



Jamie Brant '08



Joshua Mooneyham '08 and Amanda (Goynne) Mooneyham '09

vidual, corporate, nonprofit and partnership taxation. She joined the firm in 2005 as a staff accountant and was promoted to senior associate in 2008. Stefanie currently serves as the co-treasurer for the VSA arts of Nevada, an organization devoted to providing art opportunities throughout the state.

**Stephanie Jiroch '05** (journalism), '07 (psychology) has recently been hired as an account executive with *944 Magazine*, one of the leading lifestyle media companies that appeals to young, upwardly mobile, image conscious adults and connects them with the top brands in the United States through a wide range of platforms. Stephanie currently resides in San Francisco.

**Ryan Riggan '06** (business management) joined Heritage Bank of Nevada as a

commercial loan officer specializing in small business administration loans and other government-guaranteed lending. Ryan, who has worked in banking for six years, previously worked for Nevada Security Bank and Bank of America.

**Leandro Romero '07** (geography) recently won best paper presented by a master's student at a meeting of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers in San Diego. The paper was titled "Adjudicating Modern Water under Ancient Rules: an Instance of 'Translation between two Laws' in Kona, Oahu."

**Jamie Brant '08** (journalism) has been promoted to account executive at MassMedia Corporate Communications, a regional public relations, advertising and marketing communications firm. Jamie has been with

MassMedia since 2008, most recently as an assistant account executive. In her new role, she will be responsible for account management, creating press materials, copyediting, media buying, event planning and management, and client and media relations for accounts on a local and national level.

**Joshua Mooneyham '08** (civil engineering) and his new wife, a former ski team athlete, **Amanda (Goynne) Mooneyham '09** (biology), have found a new home in Sacramento. Joshua is working with a state-of-the-art material recovery facility and sanitary landfill as a civil engineer under the guidance and support of another Nevada grad, **Wayne Trehwitt '62** (civil engineering). His duties include the oversight of the landfill, projecting future fill sequences, aiding in the monitoring of the recovery facility and

## Kickin' it with K-von | Audio books: Can you hear me now?



Tired of listening to the same old songs on the radio? Are you disheartened by the fact that although you have an iPod full of 13,000 tunes, you are bored with all of them? Perhaps it's time you take advantage of the best-kept secret in America: Your local library.

Most Americans find themselves in transit a minimum of 45 minutes a day. Why waste that time pretending you're making a music video with Fergie? Just so you know, when you are rocking out in your car . . . we can see you, and you look ridiculous. Instead of embarrassing yourself, go to a library and check out a few audio books. Your tax dollars have already paid for them and there is a huge selection to choose from. For me it has accomplished two things: 1) Made my car rides more interesting, and 2) brought inner peace.

Suddenly I stopped cursing everyone out on the road. Now, when I see a traffic jam, I think, "Oh goody, I'll get to hear this whole chapter!"

I discovered audio books about four years ago and it makes me feel like a successful and busy executive who has an assistant reading for me. Walking into the library again after a long absence will probably bring back a lot of

memories. I can still recall my summers as a kid when I'd be having a splendid time and suddenly my mom would stand in front of the TV blocking the view.

"Step away from the Nintendo. We're going to the library!" She'd announce.

"Noooo!" I'd scream. My brother and I would run and hide throughout the house in the best place we could find. For me it was usually in a laundry basket. It would take my mom .5 seconds to find us, grab us by the ears and force us into the car. (Note: this was before they had laws that protected children, so we were very vulnerable in those days.)

We arrived at our destination and were marched over to the head librarian's desk. This woman was very old, very scary, and thought all kids were too loud, even when we were just breathing. The first thing she did was force my brother and me to fill out a card with all of our contact information . . . which I believe she needed so she could find us and kill us if we did not read enough books. It was then I realized we were being enlisted against our will for the "Book Reading Summer Camp." This was a clear violation of my human rights. The librarian would explain that if we read five books a week for the next two months we could attend their pizza party.

"Two months?!" I thought, not sure if I would live that long.

I was then handed a library card and told to go pick out a few books. Off I went, straight to the comics. Again I was

grabbed by the ear and directed elsewhere. After my initial resistance to reading, I found that as the weeks wore on, I couldn't wait to go back to the library. What an adventure to learn about so many different topics. Everything from dinosaurs to detectives . . . I even read one book about a dinosaur detective—I think his name was Sherlokosaurus. Before I knew it, the end of the summer had come. I had done it! And there I was eating pizza with my brother and the two other kids in our community who had actually stuck it out and read the minimum 2,700 books required.

Now as an adult I walk back into the library and kind of feel like a kid again, except my back hurts from sitting in the car too much, but that is better than my ear. I check out audio books on different topics such as investing, autobiographies on politicians, and even fiction like *The Da Vinci Code*. The same librarian is still there, and now she's older than Sherlokosaurus. After "reading" several hundred audio books it's safe to say I've fallen back in love with the library. While the average person is stuck in traffic, I'm listening to my books and getting smarter! So give it a try and tell me what you think. Just to warn you, they don't have an "Audio Book Reading Pizza Party" for adults, but I think you'll survive. (Note: Some of you would have enjoyed this article more if it were read to you.)

*K-von '03 (marketing) is a Nevada alum and comedian. Look for him this season on MTV's hit show "Disaster Date." His full schedule is on [www.K-vonComedy.com](http://www.K-vonComedy.com).*