

The Fortnightly Rant

An Avalanche of Lies

Americans must endure another 46 days of this alleged presidential campaign before they can go to the polls, cast their ballots, and bring the 2008 Presidential campaign to an end.*

This national political orgy has been going on for so long now that it seems like a permanent condition—or an incurable disease. Only professionals and masochists would wish for it to go on any longer. As it happens, this paper meets both criteria. All journalists are masochists by definition. And the lies are piling up at such a rate that there is no way we could cover them all in the brief time we have remaining.

Is it really that bad, you may ask? Karl Rove himself—the Michaelangelo of misrepresentation, the DaVinci of deception—while talking to Chris Wallace on “Fox News Sunday,” said “McCain has gone in some of his ads ... one step too far, and sort of attributing to Obama things that are, you know, beyond the 100-percent-truth test.”

When Karl Rove accuses a Republican presidential candidate of lying, you know something's up. Some kind of absolute barrier has been breached, like the four-minute mile.

Of course, only the terminally naive would take anything Rove said at face value. Fortunately, more reliable sources are available, like FactCheck.org.

Goo-Goo Goes GaGa

A “nonpartisan, nonprofit, ‘consumer advocate’ for vot-

* This assertion presumes, perhaps optimistically, that there will be no announcement from an undisclosed secure location informing the peasantry that elections have been suspended and martial law has been declared.

ers that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics,” according to their own account, FactCheck.org “monitor[s] the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in the form of TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews, and news releases.” It is funded by the Annenberg Foundation.**

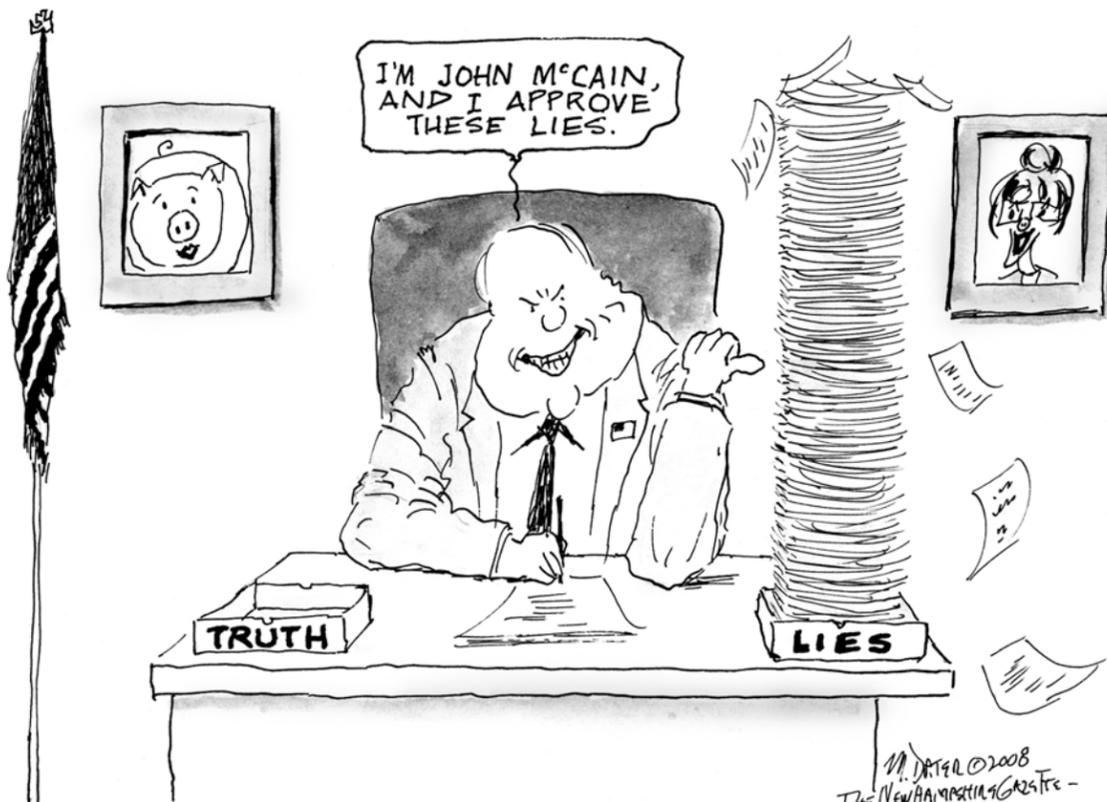
In political circles, an outfit like FactCheck.org is sometimes called a “goo-goo.” The term is derived from “good government.”

Imagine their surprise and chagrin when they learned the McCain campaign was putting lies in their mouths! The McCain campaign began airing an ad on September 10, saying that FactCheck.org found the Obama campaign's “attacks” on Sarah Palin to be “completely false” and “misleading.”

“We said no such thing,” FactCheck.org responded. “We have yet to dispute any claim from the Obama campaign about Palin.”

What FactCheck.org had found “completely false” and

** The Annenberg Foundation is a charitable trust named after its founder, Walter Annenberg. Walter's father Moses Annenberg worked for William Randolph Hearst's *Chicago Examiner* during the early 20th Century. Charged with keeping the paper's circulation figures high, he was aided by men such as Dion O'Bannon, George C. “Bugs” Moran, and Hymie Weiss. Their methods included beating rival newsboys with clubs, and setting newsstands on fire. Occasional fatalities resulted. Moses went on to make a fortune with a national horse racing wire service; Alphonse Capone was a close colleague. Moses branched out into newspapers and magazines. Young Walter learned the business at his daddy's knee, and took over in 1939, after Moses went to prison for tax evasion. Walter was eventually appointed Ambassador to the Court of St. James by Richard M. Nixon. Go figure. Crooked as the Annenbergs were, the Foundation appears legit.



“misleading” were various home-grown e-mails and Internet postings which had nothing to do with the Obama campaign.

Speaking of “completely false,” the McCain ad also quoted an item in a *Wall Street Journal* column, saying that Obama had “air-dropped a mini-army of 30 lawyers, investigators and opposition researchers’ into Alaska to dig dirt on Governor Palin.” It turns out that *no one* from the Obama campaign had been sent to Alaska.

Always the Last to Know

Since the late 1960s, when Richard Nixon re-wrote the Republican playbook, the GOP has depended heavily on the “objective” media's squeamish reluctance to print any variation of one simple English sentence: “He lied.” John McCain's reckless disregard for the truth has become so blatant, however, that even respectable media organizations have begun to report on it. This represents a fundamental

shift in media practice.

The New York Times noted on September 12 that Joy Behar, a co-host on ABC's “The View,” had told McCain to his face that two of his ads “are untrue.”

“They are lies,” Behar said to McCain. Naturally McCain denied Behar's charge; another lie.

As early as July 30, *The Washington Post* was reporting on the McCain camp's repeated claims that Obama “snubbed wounded soldiers by cancelling a visit to a military hospital because he could not take reporters with him, *despite no evidence that the charge is true.*” [Emphasis added.]

(One of) The Usual Suspects

What is behind this epidemic of prevarication? A couple of things.

First there's Steve Schmidt, who took over the McCain campaign's day-to-day operations on July 2. Schmidt's resumé reads like a rap sheet. He headed the White House efforts to put Samuel Alito and John Roberts on

the Supreme Court. He served as counsel and spokesperson for Vice President Dick “Dick” Cheney. And he is a protégé of Karl Rove.

Then there's the fact that it works. For most of the summer, the Democratic candidate seemed to have the election all sewn up. State-by-state polling from June through August consistently showed Barack Obama well above the magic 270 Electoral Vote threshold, and McCain well below. The apparent advantage was so great that a few professional bloviators suggested that the GOP might be forced to retreat, like some band of unregenerate Confederates, into the rural fastnesses of the Old South, becoming, like New York's Liberal Party, a vestigial political organ in the nation's body politic.

But now, after an avalanche of lies from the McCain campaign, those same aggregates of polling data show the candidates neck-and-neck as of Wednesday.

News Briefs:

Not This Fortnight, Dear

A Brief “Special Comment”

Every fortnight we find ourselves hoping that we'll be able to employ some variation of the following sentence:

“Much to our surprise and delight, the rate of this [country/planet/universe]'s descent into utter and complete madness appears to have slowed.” Sadly, this was not that fortnight.

Let's take it from the top ... er ... from the outermost point.

Hubble Finds a Wha?

Astronomers at Berkeley's Supernova Cosmology Project have detected an object of a previously unknown type at least 130 light years away in the general direction of the constellation Bootes.

Back in February the team was

mind its own business—scanning the universe for supernovas with the Hubble Space Telescope—when it spied a previously undetected object. The object became about 120 times brighter over the next three months, then faded away.

Sky & Telescope reports that this “mystery object did not behave like any known kind of supernova.” Furthermore, “[i]t is not even in any detectable galaxy.”

Pot, Meet Kettle

This just in: CNN reported Tuesday that a prominent female Democrat—a member of the Democratic National Committee's Platform Committee, and a long-time supporter of, and fundraiser for, Hillary Clinton—

has declared that she will break ranks and vote for John McCain, rather than Barack Obama.

The woman in question is Lynn Forester de Rothschild, the third wife of Sir Evelyn Robert Adrian de Rothschild, of Britain's banking Rothschilds. The couple live at “Ascott House,” a 400-year old mansion situated on a 3,200 acre estate near London. Decorations include Chinese ceramics from the Han dynasty, and paintings by Gainsborough and Tiepolo.

Ms. de Rothschild explained, through her hired help, that she would not be supporting the Democratic nominee because “I feel like he is an elitist.”

Mrs. de Rothschild, a native of New Jersey, was introduced

to her future husband at the Bilderberg conference in 1998, by Henry Kissinger. She was then 44, and he was 67, for what that's worth.

As for what *he's* worth, no one seems to be able to learn. Rumored for a century to be the world's wealthiest family, the Rothschild name has not been sullied by inclusion in anything so tawdry as the lists of billionaires assembled by the ink-stained wretches at *Forbes* or *Fortune*.

Important If True

Had we but world enough and time, we'd investigate further the allegations we've seen that the Rothschilds' used their influence in the Federal Reserve system to prolong the U.S.'s adherence to

the Gold Standard, thereby deepening the Great Depression.

If it *is* true, it dovetails eerily with the McCain campaign's reliance on Phil Gramm as an economic advisor. As we noted a few issues back, Gramm bears as much responsibility as anyone for the deracinated state of our deregulated economy. (The Dow Jones lost over 700 points in the first three days of this week.)

Since Mrs. de Rothschild has long been a muckety-muck in top Democratic circles, let's file this whole sordid mess under the heading: “What's Wrong with the Democratic Party.”

News Briefs

from page one

Disenfranchising the Foreclosed-Up on

Meanwhile, back here on Planet Earth, we return to our usual programming.

Here's something new under the sun: the Chairman of the Republican Party in Macomb County, Michigan is going to do something for those about to become homeless ...

Oops. Our mistake. Start again: The Macomb County GOP is going to do something to those about to become homeless: take away their right to vote.

As *The Michigan Messenger's** Eartha Jane Melzer reported on September 10, Michigan law allows political parties to monitor elections, and challenge voters if they have "good reason to believe" the would-be voter is ineligible.

Republican Party Chairman James Carabelli said that, on election day, the local GOP "will have a list of foreclosed homes and will make sure people aren't voting from those addresses."

Melzer interviewed J. Gerald Hebert, "a former voting rights litigator for the U.S. Justice Department who now runs the Campaign Legal Center, a Washington D.C.-based public-interest law firm," about Carabelli's plan.

"You can't challenge people without a factual basis for doing so," Hebert told her. "I don't think a foreclosure notice is sufficient basis for a challenge, because people often remain in their homes after foreclosure begins and sometimes are able to

* *The Michigan Messenger* is "an independently-produced [web-based] political news daily featuring original and investigative reporting, which is part of the Center for Independent Media (CIM). CIM is a not-for-profit organization with independent outlets operating in five states: *The Colorado Independent*, *Iowa Independent*, *Minnesota Independent*, *New Mexico Independent*, and *Washington Independent*. Their national news bureau, based in Washington, D.C., is newjournalist.org.

negotiate and refinance."

And it looks like Macomb County, Michigan is just the thin edge of the wedge.

Denise Graves, chair of the Genessee County, Michigan GOP, told Melzer "is gearing up for a comprehensive [statewide] voter challenge campaign. They are "creating a spreadsheet of election challenger volunteers," and expect "to coordinate a training with the regional McCain campaign."

We hate to stereotype, but, in our experience, Republicans have always seemed drawn to organizations that are run from the top down.

"McCain's regional headquarters," Melzer writes, "are housed in the office building of *foreclosure specialists* Trott & Trott. The firm's founder, David A. Trott, has raised between \$100,000 and \$250,000 for the Republican nominee."

In a later article, published September 15, Melzer reported that Michigan Republican leaders claimed to have "disavowed" the plan to use foreclosure lists, "but an attorney for the party, Eric Doster, did confirm that the party would use returned mail to challenge voters based on residency."

Allen Raymond, who jammed the phones of New Hampshire Democrats back in 2002 at the request of the New Hampshire Republican Party and ended up in the Crowbar Hilton for it, explained for Melzer how party operatives hit a targeted area with mass First Class mailings, then use any returned mail to challenge voters. In other words, Doster's "denial" was probably just more GOP double-talk.

The September 15 piece also specified that when it comes to foreclosures, "specialists" Trott & Trott represent banks, not homeowners. Also, the McCain/Palin Great Lakes campaign headquarters is located in the same build-



ing as "Trott & Trott's subsidiary American Processing Company, LLC, *which uses proprietary software to provide mortgage default processing services nationwide.*"

Not Our Chambers of Commerce

The U.S. Chambers of Commerce have been running scurrilous ads in New Hampshire, slugging Jeanne Shaheen. The Chambers of Commerce in Manchester and Nashua found the ads so distasteful that they have issued statements disavowing them. The tone of the statements make it appear that the

agendas of the local and national organizations have almost nothing in common.

Is it odd we find that odd?

Our Northernmost Delivery to Date

We are delighted to announce a new record for Northernmost Ad Hoc Hand Delivery of a copy of *The New Hampshire Gazette*—the town of Kaktovik, on Barter Island, on the North Slope of Alaska, nestled in the very bosom of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and about 250 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

The prize—which consists of

our sincere thanks and hearty congratulations, and shall hereby be deemed to have been delivered—goes to Mr. Brian Wazlaw, of Portsmouth. Brian is a retired Exeter High science teacher, and unrepentant reader of this paper. He enjoys traveling to remote parts of the world, and "always takes some *Gazettes* to deliver in remote areas." Specifically, the paper in question was delivered to the the Waldo Arms Hotel, which is reputed to be "Kaktovik's finest."

Frankly, we are amazed that Brian somehow managed to



Once again this past Monday, the Collings Foundation, of Stowe, MA, flew a group of restored WW II aircraft into Pease for onlookers to marvel at. Among them was Tondelayo, shown above: a B-25 Mitchell, a real aircraft flown by the fictional bombardier John Yossarian, in Joseph Heller's hilarious war comedy *Catch-22*. Nearly ten thousand Mitchells were built; there may be one or two hundred still flying. Also at

Pease was the venerable Nine-O-Nine, the last B-17 on Earth that is still in flying condition. It flew 140 bombing missions, and racked up 1,129 hours of flight time, without aborting a flight or losing a crewman. The fuselage of the Nine-O-Nine sports a ball turret on its underside, an apparatus immortalized in poet Randall Jarrell's rather more somber poem, *The Death of the Ball Turret Gunner*.

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smuggle our scurrilous sheet into the state, past the vigilant gaze of its gun-totin', varmint-shootin' governor.

Giving "Pro-Life" a Whole New Meaning

See what happened in that last item? Somehow, like so many other Americans, we found ourselves being pulled back into Governor Sarah Palin's alluring orbit. Is it love? Or is it just plain old garden-variety derangement? We suspect the latter.

Certainly Jay Rogers has a touch of it. Jay, a native of Framingham, professes to be a Christian. He's the International Director of *The Forerunner*, an outfit that "train[s] and equip[s] young people worldwide to produce media materials so that they may impact and transform their culture according to biblical principles."— with a particular

emphasis on the Old Testament, we suspect.

Here's Jay's "three point plan" for the 2008 general election, as laid out on his blog:

"1. Vote Constitution Party. (I vote my conscience and cannot support McCain even with Palin.)

"2. Pray for Sarah Palin to win. (I am an idealist, but also a realist!)

"3. Pray for John McCain's salvation and speedy death. (Google *The Forerunner's* articles on Imprecatory Prayer if you think this is harsh.)"

Rogers seems to have caught some heat from heathens over that prayer for McCain's "speedy death." The post has been modified to read, "pray specific imprecatory prayers if he fails to proactively defend the sanctity of human life."

"R" is for Redneck

As for that "Imprecatory Prayer" business that Jay was going on about in the previous item, don't ask us to explain it—that's way above our pay grade.

Maybe Rep. Lynn Westmoreland (R-GA), who wants the Ten Commandments displayed in courtrooms, could help us ...

No, on second thought, probably not. When Stephen Colbert asked him to recite the Ten Commandments a couple of years ago, Westmoreland could only remember three.

We drag Rep. Westmoreland into this because he's surfaced in the news once again. This time, he referred to Sen. Barack Obama and his wife Michelle as "uppity." When he was given a chance to repent his unfortunate choice of words, Rep. Westmoreland declined.

A Poet Passes

Robert Dunn breathed his last on August 31st. He was 65.

Robert was the second Poet Laureate of the city he loved, but he was second to none in singularity. In addition to his primary duties as a poet, he served as a consulting metaphysician and book duster for the Portsmouth Athenæum, the 191 year-old library on Market Square.

The casual observer might have seen in Robert a small, rather frail man. Conversation revealed something altogether different: a probing, roaming mind, lightly shrugging off the mental fetters that weigh so many down. It takes a different kind of strength to live—and, in his way, thrive—on less than some cats need to survive.

Bon voyage, Robert ...



Robert Dunn



DON'T MISS THE GRAND UNVEILING, SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 20—After a year's worth of arduous, mole-like excavation, construction teams at *The Music Hall*—designers, artisans, electricians, plumbers—are putting the finishing touches on the historic theater's new *Beaux Arts Lobby*, in preparation for several days of opening events in the new space. The community is invited to take its first look at the expanded 2,600 square foot space on Saturday, September 20, at a special morning program, "Reimagining an American Treasure," a Symposium & Community Open House. The doors open at 9:15 a.m. Photo showing the state of the operation in mid-summer by Michael Winters, courtesy of the Music Hall.



"WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES THE LOVE OF POWER, THE WORLD WILL FINALLY KNOW PEACE." -- JIMI HENDRIX



Moving Pictures

Righteous Kill

by Rodman Philbrick

Stars: Robert DeNiro, Al Pacino, Carla Gugino, 50 Cent, Brian Dennehy, John Leguizamo, Donnie Wahlberg; **Screenplay:** Russell Gewirtz; **Director:** John Avnet; **Rating:** [R]

With the possible exception of John Waters, going for camp gold, no one purposefully sets out to make a bad movie. With all that talent and ambition involved, success is bound to be the intended destination. The mystery is, with so many experienced professionals involved, why so many movies fall flat. The only explanation must be that making a good movie, like writing a good novel, is really really difficult. The difference being that when a novel turns out bad, it either never sees print, or soon slips

beneath a sea of books, leaving behind nary a ripple. Whereas a big budget movie, with well-paid stars, fueled by a multi-million-dollar PR campaign, will almost inevitably find its way to the local cineplex, no matter how tepid the reviews. And innocent ticket buyers enter the darkened theater thinking, hey, this sucker has Robert De Niro and Al Pacino, how bad could it be?

Bad. The answer is bad. Working from a screenplay that seems to be a mash-up of every buddy-cop story ever filmed, long-time veteran director/producer Jon Avnet somehow lost focus on what makes a good movie good. From the very first pre-title scene, in which De Niro and Pacino take target practice and then exchange rueful, how'd-we-get-in-this-turkey smiles, the audience is invited in on the

joke: we didn't take this seriously, folks, so you shouldn't bother. It might have worked if the generically titled *Righteous Kill* was a comedy—De Niro and Pacino, perhaps the two best actors of their generation, are more than capable of playing for laughs—but there's nothing funny or even focused about the narrative.

Here's the story: someone is executing bad guys and evidence suggests it might be a cop. Yes, the plot has been done to death, pun intended (think *Magnum Force*), but borrowing a well-worn plot can make sense if it helps the director deliver a satisfying story that fulfills audience expectations. But despite the carefully staged executions, complete with poems composed by the killer, Avnet can't seem to find any momentum, or any reason for us to be particularly interested. Maybe

because the screenplay fails to illuminate any of the characters or victims. Maybe the writer assumed that by creating main characters with cool nicknames like Turk and Rooster, they would somehow come to life.

If only it was so easy. Even with great actors it doesn't work that way. Good writing—think *Taxi Driver* (De Niro) or *Sea of Love* (Pacino)—brings characters to life by exposing complexity, by exploring the contradictions of human nature that make us recognizably human. Bad writing—and *Righteous Kill* has quite a lot of that—tries to make characters out of carefully bundled clichés, which is not the same thing at all.

Jon Avnet, who in addition to being the director of *Fried Green Tomatoes* has produced more than

fifty films, many of them very successful (*Risky Business* comes to mind) should have known better. You gotta start with good material, not a tired script from a currently hot screenwriter.

Maybe he kidded himself into thinking that a great cast would fix the problem. Hey, you put De Niro and Pacino together in almost every scene, chemistry is bound to happen, right? Michael Mann got chemistry from these living legends in *Heat*, right? And the supporting cast of *Righteous Kill* includes terrific talent like Brian Dennehy, John Leguizamo, Donnie Wahlberg, and the fabulous Carla Gugino. That'll make it better, right?

So many rights, and they all keep adding up to so many wrongs.



More Hate Mail, &c.

from page seven

often hear people say that freedom isn't free. I agree. Freedom requires that we the people understand our laws and vigorously demand that they be enforced. Democracy is a verb, and without our constant vigilance, we are no more than pawns.

Read the Constitution. Talk to your kids, family and friends about it. It is who we are as a nation.

Arnold Stieber
Grass Lake, MI

Thank God for Carol Shea-Porter

To the Editor:

In July, I attended a press conference where Carol Shea-Porter announced the introduction of legislation that would require the VA to upgrade the Manchester VA to a full-service hospital or contract with in-state hospitals to provide necessary services. This announcement shows New

Hampshire veterans who their real supporters are in Congress.

As all of us New Hampshire veterans are aware, since we do not have a full service hospital, we are forced to travel out of state for medical care. So the bill introduced by Carol Shea-Porter, „The Veterans Equity Health Care Act” (HR 6620) is another step she has taken to level the playing field for veterans and give a fair shot at the health care we were promised when we signed on the dotted line and put on the uniform of the United States Military.

As a disabled Vietnam Veteran all I can say is thank God for our friend Carol Shea-Porter.

Bill Whitmore
Vice-Commander,
Henry J. Sweeney
American Legion Post #2
Manchester, NH

Bradley No Friend to Vets

To the Editor:

Who is true friend to Veterans? Jeb Bradley says he is, but his voting record does not back his claim. His votes helped defeat measures that would have helped members of our military. His voting record stands in contrast to that of Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter, who has consistently supported veterans.

Bradley blocked \$500 million in new housing for 50,000 military families. [HRS 732 Vote #401 7/21/2004].

Bradley blocked a \$1,500 bonus to U.S. troops in recognition of their service in Iraq and Afghanistan. [HR 3289 Vote #554 10/17/2003].

Bradley blocked \$3.6 billion in benefits and infrastructure for U.S. troops. [HR 3289 Vote #547 10/2003].

Bradley blocked \$958 million for military personnel homes. [HRS 298 Vote #324 06/2003]

Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter introduced HR 6774 to protect survivor benefits for children of single-parent service members killed while deployed.

Shea-Porter introduced H.R. 5155 to prohibit the VA from collecting debts owed by the estates of soldiers killed in combat.

On August 1, in a bill that also funded Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Shea-Porter supported \$788 million for VA construction and to fund veterans' benefits including medical care, prosthetics and hospital mileage.

Check the facts before you vote. When you do, you will support Carol Shea-Porter for Congress.

Laura Aronson
Londonderry, NH



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Northcountry Chronicle

The Authoritarians

by William Marvel

In 1971 I bought an old station wagon for \$125, tossed a mattress in the back, draped some curtains around the interior, and headed west. By autumn I was on the West Coast, where I spent most of the winter before heading back. By then I had been out of the army more than a year: my hair and beard were both nearly a foot long, and my old field jacket was probably my most genteel apparel. Those were the days of the "routine check," however, before the Supreme Court reminded police across the country that the Fourth Amendment prohibited them from pulling people over without probable cause. During that circuit around the Land of the Free I was therefore stopped several times by cops who seemed desperately disappointed to find that my car didn't reek of reefer.

Thanks to a liberty-loving Su-

preme Court and offended citizens who were willing to push the matter that far, the "routine" police stop disappeared from the American scene many decades ago. Of course a dishonest officer has only to claim you were weaving suspiciously to manufacture the probable cause, but I still think most cops are basically pretty honest.

In the past few years we've seen a new generation grow up with a completely different attitude about freedom. These folks would readily trade most of their remaining liberty for absolute safety, perhaps because that is the lopsided value their overprotective parents and school administrators taught them. Ironically enough, their protectionist impulse is seconded by those of the older generations who were loudest in denouncing authoritarianism in the Soviet Union: one wonders why those inconsistent geezers didn't emigrate to

that safe-and-sound police state when they had the chance.

So the arbitrary habits of old are creeping back. A recent "sobriety checkpoint" in Conway may even have represented an effort to condition the public to being stopped at random, and if it didn't have that intent it surely had that effect. The purported purpose was to find drunk drivers, but the score in that category was zero. Through an exercise in logistical gymnastics we were told that the failure to catch any drunk drivers at all was evidence that the checkpoint "worked," but that lame excuse for failure fell apart under the next news item: once they stopped harassing the general public and went back to regular road duty, they did issue a couple of citations for DWI.

Arbitrary enforcement, or at least arbitrary inspection and interrogation, seems particularly common now among guards in

public buildings, where everyone who doesn't look quite "normal" seems to be a suspected terrorist. Our own State House, unfortunately, may be an example.

I probably pass through the State House 15 or 20 times a year. Most of the time I might be mistaken for a tourist, or even a legislator, but the winter before last I came in wearing my canvas barn coat, which is a little frayed around the edges now. As I walked in the door a state trooper whom I had seen a dozen times before stopped me and said, with apparently sincere reluctance, that he should probably inspect my backpack. I assented, mostly out of surprise, for that was the first time in 40 years anyone had ever questioned my presence in my own state capitol.

Just after the end of the last legislative session I stopped in for breakfast at the State House cafeteria. It was promising to be

a hot day already, so I was wearing a T-shirt, and I carried my usual backpack. In the basement I encountered a guard who asked me if I worked there, and how I got in. He was a tall, friendly fellow whom I've said hello to many times, but his question made me suspect that he wanted to search my belongings. This time I was feeling a little resistant, so when he told me that he always checks everyone who comes in I remarked that he had never checked me until I came in wearing a T-shirt and jeans. A sheepish smile was his evident admission.

We parted amicably enough, but the lesson was clear. So long as I want to slide by without being hassled, I need only dress like an insurance salesman—or maybe even throw on a blazer. The lesson should be clear to prospective terrorists, too: wear a tie, and carry your hardware in a fancy briefcase.

Shea-Porter Is There for Vets To the Editor:

So Jeb Bradley will run against Carol Shea-Porter. The big difference is that Jeb Bradley puts his party politics above veterans. He even admits it.

In 2005, Jeb Bradley voted against bringing to the House floor a bill to improve the "concurrent receipt" problem (veterans can't receive all of their retirement and disability payments at the same time, even when they've earned both payments).

Veterans asked, at a local meeting of Military Officers Association of America, and in other public meetings, why he wouldn't vote to bring a good bill to the floor. He said, essentially, "You wouldn't expect me to go against

my leadership, would you? I may need them in the future!"

As a Congressman, Jeb was a water carrier for the Republican party. He was a "go-along to get-along" guy, who did little for vets or anyone else.

But Carol Shea-Porter is working on the concurrent receipt problem. In addition, she supported the huge \$16 billion budget increase Democrats passed for the VA. She has improved conditions for the National Guard and Reserves and for vets who suffer from PTSD.

And she has written legislation that requires the VA to make the Manchester VA Medical Center a full-service hospital again or to contract locally to provide needed medical care for vets. Bradley

didn't do any of that in his time in office. He didn't pass one bill while there.

Carol Shea-Porter has shown that she is a better Congressional Representative for veterans and for everyone else.

Lew Henry, Vietnam Veteran
Quartermaster, Lee Memorial
VFW Post 10676
Lee, NH

Carol Shea-Porter: She's There for Us

To the Editor:

Troops from the New Hampshire National Guard left this week for a one year tour of duty in Afghanistan. Who was there to see them off? Not John Stephen. Not Jeb Bradley, either. Carol Shea-Porter was the only

candidate for Congress who attended the ceremony.

Since she arrived in Washington, Carol has held over 250 committee oversight hearings looking into military problems. Just as Carol has fought hard for our soldiers, she is fighting hard for the rest of us. Whether it's working to get health insurance for more working class kids,

or fighting Bush and the Republican senate to increase the amount of heating oil assistance before the cold winds of winter comes, Carol is on our side.

We need to be on her side when the time comes to choose our Representative in Washington.

Vickey Russo
Manchester, NH

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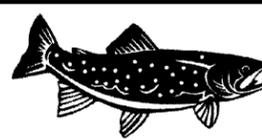
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Buying a Pig in a Poke

To the Editor:

As a psychotherapist, my clients' actions daily remind me that we are all prone to make decisions based on emotion, not logic. This holds true for politics, too. Many independent voters, who are enthusiastic about John McCain, still believe he is an American original, an independent moderate, despite his voting record and right wing campaign rhetoric. Other independent voters, who are passionate about Barack Obama, see him as a radical agent of change when a lot of evidence suggests he is the original centralist. Without doubt, it is difficult to tell fact from fiction in the emotionally white-hot rhetoric of this campaign.

However, what can be debated are the larger issues that these candidates will have to confront. Issues that neither party will touch with a ten foot pole unless

confronted by voters like us who want more from our politicians than Madison Avenue slogans. Issues such as:

Social Inequality: The gap between rich and poor keeps getting wider and wider while our government safety net continues to shrink for everyone from homeowners to the homeless. Yet pundits and politicians alike warn that our national budget is out of control. To rein in spending, they say, Social Security and Medicare must be cut. And forget about universal healthcare!

With wars all over the globe, record deficits, and the rest of the world sick of extending us credit, what are our politicians going to do? One answer neither candidate is talking about is raising taxes. It has been done elsewhere and it has worked. Canada has comprehensive social welfare and excellent universal healthcare and guess what: Canada has had a budget surplus for the last 12 years. Of course, Canada's surplus is not just because of higher taxes; it also doesn't spend 50 percent of its national budget on the military. (This New Hampshire Peace Action statistic includes the interest on the military portion of the national debt, VA medical costs, veteran pensions and disability, &c.)

Military Industrial Complex: The candidates don't differ here

as much as one might think. Yeah, Obama wants to get out of Iraq, but both he and McCain want to enlarge the military. And Obama has often sounded more hawkish than McCain on Afghanistan.

Expanding the Army, vast fleets of Navy ships and nuclear submarines, ever newer and more expensive Air Force planes and missiles, predator drones, huge secret black-hole appropriations, antiballistic missiles that don't work, tens of thousands of nuclear weapons ... all poised for what? How can we afford to continue to spend more money on defense—really offense—than practically the whole rest of the world combined? Nothing is going to change until we confront this institutional insanity.

The climate: I don't hear either candidate talking in urgent, practical terms to galvanize the nation to action on the environmental crises we face. A serious candidate for the president would adopt Al Gore's challenge for the U.S. to supply all the country's electricity by renewable and carbon free sources within 10 years by investments in solar, wind and geothermal power. A program to do this, along with one to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure, would put people to work, raise standards of living, and produce beneficial, clean energy products to the world rather than ped-

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL**,

dling weapons as we now do.

With both presidential candidates visiting New Hampshire in the coming week, we should insist that they start addressing our real National Security needs: how to ensure the welfare of all Americans and reduce social injustice here and around the world while, at the same time, making the necessary changes to live within our means and within the capabilities of planet Earth.

Sure these are difficult and complex issues to talk about, but the alternative is infinitely worse: Continuing our 24/7 debate on how much lipstick a pig should wear if a pig wore lipstick.

Jean Stimmell
Northwood NH

Shea-Porter Gets It Done

To the Editor:

I'd like to express my support for Carol Shea-Porter and my appreciation for the energy she brings to representing New Hampshire in Congress. It seems like we've never had so much attention to our priorities as we have since Carol Shea-Porter went to Washington.

Last March, Shea-Porter brought House Armed Services Chairman Ike Skelton to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. She got the Chairman's support for important construction projects that enhance the long term viability of the shipyard. She has got \$13 million for key projects already.

Also in March, she brought Congressman Bob Filner, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, to tour the Manchester VA Medical Center and discuss the issue with veter-

ans. He announced that that the House Veterans Affairs Committee would work with her to ensure that New Hampshire's veterans have access to the care they need.

Then last month, she brought Congressman Chet Edwards, Chairman of the House Appropriation Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, to meet with veterans and tour the Manchester VA Medical Center again. He also announced that he shared her vision for improving medical care for veterans in New Hampshire.

With the support of these powerful congressional leaders, Shea-Porter has introduced legislation to require the VA to upgrade the Manchester Medical Center to a full service hospital or contract with local hospitals to provide veterans the medical care they need.

This is only a small piece of what she's accomplished, but it's a lot for a new member of congress.

The Rev. William S. Gannon (ret.)
Bedford, NH

Carol's Working for Us

To the Editor:

Recently, someone asked me what I mean about Shea-Porter's working for the "99 percent of us who have not benefited" from the Bush/McCain/Bradley love fest with the super-rich.

Here are precise examples of exactly what Carol Shea-Porter does for "the other 99 percent of us":

On August 1, 2008, Carol Shea-Porter helped pass legislation that will provide vital resources to our nation's veterans and secure important funding for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations

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And Other Correspondence

bill passed the House 409 to 4.

Among the provisions Shea-Porter secured in the legislation were \$9.98 million to construct the Consolidated Global Submarine Component Facility, the Navy's warehousing center for submarine components, and \$1.45 million for the Waterfront Support Facility that will support the repair of Virginia-class submarines at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill also:

- Rejects the Bush/McCain proposal to cut the Department of Veterans Affairs construction by \$788 million, so that the Department has the resources it needs to address buildings that have fallen into disrepair;
- Addresses the critical needs facing veterans medical care as soldiers return from Iraq and Afghanistan, building on the historic increases provided last year;
- Increases enrollment of Priority 8 veterans by 10 percent, ensuring that we keep our commitment to all veterans;
- Provides veterans with advanced prosthetics;
- Raises mileage reimbursements for veterans traveling to VA Hospitals;
- Makes substantial increases to mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Congresswoman Shea-Porter also introduced the Veterans Health Equity Act, legislation that would enable New Hampshire to have a full-service VA hospital or an equivalent facility.

I urge all Congressional District 1 voters to return this valuable public servant for another term as our representative. Vote for Carol Shea-Porter on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

George M. Fodor
Derry, NH

Regulate McCain

To the Editor:

"Reduce government regulation" is the bedrock Republican philosophy. Even after Enron's larceny, Republicans fought for more deregulation of financial institutions. Having cut operating funds for the SEC, Bush's administration enabled investment banks to operate without adequate oversight.

Now, we taxpayers have bailed out Bear Sterns, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Lehman Brothers is lining up for the next handout. We're left paying for Republican billionaire swindles. And John McCain? As one of the Keating Five, he was caught in the savings and loan scam during the other George Bush's presidency. His former campaign co-chair, former Senator Phil Gramm, pushed for the deregulation that set the stage for these scams. Reformer, or more of the same?

We need to kick all those Republicans out of government. Clean up the pig trough. We can't afford four more years of financial corruption.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

Shea-Porter Moves Mountains

To the Editor:

I went to Vietnam as a Captain nurse in the "doctors' draft" of 1967. By the mid-70's I'd been diagnosed with diabetes from Agent Orange exposure. Twenty years later, I asked the doctor to amputate my right leg to end the unbelievable pain.

Between SSI and my employer's disability plan I had enough to get by. But my needs changed as I got older and, two years ago, when the VFW offered to help, I applied for disability.

After a long wait, the VA de-

nied my claim, calling my diabetes a pre-existing condition. I appealed but it just sat. I figured that the Iraq and Afghanistan vets needed the attention.

Then a friend, Hiram Connell, wrote to Carol Shea-Porter's office. The next day Sarah Holmes called and asked me to get her copies of my records. A month later, after years of waiting, I got a letter approving my application and am now getting a monthly check.

I'm a life-long Republican but I'm sure going to vote for Carol Shea-Porter this year. When it comes to constituent services, her office knows how to move mountains quickly. She's on a whole different level.

Ron Lyon
Dover, NH

Sununu Favors Corporate America

To the Editor:

We all know that companies will be sending our jobs overseas no matter what our government does but, unlike John Sununu, I don't think we should be giving them tax breaks for doing it. Sununu has voted to give companies over \$45 billion in tax breaks for taking jobs away from Americans! \$45 billion for sending our jobs to China, India and Taiwan. I wish John Sununu would tell us why he thinks that we should give money to companies that cost Americans their jobs.

Jean Sander
Atkinson, NH

Carol Upholds the Bargain

To the Editor:

For years I served in the Army. There was always a bargain understood between us soldiers and our Government.

It was, and still is, very simple: soldiers, you look out for the people of the United States in the big things, and we the people will look out for you in the little things.

Little things like health care and survivor benefits and the continuing value of service related disability. Little things, as I said.

Carol Shea-Porter understands that bargain. And she will be there for us. She'll work to build a coalition that will protect the soldier's end of the bargain.

This has the double benefit of making the people's part of the bargain believable to men and women who will step up in the future.

But she can help us only if she's elected!

Regardless of whichever side of the bargain you're on—"we the people" or the soldiers who served you—lets all do ourselves a big favor, and vote for Carol Shea-Porter.

Stan Shimer
Effingham, NH

Observe Constitution Day

To the Editor:

September 17th is the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Public schools are required to teach the Constitution on this day. It would be a good day for all of us to read the Constitution and remember that this document is much more than a piece of paper. It is the foundation of our country. Unless we know the Constitution and demand that it be followed, those



in power will abuse our sovereign rights and defile our foundation.

Article VI, Section 2 states that "This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land."

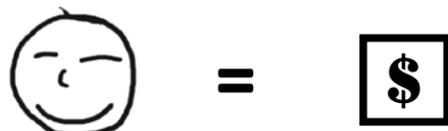
This means that all treaties must be followed. Those in power often ignore, or side step the Constitution. Several examples include the treaties signed with Native Americans, the Treaty of Guadeloupe Hidalgo, which guarantees the right to speak the Spanish language, and the Geneva Convention, which covers the laws of war and the treatment of prisoners.

I am a Vietnam veteran, and I

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page four

Bill Eslinger



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Puffy clouds in the wake of leisure craft the river darkens
Tom D'Evelyn
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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River. Depending on which tour boat captain you believe, it's the second, the third, or the fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country.

The Piscataqua's remarkable current is caused by the tide which, in turn is

caused by the moon. The other major player is a vast sunken valley, about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags roughly seventeen billion gallons of salt water from the ocean, up the river, into Great Bay. (If the moon ever stopped moving that water for us, it could be replaced with 2,125,000 tanker

trucks.)

The moon's meddling creates a roving hydraulic conflict as incoming sea and outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on towards Great

Bay. This spectacle can best be seen when the chart below shows the tide rising. A good place to watch is the little deck near the sterns of the tugboats, off Ceres Street. Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the salt water that just fought its way upstream goes back to rejoin the ocean. This is when the

Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. A good place to observe this is from Bow Street, up by St. John's church. Look up the river, from one of the little parking lots between the buildings. (Don't try to drive or park there, that won't work.) You'll see a red buoy, at the upstream end of Badger's Island,

bobbing around in the current. That buoy weighs several tons, is nine feet wide, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork! The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. Often when the river rests, its tugboats and drawbridges work their hardest. Ships coming in heavily laden with coal,

oil, and salt generally do so at high tide, for maximum clearance under their keels. When they leave empty, riding high in the water, they tend to go at low tide, for maximum clearance under Memorial Bridge.

Sunday, September 21	Monday, September 22	Tuesday, September 23	Wednesday, September 24	Thursday, September 25	Friday, September 26	Saturday, September 27
<p>2007—The Nelson Mandela Foundation announces that despite comments by George W. Bush to the contrary, Mr. Mandela is alive.</p> <p>2004—"Because of activities that could potentially be related to terrorism," U.S. Homeland Security officials order the singer formerly known as Cat Stevens off a London to New York flight.</p> <p>2001—George Tenet tells Dick "Dick" Cheney his Iraq-al Qaeda link appears to be fiction. Cheney continues to repeat it.</p> <p>1976—Ex-Chilean Ambassador to the U.S. Orlando Letelier and an assistant are assassinated by car bomb in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1956—Anastasio Somoza, dictator of Nicaragua, is fatally shot by Roberto Lopez, a poet.</p> <p>1954—The nuclear sub <i>Nautilus</i> is commissioned.</p> <p>1938—New England is clobbered by a nameless 183 m.p.h. hurricane that kills up to 700.</p> <p>1915—Stonehenge is sold at auction for £6,600.</p> <p>1897—The <i>New York Sun</i> publishes an editorial intended to mislead a young woman named Virginia into believing in a mythical "Santa Claus."</p> <p>1895—The first U.S. auto manufacturer, Duryea Motor Wagon Company, goes into business.</p> <p>1814—The <i>Star Spangled Banner</i> is first published.</p>	<p>2003—"A year from now," says Richard Perle, "I'll be very surprised if there is not some grand square in Baghdad that is named after President Bush."</p> <p>1980—Iran-Iraq War begins.</p> <p>1975—Sarah Jane Moore shoots at President Gerald Ford, but Oliver Sipple, a disabled former Marine and Vietnam vet, deflects the gun.</p> <p>1973—Henry Kissinger becomes Secretary of State.</p> <p>1970—President Nixon requests another 1,000 FBI agents to spy on college campuses.</p> <p>1949—After much trouble and expense building it, the USSR blows up its first A-bomb.</p> <p>1927—Dempsey loses to Tunney in the famous "Long Count."</p> <p>1919—A national steel strike begins in Chicago.</p> <p>1905—After a race riot in Atlanta, the final tally is 10 dead blacks, and 2 dead whites.</p> <p>1904—Jim O'Rourke, 54, gets his last hit in a Giants uniform. In 1876, he had made the first base hit in National League history.</p> <p>1903—Italo Marchiony patents the ice cream cone.</p> <p>1862—By proclamation, Abraham Lincoln frees the slaves—but only in those states not under his control.</p> <p>1823—The Angel Moroni tells Joseph Smith where to find the golden tablets.</p>	<p>1999—Instead of orbiting, the \$328 million Mars Climate Orbiter burns up in Mars' atmosphere because Lockheed Martin used Imperial measure, not metric.</p> <p>1952—Richard Nixon, desperately trying to convince Americans that he's not a crook, makes his famous "Checkers" speech; many are fooled.</p> <p>1945—French forces overthrow the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The U.S. acquiesces.</p> <p>1938—A time capsule is buried at N.Y. World's Fair, to be opened in 6939.</p> <p>1930—Birth of Ray Charles.</p> <p>1912—Release of Mack Sennett's first "Keystone Comedy."</p> <p>1848—John Curtis of Bangor, Maine, begins commercial production of "State of Maine Pure Spruce Gum."</p> <p>1838—Birth of Victoria Chaffin Woodhull, a proponent of free love and the first female presidential candidate.</p> <p>1806—Lewis, Clark, and almost all the rest of the gang make it back to St. Louis.</p> <p>1800—Birth of Wm. H. McGuffey, author of <i>McGuffey's Reader</i>.</p> <p>1780—British Major John Andre is arrested for spying, near Tarrytown, N.Y.</p> <p>1779—John Paul Jones takes the British ship <i>Scorpius</i> as the <i>Bombone Richard</i> sinks under him.</p>	<p>2006—The <i>New York Times</i> publishes a leaked intelligence document concluding that the Iraq War has increased the threat of radical Islamic terrorism.</p> <p>2006—George W. Bush tells Wolf Blitzer, "When the final history is written on Iraq, it will look just like a comma."</p> <p>2005—Human Rights Watch reports that U.S. troops routinely beat and tortured detained Iraqis.</p> <p>2001—Tony Blair publishes a dossier claiming erroneously that Iraq can launch WMDs in 45 minutes.</p> <p>1981—CIA Director William Casey urges that intelligence agencies be exempted from the Freedom of Information Act.</p> <p>1969—The Show Trial of the "Chicago 8" begins.</p> <p>1968—Protestors destroy 10,000 draft files in Milwaukee, WI.</p> <p>1957—The Dodgers play their last game at Ebbetts Field.</p> <p>1919—Canada outlaws the IWW.</p> <p>1906—President Teddy Roosevelt, evidently a crypto-heathen, dedicates the first U.S. National Monument—Wyoming's Devils Tower.</p> <p>1890—The Mormon church reluctantly abandons polygamy.</p> <p>1870—Birth of George Claude, inventor of the neon light.</p> <p>1869—Black Friday; Jay Gould and Jim Fisk try to corner the gold market, precipitating national financial collapse.</p>	<p>2003—An early draft of an interim report from weapons inspectors in Iraq says no WMD have been found.</p> <p>2002—George W. Bush says "You can't distinguish between al Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror."</p> <p>1981—Sandra Day O'Connor becomes America's first female Supreme Court Justice.</p> <p>1966—The smallest crowd in the history of Yankee Stadium—413—watches the White Sox beat the Yankees 4-1.</p> <p>1959—The U.S. Navy loses a nuclear depth charge, minus its fissile core, in Puget Sound.</p> <p>1926—Henry Ford announces the 8 hour, 5 day work week.</p> <p>1911—Ground is broken for Fenway Park.</p> <p>1789—Congress passes the Bill of Rights.</p> <p>1786—Captain Daniel Shays and 600 others occupy the Springfield, MA Courthouse to prevent farm foreclosures.</p> <p>1690—In Boston, Richard Pierce prints one issue of America's first newspaper, <i>Publick Occurrences, Foreign and Domestic</i>. Four days later Governor Wm. Phips orders it suppressed.</p> <p>1066—After marching 180 miles in four days, 3,000 Saxons led by King Harold defeat 10,000 Vikings at Stamford Bridge.</p>	<p>2006—The Bush administration releases excerpts of a report saying the Iraq War has enraged Muslims and given radicals a dandy recruiting issue. Feel safer now?</p> <p>2002—George W. Bush claims in a Rose Garden speech that "the Iraqi regime possesses biological and chemical weapons."</p> <p>1991—The House bank announces that after covering 8,331 rubber checks written by Congressmen over the past year, it no longer will.</p> <p>1983—Lt. Col. Stanislav Petrov trusts his gut instead of the Red Army's malfunctioning computers, which show five attacking American nuclear missiles. World War III is averted, and Col. Petrov is reprimanded.</p> <p>1960—John Kennedy and Richard Nixon hold the first televised presidential debate.</p> <p>1945—American OSS officer Lt. Col. A. Peter Dewey is killed in Saigon by Viet Minh guerrillas who have mistaken him for a French officer. Before his death, Dewey filed a report saying the U.S. "ought to clear out of Southeast Asia."</p> <p>1911—The Battle of the Meuse-Argonne begins; the last great battle of the War to End All Wars.</p> <p>1901—Abraham Lincoln's body is viewed one last time before being covered with two tons of concrete. Among the 23 present is Fleetwood Linley, 13, who lives until 1963.</p>	<p>2006—The Republican Party selects Minneapolis-St. Paul for its 2008 convention. Snicker.</p> <p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld calls the al Qaeda and Iraq "link" "accurate and not debatable."</p> <p>1991—For the first time in decades, the U.S. has no nuclear-armed B-52s on alert.</p> <p>1989—To demonstrate to children that there are more constructive things to do than consume illegal substances, Jeffrey Petkovitch and Peter DeBernardi climb into a barrel and go over Niagara's Horseshoe Falls.</p> <p>1972—The first stretch of the Trans-Amazonian Highway opens; bye-bye rain forest, hello global warming.</p> <p>1964—The Warren Commission reports that Lee Harvey Oswald offed the President of the United States all by his lonesome.</p> <p>1957—The United Kingdom tests a nuke on aboriginal lands in Maralinga, South Australia.</p> <p>1944—U.S. B-24s, isolated over Germany by a navigational error, are jumped by more than 100 enemy fighters; four of 35 survive.</p> <p>1944—The U.S. government begins large-scale production of plutonium on land taken from the Yakama Indian Nation.</p> <p>1906—James Meyer Thompson, pulp fiction writer, author of <i>The Grifters</i>, is born.</p>
4:05 4:22	5:08 5:26	6:17 6:36	7:28 7:47	8:34 8:52	9:32 9:50	10:22 10:43
10:01 10:50	11:02 11:56	12:10	1:06 1:21	2:12 2:29	3:12 3:30	4:05 4:24
Sunday, September 28	Monday, September 29	Tuesday, September 30	Wednesday, October 1	Thursday, October 2	Friday, October 3	Saturday, October 4
<p>2005—The Pentagon says it will investigate charges that soldiers posted photos of dead Iraqis online in exchange for free access to porn.</p> <p>2002—George W. Bush claims Iraq has WMDs, al Qaeda terrorists, and maybe a nuke soon.</p> <p>2001—To avoid further scorn in these pages, Fleet Bank removes its 18-foot tall green, illuminated sign from the middle of Pleasant Street's sidewalk.</p> <p>1978—The papacy of John Paul I ends with his death under mysterious circumstances.</p> <p>1964—UC Berkeley students protest free speech restrictions.</p> <p>1960—Ted Williams takes the plate at Fenway for his last at bat, and hits his 521st home run.</p> <p>1917—166 activists of the International Workers of the World are arrested for interfering with the war effort.</p> <p>1904—In New York a woman is arrested for smoking a cigarette.</p> <p>1891—In New York a 72 year-old writer named Herman Melville dies in obscurity.</p> <p>1850—The U.S. Navy abolishes flogging.</p> <p>1787—Congress votes to send the Constitution to the states for ratification.</p> <p>1066—William of Normandy, beginning his invasion of Britain, steps out of his boat, trips, and lands face first on the beach.</p>	<p>2006—Anti-child porn crusader U.S. Rep. Mark Foley (R-FL) resigns after his lurid e-mails to young male pages are revealed.</p> <p>1988—The Veterans Peace Convoy to Nicaragua wins a lawsuit, preventing the Executive branch from regulating or prohibiting aid to a foreign country if it's intended to relieve suffering.</p> <p>1980—The <i>Washington Post</i> publishes Janet Cook's fictional, Pulitzer-winning story about an 8 year-old junkie.</p> <p>1972—On Vineyard Sound, a short, bearded man in sneakers fails in his spontaneous attempt to throw former Defense Secretary Robert Strange McNamara off the ferry <i>M.V. Islander</i>.</p> <p>1969—The U.S. Army drops murder charges against Special Forces Col. Robert Rheault—the CIA won't let its agents testify.</p> <p>1957—An explosion at a USSR nuclear fuel plant kills hundreds. The CIA suppresses the news to protect the U.S. nuclear industry.</p> <p>1906—To "protect American interests," U.S. troops go to Cuba.</p> <p>1902—French writer Emile Zola dies in his sleep, possibly suffocated by a clogged chimney.</p> <p>1547—Birth of Miguel de Cervantes, for a time a slave of the Turks, and a tax collector jailed for fiscal irregularities; also author of <i>Don Quixote</i>.</p>	<p>2005—<i>NY Times</i> reporter Judith Miller tells a Grand Jury that Dick "Dick" Cheney leaked Valerie Plame's name to her.</p> <p>2003—George W. Bush vows to find out who leaked CIA agent Valerie Plame's name.</p> <p>1985—House Speaker Newt Gingrich engineers a four-day federal government shutdown.</p> <p>1960—"The Howdy Doody Show" airs for the last time.</p> <p>1955—Rebel James Dean's immortality is assured when his Porsche obeys the laws of physics.</p> <p>1954—The first atomic-powered ship is launched, the <i>U.S.S. Nautilus</i>.</p> <p>1949—The Berlin Airlift ends after 277,000 flights.</p> <p>1938—Thanks to the Munich pact, peace is assured.</p> <p>1929—German sportsman Fritz von Opel flies a glider powered by 16 solid propellant rockets, achieving a speed of 95 m.p.h.</p> <p>1927—Babe Ruth gets his 60th home run of the season off Tom Zachary.</p> <p>1924—Birth of Truman Capote.</p> <p>1864—Black Union soldiers capture Confederate entrenchments at battle of New Market Heights.</p> <p>1630—In Plymouth, the Pilgrims hang John Billington for murder.</p> <p>1542—Johannes Gutenberg publishes The Bible. The presumed author gets no royalties.</p>	<p>2002—The U.S. Northern Command is established to "Defend America's Homeland"—<i>posse comitatus</i> is damned.</p> <p>2002—George W. Bush claims he hasn't "made up his mind we're going to war with Iraq."</p> <p>1975—Poet Louis Untermeyer says, "I'm writing my third autobiography—the other two were premature."</p> <p>1973—Despite multiple failures to meet minimum requirements, George W. Bush is discharged honorably from the Texas Air National Guard.</p> <p>1952—The first issue of <i>Mad Magazine</i> is unleashed on an unsuspecting world.</p> <p>1917—Arabs led by T.E. Lawrence capture Damascus.</p> <p>1903—Fred Van Wormer's autopsy is interrupted because he is still breathing. Taken back to Sing Sing's electric chair, he is found to have died. He is electrocuted again, anyway.</p> <p>1860—In San Francisco, Emperor Norton I issues a decree barring Congress from meeting in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1788—Former Edinburgh Town Councilor and burglar Deacon William Brodie brags to the crowd that the gallows on which he is about to be hanged—incorporating a new trapdoor of his own design—is the most efficient ever made.</p>	<p>2003—Survey chief David Kay reports that his three-month, \$300 million search for Iraqi WMD has turned up squat.</p> <p>2002—George W. Bush calls Iraq "a threat of unique urgency," because of its WMD.</p> <p>1991—The Philippine Senate, disregarding the devastating effect it will have on the Olongapo sex industry, votes to chuck the U.S. Navy out of Subic Bay.</p> <p>1989—Televangelist Jim Bakker, on the witness stand in his own trial on 24 counts of fraud and conspiracy, blames Jerry Falwell for the financial collapse of his God-racket PTL Ministries.</p> <p>1980—Congressman Michael Myers (D-PA) is expelled from the House for taking a bribe and engaging in a conspiracy, the first to be so ousted in 120 years. Why he was singled out, we can't say.</p> <p>1978—With the Yankees and Red Sox tied for the season, a playoff game is held; it's decided by a three-run homer hit by New York's Bucky F. Dent.</p> <p>1967—Thurgood Marshall becomes the first black Justice on the Supreme Court.</p> <p>1919—Woodrow Wilson suffers a massive stroke; America gets its first woman president.</p> <p>1918—Units of the U.S. 77th Division advance into the Argonne Forest to become the Lost Battalion.</p>	<p>1995—O.J. Simpson is acquitted of double homicide.</p> <p>1991—House Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA) announces that House members have accumulated \$300,000 in unpaid bills at the House restaurant.</p> <p>1980—Moral Majority co-founder and U.S. Rep. Bob Bauman (R-MD) is charged with making sexual solicitations to an under-aged boy.</p> <p>1973—Donald Segretti testifies before the Senate about dirty tricks he used to get Nixon re-elected.</p> <p>1968—American Independent Party Vice Presidential Candidate and former Strategic Air Command chief Curtis LeMay advocates use of nuclear weapons in Vietnam.</p> <p>1968—Jerry Rubin entertains the House Un-American Activities Committee.</p> <p>1967—RIP Woody Guthrie, who said "I hate a song that makes you think that you are not any good ... that makes you think that you are just born to lose."</p> <p>1955—"Captain Kangaroo" and "The Mickey Mouse Club" debut.</p> <p>1866—The steamer <i>Evening Star</i> founders at sea; it's lights out for 250 passengers.</p> <p>1849—Political hacks ply Edgar Allan Poe with liquor in exchange for voting repeatedly; four days later he's dead.</p>	<p>2005—"I think it's important to bring somebody from outside the ... judicial system," says George W. Bush, defending Harriet Miers as a Supreme Court nominee, "somebody that hasn't been on the bench and, therefore, there's not a lot of opinions for people to look at."</p> <p>2002—Knight-Ridder reports that "The White House and the Pentagon ... are pressuring intelligence analysts to highlight information that supports Bush's Iraq policy." Only one paper prints the story.</p> <p>1992—An El Al cargo plane carrying depleted uranium and precursors for sarin nerve gas crashes in Amsterdam, killing 47.</p> <p>1986—CBS News anchor Dan Rather is attacked on the streets of New York by two men yelling, "What's the frequency, Ken?"</p> <p>1971—Declaring victory in a race in which he ran unopposed, South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu calls his margin "an achievement for democracy."</p> <p>1966—The Enrico Fermi nuclear power plant near Detroit goes haywire and nearly melts down.</p> <p>1957—Two U.S. military facilities in Saigon are bombed; 13 are wounded—the first announced U.S. casualties in Vietnam.</p> <p>1957—<i>Sputnik 1</i> is launched.</p> <p>1910—Jack London buys nine plot outlines from Sinclair Lewis for \$52.50.</p>
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4:52 5:13	5:34 5:57	6:14 6:40	6:52 7:21	7:30 8:01	8:08 8:44	8:50 9:29

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