

The

NSC FOGHORN™



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Our Web Site is at <http://www.nevadaseniors.com>

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Special points of interest:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) estimates that treating the nation's **10 most expensive medical conditions** cost nearly \$500 billion in 2005, the most recent year for which data has been compiled.

Condition	Cost B\$
1.Heart Problems	76
2.Trauma (breaks, cuts, etc.)	72
3.Cancer	69
4.Mental Disorders	55
5.Asthma & COPD	53
6.Hypertension	42
7.Diabetes 1&2	34
8.Osteoarthritis	34
9.Back Problems	32
10.Normal Birth	32

Chronic diseases are the leading causes of disability in the United States, and account for 70% of all deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They also can place major limitations on the daily lives of the one in 10 Americans living with them.

This, That and the Other

By Ken Mahal, NSC President

MEANS TESTING MEDICARE GROWS ANOTHER TWO YEARS.

I just got a call this week from the son of a lady who does a lot of gambling and had a good year of wins last year so that her means tested Medicare bill went up to \$600 a month. She must have a very poor tax person because they must not have deducted her losses from her wining to have such a big change. This does bring up something to remember. If for some reason you were so lucky as to affect your adjusted gross income, you will also have a nice jump in your payment to Medicare because of the increase in income if the losses were not bigger than the winnings. This law also includes tax free interest as a part of the means testing of ones income. How nice we retire and try to retire with enough income to last us until we go to the hereafter but now it looks like our so called government for the Congress and by the Congress to take our money away from us in one manner or another is going to succeed in making all of us poor even if we don't want to be. If you are interested all one need do is to type something like "means testing Medicare" and all you ever wanted to know about the issue comes up. It even refers to the 1988 Medicare reform bill that tells it was passed and people were so upset they even tried trashing a Congressman's car and the following year Congress killed the law. That was the one we were so active in. To bad we were asleep in 2003 when this new means testing was sneaked in on us again. I understand this new bill will keep increasing our costs through 2010 if not longer unless we ole timers do something again. In fact from my reading of the issue there is concern that for some it will be a major premium increase each year until a lot of them began to find private insurance no more costly than the government plan is. One needs to remember that those being means tested will be paying 30+ percent and more plus they also will be paying taxes to the government that will help pay the other 70% through the general fund. Once people began to realize how much they are paying for Medicare they will have all the more reason to go to private health insurance that will only drive Medicare into even much higher premiums and fewer customers. Remember Medicare is a voluntary program.

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LAS VEGAS SEES A DROP IN CONSTRUCTION ON THE STRIP.

Over the weekend the news announced that Boyd Gaming would stop their multi-billion dollar casino project until financing loosened up which means a bunch of construction workers are out of a job. The same looks to be happening on the big MGM City Center project with this most likely being the beginning of more slowdowns. At least they are cutting back until it is more feasible to get things going again. I remember the big inner city office building slow down some thirty years ago when high rise buildings were finished on the outside but open and empty when you looked through the office building without partitions or people. This no doubt will take months or even an extra year or so before things pick up again. It hurts now but most likely will turn things down to a lower level of expectation by doing what they are doing now and can be a soft slow down that will work out for the best over the long haul. We see things happening where more cars are parked in and around homes knowing that some are moving back in with others rather than try to make it on their own.

GAS PRICES GO DOWN A FEW CENTS AND PEOPLE DRIVE MORE.

They tell us that gas prices are slowing people down and that they are driving fewer miles. Do you wonder where that is, because I don't seem to see it happening in Las Vegas. In fact it seems they drive just as crazy as always. I try to drive a street light ahead and prepare to slow down so I can coast if need be until the light turns green so that I can keep going and it never fails that some one is in a hurry and wants to pull around and ahead only to have to come to a complete stop by jamming their brakes, it is so crazy. It was nice to see prices down a few cents the other day. Which reminds me that I find it interesting when I remember the article I wrote on how to get energy prices down by doing clean coal, coastal and inland drilling plus Anwar, air, solar etc. Well I thought that was good enough to send to the Review Journal for publication. Anyway they didn't publish the article but spent a goodly amount I'm quite sure when they published an article on the same subject written by a Mr. Larry Kudlow who is a New Yorker I met once many years ago and well he did only half the job yours truly did if I say so myself. If you have followed the news lately, almost every day has been about getting Congress to do something different similar to what I wrote about but they haven't done it and went home to politic instead. They should have stayed in Washington until they did something similar to what is being talked about by everyone and by now our price of fuel would be a lot less costly than it is. Isn't it time that we the people rose up and took our country back by throwing most of these life time elected politicians out of office and elect people who remember they were elected to represent the peoples interest not their private interest. I hope to live and see the day we make big change.

WHY IS IT OK TO HAVE A \$700 BILLION DOLLAR BALANCE DEFICIT?

Think about it we can drill our way out of our oil deficit by using our own coal, oil and natural gas but those in control of Congress would sooner see us have a weak dollar, fewer jobs and send our money to some of these countries who are murders of their own people and others who hate this country. Why do those in Congress who are against working our way out of the energy hole with our own resources hate to see us be independent as we are used to being and want us to destroy our economy by sending those \$700 billions over seas when we can do it all at home and soon be on the way once again as an independent and debt free nation. Think how stupid it is what our Congress is doing to us.

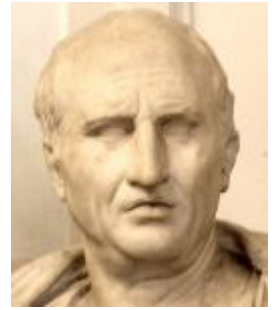
I SAY IT IS PAST TIME THAT WE TAKE OUR COUNTRY BACK AND DRILL OUR WAY INTO PROSPERITY NOW. CALL CONGRESS AND TELL THEM WHAT WE WANT NOW.

AN IDEA FOR SAVING GAS AND INCREASING OUR MEMBERSHIP.

Florence just called to reminded me of our meeting date, but more importantly gave me an idea when one of the members told Florence three of them we coming together to save gasoline. So how about if members find three new people to share the gasoline and bring them to the meeting and then we will try to convince them to become regular members. You know we have very good meetings and if you can think of something to make them even better we'll do that too.

“Please Don’t Quote Me”

- ⊖ When a government becomes powerful it is destructive, extravagant and violent; it is an usurer which takes bread from innocent mouths and deprives honorable men of their substance, for votes with which to perpetuate itself”
– Marcus Tullius Cicero 106 B.C. – 43 B.C.



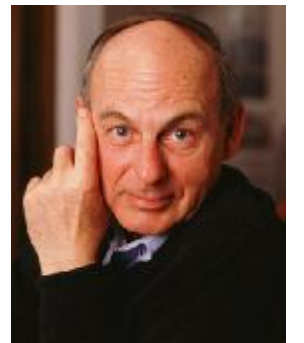
- ⊖ “If you voted for change, you better start counting it” – Anon.
- ⊖ “It doesn't matter who you vote for, the government always gets in” – Anon.
- ⊖ “It makes no difference who you vote for - the two parties are really one party representing four percent of the people” – Gore Vidal
- ⊖ “If God had wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates” – Jay Leno



- ⊖ “A candidate is a person who gets money from the rich and votes from the poor to protect them from each other” – Anon.
- ⊖ “Don't vote it only encourages them.” – Anon.
- ⊖ Vote: The only commodity that is peddleable without a license” – Mark Twain
- ⊖ Votes should be weighed, not counted” – Friedrich von Schiller
- ⊖ During his 1956 presidential campaign, a woman called out to Adlai E. Stevenson:

"Senator, you have the vote of every thinking person!"

Stevenson called back, **"That's not enough, madam, we need a majority!"**



- ⊖ You will never escape the will of the mob; about the best anyone has ever figured out how to do is herd them into voting booths” – Barry Shein
- ⊖ “In times of stress and strain, people will vote”. – Anon.
- ⊖ “A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote in a national election” – Bill Vaughn



Illegal Aliens Cost Americans More than Taxes

Gregory D. Lee May 17, 2008

I don't know what the intent of the Left-leaning Los Angeles Times was when they reported that "Healthcare gap could be fatal for ill immigrants," but it got my attention.

The article explained how an illegal Mexican immigrant snuck her infant daughter, Puente, to Los Angeles to seek treatment for a liver ailment. True to form, the infant received not one, but two liver transplants 10 years apart at an average cost of \$520,000 a pop, including anti-rejection medication. Ten years later, she received a third liver transplant, all courtesy of the California taxpayers through a state health care program for indigent children under the provisions of Medi-Cal.

Now she's 21 years old and the state refuses to pay for a fourth liver transplant because she's too old for a specific child program. To me, the "health care gap" that could be fatal for ill illegal immigrants was certain death for the three American taxpaying residents of California that were deprived of one because they were passed over for an illegal alien. There are only so many livers available for transplants, and obviously three deserving Americans were deprived of them.

And if that wasn't enough, the article went on: "Late last month, Puente learned of another, little-known option for patients with certain healthcare needs. If she notified U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services that she was in the country illegally, state health officials might grant her full Medi-Cal coverage. Puente did so, her benefits were restored and she is now awaiting a fourth transplant at UCLA."

Just about the time I was beginning to feel sorry for this woman whose health has been unfortunate since infancy, Puente was quoted as saying, "It doesn't matter if I'm undocumented. They should take care of me at UCLA for the rest of my life because I've been there since I was a baby." Excuse me? Why haven't this woman and her mother been deported yet?

When state and federal health care programs do not screen out illegal recipients, this is what you get. No wonder California must make up a budget deficit of approximately \$14 billion this fiscal year. And, what is the liberal state legislature's solution? Raise taxes, of course!

A recent crackdown on illegal immigrants in Los Angeles spurred a counterattack by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and other local officials who went to Washington to meet with Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to voice their concerns. Their concerns are not that approximately 450,000 to 480,000 illegal aliens in L.A. are depriving Americans of gainful employment. They contend that the increased arrests of illegals working in L.A. will affect the city's economy. Sorry to break this to the mayor, but it won't be a concern as soon as unemployed skilled and unskilled Americans have access to the jobs.

The way I see it, every illegal alien-held job is one less job for an American. There is no possible counter argument to that. Illegals only doing the work Americans won't do is ridiculous. Americans don't do construction jobs like tile work, flooring, framing, roofing, plumbing and gardening? Americans won't work in factories? And this notion that illegal Mexican immigrants want to eventually become U.S. citizens is equally nutty. What evidence is there of that? They make substantially more money, send it home, buy a hacienda and retire much better than they would if they had stayed home and worked in Mexico.

Illegal aliens cost the American taxpayer untold billions of dollars every year. Yes, we are a nation of immigrants, but we are also a nation of laws. The immigrants who first migrated here hundreds of years ago did so legally, and the thought of doing something illegal to gain citizenship repulsed them. That's the difference between then and now.

So if you like higher taxes, millions of fewer jobs for Americans, higher unemployment rates, less tax revenue for the U.S. Treasury and state governments because of under-the-table payrolls, more crime, gangs, graffiti, drive-by shootings, more expensive health care and utility bills due to deadbeats, freeway congestion, more pollution, more global warming, less available housing, unlicensed and uninsured drivers on the road, overcrowded and woefully inadequate schools, in-state college tuition for illegals, more drugs, overflowing jails, more drunk drivers, higher rents due to low supply and pressing "one" for English, than you should be happy with the status quo.

I personally would like to see those millions of jobs and scarce organ transplants go to deserving Americans instead of illegal aliens who make a mockery of our generosity.

Gregory D. Lee is a syndicated columnist with North Star Writers Group (<http://www.northstarwriters.com/>). You can see his previous material at <http://www.northstarwriters.com/gregorydlee.htm>

You can find this online at: http://www.familysecuritymatters.org/publications/id.138/pub_detail.asp

VJ DAY AUGUST 15, 1945



ALFRED EISENSTAEDT
14 Day at Times Square, New York City, 1945

Victory over Japan Day (V-J Day, also known as Victory in the Pacific Day, or V-P Day) is a name chosen for the day on which the Surrender of Japan occurred, and subsequent anniversaries of that event. The term has been applied to both the day on which the initial announcement of Japan's surrender was made on August 15, 1945 (August 14 North American date), as well as the date the formal surrender ceremony was performed in Tokyo on September 2, 1945.



One of the most famous photographs ever published by Life, V-J day in Times Square was shot in Times Square on August 14th, 1945. Alfred Eisenstaedt was in the square taking candid photos when he spotted a sailor "running along the street grabbing any and every girl in sight," he later explained. "Whether she was a grandmother, stout, thin, old, didn't make any difference. I was running ahead of him with my Leica looking back over my shoulder... Then suddenly, in a flash, I saw something white being grabbed. I turned around and clicked the moment the sailor kissed the nurse." Eisenstaedt was very gratified and pleased with this enduring image, saying: "People tell me that when I am in heaven they will remember this picture."

At the July Meeting



Scott Rader, Clark County Department of Social Services with NSC President Ken Mahal

Membership

New Members

* Scott Rader *

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome, Welcome

Renewing Members:

- * Joyce Claeson *
- * Victoria Harbison 2 years*
- * Ron Hilford *
- * Agnes Maria Greve Manning *
- * Robert & Ingeborg Levy *
- * Anna Longhofer *
- * Frank Peltson *
- * Richard Thomas *

♥ Thanks for your continued support ♥



Please help increase our membership. Tell your friends about our meetings and bring them with you.

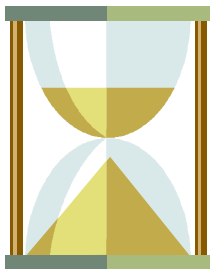
Recruit new members.

HELP NSC GROW!!!



Thanks to all of you who contributed to NSC last month. We really appreciate it.

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



Your membership anniversary date is on the Foghorn Mailing label. If the label is **RED**, please renew your membership, either by mail, or at the next meeting you attend. Your name is removed from the membership list 90 days after expiration.

Note: Membership dues are now \$10.00 per person.

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This Day In History, August 7, 1782

Washington creates the Purple Heart

At his headquarters in Newburgh, New York, General George Washington, the commander in chief of the Continental Army, creates the "Badge for Military Merit," a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk, edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word Merit stitched across the face in silver. The badge was to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" and permitted its wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. The honoree's name and regiment were also to be inscribed in a "Book of Merit."

Washington's "Purple Heart" was awarded to only three known soldiers during the Revolutionary War: Elijah Churchill, William Brown, and Daniel Bissell, Jr. The "Book of Merit" was lost, and the decoration was largely forgotten until 1927, when General Charles P. Summerall, the U.S. Army chief of staff, sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." In 1931, Summerall's successor, General Douglas MacArthur, took up the cause, hoping to reinstate the medal in time for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. On February 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, the U.S. War Department announced the creation of the "Order of the Purple Heart."

In addition to aspects of Washington's original design, the new Purple Heart also displays a bust of Washington and his coat of arms. The Order of the Purple Heart, the oldest American military decoration for military merit, is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who have been killed or wounded in action against an enemy. It is also awarded to soldiers who have suffered maltreatment as prisoners of war.

From <http://www.history.com> – VWP



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.



The Purple Heart