

**Subject:**

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## 1862 David Walley's Hot Springs Resort Celebrates 150 Years



Genoa, NV– 1862 David Walley's is proud to announce the celebration of its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, beginning with a concert and barbeque featuring Mumbo Gumbo on Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Hot Springs Resort, located at 2001 Foothill Road in Genoa.

One of Nevada's finest historical properties, "Walley's" was built in 1862 by David and Harriet Walley. Built as a 40-room hotel with an elegant ballroom and several bathhouses, Walley's has grown significantly over the last 150 years, but still proudly carries the Walley's vision as an elegant spa, luxury resort and fine dining establishment.

The resort was purchased in the fall of 2010 by Summerwinds Resort owners Pat Joyce and Dawn Joyce along with their partners Darren Abbott and Rich Dowdell. Collectively the group has more than 75 years of experience and success in the resort industry. "We made this purchase to restore an historic icon in the Carson Valley community, and bring back what David and Harriet Walley envisioned years ago," commented Pat Joyce. Since the purchase, the group has made many notable improvements to the property, including renovations to "1862" the resorts fine-dining restaurant, vacation ownership properties, the hot springs and full-service spa, as well as Harriet's Café, which serves breakfast, lunch and Starbucks coffee. Also, known for their wedding and banquet facilities, the resort was recently named "Best Destination Wedding Venue" by Nevada Magazine.



Regional favorites, Mumbo Gumbo brings its signature danceable sound to Walley's - a mixture spanning from rock to soul, afropop to lush balladry and zydeco to country. Known to pack the house with their seven piece band featuring the accordion, washboard, saxophones, boogie piano and rhythm section, Mumbo Gumbo has won multiple awards, produced eight albums and its music was featured on the hit television show "Northern Exposure."

The birthday bash will kick off at 6:30 pm with Chef Mark May's bbq favorites, Mumbo Gumbo will take the stage at 7:30 rocking the foothills of the Sierras on an outdoor stage. Since this will be Mumbo Gumbo's only performance in the area this summer, early arrival is recommended.

The concert featuring Mumbo Gumbo will be the first of two events commemorating the resorts 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. In the early fall, Walley's will host an historical event featuring historical re-enactments and story-tellers. This will be a two-day event, hosting local schools on Friday with the public celebration Saturday. Further details will be released in the coming weeks. For more information, call 775-309-0111.

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### **History of David Walley's Resort:**

Walley's Hot Springs, an elegant spa and luxury hotel, was built in 1862 by David and Harriet Wally at a cost of more than \$100,000. Walley's had a 40-room hotel with 11 bathrooms, a grand ballroom, a large stable a swimming pool, and several bathhouses with resident physician and masseur. Famed for its baths, the springs are said to cure everything from sore muscles to rheumatism. Walley's also catered to the palate with "all substantial and every delicacy in season." It was a regular stop on stage routes, and a daily stage met the V&T train in

Minden. Adjacent to the Pony Express Route and the Emigrant Trail, Walley's was frequented not only by those who wanted to wash away the dirt, hardship, and disappointment of the mines, but also those who needed to soothe away the cares and pressures of success. These visitors knew the rich velvet, leather and solid brass fixtures of private railroad coaches. These society men and women from distant cities as well as successful silver and gold mine owners, all found something magical about the hot mineral water bath, the unobstructed views and the majesty of the Sierras. Walley's has welcomed such historic figures as Presidents Ulysses S. Grant and Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, Mark Twain, Hank Monk the stagecoach driver and more recently, silver screen idols like Clark Gable, Ida Lupino, Carol Lombard and Ray Bolger.

After David Walley's death in 1875, his widow continued to operate the resort as Genoa Hot Springs in 1876 and later as Walley's. Harriet Walley died in 1896 and the resort was sold by her heirs to John and Richard Raycraft for \$5,000 in 1897. Later Jane Raycraft and her husband James Campbell purchased and operated until 1905. It was then known as "Walley's Hot Springs" and was advertised as "the most celebrated medicinal spring in Nevada," offering "amazing remedial energy" for a long list of human ills. In 1910, Clarence Burton purchased Walley's for \$19,000 in gold coins. It prospered until the 1920's through various owners, when fire took all but the stone cellar, on building and a few cabins.

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High Resolution Images Available Upon Request.

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