#### WEST WENDOVER, NEVADA

#### CITY OF WEST WENDOVER TIMELINE MURAL

#### CITY OF WEST WENDOVER ELKO COUNTY, NEVADA

### REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INFORMATION PACKAGE

Date: May 5, 2006

**Project:** City of West Wendover City Hall Complex

**Issued By:** City of West Wendover

801 Alpine Street P.O. Box 2825

West Wendover, Nevada 89883

(775) 664-3081

www.westwendovercity.com

TAKE NOTICE THAT, the City Clerk of the City of West Wendover, Nevada, will receive sealed Bids at the City of West Wendover City Office, 801 Alpine Street, West Wendover, Nevada 89883 from appropriate artists individuals/firms with experience in designing producing and installing exterior wall murals.

Deadline – Submittal Date / Time / Copies: Monday June 5, 2006 / 4:30 PM Mountain Time/ 2 Copies Minimum City of West Wendover City Offices 801 Alpine Street West Wendover, Nevada 89883



Submittals will not be accepted after this date under any circumstances. Submittals must be clearly marked as **Bid for Artistic Design Services - City of West Wendover Timeline Wall Mural**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals at its sole discretion.

This project requires the successful firm to provide professional architectural and related engineering design services to:

- 1. Review existing plans, documents and other pertinent information provided by the City of West Wendover.
- 2. Prepare cost estimates for the required design, production and installation work.
- 3. Coordinate with the City and other regulatory agencies as required.
- 4. Prepare draft and final designs for the production and installation of the new City Timeline Wall Mural suitable to the City, identifying any concerns/problems and recommending appropriate courses of action.

Statement of Qualifications packages can be obtained through mail and in person between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Mountain Time) Monday through Friday, from the City Manager, Chris Melville, at the following address:

City of West Wendover 801 Alpine Street P.O. Box 2825 West Wendover, Nevada 89883

Or for your convenience you can download the appropriate files via the World Wide Web at the address below under the category: Community Development, City Timeline Wall Mural

http://www.westwendovercity.com/govguide/resources.php

#### PART I

#### A. PREFACE

The City of West Wendover, Nevada is requesting bids from qualified individuals/firms for the production, design and installation of a new City Timeline Wall Mural. The chosen individual/firm will work with representatives from the City in the development of a mural, which best serves the community and reflects an accurate depiction of local geography, historical events and occurrences and community interests. The City is currently underway with the implementation of its City Center Downtown Plan, which includes the renovation and beautification of Pueblo Boulevard scheduled for completion this June. The location of this wall mural will reside within this area adjacent Pueblo Boulevard. The mural is seen as a component of the enhancement of the aesthetics of the area and the promotion of a community built on history, world changing events and a strong and entrepreneurial people.

#### **B. DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY**

The City of West Wendover is located 120 miles west of Salt Lake City, Utah and approximately 400 miles east of Reno, Nevada on Interstate 80. As well the community is approximately 400 miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada on U.S. Highway 93A. The City has a current population of 4,848 with an annual growth rate of about 6 percent. The City's economic base is rooted in tourism which continues to play the predominate role in our growth. An interesting aspect of our community is that we have a sister-city, Wendover, Utah located adjacent to our east with a population of about 1,650. In addition, West Wendover is the only community in Nevada, which falls within the Mountain Time Zone instead of the Pacific Time Zone. This special exemption was granted by the U.S. Government, due to our close economic and social ties with our sister-city Wendover, Utah and the Salt Lake City area, both of which are located in the Mountain Time Zone.

The City and area have a dramatic history dating back to prehistoric Lake Bonneville, one of the largest fresh water lakes ever in existence in the now western United States, the California Trail and Hastings Cutoff which impacted the ill-fated Donner-Reed party on their pioneer trek westward, the connection of the intermountain area to the west coast through rail, the connection of the first trans-continental telephone line, the famed Bonneville Salt Flats where world land records have been set for nearly a century, legalization of gaming in the State of Nevada, World War II and the training of heavy bomber groups including the famed 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group which executed the first and to date only atomic bombardment of one nation against another, World Land Speed Records including the Blue Flame and other significant events.

#### C. DESCRIPTION OF WALL MURAL

The City wishes to have designed and installed at the specified location a full color wall mural 180' in width by 30' in height (5,400 square feet) that can capture the history and movement of the community and its people over time. The mural may be either a two dimensional (2D) or three dimensional (3D) design using appropriate industry recognized paints, materials and sealers that will provide the mural with a long life and resistance to inclement weather including resistance to: moisture, cold, heat and sunlight which can reach extremes in this high desert environment. The final design of the mural would be determined through the production and review of appropriate drafts with final approval by the City.

#### D. GENERAL STATEMENT OF NEED

The City believes that as part of the City Center Downtown Plan, appropriate investments should be made in artistic representations throughout the community that can increase and lift community spirit, encourage discussion and participation on the part of the community residents and businesses in the development of a better quality of life for our community in addition to increasing the attractiveness of the community as it relates to tourism and our exposure to regional, national and global travelers.

#### E. AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Site visits can be arranged through Chris J. Melville, City Manager in addition to the general information which is available as part of this bid package: It will be assumed that all bids received have taken cognizance of and reflect the relevant information contained in such materials and by such site visits. The following information is available as part of the request package:

- City Center Downtown Plan
- Location Maps and Photos
- Area Maps and Tourism Related Information
- Local Historical Events and Accounts
- List of agencies involved

#### F. SELECTION PROCESS

The City of West Wendover has been working towards the installation of a City Timeline Wall Mural as part of the development of the City Center/Downtown Area since the plans adoption in 2001. The wall mural would be the fifth element to be completed as part of this plan. The City will approach the selection of a qualified individual/firm for this project by taking the following steps:

#### BID SUBMITTAL

- 1. Bid submittal
- 2. Evaluation of bid submittals
- 3. Consideration of applicants qualifications
- 4. Final selection of applicant
- 5. Award of contract
- 6. Review of the project by applicant and City
- 7. Issuance of Notice to Proceed
- 8. Production of appropriate drafts for review and recommendation
- 9. Production of a final Maquette
- 10. Installation of final wall mural

#### G. FUNDING STRATEGY

Funding for this project will be through the City of West Wendover and the Nevada Commission on Tourisms Projects Related to Tourism grant program. Administration will be provided by the City of West Wendover.

#### H. CONTRACT COMPENSATION & INCURRING COSTS

The intent of this request is to procure artistic design and production services for the design and installation of a City Timeline Wall Mural. The method and amount of compensation shall be provided for in the submitted bid. There will be no consulting fees considered during the selection process. All submittals are done so at the sole cost and expense of the applicant. The City shall incur no liability or obligation to any applicant except pursuant to a written contract for services, duly executed by the applicant and an authorized signatory for the City of West Wendover.

#### I. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To verify qualifications and demonstrate the suitability of the applicant for the project, all bids must include the following:

- 1. A brief introduction and history of the applicant. Identify all key personnel relevant to the project. Identify the project artist responsible for the project. This individual must serve as the City's main contact.
- 2. Include resumes, qualifications, and relevant experience for each key person to be involved with the project.
- 3. To establish the applicants relevant project experience, provide a minimum of two similar projects undertaken in the last five years that included one or more of the following:

- a. 2 Dimension or 3 Dimension Outdoor Wall Murals
- b. 2 Dimension or 3 Dimension Indoor Wall Murals
- c. Large Graphics Production
- 4. Format of Relevant Experience: Include project title, brief description, project owner, project owner's address and contact information, services provided, project size in square feet, project cost bid, project cost completed, project duration bid, and project duration completed.
- 5. Include other supplemental information that is not specifically addressed herein that would illustrate the unique qualifications of the applicant to undertake and successfully complete the project.
- 6. Proposals shall be limited to 30 pages exclusive of front and back covers.

#### K. SELECTION OF TOP THREE QUALIFIED PROPOSALS

Each complete submittal will be reviewed and considered based on qualifications and fees proposed.

#### L. REJECTION OF BIDS

The City reserves the right to:

- 1. Reject any or all bids received
- 2. To select the applicant deemed to be the most advantageous and the in best interest of the City
- 3. Require supplemental statements or information from applicant
- 4. Extend the deadline for responses to this request
- 5. Waive or correct any irregularities in bids, after prior notice to the applicant
- 6. Negotiate separately with competing applicants

Should the City reject all bids, all applicants will be notified in writing.

#### M. PRE-SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

All questions or request for additional information should be in writing and should be directed to: Chris J. Melville, City Manager, P.O. Box 2825, West Wendover, Nevada 89883 or by email: <a href="mailto:cmelville@westwendovercity.com">cmelville@westwendovercity.com</a>. Verbal requests for additional information will not be honored. Applicants should be aware that the City reserves the right to inform all recipients of this request of the answer to questions submitted or additional information provided, where the City, at its sole discretion, determines that such answers or information are germane to all potential respondents, or that such answers may change or alter any material provision of this request.

#### N. RECEIPT OF BIDS

To be considered, proposals must be received by:

City of West Wendover Anna Bartlome, City Clerk 801 Alpine Street West Wendover, Nevada 89883

By 4:30 P.M. (Mountain Time), Monday June 5, 2006

Two (2) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed opaque envelope, plainly marked with the title of the work and name and address of the applicant. No bid will be considered unless received by the time and date at the place designated. Bids received prior to the time of opening will be kept secure and unopened. Bids received thereafter will be returned unopened.

When Bids are sent by mail, the sealed proposal, marked as above should be enclosed in an additional envelope similarly marked and addressed to the person stipulated above. If mailed, it is the applicant's responsibility to allow adequate time for its delivery. Bids will not be accepted after the close date and time noted above, NO

#### **EXCEPTIONS.**

#### O. BID FORMAT

To be considered, applicants must submit a complete response to this Request. Applicants are to submit two (2) copies of their Bid to the City of West Wendover. The contents of the proposal of the successful bidder will become the basis for contractual obligations if a contract for services is entered into.

#### P. DISCLOSURE OF BID CONTENTS

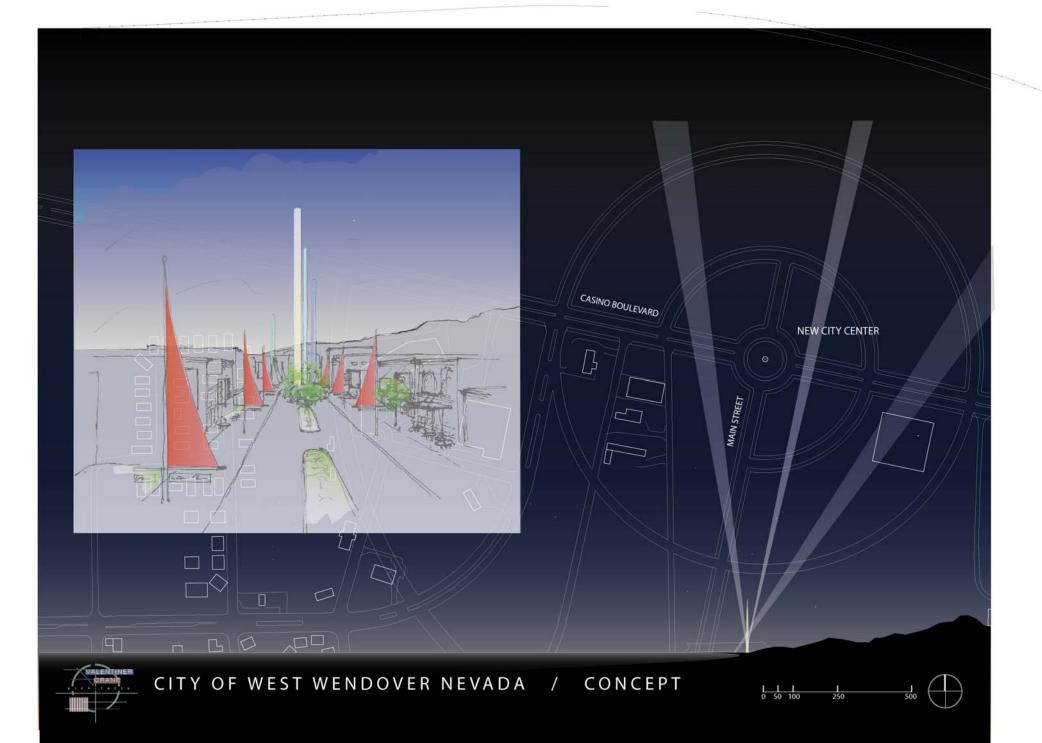
Information provided in your Bid will, to the extent allowed by law, be held in confidence and will not be revealed or discussed with competitors. If a Bid contains any information that the applicant does not want disclosed to the public or used by the City for any purpose other than evaluation of the bid, each sheet of such information must be so marked "Confidential".

#### O. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SELECTION PROCESS

Professional services for this project will be provided in three phases. Those phases include a Preliminary Draft Design Phase, Final Design "Marquette" Phase, and Installation Phase. The Preliminary Draft phase will include information gathering, conceptual development and preliminary design sketches. The second phase will be the Final Marquette, which will include final production of the chosen design and the production (at City's cost) of 250 signed reproductions for use in marketing/fund raising promotions by the City. The selected applicant will be required to sign over all copyright and reproduction rights to the work. The final phase, Installation includes pre-installation preparatory activities, installation, and post installation/closeout activities.

-END

### CITY CENTER MASTER PLAN

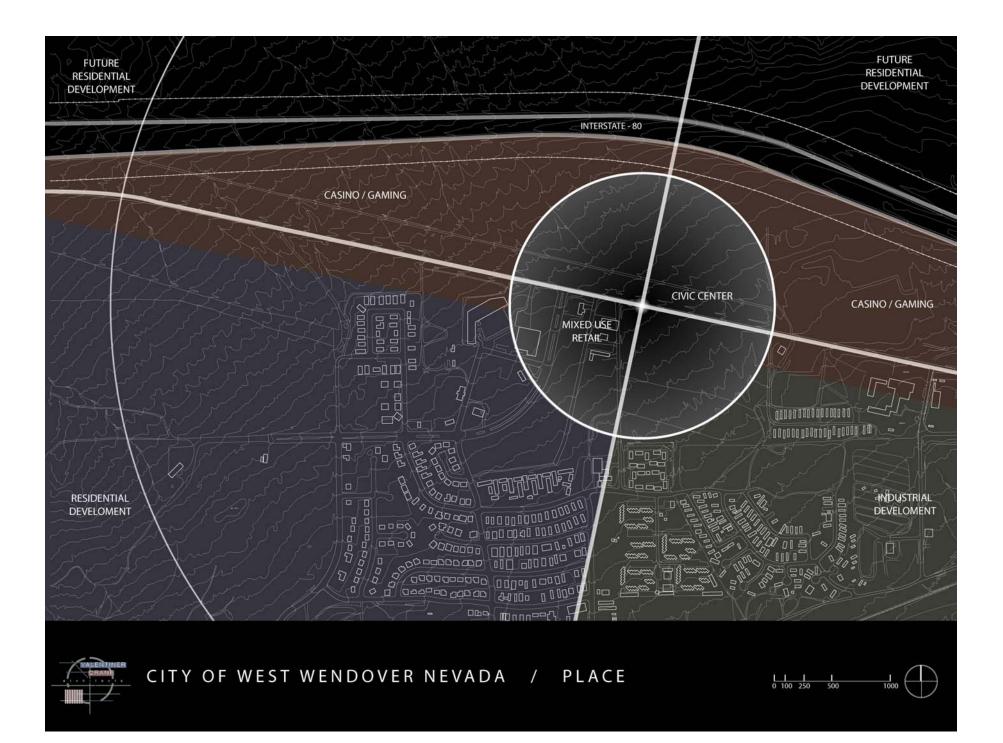


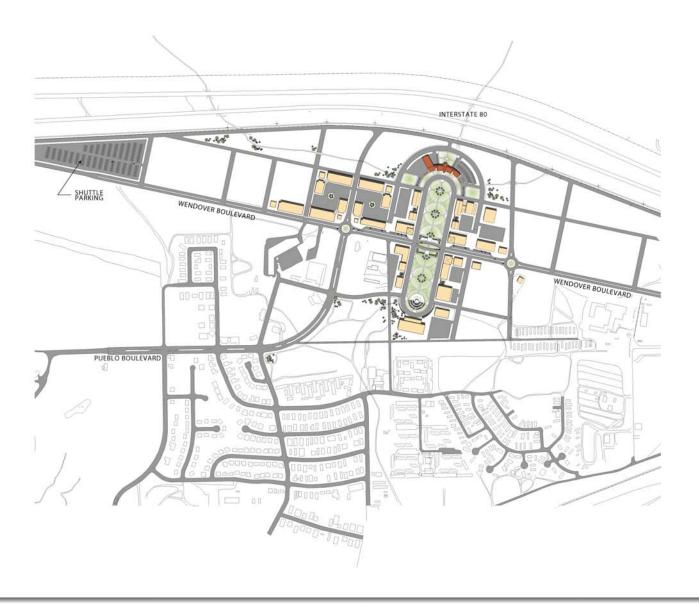




CITY OF WEST WENDOVER NEVADA / CONTEXT



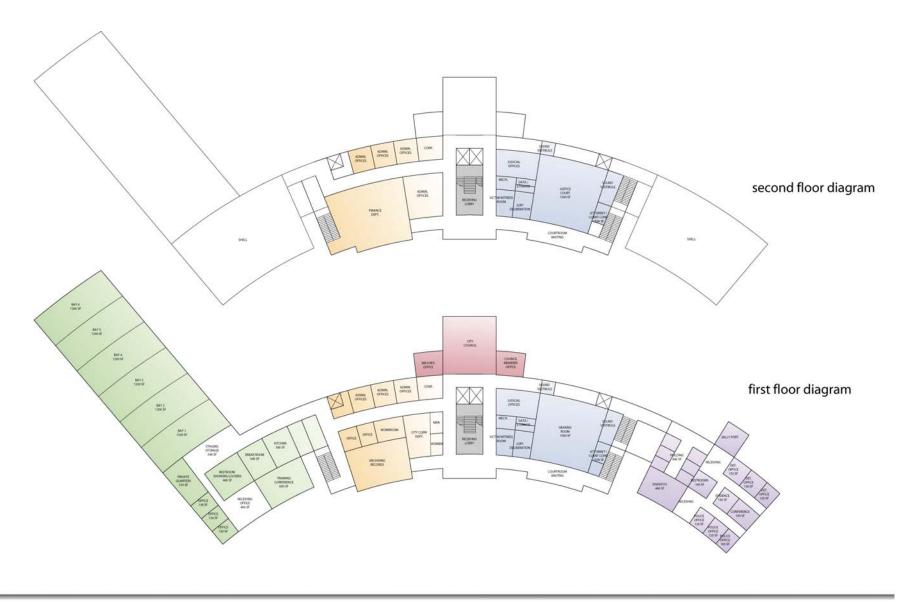




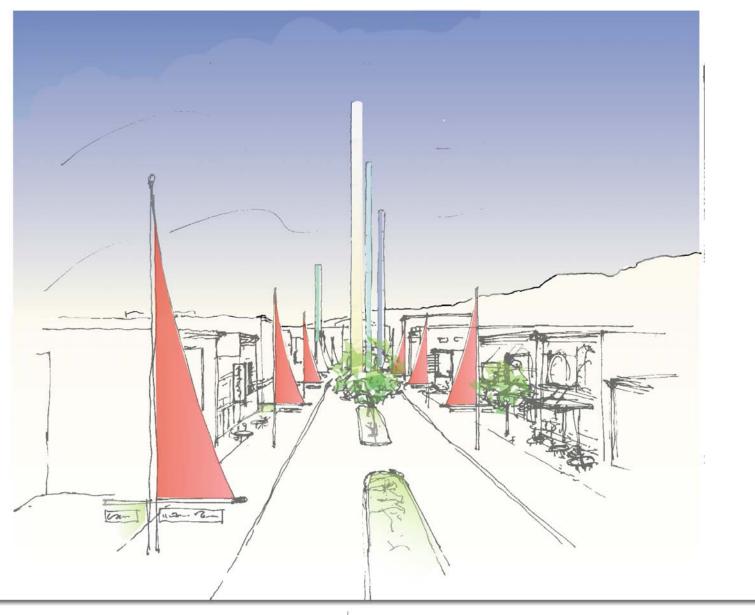




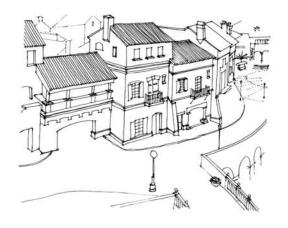
- 1 CITY HALL 2 LIBRARY
- 3 MUSEUM
- 4 CONVENTION CENTER
- 5 PERFORMING ARTS
- 6 CIVIC PLAZA
- 7 CITY PARK
- 8 AMPHITHEATER
- 9 COMMERCIAL / RETAIL SPACE
- 10 HOSPITAL
- 11 CITY CENTER MONUMENT

























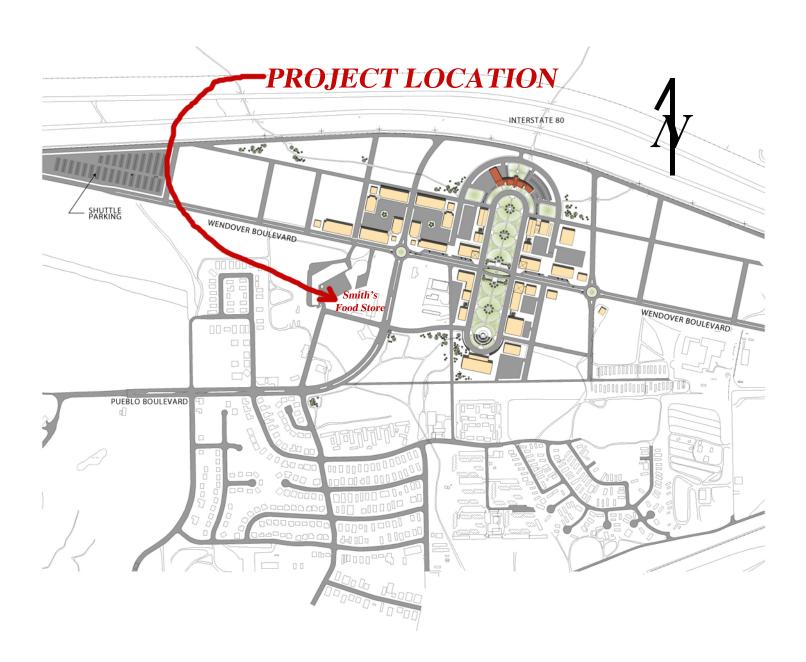


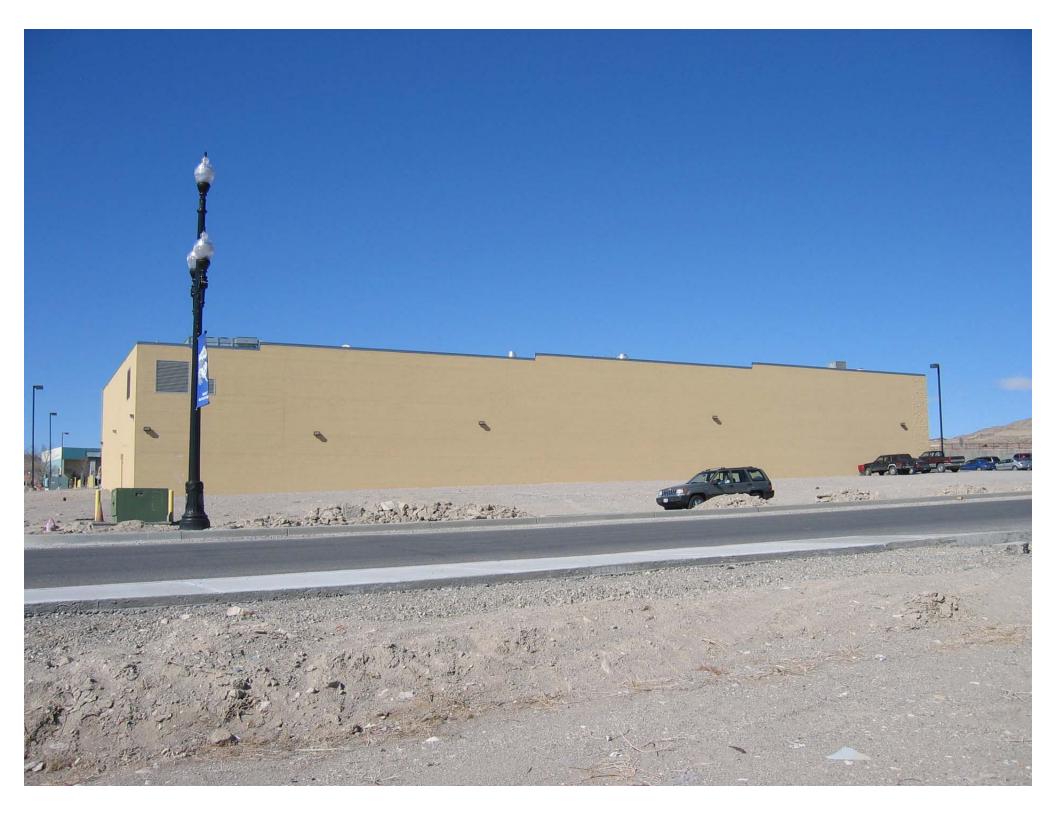




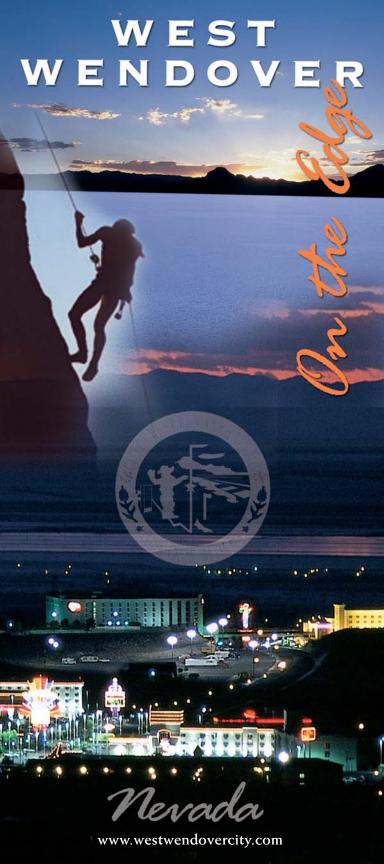


# LOCATION MAPS & PHOTOS





# TOURISM RELATED INFORMATION





#### WE HAVE IT ALL.

Located just off Interstate 80 on the Nevada side of the
Utah/Nevada border, 90 minutes west of Salt Lake City,
West Wendover sits like a jewel of promise in the high
desert that surrounds it. Here in this desert oasis
visitors enjoy a "grown-up" city that has intentionally
maintained its small-town charm – a community that

offers business and employment opportunities, an excellent quality of life, education, recreation –

all the advantages civilization brings without the disadvantages of crowded urban living.

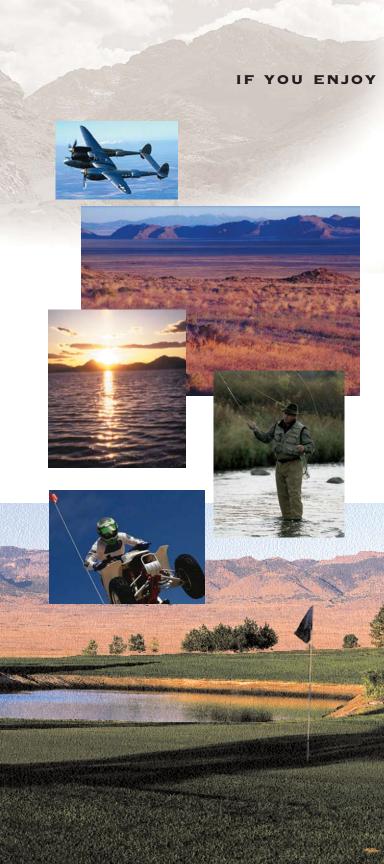
In our desert oasis you will enjoy great facilities, food, outdoor recreation and of course, the best in...



#### NEVADA STYLE ENTERTAINMENT!



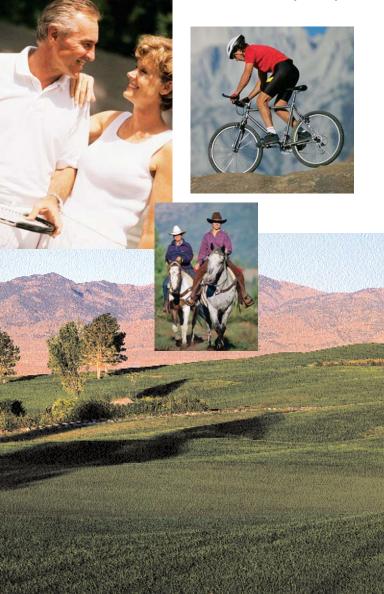




#### RECREATING IN THE OUTDOORS,

ride, fly, swim, play tennis, fish, scuba dive and hike or just relax and take in a spectacular desert sunset. Explore the surrounding country by hiking, or on your ATV or mountain bike — visit ancient caves, the Bonneville Salt Flats, or the historical World War II training base. Golf on our premier 18-hole championship course with spectacular views

and club house with pro shop.





Play the Peppermill Feel the Excitement!

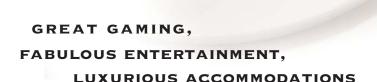
## Leptermil

HOTEL + CASINO

Reservations

800-537-0207

Wendover's wonderful gaming hot spot featuring nightly entertainment, Texas BBQ Buffet and great rooms!



Experience luxury, relaxation and fun at the Peppermill Hotel and Casino. Dine in one of our three restaurants, experience the thrill of our casino, or simply relax and pamper yourself by staying in one of our deluxe rooms or suites.

Enjoy all the amenities the Peppermill Hotel Casino has to offer, including:

- More than 300 Luxurious Rooms and Suites
- Three scrumptious restaurants including the Texas BBQ at the Grand Buffet. This buffet features all of your favorites, from BBQ pork, beef, chicken, ribs to other delectable entrees. Top this off with our abundant selections of soups, salads, gourmet breads and desserts.
  - Three Exciting Theme Bars
  - Free Exciting Live Cabaret Entertainment
    - Non-stop Gaming Action
    - Spectacular Special Events
    - Elegant Meeting Facilities
      - Gift Shop
    - Free and Convenient Parking



Enjoy 24-hour fun at Montego Bay Casino Resort. This newly remodeled casino adds an exciting new option to the West Wendover gaming experience.

Enjoy all the new amenities Montego Bay Casino Resort has to offer, including:

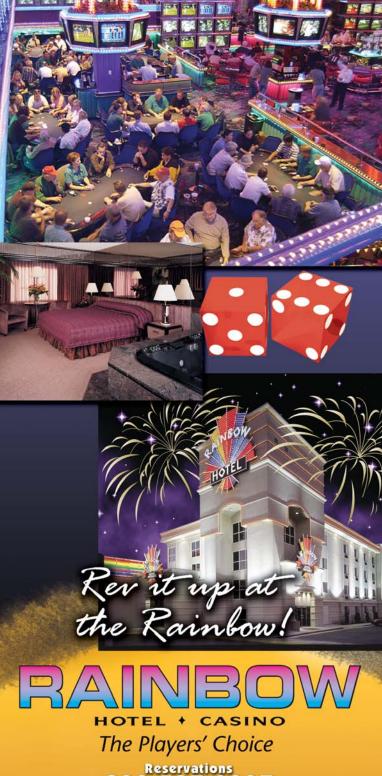
- 248 Spacious Rooms
- Three delicious restaurant choices including the Oceano Buffet featuring endless delicacies from the sea or the Italian Steak House or Paradise

  Grille.
  - Exciting Theme Bars
  - Free Exciting Live Entertainment
    - Non-stop Gaming Action
      - Massage
  - Swimming Pool and Tennis Court
    - Gift Shop
    - Free and Convenient Parking



Reservations 800-537-0207

The Montego Bay Casino & Resort features beautiful jacuzzi suites, incredible gaming, fabulous food and much more!



Reservations 800-537-0207

The Player's Choice for Gaming Excitement, incredible room rates and phenomenal food! The Rainbow Hotel Casino is renowned for service and style – not to mention great casino action.

With over 450 luxurious rooms and 75 beautiful suites, exciting restaurants and entertainment, the Rainbow is the perfect get-away destination.

Enjoy all the amenities the Rainbow Hotel and Casino has to offer, including:

- More than 450 Luxurious Rooms and 75 Suites
- Four fabulous restaurants including the Rainforest
  Buffet where you'll sample mouth-watering made to order
  specialties of Asian, Southwestern, American and
  European entree or enjoy a specially prepared steak, prime
  rib or pasta entrée at the Steak House Restaurant.
  - Five Fun-filled Theme Bars
  - Complimentary Live Cabaret Entertainment
    - Non-stop Gaming Action
      - Annual Special Events
    - Elegant Meeting Facilities
      - Gift Shop
    - Free Convenient, Complimentary Parking





Wendover's Finest Place to Play Reservations: (800)848-7300

Phone: (775)664-2221 www.WendoverNugget.com

## NUGGET Buffet

A GRAND DINING EXPERIENCE

## Golden Harvest Corfe

GREAT 24 HOUR DINING

## The NUGGET

Steak House
THE FINEST IN DINING









ALL OF YOUR FAVORITES





The Wendover Nugget Hotel and Casino is Wendover's finest place to play. Pamper yourself in one of 500 oversized deluxe rooms, jacuzzi suites, and luxury suites. Enjoy the Hotel's spacious pool and hot tub facility.

The casino features 50 table games and over 1,000 slot machines. In addition, there is a grand poker room, convenient keno lounge and premier sports book and lounge. *Club Nugget* is the automated player tracking system that provides for an unsurpassed player rewards program and exemplary customer service.

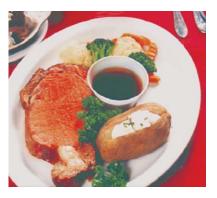
A wide assortment of dining choices are certain to satisfy every taste. The Nugget Steakhouse is our most elegant setting, specializing in the finest steaks and seafood. The Golden Harvest Café is 24 hour dining, featuring large portions with small prices. The Nugget Buffet boasts an incomparable selection of foods from around the world. The Wendover Nugget Hotel and Casino's food court features all of the favorites, including KFC, A&W Root Beer and Dryers Ice Cream. For the finest specialty coffee, espresso, latte and iced drinks, visit Starbucks.

The Wendover Nugget Hotel and Casino also features Wendover's only covered parking and climate controlled atrium. The friendly staff is anxious to serve you. See you soon!





24-hour Gaming
24-hour Restaurant
Deluxe Rooms
Convention Center
Snack Bar • Sports Book
Slot and Video Poker Machines
Craps, 21 Tables and Roulette



Red Garter Hotel & Casino
1225 W. Wendover Blvd. • West Wendover, NV 89883

www.redgartercasino.com

800-982-2111





#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Are we there yet? . . . Make the ride here a vacation — take a luxury coach for a relaxing trip with friends, take an easy flight into our convenient airport or enjoy the traffic-free 90-minute ride from Salt Lake City on I-80.

Once you are here, city transit, limousine and taxi services are standing by.

#### **Bus Service**

Casino Caravans $$ 800-876-5825 or 801-685-9311
Donna's Tours $\dots .800-831-0749$ or $801-280-1434$
Greyhound
Le Bus800-366-0288 or 801-975-0202
Lewis Brothers Stages800-826-5844
A +
Aviation
Wendover Airport
Limousine & Taxi Services
LMS Limousine800-936-3683 or 801-773-7117
Mercedes Limousine801-288-1008 www.slclimo.com
Toana Taxi

#### **WEST WENDOVER**

#### ON THE EDGE

#### Recreation Guide

Many of the areas described herein are located in a high desert environment with seasonal temperature and climate extremes. Careful consideration should be given in regards to traveling in off-road capable vehicles.

A few safety tips to keep in mind are: Carry plenty of water, plan your trip/excursion carefully, dress appropriately for the season, the region and the activity you are planning, be mindful of thunderstorms and the potential for flash floods. Remember you are in an open nature environment where you will be in the presence of various wildlife habitats for animals, birds and reptiles. Protect your life at all costs by treating the wildlife and their environment with respect and appreciation.

Put trash where it belongs and keep our desert environment clean and pristine. What you take in with you please bring back, and deposit in a community garbage dumpster. Thank you!

#### HISTORIC WENDOVER AIRFIELD MUSEUM



Tour the former World War II bomber training base where 21 Heavy Bomber Groups trained to prepare for deployments overseas, including the 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group (Enola Gay & Bock's Car) which trained for

the first and to date only atomic bombardment of one nation against another. See and touch a part of history by taking the self-guided tour through this historic airfield.

**Directions:** Travel east from the Welcome Center on Wendover Boulevard. Turn right on 100 East Street and head south crossing the railroad tracks. Look for the red and white checkered control tower and the operations building. This is where the museum is located.

#### THE CENTER FOR LAND USE INTERPRETATION



The Center for Land Use Interpretation has an exhibit space at Wendover, Utah. The space was the first of The Center's regional exhibit halls that collectively comprise the Land Use Museum Complex. The

Wendover Exhibit Hall is in a former army barracks at the old Wendover Airbase. The exhibit hall provides the region with a forum for addressing the area's landscape and land use issues, and is a display space for The Center's regional Site Extrapolation projects, as well as a gallery for other related work.

The structure, designated as airbase building number 2514, was singled out by the CLUI due to its location and its ideal configuration and appearance for use as a display space.

Alterations to the building, basically unused since the evacuation of the military in 1977, have been minimal. A hanging wall has been constructed down the middle of the structure for the display of two-dimensional media, and the rear of the building has been enclosed for use as curatorial space.

Since June 1, 1996, the hall has been open to the public. Though it is best to make arrangements to view the exhibit ahead of time by contacting The Center, CLUI representatives are sometimes at the building, and an automated entry system allows 24-hour access.

**Directions:** Travel east from the Welcome Center on Wendover Boulevard. Turn right on 100 East Street and head south crossing the railroad tracks. Turn left at the first main intersection and travel east approximately one mile till you reach the fenced barracks compound located on your right. Enter the compound through the open gates. The CLUI building is located on the east side just south of the large Mess Hall Buildings. Press the numerals 1 then 2 on the door keypad.

#### **BONNEVILLE SALT FLATS**



Here world land speed records have been set for nearly a century including the record setting run of the rocket car "Blue Flame" driven by Gary Gabelich at speeds over 626 M.P.H. Lake Bonneville was named after Captain L.E.

Bonneville a United States Military Officer and Explorer.

The salt flats where formed as the ancient lake which was once 1,050 feet deep, 145 miles wide and 346 miles long retreated to what is now the Great Salt Lake.

**Directions:** Travel east from West Wendover on Interstate 80. Take Exit #4 and follow the directional signs marked "Bonneville Salt Flats".

#### GOSHUTE RAPTOR MIGRATION PROJECT



This is one of the nations premier spots in the west to view hawks and other migratory birds as they venture south for the winter. The best time to view migrations is from mid August through the first week of November.

Directions: Travel south on U.S.

Highway 93A south 24 miles to Ferguson Springs located on the north side of the highway. Turn right and follow the main dirt road at Ferguson Springs for 1.8 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn right and proceed another 1.3 miles to the top of the hill, then take the left fork in the road and continue 2 miles to the parking area at the beginning of the trailhead. The hike is approximately 2.5 miles in length and a climb of 1,800 feet.

# SILVER ISLAND MOUNTAINS NATIONAL BACK COUNTRY BYWAY



This range of mountains encompasses a 54-mile loop that traverses some of the most unique country in the U.S. It is a remote range of desert peaks adjacent to the

Bonneville Salt Flats. Scenic vistas of the surrounding area, combined with the relative isolation along the route, offer the visitor a surreal experience. You will pass historical markers along the route such as the Donner Reed Pass. Coral and other fascinating geological formations from the days of ancient Lake Bonneville can be found throughout the area. Take specific note of the shorelines of ancient Lake Bonneville, which were carved into the mountains approximately 1,000 feet above ground level.

Directions: (Silver Island Mountains National Back Country Byway) A BLM brochure is available for this adventure so just ask for it. If you do not have the brochure then travel east on Interstate 80. Take Exit #4 proceed for approximately 1 mile then take a left onto a dirt road. Continue northwest for about 2 miles to Leppy Pass. Begin your adventure of the Silver Island Mountain Range from this point by taking the dirt road to the right and heading north.

#### DANGER CAVE & JUKE BOX CAVE



These caves are of prehistoric nature with excavations of Danger Cave done by the State of Utah proving human occupation of the area dating back 10,300 years. The

documented excavations are available for view at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office in Salt Lake City. Jukebox Cave as well has a more recent and interesting history of being used as a dance hall complete with a poured concrete floor done by service men stationed here during World War II and working at the base camp of the Gunnery Range located just north of this area. To deter

vandalism which was rampant in the early 1990's, steel bars have been place on the entrances, sorry.

**Directions:** Travel east on Interstate 80, take Exit #4 and turn left. Proceed for approximately 0.5 miles and turn left at a lone paved road. Proceeding west, the road will eventually turn to dirt and you will need to travel another 1.5 miles till reaching the base of Wendover Peak (the mountain with the radio towers on top) where both caves are located on the eastern side of the mountain, Danger Cave towards the southern end and Jukebox Cave to the northern end.

#### **CURVATURE OF THE EARTH**

Due to the nature of the Great Basin Desert and the large expanse of the flat area associated with the Bonneville Salt Flats, one can actually ascertain the curvature of the earth when viewed



from a specific location. The curvature is visible both day and night but is more predominant at night due to the lineal trail of headlights from vehicles traveling west on Interstate 80.

Directions: Proceed west on Wendover Boulevard from the Welcome Center for 2 miles till reaching the crest of what is called "Three Mile Mountain". There is a dirt turn off located adjacent to the water storage reservoir which will allow you to turn your vehicle around. Once back on Wendover Boulevard. head east a bit less than 100 feet and pull off the Boulevard. From here you can look east across the Bonneville Salt Flats and you will note the wrapping affect of Interstate 80 across the area. Interstate 80 was built level and flat across the desert and what you are seeing is the visual effect of the actual curvature of our Earth.

### 509TH COMPOSITE GROUP WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

"May this monument stand as a symbol of hope that mankind will reason and work together for the ultimate goal of world peace."



The 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group, which was formed at Wendover Field in the fall of 1944 celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion here in West Wendover and constructed this World War II Memorial in honor

of the mission and the sacrifices made for world peace. The 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group including Colonel Paul W. Tibbets and his crews delivered the first and to date only atomic bombardments of one nation against another. The first mission was to Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945 where the Enola Gay, piloted by Colonel Tibbets, dropped the first atomic bomb, which was termed a "Little Boy" design. The second mission on August 9, 1945 was the mission of Bock's Car piloted by Major Charles Sweeney, dropping the second atomic bomb, termed a "Fat Man" design, on Nagasaki, Japan. An

interesting note of history is that the primary target of the 2nd mission Kokura, Japan, was too obscured by weather to drop the weapon safely and to ensure target accuracy by visual identification. As such, Major Sweeney chose the secondary target, Nagasaki.

As well, another interesting note and often times overlooked part of World War II history, is that Colonel Tibbets had chosen the B-29 (Necessary Evil) commanded by Captain George Marquardt to lead the third atomic bomb drop against Japan, scheduled for August 14, 1945, the primary target being the city of Kuromo. This mission was never executed as Japan surrendered shortly after the Nagasaki Mission of August 9, 1945 and the third atomic bomb ("Fat Man" design), which was on its way to Tinian from Wendover was stopped at an airfield in California; the B-29 transport flight was subsequently ordered to return to Wendover and unload the third weapon due to Japan's surrender. From these first designs out of Wendover, the production of atomic weapons continued.

**Directions**: The monument is located in the eastern portion of the Welcome Center property.



#### **PILOT PEAK**

Captain John C. Freemont's survey party made the first recorded crossing of the Salt Flats to Pilot Peak in 1845 with a scouting party including Kit Carson and Joe

Walker. Freemont sent Carson ahead to scout for water and Carson reportedly sent up smoke signals from springs which he located at the eastern base to guide the rest of the party to the location, thus the name given as "Pilot". Though Joe Walker's writings gave warning to emigrants not to attempt the untried route, a young 23-year old man named Lansford Hastings retraced Fremont's trail across the salt plain and the crossing was named Hastings Cutoff. The next year (1846) the Donner-Reed party using the cutoff was delayed due to muddy conditions across the flat and eventually were late in crossing the high Sierra Mountains on the Nevada/California border, trapping the party in winter storms which eventually led to the death of all but a few.

Beginner, intermediate and skilled hikers can all find a route to the top of Pilot Peak. At the summit, for those who make it, is located a log book to sign as proof of your journey. Many forms of wildlife can be viewed including elk, mountain lion, deer, mountain sheep and others.

Directions: EAST: (1) Travel east on Interstate 80. Take Exit #4 proceed for approximately 1 mile then take a left onto a dirt road. Continue northwest for about 2 miles until reaching Leppy Pass. Following the main road to the left, travel for approximately 15 miles until reaching the eastern base of the mountain. WEST: (2) Travel west on Interstate 80 and take the Pilot Peak exit (approx. 12 miles west of West Wendover). Turn right at the exit and then follow the main road to the north, it will lead you to the northwestern side of the mountain.

#### **TOKIO TROLLEY**



The "Tokio Trolley" was built as an advanced training device for gunnery crews of the heavy bomber groups, which trained in Wendover during World War II. The trolley consisted of three

machine guns mounted on a small rail car, which would move up to 40 M.P.H. on laid rail line. During the movement of the rail car, in the distance were located three firing pits that were constructed with moveable targets mounted on jeeps. The jeeps, which were protected from the live firing by the pit walls, were set in motion on wooden track systems inside the pits with speeds between 10 and 15 M.P.H. This would give realistic and precise gunnery training to individuals by providing a moving firing mount as well as moving targets. The system was so successful that in a telegram General Douglas McArthur voiced his praise by saying "Wendover's gunners were the best trained in the Army". This facility was a main part of the gunnery range and included in excess of 60 buildings for operations and storage, etc. However after World War II, the facilities were removed and all that remains are the firing pits, some concrete foundations in addition to the several stationary concrete firing platforms.

**Directions:** Proceed east on Wendover Boulevard from the Welcome Center. Turn left on Aria Boulevard and proceed north for 2.5 miles. The paved road will become dirt and you will pass the Wendover City Cemetery on your left, proceed on the main dirt road for another 2 miles and you will eventually see the firing pits to your left and center.

#### TOANA VISTA GOLF COURSE



The Toana Vista Golf Course is located at the western edge of the City of West Wendover on Pueblo Boulevard. It is an 18-Hole Championship

Golf Course and can prove to be quite a challenge. The facility includes a new clubhouse with snack bar and a pro shop headed by a PGA Pro. The facility also includes practice bunkers, driving range and putting greens. Course record is 65 Jimmy Blair (competition) and 64 Milan Swilor (regular). Prices range from \$25 to \$40 including cart.

**Directions**: Proceed west on Wendover Boulevard from the Welcome Center until reaching Pueblo Boulevard. Turn left on Pueblo Boulevard and continue west for 0.5 miles, the golf course will be on your left. 2319 Pueblo Boulevard. Phone: (775) 664-4300 or 1-800-852-4330.

#### RECREATION CENTER



The West Wendover Recreation District owns, maintains and operates in addition to the Toana Vista Golf Course the Robert F. Scobie Park, LaCombe Triune, which includes two ball fields and two soccer/multi-

purpose fields as well as the West Wendover Swimming Pool, Recreation Center and the Equestrian Park.

The Olympic size swimming pool is available for play and for exercise. Young people can play video games, shoot hoops, play ping-pong, lift weights as well as get together in a wholesome club atmosphere. Tennis, soccer, baseball, volleyball can be played nearby as well as private or group picnics under a pavilion at Scobie Park and horseback riding is a favorite that can be enjoyed at the rodeo grounds/arena.

## Ask for the West Wendover Recreation Guide/Schedule.

**Directions:** LaCombe Triune/Recreation Center/Swimming Pool. 1000 West Florence Way. Proceed west on Wendover Boulevard and turn left on Florence Way. Continue on Florence for approximately 0.25 miles the facilities are located on your right.

**Equestrian Park**: Proceed south on U.S. Highway 93A 1.5 miles and turn right on a dirt road which will take you to the rodeo grounds.

#### **BLUE LAKE**



Blue Lake is a very unique geothermal lake with extensive depth for scuba divers who use it for certification. The lake temperature remains a moderate 72 degrees year-

round and offers a wide array of marine life.

**Directions**: Proceed south on U.S. Highway 93A 16.8 miles. Make a left turn and proceed on the dirt road an additional 6.8 miles to the base of the lake. Be extra cautious as the road may have washouts and the area around the lake is quite marshy.

#### FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY



The West Wendover area has been home to some of Hollywood's big-gest blockbuster movies. Among many, you can can see Will

Smith in *Independence Day* fighting back a bad brood of aliens or Nicolas Cage in *Con Air* taking flight and taking hits from

some hard core criminals, all in the backyard of West Wendover. Countless commercials, prime-time programs and movies made for television have put in production time in our surrounding area.

By placing big city accommodations together with small town charm, West Wendover has provided the film industries with the ideal filming location, for movies about the past, present and future. The surrounding area has been a moviemaker's backdrop for decades including the areas associated with Wendover Field providing the only remaining intact and usable World War II hangar flight line in the United States which was used in the mid 1990's to film MGM's Mulholland Falls (shown in photo) which starred Nick Nolte, Melanie Griffith, Chazz Palminteri, Michael Madsen, Chris Penn, Treat Williams, Jennifer Connelly, Daniel Baldwin, Andrew McCarthy and John Malkovich.

**Directions**: Just east of West Wendover, the vast expanse of the Bonneville Salt Flats provides some of the best, to the lenses of both still and moving film, a vast white plain with high desert scenery and the backdrop of snow capped peaks. West Wendover keeps the film and photography industry coming back for more. Take your best shot!

#### TRANSCONTINENTAL TELEPHONE LINE



Today you can see a piece of great American History, which very few realize occurred here in West Wendover. It is the monument to the Transcontinental Telephone Connection. On June 17, 1914, AT&T erected the last pole of some 130,000 right here on the Utah/Nevada border. The telephone wires crossed more than 3,400 miles connecting the East and West Coast of the

United States. This last splice, done right here in West Wendover made possible for the first time ever, voice communications across our great country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The first call: Four locations participated in the first call. Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone and cofounder of AT&T, led a group of dignitaries in New York. His

one-time assistant Thomas Watson, led a group in San Francisco. AT&T President Theodore Vail spoke from Jekyll Island, Georgia and U.S. President Woodrow Wilson spoke from the White House.



At one point during the call, someone asked Professor Bell if he would repeat the first words he ever said over the telephone. He obliged, picking up the phone and repeating, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want you." To which Watson, in San Francisco, replied, "It would take me a week now."

#### WENDOVER WILL



Wendover Will is the world's tallest mechanical cowboy at 90 feet in height and containing a 1/4 mile of neon lighting tube. Wendover Will came into existence in 1952 when it he took the place of a tall pole mounted light, which was erected in the mid 1920's by William "Bill" Smith, the original owner and founder of the State Line Cobblestone Service Station. This cobblestone service station welcomed

weary travelers to the oasis of Wendover from the dry harsh conditions of the barren deserts of western Utah and eastern Nevada. When gambling became legal in Nevada in the mid 1930's, that cobblestone service station grew and became the State Line Hotel & Casino. A small and humble beginning to what you see in its place today. (Watch for Wendover Will in his new location in the West Wendover Downtown soon.)

#### STATE BOUNDARY



Want to know what a state boundary looks like? Well, right between the Wendover Nugget Hotel & Casino and the Montego Bay Casino & Resort you can find

out. Here, you can see the line that separates our community into two states, two counties and two cities. You will notice the wide striping running north to south across Wendover Boulevard and the wording, which indicates which state you are in. An interesting note is that due to the state boundary, we have two of every government agency in our community: 2 states, 2 counties, 2 cities with 2 mayors, 2 city councils, 2 administrative and public works departments, 2 fire departments - whew! That's a lot of twos. And, 4 law enforcement agencies (2 city, 2 county sheriffs and 2 state highway patrols). In answer to your question – yes, we have one of the highest percentage ratios in the nation of police officers per 1,000 persons of population. In answer to your second question - yes, those law enforcement agencies work together through interlocal and interagency agreements, providing great protection of our citizens and visitors. So beware, if you are thinking of making trouble - Don't! This is one border law enforcement agencies can and will cross!

Directions: Head East on Wendover Boulevard a bit more than a 1/2 mile to the main entrance of the Montego Bay Casino & Resort on the north side of Wendover Boulevard or the main entrance to the Wendover Nugget Hotel & Casino on the south side of Wendover Boulevard. Find a convenient parking place. The Transcontinental Telephone Monument is located just south of the Montego Bay building near the edge of the grass and trees. This spot puts you as well, directly on the Utah-Nevada state line, which separates our community. You will notice the striping and lettering on the boulevard indicating which state you are in.

# WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD FEATHER RIVER ROUTE - HISTORY AT WENDOVER



West Wendover's beginnings date back to the turn of the twentieth century, approximately 1906, when the Western Pacific Railroad began operating its newly laid rail line through the area connecting Salt Lake City to Oakland and San Francisco. The community was named Wendover and at this first subdivision point, steam locomotives would take on fresh water and coal, perform any maintenance and continue their trek west to the Pacific Coast or east to Salt Lake City. This spot was chosen, even though there was no water available because Wendover lay at the foot of 33 miles of 1 percent grade of track to the west and 100 miles of near level track to the east. After extensive studies by Western Pacific engineers and accountants. it was determined that even after the installation of a 26 mile water line, by locating the first subdivision at Wendover instead of Shafter Valley, which was 33 miles to the west and on the other side of Silver Zone Pass and its 1 percent climbing track. the company would save over \$100,000 a year in operating costs. Thus, Wendover was born as a sprawling Western Pacific Railroad encampment complete with loading docks, train station, fuel facilities, water storage, housing and maintenance facilities for the company.

During World War I the Western Pacific Railroad served as a connection point for the Deep Creek Railroad, which hauled valuable processing ores from the arsenic mines of Gold Hill some 30 miles to the south for distribution throughout the west. This valuable product helped in the processing of many of the fine metals such as copper, silver and gold. Then, prior to World War II, the Western Pacific line became a much larger focal point when in late 1939, the United States Army chose Wendover as the location for what was to become the largest military reserve in the world, encompassing over 3.5 million acres of land called the Wendover Bombing and Gunnery Range, which included Wendover Field located immediately adjacent to the rail line. The Western Pacific Railroad brought men, women, equipment and materials to Wendover Field, which lay far inland within the Great Basin Deserts of Utah and Nevada, far away from any potential enemy attack. Being so remote and isolated from any metropolitan area also gave great benefits to the intricate, detailed and difficult training, which the some 20,000 plus military and civilian personnel would endure. Wendover Field subsequently became the pre-eminent training facility for heavy bomber crews during World War II, including the famed 509th Composite Group which included the B-29 Superfortress "Enola Gay". This aircraft, piloted by Colonel Paul W. Tibbets, and its sister aircraft "Bock's Car" along with other surveillance, photographic and scientific B-29's, dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, leading to the unconditional surrender of the Imperial Japanese Forces and an end to World War II.

Shortly after the War, the Western Pacific Railroad put into operation the very popular California Zephyr providing deluxe passenger service and becoming nationally known. The California Zephyr provided passengers with a level of service never before seen including the magnificent vistas and scenery of the western United States, which was unsurpassed in the history of passenger train travel. This continued until 1970, when the Zephyr discontinued operations, not because of a lack of service or grandeur but, the lack of patronage now due overwhelmingly to the preference of the public with the jet age and its high speed travel capabilities turning a several day journey by train into a mere few hour ride.



Of course as steam locomotives gave way to newer and more powerful diesel locomotives, Wendover still provided the logistical support needed for those systems, however as technology improved the performance and reliability of such systems, Wendover's role diminished. By the early 1970's, except for track maintenance crews, local car crews and the like, the necessity for maintenance facilities, the train station or the required fuel stops for the locomotives had vanished. New and improved locomotives could now race through Wendover without fuel or maintenance stops at speeds in excess of 55 M.P.H., providing only a short glimpse to a place, which was one of the most important in the beginning of a great American company.

In 1983, the Western Pacific Railroad Company was merged as a subsidiary to the logistical and financially powerful Union Pacific Railroad Company. Though the original character of the Western Pacific Railroad Company was now gone, the original system which it established became part of and continues to be part of one of the highly used main routes and thoroughfares for the Union Pacific Railroad and other rail companies such as Southern Pacific, Sante Fe, and even AmTrak. These companies and others, as they transport hundreds of millions of tons per year of materials, goods and travelers with speed, power and endurance throughout the United States.



Just a short 90 minute drive from Salt Lake City, west on I-80 (near the world-famous Bonneville Salt Flats).

WELCOME TO. . .
WEST WENDOVER, NEVADA







West Wendover Tourism and Convention Bureau 1-866-BZYCITY (1-866-299-2489) or 775-664-3138

www.westwendovercity.com

# LOCAL HISTORICAL EVENTS & ACCOUNTS

#### **Wendover Timeline**

- Pre-history- Lake Bonneville covered Western Utah.- Later, Native Americans used springs and caves of Pilot Range for sustenance and shelter.
- 1827- "Trapper, trader, explorer, and frontiersman Jedediah Smith was perhaps the first white man to cross the salt flats while returning from his first expedition to California."
- 1832-36- Captain Benjamin L.F. Bonneville, French-born U.S. Army officer explored the Rocky Mountain region. Bonneville Salt Flats, Bonneville Speedway, and Lake Bonneville were later named in his honor. He employed Joseph Reddeford Walker who crossed the northern perimeter of the salt flats.
- 1833- Fur trapper Zenas Leonard traveled through the area and wrote "We came to the mountains described by the Indian as having its peak (Pilot Peak Mountains) covered with snow. It presents a most singular experience-being entirely unconnected with any other chain."
- 1834 Isaac P. Rose claimed to have crossed the Salt Desert.
- John C. Fremont, along with vanguard scouts Kit Carson and Joe Walker, crossed from Grantsville to the west boundary of Utah at Pilot Mountain (then well-within the state of Deseret), it became known as "Hastings Cutoff". He was scouting a route to California from the Salt Lake Valley.
- 1846- Landsford W. Hastings promoted Fremont's shortcut, shortening the distance between Fort Bridger and the Humboldt River. May 28<sup>th</sup> his party camped at the base of Pilot Peak.
  - July 20<sup>th</sup>- Edwin Bryant in company with William Russel, described the salt desert in his writings as his group of nine men on horseback encamped near Pilot Peak.
  - July 20<sup>th-</sup> The "desert of mud" claimed wagons and livestock of the George W. Harlan and Samuel C. Young group of forty wagons.
  - Heinrich Lienhard kept a detailed journal of the salt desert crossing he made with of four men. They camped at Pilot Springs on August 19<sup>th</sup> and remained in the vicinity until August 24th.

## The ill-fated Donner-Reed Party found water at the base of Pilot Mountain, September 8th.

- 1850- July 29<sup>th</sup>, Jno. B. McGee reported in a letter from Pilot Creek the need for "2 gallons of water to each animal and one gallon for each person" and a supply of grass in order to successfully cross the 80-mile desert (Salt Flats). Gold seekers in the California Gold Rush crossed the salt flats in a constant stream of traffic that summer.
  - John Wood with the Ogle-Robinson party kept a journal of his crossing the desert, reaching Pilot Peak August 7<sup>th</sup>. Other crossings are detailed by John Udell, William P. Bennett, Carlisle S. Abbott of his friends, and Madison Berryman Moorman with upwards of 500 to 600 immigrants using the Hastings Cutoff across the salt desert that summer.
- 1854- Lieutenant E. G. Beckwith made a survey for a transcontinental railroad following a route on the south edge of the salt desert near Granite Mountain, thus bypassing Hastings Cutoff.
- 1880's-The Federal government used Pilot Peak, Nevada as a triangulation point while surveying the mountains of the area. Heliograph beams were flashed 130 miles from Observatory Peak (Mount Ogden) and other peaks in adjoining states to assist in mapping.
- 1884- Thomas Stevens pedaled across the desert of northwestern Utah skirting the salt flats around the northern end of the Great Salt Lake on a transcontinental ride.
- 1896- "The salt flats' potential for racing was first recognized in 1896 by W.D. Rishel who was scouting a bicycle race course from New York to San Francisco." He crossed the flats in 22 hours, but discounted the desert as a suitable course for the race.
- 1903--Western Pacific Railroad incorporated on March 6<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco, California The Western Pacific Railway was organized to build the San Francisco to Salt Lake City route to compete with SP. Western Pacific was part of George Gould's Rio Grande-Missouri Pacific system.
- 1906--Construction of Western Pacific begins at Oakland, CA. and in Salt Lake City, Ut.
- 1907- May 14, tracks of the Western Pacific reached the Utah-Nevada state line. Western Pacific Railroad built a water tower at Wendover W.D. Rishel returned to the Salt Flats with a 4-cylinder Pierce Arrow, but turned back after sighting a shimmering lake which he later found out to be a mirage.
- 1909- William Lamb took the first bag of mail from Wendover to Gold Hill by stage.
  - Wendover laid out as a railroad town and established as a round house center.
  - Western Pacific Railroad completed construction of tracks across the Salt Flats on Salt Lake City to San Francisco route:
- 1910- Ab Jenkins traveled 60 mph on the salt on a Yale motorcycle.

1911- May, C.A. Jackson was the first weather observer at Wendover, Utah. The station was established and observations furnished in cooperation with Western Pacific Railroad.

William Rishel, famous bicycle racer, accompanied Ferg (Ferd) Johnson of Wendover in Johnson's Packard touring car on the salt flats as they roared to a speed of 50 mph.

June 17<sup>th</sup>, final splice in the coast-to-coast telephone line was made at Wendover; declared operational on July 29<sup>th</sup>. January 25, 1915 was formally opened with great celebration.

Teddy Tezlaff driving a Blitzen Benz started the beginning of a great tradition, the first unofficial speed record of 141.73 mph on the salt flats.

Production of salt began at Salduro; dikes are constructed during World War I.

- 1915- Actual construction began on the Wendover Cutoff or Northern route using meager Utah State Road Commission funding, circumventing the more southern Lincoln Highway route.
- 1917- Production of Potash at Salduro came into being.

-First road across the "Great American Desert" completed between Knolls and Wendover.

Deep Creek Railroad completed to Gold Hill, Utah.

- 1918- The California Automobile Association commissioned a study to determine the best route across western Utah. The study recommended a route which went through Wendover. By 1924, they raised and donated \$40,000 to the state of Utah for the Wendover section.
- 1919- Victory Highway begun after World War I victory in Europe.
- 1924- On June 23, a PW-8 military plane was finally able to complete the first successful

dawn-to-dusk crossing of the USA, landing at Salduro, Utah to refuel.

Bill Smith landed in Wendover when he was tossed off the train.

Ab Jenkins established a time record as he raced a train from Salt Lake to Wendover and won.

June 6, Wendover section of the national Victory Highway was completed as part of the first modern highway.

- 1926- Bill Smith and Herman Eckstein opened the Cobblestone Service Station with \$500 savings and put a light bulb on a pole in front that was never turned off- "the light in the desert".
- 1927- October 20, the Lincoln Highway Association executive committee changed a portion of the Lincoln Highway running from the Goodyear Cutoff through Gold Hill and Ibapah to the Victory Highway route going from Grantsville directly west to Wendover. The change was finalized on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The U.S. Bureau of Roads then assigned numbers to all interstate highways and the Wendover Road became U.S. Highway 40.
- 1931- Smith and Ekstein installed a roulette table in their recently purchased State Line Hotel, opening one of the first gambling establishments in Nevada; obtained a license in 1935.

Ab Jenkins "broke all former world speed records" with his Mormon Meteor.

1932- September 18-19- Ab Jenkins averages 112.935 mph during 24 hour period driving alone.

Not recognized by the Automobile Association of America as they were not present.

There were no large trees growing in Wendover, only bushes according to Lind Hutchinson

- 1933- Ab Jenkins set first official 24 hour average for speed at 117.77 mph. Bill Smith' Cobblestone Service had cabins for rent as did the Western Service station, unlike the previous year when Jenkins came to town.
- 1934- August 7-8- Jenkins beats his 1933 24 hour record by racing an average of 127.229 mph in a twelve cylinder Pierce Arrow.
- 1936- April- Briton Eyston set two records with a diesel-engined vehicle traveling 159 kph for one kilometer and 158.87 mph for a mile in his "Flying Spray."

Mrs. Erma G. Sullivan appointed Wendover postmaster on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Eyston set sixty records in July including 135.5 mph in 48 hour average in the "Speed of the Winds."

August-September- John Cobb breaks many of Eyston's records, raising the hours average to 150.16 mph.

Ab Jenkins in "Mormon Meteor" sets 72 new world records on a circular track. He set the one hour record at 170.99 mph, the 24 hour average at 153.823 mph and the 48 hour average at 148.641 mph. Modern day Bonneville potash operation started.

- C.E. McDonald, then J.J. Duggan were Trainmasters and G.W. Curtis was Division Superintendent on Western Pacific at Wendover.
- October-November- Eyston jumps the measure mile speed record to 311.42 mph in the "Thunderbolt."
- 1937- Robert F. Heizer of the University of Utah visited the Wendover area as part of a widespread survey of anthropological sites in the Great Basin.
- 1938- Pilot Mill, potash plant constructed.
  - September 16<sup>th</sup>, Capt. George E.T. Eyston in "Thunderbolt #1" set a one mile land speed record of 357.5 with 5,000 horsepower.
- 1939- August 26, "John Cobb became the world's automobile speed king by driving his car 369.74 mph."
  - Elmer R. Smith began exploring the Wendover area for anthropological purposes and continued for three summers
  - August 2, President Franklin D. Roosevelt received a letter from Albert Einstein telling him of nuclear research being done in Germany on "an extremely powerful bomb" being developed.
- 1940- "Wendover Air Base opened as a sub-post of Fort Douglas's bombing and gunnery range."
- 1941- December 6, Roosevelt authorized money to begin a highly secret nuclear research project called "The Manhattan Engineering Project. Pearl Harbor was bombed the next day.
- 1942- April, 306<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group were the first outfit assigned to Wendover, followed by the 302<sup>nd</sup> BG in July, the 100<sup>th</sup> BG in September and the 308<sup>th</sup> in October.
  - First transcontinental all-weather buried cable joined at Wendover
  - Wendover Air Force Base achieved official army air base status.
  - October, Los Alamos, New Mexico atomic bomb facility opened under J. Robert Oppenheimer.
- 1943- 2 January, 384<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group consisting of the 544<sup>th</sup>, 545<sup>th</sup>, 546<sup>th</sup>, and 547<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadrons assigned to Wendover Field to receive combat training in B-17 bombers. Began departing in April.
  - Juke Box Cave floor leveled and a concrete dance floor was poured by World War II airmen with help from Spike Birdzell.
  - October 11, 489<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group assigned to Wendover, arrived in December.
- 1944- April to September, 180 fighter pilots successfully trained in P-47 aircraft. Training halted with pending arrival of 509<sup>th</sup>.
  - September 1, Colonel Paul Tibbets given command of the 393<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Squadron which became part of the completely self sufficient 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group assembled at Wendover in top-secret preparation for Atomic Bomb mission, activated in December. The hand-picked "GI's knew only what was necessary to do their own job. They named the unknown thing they were working on 'The gimmick.' The Wendover base itself was given the code name 'Kingman' and work in the ordnance area was termed 'Project W-47'." The code name "Silverplate" immediately got them anything they wanted.
- 1945- August 5<sup>6h</sup>, Col. Paul Tibbets flying the Enola Gay dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan bringing an end to World War II.
  - August, \$2 million fire caused by an explosion in #1 hanger, destroying the hangar, five warehouses, and an office building plus six airplanes at Wendover Field.
- 1947- Electric power came to Wendover not tied to federal operations.
  - September 16- John Cobb set a land speed record of 394.2 mph in his Railton Mobile Special.
- 1949- Western Pacific-Denver and Rio Grande inaugurated the California Zephyr streamlined transcontinental train between Oakland, California and Chicago, Illinois (passed through Wendover).
  - August-Bonneville National Speed Week sponsored by Southern California Timing Association was first held, becomes an annual event. Bonneville Speedway became official course for land speed records. University of Utah survey party operating out of the base camp at Wendover, discovered Raven Cave, excavated Juke Box Cave, and began excavation of Danger Cave.
- 1952- "Wendover Will', the world's tallest cowboy sign made his appearance and was an instant hit with the public."
- 1953- March-Western Pacific's company magazine, *Mileposts*, published its Golden Anniversary Issue commemorating the fiftieth year of Western Pacific's corporate existence. The lead article of that issue titled "Fifty Candles for Western Pacific", written by the late Gilbert H. Kneiss, chronicled the history of The

- Western Pacific Railroad Company, from the original organizing meeting of March 3, 1903 down through the subsequent fifty years.
- June 17, Telephone officials dedicated a concrete and bronze monument on the site of the "golden splice" the point at which the transcontinental telephone line was completed in 1914 at Wendover.
- 1958- Bill Smith died. Ann Smith took over and Gene Jones was appointed general manager of the State Line.
- 1959- Clouds of radiation in deadly levels spread toward U.S. Route 40, Knolls and Wendover by 8 tests at nearby Dugway Proving grounds.
- 1960- The Western Pacific Railroad turned over the Pilot Mountain water system to Wendover City.
- 1963- Craig Breedlove reached a speed exceeding 400 miles per hour on the Bonneville Salt Flats.
- 1964- Tom Green beat Don Campbell's Australian record with a land speed of 413.20 in Walt Arfons Wingfoot Express, a jet-powered vehicle at Bonneville Speedway.

Bishop Leonard F. Mauer was Bishop of the Wendover LDS Ward.

1965-66-Bob & Bill Summers used a four-engined, wheel-driven race car to set a land speed

record for piston engines that would stand for 44 years. His run was 409.277 mph.

November 7<sup>th</sup>, Art Arfons in the Green monster set a record of 576 mph in the two-way run.

November 15<sup>th</sup>, Craig Breedlove made two perfect runs of 600.001 mph in his jet-driven Spirit of America Sonic I.

Bishop of the Wendover Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was Wayne Shields. He was followed by Preston A. Nuffer.

1966-67-New interstate highway, Interstate 80 begun across the salt flats, completed in 1972.

1970- "On October 23, 1970' *The Blue Flame*" set a world land speed record of 622.407 mph driven by Gary Gabelich."

Ab Jenkins of *Mormon Meteor* fame was inducted into the Utah Hall of Fame as a charter member. Named as #11 in list of Utah's 50 Greatest Athletes of the Century by *S.L. Tribune* 12/26/99.

Highway I-80 was approved to bypass Wendover to the north.

- 1972- Jim's Casino took the place of the A-1 Casino.
- 1973- New State Line Casino was constructed.
- 1976- Wendover air base water system sold to Wendover City including Johnson's Springs.
- 1977- Part of Wendover air base transferred to the city and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1978- Don Vesco set a motorcycle land speed record of 318.598 mph on a twin engine Kawasaki streamliner. Fred D.and Elma Lynn West deeded 40% share of their West Wendover property to the Wendover Land Company.
- 1982- Nevada Crossing opened as a casino in Wendover. It would join the State Line, Jim's Casino, the Hideaway, the Red Garter, and the Gold Rush.
- 1983- January 11<sup>th</sup>, Western Pacific Railroad Company became a subsidiary of Union Pacific Railroad.

The final issue of *Mileposts* (March 1983 issue) carried a reprint of Gil Kneiss' article, "Fifty Candles for Western Pacific" as well as R.W. "Dick" Bridges article "Eighty Candles on the Final Cake" chronicling the final 30 years before the merger with the Union Pacific.

The Red Garter Casino began operation at Wendover.

- 1984- Silversmith Casino began operation across from the State Line Casino. Jim's Casino closed July 23.
- 1985- Peppermill Casino opened in West Wendover.

  Lt. Governor Oveson suggested that Utah ask Co
  - Lt. Governor Oveson suggested that Utah ask Congress to secede Wendover, Utah to Nevada.
- 1986- Swedish artist Karl Momin created "Tree of Utah" sculpture at a cost of \$2 million on the salt flats. Wendover Library built on 2.25 acres.
- 1987- Sept 24, Bureau of Land Management sold 6.54 acre parcel of land in West Wendover north of old U.S. Highway 40 to the State Line Hotel and Casino for a record \$610,000
- 1990- 25 August, 509<sup>th</sup> Memorial Dedication, "A Celebration for World Peace." Wendover USA Visitors Center.
- 1991- The City of West Wendover, Nevada incorporated making it one of the newest cities in Nevada, articles of incorporation filed with state of Nevada on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

  Al Teague set a world land speed record for a single-engine streamliner with a run of

- 409.986 mph.
- 1996- West Wendover High School built.
- 1997 The State Line and Silver Smith Casino launched a \$50 million expansion doubling its size. Sept- first two stop signs were installed on Wendover Boulevard where Alternate 93 intersects.
- 1999 Al Teague set a land speed record for piston-engined cars with a run of 387 mph.
- 2000- U.S. Census shows Wendover, Utah with a population of 1,537 and West Wendover, Nevada with a population of 4,721.
- 2001- Congressmen from Nevada and Utah along with commissioners from Elko County, Nevada and Tooele County Utah join Wendover and West Wendover officials in annexation bid for the two Wendovers to become one within the state of Nevada

August 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup> and last 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group Reunion Salt Lake and Wendover.

At Speed Week, Don and Rick Vesco became members of the 400 mph club their jet-powered car with a run of 458.45 mph.

2002 March 7<sup>th</sup>, The US House Judiciary Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative law passed a bill enabling the Utah-Nevada line to be moved enabling Wendover to be moved into Nevada. It required that the two communities vote on it in a referendum within two years.

June 11th, U.S. House voted for succession of Wendover to Nevada.

August 12, Nolan White became the fastest driver in the world in a race piston-driven car with twin engines at 411.25 mph. He later died on October 20<sup>th</sup> three days after crashing at 422 mph on the first half of the required two-way run while trying to break his own record.

Tanis Hammond became the fastest woman in the world at the World of Speed when she made a world record run of 299.701 mph going 305.994 on the first half of her two-way run.

November 6, Both Wendover (110-61) and West Wendover (248-191) residents voted to unite as one city.

## TIMELINE 2

Prehistoric Lake Bonneville
Hastings Cutoff
Western Pacific Railroad
Bonneville Salt Flats
Bill Smith (Cobblestone Service Station)
Gaming Legalized (State Line Casino)
Wendover Field and WWII
Wendover Will
Blue Flame (Bonneville Salt Flats)
Fred West and the Wendover Land Company
Dick McDougal and Bryan Barry (Wendover Land Company)
West Wendover incorporation

# LIST OF AGENCIES INVOLVED

City of West Wendover, Nevada Nevada Commission on Tourism Smith's Food & Drug