

The

NSC FOGHORN

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Special points of interest:

With the increase in the number of the illegal aliens working in the food industry, one would think the FDA food-safety inspections would be increasing. Instead the agency is conducting half of the inspections it did three years ago despite a barrage of high-profile food recalls.

- ! Between 2003 and 2006 FDA food-safety inspections have dropped 47 percent
- ! There are 12 percent fewer FDA employees in field offices working on food issues
- ! Safety tests have dropped 75 percent from 2003 to 2006
- ! The Bush administration has asked for an additional \$10.6 million for food safety at the FDA, however it is estimated that 10 times that much will be needed.
- ! The FDA increased its overall spending on food between 2003 and 2006 but those increases didn't keep pace with rising personnel costs.

Data from various sources. VWP

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TIME, TAXES & GROWTH

By N.S.C. President Ken Mahal A.I.A.

TIME GOES SO FAST I WONDER HOW MUCH TIME IS LEFT.

Maybe you can tell me why every time I think about it the week has come around to Thursday again. And I say to Agnes as we walk in the back yard that here it is Thursday again and the week is gone. Maybe when you are our age and retired you don't have as much on your mind when you don't have an 8 to 5 job. Anyway speaking of how fast time flies by I will be clocking 86 come the 6th of April and must tell you that in my entire life I have never thought about this age thing and how much time do I have left before my maker calls. I did notice that last week and this week in the USA weekend RJ Sunday supplement they talk about this aging thing and by our life style they try to predict how long we will live. I have always had something much simpler to follow and that was how long my grandpa lived. I remember my grandpa on my mothers side always seemed to be sitting in his rocking chair in front of his big picture window looking out over the hills and fields around his farm. He was also always fishing with his cane pole with minnow bait catching big muskies in the Jump River. Maybe all of that was his longevity line but he also raised some 13 kids so he must have done something right. So when it comes to longevity I suggest you think of one of your relatives who lived the longest and think about that person as your ticket to longevity. By the way my grandpa lived to be a hundred and fished until his last three years. My mother also lived to be 90 and decided that was long enough and just quit eating, caught pneumonia and passed away at age ninety. My take is that if you don't worry about everything that comes along, eat decently, exercise a little, don't drink too much, get a few hours of sleep and a nap if needed then you don't need to worry about your longevity because you have it made.

THERE IS A KILLER IN OUR LIFE WE CAN'T CONTROL CALLED TAXES.

How well we live is one thing but there is a killer we can't control called taxes. Our government at all levels will never stop taking our money from savings after working all of our adult life. Have you ever thought of that fact that we have allowed for a taxing system that continually takes our money and in no place do any of these taxing systems ever say "hey we have taken enough from these people". Have you ever thought of the fact that having paid taxes for 60 years that is still not enough? Interesting and disgusting isn't it that if we live to be one hundred years old our politicians and bureaucrats will still be taking our savings. I guess it will never stop until we reach the poverty level. In fact our government entities seem to make a special spot in their heart if they can call you

(Continued on page 2)

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as being at the poverty level. Remember under President Johnson we spent six or seven trillion on the Great Society that was all about the poverty level being something special in the United States of America. Back to taxes; tell me why you and I in our seventies and eighties should still be spending over half of our taxes on our public school system. Maybe if we didn't have to pay so much some of these people would stop having so many children. My wife and I had two and felt that was what we could raise well and educate well. We did that, we felt that was our responsibility and we paid for it through sixteen and eighteen years of schooling not asking the government for any hand outs. I know not every one could do that but I don't like what we see today in the public schools.

GROWTH ISN'T PAYING FOR GROWTH SO LET'S STOP GROWTH.

It should be recognized by now that the way Clark County Commissioners are handling things that growth sure isn't paying for growth and in fact never has. All of these commissioners have done is screwed up just about everything they are responsible for so isn't it time we stop growth cold in its tracks and MAKE GROWTH PAY FOR GROWTH. I am sick and tired of day in and day out all we hear about is how badly the CCC are screwing up from the get go. Now they need billions for more highways and the legislature is being ask to come up with some way to stick other taxes on our back to pay for the billions needed for the new highway system, then we are going to be ask for billions more to build more new schools as well as about five billion more for the Las Vegas Water Authority to go north wreck their water table and to build a pipe to run treated sewage around Hoover Dam forgetting the fact that 300,000 acre feet of contaminated storm water runoff will still go down the Las Vegas Wash and continue to contaminate the water in the intake area. These costs will never stop and every estimate they come up with will be way under the real cost and we will be expected to pay for the over run anyway. It would be something else if the CCC were bringing real talent for real high paying jobs here not as is happening now millions of poor underachieving youngsters who will do what their parents do work for minimum wage because we do not have an economy that demands high achievers in industry like working for Fortune Five Hundred corporations. Aren't we building an economy not to dissimilar to Cuba before Castro and look at what happened there? As for more money for new highways let Mr. money spender CCC Bruce Woodbury get behind taxing all earthmoving equipment, diesel trucks, all construction trailers, and trailer type towed equipment in the construction industry that has been using our roads for twenty five years and paid nothing for the wear and tear on our roads and highways. In fact this time Bruce baby get behind smog testing all diesel equipment that you failed to fight hard for about 15 years ago when you backed off fighting the trucking special interest lobbyist in Carson City at that legislative session when you could have stood up and been counted on at least once working in the interest of the people breathing all of this dirty burning diesel these many years along with the talcum powder fine desert dust that is still in the air all of the time.

After 25 years we are still seeing this smoky diesel and talcum fine dust from the dirtiest diesels in the construction industry coating everything on our property from our houses to our yards pools and everything else including vehicles standing outside and still Mr. Woodbury you have done nothing as was the case about 15 years ago when you backed down when the trucking industry lobbyist in Carson City objected to having diesels smog tested as gas automobiles are every year. OK let's get with it and put the smog test on all diesels on the highways and in the construction industry on the roads and off road. This is years past due so just get it done in this session of the legislature. Any legislature and politician only need spend several days looking in on the thousands of people of all ages who are suffering respiratory illness and are going to our testing labs, doctors' offices and x-ray labs to see how sick this community is from this dirty construction industry one of the worst in the entire United States. Please legislature, take this on even if Bruce won't.

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car. Both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light." After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection, and the light was red again. They went right though it. This time, the woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red and was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous and decided to pay very close attention to the road and the next intersection to see what was going on. At the next intersection, the light was definitely red, and sure enough, they went right through again. She turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred! Did you know we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us!" Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh my, am I driving?"

Please Don't Quote Me

Saint Patrick was a gentleman, who through strategy and stealth

Drove all the snakes from Ireland, here's a drink to his health!

But not too many drinks, lest we lose ourselves and then
 Forget the good Saint Patrick, and see them snakes again!
 ~Author Unknown



An Irishman is never drunk as long as he can hold onto one blade of grass to keep from falling off the earth. ~Irish Saying



A toast to your coffin. May it be made of 100 year old oak. And may we plant the tree together, tomorrow.



It is better to spend money like there's no tomorrow than to spend tonight like there's no money!

Irish Toast

"May your home always be too small to hold all your friends."

Irish Proverb

"May the best day of your past be the worst day of your future."

Irish Proverb

A best friend is like a four leaf clover: hard to find and lucky to have. ~Author Unknown



Happy St. Patrick's Day



Many an opportunity is lost because a man is out looking for four-leaf clovers. — Author Unknown

"Life is like a cup of tea, it's all in how you make it."

Irish Proverb

"You will never plough a field if you only turn it over in your mind."

Irish Proverb



Bank of America finds itself in illegal immigration debate with new credit card

A predictably harsh reaction occurred when news broke that Bank of America Corp. was testing a new credit card available to customers who may be illegal immigrants.

Illegal immigration activists called for a boycott and said the bank could be supporting terrorists and drug traffickers. Outraged customers closed accounts and sent back their cards, chopped into little pieces. The B of A's chief executive, Ken Lewis, admitted that "finding oneself in the middle of a heated national debate is never pleasant." However Bank of America isn't the first to offer such a card: **Citigroup Inc.** has done so for years, and **Wells Fargo & Co** is thinking about it. The banking industry has spent millions to attract customers in the country's growing Latino community – and among the **estimated 12 million illegal immigrants** living in the United States. This is just the latest progression. This also reflect a fact faced by every retail business in the United States. While they can't legally employ undocumented workers, there are few, if any, restrictions on welcoming them as customers.

"As a business owner, you sell to whomever comes into your store. You sell to whomever buys from you online. It's easy, normally," said Steven Camarota, director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington. "Just in some cases where specific identification is needed, like in financial services, it's more complicated."

But it's getting less so. Last month, Bank of America started a pilot program in the Los Angeles area late last year that didn't require a Social Security number to sign up for a credit card. The Charlotte-based bank insists the card isn't specifically designed to attract illegal immigrants, and says that so far, it has not. The bank hasn't decided if it will offer the card elsewhere. .

"It's a no brainer. It's a very large market," said Jim Johnson, director of the Urban Investment Strategies Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "The bank is just the latest example of a major corporation recognizing the impact of doing business with Hispanics."

Pew Hispanic Center demographer Jeff Passel stated that in **2005**, the nation's **6.6 million illegal immigrant families** had an average annual income of \$29,500 and accounted for nearly \$200 billion in purchasing power, a figure that's only expected to grow. "They are impacting the economy," Passel said. "The unauthorized are explicitly coming for an economic basis."

A substantial number of Latino households don't have access to credit, according a survey conducted by the National Council of La Raza, which found that 80 percent of American households use credit cards compared with only 56 percent of Hispanic households.

For years, U.S. banks have made attracting immigrants a major focus of their business strategy. They are pushing services that include everything from traditional checking accounts to wire transfers used to send money to relatives back home.

A Social Security number is typically not requires to open a standard banking account. Instead, they can identify themselves by using an ID card provided by the Mexican Consulate to its citizens, known as a **matricula consular**, or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

The B of A pilot program in Los Angeles allows customers to use such forms of identification to also sign up for a credit card. The card is similar to secured cards offered to those with poor credit: it requires customers to have an account with the bank that's been in good standing for at least three months and requires a reimbursable upfront fee of \$99. "This initiative lets customers build a solid credit history with a leading bank," B of A spokeswoman Betsy Weinberger said.

Still, Camarota said most Americans don't think businesses should go out of their way to cater to illegal immigrants. "Some say it's bad corporate citizenship," he said.

Providing credit to illegal immigrants further embeds the population into American society critics of illegal immigration have said . Without a Social Security number, the bank can't be sure the card's customers won't use the credit for criminal activity, such as terrorism or drug trafficking according to these critics.

Rod Woodward, Director of **NC Listen**, an immigration reform group based in Cary, NC said "We just see this as another step to put our country at risk so they can make a few extra dollars". The attention has rattled America's largest retail bank. Lewis wrote in a column in *The Wall Street Journal*, stating that the bank is complying with the provisions of the USA Patriot Act, which set up the guidelines that allows the bank to accept official identification sources issued by foreign governments – including the matricula consular.

"And I observe no shortage of irony in the efforts of those whose first concern is national security, but who seek to undermine a regulatory structure that was designed in large part to thwart terrorism," Lewis wrote. He said only 16 percent of customers to sign up for the card so far lack a Social Security number.

"We believe we have an obligation to serve all those in our country who are legally eligible to receive services," Lewis wrote "To do less would be discriminatory and unfair.

Adapted from an article by Associated Press writer Ieva M. Augstrums (VWP)

Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society

Dr. Douglas R. Peterson, Music Director

3950 Springhill Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada, 89121
Phone (702) 451-6672 Fax (702) 451-1921

The Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society will perform Felix Mendelssohn's magnificent Symphony-Cantata, "Hymn of Praise" (*Lobgesang*) at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, April 1st, in UNLV's Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. The concert under the direction of Dr. Douglas R. Peterson will feature the 60-voice Musical Arts Chorus, 38-piece Musical Arts Orchestra, and guest soloists Jennifer Kittinger Loss, soprano, Juline Barol-Gilmore, mezzo soprano, and Gerald Grahame, tenor, all of whom have national reputations.

On the same program, Randy Pagel will direct 120-voice Las Vegas Choristers in W.A. Mozart's "Te Deum" and the "Magnificat" by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi. The newly-formed Choristers are made up primarily of students from Cannon Middle School and Leavitt Middle School, in addition to select high school singers.

Mendelssohn wrote his "Hymn of Praise" to celebrate the 400th anniversary of printing by Gutenberg. It was first performed in 1840 at St. Thomas's Church in Leipzig. Mendelssohn's work contains three symphonic movements and celebrates the praise of God, God's faithfulness to those who wait for God's help and comfort, and the emergence from darkness to light.

The 44th season marks Dr. Douglas R. Peterson's 39th year as music director of the Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society. In November, he received Bank of America's "Local Hero Award." Randy Pagel conducts throughout the United States for several All-State Honor Choirs, at Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and in Orchestra Hall in Chicago. Admission to "The Hymn of Praise" concert is \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors, disabled, and military. Students with ID will be admitted free. Tickets are available by calling the UNLV Performing Center Box Office-895-2787.

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VOUCHER FOR ONE FREE ADMISSION--- PRESENT VOUCHER AT UNLV PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER TICKET OFFICE TO EXCHANGE FOR CONCERT TICKETS

Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society 44th Season proudly presents

Hymn of Praise

Symphony-Cantata by Felix Mendelssohn

Musical Arts Chorus, Musical Arts Orchestra, and renowned Guest Soloists
Dr. Douglas R. Peterson, Music Director

Te Deum by Mozart ***Magnificat*** by Pergolesi

performed by the 120-voice Las Vegas Choristers (middle and high school choir) and the Musical Arts Orchestra directed by Randy Pagel

Sunday, April 1, 2007
Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall

3:00 p.m.
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Guest Nevada Seniors' Coalition, Inc.

At the February Meeting

Membership



NSC President Ken Mahal & Allan Stahl, M.D., FACC, FACP

Renewing Members:

- *Carol Burgeson*
- *Jerome Citron*
- *Karl & Erika Reitter*
- *Mark Schofield*

Thank You For Your Continued Support

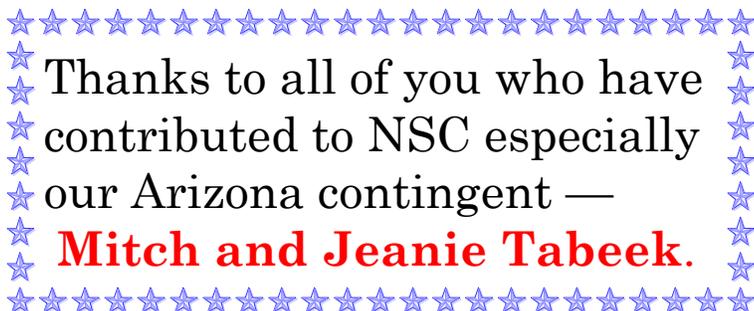


NSC President Ken Mahal & LV Township Constable Bobby "G" Gronauer

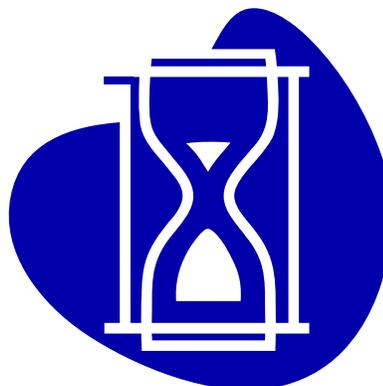

 Please help increase our membership. Tell your friends about our meetings and bring them with you.
 Recruit new members.
HELP NSC GROW!!!



NSC is an all volunteer group and we always need help. The same people have been doing the work for years. If you would like to help please contact any NSC officer or director.


 Thanks to all of you who have contributed to NSC especially our Arizona contingent —
Mitch and Jeanie Tabeek.


 Your membership anniversary date is on the *Foghorn* mailing label. If the label is in red, please renew your membership either by mail or at the next meeting you attend.



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Today In History March 8, 1782

Pennsylvania militiamen senselessly murder Patriot allies

On this day in 1782, in a Moravian Mission at Gnadenhuetten in the Ohio Country, 160 Pennsylvania militiamen murder 96 Christian Indians--39 children, 29 women and 28 men--by hammering their skulls with mallets from behind as they kneel unarmed, praying and singing. The victims' bodies were then piled in mission buildings before the entire community was burned to the ground. Two boys managed to survive, although one had lost his scalp to his attackers. Although the militiamen claimed they were seeking revenge for Indian raids on their frontier settlements, the murdered Indians had played no role in any attack.

This infamous attack led to a loss of faith in the Patriots by their Indian allies and reprisals upon Patriot captives in Indian custody. The Indians resurrected the practice of ritualized torture, discontinued during the Seven Years' War, on the men they were able to apprehend who had participated in the Gnadenhuetten atrocity.

Although the Moravians and their Indian converts were pacifists who refused to kill under any circumstances, other ways were found to assist the Patriot cause. The Delaware Indians aided the Patriots by working as guides and spies. The German Moravian missionaries also supplied the Americans with critical information, for which they were later arrested and tried by the British.

None of this protected the Indians when the 160 members of the Pennsylvania militia decided to act as judge, jury and executioner. The Delaware Indians they murdered were neutral pacifists. Their



The **Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc (NSC)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 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.

Christian missionaries were aiding the Patriot cause. Furthermore, they did not live in the manner described as "savage" by European settlers--they were instead engaged in European-style settled agriculture in their mission village. There was no political, religious or cultural justification for the militiamen's indiscriminate brutality during the Gnadenhuetten massacre; the incident is sadly illustrative of anti-Indian racism.

Adapted from an article at <http://www.history.com>



A Delaware Indian