executive chef William Becker (above) oversees holiday menus for Rio restaurants like the Fiore steakhouse (right). At Harrah's Las Vegas, executive chef Tim Bowen (lower right) makes plans for yuletide dishes.

"I peeled the sweet potatoes and cut them into pieces, then parboiled them," he says. "Then I covered the pieces with maple syrup and chestnuts and roasted them at 350 degrees, covered, for 45 minutes and then uncovered for about another 45 minutes, or until the syrup caramelized."

The main dish in Las Vegas may be gaming, but this time of year the holiday spirit beckons. "It's still Christmas. We have a lot of empty-nesters," executive chef Tim Bowen notes. "People still want to go and sit and have a holiday meal even if they're away from home."

Bowen and his staff at **Harrah's Las Vegas** look for innovative ways to bring a taste of the holidays to their restaurants. "Our pumpkin crème brulée was a big hit last year. Sweet potato and pecan pie is offered in the coffee shop," Bowen says. "We have cranberry tarts with rum cream. You have to try to keep it new and fresh."

Several eateries at Harrah's Las Vegas offer holiday menus. Here are some past seasonal favorites.

The **Range Steakhouse** has served lamb, venison, and a smoked tom turkey with parsnip-mashed potatoes and cranberry-pear compote. Diners also have enjoyed nontraditional entrées like seared medallions of veal and lobster. Guests will find good views of the Strip from the steakhouse's second-tier dining room.

Café Andreotti has offered roasted capon or slow-roasted prime rib with

maple-baked acorn squash, and, for dessert, pumpkin cheesecake. Guests can dine in the café's two dining areas, the lower level with hand-painted, Old World murals, and the garden area with high ceilings and an open kitchen.

The **Garden Café** is the hotel's 24-hour coffee shop. One of the most popular dishes served for Christmas and New Year's is turkey roulade, a boned smoked turkey stuffed with bacon-chestnut or sage dressing with apple-cider gravy. Honey-baked ham has been accompanied by orange-walnut glazed carrots, and the pumpkin pie is topped with bourbon chantilly cream.

Before becoming executive chef at Harrah's Las Vegas seven years ago, Tim Bowen was with the Regal Knickerbocker Hotel in downtown Chicago. He also has worked in New York, Detroit, and Austin, Texas. Bowen calls Harrah's "the most challenging job ever" with 450 employees in his department.

At holiday time, Bowen says, stuffing a turkey with cut-up lemons, oranges, and a touch of lime gives the bird an interesting flavor—and throw away that turkey rack. Instead, place a one- to two-inch layer of leftover peels from vegetables such as carrots, onions, and potatoes on the bottom of the pan and cook the turkey on top of it. The vegetables are full of moisture, so they will help keep the turkey juicy and, once cooked, can be used with the giblets as flavoring for the gravy.

"Our pumpkin crème brulée was a big hit last year," Bowen says. "You have to try to keep it new and fresh."

You also can try adding cranberries to gravy. Cook the whole, fresh cranberries in the meat stock and then make the gravy in the normal way, Bowen says. The cranberries can be left whole, or the entire mixture can be puréed.

"Start with the basics, and you can throw in almost anything," Bowen says. "I think the key for people is to have fun with it. Do something different every year. Even if you change one or two items, that's great."

Joan Patterson of Las Vegas wrote about the Four Seasons in the May/June 2003 issue. Visit **www.nevadamagazine.com** *for holiday recipes from chefs Becker and Bowen.*

Holiday Marketplace

GIFTS

MUSTANG'S LAST RIDE

The Closure of the *Mustang Ranch Bordello* by Bill Valentine

- Joe Conforte, infamous brothel owner, prison inmate, government witness, fugitive, and why the feds seized his Mustang Ranch bordello.
- Why was Argentine heavyweight boxer Oscar Bonavena gunned down outside the Mustang Ranch in May 1976? Was it a contract hit?
- Why was Ross Brymer sentenced to only two years for killing Bonavena, yet was hammered with life imprisonment for selling prescription Valium tablets?



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Nevada Almanac

Enunciating the results of the Mispronounced Nevada Names Contest.

How Do You Pronounce That Name Again?

Mike Bojanowski of Healdsburg, California, is the winner of *Nevada Magazine's* **Mispronounced Nevada Names Contest**. His list of mangled monickers was chosen at random from the entries received. Bojanowski's list of 12 often-mispronounced Silver State place names is:

Genoa (Juh-NO-ah): Town's name is not pronounced like Columbus' birthplace.

Denio (Deh-NIGH-oh): Has a musical ring. Aaron Denio was buried here.

Toiyabe (Toy-AH-bee): Range and national forest—Shoshone for "mountain."

Gerlach (GRR-lock): Burning Man host.

Hazen (HAY-zen): A railroad hamlet.

Lamoille (La-moyle): Named in honor of Lamoille County, Vermont, early homesteader Thomas Waterman's home.

Pioche (Pee-OACH): A French banker named Pioche (Pee-oash) from San Francisco bought mining property here.

Shoshone (Sho-SHO-nee): The range.

Vya (VIE-ya): As in "con Dios."

Toquima (Toe-KEE-mah): The cave and the range in Central Nevada.



Toothless at Red Rock The lack of a mouth gives this snow person a quirky demeanor. Las Vegas photographer Barron Haley took the photograph at a scenic overlook on the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area's Loop Drive following a short-lived snowfall.

Lida (LIE-dah): *The Music Man* song.

And finally **Owyhee** (Oh-WHY-hee): The town and river named after Hawaii.

Adrienne Jacobsen of West Richland, Washington, earned honorable mention for submitting five additional names. Her "bonus" names included **Panaca** (Pa-NACK-ah) and the Eastern Nevada ghost town of **Osceola** (Oh-see-OH-la). Barbara Branco of Arcata, California, offered three names that no one else suggested: **Beowawe** (Bee-oh-WAH-wee), the **Pahroc** (PAH-rock) Range near Caliente, and **Sarcobatus** (Sar-co-BAT-us) Flat near Scotty's Junction.

Pioche was the most nominated name. **Charley Hinkle** wrote, "As a fairly new resident of Pioche, I have heard some interesting variations on the pronunciation, such as 'Pie-oach, and 'Pio-chey. I had a hard time learning the correct way to say 'Pee-oach' myself. Nearby Panaca has some unusual pronunciations, too. I've even heard it called 'Panacea'—said perhaps with a little panache."

Another Piochean, **Keith Stever**, noted that he has heard his town's name pronounced "Pee-auk-ee" and "Poach-ee" by visitors. He said, "We get a lot of 'Pee, uh, Pee, uh—how do you pronounce this?'"

Beatty was another favorite. **Carolyn Lignos** of Loomis, California, submitted the name of the desert town, but she didn't know how to pronounce it. Sacramento reader **Dan Lovegren** did. He wrote, "I always pronounced it 'BEE-tee, like the actor, Warren Beatty. But at a checkpoint near Pahrump last year, when the officer asked me where I was traveling from and I responded, he was quick to correct me by asking, 'You mean BAY-tee?'"

Lou Holveck of Pahrump offered **Amargosa**, noting even longtime locals say "Arm-ah-go-sah" instead of "A-mar-go-sah." Another Pahrumpian, **Vicky Parker**, nominated her town's name. "Strangers pronounce **Pahrump** in many strange ways. So do some of its inhabitants," she said.

None of the contestants took the hint in our contest rules that pointed out, "You might start with the mountain range that separates Northern Nevada from California." That range, the **Sierra Nevada**, provides two examples of misapplied usage. Sierra ("rugged range" in Spanish) is often called "the Sierras." And we all know that it's "Nuh-VAA-dah," not "Nuh-VAH-dah."—*Joyce Hollister*

Nevada Trivia

Q What is the longest-running show in Las Vegas history?

A The longest-running revue is "Folies Bergere" at the Tropicana Hotel. The show opened in 1959 and is still drawing crowds.

Q Where did the last stagecoach robbery in the Western U.S. take place?

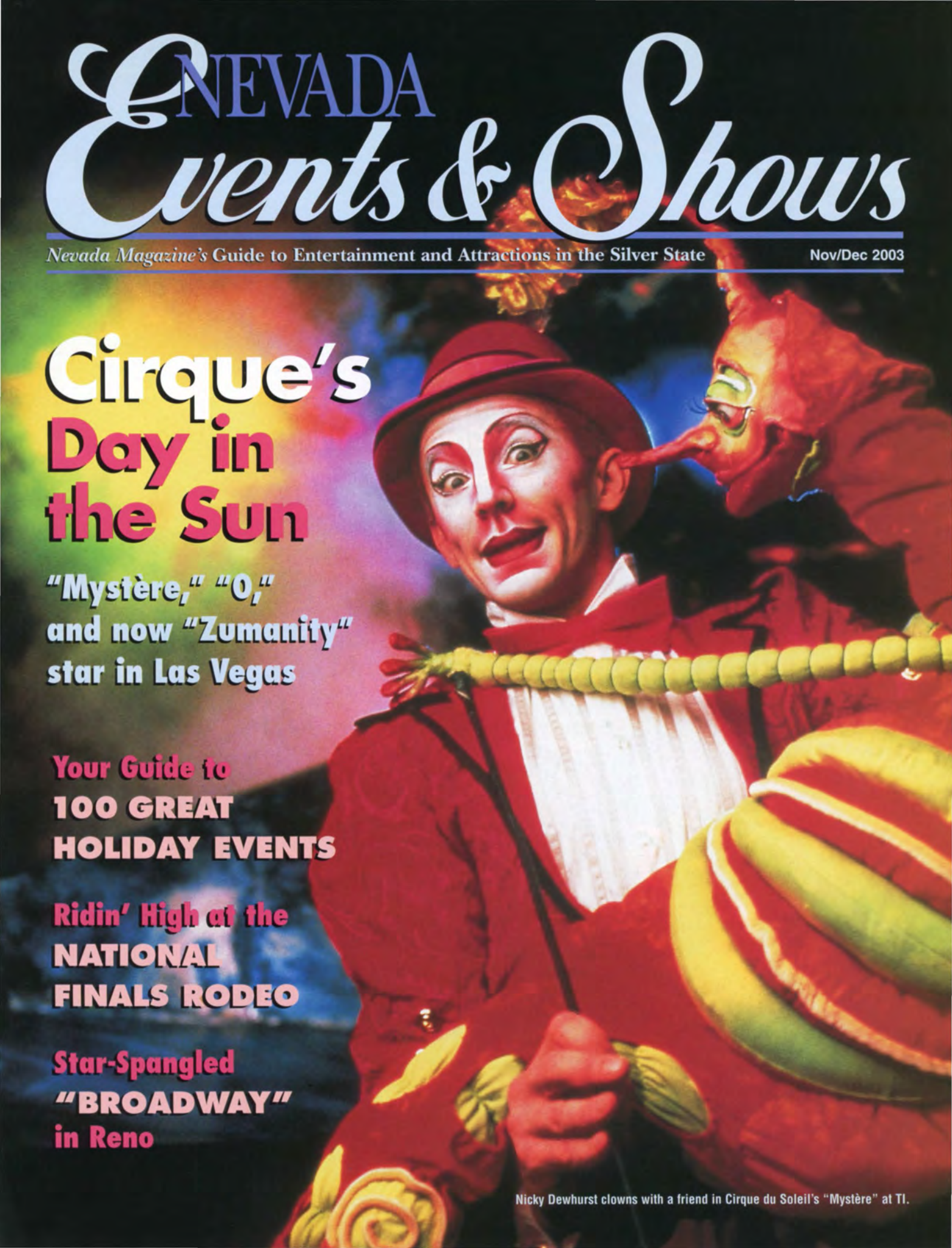
A The West's last stagecoach robbery occurred on December 5, 1916, in Jarbidge Canyon in northern Elko County.

—The Nevada Trivia Book *by Richard Moreno (Gem Guides)*

Nevada Events & Shows

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

Nov/Dec 2003



Cirque's Day in the Sun

"Mystère," "O," and now "Zumanity" star in Las Vegas

Your Guide to 100 GREAT HOLIDAY EVENTS

Ridin' High at the NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

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Nicky Dewhurst clowns with a friend in Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" at TI.

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Always in Season





A parade of 50 boats dressed in holiday finery illuminate the waters of Lake Mead during the annual Parade of Lights on December 6. At left, "Second City" cast members (clockwise from left) Holly Walker, Seamus McCarthy, Joe Kelly, Jason Sudeikis, and Kay Cannon perform at the Flamingo Las Vegas.

Winter festivities blanket Nevada with holiday sights and sounds.

By Ann Henderson

Holiday events-goers will find nearly 100 celebrations around Nevada. Expect the spectacular at Opportunity Village's **Magical Forest** and the **Gift of Lights** at Sunset Park—month-long holiday displays in Las Vegas—and during the **Celebration of Lights** at the Ramada Express in Laughlin. December 6 is the season's busiest day for special events with night parades, fireworks, bazaars, and concerts throughout the state.

"The Nutcracker" performances are scheduled in Boulder City, Carson City, and Las Vegas. Nevada's biggest party is held **New Year's Eve,** when crowds fill the Strip and the Fremont Street Experience as well as downtown Reno. Casinos welcome revelers with champagne, party favors, and special gaming and dining promotions.

This November the **Reno Film Festival** offers an insider's look at the motion picture industry and screenings of classic and independent films. Singer **Toni Tennille,** a resident of Washoe Valley, performs a benefit concert for the **Reno Chamber Orchestra,** and the **Pahrump Social Powwow** features traditional dancing and crafts.

The show will go on at **Aviation Nation,** the air show at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas. Aerobatics flyer Sean Tucker, static displays, and air racing featuring the popular unlimiteds, which reach speeds up to 500 mph, will attract an anticipated crowd of 500,000 flight fans. The **U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds** flying team, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary, also may perform.

Showgoers have excellent entertainment choices this winter. **Jay Leno** appears at Caesars Tahoe, and his friend **Jerry Seinfeld** plays the City Center Pavilion in Reno and Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. The **Oak Ridge Boys** perform New Year's Eve at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks.

On November 8 **Simon and Garfunkel** make a reunion-tour stop at the MGM Grand. Tickets are $75, $175, and $250 to hear the duo sing such hits as "I Am a Rock" and "Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, and Thyme." The following weekend, tenor **Andrea Bocelli** appears with the **World Festival Symphony Orchestra** at Mandalay Bay. Tickets for the show are priced at $50, $100, $200, and $300, and the cheap seats were snapped up in minutes.

Recommended for its entertainment value is the **"Second City"** troupe at the Flamingo Las Vegas. Known for its improvisational skits and physical comedy, "Second City" entered its third year on the Strip with new material. Some skits target current events, as when the players portray slow-witted FBI academy recruits trying to become undercover agents. The five cast members have retained some popular bits, such as the game of charades in which the audience supplies the clues—the more obscure the better. The show's takeoff on the finale of *Dirty Dancing* is worth the admission price, and the "Second City Guide to Las Vegas" is funny, at times painfully so. Tickets to "Second City" are $29.95 plus tax. "Second City," known for famous alumni such as Bill Murray and John Belushi, has other comedy revues in Chicago, Toronto, Detroit, and Cleveland.

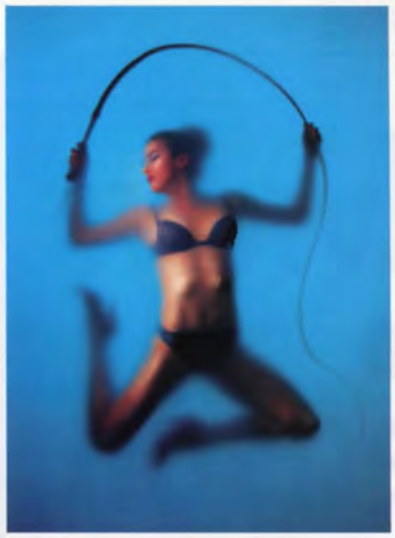
Several shows, such as **"O"** and **"Zumanity,"** will increase the number of dark nights to allow their casts a holiday break in December, so be sure to call ahead when making travel plans.

By the way, trains may be rolling overhead between the Sahara and MGM Grand hotels, but the **Las Vegas Monorail** will not be open for passenger travel until testing is completed possibly in mid-January or early February.

Ann Henderson is Nevada's *events and entertainment editor.*

Photo: Gene Hertzog (top)

Cirque and the City



Like its Cirque du Soleil predecessors, "Zumanity" at New York-New York is redefining Las Vegas entertainment

By Gary Dretzka

Cirque du Soleil has been a fixture in the Las Vegas firmament for barely a decade, but today it's difficult to imagine the city's entertainment scene without the troupe's influence. Looking back, it's also difficult to imagine how many observers thought Quebec's greatest gift to an American city—since hockey star Mario Lemieux moved to Pittsburgh, at least—to be too artistic and fragile to survive the rigors of life on the Strip.

But survive it did—and then some. Cirque's sexy new "Zumanity" at New York-New York joins the company's two long-running Las Vegas productions—"Mystère," the troupe's first permanent show, appearing at Treasure Island since 1993, and the splashy "O," which opened at Bellagio in 1998. Yet another Cirque production is scheduled to open next year at the MGM Grand.

The adults-only "Zumanity" presents



Adding to an erotic tapestry, "Zumanity" aerialist Olga Vershinina spins above the New York-New York showroom.





The sexually provocative "Zumanity" shows another side of Cirque du Soleil. The production goes beyond topless showgirls to fetishes and other sexual diversions.

Steve Wynn took a chance and invited Cirque to pitch its tent in the Mirage's parking lot.

the Montreal-based company with its biggest challenge in years. The show, which is more cabaret than circus, asks Las Vegas audiences to join an exploration of human sexuality. Although T&A has been a Strip staple for nearly 50 years, "Zumanity's" international cast has introduced S&M, cross-dressing, fetish worship, and group gropes to the Las Vegas entertainment menu. These diversions from the sexual mainstream aren't exactly flaunted, but they're not treated as novelties, either.

Cirque du Soleil is known for athleticism, dance, and surrealism, but sensuality is another thread that runs through the fabric of all its productions. This aspect of the troupe's appeal can be seen in the shows' slinky costumes, the exotic music, and a flirtatiousness born from the street performer's need to extract coins from the pockets of strangers.

That's how it all began in 1984, when a ragged band of Quebecois acrobats, jugglers, stilt walkers, fire eaters, and itinerant musicians combined their talents to become Cirque du Soleil as part of the 450th anniversary of explorer Jacques Cartier's arrival in Canada. At first a regional attraction, Cirque du Soleil—"Circus of the Sun" in French—became known as a madcap "circus without animals," surviving mostly on the buzz generated by appearances on *The Tonight Show* and at events like the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

The gushing reviews multiplied as Cirque took its trademark blue-and-yellow tent to festivals around the world (a practice several Cirque touring companies continue today). Even so, its members could scarcely imagine finding a home-away-from-home in the desert Southwest down the street from Circus-Circus and Siegfried and Roy.

Hotel owner Steve Wynn, however, was willing to take a chance on the company. First he invited Cirque to pitch its tent in the Mirage's parking lot for an extended run of "Nouvelle Expérience," and then he built a hard-top theater in his new Treasure Island resort for "Mystère." It was the start of a close relationship between Cirque and the city.

"The company that came to Las Vegas had been touring Japan for a year and, for many complicated reasons, was happy to be returning to North America," recalls Las Vegas publicist Sally Dewhurst, who along with her father and brother performed in "Nouvelle Expérience."

"People here seemed a bit wary of us, and at first we only were playing to 60-70 percent capacity. Things improved considerably, though, when we moved into the Treasure Island."

"Mystère's" creators filled every inch of space inside Treasure Island's cavernous Mystère Theatre with a phantasmagoria of fantasy characters, imaginative costumes, and otherworldly music. Drummers and bungee jumpers descended from the ceiling while giant creatures disappeared into a smoky cave in the stage's floor. Dozens of acrobats from China scampered up poles like so many water sprites, and trapeze-like contraptions would appear out of nowhere to let Russian fliers to work their magic.

The show was a stunning critical and popular success. Not only did the regular Las Vegas crowd embrace "Mystère," but so did thousands of new visitors attracted by the show.

Five years later at the Bellagio, "O" proved that aquatics were no barrier to



Joey Arias, the Mistress of Seduction, guides the "Zumanity" audience.



Elaborate costumes are a Cirque du Soleil trademark. Above, the cast of the water-themed "O" at Bellagio includes swimmers, divers, acrobats, and aerialists.



The clowns of "Mystère," like Nicky Dewhurst (above), reflect Cirque du Soleil's circus roots. Dewhurst and his sister Sally appeared in Cirque's very first Las Vegas show.

Cirque's imagination, either. "O" and its 1.5-million-gallon pool cost Wynn a cool $100 million to mount, and it has been paying dividends ever since. "O"—its name is a play on "eau," the French word for water—combines surrealism with water ballet, traditional Cirque acrobatics, and enlightened tomfoolery. Moments after Olympics-level divers plunge from the heights of the cavernous auditorium into the pool below, pixie-ish dancers appear to race over the same surface.

Cirque's influence extended beyond its own theaters. The success of "Mystère" and "O" encouraged resorts to experiment with such nontraditional productions as "EFX" and "La Femme" at MGM, "De La Guarda" at the Rio, and "Blue Man Group," which after three years continues to pack 'em in at the Luxor. A full-length version of Broadway's "Chicago" hung on for a year at Mandalay Bay, where the Abba musical "Mamma Mia!" has proven popular in its current run.

The success of "Mystère" and "O" encouraged resorts to experiment with nontraditional shows.

Meanwhile, former "Mystère" and "O" director Franco Dragone has been busy with Celine Dion's show, "A New Day," at Caesars Palace. He's also creating a new airborne extravaganza for Wynn's $2-billion resort on the site of the old Desert Inn.

As much as Cirque has changed the entertainment scene in Las Vegas, it's worth noting how much Las Vegas has affected Cirque.

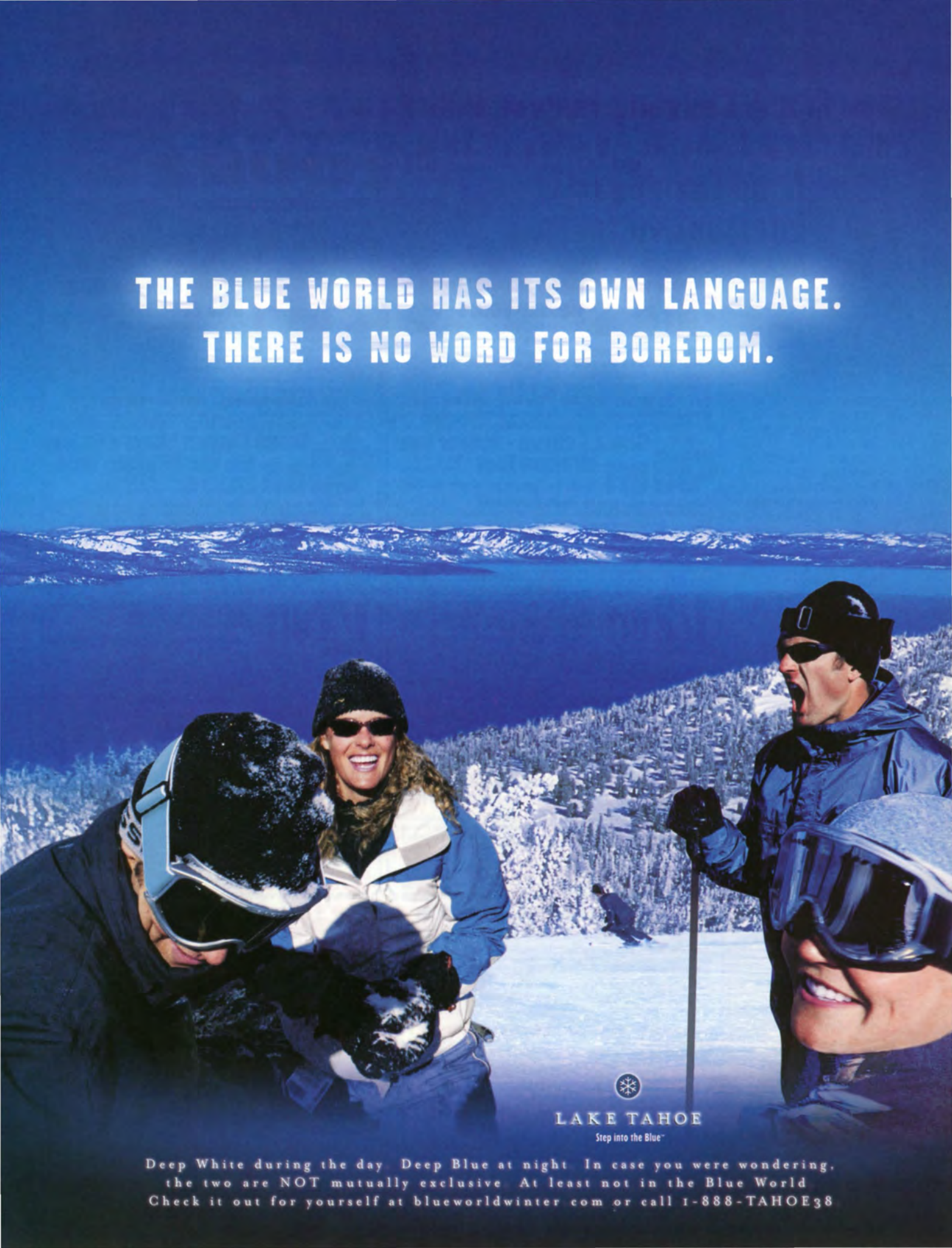
"Cirque du Soleil not only considers Las Vegas to be a reliably fertile marketplace but a proving ground for new ideas," says Lyn Heward, president and C.O.O. of the company's Creative Content Division. "We didn't know anything about water before 'O, but Las Vegas allowed us to do that. There's a very diverse and loyal public that's available to us here, and we've also had partners who free us to access things we couldn't otherwise afford."

She adds, "What's important is the process and that we don't rely on the circus arts here."

To that end fashion designer Thierry Mugler was enlisted to put his stamp on "Zumanity." Cirque recruited underground diva Joey Arias as a narrator to guide the audience through the sexual maze on stage.

After Arias warms up the "Zumanity" crowd with some naughty repartee as the self-styled Mistress of Seduction, he introduces the performers, all of whom have adopted personas to match the fetishes they incorporate in their solos. Mugler's corsets, gowns, and capes are dazzling as well as functional, freeing the contortionists, hand-to-hand body manipulators, rope dancers, fire artists, bullwhip snappers, and cocktail-glass mermaids to be as sexy, athletic, and artistic as they want to be. Meanwhile, Arias stalks the proscenium stage like Joel Grey's emcee in *Cabaret.* Instead of dancing Nazis, Arias presides over a "zoo of humanity." The orchestra is perched high above the stage, its music jazzy and ethereal.

"'Zumanity' is a new perspective for us, but one taken from the axis of Cirque's creative process," Lyn Heward says, sitting in the balcony of the show's plush new 1,259-seat theater inside New York-New York. "We had to examine our creative


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values to see if we could apply them to something that's existed in Berlin and Paris—not just as T&A, but as cabaret."

Heward, who joined Cirque in 1992 as an acrobatic scouting coordinator, likens "Zumanity" to *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *All That Jazz*. She could have as easily mentioned *Fellini Satyricon*, *Caligula*, and the dream sequence in Blake Edwards' *S.O.B.*

Cirque started entertaining the idea of an adult show more than two years ago, Heward says. However, Wynn sold Mirage, and Cirque management wasn't sure how MGM-Mirage would react to expensive new ideas from Montreal.

"We were doing a tango with a new partner, who we didn't know much about, and who didn't know much about us," she points out. "But, in fact, our partner was willing to commit to two new shows."



Showgoers groan when Moukhtar Gusengadzhiev, "Zumanity's" dislocation artist, folds and twists his body in unimaginable ways.

The "Zumanity" cast's recruitment was helped by a Cirque du Soleil talent bank that dates to 1990 and includes 20,000 performers whose talents range from the merely gymnastic to the athletically erotic.

Stéphan Choinière and Sara Joel were living in New York and performing a hand-to-hand balancing act when they got the call from Cirque. After years of serious study in dance and acting, they thought Las Vegas would be the last place on earth they'd find regular employment as performance artists—especially in an adult-oriented show housed in a resort inspired by the Big Apple.

"We'd heard that it was a sensual show," recalled Joel. "I assumed that it might involve some nudity, but the nature of our 'body2body' piece already was pretty sensual, so there weren't many clothes to take off."

Hollywood-based choreographer Marguerite Derricks helped to smooth the rough edges in "Zumanity's" dance routines while adding some twists of her own.

"I worked on *Showgirls* here [in the late 1980s], but this time around I felt as if I was walking into a new Las Vegas," says the three-time Emmy Award winner, whose more laudable credits include all three Austin Powers movies, *Charlie's Angels II*, and *The Cat in the Hat*.

"I'm used to working on $100-million pictures, but when I arrived here, I saw this set and thought, 'Whoa, this is beautiful. What a playground,'" Derricks recalls. "In Hollywood, they'll build these wonderful sets, then destroy them. This beauty gets to live on. The saddest thing about New York is that you'll put a show up and, if a certain critic doesn't like it, it will close down. Here, they're thinking about this one running for five or 10 years."

The choreographer adds, "Because of Cirque, Las Vegas has evolved into a West Coast Broadway. When the first Cirque show came to town, it was, like, Art has arrived.'"

Former troupe member Sally Dewhurst remembers when the first Cirque show came to town in 1992. At first, Dewhurst recalls, the 40 cast members of "Nouvelle Expérience" kept pretty much to themselves. They lived off Desert Inn Road in the Oakwood Apartments, where they sang, played instruments, and performed stunts around the pool into the wee hours, occasionally to the distraction of other long-term guests.

The success of "Mystère" begat other shows that required similarly talented performers, and the Southern Nevada community of artists grew accordingly. They started moving into permanent residences where they could raise families and fret over mortgages just like everyone else. Unlike their touring Cirque brethren, these road warriors—and their shows—grew roots.

Those roots remain strong. Only time will tell if the public's appetite for Cirque du Soleil is limitless and whether the next new show will be the one that bursts the bubble. Odds are, though, that Cirque will remain an essential and vibrant cultural force in Las Vegas because, like the city, it isn't afraid to re-invent itself.

Gary Dretzka lives in Los Angeles, where he covers the entertainment industry for the Movie City News *and* TV Barn *Web sites as well as the* San Francisco Chronicle *and* New York Daily News. *He commutes to Las Vegas each week to teach film courses at UNLV.*

Three-Ring Cirque on the Strip

Except for vacation periods, at least one of Las Vegas' three Cirque du Soleil shows is playing each evening on the Strip. Visit www.cirquedusoleil.com for more information on "Zumanity" and the other Cirque productions.

"Zumanity": The new adults-only show appears Tuesday through Saturday (dark November 30-December 15) in the Zumanity Theatre in New York-New York. Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Prices are $95, $75, and $55 including tax. Drinks are extra. For reservations call 866-606-7111 or 702-740-6815 or visit www.zumanity.com.

"Mystère": Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Friday through Tuesday (dark December 3-18) in the Mystère Theatre at TI (Treasure Island). Price is $88 including tax. Drinks are extra. Call 800-392-1999 or 702-894-7722.

"O": The show appears in Bellagio's "O" Theatre Wednesday through Sunday (dark December 1-16). Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets cost $125 for preferred seating, $99 for balcony, and $93.50 with obstructed view, including tax. Drinks are extra. Call 888-488-7111 or 702-693-7722.

A Taste of 'Broadway'

"Broadway: The Star-Spangled Celebration" puts razzle dazzle into an evening at the Eldorado. **By Joyce Hollister**

For more than 80 years Broadway musicals have entertained audiences with diverse song and dance styles, ranging from the leggy sensuality of "Cabaret" to the poodle-skirt exuberance of "Grease."

Thanks to the Irish touring company of **"Broadway: The Star-Spangled Celebration"** at the Eldorado in Reno, you can get a taste of more than a dozen different musicals—and if you don't like one number, it's a good bet you'll like the next.

"It's a really good mix. There is something for the kids and for the grandparents—for everybody," says Chris Harley, one of the show's four lead singers. "We've got songs from as far back as 'Hello, Dolly' coming forward to 'Les Misérables. Even if you don't like the modern musical, you might catch a tune that you like."

So far audiences have liked "Broadway's" mixture of recorded music and live singing. "We've had a standing ovation almost every night," says cast manager Daniel Wilkinson, who is also one of the show's dancers. He says he likes the variety of choreography. "If you do a Broadway show like 'Grease, it's all the same sort of material. With this show we go from 'Les Miz, which I never thought I'd have the chance of doing, to Fosse's All That Jazz.'"

> "We've got songs from as far back as 'Hello, Dolly' coming forward to 'Les Misérables.'"

"Broadway," originally a two-hour musical, was such a success in England, South Africa, and Israel that producer David King brought it to the U.S. The Eldorado version is 75 minutes. Cut were songs from "Oklahoma!," "My Fair Lady," and the Abba musical "Mamma Mia!" (now playing at Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas). But the black-net-stockinged precision dancers in the "Chorus Line" sequence more than make up for the missing bits.



Sparkly jackets and bowler hats dress up this scene from "A Chorus Line," one of "Broadway's" rousing segments.

Ballads fill time while the dancers change costumes. Singer Kate Galston joins Chris Harley in lovely duets, among them "Beauty and the Beast." Galston brings tears to your eyes with her solo of "Memory" ("Cats"), and Zita Frith does a nice job with Streisand's plaintive "Don't Rain on My Parade" ("Funny Girl"). A full-cast medley from "Les Miz" has audience members singing along.

A highlight is Aussie Steve Judkins' coy "I'm just a sweet transvestite from transexual Transylvania," as sung by Dr. Frank-N-Furter in "Rocky Horror Show." Clad in a black teddy and impossibly high-heeled boots ("How do you girls dance in these things?" he mugs), the former Shakespearean actor says he goes for the laughs. "In reality the character is a lot more sinister," he says. "I try to keep it fun."

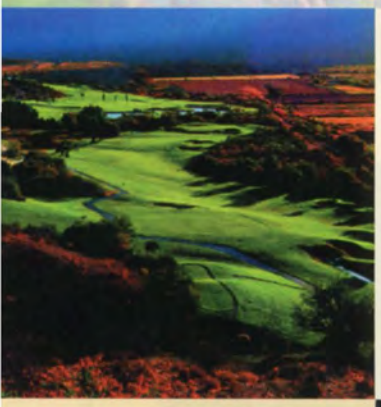
The dancers in "Broadway" also perform in the Irish-themed "Spirit of the Dance" at the Eldorado. "If we have two shows a day, one of 'Broadway' and one of 'Spirit, it's a bit of a hard slog for the dancers," Chris Harley says. "But they enjoy dancing both styles. It keeps them on their toes."

Show Notes

"Broadway: The Star-Spangled Celebration" and "Spirit of the Dance" alternate at the Eldorado Hotel in Reno through November 30 (dark Monday). Ticket prices are $25.95 to $35.95 plus tax, with discounts for seniors and children four to 12. Call 800-648-5966 or 775-786-5700 for show times, tickets, and dinner and room packages.

Joyce Hollister is Nevada Magazine's *associate editor. She once played Mrs. Higgins in "My Fair Lady" but luckily was not asked to sing.*

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Nevada Events

November and December events in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and Rural Nevada.



Big Ideas in Christmas Décor

The Bellagio is known for creative holiday decorations in its conservatory and botanical gardens. The Las Vegas Strip hotel has a staff of more than 100 horticulturists who maintain the flowers in the conservatory, which will include Christmas foliage following Thanksgiving.

Nevada communities offer a great variety of events this winter, including festivities for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. The National Finals Rodeo takes over Las Vegas, and Nevada Day marks statehood in Carson City by rolling out the state's largest parade. Lake Tahoe gets ready for ski events and New Year's torchlight parades. *Nevada Magazine* presents the following events and celebrations for November and December. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and details.

Nevada Holidays
for holiday events and shows all around Nevada, see pages 64-66.

Las Vegas Territory

"Hedwig and the Angry Inch" • Weekends thru Nov. 8 • Off-Broadway musical and cult film. Nevada Theatre Company, Las Vegas, 702-873-0191.

World of Outlaws • Oct. 31-Nov. 1 • Sprint cars race on dirt track. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 800-644-4444.

Mountain Man Rendezvous • Oct. 31-Nov. 2 • Primitive camp and demonstrations. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.

New Year Celebration • Nov. 1 • Friends of India event. Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Nevada Day Celebration • Nov. 1 • Statehood is observed with music, children's activities, and a birthday cake. Soldiers of the Old Fort present a living-history program, "Field Cookery and the Army Diet," from 9am-2:15pm. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Native American Festival • Nov. 1 • Native American Heritage Month event features films, storytelling, children's activities, food, craft market, and Hopi, Zuni, and Navajo dance and the Sacred4s Intertribal Drum demonstrations. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 702-507-3459.

Dia de los Muertos • Nov. 1 • Mexican day of remembrance marks the memories of the dead with food, flowers, drinks, candles, and sugar skulls. Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-649-8553.

Life in Death • Nov. 1-2 • Day of the Dead features ceremonies, foods, artistic offerings, workshops, exhibits, poetry, dance, and music to honor the dead in a traditional Mexican event. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Autocross • Nov. 1-2 • Competitive driving skills event. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 775-727-1936.

Blackjack Tournament • Nov. 2 • Silverton, Las Vegas, 702-263-7777.

Photo: Craig Malburg

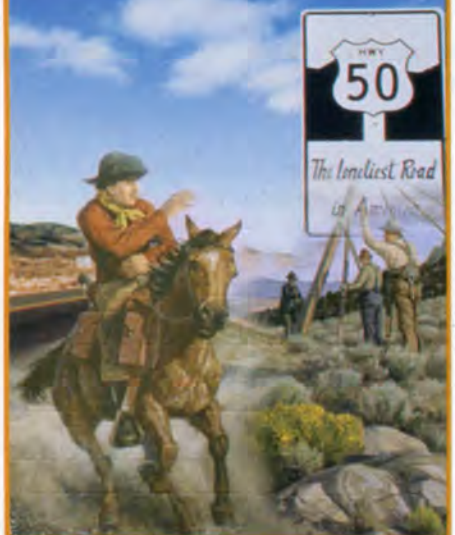
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Great Basin National Park


Ward Charcoal Ovens


Sand Mountain

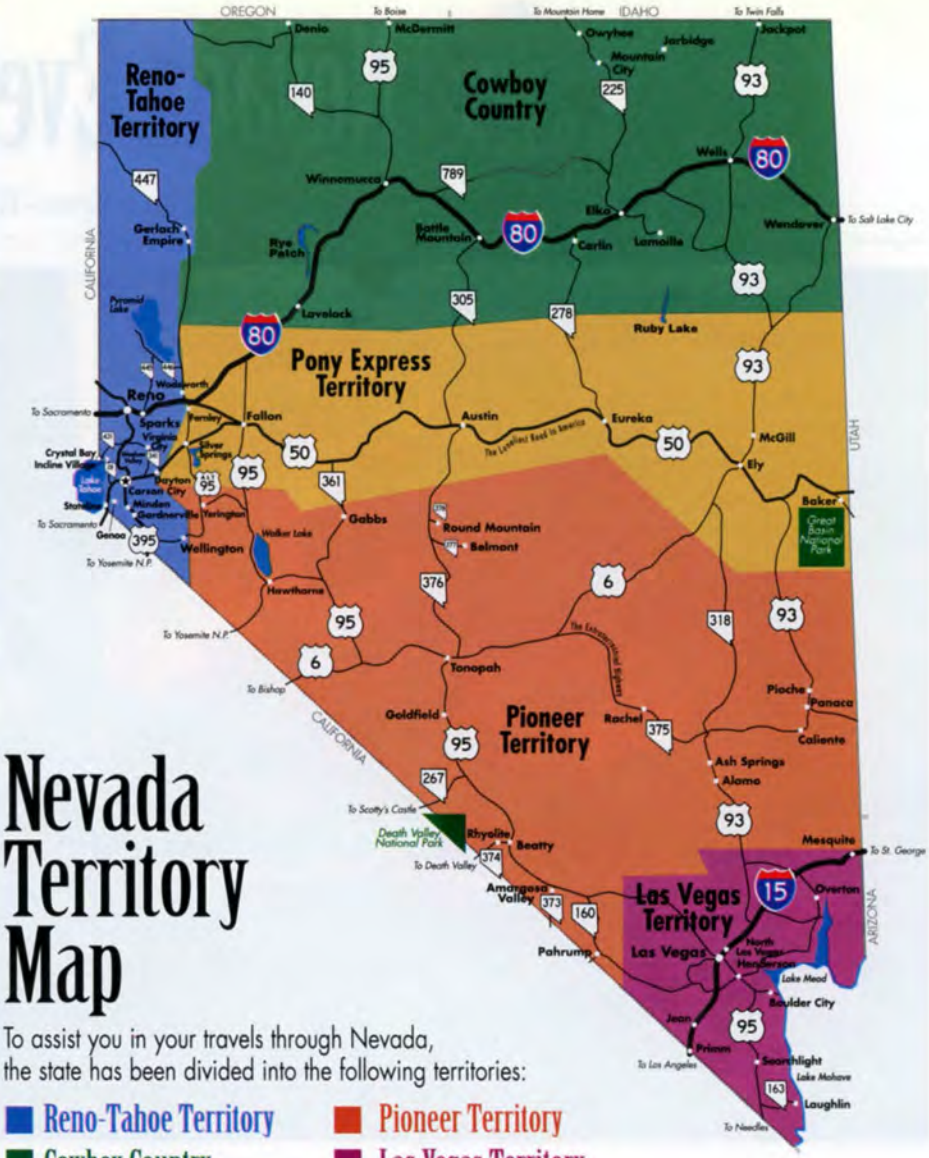
but it's full of history and adventure.



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Nevada Territory Map

To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into the following territories:

- Reno-Tahoe Territory
- Cowboy Country
- Pony Express Territory
- Pioneer Territory
- Las Vegas Territory
- Indian Territory

Guitar Society of Las Vegas • Nov. 2 • Performers range from a nine-year-old prodigy to studio musicians. Free concert. Black Mountain Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Lake Mead Cruise • Nov. 2 • Mid-day sightseeing cruise. Jewish Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-794-0090.

One Act Play Festival • Nov. 2 • Paul Harris Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

76 Trombones Plus Four • Nov. 2 • Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

"Sarah, Plain and Tall" • Nov. 3 • Musical about a mail-order bride who brings joy to a prairie family. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 800-497-5007.

Community Band Concert • Nov. 5 • Free event. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas. 702-895-2787.

The Odyssey Lifestyle • Nov. 6-9 • Culinary and visual art show, cooking demonstration, dinner, tastings, and lobster bake and beach party. Host hotel Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-257-2345.

"Backup" • Nov. 7 • Musical. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

"Macbeth" • Nov. 7-9, 13-16 • Shakespeare's tale of good and evil. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

"Harvey" • Nov. 7-9, 14-16 • Tale of a man and his imaginary friend, a six-foot rabbit. Nicholas Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Dinosaur Ball • Nov. 8 • Dinner, dancing, entertainment, and silent and live auctions to benefit the Las Vegas Natural History Museum. Hyatt Regency, Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-384-DINO.

Tortoise Tot Trot • Nov. 8 • Short walk and educational program about the desert tortoise. Visitor Center, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-515-5350.

Eddie McKetta Trio • Nov. 8 • Straight-ahead jazz. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Kirill Gliadkovsky • Nov. 9 • Pianist performs free. Black Mountain Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

American Hero Slot Tournament • Nov. 9-12 • $199 entry. Flamingo Las Vegas, 800-225-4882.

Women's Collegiate Golf Showdown • Nov. 10-12 • Tournament features 15 of the best college golf teams.

Anthem Country Club at Grosse Point Place, Henderson, 702-242-3000.

Bally's $99 Slot Tournament • Nov. 11-12 • $99 entry, $10,000 in prizes. Bally's, Las Vegas, 800-7BALLYS, ext. 4561.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Nov. 13 • Gary Brill, a DJ on American Forcers Vietnam Radio Network, discusses his three-hour daily program, *Sunrise in Saigon*. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Jewish Community Center Seventh Annual Book Fair • Nov. 13-19 • Jewish books, music, and videos. Congregation Ner Tamid and MIS Hebrew Academy, Las Vegas, 702-794-0090.

Great Las Vegas Craft Festival • Nov. 14-16 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Soldiers of the Fort • Nov. 15 • Living-history programs on candle making and the role of the ordnance sergeant in the Army. Tour of the fort and refreshments. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

HERA Ovarian Cancer Climb for Life • Nov. 15 • Sponsored by PowerHouse Climbing Center and Desert Rock Sports, Las Vegas, 702-254-5604, 702-254-1143.

Asylum • Nov. 15 • Staged reading of a new play by the theater company Asylum. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Big Band Dance • Nov. 15 • Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383 for further event information.

From the Heart of Europe • Nov. 15 • Program includes music by composers Felix Mendelssohn, Paul Hindemith, and Johannes Brahms and guest artists Stefan Milenkovich on violin and Ani Aznivoorian on cello. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Strutt Your Mutt • Nov. 15 • Games, demonstrations, and pooch costume contests. Dog Fancier's Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

Aviation Nation • Nov. 15-16 • Las Vegas air show celebrates the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. Event includes military flying demonstrations. Nellis Air

River Ropers

More than 2,000 teams will converge on Laughlin to compete in the sixth annual U.S. Team Roping Championship November 20-23 at the Laughlin Events Arena.



Dash Across the Boondocks

Competitors in the Ramada Express International Rally on December 10-14 in Laughlin are likely to encounter ruts, rocks, and washouts as they race a route that extends to the Grand Canyon. The event will be followed December 12-14 by the JAOS Adventure Rally.

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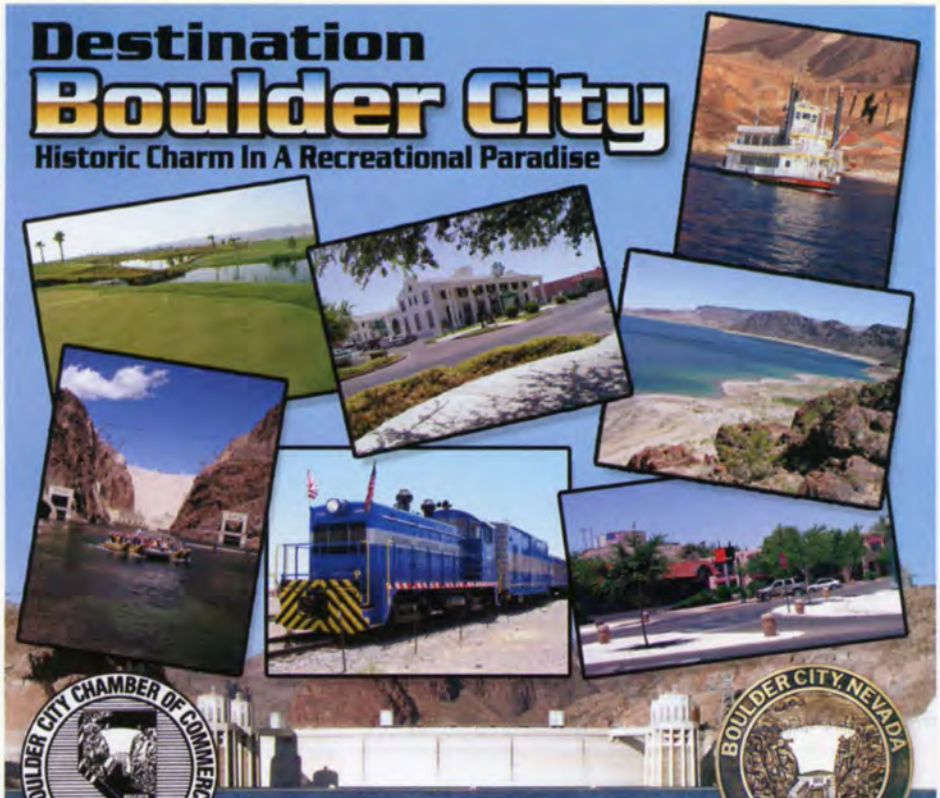
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2003 Events Calendar

May 9-11	Spring Wings Bird Festival
July 1-6	Silver State Int'l Rodeo
July 18-20	Fallon Stampede Pow Wow
Aug. 8-9	Nevada Motocross Championship
Aug. 16	Overland Hotel Chili Cook-off
Aug. 29-Sept. 1	Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival
Sept. 26-28	Senior Pro Rodeo
Oct. 11	Waterfowl Hunting Season, Opening Day (Date subject to change)
TBD 2004	Fallon Air Show

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Force Base, Las Vegas, 702-652-4473 for more information.

Nevada Jazz Orchestra • Nov. 16 • Concert. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Dynamic Trombone Quartet • Nov. 16 • Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Lou Walter Golf Classic • Nov. 17 • Proceeds from the 16th annual scramble format tourney benefits Camp Sol for kids afflicted with arthritis. SouthShore Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas, Henderson, 702-367-1626.

Video Poker Tournament • Nov. 18 • $10 buy-in, $5 re-buys. Fiesta Rancho, North Las Vegas, 702-638-3630.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Nov. 18 • Charles M. Province, author and founder of the General George S. Patton Jr. Historical Society. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.



Pahrump Powwow

The Pahrump Social Powwow on November 21-23 is a pre-Thanksgiving celebration of Native American food, artwork, and entertainment. Recording artists Fernando Cellicion and Xavier Yxayotl are scheduled to perform.

Radio Days Slot Tournament • Nov. 18-20 • $399 entry, $72,000 in prize money. New Frontier, Las Vegas, 800-634-6966, ext. NOVSLT.

Press Band • Nov. 19 • Free rock 'n' roll concert featuring Las Vegas musicians. Whitney Ranch Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Yiddish Vinkle • Nov. 19 • Yiddish conversation, vocabulary, and culture. Jewish Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-794-0090.

National Horse Show Indoor Championships • Nov. 19-23 • Events include hunters, jumpers, dressage competition, and show horses. Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, 702-365-7469.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Nov. 20 • Tom Crow, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, discusses his experiences and how he achieved the service's top enlisted rank. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Laughlin Team Roping • Nov. 20-23 • Sixth annual U.S. Team Roping Championship features 2,000 teams. Laughlin Events Center, Laughlin, 520-458-7922.

Rising Stars of Classical Music • Nov. 21 • Featuring violinist Judith Ingolfsson and the Miami String Quartet. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Photo: Sandi Stark



Heritage Festival

Native American Heritage Month begins November 1 at the Clark County Library in Las Vegas with storytelling, children's activities, food, crafts, and Hopi, Zuni, and Navajo dancing. The Sacred4s Intertribal Drum group also will perform.

Brass Roots Quintet • Nov. 21 • Outdoor noon concert. Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse, Las Vegas, 702-229-6328.

Poets' Corner • Nov. 21 • All experience levels invited. West Las Vegas Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4800.

Senior Softball Winter Worlds • Nov. 21-23 • Teams from 28 states, Canada, Japan, and Guam compete. City and county softball fields, Las Vegas, 916-326-5303.

Super Chevy Show • Nov. 21-23 • Chevy drags. The Strip, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-632-8213.

"Fuddy Meers" • Nov. 21-23, Dec. 3-7 • Zany tale traces a woman's attempt to regain her memory. Black Box Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Karneval • Nov. 22 • German Mardi Gras celebration offers music and traditional festivities. Nevada Palace, Las Vegas, 702-898-0685 for further information on Karneval event.

"The Ramona Roses" • Nov. 22 • One-woman play has cultural diversity theme. East Las Vegas Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-1515.

UNLV Madrigal Singers • Nov. 22 • Free concert. Doc Rando Recital Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

"Flamenco Is Not Enough III" • Nov. 22 • American Flamenco Theater performs dances of Spain, Mexico, and the Middle East. Winchester Center, 702-455-7340.

Military Big Band Alumni Jazz Concert • Nov. 23 • Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Circus Freaks 4 • Nov. 24 • Benefit for Nevada Theatre Company under the direction of Cirque du Soleil dance captain Christopher Childers. House of Blues, Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 702-873-0191.

UNLV Symphony Orchestra • Nov. 25 • Free concert features the winner of the 2003 Naumberg Competition. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Cheerleading Competition • Nov. 25-26 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Empresa Frias • Nov. 26 • Latin dance. Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

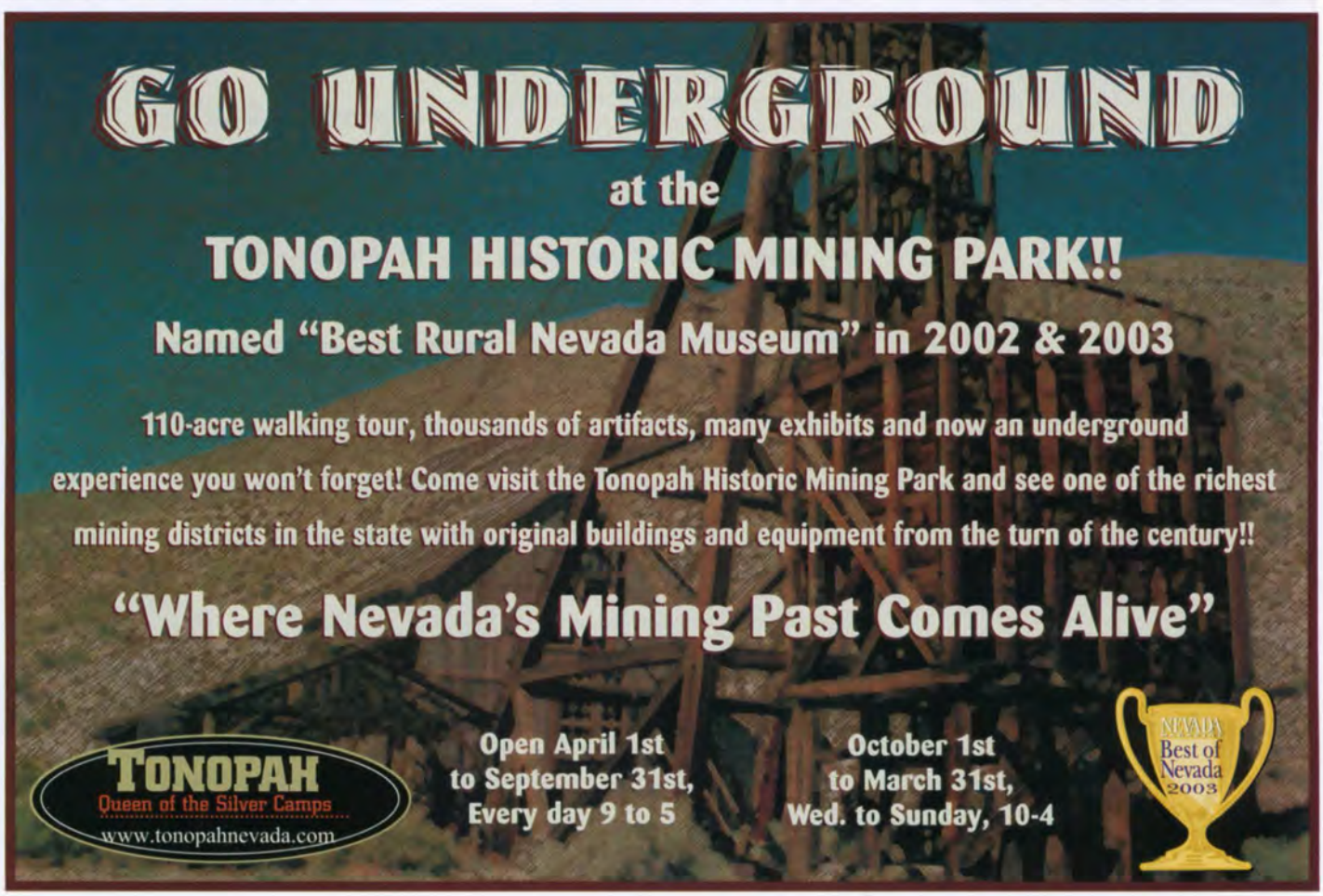
Pai Gow Tournament • Nov. 26 • $10 buy-in, $5 re-buy. Fiesta Rancho, North Las Vegas, 702-638-3630.

Armed Forces Alumni Jazz Concert • Nov. 30 • Featuring Ernie Hensley. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Miss Rodeo America • Nov. 30-Dec. 6 • Competition opens the National Finals Rodeo. The Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

Winter Orchestra Concert • Dec. 1 • Classical masters orchestra. Nicholas Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Mistletoe Madness Slot Tournament • Dec. 1-4 • Don



ONGOING EVENTS

Events are color coded according to territory (see map in "Nevada Events").

Reno-Tahoe Territory
Cowboy Country
Pony Express Territory
Pioneer Territory
Las Vegas Territory
Indian Territory

Art Shows and Exhibits

American Pop Icons: Ongoing. Works by Jasper Johns and Andy Warhol. Guggenheim Hermitage Museum, Venetian, Las Vegas, 702-414-2440.

The Big Dig: The Tule Springs Expedition, 1962-63: Thru Nov. 2. Mammoth remains, stone tools, and other artifacts. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Walter Giotto: Vanitas: Thru Nov. 9. Exhibition of neo-classical paintings. Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, 702-360-8080.

Barn Again!: Thru Nov. 18. Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition details the changing American scene. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

Celebration of Autumn: Thru Nov. 29. Exhibition by local photographers. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.

Los Dias de los Muertos: Reunion, Ritual, and Remembrance: Thru Nov. 30. Presentation of the traditional Mexican observance. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Life in a Mining Camp: Thru Dec. 7 Photographs and artifacts explore the boom-and-bust lives of mining camps. Clark County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Michelle Auborion: Thru Dec. 7 Large-scale paintings of nature's architectural works. Marjorie Barrick Museum, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-3381

Fiber Celebrated XIII: Thru Dec. 20. Collection of arts in fiber. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

Marilyn Newton: News Photographer: Thru Dec. 30. *Reno Gazette-Journal* photographer. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

The Tiniest Giants: Discovering Dinosaur Eggs: Thru Dec. 31 Fossils from the world's largest dinosaur-nesting site. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-3466.

Africa: The Source: Thru Dec. 31 Traditional and contemporary African masks, sculpture, basketry, and fabrics. Left of Center Gallery, Las Vegas, 702-647-7378.

Rock X-Posed Photo Gallery: Thru Dec. 31 Kodak Rock Photography Collection features 500 images of such rock stars as Elvis, the Beatles, Mick Jagger, Tina Turner, and Bjork. Rio All-Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 800-PLAYRIO.

Peace Through Humor: Thru Dec. 31 A 44-piece traveling exhibition of murals and paintings interpreting peace as seen by Israeli children.



Paintings and jewelry from the British noble house of Devonshire are among the items displayed at the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Arts in Las Vegas.

Temple Beth Sholom, Las Vegas, 702-804-1333.

Artists Do Barns: Thru Dec. 31 Juried show of Carson Valley barns painted by regional artists, and a one-third-scale barn on display in the main exhibit space. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

Dennis Oppenheim: Galloping Through the West: Thru Jan. 4. First major exhibition of the artist's sculpture, installations, and photo-documentations in more than a decade. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

If These Barn Walls Could Talk: Thru Jan. 5. Photographs of area barns by Elko photographer Catherine Wines. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Elko County Art Club Fall Show: Thru Jan. 12. Juried show. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Duke and Duchess of Devonshire: Thru Jan. 18. Paintings, furniture, ceramics, and jewelry from the British noble house of Devonshire. Bellagio Gallery of Fine Arts, Las Vegas, 702-693-7111

Art at the College: Thru March 20. Boulder City Art Guild exhibition. Community College of Southern Nevada, Boulder City, 702-293-2138.

Vintage Racers: Speeding Through Time: Thru March 26. Restored race cars. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Art on Earth: Nov. 1-Dec. 24. Show and sale of works by 25 regional artists includes paintings, wearable art, cards, and photographs. VSA arts of Nevada Gallery, Reno, 775-826-6100.

Under One Sky: Thru Dec. 2004. Artifacts, life-size dioramas, children's room, and a contemporary art gallery of Nevada's Native American culture. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Tireless and Unremitting: The Chinese and Nevada's Railroad: Thru Jan. 2006. Explores the relationship of Chinese immigrants with the railroad and other aspects of their culture and daily life in Nevada. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Why the Cowboy Sings: Nov. 1-Jan.31 A 16-minute program highlights ranching in Northeastern Nevada. Call for show times. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

Beads and Baskets: Nov. 15-Jan. 10. Fourth annual show features the Great Basin Basket Makers. River Gallery, Reno, 775-329-3698.

Women and Flight: Dec. 20-Feb. 1 Smithsonian exhibit of black and white photos depicts women's accomplishments ranging from battling forest fires to exploring space. Clark County Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Music, Lectures, Tours

Free Concerts: Tues.-Sat. at the Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

Hidden Cave Tours: Nov. 8, 22, Dec. 13, 27 Jan. 10, 24. Guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site includes self-guided tour of Grimes Point petroglyph site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon. Confirm tour dates, 775-423-3677

Sporting Events

Top Gun Raceway: Drag racing thru Nov. Fallon, 775-423-8926.

Rattlesnake Raceway: Oval dirt-track racing thru Nov. Fallon, 775-423-7483.

Las Vegas Wranglers: The West Coast Hockey League team plays Nov. 1 vs. Fresno Falcons, Nov. 4 vs. Florida Pride, Nov. 5 vs. Anchorage



Nevada's college football season continues in November, when the UNLV Rebels (above) play San Diego State and Colorado State at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Meanwhile, the UNR Wolf Pack hosts Fresno State and Hawaii at Reno's Mackay Stadium.

Photo: Tom Jones IV (bottom)

Aces, Nov. 7 vs. Bakersfield Condors, Nov. 28 vs. Anchorage Aces, Nov. 29 vs. San Diego Gulls, Dec. 3 vs. Atlantic City Boardwalk Bullies, Dec. 17 vs. Long Beach Ice Dogs, Dec. 22 and Dec. 26 vs. Bakersfield Condors, Dec. 27 vs. San Diego Gulls, Jan. 6 vs. Long Beach Ice Dogs, Jan. 7 vs. Texas Wildcatters, Jan. 9 vs. Peoria Rivermen. Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, 702-471-PUCK.

Auto Cross: Nov. 1-2 and 29-30. Competitive driving on a closed course is open to all drivers. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 775-727-1936.

UNR Men's Basketball: The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 5 vs. Albertson College, Nov. 11 vs. Humboldt State, Nov. 17 vs. Vermont, Dec. 13 vs. Weber State, Dec. 27 vs. UC Davis. Wolf Pack Holiday Classic Dec. 20-21 features UNR, Alabama State, and Kansas. Lawlor Events Center, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6900.

UNR Women's Basketball: The Lady Wolf Pack plays Nov. 8 vs. NWBL, Nov. 16 vs. Bay Area Pro-Am, Nov. 29 vs. Northern Arizona, Dec. 2 vs. BYU, Dec. 6 vs. UNLV, Dec. 7 vs. Santa Clara, Dec. 13 vs. Sacramento State. Lawlor Events Center, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6900.

UNLV Football: The Rebels play Nov. 8 vs. San Diego State, Nov. 22 vs. Colorado State. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-799-FANS.

UNR Football: The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 8 vs. Fresno State, Nov. 15 vs. Hawaii. Mackay Stadium, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6900.

UNLV Women's Basketball: The Lady Rebels play Nov. 11 vs. NWBL, Nov. 14 vs. Basketball Travelers, Nov. 21 vs. Centenary College, Dec. 19 vs. Texas-San Antonio, Dec. 21 vs. South Florida, Dec. 28 vs. Mississippi State, Dec. 30 vs. Cal Poly. The Lady Rebel Shootout, Nov. 29-30, features UNLV, University of San Diego, Georgia Southern, and Richmond. Cox Pavilion, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

UNLV Men's Basketball: The Runnin' Rebels play Nov. 21 vs. Delaware State, Nov. 24 vs. UNR Wolf Pack, Nov. 26 vs. Western Illinois, Nov. 29 vs. California, Dec. 18 vs. Northern Arizona, Dec. 28 vs. Bradley, Dec. 30 vs. Montana. Las Vegas Showdown, Dec. 20, features UNLV, Alabama, and Oregon. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-739-FANS.

El Capitan Annual Fishing Derby: Thru April 30. Biggest fish caught at Walker Lake wins monthly prize money. El Capitan, Hawthorne, 775-945-3321 ext. 239.

Farmer's Markets

Boulder City Farmer's Market: Thursdays. Bicentennial Park, 702-293-5933.

Henderson Farmer's Market: Thursdays. Water Street, Henderson, 702-565-2181

Las Vegas Farmer's Market: Wednesdays at Bruce Trent Park. Tuesdays at Gardens Park. Las Vegas, 702-562-2676.

Laughlin's Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849, ext. 616.

Bally's $99 Slot Tournament • Dec. 2-3 • $99 entry, $10,000 in prizes. Bally's, Las Vegas, 800-7BALLYS, ext. 4561.

Blackjack Tournament • Dec. 4 • $10 buy-in, $5 re-buy. Fiesta Rancho, North Las Vegas, 702-638-3630.

Downtown Hoedown • Dec. 4 • Free entertainment on two stages featuring Bering Strait, Emerson Drive, and Jessica Andrews. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Dec. 4 • Pearl Harbor survivor Bob Hefner discusses his experiences. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Live Money Blackjack Tournament • Dec. 4-5 • $300 buy-in, $300 entry, $70,000 in prize money. New Frontier, Las Vegas, 800-634-6966, ext. BJT1103.

International Gem and Jewelry Show • Dec. 4-7 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Party of the Year • Dec. 5 • Scholarship fundraiser for Epicurean Club of Las Vegas features dinner prepared by celebrity chefs, wines, and headliner entertainment. Tickets are $300. Paris Las Vegas, 702-733-3290.

Boys Choir of Harlem • Dec. 5 • Repertoire ranges from European canon to pop. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Mexico Vivo • Dec. 5-6 • Folkloric dance ensemble Ixela Guiterrez in concert. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

"Little Shop of Horrors" • Dec. 5-6, 11-13 • Musical set in a flower shop with an exotic plant that craves fresh blood. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Las Vegas 200 • Dec. 5-7 • Best in the Desert off-road race is open to motorcycles, quads, cars, and trucks. Registration, tech inspection, and contingency at Suncoast Hotel on Dec. 5. Las Vegas, 702-457-5775.

Wrangler National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 5-14 • The year's top 15 contestants in each event compete in steer wrestling, team roping, calf roping, barrel racing, and bareback, saddle bronc, and bull riding for gold buckles, saddles, and more than $4.9 million in prize money. Tickets are sold out, but hotels provide closed-circuit coverage. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

General Merchandise Show • Dec. 6-7 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Sounds of Hawaii • Dec. 7 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

Nevada Open Golf Tournament • Dec. 8-12, the Senior Open; Dec. 15-19, Men's Open; and Jan. 5-9, Women's Open. CasaBlanca and Oasis golf clubs and the Palms golf course, Mesquite, 702-346-4000.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Dec. 9 • Joe Langone discusses his Army experiences in the first Korean War battle. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Slot Tournament • Dec. 9 • Silverton, Las Vegas, 702-263-7777.

Ramada Express International Rally • Dec. 10-14 • Racers compete in race-prepared street-legal vehicles over mountain and forest roads. Spectators can view side-by-side competition during Sunday's SuperStage, 10am-3pm. Laughlin Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 702-298-8171.

Winter in the Sun Slot Tournament • Dec. 11-17 • Flamingo Las Vegas, 800-225-4882.

Madrigal Dinner • Dec. 12-13 • Processional toasts, serenading minstrels, chamber choir concert. Nicholas Horn Theater, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

Rocky Mountain Nationals Wrestling Competition • Dec. 12-14 • Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-386-7100.

JAOS Adventure Rally • Dec. 12-14 • SUV drivers compete



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Events
December | January
- Festival of Trees
- Christmas in the Night Time Skies
- Parade of Lights Festival
- Cowboy Poetry Gathering
- Ranch Rodeo-Spring Creek
- Basque Winter Festival
- Crab Feed

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Emma Returns

Soprano Mary McNeill of Sparks performs as Emma Nevada in a living-history concert November 2 in Carson City. During the late 1800s, Emma Nevada was the toast of Europe, appearing 21 times with Giuseppe Verdi.

for prizes and awards on scenic road tours of Nevada and Arizona. Competitors use Magellan GPS navigation. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 702-298-8171.

"Praise!" • Dec. 12-14, 18-21 • Nevada Conservatory Theatre presentation. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Rick Arroyo Trio • Dec. 13 • Local jazz group. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211.

Tenor Madness • Dec. 14 • Saxophone combo performs. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Art Show International • Dec. 14 • Oil paintings. Henderson Convention Center, Henderson, 602-200-9600.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Dec. 16 and

Getting Tickled

The World Beard and Moustache Championships are part of the Nevada Day celebration on November 1 in Carson City. Bushy-faced contestants from Germany, Austria, England, Sweden, France, Mexico, and Canada will compete for the first time in the U.S.

March 16 • Author Andrew Anderson discusses his 32 B-17 missions during World War II, 63 Korean flights, and his book, *Involuntary: 731st Night Intruders Over Korea.* Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Thanks for the Memories Speaker Program • Dec. 18 • B-24 pilot Bob Sternfels. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Maureen McGovern • Dec. 20 • Best of the New York Stage production. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Las Vegas Bowl • Dec. 24 • College football tournament featuring teams chosen from the Pac 10 and Mountain West conferences. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-FANS for more information.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Nevada Day Week Celebration • Oct. 27-Nov. 1 • Admission Day festivities include Nevada's largest parade and fireworks on Sat., Nov. 1. Also, carnival at Mills Park thru Nov. 2, music and arts show, pancake breakfast, 8K and two-mile run-walk, 32nd Annual World Championship Rock Drilling Contest, 1864 Grand Ball, World Beard and Moustache Championships, Lacy J. Dalton concert, and band, jazz, and blues concerts. Carson City, 800-NVDAY4U.

Halloween Costume Ball • Oct. 31 • Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

Virginia City Ghost Walk • Oct. 31 • Deceased citizens recall their lives in the guided cemetery tour. Silver Terrace Cemetery, Virginia City, 775-847-0281.

$10,000 Slot Tournament • Oct. 31-Nov. 2 • Silver Club, Sparks, 800-905-7774.

Nevada Day Party • Nov. 1 • Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

USA vs. France Boxing • Nov. 1 • Olympic-level boxing event. City Center Pavilion, Reno, 888-288-1833.

Sierra Band Crusade • Nov. 1 • Marching bands perform. Mackay Stadium, UNR, Reno, 775-334-9696.

Basque Music • Nov. 1 • Singer Mercedes Mendive performs concert. St. Gall Community Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

World Beard and Moustache Championships • Nov. 1 • An international field of more than 80 competitors will display sculpted, fuzzy facial decorations. Event is part of the Nevada Day celebration. Carson City, 800-NVDAY4U.

Steam Up • Nov. 1 • Rides offered on a train pulled by a steam engine. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.



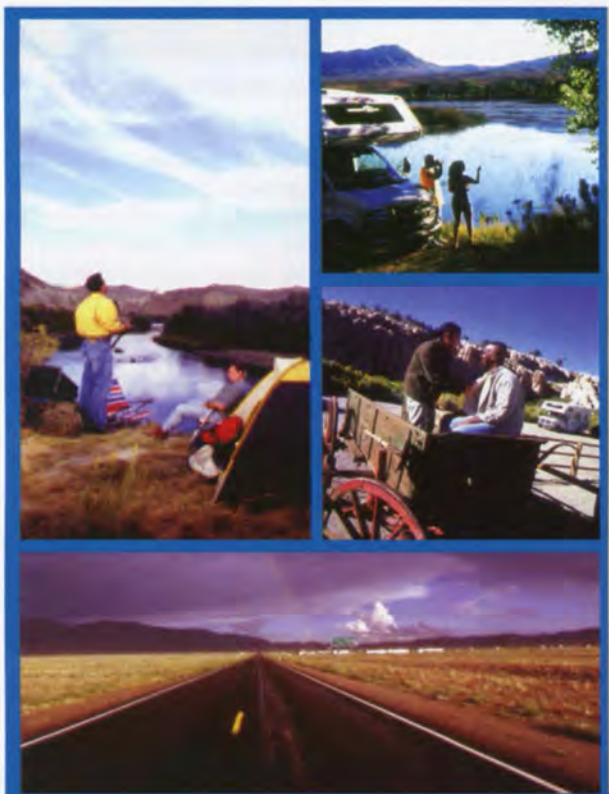
Spreading Good Cheer

Participants wave to the crowd at the annual Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade on December 6 in Sparks. Celebrants will also find Santa, arts, crafts, displays, and a tree-lighting on Victorian Square. An 1860s scale-model train display is planned at the Sparks Heritage Museum.

Chocolate Festival • Nov. 1 • Tahoe Women's Services benefit features chocolate, wine tasting, appetizers, and a silent auction. Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 775-298-081.

Living History Concert • Nov. 2 • Mary McNeill portrays the life of singer Emma Nevada and performs the music that made her as popular as Pavarotti is today. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-324-7932.

(Continued on page 67)



High Desert
Adventure

Remove yourself from civilization and experience the remoteness of Pioneer Territory. The pure vastness is enough to boggle your mind. Along the routes of Pioneer Territory are quaint communities filled with history, attractions, and outdoor activities too numerous to mention. From below sea level in Death Valley to higher than 13,000 feet at Boundary Peak, there is something for everyone in Pioneer Territory—families, RV travelers, outdoor enthusiasts, tourist groups, and those just desiring a weekend excursion.



Nevada's Pioneer Territory

www.pioneerterritory.org

For information call:
800-357-8754

Photo: Jinny Anderson

The Holidays in Nevada

A day-by-day guide to the Silver State's seasonal traditions.

Nevada communities hold many events that capture the holiday spirit during November and December. The celebrations range from elaborate parades and Christmas-light tours to New Year's Eve parties. Following is a statewide sampling of holiday events.

Holiday Open House • Nov. 8 • Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

St. Anne's Holiday Bazaar • Nov. 8 • Local crafters display and sell holiday items. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-2821.

The Gift of Lights • Nov. 14-Jan. 4 • The annual drive-thru spectacular of holiday lights offers animated displays and a light tunnel. Donate a bag of gently used clothing to Goodwill and receive $2 off the per-vehicle admission price of $10 weekday and $12 weekend. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-451-1641.

Kris Kringle Charity Race • Nov. 15 • Oval track racing to raise money for disadvantaged children. Admission is a new, unwrapped toy. Rattlesnake Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-7483.

Light the Night • Nov. 19-Jan. 1 • More than 200,000 holiday lights decorate the cactus garden at Ethel M Chocolate Factory, Henderson, 702-458-8864.

Shop and Sherry • Nov. 20-23 • Holiday shopping and refreshments benefit the museum's exhibition and education programs. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Valhalla Holiday Faire • Nov. 21-23 • Crafts, entertainment, and trolley rides. Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site, Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

Eagles Turkey Bingo • Nov. 22 • Win a turkey. Pershing County Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-1932.



Reno-area neighborhoods like Pleasant Valley (above) lay out the welcome mat for Santa Claus and light fanciers.

Turkey Bingo • Nov. 23 • Win a holiday turkey in this annual event. CVIC Hall, Minden, 775-782-6406.

Holly Art • Nov. 24-Dec. 14 • Arts, crafts, fine art, Santa, and hot cider. North Tahoe Arts, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787.

Magical Forest • Nov. 26-Dec. 28 • An enchanted wonderland with a carousel, forest express trains, music, treats, lavish decorations, whimsical displays, Santa, and millions of lights. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3741.



Motorists visit Sunset Park in Las Vegas to see 120 Christmas-lighting displays during the Gift of Lights.

Turkey Trot • Nov. 27 • Thanksgiving morning fun run-walk begins at 8:30am. Call for location, Reno, 775-353-7815.

Celebration of the Lights • Nov. 28 • Close to a million lights cover the hotel, from windows to trees. Holiday music and Mr. and Mrs. Santa will arrive by train. Display will be up until the new year. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 702-298-6231.

Christmas Show and Sale • Nov. 28-29 • Pottery, weaving, tapestries, paper eggs, jewelry, and fine art from regional artists and craftsmen. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

Thanksgiving Jazz Festival • Nov. 28-29 • Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 775-832-1234.

After Thanksgiving Museum Store Blowout Sale • Nov. 28-29 • Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

Thanksgiving Steam-Up • Nov. 28-29 • Ride aboard a train pulled by a historic steam engine. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Holiday Craft Bazaar • Nov. 28-29 • Crafts, chili, hot dogs, and cider. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Elko, 775-738-7135.

"The Nutcracker" • Nov. 28-30 • Pinkerton Dance Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-882-2916.

Great Reno Craft Festival • Nov. 28-30 • Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, 805-481-7100.

Sights, Sounds, and Smells of Christmas • Nov. 28-Dec. 6 • Trees decorated by businesses and organizations will be on display and auctioned on Dec. 6. Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely, 702-289-8877.

Christmas Tree Lighting • Nov. 29 • Music and ceremony. Frank Crowe Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

Celebrity City Chorus Holiday Concert • Nov. 29-30 • 110-member Sweet Adelines performance. Starbright Theater,

Photo: Mark Vollmer (top)

Summerlin, 702-233-7893 for further event information.

Polar Express Steam Train • Nov. 29-30, Dec. 6-7 • Steam-powered engine departs for the North Pole and Santa. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Festival of the Trees • Dec. 1-4 • Businesses, organizations, and families decorate trees, wreaths, gingerbread houses, and stockings for a silent auction to benefit local children's charity. Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-4091.

Henderson Civic Symphony Holiday Concert • Dec. 2 • The symphony and local choirs give a free performance. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.

Christmas at the Liberace Museum • Dec. 4 • Tree-lighting ceremony, gold lamé-clad Santa, choirs, bands, and discounted tickets. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

Silver and Snowflake Festival of Lights • Dec. 4 • Tree lighting, caroling, music, refreshments, and Santa. State Capitol Building, Carson City, 775-887-1294.

Lighting of the Menorah and Nativity • Dec. 4 • Hanukah and Christmas ceremony. City Offices, Wendover, 866-299-2489.

Cowboy Christmas Show • Dec. 4-13 • Huge offering of Western gift items is held during the National Finals Rodeo. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

Wendover in Lights • Dec. 5 • Christmas tree lighting, hot chocolate, cookies, entertainment, and Santa's arrival on the fire truck. West Wendover Blvd., Wendover, 866-299-2489.

Tree Lighting • Dec. 5 • Music and refreshments. Minden Park, Minden, 775-782-6406.

Spirit of the Season • Dec. 5-6 • UNR Symphonic Choir performance. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-784-4030.

Lake Mead Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • A night parade of 50 decorated boats cruises from Lake Mead Marina along Boulder Beach to Hemenway Harbor and returns. Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Boulder City, 702-457-2797.

Christmas Parade • Dec. 6 • Also photos with Santa. Nevada Way and Bicentennial Plaza, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

Doodlebug Bazaar • Dec. 6 • Holiday gifts and crafts. Recreation Center, Boulder City, 702-293-0725.

Christmas in the Nighttime Skies • Dec. 6 • Fireworks show. Kimberly Nurseries, Elko, 775-738-9895.

Victorian Holiday • Dec. 6 • Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade at 1pm, entertainment, Santa, arts, crafts, cultural displays, and tree lighting on Victorian Square. 1860s scale-model train display 10am-4pm. Sparks Heritage Museum. Sparks, 775-355-1144.

Christmas Parade • Dec. 6 • Ely, 775-289-8877.

Christmas Craft Bazaar • Dec. 6 • Homemade items for sale. Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8877.

Craft Fair • Dec. 6 • Pershing County Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • Lighted floats make their way to the courthouse for the lighting of the Christmas tree. Downtown, Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Community Christmas Celebration • Dec. 6 • Parade, food, games, vendors, and pictures with Santa. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-8245.

Christmas Bazaar • Dec. 6 • Arts, crafts, food, and Santa. Convention Center, Hawthorne, 775-945-3030.

Virginia City's Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • Lighting and decorating contest. C Street, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Holiday Gala • Dec. 6 • Dinner and dancing. Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site, Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

Parade of Lights • Dec. 6 • Floats, marching bands, and Santa. Downtown, Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

Winter Wonderland • Dec. 6 • Activities for children while their parents Christmas shop. Carson Valley Middle School, Gardnerville, 775-883-7817 for more event information.

Christmas Craft Show and Sale • Dec. 6-7 • Handmade items. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Genoa Christmas Faire • Dec. 6-7 • Arts, crafts, food, and music. Town Hall, Genoa, 775-782-2779.

Victorian Christmas • Dec. 6-7 • Historic Comstock school exhibits the look of yesteryear. Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

Christmas Walk • Dec. 6-7 • 3.1- and 6.2-mile walks follow historical routes. Numbers can be matched and redeemed for presents at local stores. Virginia City, 775-847-0454.

Santa Train • Dec. 6-7 • Ride aboard historic Southern Nevada train. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City, 702-486-5933.

Polar Express Steam Train • Dec. 6-7 • Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

Tiny Tim Christmas Village and Holiday Craft Faire • Dec. 6-8 • Community Center, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4770.



The holiday spirit is catching at the lavishly decorated Magical Forest at Opportunity Village in Las Vegas.

Holiday Gala • Dec. 7 • Entertainment and cookie walk. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

Christmas Festival • Dec. 8-10 • Prizes, hot chocolate, cookies, and pictures with Santa. Wendover Community Building, Wendover, 866-299-2489.

Holiday Jazz: A Jazzy Christmas • Dec. 9 • Mile High Jazz Band performs with vocalist Sheryl Adams. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Fremont Street Experience Holiday Festival • Dec. 9-21 • Music and festivities on the mall. Call for schedule of events. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 800-249-3559.

Luminaria • Dec. 12 • Traditional event with music. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

"The Nutcracker" • Dec. 12-14 • Local ballet students perform. Boulder Theater, Boulder City, 702-293-5001.

Teddy Bear Fantasy • Dec. 12-23 • A Four Seasons Hotel suite becomes an FAO Schwarz bear wonderland. Free admission. Bear Fantasy room packages are available. Four Seasons, Las Vegas, 760-941-4103.

Pioneer Christmas Decorations • Dec. 13 • A chance to make tree decorations the old-fashioned way. Day includes a tour of the fort and refreshments. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park, Las Vegas, 702-486-3511.

Carson Valley POPS Concert • Dec. 13 • Free admission. CVIC Hall, Minden, 775-782-7459.

Parade of Lights • Dec. 13 • Downtown, Elko, 775-738-7135.

Children's Holiday Parade • Dec. 13 • Water Street, Downtown Henderson, 702-799-3500.

History for the Holidays • Dec. 13 • Silent auction of decorated wreaths. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190.

Christmas Train Show • Dec. 13 • Model trains. Henderson Convention Center, Henderson, 702-566-0856.

Holiday Concert • Dec. 13 • Choral performance. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

Gingerbread Social • Dec. 13 • Contestants design gingerbread creations, which are auctioned for charity. Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Holiday Celebration Concert • Dec. 13-14 • Las Vegas Philharmonic performance. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-2787.

Santa Train • Dec. 13-14 • Free train rides with Santa Claus. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

Holiday Treat Concert • Dec. 14 • Carson City Symphony and Carson Chamber Singers featured. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Victorian Home Christmas Tour • Dec. 14 • Self-guided tour of historic homes decorated for the holidays. Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

Seasons Greetings: Photographers Holiday Cards • Dec. 14-Jan. 14 • Professional photographers capture the essence of the season. Marjorie Barrick Museum, UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-895-3381.

Ho Ho Homewood Toy Drive • Dec. 18 • All-day lift ticket good for Dec. 18 costs $10 with the donation of a new, unwrapped toy. Homewood Mountain Resort, Lake Tahoe, 530-525-2992.

Las Vegas Brass Band Holiday Concert • Dec. 19 • Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

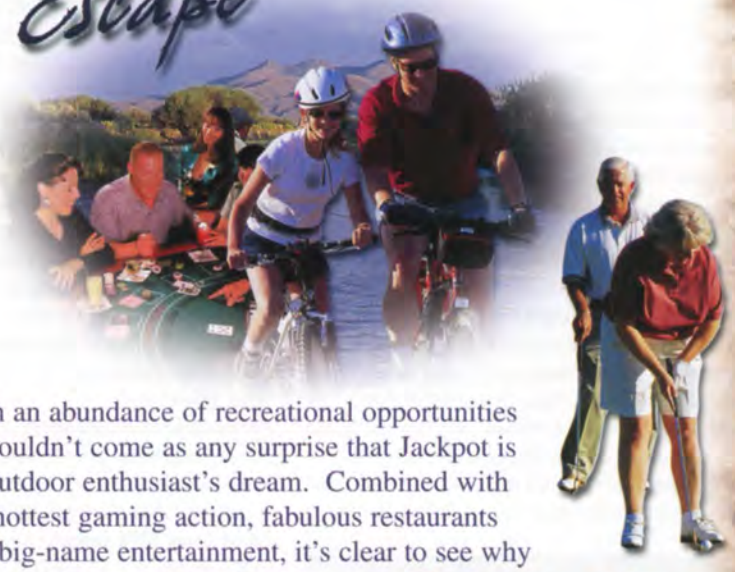
Planet X Pottery Christmas Show • Dec. 19-21 • Porcelain and stoneware. Miner's Club, Gerlach, 775-557-2500.

"The Nutcracker" • Dec. 19-23 • Nevada Ballet Theatre with sets by Russian theatrical designer Alexandre Vassiliev. Samba Theatre, Rio All-Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-243-2623.

Spring Creek Winterfest • Dec. 20 • Fireworks. Khoury's Market, Spring Creek, 775-738-9895.

Wine Walk • Dec. 20 • Neighborhood shops and galleries each offer tastes of a different holiday beverage. Downtown

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The Holidays in Nevada

River Walk, Reno, 775-329-3698 for further information.

Christmas Toy Run • Dec. 20 • Las Vegas Cruisin' Association delivers donated toys to the Henderson Boys and Girls Club. Henderson, 702-643-0000.

Wranglers Midnight Holiday Roundup • Dec. 22 • Las Vegas Wranglers pro hockey team starts a game at midnight as part of a toy drive. Orleans Arena, The Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-471-7825.

Children's Christmas Race • Dec. 24 • Ski with Santa for prizes. Open to all ages. Alpine Meadows Resort, Tahoe City, Lake Tahoe, 530-581-8329.

Christmas in the Barrio • Dec. 24 • Toy giveaway, food, games, entertainment, and piñatas. Plaza Escobedo, Las Vegas, 702-649-8553.

Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade • Dec. 24 • Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Christmas Eve Fireworks and Torchlight Parade • Dec. 24 • Kirkwood Ski Resort, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-258-6000.

Ski With Santa • Dec. 25 • Homewood Mountain Resort, Lake Tahoe, 530-525-2992.

New Year's Eve Celebration • Dec. 31 • Downtown outdoor dance party. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777.

Countdown in Downtown • Dec. 31 • Fireworks. Downtown, Elko, 775-738-1240.

Gala New Year's Eve Party • Dec. 31 • Music, special buffet, free champagne, and party favors. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

New Year's Eve Party • Dec. 31 • Torchlight parade followed by fireworks in the Village Plaza. Kirkwood Ski Resort, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-258-6000.

Fireman's Ball • Dec. 31 • Dancing and entertainment. Location TBA, Ely, 775-289-8877.

New Year's Eve Party • Dec. 31 • Rainbow and Peppermill casinos, Wendover, 775-664-0521.

New Year's Sobriety Powwow • Dec. 31 • Emphasis on a sober and drug-free celebration. Walker River Tribal Community Gym, Schurz, 775-773-2345, ext. 131.

New Year's Eve Bash • Dec. 31 • Music, dancing, party favors. Winners Hotel, Winnemucca, 775-623-2511.

Peppermill New Year's Eve • Dec. 31 • Casino party with free champagne, cake, and balloon drop at midnight. Peppermill, Reno, 800-648-6992.

New Year's Eve: Laughlin Style • Dec. 31 • Entertainment, DJs, party favors, and balloon drops are planned at several casinos. Laughlin, 800-452-8445.

Pahrump New Year's Eve • Dec. 31 • Dinner with the Ray Roberts Quartet. Old-West Showroom: Jack Reeves Show and best-dressed man and woman contest. Free champagne and party favors. Graveyard brunch buffet from 1am-6am. Saddle West, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

El Capitan New Year's Eve • Dec. 31 • Music, food, and dancing. El Capitan, Hawthorne, 775-945-3321.

First Night • Dec. 31 • Non-alcoholic celebration of the arts includes family entertainment and food from 3pm until the 9pm city fireworks display. Citywide, Boulder City, 702-293-2138.

Gala New Year's Eve Party • Dec. 31 • Music, buffet, free champagne, and party favors. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

(Continued from page 63)

National Senior Pro Rodeo • Nov. 3-9 • Rodeo's seasoned veterans compete for prizes and glory. Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5751.

Blackjack Tournament • Nov. 4 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 800-683-8266.

21 Tournament • Nov. 4 • $20 buy-in. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

Free Slot Tournament • Nov. 4 • $1,000 cash and prizes. Atlantis, Reno, 775-824-4461.

"The Magic Flute" • Nov. 5-6 • Opera Theatre performance. Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

Reno Film Festival • Nov. 6-9 • Screenings of classic and independent films, screenwriting seminar, education demonstrations, and celebrity guests such as Jerry Lewis, writer Bob Gale, and director Robert Zemeckis. Call for locations, Reno, 775-334-6707.

"Wild Women...With Curves Like These" • Nov. 6-9 • Exhibition and fine art and craft sale by Northern Nevada artists whose work typifies the Wild Women spirit defined in the book by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, *Women Who Run With Wolves*. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Rhymers Rodeer Cowboy Poetry • Nov. 7-8 • Annual event features a tribute to cowboy poet and event cofounder Richard Smith. Scheduled to appear are song-teller Garn Littledyke, Tom Zachry, Georgie Sicking, Tony Ilardi, and Ernie Fanning. Emcees are McAvoy Layne and Alice Hancock. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6679.

Cowboy Rhyme

The down-home stanzas of cowboy poets Tom Zachry, Georgie Sicking, Tony Ilardi, and Ernie Fanning highlight the Rhymers Rodeer Cowboy Poetry tribute November 7-8 at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden.

"Sleuth" • Nov. 7-8, 13-15, 20-22, Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 • Comedy performed in repertory. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" • Nov. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 • Shakespeare's comedy. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

"Deathtrap" • Nov. 7-8, 14-16, 21-23 • Reno Little Theater murder mystery presentation. Hug High School, Reno, 775-329-0661.

Fine Arts Exhibit • Nov. 7-9 • Regional juried show with cash prizes. CVIC Hall, Minden, 775-265-3867.

Fitness Fair and Open House • Nov. 8 • Measures strength, aerobic capacity, and flexibility. Recreation Center, Incline Village, 775-832-1350.

"Hello Dolly" • Nov. 8-9, 14-16, 21-23 • Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company presentation of the Broadway musical. Community Center, Carson City, 775-445-4250.

Super Star Slot Tournament • Nov. 9-10 • $399 entry fee, $36,000 in prizes. Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-215-7721.

Millennium Bugs Jazz Combo • Nov. 10 • Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154 for more information.

Blackjack Tournament • Nov. 10-11 • Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.

Veterans Day Parade • Nov. 11 • C Street, Virginia City, 775-847-0311.

Big Band Jazz in Carson City • Nov. 11 • Mile High Jazz Band performance. Comma Coffee, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

Wednesday Evening Program • Nov. 12 • Free discussion on railroad history. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

"Wait Until Dark" • Nov. 12 and Dec. 3, 17 • Classic suspense-thriller performed in repertory. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

Free Slot Tournament • Nov. 13 • $1,000 cash and prizes. Atlantis, Reno, 775-824-4461.

Pray for Snow Party • Nov. 13 • Competitors vie for a season ski pass by performing the best snow call, poem, dance, chant—the crazier the better. Rockwater Bar and Grill, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3360.

UNR Fall Dance Festival • Nov. 13-15 • Featured guest artists Mark Diamond of New York City and Robert Schultz of Los Angeles. Location TBA, UNR, Reno, 775-784-4041, ext. 240.

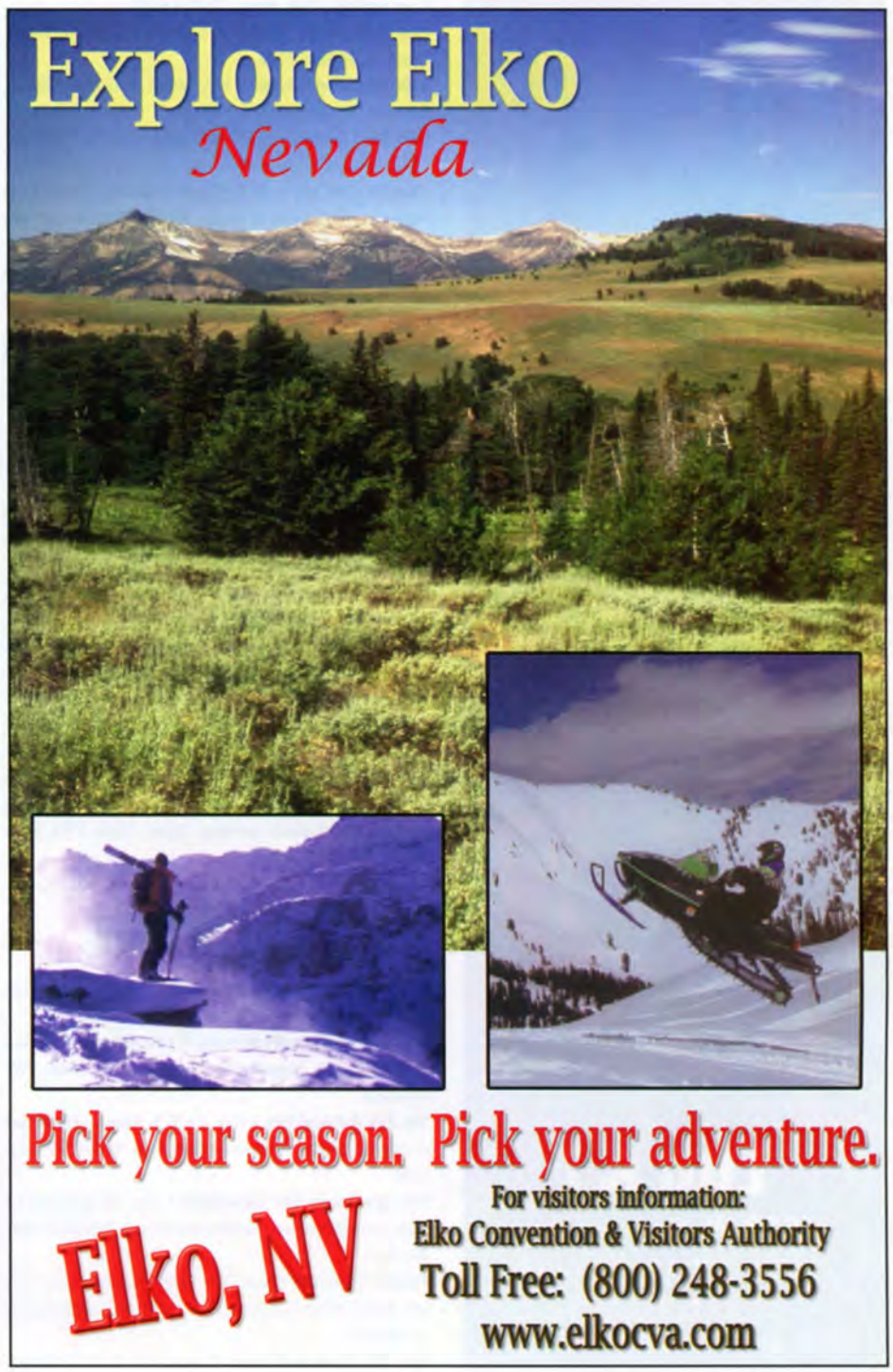
21 Tournament • Nov. 14 • $10 buy-in. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

Toni Tennille Reno Chamber Orchestra Benefit • Nov. 15 • Nightingale Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

FoamFest • Nov. 15 • Microbrew tastings and dancing to the band 1888. Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 530-581-4161.

River Walk Wine Walk • Nov. 15 • Each gallery and shop offers a different wine to taste. River Walk, Reno, 775-329-3698.

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MasterClassics 3 • Nov. 16 and 18 • Piano soloist Sebastian Chang performs "Rhapsody in Blue" with the Reno Philharmonic. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 775-323-6393.

UNR Lyric Opera Theatre • Nov. 16-17 • Laxalt Theatre, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

Percussion Ensemble Concert • Nov. 18 • Nightingale Concert Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

Slot Tournament • Nov. 19 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 800-683-8266.

"I'm Not Afraid of You" • Nov. 19 and Dec. 10 • Premiere of comedy performed in repertory. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221.

Nevada and California Cattlemen's Association • Nov. 19-21 • Joint convention. John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-738-9214.

Nightingale String Quartet Concert • Nov. 21 • Nightingale Concert Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

Live Heavyweight Boxing • Nov. 22 • Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 866-866-9226.

$10K Slot Tournament • Nov. 23-24 • Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.

UNR Choir Concert • Nov. 25 • Nightingale Concert Hall, UNR, Reno, 775-784-6145.

"Kiss Me Kate" • Nov. 28-30 • Battle of the sexes in this Cole Porter musical. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 800-714-5331.

Squaw Valley Film Festival • Nov. 29 • Ski and snowboard films from local filmmakers. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Reno Symphonic Choir • Dec. 1-2 • Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-4030.

21 Tournament • Dec. 2 • $10 buy-in. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

Free Slot Tournament • Dec. 5 • $1,000 cash and prizes. Atlantis, Reno, 775-824-4461.

Wednesday Evening Program • Dec. 10 • Free discussion on railroad history. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.

21 Tournament • Dec. 12 • $10 buy-in. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626.

Soup and Shoe • Dec. 14 • Guided snowshoe hike. Kirkwood Ski Resort, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-258-6000.

Hyatt Cup • Dec. 20 • Make-up race cancelled last year due to lack of snow. Diamond Peak, Incline Village, 775-832-1177.

Giving for the Next Generation of Care • Dec. 21 • Benefit for the Tahoe Forest Hospital Foundation includes dinner, dancing, and holiday caroling. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.

Rural Nevada

Elko's Nevada Day Parade • Oct. 31 • Colorful parade has about 50 entries. Downtown Elko, 775-738-7991.

Round Mountain Craft Fair • Nov. 1 • Handmade crafts and food. Donald L. Simpson Center, Round Mountain, 775-377-3112.

The Jazz Ambassadors • Nov. 1 • U.S. Army's official jazz orchestra. Barkley Theatre at Oats Park, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

Free Eye Opener Slot Tournament • Nov. 3-6 and 10-14 • Daily from 9am-noon. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Karaoke Stampede • Nov. 7-8 • Selected contestants compete for $1,000 grand prize. Winners Hotel, Winnemucca, 775-623-2511.

Elko All Breed Bull Sale • Nov. 7-8 • Elko County

WHAT

World titles are at stake at the **Wrangler National Finals Rodeo** in Las Vegas.



Barrel man Flint Rassmussen's job during the NFR is to protect bull riders, not entertain the crowds. The December 5-14 event is a sell-out, but 31 Las Vegas hotels feature closed-circuit feeds of the action.

Photo: Mike Copeman (bottom left)

A RIDE



Champion bull rider Cody Hancock locks on to a disagreeable beast during the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo at Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas.

Look across any Las Vegas casino floor between December 5 and 14, and you'll observe a sea of Levi's, Western shirts, buckskin fringe, and bobbing cowboy hats. The sight signals the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, an annual event that sells out months in advance. You may not be able to buy a ticket to the rodeo performances at the Thomas and Mack Center, but closed-circuit feeds are broadcast at 31 casinos, including Bally's, Sahara, Tropicana, and New York-New York.

Casinos with NFR fever book Brooks and Dunn, Randy Travis, Charlie Daniels, and other country stars (see this issue's "Nevada Showguide"). As usual Rickey and the Redstreaks, a zany rock band and favorite of NFR contestants and crowds, will play the Stardust.



Brooks and Dunn appear at the Las Vegas Hilton.

During the day the action shifts to the huge Cowboy Christmas Gift Show at the Las Vegas Convention Center, where everything even remotely Western can be purchased. The gift show runs December 4-13, and there is no admission charge.

The National Finals Rodeo is the championship event of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, and it's serious business. Since 1959 the prize money has grown from $50,000 to more than $4.9 million. Each year the top 15 competitors in steer wrestling, barrel racing, team and calf roping, and bareback, saddle bronc, and bull riding gather to compete in Las Vegas, seeking the chance to be one of their sport's champions.

Call 702-260-8605 or visit www.lasvegasevents.com or www.prorodeo.com for more NFR information.

—Ann Henderson



Everything from hats to boots can be found at the Cowboy Christmas Gift Show.

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- *Polar Express* (with Santa!) November 29 & 30, 2003 December 6 & 7, 2003
- *Winter Photo Spectacular* February 7 & 8, 2004
- Public excursions and charter service available

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One of a Kind

A necklace is not a necklace when it is wearable art, like Melanie Trinkle's creation (left), which will be featured November 1-December 24 at the VSA arts of Nevada Gallery in Reno. The Art on Earth show and sale offers paintings, photos, and cards.

Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-638-3616 for more information.

Ruby Mt. Symphony • Nov. 8 • Local musicians perform winter concert. Elko Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-4187.

Missoula Children's Theater • Nov. 8 • Presentation by the visiting theatrical group. Pahrump Valley High School, Pahrump, 775-751-1914.

Chukar Tournament • Nov. 8 • Championship hunt and awards dinner. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-1112.

Winners Dart Tournament • Nov. 12-15 • Men's, women's, and mixed play. Winners Hotel, Winnemucca, 775-623-2511.

Nevada Cattlemen's Convention • Nov. 12-15 • Elko Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-9214.

Lamoille Women's Club Annual Chili Feed • Nov. 13 • Benefit event. Lamoille Women's Clubhouse, Lamoille, 775-738-4488.

Tom Russell • Nov. 14 • Folk-Western songwriter performs with guitarist Andrew Hardin. Sturgeons Center Club, Lovelock, 775-273-0377.

Senior-A-Fair • Nov. 14-16 • Expo for seniors on the go. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Armstrong Roping Series • Nov. 14-16 • Team roping. Event Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Boy Scout Craft Fair • Nov. 15 • Handmade items for sale. Events Complex, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Saturday Night Fever Slot Tournament • Nov. 15, 22, and 29 • $10 buy-in, free breakfast buffet. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

SnoGoers Grass Drags • Nov. 15-16 • Snowmobile racing. Elko County Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-5613.

Keno Tournament • Nov. 16-17 • Peppermill, Wendover, 775-664-0521.

"Oliver" • Nov. 21 • The Pogonip Players, Western Nevada

Nevada Holidays

for holiday events and shows all around Nevada, see pages 64-66.



Eye on the Sky

Aviation Nation at Nellis Air Force Base celebrates the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds (above), which are based at the Las Vegas installation. The air show on November 15-16 includes military flying demonstrations, aerobatics, static displays, and air races featuring the big unlimiteds that reach speeds of 500 mph.

Community College, and Churchill Arts Council presents the musical based on the Charles Dickens novel. Barkley Theatre at Oaks Park, Fallon, 775-423-7565.

Artists and Authors Exhibit • Nov. 21-22 • Books, paintings, pottery, sculpture, and jewelry show and sale. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-753-1165 for further event information.

Pahrump Social Powwow • Nov. 21-23 • Native American exhibits, vendors, food, and entertainment. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-751-0569.

Ducks Unlimited Banquet • Nov. 22 • The Elko chapter's annual party features cocktails, food, and a live auction for guns and artwork. Stockmen's, Elko, 775-738-3641.

Free Eye Opener Slot Tournament • Dec. 1-4 and 8-12 • Daily from 9am-noon. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Rainbow Blackjack Tournament • Dec. 5-6 • Rainbow, Wendover, 775-664-0521.

The Cottars • Dec. 6 • Celtic concert. Barkley Theatre at Oats Park, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

Saturday Night Fever Slot Tournament • Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27 • $10 buy-in, free breakfast buffet. Saddle West Hotel, Pahrump, 800-433-3987.

Nurses Bazaar • Dec. 6-7 • Benefit craft sale. Elko Convention Center, Elko, 775-753-7768.

Slot Tournament • Dec. 12-13 • Rainbow, Wendover, 775-664-0521.

Armstrong Roping Series • Dec. 12-14 • Team roping. Event Center, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

Operating Model Railroad Exhibit • Dec. 13-14 • Model train collection displayed. Once Upon a Time Bed and Breakfast, Elko, 775-738-1200.

Coming Events

Laughlin Desert Challenge • Jan. 15-18 • Off-road race. 800-227-5245.

National Cowboy Poetry Gathering • Jan. 24-31 • Elko, 888-880-5885.

Las Vegas International Marathon • Feb. 8 • 702-240-2723.

Shooting the West • March 13-14 • Photography seminar. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071.

Boulder City Fine Arts Festival • April 24-25 • 702-293-2138.

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JULY
WESTERN STATES CORVETTE COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE - YERINGTON

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION - YERINGTON

AUGUST
LYON COUNTY FAIR, RODEO & PARADE - YERINGTON

SPIRIT OF WOVOKA DAYS POWWOW - YERINGTON

SEPTEMBER
FERNLEY LIVING HISTORY FESTIVAL - FERNLEY

SENIOR PRO RODEO - FERNLEY

DAYTON VALLEY DAYS - DAYTON

OCTOBER
SMITH VALLEY FUN DAY - WELLINGTON



FOR A COMPLETE COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR VISIT WWW.LYONTOURISM.INFO OR CALL 775.463.2245.

Nevada Showguide

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

Nevada's clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld appears at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and Reno's City Center Pavilion this winter. Andrea Bocelli headlines at Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas while Simon and Garfunkel play the MGM Grand. In Reno, the Doobie Brothers perform at the Silver Legacy, and Jay Leno appears at Caesars Tahoe. *Nevada Magazine* presents the following guide to featured performances. Schedules may change, so call ahead for show times and reservations.



Getting a Rise Out of Magic

Magician Rick Thomas celebrates his sixth year as the afternoon headliner at the Tropicana in Las Vegas. Thomas, a former child dance champion, glides easily through a series of illusions involving his tigers and a bevy of beautiful assistants. "The Magic of Rick Thomas" plays at 2 and 4 p.m. daily except Sunday in the Tiffany Theatre at the Strip hotel.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • 702-293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam.

HENDERSON

Casino MonteLago at Lake Las Vegas • 702-939-8888: Special events TBA.

Fiesta Henderson • 702-558-7000: Bands play in the Lava Lounge on Fri.-Sat.

Green Valley Ranch • 702-454-0544: Jazz Club: Entertainment Fri.-Sat. Whiskey Amphitheater: TBA.

Joker's Wild • 702-564-8100: Entertainment Wed.-Sun.

Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-6181: Piano music and hors d'oeuvres, 6-9pm Fri.-Sun.

Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas • 702-567-4700: Firenze Lobby Lounge: Florentine Tea daily from 2:30-5pm.

Sunset Station • 702-547-7777: Club Madrid: Peaches and Herb, Nov. 1. Eric Burdon and the New Animals, Dec. 12. Lynn Anderson, Feb. 13. Michael Martin Murphey appears on March 19.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 702-477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands like Drew Baker and Dave and Jeep Capone play nightly except Tues.

Nevada Landing • 702-387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands like Foreign Affair and A.J. Leone appear nightly except Wed.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 877-333-WISH: Aladdin Theater for the Performing Arts: "Starlight Express," Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical, Jan. 20-25. "Riverdance, Feb. 10-15. "Rent," March 19-21. "42nd Street, May 5-9. "Cats, June 23-27. For tickets call 702-798-5090. CenterStage Showroom: Society of Seven, musical comedy, dark Mon. "X: An Erotic Adventure," adult production show, 10:30pm Tues.-Sun. Sinbad's Lounge: Bands play until 3am. Music in the Curve nightclub 10:30pm-5am Fri.-Sat.

Arizona Charlie's • 702-258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: Entertainment TBA. Karaoke 8:30pm-1:30am Mon. Bands play Tues.-Thurs. Jerry Tiffe's Band, 4-7pm Fridays.

Arizona Charlie's East • 702-951-5800: Palace Grand Lounge: Entertainment TBA. Bands play 4-7pm Fri.-Sun.

Bally's • 702-739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!, dark Fri. Backstage Walking Tour, 2pm Mon., Wed., Sat. Entertainment in the Indigo Lounge.

Barbary Coast • 702-737-7111: Barbary Coast Lounge: Pete Vallee as "Big Elvis, 3-6pm Tues.-Fri. Bands like Elements, Smith Brothers, and Susan McDonald play in the lounge. Karaoke, Mon.-Tues.

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf., dark Mon.-Tues and Dec. 1-16. Light: Nightclub opens at 10:30pm Thurs.-Sun. Caramel Bar is open nightly 5pm-4am. Musicians play in the Petrossian Lounge and Baccarat Bar. Fontana Room: Bands play nightly.

Boardwalk Casino • 702-735-2400: Lighthouse Lounge: Spectrum, Motown sound, indf., dark Mon. Purple Reign, a tribute to Prince, dark Mon. Kokomo, Sun.-Mon.

Boulder Station • 702-432-7777 or 800-683-7777: The Railhead: Al DiMeola, Nov. 1. Trace Adkins, Nov. 7. Taylor Dayne, Nov. 8. Bret Michaels, Nov. 14. The DeCastro Sisters, Nov. 15. Mark Wills, Nov. 22. Jimmy Wayne/Amy Dalley, Dec. 5-6. Darryl Worley, Dec. 12. Pat Green, Dec. 13. Jerry Tiffe plays 2-4pm Thurs. KIXX: Shooting Stars Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.

Bourbon Street • 702-737-7200: Big Easy Showroom: "Shock, 10:30pm Fri.-Sat. "Hypnolarious with Terry Stoke, 9pm, dark Mon.-Tues.

Caesars Palace • 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544: The Colosseum Showroom: Celine Dion stars in "A New Day," dark Mon.-Tues. Jerry Seinfeld, Dec. 26-27. Shadow Bar: Dancers and flair bartenders perform 8pm-2am Sun.-Thurs., 7pm-3am Fri.-Sat. DJ 9pm-2am Mon.-Sat. Entertainment in the Café Lago Restaurant, Terrazza Lounge, Cleopatra's Barge Nightclub, and Galleria Bar.

Castaways • 702-383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Windjammer Lounge and Outer Bar: Bands play nightly.

Circus Circus • 702-734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts from 11am to midnight.

Egg and I Restaurant • 702-364-9686: "Marriage Can Be Murder," interactive dinner theater has guests playing detective, 7pm Wed.-Fri., 6pm Sat.

Excalibur Hotel • 702-597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings, jousting-dinner show. Merlin's Theater: "Thunder From Down Under," all-male revue plays at 7:30pm Sun.-Wed., 7:30 and 11:30pm Fri.-Sat., dark Thurs. Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club: Comedians perform at 10pm nightly and 7:30pm Thurs. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers, 10am-10pm daily. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Regales and Camelot restaurants.

Fitzgeralds • 702-388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Fitzgeralds Showroom: Larry G. Jones, free impersonator show, 5pm, dark Thurs.-Mon. "Spirit of the King" starring Steve Connolly, dark Tues.-Wed. Diva-

Licious, singing duo, 9pm Thurs.-Mon. Wild Billy Tucker, comedian, 10:30pm Thurs.-Mon. (shows have a one-drink minimum per person; must be 21 for Diva-Licious and Wild Billy Tucker). Paul Casas, musical comedy, 5pm Tues.-Wed. Bobby Ruffin's Tribute to the Drifters, 7:15 and 9:15pm, Tues.-Wed., $12.95. First Floor Stage: "Mike Lee, Singer of Memories, 8pm-1am Thurs., Sun., Mon., 5:30-9:30pm Fri.-Sat. The Speaks Brothers, 10pm-2am Fri.-Sat. Singer Derek James, 8pm-1am Tues.-Wed.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 702-733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: Gladys Knight, 7:30pm, dark Sun.-Mon. The Amazing Johnathan, outrageous magic, 10pm Fri.-Wed., dark Nov. 13-20. "Bottoms Up, comedy revue, 2 and 4pm, dark Sun. Second City Theater: "Second City," improv comedy sketches, 8pm Thurs.-Tues., 10:30pm Fri.-Sat., dark Wed. Flamingo Late-Night Lounge: DJ and dance music, 1-4am.

Flamingo O'Shea's • 702-737-1343: Entertainment TBA.

Four Queens • 702-385-4011 or 800-634-6045.

Four Seasons • 702-632-5000: Piano entertainment during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah restaurant, 2-5pm daily.

Fremont • 702-385-3232.

Gold Coast • 702-367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): Lounge: Kinda Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm. Bands like Gregg Peterson and Latin Vida play nightly except Mon. Gold Coast Showroom: "Serendipity," musical tribute to the '60s, '70s, and '80s, dark Mon.-Tues. Latin Breeze, Fri.-Sat., indf. Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor on 7-10pm Tues. Dance lessons are 6-7pm. Sunday Tea Dance Party with Larry Taylor from 1-4pm. Dance lessons are noon-1pm. Free drama workshop, 2-4pm Tues.

Golden Gate • 702-385-1906: Live piano featuring David Morris, Rick Warren, Moses Hazen, Betty de Betea, 6pm-midnight.

Golden Nugget • 702-385-7111: Ballroom: "Spirit of the Dance, 7:30pm, dark Fri. and Nov. 10-28. Funny Bone Comedy Showcase, 10pm Fri.-Sat. Bands play in the Show Bar Lounge.

Golden Palm • 702-798-1111: Karaoke, 9pm-2am Wed.-Sun.

Greek Isles • 702-952-8000: Magic Theater: "Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey, and Dean, dinner at 5:30pm, show at 7pm, dark Fri.

Hard Rock Hotel • 702-693-5066: The Joint: Matchbox Twenty, Nov. 12.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 702-369-5111: Clint Holmes Theatre: Clint Holmes, musical variety show, dark Sun. Comedy Cabaret: Improv, nightly except Mon. "Skintight," adult musical revue, dark Thurs. "Mac King Comedy Magic Show" appears at 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Carnaval Court: Bands like Wonder Boogie and Cook E. Jarr appear Fri.-Sat. Dueling pianos nightly in La Playa Lounge, karaoke party 6-9pm nightly except Tues.-Wed., and jazz in the Range Steakhouse Lounge. View nightclub opens in the Range Steakhouse at 11pm.

Howard Johnson Hotel • 702-798-1111: TBA.

Imperial Palace • 702-794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," impersonator revue, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Sun. Casino Floor: Celebrity impersonators deal blackjack to gamblers. Entertainment nightly in the Kabuki Lounge and Fri.-Sun. in the Nomiya Lounge.

Key Largo • 702-733-7777: Sand Bar Lounge: One performs nightly 8pm-2am.

Lady Luck • 702-477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater: Entertainment TBA. Lucky Louie's Lounge: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.

Las Vegas Hilton • 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: The Smothers Brothers, thru Nov. 16. The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Nov. 25-30, 7:30pm. The Commodores, Nov. 28-29, 10pm. Logan Wells, Dec. 2-7, 7:30pm. Brooks and Dunn, Dec. 8-10. The Fab



Oh, Really?

Comedian George Lopez takes time off from his television sitcom to perform November 8 at the City Center Pavilion in Reno.

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Four: The Ultimate Tribute to the Beatles, Dec. 16-21, 7:30pm. The NightClub: Disco nights, 11pm-3am Thurs.-Sat., DJs spin '70s and '80s dance music.

Luxor • 702-262-4555: Luxor Theatre: "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor," percussion theater. Pharaoh's Theater: "Midnight Fantasy," production show, dark Mon. Ra Nightclub at Luxor: DJs Wed.-Sat. Entertainers play nightly in Nefertiti's Lounge. Movies in the IMAX theater.

Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: "Mamma Mia!, the Broadway musical based on the music of Abba, dark Tues. Mandalay Events Center: Andrea Bocelli, Nov. 15. House of Blues: Café Thursday and Thrice, Nov. 1. Echo and the Bunnymen, Nov. 6. Mary Fahl, Nov. 7. Jaguares, Nov. 15. Slayer, Nov. 18. KMFDM featuring PIG, Nov. 20. Alkaline Trio, Nov. 25. CMT's Most Wanted Live Tour 2003 featuring Rascal Flatts, Dec. 3. Willie Nelson, Dec. 5. Goo Goo Dolls, Dec. 31. Dance music, Thurs.-Sun. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Bands play in the Orchid, Island, and Coral Reef lounges. The Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay is open daily.

MGM Grand • 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Hollywood Theatre: George Carlin, thru Nov. 5. Paul Anka, Nov. 6-12, dark Nov. 9. Carrot Top, Nov. 13-19. Howie Mandel, Nov. 20-26. David Copperfield, Dec. 24-Jan. 1. MGM Grand Garden Arena: Simon and Garfunkel, Nov. 8. Billboard Music Awards, Dec. 10. La Femme Theatre: "La Femme, Topless Crazy Horse production from Paris, dark Tues. Studio 54: Dancing Tues.-Sat. Entertainment in the Tabu and Zuri lounges, Craftsteak Restaurant, and the Entertainment Dome. EFX Theatre: Cirque du Soleil production to open in 2004.

The Mirage • 702-792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," closed indefinitely. Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans performs in his showroom nightly except Fri. and Mon. Ray Romano, Nov. 14-16. Entertainment in the Onda and Ava lounges and Baccarat Bar.

Monte Carlo • 702-730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician, dark Sun.-Mon. Top 40, disco, country, and classic-rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

New Frontier • 702-794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Mud wrestling 11pm Wed. Free line dance lessons 7:30pm Thurs. Bikini bull riding midnight Fri.-Sat. Karaoke 9pm Sun.

New York-New York • 702-740-6969 or 800-693-6763: Broadway Theatre: "Zumanity," adult Cirque du Soleil production, 7:30 and 10:30pm, dark Sun.-Mon. and Nov. 30-Dec. 15. Cabaret Theatre: Comedienne Rita Rudner performs nightly. The Pub at Nine Fine Irishmen: Food and entertainment. Coyote Ugly: Dance nightclub opens nightly at 6pm. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play from 7:30pm nightly in the Bar at Times Square. Bands play in the Big Apple Bar. Manhattan Express Roller Coaster opens daily at 10am.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Arena: Entertainment TBA. Orleans Showroom: Steven Wright, thru Nov. 2. Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell, Nov. 6-9. Neil Sedaka, Nov. 11-16. Righteous Brothers, Nov. 18-30, dark Nov. 24. Charlie Daniels Band, Dec. 6-9. Randy Travis, Dec. 10-13. Tony Orlando's Christmas Show, Dec. 16-21. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Performers appear nightly except Mon. Brendan's Irish Pub: Bands like The Klique and Rockfield Drive play nightly. Jazz, Tues., Blues Zydeco, Wed., Blues, Thurs., Jazz, Fri.-Sat., Irish acoustic sing-a-long, Sun. "Rock This Town Live, tributes to Elvis, Buddy Holly, and Jerry Lee Lewis, 7-8pm, Mon.-Thurs. Sazio Restaurant: "Ba-Da-Bing, interactive dinner show, Thurs.-Mon.

Palace Station • 702-367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Laugh Trax Comedy Club: Comedians perform Tues.-Sat. Jack's Irish

Pub: Entertainers are scheduled to perform nightly.

The Palms • 702-942-7777: Rain in the Desert: Concerts TBA, cabana area, water booths, special effects. Skin Pool Lounge: Entertainment TBA. Entertainment nightly in the Palapa Lounge. Ghostbar on the 55th floor offers an indoor-outdoor lounge.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Theatre des Arts: Natalie Cole, Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Clint Black, Nov. 6-8. Tony Bennett, Nov. 13-16. Jeff Foxworthy, Dec. 5-7. Wayne Brady, Dec. 12-13. Ballroom: A-Mei Concert, Dec. 27. Bands play in Le Cabaret Lounge. Napoleon's Lounge: Entertainment nightly. Dancing 10pm-4am Wed.-Sun. in the Risqué nightclub. Eiffel Tower rides 10am-1am daily.

The Plaza • 800-634-6575: Plaza Theatre: The Comedy Zone, 9pm, dark Mon. "Stars of the Strip, impersonator show, 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Omaha Lounge: Dusty Barron/The Sun Spots perform Tues.-Sun.

Rampart Casino at the Resort at Summerlin • 877-869-8777: Addison's Lounge: Rock, oldies, and R&B bands perform 8pm-midnight Fri.-Sat. Open mike for musicians on Thurs. Round Bar: Entertainment Tues.-Sat.

Rio All-Suite Hotel • 702-252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Scinta Showroom: The Scintas, musical-comedy show, dark Thurs. Ronn Lucas, comic-ventriloquist, 3pm Sat.-Thurs., dark Fri. Samba Theater: Penn and Teller, comedy-magic show, dark Tues. "Showgirls, late-night adult musical revue at 11pm, dark Tues. Club Rio: "Chippendales: The Show," dark Tues. Club Rio Nightclub is open for late-night dancing Thurs.-Sat. Calypso Room: "Tony 'n Tina's Wedding, off-Broadway interactive dinner theater, nightly. Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade above the casino daily at 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8, 9, and 10pm. Bikinis Beach and Dance Club: Nightclub opens 10pm Thurs.-Sun. Sexy swimwear competition on Thurs. Entertainment in the Ipanema Bar and VooDoo Lounge.



Great Dayne

Taylor Dayne brings her pop and dance songs to Boulder Station in November. Known for the dance hits "Naked Without You" and "Planet Love," Dayne released her latest live CD, "Performance," this year.

Riviera • 702-794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash, production show, dark Fri. and Nov. 27 and Dec. 11-24. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage, celebrity female impersonators revue, 8pm, dark Tues. "Men, the Show," 10pm, dark Tues. Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls" adult revue, dark Thurs. "Riviera Comedy Club, nightly. Le Bistro Theatre: Singer Marlene Ricci, 8pm Tues. and 7pm Fri. "America's Neil Diamond Tribute: Portrayed by Jay White, 7pm Sun.-Thurs. The Exotic Hypnotics, featuring Genie and Richard, 11:30pm Tues.-Sun. Ray Brown and Uptown Attitude, 10pm Tues.-Sun. Little Anthony and the Imperials, 8:30pm Wed.-Mon. Lon Bronson's All-Star Band plays at 1:15am Sat. Dr. Scott Lewis: Outrageous Comedy Hypnotist, 10pm Mon.

Sahara • 702-737-2515: Sahara Theatre: "World's Greatest Magic Show," dark Tues., indf. Congo Room: The Platters, Cornell Gunter's Coasters, and Beary Hobb's Drifters. Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 702-454-8048: Sam's Town Live: The Fab, Beatles tribute, thru Dec. 31. Late Night: Music and dancing 11pm-3am Fri.-Sat. Roxy's Saloon: Bands play. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, and 10pm.

San Remo • 702-739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic, revue, dark Mon. Entertainment in the Bonne Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe Station • 702-658-4900: Santa Fe Amphitheater: The Green Room Comedy Corner: Comedian Vince Morris featuring Rob Brackenridge, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Nightclub open for dancing. Jerry Tiffe and His Orchestra, 7-11pm Wed. Memphis Championship Barbecue: John Earl and the BoogieMan Band perform Fri.-Sat.

Silverton • 702-263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Entertainment TBA. Bands play nightly.

Stardust • 702-732-6111 or 888-217-9565: Wayne Newton Theatre: Anthony Cools, 11pm Thurs.-Sat. Wayne Newton,

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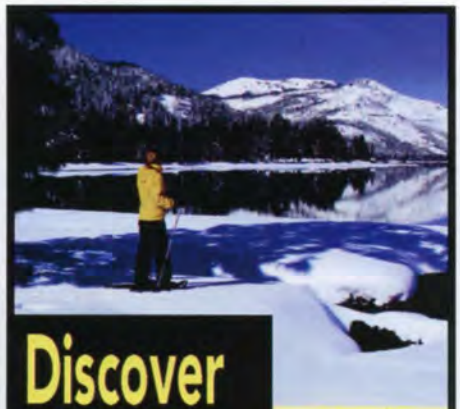
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thru Nov. 9. Tim Conway and Harvey Korman, Nov. 12-15. Don Rickles, Nov. 20-23. Andrew Dice Clay, Nov. 28-29, 11pm. B.B. King, Nov. 28-30, 8pm. "Asian Night, Dec. 20, Vietnamese entertainment. Stardust Lounge: Bands play nightly. Stardust Ballroom: Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, Nov. 29. Rickey and the Redstreaks, the NFR rock band, play the Stardust Lounge Dec. 1-3 and the Stardust Pavilion Dec. 4-14.

Stratosphere • 702-382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars, impersonator revue, dark Thurs. "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Outdoor Events Center: Entertainment TBA. Images Lounge: Bands play nightly. Entertainment in the Top of the World Lounge, Crazy Armadillos: Latin/Disco Night, Mon. Karaoke on Tues.-Wed. DJ on Thurs. Bands play Fri.-Sat. Band showcase, Sun.

Suncoast • 702-636-7111: Showroom: Tony Danza, Oct. 31-Nov. 2. The Lettermen, Nov. 7-9. Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 14-16. Larry Carlton, Nov. 22-23. Roger Williams, Nov. 28-30. Bill Acosta, Dec. 5-7. Sha Na Na, Dec. 12-14. Susan Anton's Christmas Show, Dec. 19-21. Suncoast Lounge: The Limey Bar Stewards, 9:30pm-midnight Tues. Spazmatics, 10:30pm-1:30am Wed. Bands like Front Page and Smith Brothers play nightly except Mon.

Terrible's • 702-733-7000: Stage Bar Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.

TI (formerly Treasure Island) • 702-894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère," dark Wed.-Thurs. and Dec. 3-18. Entertainment in the Mist and Breeze lounges. "Sirens of the TI," a new version of the hotel's pirate-battle attraction, plays along the Strip.

Tropicana • 702-739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Les Folies Bergere, dark Sun. "The Magic of Rick Thomas, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Tropics Lounge: "The Tropicana Bird Show," 11am, 12:30, and 2pm except Thurs. "T. Fox and the Fox City Show," dark Mon.-Tues. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop, stand-up comedy nightly. Celebration Lounge: Entertainment nightly. "Air Play," aerialists perform above the Tropicana casino at 11am, 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9pm.

Venetian • 702-733-5000: Showroom at the Venetian: "Lord of the Dance, Celtic production, dark Mon. "V: The Ultimate Variety Show," nightly, specialty and daredevil acts.

Westward Ho • 702-731-2900: Crown Room: Grubstakes Jamboree, thru Nov. 15. Dinner and show, Wed. and Sat. Bands play nightly except Mon. in the lounge.

Wild West Gambling Hall • 702-740-0000.

Westin Casuarina • 866-837-4215: Comedian David Brenner has a 44-week contract to appear at the new hotel on the site of the former Maxim. Call for schedule.

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 702-535-5555: ArrowWeed Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Colorado Belle • 702-298-4000: Oldies duos play in the Boiler Room Microbrewery and Restaurant. Dixieland band strolls on D Deck.

Edgewater • 702-298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Music nightly.

Flamingo Laughlin • 702-298-5111 or 800-435-8469: Club Flamingo Showroom: "A Really Big Shew: A Tribute to Ed Sullivan, hosted by Jerry Hoban and featuring The Villiams juggling team, Bob Moore's Amazing Mongrels, and Neil Diamond impersonator Tom Sadge thru Nov. 28. Juggler The Amazing Dario, cowgirl comedienne Joyce Rice, and Tom Jones impersonator Lou Nelson (Dec. 21-Feb. 15), illusionist Dam Birch (Dec. 21-Jan. 3), illusionists The Hammers (Jan. 4-Feb. 15). Flamingo Ballroom: Glen Campbell Christmas Show, Nov. 29. Ann-Margret, Nov. 30. Flamingo Amphitheater: Willie Nelson, Nov. 2.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 702-298-7111 or 800-237-1739:

Tarzan's Nightclub: Dinner and dancing to the music of the '40s and '50s on Tues. Bands play nightly.

Harrah's Laughlin • 702-298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Earl Turner, dark Sun. and Wed. and Nov. 27-29, Dec. 6, thru Dec. 13. Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater: George Jones, Oct. 31, 8pm.

Pioneer • 800-634-3469.

Ramada Express • 702-298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theatre: Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness is scheduled on Mon. American Heroes Museum of Memories: Military memorabilia and speakers recalling their experiences: Vietnam vet Gary Brill, Nov. 13. George S. Patton Jr. historian Charles M. Province, Nov. 18. Naval aircraft mechanic Tom Crow, Nov. 20. Pearl Harbor survivor Bob Hefner, Dec. 4. Korean War vet Joe Langone, Dec. 9. WWII and Korean vet Andrew Anderson, Dec. 16 and March 16.

River Palms • 702-298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Crystal Sands Room: "Celebrities on Stage, starring impersonators the Edwards Twins, thru June. Bands or DJ music nightly in the Bermuda Club Lounge. Karaoke, 4-7pm Wed.

Riverside Resort • 702-298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Roy Clark, Oct. 28-Nov. 2. Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 4-9. Oak Ridge Boys, Nov. 12-16. The Lettermen, Nov. 19-23. Mel Tillis, Nov. 26-30. Vicki Lawrence, Dec. 27-31. Happy Birthday Elvis, Jan. 3-18. Charlie Prose, Jan. 25-28 and Feb. 2-12. Ricky Van Shelton, Feb. 24-29. Tony Danza, March 16-21. Chris Ledoux, March 25-27. The Fifth Dimension, April 14-18. Vicki Lawrence, Nov. 3-7, 2004. Lightning Strikes Nightclub: Karaoke, Sun.-Mon. Boogie Night, Wed. Tequila Fever, Thurs. Beach Night, Fri., bikini contest. Party Night, Sat.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 702-346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Showroom: Comedy Club, Nov. 7-8 and 14. Crystal Gayle, Nov. 15. Comedy Club, Nov. 21-22, and Dec. 12, 20, 26-27. Christy Bryant, Dec. 31. Tanya Tucker, March 13. Entertainment in the Skydome Lounge nightly except Mon.

Eureka Casino Hotel • 702-346-4646: Wild Cactus Lounge: Sonny D, Mon. and Wed. Fun Fool's Karaoke, Tues. Bands play in the lounge Thurs.-Sun.

Oasis • 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Club Xtreme: Video and live DJ on Fri. and Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play in the lounge of the Mesquite hotel nightly except Mon.

Virgin River • 702-346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Bands play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Cannery • 702-507-5700: The Club: Garage Sessions: Electric Guitar Bar, Wed., open-mike talent showcase. Pinups Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Fiesta Rancho • 702-631-7000: Club Tequila: Entertainment Wed.-Sat.

Jerry's Nugget • 702-399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri. and Sat.



Rock This House

Orchestra leader Brian Setzer presents his Christmas show December 12-13 at the City Center Pavilion in downtown Reno. The singer-guitarist will lead his swinging group in a blizzard of hits such as "Boogie Woogie Santa Claus," "The Man With the Bag," "Blue Christmas," "Jump, Jive, an' Wail," and "Hoodoo Voodoo Doll."

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Eureka Opera House, 775-237-6006, P.O. Box 284, Eureka, Nevada 89316

Texas Station • 702-631-1001: Dallas Events Center: Connie Francis, Jan. 23-24. Merle Haggard, Feb. 28. The Armadillo: Kroakies Karaoke, Wed. Loveshack, Fri.-Sat. Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA. Show Bar: Bands play Fri.-Mon.

Primm Valley • 800-FUN-STOP: Show Bar Lounge: Entertainment Sat.-Sun. Performers play in the Piano Bar.

Whiskey Pete's • 800-FUN-STOP: Whiskey Pete's Comedy Club: Comedians perform 10pm Fri.-Sat. Show Bar Lounge: Sat.-Mon.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Carson Nugget • 775-882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Lounge: Entertainers such as Madison Avenue, Band on the Run, and David Proud appear Tues.-Sun. Special Events: Nevada Day Party, Nov. 1.

Carson Station • 775-883-0900: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Piñon Plaza • 775-885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Wed.-Sun.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Cabaret Lounge: China Grove: Doobie Brothers Tribute, Nov. 14-15. Bands like Don Rose, Prime Time, Silent Plant, and Shake, Rattle, and Roll play nightly except Mon. Special Events: Rhymers Rodeer Cowboy Poetry, Nov. 7-8.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 775-266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 775-825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in the Center Stage Cabaret. Dancing in the Atlantis Nightclub. Special Events: Duckhorn Winemaker Dinner, Dec. 4.

Boomtown • 775-345-6000: Can-Can Theater and Dancehall: Performers like Amy Clawson, Midnight Riders, and Next Level play Tues.-Sun.

Club Cal Neva-Virginian • 775-323-1046 or 877-777-7303: Entertainment on Fri. and Sat.

Circus Circus • 775-329-0711: Nevada Room: Geechy Guy Happy Hour, stand-up comedy, Wed.-Sun. Circus Cabaret: Entertainment daily except Tues.-Wed. Free daily circus acts, 11am-10:30pm.

City Center Pavilion • 888-288-1833: United States vs. France, Olympic-level boxing event, Nov. 1. George Lopez, Nov. 8. Jerry Seinfeld, Nov. 29. Brian Setzer Christmas Show, Dec. 12-13. The Blues Brothers featuring Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi, Dec. 30.

Eldorado • 775-786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): "Broadway! The Star-Spangled Celebration, thru Nov. 30, musical tribute to Broadway (dark Mon.). Also "Spirit of the Dance, thru Nov. 30 (dark Mon.). Call for show times. Bands play nightly at the Brew Brothers microbrewery. Piano music in the Roxy Lounge. BuBinga Lounge: Dance to DJs and bands Tues.-Sat. Bands play in the Eldorado Cabaret.

Fitzgeralds • 775-785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands perform nightly in the Fitz Showbar.

Golden Phoenix • 775-785-7100: Showroom: "The Magic of Eli Kerr," Wed.-Sat. thru Nov. 15.

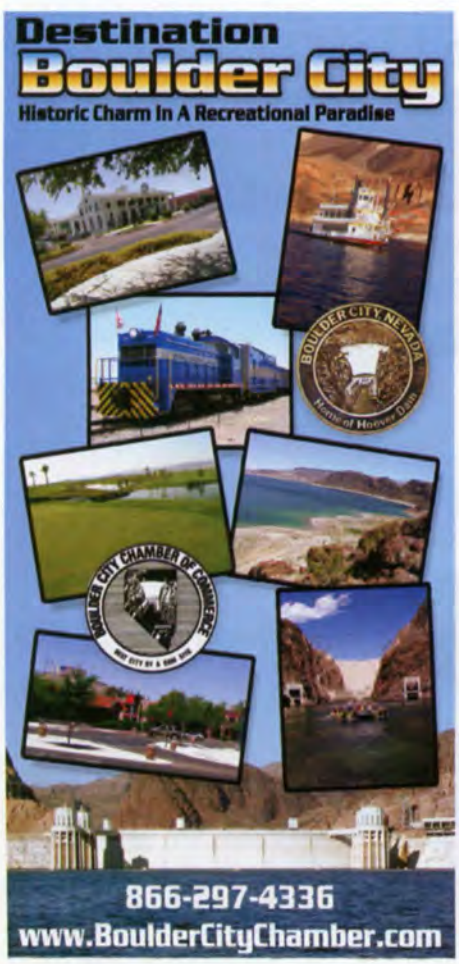
Harrah's Reno • 775-788-2900 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Price Is Right Live, thru Dec. 8. Patterned after the television game show; audience members compete for prizes. Dark Tues.-Wed. Bands play Thurs.-Mon. in the Sapphire Lounge. Xtreme Park: Seasonal thrill rides.

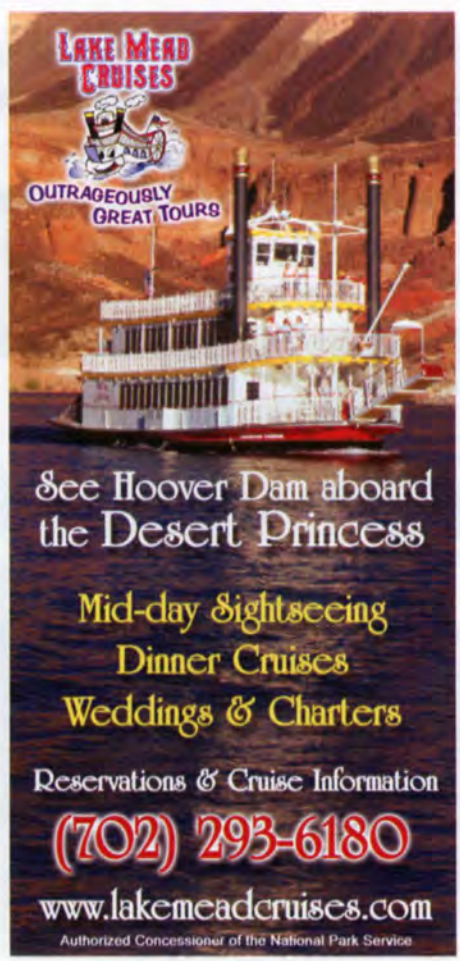
John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 775-356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Celebrity Showroom: Crystal Gayle, Nov. 7-9. Roy

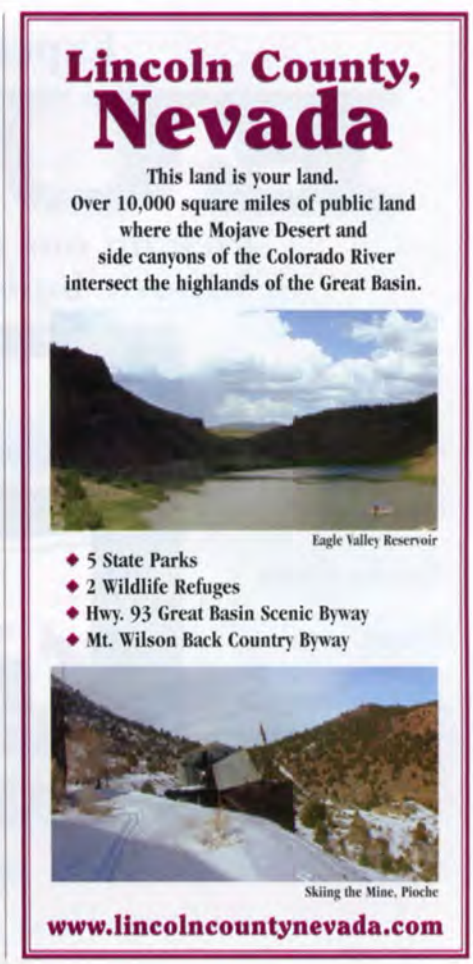


That Feeling

The Righteous Brothers, 2003 inductees into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, perform at the Silver Legacy in Reno and The Orleans in Las Vegas in November. Their "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling" (1964) stands as the most-played song in the history of American radio.







Clark, Nov. 20-22. Oak Ridge Boys, Dec. 31-Jan. 1. Bands play in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's. Flamenco guitarist Thurs. and jazz Fri.-Sat. in Restaurante Orozko.

Peppermill • 775-826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Entertainment TBA. Cabaret Lounge: Bands such as Dexterity, Free Ride, Uncle Funkle, Bad Moon Rising, and Bahama play nightly. Ron Perry and Dale Vernon perform in the Steakhouse Lounge.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 775-359-9440: Side Track Lounge: Bands play on weekends.

Reno Hilton • 775-789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theater: Entertainment TBA. Bands play nightly in The Garage.

Sands Regency • 775-348-2200: Tequila Bar: Music nightly except Mon.-Tues. Comedians perform in the Just For Laughs Comedy Club, dark Mon.-Tues. The Happy Hypnotist, Mon.-Tues.

Siena • 775-337-6260: Lexie's Lounge: Entertainment Fri.-Sat. Musicians perform Tues.-Sun. in Lexie's Bar.

Silver Club • Sparks, 775-358-4771 or 800-905-7774 (U.S. outside Nevada): Entertainment in the lounge Wed.-Sun.

Silver Legacy • 775-329-4777 or 800-687-8733 (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Doobie Brothers, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Righteous Brothers, Nov. 14-15. Tom Jones, Dec. 5-6. Music in the Rum Bullions Island Bar. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club, dark Mon. Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

Sundowner • 775-786-7050.

Tamarack Junction • 775-852-3600.

Western Village • Sparks, 775-331-1069, 800-648-1170.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 775-588-2455: William's Back Door Blues Club: Bands play 9:30pm-12:30am Thurs.-Sat.

Caesars Tahoe • 775-588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Jay Leno, Nov. 15. Heavyweight boxing, Nov. 22. Chris Isaak, Dec. 30-31. The Club Nero nightclub has music for dancing.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: Bands play in the Casino Center Stage.

Harveys • 775-588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: The Improv, comedians like Allan Havey, David Gee, Andy Campbell, and Max Alexander perform nightly except Mon.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 775-588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Carnival Cabaret, male celebrity impersonator revue, dark Mon. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge Thurs.-Sun.

Lakeside Inn • 775-588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 775-832-4000 or 800-225-6382.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 775-832-1234: Bands play in the Regency Grand Ballroom. Lone Eagle Restaurant: Music, Wed.-Sat. Casino Stage Bar: Pianist, Wed.-Sun.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0455.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 775-831-0660: Music nightly 8pm-1am Tues.-Sun.

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Rural Nevada

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 775-372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 775-553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play in the lounge Fri.-Sat.

Exchange Club • 775-553-2368: Karaoke on Fri.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 775-738-3181: Bands play nightly.

Gold Country Casino • 800-621-1332: Music on weekends.

High Desert Inn • 775-738-8425: Comedy on Fri.

Red Lion • 775-738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada).

Stockmen's Hotel • 775-738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Bands play in the Stockmen's Showroom.

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 775-289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 775-423-6031.

Fallon Nugget • 775-423-3111.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 775-945-3322: Bands play in the casino lounge.

Joe's Tavern • 775-945-2302.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 775-755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Cactus Pete's Gala Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

Horseshu Casino • 775-755-2321. Cabaret: TBA.

LOVELOCK

Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's • 775-273-2971: Center Club Showroom: Bands and karaoke are featured on weekends. Tom Russell, folk and Western songwriter, Nov. 14.

PAHRUMP

Pahrump Nugget • 775-751-6500.

Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 775-727-1111: Club West Nightclub: Bud Curtis and his Midnight Country Band, Nov. 27. Ray Roberts Quartet, Dec. 31. Jack Reeves New Year's Eve Show, Dec. 31. DJ music for dancing. Bands perform on select Sat.

Terrible's Lakeside • 775-751-7770.

Terrible's Town Casino • 775-751-7777.

SILVER SPRINGS

Silver Springs Nugget • 775-577-4263.

TONOPAH

Banc Club • 775-482-5409: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Tonopah Station Ramada Inn • 775-482-9777: Bands play on weekends.

WENDOVER

Montego Bay • 775-664-9100: Entertainment nightly.

Peppermill • 775-664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play nightly except Mon.

Rainbow Casino • 775-664-4000: Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Red Garter • 775-664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).

State Line Nugget • 775-664-2221.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 775-623-2511: Winners Lounge: "Karaoke Stampede," Nov. 7-8, $1,000 grand prize. Also, groups such What's Next and Topper play on weekends.

Model T Hotel • 775-623-2588: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Holiday Inn Express • 775-625-3100.

Sundance Casino • 775-623-3336.

Red Lion • 800-633-6435.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 775-463-2481: Weekend music.

Dini's Lucky Club • 775-463-2868: Weekend music.


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Travel Hot Line: The Nevada Commission on Tourism provides travel information on the Silver State: 1-800-NEVADA-8, 775-687-4322, or www.travelnevada.com.



Attractions, Tours & Museums

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

Travelers will find many intriguing attractions when they explore the Silver State's museums, resorts, and state and national parks. For more details on the following attractions, tours, and museums, please call the information phone numbers provided.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Black Canyon/Willow Beach River Adventures • Raft tours down the Colorado River. Hacienda Hotel, U.S. 93 between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 702-294-1414 or 800-455-3490.

Boulder City Historic District • Walking tours. 1305 Arizona St., 702-293-2034.

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum • Displays and books on the dam's construction in the 1930s. 1305 Arizona St., 702-294-1988.

Boulder Dam Hotel • 1305 Arizona St., 702-293-3510.

Colorado River Tours • Underground gold mine tour. Nelson, 702-291-0026.

Hoover Dam and Hoover Dam Visitor Center • Theater and exhibit hall, High Scaler Monument. U.S. 93, 702-597-5970.

Lake Mead Cruises • Lake Mead excursions. 702-293-6180.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Alan Bible Visitor Center • Visitor center is on U.S. 93 between Boulder City and Hoover Dam. 702-293-8990.

Skydive Las Vegas.com • Tandem jumps. 702-293-1860.

St. Jude's Ranch for Children • Chapel tours and antique car museum. 100 St. Jude's St., 702-294-7100.

HENDERSON

City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people. 2400 B Moser St. off Sunset, 702-566-2940.

Clark County Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 702-455-7955.

Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 702-458-8864.

Mountasia Family Fun Center • 2050 Olympic, 702-898-7777.

Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Tours. 330 Carousel Pkwy., 702-434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus Dr., 702-385-4321.

Adventuredome • Covered park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.

Anderson Dairy • Tour, movie, and ice cream by appt. on Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Fri. 801 Searles, 702-642-7507.

The Auto Collections • Classic and antique vehicles at Imperial Palace. 702-794-3174.

Bellagio • Fountain shows and art gallery. 702-693-7111.

Cinema Ride • Forum Shops at Caesars, 702-369-4008.

Cowboy Trail Rides • Horseback riding. 702-948-7061.

Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex • 9295 W. Flamingo, 702-253-9832 for attraction information.

Desert Demonstration Gardens • 3701 W. Alta, 702-258-3205.

Driving 101 • Indy-car driving experience. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-651-6300.

Elvis-A-Rama Museum • 3401 Industrial, 702-309-7200.

ESPN Zone • Sports-themed restaurant. New York-New York, 702-933-3776.

Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators. 702-597-7777.



Photo: Mike Valdez

Let's Do The Heartline Twist

Riders on the Manhattan Express roller coaster at New York-New York experience the thrilling force of negative Gs as the coaster twists, loops, and dives around and through the Las Vegas hotel-casino. Manhattan Express is the world's first coaster to feature a 180-degree "heartline" twist.

Flamingo Las Vegas • Wildlife habitat. 702-733-3111.
Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 702-486-5413.
Flyaway Indoor Skydiving • 200 Convention Center Dr., 702-731-4768.
Forum Shops at Caesars • Hourly shows at Festival and Atlantis fountains. 702-893-4800.
Fremont Street Experience • Light show on the hour from dark to midnight. Downtown Las Vegas, 702-678-5600.
Gameworks • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 3785 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-597-3122.
Gilcrease Nature Sanctuary • Petting zoo, picnic areas, walking trails, open Wed.-Sun. 8103 N. Racel St., near Floyd Lamb State Park, 702-645-4224.
Guggenheim Hermitage Museum • Works of the masters. Venetian, 702-414-2440.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-792-3766.
Hard Rock Hotel • Music memorabilia. 702-693-5000.
Harley-Davidson Cafe • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys on display. Las Vegas Strip, 702-740-4555.
Houdini Museum • Memorabilia and magic shop. Venetian, 702-798-4789.
Howard W. Cannon Aviation Museum • McCarran International Airport, 702-455-7968.
IMAX Theatre • Big screen at Brenden Theatres at the Palms, 702-507-4849.
Laser Quest • 7361 W. Lake Mead, 702-243-8881.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 702-360-8000.
Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 702-385-1664.

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Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 702-798-5595.
Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 702-382-KIDS.
Luxor • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum. 702-262-4000.
M&M's World • Museum and gift shop. Showcase Mall, 702-736-7611.
Madame Tussaud's • Wax museum. Venetian, 702-862-7805.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 702-895-3381.
MGM Grand • Lion habitat open daily. 702-891-7979.
Mirage • Volcano and Siegfried and Roy Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat. 702-791-7111.
Mount Charleston • Recreation information. 702-515-5400.
NASCAR Cafe • Race cars displayed in the themed restaurant. Sahara Hotel, 702-734-7223.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 702-486-5205.
New York-New York • Roller coaster, 9/11 memorial. 702-740-6969.
Nevada Zoological-Botanical Park • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks. 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 702-648-5955.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park • Site of 1855 settlement. 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N., next to Cashman Center, 702-486-3511.
Paris Las Vegas • Rides to the observation deck of the hotel's Eiffel Tower. 702-946-7000.
Planet Hollywood Las Vegas • Movie memorabilia. 3500 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 702-791-7827.
Race for Atlantis • IMAX 3D motion simulator. Forum Shops at Caesars, 702-733-9000.
Rainforest Café • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 702-891-8580.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 13 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-363-1921.
Richard Petty Driving Experience • Drive NASCAR-style cars. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-643-4343.
Rio All-Suite Hotel • Free sky parade. 702-252-7777.
Sahara Hotel • Speed: The Ride roller coaster, virtual reality car racing. 702-737-2111.
Sam's Town Sunset Stampede • Water and laser show. 702-456-7777.
Santa Fe Station • Ice arena. 702-658-4900.
Scandia Family Fun Center • 702-364-0070.
Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay • Exhibit of sharks, sea predators, and aquatic creatures. Visitors can ask questions of divers. 702-632-7777.
Shelby American • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-643-3000.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 702-875-4141.
Star Trek: The Experience • Las Vegas Hilton, 702-697-8700.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster, Big Shot ride, and Strat-O-Fair midway. 702-380-7777.
The Wynn Collection • Art belonging to casino mogul Steve Wynn. Wynn Resorts Bldg. on the site of the former Desert Inn Hotel, 3145 Las Vegas Blvd. South, 702-733-4100.
Tropicana • Birds, gambling museum, and aerial acrobatic show. 702-739-2222.
Venetian Hotel • Gondola rides. 702-733-5000.

Warsaw Ghetto Remembrance Garden • Tours by appointment. Temple Beth Shalom, 702-804-1333.
Wetlands Park • Nature center and walking trails. 7050 E. Tropicana Rd., 702-455-7522.
Wet 'n Wild • Seasonal water park on the Strip. 702-765-9700.
XPLEX • Open-wheel racing experience. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-260-6355.

LAUGHLIN

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area • Nature and water sports. Four miles south of Laughlin, 702-298-1859.
Colorado Belle • Koi in the moat; Boiler Room Microbrewery. 702-298-4000.
Elvis-A-Rama Museum • Edgewater, 702-298-0752.
Grapevine Canyon • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 702-298-2214.
Laughlin River Tours • Colorado River, 702-298-1047.
Ramada Express • American Heroes Museum and military tribute film. 702-298-4200.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, river tour boat, and bowling center. 702-298-2535.

MESQUITE

Mesquite Fine Arts Center • 702-346-1338.
Oasis • Gun club, hayrides. 702-346-5232.
Virgin Valley Heritage Museum • 702-346-5705.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 702-651-4759.

OVERTON

Echo Bay Resort and Marina • Water sports on Lake Mead, houseboat and ski-boat rentals. 702-394-4000.
Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Museum presents artifacts and reconstructed homes of ancient Pueblo people who lived in the Moapa Valley. 702-397-2193.
Old Logandale School Historical Museum and Cultural Society • Open Wed.-Sat. Logandale, 702-398-7272.
Valley of Fire State Park • Red sandstone formations and petroglyphs. 702-397-2088.

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, cyber coaster, and Turbo Drop rides, cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz. 702-382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Museum • Historical exhibits. 702-297-1498.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 775-883-1976.
Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Mills Park, 775-887-2523.
Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • Educational exhibits. 813 N. Carson St., 775-884-2226.
Jack C. Davis Observatory • Western Nevada Community College, 775-445-4412.
Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour. 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1.
Nevada State Capitol • 775-687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 775-684-3310.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 775-687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 775-687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours. 775-684-1600.
Roberts House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 775-887-2174.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 775-887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • On the Carson River. 775-687-5678.
Dayton Historic Society Museum • Open weekends in the 1865 Old Dayton Schoolhouse on Shady Lane.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • U.S. 395, 775-782-2555.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • Open May-October.
Mormon Station State Historic Park • Site of pioneer trading post. 775-782-2590.
David Walley's Hot Springs • 775-782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Hard Rock Cafe • Harveys, Stateline, 775-588-6200.
Heavenly Ski Resort • Gondola rides. Stateline, 775-586-7000 for information.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 775-831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Paddlewheeler • Cruise ship docks at Zephyr Cove, 775-588-3508.
North Tahoe Cruises • Tahoe City, 530-583-0141.
Ponderosa Ranch • Seasonal hours. Incline Village, 775-831-0691.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 165-mile system. 775-298-0012.
Tallac Historic Site • South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5227.
Thunderbird Lodge • Water and land tours April-Oct. Incline Village, 775-832-8750.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours. 530-525-7232.
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RENO

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mi. on Red Rock Road, 775-970-3111 for information.
Bartley Ranch Regional Park • Hiking, horse arena, amphitheater, and one-room Huffaker Schoolhouse. 775-828-6612.
Fleischmann Planetarium • Stargazing programs, exhibits. UNR campus, 775-784-4811 for schedule and hours.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mt. Rose Hwy., 775-849-2511.
Harrah's Reno • Outdoor plaza. 775-786-3232.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 775-825-1776.
National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) • 10 S. Lake St., 775-333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Tournaments and IWERKS theater. 300 N. Center St., 775-334-2695.
Nevada Historical Society • Museum. 1650 N. Virginia St., UNR campus, 775-688-1190.
Nevada Museum of Art • 160 W. Liberty St. 775-329-3333.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk • 775-334-2077.
Reno Hilton • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, putting course, go-kart center. 775-789-2000.
Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Classes. 1313 S. Virginia St., 775-329-5665.
Sierra Arts at the Riverside Artist Lofts • Gallery. 17 S. Virginia St., 775-329-2787.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 775-677-1101.
Silver Legacy • Giant mining machine and laser shows every hour. 800-MUSTSEE.
Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-4153.
Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-4064.
Wilbur D. May Museum • Rancho San Rafael Park, 775-785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 775-574-0290.
Pyramid Lake Visitor Center • 709 State St., Nixon, 775-574-1088.

SPARKS

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Ranchers' brands exhibit. 775-356-3300.
Sparks Heritage Museum • Local history, Southern Pacific train cars, 1864 Glendale School. Victorian Square, 775-355-1144.
Sparks Marina Park • Fishing, walking paths. 775-353-2376.
Victorian Square Fountain • Water shows. 775-353-2284.
Wild Island • Water park open in summer, miniature golf and raceway open year-round. Off I-80, 775-359-2927.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • Motion-theater rides, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf. 775-345-8668.

VIRGINIA CITY

Assay Office Museum • 775-847-0777.
The Castle • 775-847-0275.
Chollar Mine • Tours of workings. 775-847-0155.
Fourth Ward School Museum • 775-847-0975.
Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 775-847-9394.
Mackay Mansion Museum • 775-847-5208.
Nevada Gambling Museum • 775-847-9022.
Piper's Opera House • 775-847-0433.
Ponderosa Mine • Tours. 775-847-0757.
Virginia and Truckee Railroad • 775-847-0380.
Virginia City Tours • 530-587-5742.
The Way It Was Museum • 775-847-0766.
Western Historic Radio Museum • 775-847-9047.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Regional Park • Park open year-round. Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires. 775-849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • Washoe County park. 775-849-0684.
Washoe Lake State Park • Birdwatching, windsurfing, fishing. East Lake Blvd., 775-687-4319.

Rural Nevada

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Austin Historical Society Museum • Native American, mining, agricultural, and railroad exhibits. 775-964-1202.
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • Self-guided tour with signs. 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50, 775-635-4000.
Historic Area • Buildings and sites on the National Register of Historic Places. 775-964-2200.

BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits. 775-553-2303.
Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached via Beatty. 775-553-2200.
Rhyolite • Historic bottle house and the Gold Well Open Air Museum sculpture exhibit. Four miles west of Beatty. 775-553-2424.

ELKO

Newmont Mining Corp. Gold Mine Tour • Largest producer in North America. Monthly tours on second Tues., April-Oct. Reservations required. Meet at Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-778-4068.
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Ruby Mountains and Jarbidge Wilderness • 775-752-3357.
Sherman Station Complex • Restored 1875 ranch, tours, and greater Elko area visitor information. 775-738-7135.
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McGill Historical Drug Company • Call for tours of an old-fashioned drugstore. McGill, 775-235-7082.

Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Rides on historic trains. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 775-289-2085.

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 775-289-1693.

White Pine Public Museum • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 775-289-4710.

EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open for tours Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. 775-237-6006.

Eureka Sentinel Museum • 775-237-5010.

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 775-423-3677.

Sand Mountain • Giant sand dune 25 miles east of Fallon, 775-885-6000.

Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 775-423-5128.

FERNLEY

Reno-Fernley Raceway • Paintball park. 775-575-7217.

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • Dinosaur fossils and ghost town of Berlin. 20 miles east of Gabbs, 775-964-2440.

GERLACH

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Hawthorne Ordnance Museum • Traces 70 years of history. Open weekends, 775-945-5400.

Mineral County Historical Museum • Historical exhibits. 400 10th St., 775-945-5142.

Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Fishing and bird-watching. 775-867-3001.

LOVELOCK

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

Pershing County Marzen House Museum • 775-273-7213.

MOUNTAIN CITY

Mountain City Visitor Center • 80 miles north of Elko via State Route 225. Open for tours and information June-Oct. Mountain City, 775-763-6691.

PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Pahrump is 58 miles east of Furnace Creek. 760-786-3243.

Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 775-727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Box Car Museum • Railroad and local history. Caliente, 775-726-3199.

Cathedral Gorge State Park • 10 miles south of Pioche, 775-728-4460.

Echo Canyon State Park • 12 miles east of Pioche, 775-728-4460.

Elgin Living History Schoolhouse Museum • Open for weekend tours or by appointment; 21 miles south of Caliente. Write Lynn Wood, Box 266, Caliente, NV 89008.

Kershaw-Ryan State Park • Three miles south of Caliente, 775-726-3564.

Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 775-962-5207.

Million Dollar Courthouse • Seasonal hours. Pioche, 775-962-5207.

Panaca Heritage Center • Call for hours. 775-728-4631.

Spring Valley State Park • Park is 18 miles east of Pioche, 775-962-5102.

Stone Cabin Living History Museum • Seasonal hours. One mile north of Spring Valley State Park, 775-962-5102 for information.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Smoky Valley Museum • 1935 schoolhouse and assay equipment. Open by appointment. 775-377-2243 for further information.

SILVER SPRINGS

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Seven miles south of Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 775-867-3001.

Central Nevada Museum • 775-482-9676.

Tonopah Historic Mining Park • 775-482-9274.

WENDOVER

Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • 775-623-2225.

Humboldt Museum • 775-623-2912.

Midas Schoolhouse • Call for tours; 46 miles by dirt road, east of Winnemucca, 775-529-0302.

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • Restored schoolhouse, mining exhibits, bunkhouse replica. Seasonal. 775-463-2245.

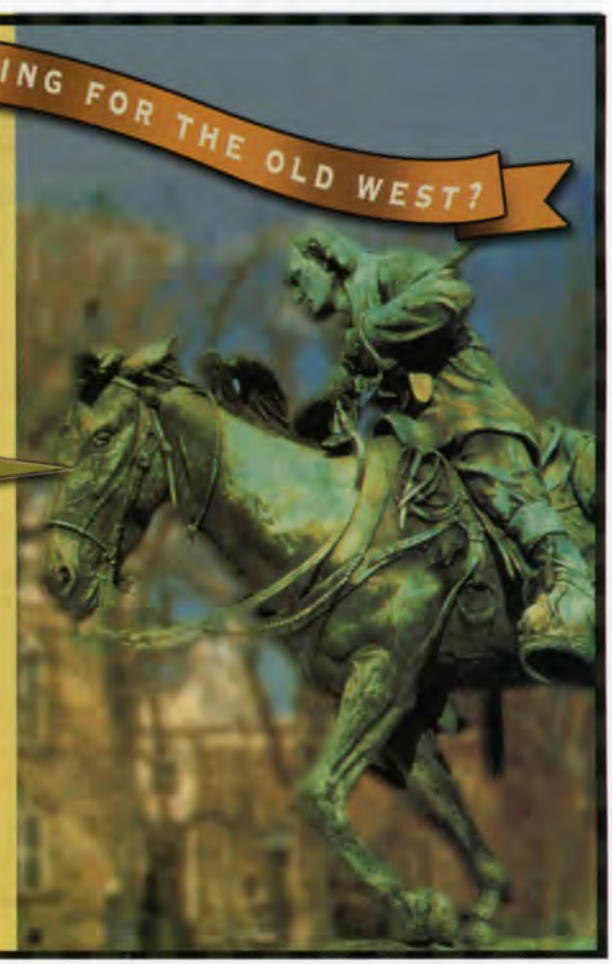
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Dining Directory

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, and dinner (B, L, D) are served. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 $), $11 to $20 $$), $21 to $30 $$$), and more than $30 $$$$). Nevada's area codes are 702 in the Las Vegas area and 775 in the rest of the state. Major credit cards are accepted at the restaurants unless otherwise noted.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

Egg and I—364-9686. Great Eggs-pectations, Egg-Crepes, burgers, sandwiches, soup and salad. Plus "Marriage Can Be Murder" comedy-mystery dinner. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/Betty's Diner—794-3261. Shakes, malts, sundaes, sandwiches, soup, bakery. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/Burger Palace—794-3261. Burgers, fries, and other fast-food items. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/Emperor's Buffet—731-3311. Buffet carving station, roast baron of beef, desserts, and more. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet—794-3261. Prime rib and champagne dinner nightly. B, L, D. $.

Imperial Palace/The Rib House—794-3261. Barbecued ribs, chicken, blackened entrees. D. $$.

Imperial Palace/Teahouse—731-3311. Carving station with prime rib. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. $.

ASIAN

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

ITALIAN

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

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Imperial Palace/Embers—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D. $$.

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

Laughlin

AMERICAN

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Prime Rib Room—298-2535. Prime rib, chicken cordon bleu, salad bar. D. $.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Riverview Café—298-2535. Giant hamburger, lemon pepper chicken, steak, and shrimp. B, L, D. $.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Sidewalk Café—298-2535. Breakfast sandwiches, deli sandwiches. B, L, D. $.

Harrah's Laughlin/Fresh Market Square Buffet—298-4600. Food stations featuring pizza, vegetable lasagna, crab legs, prime rib. B, L, D. $.

Harrah's Laughlin/Cabo Café—298-4600. Burgers, sandwiches, omelets, Caesar salad, fish and chips. B, L, D. $$.

Harrah's Laughlin/Club Cappuccino—298-4600. Gourmet coffees, pastries, sandwiches, fruit smoothies. B, L, D. $.

ASIAN

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Rice Garden—298-2535. Kung pao chicken, barbecue pork, sweet and sour pork. L, D. $.

MEXICAN

Harrah's Laughlin/Baja Blue—298-4600. Fajitas (steak, pork, seafood, chicken), Steak Mexicana, mixed grill Baja Blue, tacos de carne asada. D. $.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Gourmet Room and Lounge—298-2535. French renaissance menu, tableside cooking. D. $$$.

Don Laughlin's Riverside/Riverside Buffet—298-2535. Multinational menu, Sunday champagne brunch. B, L, D. $.

Harrah's Laughlin/The Range Steakhouse—298-6832. 14-ounce bone-in filet, Australian rack of lamb, grilled Atlantic salmon filet, grilled chicken breast. D. $$.



Mesquite

AMERICAN

CasaBlanca/Purple Fez Café—346-7529. Steak and lobster special, various entrees. Restaurant is open 24 hours. B, L, D. $-$$.

Oasis/Charmaine's Fine Dining—346-5232. Steaks, prime rib, lobster, lamb chops, pasta, and seafood. Two-time Zagat award winner. D. $$.

INTERNATIONAL

CasaBlanca/Katherine's—346-7529. Dining room features certified Angus beef, Maine lobster, and Italian cuisine. D. $$.

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Oasis/Paradise Buffet—346-5232. Mongolian barbecue, deli, and fruit, soup, and salad bars. Themes include All American, Italian, and prime rib. B, L, D. $.

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Carson Nugget/Buffet—882-1626. Sun. champagne brunch, Sat. breakfast buffet, Fri. seafood buffet. B, L, D. $.

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

Carson Station/Station Grill and Rotisserie—883-8400. Baby back ribs, fish specials. L, D. $-$$.

Carson Station/Station Restaurant—883-0900. Restaurant offers home-style cooking. B, L, D. $.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Steakhouse—



The Rib House at the Imperial Palace on the Las Vegas Strip serves ribs, chicken, and blackened entrees.

885-9000. Specialties include Southwestern shrimp, rack of lamb Dijonnaise, six cuts of steak. D. $$.
Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Fish and chips and pan roasts. L, D. $.
Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce. D. $$.

Carson Valley

AMERICAN
Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 783-6650. Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D, $$.
Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D. $-$$.
Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and seafood creations. D. $$.

Reno-Sparks

AMERICAN
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Farm House Coffee Shop—Sparks, 356-3300. Omelets, pancakes, sandwiches, and fried chicken. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Gabe's Pub and Deli—Sparks, 356-3300. Quick-service deli offers snacks, sandwiches, desserts, pastries. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, seafood Louis. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $-$$.
Peppermill/Food Court—Reno, 826-2121. Variety of food offered includes Mexican, Asian, Italian, hamburgers, and salad bar. B, L, D. $.
Peppermill/Island Buffet—Reno, 826-2121. Chicken, seafood, prime rib, salads. B, L, D. $.
Peppermill/Peppermill Restaurant—Reno, 826-2121. Burgers, sandwiches, salads, seafood, and chicken. B, L, D. $-$$.

ASIAN
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$.

BASQUE
Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, seafood dishes, served family-style. L, D. $$.

CONTINENTAL
Peppermill/White Orchid—Reno, 826-2121. Upscale restaurant featuring filet mignon, seared ahi, medallions of elk. D. $$$-$$$$.

ITALIAN
Peppermill/Romanza Ristorante Italiano—Reno, 826-2121. Osso bucco alla Romanza, salmone affumicato con fettuccini nere alla vodka, costolette d'Agnello. D. $$.

MEDITERRANEAN
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko—Sparks, 356-3300. Veal medallions saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana. D. $$-$$$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews, and numerous other seafood dishes. L, D. $$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. $$.
Peppermill/Steak House—Reno, 826-2121. Steaks, seafood, chicken, salads. D. $$$-$$$$.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN
Caesars Tahoe/Aroma Café—Stateline, 588-3515. Coffee, latte, and cappuccino. Variety of muffins, sandwiches, and salads. B, L, D. $.
Caesars Tahoe/The Roman Feast—Stateline, 588-3515. All-you-can-eat-buffet. Prime rib, oven-baked pizza, pasta. Friday seafood, Saturday steak buffet. Also, a 24-hour café. B, L, D. $.

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

STEAK & SEAFOOD
Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$.

Pahrump

Saddle West Hotel/Silver Spur Restaurant—727-1111. Saddle West restaurant offers T-bone steak dinner, filet mignon and lobster, chicken cordon bleu, eight-ounce swordfish dinners. B, L, D. $.

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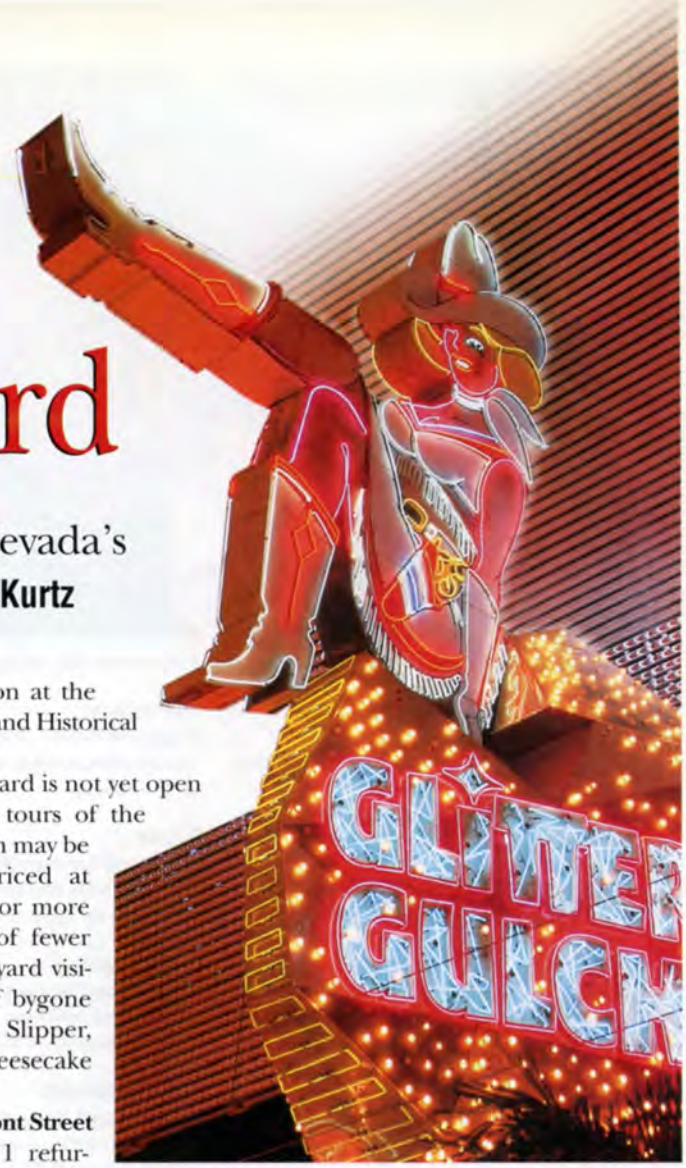
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Las Vegas' Neon Boneyard

Tours and exhibits plug Southern Nevada's electrifying marquees. **By Margaret Kurtz**



Sassy Sally is back where she belongs on the Fremont Street Experience.

Movies and television shows filmed in Las Vegas never fail to include the city's casino marquees. These electric-light marvels have symbolized Las Vegas to the world for more than six decades. Neon signs put the glitter in "Glitter Gulch" beginning in the 1930s and still help lure millions of visitors to the Strip each year.

Many of the city's classic signs are being preserved through the **Neon Museum** and its boneyard. For instance, when Treasure Island's skull-and-crossbones marquee was removed last summer to make way for a new sign, it joined dozens of other historic signs stored at the Neon Museum's boneyard, a 2.5-acre site south of Cashman Field. Also, a number of signs are displayed at the Fremont Street Experience.

The **Neon Bus Tour** will visit landmarks like the



sign on the Strip.

"We are working on a three-phase plan," says Sandra Harris, executive director of the Neon Museum. "First we want to prepare the exhibits and open the boneyard to the public. Next we plan to build a visitor center and museum."

This winter there are several chances to explore the city's neon history, including guided tours of the boneyard, a Neon Bus Tour, and an exhibition at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society.

Although the boneyard is not yet open to the public, group tours of the non-restored collection may be arranged and are priced at $5 per person for 10 or more or $50 for a group of fewer than 10 people. Boneyard visitors see such gems of bygone days as the Silver Slipper, Royal Nevada, and Cheesecake Review marquees.

Visitors to the **Fremont Street Experience** can see 11 refurbished signs from the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, including the city's famous Vegas Vic and Sassy Sally marquees, that are on permanent exhibit on the mall. Free to the public, these outdoor galleries may be viewed at any time but are especially attractive when the signs are lit in the evening. Most of the signs have bronze plaques detailing their histories.

The museum is offering a **Neon Bus Tour** on Saturday, December 13, that departs at 7 p.m. from the Fremont Street Experience. The tour's guides will describe today's signs and their history, from the "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign on the Strip to downtown Fremont Street, where the "Glitter Gulch" phrase originated. Priced at $50 per person, the 90-minute tour will conclude with a holiday dessert buffet and beverages at Jillian's restaurant at Neonopolis. Reservations must be paid by December 1 and are limited to 150 persons.

You also can learn about Nevada's neon past in **"Neon Unplugged: Signs From the Boneyard,"** an exhibit at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Lorenzi Park. The show runs through January 4 and includes interactive displays that demonstrate the gases used in signs, how different colors are achieved, and neon sign motion mechanics. Featured are signs from the Landmark, Dunes, Normandie Motel, Desert Inn, and other Las Vegas businesses. The signs are on loan from the Neon Museum boneyard, which is made possible through the donations of the Young Electric Sign Company, the creative force behind much of the city's neon. The state museum (702-486-5205) is open daily; admission is $2 for adults, free for children under 18.

Neon Museum: For reservations and information regarding the Neon Bus Tour call 702-387-6366 or e-mail info@neonmuseum.org. Also, visit www.neonmuseum.org for walking-tour directions of the Neon Museum's marquees displayed at the Fremont Street Experience.

Margaret Kurtz is a Las Vegas freelance writer.

Photos: Craig Malburg (top), Las Vegas News Bureau (left)

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Nevada Travel Update

News & Views
Nevada Travel Update is designed to keep travel agents, tour operators, and meeting planners up to date on tourism and travel news of the Silver State.

Tourism Industry News • November/December 2003

Site Inspection

Westin Casuarina Opens in Las Vegas

By Ann Henderson





Comedian David Brenner headlines in the casino showroom at the Westin Casuarina, which offers a tropical island theme at the former Maxim Hotel near the Strip.

After a $75-million facelift, the former Maxim Hotel emerged this fall as the **Westin Casuarina Las Vegas**, the first property in Nevada to carry the Westin name.

The Westin Casuarina is located off-Strip on Flamingo Road two blocks east of Bally's, Bellagio, Barbary Coast, and Caesars Palace. The 17-story hotel takes its name and tropical theme from the Cayman Islands and the islands' casuarina tree. The Westin Casuarina has 825 rooms, including six one-bedroom and four two-bedroom suites.

FAST FACTS: Westin, which operates more than 110 hotels and resorts in 26 countries, was named the number-one upscale hotel brand in *Business Travel News'* 2003 Annual U.S. Hotel Chain Survey. Westin's parent company, Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, formerly owned Caesars Palace and the Desert Inn before selling them in 1999 and 2000 respectively.

DINING: The 24-hour Silver Peak Grill offers a breakfast buffet and a private dining room for groups. Espresso and cappuccino drinkers will find a Starbucks in the hotel lobby.

ENTERTAINMENT: Comedian David Brenner signed a one-year, 44-week contract to headline in the Westin Casuarina's 250-seat showroom. Tickets for his 90-minute nightly performance cost $50 plus tax; drinks are extra. Group discounts are available. Brenner's opening at the Westin Casuarina coincides with the release of his fifth book, *I Think There's a Terrorist in My Soup: How to Survive Personal and World Problems With Laughter—Seriously!*

MEETING SPACE: The Westin Casuarina features more than 15,000 square feet of meeting space. Five contiguous rooms can accommodate up to 470 people theater-style. One room can handle 350 theater-style and two boardrooms 12 to 15 people each.

AMENITIES: The Westin Casuarina has a 20,000-square-foot casino, a swimming pool with six cabanas, and plans to add a full-service spa next year. Guest rooms are equipped with a work area, two-line speakerphone, dataport for high-speed Internet access, cordless phones, voice messaging, refreshment center, and laptop-sized safe. All guest services can be reached by dialing one number.

PACKAGES: The new hotel offers packages such as "Las Vegas on the Edge," which includes a helicopter ride and nightclub hopping. See page 3 for a listing of packages.

MORE INFO: Commissionable rack rates at the Westin Casuarina are $139 Sunday through Thursday and $189 weekends. For information call 866-837-4215 or visit www.westin.com/lasvegas.

—*Ann Henderson*

At a Glance...

What's New
Expansions and new attractions in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and rural Nevada.
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There's still time to register for the 20th Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism.
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Meeting Sites
The Nevada Museum of Art in Reno offers rooftop views and sophisticated settings.
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What's New

The Latest Information on Travel Around the Silver State

LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

New Digs

In December, the **Boulder City Chamber of Commerce** will have a new location in downtown Boulder City. The chamber will move from 1305 Arizona Street to the corner of Arizona Street and Nevada Way. Offices will be housed in a 4,100-square-foot building that is being donated for the chamber's use for $1 per year. The community, known as the Best Town by a Dam Site, receives about 100,000 visitors per year.

New Boulder Links

Golfers are giving high marks to the new $22-million **Boulder Creek Golf Club** in Boulder City. The 27-hole championship facility has multiple practice greens and driving range. Plans at the golf club call for a lighted par-three course and driving range.

Suite Life

The **Colorado Belle** in Laughlin has converted a floor of standard rooms to two- and three-room suites, bringing the total number of suites to 49 The hotel offers 1 128 standard, riverview, and poolview rooms at the Colorado River property 93 miles south of Las Vegas. The Colorado Belle also recently opened a full-service spa and salon.



Skiers at Diamond Peak in Incline Village (above) can travel to the top of the mountain in about five minutes thanks to the new Crystal Quad express lift. Incline Village's championship golf course (right), designed by Robert Trent Jones, will reopen in spring 2004 after a year spent in renovation.

Three-Hour Tour

A partnership between **Fashion Outlets** in Primm and **Desert Passage** at the Aladdin has added a new shuttle pickup point on the Strip. There are five daily shuttles to Primm and its shopping mall 43 miles south of Las Vegas. In addition to hourly departures between 9:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. from MGM and New York-New York, the new schedule enables shoppers to leave at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the Desert Passage. Tickets are $12.99 per person and may be purchased at the MGM, New York-New York, and the customer service desk at Desert Passage. To reserve seats call 702-874-1400 or 888-424-6898.

The Shopping State

While vacationing in Nevada your clients will find many chances to shop for holiday gifts. For instance, Las Vegas has more than a dozen large malls. Several are located on the Strip. The **Fashion Show Mall** has a Nordstrom and more than 200 other upscale stores. The **Forum Shops at Caesars** has a changing sky and "outdoor" restaurants. The **Desert Passage** at the Aladdin offers the exotic atmosphere of the Middle East. Gondoliers give rides at the **Grand Canal Shoppes** at the Venetian. In Henderson, shoppers can explore the **Galleria at Sunset** as well as the new **MonteLago Village** at Lake Las Vegas. Bargains can be found at big **outlet malls** in Las Vegas, Laughlin, and Primm. The Reno area also has excellent shopping opportunities. See the **holiday shopping guide** in this issue of *Nevada Magazine* for more information.

RENO-TAHOE TERRITORY

Carson Nightlife

After an $8,600 upgrade last spring, the Lizard Lounge at the **Best Western Piñon Plaza** in Carson City is now an open cabaret with wood floors, overhead neon lights, giant-screen TV, and state-of-the-art sound equipment.

Nevada Travel Update

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Photo: Diamond Peak Ski Resort (top)



The Colorado Belle in Laughlin now has 49 suites available. The riverfront property, which has more than 1,000 rooms, also recently opened a spa and salon.

A Sign From Old Blue Eyes

A $150,000 marquee made of stone and fountains has been installed at the **Cal Neva Resort** in Crystal Bay. The marquee replaced a sign installed 43 years ago by Frank Sinatra, then an owner of the casino on Lake Tahoe's North Shore. Because of the sign's historic value, it will remain on the property.

New Clubhouse

The **D'Andrea Golf Club** in Sparks recently opened a 20,750-square-foot clubhouse. The $2-million project is the latest addition to the links, considered one of the area's best-rated new courses.

More Lift

Diamond Peak Ski Resort in Incline Village installed a new high-speed Crystal Quad. The old lift moved skiers and snowboarders to the top of Diamond Peak in about 10 minutes. The new $2.8-million express cuts the ride time in half.

Incline Links Renovated

The **Incline Championship Course** is scheduled to reopen in May 2004 after an $11-million renovation. The project includes a new clubhouse, new irrigation system, and upgraded greens and bunkers. The forested links, which opened in 1964, were designed by famed golf-course architect Robert Trent Jones.

RURAL TERRITORIES

Museum Dedicated

Visitors to Beatty, 115 miles northwest of Las Vegas, can explore the town's history and culture in the new wing at the **Beatty Museum**. Completed in spring 2003 at a cost of $50,000, the expansion allows more artifacts to be displayed in the building, which was a church in a former life. Beatty is known as the Gateway to Death Valley National Park.

Sightseers' Alert

Cathedral Gorge State Park, which has been molded through time by wind and water to resemble a moonscape, received a $293,000 renovation to the group-use area and improvements to handicapped access. Improvements to the park, which is located three miles north of Panaca, include new restrooms and showers and paved walkways.

Native American Shopping

Desert Spirit Trading Post, which opened in Pahrump, offers handmade Native American and Southwestern jewelry, crafts, art, and recordings. Pahrump, known for its golf courses and winery, is 60 miles west of Las Vegas.

Room Packages: Westin Casuarina

Package prices at the new **Westin Casuarina Las Vegas** (see page 1) are based upon availability and double occupancy. Some restrictions apply, and tax is an additional nine percent. Extra nights are available. Packages include:

"Las Vegas on the Edge," one-night stay, Strip helicopter ride, three-hour nightclub hopping by limousine, and tickets to the NASCAR roller coaster at the Sahara or Space Shot at the Stratosphere. Per couple, $539 weekday, $599 weekend.

"Casino Package," one-night stay, gaming lesson, 24-hour breakfast pass, Player's Club card, amenity basket. Per couple, $149 weekday, $219 weekend.

"Heaven on Earth Romance," one-night stay, in-room breakfast, champagne and chocolate-covered strawberries, in-room couple massage, and two tickets to the Guggenheim Museum or the Bellagio art gallery and flower garden. Per couple, $359 weekday, $429 weekend.

"Hacker's Special," one-night stay, green fees and cart for two, energy pack, gift certificate to Fashion Show Mall, and golf amenity basket. Per couple, $369 weekday, $439 weekend. One golfer, one non, $299 weekday, $369 weekend.

"Just for Laughs," one-night stay, two tickets to see comedian David Brenner, drink tickets for two, and amenity basket. Per couple, $219 weekday, $289 weekend.

Information: 866-837-4215.

Governor's Conference: "Celebrating Diversity"

The **Governor's Conference on Tourism** celebrates its 20th anniversary at Caesars Palace on December 15-17 with a new format and theme. The conference, produced by the Nevada Commission on Tourism, will feature a streamlined format that will eliminate the breakout sessions of prior years. The theme, "Celebrating Diversity," will focus on Nevada's decision to diversify its visitor attractions.

Speakers: Governor Kenny Guinn and Lt. Governor Lorraine Hunt will address the delegates. Noted author, healer, and motivational speaker Dr. Deepak Chopra will speak about "The Soul of Leadership." Chopra, who *Time* magazine described as "the poet-prophet of alternative medicine," is the author of 25 books, including *Ageless Body, Timeless Mind* and *Grow Younger, Live Longer.*

The program includes the annual updates "State of the Gaming Industry" by Frank Fahrenkopf Jr., president and CEO of the American Gaming Association, and "State of the Economy" by William Eadington, University of Nevada, Reno economist and Indian gaming authority.

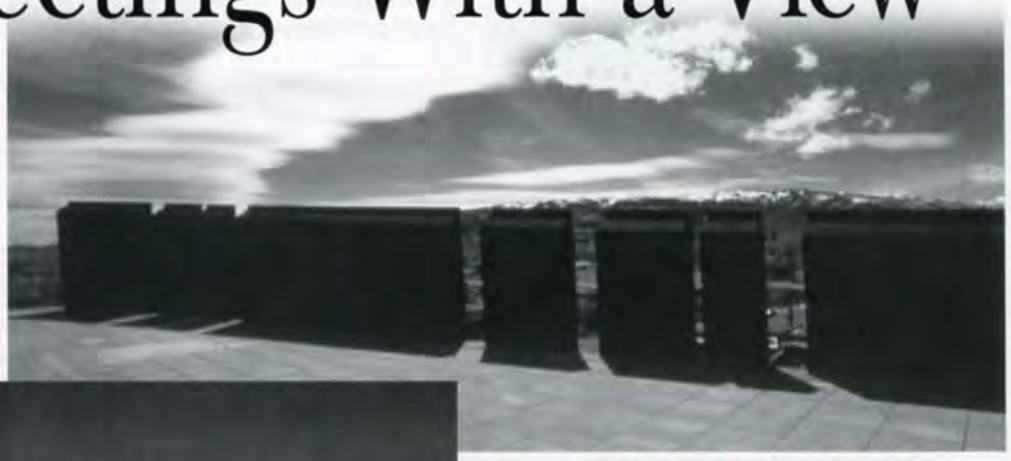
Presentations: Delegates will hear presentations about sales training, customer service, building a brand, diversity in the workplace, and international culture and tourism. Another topic will be the new four-mile Las Vegas Monorail system, which is expected to open early next year. Special presentations will involve the meetings, convention, and wholesale markets.



Registration: Conference registration for delegates is $345 until November 10 and $395 afterward. Online registration is available at www.travelnevada.com, the Nevada Commission on Tourism's Web site.

Nevada Museum of Art: Meetings With a View

By Wilma LaRocca





Reno's skyline and the Sierra Nevada can been seen from the rooftop sculpture gallery of the Nevada Museum of Art (above). Below left: The museum's entrance and plaza.

On the rooftop you sip a tall one and watch the stars come out over Reno and the Sierra. A jazz combo plays softly. Casino neon brightens the night. Not a bad spot for a company reception.

The Nightingale Rooftop Sculpture Gallery is one of several meeting and reception areas at the **Nevada Museum of Art** in Reno. The museum, which opened in May, houses a permanent collection featuring themes of land and environment. It also presents top-notch touring exhibitions of such artists as Diego Rivera, Frieda Kahlo, and Edward Hopper.

The Nevada Museum of Art is located five blocks south of Reno's downtown hotel-casino center. The museum's 68-foot-high, black exterior walls tilt five to 12 degrees, creating intriguing angles. The interior walls, white with touches of brilliant color, create a sophisticated site for any occasion.

FAST FACTS: The **Nevada Museum of Art, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E.L. Wiegand Gallery** is located at 160 West Liberty Street, Reno, NV 89501. Call Connie Lopez, the museum's event coordinator, at 775-329-3333 ext. 250 for information about meeting space and rates.

Numerous museum areas are available for public and private meetings:

- The **Nightingale Rooftop Sculpture Gallery** occupies 8,000 feet on the fourth-floor roof and provides panoramic views of Reno. The glass-walled rooftop can accommodate 400 for receptions or 300 seated guests; weather conditions may require tents. The rooftop is suitable for day and evening events such as musical performances, weddings, and cocktail parties.
- The **Founders' Room** on the third floor offers executive meeting space. It can be configured to seat 45 people for luncheons and dinners and to hold 75 for cocktail receptions.
- The **Donald W. Reynolds Grand Hall** on the first floor offers a garden area and atrium. The hall can accommodate 225 people for lunch or dinner and up to 400 for receptions.
- The **Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater** has a stage and tiered seating. The theater offers digital Dolby 5.1 audio and advanced video projection, drop-down screen, and Venetian plaster walls to assure excellent acoustics. Located on the first floor with a seating capacity of 185 people, the theater was built to accommodate theater, filming, and business meetings requiring advanced audio and video capabilities.
- The museum also has classrooms, a library, a conference room, and the ground-level **Wilbur D. May Sculpture Plaza** that can be rented for private events.
- The **Café Musée** is open from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Café's staff is the exclusive caterer for all occasions.

The museum and its galleries are open to the public from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Groups may reserve meeting space, catering, and guided tours of the collection galleries during open hours, evenings, and weekends. Facility rental rates vary, but they generally run about $10 per person.

Wilma LaRocca is a Nevada *staff writer.*

Nevada Conventions

The Silver State annually hosts more than four million convention and trade-show delegates. The state's facilities can accommodate gatherings ranging from family reunions to events for more than 100,000 persons. For rural convention and visitor bureaus consult the "Hot Lines" listing at www.nevadamagazine.com. For further information also contact the **Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, 702-892-0711,** or the **Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, 775-827-7600.**

Photos: Nevada Museum of Art



Mesquite Courses - CasaBlanca • Oasis • Palms • Vistas • Wolf Creek • *St. George Courses* - Coral Canyon • Entrada

The GOLF Vacation Destination

Sometimes the middle of nowhere is a pretty good place to be. Just ask the developers who in the last decade have put little Mesquite, Nevada, on the map as a refreshing getaway from the bustle of raging civilization. Situated near the remote borders of Nevada, Utah, and Arizona, just 37 miles south of St. George and 80 miles north of Las Vegas, this quaint hamlet has in the last decade grown into one of the fastest growing cities in the country and an irresistible lure for golfers, hikers, and sightseers.

Mesquite is centrally located between some of the most popular outdoor recreation sites in the region, like Lake Mead, Lake Powell, Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks and Brian Head Ski Resort. As such, recreational opportunities such as horseback riding, skeet and trap-shooting, camping, fishing, hayrides, and nationally recognized spas are drawing ever increasing numbers of visitors who have heard the good word about Mesquite. And when it comes to golf, there might not be a better two- or three-day stop-off in the country than this charming burg that before 1998 didn't have even one stoplight.

The GOLF's the Thing

It seemed only natural that America's fastest growing and popular family sport would find a home in Mesquite, but who would have suspected 20 years ago that golf would be the straw to stir the drink? Yet that's just what has happened as real estate developers and hotel and gaming entrepreneurs saw the beautifully situated community as an ideal location for golf courses. And since 1989, five championship 18-hole courses and one nine-hole gem have risen from the ground and beckoned tens of thousands of golfers from the western United States and Canada.

The golfer demographic provided Mesquite with guests that have a higher median income and who spend their discretionary dollars on resort vacations that offer something for the entire family. Now mix in a handful of distinctively different landscapes and topography for the golfer to choose from, and a variety of off-course amenities and diversions, and you have the ingredients to become a desirable golf destination. Thus was born Golf Mesquite, a marketing forum which is spreading the news about this exciting community, and then watching with pride as positive word of mouth ripples across the country. Every major golf magazine has now made at least one visit to Mesquite, Nevada, to report on excellent quality of the courses and the ongoing golf boom.

Mesquite's new courses have the best of both worlds when it comes to attracting golfers. Those who want to escape the sweltering heat of the Las Vegas summers make the hour drive to Mesquite where the temperatures are cooler and the golf is less expensive. Those who live on the Wasatch Front are drawn to Mesquite's sunshine and warmer climate when the snow flies and the thermometer drops below freezing.

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CasaBlanca Golf Club

This may be a desert course, but don't expect to find stranded golfers holding out canteens and hallucinating mirages in the distance. That's because no less than 13 of the 18 holes at CasaBlanca have water on them, which in addition to challenging golfers, provides a habitable wetland for the desert fowl. The Cal Olsen designed course meanders naturally through and around the Virgin River, and is accommodating to golfers of all skill levels, with its modestly sloping mounds and fairways and five sets of tee markers. The signature hole at CasaBlanca is number 17 which is a lengthy par-four requiring a precise tee shot and an equally accurate long-iron second to a green which narrows in the front. Par-shooters won't stop smiling all the way to the 18th tee. CasaBlanca also has an attractive new clubhouse and electric carts with air-conditioning so that even the hottest summer days will feel just right for golf.



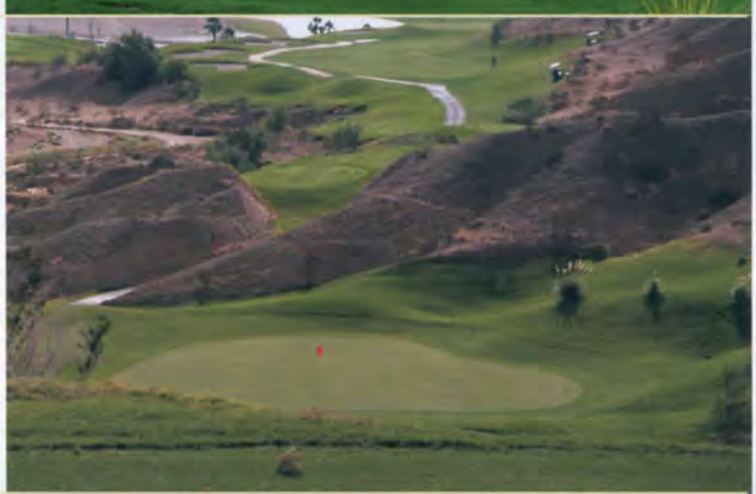
Oasis Golf Club

Golfers playing the Oasis won't be surprised to hear that this challenging and scenic wonder was created by Arnold Palmer. And the best advice is vintage Arnie: hitch up your trousers--or skirt-and go for it. The Oasis has several elevated tee boxes with dramatic shots to slot canyon fairways that meander through the foothills surrounding northern Mesquite. The narrow fairways are accented with many bunkers, water hazards, and undulations that leave the golfer with few level lies. But nothing looks or feels artificial here as Palmer used the natural landscape to provide all the drama. The 363-yard sixth hole is representative: the green is set deep within a box canyon that looms over all approach shots. And only the brave need venture to the back tee at the 517-yard eighth hole, which requires a 250-yard drive to clear rugged country.



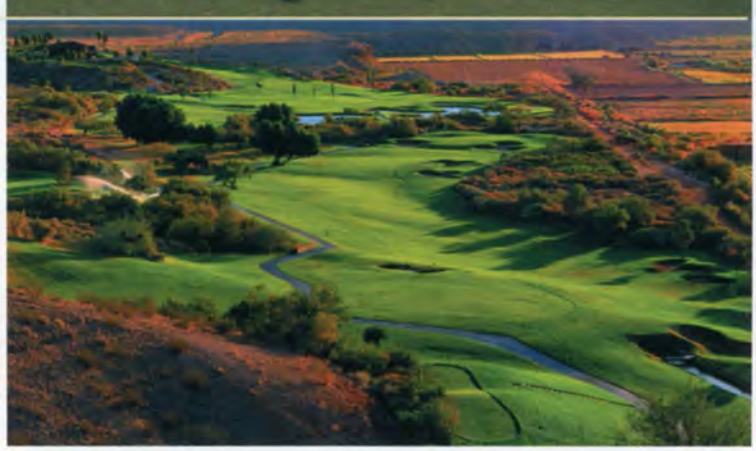
Vistas Nine

The Vistas offers a third nine to accompany the Oasis, and can be used as a catch-up nine following an 18-hole round or in conjunction with the Oasis' front nine to comprise the Vistas 18. The challenge starts with the first hole, a long par-five with a narrow sloping fairway that requires length and accuracy (so you might want to hit a practice bucket before you play). Five of the next six holes have water, and the eighth hole presents a beautiful elevated tee box dropping 100 feet to the green below.



Palms Golf Club

The Palms was the first course built in Mesquite and gets credit for igniting the fuse that created the golf explosion here. Set amidst a desert landscape of sagebrush and tumbleweeds, the course offers an island of palm trees and lush green fairways with a number of daunting water hazards. The Palms provides golfers with two contrasting nines: the front nine has fairly flat wide fairways with small lakes providing a precision challenge. The back nine takes full advantage of dramatic elevation changes, offering incredible vistas, but the serendipity must be occasionally interrupted by forced carries over unforgiving canyons. Most memorable is the 507-yard 15th hole, a par-five that presents a 114-foot drop to the fairway below.





Wolf Creek at Paradise Canyon

The new jewel in the Mesquite crown of golfing excellence is Wolf Creek, which was named by Golf Digest as one of the top three new upscale public courses in the United States for 2001 Wolf Creek honors the canyon country it inhabits, with fairways which wind naturally like ribbons of green through the brown rock walls to the north of town. Its slope rating of 154 from the very back tee placements is just one point from the maximum rating ever given by the United States Golf Association. But the developers didn't want to exclude any level golfer from the magnificent vistas that are offered on every tee shot, so they built five separate tee placements and encourage every golfer to consult with the starter before choosing which tee to play from. With huge elevation drops, beautifully placed lakes and creeks, and greens and fairways that are as neatly clipped as a PGA Tour venue, Wolf Creek has enhanced the reputation of the entire Mesquite area and provided yet one more reason to plan your next golfing vacation there.

NEW St. George Packages Available



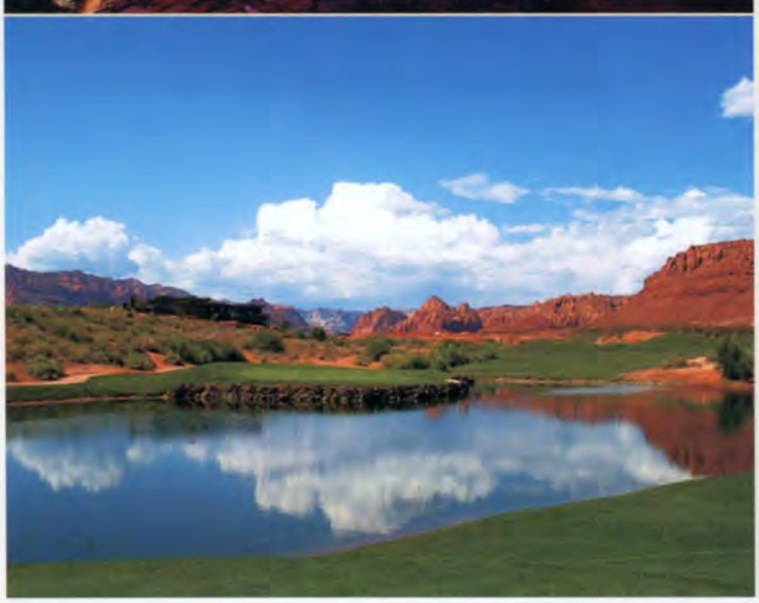
Coral Canyon

Set amidst the beauty and splendor of southwestern Utah, Coral Canyon was designed by golf course architect Keith Foster to provide a rare opportunity for players to enjoy luxurious golf on the doorstep to some of the world's most famed natural wonders.

Coral Canyon's 7,029-yard, par-72 layout features 100 acres of turf, 55 sand bunkers, two lakes and a labyrinth of dry washes through the course, offering players a variety of risk/reward opportunities that are critical to an exceptional golf experience.

Typical of the challenges players will face at Coral Canyon is the short par-3 122-yard No. 6. Seemingly "dropped" into the natural red rock outcroppings, this hole plays from a rocky tee box over a deep ravine on the left peppered with 20-foot red rock outcroppings.

The par-5, 538-yard No. 16 is another challenge players will face. This hole is nestled in a series of hills that roll down to a punchbowl green that is guarded in the right-hand front corner by a short bunker and on the left by two sharp ridges. A good drive and sense of adventure will allow players a relatively clear shot to the green.



Entrada At Snow Canyon

Is it the scenery or the challenge that excites you? Towering multi-colored sandstone cliffs stand guard over Entrada's Johnny Miller Signature Golf Course. Nestled amidst a desert tapestry of ancient lava flows, deep canyons, and gently sloping hills, the golf course is the centerpiece of Southern Utah's premiere gated golf course community. "The varied terrain and the incredible vistas make Entrada one of the most exciting golf courses in the entire country," says Miller.

Rated by Golf Digest as one of the top 10 new public upscale golf courses in 1997 Entrada was designed to offer golfers an unforgettable world class golf experience. While the par-72 golf course plays a challenging 7,280 yards from the championship tees, 4 additional sets of tees provide an appropriate choice for golfers of all skill levels.

Entrada's staff is dedicated to providing unsurpassed service to make your golf experience at Entrada an enjoyable one. Visit Utah's color country and discover Entrada at Snow Canyon for yourself.

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CasaBlanca
HOTEL-CASINO-GOLF-SPA
MESQUITE, NEVADA

CasaBlanca Resort

An Island in the Mesquite Desert



You know that you have arrived at the first-class CasaBlanca Resort when you pull off the highway into the palm trees and cascading waterfall of this island in the desert. You are greeted by valets, who immediately set the tone for courtesy and first-class treatment during your entire stay.

The First Class Hotel

With 500 deluxe tower rooms guests have their choice of several luxurious accommodations. But they won't want to spend too much time in their rooms because the food awaiting in the restaurants is irresistible. The CasaBlanca Buffet is an all-you-can-eat delight for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Daily specials, including lobster, can be found in the Purple Fez Café. Try the new Casa Deli located at the golf course for breakfast or lunch.And for the ultimate dining experience, make reservations for dinner at Katherine's and choose from steak and fresh seafood entrees in an elegant refined setting.



The First Class Entertainment

The CasaBlanca offers nightly entertainment, and features top performers, both comedians and nationally known bands from the 60s, 70s, and 80s, who perform weekly in the 500-seat showroom. Or perhaps you'd prefer to relax have a drink or even a dance, to musical groups entertaining in the Sky Dome Lounge. Gamblers won't want to sit still for too long, with a 40,000-square-foot casino beckoning them. Twenty-one live gaming tables, including single- and double-deck Blackjack, two Craps tables and two Roulette tables provide round the clock entertainment. Whether it's the sports book, nickel slots or video poker, the casino offers something for high rollers and low rollers alike.

The whole family will enjoy the lagoon pool with its famous cascading waterfall and waterslide. Kids have been known to make over 100 runs a day down the popular feature, while moms and pops often prefer to soak up the sun and sip umbrella and frozen drinks from the bar. Volleyball games on a sand court are another poolside option, and once the sun begins to set the new poolside Jacuzzi will prove inviting. Exercise aficionados may opt for a few sets of tennis on the three lighted courts, or perhaps a mountain bike ride through the gorgeous Snow Canyon.



The First Class SPA

If a vacation's primary purpose is to soothe and relax from the stress of everyday pressures, then what better way to unwind than a visit to the terrific CasaBlanca Spa, which offers complimentary mineral-water soaking pools and a eucalyptus steam room. Reservations can be made from the room for an hour or more of pure relaxation with one of the resort's certified therapists. The Spa offers a variety of treatments from massages (Swedish, Shiatsu, deep tissue, aromatherapy, and reflexology), facials, mud baths and steam rooms to Watsu® an outdoor yogic-style water massage. The CasaBlanca Spa incorporates clays and indigenous herbs like sage to create the ultimate in soothing, energizing treatments. Take the time, get away from it all, and totally indulge your body and mind. You'll be delighted, and refreshed, that you did.



EUREKA
Casino • Hotel
Mesquite, Nevada

Eureka
Hotel Casino

The Eureka Casino Hotel is a favorite of the locals and known for its good food, lively casino and friendly atmosphere. Located on a small hill, it is close to Mesquite's two premier golf courses, the Oasis Golf Course and Wolf Creek Golf Course.

To reach Eureka, take I-15 to exit 122, and then turn toward the 100-foot Eureka Tower with its multiple signs, which is at the intersection of Pioneer & Mesa. Turn right at Mesa and follow the palm trees a short distance up Mesa Blvd. to the friendliest casino and hotel in town.





The Boutique Hotel

Eureka Hotel, with 210 large rooms and suites, is a small friendly hotel completely separated from the Eureka Casino. You need not walk through a casino to get to your room. Built in 1996, it was a winner of the "Quality of Excellence" award from an international hotel organization. The four-story hotel, with all interior corridors, offers the quiet comfort of central air conditioning and being located next to one of Mesquite's premier residential neighborhoods. Half of the rooms overlook a garden courtyard and swimming pool, and all rooms have either king or double queen beds. Surrounding the pool and hot tub is a broad sundeck for sunbathers and umbrella tables for those seeking shade.

In addition to spacious rooms, the hotel features some Jacuzzi suites with Roman style tubs, two bedroom suites with living rooms, and garden rooms with sliding doors onto the garden courtyard. All rooms have coffee pots, hair dryers, TV's with 23-inch screens and remote controls, irons and ironing boards, and programmable security locks. Some rooms offer computer data access ports. The hotel also has laundry facilities, an exercise room, small meeting facilities, and a snack room.

For pampered relaxation, the Eureka Spa offers massage and other therapeutic treatments.

The Two Restaurants
The Tumbleweed & Gregory's

For dining at any time, there is the Tumbleweed restaurant featuring home style cooking and daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner buffets offering a large variety of good food. Gregory's is Mesquite's newest and finest steak house, offering an evening of gourment steaks and seafoods.

The Casino

The 100,000 square foot Eureka Casino features 50,000 square feet of gaming, retail, and entertainment. Its state-of-the-art air circulation and cooling system provides the cleanest air in town. The Eureka Casino features Blackjack, Craps, Pai Gow Poker, Roulette and Live Action Poker. The Eureka Casino also offers a Sports Book, Bingo, and over 650 of the latest slot and video poker games. For live entertainment, the Wild Cactus Lounge headlines local favorites and Tuesday night karaoke. The small and friendly Scorpion Bar provides a venue for relaxing after a game of golf and for making new friends.



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Oasis Resort Casino Spa

Surprise yourself with all the possibilities of what you can do

The pioneer of resorts in Mesquite is Oasis Resort Casino and Spa. There was a time when the Oasis was the only stop in town. Over the years it has developed into a destination resort offering a wealth of attractions and services for all families.

The Rooms

Over 1000 deluxe rooms and suites with mountain and pool views are available at The Oasis. The deluxe rooms feature two queen-size beds or one king-size bed in either smoking or non-smoking rooms. The suites at The Oasis come complete with a Jacuzzi tub, refrigerator and more. The super suites feature a Jacuzzi, refrigerator, and bar.

The Games

The Oasis offers over 50,000 square feet of casino action. The lights and sounds of 24-hour gaming action include Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, a brand new Poker room, Keno, video poker, and a bevy of slot machines. Free slot, video poker, video Keno, and Blackjack tournaments are offered throughout the year. A Club Oasis card is all you need to participate and membership is easy and free. The casino is always jumping with great live entertainment in the Cabaret Lounge, complete with Mesquite's friendliest cocktail servers. On the weekends the joint is jumping with The Xtreme Nightclub. Friday and Saturday nights feature one of the hottest DJ's in the area or a live band.

The Family Fun

When you feel like taking a break from the casino excitement, the family will enjoy the four crystal clear outdoor pools that surround the resort. Tucked beneath the towering palm trees, the pools offer as much sun or shade as you prefer. The family will also enjoy a newly remodeled pool featuring a 95-foot long Hydroslide, two hot tubs, and a video-game arcade. Top off the day with a quick trip to the ice cream parlor for a sumptuous hot fudge sundae. We won't tell anyone.

The SPA

One of the finest spas to be found anywhere is at the Oasis. After a workout, a relaxing swim, or a round of golf, the Spa is a perfect way to unwind at the end of the day. You could begin with a soak in the new mineral pool. A full menu of treatments is not only a vacation for the body, a spiritual respite that celebrates the inner need for harmony and peace. When a full-body massage is not enough pampering, try one of the many body-care treatments that are available to improve circulation and hydrate the skin. Half-hour, full-hour, and all-day services are available. Treatments include massage, body scrubs, herbal wraps, facials, mud baths, foot and hand treatments, and hair and scalp treatments. The fitness center boasts the latest in exercise equipment and two tanning beds.

The Ranch and Gun Club

The Oasis Ranch and Gun Club encompasses over 1000 acres of farmland, game pasture and wetlands that highlight the panoramic beauty of the Virgin Valley desert. Enjoy horseback riding at the stables, hayrides around the ranch, and a steak fry at the Oasis Ranch Chuck House. Test your shooting skills at the trap, skeet, or sporting clay fields. The Oasis Gun Club is state of the art and has the finest shooting fields in the Southwest. All stations are automated and designed to throw single, double, and reporting pairs. In the clubhouse you will find guns for rent and shells for sale.







The Dining

The Oasis offers a spectrum of dining experiences sure to please everyone. The Paradise Buffet provides a large display of daily specials with a huge salad and dessert bar. The Garden Room Coffee Shop features casual 24-hour comfort and daily menu specials. The casual and fun Pizza Pub offers pizza, chicken wings, fresh salads and hot or cold subs. And for the special elegant night out, the award-winning Charmaine's features steaks cooked to perfection, mouth-watering prime rib, lobster, lamb shops, pasta and seafood selections, all in a warm and inviting atmosphere.



VIRGIN RIVER
HOTEL/CASINO/BINGO/MESQUITE/NEVADA

Virgin River

Hotel Casino Bingo/Bowling

The Virgin River Hotel Casino is a family-oriented and country-style property with 800 rooms, two swimming pools and two Jacuzzis, free RV parking, and a full hook-up RV park.



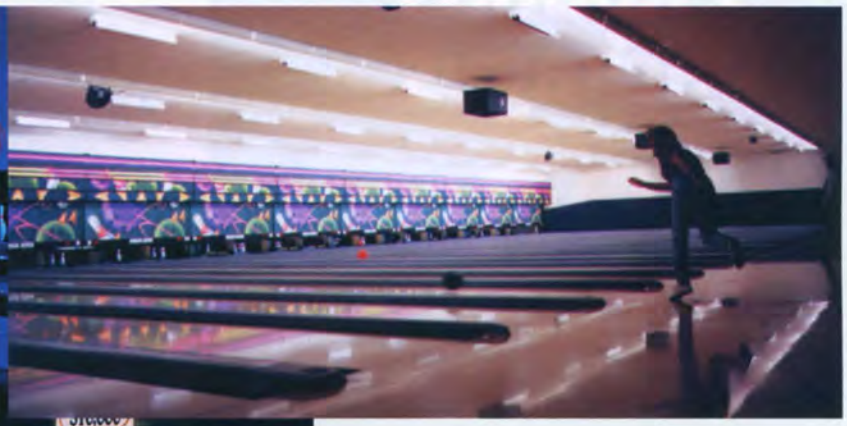
Virgin River Casino

Our 24-hour casino features all of the latest slot and table games. Come enjoy Blackjack, Craps, $100,000 Keno, live Poker, a Race & Sports book, and a newly remodeled Bingo Room. The Virgin River Lounge features live music and dancing nightly. Dine daily at the all-you-can-eat Victoria's Buffet, with live-action cook stations, fresh salad bar, and fabulous desserts. Tuesday nights offer New York Steak, Fridays feature Crab Legs, and Saturdays Prime Rib. If you prefer, try our 24-hour Chuckwagon Restaurant, which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner 365 days a year.

Cosmic Bowling

We also have a new 24-lane Bowling Center open 24 hours featuring the latest craze, Cosmic Bowling. The lanes, balls, and pins glow in the dark! The Center has a Bar, Pro Shop, and Snack Bar. Younger guests will also enjoy our large Video Arcade with all the newest games.







Entertainment

Immediately across the street is the Virgin River Food Mart which offers diesel gas and sundries, including Krispy Kreme donuts. Every gas fill-up at the Food Mart earns a pull on a progressive slot machine at the Virgin River Hotel and prizes range from two free drinks up to a $9,000 jackpot.

Everyone will enjoy the Virgin River Cinemas offering four theaters with first-run movies.

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Palms Golf Club


Vistas Golf Club


Wolf Creek


Coral Canyon


Entrada

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- **Eureka** Hotel & Casino
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