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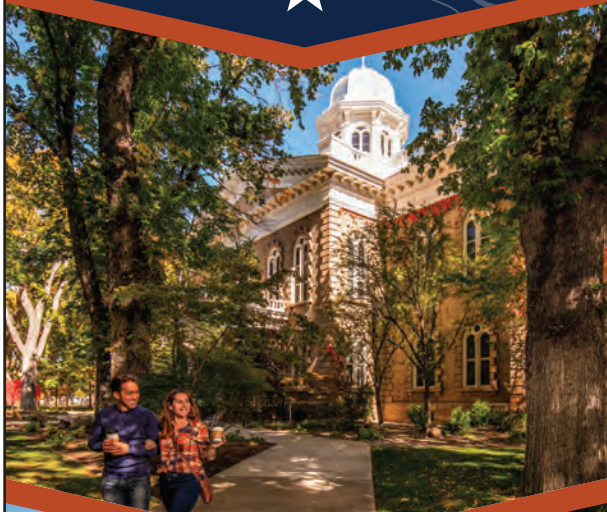
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Cover Photo: Eric Cachinero

Jillian Cachinero gazes across the Carson River in the majestic Carson Valley as she prepares to fly fish.

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SUMMER 2020
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WEB EXTRAS

► **Yesterday: Good Roads Aid Human Progress** - In the inaugural issue of *Nevada Highways and Parks* (now *Nevada Magazine*) in January 1936, Editor and Pioneer Fred Greulich penned an article on the importance of roads in human history and how they facilitated human progress.



ANSEL ADAMS

he used, then he recreated Adams' image and shares details about the process. He also dives deeper into Adams' experience in Nevada.



► **Ansel Adams Photograph** - Famous Photographer Ansel Adams visited the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe in 1936 and created the incomparable image "Thundercloud." Author and Photographer Martin Gollery researched where Adams might have been when he shot the photo and even what lens

DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER PERKS

We're almost there! Our mission to upload every issue of *Nevada Magazine* ever created is nearing completion. We now have each issue from **1936-2000** and **2013-2020** available for viewing as digital flipbooks. A digital subscription gives you full access to our website, including the stories listed above and more added each month. Digital subscriptions are just \$9.95 per year, or add it to your print subscription for an extra \$5 per year. Visit nevadamagazine.com/subscribe



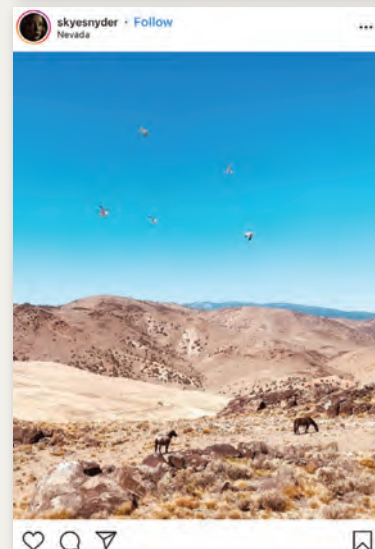
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Now Then...Where Were We?

The purpose of an editor's note can vary from publication to publication, but I've always thought of it as a way to get a little personal and share some insight about what's going on in my head as we create the coming issue. I'm afraid I could take up half the pages of this magazine with what's been going on since our last issue. So much was happening as we created our May/June issue, let's recap: our publisher retired; the reality of COVID-19 was just setting in as businesses started to close; our office shut down and we spent March 15–June 1 working from home; and we published the issue entirely from home, without seeing one another except for video calls.

By the time this issue lands, we will have been back in the office almost two months, but the changes have not stopped coming. Tourism took the hardest hit of any other state agency; if you saw any photos of the empty Las Vegas Strip you know what I'm talking about. The closure of our casinos, hotels, and restaurants, plus the loss of almost every special event (concerts, festivals, etc.) has left a gaping hole where our visitors used to be. The impact can be seen and felt everywhere, and just now we're slowly moving toward the full reopening of our state's economy.

The hit our tourism friends and partners took, of course, has a trickle-down effect and our revenue was greatly impacted as well. Our staff—eight at the start of March—is now down to six. To preserve our future, we are all taking six days a month of unpaid leave, yet shouldering the duties of a diminished staff and still doing the jobs we were hired to do.

I write this knowing almost everyone could tell a similar tale. I am not asking for pity; we're all in the same boat largely.

But in that boat, the contents have shifted as we navigate this storm. *Nevada Magazine* is now a quarterly publication...that's the biggest shift. It's why it's late July and you're just now receiving this issue we're calling Summer 2020. We sent out an email newsletter to everyone we had email addresses for, but if you missed it, you're welcome to contact us and get on that list.



So, the magazine will now publish four times a year—Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. We'll send 2020's Fall issue in mid-October, and starting with 2021, we'll be on track to ship magazines at the beginning of their respective seasons. You might notice it's a bit heftier than when you last held an issue, and it's not the "COVID 15" everyone seemed to gain during quarantine; it's our new page count. We're adding more stories, and we're increasing our digital presence, too. To keep in that Nevada spirit between magazines, we'll be adding web-only stories to our website throughout the year.

We'll send emails out with new content alerts, so that's another reason to get on the mailing list.

There was another change that felt pretty big at the time, but has seemed less important in this new normal we find ourselves in. When Janet Geary retired, I took over leadership of the magazine. It is an honor to be at the helm of *Nevada Magazine*, but I've learned something these last few months: I am nothing without the five people I'm so proud to call my staff. Each person has taken on new duties and faced serious challenges in the fight to keep *Nevada Magazine's* legacy alive. They've done it with no extra pay, fewer hours, and not a single complaint. The love they have for this magazine is breathtaking, at least to me. I cannot thank them enough, but I can tell you, our dear readers, they deserve your thanks.

If you're feeling so inclined, maybe this is the year you give that gift subscription, buy a ghost town book (wait until you see it!), or pick up our annual historical calendar. We rely on subscriptions and advertising to survive, and I think once you turn the page, you'll agree it's a pretty invaluable product we create. We share what makes this state so perfectly unforgettable, and to me that feels pretty essential.

Megg Mueller, Executive Editor
mmueller@nevadamagazine.com

LETTERS

A MUCH-NEEDED RESPITE

I just got the May/June issue and it was like a cup of fresh water in this COVID-19 desert. It was uplifting, joyous, and refreshing. The wildlife photos are pretty sweet. The little fox picture was marvelous. I enjoyed "Nevada Twilight" a lot, but I loved the Great Basin article on Michael Branch. Thanks for some moments of joy and hope this issue provided me during COVID-19. The tone was perfect. — **John Stetz, via nevadamagazine.com**

HIT THE MARK

When *Nevada Magazine* arrives in my mailbox, I always say, "oh, good!" Then I look forward to diving in. The current issue, however, hit a new high mark. Each article was terrific. Well done!
— **Tom Mega, via email**



QUARTERLY THOUGHTS

While I understand changing to a quarterly publication, I felt I would let you know that I will support the magazine and continue to subscribe. That being said, currently when a new issue arrives, I spent about three days enjoying most of the articles then I sit around and wait for six weeks until the next issue arrives. With the new distribution I am being forced (not really as I said I enjoy most articles) to reread older issues that I save for trip planning while waiting for months for the next issue to arrive. I grew up in Nevada but there is so much I never knew about the state. For the last 10 years I've been a subscriber and I have ventured back into the state to explore areas that you have highlighted, and I just want to say thank you! — **Craig Perkins, via email**

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

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

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DAVID MCCORMICK

With a master's degree in regional planning from the University of Massachusetts, David McCormick was employed by the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, for several years. Now retired, he works as a freelance writer. His articles have appeared in "America's Civil War," "Army Magazine," "Michigan History," "Naval History," and "Pennsylvania Heritage," among others. ■ PGS. 62-69



CLAIRE WHITE

Claire White is a public historian from southern Nevada currently working for The Mob Museum in Downtown Las Vegas. She earned a master's degree in public history from the University of South Carolina and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. When she is not researching and interpreting American history, she is traveling across the Battle Born State looking for historical markers and collecting commemorative passport stamps. ■ PGS. 90-95



MARTIN GOLLERY

Martin Gollery is an experienced photographer based on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe. He travels throughout the west chasing images and is the author of a number of different photography books including "Lake Tahoe: The Lake of the Sky" and "The Professional Photographer's Guide to Lake Tahoe." ■ at nevadamagazine.com

Up Front



DINING

Lip Smacking Foodie Tours launches Finger Licking Foodie Tours

Eat and explore your way through Las Vegas like never before with a private, self-guided, e-assisted culinary tour created by Lip Smacking Foodie Tours.

The self-guided Finger Licking Foodie Tour offers guests a carefree, fun-filled way to enjoy an array of Instagrammable dishes at Las Vegas' top restaurants in one outing—without the hassle of doing tons of research or making reservations.

Unlike the company's other tours, the Finger Licking Foodie Tours is a self-guided tour. This tour, with a minimum requirement of just two patrons, is designed to be a more intimate and individualistic experience.

Guests can choose from a Downtown Las Vegas tour or an Arts District tour, and can book their tour anytime between 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. They are provided with an online map, as well as a link to an innovative virtual tour guide who provides commentary for each fascinating stop along the way. As guests make their way through the 2.5-hour experience in the city's exciting, revitalized downtown, they will visit three acclaimed restaurants where they will experience VIP seating as they enjoy three unforgettable dishes at each venue. A 15-percent discount off any regular price menu item is also offered, and gratuities are included in the tour price.

Finger Licking Foodie Tours is a companion to the fully guided Lip Smacking Foodie Tours, which offer guests the opportunity to dine at up to five of Las Vegas' most sought-after restaurants. The guided tours offer a tasty, educational, and lively opportunity to get VIP seating and try a variety of incredible dishes, while learning details about the chefs, restaurants, and culinary surprises. fingerlickingfoodietours.com, 866-664-2414





PHOTOS: TAHOE FUND

OUTDOORS

Tahoe trail gets new interpretive signs

The Tahoe East Shore Trail that runs between Incline Village and Sand Harbor State Park has become an interpretive trail following the installation of 23 educational signs offering users information on regional history, the environment, and local wildlife. The signs, which are located at various vista points along the popular paved trail, were funded by the NV Energy Foundation.

The stunning signage tells the stories of Incline Village and Sand Harbor, Tahoe's Earth history and ecology, and how to keep the region's black bears wild. Explanation of Tahoe's famed water clarity and how to preserve it, how the significant waves on Lake Tahoe are formed, the implications of invasive species, and other topics are also highlighted.

The 3-mile stretch of trail—starting along the mountainside before tunneling under the highway to follow the rugged, rocky shoreline—is considered one of the area's most beautiful trails. Those who use the trail should check State of Nevada guidelines in advance for possible trail closures and other guidelines, including physical-distancing requirements. tahoeFund.org, 775-298-0035





■ The originator of cultured pearls **Mikimoto** is opening its first boutique in Las Vegas at Wynn Resort. Inspired by the Ginza Main Store design, this is the first U.S. Mikimoto location to resemble the appearance of the original Mikimoto boutique in Japan. The Las Vegas boutique will showcase the classic collections along with the introduction of never-before-seen Wynn Resort exclusive product.

wynnlasvegas.com, 702-770-7000

■ Boyd Gaming Corporation has launched its award-winning B Connected player loyalty program at **Cannery Casino Hotel**. The move gives Cannery customers access to B Connected's exciting selection of reward tiers, exclusive player benefits, and unique entertainment experiences. The B Connected program was voted one of the best players clubs in "USA Today's" 10 Best Readers' Choice travel awards.

cannerycasino.com, 702-507-5700

■ As part of the ongoing **Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series**, a new exhibition, "Colors of the West: Youth Art from the 2020 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering," is now on display as a virtual gallery indefinitely. nevadahumanities.org

■ The Vegas Golden Knights hockey team announced that the American Hockey League's (AHL) Henderson franchise will be known as the **Henderson Silver Knights**. The Silver Knights will play home games during the 2020-2021 AHL season at the Orleans Arena, located at the Orleans Hotel and Casino.

hendersonsilverknights.com, 702-802-6460

■ Free live entertainment is once again happening at the **Fremont Street Experience**. With a diverse range of musical genres for audiences of all ages, all three stages will light up as well-known local artists including Zowie Bowie, Tony Marques, Spandex Nation, Alter Ego, and more return to perform chart-topping hits.

vegasexperience.com

MUSEUMS

Nevada State Museums announce new operating schedule



East Ely Railroad Depot Museum



Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City



Nevada State Museum, Carson City



Lost City Museum, Overton



Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas

Nevada's state museums have re-opened their doors and are welcoming back visitors to experience the stories and artifacts of the Silver State.

- The East Ely Railroad Depot Museum in Ely is open seven days a week.
- Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City has its display pavilion and outdoor exhibits open Monday – Friday. Train rides will resume when conditions are safe. Rail Explorers operates Thursday – Monday.
- Nevada State Museum, Carson City is open Wednesday – Saturday.
- Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City is open Friday – Monday. The main museum will be open, and the annex will have scheduled tours. The motorcar and steam train demonstration schedule can be found online.
- Lost City Museum in Overton is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- The Nevada Historical Society in Reno is open Wednesdays, and Thursday – Friday by appointment.
- The Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas is open Friday – Sunday.

Museums will require masks for guests and all staff. Please visit the individual websites to learn about other changes and current information.

nvmuseums.org, 775-687-7340

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'ODYSSEY OF A GHOST TOWN EXPLORER' BOOK

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Pahrump Valley farmers struck gold in the area that would eventually become Delamar in 1890-1891. The discovery initiated an onslaught of eager gold bugs, including Captain John De Lamar of Montana, who purchased prime claims in 1893 in the amount of \$150,000. Soon after his acquisition, the town of Delamar quickly rose from the ground, with many of the buildings constructed from native rock. Various businesses, a newspaper, post office, opera house, and 50-ton mill capable of handling up to 260 tons of ore per day provided work, but the American dream wasn't all it was cracked up to be.

the following morning, we depart Wells and aim toward State Route 226 north of Ely. We pass the Taylor Canyon Resort—a great rural watering hole and haven for hunters—before arriving toward Jack Creek, located on the north end of the Independence Mountain Range. We leave there briefly to enjoy the scenery and solitude.

The region is somewhat hilly in ghost towns, but makes up for it in beauty. rich fields are filled with alfalfa, creeks run down every other canyon, and rivers of aspen splash across the hills. We drive north on Maggie Summit and before we reach our first ghost town of the day—Aurora.

*Aurora, where
a river, stream
has of course
leading horses,
happily, etc.
Jan. 5-1910*



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would still
mantown in
it a couple
en to being
brush I've
see it a maze
of sandstone
foliage,
was once

residents. The town's canyon location
made it one of the most desired camps in
the White Pine mining region because it
sheltered residents from the elements. The
year 1870 saw the end of Shermantown,
save a lone family that is said to have
resided there for another decade.

A decaying chimney structure, along with
roofless buildings full of bullet holes, keep
Magg and me occupied. Fresh springs dot
the hills around the townsite, as does an
abundance of pine
trees. We retrace our
steps in an attempt
to reach the last
ghostly structure of
the day.

n's sagebrush
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CHAPTER 7: THE ELEPHANT

Ghost towns by their very nature are plagued by hardships. They exist because something didn't work out the way people had hoped. They exist because obsessions of riches and grandeur failed in sometimes sickening realizations that precious time may have been wasted; wrong choices were made. They exist because of broken dreams.

Early Western prospectors and frontiersmen referred to this sobering introduction to hardships as "seeing the elephant." The term is appropriate and all encompassing, because it described the quickly shattered dreams many prospectors experienced when they showed up to the west expecting roads paved in gold, only to be introduced to a life tougher than they could have ever imagined.

So in the most appropriate manner possible, Megg and I are reminded of this fact soon after we depart



SMOLDERING SUNRISE

We're on the road early, headed north out of Pioche for the ghost town of Jackrabbit, which is conveniently located just off U.S. Route 83—so we think. A Nevada historical marker lets us know we've reached the site, though tall juniper and piñon pines camouflage the town's remains, leading us on a bit of a search before concrete ruins let us know we've reached the townsite.

Jackrabbit's story, if true, begins with one of the luckiest Nevada finds in the state's history. Lore maintains that a prospector bent down to pick up a rock to throw at a Jackrabbit, only to find himself holding high-grade silver. After the initial discovery on the east side of the Bristol Range in 1876, a modest town sprung up, with all the era comforts. Jackrabbit was said to be the last whiskey stop for travelers heading south to Pioche. The booming town would see a drop in ore production during the 1880s that almost led to its demise. A 15-mile narrow-gauge railroad was built between Jackrabbit and Pioche in 1891, which led to a brief increase in mining, but by 1893, operations had mostly come to a halt.



For such an old ghost town, there's much to explore at Jackrabbit. The highlight is the massive mine shaft, complete with one cart tracks that protrude and twist from a giant hole. On this hot day, standing next to the barbed-wire fencing, the rushing cold air coming from the mine shaft feels like someone turned on the world's most powerful air conditioner. The air even has a creepy mist to it, leading us to keep our distance after the initial discovery. In addition to the mine shaft are remnants of a suspended aerial tram used to transport ore to Jackrabbit from the nearby silver camp of Bristol. We spend quite some time at Jackrabbit before pressing on to our second charcoal kiln site of the trip: Bristol Well.



BACK UP! SERIOUSLY

Even of the trip, the Snake Range, National Park. It's also, not only for its place in Nevada

the longest-worked town was actively second half of the 1900s continuing

today. As impressive as its timespan was its ore production, with the gold-bearing quartz belt measuring 12 miles long by 7 miles wide. The deposit was originally mined by hand using pans and rocker boxes, until a five-stamp mill was built in 1878. Orocola's problem was that there was no water to mine with. So, mining interests constructed an 18-mile-long canal to bring water from streams running down the west side of Wheeler Peak, followed by another 15-mile canal to catch water running down the eastern side. The Orocola ditch, as it was called, was an impressive aqueduct that changed how miners recovered the riches. The Orocola Placer Mining Co. became the first in the state to employ hydraulic mining, an incredibly destructive process that employed high-pressure water hoses to wash away the mountainside into sluices to recover gold and silver.

For as incredible as the history of Orocola is, I'm pretty disappointed that not much remains in the public property realm. "No Trespassing" and "Private Property" signs dot nearly every structure—historical and modern—and in many ways deplete the historic value. I do manage to find a couple old wooden structures to photograph, but they too have the signs splattered across them. It's a shame, some ways, understandable.

After Orocola, I decide I'm toting for one trip, and I'm Carson City on the Lonely



The townsite at Aura was platted in March 1906 after a nearby gold discovery. By 1907, the town had stores, saloon, post office, school, homes, and the "Concentrator" newspaper. Aura acted as the supply point for nearby mines, though it quickly faded as the ore ran dry.

There isn't anything left at Aura except one medium-sized stone building with a missing roof. It's relatively unimpressive, but the surrounding views are incredible. Megg and I snap a few photos before continuing over Maggie Summit until we hit pavement again.

Once we connect with State Route 225, we head south, and because we're on our "lunch break," we manage to do a little bit of fishing on the Owyhee River. The river flow is fast considering we're in the heat of summer, but that



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UP FRONT



■ The flagship **SkinnyFATS** Dean Martin location celebrates seven years with fresh floors and paint including new, colorful atmosphere-centric works by local artists. The ever-evolving restaurant welcomes back customers with the same flavor-forward casual gourmet menu, craft beers on tap, and the freshest cold-pressed juices. SkinnyFATS currently has five locations in the Las Vegas Valley.

skinnyfats.com, 702-979-9797

■ **HyperX Esports Arena Las Vegas**, located at Luxor Hotel & Casino, has re-opened with a modified schedule for daily play and weekly tournaments. Weekly tournament schedule will feature Wednesday Whiffs (Super Smash Bros. Ultimate only), Friday Frags (Fortnite), and Saturday Night Speedway (Mario Kart 8).

hyperxesportsarenalasvegas.com, 702-723-2355

■ **Legion Sports Fest** will be held in Reno Oct. 23-25. In 2019, the Legion Sports Fest was attended by more than 10,000 people, 1,200 athletes across 12 sports, and 150 fitness companies. Attendees can expect to see warriors in medieval armor fighting with swords and axes, incredible feats of strength like pulling a firetruck, professional armwrestling matches, Muay Thai and Kickboxing competitors competing for the United States Point Championship, and more.

legionsportsfest.com

■ The NFL announced that the **2021 Pro Bowl** will take place at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas on Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021. The 2021 Pro Bowl will be a weeklong celebration of football, and will feature such activities as NFL FLAG Championship games, AFC and NFC team practices, and the Pro Bowl Skills Showdown, where the NFL's biggest stars from each conference compete in tests of their skills.

nfl.com/vegaspb

■ **Virginia City** has installed 12 hand-sanitizing stations on each side of C Street—the historic town's main street—for visitor use. visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500



RESTORATION

Historic courthouse starts new renovation phase

Last summer, Friends of the Belmont Courthouse started the restoration and stabilization of the interior of the 144-year-old courthouse in Belmont. The work consisted of sistering floor joists under the attic floor and further reinforced with joist hangers, providing significant reinforcement and stabilization. Also, part of the first phase was the replacement of all treads of the first-floor stairway and the stabilization of the second-floor stairs to the attic. A new rail and balustrade were constructed, matching the original rail as closely as possible, using a small slice of the original handrail as a guide.

The second phase of renovation involves completely restoring the hallway on the bottom floor including ceiling, floor, and preservation of the historic graffiti on walls. Also included in this phase is the restoration of the clerk's office.

Belmont served as the county seat of Nye County from 1867 until 1905. The courthouse was built during 1875-1876 and opened July 4, 1876.

belmontcourthouse.net, 775-482-3968



MUSEUMS

Ford Model T exhibit debuts in Reno

The National Automobile Museum in Reno has a new exhibit focused on the Ford Model T. The exhibit features a bright red 1909 Touring Car; a 1921 Kampkar, considered the world's first RV built by the Anheuser-Busch company; and a Do-It-Yourself truck (a kit to convert your passenger car). The Model T exhibit runs through Sept. 1.

The first Model T was built on Aug. 12, 1908 (as a 1909 model) and on May 26, 1927, Henry Ford and his son Edsel drove the 15th million Model T out of the factory marking the official last day of production. The Model T ranked as No. 1 in production until 1972, when the title went to the Volkswagen Beetle. The Model T still ranks 8th on the all-time production list nearly 110 years later. It was the first truly affordable car for the masses. Prior to the Ford, most cars cost the equivalent of a house. Henry's "Tin Lizzie" meant an average family could buy and afford to operate an automobile for the first time.

automuseum.org, 775-333-9300

WHERE WILL YOUR NEVADA STORY TAKE YOU?

Hit the rails with the sights, sounds, and sensations of railroading in Nevada. As one of the seven state museums, the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City brings history to the next level. Discover your Nevada history at NVMuseums.org.



NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

NEVADA
MUSEUMS & HISTORY



TRAVELNEVADA.COM



■ **Circa Resort & Casino** will open Oct. 28, 2020. Previously slated for a December 2020 launch, the 1.25 million-square-foot integrated casino-resort will open with its first five floors of amenities and state-of-the-art parking hub—Garage Mahal—ahead of schedule. circularlasvegas.com

■ **The Nevada Museum of Art** has acquired Judy Chicago's comprehensive fireworks archive for its collection. The archive, "Judy Chicago: Dry Ice, Smoke, and Fireworks," contains materials from Chicago's extensive body of work with dry ice, colored smoke, and fireworks, manifested in 45 projects spanning from 1967 through the present. The archive will be shown publicly for the first time with an exhibition, "On Fire: Judy Chicago's Atmospheres Archive," on view from Oct. 16, 2021-April 17, 2022. nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

■ The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) recently received Congressional approval of a historic public lands package, the **Great American Outdoors Act**. This landmark legislation will permanently and fully fund the LWCF for the first time since its creation in 1964. Through the act, Nevada will receive more than \$4 million in annual LWCF funding—nearly doubling its annual allocation—to help fund Nevada-wide outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation. dcnr.nv.gov, 775-684-2700

■ Construction is complete on the second of two vehicular tunnels that make up Elon Musk's innovative underground transportation system located beneath the **Las Vegas Convention Center** campus. The Convention Center Loop—as the tunnels are known—are scheduled to open in January 2021. vegasmmeansbusiness.com

■ **Ruby 360 Lodge** in Lamoille Canyon is now offering weekend dinners—Friday and Saturday—through the month of September. The experience includes an incredible meal prepared by world-class chefs with the freshest ingredients, along with a fantastic dessert, extensive wine list, a variety of outdoor games, and a live band. ruby360lodge.com, 775-753-6867

ART

Mural celebrates Las Vegas landmarks



Las Vegas artist James Stanford completed his new mural at The Neon Museum's Reed Whipple building. The monumental mural—"From the Land Beyond," taken from the film "The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad"—was commissioned by the Cultural Corridor Coalition as part of the beautification of Downtown Las Vegas.

The installation spans 154-by-19 square feet and covers the south wall of The Neon Museum's newly acquired building, located across the street from the museum.

Stanford's design pays homage to early Las Vegas hotels, starting with the Stardust Resort & Casino, which was imploded in 2007. Many of its historic signs are on display in The Neon Museum Boneyard. The artwork includes two large Moai carved from lava rock, which pay tribute to the Stardust's Aku Aku Polynesian restaurant and Tiki Bar. He also depicts the Dunes' Sultan from the famed hotel and casino, which closed in 1993 making way for the Bellagio, which opened in 1998. neonmuseum.org, 702-387-6366



CHALLENGE YOURSELF to Stay on the (Ruby Crest) Trail

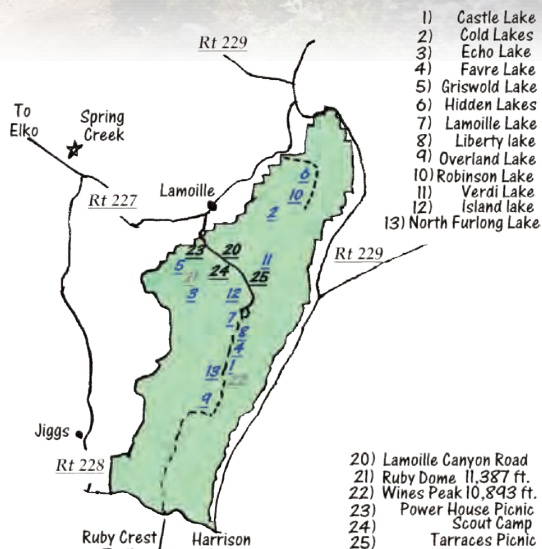
There's a gem hidden in Nevada's northeast corner awaiting discovery... a Ruby to be exact.

The Ruby Mountains near Elko offer year-round activities for everyone—extreme outdoor enthusiasts to young explorers will discover snowcapped mountains, alpine lakes, waterfalls, wildflowers, and occasional wildlife. Drive up the Lamoille Canyon Scenic Byway and admire glacier-carved canyons while looking for bighorn sheep grazing in the rock outcroppings.

The Rubies have been called "Nevada's Swiss Alps," and Andrew at reasonnumber7.com went as far to say "Lamoille Canyon is the Yosemite Valley of Nevada. Except with 3 billion fewer visitors." In Lamoille Canyon there are six trails for all skill levels, ranging from 2 to 7 miles, all of which have at least one alpine lake along the way.

For those seeking the greatest challenge, pack your backpacking gear and hike the Ruby Crest Trail (RCT). At 31-43 miles (no two sources agree) and featuring 14 named alpine lakes, the RCT can be hiked in several days or a week or longer, depending on desire for adventure. Veteran hikers recommend starting at Harrison Pass, elevation 7,200 feet, and ending in Lamoille Canyon at 8,780 feet. The highest point along the trail is Wines Peak, at 10,893 feet elevation. A point-to-point hike, there is a shuttle service available.

Global hiker and RCT veteran Lydia Breidenbaugh, whose photos are featured here, describes the trail as "arid high desert sprinkled with aspen forests on the southern end; sweeping plateaus through the middle; along with streams, glacial cirques with alpine lakes, and glaciated valleys. The trail is long enough to provide solitude and challenging enough to bring a sense of accomplishment."



Contrary to the neon lights and chaos of big cities, Elko offers the opportunity to relax and explore nature, art, culture, and a lively social scene after challenging yourself on the Ruby Crest Trail.



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YOUR FAVORITE NEVADA **SPECIAL EVENT**

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

We asked to see your favorite event and you responded proudly! Nevada has a spectacular offering of interesting and quirky events that compose the character of this state.

See more favorite structures at nevadamagazine.com/articles/your-favorite-nevada-specialevent/

Fall theme:



YOUR FAVORITE NEVADA **ROAD**



Great Reno Balloon Race, Reno

CLAYTON PEOPLES



Nellis Air Force Base Aviation Nation, Las Vegas

STEVE DUDROW



International Camel & Ostrich Races, Virginia City

FRANZ CARVER



Fourth of July, Wingfield Park, Reno

MARK VOLLMER



Clark County Fair, Logandale

STEVE DUDROW



Mesquite Balloon Festival, Mesquite

RICHARD WALKER





DOUGLAS NULLE



JAMES GURLEY

Pages 18-19: "I captured this view of the northeastern Las Vegas skyline from the backyard of my Summerlin home," says Douglas Nulle. "This quiet and peaceful moment reminds me of how grateful I am to be a southern Nevada resident."

Top: David N. Braun captured this shot while camping on the edge of the Black Rock Desert. "I was presented with a Black Rock scene that was very much worth capturing and waking up early for," he says.

Left and Bottom: "These photographs were taken at the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge near Fallon," says James Gurley. "We were walking along the wooden walkway of the Upper Foxtail Lake when my son Seth asked for my camera and said he had a picture in mind, and I needed to be in it. He had me sit on the bench and gaze around the lake while he took some shots. I was proud and a little envious he'd seen and set up the shot so well. In order to regain some semblance of being the photographer in the family, I took some pictures of him leaping around the wooden walkway. When we came back and reviewed the pictures, we both agreed he had the better vision that day!"



SETH GURLEY



DAVID N. BRAUN

Below: "The Clayton Valley Dunes are typical of dune fields across much of the arid southwest," says Chip Carroon. "They formed within the last 2,000 years as the climate changed. These are transverse dunes, which have a very gentle upwind slope and a steeper leeward slope. They utilize a steady supply of sand from nearby alluvial fans, a seasonally variable north-south wind so there is no net migration, and a wind break which allows the sand to settle."



CHIP CARROON



MIKE WETZEL

Top: This shot was snapped by Mike Wetzel near Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. "There is beauty around us in our everyday life. Staying at home as much as I have been lately makes me appreciate the beauty even more."



FACEBOOK GROUP CHOICE

"My son and I started our hike at Eagle Ridge trailhead," says Chris Dickerson. "We decided to go follow this old road, it switched back and forth up the north side of Genoa peak. We eventually hit too much snow so decided to eat lunch while taking in the view and enjoying the UFO clouds (lenticular clouds) over Carson Valley, our home."

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



CHRIS DICKERSON

VISIONS



CHRISTINE VIRDEE



JURAJ SOJKA

Top left: "Cole is a rescued mix from Battle Mountain," says Christine Virdee. "He was extremely timid and wary of everything; in fact, he was so frightened he was deemed 'unadoptable.' I started taking him hiking with me as I explored the east shore of Lake Tahoe. He began to swim and I would catch him jumping onto and off of rocks and staring into the sunset time and time again. I share as many sunsets and magical hikes as possible with Cole."

Top right: Travel Nevada Marketing Manager Juraj Sojka took this shot near Kingsbury. "It was our daily 'lakeview hike' and my wife was finally able to join us, so I decided to capture the moment of two of them enjoying the sunset. It was a gorgeous evening with an even more gorgeous sunset."

Bottom: Paula Lawlor took these photos of the Clark County Government Center and the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas. "Very Vegas to have such bizarre architectural juxtaposition," she says.

Opposite page: "In the summers after a heavy snowpack, the meadows in the Mt. Rose Wilderness turn into a riot of babbling brooks and radiant wildflowers," says Dotty Molt. "Some of the locations are a little off the grid and involve getting your boots muddy, but if you find a stream and follow it, you'll be guaranteed to capture a few flowers along the way."





HISTORICALLY FIRST

Trailblazing women led the way and made history as the first in their fields.

BY MEGG MUELLER

The importance of women to Nevada's history is well documented and irrefutable. From Sarah Winnemucca to Helen Stewart, Hanna Clapp to Felice Cohn, the sisters of the Silver State left their own indelible stamp on the face of Nevada. While many women have made their mark, a select few were the first to do so in their respective fields. These pioneers broke the rules, and often, the glass ceiling that existed for women by becoming the first female to accomplish what they did. These women—and to be sure, there are many others—helped pave the way for more women to enter the workforce and seek positions that had been previously dominated by men.

These leading ladies took the chance to go where no woman had gone before, and for that, they are our favorite firsts.

WRITING THE WRONGS

The battle to keep the history of Native Americans alive was a lifelong one for Sarah Winnemucca. She was born in 1844 near Humboldt Lake in Churchill County, and she didn't see a white person until she was age 6. Her grandfather, Chief Truckee, was chief of the Paiute tribe, and he welcomed the white man's arrival, but her father, Chief Winnemucca, was worried about how their arrival would change the lives of his tribe.

Winnemucca spent most of her life working to help the two races understand one another. In 1883, she delivered nearly 300 lectures in major cities of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic about the injustice against Native Americans. In the same year, she became the first Native American woman to publish a book, and her story "Life Among the Paiutes: Their Wrongs and Claims" told the history of the Paiutes and her own life story.

Sarah Winnemucca

PHOTOS: NEVADA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Sadie Hurst (center) watched as Governor Emmet Boyle signed a resolution ratifying the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE HOUSE (AND SENATE)

On Election Day 1918, the "Nevada State Journal" did something unprecedented: The newspaper endorsed a female candidate for the State Assembly. No woman had ever served in the Nevada Legislature and in fact, women were not allowed to vote in state elections until 1916.

The Reno paper noted

Republican candidate Sadie Dotson Hurst "has taken an active part in public matters" and assured that her experience in club work "will stand her and the people of Nevada in good stead should she be elected to the assembly." The voters agreed, and Hurst became one of Washoe County's seven representatives for the 1919 session.

Hurst was born in Iowa in 1857 and moved to Reno with her two sons after the death of her husband. In Reno, she became involved in women's civic clubs and community improvement projects, both hallmarks of the Progressive movement.

Her preoccupation, however, was Prohibition. Hurst used political persuasion to stop the sale and consumption of alcohol. In those days Reno was known for easy divorces, championship prizefights, and back-alley card games. But the public's interest in moral reform and concern about supplies during World War I (grain was better used for food than booze, ran one argument) were strong during the 1918 election. Reno-area voters elected an entirely "dry" delegation, including Hurst, to the legislature.

Hurst's successful bills included one that raised the age of consent from 16 to 18 years and increased the penalties for rape. Similar legislation had failed in previous sessions. Her bill outlawing animal cruelty was also approved and both houses passed Hurst's measure requiring the registration of nurses. Governor Emmet Boyle vetoed the measure because it did not specify standards.

In 1920, Hurst was asked to preside over the house during the passage of the resolution to ratify the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. She ran for re-election in 1920 but was defeated in the primary. Since Hurst's term, every Assembly but three has included at least one elected female legislator.

Frances Friedhoff was a Yerington rancher who became Nevada's first female state senator in 1935. Friedhoff was not elected, but was ap-



Sadie Hurst surrounded by male colleagues in the 1919 legislature.

pointed to replace her husband, George Friedhoff, who had resigned to take a job with the Federal Housing Administration. She was sworn in as the senator from Lyon County on March 16, 1935. Because the session was nearly over, she sat in the legislature for only 14 days, and her senatorial tenure lasted just over seven months.

She chaired the Senate Committee on Public Lands, of which her husband had been a member. In legislation, Friedhoff had a perfect success rate: Her only bill, which granted industrial insurance to Nevada Emergency Relief Administration workers, was passed.

Friedhoff declined to run for her seat in 1936, instead choosing to run the family ranch in Yerington. It would be another 30 years before a woman was elected to the Senate.

The first woman elected to the State Senate was Helen Herr of Las Vegas in 1966. No stranger to the state legislature, Herr served in the Assembly during two terms, 1957-1961 and from 1963-1966. Herr sponsored legislation to protect the interests of women, reform the state's prisons, and expand mental health care in southern Nevada.

One of her most important pieces of legislation was a 1973 bill that guaranteed equal pay for equal work for men and women. Herr served in the Senate until 1976 and was the first woman elected to the Senate Hall of Fame in 1993.

Bernice Martin-Mathews became the first black female legislator in the Nevada State Senate in 1995. She served as



Helen Herr

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

the assistant minority leader and was on the committees for finance, legislative operations and election, and natural resources. She served until 2010 and was inducted into the Senate Hall of Fame in 2013.

Patricia D. Cafferata, known as Patty, was a member of the Nevada State Assembly from 1978-1982. In 1982, Cafferata was the first woman elected to the office of State Treasurer, which she served as until 1987.

SHE'S THE LAW

In 1919, George Crowell, the highly respected and elected sheriff of Lander County, died from an illness. With two years still left on his term, the citizens wanted his wife Clara to finish his term. A petition was quickly circulated, and the commissioners followed suit, making Clara Dunham Crowell the first woman sheriff in Nevada history.

The "Reese River Reveille" reported, "There were several male aspirants for the job, but none made a formal application after the petition was circulated and presented to the county commissioners."

Clara proved she could handle any situation and was involved in the apprehension of cattle rustlers, horse thieves,



Frances Friedhoff

THE HISTORY OF THE EASTERN STAR, STATE OF NEVADA, 1949

robbers and other criminals. As sheriff she demanded respect for the law in Lander. She and her deputy even enforced the new Dry Law which, among other things, prevented people from transporting bottles of liquor.

"The Dry Law has been looked upon as more or less of a joke," reported the "Reveille." "The officers are making a drive to show that the law, be it good or bad, must be respected."

Sheriff Crowell was a woman of action. Once she posed as an old Native American to catch a man who was selling liquor illegally. After catching the storekeeper in the act, Clara threw open her coat, exposing her badge, and placed the man under arrest. On several occasions she entered saloons and broke up brawls and earned a reputation as a tough law officer.

When her term came to an end, people encouraged her to run for election. But she put her nursing skills to work as administrator of the county hospital, a position she held for 20 years. When she died at age 66 on June 19, 1942, a great tribute to both Clara and George was made in Austin.



Clara Crowell (left) posed with her sister and niece

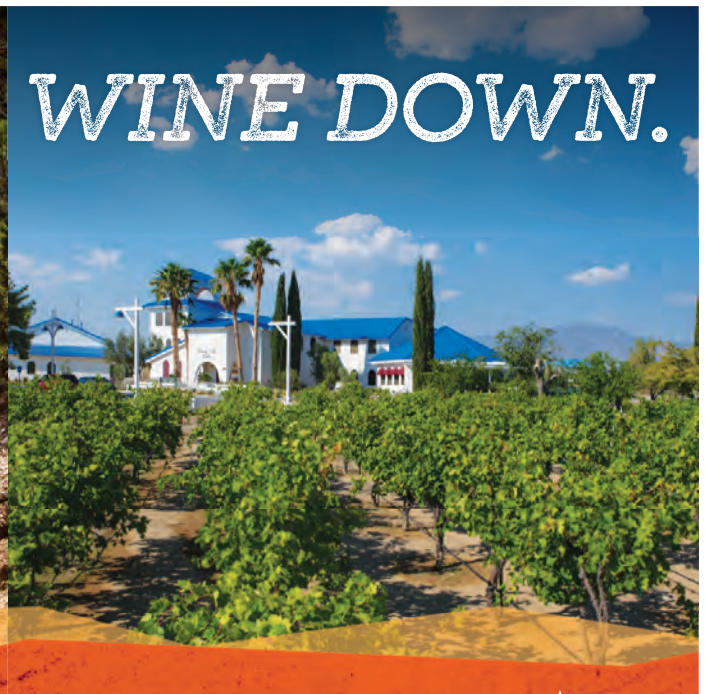
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GAME FOR THE CHALLENGE

"Anybody who lives here is out of his mind."

That's the first thing Mayme Stocker said upon moving to Las Vegas in 1911.

Following her husband Oscar across the country as his railroad job kept them on the move, Stocker was used to new places but seeing Las Vegas left an indelible mark on her. With three sons in tow and tired of moving, the family vowed to make the new town their home.

Stocker opened the Northern Club on Fremont Street in 1920. The club was a "soft-drink emporium" but it was also a place to play the five cards games that were legal at the time—stud, draw poker, lowball poker, 500, and bridge. The club was in Mayme's name, because according to his son Harold, the "railroad men weren't supposed to have anything to do with things like that" so his wife held the license. Harold had learned to deal cards and his brother Lester was a professional gambler, so it was a family business from the beginning.

When gambling was legalized in 1931, Mayme Stocker had Las Vegas' first gaming license.

When her husband died in 1941, Stocker turned the business over to others, and in 1945, she leased it to Wilber Clark who eventually founded the Desert Inn.



Mayme Stocker (right)

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

THE DANCING MAYOR

North Las Vegas in the early 1950s was a tough town for any politician to run, but for a politically inexperienced ex-Ziegfeld showgirl to slip into the city council, straighten out the town's tangled finances, and then become a tough, innovative mayor didn't seem possible.

Dorothy Porter made it possible, and she was the state's first woman to run a major city. She took office in 1954, when a woman in politics was still almost unheard of. A dancer, actress, and a pretty blonde, critics disparaged her as a burlesque queen, expecting her to collapse under pressure. They didn't know Porter.

Porter and her husband moved to North Las Vegas in 1949, when the untamed town was a haven for bars and brothels. The Porters bought a



Dorothy Porter

DOROTHY PORTER COLLECTION

motel near the newly opened Nellis Air Force Base but were consistently harassed by illegal brothel owners to sell the property. During this time, her husband died and Porter was ready to give up, but seeing that the influx of bars and brothels were further downgrading North Las Vegas, she got angry and decided to fight.

"When I wouldn't sell, some so-called official told me my motel did not comply with building standard. Or that something was wrong with the water supply system or even that the trees were too close. I spent a lot of time going over the city book and found there were no restriction. It was then that I determined to do something about the system in North Las Vegas."

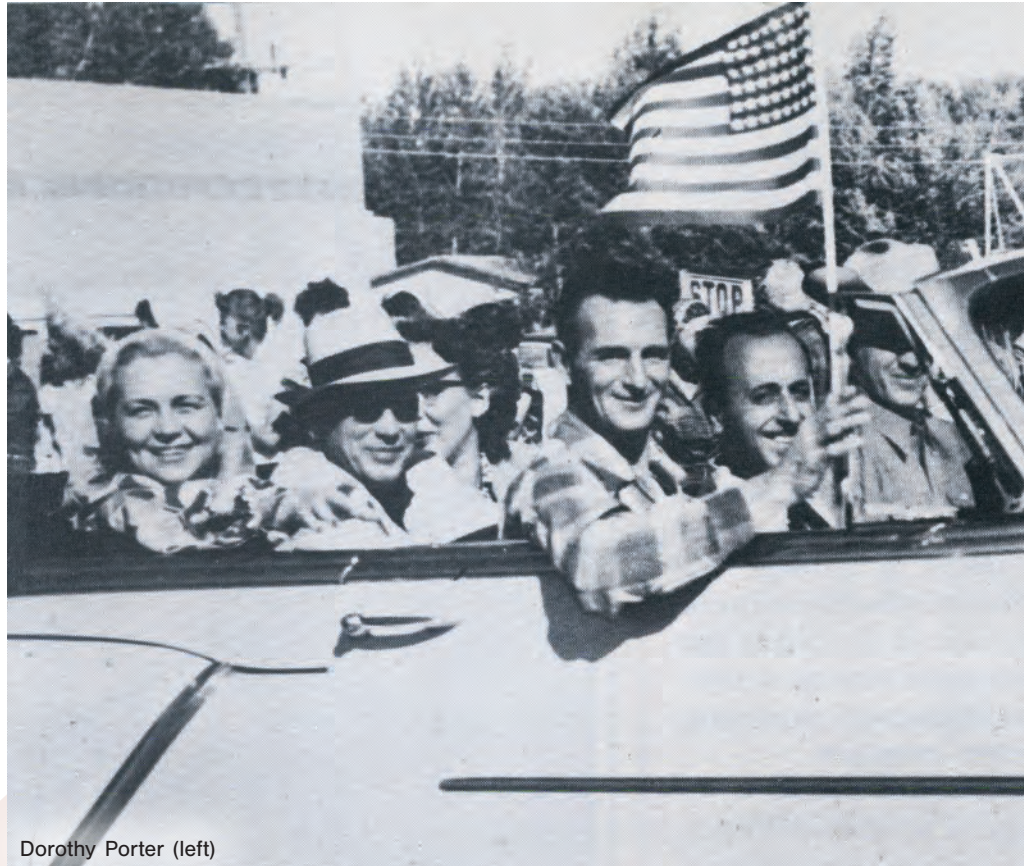
She ran for city council in 1953, and won, defeating three male candidates. Her opponents waited for her to reveal herself as a dumb blonde, but what they found was a woman with considerable financial and business acumen. Her colleagues wasted no time in appointing her finance commissioner and vice president, and she set about putting in order the city's finances.

Less than three years later the "North Las News" could boast that the city was "in as sound a financial shape as any city in Nevada."

In January 1954, the city was rocked by the indictment of the mayor and three council members by the Clark County grand jury on charges of malfeasance. Porter was left to carry on most of the business of government. By late summer of 1954, new council members had been named, and after the resignation of Mayor Earl Webb, the new council elected Porter mayor.

Mayor Dorothy, as she was called, started initiatives to get a water system, a post office, paved and lighted streets, and playgrounds for children, and she fought to get money to help the city grow. Porter saw to the building of the most modern city hall in southern Nevada, a fire and police station, and a new water works, including a three-million-gallon reservoir and flood control system.

By May 1956, Porter was glad to retire.



Dorothy Porter (left)

DOROTHY PORTER COLLECTION

"I had done what I set out to do. The budget was balanced, and the new city hall was being built. It was time for me to go home, salvage my marriage, and return to my own life," she said.

And she did. In 1959 John Porter was appointed deputy to Attorney General Roger Foley, and Dorothy went with her husband to Carson City. She continued to support the Las Vegas Convention Center, which had opened that year. She is named on the commemorative plaque that is placed at the center.

MORE ROLES TO PLAY

From sheriff to mayor, senator to gaming operator, women in Nevada were pioneers in their fields from the earliest days of statehood. Since that time, the novelty of women in positions of power and authority has worn off, as there is hardly a profession or aspiration that is solely the domain of men. In fact, in Nevada's 80th legislative session in 2019, 32 women held seats in the Assembly and Senate, making it the first female majority legislature in the U.S. ■



NEVADA TWILIGHT

LOCAL LORE & MYSTERIOUS MATTERS

Episode 4: Cursed earth, a giant mystery, and a shot in the dark.

BY ERIC CACHINERO

REPRINTED FROM "IMAGES OF AMERICA: NEVADA TEST SITE" BY PETER W. MERLIN (ARCADIA PUBLISHING, 2016)

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

-NARRATOR ROD SERLING, "THE TWILIGHT ZONE"

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

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

CURSED EARTH

In 1956, the American CinemaScope epic film “The Conqueror” hit the big screen. The movie was produced by business magnate and film tycoon Howard Hughes, and starred John Wayne as the Mongol leader Genghis Khan. Other actors included Susan Hayward, Agnes Moorehead, and Pedro Armendáriz. The movie details Genghis Khan’s love for Bortai—the daughter of a rival tribe—whom he steals away, causing a war. Once the movie hit theaters, it was clear it was cursed.

The first curse of the film was apparent right out of the gate—it flopped. People believed that Wayne had been totally miscast for the main role, and the film became considered one of the worst films of the 1950s, and eventually one of the worst films ever made. Unfortunately for “The Conqueror,” though, the film’s notoriety would skyrocket for reasons unrelated to its poor quality.

Much of the movie was filmed in the desert outside St. George, Utah, in a place called Escalante Valley. Normally this seemingly inconsequential fact wouldn’t be cause for concern, however, it was unfortunately deadly timing. During the filming, 137 miles upwind of Escalante Valley, above ground atomic testing was at its peak. The Nevada Test Site hosted 100 above-ground atomic tests, many of which happened before or during the filming. The radioactive fallout that resulted from the tests made its way downwind, and the Escalante Valley was an absolute hotspot for the invisible atomic byproducts to land. Apparently, the film crew was alerted to the

fact that radioactive fall-

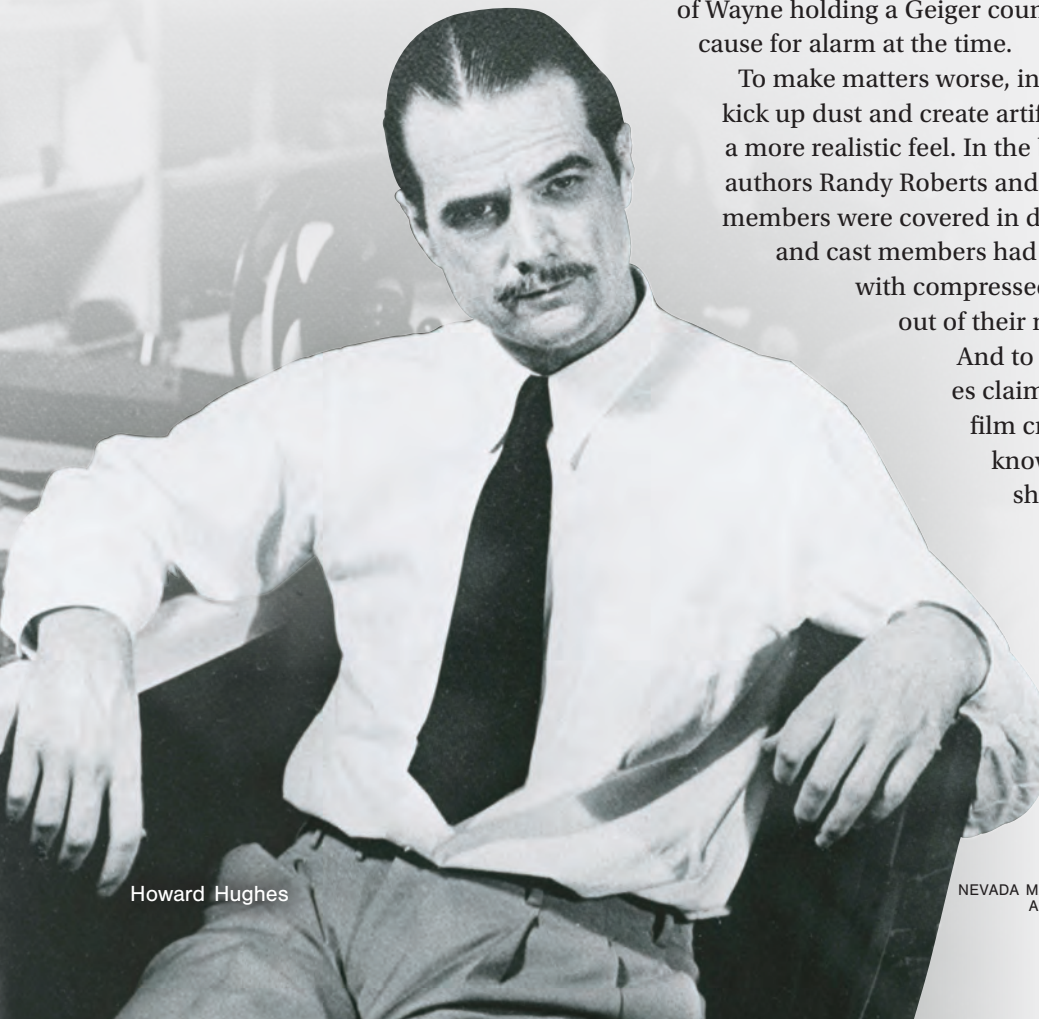
out was a possibility, as evidenced by a photograph

of Wayne holding a Geiger counter on the set, but the threat was not cause for alarm at the time.

To make matters worse, industrial fans were used on the set to kick up dust and create artificial sandstorms to give the movie a more realistic feel. In the biography “John Wayne: American” authors Randy Roberts and James Stuart Olson wrote that, “crew members were covered in dust by the end of each day’s shooting, and cast members had to be frequently blown clean of dust with compressed air and given time to rinse the dirt out of their mouths and eyes.”

And to add even more insult to injury, sources claim that Hughes personally ordered the film crew to load up 60 tons of the (unknownst at the time) radioactive dirt and ship it to Hollywood so they could film some scenes there.

By 1981, 91 of the 220-person crew (more than 41 percent) had developed some sort of cancer, including John Wayne and director Dick Powell. Though no actual scientific link was ever definitively proven between the film crew’s exposure to radiation and



Howard Hughes

NEVADA MAGAZINE
ARCHIVES

their cancer rate, the percentage is high. Some theorize that part of the reason may be due to the fact that a high number of cast and crewmembers were heavy smokers, though many are convinced otherwise. In 1980, Director of Radiological Health at the University of Utah Dr. Robert Pendleton told "People" magazine that, "in a group this size you'd expect only 30-some cancers to develop. With 91, I think the tie-in to their exposure on the set of 'The Conqueror' would hold up even in a court of law."

According to Author Nathan Rabin, who wrote a book on the worst films ever made called "My Year of Flops," "Hughes reportedly felt so guilty about the film and the death of many of its principals that he paid \$12 million to purchase every existing print and didn't allow it to be seen on television until 1974." It would be the last film that Hughes ever produced, and Rabin claims that Hughes watched it obsessively as he spiraled downward into madness late in his life.

Was the radioactive fallout from atomic testing at the Nevada Test Site to blame for an increased rate of cancer for "The Conqueror" cast and crew? Was something more sinister at play?



REPRINTED FROM "IMAGES OF AMERICA: NEVADA TEST SITE" BY PETER W. MERLIN (ARCADIA PUBLISHING, 2016)



Lovelock Cave

ERIC CACHINERO

A GIANT MYSTERY

Long ago, on the shores of ancient Lake Lahontan in the area that would become Lovelock, a tribe of giants thrived. The beasts stood some 7-9 feet tall, and all shared the same characteristic fiery red hair. For the most part, the giants didn't disturb much of the region, except for one glaringly negative detail.

They ate people.

Paiute legend tells of a band of cannibalistic red-haired giants they called the Si-Te-Cah, which translates to tule-eaters. The giants were known for fashioning rafts from the fibrous tule plants, which they used to sneak attack the Paiute tribes from the water. Sarah Winnemucca, in her 1883 book "Life Among the Paiutes: Their Wrongs and Claims," wrote that the red-haired tribe was so fierce that they were able to catch Paiute arrows mid-air and throw them back at the Paiutes with lethal power and accuracy.



Lovelock Cave

MATTHEW B. BROWN

The legend goes on to tell of the day the giants met their demise. During a fierce battle between the two groups, the Paiutes managed to overpower the giants, who retreated into Lovelock Cave. Once they had their enemies trapped inside, the Paiutes covered the cave entrance in sagebrush, which they set ablaze. The giants either suffocated on the smoke or were promptly shot with arrows while trying to escape the cave.

In her book, Winnemucca wrote, “My people say that the tribe we exterminated had reddish hair. I have some of their hair, which has been handed down from father to son. I have a dress which has been in our family a great many years, trimmed with the reddish hair. I am going to wear it some time when I lecture. It is called a mourning dress, and no one has such a dress but my family.”

While Winnemucca’s account did mention a red-haired tribe, it did not mention that they were giants. That distinction would come from Lovelock mining engineer and geologist John T. Reid, who was a firm believer in the Paiute legend. During the early 1900s, Reid had a hunch that evidence of the giants was hidden in Lovelock Cave; however, he was never able to organize an official archaeological dig. In 1911, bat guano miners James Hart and David Pugh learned about the cave and proceeded to strip nearly 6 feet (250 tons) of guano from the cave floor with pickaxes. During their diggings Hart and Pugh came across a treasure trove of artifacts; however, attempts to contact the Smithsonian Institution to collect and document the artifacts went unanswered.



Tule duck decoys found in Lovelock Cave

PHOTOS: SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Later that year, the Nevada Historical Society worked in conjunction with the University of California to collect the artifacts, though by that point, many had been removed or destroyed. During the excavation, an investigator would uncover several human skeletons, and would report, "In the north-central part of the cave, about 4 feet deep, was a striking-looking body of a man, 6 feet 6 inches tall." In addition, there were several other mummified bodies, all with red hair.

The cave excavation, along with a subsequent one in 1924, gave Reid newfound interest in the giant legend. He began interviewing dozens of Native American elders, hoping to uncover some new facet of the legend. Then in February 1931, Reid was contacted by a local resident, who alerted him to a previously buried giant skeleton, located near Lovelock Cave, that had been unearthed by shifting sands. Reid personally unearthed the bones, which he would later write belonged to a being that was 7 feet 7 inches tall. He believed proof of his giants had finally been found. In 1939, he was contacted again by a local farmer in similar fashion, and again unearthed giant bones that he determined to belong to a giant.

Then, nothing... Reid died in 1943. His brother is believed to have sold all of his private research and his boxes of skeletons to the Nevada Historical Society, though all of his work seemingly vanished. That was, however, until 1977, when a renovation of the historical society's main gallery revealed several mislabeled boxes, which included Reid's work. Suddenly the case of the giants had new interest, and the bones were sent off to be analyzed at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The results, while interesting, didn't bode well for Reid's red-haired giants. The bones he found were in fact human, but how Reid measured them led to the mix-up. In 1984, the "Nevada Historical Society Quarterly" explained the following about the bones, "People commonly estimate their thigh lengths from the region of the crotch to the knee...the head of the thigh bone or femur inserts in the appropriate pelvic socket some 4 to 6 inches above the crotch. If the femoral head is placed at the crotch (like Reid had done), the end of the bone will extend some 4 to 6 inches or more below the knee, and the assumption will then be that this was an extraordinarily tall individual, possibly a giant." The results showed that



Lovelock Cave

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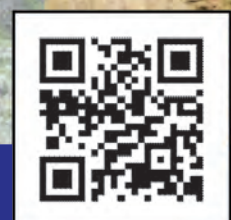
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Fitzgerald's Casino and Hotel, 2006

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the bones that Reid had found belonged to individuals that were no taller than 5 feet 11 inches.

But what about the red hair? The same article explains that Native Americans often “painted themselves while alive, and also painted their dead, with red ochre...red ochre also will color hair, changing black hair into a reddish or rusty-brown shade.”

Although Reid’s work was disproven, people still insist that the legend of the red-haired cannibalistic giants is true. Maybe the giant truth is still buried out there somewhere.

Did a tribe of red-haired cannibals really live in the region as Winnemucca wrote? Were they giants? Is the truth still buried in Lovelock Cave?

A SHOT IN THE DARK

Just before midnight on Nov. 19, 1949, Nevada Club casino co-owner Lincoln Fitzgerald opened the garage at his home on Mark Twain Avenue in Reno. As he walked around the side of the car to get in, the guttural pop of a 12-gauge shotgun blast rang out and all 110 pellets entered Fitzgerald’s body near his spine. As he slumped, a second shot—this one aimed for his head—rang out, though the shot wouldn’t meet its target, and would instead hit the garage wall. The screams of Fitzgerald’s wife sent the unknown assassin fleeing into the night.

He was rushed to the hospital, though his chances of survival seemed grim. The day after the shooting, The Associated Press reported, “The assailant stood so close that the wadding from the shotgun shell was impacted in the gaping wound. The charge, which entered his side and severed his spine, may cause his death.”

But the blast didn’t cause his death. Fitzgerald underwent a lengthy five-month recovery, avoiding death or paralysis, and walked out of the hospital.

The hitman was never found.

Though many theories were floated as to who would want to kill Fitzgerald, the most accepted is that he had ties to organized crime. It is believed that he had a long association with the Chesterfield Syndicate—a Detroit-based organized crime group who had ties with a group of criminal

mobsters, bootleggers, and hijackers known as the Purple Gang. In addition, Fitzgerald was also the central figure in a Michigan gambling investigation involving charges of corruption and bribery.

Even the newspapers implied that the attempted killing was done by mobsters. The United Press reported:

"In typical gangland fashion, Fitzgerald would not talk about the identity of his assailant—if he recognized him at all.

'Do you know who shot you?' police chief Lorenz Greeson asked Fitzgerald as he lay on the operating table, still conscious.

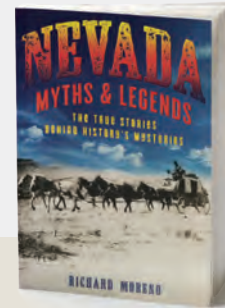
'No,' said Fitzgerald.

'Was it one of the boys from Detroit?'

Fitzgerald pursed his lips, stared at Greeson, and said nothing."

Fitzgerald would go on to live a successful life after his attempted assassination. He founded the once-famed (now closed) Fitzgerald's Hotel-Casino in Reno in the 1970s, though it is said he lived a reclusive lifestyle, rarely making a public appearance before his death in 1981. Who can blame him?

Who shot Lincoln Fitzgerald? Was it his ties to organized crime that led to his shooting? Will the mystery ever be solved? 🍷



READ MORE ABOUT IT

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

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Our 23rd annual readers' survey results are here! This survey has changed as the years have gone by, but one thing stays the same: people are passionate about their choices. This year's results look a little different than past years, yet there are many constants. Our readers have grown and changed, so the Best of 2020 reflects those differences, but fear not as many old favorites are still well represented.



Once again, we have some terrific prize packages to thank eight lucky winners for taking the time to vote. Our sponsors this year are all from southern Nevada, and to them, we say a hearty thank you. We're so happy to share your amazing businesses with our readers. To all our winners, congratulations!

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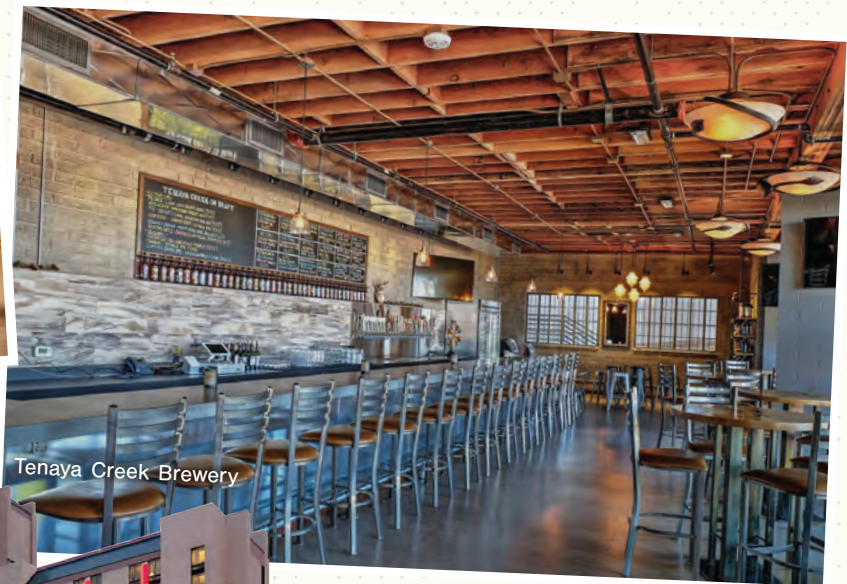
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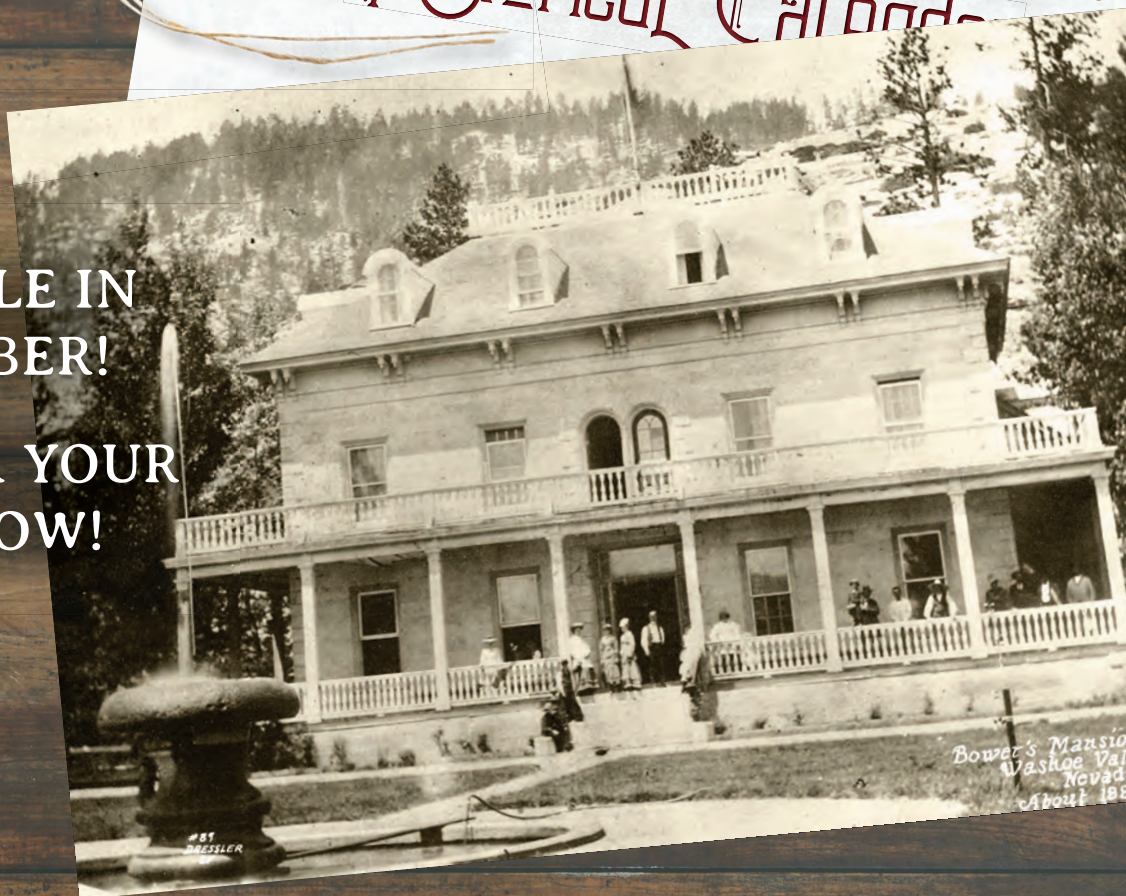
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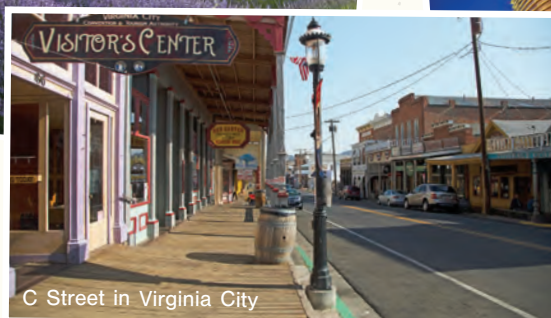
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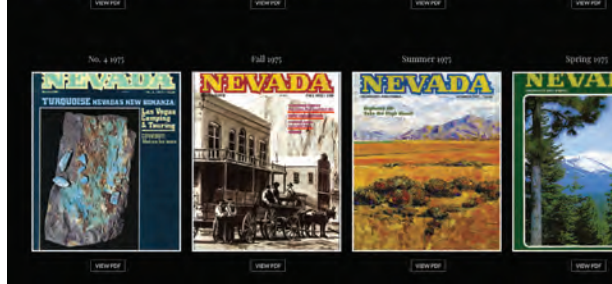
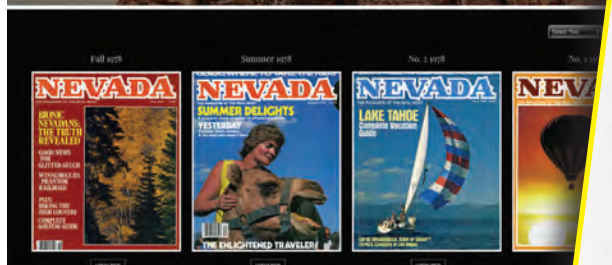
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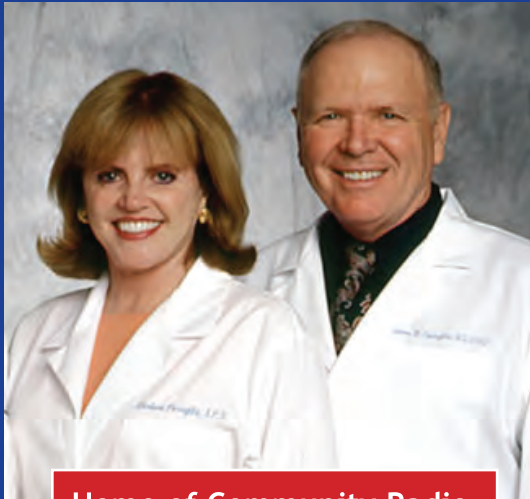
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EVENTS & SHOWS

NATIONAL ATOMIC TESTING MUSEUM

PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO

THE ICONIC LAS VEGAS MUSEUM IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITH LIMITED HOURS, ENHANCED SAFETY.

In June, the National Atomic Testing Museum (NATM) reopened after 10 weeks of closure due to COVID-19 restrictions. The museum is offering small group tours (no more than 10 customers per group) on a pre-ticketed, reservation-only basis. A detailed schedule can be found online. The tours feature videos about the history of atomic testing in Nevada as well as host-guided tours of the museum by former atomic workers. The museum aims to welcome tourists returning to southern Nevada, as well as encourage residents to take advantage of the tailored museum experiences. NATM aims to focus on the significance of atomic testing in shaping the history of Nevada.

The museum is also launching a new landmark exhibit, "Trinity – The Day the World Changed," recognizing the 75th anniversary of the first U.S. atomic test. They're hosting a series of events, offering the public the opportunity to experience guided tours and presentations by noted historians.

All of the events are being planned in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and guidelines. The museum has implemented strict safety standards, including a state-of-the-art HVAC system, multiple disinfection sweeps daily, enhanced restroom cleaning, and hand-sanitizer stations.

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Amid current local and state regulations, the Adventuredome is committed to keeping its park clean, safe, and fun for employees and guests. Capacity is currently reduced on all rides and attractions to allow for appropriate social distancing. All employees are required to wear facemasks. Touchless hand sanitizers are also placed around the park and at each ticket booth, as cleaning teams are elevating normal routines of disinfecting all park elements.

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renolittletheater.org, 775-813-8900

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nps.gov/deva, 760-786-3200

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nps.gov/lake, 702-293-8990

STATE PARKS

Nevada State Parks

parks.nv.gov, 775-684-2770





Nevada State Prison in Carson City circa 1880

NEVADA STATE PRISON

HAUNTED NEVADA

The Nevada State Prison
in Carson City has a
hauntingly extensive history.

BY MEGG MUELLER AND ERIC CACHINERO



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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

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

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



Warm Springs circa 1860

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

A HISTORICAL LOOK

The phrase “if these walls could talk” is bandied about to convey that a room or structure had likely housed many conversations and situations that had been forgotten in the shadows of time. Nowhere could this be truer than the Nevada State Prison in Carson City. The stories that remain from the venerable institution are enough to fill 10 libraries, and consider this: those are just the ones we know about.

For 150 years—starting before Nevada was even a state—the prison played a significant role in the history of Nevada. Not only did it protect the state’s residents, but it influenced the architecture, and was home to a long list of historically significant, albeit not always pleasant, events.

In December 1861, Nevada’s first territorial legislature met at Abraham Curry’s Warm Springs Hotel in Carson City and authorized the creation of the board of prison commissioners. Not wasting any time, the board leased property adjacent to Curry’s hotel on Jan. 1, 1862, for the new prison and Curry was appointed the first territorial warden.

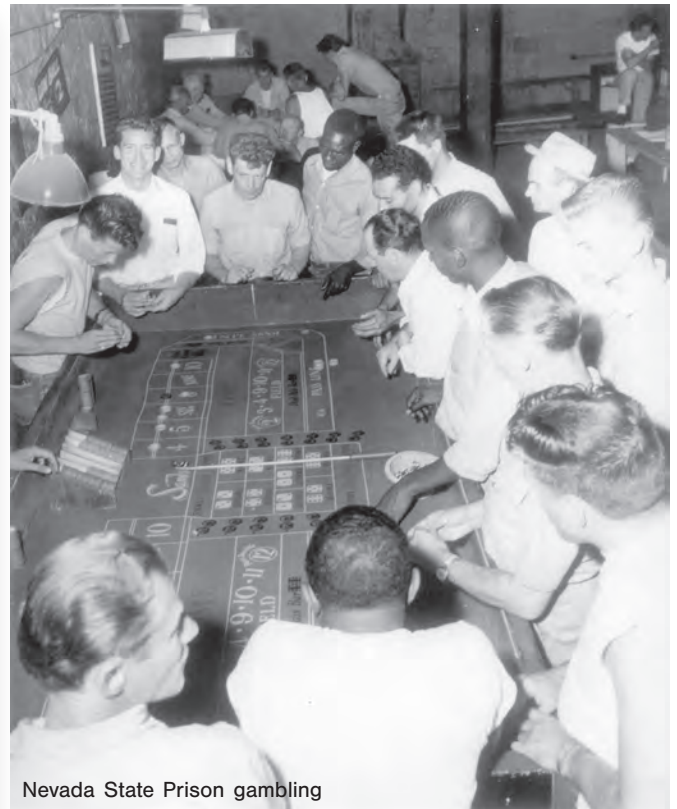
Twice—in 1867 and 1870—the prison burned down and was eventually replaced by some of the sandstone buildings still standing today. The sandstone came from the prison’s own quarry and ended up being

used in some of the area’s most prestigious buildings, including the Capitol and the Carson City Mint. The quarry turned out to be home to many fossils and fossilized tracks that were revealed as the sandstone was cut away. Mammoth, bison, horse, deer, wolf, and big tooth cat tracks all were found, as were those of a giant sloth that, for a time, were said to be the footprints of giant men.

The prison had its share of sensational events, including a mass escape of 29 prisoners in 1871, and the odd events surrounding Lieutenant Governor Frank Denver, who in 1873, refused to relinquish the position of warden until the Governor called out the militia. It took 60 soldiers and some artillery to convince him to open the prison gates to the new warden.

The prison also was home to the only penal casino known in the U.S. From 1932 to 1967, inmates were allowed to gamble at table games, even spawning a currency coined by the prison. Brass coins of \$1, \$5, half-dollars, quarters, dimes, and nickels were made and used until the prison shut down.

Executions were a part of the prison’s history, with the first one occurring on Sept. 8, 1905, and the first and only inmate to be executed by firing squad died in 1910. The first person executed in a gas chamber happened at the prison in 1924, although it took two



Perhaps as an adjunct to the gambling, the Nevada State Prison coined its own money. The money took the form of brass coins in various denominations.



grisly attempts to get the new method to work. Lethal injection became the standard in 1985 until Nevada's last execution in 2006. The prison housed Nevada's only execution chamber until the Ely State Prison's opened in 2016.

On May 12, 2012, the prison closed, but today, work is underway to make this landmark a historical destination where the past will be interpreted through exhibits, tours, and lectures. The Nevada State Prison Preservation Society is the nonprofit organization leading the effort and working to ready the building for visitors, hopefully in 2020. —Megg Mueller

A SPECTRAL LOOK

In June, Megg and I visited the historic Nevada State Prison for a tour. Having driven past the building hundreds of times but never having entered, I was looking forward to seeing it from the inside. The prison has been the subject of many a haunting story over the years, and was even the subject of the Travel Channel paranormal investigative show "Ghost Adventures" in 2016. We were joined on the tour by Nevada State Prison Preservation Society Vice President Maurice White, former Nevada State Prison Corrections Officer Dennis Williams, and Paranormal Investigator Susan Bernard.

When viewed through a historical lens, the prison is fascinating. So many inmates and so much history happened inside the walls. When viewed through a haunted lens, though, the prison takes on a much more sinister feel.

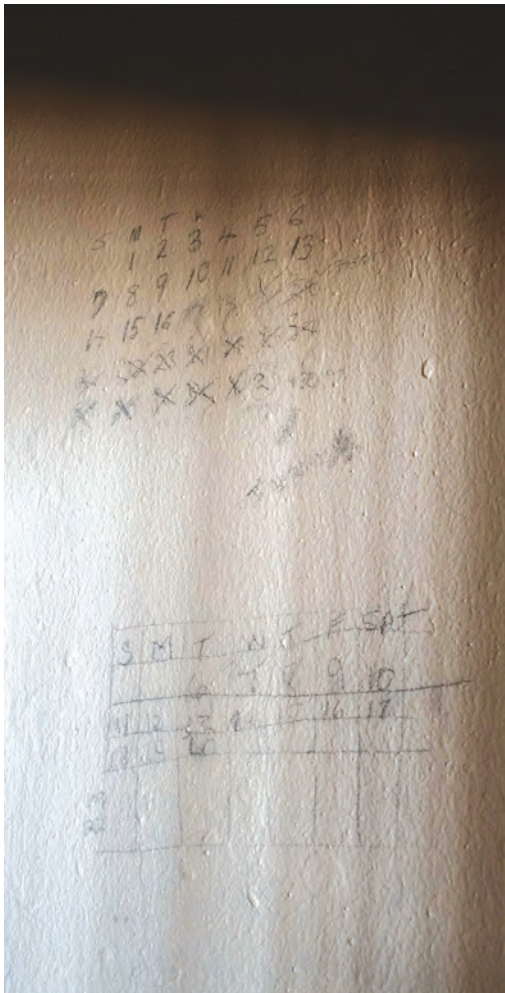
Our tour starts with a brief look at the exterior of the building before heading inside. In the main courtyard, one can only imagine what living inside the walls must have felt like. The uniform sandstone blocks and concrete that compose much of the courtyard look strange when paired with the natural stone walls and crude caves that are intermixed. Barbed wire and metal bars cover most surfaces. Basketball hoops and barbells still line the yard, as does the chipping concrete foundation that once housed the prison's onsite casino. Everything looks eerily bleak.

Once inside, this dullness is briefly offset—though only on the surface. In the visiting room—designed to make children and family members feel comfortable while visiting inmates—is a violently vibrant mural featuring familiar cartoon characters, which we're told was painted by one of the most notorious serial killers in Nevada's history.

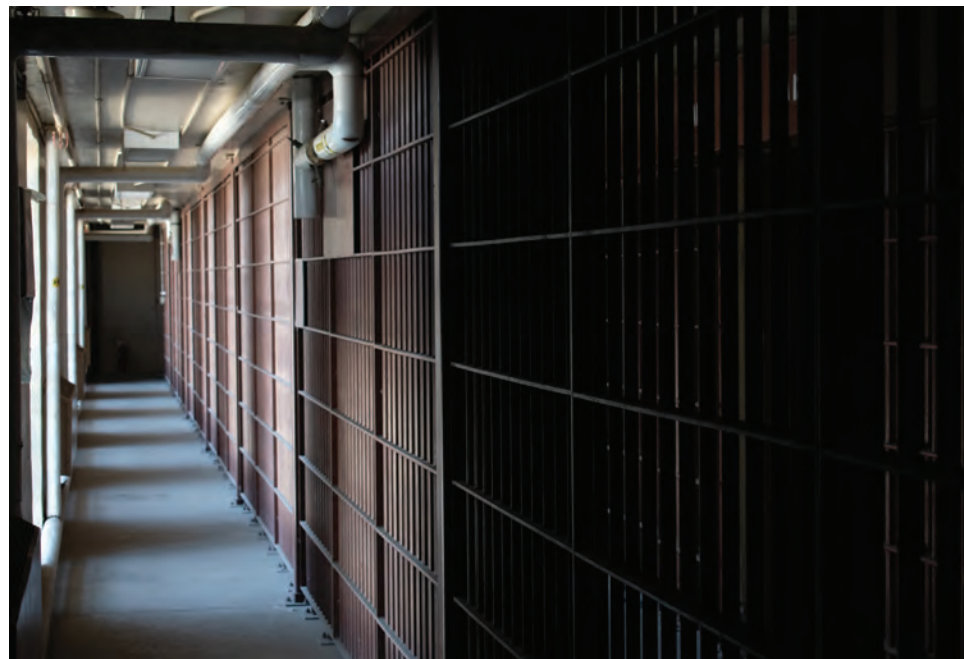
From there we tour the cells blocks, which still bear the scratchings of inmates on the walls—some written in pencil counting down the days, some scratched in the walls reminiscing on old lovers, some with messages to religious figures written in toothpaste. The sun makes a mediocre attempt to penetrate the opaque windows and find its way into the cells, though most have an eerie darkness to them.

After the cell blocks, we travel to the most surreal part of the tour: the gas chamber. From 1924-1979, more than 30 death-row inmates were executed using lethal gas in the on-site gas chamber, and dozens more

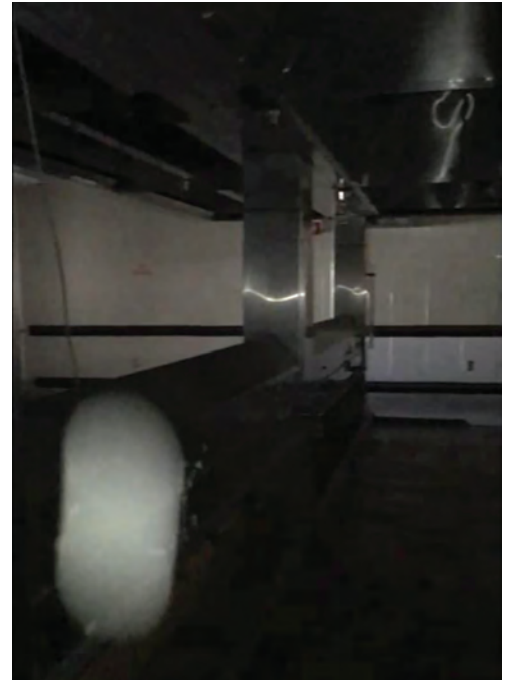




MEGG MUELLER



PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO



These photos appear to show what paranormal investigators refer to as orbs. Some sources claim that orbs are evidence of the paranormal.




PHOTOS: SUSAN BERNARD

using lethal injection. Prior to the first execution by lethal gas (the first facility in the country to do so), the preferred method was hanging.

The room truly looks like something out of “The Twilight Zone.” A solitary mattress covered in leather restraints sits idly in a bowl-shaped room, complete with observation windows that are eerily reminiscent to a fishbowl. One can only imagine what those last moments must have felt like.


Our tour concludes with a visit to the cafeteria, which gives off a similarly eerie vibe. Before leaving, we’re strongly cautioned by our tour guides to confidently tell any lingering ghosts to stay at the prison and not follow us home.

Upon later reviewing my audio recordings from inside the prison, I caught something interesting. During one segment, as our voices echoed from the concrete walls, there seemed to be an additional gravelly voice—not belonging to anyone on our tour—that says, “Get out of here.”

The audio is posted along with this story at nevadamagazine.com/haunted. Take a listen for yourself and let us know what you think. —*Eric Cachinero* 

PAY A VISIT

Get in touch with the Nevada State Prison Preservation Society to see how you can learn about their efforts, find out about coming tours, and more. Visit nevadastateprison.org.






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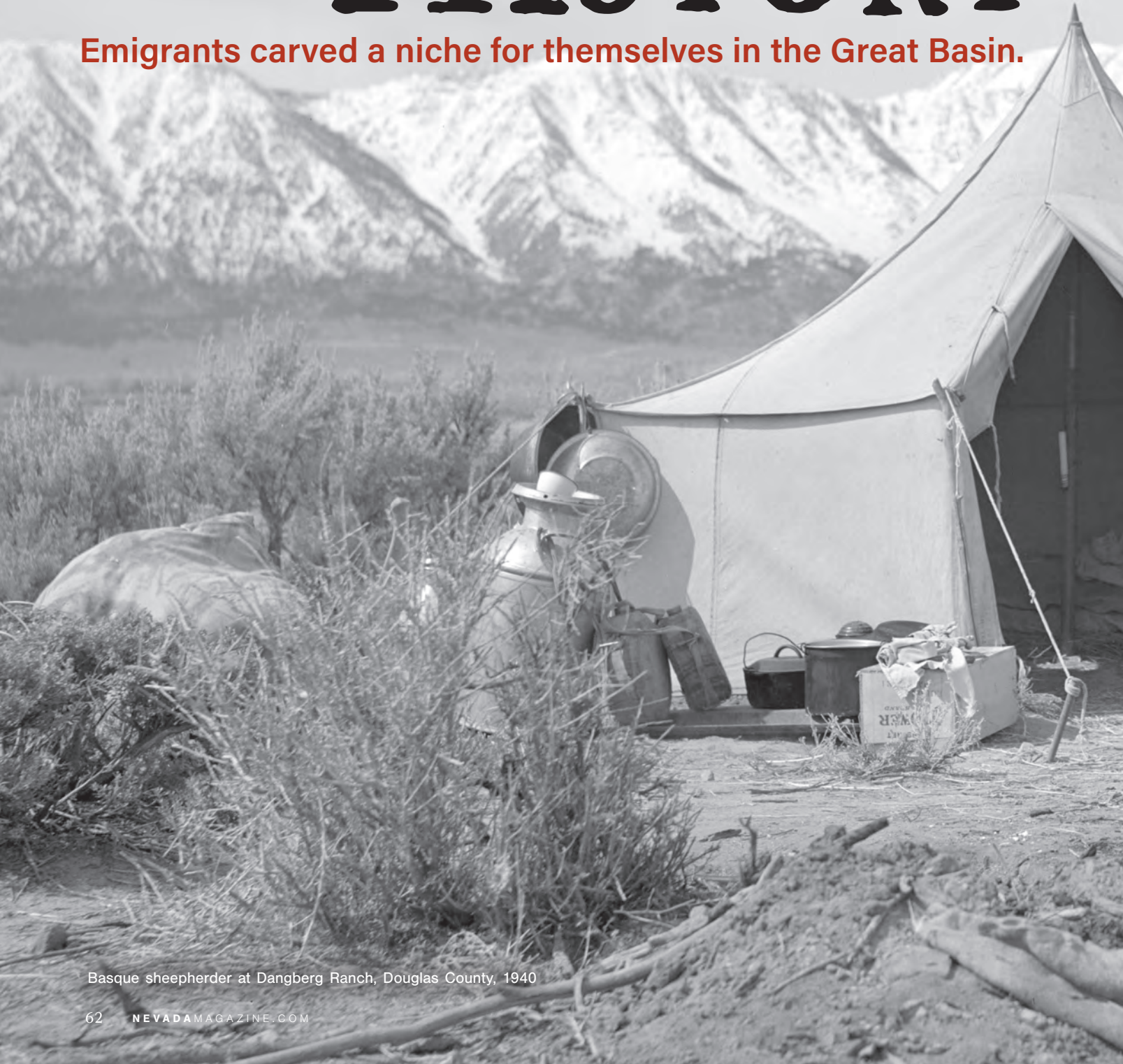
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NEVADA'S BASQUE HISTORY

Emigrants carved a niche for themselves in the Great Basin.



Basque sheepherder at Dangberg Ranch, Douglas County, 1940

BY DAVID MCCORMICK

When the Basques emigrated from their enclaves in Europe to Nevada, they traded a mild and damp climate for the extremes of the arid summers and snowy winters that they encountered in the Great Basin. But what drew the Basques to this landscape so foreign from their own? Gold!

Many found themselves in Nevada via the California gold rush. Some came directly from Basque regions in Spain and France, while others who had fled to Argentina to escape civil war in Spain in the 1830s made the trek north when the news of the gold discovery reached them in 1848. Like many, they found the gold was elusive and had to look to other means to make their fortunes. Those that came up from South America often had experience in handling livestock and set up operations in California's Central Valley. These close-knit groups of family and friends found financial success.





Bakarra Basque Bistro in Winnemucca

SEAN GALLIAN

OPPORTUNITY ON THE HORIZON

News of the discovery of silver on The Comstock in 1859 drew many from California to Nevada. By the 1860s, many of the Basques moved their ranch operations eastward. California's burgeoning population drove land prices higher and pushed livestock operations to more undervalued lands.

These new livestock outfits drew more Basques to the expanse of Nevada's Great Basin. Jean Garat, the Arranbide brothers, and the Altube brothers were three names among many Basques whose ranching operations flourished in the high-desert grazing lands. Starting in 1871, the Altubes began moving operations into Nevada's western Elko County. Other ranching outfits would follow, making Elko County the nucleus of livestock operations.

The Altubes' large livestock venture—the Spanish Ranch—as well as other sheep operations drew a large number of Basque immigrants from the old country that settled into the region. From this large labor pool, the sheep-raising industry drew workers. Starting in 1890, a large wave of Basques—as part of a larger influx of immigrants from southern and Eastern Europe—arrived in Nevada. But what would drive so many Basques, at the twilight of the 19th century, from their homelands seeking a new life in America? Not gold and silver as in the previous generation. Political and economic turmoil seemed to be the driving catalysts and the offer of steady employment in sheepherding in Nevada, among kindred spirits, was a big draw.

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“DESPITE TRYING CIRCUMSTANCES, MANY BASQUE SHEEPHERDERS MADE A GOOD LIVING.”

SEA TO SAGE

The journey was an arduous one, beginning with the week-long sea voyage, most likely in steerage, from a European port city such as Bordeaux. This was followed by a trip, just a day shy of a week, aboard a train to reach Nevada. These newcomers were most likely illiterate and had little or no knowledge of handling sheep; it was definitely on-the-job training. It was a lonely vigil for those unaccustomed to the hard life of a sheepherder. When taking a little respite away from his domicile in the high desert, the sheepherder sometimes let off steam that was reminiscent of cowboys at a cattle drive who got drunk and shot up the town. And it was not unheard of for sheepherders to get into a fracas over grazing rights that sometimes turned deadly.

Oftentimes, when new arrivals got on their feet financially, they might take lambs in place of wages to start their own small flocks. Their sheep would intermingle with their employer's herd, which was a win-win for all. The employer could be assured the sheepherder would pay extra special attention to the entire flock, to protect his new investment. Sometimes this would progress into something larger; small sheep holders would band together and purchase property. During the 1890s, many Basques charted that course to financial success, which bolstered the Basque community's bonds to the sheep industry in Nevada.



Basque sheepherder in central Nevada

LYNN STARNES



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The Martin Hotel, Winnemucca

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Picon Punch with wine and bread, J.T. Basque Bar and Restaurant in Gardnerville

KIPPY S. SPILKER

NEVADA RAPPORT

One such Basque success story was that of Charles Garteiz. He arrived in Nevada during the 1890s and settled in Humboldt County. At only 14-years old he found work as a ranch hand. Shortly thereafter, he established a business with his two brothers Frank and Pete. They had learned their lessons well from the generation previous to theirs, investing in livestock, in land, and in equipment needed to successfully operate their sheep holdings. One thing they never lost sight of was the old country “pipe-line” from which they drew their Basque laborers. Success carried them into the 1920s, when they purchased property at Bill Creek—located close to Winnemucca—and another nearby parcel. By this time, the Basques had fused themselves into a solid community within Nevada. Their strong business ventures, water holdings, farms, and mer-

cantile businesses—which led to a positive fiscal status within their own group—also garnered them acceptance from non-Basque neighbors. Even those who didn’t hold land, while on a lower financial rung, were accepted as solid upright citizens.

Basque immigrants in Nevada fared better than their Italian brethren, who immigrated to America’s southern states, and were caught up in the illegal peonage system. Part of the reason was that the Italians from southern Italy were looked down on as an inferior race. But with the Basques of Nevada, their success in the sheep industry earned them a higher status. Along with the status came the erroneous assessment that they were culturally suited to be sheepherders; even though many Basques arriving in Nevada had little knowledge of sheepherding.



Jarbidge Highlands, site of historic Basque Goicoechea family sheep camp



Traditional handmade bread oven

PHOTOS: SUSANNE REESE



Tree believed to be carved by Dominique Paul Laxalt, father of Governor Paul Laxalt



Basque tree carvings in Spooner aspen grove

PHOTOS: MARTIN GALLERY

TRADITION FADED, NOT FORGOTTEN

Looking from the outside in, sheepherding and Basques in Nevada go hand-in-hand. But for the Basque immigrant life wasn't that simple. First, he had to overcome a language barrier, as well as homesickness. He then had to learn a completely foreign skill—herding sheep—under strenuous circumstances. To gain a sense of the breadth of Basque-livestock operations in the Great Basin, one has only to examine the results of the 1907 liquidation sale of the Altube properties: there were 20,000 cattle, 2,000 horses, and 20,000 sheep. Land controlled by the company consisted of 400,000 acres with 6,000 in meadows and 40,000 acres fenced.

Both World War I and World War II affected the Nevada sheep industry. Manpower was in short supply as many American Basques served in both wars. During these

times, sheep operations had expanded to the point where the conduit that supplied Basques from the old country could not keep up with the need. Another event that affected manpower was the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s. During that upheaval, many Basques fled to Mexico and Latin America. In 1944, the shortage of Basque sheepherders was so great, two of Elko County's sheep men—D.A. Hughes and Pete Aloio—traveled by plane to Mexico to scare up sorely needed sheepherders. World War II marked the last major Basque migration to America, and by the time the 1970s rolled around, the sheep industry had diminished to a mere specter of its past glory days.

Even with the sheep industry past its prime, the influence of Basque culture in Nevada is as strong as ever due to the determination of a culture that flourished so far away from home. ▀



Elko Basque Festival



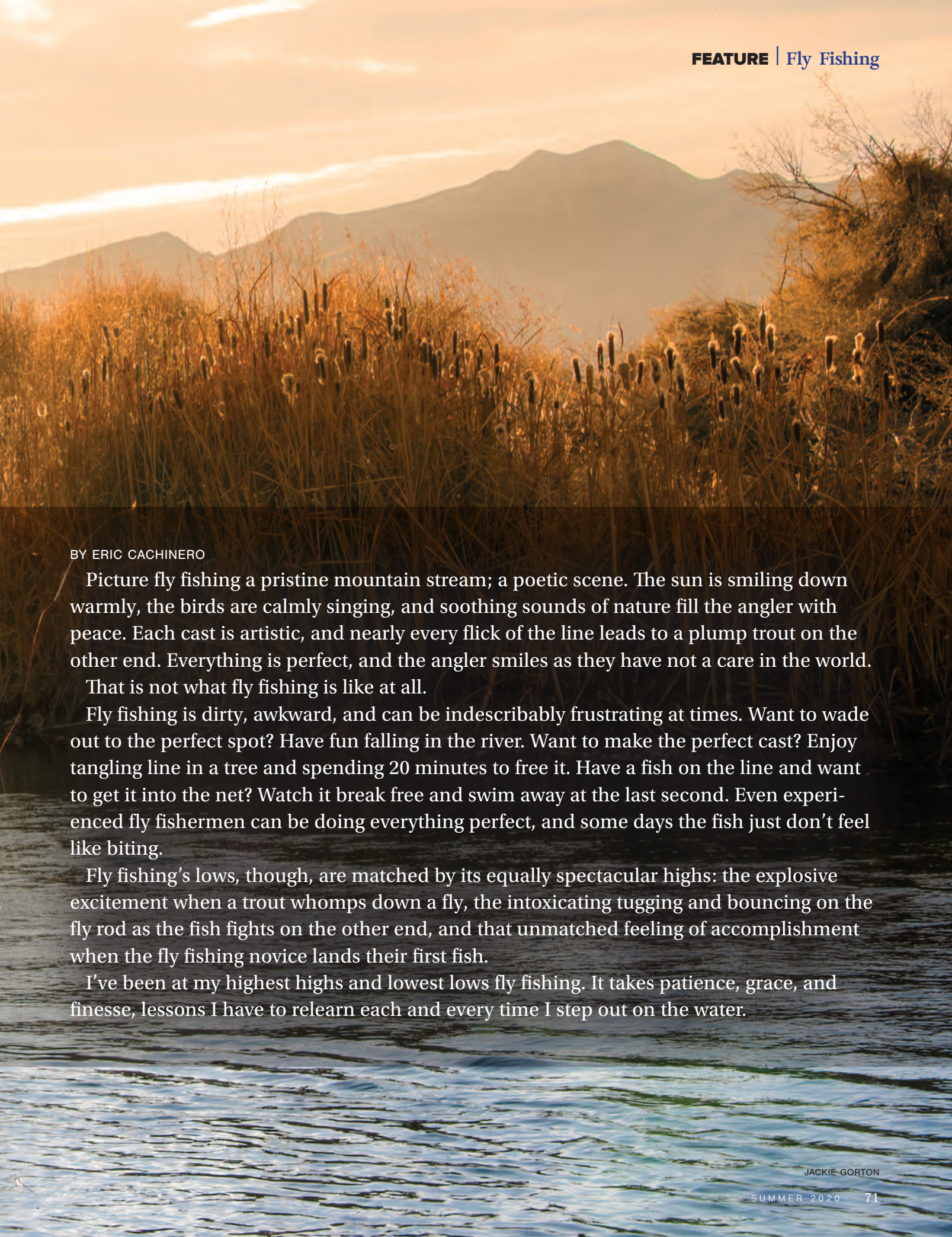
Elko Basque mural

PHOTOS: SUSANNE REESE

Freedom Fishing

Fly fishing adds an element of excitement to an already-exhilarating art.

East Walker River



BY ERIC CACHINERO

Picture fly fishing a pristine mountain stream; a poetic scene. The sun is smiling down warmly, the birds are calmly singing, and soothing sounds of nature fill the angler with peace. Each cast is artistic, and nearly every flick of the line leads to a plump trout on the other end. Everything is perfect, and the angler smiles as they have not a care in the world.

That is not what fly fishing is like at all.

Fly fishing is dirty, awkward, and can be indescribably frustrating at times. Want to wade out to the perfect spot? Have fun falling in the river. Want to make the perfect cast? Enjoy tangling line in a tree and spending 20 minutes to free it. Have a fish on the line and want to get it into the net? Watch it break free and swim away at the last second. Even experienced fly fishermen can be doing everything perfect, and some days the fish just don't feel like biting.

Fly fishing's lows, though, are matched by its equally spectacular highs: the explosive excitement when a trout whomps down a fly, the intoxicating tugging and bouncing on the fly rod as the fish fights on the other end, and that unmatched feeling of accomplishment when the fly fishing novice lands their first fish.

I've been at my highest highs and lowest lows fly fishing. It takes patience, grace, and finesse, lessons I have to relearn each and every time I step out on the water.

WHY FLY?

There's no denying the fact that both bait and lure fishermen consistently catch fish using their tried-and-true methods. Fly fishing is no better or worse—it's just different. At its core, fly fishing replaces the bait or lure with an artificial fly—typically designed to mimic insects in all stages of life, which fish consume as a regular part of their diet. There are two main types of fly fishing: dry and wet.

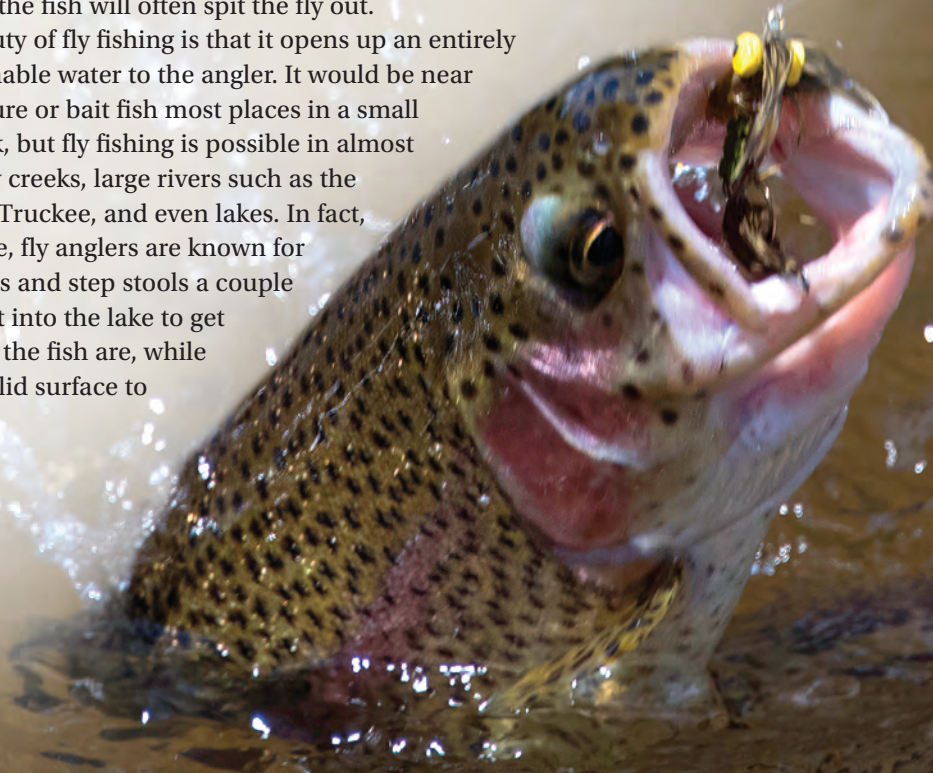
In dry fly fishing, the fly floats on top of the water, mimicking a winged insect that has landed or become trapped on the surface of the water. The angler casts their line across the water, with the fly floating, and if everything goes according to plan, the fish will rise to the surface and swallow the fly. The angler then sets the hook by giving a gentle tug (or giant yank for excited novices) on the fly rod, and it's time to start landing the fish.

In wet fly fishing, the flies are referred to as emergers, nymphs, and streamers, and are designed to mimic insects that are in the larvae stage of life or other aquatic life (minnows, crawdads, worms). These wet flies are fished below the surface, and fish go after them as they bounce along the bottom of a stream, or as they rise (emerge) from the creek bed to the surface.

In addition to the difference between lures and flies comes a difference in terminology. Don't ever let a fly-fishing purist catch someone calling it fishing pole—it's a fishing rod. Reels are still reels, but bobbers are called strike indicators.

The main difference between bait fishing and fly fishing is that fly fishing requires much more active participation. It's not as simple as tying on a worm, casting it out, and waiting for the bobber to bounce. The angler is constantly working to place the fly in the perfect spot in the stream, where they believe the fish to be. They have to keep an eagle eye on the fly as it makes its way along the top of the stream and through the ripples, threatening to disappear below the surface at any moment. They wait for a small anomaly in the water's surface—or sometimes a large splash—to alert them to the fact that a fish has taken the fly, and the angler must set the hook immediately. Believe it or not, fish are sometimes smart enough to know when they have swallowed a fake fly, and if the angler does not set the hook via a gentle tug on the rod, the fish will often spit the fly out.

Another beauty of fly fishing is that it opens up an entirely new type of fishable water to the angler. It would be near impossible to lure or bait fish most places in a small mountain creek, but fly fishing is possible in almost any water—tiny creeks, large rivers such as the Humboldt and Truckee, and even lakes. In fact, at Pyramid Lake, fly anglers are known for bringing ladders and step stools a couple dozen yards out into the lake to get closer to where the fish are, while still having a solid surface to stand on.



JACKIE GORTON

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PLENTY OF FISH IN THE STATE

For the driest state in the U.S., Nevada's fly-fishing opportunities are surprisingly numerous. Some of the best fly-fishing spots in the state are highly secretive, though the average angler doesn't need to travel to some exclusive backcountry stream to catch whoppers. The following locations provide access to anglers across the state:

NORTH

1. Martin Creek

Located alongside the Santa Rosa Mountain Range near Paradise Valley is the 48-mile Martin Creek. The creek holds brown trout, brook trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, and bowcutt (rainbow-cutthroat hybrid) trout, and offers seasonal fishing dependent on snow-pack. Nymph and dry flies mimicking local insects are a good bet.

2. Jarbidge River

The remote Jarbidge River is special because it is home to three of Nevada's native fish: bull trout, redband trout, and mountain whitefish. According to the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), "Prior to the construction of numerous downstream dams in Idaho and Oregon, the Jarbidge River in Nevada was home to chinook salmon and



steelhead that made incredible journeys from the Pacific Ocean.” The river is sometimes shallow in spots, and fishing with dry flies generally affords good success.

SOUTH

3. Sunset Park Pond

Located in the heart of Las Vegas, Sunset Park Pond offers a host of recreational activities, fishing included. The

pond offers 14 surface acres and has a maximum depth of 12 feet. Fishable species include rainbow trout, channel catfish, bluegill, redear sunfish, black crappie, and largemouth bass. Fly fishermen report success with emergers.

4. Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area

Southern Nevada offers river fishing, too. The Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area is Nevada’s southernmost state park and offers a vast swath of fishable



Jillian Cachinero fly fishing Carson River

ERIC CACHINERO

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FEATURE | Fly Fishing

shoreline. Species include striped bass, small and largemouth bass, channel catfish, rainbow trout, bluegill, and redear sunfish. Give nymphs a try or stick to surface fishing.

EAST

5. Echo Canyon State Park

Echo Canyon State Park is located in Lincoln County, about 20 minutes east of Pioche. The reservoir was created in 1969 and offers boat and shore fishing at the mouth of the scenic Echo Canyon. Gamefish include rainbow trout, brown trout, white crappie, largemouth bass, and black bullhead. A relatively vegetation-free shoreline allows shore fishermen an opportunity to increase their back-casting distance. Dry flies may bring luck when fished from shore or from floating intertube.

6. Beaver Dam State Park

This eastern Nevada treasure offers a host of small-stream fishing opportunities. The waters are stocked with rainbow trout, and because the streams are so small, the fish are skittish when they see an angler.

Try sneaking up on the small streams and bouncing a dry fly along the surface of the water.

WEST

7. Walker River State Recreation Area

The east fork of the Walker River is one of the best fly-fishing rivers in the state. It flows from the Nevada-California border and winds its way east and north before connecting with the west fork. Much of the river is now located within the Walker River State Recreation Area, Nevada's newest state park. Rainbow trout, brown trout, and mountain whitefish spawn in the river, and can be fished with all different fly-fishing methods. The Elbow—a popular fishing spot located within the park—is a great place to try.

8. Squaw Creek Reservoir

Located northwest of Gerlach, Squaw Creek Reservoir is a popular destination for anglers of all methods. The gamefish selection is vast, including largemouth bass, green sunfish, bullhead, channel catfish, rainbow trout, brown trout, and bowcutt trout. Float tubes are a popular method for fishing the reservoir. Dry flies work well.



Lamoille Creek, Ruby Mountains

JEFF ERICKSON



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THE ANGLER'S ART

The aforementioned fishing locations barely begin to scratch the surface of Nevada's fishable waters. NDOW claims there are some 600 rivers and streams spread across the state. With such a large offering of fishing locations and relatively scant equipment (rod, reel, line, flies, and license) required, anyone can give fly fishing a shot.

Just don't forget to practice patience, and never forget the one saying that all anglers across the globe universally agree upon:

"The worst day fishing is always better than the best day working." ▀



Wild Horse Reservoir



Lamoille Canyon

PHOTOS: ANTHONY MONTOYA

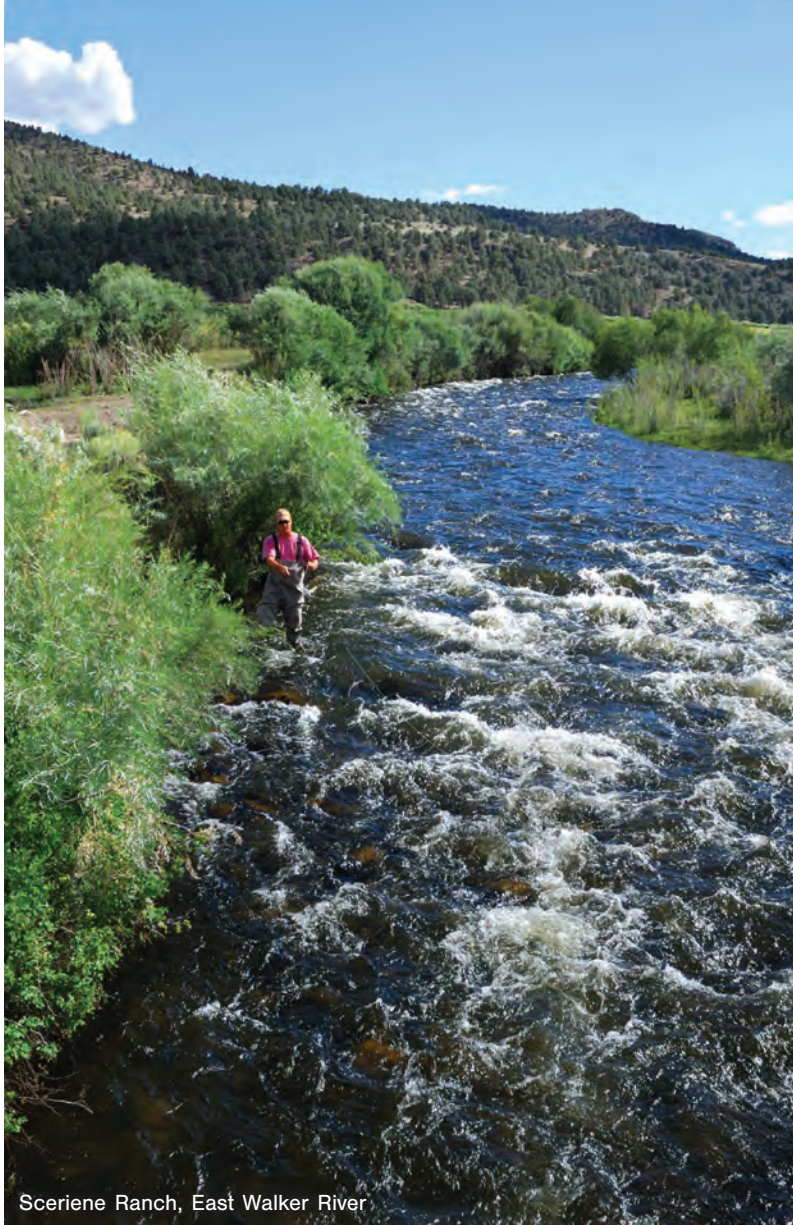


East Walker River

KIM STEED



Pyramid Lake



Sceriere Ranch, East Walker River

GREG VINCI

Native Fish-Slam Program

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) created the Native Fish-Slam Program to entice anglers to catch Nevada's native fish species.

These are the Lahontan cutthroat trout, Bonneville cutthroat trout, Yellowstone cutthroat trout, redband trout, bull trout, and mountain whitefish. Anglers must catch each respective fish, photograph themselves holding the fish, and submit an official completed form to NDOW, detailing where and when the fish was caught. Once completed and approved, NDOW sends the angler a certificate and a custom hat. Forms and details can be found at ndow.org/fish/angler_recognition/fish_slam.



DAVID N. BRAUN

Need to *Get Away?*

Nevada's state-park system holds the key to finding space for all your adventures.

BY MEGG MUELLER

The National Park Service was established in 1916 as a means to preserve natural and cultural resources. Nevada's first state park was established in 1935, and in little more than six decades, more than two dozen distinct parks—from a historic schoolhouse to prehistoric rock formations, glacial lakes to charcoal ovens—have been created. Whether the adventure is watersports, hiking, camping, or a history lesson, Nevada has it all.

BERLIN-ICHTHYOSAUR STATE PARK

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park takes center stage, and not just because it's the only state park in Nye County, but for the immensely important role it plays in Nevada history.

Established in 1957, the park is a hybrid; part ghost town, part ancient fossil grounds. Located 30 minutes from the town of Gabbs, the park is a bit remote but its view of the Ione Valley is majestic enough to make the drive.



Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park



- 1 Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park
- 2 Cathedral Gorge State Park
- 3 Echo Canyon State Park
- 4 Kershaw-Ryan State Park
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- 23 Washoe Lake State Park
- 24 Mormon Station State Historic Park

Nevada State Parks defines Berlin as “preserved in a state of arrested decay,” so the buildings are in exceedingly good shape. The Berlin Mill is the most impressive structure, and while you can’t go inside there’s plenty of ways to view the massive building that once housed a 30-stamp operation. Other structures include homes and shops.

Tours are self-guided and there are informative plaques at most buildings. Park rangers live onsite and there is a 14-site campground, along with a day-use and picnic area.

The park is also home to a collection of giant (up to 50 feet long) reptile fossils. The ichthyosaur (ICK-THEE-oh-sor) lived some 225 million years ago, and these marine reptiles were abundant in the ancient oceans that once covered central Nevada. The ichthyosaur was named Nevada’s state fossil in 1977. The park’s fossil house is built over one of the excavation sites and displays the remains of nine of the reptiles.

CATHEDRAL GORGE STATE PARK

The park was designated in 1935, but the volcanic structures date quite a bit earlier. It took tens of millions of years for the volcanic ash deposits to be created, then fractures in the bedrock took over and shaped the mountains and valleys. A lake formed, rains eroded the ash and pumice left from volcanic eruptions, and the debris washed into the lake. Over time, more faults occurred, the lake drained, and wind and rain took over to form the debris into the spires and buff-colored cliffs we see today.

Two hiking trails exist, and camping at Cathedral Gorge is first come, first served at the 22 sites. Two handicapped-accessible campsites are available as are restrooms and showers. A day-use area offers shade structures and picnic tables.

ECHO CANYON STATE PARK

Established after Echo Dam was built in 1970, the park has become a haven for water fun.



Echo Canyon State Park

MEGG MUELLER

The 65-acre reservoir teems with wildlife and tempts fishermen. Boating the reservoir is a beautiful way to explore the park, as is camping in any of the 33 sites, or the 20 full hook-up RV sites. If you’re not staying the night, grab one of the six picnic tables and barbecue grill sites by the water’s edge. A 2.5-mile hiking trail offers a great look at the area from the valley rim before it drops into the picturesque Ash Canyon.

KERSHAW-RYAN STATE PARK

Kershaw-Ryan State Park is a wildly dichotomous place. Located just south of Caliente, craggy hills loom above a canyon that leads to an incredibly verdant valley. Natural springs and weeps in the surrounding rock have created an unexpected oasis.



Kershaw-Ryan State Park

MATTHEW B. BROWN



Cathedral Gorge State Park

Today, the child's wading pool, picnic areas, and a beautiful wedding location draw in day visitors. Campers can pick from 15 sites, and hikers can head to the back country on the 1.5-mile Overlook Trail.

ELGIN SCHOOLHOUSE STATE HISTORIC PARK



Elgin Schoolhouse

ERIC CACHINERO

Nestled in Rainbow Canyon some 20 miles south of Kershaw-Ryan is the Elgin Schoolhouse State Historic Park. A one-room schoolhouse accommodated first-through-eighth

grades from 1922 to 1967. Open only by appointment, the nearly 100-year-old building served the ranching families of the lower Rainbow Valley, and many original items can be seen.

SPRING VALLEY STATE PARK



Spring Valley State Park

MATTHEW B. BROWN

The 65-acre Eagle Valley Reservoir at Spring Valley State Park is teeming with activity during the summer. Boating and swimming are popular, and fishermen are in abundance. Wait, they do that in winter, too. Ice fishing is big at

the lake when it freezes over. Regardless the time of year, hiking on the trail around the reservoir is a great way to take in the valley that has attracted man since 5500 B.C. Mormon pioneers arrived about 1864 and some of their homes, including a stone cabin, still exist in the park.

BEAVER DAM STATE PARK

Beaver Dam State Park was designated in 1935, and is also the most remote park in eastern Nevada.

Structures built by the park's namesake can often be seen, in addition to so much wildlife the park has been designated a Watchable Wildlife Area. Camping and hiking are seriously advised; if you're going to take the trouble to get here, stay a while and experience one of the many trails.

SOUTH FORK STATE RECREATION AREA

The South Fork Valley, rich with vegetation and a consistent supply of water from the Upper Humboldt River, lured settlers in

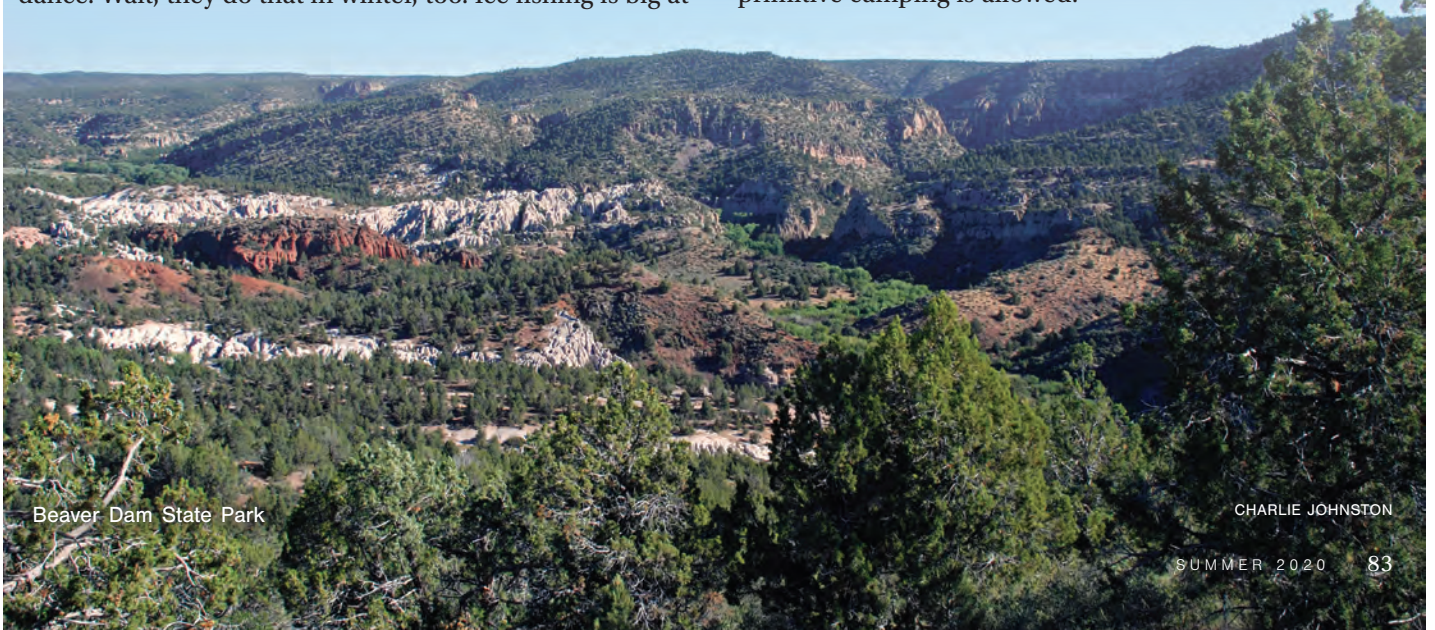


South Fork State Recreation Area

MEGG MUELLER

1867. Located about 18 miles south of Elko, the setting is as picturesque as you'll find. And thanks to the establishment of the South Fork State Park in 1983, and the creation of the South Fork Dam in 1988, the valley now has a massive, 1650-acre reservoir chock full of fish and beckoning water sports enthusiasts.

By boat or along the ample shores, fishermen flock to the reservoir in all seasons. The abundant wildlife draws hunters in-season, and wildlife enthusiasts year-round. Camping is available at a 25-site campground—complete with restroom and showers—or along the southwest shore, primitive camping is allowed.



Beaver Dam State Park

CHARLIE JOHNSTON



Wild Horse State Recreation Area

MEGG MUELLER

WILD HORSE STATE RECREATION AREA

About 89 miles north of South Fork sits Wild Horse State Recreation Area, home to another giant reservoir.

As popular in winter—despite frigid temps, or because of them—as it is in the summer, Wild Horse is ripe with wildlife. There is no hunting in the park, but the 34 campsites are a favorite basecamp. There are pull-through sites for large RVs, but no hookups.

Spring and fall offer the best chances for catching fish. Diehard ice fishermen flock to Wild Horse in the winter when fish are still plentiful but temperatures have been

known to get to 20-below zero (and lower). Snowmobiling, skiing, ice skating, and sledding are other winter activities here.

CAVE LAKE STATE PARK



Cave Lake State Park

ERIC CACHINERO

It may be a small lake, but Cave Lake State Park has big fun. The reservoir is 32 acres, but it packs in boating, fishing, swimming in the warmer months, and hosts ice fishing and ice skating in the winter, along with some wacky events.

WARD CHARCOAL OVENS STATE HISTORIC PARK

On U.S. 50, about 30 miles east of Ely and tucked back in the Egan Mountains is Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park. As you approach from the access road, six massive beehive-shaped charcoal ovens peek over the hills, and you know you're in for a different state park experience. The ovens date back to 1876, when they were used to turn pinyon pine and juniper into charcoal, which was crucial to the smelters used in ore processing for the nearby Ward Mining District.



Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park

WALKER RIVER STATE RECREATION AREA



Walker River State Recreation Area

RICHARD MASSEY

Nevada's newest state park—Walker River State Recreation Area—is home to the usual assortment of scenic splendor, recreational activities, and abundant wildlife. At more than 12,000 acres, it is Nevada's fourth largest state park. The main entrance is at the Pitchfork Ranch, about 10 miles south of Yerington. From that point, it extends nearly 29 miles south along the East Walker River.

Park headquarters are at the Pitchfork complex, along with a visitor center and shaded picnic areas. A pond is used for kayak and water-safety training, and the park provides the equipment for the class. Kayakers with their own gear can take advantage of a 5-mile kayak run.

There are 16 dry campsites suitable for tents or RVs, each with a shaded table and fire pit. Both pull-through and back-in sites are available, and bathrooms and free shower facilities are available, as is a 7-mile wilderness trail.

DAYTON STATE PARK

Dayton State Park's 160 acres are situated in one of Nevada's oldest settlements. The park lives on both sides of Highway 50, and while it was once right on the Carson River,

the flood of 1997 shifted the river's banks to the east away from the park.

On the west side of Highway 50 you'll find the remains of Rock Point Mill, which was built in 1861 to process ore from the nearby Comstock Lode. The main park is on the east side of the highway, and you'll find 10 campsites that can accommodate 34-foot long RVs, a park area with group-use facilities, and two trails. One trail wanders the Carson River, the other goes under the highway to the mill ruins.

FORT CHURCHILL STATE HISTORIC PARK



Fort Churchill State Historic Park

MEGG MUELLER

Fort Churchill was built in 1860—Nevada's first military outpost—for settler protection and to guard the Pony Express riders. The fort was in use for nine years, after which it was abandoned and the buildings sold. In 1957 it became a state park, and now remains in a state of arrested decay. Whether camping in one of the 20 sites or visiting for the day, start your trip at the visitor's center and museum. Visitors can learn about the soldiers that called the fort home. A self-guided path (wide and well graded) wanders through the adobe structures and you can drive to two different access points, making the park friendly for those with limited mobility.



Dayton State Park

KIPPY S. SPILKER



Rye Patch State Recreation Area

MEGG MUELLER

RYE PATCH STATE RECREATION AREA

Rye Patch State Recreation Area is the sole state park in Pershing County, but this beauty can hold its own. Established in 1971, the focus of the park is the reservoir, which stretches 22 miles across the recreation area, and hosts a whopping 72 miles of shoreline. The park has two campgrounds with 47 sites and two day-use picnic areas. A boat launch on the west side supports the abundant fishing that is available year-round. Three short hiking trails showcase some of the shoreline beauty.

LAHONTAN STATE RECREATION AREA

Lahontan is one of northern Nevada's most popular places for boating and watersports, along with camping and day visits. There is just one developed campground, with on-beach camping allowed everywhere but the two

day-use spots and boat ramp area. Fishing is strictly catch-and-release, and hunting is allowed but

only in designated areas. The lake is practically surrounded by giant cottonwood trees, which provide sought-after shade and a nesting ground for bald eagles.



Lahontan State Recreation Area

KIPPY S. SPILKER

VALLEY OF FIRE STATE PARK

Nevada's oldest and largest state park, Valley of Fire State Park, was dedicated in 1935. Best known for its fantastic geological features, ancient petroglyphs, and extreme temperatures, the park easily hosts everyone from the most adventurous camper to the casual drive-through traveler. Located about 50 miles northeast of Las Vegas, the park has miles of trails, camping (tent and full RV hook-up), visitor center, and ADA campsites.

Look for Elephant Rock; the "bacon" wave; a wooden shack frame from the movie set for "The Professionals," Burt Lancaster's 1966 film; and abundant wildlife.

ICE AGE FOSSILS STATE PARK

Declared a park in January 2017, Ice Age Fossils State Park is set to protect and interpret 315 acres on the northern edge of Las Vegas and bordered by Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. The park is rich in fossils, human artifacts, and scientific discovery.

The park's visitor center, trails, and interpretive programming are set to open this summer.



Valley of Fire State Park



Spring Mountain Ranch State Park

ERIC CACHINERO

OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT STATE HISTORIC PARK



Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort

ERIC CACHINERO

Established as a state park in 1991, Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park straddles the line of downtown Las Vegas and North Las Vegas—seemingly plopped

ungraciously between government buildings, the freeway, and the Cashman Center. Mormon Fort is a hidden gem that begs discovery.

Special programs include history talks, craft sessions for kids, campfires, Dutch oven cook-off, and Pioneer Christmas. The fort was home to one of the city's most influential pioneers—Helen Stewart.

BIG BEND OF THE COLORADO STATE RECREATION AREA

Opened in 1996, Big Bend wanders along the shore of the Colorado River just south of Laughlin. The shoreline is dotted with covered shelters, picnic benches, horse-shoe pits, and sandy beaches. A 24-unit campground with mostly pull-through sites for RVs up to 60 feet is set back



Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area

MEGG MUELLER

from the water. The parking lot for beach access is huge, the concrete paths to the shelters are extremely wide, and the boat launch has two lanes. The park is ADA friendly; three campsites are reserved for those with permits, parking, and beach access points are accessible for most, with rubber mats occasionally snaking toward the water.

SPRING MOUNTAIN RANCH STATE PARK

A huge park just 15 miles west of Las Vegas is also a historic center. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park was established in the 1870s as prospectors discovered six bubbling springs on the land, as had Paiutes, just outside the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. The working ranch changed names a few times, and went through a host of owners—including Howard Hughes.

LAKE TAHOE NEVADA STATE PARK

The four areas—Sand Harbor, Van Sickle, Cave Rock, and Spooner Lake Backcountry—that make up the park cover much of the state's one-third of the lake, giving visitors ample access on the right side of the lake.

Sand Harbor State Park is Reno's closest access point to the crystal-blue waters. The day-use park is extremely popular thanks to its wide beach, ample parking, numerous restrooms, and accessible walkways. Summer days often see the parking lot fill to capacity, but a shuttle from Incline Village can still get you there.

Heading south, the next park is Spooner Lake. Spooner is a hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian paradise with more than 50 miles of trails, some of which connect to the Tahoe Rim Trail. Three walk-in campgrounds are available, and there are two backcountry cabins that can be reserved. Fish can be found in Spooner Lake, Marlette Lake, and Hobart Reservoir; each area has its own restrictions so be sure to check before you throw your line.

Further south is Cave Rock. A popular boat launch with 40 trailer parking spots, a rocky shoreline offers great fishing vantage points, a small beach area for swimming and launching kayaks and rafts, and three picnic areas with tables and barbecue pits are available year-round.

A bi-state park, Van Sickle is easily accessed from State-line and its casinos. A short drive puts you in the middle of the forest, far removed from the lights of the casino corridor. Equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers can connect to the Tahoe Rim Trail, or combine trails to fit their desired distance. Picnic areas and restrooms are available at the park.

WASHOE LAKE STATE PARK

Washoe Lake is located just minutes from Reno and Carson City. The area is a haven for waterfowl, even when the water isn't plentiful. From bald eagles to pelicans, the many hiking trails make for easy, wonderful bird watching all throughout the park. Anglers can catch catfish and Sacramento perch, among other species, and there are three boat launches for those ready to try their luck off the shoreline.



Spooner Lake Backcountry



Washoe Lake State Park

LAUREN ARENDS

Campers can choose from 49 dry sites, some with shade structures and some large enough for 45-foot RVs. There are five day-use areas and there are two equestrian facilities—one day use, one for camping.

MORMON STATION STATE HISTORIC PARK

Nevada's first permanent non-native settlement—Mormon Station—was built in 1851 as a trading post to capitalize on the settlers heading across the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The original post burned in 1910, but was rebuilt in 1947 and is now a museum with pioneer-era artifacts. A monument to John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson is in the park as a memorial to the intrepid pioneer who delivered mail from Genoa to Placerville, California, braving snow up to 50-feet deep.

Nestled in the picturesque Carson Valley and town of Genoa, the park is a lush place for weddings, parties, barbecues, and simple day picnics. A large group pavilion can be reserved for up to 300 people, and there are also eight picnic tables and grills. Paved walkways make visiting the park easy for all.

ROOM TO EXPLORE

Nevada's parks ebb and flow with the seasons and the water they receive, and it means they grow and change so one visit is never enough. There is no better reason to explore than just because the parks offer a chance to get outside, get away from it all, and discover your wildest dreams. ▀

Learn More

Before you visit, please contact Nevada State Parks for updated information on closures, restrictions, and requirements.

parks.nv.gov, 775-684-2770



Mormon Station State Historic Park

SANDI WHITTEKER



FROZEN TREATS

to Beat the
Desert Heat

Las Vegas boasts a sweet selection
of ice cream offerings.

BY CLAIRE WHITE

No two ways about it: summer in Las Vegas is brutal. Every Nevadan has little tips and tricks for staying cool during the hot summer months, but one of the tastiest ways to beat the heat is definitely with a frozen treat. In recent years, many southern Nevadans have begun to embrace different diets from organic to dairy-free, and the traditional ice cream parlor has needed to adapt with the times. With the “stay-at-home” directive put in place by Governor Steve Sisolak in March, many food service establishments had to make even more drastic changes in order to adhere to the directive and serve their customers. Here are three places in Las Vegas still serving frozen treats. From ice cream to frozen custard, sorbet to frozen yogurt, there is something for every palate.



PHOTOS: CLAIRE WHITE



SPOON-A-BOWL

SPOON-A-BOWL

Jonathan and Ashley Bradley love frozen yogurt. Before they started Spoon-a-Bowl, Jonathan says they used to visit another Henderson frozen yogurt shop too many times. The husband and wife duo met in college in Atlanta and came up with the idea for a frozen yogurt truck early in their relationship.

"We started with the name. We had an idea for ice cream or frozen yogurt," Jonathan says. They moved to Las Vegas from Atlanta, and when Jonathan was laid off in 2017, they saw the opportunity to live their dream. As Ashley put it, "We sold our house and started our business." The Bradley's are excited to share their love of frozen desserts with the community. "We are a family-owned business. We love Las Vegas, and Henderson specifically has embraced us," explains Jonathan.

In 2018, their food truck hit the road, and they began building a quality reputation. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, they had to make a few

immediate changes. The majority of their business previously was generated at events and schools. Before UNLV transitioned to online-only instruction in March, they had been selling frozen desserts to students on campus Monday through Thursday. For the first 30 days of the stay-at-home order, they transitioned to contactless home deliveries. From pints of lemon, pineapple, and passion-fruit frozen yogurt to root beer float packages, they were delivering smiles under their masks.

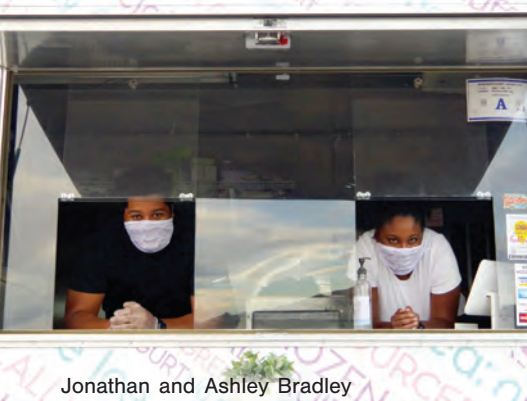
When Nevada began reopening in May, they started "Ice Cream Social Distancing" events at select locations around Henderson and the Las Vegas Valley. Ashley explains that it has been a fun opportunity to meet new customers out in the community.

"We know that people still want to have fun," and their truck provides an excuse to get out of the house safely. This summer they plan to taper back on delivery and return to doing events when possible, but they will continue to host Ice Cream Social Distancing around town.

Made with no artificial preservatives or sweeteners, their frozen yogurt is sweetened with honey and stevia and their ice cream uses raw sugar. Along with locally sourced dairy products and organic ingredients, their delicious treats are about as guilt free as possible. Some of their summer flavors that are sure to delight include peach frozen yogurt and cookies & cream. They also offer dairy-free options.

SPOON-A-BOWL

Various locations, Las Vegas
spoonabowl.com, 702-909-0334



Jonathan and Ashley Bradley



Angela Ortaliza and Valerie Stunning

CLAIRE WHITE



ANGELA ORTALIZA

PARADISE CITY CREAMERY

Founder Valerie Stunning started Paradise City Creamery because she was tired of the types of ice cream that were available in

the world. She cannot eat gluten or dairy, and she was looking for something that would satisfy her own tastes. Before starting Paradise City, she worked as a stripper and spent time in the restaurant industry. Both of these former careers are evident in the decadent experience of tasting Paradise City ice cream, which is 100-percent plant based and gluten free. Cones are crafted similarly to a craft cocktail: an ice cream flavor is paired with a specific cone and a unique topping, from hot pink sprinkles to candy-coated cherries. Valerie summed up the aesthetic as, “glitter-fying everything.”

Valerie fashioned the company as high-end ice cream cart meets event business. “With my background, I knew that I wanted to mix a lot of that sexiness into the experience,” Valerie explains.

When asked what she would want customers to know about her vision, Valerie reiterated her mission statement: “With each scoop we aim to be the pleasure we wish to see in the world.” Valerie is an activist for diverse communities.

This summer, Paradise City Creamery is scaling back its events, but is still working to fulfill customers’ desires. When the pandemic started to unfold, Valerie began thinking about how to scoop craft cocktail-style ice cream in a social-distanced setting. She had to ask herself: “How will it translate? How am I going to get the vision across?” She realized that she could put the same details into pints, and the cart is now selling to-go pints and cones.

To keep the experience fresh, Paradise City offers a seasonal menu. Each season they serve four flavors with sumptuous ingredients.

PARADISE CITY CREAMERY

Located at Garagiste Wine & Merchant
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LUV-IT FROZEN CUSTARD

LUV-IT FROZEN CUSTARD

Since 1973, Luv-It Frozen Custard has served sundaes, cones, shakes, and hard-packed custard to go. Dorothy Woods opened the walk-up shop in winter 1973 selling sandwiches, chili, and custard. Woods had worked at Leon's—a famous frozen custard spot in Milwaukee, Wisconsin—before moving to Las Vegas. Frozen custard differs from ice cream thanks to one key ingredient: egg yolks. In addition, there is no air whipped into frozen custard, which leads to a heavier, creamier consistency. Frozen custard is decadent and filling.

According to Brandon Tiedemann, fourth-generation owner and Woods' great grandson, the restaurant quickly decided to focus exclusively on frozen custard, “because it took so long to make the other stuff.” The abbreviated menu allowed the small shop to focus on its unique offering in Las Vegas, a choice that continues to pay off to this day. Brandon now owns the shop along with his mother Sharon and his sister Brittany.

During the state's “stay-at-home” order, Luv-It stayed busy. Brandon said some days the shop was twice as busy as usual, explaining that “there were a lot of people looking for something yummy, just looking around for something to do.” The Tiedemann family prepared for the pandemic and the lack of sit-down customers by packing more quarts to go and coordinating with online home delivery services including ChowNow, Postmates, and GrubHub. But the best way to order Luv-It frozen custard is the same as it has been for 47 years: using the walk-up window.

Each day, Luv-It serves a daily selection of two specialty flavors as well as vanilla and chocolate. The daily flavors of the month can be found on their website. Brandon said some of the most popular flavors are fresh banana nut, lemon, rocky road, mint chocolate chip, and cookies & cream. He personally loves the Western Sundae, which features hot fudge, caramel, and pecans, but he likes to customize it with extra pecans and the hot toppings on top—a modification he said customers can ask for when

they visit the window. For those who prefer a dairy-free alternative, Luv-It also serves pineapple Dole Whip. ▀

LUV-IT FROZEN CUSTARD

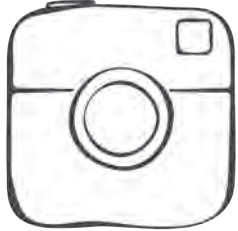
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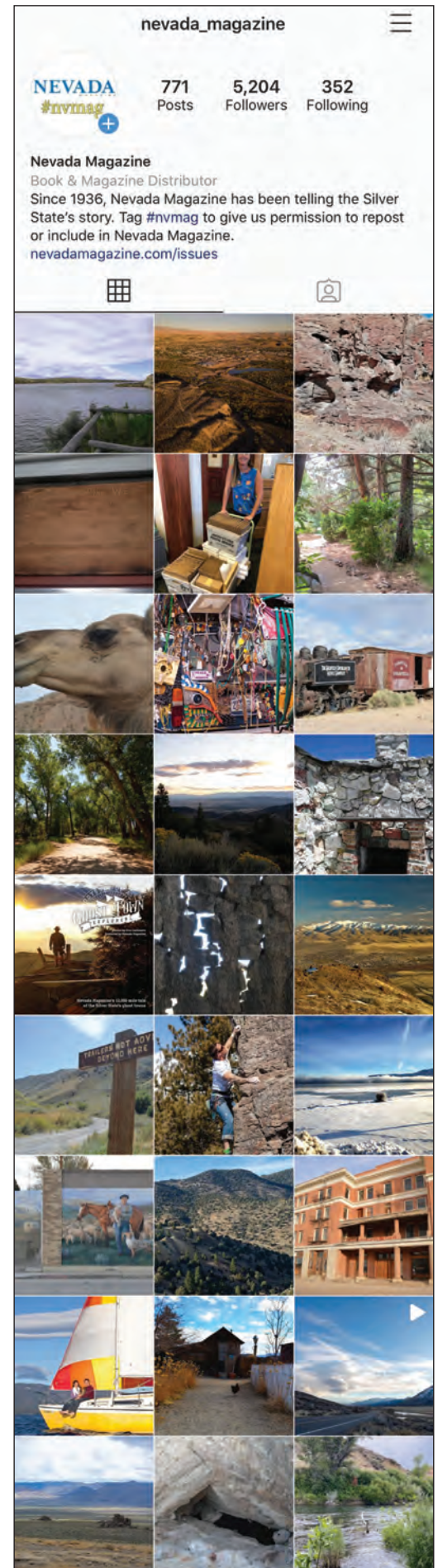
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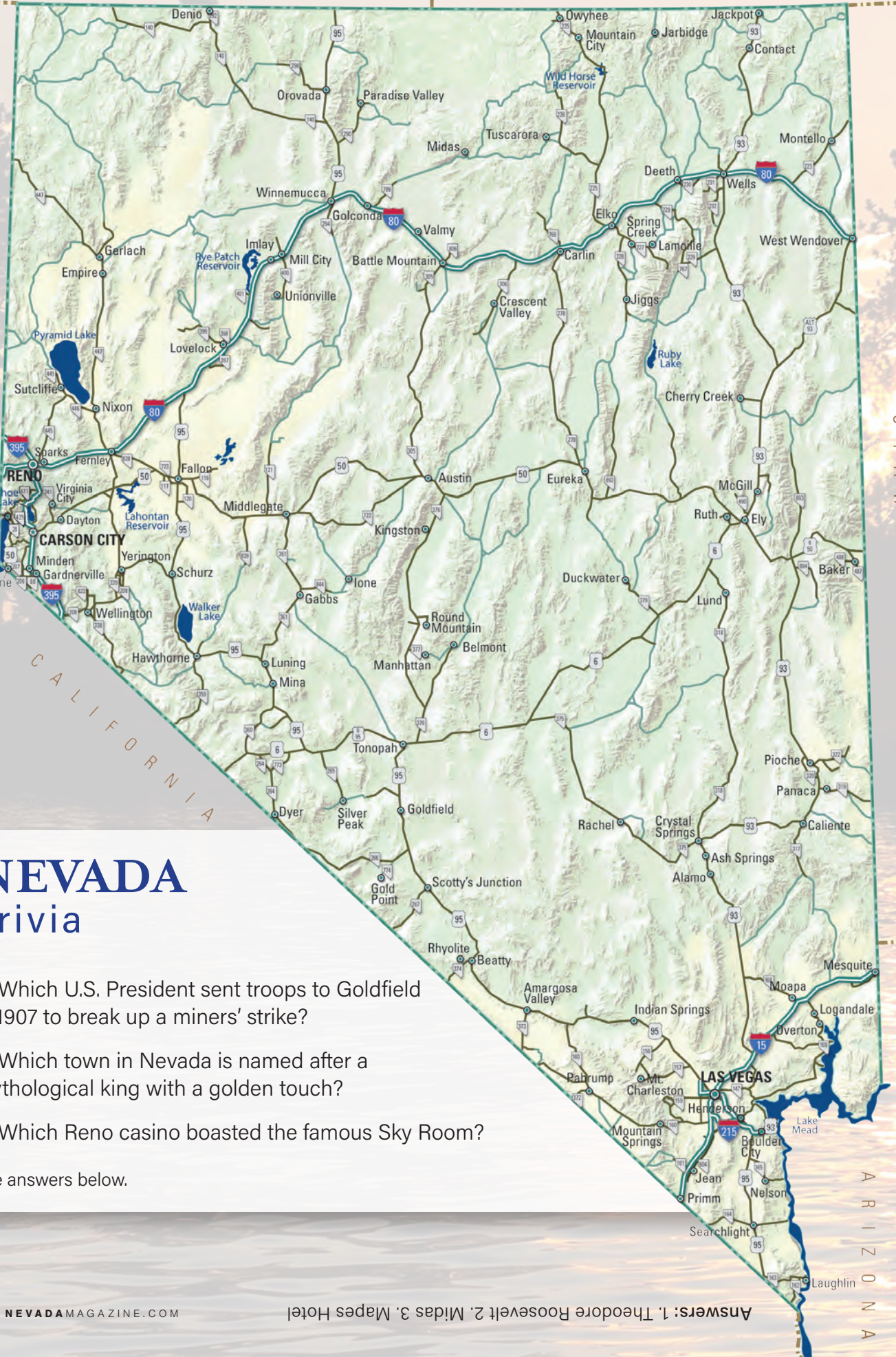
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NEVADA

Trivia

1. Which U.S. President sent troops to Goldfield in 1907 to break up a miners' strike?
2. Which town in Nevada is named after a mythological king with a golden touch?
3. Which Reno casino boasted the famous Sky Room?

See answers below.

ADVENTURE *awaits*



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