

The

NSC FOGHORN

TM



Volume 7, issue 11

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

November 13, 2008

Special points of interest:

What foods may have been on the first Thanksgiving menu?

- ◇ Seafood: Cod, Eel, Clams, Lobster
- ◇ Wild Fowl: Wild Turkey, Goose, Duck, Crane, Swan, Partridge, Eagles
- ◇ Meat: Venison, Seal
- ◇ Grain: Wheat Flour, Indian Corn
- ◇ Vegetables: Pumpkin, Peas, Beans, Onions, Lettuce, Radishes, Carrots
- ◇ Fruit: Plums, Grapes
- ◇ Nuts: Walnuts, Chestnuts, Acorns
- ◇ Herbs and Seasonings: Olive Oil, Liverwort, Leeks, Dried Currants, Parsnips

The foods that were not , included ham, sweet potatoes/potatoes, corn on the cob, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, chicken/eggs and cow's milk (no cows were brought with them).

Source: Kathleen Curtin, Food Historian at Plimoth Plantation.

No Ads, High Drugs, Low Gas, Many BDRs

By Ken Mahal, A.I.A. NSC President

FINALLY THE CAMPAIGN ADS ARE OVER WITH. WHAT NEXT?

This is the longest and most expensive political campaigns in the history of this country. Let's hope it is all worth it. When it gets into the near billions isn't it time to make a change to something maybe even like the Brits have? I see that Prime Minister Brown of the UK is even suggesting we all become part of a world government. Wouldn't that be dandy, not that we don't have enough trouble already. Maybe he just wants to get us back so the Brits can steal all our wealth. What wealth? I see the \$750 billion may not be enough to bale everyone out that is in trouble. Even in this country there is a move afoot to create another holiday in honor of President-elect Obama. What next will we eventually have 365 holidays so that no one in this country will have to work? I see that the gerrymandering in Nevada has given us mostly Democrat districts and likewise in the US at large. At least now if things get screwed up we will know who to point fingers at but that wouldn't be nice would it? As far as we older folks go it won't make much difference for us because our federal government has pretty well screwed us out of our hard earned saving already. You say what do you mean? I say look at we folks who have most of our SS taxed when that was never to be. And those of us who are notch babies lose a \$100 bucks a month because of a Congress who has refused to correct this mistake for years and years. On top of that if we worked hard and saved our money we are now means-tested if we have too much money. I ask you which of these elected people are so smart that they can tell us when they won't have taken too much of our savings so that they won't have bankrupted us before we all pass along to the hereafter? You know what I mean, don't you? If they take too much of our money and bankrupt us they will have to put us on welfare of some sort which will eventually bankrupt the country because of all the baby boomers who will also be seniors. That is going to make about 20+ percent of the population added to the seniors who will live well beyond the 67 year age of projected future retirees. Any way folks let all sing "happy days are here again" so that we can all smile and be really happy. What difference will it make who is in government because none of them listen to us anyway.

THE BRAIN DRAIN STARTS AROUND AGE 40 WHEN THE BODY DECLINES

Did you see the article in the RJ on November 10th on the fact that the mind starts a decline at about at age 40, no wonder no one wants to hire you when you reach 50. Dr. George Bartzokis, a neurologist at the University of California, Los Angeles led the study on the brain drain discovered the early age brain drain. It seems at an early age we began to loose some of the insulation

(Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue

<i>Please Don't Quote Me</i>	3
¿Habla Español?	4
Veterans' Day 2008	5
Members Page	6
Silver Star	7
From the Editor	7
Meeting Information	7
Today in History	8
About NSC	8

(Continued from page 1)

in a motor-control part of the brain that slows us down. It explains why it is so hard for the best athletes to continue to stay on top at an early age.

Maybe we are fortunate to have such a young president and now let's hope he uses his head to our advantage. By that I mean all the people in the country need all the help we can get because of how badly off the country seems to be. Now let's also hope we have some smart people in congress that will listen and do us some good for a change. I am somewhat skeptical given who heads congress and our friend Harry in the Senate. As a matter of fact I doubt if the young people, Hispanics, and we seniors will be at all happy with what the new president and congress will do for us. Remember the entire campaign was all about the middle-class getting help by taking money away from the wealthy 5%. So folks lets not hold our breath and expect much to come for those of us in the group mentioned above. Please don't misunderstand me I hope I am wrong.

2009 PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM A BUMMER, I THINK.

For 2008 Agnes and I have each been paying a premium of \$18 a month for our prescription drug plan and in 2009 the cost will go up to \$44 each. That does not make me a very happy camper. We have been able to go to all generics and buy from Sams Club or Walmart for \$4 dollars a month's prescription which keeps our drug costs very low. If we drop out there will be a penalty, isn't that interesting? Save and Uncle Sam screws you to the plank and sets you a-sail. Wonder if they will also look at sending us to prison like in the old Hilary health plan? Before this "save us from ourselves" prescription drug program we used to pay 100% of our drugs out of pocket and didn't even get a deduction on our taxes. We also did not get fined. How do these elected officials and government bureaucrats think up such dastardly ideas?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COMPLAINTS AT THE GAS PUMP?

Isn't it interesting how fast the cost of gasoline has gone by the way side? In fact I forget how much it is other than it is no longer going to hit the \$ 4.00 mark I guess. I never did hear a good reason for the fast decline from \$150 a barrel down to less than \$60. Just think how great this is when you think about that weasel in Venezuela and all of our friends in the Arab countries who are losing all of that revenue, it couldn't happen to more deserving people could it? Remember the capitalist system did it – not any new president. Oh by the way I understand that our president-elect plans to cancel the off shore drilling for oil and gas which should tell us about this new president starting off on the wrong foot. That will surely send a signal to the oil industry that we are willing to go back to \$100+ bucks a barrel – how nice. The more I think about it the happier I am that I haven't spent any money on new cars nor do I intend to do so. Any money available in the bank account will surely be looked at by our new government in the 2009 period. We don't have basements here so will need to find a new place to dig up for burying the gold.

LOOK AT THE 400+ BILL DRAFTS READY FOR THE 2009 LEGISLATURE.

Usually there are about 700 bill drafts for the legislature every 2 years so we still have at least a couple hundred more to go yet. There will be a few headaches in there for us retirees you can bet on that. In particular we will see some one trying to help us drive or not drive this coming session so we need to be on our feet and be ready for it like the last session when we worked so hard to get our real-estate taxes capped at a 2% increase. We need to be ready to do battle on any driving that tends to restrict us because some one in the legislature thinks they are helping us help ourselves from driving whether we are responsible or not responsible drivers. I really do not know any way that someone can write a law telling us how much better their ideas are than how we can tell ourselves how well we feel we can or can not drive. I surely do not expect some legislators to tell me how best it is for me to drive or not ok to drive. What a battle such a program would be.

Every time I drive I watch in all directions, I slow up when someone wants to pass and then slow down afterward to increase the open space between us so that it is safe to drive.

I can tell you that I should have driven this way when I was young and how lucky I was not to have any accidents. So obviously I don't want to be tagged for anything at 84 and counting. May God bless all of you and I look forward to seeing you at our fine meetings when so many of you wonderful members come? Why not bring someone else to be a member of our fine organization.

Thank You.

“Please Don’t Quote Me”

"I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use our natural resources, but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob by wasteful use, the generations that come after us." – Theodore Roosevelt, speech, Washington, D.C., 1900



"We are the most dangerous species of life on the planet, and every other species, even the earth itself, has cause to fear our power to exterminate. But we are also the only species which, when it chooses to do so, will go to great effort to save what it might destroy." – Wallace Stegner

"God bless America. Let's save some of it." – Edward Abbey



"A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers but borrowed from his children." – Audubon

"It is our task in our time and in our generation, to hand down undiminished to those who come after us, as was handed down to us by those who went before, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours." – John F. Kennedy



"If people destroy something replaceable made by mankind, they are called vandals; if they destroy something irreplaceable made by God, they are called developers." – Joseph Wood Krutch

New Congressional Bill To Require Accountability for Government Multilingualism

Rep. Virginia Foxx leads effort to determine taxpayer cost

For Immediate Release September 30, 2008

Contact: Rob Toonkel, rtoonkel@usenglish.org (202) 833-0100

U.S. English, Inc. today hailed the introduction of H.R. 7092, the first Congressional legislation to account for multilingual services provided by the federal government. Offered by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R - NC), H.R. 7092 would end speculation about the cost of multilingual services by requiring government agencies to disclose these expenditures in their annual accountability reports each year. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

“This is important legislation at a time when no one will deny that the provision of multilingual government services is on the rise,” said Mauro E. Mujica, Chairman of U.S. English, Inc. “H.R. 7092 will provide honest answers to Congressional offices, the media, and most important, the taxpayers regarding the cost of government multilingualism. I want to thank Rep. Foxx for her dedication to government accountability and to the American people.”

Questions about the cost of government multilingual services has persisted for years, with some sources indicating that expenses are in the millions of dollars, while others claim they are “minimal.” Recently, legislators in several states have moved to pinpoint these outlays, including bill provisions that would require the accounting of multilingual services. In 2008, the Wisconsin House passed legislation which would have required state agencies to detail costs for written and oral translations in languages other than English.

“All too often, the provision of multilingual government services has been a decision made by a single bureaucrat or bureaucrats without the consent of Congress,” added Mujica. “While we can all support translations for emergency services and extraordinary circumstances, the offering of day-to-day documents in languages other than English is an action opposed by many in Congress and the majority of the American people. H.R. 7092 will give us a full picture of government multilingualism and I urge Congress to consider this bill.”

Schools Are Rewarded for Not Teaching Immigrant Students English

FreedomWorks urges a Yes on Oregon Measure 58.

By: Russ Walker

One would think that schools would want immigrant students to learn English as quickly as possible. This is not necessarily so.

Under current policies, non-English speaking students are often sidelined in “English as a Second Language” (ESL) classes for many years, sometimes for their entire academic life.

This policy can cause kids irreparable damage. Young students are robbed of adequate English instruction at a time in life when they can most easily learn and master a new language.

Why would schools perpetuate a policy that is so contrary to common sense? Why sideline kids at an age when they could quickly learn the English language and be taught in English along with all the other students? The answer is: Money.

Schools are paid a lot of extra money for keeping kids sidelined in ESL classes.

Schools receive 50% more for each student enrolled in an ESL program. Plainly stated: Schools lose money, if they quickly teach immigrant students English. They literally are punished if they do what is best for the kids.

And here’s something that might surprise you about all this extra money: It does not have to be used to insure that non-English speaking students are learning English. Schools are free to use the extra money for anything they want. This process wastes taxpayer dollars fails to help children.

With tens of millions of dollars being handed out to schools across Oregon each year, based on how many kids they keep sidelined in ESL classes, is it any wonder that so many kids in public schools are not reading and writing in English?

Measure 58 requires that non-English speaking students be immersed in English right away and then be taught in English. Education “theories” postulated to justify current ESL programs are highly suspect, given the huge financial incentive behind them.

FreedomWorks urges a “Yes” on 58 From <http://www.freedomworks.org>

This measure was defeated by the Oregon voters on November 4, 2008



VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL
WHO SERVED

NOVEMBER 11, 2008



NEVADA SENIORS COALITION, INC.

11925 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
Las Vegas, NV 89183-5432

Ken Mahal President

Phone: 702.737.1377

Fax: 702 .446.5534

e-mail: kentajmahal@cox.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

November 13, 1909

Ballinger-Pinchot Scandal Erupts

The Ballinger-Pinchot scandal erupts when Colliers magazine accuses Secretary of the Interior Richard Ballinger of shady dealings in Alaskan coal lands. It is, in essence, a conflict rooted in contrasting ideas about how to best use and conserve western natural resources.

Ballinger was an appointee of President William Taft, the man who had succeeded the committed conservationist President Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt had developed most of his environmentally friendly policies with the assistance of his chief forester, Gifford Pinchot. By 1909, Roosevelt, Pinchot, and other conservationists feared that Taft, though a fellow Republican, and Ballinger were systematically undermining the accomplishments of the previous administration by reopening to exploitation public lands that had been closed.

The Colliers article charged that Ballinger improperly used his office to help the Guggenheims and other powerful interests illegally gain access to Alaskan coal fields, confirming the worst fears of Pinchot and Roosevelt. Despite the fact that he had stayed on as chief forester in the Taft administration, Pinchot began to criticize openly both Ballinger and Taft, claiming they were violating the fundamental principles of both conservation and democracy. Livid with anger, Taft immediately fired Pinchot, inspiring yet another round of scandalous headlines.

The controversy over the Ballinger-Pinchot affair soon became a major factor in splitting the Republican Party. After returning from an African safari, Roosevelt concluded that Taft had so badly betrayed the ethics of conservation that he had to be ousted. Roosevelt mounted an unsuccessful challenge to Taft on the independent Bull Moose ticket

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.

in 1912. In truth, subsequent scholarship has shown that Ballinger had not technically misused the power of his office and the charges of corruption were unjustified. However, the Ballinger-Pinchot scandal reflected the ongoing tension between those who emphasized the immediate use of natural resources and those who wanted them conserved for the future, a discussion that remains active today.

From <http://www.history.com>. VWP

