

## FROM THE EDITOR

Summertime. And it's a beautiful June day in the Truckee Meadows. This is the time of year that --- after the flush of spring colors across the valley and the frantic push of May gardening weekends – I like to sit back and enjoy the view.

And brag about all the work that got done in May – the retaining wall, the drip system, the gorgeous, new Mr. Lincoln rose, the bed of perennials, and, yes, even the Hostas that have magically come back all on their own to their shady home under a tree.

This month, **NEVADAHome** takes a look at northern Nevada's relaxed, backyard living – our patios. And our focus is two-fold: the cool surfaces under summer's bare feet and the shade overhead. We're in love with pergolas, those great desert inventions that provide shade, but not too much.

And we've been exploring concrete. Not the old, flat gray stuff we're all so familiar with. Writer Barbara Marquand took a look at the new stuff: stamped concrete. And oh, the possibilities are endless. You could be walking on cobblestones, flagstone, bricks or bright designs, and it's all just colored and stamped concrete.

We thought you'd like to know how it's done, so we trailed along as a Q&D Construction crew stamped out a patio in Reno. And photographer Mike Herzog shot the sequence for you.



Of course, we didn't stop with concrete. We wandered through the world of tile, too, and writer Susan Botich nosed around to find out what trends are making their mark in the Truckee Meadows. She found we are right there in the forefront, embracing rustic tile styles. A new addition to our cast of contributors, Kadie Remaklus, fills us in on rustic tile possibilities, the new, designer version of old stone.

Some of our advisors from our "Publishers for an Hour" lunches, asked for an article on how to attract birds to a Nevada garden. See what we discovered, and the plants birds love, in "Gardening for the Birds," and just for fun, read on, to "Nevada's Most Comical Bird," for a Reno gardener's take on a bird he loves to watch.

You'll find a new page in this month's **NEVADAHome**, too, one that has been requested by readers – our "Contributors" spotlight. Look to this page each month for comments from a few of our writers and photographers. They're out in the community exploring, asking questions, and learning; as you'll see, they're having a good time bringing their discoveries home to you.

Enjoy.

And keep in touch!

Here's my email:

editor@nvhome.biz; and my address: 780 Smithridge Drive, suite 200, Reno, 89502.

*Judith Harlan*

### STAY IN TOUCH

Have an idea for an article you'd like to see in **NEVADAHome**? Or questions? Comments? Please drop me an email or a note. Email **NEVADAHome** at [feedback@nvhome.biz](mailto:feedback@nvhome.biz) or me personally at [editor@nvhome.biz](mailto:editor@nvhome.biz). Or send mail to our offices: 780 Smithridge Drive, suite 200, Reno, 89503.

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## ON THE COVER

Gary Weinheimer, a northern Nevada commercial photographer with an eye for graphic fun, photographed **NEVADAHome**'s June cover. The pergola, designed by High Desert Fence and Patio Covers, arches against a Somerset blue sky.



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