



~ *Established in 1965* ~  
**JULY 2025**

# *The Elephant's Tale*

VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 7

## **2025 Executive Board**

**PRESIDENT**  
Suzi Cornell

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Patricia Moser Morris

**CO-VICE PRESIDENT**  
Shirley Appel

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Mary Jane Swenson

**SECRETARY**  
Cretia Eyster

**TREASURER**  
Susan Calfa



## **In This Issue**

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*The Incline Village-Crystal Bay  
Republican Women presents...*



## **Washoe GOP Chair Bruce Parks on the 83rd Legislative Session**

**Tuesday, July 8, 2025**

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



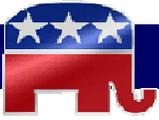
**Bruce Parks** served in the U.S. Army for over 20 years, primarily in the 101st Airborne Division. After retiring, he attended East Carolina University before moving from his hometown of Hastings, Nebraska to Nevada where he worked in the field of corporate security. He is co-founder of the Nevada Patriot and served as the Secretary for Battle Born Patriots – both political action groups. He is a community activist, a Constitutional

Conservative, and currently serves as the Chair of the Washoe County Republican Party. Bruce and his wife Reva have lived in Sparks Nevada for 12 years.

**RSVP/payment of \$35 must be received by  
Thursday, July 3rd, 12:00 noon**

Email Mary Jane Swenson at [hnsvenson@comcast.net](mailto:hnsvenson@comcast.net)  
or purchase tickets at <https://ivcbrw.org/> and click "pay."

**RSVP** [hnsvenson@comcast.net](mailto:hnsvenson@comcast.net), (650) 400-8554,  
or purchase tickets on our website: <https://ivcbrw.org/>. Click on "Pay."  
**RSVP/PAYMENT of \$35 MUST be received by 12 noon, Thursday, July 3rd**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



**O**dd years when we have the Nevada State Legislative Session are wild rides, to be sure: 120 days of intense sessions, lobbying, and voting on over 1,000 bills are nail biters. But I would not have it any other way! I would rather the legislature meet for a shorter period every other year compared to a year-round legislature with more opportunities to destroy liberty for state citizens. As Henry David Thoreau once said, "That government is best which governs least." Now our legislative session is over we are asking, "How did we do?" **Bruce Parks, Chair of the Washoe County Central Committee, will give us an end-of-session update at our July 8th meeting.** Bruce is a very hands-on individual, and you can trust that he has done due diligence before and during the 83rd Legislative Session. His update is bound to be informative. Make plans to attend the July luncheon and make your reservation early.

Ladies, please stay tuned to updates and read our newsletters. July, August, and September will be remarkably busy months for our club. Let me give you details:

**JULY 1 – IVCBRW Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m.,** Incline Library

**JULY 2 – IVCBRW Float Preparation and Potluck, 3:30 pm,** home of Kathi Congistre. Call Shirley Appel for details, 818-266-4402. Also see Shirley's column Community Affairs on page 6 of this newsletter for details on this and happenings for the month of July.

**JULY 3 – Local Heroes Parade** Starting point, Incline Village General Improvement District, 893 Southwood Boulevard. Those riding on the float should plan to help deconstruct the decorations at the end of the parade. Contact Shirley for details, 818-266-4402.

**JULY 3 – Community Fair,** following parade on Village Green. There will be information on our club as well as giveaways for visitors. Want to help man the booth? Contact Shirley for information, 818-266-4402.

**JULY 26 – IVCBRW Garage Sale, 9 am to 3 pm,** at the home of Cretia Eyster. Donations can be dropped off at Cretia's home on Wednesday through Friday, July 23-25. Volunteers to set up and price garage sale items the day before and plan to man the sale on the 26th are needed. All monies raised will benefit the IVCBRW Scholarship Fund. To volunteer or get more information, contact Cretia Eyster, 415-515-1883. **See our Garage Sale flyer on page 4 for more details.**

**AUGUST 5 – IVCBRW Board Meeting, 10:30 am** Incline Library

**AUGUST 12 – IVCBRW 60th Anniversary Celebration, 5-8 pm** at The Chateau. Honoring our Founder and First Club President Joyce Anderson Bock. Contact Patricia Moser Morris for details – 775-434-4155.

Thinking ahead, we have our **Annual IVCBRW Fashion Show and Luncheon on September 23rd.** Monies raised will go to the Scholarship Fund. Whoa! And this is just through September. We would love to see you in attendance and any or all these events. Let's make a splash this summer!

**Your Lady in Red,**

*Shirley Appel*



If it be asked, What is the most sacred duty and the greatest source of our security in a Republic? The answer would be, An inviolable respect for the Constitution and Laws – the first growing out of the last . . . . A sacred respect for the constitutional law is the vital principle, the sustaining energy of a free government. – Alexander Hamilton, 1794.



**ABOUT OUR SPEAKER,  
BRUCE PARKS**

**B**ruce Parks served in the U.S. Army for over 20 years, primarily in the 101st Airborne Division where he led soldiers in combat during Operation Desert Storm and provided our



country 12 years of expertise in Plans and Operations. He completed his military career as a Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Operations Specialist.

After retiring he attended East Carolina University

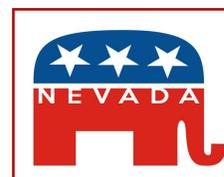
before becoming a successful independent contractor in the construction industry. He then went from his hometown of Hastings, Nebraska to Nevada where he worked as a Security Account Manager for an Amazon fulfillment center. He co-founded the Nevada Patriot and served as the club Secretary for Battle Born Patriots, both political action groups.

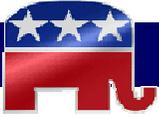
He is a community activist that, among many other things, fought against Drag Queen Story Hour, a battle that was won after a five-year fight. His efforts also resulted in the removal from office of an illegitimate Washoe County School District Trustee. He has challenged the Washoe County School Board, the Washoe County Library Board, local City Councils, the Washoe County Commission and the County Health Board to ensure adherence to the Constitution and the Nevada Revised Statutes. He is a Constitutional Conservative and teaches a weekly class on the Constitution. He served as the Chair of the Spanish Springs Citizen's Advisory Board and currently serves as the Chair of the Washoe County Republican Party.

Bruce was elected as Chair of the Washoe County Republican Party in December, 2021 when the last board resigned. He was re-elected in April of 2023 and re-elected again in April of 2025. During his tenure as Chair, the Central Committee of the Washoe County GOP has accomplished much thanks to his leadership and direction:

- Club Bylaws rewritten to conform to Nevada Revised Statutes.
- Redesign of the County Party website.
- Aggressive Legislative Action bill support/opposition for the Nevada 2021, 2023 and 2025 Legislative Sessions.
- Developed a Republican Party platform with State and National Party officials.
- Developed action plans to identify, support, and elect conservative candidates.
- Coordinated County Republican Party primary Presidential Caucus in February 2024 resulting in the election of Donald Trump as the party nominee.
- Clarified requirement for “credentialing” members at monthly meetings, ensuring adherence to legal requirements.
- Driving force behind the “No on Question 3” ballot measure, which would have implemented ranked choice voting and open primaries.
- Passed 15 “Resolutions,” a number of which censured Republicans whose voting record or public support of Democrat candidates was not consistent with the Republican brand.

Bruce and his wife, Reva, have lived in Sparks, Nevada for over 12 years.





**IVCBRW CLUB**  
**FIRST ANNUAL GARAGE SALE**  
**Saturday, July 26, 2025 | 8 am to 4 pm**  
568 Putter Court (off Driver Way between  
Village Boulevard and Country Club Drive)

**Attention Members!** If you have ever organized your own Garage Sale, you know it takes a lot of effort for a successful event. **We need club members to volunteer to help price items, set up, and work the day of the sale.**

**Please help make our Club's First Garage Sale a WINNER!** All proceeds from this event will raise money for our Scholarship Program for students of Incline Village Schools.

**We need DONATIONS!!** Donations from our members, their friends, families, and neighbors—which will be the key to a successful event. Start clearing out your garage, closets, kitchen, etc. and donate all those items you have been thinking about getting rid of.

Some guidelines for your donations —

- ◆ Clothing, please donate on hangers. We will have rolling racks for display.
- ◆ Electronics, small appliances and power tools. Please be sure they are working!
- ◆ Sports equipment, yard stuff, gardening and outdoor furniture
- ◆ Books, games, toys, furniture, home office items, shoes, accessories
- ◆ Kitchen and household items
- ◆ Holiday decorations

Detailed information soon to follow on drop-off dates at Cretia's driveway! If you have questions: [cretiaeyster@earthlink.net](mailto:cretiaeyster@earthlink.net) or call 415-515-1883.





Membership Corner



Bring a guest to meet our wonderful group of women! Potential new members are always welcome.

LUNCHEON/EVENTS DATES

**JULY 8 – Luncheon**

**JULY 26 – Garage Sale**

**AUGUST 12 – 60th Anniversary Dinner Event**

**SEPTEMBER 23 – Fashion Show**

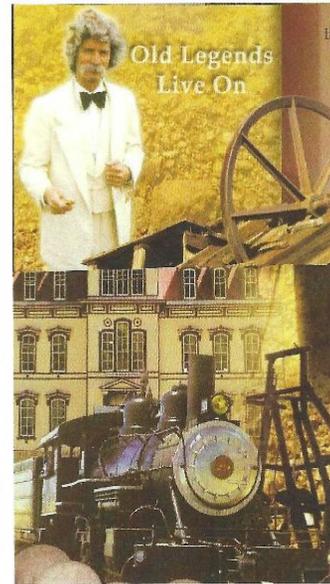
Our July luncheon will be here VERY SOON. You can purchase your tickets now. For members, go to our Square website by entering “ivcbrw.org” into your browser, clicking on the “Pay” tab, and click on the red “Pay for Events” highlighted link.

You can also renew or pay for “full” membership (Republican Women who consider this their primary club) or “Associate” membership (Republican men or Republican Women who are primary members in another club). See our membership application on page 9 of this newsletter. For new members, please fill out the application and write a check for full membership (\$50) or associate membership (\$20) and send it to: Membership, IVCB Republican Women, P.O. Box 3009, Incline Village, NV 89450. If you are just renewing your membership and your information has not change, just send the check as there is no need to fill out another application. Thank you!

*Mary Jane Swenson*

A FUN LOCAL EVENT

TWAIN TUESDAYS



McAvoy Layne is Mark Twain  
St. Patrick's Amphitheater  
Incline Village

6pm

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

Tickets \$20 at North Tahoe Welcome Center

“I always like to teach you new folks the Wisdom of the Twain policies, like this one ...

“Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponent will do it for you.”





## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### Happy 4th of JULY!!

There are lots of things going on in town this month. I guess we should begin with the 4th of July festivities, starting with our float decorating for the parade. We will be meeting at the home of Kathi and John Congistre on July 2nd at 4 pm. After we decorate the float we will get together for a Potluck dinner. Please let me know if you plan to attend and what you will bring for the Potluck. Email me at [mrsradar@aol.com](mailto:mrsradar@aol.com) sometime this week. Just a reminder, also that night is the Patriotic Concert at St. Francis Church beginning at 7 pm. Wednesday morning will be busy. Street closures around town begin at 8:30 to 9 am. Village Boulevard is closed from 8:30 to 11 am. Southwood Boulevard, Oriole Way and Incline Way will be closed at 9 am. If you plan to go to the Pancake Breakfast at the Fire House, plan to be there by 8:30 am. Those that plan to ride in the float should be at the staging area before 10 am on Southwood and Oriole. If you plan to ride in the float, please let me know how many of you can stay on the float back to the Congistre's home to help dismantle the trailer.

The Community Fair on the Village Green begins at 11 am. If you are going to work at the booth, please let me know. It is going to be a big day! There will be a bar-b-que at the Aspen Grove for a fee.

On July 4th there will be a breakfast put on by the Veteran's Club for a fee of \$15. This is always a popular event and fills up fast from 8 am to 12 pm. You can then walk across the street to the beach where the Hyatt is giving a free lunch at 1 pm. Remember that the beach will be extra-crowded this year with the Hyatt guests also occupying our beach. The fireworks display is planned for



approximately 9 pm Friday night. Also be aware that the holiday schedule for the highway construction on Hwy 28 will begin at noon on Thursday July 3rd, there will be no construction Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Now to talk about the rest of the goings on in town this month . . . Just a reminder that your punch cards expire on May 31st. You can renew them on-line on the Recreation Center website or go to the Recreation Center in person. As we suspected, the increased Recreation Fee for the 2025-26 year is as follows: \$720 per parcel for the Recreation Fee and \$655 for the beach fee, for a total of \$1,375. Remember to bring your Picture Pass to all Recreation venues.

Now on to the happenings with the Sheriff's Department . . . Lieutenant Colacurcio is going to be our new Captain. Replacing him as Lieutenant will be Aaron Tracy. Sergeant Tone will be transferring back to Reno and the new Sergeant will be Blake Lux. When you see these people around town, please say hi to them.

There will be an increased presence of the e-bike patrol around Lakeshore and around the lower portion of the village.

As for the Fire Department, there will be a new Public Information Officer. Tia is retiring at the end of this month. Just for everyone's information, the website for the North Lake Fire Department is a great source for information on emergency preparedness.

As we now know, the bill SB420 (which would have established Business Improvement Districts) DID NOT pass. Thanks to all that wrote the legislature opposing this bill.

On Saturday June 21st, there was a terrible tragedy on the lake. There was an unexpected storm that formed on the southwest shore of the lake and a boat capsized killing eight passengers. Always remember that storms can form quickly and be deadly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Waste Management will have a disposal of household waste by appointment. The only thing they will not take is old televisions. These household waste appointments will occur on Tuesdays every week.

So everyone, have a great holiday and remember that we will be having our regular **July luncheon meeting on July 8th and our guest speaker will be Bruce Parks, the Chairman of the Washoe County GOP.** Our own Nancy Carlson is now Vice Chairman and will be here as well.

See you around town,

*Shirley Appel*



**News of the News**



4 days ago ... 6:40 pm to 7:05 pm Eastern/2:10 am to 2:35 am Sunday in Iran: The U.S. struck the nuclear sites at Fordo and Natanz.

**War Powers Act H.J.Res.542  
Joint resolution concerning the war powers of Congress and the President.  
93rd Congress (1973-1974)**

Trump reported, “The sites that we hit in Iran were totally destroyed, and everyone knows it. Only the Fake News would say anything different in order to try and demean, as much as possible — And even they say they were “pretty well destroyed!” Working especially hard on this falsehood is Allison Cooper of Fake News CNN, Dumb Brian L. Roberts, Chairman of Comcast, Jonny Karl of ABC Fake News, and always, the Losers of, again, Comcast’s NBC Fake News. It never ends with the sleazebags in the Media, and that’s why their

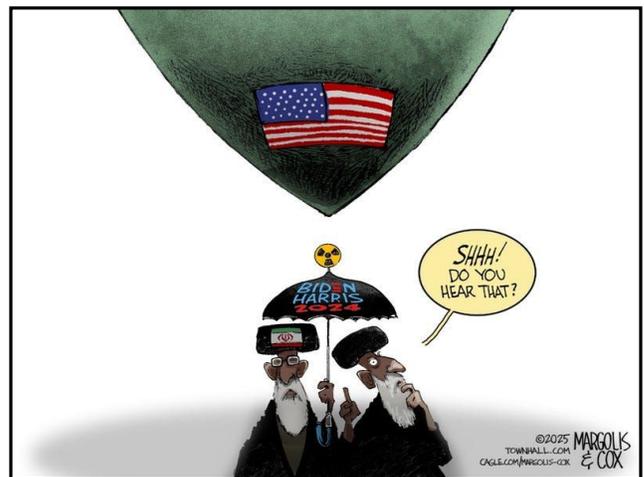
Ratings are at an ALL TIME LOW — ZERO CREDIBILITY!”

Jonathan Turley said on Fox News said that the “Democrats in Washington are again talking impeachment. Politicians and pundits are expressing outrage over President Donald Trump attacking Iran without a prior authorization of Congress. It is the Claude Rains School of Constitutional Law where politicians are “shocked, shocked” that Trump is using the authority that they accepted in Democratic predecessors.

“Presidents have long maintained their right to deploy military assets unilaterally without congressional approval to address imminent threats. President Thomas Jefferson did so when he went to war with the Barbary Pirates at the start of the Nineteenth Century.

“In compliance with the War Powers Act, President Trump was wise to notify Congress. Even under the WPA, Trump would have 60 days to prosecute this war and another 30 days to draw down forces without congressional approval. “

In the meantime, the calls for impeachment are absurd given the prior actions of presidents in using this very authority. Once again, some Democrats appear intent on applying a different set of rules for impeaching Trump than any of his predecessors.”



CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



## News of the News

Democrats who are looking for excuses to impeach Donald Trump like cane-wagging Congressman Al Green stayed true to that ideal recently, filing articles of impeachment against the commander-in-chief over recent military strikes on Iran. According to Green, the attacks represented an abuse of presidential power serious enough to warrant Trump's removal.

### Florida's Alligator Prison Plans

Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier announced plans for a new ICE detention facility in the middle of the Everglades, using a remote



airstrip to build what he's calling "Alligator Alcatraz." The 30-square-mile area, surrounded by swamps,

pythons, and alligators, is being billed as an ideal location to house undocumented immigrants with minimal escape risk. Uthmeier says the site will feature 5,000 beds by early July and rely on "light infrastructure." The facility is expected to cost around \$450 million annually and is partially funded through FEMA's Shelter and Services Program. The Miccosukee Tribe, who live and govern in the region, voiced strong opposition citing negative environmental impact. Governor Ron DeSantis responded to the backlash by emphasizing his long-standing support for the Everglades' restoration. He dismissed claims that the detention center would cause environmental harm, pointing to his administration's record investments in preserving the wetlands. "There's zero environmental . . . DeSantis said. "Why would I want to do anything [harmful]—in fact, I had to fight to get the Everglades fully funded." He also pushed back on critics, suggesting their opposition was politically motivated: "They're trying to use

the Everglades as a pretext because they oppose immigration enforcement."

### SCOTUS Ruling on "Unlawful Regulations"

President Trump said, "In recent years, the Supreme Court has issued a series of decisions that recognize appropriate constitutional boundaries on the power of unelected bureaucrats." . . . Yet, despite these critical course corrections, unlawful regulations . . . remain on the books." . . . Until today! Trump announced on June 27, 2025, that he won his case. The Supreme Court ruled on the unlawful regulations and made several decisions that set constitutional limits on the power of agencies to enforce unlawful regulations, emphasizing the need for checks on bureaucratic actions. This recent ruling reinforces the importance of adhering to statutory authority and the public interest in regulatory practices. Finally, this administration can send a wakeup call to federal agencies long resistant to reforms.

### 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



### 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*

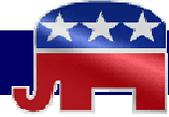
**CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art or Graphic Art Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising        | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter at Meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Finance          | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership         | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity          | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Committee     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Work           | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations   | <input type="checkbox"/> Email               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service       | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> 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](http://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.



### July 2025 Member Birthdays

Kathy Mirkovich	July 3
Maureen Dudley	July 5
Donna Kwachak	July 7
Sandra Mellor	July 15
Nicol Herris	July 20
Carol Stenderup	July 29



CONFUCIUS SAYS . . .  
By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and Third by experience, which is the bitterest.



### *The Elephant's Tale*

is published monthly by Incline Village/Crystal Bay Republican Women

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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.*