

The Fortnightly Rant

A Stimulating Debate

On Tuesday, three Republican Senators joined with their Democratic colleagues to pass an \$838 billion economic stimulus package: Pennsylvania's Arlen Specter, and both Senators from Maine, Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins. Judging from the tone of the debate these days, they can probably look forward to being tarred and feathered by their fellow Republicans.

A few hours later, Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel and other top White House officials met with Congressional leaders in the Capitol to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the stimulus package. All that was missing were a Hollywood camera crew, a mock H-bomb, and someone nervously wielding a pair of wire-cutters.

There was a time when a \$38 billion dollar piece of legislation would, in itself, attract some attention. At this point, after an eight-year run of Republican stewardship in the White House, the issue is which \$38 billion to

cut from the Senate bill, to meet Republican demands for fiscal responsibility, and bring the final package in at no more than \$800 billion.

In the Senate bill, 42 percent of the cost is due to tax cuts. In the House version, tax cuts account for about 33 percent of the cost. The trio of renegade Republicans, though they may have strayed from the fold in voting for the bill, are staying true to GOP principles on tax cuts. They are insisting that the final compromise must resemble the Senate version, leaning towards more tax cuts. Having been induced to forsake the golden calf some years back, Republicans have worshipped tax cuts ever since, and they aren't about to change now.

The National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA), just to pick any old right-wing, Dallas-based think-tank at random, points to the Bush tax cuts as the cause of an increase in federal tax revenues in fiscal year 2005.



"For the first time since President Bush took office," crowed their *Daily Policy Digest*, "a leap in tax revenue is about to shrink the federal budget deficit this year, by nearly \$100 billion, reports the *New York Times*."

Ah, yes: deficit reduction—yet another great Bush administration success.

The NCPA made no men-

tion of the Bush administration's cheap money policies that were stoking the housing bubble. That "leap" in tax revenues did not come from tax cuts. It came from policies that were turning every American home into an ATM and bankrupting the nation.

Smiling, genial, orange-haired Ronald Reagan sold the nation on tax cut fever in 1980, and the

inflation-adjusted take-home pay of the average American has been flat ever since.

Ronald Reagan is gone, but Rush Limbaugh lives on as the embodiment of Republican ideology. He recently went on the record saying "I hope Obama fails." If Obama does fail, Reagan, Bush, and Rush share the blame.

News Briefs:

Counting Coup?

Ahh, New Hampshire—always in the thick of it.

Early in January, President Barack Obama found himself without a Secretary of Commerce nominee. New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson withdrew his name from the nomination process, so that he could spend more time with the investigators who are looking into his state's apparent habit of awarding contracts to firms that made donations to the Governor's political action committees.

Enter Sen. Judd Gregg,* (R-NH), stage right—but why?

If Obama could have plucked Gregg from the Senate and seen him replaced by a Democrat, that would have been a sufficient answer—an end to obstructionist Republican filibuster threats.

But of course Gregg wasn't having any of that. Deploying that sense of entitlement to which he has always felt entitled, Gregg insisted on the right to demand that a Republican be named to "his" seat. Governor John Lynch seemed only too happy to oblige, and picked Bonnie Newman. In tabloidese, that's spelled "DINO Names RINO."

In all fairness to Newman, who has had an eminent and laudable career in business, education, and

the holding of interim appointments, it must be said that no one who has been thrown out of former Governor Craig Benson's Golf Club of New England as she was in 2005 for supporting Lynch's run for Governor, can be all bad.

Gregg seems sure to be confirmed. He'll join two other Republicans, Ray LaHood and Robert Gates, in the Cabinet. Gregg wears his righteousness like an un-oiled suit of armor, while LaHood presided over the House impeachment of Bill Clinton. Obama cannot have appointed these men to liven things up when shooting hoops. There must have been other, better reasons.

The question became all the more intriguing two days later when *Congressional Quarterly* reported that "the Director of the Census Bureau will report directly to the White House and not the Secretary of Commerce."

Obama made the switch to calm the fears of Black and Latino leaders. They doubted that Gregg, who had previously voted against emergency funding for the census, and called for the dismantling of the Commerce Department itself, could be trusted to make the effort to count all their constituents. With a census coming up in 2010, and congressional redistricting based on that census to follow in 2012, it's a matter of some consequence.

Complaints from the left about Gregg's nomination to the cabinet were drowned out by howls of outrage from the right over Obama putting the census where an experienced Chicago politician like White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel can get his hands on it.

If we belonged to the Screen Actors Guild, and the deadline for nominations had not already passed, we'd nominate Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) for an Oscar for his performance on *Fox News Sunday*, on February 8. Cornyn is an old pal of former Rep. Tom Delay (R-TX), who was the foremost practitioner of gerrymandering since ... well, since Elbridge T. Gerry, the man who invented the practice of drawing congressional districts in a way that favored his political party. Cornyn managed to say to Chris Wallace that "to shift it to the White House to me just politicizes the census, which is not something we should be doing"—without once laughing, or even breaking a smile.

The "R" is for Rectitude

During all the ruckus about naming replacements and overseeing the census, hardly anyone—other than BlueHampshire.com, where we found it—seems to have noticed a curious item about Sen. Gregg in the Washington Post's blog *44-The Obama Presidency*.

"Gregg's name came up in

connection with the uproar over improper hiring practices at the Justice Department during the Bush administration, including the selection of immigration judges," wrote the *Post's* Philip Rucker and Dan Eggen.

"Gregg helped to secure [a judgeship] for a former campaign treasurer, Francis L. Cramer, who had less than six months of experience with immigration law and had previously been rejected as a tax court judge because of a lack of qualifications ... [a] Justice official asked a colleague to notify Gregg about Cramer's appointment because 'this is the issue he'd been pushing with us,' the report said."

What qualifications *did* Cramer have? A person who posts at *BlueHampshire.com* under the pseudonym "elwood," apparently has a subscription to the online *Legal Times*, and offered this quote from it:

"Cramer became something of a fixture in [New Hampshire's] Republican politics and a close ally of [Judd] Gregg. In 1992, he served as Gregg's campaign treasurer in his successful run for the Senate, and he later helped the senator beat back a probe of his campaign finances by the Federal Election Commission. When Gregg became embroiled in an embarrassing legal dispute with a cancer-stricken woman who was seeking the return of a \$92,000 deposit she had made to pur-

chase Gregg's house in southern New Hampshire, Cramer served as his lawyer and helped settle the case for an undisclosed sum in 1993."

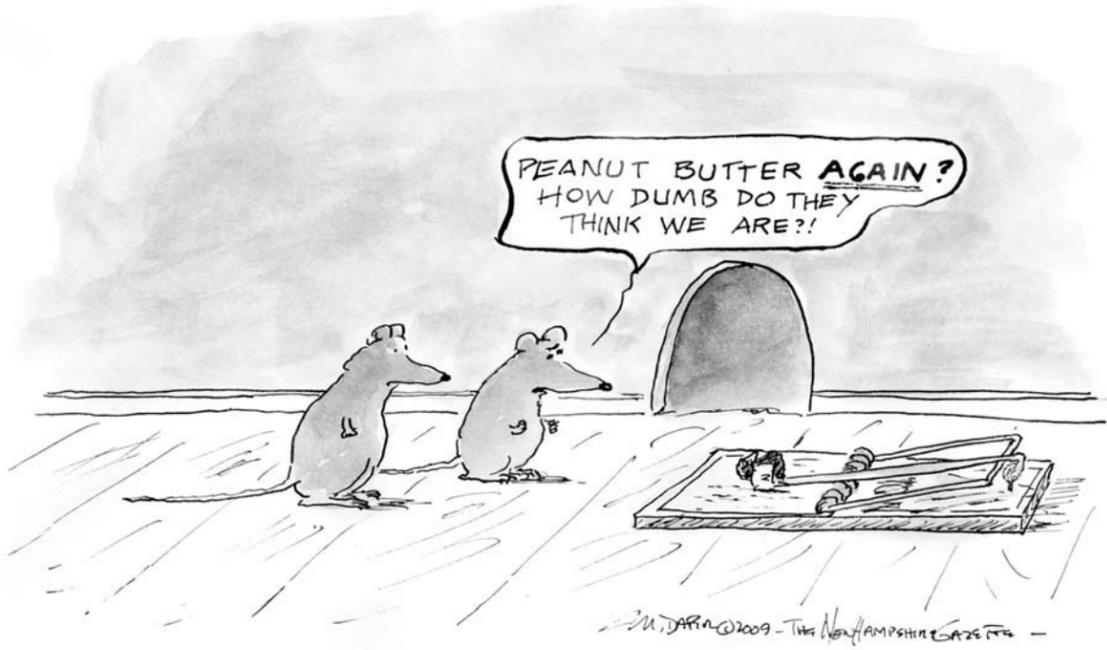
Actual Voter Fraud!

To hear some Republicans tell it, the biggest threat to fair elections in the U.S. is widespread voter fraud: cases in which individuals take literally the old Democratic adage to "vote early, and vote often." For all the noise about this alleged problem, you'd think there would be a conviction or two once in a while. But those who complain about it never seem to have a specific case to point to. But that problem may have been solved—by Ann Coulter.

In January, the *New York Post's* gossip columnists Rush & Molloly—who like some Afghans and Indonesians use but one name—reported that America's favorite shrieking, androgynous harridan cast illegal absentee ballots in Connecticut in 2002 and 2004, though she was living in New York City at the time. On Sunday, they reported that the Connecticut Elections Enforcement Commission is making "a thorough investigation" of whether she broke the law.

Coulter now lives in Florida, where she was investigated in 2007 for feloniously registering in the wrong precinct. That case died an unnatural death, thanks to an ex-FBI boyfriend

* Full Disclosure: During Judd Gregg's first campaign for Congress in 1980, the editor of this newspaper was press secretary for Gregg's opponent, Nashua Mayor Maurice Arel. Gregg beat Arel by nearly 2 to 1.



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of Coulter's, who conducted an investigation that conveniently allowed the statute of limitations to come into play.

New England:

A Relatively Godless Region

The Gallup organization recently released a State of the States report. Naturally, New Hampshire distinguished itself. The only state in which fewer people say religion is an important part of their daily lives is the Peoples' Republic of Vermont.

Mississippi is at the top of the scale for chronic religiosity, with 85 percent of respondents saying religion is an important part of their daily lives. Alabama and South Carolina also scored over 80 percent.

New England dominates the ranks of the least-religious states, holding six out of the bottom ten places. Connecticut came in at 55 percent, Rhode Island at 53, Massachusetts and Maine both registered at 48 percent.

New Hampshire came in at 46 percent. Godless Vermont, appropriately represented in the Senate by the notorious Socialist

Bernie Sanders, was dead last. A mere 42 percent of Vermonters consider religion an important part of their daily lives.

The Grotesque Old Party

Gallup's pollsters, apparently determined to wantonly transgress both parts of the well-known adage about what constitutes a fit topic of discussion, inquired about political party affiliation as well as religion.

Their findings showed that Democrats now have a solid advantage—by ten points or more—in 29 states.

Republicans have an equal advantage in just three states: Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming.

In terms of population, the heavily-Republican states rank 35th, 40th, and dead last. The combined population of those states is about 4.7 million people, or 1.5 percent of the total.

With the Republican Party held in such low esteem both locally and nationally, it needed new leadership in the worst way—and that's just what it got.

Former New Hampshire Governor and White House Chief of Staff John Sununu took over the Granite State's GOP on January

17, and former Maryland Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele was elected to the Chairmanship of the Republican National Committee on January 30.

Sununu recently called incumbent John Lynch "the worst governor the state has ever had." He has apparently forgotten Meldrim Thomson, Craig Benson—and himself.

When Sununu left the governor's office to serve as George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush's Chief of Staff, he claimed he was leaving behind a \$10 million budget surplus. But less than a week later his successor Judd Gregg announced that the state was \$13 million in the hole. That inconvenient fact notwithstanding, last November Sununu was claiming that his alleged surplus had grown to \$39.8 million. Must have been the inflation.

As for Steele, during his failed 2006 run for the Senate, his campaign bussed homeless people from Philadelphia into Prince George's County, Maryland, where they passed out misleading pamphlets suggesting that Steele was a Democrat.

Meet the new boss ...

RIP Guy Chichester

New Hampshire lost a hero Sunday.

Guy Chichester, as have many others, put untold hours of time and effort into trying to preserve the Seacoast from careless profiteers like Aristotle Onassis and the stockholders behind the Seabrook nuclear power plant.

But only Guy—after carefully blocking traffic to prevent any injuries—would take a chainsaw and fell a Public Service utility pole supporting a Seabrook warning siren.

And only Guy, with his attorney Patrick Fleming, would continue that same work by defending his actions in Superior Court, under Article Ten of the New Hampshire Constitution—and win an acquittal.

"The doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind," says Article Ten, in part.

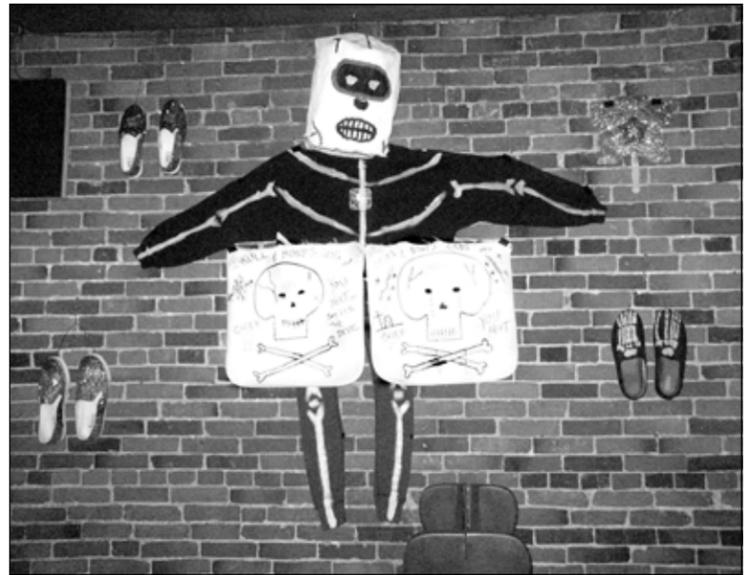
Guy proved that it is still possible to live up to that principle—and his example lives on.

Our Endangered Memorial Bridge

We spoke briefly with Richard Candee about the status of his application to have Memorial Bridge listed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. He said that until the final list is released in March or April, we can expect to hear absolutely nothing. Apparently the National Trust runs a pretty tight ship.

Whether or not the bridge makes it onto the official endangered list, we figure that once people begin to fully realize this bridge is facing a death sentence, a groundswell of public opposition may very well develop.

Just in case that happens, we thought it would be useful if there were one place where people could go for a comprehensive look at the bridge's recent history. So we built, and posted on our website, a one-page online compendium of news stories about the bridge. We found a little more than 100 stories, ranging over time from 1998 to last



It defies logic, and the experts are uncertain how it came to be, but our local expert on Mardi Gras is a white boy who grew up in Concord, New Hampshire. Bruce Pingree, manager of the Press Room, has mounted a display of his own authentic Mardi Gras accoutrements at—where else?—the Press Room. If spring seems too far off, fall by and take a gander. It'll warm you right up.

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The motto at Optima Bank and Trust, at the corner of Bow and Daniel Streets, appears to be "Trust, but Verify." Or maybe that's trust and observe. Our Wandering Photographer, taking advantage of the February Thaw, was so smitten by these newly mounted optical devices that he had to record them his own self.

month. The URL for the page is <http://www.nhgazette.com/memorial-bridge>.

We have learned that more than 500 people took the online survey of bridge users referred to in our January 16 paper. The results are still being analyzed.

Where Should We Be In Kittery?

Because of the Bridge issue, we'd like to ask our readers where we should be distributing the paper in Kittery. If you have any suggestions, please post them on our website at: www.nhgazette.com/2009/02/10/kittery-wish-list-update-2.

The New Hampshire Historical Society's Abraham Lincoln Exhibit

The New Hampshire Historical Society is marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln with a new exhibition, *Abraham Lincoln and New Hampshire*. Lincoln visited New

Hampshire as part of a 12-day speaking tour of New England in March of 1860, addressing large crowds in Concord, Manchester, Dover, and Exeter.

Among the items displayed in the exhibit is a bit of cloth from Lincoln's coat, preserved the night of his assassination by Dr. Ezra W. Abbott of Concord. Dr. Abbott had helped carry the mortally wounded President from Ford's Theatre, and kept a record of Lincoln's pulse and respiration as he lay dying.

Eleven years earlier, in 1853, Abbott had been present at the death of Benjamin Pierce, the eleven year-old son of President Franklin Pierce. Abbott's written accounts of both incidents are part of the exhibit.

The New Hampshire Historical Society's most recent "E-Newsletter," from which we derived the above details, included one more fascinating tale related

to Lincoln's assassination.

The story comes from Bernard Boutin, who served as mayor of Laconia, and ran twice as a Democratic candidate for Governor of New Hampshire.

"In November 1960," the newsletter relates, "the day after Kennedy was elected president and Boutin was defeated for Governor of New Hampshire, Boutin was back at his insurance agency in Laconia when a call came in from Kennedy. Boutin's secretary was all flustered by the call, sputtering 'it's the president calling.' Boutin reports that Kennedy said, 'Bernie sell the business and come to Washington with me.' Boutin did, without even knowing what job he was going to get in the Kennedy administration.

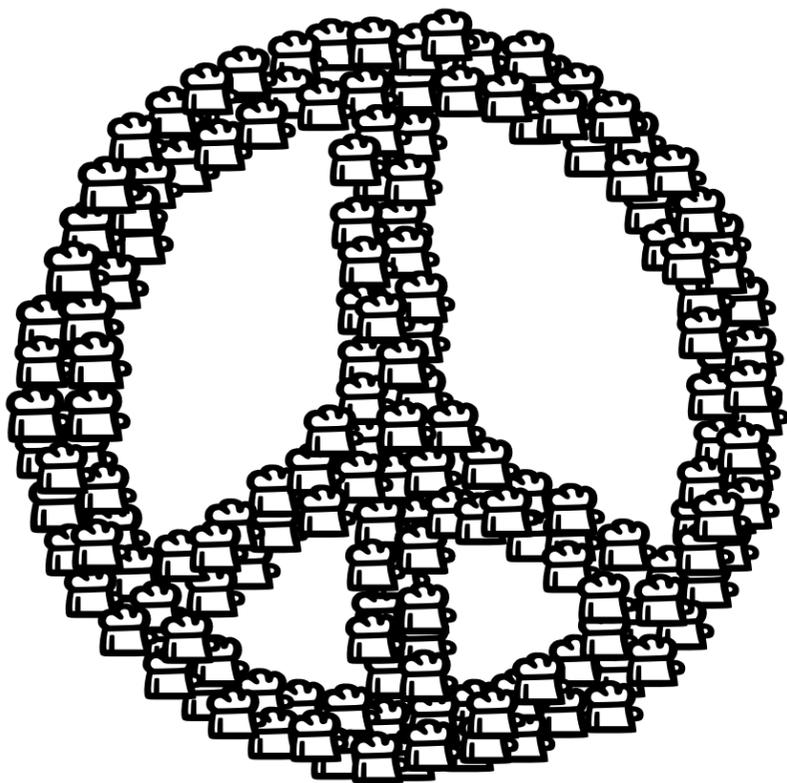
"When Boutin became head of the GSA he inherited a Re-

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Monday morning on Market Street saw a seething mass of thirsty humanity, drawn from places as far off as the Carolinas by the rare promise of fresh kegs of Kate the Great Russian Imperial Stout. We are assured by the management of the Portsmouth Brewery that plans are in the works to modify the distribution system so as to make more of the world's second-best beer available to us locals, in the face of this inexorable demand.



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



Moving Pictures *Valentines*

by Rodman Philbrick

This is the time of year when we celebrate the fine art of torture and impalement. No, not the slasher movie franchise (although you might take care to avoid men in ski masks on Friday the 13th, which happens to fall at the start of this fortnightly interval) but the martyrdom of Saint Valentine. While his real identity has been eroded by centuries of myth—not to mention FTD promotions—my favorite candidate for the luminous halo is the soulful dude put to a lingering demise by the Roman emperor Claudius Gothicus. According to legend, Valentine was secretly administering the sacrament of marriage to Christians when Gothicus swooped in, all black toga and eye makeup, and offered to spare Valentine's life if he'd convert to paganism and acknowledge the musical superiority of Siouxsie & the Banshees. Valentine, a Michael Bolton fan, declined, and was subsequently

stoned to death. Or so this correspondent would like to believe. In any event, we're stuck with the holiday and have to make the best of it. What that constitutes depends on personal taste, but high on the list has to be a perfectly grilled filet, a bottle of good wine for you and your heart's delight, and a movie that will remind us that if we're very, very fortunate, love and happiness can coexist.

A few suggestions, movie-wise—the wine is up to you.

Don Juan DeMarco—Johnny Depp plays a delusional young man who believes he's the real Don Juan, and has a costume to prove it. Marlon Brando, in his *Jabba The Hut* phase, is the world-weary shrink who attempts to talk Depp out of his psychosis and ends up a true believer. Written and directed by Jeremy Leven, with a little assist from Lord Byron. Leven, a former state hospital psychologist, has a deft feel for the characters, and coaxes a gently convincing performance out of the always

difficult Brando. With Faye Dunaway as Brando's long-suffering wife.

Next Stop Wonderland—Wonderland being a racetrack stop on the Boston MTA, east of Logan and Revere. It happens to be the train taken to work each day by a nurse (Hope Davis) who has just been dumped by her boyfriend. He, obviously, is a congenital idiot, but that's where the fun begins. Hope's interfering mom decides that it's about time her daughter got married, so she puts a personal ad in the *Phoenix* and lines her up with a series of dates-from-hell. Meanwhile, the quiet, soulful Alan Gelfant rides the same train to his job at the Aquarium. Director and screenwriter Brad Anderson makes it clear that Alan and Hope were made for each other, the problem is they've never met. Will they or won't they? Come on, you know the answer, but the charm of this small, deftly made film is that it doesn't bother trying to generate phony suspense. Gelfant is

fine, but Hope Davis steals every scene and will have you rooting for her and laughing with her all the way to Wonderland. Not the racetrack, the state of bliss.

Only You pairs young Marisa Tomei with then real-life flame Robert Downey, Jr. Tomei plays a superstitiously romantic school teacher who believes that a Ouija board has spelled out the name of her true love, if only she can find him. The search for a soul mate takes her to Venice, Italy. Bonnie Hunt, her newly divorced BFF, goes along for the ride, and many clever hijinks—and a lot of good lines—ensue.

Some Like It Hot has been mentioned in these pages more than once. That's because it just so happens to be one of the greatest comedies of all time, and yes, aside from kicking off at the Valentine's Day Massacre, it does have at least three great romantic pairings. Tony Curtis and Marilyn Monroe. Jack Lemmon and Joe E. Brown. Tony Curtis and Tony Curtis. The latter be-



ing the peripatetic Mr. Curtis in lust with his bewigged self—but only in a good, clean way. The two male leads are at the very top of their games, hiding out in a train full of female musicians by donning drag. Miss Monroe was never hotter or more vulnerably loveable, Lemmon is fall-on-the-floor, laugh-till-it-hurts funny, and Edward G. Robinson, Jr. has a blast making fun of his gangster persona. It doesn't get better—or funnier—than this.

Go on, laugh your way to bed. And whatever happens, it will end better for you than it did for Saint Valentine.

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publican plan for building a new Executive Office Building at Lafayette Square. *The plans included demolishing many historic structures including Ford's Theatre!* Jackie Kennedy was appalled and asked Boutin to find an architect to redesign the plan to preserve the historic nature of the square. Boutin found an architect in Philadelphia and called Jackie Kennedy at the White House the day the new plans arrived.

She insisted that he come right over. He did, carrying the plans under his arm. Jackie ushered him into the Blue Room where she had him spread the plans out on the floor. Boutin's favorite memory of Jackie Kennedy was the two of them kneeling on the floor of the Blue Room looking over the new plans for Lafayette Square." [Emphasis added.]

Somehow the Republican plan to destroy Ford's Theatre had hitherto escaped our attention. We thank the Historical Society for bringing it to our attention.

Officer Krupke Reports

The following dispatch came in recently from Flag Policeperson Krupke, along with the visual evidence at right.

"Chief—Deputy Rhodes sent me to investigate. Tool shop on Cass Street. Am speechless. Repeat offenders to boot. Flag fouled on the shingles of the roof, and the blue field appears on the right. Overwhelmed. Thank God for smelling salts. Recovering, but barely,

"Krupke" Tragedy Strikes on Congress Street

A tragic event occurred on Congress Street on Wednesday: Belle Peppers closed its doors for good at that location.



For at least twelve years—probably longer, but we're not sure how much—Belle Peppers has provided convenient, delicious, affordable food for the downtown crowd. For the past nine years, in particular, with Larry Trager as proprietor, the

atmosphere has been as congenial as the food was tasty. If he ever leaves the food business, he ought to go into personnel—he's clearly got a knack for hiring charming people.

Though the closing came as a shock, it should not have been a surprise.

Larry's business has always been geared towards providing daytime food for those who work downtown. Market Square's increasing focus on tourists and rich condo-dwellers has caused rents to increase sharply. His lease was coming up for renewal. To compete, he would have had to stay

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*Northcountry Chronicle***Generational Junctions**

by William Marvel

One hundred years ago last Thursday,* my father was born near the village crossroads in Orleans, on Cape Cod. The Indian head penny was still being minted, almost all roads were still gravel, and my grandfather had just bought his first automobile. One of my father's earliest photographs shows him in a white dress, propped on the seat of that 1907 Maxwell and just able to sit up by gripping the steering wheel.

He was born into a family that was on the way up. My grandfather came from a long line of humble dirt farmers in the bootheel of Delaware, but he had worked his way through both college and medical school. There is a tradition in Sussex County that the poorer families of our clan are those who spell the name "Marvil," while the more affluent spell it "Marvel." When my grandfather entered medical school in 1899, he was still inscribing "Reuben J. Marvil" inside his textbooks, but his 1903 sheepskin identifies him as Reuben J. "Marvel," and so he re-

mained ever afterward.

My grandmother was a more conscious social climber. Her father was a Fall River dry goods merchant, but she hungered for a little prestige. While studying at Bridgewater Normal School she met my grandfather, who was 14 years older and already a practicing physician, and through him she secured what would later be called an MRS degree. She never held a job in her nearly 94 years, and among company she always made certain to refer to my grandfather as "the doctor."

They settled in Orleans and vacationed in New Hampshire. Their favorite early lodging was the Conway House in Conway village, where a cast-iron watering trough dominated the Four Corners intersection. My grandfather saved habitually and invested heavily, and in 1923 he bought a farm overlooking the hills of western Maine, retiring at the age of 50. For six years he lived a life of leisure. Then, when he wasn't paying attention, the stock market crash of 1929 all but cleaned him out, forcing him to reopen a practice, and he worked for the rest of his life. My

father abandoned his ambitious college plans to enlist in the navy, and by the time he retired our pecuniary and social station had sunk back to that of the Sussex County Marvils. Fifty years of disciplined frugality have raised us back to something approaching genteel poverty—which differs from pure poverty mainly in the condition of the teeth and the quality of the reading material.

Next Thursday, meanwhile, is the 200th birthday of another example of upward mobility—Abraham Lincoln—whose half-unintended lumberings toward racial equality promised the social ascent of the entire nation. Those gains were reversed, though, a dozen years after his death, when the greed of the Gilded Age decimated the country from higher ideals. That posthumous blow to Lincoln's achievement blighted our social progress until the very recent past, and even now there are those who would resuscitate American apartheid if they could.

Thursday also marks the 200th birthday of Charles Darwin, who helped to explain how all earthly life is emerging from the primordial ooze. As had been the case with Lincoln, Darwin's accomplishments exerted impacts far

this primitive creed prevails, imposing a philosophy more reminiscent of the Middle Ages than the modern era.

Families, communities, and nations are all prone to regression during periods of temporary distraction. Our society stands poised today, once again, to either forge ahead or to fall back in the face of myriad difficulties. Even someone like me, who savors every detail of the past, hopes that after years of backsliding

At every fork and turn ... lurk the disciples of social, philosophical, or economic darkness, brazenly waiting to assure that we fail.

beyond any he had anticipated, and his biological observations nourished an optimistic atmosphere of continual adaptation and regeneration. With their literal theological beliefs threatened by such new information, the doctrinaire among us close their eyes and cover their ears, preferring to cherish that darker time in which their Gothic dogma prevailed. For eight years that fundamentalism infiltrated even the executive mansion, where it assumed an unwarranted legitimacy that tarnished our national image, and in certain provinces

ing we will again find the road that leads toward light. At every fork and turn, though, lurk the disciples of social, philosophical, or economic darkness, brazenly waiting to assure that we fail. That is their inevitable nature, for their security lies in a stolid and stationary culture, and only by preventing others from advancing can they feel that they have not been left behind.

.....
* This column originally ran in the Conway Daily Sun on February 9, 2009.
.....

open evenings and weekends. To do that, in addition to running his two locations at Pease Tradeport and his corporate catering business, would have made him a stranger to his wife and two small children.

Some may wish that he had made that hard choice. We certainly do. But having met his family we can understand, and we forgive him.

And so, we consoled ourselves with one last, large order of chicken and rice soup. It being the last day, they were all out of those little crackers that have just

a hint of saltiness to them. But that was all right, too—the tears served well in their place.

A Notice to (And About) Our Incarcerated Readers

Back in the early 1990's, we regularly sent copies of this paper to a publication called *Fact-sheet Five*, which reviewed a the independent little publications known collectively as "zines," small, usually Xeroxed®, non-commercial publications whose content varied widely, and wildly. It was a fairly common practice among zine publishers at the time to send copies free to prisoners.

Since we were reviewed in *Fact-sheet Five*, we naturally received a number of requests for free subscriptions. Under the principle of "there but for the grace of God," we honored some of them.

Word gets around, even in the slammer. We now send the paper to 23 incarcerated subscribers. Almost half of them are at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham. About half of the rest are in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, and the rest are scattered.

Recently there's been an increase in the rate of requests; we're not sure why. Much as we'd

like to send the paper to anyone who asks, in these times we have to be a bit more cautious than that.

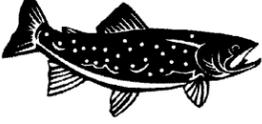
So, we have developed a new policy. We will continue to mail to those prisoners now receiving the paper. All their subscriptions have their expiration dates printed on the mailing label. If those readers want to keep receiving the paper, they should send their renewal requests as soon as they start seeing red "Expiring" stamps appear on their paper.

As for new free subscriptions for additional prisoners, we're

going to institute a waiting list, and an Incarcerated Reader fund. Incoming requests from prisoners will be dated and put into a holding file. As funds become available, those requests will be filled in the order they were received.

The funds—assuming that we receive any—will come from our kind-hearted, non-incarcerated readers, if they are so inclined. To help with this, just send us your check for \$25, with "Incarcerated Reader" on the memo line, and we will add another prisoner to our mailing list.

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**He Likes Us ...
He Really Likes Us**

To the Editor:

Enclosed is a check for my subscription for 2009. I was intending to buy several "supporting" subscriptions as well (hence the size of my check), but having caught up on some back issues this past weekend, I would appreciate if you could divert the remaining \$75 of my check to the Seacoast Local (H)EAT program. I would be most appreciative. I have operated a small locally owned retail store here in Olympia since 1996, and think the efforts of the Seacoast Local are most admirable.

I have been an avid reader of the *Gazette* now for several years ... pretty much since my first visit to Portsmouth. On my second visit, I specifically shopped and dined at advertisers in the *Gazette*, and will do so again on my next visit. I have stolen ideas from the Portsmouth Brewery's ads for my own company [The Alpine Experience, Olympia, WA, www.alpinex.com], wish that Gracie's Diner would run a larger ad so I knew more about them, and think Bill Eslinger's used car ads are hilarious. The RiverRun Bookstore is one of my favorite Indie bookstores around the country, and in fact the owner there gave me my first copy of the *Gazette* to read.

In addition to my business, I also serve on the City Council in Olympia ... and hanging in my office is a copy of a [*Gazette*]

editorial entitled "Saints Preserve Us," written about the Portsmouth City Council and your Halloween Parade years ago. I actually made copies for our entire Council when it came out, as it provided, in my mind, some of the best advice and comment on city government I'd ever read.

My only wish that that Olympia's AWLD had a competitor like the *Gazette* to give it a run for its money. Thanks for providing some of us on the West (Left!) Coast with some great reading ... when I am done with an issue, it goes in our employee break room for all to enjoy.

Joe Hyer
Olympia, WA
Joe:

Well, after a letter like that, we can hardly subject you to the sort of abuse we heap on some of our correspondents, now, can we? Not that we would want to. You've just got us a bit flustered, being flinty old Yankees and all. Seriously, it's good—no, it's great—to hear from someone way out there on the Left Coast who so clearly gets the paper. If we ever get out your way, we'll have to stop by and go hiking, or kayaking, or snowshoeing with your crew. And the next time you come out this way, you'll have to let us show you around some of our favorite local spots.

The Editor

Israel, Part the Umpteenth
To the Editor:

To rebut your rebuttal regarding Israel's defense against Gaza terror:

1. You are offended by the number of terrorists who died because not enough Israelis were murdered? If a hundred people lynch someone, would you arrest only one of the perpetrators? If a crime gang committed two murders, would you limit your prosecution to only two of the gangsters? The answer is obvious, which then leads to the question of why you feel that only Is-

rael in defending her population must limit her response to ongoing terror and violence to some minimum number of aggressors which closely matches the number of victims rather than eliminating as many killers as possible. I find this cruel requirement for parity disturbing and offensive.

Then you claim that most of the Gazan victims were innocent. First of all, that turns out to be unclear. Even a Gaza physician, hardly the most unbiased of observers, admitted recently that 50% were civilians. While this is unfortunate, if you were unbiased on this issue, you would acknowledge that Hamas deliberately hides among civilians while firing at Israelis, a war crime by Hamas calculated to garner condemnation such as yours from the West. Israel warned civilians by leaflet, telephone, and other avenues to flee impending attacks despite those actions costing them the element of surprise and thus maximum effectiveness against the terrorists. How much more could any nation do to protect non-combatants intentionally put at risk by Hamas themselves?

2. Simon's piece was correct, accurate, misleading and thoroughly biased. He selects a principal Israeli spokesperson who is way outside the norms of Israeli public opinion and contrasts her with a very personable Arab physician who appears quite moderate for a terrorist apologist. Since Simon is determined to show the extremes that an open Israeli society can produce, why not show the extremes of the closed Arab side? Clearly that is because then he couldn't have framed this smear job to support the warped notion that the problem in the Middle East derives from Israeli intransigence. Simon's clever fabrications deliberately create just the opposite impression from what repeated surveys of those populations have shown. Israelis

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

lopsidedly favor territorial concession for peace, while Arab populations favor killing all the Jews. Remember in high school, proving that 1 = 0? This is more of same, intellectual legerdemain, a strongly partisan, one-sided, journalistic hatchet job under the deceptive guise of revealing new wisdom.

Israel gave back huge swaths of territory when peace was offered by Jordan and Egypt. Why people insist she would not do the same for further peace eludes me. Moreover, if Moslems, Christians, Druse, Samaritans, etc. can live among Israelis, why can Jews not live among Arabs in a Muslim state of Palestine? The settlements could become Arab housing in a peace deal, certainly, but why could they not be part of a multi-cultural nation? Because the Arabs want NO Jews. And that fact reflects much more accurately on the issues than Simon's clever deception.

Richard B. Collier
Portsmouth, NH
Richard:

We might be less resistant to persuasion if you had not laden your letter with so many straw men.

You begin by presuming that all the Gazan citizens killed by Israel—many with American-made munitions—were terrorists. General Phillip Sheridan is alleged to have said, "The only good Indians I ever saw were dead." That sentiment was antiquated in 1869. Its brief resurgence in Vietnam 100 years later was regrettable. Every attempt to revive it is an error.

You quickly go on to imply that we think more Israelis should be murdered. We do not. We think no Israelis should be murdered. We also think that no one should be treated as the Palestinians have been.

And you also seem willing to extrapolate from fairly limited evidence, and eager to leap to rather

baroque, though unsupported, conclusions.

As to your take on Simon's piece, we see the same confident but presumptuous assignment of motive. But it is heartening to see that you took the time to watch it.

The Editor

Can We Hope for Change?

To the Editor:

Last month a newspaper columnist cited a "remarkable" and "astounding" interview Ehud Olmert gave soon after he resigned as Israel's prime minister last September. In it Olmert said Israel must return the Golan Heights to Syria, and territory in Palestine it's occupied since 1967. Finding and reading that interview, I thought the most astute comment was a newspaper reporter's saying Israel's political leaders always reach this conclusion only when no longer in a position to make the decision.

What's remarkable and astounding to me is applauding Olmert for saying Israelis should finally let the Palestinians have a state, on 22 percent of the land Palestine had before Israel invaded in 1948. No matter what party or prime minister gets elected, Israel clings to stolen goods it already has and grabs for more. One reason besides greed may be fear of Israel's fanatics who use the weapon of assassinations begun by killing United Nations special envoy Folke Bernadotte sixty years ago.

Though there's always hope, there's no reason to expect Barack Obama to stop backing a state that's shown itself a menace since it was hatched in 1948. Congress continues to coddle an outlaw state, playing the role of doting wife to what's quick with a knife, and been an unholy terror all its life. Looking at Israel's dismal record is like watching an

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And Other Correspondence

assassin nation.

Marjorie Gallace

Camden, ME

Marjorie:

We thought that Obama's appointment of George Mitchell as his special envoy to the Middle East represented a pretty good first step. Northern Ireland was a pretty knotty problem, and he made a difference there.

The Editor

.....

No Arbitrary Salary Ceilings

An open letter to Maine's Congressional Delegation:

Dear deciders, (That's us, isn't it?)

I wish I lived where an executive's [salary] ceiling was set between 35 and 40 times his lowest paid worker or subcontractor's laborer. Anything over that puts its recipient in jail until remedy is complete.

Let the executive salaries soar, and celebrate them for what they did for their help. The issues of inflation, of regional, or job minimum wages could easily become mere footnotes in history.

An arbitrary dollar ceiling is stupid and dysfunctional.

Wm. M. Bailey

Kittery Point, ME

Wm.:

You nailed it, as to the relative worth of an absolute salary cap vs. a maximum disparity ratio, or whatever such a measure would be called. The ceiling on payroll taxes ought to be lifted, too. Social Security isn't as ready to fail as Lou Dobbs or Glenn Beck would have you believe, and lifting the ceiling would ease the pressure.

The Editor

.....

Not a Big Gregg Fan

To the Editor:

Well, former Sen. Judd Gregg wriggled with fortune's help out of ever having to hold a Town Meeting in New Hampshire to

tell us his thoughts on an exit strategy from the Iraq war. In 2005 and after, hundreds of us, his constituents, wrote him and petitioned him to come home to New Hampshire and hold a public meeting on the Iraq war and how to end it. He wrote once in April that he was "too busy." He later had time, however, to return to Colbrook and meet with fourth graders, an easy audience.

Twice groups of citizens concerned about the Iraq war's length and cost in lives and money sat in at his Concord office and were arrested and locked up, then taken to court. Judd Gregg blinked not an eye. He stayed *soooo* in D.C., and not in NH.

For our Gov. Lynch to say that Gregg will represent us as Secretary of Commerce is laughable. Judd Gregg never represented us as Senator. He just lived in D.C. and hacked Republican party work. Now he'll continue to live in D.C., as he likes, secure on the public payroll, with pension etc. This is Obama's "change we can believe in?"

Lynn Rudmin Chong
Sanbornton, NH

An Open letter to Sen. Leahy re: Bush Commission

To the Editor:

I invite you to print the following letter I have sent to Senator Leahy in response to his initiative to establish a commission to investigate possible criminal acts by the previous administration:

Dear Senator Leahy:

I am glad to learn that you intend to find the truth about the many abuses perpetrated by the Bush administration. However, I believe democracy will be weakened and its future in peril if Congress finds evidence of crimes yet neglects to prosecute those responsible for committing them. We are a nation of

laws. We also claim that no one is above the law. Failure to prosecute those at the highest levels of government is characteristic of monarchies or dictatorships, but not of a government of the people, by the people and for the people. Accountability is required today in order to secure our future from those who would undermine the Bill of Rights and seize powers forbidden by our Constitution.

Thank you for your tireless efforts on behalf of the citizens of the U.S. Please work to bring to justice those who have so degraded our nation.

Judith W. Gardner

Durham, NH

Judith:

We dearly hope the Senator takes your advice.

The Editor

.....

Blagojevich No Different Than Judd Gregg

Ex-IL Gov. Blagojevich no different than Judd Gregg or Gov. John Lynch of New Hampshire, in regard to the appointment of a Republican to the US Senate.

Debbie Gibbons

Wilton NH

Debbie:

C'mon—use a verb once in a while.

The Editor

.....

George Washington, Our First Psychic President!

To the Editor:

We endow our country's father, George Washington, with many attributes. The one that is always missing is "psychic". Witness this observation in his Farewell Address on September 19, 1796:

"So likewise, a passionate attachment of one nation for another produces a variety of evils. Sympathy for the favorite nation, facilitating the illusion of an imaginary common interest in cases where no real common interest exists, and infusing into one the enmities of the other,

betrays the former into a participation in the quarrels and wars of the latter without adequate inducement or justification. It leads also to concessions to the favorite nation of privileges denied to others which is apt doubly to injure the nation making the concessions, by unnecessarily parting with what ought to have been retained, and by exciting jealousy, ill-will, and a disposition to retaliate, in the parties from whom equal privileges are withheld. And it gives to ambitious, corrupted, or deluded citizens (who devote themselves to the favorite nation), facility to betray or sacrifice the interests of their own country, without odium, sometimes even with popularity, gilding, with the appearances of a virtuous sense of obligation, a commendable deference for public opinion, or a laudable zeal for public good, the base or foolish compliances of ambition, corruption, or infatuation."

Can you name the nation which fits precisely today Washington's 1796 description? Of course you can.

Not only did he get the country, but he even got the "cabal" with his description "...citizens (who devote themselves to the favorite nation) facility to betray or sacrifice the interest of their own country..." to wit: Wolfowitz, Feith, Wurmser, Shulsky, Perle Irving Libby, et al. Incredible!

Lester LeViness

Nyack, NY

Lester:

Careful, there. You're going to get Richard all riled up.

The Editor

.....

Open Letter To Senator Gregg

To the Editor:

The *Union Leader* revealed today that the current administration has considered you for a cabinet position.

Please consider *well* the action you take for if you abandon



your Senate seat for the perceived honor of the cabinet appointment, you will be giving Governor Lynch the opportunity to appoint a Democrat to your seat!

That will destroy the last voice that Republicans have in congress. We will be *all Democrats* and you will be responsible.

Richard Marple

Hooksett, NH

[Note: Attached to the above Open Letter was the following e-mail, apparently from the Hooksett Republican Town Committee]

Dear Friends,

As you may have heard, the Obama Administration is considering the appointment of Sen. Gregg as Secretary of Commerce. Senator Gregg is the only remaining Republican Delegate from New Hampshire to the United States Congress.

Should he accept that position, his replacement (undoubtedly a Democrat) would be appointed by Gov. Lynch.

We can not afford to lose our last Republican in Congress.

Please urge Senator Gregg to stay on in the Senate. We need him there now more than ever!

Mike DiBitetto,
HRTC Chairman

Dick and Mike:

This may be a little bit premature, but at press time it looks like Governor Lynch's bipartisanship, and Senator Gregg's obstinacy, have obviated your concerns.

The Editor

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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, February 15	Monday, February 16	Tuesday, February 17	Wednesday, February 18	Thursday, February 19	Friday, February 20	Saturday, February 21
<p>2003—In the largest global protest ever, between 10 and 25 million people around the world protest the coming war in Iraq.</p> <p>2002—Ignoring much scientific evidence and common sense, George W. Bush authorizes a nuke dump at Yucca Mountain.</p> <p>2000—"We ought to make the pie higher," says G.W. Bush.</p> <p>1962—"I support Pres. Kennedy to the hilt [in Vietnam]," says Richard Nixon, "I only hope he will step up the build-up..."</p> <p>1944—A 1415 year-old monastery at Monte Cassino is destroyed by Allied bombers.</p> <p>1942—Japanese attackers, though outnumbered 2 to 1 by its British and Australian defenders, take Singapore. Lt. Gen. Gordon Bennett escapes; his name later becomes synonymous with "running shoes."</p> <p>1933—An attempted assassination of FDR results in death of Chicago mayor Anton Cermak.</p> <p>1910—The International Ladies Garment Workers Union strike ends victoriously.</p> <p>1898—The battleship <i>U.S.S. Maine</i> explodes in Havana harbor, killing 260. W.R. Hearst's circulation explodes soon after.</p> <p>1798—On the floor of the House, Rep. Roger Griswold (Federalist-CT) attacks Rep. Matthew Lyon (R-VT), a former newspaper editor, with a thick hickory stick.</p>	<p>2006—The U.S. Army decommissions its last M.A.S.H. unit.</p> <p>1986—"Baby Doc" Duvalier flees Haiti.</p> <p>1982—An aide to Nancy Reagan explains that the First Harriidan will no longer accept "loaned" threads from big name designers because she "really just got tired of people misinterpreting what she was doing."</p> <p>1978—The first computer bulletin board goes on-line, Chicago.</p> <p>1968—Draft deferments for grad students end.</p> <p>1964—A week after security in Saigon is "tightened," a Viet Cong bomb in an American movie theater kills 3 U.S. soldiers and wounds another 50.</p> <p>1962—A two-day anti-nuclear march on Washington begins.</p> <p>1959—Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba.</p> <p>1916—Emma Goldman is busted for lecturing on birth control.</p> <p>1899—Félix Faure, President of France, dies of apoplexy in his office while receiving oral sex.</p> <p>1868—"The Jolly Gorks" change their name to "The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks."</p> <p>1848—Womens' Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, N.Y.</p> <p>1804—U.S. Navy Lt. Stephen Decatur climbs aboard the captured <i>Philadelphia</i> and burns it. He's promoted to Captain.</p>	<p>2000—"I hate the gooks," John McCain tells reporters, referring to North Vietnamese prison camp guards. "I will hate them as long as I live."</p> <p>1985—Gen. William Westmoreland abandons his libel suit against CBS, which had reported he had covered up VC troop strength.</p> <p>1979—China invades Vietnam—again. They never learn.</p> <p>1974—Disgruntled Army PFC Robert Preston steals a chopper from Ft. Meade, lands without opposition 150 ft. from the White House, flies back to Ft. Meade, then returns to the White House where he lands his chopper after it is shot up by authorities.</p> <p>1971—The U.S. Army's former top enlisted man is indicted for conspiracy to defraud enlisted mens' clubs.</p> <p>1966—Sergeant Barry Sadler gets gold record for "Ballad of the Green Berets."</p> <p>1964—"I ... believe," says Robert Strange McNamara, "the introduction of ground troops in South Vietnam today would hinder rather than help the campaign against the insurgency."</p> <p>1958—Pope Pius XII declares St. Clare of Assisi the patron saint of television.</p> <p>1942—Armed whites in Detroit attack African-Americans moving into public housing.</p>	<p>2007—The <i>Washington Post</i> reveals the sordid conditions at Walter Reed Army Hospital.</p> <p>1979—For the first time in history, in southern Nigeria, snow falls on the Sahara.</p> <p>1970—The Chicago 7 are found innocent of conspiring to incite riots, but guilty of crossing state lines to incite riots.</p> <p>1962—"We are going to win in Vietnam," says Bobby Kennedy in Saigon. "We will remain here until we do win."</p> <p>1943—Anti-Nazi students of "The White Rose" are caught leafletting the University of Munich. Later they're beheaded.</p> <p>1930—For the first time in history a cow, Nellie Jay, is milked aboard an airplane in flight, by one Elsworth W. Bunce.</p> <p>1928—When the cornerstone of the Eastland County (TX) Courthouse is opened, a horned toad, allegedly placed within 31 years earlier, hops out.</p> <p>1913—Encouraged by U.S. Ambassador Henry L. Wilson, General Victoriano Huerta offers Mexican President Francisco I. Madero "protection" from rebel forces, then has him shot four days later.</p> <p>1873—The House of Representatives reports on the Credit Mobilier scandal: Congress gave fat subsidies to railroads, which sold Congressmen stock at huge discounts.</p>	<p>2007—New Jersey OK's civil unions for homosexual couples.</p> <p>2003—Turkey tells the Pentagon to forget about unloading heavy military equipment for the Iraq war unless it coughs up \$4 billion. The Pentagon balks.</p> <p>2000—"I understand small business growth," says G.W. Bush, "I was one."</p> <p>1988—Prosecutors in Passaic Co. move to dismiss 1966 murder indictments against Rubin "Hurricane" Carter.</p> <p>1986—After due deliberation—37 years—Congress ratifies UN treaty outlawing genocide.</p> <p>1965—Antiwar protests are held in 30 cities across the U.S.</p> <p>1964—The CIA informs the State and Defense departments that South Vietnam is making little progress against the 'Cong.</p> <p>1945—In a Burmese mangrove swamp, several hundred Japanese soldiers are killed by crocodiles.</p> <p>1942—FDR puts 120K Americans in concentration camps.</p> <p>1912—In Lawrence, Mass., 200 club-wielding police beat 100 women pickets.</p> <p>1847—Rescuers in the Sierra Nevada mountains reach the leftovers of the Donner Party.</p> <p>1807—Ex-veep Aaron Burr is arrested in Alabama for treason by plotting to create a new nation out of parts of Mexico and Louisiana.</p>	<p>2007—The BBC reports that U.S. plans for attacking Iran include nuclear sites.</p> <p>2005—Dr. Hunter S. Thompson takes his leave the way he lived—entirely on his own terms.</p> <p>2001—FBI agent Robert Hanssen, who had officially spied on American dissenters, is arrested for selling secrets to the KGB.</p> <p>2000—The last original <i>Peanuts</i> comic strip is published.</p> <p>1971—A screw-up at the National Emergency Center orders U.S. TV and radio stations off the air. The situation goes uncorrected for 30 minutes.</p> <p>1943—Hollywood film makers say they'll let the Office of War Information censor their movies.</p> <p>1939—Fritz Kuhn, a German veteran of WWI and naturalized U.S. citizen, leads 22,000 people in a pro-Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden.</p> <p>1862—Abe Lincoln's son Willie dies of typhus at the age of 11.</p> <p>1815—Almost two months after the Treaty of Ghent ends the War of 1812, the <i>U.S.S. Constitution</i> captures two British sloops off the coast of Portugal.</p> <p>1725—Indian fighters under Captain John Lovewell take 10 scalps from sleeping Indians in Wakefield, New Hampshire, which they later redeem in Boston for £100 each.</p>	<p>2001—"You teach a child to read," says G.W. Bush, "and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."</p> <p>1988—Televangelist Jimmy Swagart interrupts his regular broadcast to confess to an unspecified but heinous sin.</p> <p>1975—Three of R. Nixon's former henchmen, John Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, and John Erlichman, are sentenced to prison.</p> <p>1965—Malcolm X is assassinated as he begins speaking at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem.</p> <p>1962—The Freedom Foundation gives its George Washington award for "most outstanding individual contribution to American freedom" to J. Edgar [“Mary”] Hoover. His boyfriend Clyde gets <i>nada</i>.</p> <p>1958—Britain's Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War adopts the "peace symbol."</p> <p>1940—Germans begin building a concentration camp at Auschwitz.</p> <p>1934—The Nicaraguan National Guard assassinates Augusto Cesar Sandino.</p> <p>1916—Battle of Verdun begins.</p> <p>1828—First issue of the newspaper <i>Cherokee Phoenix</i> is printed, in English, using the newly-invented Cherokee alphabet.</p> <p>1673—The French playwright Moliere collapses in a coughing fit (which later proves fatal) during the fourth performance of his new play, <i>The Hypochondriac</i>.</p>
<p>3:03 3:33</p> <p>9:18 9:30</p>	<p>3:55 4:32</p> <p>10:14 10:23</p>	<p>4:52 5:36</p> <p>11:17 11:23</p>	<p>5:56 6:44</p> <p>12:23</p>	<p>7:00 7:47</p> <p>12:28 1:27</p>	<p>7:59 8:41</p> <p>1:30 2:24</p>	<p>8:50 9:28</p> <p>2:26 3:12</p>
Sunday, February 22	Monday, February 23	Tuesday, February 24	Wednesday, February 25	Thursday, February 26	Friday, February 27	Saturday, February 28
<p>2006—The Golden Mosque in Samarra, Iraq is blown up.</p> <p>2004—A leaked Pentagon document predicts global doom from climate change.</p> <p>1994—CIA agent Aldrich Ames is arrested for spying.</p> <p>1987—Andy Warhol, having overcome his fear of doctors and hospitals to have routine gall bladder surgery, dies by medical misadventure.</p> <p>1974—Trying to hijack an airliner to crash into the White House, Samuel Byck counterproductively shoots the pilot and co-pilot before he is shot to death by police.</p> <p>1967—Operation Junction City begins in Vietnam. It will be the largest U.S. offensive operation of the War.</p> <p>1966—Barry Bondhus dumps human digestive byproduct on draft files.</p> <p>1965—Gen. Wm. Westmoreland asks LBJ for two battalions of Marines to protect the U.S. air base at Danang. Despite the qualms of Ambassador Maxwell Taylor, LBJ says "OK."</p> <p>1965—Sam Lovejoy cuts down a weather tower for a proposed nuke plant in Montague, Mass.</p> <p>1902—In the Senate, Sen. John McLaurin (D-SC) calls Sen. Benjamin Tillman (D-SC) a liar. "Pitchfork Ben," 54, punches McLaurin, 41, in the jaw.</p>	<p>2008—Because one maintenance crew neglected to warn another that the humid air in Guam threw off its sensors, a \$1.4 billion B-2 bomber crashes.</p> <p>2004—Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education, calls the nation's largest teachers union a "terrorist organization."</p> <p>1974—Two days after presiding over the 100th birthday of his newspaper, the <i>Oakland Tribune</i>, former Sen. William Knowland (R-CA) shoots himself dead.</p> <p>1945—Marines plant the U.S. flag atop Mt. Suribachi.</p> <p>1922—In France, Henri Landru is executed for having 11 wives, although one would have thought he'd suffered enough.</p> <p>1922—Lewis Vernon Harcourt, 1st Viscount Harcourt and former British Secretary of State for the Colonies, commits suicide rather than face exposure as a pederast.</p> <p>1882—Anarchist and writer B. Traven, author of <i>Treasure of the Sierra Madre</i>, is born in Posnanie, Poland.</p> <p>1868—In Great Barrington, Massachusetts, William Edward Burghardt Dubois is born.</p> <p>1775—"Give me liberty, or give me death," says Patrick Henry.</p> <p>1669—Diarist Samuel Pepys, visiting Westminster Abbey, kisses and fondles Katherine of Valois, interred more than 200 years earlier.</p>	<p>2008—Fidel retires.</p> <p>2001—"My plan reduces the national debt, and fast," says G.W. Bush. "So fast, in fact, that economists worry that we're going to run out of debt to retire."</p> <p>1991—Ground war against Iraq begins, amid concerns about anthrax and botulism sold to Iraq by U.S. companies with Commerce Department approval.</p> <p>1989—Nine passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 811 from Honolulu to New Zealand are sucked out a hole in the plane.</p> <p>1988—At 1:17 a.m., Capitol police carry Sen. Robert Packwood (R-OR) into the Senate chamber feet first to make up a quorum.</p> <p>1988—Supreme Court upholds Larry Flynt's right to portray Jerry Falwell as a man who lost his virginity to his mother, in an out-house, while intoxicated.</p> <p>1942—In LA, a massive U.S. anti-aircraft barrage, mistakenly prompted by a weather balloon, sparks a panic; three are trampled to death, dozens injured.</p> <p>1868—The first parade to include floats is held in New Orleans.</p> <p>1809—The New Drury Lane Theatre burns to the ground. Owner Richard Sheridan (<i>The School for Scandal</i>) having a drink at a neighboring coffeehouse, calmly says "A man may surely be allowed to take a glass by his own fireside."</p>	<p>1988—Sam Donaldson broadcasts excerpts from President Reagan's private schedule for the day, making it clear the Chief Executive is still reading scripts for a living.</p> <p>1968—"I do not believe Hanoi can hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.</p> <p>1964—Cassius Clay KO's Sonny Liston.</p> <p>1919—Oregon becomes the first state to tax gasoline.</p> <p>1913—The IWW's Paterson, NJ silk strike begins.</p> <p>1913—The 16th Amendment establishes an income tax.</p> <p>1870—Hiram Rhoades Revels (R-MS) becomes the first black Senator.</p> <p>1862—Congress authorizes the first "greenbacks." In one year, their value is down to 39 cents.</p> <p>1837—In Vermont, Thomas Dav- enport is granted the first patent for an electric printing press.</p> <p>1836—Colt patents the six gun.</p> <p>1836—Joice Heth is autopsied before 1,500 paying spectators in New York City, at the behest of P.T. Barnum. Before her death, Barnum, had exhibited Heth as George Washington's 162 year-old "Mammy."</p> <p>1643—Under orders from the Governor of New Netherlands, 120 Weccquaesgeek Indians are murdered in their sleep at Pavonia, near present-day Hackensack.</p>	<p>2001—In Afghanistan, the Taliban destroy huge statues of Buddha.</p> <p>1993—A truck bomb explodes beneath the World Trade Center in NYC; 6 are dead, 1,000 injured.</p> <p>1991—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush admits the U.S. has been supporting the Khmer Rouge for over a decade.</p> <p>1991—The U.S. Air Force drops fuel-air bombs, killing thousands of Iraqi troops fleeing Kuwait on the Basra Road.</p> <p>1987—The U.S. Senate's Tower Report on the Iran/Contra drugs and gun-running scandal confirms widespread rumors—President Reagan is confused and uninformed.</p> <p>1974—A Senate report details close ties between the Ford Motor Co. and the Nazis.</p> <p>1972—Pittston Coal's cheap-jack dam on Buffalo Creek in West Virginia collapses, killing 118, injuring 1,121, and leaving 5,000 homeless. The company ends up paying less than \$15,000 per casualty.</p> <p>1970—National Public Radio incorporates.</p> <p>1954—In Huntington, Tennessee, a C-119 "Flying Boxcar" buzzes the county courthouse, then crashes.</p> <p>1932—Birth of Johnny Cash.</p> <p>1928—Birth of Fats Domino.</p> <p>1870—New York's first subway opens. It's propelled by compressed air.</p>	<p>2003—Deputy Sec. of Def. Paul D. Wolfowitz says "the notion that it will take several hundred thousand U.S. troops to provide stability in post-Saddam Iraq, [is] wildly off the mark."</p> <p>1986—Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos are chased out of the Philippines by their own people.</p> <p>1977—Keith Richards is busted for possession of heroin and cocaine by Canadian Mounties.</p> <p>1975—The FDA announces the recall of a batch of GE pacemakers. Too late, though: all 1,241 have been implanted.</p> <p>1973—American Indian Movement occupies Wounded Knee.</p> <p>1970—The <i>New York Times</i> reports that the U.S. Army no longer conducts illegal domestic surveillance; untrue then, now.</p> <p>1962—Renegade South Vietnamese pilots bomb the Presidential Palace in Saigon with American planes.</p> <p>1939—The Supreme Court declares sit-down strikes illegal.</p> <p>1938—Britain and France recognize Franco's fascist government in Spain.</p> <p>1933—Nazis burn the Reichstag and blame the Commies.</p> <p>1902—Speaking to the firing squad about to shoot him after a bogus court martial, Harry "Breaker" Morant says "Shoot straight, you bastards. Don't make a mess of it."</p>	<p>1997—Two heavily armed—and armored—men hold up a bank in North Hollywood, CA. Twelve police are wounded, the two robbers die.</p> <p>1993—The ATF bungles an assault on a heavily armed colony of religious wackos in Waco.</p> <p>1986—Ronald Reagan is heard to call reporters "sons-of-bitches" for asking questions during a photo-op; press aide Larry Speakes explains he really said, "It's sunny and you're rich."</p> <p>1958—In New York, the first of 27 people die after drinking "King Kong" moonshine.</p> <p>1921—The Kronstadt Revolt begins in Russia, criticizing bolshevism. "Shoot them down like partridges," orders Leon Trotsky.</p> <p>1893—Birth of Ben Hecht, author of <i>The Front Page</i>.</p> <p>1877—The U.S. seizes the Black Hills, in violation of a treaty.</p> <p>1854—A group of political activists meet in Ripon, WI, and may or may not found the Republican party.</p> <p>1840—Joshua V. Hines begins publishing <i>Signs of the Times</i>, a newspaper devoted to William Miller's Doomsday prophecies.</p> <p>1732—Portsmouth merchant John Rindge sets off for London to present a petition to the King asking him to settle the boundaries of New Hampshire.</p>
<p>9:35 10:08</p> <p>3:14 3:53</p>	<p>10:15 10:43</p> <p>3:56 4:29</p>	<p>10:50 11:15</p> <p>4:33 5:02</p>	<p>11:25 11:47</p> <p>5:10 5:34</p>	<p>12:00</p> <p>5:46 6:07</p>	<p>12:19 12:36</p> <p>6:24 6:41</p>	<p>12:54 1:15</p> <p>7:04 7:19</p>

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