**THE LATEST FROM VEGAS**

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**Las Vegas Breaks Visitation Record with More Than 40 Million Visitors**

Las Vegas reached a historic milestone, exceeding 40 million visitors for the first time. The tourism industry in Southern Nevada continues to expand, achieving ten consecutive months of visitor volume increases, with many of those months being the best on record. The previous record was set in 2012 with more than 39,727,000 tourists. For more information, contact Courtney Fitzgerald, LVCVA, cfitzgerald@lvcva.com.

**REBA, BROOKS & DUNN Announced “Together in Vegas” at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace**

Superstar entertainers Reba, Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn will join forces to launch a one-of-a-kind Country music residency –  REBA, BROOKS & DUNN: *Together in Vegas* – opening June 24, 2015 at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace. Tickets for select performances in 2015 are now on sale. For more information, contact Kelly Frey, Caesars Entertainment, kfrey@caesars.com.

**Michael Mina’s Bardot Brasserie to Open January 16**

James Beard Award-winning chef Michael Mina will welcome his newest concept, BARDOT Brasserie, to ARIA Resort & Casino Jan. 16. Offering a modern and sexy take on the traditional French brasserie experience, BARDOT will present an exquisite array of Parisian cuisine, transporting guests on a culinary journey through The City of Light. With Executive Chef Josh Smith at the helm, BARDOT’s menu will feature a variety of unforgettable dining experiences. For more information, contact Ashley Farkas, MGM Resorts International, afarkas@mgmresorts.com.

**Shake Shack Opens First West Coast Restaurant in Las Vegas**

The first West Coast Shake Shack recently opened along the famed Las Vegas Strip.  The highly anticipated Las Vegas Shack is perfectly situated on The Strip adjacent to The Park at the foot of the renowned New York-New York Hotel & Casino. Founded by famed restaurateur Danny Meyer’s Union Square Hospitality Group (USHG), Shake Shack is a critically acclaimed, modern day “roadside” burger stand known for its 100% all-natural Angus beef burgers, griddled-crisp flat-top dogs, fresh-made frozen custard, crinkle cut fries, craft beer and wine, and more.  A fun, lively, fine-casual restaurant with widespread appeal, over the past decade Shake Shack has earned a cult-like following around the world. For more information, contact Alissa Kelly, PR Plus, Alissa@prplus.com.

**Madame Tussauds Debuts “The Hangover Experience”**

The Hangover is coming to life at Madame Tussauds Las Vegas with the launch of its newest themed room: The Hangover Experience, complete with the notorious hotel room and a wedding chapel. Also making its debut will be Madame Tussauds’ brand new figure of “Alan” (played by Zach Galifianakis in The Hangover films) who will be joining the figure of “Phil” (played by Bradley Cooper in the films). The 1,100-square-foot room, based on Warner Bros. Pictures’ The Hangover, pays homage to the popular comedy trilogy, whose original movie turns five this year. For more information, contact Marina Nicola, Vox Solid Communications, mnicola@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Off the Strip is Now Open at The LINQ Promenade**

A Las Vegas locals’ favorite since 2007, Off The Strip built a loyal following thanks to its classic bistro and bar comfort food and genuine, personalized service. That same fare and service is now at The LINQ Promenade. The 11,000-square-foot restaurant is open 23 hours, offering “just real food” for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The menu is simple and clean, featuring signature comfort favorites, including steaks, chops, seafood and pasta dishes. The morning menu is especially noteworthy as it features healthy offerings from the “Fresh and Fit” menu. The cocktail program consists of craft beers and cocktails. All menus will change seasonally. Indoor and outdoor seating is available, with the latter situated on prime Las Vegas Strip real estate—the Promenade at The LINQ—and ample opportunity for people-watching. Guests have direct access to The LINQ Hotel & Casino, as well as The High Roller, the world’s tallest observation wheel. For more information, contact Marina Nicola, Vox Solid Communications, mnicola@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Tesorini Opens New Expanded Location at Bellagio**

The newly expanded and redesigned Tesorini is now open at Bellagio, located adjacent to Bellagio’s Conservatory & Botanical Gardens. A crown jewel in its own right, Tesorini is a dramatic showcase for collections of luxurious brands renowned for their quality and timeless style. A new concept in retail design for MGM Resorts International, the luxury boutique features stores-within-a-store for five luxury brands including Rolex, Jaeger-LeCoultre, Patek Philippe, Breitling and Officine Panerai. Tesorini also features other fine jewelry and watches. For more information, contact Shant Apelian, MGM Resorts International, sapelian@mgmresorts.com.

**Mob Museum Adds Three New Exhibits**

Three new exhibit items are now on view at The Mob Museum, The National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement. The Museum actively seeks artifacts to broaden and deepen its collection, pursuing artifacts that help tell the story of the historic battle between organized crime and law enforcement, as well as the reflections of that battle in popular culture. The new exhibit items include:

The Nucky Thompson “Death Suit,” Nucky Johnson Culinary Trophy, and Paulie Walnuts Track Suit. For more information, contact Erika Pope, Vox Solid Communications, epope@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Monte Carlo Now Offering Yoga in the Plaza**

Monte Carlo Resort and Casino invites guests to start their Saturdays with stretches and salutations with its newly launched Yoga in the Plaza. The Strip-side location provides a revitalizing setting for participants to connect with their body and breath while embracing the refreshing morning air. Taking place each Saturday at 8 a.m., the hour-long class is designed to accommodate all skill levels and is complimentary for Monte Carlo hotel guests. For more information, contact Suzie Rugh, MGM Resorts International, srugh@mgmresorts.com.

**50 SHADES! THE PARODY to Open at Bally’s Las Vegas**

The Las Vegas Strip is about to step up its sex appeal with the Las Vegas debut of 50 SHADES! THE PARODY. With sold-out audiences across the country left begging for more, the hilarious parody will move into the Windows Showroom at Bally’s Las Vegas on Feb. 3**.** 50 SHADES! THE PARODYis a hilarious satire that explores the steamy relationship between Christian Grey and Anastasia Steele, as seen through the eyes of a trio of girlfriends reading the novel at a book club meeting. As the women devour the novel, the character's delicious affair comes to life before their eyes. After all, who needs staid book club fare when a book like this can be so...stimulating. This laugh-out-loud musical features a sassy original score, including such songs "Open Your Book," "I Don't Make Love," and "There Is A Hole Inside Of Me." For more information, contact Erica Benken, Kirvin Doak Communications, ebenken@kirvindoak.com.

**Urban Turban, a Bombay Kitchen and Tapas Bar, is Now Open**

Urban Turban, a Bombay Kitchen and Tapas Bar, is now open and ready to showcase their traditionally international menu filled with a variety of Indian classics to Las Vegas. This is *Urban Turban’s* first location in the United States following the success of their New Zealand location. Head Chef Vijay Deokar created a menu that fuses an assortment of Indian cuisine styles with American favorites. Tapas style offerings, known as *Bombay Bites*, include a variety of chicken, lamb, seafood and vegetarian options for guests. For more information, contact Tana Shivers, Preferred Public Relations, tana@preferredpublicrelations.com.

**Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino Announces Las Vegas’ Newest Female Review, *Sexxy***

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino has announced the addition of Las Vegas’ newest female review appropriately titled, “*Sexxy.*” Suggesting show-goers leave their inhibitions at the door, the show features the talented Jennifer Romas and will debut on January 4 inside the 300-seat Shimmer Cabaret.
*Sexxy* will take audience members through a journey of fun and enticing vignettes that incorporate the top ten most popular fantasies. The show will encompass all eras of music, appealing to both men and women. For more information, contact Tana Shivers, Preferred Public Relations, tana@preferredpublicrelations.com.

**Excalibur Opens New Buffet**

A bountiful selection of small-batch comfort dishes will abound at The Buffet at Excalibur, the resort’s newly redesigned buffet. Located on the Castle Walk near the Thunder From Down Under Showroom, the contemporary dining room features an interactive dessert station as well as six food stations serving a variety of cultural cuisine, including American, Asian, Italian and Latin. Every Friday, The Buffet will transform into a seafood extravaganza featuring crawfish, blue crab, crab legs, sushi, peel-and-eat shrimp, lobster polenta and more. Menu items will rotate seasonally to highlight the freshest produce and ingredients, elevating The Buffet to a fresh new dining experience. For more information, contact Heather Yuille, MGM Resorts International, hyuille@mgmresorts.com.

**Smashburger Opens First Las Vegas Strip Location at Caesars Palace**

Smashburger has opened its first location on the Las Vegas Strip showcased inside Caesars Palace’s brand new 14,900-square-foot Forum Food Court. This momentous opening marks Smashburger’s ninth location in Las Vegas. At Smashburger, the secret is in the smash. It starts with 100-percent—fresh, never frozen, all-natural Certified Angus Beef and is smashed on a 400 degree flat grill to sear in the juicy flavor. To further the “better burger” experience, the delicious burgers are served on toasted artisan buns and topped with a selection of the freshest produce, real cheeses, and highest-quality condiments. For more information, contact Marina Nicola, Vox Solid Communications, mnicola@wearevoxsolid.com.

**Sid’s Café Opens at Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino**

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino has opened Sid’s Cafe, named after owner, David Siegel’s father, Sid Siegel. The restaurant, offering a creative approach to home-style cooking, is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Sid’s Cafe is a 200-seat, eatery in the heart of the casino. The restaurant is awash in elegance, offering large marble columns and rich tones of warm gold and brown, as it sits in what was once was the casino’s former High Limit room. In addition to the ambience, Sid’s boasts attentive service and large plates of freshly prepared food. The restaurant’s slogan states that “we treat everyone like a high roller.” For more information, contact Tana Shivers, Preferred Public Relations, tana@preferredpublicrelations.com.