AUGUST 2026

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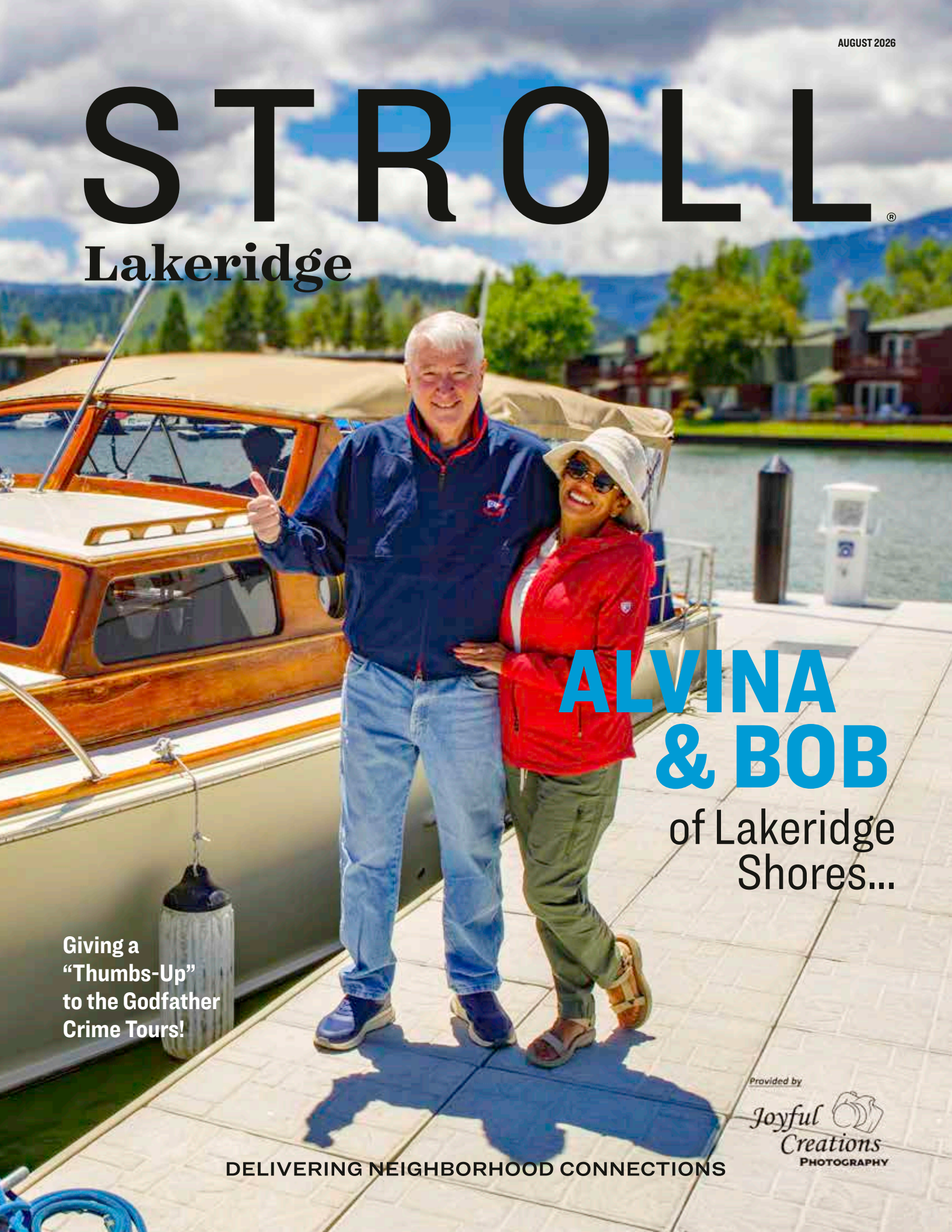
Lakeridge



ALVINA & BOB

of Lakeridge Shores...

Giving a "Thumbs-Up" to the Godfather Crime Tours!

Provided by Joyful Creations Photography

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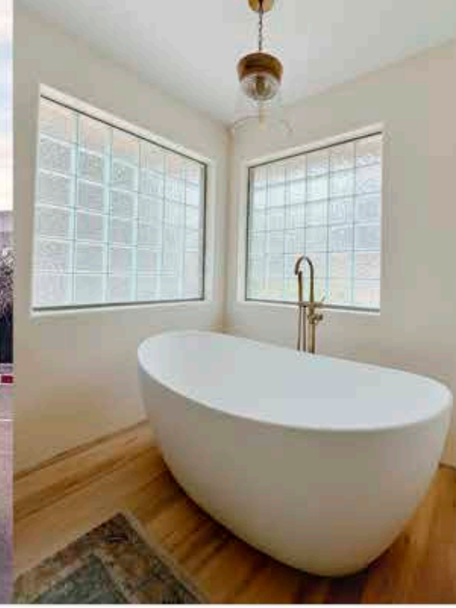

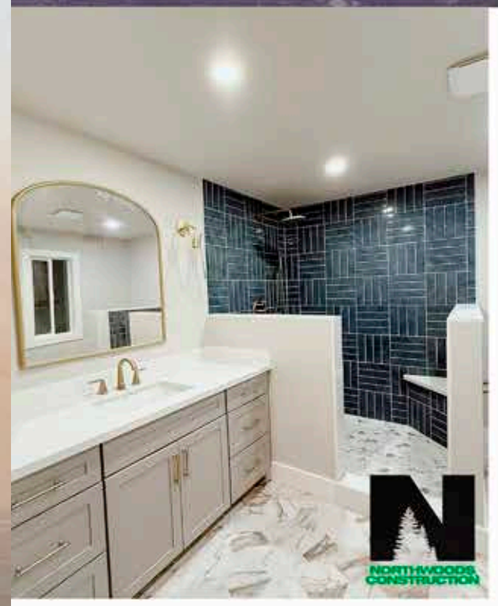

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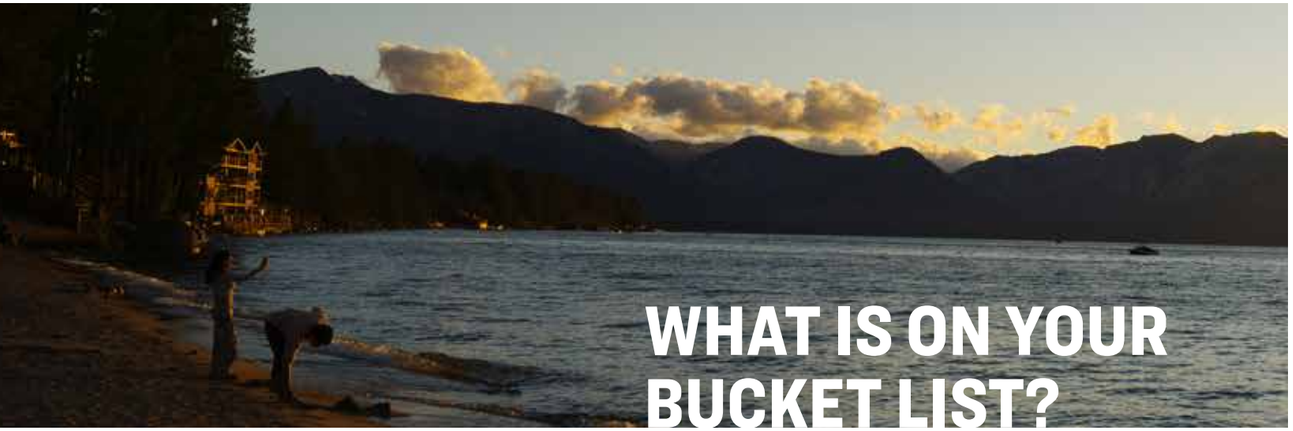


WHAT IS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

STROLL LAKERIDGE
"ANNUAL NEWCOMER'S PARTY!"
Wednesday, August 19, 4 to 7 pm
at Great Basin Brewing Co.
5525 S. Virginia St.
The More, The Merrier!!!

I was having this same conversation with Clay Alder, a Crest resident, on July 4th. We spoke of bucket lists and how if you don't simply "just do it" - it might never happen...

It's August - and we are already designing the layout for the October issue!! Where does the time go to?

When I was a child, it seemed that summer breaks from school lasted forever and I even had time to get bored. I would call my dad at work and ask him what to do. He would suggest reading a book...that to me sounded terribly dull and more boring than being bored! Now, I would relish being bored - and if I could slow down time and not age so fast, that would be great, haha!

Clay and I spoke about his fascinating travels and most recently, his trip to Africa. He shared that while on the truck, you are pretty much safe from the wildlife, but once your feet hit the ground, you become pray! Instructed not to run if being hunted by a lion or panther - could you imagine?

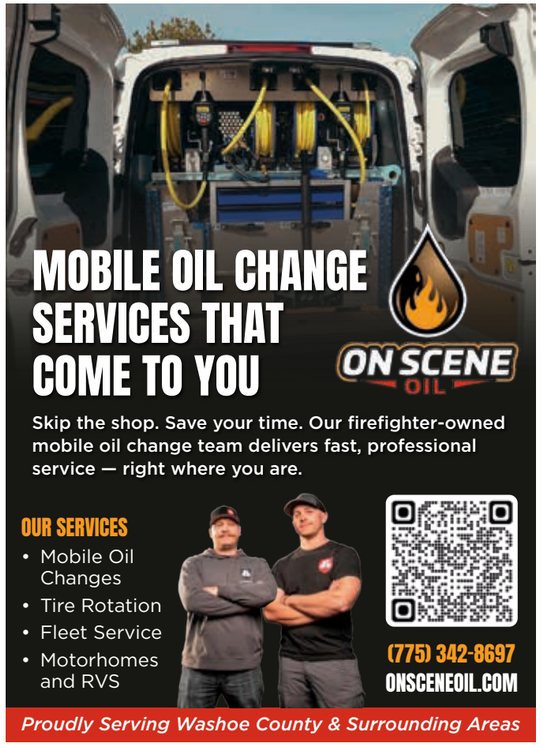
Are you comfortable and safe staying at home and putting off that trip away you have wanted to go on? It won't be as bad as being hunted - so go ahead and check that off your bucket list! Share with us what is on your list or those you have already checked off. *Stroll Lakeridge* is only as interesting as our readers make it and so we welcome your articles and photos as this is YOUR community magazine.

Welcome to our newest **Preferred Partners, Solar Cleaning Nevada!** Love birds but not what they leave on your solar panels? Contact them for your free consultation and quote for all your bird proofing and solar cleaning needs!

We hope you enjoy this issue and will contact us with what interests you. Simply call or text **(775)544-3551,** email **laurie-jo.pettyjohn@n2co.com** or message us on Facebook.









SAVE THE DATES

We are happy to promote whatever events you are a part of as well - just let us know about them. We also offer a 1/2-page free ad to not-for-profits who are needing to promote an upcoming fundraiser!

STROLL LAKERIDGE "ANNUAL NEWCOMER'S PARTY!"

Wednesday, August 19, 4 to 7 pm at Great Basin Brewing Co. 5525 S. Virginia St. - just down the street! The More, the Merrier! Be sure to RSVP! All newbies invited to meet the oldies, and we have many new to the neighborhoods! Complimentary bar bites, no-host bar, and door prizes...fun, fun, fun!



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BUSINESS FIRST WEDNESDAYS special **1 Year Anniversary Party** with complimentary bar bites and business card cake on **September 2, at Fifty Fifty Brewing, 5 pm to 7 pm.** Wear your brand, bring business cards, bring a door prize for a "minute on the mic" mix-n-mingle and meet other business professionals for great networking!



Land Ocean invites you to their new location - only room for 12 guests!

Land Ocean Restaurant Review, Wednesday, September 23, 4 to 6 pm. Just opened, the owner invites 12 of our guests in their private dining room to sample their menu with no-host bar at their new location at 137 Los Altos Parkway, Sparks. Hurry, seats go quickly!



Chuck has grapes you can pick for free!

Want to **pick grapes** at **Chuck's** in **Villagio** this season? On **Sunday, September 20, 5 pm to sunset,** we will gather as a group for a sunset soiree to mingle, pick grapes and BYO favorite beverage and enjoy the view. Space is limited, and so just **RSVP** to **laurie-jo.pettyjohn@ n2cocom,** call or text (**775)544-3551** - even if you want to just pick some grapes August through early October...let me know and I will arrange that!

The last of 2026 *Stroll Lakeridge* events will end with our "Special 10 Year Anniversary, Blue Sapphire and Diamonds" event! See details on page 30.

Events Around Town

LAKE TAHOE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
July 3 - August 24
laketahoeshakespeare.com.

CLASSICAL TAHOE
July 11 - August 10
classicaltahoe.org

HOT AUGUST NIGHT
August 4 - 9
hotaugustnights.net

Learn about more Reno events at **newtoreno.com, visitrenotahoe.com** and **thisisreno.com**.



Great space at South 40! Lisa Schober, Shana Sawyer (Tony's daughter) and me!



Mix n Mingle, wear your brand, bring business cards and connect!

NETWORKING EVENTS HELP SMALL BUSINESS GAIN MORE CUSTOMERS...

Business First Wednesdays "Where We Simply Mean Business" celebrates 1 Year in September! We average 40 - 60 attendees each month - you can be one of them!

As a consummate connector, several of us formed this free, open to the public networking group in October last year, where we supported fellow Chamber members at their venues. **Looking ahead, we are opening this up to non-member venues as well, in case you have a venue to nominate?**





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WHO LIKES TO PLAY GOLF?

In golf, par is the target number of strokes a skilled golfer is expected to take to complete a hole or the entire course. The most common 18-hole course par is 72, made up of a typical mix of four par-3s, four par-4s, and ten par-5s.


Join the fun!



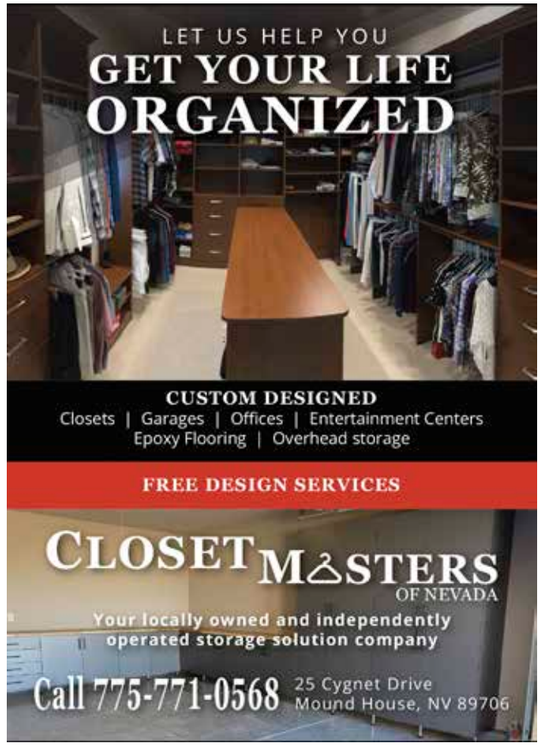
NATIONAL GOLF MONTH 2026 IS celebrated throughout August, promoting golf as an inclusive and enjoyable sport for all ages and skill levels.

As seen on **Instagram**, the **renolakeridgeladies** invites participation for their **"Swing with Bling" 2026 Guest Day, Tuesday, September 22 at Lakeridge Golf Course!** Teams consist of 1 member + 3 guests or 2 members + 2 guests. We can help fill a team if needed. **Non-Duncan Golf** members $135, members $70. **Includes:** golf, cart, tee prizes, closet to the pin, coffee and doughnuts, lunch and awards. For more information, contact **Joey Pearlman at (847)254-7828.**

WHICH COURSES DO YOU GOLF AT AND WHY?

- Lakeridge
- Washoe
- Somersett
- Red Hawk
- Hidden Valley
- Sierra Sage
- Wildcreek
- Kiley
- Wolf Run
- Montreux
- Old Greenwood
- Empire Ranch
- D'Andrea

We would like to have this golf page as a regular topic and need your help! Please reach out if you are a golf enthusiast and can submit great golf related articles for this page. **Laurie-jo.pettyjohn@n2co.com.**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CELEBRATE NATIONAL GOLF MONTH WITH US!

Join us August 5, 5 to 7 pm at BIRDEEZ!

Our BFW networking event will be held at this time and the whole arcade has festive fun activities - including mini golf!

151 N. Sierra Street, Reno, birdeezreno.com

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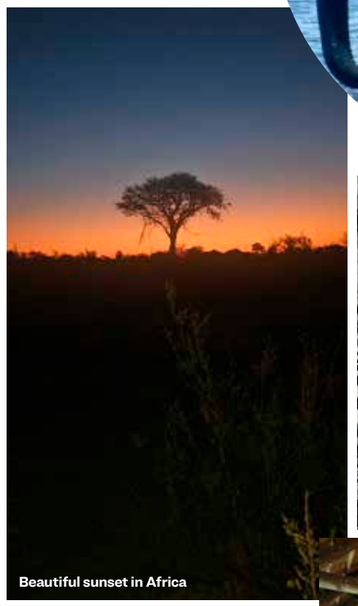
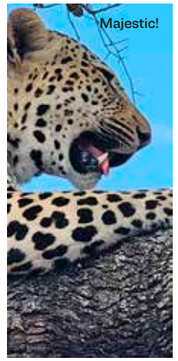
Two Guys With Cameras in BOTSWANA


Afternoon splash!

PROVIDED BY CECE GABLE & CLAY ALDER, THE CREST,





Beautiful sunset in Africa


Majestic!


The beautiful yet feisty Lilac-breasted roller bird, Africa's most colorful!


Humble tented camps


Photo safari - "Dr. Livingston I presume?"

My good friend Van Yates and I explored Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe & Sabi Sands with top-notch guides on a First-Rate Photo Safari trekking through what used to be known as the "Dark Continent"!

The opportunity to connect with the indigenous culture is a profound experience. **Victoria Falls** - one can only say, "Wow!" Take a "mokoro" through the Delta's papyrus reeds/lily pads, engine - free and silent as you glide through the clear still waters.

Be adventurous and take your trip of a lifetime - Africa is calling!

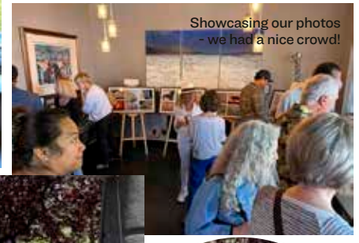
To share our photos, we recently hosted an exhibit of our Safari photos. It was a festive and artsy afternoon at the **Black Rock Wine Company.**

CeCe sang with her band, musicians **Joey Grimes**, keys; **Joe McKenna**, bass; **Andy Heglund**, drums; **David Brennan**, sax/flute. Visit **cecegable.com** to learn more about her music.

It was a great turnout!


Clay & Van





Showcasing our photos - we had a nice crowd!



CeCe performing with her band


Gliding through on the Mokoro


Lion footprint tracking

AN AFRICAN SAFARI ADVENTURE...

For those who have never been, these countries should be on your bucket list, especially Botswana & the Okavango Delta!

When you are there in person, up-close to the animals, in their world and on their terms, you will be immersed with a primordial feeling - the sights, the smells, the distant sound of a lion's roar declaring his status as King, the Stealthy Leopard with unmatched camouflage, the Majestic Elephants who never forget, and same with you - **20,000** strong in Botswana!

The opportunity to connect with the indigenous culture is a profound experience. Victoria Falls - one can only say, "Wow!"

Take a "Mokoro" through the Delta's papyrus reeds & lily pads, engine-free & silent as you glide through the clear still waters with a possible sighting of the crocodile with captain Hook's hand!

Interested in a unique African Safari? Contact Clay at (775)745-5708.


Alvina in Pebble Beach

Meet ALVINA!

Alvina loves Nevada and says "Never have I felt more welcome in a community or more engaged in outdoor activities."

PROVIDED BY BOBTARUN, LAKERIDGE SHORES



Alvina Burggraff, a native of **Oahu, Hawaii**, grew up on a ranch in **Nebraska** where she helped raise cattle and grow crops. As an adult she moved to the **Black Hills** of

South Dakota where she worked in the floral industry for over 25 years. She became an accredited

member of the **American Institute of Floral Designers** a decade ago. She continues to

teach and lecture on floral design across the country. Her advanced classes include wedding, funeral and holiday arrangements and leaf manipulation. Last Christmas season she held a floral design class at the **Lakeridge Shores** clubhouse which she, **Bob** and a dozen neighbors helped refurbish its exterior.

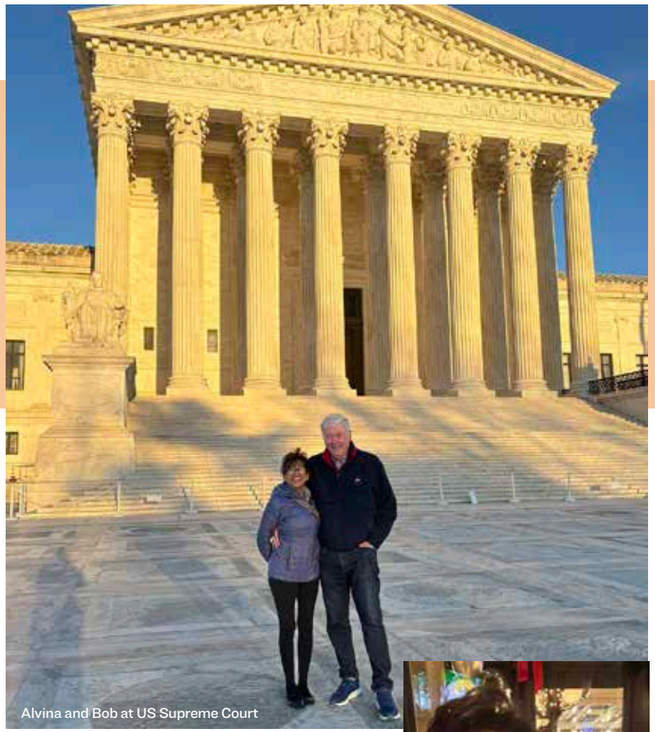
In 2021 Alvina moved from **Sturgis, South Dakota** to join Bob in Lakeridge Shores when he relocated from **San Francisco**. She has totally adapted to Reno's lifestyle - and mild winters! She enjoys morning walks with neighbors known as "The Walkers," kayaking

on **Lake Stanley**, joining in **Tai Chi** classes, riding electric bikes, skiing on **Ladies Day at Mount Rose**, working out in local gyms - and checking out local restaurants.

One nearby landmark Bob and Alvina enjoy on weekends from time to time is the **Genoa Saloon**, the **Oldest Thirst Parlor in Nevada**. The saloon offers outdoor picnic tables, cold draft beer, great burgers and often live music.

Virtually every day she works in the garden or as she says "plays." She loves trips to **Lake Tahoe** in all seasons. She is partial to its Nevada side as it offers better sunsets. She and Bob enjoy meeting new residents of Lakeridge Shores and learning about their families, careers and interests.

Alvina is the proud mother of four children, two engineers and two schoolteachers. She has eight grandchildren who she visits across the country. She frequently travels to the Dakotas to visit her parents and family but always looks forward to returning to Reno.


Alvina and Bob at US Supreme Court


Alvina in Reno


Alvina at Old Ebbitt Grill, Washington DC a half block from the White House.

THEY OFTEN RETURN TO BOB'S OLD HAUNTS WHEN HE PRACTICED LAW IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Bob says Alvina is "invariably upbeat, smiling, adventuresome and up for checking out Nevada highways and towns."

Following Bob's interest in classic American courthouses, they have visited all seventeen Nevada county courthouses and over fifty courthouses across the United States!


Alvina at Perry's NYE in San Francisco

OUTSIDE THE US THEY HAVE GREATLY ENJOYED NEW ZEALAND AND FRANCE.

She feels lucky to have visited Paris in all four seasons when Bob was finishing a graduate degree at NYU.

"She didn't speak any French, but she was taking the Metros to landmarks and cooking classes and checking out flea markets all over the City of Light. I had visited Paris for forty years, and sometimes I felt she knew the Left Bank and Right Bank almost as well as I did after a week!"

Lake Tahoe's GODFATHER CRIME TOURS

From Lakeridge Shores to the Shores of Lake Tahoe, this cruise was exhilarating!

PROVIDED BY ROBERT TARUN, LAKERIDGE SHORES, PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ROBERT KRAUS, JOYFUL CREATIONS PHOTOGRAPHY

We recently took the **Godfather Crime Tour** on **Lake Tahoe**. The host **John Mascarich** smartly divided the tour into three topics – a short history of the movie industry circa 1960; the filming of **The Godfather Part 1, The Offer He Can't Refuse** – on the screen and behind the scenes; and the story of the **Mob** on Lake Tahoe. John is as knowledgeable about the Godfather movies as any person you will meet. The crime tour includes pulling up to Fleur du Lac Estate, the Lake Tahoe home of **Don Corleone's** son **Michael**.

John conducted a Godfather quiz of famous quotes and scenes which brought serious, friendly competition between the guests. Coincidentally, John is the founder **of Movies on Glass**, a company that sells glassware for among other movies Godfather 1. The latter glasses have six different famous quotes from the movie. My favorite was "It's not personal, Sonny, it's strictly business," a quotation by **Michael Corleone**, which of course is a lie.

John has two tour boats depending on the size of the tour group. One is the original large **Rat Pack** boat for Lake Tahoe from the 1970s, and the other is a beautiful medium sized 1950 boat. You'll enjoy either boat ride on the Godfather crime tour if you are a fan of the legendary Godfather movies or love a scenic tour of Lake Tahoe with plenty of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. **Five Stars!**"



John, CEO of Godfather Crime Tours, me and Marco



Alvina & Bob with other guests - all having a great time!

THE RAT PACK'S BOAT AT

Tahoe Keys Marina



Robert W. Tarun is an American trial lawyer, author, and expert in white-collar criminal law, known for his legal thrillers and authoritative treatises on corporate compliance. Learn more about my book, found on Amazon, PRIVILEGED A LEGAL THRILLER: A Silicon Valley White-Collar Crime Thriller.







GODFATHER CRIME TOURS AT LAKE TAHOE

Lakeridge Shores residents, Bob and Alvina, were our guests on the Godfather Crime Tours Cruise, Sunday, June 28.

LAURIE-JO PETTYJOHN, PUBLISHER


I took this cute photo of Alvina! Such a natural poser...


John shared about the frustrations Francis Ford Copolla's daily note book held...



Founder, CEO at Lake Tahoe Godfather Crime Tour

IF YOU RECALL, we had shared a few articles about the **Godfather Crime Tours** over the past year, including one submitted from a Lakeridge Shores resident, **Fayth Ross**, **Director** at **TMCC EPIC**.

Rob and I finally took the tour in June, leaving the docks at 9:45 am on the wooden boat, **The Tahoe,** which is the longest running tour boat since 1950. The weather was perfect for such a unique, educational and social boating experience! The winds were warm on the way out, though a bit chillier on the return, so our hoodies came in handy.

With John's slide show and narration where he dropped names like the four most dominant mobsters, **Lucky Luciano, Sam Giancana, Bugsy Siegel** and **Meyer Lansky**, it perfectly chimed in with the movie set's "on location" spots that Stacy, our Captain, brought us to for up-close looks. One was where the wedding scene was filmed, where **Michael Corleone** (**Al Pacino**) confronts **Fredo** (**John Cazale**) in the boathouse — it was at **Fleur du Lac Estate** on the west shore **of Lake Tahoe. Today, the original 1939 15**-acre site is home to the **Fleur du Lac Estates** community, a private, gated development with 22 individually owned units.

Aside from all of this fun activity, we found plenty of time to sit back, relax and take in the sights of the majestic **Jewel of the Sierras**.

Bob shared, "Thank you and Rob again for letting us join you and enjoy the Godfather tour. It was a perfect day, and John, our tour guide, was terrific. We watched the Godfather movie after that - which was especially fun knowing John's "secrets" about the production issues and actors."

John enlists several boats for these tours, both public and private, and so the boat from the cover, **The Tahoe Star** was built in the 1970s by **Bill Harrah**, the founder of **Harrah's Entertainment** and the owner of the **Tahoe Hotel** for Frank Sinatra and the Rat Pack**.**

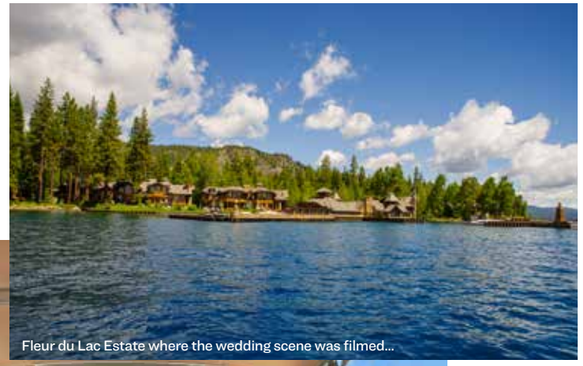
To learn more about the **Ratpack Tour or Tahoe Cruise**, email **John** at **support@godfathercrimetour.com,** visit **godfathercrimetour.com** or **facebook.com/godfathercrimetour** where you can see archived photos and more recently, an interview video with **KOLO (ABC)**. Can't wait for the tour and want the glass now? Visit moviesonglass.com/collections/the-godfather.

LAKE TAHOE HAPPENINGS

Lake Tahoe is indeed the Jewel of the Sierras and

with so much to see and do on the lake and around it on land, we were fortunate to be guests on the Godfather Crime Tours in June, thanks to John, the tour guide.

John masterfully narrated the 3.5-hour cruise as it moved through the gorgeous deep-dark blue and seafoam green lake waters and around the bends and rocky cliffs, sharing things about Italian / American mobsters not known by most.


Fleur du Lac Estate where the wedding scene was filmed...


John narrating the tour with slides...


The Rat Pack members; — the group of entertainers including Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Dean Martin, Joey Bishop and Peter Lawford.



ACTIVITIES WHILE ON THE TOUR...

It helps to watch the two-part movie prior to the cruise, especially if you want to win a glass!

Along the way, we noshed on a nice spread of antipasti and cannoli, sipped on complimentary drinks and played a game where we guessed what scene an audio clip was taken at...there were several who were spot on, winning them an etched rocks glass!





PROVIDED BY DOUG LAIRD, LAKERIDGE SHORES

Some of us in our kayaking group had talked about having breakfast ‘on the lake’ for quite some time. Alvina put it all together and even provided a fantastic breakfast!



Circling the lake after breakfast



Dot marks the spot where we had our breakfast



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Capturing Better Everyday Photos

Do not let your photos live only on your phone. Back them up regularly and consider printing your favorites. Digital files are convenient, but printed photos become part of the home. They are framed on walls, placed in albums, tucked into cards, and passed down through families.

PROVIDED BY ROBERT KRAUS, JOYFUL CREATIONS PHOTOGRAPHY

Photos have a way of preserving the moments we often do not realize are important until later. A family gathering, a child's milestone, a favorite pet, a vacation, or even a quiet afternoon at home can become a meaningful memory when captured well. The good news is that you do not need professional equipment to take better everyday photos. A few simple habits can make a big difference.

One of the most important parts of photography is **lighting**. Natural light is often the most flattering, especially during the early morning or late afternoon when the sun is softer. Midday sun can create harsh shadows, especially on faces, so look for open shade when taking portraits outside. A shaded patio, the side of a building, or the shadow of a large tree can provide beautiful, even light.

When photographing people, pay attention to the **background**. A clean, simple background keeps the focus on the subject. Before taking the picture, take a quick look around the frame. Move trash cans, clutter, distracting objects, or anything that appears to be "growing" out of someone's head, such as a tree branch or pole. Small adjustments can make a photo look much more polished.

Composition also matters. Instead of placing the subject directly in the center every time, try positioning them slightly off-center. This can make the photo feel more natural and interesting. For family photos, encourage people to stand close together. Gaps between people can make a group look disconnected, while gentle contact, such as shoulders touching or arms around one another, creates warmth.

For pet photos, **patience is key**. Get down to the pet's eye level rather than photographing from above. This helps capture their personality and makes the image feel more personal. Treats, toys, or a favorite sound can help grab their attention. Since pets move quickly, take several photos at once so you have more options to choose from.

When photographing children, try to capture **real moments** instead of forcing every photo to be perfectly posed. Some of the best images happen when children are laughing, playing, exploring, or interacting with family members. Let them move, give them something to do, and keep the mood relaxed. Genuine expressions are often more meaningful than a perfectly still smile.

It is also important to think about **photo quality**. If you plan to print or submit a photo for publication, avoid sending screenshots or images downloaded from social media. These files are often reduced in quality and may not print clearly. Whenever possible, send the original photo file from the camera or phone. A sharp, high-resolution image gives the best results.

For special occasions, remember to take a mix of photos. **Wide shots** show the setting, **medium shots** capture people and activity, and **close-up detail shots** preserve the small things that tell the story. At a birthday party, for example, take photos of the room, the guests, the cake, the decorations, the candles, and the reactions. Together, these images create a fuller memory of the event!

If you post on social media your photos, we welcome sharing them right here in YOUR private community magazines too!

I am here to assist you with your photography needs and look forward to featuring you - or referrals to your neighbors for front covers!



PHOTOGRAPHY DOES NOT HAVE TO BE COMPLICATED TO BE MEANINGFUL.

By paying attention to light, background, composition, and real emotion, everyday photos can become lasting memories.

Whether taken with a professional camera or a cell phone, the best photographs are the ones that help us remember the people, pets, places, and moments that matter most.



As a **Legacy Professional Photographer** with *Stroll Lakeridge*, we are celebrating 10 years of *Joyful Creations Photography* and serving you, our loyal readers!






Me and my daughter

Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

We are so proud of all you have accomplished and excited to see what comes next!

PROVIDED BY FAITH ROSS, TMCC DIRECTOR EPIC, LAKERIDGE SHORES



Every once in a while, your personal and professional worlds intersect in a way that makes you pause and smile.

In June, my daughter graduated as part of the **Class of 2026**, and I couldn't be prouder.

Thank you to the **Washoe County School District** for 13 years of education, opportunities, friendships, challenges, growth, and memories. Watching her cross the stage was an incredible moment for our family.

It was also a proud moment as a **Truckee Meadows Community College** employee. I was thrilled to see so many graduates wearing **TMCC** green ribbons and medals, recognizing students who took and passed college coursework through **TMCC's JumpStart program** during their junior and senior years.

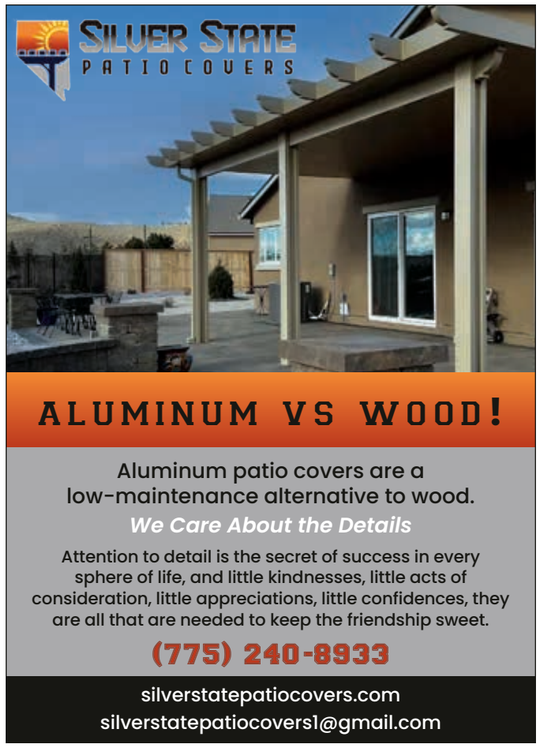
A special shoutout to the **TMCC JumpStart team** for providing such an incredible opportunity for our region's students. The chance to earn college credit while still in high school helps students build confidence, save money, and take meaningful steps toward their future goals.



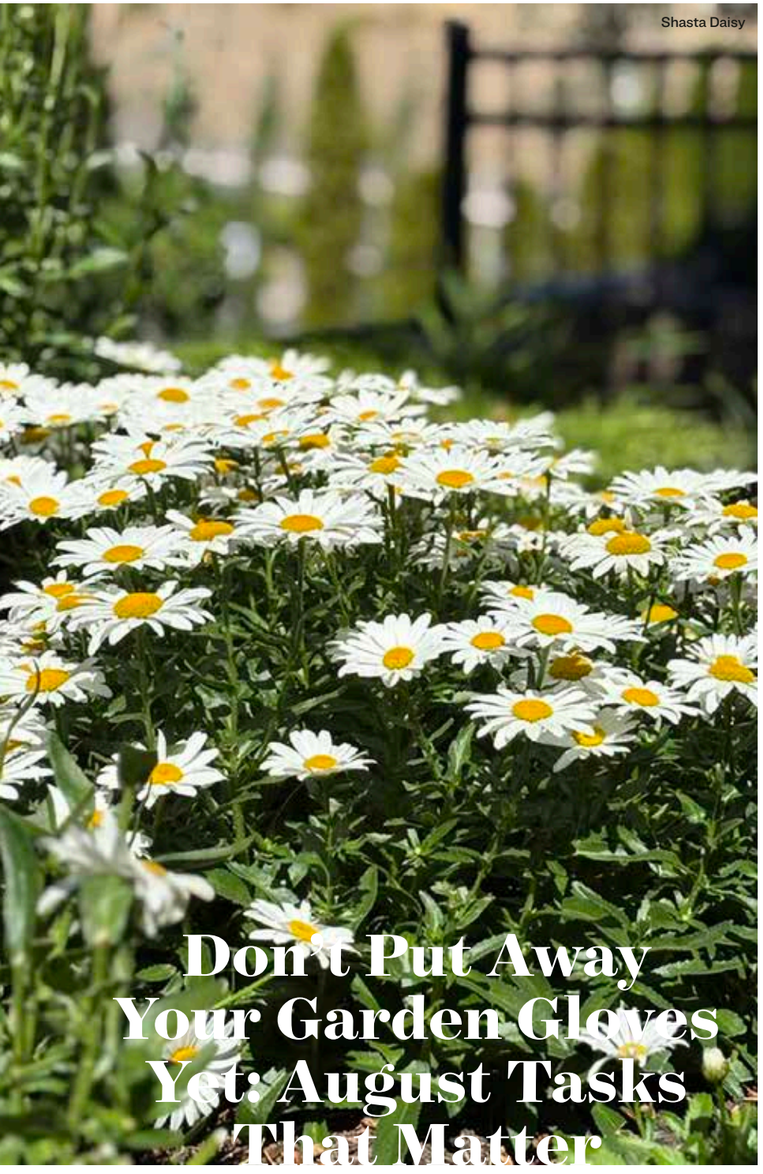
Seeing my daughter wearing TMCC green alongside so many of her classmates made the moment even more special.










Shasta Daisy

Don't Put Away Your Garden Gloves Yet: August Tasks That Matter

Watering in the evening promotes fungal and bacterial growth, which is especially problematic in areas with dense vegetation. It also promotes pest damage. Pests like slugs, earwigs, and beetles are active at night, and having a cool, damp environment provides them a perfect opportunity to party!

PROVIDED BY LYNN SHORT, BELSERA

When plants receive a quick sprinkle, the water often stays near the surface, where it evaporates quickly in the summer heat. Plants then grow shallow root systems that are more dependent on frequent watering and more vulnerable during hot, dry stretches.

Instead, **water deeply and less often**. For established trees, shrubs, and perennials, a slow soak allows moisture to reach the deeper roots where the soil stays cooler. **A good rule of thumb is to water at the base of the plant until the soil is moist several inches down**. You can check by using a garden trowel, a ruler or stick, or your finger to see how far the moisture has traveled.

Early morning is the best time to water, avoiding nighttime. Cooler temperatures mean less evaporation, and plants have time to absorb the moisture before the heat of the day arrives. Mulch around the plants can make a big difference by helping the soil retain moisture and keeping roots cooler.

August is also the perfect time to give flowering plants a little extra attention through **deadheading or** removing the wilted flowers before they go to seed. **Deadheading encourages many plants to put their energy into producing new blooms instead of seeds, helping the garden stay colorful well into fall.**

There are many common and favorite summer flowers grown in Northern Nevada that benefit from regular deadheading. Petunias are especially grateful for this extra care and will often reward you with even more flowers. Zinnias and marigolds will continue blooming strongly when the older blossoms are removed. Coneflowers (also known as echinacea), black-eyed Susans, and blanket flowers can also produce additional blooms with occasional deadheading.

Container gardens and hanging baskets also need attention. Plants such as geraniums, calibrachoa, and verbena can easily look tired by late summer, but often bounce back with trimming, fresh water, and a little care. **Removing yellowing leaves and faded flowers keeps plants healthier and encourages new growth.**

When deadheading, which is different from pruning, only remove the wilted flowers and stem just before the **next set of leaves.** If the flowers have stems that are easily broken off, like petunias, for example, simply pinch just below the faded flower. Otherwise, using a pair of scissors should do the trick. **Be sure the scissors are clean** — spraying them with **Lysol** in between deadheading each plant is always a good habit to get into.

Happy Gardening, *Stroll Lakeridge* **readers!**



AUGUST IN NORTHERN NEVADA CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING MONTHS FOR A GARDEN.

Long, sunny days, dry air, and warm temperatures can leave plants stressed and thirsty.

While it may seem appropriate to water a little every day, the best way to help garden plants survive the summer heat is to focus on **deep watering rather than shallow watering.** This means applying enough water slowly enough, so it reaches below the surface and encourages roots to grow deeper into the soil.





all good flowering plants that need to be deadheaded to enhance the growth of new blossoms.

I am not sure if I previously sent you the photo with the file name "black-eyed Susans with Bee Balm, since I included Bee Balm in the July article.

Echinacea is also known as coneflower.

WHILE AUGUST GARDENING CAN REQUIRE A LITTLE MORE EFFORT, IT IS ALSO A REWARDING TIME.

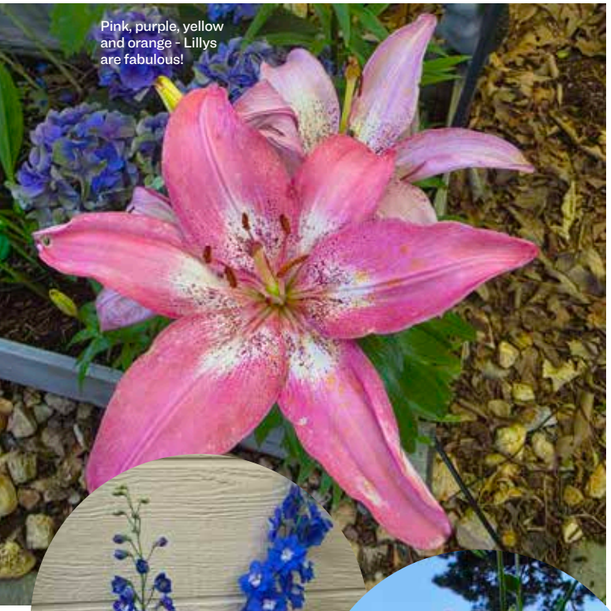
A garden that receives appropriate watering and regular maintenance will continue providing beauty, color, and enjoyment, which is important because autumn is right around the corner.

So, a few tasks to remember in August: water in the morning, check soil moisture, and deadhead for a noticeable difference in September.


Echinacea


Black-eyed Susan with Bee Balm




Pink, purple, yellow and orange - Lillys are fabulous!


Rocky Mountain Blue Columbine are a FAV!

Our Backyard Oasis

PROVIDED BY LAURIE-JO PETTYJOHN, PUBLISHER

We are so thrilled to have **Lynn Short**, a Belsera resident and art and plant enthusiast, as a regular contributor for **The Green Thumb** pages! Applying her advice to our garden, I am happy to share what our flowers and plants - and a few critters look like. We mostly have perennials and a few annuals for summertime hanging planters.


The same Beautiful Blue Delphinium in daylight!


Tiger Lilly!


Celosia in foreground with Purple Petunias above... oh, and puppy pool in background, lol!

FLOWERING PLANTS GALORE!

We love lots of color in our backyard - though indoors, most of our 125+ plants are green or green and white!

We love watching everything come to life after winter and many flowers gradually pop up over about two months' time. Gladiolas, coreopsis,


The Yellow Freesia are simply delightful!


Sweet William are tiny bursts of joy, especially in pink!


Yellow Dahila (I think!?)


Coleus are also a FAV!


Grown from seed after consumption, Avocado plants can be challenging...


Another Lilly!


More Lillys!


Coreopsis is long and stringy and sway in a breeze...

NIGHTTIME IN OUR BACKYARD OASIS

Hot summer nights and plenty of whimsical solar lights!

Our "Toadie" is 3 years old and has grown to become quite large! It is apparently the only one to survive after we rescued about a dozen tiny toads after the flood of Swan Lake in North Valleys.


Our "Toadie" hops around in the early evening, just after sun set...


We enjoy solar lights - do you?

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Blue Sapphire is associated with wisdom, loyalty and fidelity, while Diamonds symbolize enduring love, strength, and beauty.

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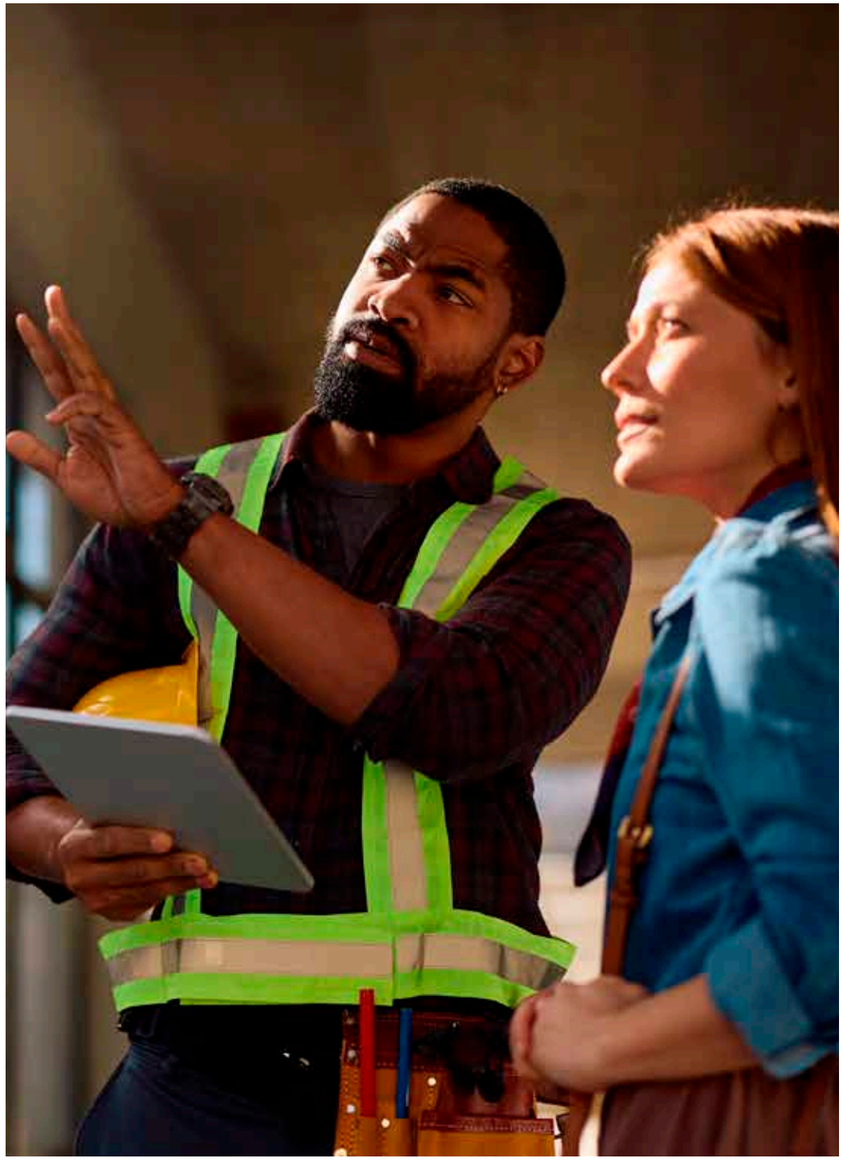
A REMINDER BEFORE YOU HIRE ANY CONTRACTOR

Unfortunately, some people have learned this lesson only after paying deposits or receiving poor-quality work, or no work. Spending two minutes verifying a state contractor's license can save thousands of dollars and a lot of frustration.

PROVIDED BY ROBERT LISSNER, LIFESTYLE HOMES, LAKERIDGE SHORES



I'VE NOTICED THAT some people assume a contractor is "licensed" because they have a business license. Those are **not the same thing**.

A **city or county business license** simply allows someone to operate a business. It does **not** mean they are licensed by the **State of Nevada** to perform contracting work.

For most construction, remodeling, roofing, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, concrete, and similar jobs, the contractor should have an **active Nevada State Contractors Board (NSCB) license** with the proper classification for the work being performed.

BEFORE SIGNING A CONTRACT OR PAYING A DEPOSIT

- Ask for the contractor's Nevada contractor license number.
- Verify that it's active with the Nevada State Contractors Board.
- Make sure the license classification matches the work you want done.
- Check that the contractor's name matches the name on the state license.

Please share this reminder with friends and neighbors. It may help someone avoid an expensive mistake.

"Bob's career as a very successful business owner is matched by the generous commitment he has made to local students as a technology teacher. In 1989, Bob started Lifestyle Homes, a residential home builder that focused on providing low-cost homes for first-time buyers. Since then, Lifestyle Homes has built more than 2,000 homes in Woodland Village, Cold Springs, along with parks, walking paths, exercise center, and elementary school."

—PROVIDED BY SCOTT KELLEY, SHARED FROM LINKEDIN

nevada state contractors board

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Cook County Criminal Courthouse

Most trials begin with jury selection on Monday and end with a verdict by Friday. The hopes and prayers of defendants and their families on Tuesday are usually dashed by Thursday.

PROVIDED BY ROBERT TARUN, AUTHOR, LAKERIDGE SHORES



CLASSIC COURTHOUSE NO. 8: COOK COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTHOUSE
(Known colloquially as "26th and Cal" and formally since 2012 as the George N. Leighton Criminal Courthouse)
Location: 2650 South California Ave. Chicago, IL 60608
Constructed: 1928-1929
Architect: Eric Edwin Hall
Current Use: Courthouse
(31 courtrooms: 15 original and 16 modern)





Original Court Room 400 Rear Door

IN 1929 COOK COUNTY BUILT a monumental Beaux Arts courthouse on a 96-acre plot. The historic courthouse is in the Little Village neighborhood on the Southwest side of Chicago six miles from the Downtown Loop. It opened on April 1, 1929. The court handles among other cases murder, rape and robbery trials. According to journalist Jason Meisner, 22,000 cases are decided annually in this courthouse with judges often having caseloads of 300 or more criminal matters. Meisner, "26th and Cal Courthouse Rich with History and Charm," Chicago Tribune June 11, 2021. In 2012 the courthouse was renamed the George N. Leighton Criminal Courthouse in honor of the civil rights activist, Cook County judge, Illinois appellate judge and United States District Court judge in Chicago.

Directly behind 26th and Cal is the massive Cook County Jail, which has eleven divisions and maintains a daily population of 10,000 inmates. On September 10, 1970, Blues legend B.B. King recorded before 2100 inmates Live in Cook County Jail, which album was released in 1971 and won numerous music awards. Many movies and TV shows have filmed at this historic courthouse including The Fugitive, Primal Fear, Hill Street Blues and The Good Wife. Source: Meisner, supra. Inmates held in the jail have included Al Capone and John Wayne Gacy.

The 15 original courtrooms are on floors 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the courthouse. The fourth floor also has the grand jury room. 16 modern courtrooms have been installed on floors 2 and 3. The first floor contains the courtroom of the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Courts. South of the original courthouse is the seven-story Criminal Court Administration Building that was built in 1974 to house the offices of the Cook County State's Attorney and the Cook County Public Defender.

26th and Cal's Classical Revival style is influenced by the Beaux Arts School. The exterior is Indiana limestone and features classical elements like columns, pediments, and moldings. It has eight figures outside the top floor symbolizing Law, Justice, Liberty, Truth, Might, Love, Wisdom, and Peace. The interior is comprised of oak, marble, and plaster. Doric columns are present in the lobby which features black, green, white, and vermillion marble. The original 96-year-old courtrooms are in remarkably good condition given their age and the amount of foot traffic.

26th and Cal has far more trials than most any courthouse in America. Not only because of the size of Cook County, but because many defendants are willing to risk a trial when key evidence at issue, such as the use of a gun or robbery versus armed robbery, can mean the difference between a ten-year and forty-plus year sentence. Most trials begin with jury selection on Monday and end with a verdict by Friday. The hopes and prayers of defendants and their families on Tuesday are usually dashed by Thursday. Perhaps above all, despondent mothers in the old oak courtrooms and marble hallways stand out. Those of the defendants wondering why their sons were where they were the night in question, and those of the victims realizing that however evil, senseless, mistaken, or random the crime, no amount of justice at 26th and Cal will bring back or restore their loved ones. From the adjoining Cook County Jail, many serious offenders will be shipped to distant and aging Illinois prisons with names like Pontiac (1871) and Menard (1878). And so, the criminal justice system beats on...





Origianl 1929 Court Room



1929 Grand Jury Room





Wondering Whether You Need to Update Your Estate Plan? You Do. Here's Why.

PROVIDED BY ANDERSON DORN AND RADER

If you created your estate plan years ago and haven't looked at it since, you're not alone. But the carefully crafted plan that made perfect sense then may no longer reflect your family, your finances, or your wishes today, and for Reno, Nevada families, that gap can have real consequences.

MEET THE KENDRICKS

Bill and Karen Kendrick created a trust-based estate plan ten years ago and felt confident their family was fully protected. They never updated it. Here's what changed:

Their children, Jessica and Steve, are now adults. The inheritance structure designed for minors may no longer make sense. One of Jessica's daughters may have autism, meaning an outright inheritance could unintentionally disqualify her from needs-based government benefits. A special needs trust would protect her eligibility while still providing for her future.

Steve and his wife are expecting their first child, adding a new grandchild that the plan doesn't yet account for. Bill and Karen also purchased a vacation home in Florida, which, if not properly titled or transferred into their trust, could require a separate Florida probate proceeding entirely outside Nevada's jurisdiction. And Sadie, their beloved dog, has passed away, leaving two new puppies whose care the original plan may not cover.

Ten years. One family. Countless details their estate plan no longer reflects.

YOUR LIFE HAS CHANGED TOO

Like the Kendricks, you've experienced change. Consider the past few years alone: Have you moved, remarried, divorced, or retired? Do you have new grandchildren, new accounts, or new property? Are you now caring for an aging parent or a dependent with special needs? Have trusted people named in your plan moved away, passed away, or changed roles in your life? Are children who were once minors now adults who could serve as your trustee or agent?

Any one of these changes is reason enough to review your plan. Several of them together make it urgent.

NEVADA LAW EVOLVES — YOUR PLAN SHOULD TOO

Estate planning isn't a one-time event. The laws governing trusts, taxes, beneficiary designations, and probate in Nevada continue to change. Strategies and tools available to Reno families today may be significantly more effective than those that were in place when your plan was first drafted.

At **Anderson, Dorn & Rader,** we stay current on every development, so our clients don't have to. When you work with our team, your plan reflects not just your life as it is today, but the best available tools under current Nevada law.

IS YOUR ESTATE PLAN OUT OF DATE?

If anything in the Kendricks' story sounds familiar, or if it's been more than three to five years since your plan was last reviewed, it's time.

A plan that no longer reflects your life isn't just outdated. It can leave the people you love facing avoidable legal complications, unintended distributions, and outcomes you never would have chosen.

Call our Reno office today at 775-823-9455 to schedule an estate plan review. We'll make sure your plan still does exactly what you need it to do, for the people and things that matter most.

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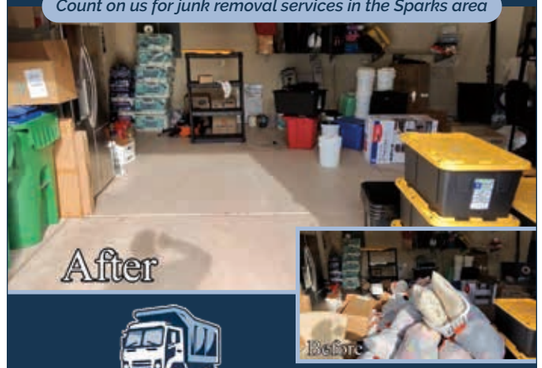

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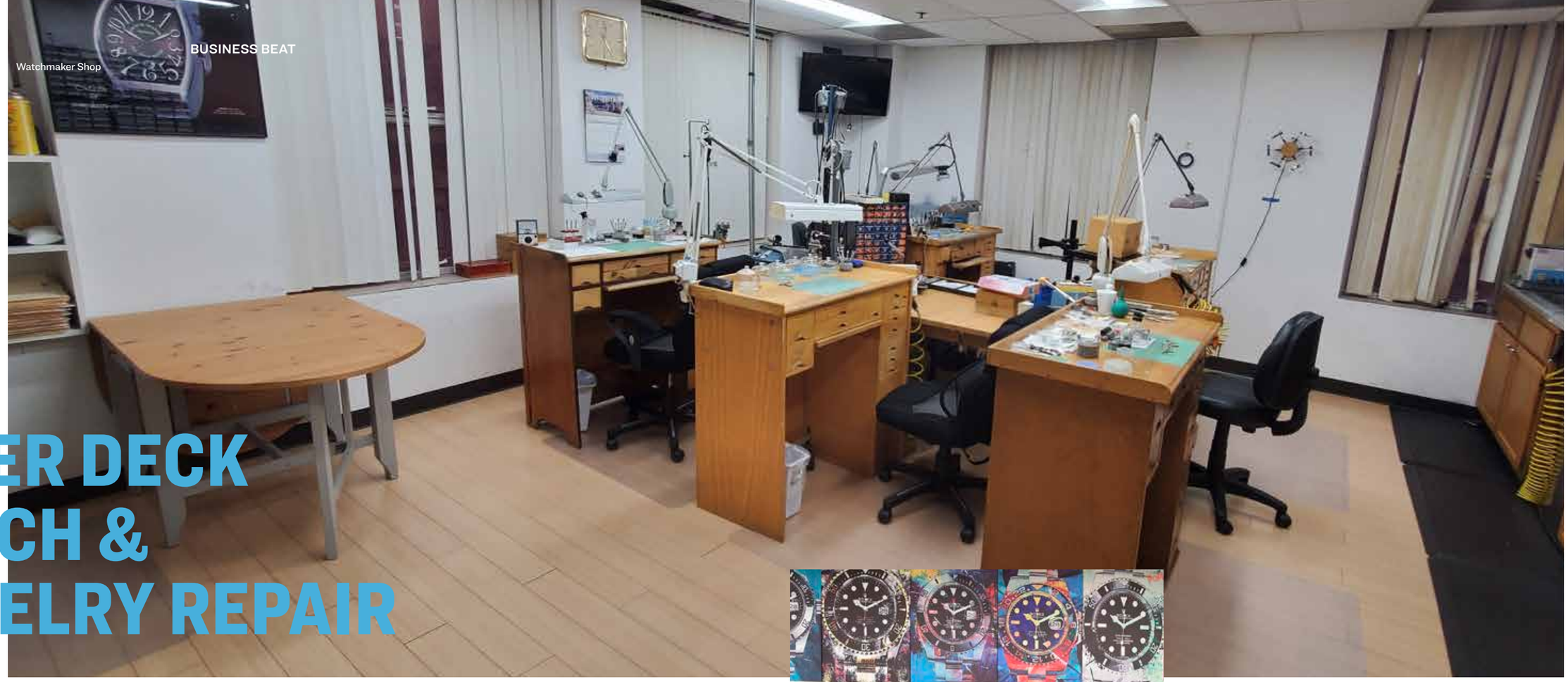
Watchmaker Shop

UPPER DECK WATCH & JEWELRY REPAIR

Meet Gino DeTomaso...Your Lakeridge Shores neighbor and watch repair expert!

PROVIDED BY LINDA ADDI, OWNER OF UPPER DECK FASHIONS, LAKERIDGE SHORES

Welcome to Upper Deck Watch and Jewelry Repair! Family owned and operated, **Upper Deck** is now managed by **Gino DeTomaso,** who brings a personal touch and a commitment to quality service. Located inside **Upper Deck Fashions** in **Meadowood Mall,** next to **Women's Macy's,** our store specializes in premium brands like **Brighton** and **Tommy Bahama** for both men and women.

With over 40 years of experience, our lead watchmaker and partner has an impressive background, having worked for **Bulova Watch Co.** and managed the service department at **Citizen Watch Compan** y for 13 years. We take pride in ensuring high-quality repairs by using original manufacturer parts and performing ultrasonic cleaning on all serviced watches. Water-resistant watches undergo rigorous testing in a dry/air water testing machine to maintain their integrity.

OUR COMMITMENT:

We understand that your watches and jewelry hold significant value, both emotionally and financially. Our promise is to treat your valuables with the utmost care and respect.

STORE HOURS:

- Monday to Thursday: 10 AM - 8 PM
- Friday and Saturday: 10 AM - 9 PM
- Sunday: 11 AM - 7 PM

For more information or to schedule a service, please call Gino at **(775)827-4444.**

ABOUT GINO:

Born and raised in Reno, Gino lives in his childhood home at **Lakeridge Shores** with his wife **Julie** and their three children. This year, they celebrate their 26th wedding anniversary! A proud alumnus of **Bishop Manogue,** where he played football, Gino graduated from **UNR** and has dedicated much of his time to the community, volunteering as a youth sports coach since his early twenties.

At Upper Deck, we look forward to helping you with all your watch and jewelry needs, as well as helping you find the perfect clothing attire. Thank you for choosing Upper Deck!


Gino at his workstation inside the Upper Deck, stop in and say hello!

RESIDENT TESTIMONIAL FROM KAREN CLAFFEY, CARRIAGE HOUSE:

"Every time I am in the mall I have to head to the Upper Deck. They have fancy clothes, casual clothes, jewelry and many interesting items. When I have to fix a piece of jewelry or get a battery for my watch, I head to the back and Gino fixes anything I need. A great place to shop...be sure to stop into the Upper Deck - you won't get out without buying something."

"Shop on Buy" for great gift giving items too!


Linda Addi, Owner of Upper Deck, Lakeridge Shores resident

OUR SERVICES:

Onsite battery changes for most watches

- Watchband adjustments
- High-quality jewelry repair at fair prices
- Comprehensive service, restoration, and overhaul for all watch brands, including Rolexes

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Is Your Estate Plan Built for Nevada?

Nevada is one of the most powerful jurisdictions in the country—but many families don't realize their estate plan wasn't designed to take advantage of it.

At Nevada Counsel, we focus on high-level estate planning and asset protection for Nevada homeowners and investors.

Our services include:

- Nevada-based trust planning
- Real estate and investment asset protection
- Succession strategies for legacy planning
- Coordination across multi-state estates



At this level, estate planning isn't about forms—it's about structure, foresight, and precision.

If your plan wasn't designed with Nevada in mind, it may be time for a deeper conversation.

LEARN MORE