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FREE CHUCK MEAD CONCERT AT JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Reno/Sparks, NEV - Alternative Country star, Chuck Mead will play a special free concert in the Casino Cabaret at John Ascuaga's Nugget this Saturday, December 3 at 9 p.m.

After leading several popular '80s cult bands in and around his hometown of Lawrence, Kansas, Chuck Mead landed on Nashville's Lower Broadway where he co-founded the famed '90s Alternative Country quintet BR549. The band's seven albums, three Grammy nominations and the Country Music Association Award for Best Overseas Touring Act would build an indelible bridge between authentic American Roots music and millions of fans worldwide. With BR on hiatus, Mead formed The Hillbilly All-Stars featuring members of The Mavericks, co-produced popular tribute albums to Johnny Cash and Waylon Jennings, guest-lectured at Vanderbilt University, and became a staff writer at one of Nashville's top song publishers. In 2009, he released his acclaimed solo debut album, *Journeyman's Wager*, and toured clubs, concert halls and international Rock, Country and Rockabilly festivals with his band The Grassy Knoll Boys.

Mead's new album, "Back at the Quonset Hut," was recorded at Nashville's legendary Quonset Hut Studio where Patsy Cline, George Jones, Merle Haggard, Roger Miller, Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash and more cut some of country's greatest tracks. Produced by original BR549 producer Mike Janas and with the participation of students from Belmont University's College of Entertainment and Music Business, the album of classic covers features surviving members of Music Row's original 'A Team' studio musicians as well as guest appearances by Old Crow Medicine Show, Elizabeth Cook, Jamie Johnson and Bobby Bare. "It's been incredibly liberating to do all these things I've never done before," Mead says. "I've already gone from the bars of Lower Broadway in Nashville to the Broadway stage, and the upcoming album is one of the most unique and rewarding projects I've ever been a part of. I'm looking forward to where it all brings me next."

Catch Chuck Meade free in the Cabaret at John Ascuaga's Nugget Saturday, December 3 at 9 p.m. For more information about the Nugget visit www.janugget.com.

John Ascuaga's Nugget is one of the few family-owned casino resorts left in the country. Founded as a coffee shop with a few slot machines on March 17, 1955, John Ascuaga has built the Nugget into a world-class, full-service gaming resort destination.