

## Editor

Brian Duggan is the executive editor of the Reno Gazette Journal.

### When you got into the business, did you expect this to be the state of it now, the uncertainty?

I graduated from UNR in 2008, and I was among the last classes there to be a print major, and that no longer exists in journalism there. ... So when I graduated in 2008, the recession was happening at that point, and I was a fellow at the Arizona Republic that summer and so the apocalypse was happening across the country. I think 3,000 [journalism] jobs were lost that summer. And so I took a job at the Bismark Tribune in North Dakota because I needed to find work, and I covered the statehouse up there. And so in my time as a journalist professionally, I've only known crisis. I've never known a time when there was salad days like that. So since I got to the RGJ in 2011, and this was probably happening at the RN&R as well, it's been a constant march of advertising decline industry-wide. The digital media future that we've all be striving for, I think Gannett's primary strategy, as well as its digital footprint, is keeping print newspapers as steady as they can be in an ongoing effort to make it as efficient as possible to get out the print newspaper so we can focus our efforts internally on building a digital audience. That's the strategy.

### Do you miss reporting?

Well, I stopped being a reporter in 2013 and became the investigations editor at



PHOTO/DENNIS MYERS

the RGJ. ... I was a reporter for about five years. Kelly Scott talked me into becoming an editor. ... I really enjoy, now, working with reporters and seeing big stories come to you, you know, molding them and—once you get that big story published, that's a really satisfying thing to see a reporter have something big go out. I worked really closely with Anjeanette [Damon] when she was investigating the jail deaths situation over at the jail. You know, Jason Hidalgo has done amazing work with housing, and I've worked really closely with him over the years to develop those stories. And so there's like a personal satisfaction in developing reporters and developing stories and thinking about the publication and how it's going to be presented and how it's going to be marketed. I guess you just find the creative outlet in a different way when you're editor as opposed to reporter. It's all working toward the same issue.

### If print is coming to an end, does it matter how it comes to an end?

Well, I mean, obviously, print is in crisis, and that's true across the entire industry. It doesn't take a lot to see that the advertising declines are industry-wide. They're not improving. And when that day comes, when it no longer makes sense to print the newspaper, they don't pay me enough to know that, with what's happening here in Reno. We are planning on having a newspaper for the foreseeable future. It is still a significant revenue driver that still funds our newsroom. The problem is, it's doing less and less of that every year. And so, the million dollar question is, really, how do you transition to a digital future, a digital majority future? And we're—as a company—Gannett is close to that, you know, becoming a majority digital company. ... There's a lot of uncertainty, again, with our potential merger and things like that, but as far as what we're doing here in Reno, we are committed to doing journalism for both our print audience, our digital audience. And our main mission right now in Reno is growing that digital audience. We believe there's a future there, and if we grow it, and if we can find a way to make it sustainable, to get people to subscribe and pay for local journalism, we think it's a valuable thing regardless of if it's with us, or donations to other nonprofit news organizations or whatever. We think there's a lot of value to local journalism and that could translate to a digital future. □

## NOTES FROM THE NEON BABYLON

BY BRUCE VAN DYKE

## Game and Groom

**SPOILER ALERT.** *Game of Thrones* spoiler. If you care, just bail right now, because it's been stewing in me now for two months, metastasizing, growing, searching for its voice. It's gotta come out.

Goddammit, Dany should've killed Jon. She should have torched his ass, knowing that, in the end, he was nothing but trouble. Just lay a great speech of total madness on him right there when they were alone in front of The Throne, with Dany still in the throes of a violent and passionate super turn-on ignited by laying waste to King's Landing. At the conclusion of her terrifying rap of mega death conquest, knowing that she's totally and thoroughly blown Jon's mind with the horrific self-revelation of her total Targaryen transformation, she says calmly, "And so, it's time to say goodbye, my love" and then coolly

orders Drogon to "Dracarify" him. Then, cue The Who. "Won't Get Fooled Again." Roger screams. "Meet the new boss! Same as the old boss!" We would have lost our everlovin' minds!

So you want an Area 51 experience? I can give you one. This is the real deal. Do this.

You need a trailer. That's best for this assignment. At least a tent trailer. With your R.V., you go 20 miles south of crazy burg Rachel on Hwy 375. There, you find Groom Lake Road, a marked, good quality gravel road. Take that road, and a few miles down, you'll see a place where a couple of trailer spaces have been carved out. Park in these perfect spots, set up shop, and enjoy the beauty of the dusk out there. It'll be warm, clear and quiet. Do your happy hour scene, and then, dig

the sunset, the dusk and the darkening sky, with all the summer constellations that brilliantly twinkle into view. And finally, when it's dark enough, observe the glow of the lights of Vegas to the south. An obvious pulse from an entity of considerable size. Then, look over to the ridge to the west, and notice—how light it is over there. You're looking directly at Area 51, and sonuvagun, its glow is damn near as bright as that of Vegas.

That's all you'll need to experience. You don't need to see aliens. You don't need to be hassled by government agents. You'll see the lights of 51, the Great Glow of Groom Lake. You'll wonder about those lights. You'll talk about them, and then ... you'll have a great night's sleep in the beautiful quiet cool desert ... without one clue as to WTF is really going out there. □



## WARNING:

QUITTING SMOKING NOW  
GREATLY REDUCES SERIOUS RISK  
TO YOUR HEALTH.

## CIGARETTES PREMIUM BRANDS

|                        |                    |                       |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Marlboro Red</b>    | <b>\$6.44</b> pack | <b>\$63.44</b> carton |
| <b>Camel Box/99s</b>   | <b>\$6.36</b> pack | <b>\$62.59</b> carton |
| <b>Winston</b>         | <b>\$5.91</b> pack | <b>\$58.14</b> carton |
| <b>American Spirit</b> | <b>\$7.40</b> pack | <b>\$73.04</b> carton |
| <b>Nat Sherman</b>     | <b>\$8.77</b> pack | <b>\$43.45</b> carton |

## CIGARETTES VALUE BRANDS

|                      |                    |                       |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>L. Ducat</b>      | <b>\$3.91</b> pack | <b>\$38.10</b> carton |
| <b>Eagle 20</b>      | <b>\$4.01</b> pack | <b>\$39.10</b> carton |
| <b>Silver Cloud</b>  | <b>\$4.04</b> pack | <b>\$39.39</b> carton |
| <b>King Mountain</b> | <b>\$4.38</b> pack | <b>\$42.83</b> carton |

## Smokeless Tobacco

|                            |                   |                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Copenhagen</b>          | <b>\$5.24</b> can | <b>\$24.62</b> roll |
| <b>Skool</b>               | <b>\$5.14</b> can | <b>\$24.12</b> roll |
| <b>Grizzly Wintergreen</b> | <b>\$3.86</b> can | <b>\$17.74</b> roll |
| <b>General Snus</b>        | <b>\$5.28</b> can | <b>\$24.59</b> roll |

## Alternative Products

|                  |                       |                                |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Zyn</b>       | <b>\$4.11</b> can     | <b>\$18.09</b> roll            |
| <b>Vuse Vibe</b> | <b>\$19.95</b> device | <b>\$9.99</b> refill cartridge |
| <b>My Blu</b>    | <b>\$19.95</b> device | <b>\$8.99</b> refill cartridge |
| <b>Juul</b>      | <b>\$33.49</b> device | <b>\$13.99</b> 4 pk pods       |

## VAPOR PRODUCTS & DEVICES

Salty Man / Revolve / Suorin / Omni / Voodoo

## CBD PRODUCTS

CBD Vapor Liquids / Tinctures / Assorted Products



**Reno:** 90 Auto Center Dr. 852-4010  
Behind Mercedes Benz of Reno

**Reno:** 2001 E. 2nd St. 329-0275

**Reno:** 901 Golden Ln. 329-6299

**Sparks:** 1962 Pyramid Way 353-2140

**Verdi:** 1-80, Exit 2 345-2620

**Spanish Springs:** **NEW LOCATION!** 7655 Pyramid Way 424-4165

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**Ask about our Low-Price Guarantee.**  
Prices subject to manufacturer change without notice.