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11TH ANNUAL STAR SPANGLED SPARKS ON VICTORIAN SQUARE OFFERS JULY 4TH FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Sparks/Reno, Nev. –The region’s preeminent holiday celebration and fireworks display – *Star Spangled Sparks* – takes place on Sunday, July 4, on Victorian Square in downtown Sparks. This 11th annual celebration of family and freedom is highlighted by a 20- minute state- of- the- art pyrotechnic display, framed by the Nugget’s picturesque hotel towers, making the fiery light exhibition the longest and most spectacular show in the region.

From a kids’ area which features an array of rides and activities, to a “make-you-move” live entertainment lineup and a variety of food and drink vendors, there is truly something for everyone. Traditional live music by local favorite *Steppen Stonz* will keep the mood festive, while clowns, magicians and face painters entertain the crowd. Park and ride shuttle service for visitors will be available from The Legends at Sparks Marina. It is suggested that visitors arrive early, not only to enjoy all of the activities, but to secure a viewing location in what many consider the foremost outdoor special events venue in the area. Low-back chairs, small blankets and a light jacket or sweater always make the evening more enjoyable.

In tribute to the men and women of the military, members of the Nevada Air National Guard will fly a C- 130 Hercules aircraft over the event. A massive flying machine capable of airlifting military personnel and a wide range of oversized cargo, including helicopters and armored vehicles, the C- 130 is an awe- inspiring site to see as it flies low over the event.

Following the flyover, the National Anthem will be performed by recent high school graduate Kelsey Karrasch, past winner of both the Sparks and Reno Idol contests. The fireworks will begin at approximately 9:45 p.m. The show is once again presented by Lantis Fireworks & Lasers, with inspiringly choreographed music simulcast locally on KKOH 780 AM. The display is fired off from both the Nugget towers and the Union Pacific rail yard.

The activities start on Victorian Square at 4 p.m., immediately following the day- long Sparks Chamber of Commerce festivities at the Sparks Marina. The Victorian Square event concludes after the fireworks.

The 11th Annual Star Spangled Sparks on Victorian Square is presented by John Ascuaga’s Nugget, City of Sparks, Union Pacific Railroad, Morrey Distributing Co., Model Dairy, Rail City Casino, Swire Coca- Cola, Western Village, KOLO TV, Clear Channel Outdoor, KKOH Radio, Wells Fargo Bank, Wells Fargo Insurance Services of Nevada, Edward Jones/John Hancock, Northern Nevada Toyota Dealers, Camelot Party Rentals, Tholl Fencing and Hot August Nights.

(more)

A special opportunity exists this year to become a "Friend of the Fireworks," a designation which includes access to an exclusive VIP fireworks viewing and hospitality area along with media recognition by the Nugget. Contact Shelli Fine, Nugget Special Events Manager, for details.

John Ascuaga's Nugget is a premier casino resort owned and operated by the Ascuaga family in Sparks, Nevada. For more information, call (800) 648- 1177 or (775) 356- 3300, or visit janugget.com.