

The

# NSC FOGHORN™



Volume 3, issue 8

August 12, 2004

**Special points of interest:**

In a Finnish study made of 12,801 adults it was found that:

- The least number of strokes occurred on Sundays
- The greatest number of strokes were on Mondays, especially for elderly men (60-74 years-old) and those of lowest income
- Tuesday was when most women had strokes except:
- Young women (25 –59 years-old) had a majority of strokes (46%) on Fridays
- Older ( 60—74 years-old), higher income women had their strokes on Wednesdays.

In this study heart attacks also occurred mostly on Mondays, but other studies do not agree. — by Vern Perry

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## GOVERNOR GUINN – CALL A SPECIAL SESSION TO CAP OUR TAXES

By Ken Mahal, NSC President

**W**e know you believe there is plenty of time to pass a cap on our escalating real-estate taxes in the early part of the 2005 session of the legislature. And if you believe that then the moon is made out of cheese and we should eat it. Governor Kenny, paying for taxes on our home is a top concern. It is one of those cost of living events that we have no control over and you **should** know that. Things like taxes are very worrisome and at our age who needs one more worry? There are at least a half million of us in that fix and probably half that many of our youngsters are in the same fix so it will be a real mess.

Kenny you do not have many more moons to look like a **winner** so why not do the one day special session, cap our real-estate taxes at 6% or CPI whichever is less and get on with life. What a great image to go into the regular session with. For a change you and the legislators both are winners. We know from our legislator and candidate survey that they are 100% behind doing a cap so lets do it now when nothing else is bugging them. We all know that when they get in session all bets are off and those in charge like to see the really important things held until the last hours of the session when no one can predict the outcome of anything. Let's do it now before a lot of new faces confuse the issue.

We already have over 2,500 souls in Incline Village who are being taxed out of their homes and cannot stand another hit of any kind and those of us in the southern Nevada are only a breath away from being in (Continued on page 2)

**A SPECIAL NOTE TO THOSE OF YOU (INCLUDING CANDIDATES) who would like to communicate with the Governor;**

**You can reach him by mail, telephone, fax or e-mail.**

**Governor Kenny Guinn**  
**555E. Washington Av.**  
**Suite 5100**  
**Las Vegas NV 89101**  
**Voice: 702 486 2500**  
**Fax: 702 486 2505**

**Governor Kenny Guinn**  
**Capitol Building**  
**Carson City NV 89701**  
**Voice: 775 684 5670**  
**Fax: 775 684 5683**

**To Contact him by e-mail:**  
**jbrantle@gov.state.nv.us**

(Continued from page 1) the same fix. Certainly you know that with all of the ballot questions which will end up being in the upcoming legislature that it will be a free for all like none we have seen in recent years including the last one.

**REPEALING THE \$830,000,000 TAXES OF THE 2003 LEGISLATURE and NO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE MAY SERVE IN THE LEGISLATURE will be issues to be voted on by we registered, tax paying citizens in the upcoming election. Let's hope we do an overwhelming job of voting for each of the issues and then let's see how the legislatures handle the issues in the 2005 session. It should be fun.**

**NEVADA LEGISLATURE AND CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES PLEASE NOTE:**

We have heard from about a third of you on our survey, which is very good, but why not have 100% of you responding? You still have time. In case you have forgotten we want to hear from you on who most inspires you, (like who is your hero?) and do you favor a 6% cap or less on our real-estate taxes. Also would you take action to make the required change either in a special session or very early on in the 2005 session so that the assessors will have time to implement the change for the 2005 tax year? All of you who have not responded please do so now. You can do it by an e-mail sent to [tajmahal@lv.rmci.net](mailto:tajmahal@lv.rmci.net). Let us hear from you in order that we may announce the results at our regular meetings.

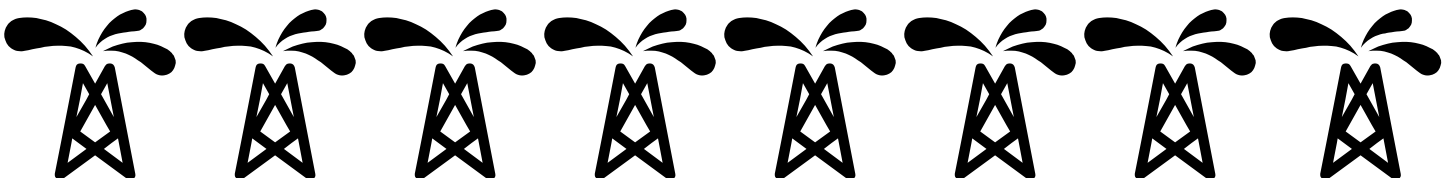
NSC members, be sure to ask for answers to the tax cap question of all legislative and Clark County Commission candidates that you meet.

### **WATER ,WATER, WATER WHAT IS HAPPENING TO IT?**

The August issue of Time Magazine has a must read story on water. According to the history of the tree rings we haven't seen anything yet. Mulroy, county commissioners and city council people – you had better read this story and my advice is to fire Mulroy and company and find some one competent to take us through what looks like the worst dry period in our life time. To those of you who came from the Midwest, do you remember the dust storms of the Dakotas in the 1930s? Well as a kid I do and I remember how farmers from other states brought their cattle to Wisconsin and to the most northern part of the state to have grazing grass. I also remember when plain old hay had a tremendous price. Oh yes, the dust storms of the Dakotas were so bad the soil banked up as high as the fences and the dirt clouds were in the air for hundreds of miles. I talked to our friend Dr. Larry Paulson Sunday evening and his thinking is that we have no more than two years before this will happen here and then even Hoover Dam will have trouble generating electricity, let alone there being sufficient water for this uncontrolled growth. The story is at [www.time.com](http://www.time.com). (Ed. – Select Science and Health or search for “Why the West Is Burning”)

### **THERE IS OIL AND POLITICS OF COURSE.**

Another must read article is in the August issue of the Forbes magazine. According to Steven H. Hanke, a professor of applied economics at The John Hopkins University in Baltimore and a senior fellow at the Cato Institute in Washington D.C., there is more than enough oil at affordable prices in the world. His study shows since 1971 the world has produced 767 million barrels of oil and still has 1,028 billion barrels left in reserve. His feeling is that we should stop filling the reserve and prices will go down again. There doesn't seem to be a problem in Europe either (where I was in April) with so many Mercedes and BMWs filling the streets and at the same time paying at least twice what we do – so what's to worry about? You can find his articles on the web at [www.forbes.com/hanke](http://www.forbes.com/hanke). –30–



# "Please Don't Quote Me"

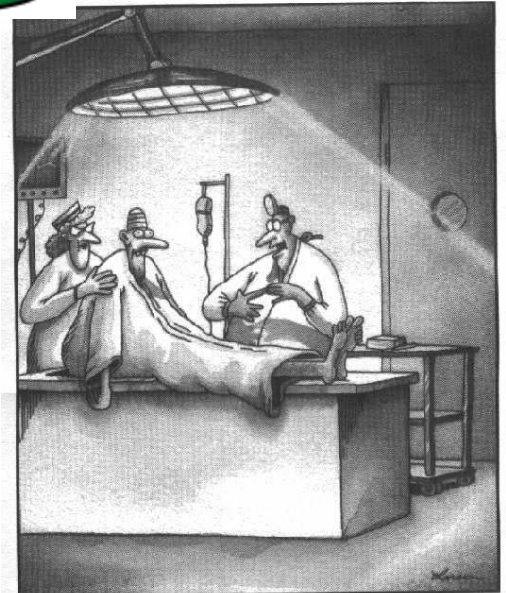
"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."  
- Benjamin Franklin



If you ever need a brain transplant, choose a politician because you want a brain that has never been used – VWP



Get all the fools on your side and you can be elected to anything – Frank Dane



"OK, Mr. Dittmars, remember: That brain is only a temporary, so don't think too hard with it."

Vote early and Vote often. – Al Capone

If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal – Anonymous



**Effective State and Local  
Tax Burdens by State  
and Rank  
for Calendar Year 2004**

Each state's tax burden represents a combination of state and local tax burdens. The table on the left shows the effective state/local tax burdens as a percentage of income by state. Ranking by state can be found in column 1. Column 2 shows the tax burden as a percentage of income, column 3 is tax burden per capita, and column 4 shows income per capita.

Sources: Tax Foundation and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The power to tax involves the power to destroy  
John Marshall (1755—1635)  
*McCulloch v. Maryland*, 1819

The average American of today works more than a full day in every week to support his government. It already costs him more than his pleasures and almost as much as his vices, and in another half century, no doubt, it will begin to cost as much as his necessities. — H.L. Mencken (1880-1956)  
*"On Government"* 1924

The thing generally raised on city land is taxes. Charles Dudley Warner (1829-1900) "Sixteen Week" 1871

Government expands to absorb revenue and then some. — Tom Wicker (1926-) In Harold Faber, "Faber's Law: If There Isn't a Law, There Will Be", *New York Times Magazine* 17 March 1968

I believe we should pay our taxes with a smile. I tried—but they wanted cash. — Anonymous

	Tax Burden Rank	Tax Burden as a Percentage of Income	Tax Burden Per Capita	Income Per Capita
United States	-	10.0%	\$3,490	\$35,039
Alabama	41	9.1%	\$2,612	\$28,798
Alaska	50	6.3%	2,287	36,267
Arizona	20	10.0%	2,935	29,491
Arkansas	25	9.8%	2,638	26,788
California	26	9.8%	3,676	37,456
Colorado	40	9.1%	\$3,391	\$37,154
Connecticut	9	10.6%	5,119	48,489
Delaware	48	8.2%	3,008	36,665
Florida	45	8.8%	2,938	33,322
Georgia	18	10.0%	3,242	32,457
Hawaii	4	11.3%	\$3,865	\$34,173
Idaho	11	10.4%	2,956	28,474
Illinois	32	9.7%	3,661	37,695
Indiana	16	10.1%	3,241	32,127
Iowa	27	9.8%	3,211	32,777
Kansas	22	9.9%	\$3,273	\$32,999
Kentucky	17	10.0%	2,938	29,343
Louisiana	23	9.9%	2,882	29,107
Maine	2	12.3%	3,907	31,885
Maryland	24	9.9%	4,059	41,079
Massachusetts	36	9.4%	\$4,177	\$44,410
Michigan	13	10.2%	3,495	34,222
Minnesota	10	10.5%	4,066	38,829
Mississippi	19	10.0%	2,573	25,814
Montana	28	9.8%	\$2,796	\$28,666
Nebraska	14	10.2%	3,512	34,499
Nevada	30	9.7%	3,289	33,770
New Hampshire	49	7.5%	2,906	38,918
New Mexico	29	9.7%	\$2,671	\$27,407
New York	1	12.9%	5,230	40,685
North Carolina	31	9.7%	3,009	30,899
North Dakota	33	9.7%	3,093	31,917
Oklahoma	39	9.2%	\$2,646	\$28,667
Oregon	34	9.5%	3,044	32,162
Pennsylvania	35	9.4%	3,432	36,401
Rhode Island	5	11.1%	3,976	35,704
South Dakota	42	9.0%	\$2,880	\$32,052
Tennessee	47	8.5%	2,630	31,112
Texas	46	8.7%	2,797	31,967
Utah	7	10.8%	2,915	27,094
Virginia	37	9.3%	\$3,453	\$37,044
Washington	21	9.9%	3,729	37,502
West Virginia	8	10.6%	2,842	26,882
Wisconsin	6	11.1%	3,807	34,292
District of Columbia	-	12.8%	\$6,418	\$50,126

## Tax Breaks For Seniors In the State of Hawaii

### Background

The first home exemption law was enacted in 1896 by the Republic of Hawaii to provide some tax relief, encourage home ownership and the settlement of land. In 1896, the home exemption amount was \$300.

Currently, the basic home exemption is \$40,000. This means that \$40,000 is deducted from the assessed value of the property and the homeowner is taxed on the balance. For homeowners 55 years and older, additional home exemptions are permitted and these are explained in the section, "Multiple Home Exemptions for Senior Citizens."

### Multiple Home Exemptions for Senior Citizens

The multiple home exemption was established to lighten the tax burden for senior citizens who have relatively fixed retirement incomes. Senior citizens who are 55 years or older are eligible to apply.

The multiple home exemption is determined as follows:

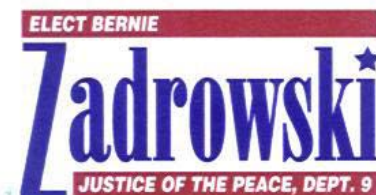
For those age 55 to 59, the multiple home exemption is 1.5 times the basic home exemption. (1.5 x \$40,000 = \$60,000)

For those age 60 to 64, the multiple home exemption is 2 times the basic home exemption. (2 x \$40,000 = \$80,000)

For those age 65 to 69, the multiple home exemption is 2.5 times the basic home exemption. (2.5 x \$40,000 = \$100,000)

For those age 70 and older, the multiple home exemption is 3 times the basic home exemption. (3 x \$40,000 = \$120,000)

To qualify for the multiple home exemption in each age category, a taxpayer must reach that respective age on or before June 30, preceding the tax year for which the exemption is claimed.



*Bernie Zadrowski*

*P.O. Box 371322  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
89137-1322*

*702-812-6004*

*bernie@zadrowski4judge.com  
www.zadrowski4judge.com*

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## Zadrowski

**Justice of the Peace, District 9**

## AT THE JULY MEETING



Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman  
and NSC President Ken Mahal

**Video tapes of this and other  
meetings are available.  
For further information:  
Contact Vern Perry**

## MEMBERSHIP

### New members:

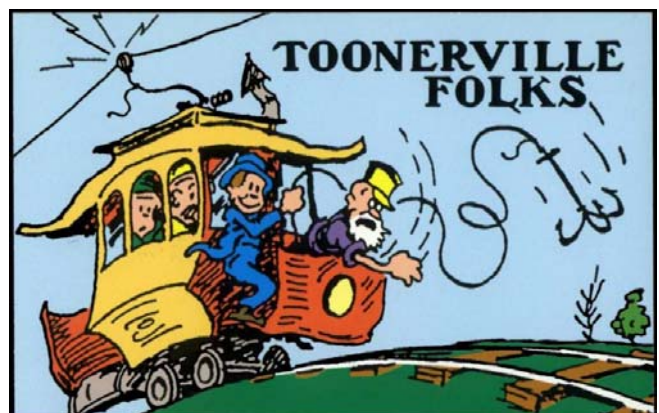
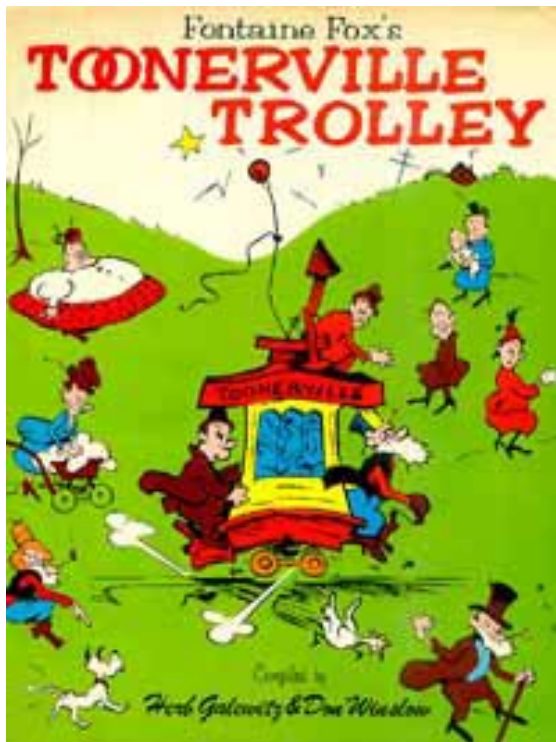
Michael J. Ferrentino  
Lee Wayne Haynes  
David and Mary Stearns  
*Welcome to you all.*

### Renewing members include:

Stuart Anderson  
Joyce Claeson  
Victoria Harbison  
Edna H. Hawkins  
Frank Perna  
Judy Ray (Congressman Jim Gibbons)  
U.S. Senator Harry Reid & Wife Landra  
Al Rose

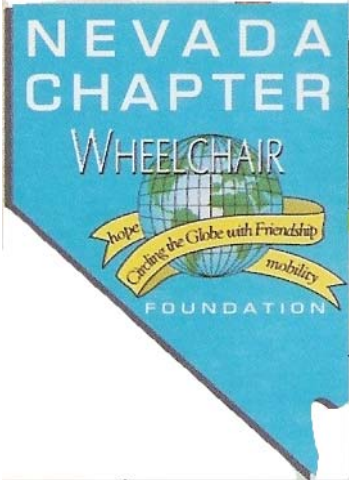
*Thank you all for your continued support.*

**N.B.** You are given 90 days after your membership expires to renew before your name is removed from the membership list. Your membership anniversary date is on the *Foghorn* mailing label. If the date is in red please renew, either by mail or at the next meeting. — Vern Perry



More ideas from the folks who brought  
you the Monorail and the MAX

# Know Someone Who Needs A Wheelchair?



The Wheelchair Foundation – Nevada Chapter is a nonprofit organization leading an effort to deliver a wheelchair to every man, woman, and child that have a need but do not have the resources. They will be covering the entire state of Nevada offering individuals freedom, self-

reliance, mobility, and hope.

There are between 7,000 to 10,000 Nevada citizens deprived of mobility for a variety of reasons. They need a wheelchair to get across the room or street but are financially unable to get one.

The Wheelchair Foundation – Nevada Chapter hopes to distribute wheelchairs to all the people who need them but cannot afford them.

The organization matches donations of \$150 and can buy two wheelchairs with this money.

They are allied with many non governmental organizations and are looking for more.

To learn more about the organization or contribute to it call **1-800-851-3706**. They have a web-site at

<http://www.wheelchairsfornevada.org>.

# From The Editor

I was astounded when I read that the monkey rail group was considered a tax exempt nonprofit organization. I was more astounded when I read two articles by Channel 8 reporter George Knapp in the Las Vegas Mercury. The first one is in the July 29-August 4, 2004 issue with another in the August 5-August 11 issue. Please try to get a copy of these papers. They are available at about 2000 locations in the valley.

For those of you able to access the Internet you can read the articles on the Mercury’s website. The address is [www.lasvegasm Mercury.com](http://www.lasvegasm Mercury.com). Another bunch of crooks living off the taxpayers. I would fight for free rides for any Clark County resident except the thing doesn’t go anywhere any Clark County resident wants to go and never will. I am sure we will own it soon since even on opening day when anything new attracts the most attention it only drew 30, 000 passengers and will never pay for itself. This makes it a natural for government ownership after the crooks have stolen all they can get.

And speaking about transportation, I rode the MAX bus as part of an assignment I had. This new “bus” system has been compared to the Bullet Train by some idiot. It is noisy, can not hold the motorized wheelchairs most handicapped people who would use it probably have, does not take bicycles, and doesn’t stop at convenient locations. How it keeps on any schedule is beyond me since it is an express and stops only if a passenger is at the stop. I should have been able to travel for a senior fare (1/2 Price) but I had to get a ID downtown somewhere prior to riding. ???

– Vern Perry

## Next Meeting

Thursday, September 9, 2004  
10:00 am at >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>



After the meeting why don’t you eat and play, and stay all day?



Featured speaker will be:

*Secured Borders USA’s  
Lawrence Pappas*

# NEVADA SENIORS COALITION, INC.

4754 East Flamingo Road, Suite 416  
Las Vegas, NV 89121-4709

**Ken Mahal**                    **President**

Phone: 702.737.1377

Fax: 702 .446.5534

e-mail: info@nevadaseniors.com

**Vernon Perry**                **Vice President**

**Directors:**

**Belle Chohanin**            Finance

**Florence Petris**            Records

**Vernon Perry**                Membership

**Knight Allen**                Legislation

**Richard Thomas**        Communications

**Vernon Perry**                Issues

**Ken Mahal**                    Liaison

## **Today In History— August 12, 1981**

### **First Personal Computers**

By the early 1980s, the computer had shrunk from being a room-clogging behemoth to a relatively dainty machine that could fit on desks in homes and schools. So, IBM's introduction of its Personal Computer (PC) on August 12, 1981, didn't exactly signal a technical revolution. But that didn't stop Big Blues PC from bursting onto the scene. Their new product sold 136,000 units in its first year and a half of release, propelling the company's stock on an upward climb that peaked later in the decade. IBM had seemingly served notice to the computer industry: the granddaddy of business computing was making a break from the boardroom and looking to conquer America's homes. Not as widely noticed was the fact that IBM's new machine was a pastiche of other company's components, including a processing chip courtesy of Intel and an operating system developed by a thirty-two person concern called Microsoft. Eventually, IBM would not only be relying on other company's technology, but would be chasing them for profits. Though recent years have been a touch kinder to the company, the early 1990s saw IBM posting annual losses that sometimes ballooned up to \$8 million. — from www.historychannel.com



The Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc (NSC) is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization. No person is excluded on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin.

**The organization's purpose is to promote the physical and social welfare of senior citizens, their children and grandchildren.**

The organizations' goals and objectives are:

- Improvement of political and governmental institutions and processes on local, state and federal levels.
- Identify legislative trends at all levels and set NSC priorities.
- Support domestic policies responsive to the needs and will of the Nevada senior population.
- Work to involve more seniors in government. to assure government is open, responsive and accountable.
- Keep members and the general public informed on current issues affecting them. Encourage them to make their voices heard at all government levels.
- Work with other organizations in a common endeavor when their issues and programs coincide with those of NSC.



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