

## Gunman opens fire on Las Vegas outdoor venue – 59 dead, 527 injured

By Dixie Brunner

The old saying, "Whatever happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas," will not ring true after the October 1 event that happened there.

What happened on that night at a Jason Aldean concert that was the final act of a country music festival attended by approximately 22,000 people caused many of our collective hearts to skip a beat to the reality of another nightmare occurring again right here in our country!

With the death toll at 59, with 527 injured, and 45 still in critical condition, the horror that occurred on the Las Vegas Boulevard concert venue will be something that will be shared and repeated often. The Sunday nightmare is the deadliest U.S. shooting in modern day history.

What is known is on that tragic Sunday evening, 64 year-old

Mesquite resident Stephen Paddock, who had no criminal record, opened fire a few minutes after 10 p.m. from his large two room suite on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, and showered (literal) Hell down on the large concert gathering across the street and nearly a quarter mile away with high powered rifles.

The investigation so far has led to the discovery that Paddock had checked into Mandalay Bay on September 28, three days before the shooting. Las Vegas Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said authorities believe that he broke the window glass with a hammer device to allow him better access to use some of the 23 guns he had with him in the room to shoot at the concert goers below. They believe Paddock shot from two windows of his suite.

The shooting barrage lasted about 15 minutes, ending around



Stephen Paddock

10:20 p.m. A few minutes later the Las Vegas SWAT Team began breaching his room with explosives to gain access to the shooter. Authorities said Paddock had killed himself.

Concert attendees said they first thought the gunfire was fireworks, but quickly saw people dropping to the ground, injured and dead. They said they were unsure where

the gunfire was coming from, but many described running for the exits, and then hiding behind or under vehicles to escape the spray.

It was unsure how many deaths were due to gunshot wounds and how many to the pandemonium caused by so many trying to escape the venue.

It was reported that 12 off-duty firefighters, including four providing CPR to gunshot victims, were wounded.

In the days since the carnage, they still don't have an answer as to why Paddock, a retired accountant turned professional gambler, committed the horrific crime. (His own brother said he was absolutely baffled that he did what he did.) The only red flag was that Paddock's father Benjamin was a most-wanted bank thief back in the 70's, who was thought to have suffered from mental issues.

They did search one of Paddock's homes in Mesquite, and found an enormous cache of weapons.

Nineteen more weapons were found at his house, as well as ammonia nitrate in his car. His neighbors in the upscale senior community were shocked that their neighbor had committed such a horrific crime.

Police have named Paddock's partner, Marilou Danley, a person of interest. She was traveling in the Philippines at the time of the incident. Paddock had wired her \$100,000 a few days prior to the shooting. They said she is cooperating with authorities and will be interviewed by the FBI as to whether she had any knowledge of Paddock's plans.

Paddock purchased 33 firearms, mostly rifles, between October 2016 and September 28, three days before the attack.

The killer had rigged 12 semi-automatic rifles with devices that allowed the guns to fire like an automatic weapon.

Law enforcement doesn't believe Paddock had any terrorist ties.

## G2G wrap and records

By Susana Young

It's interesting, when "impossible" records get broken, to reflect on the limits of human capability. The first men (yes, all men) who ran in the Boston Marathon 120 years ago were thought to be pressing the limits when they completed the 26 miles in three hours.

This year's G2G winner finished the grueling 174 miles in 29 hours and 34 minutes – 17 minutes faster than the course record set last year. Erik Clavery, age 37, from France, crossed the finish line with that new record time. In second place was Peter Cromie, age 44, from Great Britain, whose total time was 32 hours, 18 minutes.

The fastest female (placing eighth overall) was Erica Terblanche, age 46, from the Republic of South Africa, finishing in just over 40 hours, 4 minutes. Just 25 minutes behind her, and finishing ninth overall, was 22-year-old Canadian Kelsey Hogan (the youngest G2G participant this year). Hogan was sponsored by i2P and helped raise funds for that organization.

Our own local Paul Grimm, age 48, who ran last year on a

G2G scholarship, said, "The trail karma was with me this year!" He crossed the finish line unscathed in 11th place overall. Last year he placed 35th.

Kudos to Tara Timpson, our local G2G scholarship participant this year! She won the award for the fastest time for a female in her age group. She clearly had the largest fan base of anyone in the race – having the most e-mails delivered to her and a large contingent at the finish line waving signs.

Tara says she is really proud of being local. "I know the terrain and know it is challenging, but it is great to see the place anew through the eyes of others as they discover this 'most amazing place!'"

She appreciated her tent-mates and enjoyed their time together. They spent time talking about why they are doing this, what it means, what's important, what they will do differently when they get home.

She feels gratitude to everyone who helped her work and train. She feels lucky that all the hard work and training paid off. "I felt good enough to play pickleball one day after the race!"



Arun Gligor, Romania, falls to his knees with his country's flag, and kisses the ground after crossing the finish line. All photos courtesy of Grand to Grand Ultra.

## Sting in Bullfrog Marina area nets 19 arrests

The Kane County Sheriff's Office, assisted by the National Park Service and the Blanding Police Department, recently completed a four-month investigation in the Bullfrog Marina area. The investigation culminated with the arrests of seven people for distribution of a controlled substance, two persons for illegally possessing a firearm and nine others for simple possession of marijuana/paraphernalia. One subject was arrested for a Kane County Justice Court warrant.

More information will be published as it becomes available, as the investigation is ongoing.

## North Rim to begin seasonal closures

Grand Canyon National Park North Rim operations will begin seasonal shutdown of most visitor services on Sunday, October 15. Reservations for the 2017 season at the Grand Canyon Lodge, operated by Forever Resorts, go through October 15. 2018 reservations are ongoing. The last meal served at the Grand Canyon Lodge will be breakfast on the morning of October 16; no food service will be available in the park after this meal. The lodge gift shop will be open through October 31. Self-service gas and diesel fuel will continue to be available. Canyon Trail Rides will offer their last mule rides on October 15.

Visitor entrance and campground fees will be collected through November 30. Entrance fees are good for seven days on both the North and South Rims. The North Rim Visitor Center will be open intermittently from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., through October 31. The North Rim Backcountry Information Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week through October 31.

North Rim campground sites are available by reservation through October 31. Book campground reservations at www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777. Backcountry reservations

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Winners of G2G Ultra 2017: Erik Clavery, France (who set a new course record for G2G) and Erica Terblanche, Republic of South Africa.

### KANAB WEATHER

September/October			
Date	High	Low	Prec
27	72	49	
28	NA	NA	
29	NA	NA	
30	85	51	
1	79	50	
2	71	42	
3	70	41	

Sept. Precip. = .57"

Courtesy: Wayne & Stacy Grosz



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### INSIDE THE SUN THIS WEEK: