



Proclamation

WHEREAS, nearly sixty years ago, on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1955 John Ascuaga and his partner opened the Nugget, a 60-seat coffee shop in Sparks, Nevada; and

WHEREAS, in the Nugget's early days, the Awful-Awful hamburger with fries cost sixty-five cents and propelled the meal to a historic and famed regional favorite because it was "awful-awful good;" and

WHEREAS, countless stars of stage and screen, comedy and vocal, local and international fame graced the showrooms at John Ascuaga's Nugget for the entertainment pleasure of locals and tourists from all over the world; and,

WHEREAS, Bertha the elephant gained world fame as she took the stage in the Celebrity Showroom and became the longest-running casino act in Nevada history, giving joy to countless thousands of children and adults for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, John Ascuaga's vision of the biggest and best fireworks show in the Truckee Meadows came to life in 2000 when John Ascuaga's Nugget, the City of Sparks and other Sparks businesses came together to produce Star Spangled Sparks, the renowned Independence Day celebration on Victorian Square; and

WHEREAS, the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off has become a celebrated landmark event for more than 20 years and brings life to Labor Day, along with stellar entertainment and gastric food delights for the enjoyment of tens of thousands every September; and

WHEREAS, Michonne and Stephen Ascuaga work in partnership with their father, interacting with local government, participating in tourism, marketing programs and special events that attract countless visitors to Sparks and the region; and

WHEREAS, the Ascuaga family is dedicated to education and higher learning and provides dozens of annual scholarships to local youth, and the philanthropic generosity of the Ascuaga family has significantly benefitted the Sparks community and Truckee Meadows; and

WHEREAS, the Nugget has grown and prospered into the city's landmark resort casino and is Sparks' skyscraper icon that has raised the geographical location of our city.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2014 as:

"JOHN ASCUAGA & FAMILY DAY"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 10th day of February, 2014.

Handwritten signature of Geno R. Martini in black ink.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Donna DiCarlo in black ink.
TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk