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The truth of the matter is you're only as good as your support. Here at Real Vegas, we are forever grateful and appreciative to all our local readers! Without the contributing names listed here, this publication would be next to impossible. This special feature issue is dedicated to our 2023 Most Magnificent Men, Greatest Real Estate Moguls and Leading Lawyers of Las Vegas. We are thankful to have had the pleasure of getting to know and learning more about each and every one of these phenomenal locals and their respective businesses and organizations. Talk about innovating and hardworking leaders in our community! This special feature issue is another result of our hard work, blood, sweat and tears. What we all do in contribution to each issue is truly a labor of love and from the bottom of our hearts and we proudly thank every advertiser, writer, photographer, contributor, in every way, shape and form. Without you, we wouldn't be able to tell the stories and provide rich content including current events and significant Las Vegas history to our readers, which is of the utmost important to us. Please feel free to submit any editorial pieces for consideration to: info@realvegasmagazine.com and please follow and like us on social media and visit our website: realvegasmagazine.com. We host many local community Real Vegas events, and we would love to have you join us! Please stay tuned for information on our upcoming events that are promoted and shared on social media.

THANK YOU all and we hope you enjoy reading Real Vegas as much as we enjoy putting it all together!

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AN OLD SCHOOL ICONIC CAST OF CHARACTERS

MEET SOME OF THE REAL WISE GUYS

Being invited to an all-men's brunch/luncheon with a notable group of old school Las Vegas icons was a once in a lifetime moment in my career. The food at EGGcellent Breakfast and Lunch was delicious, but the real treat was the company! From musicians, comedians, artists, performers, and former showbiz people alike, these guys are a plethora of Las Vegas history and knowledge. What a treat it was to dine at their table, heck-I would have been just as happy to have been a fly on the wall!

Discussions about how Las Vegas isn't what it used to be so many years ago and mentions of encounters with many A-list celebrities and mobsters was commonplace. Key Las Vegas



(Photo from left to right)

Neal Portnoy, Sonny Charles, Mark Maynard, Meyer Lansky II, Artie Schroeck, Cliff Lawrence, Bill Johnson, Candice Wiener, Peter Barbutti, Don Martinez, Dr. Wilfred Krom, Teddy Kaye, Mario D'Andrea, Mike Moloney, Bob Hughes

Not pictured: Fielding Franklin West and Paul Campanella

figures like Frank Sinatra, Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, and Tony Spilatro's names came up many times, with memories of specific instances to follow. These were some of the guys who rubbed elbows with the, "Who's Who", entertainers, and the mob in Vegas back in the day. I was right in my element and soaked up all the incredible conversations taking place. This brought back many childhood memories of Sunday morning breakfasts that our family would have at the Omelet House on Charleston and Rancho, which my grandfather owned at the time. As a child, I used to revel in the old Vegas historical conversations that would take place about many of the important Vegas legends that my grandfather used to represent. There is something to be said about a life lesson my late grandfather, Louis Wiener Jr. imparted to me. I remember clear as day him telling me, "Knowledge is Power. Don't you forget that." And I never have.

Listening to the stories and seeing a twinkle and glimmer in Peter Barbutti's eyes was something I'll never forget. I was fortunate to be invited to sit at the head of the table and Peter Barbutti was to my left, with Bill Johnson to my right. Pete Barbutti is an American comedian and musician. He made 40+ appearances on The Tonight Show, starring Johnny Carson from 1971 through 1992. Barbutti also hosted a short-lived variety show called, Pete's Place. Some of the guys I recognized right away, a few others looked very familiar or had names that were recognizable to me. Cliff Lawrence (who's been credited with bringing this eclectic all men's brunch/luncheon together for 15+ years), asked Meyer Lansky II if he would so kindly bring me around and personally introduce me to all the gentlemen. Having already met Peter, Bill and Cliff, Meyer walked me down the table and I was introduced to each and every man. They each gave me a snippet of information on what they used to do in town, or their relevance and correlation to our incredible city of Las Vegas.

Meyer introduced me to Don Martinez, who worked in show business. It was later, after leaving, that I discovered Don used to run the "Follies" show at the Hotel Tropicana with another friend, Robert Knievel (who has since passed away). They were together at the Tropicana for 28+ years. Then I was introduced to Dr. Wilfred Krom, who is a retired Orthopaedic Surgeon, and an active musician. He plays and teaches breathing techniques on the chromatic harmonica. Next at the table, I met Teddy Kaye. His face looked very familiar, as if I could recall seeing it on signs or billboards as a young child. Behind Teddy was Mario D'Andrea, who I recognized from across the table but could not place. He stood up, gave me a hug and a warm welcome. I realized he remembered me, too. Mario is a guitarist extraordinaire. I have yet to recall where we have previously met. Next to Mario was musician Mike Moloney, who owns MMEC Entertainment. Not pictured, but next I met Fielding Franklin West, who is a comedy magician and keynote speaker. Sitting next to him was Bob Hughes, who

was one of Frank Sinatra's composers. He was having an interesting conversation with Artie Schroeck (not sitting in order of photo) about a book Artie was currently reading titled "Dangerous Rhythms: Jazz and the Underworld". Bob also conducted for Bob Hope, Rich Little, Robert Goulet and The Tonight Show band when Johnny Carson was the host. As we continued around to the other side of the table (left of the photo), sitting and drawing, was Neal Portnoy, of Portnoy Galleries. I have had the pleasure of knowing him and sitting down to meet with him years ago. To his left (also not in the photo) was actor, singer, musician, writer, producer and director, Paul Campanella. Next to Paul was Sonny Charles, an American soul singer who was co-founder of the band Checkmates and went on tour with Steve Miller Band. Mark Maynard, who has the number one Frankie Valli Tribute Show was next. In the photo, Meyer Lansky II was seated between Mark Maynard and Artie Schroeck, but he was walking me about the table and introducing me to all the guys. I have known Meyer and his wife for some time. Meyer and I had dinner at Bugsy's & Meyer's Steakhouse previously, and Meyer shared stories about his late grandfather, Meyer Lansky and my late grandfather, Louis Wiener, Jr. They both shared a mutual associate and friend, the late Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel. Musician Artie Schroeck, to Meyer's left, composed popular songs and jingles. Artie wrote music for Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Frankie Valli, and Liza Minelli. He also has a gold record for the arrangement of "Can't Take My Eyes Off You" for Frankie Valli. He arranged "I've Got You Under My Skin" for Frankie Valli and co-wrote "Here's to the Band" for Sinatra. Almost back to my seat and where we started, sat legendary comedian and comedy writer Cliff Lawrence. Cliff starred in the show, Copycats at the Sahara with Rich Little. He personally invited me to this lunch

and to Cliff, I am extremely thankful for being included. Last, but not least, seated to my right was Bill Johnson, who is the Bob Hope tribute artist.

To all the guys who welcomed me as the first female invitee to one of their regular brunch/luncheons, THANK YOU! It was a pleasure to get to know you all and learn about some of your magnificent contributions to our incredible city. I am honored and appreciative and look forward to seeing you all again soon!



"Music touches us emotionally, where words alone cannot."

- Johnny Depp

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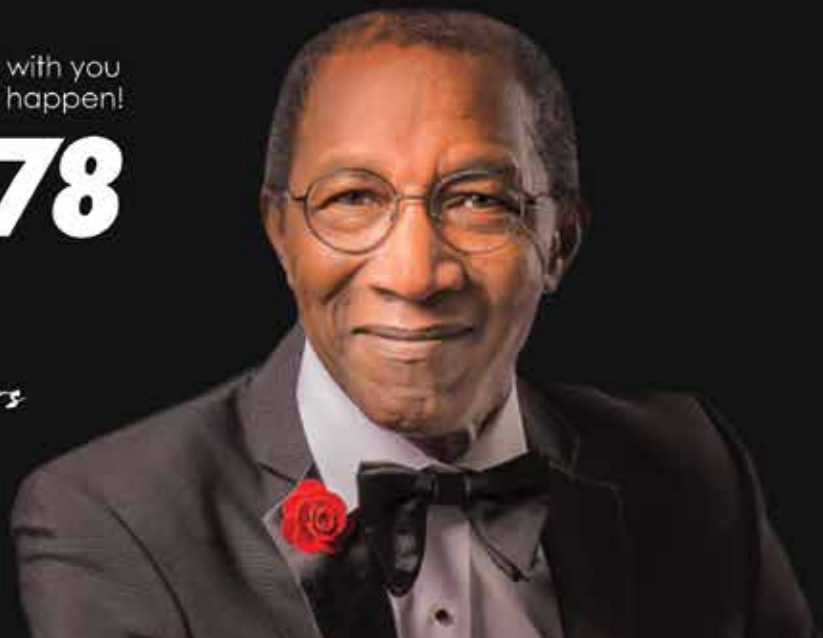
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Pg. 8



Pg. 14-15



Pg. 20-21



Pg. 76-77

The Native Juice – Meet Some of the Real Wise Guys2-3

Fall Makeup Looks: Embracing Elegance and Boldness8

Meet the Founder and Owner, Lupita Arreguin10-11

Legendary Actor, Writer, Comedian, Speaker – Meet the Real John Di Domenico12-13

Real Vegas Eats by Chef Vic – Caviar Bar at Resorts World14-15

Vegan in Vegas - Every Day Eats to Special Events16-17

Tips to Start Your Own Retail Business20-21

Humility to all Around Success in the Valley – Meet the Real Tim Veile of Precisions Garage Door22-23

2023 Leading Lawyers of Las Vegas28-41

2023 Greatest Real Estate Moguls of Las Vegas42-55

2023 Most Magnificent Men of Las Vegas56-77

Hollywood Smile Dental in Las Vegas – Meet the Real Dr. Steve Kim72-73

Let's Talk About a Real Standup Comedian- Meet the Real Spencer James76-77

Real Vegas Event Pictorials78-79

IT'S HALLOWEEN!
OUR GUIDE TO THE SCARY SEASON
PAGE 19

HIGH-GRADE SCANDAL
'A' IS THE NEW 'C' AT ELITE L.A. SCHOOLS
PAGE 44

SOUR GRAPES
THE SKINNY ON CELEBRITY WINES
PAGE 50

Los Angeles

ADVENTURES OF A
FAKE PRESIDENT
WHAT'S IT LIKE TO SPEND A DECADE AS DONALD TRUMP'S DOUBLE? INSIDE THE SURREAL WORLD OF POLITICAL IMPERSONATORS

KAMALA HARRIS
LAYS DOWN THE LAW
PAGE 74

Pg. 12-13



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From the Publisher's Desk

Being born and raised in Las Vegas, I've always had a fondness of the arrival of fall time. The nice and cool reprieve of the weather is just one of the many anticipated joys that fall ushers in. Summer was a great season this year and here are Real Vegas, we have continued to grow and thrive. We've been thankful for the various opportunities that have presented themselves to us and our growing team. From successful business strategies for our advertisers and the Real Vegas brand, and co-op propositions that will seemingly lead to a fruitful 2024!

In life there are many phases both pleasant and sometimes not so much positivity, in which we are all called to withstand the storms of life and play the cards we were dealt the best way we can. In all circumstances we are called to be strong and overcome and the promises that are meant for us will ultimately prevail. I believe there is an emotional maturity we experience when we can understand and even appreciate that the sweet isn't as sweet without the sour, and the simple notion that there's always a rainbow after every storm. Ironically some of the local leaders that we feature in this edition, and every issue are top-notch and qualified to help you through various stages of your life and we are proud to work with them and promote them.

This issue we've included three special feature sections including the 2023 Most Magnificent Men, Leading Lawyers, and the Greatest Real Estate Moguls of Las Vegas. We have some phenomenal and upstanding leaders in various different categories that we have the opportunity to share with our readers and highlight in this special feature issue.

We thoroughly enjoy learning about them both personally and professionally and strengthening long-term relationships as well as learning different ways that we can support and uplift their respective businesses.

Whatever it is that your heart and soul crave more of this fall season, we hope you have the right mindset to set and attain just those things! We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and an incredible start to what the new year will bring!

Cheers to prosperity, strength, and courage to forge closer bonds in your business and personal lives. And we thank you for the opportunity to continue to watch local leaders who dedicate their expertise, business acumen and positive personal rapport within our community and for those who give back to our local Las Vegas community to work hard to continue to make it the best city in the world to live!

We encourage you to follow these top-rated locals, male owned businesses, top-producing real estate agents, and other specialists right here in the Valley and see what they have to offer to locals and take note of their high levels of professionalism, which is undoubtedly what makes them a 2023 Locals' Choice. Please be sure to follow us on social media and stay up to date on our upcoming local events and happenings!



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FALL MAKEUP LOOKS TRENDING FOR

2023 - 2024

EMBRACING ELEGANCE AND BOLDNESS



By Lissette Waugh of L Makeup Institute

lmi.edu

As we say hasta la vista to the warmth of summer, it's time to welcome the crisp, colorful autumn season. With the changing leaves and cooler temperatures, there's no better time to revamp our makeup routines. As we venture into 2024, fall makeup trends are set to embrace a harmonious blend of elegance and boldness. From eye-catching shades to sophisticated finishes, let's dive into the captivating fall makeup looks that will dominate the beauty world in 2024.

1. Earthy and Smoky Tones:

As the leaves turn a medley of warm hues, so does our fall makeup palette. Earthy and smoky tones take center stage, with rich browns, warm terracotta, and deep mossy greens becoming the go-to shades for eyeshadows. These earth-inspired hues add depth and allure to the eyes, creating a mysterious and enchanting gaze. Consider blending matte and shimmer finishes to achieve a multi-dimensional effect, perfect for day and night.

2. Gilded Metallics:

This fall, prepare to see an opulent display of metallic makeup. Gilded golds, green, bronze, and copper accents bring an air of luxury to the seasonal looks. Whether applied as eyeshadow, eyeliner, or even metallic lips, these luminous shades are designed to catch the light and draw attention to your best features. Gilded metallics elevate any makeup look and can be both subtle and statement-making.

3. Graphic Eyeliner:

Bold and daring, graphic eyeliner makes a triumphant return for the fall and 2024. This edgy trend allows you to unleash your creativity, experimenting with various shapes and lines. Winged liner, geometric designs, and double-winged looks are just a

few examples that will make your eyes the centerpiece of your makeup. Don't be afraid to play with unconventional colors like navy, emerald, or even white for an unexpected twist.



4. Berry Stained Lips:

Deep, berry-stained lips are the epitome of fall sophistication. Ranging from rich raspberry to luscious blackberry shades, these lip colors exude elegance and mystery. A velvety matte finish enhances the intensity, while glossy options provide a more modern and plump appearance. Pair your berry-stained lips with a subtle eyeshadow look to strike the perfect balance and let your lips take the spotlight.

In conclusion, the fall makeup looks of 2024 are set to embrace elegance, sophistication, and daring creativity. Earthy and smoky tones pay homage to the season's natural beauty, while gilded metallics add a touch of opulence. Graphic eyeliner offers a bold canvas for self-expression, and berry-stained lips exude autumnal allure. So, this fall, step into the season with confidence and embrace the beauty trends that speak to your individuality.





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A *Tequila* made for Las Vegas

MEET THE FOUNDER AND OWNER OF *DOS CARAS* TEQUILA, LUPITA ARREGUÍN

Years ago, Lupita and her husband went to a nice restaurant in Guadalajara. Lupita asked for a pour of a popular tequila. “I ordered a reposado, neat. It was awful. I started ranting to my husband about how sad it was to be sitting in Guadalajara, Jalisco, unable to find a good, sipping tequila. After all, Jalisco is the land of tequila. He explained the dynamics and politics of the industry—how it was changing—and that while there were good tequilas out there, few had the market purchase to reach mainstream popularity. My family and I come from Jalisco. Every family gathering, celebration, outing, and Sunday dinner was accompanied by a bottle or two of tequila on the table. It’s just what the grownups drank, mostly in the form of Palomas or neat. Nobody got drunk. But tequila was a natural part of the experience. Good food. Good drink. I love those memories.”

Lupita continues, “I understand why it’s uncommon for most people to sip and enjoy tequila. Historically, popular tequila brands had the tendency to burn the palate. I want Dos Caras to help lead the shift in how people appreciate tequila. Tequila requires deep dedication to the agave, good soil, exceptional talent, and lots of time to create. I think people would be surprised to know that even without aging, it takes at least eight years to make a single bottle of Dos Caras. But this level of quality isn’t new. It’s exactly what I remember of tequila growing up. In family settings. In gatherings. In celebrations. Tequila was part of the moments we all shared with love and laughter.”



“Dos Caras is a luxury line of tequila. We are woman and Mexican owned and operated. And our tequila is sustainably produced in Arandas, Jalisco. An expression of land, time, and attention, Dos Caras is built on our devotion to the spirit of agave, with a story that’s made to move the soul”, adds Lupita.

“We all want to see Dos Caras take off fast and scale quickly. But I’ve resisted the urge to push the brand to grow faster. As I relax and watch Dos Caras gain traction in Las Vegas, popping up in clubs throughout the city and in some of the biggest casinos, I see how the brand is gaining strength and building slowly. It might sound silly, but Dos Caras has a soul that’s guiding us as a company. We’re learning to listen and follow—diligently, happily, excitedly. Our focus right now is on staying curious and putting our best efforts forward—being great partners to the establishments, venues, and retailers that take on our product.”

Can you tell us about the name, Dos Caras?

“Yes, Dos Caras means “two faces,” but not two-faced or duplicitous. It’s an idea that there are many sides of our true selves—and that to live fully is to be you, all of you. Also, I like to joke that we have one “cara” before we drink, and another “cara” after. You know, Dos Caras.”

Please elaborate about the sustainability and governance.

“Our production team in Mexico is incredible. Our master distiller, Gilberto Jasso-Garcia, is world-renowned, and I’m proud of the fact that 90% of the quality control, bottle line, and packaging is handled by women. Committed to sustainable distilling practices, we utilize solar panels and the regenerative Hurst BioMass boiler to source clean, renewable energy to produce our tequila. In fact, we were the first distillery in Mexico to implement these processes.”



What motivated you and your team to launch the Dos Caras brand in Las Vegas?

“Dos Caras is made for people looking for something different. Something that makes them sit up and take notice. Something distinguished and a bit riotous. Something they can find nowhere else on the planet. Just like Las Vegas. This is why

people come from all over the world to partake in all the amazing experiences that Vegas has to offer. We're thrilled and excited for the opportunity to be a part of that experience, no matter how small. Our hope, of course, is that we'll make an impression, and that visitors to Vegas will want to bring a little Dos Caras home—or purchase it from our online store at DosCarasTequila.com.

In addition, Las Vegas has really welcomed us with open arms. We have great partnerships throughout the city, including with Nevada Beverage, Greenspun Media Group, and Vinny Bonsignore of Raider Nation Radio.

This is why from day one it was important for us to begin giving back to this amazing community—dedicating a portion of our sales revenue to local charities, such as Cure 4 The Kids and Chef 4 Kids.”

What is your number one rule above all that's indicative of the Dos Caras brand?

“Never sacrifice quality. In product. In brand. In service to our customers, our distributor, and our retailers. Rather than seek success for the sake of success, my team lives by the practice of excellence. We know that if excellence is our discipline, success follows—making tequila as it was meant to be -honored, cherished, and shared.

What's next for Dos Caras?

“First, delivering for the partners who have entrusted us to deliver an exceptional product in Nevada. Second, carefully and thoughtfully expanding—just a few states at a time—shifting how Americans appreciate and experience tequila. And third, taking our product and our message of “Be You, All of You” international.”

We'd like to thank Lupita and her Dos Caras team for sharing with us the significance of the process, the importance of the quality and overall, why Dos Caras is the new tequila of Vegas. We look forward to the continued expansion of the Dos Caras brand throughout Las Vegas and to see where Lupita and her team takes Dos Caras on their journey!



Legendary Actor, Writer, Comedian, Speaker

MEET THE REAL JOHN DI DOMENICO

John Di Domenico is an Emmy® Nominated, Actor, Writer, Comedian and Best of Las Vegas Winner Impersonator & Comedian 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022. John has been performing as Austin Powers and Dr. Evil since 1997. In 2007 People magazine wrote Di Domenico's Powers was "The Best". He has portrayed The International Man of Mystery all over the world including Bangkok, Thailand, Munich, Germany,

Rome, Italy and of course swinging London.

John is best known for his Award-Winning Donald Trump impersonation as seen on ABC's The View's National Trump Contest and The Laugh Factory's International Trump Competition. Di Domenico was immortalized as Trump on the Las Vegas Wall of Honor.



Di Domenico has been performing Trump since 2004 and the official Trump for The Howard Stern Show (over 50 appearances), Conan O'Brien (over 52 episodes), Slate's Trumpcast (over 250 episodes), Chelsea Handler on Netflix, TBS' The Heckler, Fox News Redeye (over 50 appearances), Planet America (Australia over 225 episodes), Fox & Friends, Randy Rainbow, Glenn Beck's Blaze Network, and many more diverse outlets. John has been heard as and seen as Trump on Jimmy Kimmel, James Corden's Show and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. Di Domenico is also the voice of Trump on the bestselling audio book *The Method to the Madness*.

John has made hundreds of live appearances as Donald Trump around the globe including the European Parliament in Brussel, London's famed Dorchester Hotel, The Rainbow Room in NYC and headlined in *Totally Outrageous Brunch* at the Sahara/SLS on the Las Vegas Strip.

Di Domenico's Trump impersonation became so ubiquitous he was on the cover and the featured cover story for Los Angeles Magazine's October 2020 edition.

John has appeared as Trump in four feature films, the Fox sketch comedy show "Let's Be Real", the 13-episode Awards Winning, Canadian Comedy web series "You Got Trumped: The First 100 Days" and his Amazon Prime special "Fake News: A Trump Story" which he co-wrote. John has made an unprecedented 12 appearances on TODAY Australia and 6 appearances on Britain's #1 rated *This Morning*.

You can see and hear Di Domenico on TikTok with over six million followers & YouTube with over 20 million views of his own content along with commercials, animated series, voiceovers, virtual reality, apps and even toys. Di Domenico is the only Trump that has supplied his voice for Trump. Beyond Austin Powers and Donald Trump, John is also very well known for his Dr. Phil, Ozzy Osbourn, Jay Leno, Dr. Evil impersonations.

As a speaker, John Di Domenico captivates audiences with a truly unique and engaging blend of entertainment and insightful commentary. His presentations are not just about humor and impressions, but they also delve into his personal journey of overcoming a severe speech impediment, a topic he deeply understands and connects with. With genuine gratitude, John acknowledges the unwavering support of dedicated speech pathologists who played a crucial role in his life. Through their perseverance and guidance, he learned to overcome his speech challenges and effectively manage his learning disabilities, enabling him to communicate with clarity and authenticity.

Over a span of an intense eight years, John underwent transformative speech therapy that brought him to a remarkable point in his life. Now, he confidently takes the stage, captivating audiences with thought-provoking speeches that resonate with them long after the event is over.

Whether as a comedian, impressionist, or motivational speaker, John Di Domenico's presentations leave a lasting impact on his audience. His ability to blend humor, personal experiences, and profound insights makes him not only an exceptional entertainer but also a source of inspiration for those facing their own challenges.

Through his engaging storytelling and mastery of the stage, John encourages people to find their strength in adversity, embrace their uniqueness, and ultimately discover the power of perseverance and determination. His life's journey serves as a shining example of how one can transform obstacles into steppingstones towards success and fulfillment.

Di Domenico is committed to giving back to the Las Vegas community, he is active charitable organizations including Nevada SPCA, Pawtastic Friends, Saint Jude's Ranch for Children and has been recognized by New Vista for his volunteer service.

John attended East Stroudsburg University and graduated from Temple University with a BA in Speech Communications. John spent a year as an Intern for U.S. Senator Arlen Specter. John is grateful to work as an award-winning actor, writer, and content creator.

[Visit thejohnnydshow.com](http://thejohnnydshow.com)



REAL EATS BY CHEF VIC

The Real Vegas Tribe and Your Hometown Chef Experience Caviar Bar at Resorts World

There is already enough anticipation and next level excitement when one visits Resorts World as I can say this is the hotel that changed the whole look of the north Vegas strip. What a beautiful structure as it's going to be epic to watch everyone keep up with these guys. Well done Resorts World!

In addition to that sensation, you can combine it with the privilege and honor with the high anticipation of experiencing "Chef Shaun Hergatt's Caviar Bar" inside of this gorgeous hotel. It is quite easy to find once you are in the casino. As you take the restaurant row curve, the Caviar Bar is positioned there like a pearl in a clamshell. Almost the feeling when you look at a flawless diamond for the first time once your eyes make contact. I arrived early just to take it all in, then I had the honor of being joined by my good friends Candice & Travis from the Real Vegas Magazine family (RVM - Tribe) and none other than one of our favorites "Tyra Bell Holland" from Ava Rose Agency.



I will start off with the next level service that took place before we even sat down. Incredible ambiance and impeccable wait staff. Shortly after we were sat, came the beautiful, handcrafted beverages starting off with a round from their well put together cocktail menu consisting of the "JP old fashioned", "Apple of my eye" and the "PB & J daiquiri" which was my fav.

As we are sipping perfection, from the distance, we see the smoky dry ice headed our way. And here comes the Caspy Caviar. For sure the only way to start off the meal after these smooth flowing beverages. The perfect combination of savory and salty. An absolute mood setter for an amazing meal to come. From the perfect petite Blini pancakes to the creme fraiche, capers, and other additions, it was euphoric. At this point I was saying to myself, "I could sit here and eat this for the rest of the night, and you don't have to bring anything else". I'm good! This is as I am looking over at someone eating "champagne & fries" at another table lol- now you're talking! Welcome to Vegas!



Just caviar? Well guess again - Now we must discuss what occurred next. Since we are in raw mode, yes, "bring on the bluefin toro!" This cut is the fatty belly side of the salmon and by far a popular choice when it comes to raw. With no exaggeration I will say the greatest thing I have consumed from a raw perspective in ages. I have had some great raw cuisine, but this toro right here was like candy. It melted in your mouth like a stick of butter on a 115-degree Vegas summer day. This is one of those items upon ingesting that felt more like an experience as opposed to eating. This right here is "my return and bring a friend dish!" Or if you want to make a friend, I suggest you follow my lead on this. Stop at the bar if you don't have time for a full dinner.

Now we start getting into some of the savory favorite appetizers. Still not the main course yet but making it to the table we have next level visuals taking place consisting of shrimp toast with caviar, fresh oysters, cured meat and cheese plateau and the caviar setup is still rolling as well. "More Blinis, please!"

After the magnificent chef's tasting bites of many new and delicious signature items choreographed by chef Shaun himself, the main course is now arriving to the table. Having already fully outdone themselves, before us they place lobster pomodoro, and my favorite dover sole right

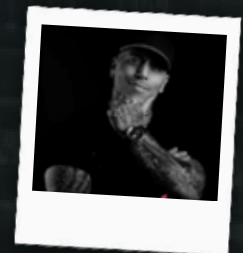
within my reach. On the other side of the table, I saw a filet and halibut. It just kept evolving into an epic next level high class feast. We had some personalities around the table, but it just got very quiet because everyone was lost in the next level quality of the meal and mostly this experience. Such a delicious fare prepared and created with precision and perfection.

By this point in this incredible evening, it is now desert time. And you figured we may have had enough caviar by now. Guess again- there would be one way and one way only to finish this beautiful feast off... You must not leave the restaurant without signing off on the chocolate covered blackberry cheesecake caviar ball - Blackberry cheesecake covered in chocolate looking like a ball of caviar. I mean if that's not the only way to end this exquisite spread, I don't know what is.

Sometimes we have an amazing meal, and other times it's a next level experience. This was all of the above. I will finish this off by saying - Chef Shaun, my friend Rebecca Lynn, and the entire Caviar Bar staff, we thank you for showing us absolute love by creating a memorable adventure and experience for us on a whole new level.

We will be sure to not only return, but to absolutely send our readers and friends in at the least for "a bump and a shot..." of caviar that is.

Thank you again for the incredible accommodations and impeccable evening! We can't return soon enough!





Vegan In Vegas

By Charles Karel Bouley

Every Day Eats to Special Events

I'd like to start with a nod to the New York Times for their recent stories on plant-based eating including **"Save The Planet, Put Down That Hamburger."** As it points out vegans are responsible for 75% less in greenhouse gasses than meat eaters. As Las Vegas recorded its hottest July ever, it's time to get serious about climate change and going plant-based is one great way to help yourself and the planet.

And why wouldn't you want to be plant-based when there's so many great options for all budgets in Las Vegas? Let's start with every-day eats; lunchtime, a quick dinner or delicious snack.



NoButcher

All the deli flavor, no butcher required. There are two types of vegans it seems these days: those that do not miss meat, that do not need food that replicates meat and are content to never have food like that served in a deli ever again; and then there are those that love a good cold cut sandwich, cheeses, deli sides like pasta salads, egg salad, tuna salad, they love a good faux corned beef and cabbage meal at St. Patrick's Day or a Reuben bursting with kraut. If you are the latter, and I am, then NoButcher at 3565 S. Rainbow Blvd. #110, Las Vegas, NV is the place for you. Monthly specials to delight, standards like the gyro sandwich/salad, NoRibs (think McRib without the horror), pulled pork, sides like NoTurkey bowtie pasta, cheeses of all kinds, all plant based this is THE spot for lunch, dinner, or a deli fix.



Bronze Cafe



Anyone that dismisses strip malls and business center restaurants in this day and age are doing themselves a disservice. Tucked away in corners of retail all over Las Vegas is some incredible food, being served up by friendly staff in unique environments. **Bronze Cafe (Summerlin / Desert Shores, 2380 N Buffalo Dr Ste 110, Las Vegas NV 89128, 702.852.2830, 8am to 8pm most days)** is such a place. Unbeatable sandwiches like the Vegucated or Tree of Life Pita, salads, pastries, this is another not-to-be-missed lunch spot.



Crossroads Elevates

On the other end of the spectrum is THE best plant-based fine dining in Las Vegas, Crossroads Kitchen (inside Resorts World). Chef Tal Ronnen and Chef Victor Rodriguez create dishes to be savored, and the ambiance and drinks can't be beaten. I've written 1800 words about it at veganinvegas.com. Ronnen is a best-selling author and one of Oprah's chefs and wanted to create a Mediterranean-based menu (ever changing) that elevates the experience and what a success it is. The eggplant short rib with truffle potatoes, the chilled cantaloupe and cucumber soup, watermelon salad, sweet corn raviolo, Bianca pizza, scallop fettuccine, I dare you to find a bad dish. A five-course tasting is \$85, seven course \$145, worth every single penny. I was a disbeliever, until I went, again, and again. It's a special place for special occasions. Check out the other one in LA if you are ever there.



So, from high-end to everyday, Las Vegas has this and many more answers for your plant-based dining needs to save yourself and the planet while expanding your palate and taste buds along the way.

To read more about these and other restaurants go to veganinvegas.com and listen for reviews on The Karel Cast wherever you get your podcasts. Reviews are often featured at youtube.com/reallykarel so subscribe as well as realvegasmagazine.com and send comments to comments@veganinvegas.com





Navigating Fall Festivities: Safeguarding Your Pets from Dietary Indiscretions

By Dr. Joe J. Owens III

As fall approaches, so do the festive holidays of Halloween and Thanksgiving. While these joyous occasions are filled with delectable treats and scrumptious feasts, they also pose potential health hazards for our furry companions. Dietary indiscretions during these seasonal celebrations can lead to serious health issues for pets. As responsible pet owners, it is essential to be aware of the risks and take necessary precautions to keep our four-legged friends safe.

Halloween Hazards: Chocolate Toxicity

Halloween's synonymous candy and chocolate can be deadly for pets, especially dogs. Chocolate contains theobromine and caffeine, substances that are toxic to dogs and, to a lesser extent, to cats. Even small amounts of chocolate can cause vomiting, diarrhea, increased heart rate, and tremors. In severe cases, seizures and cardiac arrest. To safeguard your pets during Halloween:

1. KEEP CANDY OUT OF REACH

Store Halloween candy, including chocolate, in secure containers or cabinets out of your pet's reach. Remind children and guests not to share candy with pets.

2. BE VIGILANT ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Keep your pets indoors during trick-or-treating to prevent accidental encounters with dropped candy.

3. KNOW THE SIGNS

Watch for symptoms like restlessness, pacing, increased thirst, and vomiting. Seek immediate veterinary attention if any concerning signs arise.

Thanksgiving Temptations: Excessive Table Food Ingestion

Thanksgiving's abundance of feasting can lead to digestive distress and health issues for pets. Many traditional dishes contain ingredients harmful to pets, such as fatty foods, bones, onions, garlic, grapes, raisins, and certain spices. To keep your pets safe during Thanksgiving:

1. REFRAIN FROM TABLE SCRAPS

Resist sharing table scraps with your pets, as fatty and seasoned foods can cause **gastrointestinal upset and pancreatitis**. Clinical signs can present as vomit/diarrhea/bloody diarrhea but are extremely painful to your pet. Seek veterinary care ASAP.

2. EDUCATE GUESTS

Inform guests, especially children, not to feed table scraps to pets.

3. SECURE TRASH BINS

Dispose of food scraps securely in covered trash bins to prevent pets from ingesting harmful items.

4. PET-FRIENDLY TREAT SUBSTITUTES

Consider pet-safe veggies like fresh carrots/green beans and fresh fruits like watermelon/blueberries instead of high-calorie "pet-safe" treats from the store.

General Tips for Your Pet's Holiday Safety

- **Routine Maintenance:** Ensure your pet's vaccinations and preventive medications are up-to-date before the holidays to protect them from potential infections or parasites during holiday travel.
- **Identification and Microchipping:** With increased foot traffic, ensure your pet wears a collar with proper identification tags, and consider microchipping a permanent form of identification.
- **Quiet Space:** Create a comfortable space for your pets to retreat to if they need a break from the holiday gatherings.
- **Monitor Decorations:** Be cautious with holiday decorations that can pose ingestion or choking hazards for curious pets.

By being mindful of the hazards and taking proactive steps to protect our furry friends, we can ensure that these holidays remain safe, enjoyable, and memorable for all members of the family, both human and animal alike.





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HERE ARE THE WINNERS!

Real Vegas Held Our Cutest Pet Contest and here are some that entered that you locals selected!
Thank you for sharing your Dog Shots with us.



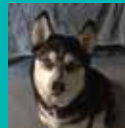
Name: Oscar
Breed: Maltese
Age: 13
Besides being obsessed with his dog mom, he doesn't age, he still looks like a puppy.



Name: SPOT
Breed: Tuxedo Cat
Age: 4
Loves Shrimp.



Name: Xena
Breed: Siberian Husky
Age: 8
Xena has the clearest blue eyes, and she loves hanging out on the trampoline.



Name: Lola Davis
Breed: Husky
Age: 6
She's named after Lola Falana, the famous show girl in Las Vegas who hung out with Sammy Davis Jr. and the Rat Pack (Our last name is Davis, and our other 2 Dogs are Dino and Joey for Dean Martin and Joey Bishop of Rat Pack).



Name: Tequila
Breed: Havanese
Age: 9
Tequila likes to be in charge of everything and everyone, everywhere she goes. She usually gets her way.



Name: Skyye
Breed: Puli (Hungarian Sheep Dog)
Age: 5
Skyye loves to herd everyone and everything, even the two desert tortoises, who pay her no attention whatsoever, much to her chagrin.



Frank, Beans and Porky



Tango



Who's the Top Dog in Vegas?

Submit your favorite dog shot for a chance to be featured in an upcoming issue as the TOP DOG! Submit your DOG SHOT to:

info@realvegasmagazine.com

for how to register your dog to possibly be featured as a Real Vegas TOP DOG

TIPS TO START YOUR OWN RETAIL BUSINESS

by Linda Johansen-James,
Founder of International Retail Group

The job landscape has undergone a seismic shift in the past few years. This shift was partly due to health and safety concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced many individuals to work remotely and others to confront the fragile nature of their job security. The shift was then exacerbated by what many have dubbed the "Great Resignation," where employees voluntarily resigned from their jobs due to various reasons, including, wage stagnation amid rising living costs, limited opportunities for career advancement, unfavorable work environments, lack of benefits, inflexible remote-work policies, and long-lasting job dissatisfaction.

The combination of these phenomena prompted an entrepreneurial spirit to surge, leading many to take their professional destinies into their own hands by starting their own businesses. This transformative crossroad has given way to a new economic landscape, making this an opportune time for those who want to be an entrepreneur to open up a new business.

However, launching a new business or brand is a delicate dance of strategy, creativity, and research – leaving many aspiring business owners to ask themselves, "Where do I start?" As a seasoned retail expert, I work to help my clients navigate this delicate dance so that their brand can reach its full potential. Over the years, I've noticed a few pillars that make a business stand out: staffing, sales training, experiential design, and the all-important site selection.

01 | Staffing: Building A Dream Team

Staff is more than just a team – they are the heartbeat of a business. They're the first point of contact a brand makes with its clientele, which makes them representatives of your brand's values and the driving force behind in-store operations.

During the recruitment phase, aim for a mix of experience levels. This helps the business because, although seasoned staff members bring a wealth of knowledge, fresh faces provide new perspectives and an eagerness to learn.

Remember, the staffing journey doesn't end there. Employee retention is crucial to a business. To achieve good employee retention, cultivate a supportive work environment. Recognize and reward efforts, invest in continued learning, and, most importantly, create open communication channels.



02 | Sales Training: Equip Your Front Line

Even the most experienced salesperson can benefit from ongoing training. Retail is an evolving industry, so staff needs to stay on top of the latest trends, tools, and techniques to provide the best quality of customer service.

Another aspect of sales training is ensuring that all staff has in-depth knowledge of the business' products. When the staff believes in a product, it's easier for them to make genuine recommendations.

The most important value to instill into employees is relationship building. Retail is not just about selling products but building and fostering relationships. So, training staff in the fine art of listening to customer needs, understanding their pain points, and guiding them to solutions is crucial for the success of a retail business.

Proper in-depth training also better equips the staff with strategies to manage and de-escalate difficult situations, be it an unsatisfied customer or an unforeseen store mishap.



03 | Experiential Design: Cultivating Memorable Encounters

You could have an impeccable store design and a stellar team, but the chances of your business thriving diminish if the store is tucked away in a scarcely visited alley. For retail companies always consider the foot traffic in the proposed location. Busy streets, near public transport hubs, or adjacent to popular establishments can be goldmines.

Another crucial part of retail is understanding the demographics of the area where the retail store is located. Understanding the demographics can help better to tailor the retail experience to the target audience.

Launching a retail business in this economic landscape might seem daunting to most. Especially because as we progress, it's becoming more and more apparent that the essence of retail isn't just in selling products – It's in creating experiences, nurturing relationships, and building a community. However, with the right guidance, any retail dream can thrive. That's why I founded International Retail Group to help individuals with big ideas bring them to life and help established brands restructure. If you've been considering opening a retail location and feel overwhelmed by where to start, we can help!

Linda Johansen-James, nicknamed "The Billion Dollar Brand Maker," is the CEO of International Retail Group, a retail management and consulting company based out of Las Vegas, NV. IRG specializes in brand and new product launches, in-store experiential design, executive and frontline sales training, retail real estate and site selection, pop-ups, kiosks, carts, staffing, franchising, and on-site store management. The multi-faceted retail powerhouse even has a chapter dedicated to her in her close friend, Daymond John, of ABC's hit TV show, Shark Tank's, New York Times best-selling book, The Power of Broke. Johansen-James' client list has included Proactiv® Skincare, Barbell Apparel, Revlon, Flip Flop Shops, BPerfect Cosmetics, and many more. For more information on IRG, please visit irg-retail.com or check out their LinkedIn at [linkedin.com/company/international-retail-group-llc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-retail-group-llc).





HUMILITY TO ALL AROUND SUCCESS IN THE VALLEY

Meet the Real Tim Veile of Precision Garage Door

Tim Veile is a local businessman and has been a Las Vegas resident since 2003. Tim had some very humble beginnings coming from a small town on the Mississippi river, raised by a single mother, the middle child of three children. Tim says, "Marilyn Kelle, my mother, was a smart, hardworking, lady with a big heart and always tried to do the right thing. She volunteered tirelessly at Quanada Battered Women's Center for years and to this day is remembered fondly for her efforts. My stepfather Richard "Dick" Kelle was an avid outdoorsman, Golden Glove Boxer, and held the course record at Westview Golf Course in Quincy for years."

An overachiever from an early age, he consistently had a job since his youth, starting out as a paper boy at age 12. Tim has had continual work history including working full time to pay all living and education expenses to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business at Quincy University. Fresh out of college Tim worked as a sales manager for Dot Foods and opened the west coast to help complete national expansion. Tim successfully opened more top 100 customers than anyone in the company's 30-year history. After eight years with Dot Foods, Tim helped expand the company's growth from 20 million dollars to over \$1.5 billion in annual sales within eight years. After working in corporations for over 20 years, Tim purchased Precision Garage Doors of Las Vegas and moved to the valley in 2003. "I came to Las Vegas on business often an always loved the city. I think the weather is great, and there are a ton of outdoor activities." Tim is involved in many diverse entrepreneurial and investment ventures, including Real Estate, Vertical Farming, Green Recycling, Medical devices, and other business investments. "However, the largest investment of my time and energy is dedicated to my family, and after that is my other baby, my business Precision Garage Door, which I have owned for over 20 years."



Precision Overhead "Garage Doors" Door of Las Vegas GarageDoor-LV.com

Precision is a full-service garage door company for repairs, sales and service. Specializing in same day service, no extra charges for nights & weekends, and free phone estimates. "I remember when I bought the business over 20 years ago, when our busiest times were Saturdays and evenings, since we were the only company open at the time, lol. Now we have live company operators available 24/7, to be there when customers need us. We are one of the few companies to remain in business and grow, even through all the hard times. Tim adds, "I believe it is because we simply do what we promise and give the people what they pay for!" Precision is currently hiring for Service Technicians to help support their continued growth.

Family

After living as a single man for decades, Tim had never been married and had no children. Tim now proudly has a complete family, including Freddy the rescue, his eight-year-old stepson, and a newborn daughter. Tim dotes on his partner and family, "Rute, my love and best friend. Our baby girl is an absolute joy and the light of our life! She was born with a full head of hair and four teeth- just kidding about the teeth, but she is progressing fast, and is the highlight of our lives."

Over the holidays they made a trip back to Brazil to meet Rute's family, who were overjoyed. Tim and Rute recently packed up the entire family, including 'Freddy', the rescue dog, for a trip back to his hometown of Quincy, Illinois to let everyone meet the baby and introduce Rute to his extended family, including the Woodward's, Veile's, Spark's, Bastean's, Stiern's and the Begley's. Their son declared he had the "best day ever," since he started off with firsts! all day including, an Underbrinks Bakery's famous roll, catfish nuggets on the Mississippi river, tossing a tack dollar for donation in the ceiling, while they let him stand on the table. He caught his first fish ever, made a hole in one on the last hole to win minigolf, played on the jungle gym in the rain, and lastly, for the win, chose the movie "Pixels" to end the day. "My Aunt May Lou Veile Stiern had a baby at age 50, yes 50, but now I have the honor of being the oldest parent in the family," Tim says with laughter and pride.

Charity and Local Volunteering

Tim is involved in the local community including many local charities and volunteer work, including being heavily involved in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program of Southern Nevada for six years. Additionally, Tim provides monthly donations and does volunteer work at St. Jude, Quanada Battered Womens' Center, Three Square Food Bank, Heaven Can Wait Animal Center, Ladies of Charity, and founder of "Grand Adopt Foundation," which connects local youth and seniors. Tim humbly adds, "I am sure there are a few more, but what is important to me is to do my part to help improve the next generation and do what I can for those less fortunate. I believe in the significance in giving back if you can."

Having known Tim for many years, we are always proud to watch his continued success and the ultimate fulfillment he now shares with having a complete family unit. Tim, your beautiful family is equally as fortunate to have you as you are completed by having them to share your life and dreams with. The Las Vegas community commends you and your family and are thankful and honored to have you and your continued support in our incredible city of Las Vegas!



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SAM RYAN HEIDARI

THE REBEL LAWYER

When it comes to providing quality representation, the main objective for attorney Sam Ryan Heidari has always been, and remains to be, tailor-made, personalized service. To be able to successfully provide such service, one has to understand the needs of the people they're serving, as well as become an active member in the community in which one serves. With this in mind, Sam Ryan Heidari ensures that his hallmark of service is "competent and ethical lawyering". The people that Heidari Law Group services are injured, hurt, or have had their personal rights infringed upon, and Sam Ryan Heidari feels that helping these people is his true calling.

Sam Ryan Heidari has been on a campaign consistently over the years to increase his community involvement. In doing so, he has directly changed the lives of several Las Vegas and Los Angeles residents. In December 2022, Sam Ryan Heidari purchased a building to accommodate a new, state-of-the-art facility for the expansion of Heidari Law Group, enabling them to provide services whenever and wherever needed. This purchase helped to provide a home for Abogados Con Experiencia, the firm that Sam helped create to cater to the legal needs of the Spanish-speaking population. Additionally, in August 2022, Sam Ryan Heidari added \$5,000.00 to reward money that was offered by L.A.P.D

for information to help solve a non-fatal hit and run. A man in Los Angeles hit a bicyclist while he was crossing an intersection and continued driving. Similarly, A man in Las Vegas faced the same type of hit and run, only this time, unfortunately, the victim did not survive. Again, Sam Ryan Heidari's \$10,000.00 reward helped to lead to the apprehension of the criminal.

The Heidari Law Group has since started a justice division to have funding available to give reward money to people that provide tips and information. that lead to the arrest and conviction of criminals. Heidari works closely with Crimes Stoppers in an effort to prevent criminal activity and deaths in Clark County.

In addition to proactively participating in resolving local civil matters, Sam has a much broader eye on protecting the rights and civil liberties of the people. In October 2022, the Heidari Law Group confronted insurance companies, fighting racially motivated insurance practices. Apparently, a certain insurance company did not want to honor the terms of a policy following an accident by paying the involved party, it was later proven



Representing the Family of a Hit & Run Victim - \$10,000 Reward to Crime Stopper Tipster

that the determination to withhold these funds was (in many ways) made on the basis of the claimant's race. Fearlessly, Sam Ryan Heidari takes on companies such as these and fights tooth-and-nail for his clients.

For their efforts, Sam Ryan Heidari and Heidari Law Group have been featured in the media on many occasions. From Sam giving his expert opinion on shows such as ABC's The Morning Blend, to being acknowledged at Crime Stoppers' Annual Community Appreciation Dinner. He's gained national attention by being featured on CNN, as well as Yahoo News, FOX, and NBC.

Heidari Law Group, P.C. is a beacon of hope for the infirmed, and a champion for the rights of those who are suffering. There are several factors that make them different from other law firms. First, they are not a trial only firm. They are involved in the process from A to Z. Also, they are not a personal injury "mill". Firms like that get a case and pass it off to another firm to handle the litigation if and when they drop the ball. Not the Heidari Law Group. They take a case, and if it needs to be litigated, they handle the litigation, from the drafts of the lawsuits all the way up to the final judgment after trial. This is a massive undertaking, but they take the phrase "protecting your client's interest" very seriously. Heidari Law Group, P.C. prides themselves on the 3 Ds; diligence, determination, and dedication. According to attorney Sam Ryan Heidari these three words

encompass the core values of Heidari Law Group, P.C., in the courtroom, the conference room, and out in public.

Attorney Sam Ryan Heidari started out doing business litigation. However, this did not fulfill his urge to make a difference in the lives of individual citizens. With this in mind, Sam offers some free advice for those looking to hire an attorney. Heidari submits that one should always do their due diligence. "If the attorney is practicing in the field of personal injury and charges you a consultation fee, that's a red flag for me" states Heidari. While this approach isn't unethical, personal injury clients are often unable to work, dealing with expensive and accruing medical bills, and are under great psychological pressure as well. The last thing they need is to have to pay a consultation fee up front to speak to an attorney. It is this protective "watchdog" mindset and commitment to best practices that makes Heidari Law Group one of the fastest growing law firms in Nevada and could be the magic behind their track record of recovering millions for their clients.

Sam Ryan Heidari is married with two children and lives in Henderson NV. He graduated from UNLV in 2013 and has remained active in the UNLV Alumni Community. Heidari gained the nickname "The Rebel Lawyer" for his involvement and sponsorship of the UNLV Rebels and continues to be very much an active supporter and donor of his alma mater, the UNLV Rebels.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT

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Patrick, the Founding Partner of Ace Law Group told me that they have one simple rule they live by when litigating cases: "Fight with Passion". When their team at Ace Law Group handles a case, they handle each case with one simple thing at the heart of every case: Passion.

Patrick and his team are passionate about their cases. They are passionate about trial. They are passionate about seeking justice for their clients. When he was young, his father was injured in a work accident in Detroit, Michigan and he never forgot the suffering he watched his family endure. It wasn't just the pain of his

father's injuries that he remembers, but the pain of their family having to endure tough times during his father's injuries. His mom had to work two jobs. He remembers his father sitting in the recliner for days on end in the living room. Patrick remembers most vividly that he had to walk on eggshells for months because "Dad was in pain". This meant that Dad was either tired, hurting, angry, or frustrated, and those months of suffering felt like a lifetime.

This is the essential reason why he founded Ace Law Group. It's built on one simple idea. Fight every case with Passion. All client's injuries are our own. Every trial they do is not just about the money, it's about the joy that was taken from them. Something that Patrick and his team understand better than anyone.

Patrick and Kyle have been partners for almost a decade now. Kyle began working with Patrick as a young lawyer and quickly became his right-hand man. Patrick says that "If it weren't for Kyle, I would have blindly run right off a cliff chasing bad cases. He is the practical one. The smart one."

Together Patrick and Kyle have tackled some of the most difficult cases in Nevada. Mold poisoning cases, sexual harassment cases, discrimination cases, revenge porn cases and even school bullying cases. This is on top of the usual injury cases like car crashes and trip and falls that they handle every single day.

Most recently they joined with a new partner, Christian Smith as a welcomed addition to the Ace Law Group team. A veteran of the field, Christian brings, what Kyle says is "technical skills that have been polished over decades of practicing law in the courtroom." Patrick says, "Christian is the piece of the puzzle we were missing to take us to that next level."

And to the next level have they gone... In the past year alone this boutique injury law firm has recovered tens of millions of dollars for their clients. But Patrick will say that's not what matters. He says what really matters is that they have taken multiple cases to trial in the last year and sunk their blood, sweat and tears into each of those trials. Their trial process is grueling but incredibly rewarding and they have the results to show for it.

ACE clients don't just like this law firm, they love them. Clients who have been to trial with the team at ACE have become like family to them. They grow so close during the process that a few have even come to work for them after their cases concluded. When I asked Patrick why he thought that was, he looked me in the eye and said one thing: "Because they feel our passion."

Patrick will tell you... as he has told me a few times before...

“ I never forgot what we went through. It wasn't just my father's injury. It wasn't just his pain and suffering. It was all of ours. ”



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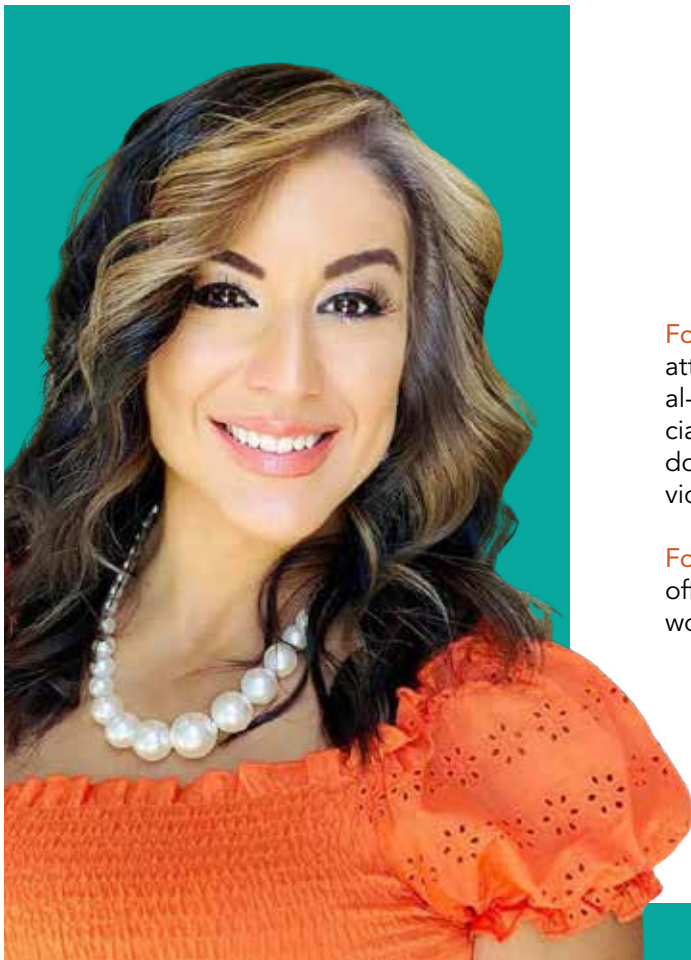
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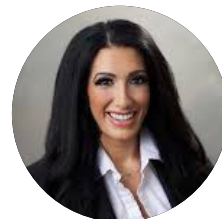
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Congratulations to Michael McAvoyAmaya and Timothy Revero on being named a 2022 Leading Lawyer of Las Vegas!



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Join us in honoring and recognizing the 2023 Greatest Real Estate Moguls. If you know of a Greatest Real Estate Mogul that deserves to be listed here

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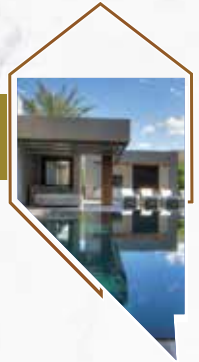


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Andrew Cartwright
Angela Tina
Anita Bovee
Anthony Knight
Ashley Hawks
Ashley Oakes-Lazosky
Audra Knowles
Avi Dan-Goor
Betsy Lemper
Bill Hargraves
Bobbi Miracle
Brandy White Elk Jimenez
Brenda Beltran
Brendan King
Cassie Mor
Cathy Jones
Chris Patrick
Christin Griffin
Christina Chipman
Christine McNaught
Christy Heil
Claire Susick
Clea Whitney
Craig Tann
Cynthia Cartwright
Dale Snyder
Dana Limon
Dani Bradford
Danielle Hess
Daryl Hanna
Dave J. Tina
Dawn Houlf
Debbie Drummond
Debbie German
Delinda Crampton
Di Wolfgram
Donna Lefever

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Erin Patrick
Fafie Moore
Falisha Rexford
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LEADING BY TEACHING TEACHING BY LEADING

MEET THE REAL **DAVE TINA** OF 

From the moment you step into the Urban Nest Realty headquarters on W. Sahara, you can instantly feel the real, authentic, and positive vibe that Dave Tina embodies and instills into his entire team. The energy that Dave exudes makes you instantly aware that he is far from just “a real estate guy”. He has an unwavering dedication to his career and his team, paired with an entrepreneurial spirit, passion for inspiring others, and is well rounded when it comes to his professional life. As the Owner and Founder of Urban Nest Realty, Infinite Path, and AT LUXURY all within Urban Nest, Dave has made an indelible mark on the real estate landscape as well as other business leaders.

Dave is equally as dedicated to his family and personal life. On his journey to success, Dave met his beautiful wife, Angela Tina, who also finds success in her career in the real estate industry, and they now together own AT LUXURY, which is one of the Top 10 Luxury Real Estate Teams in Las Vegas. Dave is a proud “girl dad” of three beautiful daughters, Ella, Lola, and Gianna. He takes immense personal joy nurturing, supporting, and guiding his daughters, while showcasing his cherished values of strength, resilience, ambition, and hard work. His daughters look up to him with admiration as a source of inspiration, and Dave’s commitment to his family and ability to balance his professional achievements with his role as a husband, father and son serve as a great example to others.





Dave was born and raised in Medford, New York and he excelled in both academics and sports. Dave pursued a college education at UNLV and briefly taught in the Clark County School District after obtaining his degree in education and kinesiology. In 2000, Dave's father, David Tina, urged Dave to study and obtain his real estate license and Dave decided he would do so as an opportunity to supplement his teaching career, which was a passion of his. After he achieved his real estate license, Dave simultaneously got into the mortgage business and started in retail with Bank of America Home Loans. He quickly accomplished his goals, focused on his skills, and transitioned to Southern Fidelity Mortgage, further broadening his industry expertise. During this time, he also practiced real estate with Realty Executives and showcased his versatility to his professional growth.

In 2006, recognizing his remarkable success in real estate, Dave made the decision to focus exclusively on the real estate side of the industry. His dedication and passion paid off, as he flourished with Realty ONE Group. In 2008, he assumed the role of Assistant Broker to his father, David Sr., due to the rapid growth he had generated. Inspired by their shared vision, Dave opened a new branch for Realty ONE Group in Southwest Las Vegas, where he led a team of over 200 agents to unprecedented heights in less than 18 months. Notably, his branch also boasted the highest profitability per agent within the organization.

In 2012 with his father and wife they opened Urban Nest Realty which is now the #1 brokerage in units and volume. While celebrating their 10-year anniversary just last year, Dave purchased and renovated a 12 million dollar building which is now the new home of his corporate branch. Dave humbly credits his father and his wife for the culmination of their success and it's evident this powerhouse trio of brokers were destined for success, all the while, teaching and coaching upwards of 500 eager and hard-working agents that all call Urban Nest their work family.

Dave's exceptional contributions to the real estate community did not go unnoticed. In 2016, he received the prestigious honor of being named one of the Top 40 Under 40 by Vegas INC Magazine, a testament to his outstanding achievements at a young age. Demonstrating his commitment to the industry, Dave actively engaged with the Las Vegas Realtors (LVR). In 2017, he served as the President of LVR, taking on a pivotal leadership role and contributing to the growth and development of the real estate community. In 2018, Dave was inducted into the LVR Hall of Fame, cementing his legacy as an industry trailblazer.

Driven by a passion to uplift and empower others, Dave embarked on a new endeavor by becoming the Owner/Founder of Infinite Path. With a focus on life and leadership coaching, cultivating mindsets, and business consulting. Infinite Path provides a platform for individuals to embrace personal growth, discover their true potential, and achieve success in various aspects of life. Dave's dedication to teaching, inspiring, and leaving a positive impact on those around him drives his pursuit of embracing others to succeed.

Dave's remarkable journey is not just one of professional success but also a personal fulfillment and deep-rooted love. His ability to achieve excellence in both his career and family life is a testament to his unfaltering dedication, passion, and integrity. Dave proudly serves as a constant source of inspiration and guidance to not only daughters but colleagues and leaders, leaving a lasting legacy that extends far beyond the boundaries of the real estate industry.

***We agree, Dave Tina of
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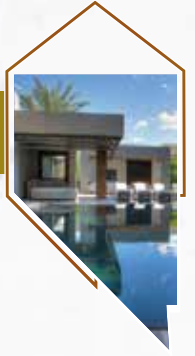
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VANDANA BHALLA

With over two decades of experience in the real estate industry, Vandana Bhalla is a name synonymous with excellence and commitment. As the Corporate Broker, Permitted Property Manager, and Business Broker at Signature Real Estate Group, Vandana has established herself as a formidable force in the world of real estate. Beyond her professional roles, Vandana is also an Executive Coach, guiding and mentoring more than 50 individuals across various industries nationwide. Vandana is an instructor in multiple states, including NV, CA, OK, MI, AK, TX, FL, and UT.

Vandana's dedication to her profession is evident through her active involvement in the real estate community. She serves on several key committees for Las Vegas and Nevada REALTORS, including Professional Standards and Faculty. Her commitment to the industry is further underscored by her investment as an RPAC Major Investor at the Golden R President's Circle Level. Vandana also holds the position of Trustee on BORPAC, NVRPAC, and Realtor Industry PAC. In recent years, she has been an invaluable member of NV REALTORS' Legislative Management Team, contributing to shaping the industry's legislative landscape.

Awards and accolades have been a consistent feature of Vandana's career journey. She has been recognized as: Top 25 Asian Practitioner (AREAA, 3 years), and Top 40 Under 40 (YPN, 3 years), and many more. Vandana's impact extends beyond the real estate sector, having received the "Women Who Mean Business" award from Las Vegas Business Press Magazine in 2011 and the Top 40 under 40 distinction from Vegas Inc. Magazine in 2014. Her most recent accolade includes the esteemed Women of Distinction Award by NAWBO, underscoring her role as a leader and influencer.

Vandana Bhalla firmly believes that REALTORS® should play an active role in their communities. She puts this belief into action by generously dedicating her time and resources to organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Nevada and Friends of Las Vegas K9. Her community engagement extends to her position as a member of the Board of Directors for the UNLV Foundation Advisory and Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada.

But Vandana's journey doesn't end there. She is a proud graduate of the Vegas Chamber's Leadership Las Vegas program and currently serves as the curriculum chair for the program. In the upcoming year, she will lead a class of 60 esteemed business professionals through this transformative experience, showcasing her commitment to nurturing leadership within her community. In a world where excellence, leadership, and community engagement are celebrated, Vandana Bhalla stands as a shining example.

Her impact in real estate and beyond is undeniable, and her dedication to making a difference in her community serves as an inspiration to all.



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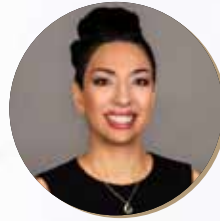
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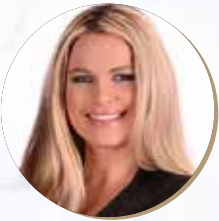
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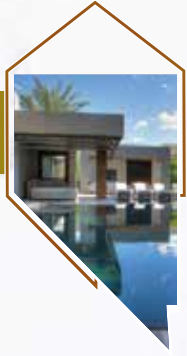
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Please help us honor and recognize the 2023 Most Magnificent Men of Las Vegas! From CEO's, Philanthropists, Business Professionals, Business Owners to Corporate Executives, these men are a vital heartbeat in our local community and represent the REAL Men of Las Vegas! Be sure to read about them and their respective businesses and get to know ways you can help support them and their companies in our community!



*If there's someone you believe deserves to be on this list for next year,
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Lost Vagrants have cemented their place as a top favorite in Las Vegas with their exceptional song selection and warm, welcoming attitude. They specialize in the best and most popular covers from the 90's alternative era, while also bringing in beloved classics and the latest bangers. Their driving passion is to ignite the crowd with familiar and adored tunes as well as bringing their Vagrants style to some of your new favorite songs. You've never heard this version before.

Lost Vagrants have been playing together as a group since 2021. When Covid hit Las Vegas, it shut down the live music scene, sending bands scattering. Very few bands survived the pandemic including each of the Vagrants former gigs. The formation of this band has been one of the best things that could have happened under such terrible circumstances. The guys somehow managed to find each other. The chemistry the Lost Vagrants share is next level. They truly enjoy playing music together and for people in our community. "We each understand the commitment and the sacrifice and the humility it takes to keep that chemistry working. We're a silver lining group of guys and we believe that things happen for a reason. We work day after day to learn new songs, perfect the old ones, toss out ideas and play music with you in mind. All we want is the opportunity to entertain. To provide a smile, to bring back a memory, to help make a new one and show you how much we care."

The Lost Vagrants keeps charitable causes at the top of their priority list!

They support these organizations in our community that support real lost vagrants and those struggling with homelessness, drug addiction, and mental health!



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- FEED MY SHEEP OUTREACH

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MUSIC....FOR YOU!**

A few of The Lost Vagrants upcoming shows:

9/15/23 - Gold Mine.

11/11/23 - Soul Belly BBQ

1/20/24 - Soul Belly BBQ

Send us message! If you have a song idea that you want us to play, or you'd like to ask about having us play at your venue or party, just let us know! Maybe you just don't like that thing one of the guys did at the last show. Or maybe you're just looking for love. Our mailbag is always open!

✉ info@LostVagrants.com



Q&A with **FRANK SIDORIS**

Guitarist for Slash and
The Conspirators and
Mammoth WVH

Las Vegas Native Rocker

Photo Credit: Chuck Brueckmann



Photo Credit: Austin Nelson

RVM: How old were you when you first started playing guitar and what influenced you and made you want to start?

FS: I was 15 years old, just about to turn 16 when I first started taking guitar lessons. I had been skateboarding nonstop at the time with every intent on making it as a professional when the guitar took over. A bunch of my friends had already been playing guitar around that time and I felt that it would only take my love for music to a new level to actually learn how to play an instrument.

RVM: Growing up in the Las Vegas entertainment industry, what did you think at a young age you would be doing now?

FS: Whatever it was in my head at the time, it involved a stage. So much of my upbringing was around entertainment in some fashion and it always felt like the right place to be. Within the first year or two of playing the guitar I would envision the future from a "when I'm on stage" perspective and it came true, at first through local bands for years, and eventually on to touring acts, etc.

RVM: What was your first tour vehicle when you first started touring?

FS: We drove through the entire lower 48 States in a passenger van affectionately referred to as "The Mule." Terrifying trips through the Rockies in the winter and everything.

RVM: What's the craziest thing to happen to you or that you've ever done on stage?

FS: There's plenty of absurd moments to report from on stage over the years, I've lost count of the amount of people that have ran on stage to attempt to take Slash's hat during our set. It never ends well, but the video footage of the chase scenes between the security and the hat stealers are always hilarious.

RVM: What was the number one show you've ever played and why?

FS: It used to be tough to pin it down until we played Allegiant Stadium a couple years back opening for Guns N Roses. As a Vegas native, it couldn't have meant more to play for my hometown with a VGK flag on my mic stand. We were technically the first rock band to play there which still blows my mind, the crowd was immediately on our side, and we had a core memory level show.

RVM: What was your favorite go-to meal while on tour or your touring staple?

FS: I'm a big proponent of always getting out in the city you're in and discovering what it has to offer. Coffee, food, etc. Pre-show I swear by two bananas and Pedialyte. No cramps!

RVM: Did you have moments of failure before you made it big in which you felt like quitting your pursuit of music?

FS: Aside from my previous bands breaking up, the goal was always to go forward. It never felt like a failure, it was definitely a learning experience and growth at the end of the day. Touring has its incredible ups and very real downs that can make you question some things over time, but you power through as it is all most definitely worth it.

RVM: The son of a Las Vegas showgirl, what are some fun memories you have about growing up being the son of the well-known Angela Stabile?

FS: Most kids who grow up here and go to the Strip once a year when their family visits. My sister and I on the other hand have taken advantage of every single bit of what Vegas had to offer in the early 1990's through the early 2000's because of my family. We often talk about how fortunate we were to be raised in such an amazing and specifically family-friendly Vegas era. We knew the ins and outs of the amusement park/water park, the buffets, and shows on the Strip. The entire decade was one incredible memory and continues to feel that way as adults. We love Vegas, and it remains to be my favorite place in the world.



RVM: Being a rock star obviously has its perks. What are some of your favorite things or doors that open for you based on your rocker status?

FS: I'd say being able to be in any sort of close proximity to my heroes. Being in the same room and even jamming with the people I've grown up idolizing in some cases has been so special over the years. Never loses its luster.

RVM: What legendary musicians and/or bands were you a fan of that you have now at this point in your professional career toured with?

FS: I'd say one of the most unlikely and full circle moments for me was playing live alongside of two of my heroes at the same time, Alex Lifeson of Rush and Alice Cooper. Alex never seems to play with other artists other than his own band, so it seemed like it wasn't real when I received the email that we'd all be playing the same charity event together. We had the best time and I found myself calling these guys friends after the event, still hard to believe. Then comes my current touring band, Mammoth WVH. I've had some of the best times of my touring life out here with Wolfgang Van Halen and this crew.

RVM: What was that groundbreaking moment when you realized you'd made it?

FS: There have been a few of those "pinch me" moments that are forever burned into my memory, and most of them are from the inside of stadiums or at massive festivals where there was roughly 90,000 people chanting the chorus to your song in unison. Aside from that, I still have big aspirations and ideas for the future that haven't come to fruition yet which I am looking forward to the most. I don't feel that I've made it yet, there's still so much work to do.

RVM: Now the owner of the historic Hard Hat Lounge, what's your favorite thing about owning the iconic long-standing tavern?

FS: Being able to serve the Downtown Las Vegas community and the Las Vegas industry has been one of the most rewarding feelings ever. Especially in one of the three oldest and iconic bars in town. Vegas and its culture are my life as well as my families and all I want to do is be there for the city in any way that I can.

RVM: Who would you most enjoy collaborating with?

FS: I'd say the biggest fish of all would be Paul McCartney, but I feel a more realistic goal would be working with Jack White. I've respected his approach to breaking all of the rules since I started playing guitar and then comes how he's created his own music industry within the industry.

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VEGAS VETERAN

Meet the Real Thomas Bowen of Therapy Blocks

UNITED STATES NAVY TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY & THE WORLD OF PHILANTHROPY

Thomas Bowen, Owner of Therapy Blocks was born in Las Vegas, Nevada and graduated high school from Cimmaron Memorial. He was enlisted in the Navy from December 2001 through December 2006 and was stationed out of Everett, Washington. Thom did 3 tours and was a part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom (primarily in Iraq), which are military campaigns that are part of the ongoing Global War on Terror. Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) began in October 2001. Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) began on March 20, 2003. Thom was directly involved with and a part of the American military's humanitarian response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami called Unified Assistance for the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. In 2006, West Pac was the third tour of duty Thom was on while serving in the Navy.

After the Navy, Thom went to school for Occupational Therapy and earned his COTA, which is a certified occupational therapist assistant credentials.

Thom is married to his wife Gigi. She is an RN, and they have two teenage children, Isabella, and Caleb.

Thom started Therapy Blocks LLC in April 2018, due to his love for children and helping people. Therapy Blocks LLC provides in home and in clinic Pediatric Speech, OT, and PT. Many of the children Therapy Blocks serves are medically fragile, in hospice or in the foster care system.

Prototypez Non-Profit organization was created to help teens and young adults with disabilities get training in life, social and job-related skills. Prototypez has free summer camps, events, fall and spring classes. The Non-Profit began in November of 2021 and the families they assist are never charged for the services Prototypez provides to the families.

Battle Born Pediatric Behavior Therapy was established in 2023.

Therapy Blocks is a Best of Las Vegas Gold and Silver winner in all 3 therapy categories multiple years. They were also named by Vegas Chamber of Commerce as a best small business winner for 2021.

Prototypez is a nominee for Best Non-Profit organization.

Thom served as a Down Syndrome of Southern NV board member, CRPS WARRIORS board member and is the President and Founder of Prototypez.



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DR. JON PETRICK



Not only is he considered one of the leading pain management pioneers in America, but **Dr. Jon Petrick, D.C., CEO and Clinical Director of the EverReady Health, Integrated Pain Relief Centers**, also has a secret side superpower... He has become a Constitutional Historian and his mission is to awaken people's love and knowledge of the American Constitution. He speaks to civic groups, non-profits, corporations and associations about the vitality of the Constitution in our lives and the rights that it confers to us. He is passionate about patriotism that was born at the dawn of the U.S. and how that can be re-ignited today through his entertaining and inspiring presentation that sees the Constitution and America in their historical context. Consider his stirring story of Francis Scott Key's writing of the National Anthem or Dr. Petrick's interpretation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

His Constitutional love affair was inspired by an incident at the beginning of the pandemic. Dr. Petrick found himself in a dispute with OSHA as to whether his clinic's medical services were consider non-essential oressential. After a raid on his clinic, threats of subpoenas of his staff and seizure of his records without awarrant, he realized that he did not know his rights. So he began a deep dive into those rights, **"falling in love with the American Constitution and historic literature."** And now several years later, he is seeking to share the romance and the rights that people often take for granted.

Not until he had probed the depths of the Constitution did he decide to put his passion into action, running for Nevada Assembly District 21 in 2022. While Dr. Petrick did not win, he will likely run again, because **he believes that rights must be protected and exercised to keep the Constitution vital.**

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Ron Lutz The King Butcher



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HOLLYWOOD SMILE DENTAL IN LAS VEGAS

MEET THE REAL DR. STEVE KIM

By Roy Nelson

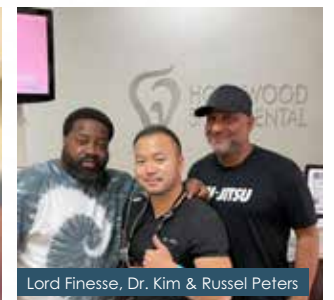
Once upon a time, in the bustling city of Las Vegas, there lived a remarkable dentist named Dr. Steve Kim. Dr. Kim was not your ordinary dentist; he had a special talent for oral surgery and creating beautiful smiles, but he caters to the stars of Hollywood, so he named his practice Hollywood Smile Dental, and is renowned for its exceptional care and the dazzling smiles he creates for his clients. His dental practice, known for its state-of-the-art technology and exceptional care, was highly sought after by patients seeking the highest quality dentistry.

The story of Dr. Steve Kim's journey to becoming a renowned oral surgeon to the stars is an inspiring tale of perseverance and dedication begun with his passion for science. He received his Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology from the prestigious University of Wisconsin-Madison. Driven by his desire to make a difference in people's lives, he pursued a career in dentistry.

At the age of 24, Dr. Kim completed his Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. During his time at Tufts, he excelled in his studies and developed a keen interest in oral surgery. Recognizing his talent and dedication, Dr. Kim was selected to complete a General Practice Residency (GPR)



Dr Kim & Dana White



Lord Finesse, Dr. Kim & Russel Peters

at Tufts University, where he received extensive training in oral surgery.

It was during his residency training that Dr. Kim honed his skills and gained invaluable experience in performing complex oral surgeries. His passion for oral surgery grew, and he became known for his expertise in the field. Currently, Dr. Kim practices oral surgery at ten different offices in Texas, in addition to his practice in Nevada. With over 30,000 oral surgery cases under his belt, he has become a trusted name in the field. Patients from far and wide seek his expertise, knowing they will receive the highest quality dentistry.

Dr. Kim's commitment to excellence is evident in his dedication to staying at the forefront of dental advancements. His state-of-the-art dental office is equipped with the latest technologies, including diode soft tissue lasers, 3D CBCT scanners, intraoral cameras, and IV sedation equipment. Dr. Kim equipped his practice with state-of-the-art technology and surrounded himself with a team of highly skilled professionals. These tools allow him to provide precise diagnoses and deliver optimal treatment outcomes.



Francis Ngannou & Dr. Kim

Outside of his professional life, Dr. Kim leads an active lifestyle. He is an avid fight fan and movie buff which led him to be Las Vegas's Hollywood's dentist to the stars. Dr. Kim also enjoys practicing martial arts, this is where I was introduced to him. I was impressed by his martial arts skills which not only keeps him physically fit but also sharpens his focus and discipline. In his leisure time, he loves to travel and explore new cultures, finding inspiration in the diversity of the world.

Word of Dr. Kim's expertise and gentle approach quickly spread throughout the city, attracting not only local residents but also famous athletes and celebrities. His reputation for creating stunning smiles and providing personalized care made him a sought-after dentist in the entertainment industry.

One of Dr. Kim's most notable clients is the legendary, former UFC champion Randy Couture. He got his teeth knocked out in 2011 by Lyoto Machida with a front kick. Randy is now known for his flawless smile, in his movies. Couture has credited Dr. Kim for his dental work when he is in Vegas. Dr. Kim's attention to detail and commitment to perfection ensured that Couture's smile was as impressive as his wrestling skills.

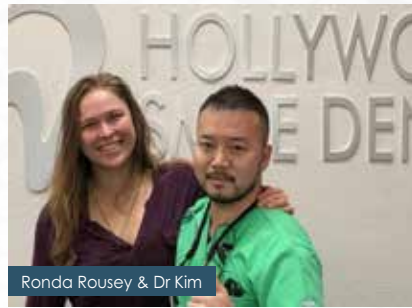


Mindy Robinson, Dr. Kim & Randy Couture

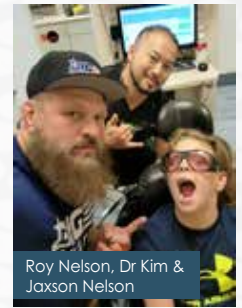
In addition to working with celebrity athletes, Dr. Kim has also had the privilege of treating numerous celebrities. His client list includes actors, musicians, and even some of the funnest people in the world. From teeth whitening to full smile makeovers, Dr. Kim's expertise has transformed the smiles of many famous faces.

Dr. Kim's success in working with famous athletes and celebrities can be attributed to his unique approach to dentistry. He understands that each patient is unique and requires personalized care. Dr. Kim takes the time to listen to his patients' concerns and goals, ensuring that their dental treatment aligns with their desires.

Furthermore, Dr. Kim's dedication to his craft and commitment to staying at the forefront of dental advancements has allowed him to offer the latest techniques and technologies to his patients. He regularly attends conferences and workshops, constantly expanding his knowledge and skills in cosmetic dentistry.



Ronda Rousey & Dr. Kim



Roy Nelson, Dr. Kim & Jaxson Nelson

Outside of his professional life, Dr. Kim is a devoted family man. He cherishes spending time with his wife and children, and they often enjoy exploring the natural beauty of Nevada together. Dr. Kim's love for his family fuels his passion for dentistry, as he understands the impact a beautiful smile can have on one's overall well-being.

Dr. Steve Kim's journey from a dreamer to an oral surgeon to the stars is a testament to his perseverance and dedication. Through his exceptional skills and personalized care, Dr. Kim has earned the trust and admiration of famous fighters, athletes, and celebrities alike. His commitment to staying at the forefront of dental advancements ensures that his patients receive the highest quality of care. Dr. Kim's story serves as an inspiration to all, reminding us that with passion and determination, dreams can become a reality while achieving greatness in our chosen fields.

About the Author: Roy "Big Country" Nelson is a Las Vegas native and is a former 4x MMA Champion, UFC TUF Champion, Renzo Gracie Blackbelt, who now is partnered with Choice Life Care and their ambassador program.

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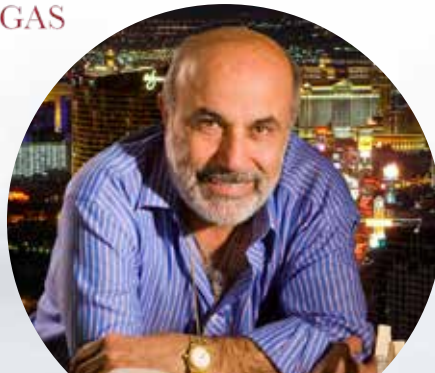
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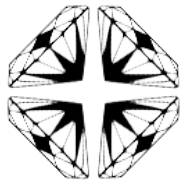


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Let's Talk About a Real Standup Comedian

Meet the Real

Spencer James

Spencer James is a standup comedian. We met Spencer on a Carnival Cruise line on an all-girls Baja Mexico trip out of Long Beach, California. We went to the comedy show on the first night of the cruise and were instantly engaged with Spencer's stand-up comedy. He picked on one of the ladies in our group asking her some basic questions, which ensued with her heckling him and it was a very funny show filled with lots of laughter from everyone in the crowd. We all thought to ourselves, wow, Carnival has acquired some very funny talent! We seemingly went back each evening to catch Spencer's shows. The lady from our group who was called out at Spencer's first show the first night of the cruise said, "I'm glad he picked me, now most everyone who was there sees me on the ship and remembers me!" And they did! They'd call her out by name as we'd see some of the audience that was there the first night moving about the massive ship. We also ran into Spencer on the second or third night as well, and he was equally funny both on stage and just in general. Our group had a good time seeing him around the ship and during his shows.

Spencer was 22 years old and just one semester away from acquiring his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii-West Oahu when he quit college completely to pursue standup comedy. "Someone paid me 50 bucks to do 25 minutes of jokes in front of "US soldiers." I had maybe 8 minutes, and half of that was about the irony of Japanese tourists visiting the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. Turns out the show wasn't for "soldiers," it was for independent military contractors from the country of... wait for it, Japan. I couldn't believe they still gave me the money for that dumpster fire of a set, but I did the math and was like, "All right, if they gave



me \$25 for a half hour then I just need to get 40 hours' worth" and those calculations led me to 11 years later still broke and hitting the road in my Dodge Dart to try to find a full weeks pay," says Spencer.

He elaborates, "In between those events, I must tell you, I have failed at every conceivable way of doing standup. I did the "hang out" thing in LA for 8 months. I wandered around the open mic scene in Denver for five years. I got a job throwing bags at the airport and over 400 flights later I had performed in all 50 states and three countries, but still couldn't make it to "full-time standup comedian" without some assistance from a J.O.B." Spencer reasoned, "At some point though, you have to cut the cord and just give it a go, right?" Spencer was 33 when he packed up the ol' Dart with every possession he had and with just three months of promised work and a so-so cruise agent pitched him to cruise lines (or so he thought). He told himself he'd give it a year and a half to see what he could muster up. "Took me damn near all of that!", Spencer half-jokingly adds.

Spencer said, "I think that's a real question that you need to ask yourself. "You're 40, did the chance for a peak of fame or "riches" pass you by? Well, I won the World Series of Comedy in Las Vegas in 2014, and I did that while I was still working part-time at T-Mobile in Denver, CO." Was that the peak? "Shoot, that's almost a decade ago." What has been the accomplishment since? "Well, leaving T-Mobile was one, but I think becoming a full-time comedian who has a real possibility of buying a home in the next year with strictly comedy money." Money from jokes? That's not a bad accomplishment. Spencer continues, "Headlining comedy clubs on the Las Vegas Strip has been cool. I'm thinking of a Steve Martin quote now, "Pretty impressive where I got to considering I started with just a piece of paper and a pencil."



“
**STANDUP
IS HARD.
IT ONLY CARES
ABOUT THAT
MOMENT.**”

Spencer adds, "Standup is hard. It only cares about THAT moment. What are you doing for me right now? Being famous, I'm not saying it's easy, but I can't think of anything further away from the skillset of being able to walk into any room in any condition with any given audience, sometimes without even a microphone and being able to make a connection, a meaningful and positive connection with those people. Guests enter as strangers and leave as something akin to friends. They know more about me most time after the shows, I guess but still...If I know more about them then that usually means the show went off the rails a little bit, lol."

In 2017 Spencer got on the Norwegian Encore as an emcee for a one-week trial. His (NEW) cruise agent said that if he did well then, he could expect maybe four-six more emcee weeks the following year and Spencer figured at least he'd have his foot in the door. So, did you get the opportunity for four-six more emcee gigs? "Well, after that week they offered me 13 "Headlining" weeks! Double the pay, double the weeks. With just those, I wouldn't need another comedy date for the rest of the year to pay my bills." In 2018, for the first time in his comedy career, Spencer ended up making six figures, all with standup comedy money. "At 37 years, 15 years after that first paid gig, I became a full-time standup comedian."



Please tell us more about yourself and why you do what you do. "I think it's the journey of self-improvement. Some reading this may be like, "This, is NOT funny, next article," lol, but the reality is that standup requires so much of yourself. You must be gone 40 weeks out of the year, and you have to keep writing to keep evolving. You aren't "home." Writing at times can be so tough for me. Building lasting relationships is tough. My lady lives in Ohio. People often ask me, "well, how do you make it long distance?" ANY relationship with me is going to be long-distance, I'm gone most of the year on cruise ships. Doesn't matter where they live, when I'm off and if I don't have a land date, I fly to her." "If people give me a chance to say, "Hey, you've got dreams and they're doable, I like to take that opportunity to just kind of raise my hand and go, "Hey, I did some of that, it's possible, you can do it - go get 'em! It leaves me with an overall feeling of purpose to inspire others and make people laugh!"

Visit spencerjames.com and be sure to follow on Instagram and YouTube @comedianspencer





For our summer issue release party, we joined the Derm Bros® of Las Vegas Dermatology® and hosted 'A Day of Beauty & Health' event. Everyone had a great time and Dr. H.L. Greenberg, Dr. David Cotter, and their Las Vegas Dermatology team did live demonstrations sharing with all the attendees some of the latest and greatest things in dermatology and aesthetics. We enjoyed an amazing food spread and quality champagne. Guests went from room to room within the medical office with various reps and products to learn about in each room, and then back to the main room for more mixing, mingling and live demos. It was a great summer celebration, and we thank Dr. H.L. Greenberg, Dr. David Cotter, and the entire staff at Las Vegas Dermatology for such warm hospitality and such a great time!

REAL VEGAS

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Meet the Real
Thomas Bowen
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Thom started Therapy Blocks LLC in April 2018, due to his love for children and helping people. Therapy Blocks LLC provides in home and in clinic Pediatric Speech, OT, and PT. Many of the children Therapy Blocks serves are medically fragile, in hospice or in the foster care system.

Prototypez Non-Profit organization was created to help teens and young adults with disabilities get training in life, social and job-related skills.

Prototypez has free summer camps, events, fall and spring classes. The Non-Profit began in November of 2021 and the families they assist are never charged for the services Prototypez provides to the families.

Battle Born Pediatric Behavior Therapy was established in 2023.

Therapy Blocks is a Best of Las Vegas Gold and Silver winner in all 3 therapy categories multiple years. They were also named by Vegas Chamber of Commerce as a best small business winner for 2021.

Prototypez is a nominee for Best Non-Profit organization.

Thom served as a Down Syndrome of Southern NV board member, CRPS WARRIORS board member and is the President and Founder of Prototypez.



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