

# Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc.

A better quality of life for seniors, their children and grand children

The

# NSC FOGHORN

TM



Volume 16, Issue 05

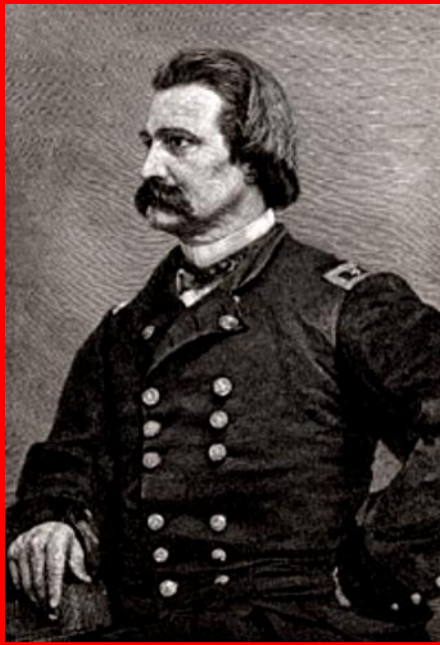
Our Web Site is at <http://www.nevadaseniors.com>

May 11, 2017

## Special Points of Interest

## Remember The Heroes, Not the Politicians

By Vice President Knight Allen



**General John Logan**  
Officially proclaimed **Deco-  
ration Day**, May 5, 1868.  
(See Page 5)

I want to give you some further info about property taxes.

First, the bill that had been so carefully crafted by the local governments (AB43) died. It fell victim to the 2/3 majority required to pass any tax increases and as I reported to you last month the Republicans are back in their "No tax increases" mode.

So, we can breathe a sigh of relief about property taxes, right? Not hardly. Last month I said, "I would not turn a blind eye to the possibility that some bill that will attack the cap could come out of nowhere." Boy, was I wrong. Look at this lineup: SB489 - ACR7 - SJR14. Those are just the ones I've picked up on and they are all looking to either kill the cap or render it irrelevant. You can look them up on the Legislative web site if you want to.

For my part I sent a copy of the two graphs from last month's Foghorn and a brief note to every legislator on 5/11. I tried to warn them that fooling around with property taxes is like playing with unstable nitro. Property taxes are hated more than any other tax. They're regressive. They attack people in their homes and people won't sit still for it.

I'll track these as best I can and keep you informed but heaven only knows what may happen during the end-of-session madness.

## In This Issue

<b>Please Don't Quote Me</b>	2
<b>First Zipper</b>	3
<b>Armed Forces Day</b>	4
<b>Memorial Day</b>	5
<b>First Postage Stamp – Empire State Building</b>	6
<b>VE-Day</b>	7
<b>Today In History</b>	8

Subject: AB274 - This bill sought to have Nevada join with eleven other states that have enacted the "Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote." This is an extremely well-funded and well organized attempt to eliminate the Electoral College (despite what its supporters say).

We are not a democracy. We are a republic and the Electoral College like the U.S. Senate exists to impose a republican (small "r") check on the abuse of majority rule power inherent in the democratic (small "d") process.

We don't really have a national election for the Presidency eve-

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

ry four years. We have 50 plus DC independent state elections. This structure gives small states like Nevada a real, not just a token, voice in deciding who becomes President.

In any case after the election there was an editorial map produced by a "Ramirez" that re-drew the U.S. and it was titled, "The US Election Without the Electoral College." It showed four states, California, Texas, Florida and New York with Illinois and Ohio as smaller, secondary entities completely dominating the process. The other 44 States and DC? Nothing.

I thought it was a powerful visual and faxed it up to all the legislators, with a short note on 3/23/17. It died on 4/14/17 - Standing Rule 14.3.1. Did the map have something to do with it dying? Who knows. It might have and if it did we all owe a debt of gratitude to "Ramirez."

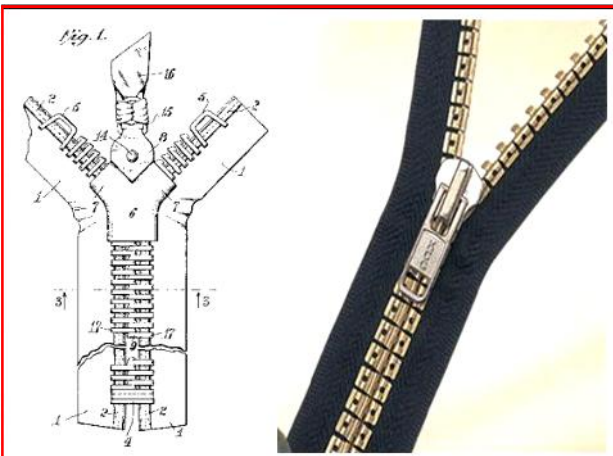
I cannot stand crony capitalism. The huge amounts of public money going to these corporate welfare queens like Tesla, Switch, Faraday Future, the Raiders and all the others that are treating the people's Treasury like their private ATM just drives me crazy. All these capitalists must do is say the magic word: "Shazam"? No. "Open Sesame"? No. The magic word is "JOBS!" That's all they must say and our leaders fall all over themselves to hand over our money. Then they tell us what an incredible return on our "investment" we're going to get.

Really? Do you really believe these corporate moguls are committed to Nevada? Let me offer a dose of reality: "Merchants have no country. The mere spot they stand on does not constitute so strong an attachment as that from which they draw their gains." Thomas Jefferson

May 29th is Memorial Day. I hope we will all take some time, even if only a moment or two to remember those who gave their "last full measure of devotion." Lincoln at Gettysburg

**Knight can be reached at: [knightallen702@yahoo.com](mailto:knightallen702@yahoo.com) Telephone: (702) 870-3089**

**On April 29, 1913, a Swedish engineer named Gideon Sundback was living in Hoboken, New Jersey, when he patented the modern zipper under the name, "Hookless No. 2."** The public, however, was far from sold. Preachers initially called the device "the Devil's fingers" because it eased the process of removing clothing. Other early zipper models were patented under names like "C-curity Fastener" and "The Automatic, Continuous Clothing Closure." It didn't take off until a boot company adopted the technology for their "Zipper Boot," launching both the method and the word into fame.



# “Please Don’t Quote Me”

All that I am, or hope to be,  
I owe to my angel mother.

*Abraham Lincoln*

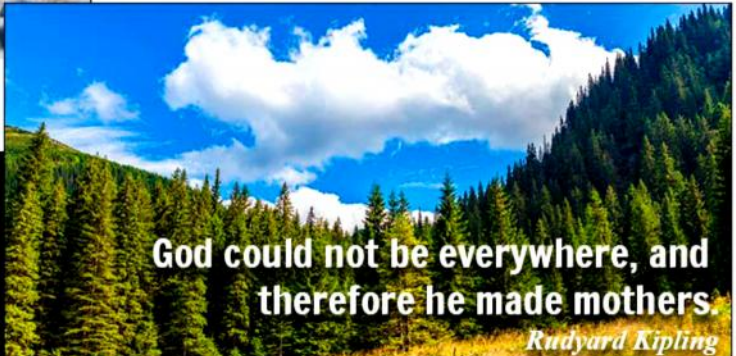


Mother’s love is peace. It need not  
be acquired, it need not be  
deserved.

*Erich Fromm*

God could not be everywhere, and  
therefore he made mothers.

*Rudyard Kipling*



It may be possible to gild pure gold,  
but who can make his mother  
more beautiful?

*Mahatma Gandhi*



If evolution really works, how  
come mothers only have two  
hands?

MILTON BERLE



Motherhood: All  
love begins and  
ends there.

*Robert Browning*



# ARMED FORCES DAY



Courageous

Protectors

Steadfast



**May 20, 2017**



Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be



the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear – Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee. Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

On May 1, 1840, the first official adhesive postage stamp was issued in Great Britain to be used starting on May 6. Up until the late 1830s, the recipient of the letter was supposed to pay upon delivery. Rates were inconsistent: postage was calculated based on number of sheets of paper, and the distance from sender to recipient. The rules were complicated and postage was expensive, and people often refused to pay, costing the government a lot of money. A schoolmaster named Rowland Hill developed a new system that established uniform postal rates based on weight. The sender would pay with stamps that cost a penny each. The design of the first stamp was an engraved profile of Queen Victoria on a black background, called the Penny Black. Since Britain was the first country to use prepaid postage stamps, they have never printed the name of their country on their stamps, just a portrait of the reigning monarch



On May 1, 1931, President Herbert Hoover officially dedicates New York City's Empire State Building, pressing a button from the White House that turns on the building's lights. Hoover's gesture, of course, was symbolic; while the president remained in Washington, D.C., someone else flicked the switches in New York. All 102 stories of The Empire State Building opened to the public on this day, 45 days ahead of schedule and \$5 million under budget, on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 34th Street in New York City.

At the time of its completion, the Empire State Building, at 102 stories and 1,250 feet high (1,454 feet to the top of the lightning rod), was the world's tallest skyscraper. The Depression-era construction employed as many as 3,400 workers on any single day, most of whom received an excellent pay rate, especially given the economic conditions of the time. The new building imbued New York City with a deep sense of pride, desperately needed in the depths of the Great Depression, when many city residents were unemployed and prospects looked bleak. The grip of the Depression on New York's economy was still evident a year later, however, when only 25 percent of the Empire State's offices had been rented.





VE- Day  
May 8,1945  
72 Years Ago



Princess Elizabeth, Queen Elizabeth, Churchill, King George VI and Princess Margret waving to the crowd at Buckingham Castle on VE-Day 1945.

People waiting to see the royal family at Windsor Castle.

Prime Minister. Winston Churchill and other government officials at Summerset House in London.



**The New York Times.**  
**THE WAR IN EUROPE IS ENDED!**  
**SURRENDER IS UNCONDITIONAL;**  
**V-E WILL BE PROCLAIMED TODAY;**  
**OUR TROOPS ON OKINAWA GAIN**



"This is a solemn but glorious hour. General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations. The flags of freedom fly all over Europe."  
 "It's celebrating my birthday, too--today, too."  
 (Laughter)  
 "Happy Birthday Mr. President."



Massive celebrations erupted around the world. **VE-Day also happened on Truman's 61<sup>st</sup> birthday.** And, Truman and his family had just moved into the White House the day before.

In his address, however, Truman, went on to note that World War II was not over. His words, from the American Presidency Project: "We can repay the debt which we owe to our God, to our dead, and to our children, only by work, by ceaseless devotion to the responsibilities which lie ahead of us. If I could give you a single watchword for the coming months, that word is work, work, and more work. We must work to finish the war. Our victory is only half over."

Russia's Victory Day is celebrated on May 9th, not May 8th, as in most of Europe. The reason is simple – Soviet commanders countersigned the Nazis' surrender document late at night on May 8th 1945 at Berlin-Karlshorst, but by that time it was past midnight in Moscow and hence May 9th.

The Soviet Union signed the Soviet–Japanese Joint Declaration of 1956, on October 19, 1956 which formally brought an end to their state of war.

# NEVADA SENIORS COALITION, INC.

**Vernon W. Perry President/Newsletter**

**Phone: 702.943.0755**

**e-mail: vern@nevadaseniors.com**

**Knight Allen Vice President**

**Directors:**

**LouJanice Perry**

**Records**

**Marcia Koben**

**Finances**

**May 11, 1934**

**The Great Dust Storm Hits the Great Plains**

**On this day in 1934**, a massive storm sends millions of tons of topsoil flying from across the parched Great Plains region of the United States as far east as New York, Boston and Atlanta.

At the time the Great Plains were settled in the mid-1800s, the land was covered by prairie grass, which held moisture in the earth and kept most of the soil from blowing away even during dry spells. By the early 20th century, however, farmers had plowed under much of the grass to create fields. The U.S. entry into World War I in 1917 caused a great need for wheat, and farms began to push their fields to the limit, plowing under more and more grassland with the newly invented tractor. The plowing continued after the war, when the introduction of even more powerful gasoline tractors sped up the process. During the 1920s, wheat production increased by 300 percent, causing a glut in the market by 1931.

That year, a severe drought spread across the region. As crops died, wind began to carry dust from the over-plowed and over-grazed lands. The number of dust storms reported jumped from 14 in 1932 to 28 in 1933. The following year, the storms decreased in frequency but increased in intensity, culminating in the most severe storm yet in May 1934. Over a period of two days, high-level winds caught and carried some 350 million tons of silt all the way from

the northern Great Plains to the eastern seaboard. According to *The New York Times*, dust “lodged itself in the eyes and throats of weeping and coughing New Yorkers,” and even ships some 300 miles offshore saw dust collect on their decks.

The dust storms forced thousands of families from Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas and New Mexico to uproot and migrate to California, where they were derisively known as “Okies”—no matter which state they were from. These transplants found life out West not much easier than what they had left, as work was scarce and pay meager during the worst years of the Great Depression.

Another massive storm on April 15, 1935—known as “Black Sunday”—brought even more attention to the desperate situation in the Great Plains region, which reporter Robert Geiger called the “Dust Bowl.” That year, as part of its New Deal program, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration began to enforce federal regulation of farming methods, including crop rotation, grass-seeding and new plowing methods. This worked to a point, reducing dust storms by up to 65 percent, but only the end of the drought in the fall of 1939 would truly bring relief.

**From [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)**