



~ *Established in 1965* ~
MARCH 2024

The Elephant's Tale

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 3

2024 Executive Board

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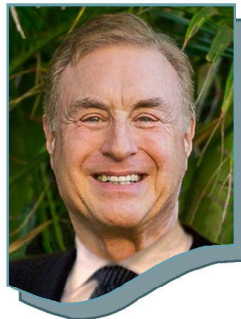
*The Incline Village-Crystal Bay
Republican Women's Club
Presents...*



Nevada Wins PAC — Phil Becker

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

The Chateau | 955 Fairway Boulevard | Incline Village
11:30 am — 1:00 pm



After graduating from Vanderbilt University, **Phil Becker** moved to Colorado to become an Aerospace Engineer at Martin Marietta Aerospace. In Colorado he became a precinct committeeman, then county chair and state committeeman for the Republican Party. He founded several companies and was involved with the passage of tech legislation. Phil moved to Nevada in 2014 where he served on the board of the Carson City Republican Party Central Committee and as a Republican State Committeeman.

Today Phil is working on data analysis with the **NV Wins PAC** which he believes to be the strongest effort to prevent the total takeover of Nevada Politics by the Democrat Party.

**RSVP/payment of \$35 must be received by
March 8th, 12:00 noon**

Email Nancy Carlson nmcarlson01@yahoo.com
or purchase tickets at: <https://ivcbrw.org/> and click "pay."

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RSVP nmcarlson01@yahoo.com, (650) 255-1435, or purchase tickets on our website: <https://ivcbrw.org/>. Click on "pay."

RSVP/PAYMENT must be received by 12 noon, March 8th, 2024.



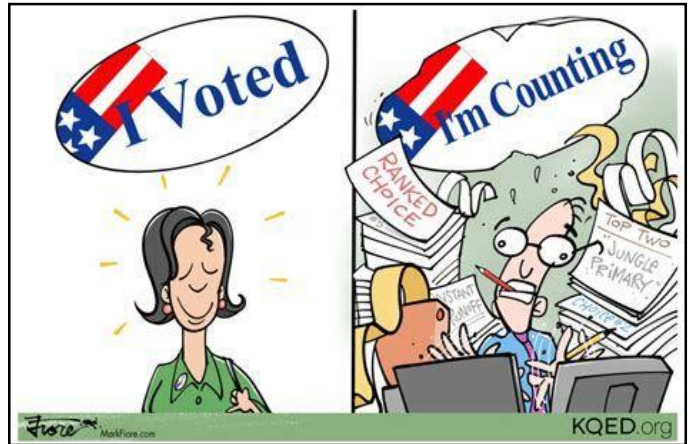
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring will soon be arriving in Incline Village and we will be enjoying longer days and warmer temperatures. The trees in the foothills are starting to bloom already and the birds there are chirping celebrating the arrival of spring weather ahead.

Our most important election year is now underway with many states conducting their Caucus events and Super Tuesday is not far away. Thanks to our Membership Chairman and Caucus Leader Nancy Carlson, the Incline Village Caucus February 8th was a great success! **Even on a snowy evening we had approximately 365+ Incline Village Republican voters turn out.** All of our volunteers were busy signing voters in and checking for ID, keeping the lines moving and people out of the cold, and leading their precinct groups in discussions. This was our first Caucus since 2016 so most attendees did not know what to expect, but everyone that attended had only kudos for the experience. We also had the very important petition available to sign which will require "Voter ID" in Nevada. This petition will be circulating through our community in the months to come. Although the signatures were not tabulated, we feel that everyone attending the Caucus signed the petition.

Our campaign events and voter education continue this month with our speaker Phil Becker at our March luncheon March 12th. Mr. Becker is a member of the Nevada WINS PAC working on data analysis which he believes to be the strongest effort to prevent the total takeover of Nevada Politics. He will speak to us about the most important 2024 ballot initiative "Rank Choice Voting." If this initiative passes in Nevada, we will no longer have primary elections



by Party. The term for Rank Choice Voting in a primary is "jungle primary," which means all candidates from all parties are listed on the same ballot. In other words it is a "jungle"... voters can select whomever they want regardless of Party. The results are "ranked" by 1, 2, 3 etc. depending on how many candidates are in "the jungle." If one candidate does not receive 50 percent or more of the votes then a formula is used to determine the next "round." The bottom candidates are deleted with their votes being divvied up manually per a formula until one candidate receives more than 50 percent of the votes. This gets very complex and complicated and in many cases the number one choice does not become the winner. The general consensus is that if this initiative passes in Nevada, we will never have a Republican presence in our State again.

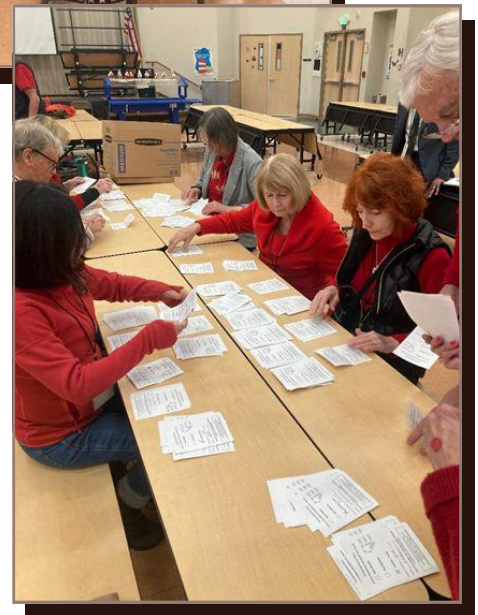
We will be following up in April and May with additional education and our Candidate Forums. Registration for State and County offices is March 4th through March 15th.

Please do not miss our very important and informative meeting on March 12th at the Chateau. We will be celebrating a St. Patrick's Day menu with Chef Garrett preparing his original Irish Stew which was enjoyed by all last year! Hope to see everyone there!

Cretia Eyster



CLUB NEWS



Thank you to those who were able to join us for our February meeting! We were blessed to hear our speaker, **Jim DeGraffenreid** of the Nevada Republican Party Executive Board and National Committee Member. Jim spoke to us about the results of the 2024 Presidential Preference Primary and the Republican Party caucus, and how the Caucus was a successful effort for the Nevada Republican Party. Jim also enlightened us (as President of Summit Partners Insurance Services) about some of our Insurance challenges in Nevada.

A Successful Presidential Caucus in Incline Village!

Thank you to the members of our club who helped us run a successful Presidential caucus and precinct meetings on February 8th at the Incline Village Elementary School! Thanks to Celine and John Nugent, Joe Schulz, Cretia Eyster, Linda and Paul Smith, Ramona Bigelow, Shirley Appel, Sandra Beretta, Susan Calfa, Cheryl Anderson, Yolanda Knaak, Patricia Moser-Morris, Suzi Cornell, Barbara and Richard Reiter, and Elizabeth O'Brien! We had so many people attend that the line was out the door, and unfortunately with the weather some of our voters did not stay to vote. Next time we will be better prepared. We had 350 Republican Voters vote for Donald Trump, and 15 voters cast votes for Ryan Binkley (who?). Nevada awarded all 26 delegates to Donald Trump. Thank you for attending, volunteering, and voting!



Legislative Corner – Your Federal Representatives

White House Switchboard (202) 456-1414
Comment Line (202) 456-1111
Capital Switchboard, Senate and
& House (202) 224-3121

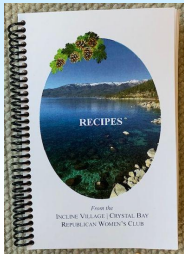
Senate

Jacky Rosen (D)
Washington DC (202) 224-6244
Las Vegas (702) 388-0205
Catherine Cortez-Masto (D)
Washington DC (202) 224-3542
Las Vegas (702) 388-5020

House of Representatives

CD:2 Mark Amodei
Washington DC (202) 225-6155
Reno (775) 686-5760

“Let each citizen remember at the moment he is offering his vote that he is not making a present or a compliment to please an individual – or at least that he ought not so to do; but that he is executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society for which he is accountable to God and his country.”
— Samuel Adams (1781)



Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women’s Club now has their very own cookbook for members and friends!

You’ll enjoy 260 pages of recipes including sections for Appetizers, Breads and Miscellaneous, Meats/ Poultry/ Fish, Vegetables & Sides, Soups & Salads and Sweets. Cookbooks will be on display for purchase in our Boutique at our luncheons.

Membership



By Nancy Carlson

We Need You!

Are you interested in helping with the newsletter, membership activities, program activities, finance? Let me know, we can use your help!

Welcome to Our New Members!

A warm welcome to our new (and returning) members in 2024! Please give a warm welcome to Sylvia Purdy, Lisa and Chris Graham, Bobbie Sperling, Sandra Burnell, Maureen Dudley, Tony Grady, Sylvia Leth, Joan Leutheuser, Kelly Neville, and Bonnie Yachbes.

Are We Missing Your Birthday? Let Me Know!

2024 Meeting Calendar

- March 12** – Monthly Meeting at the Chateau, Phil Becker of Nevada Wins PAC, Speaker
- April 9** – Candidate Forum? TBD, Luncheon at the Chateau
- May 14** – Candidate Forum? TBD, Luncheon at the Chateau
- June 18** –Scholarship Awards
- July 22** – Gordon Chang, Evening Meeting at the Chateau
- September 10** – Fashion Show and Silent Auction Fundraiser at the Chateau
- October 8** – Annual Business Meeting at the Chateau
- November 12** – Monthly Luncheon Meeting at the Chateau
- December 10** – Monthly Luncheon Meeting at the Chateau, Christmas Party and Officer Installation



What to Expect from Evangelical Voters in 2024

By Lawrence Wilson

The bond between conservative Christians and President Trump has grown since 2016; here's what might influence their votes in 2024.

The powerful voting bloc of evangelical Christians helped candidate Donald Trump win in 2016. Though reluctant supporters at first, they came to love him, showing President Trump greater support in 2020 than that showered on candidate Ronald Reagan decades earlier.

The makeup of the evangelical powerhouse has evolved in the eight years since the real estate mogul descended the escalator of Trump Tower to announce his run for the White House. President Trump then and now is much different from 2016, when the loosely organized coalition united to back him over Hillary Clinton.

Presently, Republicans appear to be solidly behind President Trump, who rated 60 percent in an average of national polls compiled by *FiveThirtyEight* on November 22, 2023. His nearest challenger for the GOP nomination garnered just 13 percent. Subtracting the entire evangelical voting bloc, which was about 21 percent of Republican voters in 2020 and is likely less today, would still leave President Trump with a double-digit lead.

Trump Won Evangelicals

The term evangelical generally applies to conservative Christians, mostly Protestants, who describe themselves as “born again.” The [evangelical] label is a fuzzy term that describes a wide range of people who have a few beliefs and characteristics in common. After a personal conversion experience, the dominant characteristic of evangelicals is their desire to change the world for the better.

Nearly half of evangelicals supported Southern Baptist and self-described evangelical Jimmy Carter in winning the 1976 presidential election. That marked the political coming out of this demographic, prompting *Newsweek* to dub 1976 “the year of the evangelical.” It was also the last time anything close to a majority of evangelicals supported a Democratic presidential candidate.

Some 77 percent of evangelicals supported President Trump in the 2016 election. Although he did lose some of those supporters in 2020, he gained even more. About 9 percent of evangelicals who voted for President Trump in 2016 didn't do so in 2020, according to Pew Research. However, 18 percent of voters who identified themselves as evangelicals in that year hadn't voted for him in 2016. Evangelical support for the 45th president rose to 86 percent in 2020.



Trump recently said, “Americans of faith are the soul of America.”

President Trump himself is keenly aware of his relationship, which is based on his record of delivering results for them. “No president has ever fought for Christians as hard as I have, and I will keep on fighting for Christians as hard as I can,” he told a gathering of evangelical activists in September. “Every promise I made to Christians as a candidate, I delivered and, in many cases, delivered much more than the promises I made.”

Abortion, Abortion, Abortion

Evangelicals largely abandoned President Carter in the 1980 election, despite his religious bona fides. Although both [Carter and Reagan] professed to be born again, only Reagan was unequivocally pro-life.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Evangelical Voters in 2024

Two-thirds of evangelicals voted for Reagan. Some 80 percent of evangelicals voted to reelect President Reagan in 1984, and the same percentage went for George H.W. Bush in 1988.

By the early 2000s, evangelicals had cemented their place as the largest religious demographic in the country, making up some 30 percent of the population, according to Pew Research. Since then, evangelicals have voted for Republican presidential candidates in overwhelming numbers, ranging from 68 percent to 86 percent. They have also accounted for about 20 percent of the Republican vote, making evangelicals a force to be reckoned with within the GOP.

A Dilemma

As the Trump candidacy gained momentum, evangelicals faced a dilemma. They had sharply criticized former presidents for moral shortcomings. There were a lot of issues within the rank and file of the evangelical world. There was a lot of clamoring, vociferous writing, and many evangelicals were fighting amongst each other over the candidacy of Donald Trump. Those included the current House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.), well known for his evangelical faith, who said he had deep reservations about the Trump candidacy. However, Mr. Johnson later became an enthusiastic supporter.

A lot has changed since 2020. President Trump has had significant effects on the Republican Party, the electorate in general, and evangelicalism itself. With the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, abortion matters have largely been left to the States. The pro-life record of red states is mixed. Some have passed highly restrictive laws on the procedure, including Florida, which enacted a ban on abortions after six weeks of pregnancy. But six states have held referendums addressing the issue, and pro-life advocates lost in all six cases. Those included the reliably red states of Kentucky and Kansas. In Ohio, voters added a right to abortion to the State's constitution.

Will that diminish evangelical support for President Trump? Not necessarily. One reason is that

evangelicals are shifting their focus to fighting identity politics, particularly the cultural acceptance of transgenderism, which they see as being foisted on them through the educational system and rigid political correctness in public life. *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, but now the question is about federal bans, state bans on abortion to protect and defend life and the sanctity of life.

The Trump Effect and Champion of the Right

President Trump's combative style does appeal to some evangelicals who are looking for a leader to champion their interests in a world they perceive as increasingly hardline, almost militant, in opposition to their faith and lifestyle.

Evangelicals may still believe they need President Trump in 2024, but it's less clear that he needs them — at least in the primary contest. The number of evangelicals is diminishing as a share of the population; it has decreased overall by 6 percent since 2007, despite the Trump bump. And they are being replaced as the dominant force in the Republican coalition, according to Ryan Burge, an associate professor of political science at Eastern Illinois University. “[President Trump] can afford some erosion of his support from evangelicals, Mr. Burge wrote in *Politico*. “That’s because Trump’s real base of support in the 2016 primary contest came from a rising group in the GOP whose impact has been largely unnoticed: Republicans who hardly ever darken the door of a church, synagogue, or mosque.”

The shift toward a less evangelical Republican base is likely to accelerate as Americans become increasingly secularized. According to Gallup, the number of Americans who associated with a house of worship in 2021 was at 47 percent, an all-time low. That number was 68 percent two decades earlier. So the portion of Americans who are religiously affiliated dropped by nearly a third in a single generation.

During the 2016 election, it was a “hold the nose and gamble” situation, but by November 2020, it was clear that the gamble had paid off in the form of not one but three pro-life Supreme Court justices and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Evangelical Voters in 2024

more than 200 conservative jurists placed in lower courts. Trump's record of accomplishments is what matters to most Republicans, including evangelicals.

Source: *Epoch News*, article by Lawrence Wilson, November 29, 2023; Updated December 1, 2023. Article edited/condensed for inclusion in *The Elephant's Tale*.

—A BOOK REVIEW—

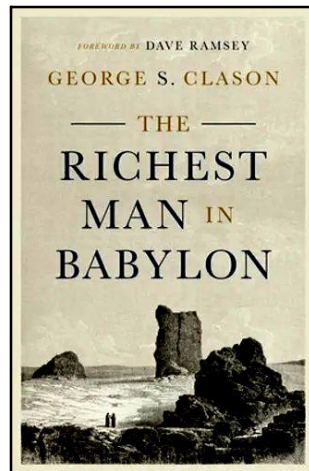
The Richest Man in Babylon

by Linda L. Smith

Wisdom of the ages is captured in this entertaining little book, written almost 100 years ago. It is based on ancient clay tablets etched in Cuneiform in Babylon almost 5,000 years ago. As the subtitle suggests, this is perhaps the most inspiring book on wealth creation ever written!

Its author, **George S. Clason**, was a successful print shop owner who despaired at the excesses of the 1920s, when everyone thought betting on the stock market was the road to success. In 1926 he decided to write a book about how to get rich. Instead of a dry, boring business treatise, he wrote a series of parables. Each parable follows an ancient man in Mesopotamia, who goes from poverty to wealth by following seven easy rules. These rules include:

1. "Start thy purse to fattening" – Save 10 percent of your earnings each month for yourself.
2. "Control thy expenditures" – make a budget and live within it. He suggests no more than 70 percent of what you earn should be your household expenses.
3. "Make thy gold multiply" – invest wisely and do not take risks.



1926 Edition

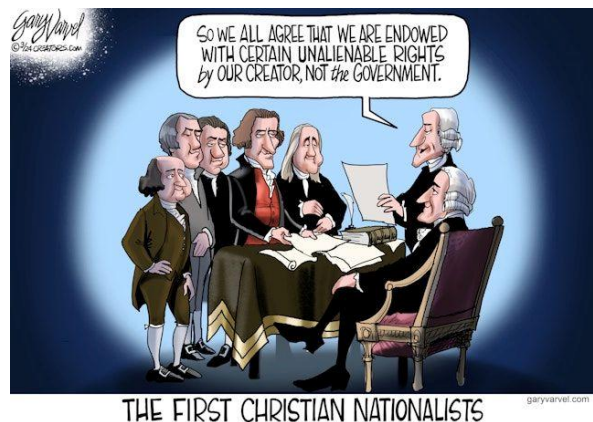
4. "Guard thy treasures from loss"—invest only with those who know their business and who are honorable.
5. "Make of thy dwelling a profitable investment" – Save up to buy a home and stop paying rent.
6. "Insure a future income" – plan for your retirement and for your family after you die.
7. "Increase thy ability to earn" – learn a skill or trade and be motivated to work hard.

There are chapters about the work ethic, giving to charity, thrift, and the importance of freedom in achieving wealth. Each lesson is drawn from the experiences of caravan merchants, camel traders, farmers, and slaves that comprised the population of ancient Babylon. Yet, their words speak as loudly today as they did within the mud brick walls of what was once the richest city in the world.

Clason's little book (about 140 pages) became a best seller after the stock market crash of 1929. It was distributed widely by banks and insurance companies and became familiar to millions in the 1930s and '40s. He lived comfortably off its proceeds and died in Napa, California when he was 82.

Today, I encourage you to pick up a copy (lots of used copies for sale), share it with your grandchildren, and consider urging our national leaders and politicians to read it. Babylon thrived as a center of wealth and free enterprise for almost 2,300 years. Our nation is less than 250 years old. Its foundations are already crumbling. Perhaps reading a few ancient parables will begin the restoration process we want for America.

Notable: A search of the book's title reveals many purchasing choices from preowned at \$4.43 to leather editions (\$25), to a new 1926 new edition at 16.04.





Alabama Rules That Embryos Are Children

Commentary by Emma Waters

Do human embryos deserve the same protections as human beings? This is the question that drove three sets of parents – whose embryonic children were destroyed at an Alabama hospital's fertility clinic – to sue the clinic and hospital under the state's Wrongful Death of a Minor Act. On February 16, the Alabama Supreme Court released a 7–2 landmark decision in favor of protecting embryonic human life from destruction.



These three sets of parents had created embryos through in vitro fertilization (IVF) with the hopes of conceiving children despite their struggles with infertility. An Alabama clinic was responsible for preserving embryonic children in a subzero cryopreservation facility while the parents and embryos awaited implantation. One day in 2020, a patient from the hospital wandered into the storage area, which was unsecured. The patient unwittingly picked up the embryo container and suffered severe freezer-burn, which made the patient drop the container. Unfortunately, the embryonic children were destroyed the moment their container shattered on the ground. The parents were devastated. In two different lawsuits, they sought to sue both the fertility clinic and hospital for the wrongful death of their children and for the negligent actions of the clinic.

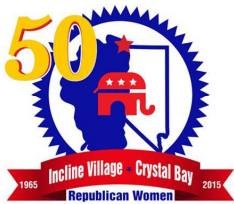
The Alabama Embryo Ruling brings much-needed regulation to the fertility industry. The trial court, at the behest of the fertility clinic and hospital, dismissed the parent's case arguing that the embryonic children were not persons, but rather objects or "property." The Alabama Supreme Court reversed this ruling. In a powerful opinion by Justice

Jay Mitchell and a concurring opinion by Chief Justice Tom Parker, the court argued that "the Wrongful Death of a Minor Act applies to all unborn children, regardless of their location." In his concurring opinion, Parker applied the state's laws about the sanctity of human life to the sanctity of unborn life, too. His opinion relied heavily on the theological and moral belief that children, no matter how small, have inherent worth and dignity. He argued that "the theologically based view of the sanctity of life adopted by the People of Alabama encompasses the following: (1) God made every person in His image; (2) each person therefore has a value that far exceeds the ability of human beings to calculate; and (3) human life cannot be wrongfully destroyed without incurring the wrath of a holy God, who views the destruction of His image as an affront to Himself."

Regardless of one's moral views on whether IVF should be practiced at all, this decision rightly declares that clinics that do practice IVF and embryo cryopreservation must place the well-being of the children front and center. Moreover, Chief Justice Parker recognizes that each child deserves the full force of the law's protections.

The court's decision does not prohibit IVF, nor does it directly prohibit the destruction of embryos. It does, however, extend personhood to embryonic children and provide parents with legal recourse if they believe that the fertility clinic, through careless actions, is responsible for the wrongful death of their child. In the aftermath of the decision, three Alabama fertility clinics have decided to suspend treatments for the time being; this suggests that these clinics are concerned that they are not providing the best possible care for the embryos.

For the entire article, please go to this website: <https://www.heritage.org/life/commentary/alabama-rules-embryos-are-children>. Emma Waters is a Research Associate in the Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Life, Religion and Family at The Heritage Foundation.



Membership Application

New Member Renewing Membership

If you receive this application/renewal form via email, please print a copy and mail with your check to the address below.

NAME as it appears on VOTER REGISTRATION: _____

NAME as it appears on your NAMETAG: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS(es): _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

Home Phone with Area Code: _____ Work Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____ Birthday (Month, Day) _____

Email address (for roster and newsletter):

Please print

MEMBERSHIP STATUS , PLEASE CHECK ONE:

Active \$50, any woman registered as a Republican

Associate \$20, any woman with a full membership in another Republican women's group,

_____ OR any man registered as a Republican
Primary Club Membership

CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:

Art or Graphic Art Work

Fundraising

Greeter at Meetings

Budget/Finance

Membership

Legislative

Bylaws

Publicity

Phone Committee

Campaign Work

Public Relations

Email

Community Service

Youth Coordination

Newsletter

MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK to the following address:

Membership Chairman
IV/CB Republican Women
P. O. Box 3009, Incline Village, NV 89450

Always more information for you at our website: ivcbrw.org



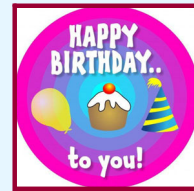
Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women Vision and Mission Statement

Vision: To support individual freedom and responsibility under the Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence by making Nevada a Red state again and keeping it that way.

Mission: To promote the principles and philosophy of the Republican Party at the local, state, and federal levels by taking action to:

- Support the election of conservative Republican candidates.
- Educate club members and local voters.
- Communicate with local, state and federal legislative bodies to enact constitutional, conservative legislation.
- Collaborate with Nevada Republican Women's clubs to leverage best practices to improve club effectiveness.
- Promote Republican and conservative values through social media, print media, and community participation.
- Effect change in our schools to support conservative and constitutional values.
- Protect the integrity of local, state, and federal elections.

FEBRUARY Member Birthdays



John Congistre	7 March
Ruth Jensen	7 March
Elizabeth (Liz) O'Brien	9 March
Kathryn Kelly	10 March
Vicky Collison	13 March
Pamela Ruth Yamahata	16 March
Jan Brown Jones	18 March



The Elephant's Tale

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The articles and opinions expressed within this newsletter were selected for their relevant content. The publishing of such articles and opinions do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions and practices of the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women.