

## The Fortnightly Rant

# Political Discourse, American Style

President Obama had to act. For more than a week, reports had been coming in from across the country. Every television newscast featured another shaky video showing a hostile crowd angrily shouting down yet another Congressional representative during a “town hall” meeting being held to discuss health care reform.

Mike Sola, for example, confronted Democratic Rep. John Dingell in Romulus, MI on August 6. Mike pushed his son Scott, who was in a wheelchair, to within two feet of Dingell’s podium and repeatedly bellowed “I have a question.”

After wearing out that refrain, Sola began yelling, “He has a right to be represented. I’m his father and I want to talk to you face to face.”

An audible part of the crowd encouraged Sola to sit down and shut up, but he would not be deterred. “Under the Obama health care plan, which you support,” he went on at the same volume, “this man would be given no care whatsoever because he is a cerebral palsy handicapped person.”

Dingell managed to interject, “We put an amendment in which will address his specific problem as the bill was going through ...” Sola then drowned out Dingell by yelling “No. No. No.” Eventually two police officers came and escorted Sola away. Sola demanded to be arrested along with his son, but he was denied that satisfaction.

The next day, interviewed on Fox News [*Insert expression of incredulity here*] Sola denied that he had been disruptive.

Sola said his concern stemmed from an article he had read in the *New York Post*. The *Post*, like Fox News, belongs to Rupert Murdoch.

Published under the headline “Dangerous Doctors” the article, written by Betsy McCaughey, says the “health bills coming out of Congress would put the decisions about your care in the hands of presidential appointees ... [who would] decide what plans cover, how much leeway your doctor will have and what seniors get under Medicare.”

Ms. McCaughey holds a Ph.D. in U.S. Constitutional history, and served as New York Lieutenant Governor during George Pataki’s first term. Her primary qualification for writing hit pieces on health care reform, though, appears to be her article, “No Exit,” the cover story in *The New Republic* on February 7, 1994.

In “No Exit,” McCaughey claimed she had read the entire Clinton health care reform bill and found it would eliminate choice and result in rationing of health care, with fatal results, especially for senior citizens. Conservatives like George Will, Bill Kristol, and Bob Dole immediately picked up McCaughey’s refrain and began passing it along.

Just as quickly — just a week after it was published — other writers in *The New Republic* were discussing the factual errors in the piece. After a change in editors two years later, the magazine apologized for running it. The Clinton health care bill never even got out of the gate. A watered-down version could not muster even a simple majority in the Senate.

### Meanwhile, Back in the White House

With the centerpiece of his domestic agenda at stake, the President did the only thing he could do — he announced that he would hold the Mother of All Health Care Town Hall Meetings, right here in River City.



A wide array of citizens were on hand to give the President a warm welcome, including William Kostric, a former Arizonan attracted to New Hampshire by the libertarian Free State Project. A committed believer in his Second Amendment rights, Mr. Kostric carried a sign saying “It is time to water the tree of liberty,” a reference to the Thomas Jefferson quote, “The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time, with the blood of patriots and tyrants.” In case anyone didn’t get his point, Kostric also

had a holstered Smith & Wesson 9 mm pistol on his right leg.\*

After the event finally got underway inside the Stone Gymnasium, Linda Boettcher, a teacher at Portsmouth High School for 37 years, asked the President, “if every American who needed

\* Kostric could have been arrested for carrying a loaded gun within 1,000 feet of a school, had he not been given permission to stand on the private property of St. Nicholas Church. Richard Young, of Hampton, wasn’t so well prepared. He was arrested with a knife for trespassing inside the High School about 9:40 a.m., and having a loaded but unlicensed handgun in his truck. He’s being held without bail.

it [had] access to good mental health care, what do you think the impact would be on our society?”

Obama replied, in part, “mental health has always been undervalued in the health insurance market ... I’ve been a strong believer in mental health parity, recognizing that those are serious illnesses. And I would like to see a mental health component as part of a package that people are covered under, under our plan.”

Clearly, it can’t come a minute too soon.

### Story Containing Several Minor Inaccuracies Inexplicably Appears on Gazette Website

On Monday, August 10, this photograph (right) appeared on our website, [www.nhgazette.com](http://www.nhgazette.com), accompanied by the following text: “Barack Obama, the crazed Kenyan terrorist who was sworn in as President by the traitorous Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts, terrorized senior citizens and two pigeons Saturday afternoon, in preparation for the Town Hall meeting on health care to be held at Portsmouth Public High School tomorrow. Obama, a Muslim, personally flew Marine One over Keefe House, home to 58 members of The Greatest Generation™, to intimidate the occupants and dissuade them from appearing Tuesday. Either that, or he was



searching for alternative routes of egress, in case his sinister plot to euthanize the Town Hall audience goes awry.” We are at a loss to

explain how the item, which contains several inaccuracies, came to be posted, and we deny any and all responsibility.

## News Briefs:

### Hi-Tech Sleuth Closing In On Nixon?

David Corn reported in *Mother Jones* last month on a project that could — if it succeeds and bears out the researcher’s suspicions — bring Richard Nixon’s reputation to a new low. The National Archives unit holding the Watergate files is going to conduct a test of two pages from a yellow legal pad that was used by H.R. “Bob” Haldeman during a conversation with Nixon on June 20, 1972. As Haldeman took notes — something he always did meticulously — the two discussed how to go about covering up the White House’s involvement in

the Watergate break-in which had taken place three days earlier. Their conversation was later lost in the infamous 18.5 minute gap in the Nixon tapes.

Phil Mellinger, a former National Security Agency analyst, learned the Archives had the two pages of Haldeman’s notes last October — but only two pages. Unnoticed by other researchers, there appeared to be a gap in Haldeman’s notes, too. Mellinger reasoned that the if the second page were subjected to electrostatic detection analysis, a “proven forensic technique used

to capture indentations and impressions on a piece of paper,” it might provide evidence to help fill in the 18.5 minute gap

Mellinger’s own theory is that Watergate was driven by Nixon’s fear “that the Democrats possessed evidence that he had covertly sabotaged Vietnam peace negotiations to boost his election chances in 1968.”

### Speaking of Dirty Tricks

Reps. Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Ed Markey (D-MA) recently succeeded in passing an energy/climate bill that should help reduce the emission of greenhouse

gasses. Naturally, there were those opposed to the bill — those who are making a handsome profit by emitting greenhouse gasses, for instance.

But why would Creciendo Juntos, an organization serving Charlottesville, NC’s Hispanic community, object to it? And what would the Albemarle-Charlottesville branch of the NAACP have against the bill?

Nothing, as it turns out. Yet Rep. Tom Perriello (D-VA) received letters from both organizations, on their official letterheads, expressing their opposition.

The *Charlottesville Daily Progress* explained the mystery on July 31: “The person who sent the letter[s] has not been identified, but he or she was employed by a Washington lobbying firm called Bonner & Associates.”

A Bonner & Associates partner was dispatched to do damage control, saying that the letters had been a “mistake” and the person who sent them had been fired.

On August 4, *The New York*

**News Briefs**

*from page one*

*Times* published a report from Greenwire revealing who Bonner's client was: the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, which represents electric utilities and the coal companies who supply them.

**Second Piscataqua Bridge Meeting August 20**

This just in from the Maine-NH Connections Study:

"The second Public Informational Meeting for the Maine-NH Connections Study will take place on August 20 at the Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Parrott Avenue. The 6 p.m. meeting will be preceded by an open house from 4-6 p.m. that will feature a display and summary of the baseline data that has been collected to date for the study.

"The open house will give those who are interested in data on vehicle and bicycle traffic, river navigation and land use the time they need to absorb this information," said Carol Morris, study spokesperson. "And since all the information stations will have a study team member available, it means folks can informally ask questions and make comments." Morris added that written comment forms will also

be available at the open house and at the meeting.

"The agenda of the meeting includes a presentation of the baseline data collected, an update on the status of the bridge inspection and the federal stimulus application and an opportunity for the public to comment on the study's draft Purpose and Need Statement, which has been under development by the Steering and Stakeholder Committees over the summer.

"The draft Purpose and Need Statement will be posted at [www.maineNHconnections.org](http://www.maineNHconnections.org) prior to the meeting; Study Data will be posted on the web site during the week following the meeting."

"Persons or groups who want to receive updates on a regular basis can contact Carol Morris by calling (207) 329-6502 or by e-mail to [cmorris@morriscomm.net](mailto:cmorris@morriscomm.net)."

**Portsmouth**

**Community Television**

Remember the dear dead days when people were still waiting expectantly for the eventual inauguration of a cable-based entity to be called something like Portsmouth Community Television? Well, thanks to the creativity of Comcast executives and the even-handedness of the Ameri-



can system in which all dollars are equal before the law, most people seem to have thrown in the towel and forgotten about it.

But not Dan Freund and John Herman. By their own account, these two militiamen in the digital revolution were "meeting for a beer at The Press Room [when] Dan pitched his idea for an online media network allowing videographers from the community to showcase their work. During the discussion, John was busy behind his laptop. Dan thought John was ignoring him. Instead, John created the network right then and there; because, you know, that's what he does. Short-Stream online media network couldn't wait any longer, and is currently serving Portsmouth-related media online."

Yes, you read it right — Portsmouth Community Television is now up and running on the Internet at [Shortstream.tv](http://Shortstream.tv). And for a delicious touch of irony, if you're its customer, you can get

it through your Comcast coaxial cable.

Items now available for viewing include pieces featuring Micum Davis, of Cornerstone Tree-care, taking down a tree at the New England Center; a piece on the 2008 Presidential Primary; an interview with Jayson Kohl, a co-owner of Odyssey and Oracle, the indie second-hand record, clothing and bicycle store on Albany Street; footage of the 2008 Halloween Parade; an interview with the editor of *This Olde Rag*; and two brief but amusing bits featuring a gentleman known as Headcase.

**Joe Stevens, Hotshot Photographer**

Perhaps the most entertaining piece up so far on [Shortstream.tv](http://Shortstream.tv) is a seven-minute interview with local raconteur Joe Stevens, apparently filmed at Caffé Kilim.

Joe talks about the evolution of his career as a "Hot Shot" Photographer. As a kid growing up in the West Village, he was sur-

rounded by big name musicians like Thelonious Monk and Stan Getz. After opening his own coffee house — at the age of 19 — Joe sometimes had to hire photographers to take publicity photos. "They were a pain in the ass. They were terrible. And they were slow with the pictures." So he began shooting his own photos. Then he kept at it during a stint on the road as manager for John Sebastian.

A pivotal moment in Joe's career was the night when he got his first "All Access" pass to Carnegie Hall. On the bill were Johnny Cash and The Carter Family, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, and the guy who gave Joe the pass — Mississippi John Hurt.

Other highlights include Joe talking about shooting "Peter Gabriel in my bathtub in London - no one has that," Joey Ramone pretending to attack Joe with a knife, and the Sex Pistols "beating the hell out of the audience — that's rare."



**Steeple For Our New(s) Religion?**—A television news truck's microwave mast pierces the sky above Market Square.

**Market Square Jewelers**  
 Peter T. Henry & Joan K. Henry  
 12 Market Square, Portsmouth, NH 03801  
 (603) 430-9587

**Estate Jewelers**  
 Buy • Sell • Trade  
 Loose Gems • Antique Restoration • Repairs  
 Gold • Silver • Costume • Bead Restrings

8 Clifford Street Exeter, NH 778-6850 store 778-2670 café  
[www.blumoonmarket.net](http://www.blumoonmarket.net) [www.blumoon-yoga.net](http://www.blumoon-yoga.net)

**The Fortnightly Quote, from A Reader:**  
*"Once in a while you're shown the light,  
 In the strangest of places if you look at it right."*  
 Robert Hunter/Jerry Garcia  
*"Scarlet Begonias"*

**South Street and Vine**  
 359 Marcy St • 430-2984  
 Sunday through Thursday: 11 am - 6 pm  
 Friday and Saturday: 9 am - 6 pm

*Wine for the table, not for the cellar.*

**Prelude**  
 Great Jewelry  
 Imported Soaps  
 & Bath Comforts  
 65 Market Street  
 Portsmouth, NH 03801  
 (603) 431-0694  
 Featuring  
 Skagen Watches &  
 Dr. Hauschka Skin Care

**New Boston Tool Room**  
 Corner of Rt 125 and New Boston Rd.  
 Kingston, NH • 642-4054  
 Antique and Usable Tools for  
 Collectors and Craftsmen

**Adelles COFFEEHOUSE**  
 Next to City Hall in Downtown Dover, NH  
 3 Hale Street ☎ (603) 742-1737

**the Friendly Toast**  
 121 CONGRESS  
 430-2154  
 Portsmouth

A new batch of videos will go up on the site on September 4, but don't wait for that — see it now!

**Learn About**

**Piscataqua River Gundalows**

Nate Hazen, a Board member with the Gundalow Company who has traveled most of the rivers of the Piscataqua on the gundalow *Capt. Edward H. Adams*, will give a Gallery Talk titled “The Gundalow — Freighter of the Piscataqua,” at the Discover Portsmouth Center at the Corner of Middle and Islington Streets, Saturday, August 15, at 11:00 a.m. The event will be free and open to the public.

The gundalow was the ubiquitous freight carrier of the estuarine river system for over 250 years, carrying all manner of cargo upstream and downstream on

the strength of the tidal currents. Mr. Hazen's talk will cover the development of the form, documentary coverage in contemporary media, and amusing anecdotes. Following his talk, he will lead a tour of the “Birds, Beasts & Boats” exhibit and conduct a discussion of the gundalow models in the gallery, largely made by Capt. Edward Adams in the 20th century, interpreting the form.

In addition to his work on the Gundalow Company board, Mr. Hazen is a UNH Marine Docent, a maritime history buff, a black-powder cannoneer, and a sailor. A retired research/project engineer from Harvard, he and his artist wife have been living on the estuary for 11 years.

For more information, call the Discover Portsmouth Center at (603) 436-8433.



*The poor, as a famous troublemaker once said, we will always have with us. On August 4, Portsmouth was apparently graced with, in addition to the folks who hang out in front of Starbucks, the anonymous commodore of this extravagant hunk of plastic. The Sea Fox purports to be registered in George Town, C.I. If Wikipedia has not steered us wrong, that is probably the George Town on Grand Cayman, the capital of the Cayman Islands in the British West Indies. George Town is the “heart of the Cayman Islands financial industry,” and home to “over 600 banks.” Most of those alleged banks are “small one room operations, some having no physical location on the island at all.” Since George Town has a population of fewer than 21,000 people, that’s a rather odd supply/demand ratio of one bank for every 35 people. The number of Cayman Island banks, however, is dwarfed by its reported 10,000-plus hedge funds. But, since the Cayman Islands weren’t settled until the mid-17th century, they can’t be said to be the sole source of poverty — the poor preceded them.*



**Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (VASH) Update**

For some time now we've had a couple of extra pieces of well-used but still-serviceable furniture, a chair and a table, just taking up space at *Gazette* World Headquarters. We've known what to do with them but hadn't had the right opportunity. Last week we finally got our chance.

We loaded the items into the pickup and took them to the VA Hospital on Smyth Road in Manchester. By prior arrangement we met up with Tracey Noonan, the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (VASH) Program Manager, and turned the items over to her. Now a disabled veteran who is receiving subsidized housing through the VASH program has something that program is not able to give them: a comfortable chair and a pretty good table.

We received in return the following, listed here in ascending order of their respective values.

- 1) the space that the items formerly took up,
- 2) the pleasure of meeting Tracey in person, and
- 3) the satisfaction that comes from getting to do in a tangible way something that is generally restricted to the theoretical: support the troops.

Tracey told us that VASH has had many calls from people who found out about the program through the *Olde Rag*. Hearing that from her inspired us to insert this item here. We can testify that the process is painless and very gratifying.

The program recently added another 30 or so clients, so the need continues. Furniture, household appliances, pots and pans, and cleaning supplies top the list of needed items. Cash is also acceptable; a bank account has been set up. For more information call Tracey Noonan, at (603) 657-5612.

**The Relentless Self-Promotion Dept.**

Processing the incoming subscriptions and renewals as we prepared to mail the previous issue was heartening and a little disorienting. The paper we were about to mail contained a brief outline of our mad scheme to revolutionize the nation's entire political structure, which we plan to do if and when we get enough Supporting Subscribers. (We hope to get that scheme posted somewhere on our website within the next week or so, by the way.)

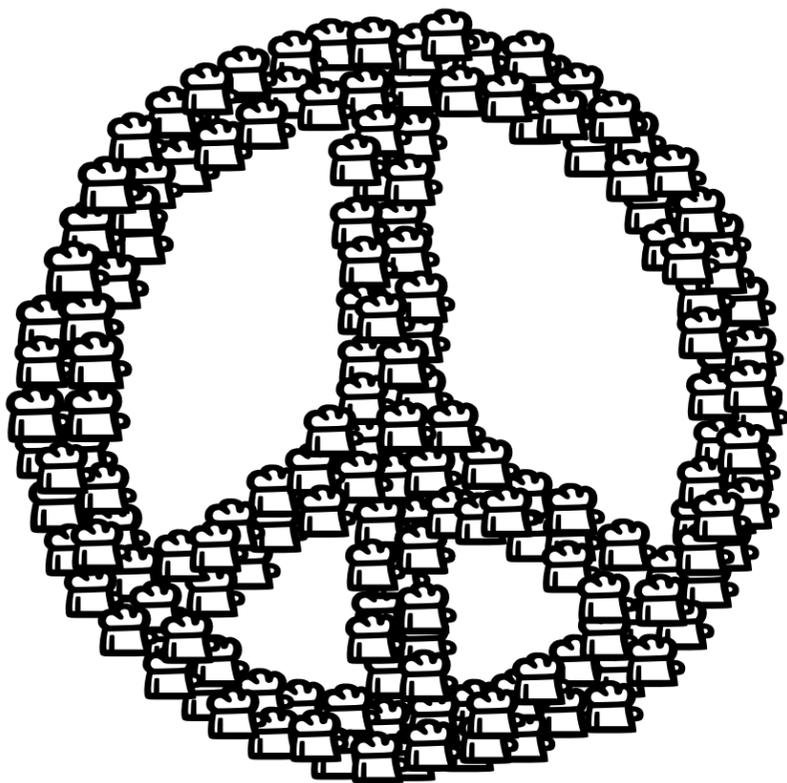
As we entered new subscriptions and renewals into the database, we didn't find the steep increase in Supporting Sub-

scriptions we'd been hoping for. But we did find a big whack of support in another form: people spontaneously throwing extra money in with their renewals and saying, “here — take this.”

Loui and Ann, in Walden, Vermont sent an extra \$75, and wrote, “We love your input ... especially your warped sense of humor ... Enclosed is a small donation to help keep your spirigs up and pay some bills ... keep it coming.” Sarah in North Pomfret also sent an extra \$75, saying “You guys are the best.” Frank in Salem — the witchified Salem — threw in an extra \$15 and commented, “a little extra to help with the postage.”

These generous gifts, and the several new and renewed Supporting Subscriptions we did get, didn't quite add up to what we will need to effectively counter Fox News and Heritage Foundation. Over the long haul, we'll need to develop a steady base made up of smaller amounts. But having said that, it's really not a bad start. And it's very heartening.

The News Briefs must end here this fortnight, to make way for a flood of letters, but the Subscription Form is in its usual place — the lower right corner of page five — so have at it.



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



*Northcountry Chronicle*

# Jabez Stone's Bargain

by William Marvel

Seven years ago this week I sat on the porch of an old Quaker meetinghouse in a surprisingly rural corner of Maryland, only 20 miles from steamy, stinking Baltimore. The porch overlooked the graves of Quakers who had attended that meeting for nearly two centuries past, and beyond the cemetery sprawled rolling fields covered with gently swaying crops of corn, hay, and grain. The only other buildings visible were an old stone church on a distant hilltop and an 1840s farmhouse with its barn and sheds.

It was a Saturday, and except for the occasional hum of an unseen car nothing stirred. Dozens of people had gathered on the porch with me, but for the longest while none of them uttered a word. Quakers are quiet like that, and their silence is what makes them the only Christians I can really stand.

When I gaze at landscapes that have changed so little over the decades I inevitably start thinking about the past, and that Saturday morning was no exception. My reverie specifically involved James Longstreet, the Confederate general who served as Robert E. Lee's second-in-command. At the time I was considering writing a biography of Longstreet, who was never treated fairly by historians. Perhaps because of that preoccupation with him, I could hardly dispel the image of Longstreet's corps sweeping over the ridge in the distance with its red banners flying, precisely as it had done a few miles to the west, 140 years earlier.

The daydream was more personal than historical, for as I envisioned it Longstreet was coming to save me from a fate worse than death. From bitter experience and observation I had ridiculed marriage for 20 years as a compact between sentimental fools

who sold themselves into mutual slavery: I had occasionally submitted to theoretical discussion of the concept, but the pressure to confirm concrete details had always brought me to my senses. Yet there I sat on a two-person bench, and according to those Quakers if I remained in it long enough they would consider me married to the woman who was seated beside me.

So mesmerized was I by the progress of Longstreet's imaginary legions that before I knew it my time was up. From there some friends took me and the young lady to a favorite mountaintop and plied me with champagne, just as British crimps used to entice grog-soaked men into His Majesty's service. By midnight we were ensconced in the Piper farmhouse in the middle of the Antietam battlefield (where Longstreet actually did set foot), on the first night of our honeymoon.

I expected to wake up the next morning wondering what the hell I had done. When that wasn't the case, I figured it would happen on the next morning. Much to my surprise, it never happened at all. Months later it dawned on me why that reaction had not set in: the wedding ceremony, I finally realized, had not been real. There had been no minister, or justice of the peace. While all those Quakers pronounced us married after their quaint tradition, I had found out their secret, and that made all the difference. I was still free, and living in delicious sin. The young lady turned out to be a delightful partner who enjoys many of the same pursuits that I do, from history and gardening to hiking and bicycling. She is an indefatigable worker, too—so long as the work does not involve putting anything back where it belongs, or cleaning the junk off her desk or out of her

car. Her sense of humor matches mine well, with a veiled taste for darkness and sarcasm, although I still don't think she would deem it funny if she found out about the fake wedding ceremony.

Our nest grows happier as it empties, and the last fledgling leaves this month. All things considered, times have been so good since that morning on the meetinghouse porch that I feel like Jabez Stone, the New Hampshire farmer who agreed to consign his soul to the devil in return for seven years of good luck. Unlike Stone, however, I suffered no reminder from the mortgage holder on the sixth anniversary, so I shouldn't need the services of Daniel Webster or any of his more high-priced modern counterparts. So long as neither my "wife" nor the Internal Revenue Service discovers the pretense on which our joy and contentment rests, life might just go on happily ever after.

**More Hate Mail, &c.**

*from page seven*

in mind, why does the Congress reject them for themselves and all government employees, elected or hired or appointed? Could it be "do as I say, not as I do-ism"?

John Sangenario  
Hampton, NH

*John:*

*As H.L. Mencken once wrote, "There is always an easy solution to every human problem — neat, plausible, and wrong." The bill you*

*cite is a perfect example. The Editor*

**We Can Do It**

To the Editor:

Health care: a benefit but also a responsibility.

If you want to know what is going on behind the scenes in Health Care Reform click on PBS online, search for Bill Moyers Journal and select "health care reform." Bill interviews Wendell Potter, a former officer in the insurance industry, who tells about

how stockholders' demand for profit changed the mission of insurance companies from the protection of its members into making money for the super-rich hedge fund operators and other billionaire investors.

Desperate for profit for its investors the insurance companies raised rates, deductibles, denied claims and purged the sick and injured from their rolls.

Yes we need health care reform but we had best seek insurance reform as well.

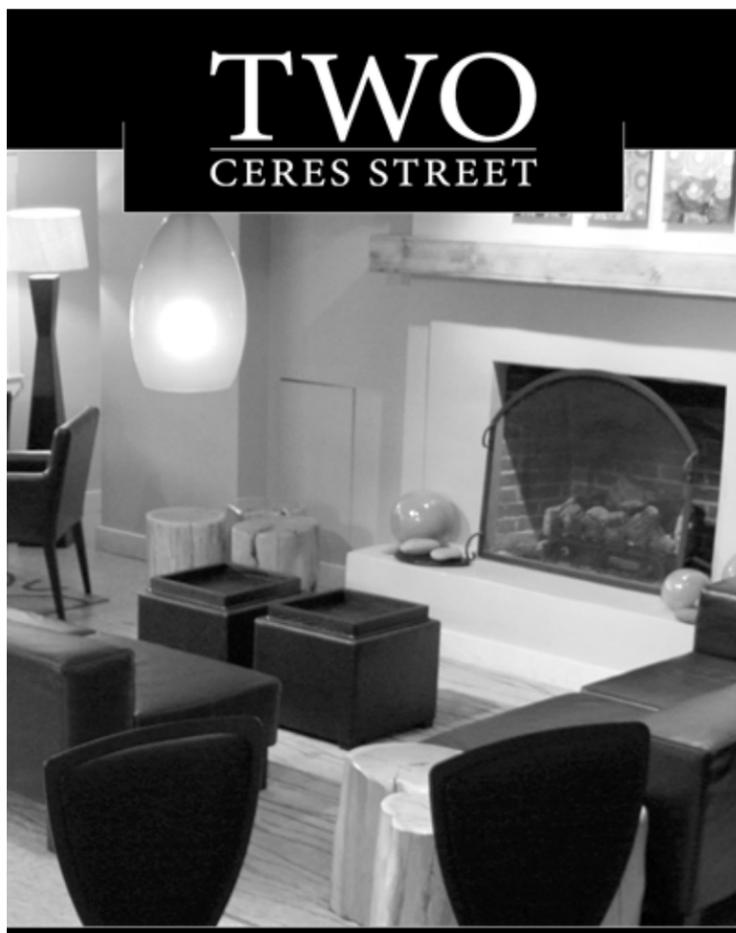
This and other government reform starts with ending the power of the leaders of industry and commerce to control legislations with its vast sums of money. We have been inured into thinking that this is the way the system works. Our present recession is painful evidence that it doesn't work for the people, or for big business.

The Wall Street/Billionaire/corporate oligarchy will do any thing to discredit President Obama and any reform that

creates any competition to the dominating insurance industries that threaten today's healthcare and insurance reform. With their lies, half-truths, innuendos, false rumors, and out-of-context distortions they create negative advertising about the public option, and positive changes that influence the uninformed public.

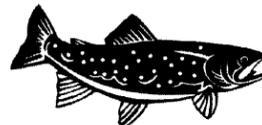
Healthcare reform will also benefit our economy. It will help our industries compete with manufacturers in foreign countries that have free healthcare.

Do not attempt to read this. The type is too small. You will strain your eyes.



TWO  
CERES STREET

**TWO CERES STREET**  
An intimate, elegant place to hold your next party.  
Call (603) 433-2373.  
[www.twoceresstreet.com](http://www.twoceresstreet.com)



**JUMPIN' JAY'S  
FISH CAFE**

150 Congress Street  
Portsmouth, NH  
603-766-FISH



**Beach Dog**  
GIFTS, GARDEN  
& PET ACCESSORIES  
6 MAIN ST.  
YORK BEACH  
207-363-8470

**10% off**  
with this ad!



**MOE'S**  
Italian Sandwiches  
Since 1959

[www.MoesItalianSandwiches.com](http://www.MoesItalianSandwiches.com)

**In-depth psychotherapy**  
*Informed by mindfulness practice*



**Robert J. Cox, Ph.D.**  
Licensed Psychologist  
603-433-7337 978-621-8860

Custom shirt designs that help you  
stand out from the crowd.



**black sheep**  
design company

screenprinting embroidery graphic design  
85 Daniel St. Portsmouth (603) 431-6801

**Active French School**  
French Classes.  
All Levels, All Ages

603.430.2020

[www.activefrenchschool.com](http://www.activefrenchschool.com)

*When "the Army we had" was sent to war,  
they got plenty of lip service about "support."  
Well, some of them are back now. And a few of them could use a hand.*

The Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (VASH) program provides permanent housing and ongoing case management treatment services for homeless veterans who would not be able to live independently without the support of case management.

VASH cannot provide furniture, household appliances, pots and pans, or other household goods. VASH can accept these items, and distribute them to veterans who need them.

Call or e-mail Tracey Noonan, VASH Program Manager,  
at (603) 657-5612 or [tracey.noonan@va.gov](mailto:tracey.noonan@va.gov)

**NATURAL GATHERINGS**



GARDENS WEDDINGS WREATHS  
SARAH PELLERIN  
603 659 8770

Moving Pictures

# The Hurt Locker

by Rodman Philbrick

**Stars:** Jeremy Renner, Anthony Mackie, Brian Geraghty; **Screenplay:** Mark Boal; **Director:** Kathryn Bigelow; **Rating:** [R]

Directors keep making movies about the American soldier's experience in Iraq, and Americans keep not wanting to see them. When it comes to long-running wars, apparently we prefer them out of sight, out of mind. We happily salute the flag, but would prefer not to know what it costs in blood and treasure to keep it flying over foreign lands. Too bad, because some fine dramas have been inspired by the occupation of Iraq, and what happens when young men and women must sacrifice to impose order upon a society that seems, at least some of the time, to prefer death and anarchy to peace and survival. *Jarhead*, *Three Kings*, *In The Valley of Elah*, all dealt seriously with the experience, and none found a mass audience.

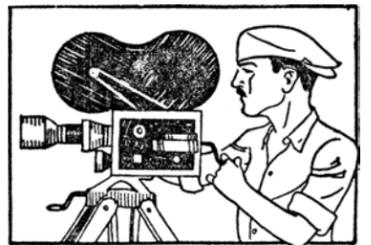
The latest effort to induce widespread eye aversion is Kath-

ryn Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker*, the best in class thus far. Screenwriter Mark Boal embedded with an U.S. Army bomb disposal squad and came away with a story that rings true enough to cause sweat to bead on the brow, even in an air-conditioned theater. The squads are small — a few soldiers in a Humvee responding to calls to identify and disarm the so-called I.E.D.'s that are the signature weapon of this particular war. Huge shells of unexploded ordinance rigged with timers from Radio Shack, detonated by cheap watches or cell phones. The squad establishes a perimeter and if possible sends in a robot to check out the device. Next up, the squad leader in a padded suit and a pair of snips to clip the wires before the world goes boom. The man in the armored suit, new to the command of this particular squad, happens to be an adrenaline junky who loves to get close to high explosives, and keeps a locker full of the clipped detonators that were out to get him. Played by Jeremy Renner (from television's *The Unusuals*), Staff Sergeant Will "Wild Man" James has defused over 800 de-

VICES, and can't wait for the next one. His fellow squad members come to believe their boss has a serious death wish that is likely to include them as the days of their rotation — and survival — tick down. Shot on location in Jordan in a documentary style (all the rage, the latest being *District 9*) by the director of *Near Dark* and *Point Break*, *The Hurt Locker* keeps the tension screwed down tight as Wild Man wades, bow-legged in a Michelin Man suit, into the exceedingly mean streets where crazed taxi drivers would rather die than put their cabs in reverse, and roving gangs rig the bodies of slaughtered children with explosive devices, and every citizen with a cell phone is a potential detonator. Not a happy place — indeed, Bigelow makes it look like hell on earth — and yet Wild Man keeps committing acts of outrageous, high-skilled courage, risking and saving not only his own life, but the lives of many Iraqi civilians he alternately loves and loathes. Renner's almost hypnotic performance deserves to garner a nomination or two — never has a man been so convincingly gleeful

in the face of death — and the supporting cast comes across as real as the kids next door. They want to get out of the war alive, Wild Man couldn't care less, and the resulting tension makes *The Hurt Locker* something very special, and certainly the best drama about a bomb squad since the old BBC series *Danger UXB*.

Bigelow, born in 1951, continues to be one of the most interesting and iconoclastic directors of her generation. With the exception of *Blue Steel* (Jamie Lee Curtis as a troubled cop) and to a lesser extent *The Weight of Water*, almost all of her films have been about men and violence. *Point Break* got deep into the man thing with Keanu Reeves going undercover to nab charismatic surfer/bank robber Patrick Swayze. *Strange Days*, a weird and brilliant look at the apocalypse, was all about Ralph Fiennes connecting to his inner guy, and *K-11: The Widowmaker* is a bunch of sweaty Russian dudes jammed into a dying submarine. One assumes she's simply drawn to the material, to what happens to men who are exposed to, and may well thrive on, danger and



violence. It's a big, important subject, and nobody does it better, or looks deeper.

One caveat, and this is strictly a matter of personal taste. Your reviewer is probably alone in the wilderness on this one, but the current trend to shoot dramas is if they were in-your-face documentaries, in an effort to make them seem "real," actually does the reverse. The herky-jerky camera work makes them seem about as real as a network reality show. Actors have to work twice as hard to get the same message across, and that's because the best acting happens when a gifted artist gives it up to the screen, communicating nuances of feeling that are captured, ever-so-delicately, by a fine camera lens and lighting that assists and evokes, rather than obscures. Think of Al Pacino in *The Godfather*. Would we ever have known what was going on inside him if the camera was never still enough to let us look into his soul?

Get a tripod, please.

As we have learned from the past that campaign promises are often forgotten or denied fruition due to the power of the lobby and its negative advertising lulling us into inaction. Sports, entertainment, electronic games and the lure of consumerism have distracted us from our duty

as the people who are part of the government. It is time to wake up and smell our country burning.

Although we are faced with the corrupt power and stench of the Wall Streets hidden deals we cannot surrender to this parasitic, autocratic hegemony that is eating at the very fabric of

our nation and our civil rights. Be informed. Look beyond the mainstream media's manufactured news and find the truth in Public Broadcasting and trusted internet sites.

The Torch of Freedom still burns and it is passed down to us. We must not lose faith with the

spirit of Clarence Darrow, Daniel Webster and others who used the Rule of Law to create justice. The change we need is in us, every one of us. Join and support Acorn, Move On, the Polaris Project or the many others who are working for a better nation for every one.

We can do it.  
Wilbur N. Rhodes  
Kittery, ME  
*Wilbur:*  
*We better. Unless we get the upper hand over the corporations, their lackeys in both parties, and the media, we're all Soylent Green.*  
*The Editor*

427-2919  
**Savarino's**  
PIZZA & CALZONE  
"We're worth the trip."

*Davies*  
**TIRE COMPANY**  
Call us for a liberal dose of service  
93 Islington Street - 433-1328

**Golf Balls For Sale**  
U-Pic  
436-9120  
100 Peverly Hill Road

*Beadizen*  
a bead shop  
214 State St., Portsmouth, NH  
(603) 431-1897

This lovely little space could be yours for a mere eight bucks. To learn how, call (603) 433-9898, or e-mail editors@nhgazette.com.

**Portsmouth Community Radio**  
WSCA-LP 106.1 FM

WHERE MEMORABLE MEALS COME NATURALLY.  
NO MATTER WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK.  
PHILBRICK'S  
*Fresh Market*  
EAT WELL. LIVE WELL. EVERY DAY.  
Lafayette Plaza, Route 1, Portsmouth, 422-6758 • Mon - Sat 8am - 8pm, Sun 10am - 6pm

**CAFFÉ KILIM**  
Fresh Roasted Coffees • Espresso Bar  
Rug Gallery & Unique Gifts  
163 Islington St ~ 436-7330

**JACKSON'S HARDWARE**  
56 Route One Bypass  
Kittery, Maine  
207.439.1133  
100 YEARS STRONG

**MadeInUSA Forever.com**  
Hundreds of products all made in the USA!  
Clothing • Toys • Furniture  
Tools • Automotive • Flags  
Todd Lipscomb founded Made in USA Forever.com to provide an easy, fun way to buy products made in the USA. Stand with us to protect America's ability to produce, create jobs, and remain a world leader. You can call Todd at 888-861-0365 (toll-free) or write to him at todd@madeinusaforever.com.

**Silver Moon**  
  
**Crêperie**  
20 Third Street • Dover • 603-742-6150  
<http://www.silvermooncreperie.com>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
26 FORTNIGHTLY ISSUES, NOW MAILED FIRST CLASS

Mail this form with your check for \$25 to:  
New Hampshire Gazette, PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802.  
Please print clearly. Offer good in U.S. only.

Supporting Subscribers Only: Please Check Box at Right:  
(Supporting Subscribers pay the standard \$25/yr, but make their money go twice as far for us by picking up their own papers at one of our many convenient locations.)

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN, CITY, OR BURG: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ + 4:

GIFT OF: (WHERE APPLICABLE) \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting  
 Subscriber



**Physicians for a National Health Program**

To the Editor:

Speaker Pelosi has pledged to hold a floor debate and vote on single payer health reform this fall. This vote on an amendment to HR 3200 (the 1,000+ page bill favored by the House Leadership) would substitute the 27 page HR 676 as the new health care policy of the United States.

This is important to everyone because passage would bring simplicity and stability into your health care planning. For about 4.5 percent of income, matched by your employer, you would receive a lifetime policy with no co-payments, no deductibles, no out-of-pocket expenses, and most important, no preexisting conditions exclusions. Your policy would cover choice of physician and appointments with them, hospital care, diagnostic imaging, laboratory tests, prescriptions, vision care, preventive care, dental care, chiropractic care, emergency care and ambulance transportation, podiatry, speech, physical, and occupational therapy, mental health care, substance abuse care, health education, hospice care, adult day care, skilled nursing care, long term care, and dialysis.

Please note that passage of this plan covers everyone with the same basic policy: Medicaid would be eliminated, medical bankruptcy would be eliminated, and the President's goals of universal, affordable, choice, and cost controls would be met.

Costs would be contained by dramatically reducing administrative expenses, global budgeting, bulk purchasing of prescription drugs, medical supplies and equipment, mandating transparency in pricing, and reduction in fraud.

Although the President keeps saying you can keep the insurance you have, it is the small businessman buying this policy for you. And with insurance premiums rising every year way above the inflation rate, providing this coverage for many is not possible anymore. A fixed percentage of payroll would be a much more affordable option.

The City of Portsmouth paid \$9,615 for a family policy in 2000, and this year \$24,145, costing you 10 percent of your property tax bill. Without reform, similar increases of this magnitude would lead to a premium of \$60,362 in 2020 and \$150,906 in 2030. This clearly demonstrates the need for reform.

Please visit the Physicians for a National Health Program website at pnhp.org for more information.

Thomas Clairmont, MD  
Portsmouth, NH

Thomas:

*One of the most maddening things about life in America these days is how often the most reasonable and promising ideas go unheard, while utter crackpotism drones away relentlessly. Thanks for your concise introduction to HR 676. It's hard to imagine it's got a chance, but it surely deserves one.*

The Editor

**Unhappy Customer**

To My Fellow Democrats:

"Change That We Can Believe In" was the campaign motto of the Democratic Party and Barack Hussien [sic] Obama. Exactly what change did I expect as a Democratic constituent? First and foremost, it was the promise of transparency; no new

taxes on the middle class; no pork bill spending; no lobbyists allowed; lowering the deficit; no more politics as usual and accountability to the constituents. It was the promise of building an energy program that would utilize all natural resources while at the same time developing the technology that would establish a new economic base for the country. It was the promise that all Americans would have access and choice in a quality health care program. I had *hoped* that this young man would *lead* our country back to the Constitution with its promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all.

What part of what I had envisioned has happened? To my dismay *none*. No transparency; new taxes either imposed or impending on all of us; pork bill spending allowed; lobbyists a part of the Administration; increased deficit; politics as usual; a Congress that dismisses its constituents. A Cap and Trade policy that will place the economic burden on middle class America without first ensuring world wide pollution controls. A Universal Health Care Policy that has embedded within it the strengthening of one segment at the sacrifice of quality health care and the elderly. One only has to read the bills to know this is true.

Being wrong is not my personal preference. However, as I become better informed, it appears that our President can not lead, but follows a non-responsive, corrupt Congress and an entourage of the likes of Guithner [sic], Axelrod, Emanuel and czars, many of whom have questionable backgrounds. It appears that he is only the mouth piece for politics as usual. It appears that it is about *power* and *control* of the American people.

We cannot tolerate anyone saying that those who exercise their Constitutional Rights of

*Mash Notes*, **HATE MAIL**,

free speech are a *mob!* We can not insinuate that segments of our population who disagree with our opinions are of a lower echelon. To do so is to exercise the ultimate hypocrisy. It weakens the ideation of the Democratic Party that has stood for Civil Liberties. It puts in to question our integrity.

Perhaps I will be viewed as a rat that has jumped ship, however my allegiance is to my country and to the republic for which it stands. Regardless of party affiliations it is time for all of us who are at heart patriots and believe in the "goodness" of the American way of life to become astute, informed, responsible citizenry and stand together to protect it. The strength of America comes not from one man or from a politics as usual Congress; it comes from "We the People."

Carol Cook  
Exeter, NH

Carol:

*Your indignation at the lack of an immediate sea-change in American politics is a bit perplexing. You voted for a President, not a Magician-in-Chief. And the alarming tendencies you point to were far more prevalent during the Bush Administration than they are now. Are you sure you were ever a Democrat at all?*

The Editor

**We Need Government Healthcare**

To the Editor:

The wingnut scream machine is yelling, "no socialized medicine," trying to scare us with the specter of faceless government bureaucrats deciding our healthcare. Yup, that's scary, but what is far worse is the current situation of faceless corporate bureaucrats deciding our healthcare. Why? Because private health insurance corporations make their profit by

not giving us the healthcare that we need.

President Obama's health care reform gives us the choice of private corporation or public government health insurance. Without the public option, we're stuck with good healthcare for the rich, lousy healthcare for the middle, and no healthcare for 45 million people with little money or pre-existing conditions.

As government employees, public option bureaucrats are ultimately responsible to us, the people, not to profiteers, for providing healthcare service.

Bruce Joffe  
Piedmont, CA

**The Bell Tolls for All**

To the Editor:

Nearly 46 million Americans now lack health insurance — more than 35 times New Hampshire's population. CNN reports that "one out of three Americans under age 65 had no insurance at some point during 2007 and 2008." No insurance leads to no medical care and to the preventable deaths and illnesses of our fellow Americans.

Medical expenses can be financially catastrophic and are the leading cause of bankruptcy. Entire families are regularly cast into poverty by overwhelming medical expenses.

We Americans have a long-standing commitment to the common good. Thomas Jefferson wrote, "The care of human life and happiness ... is the first and only object of good government." Once, our middle-class seniors had no retirement or medical care. They worked till they died. Social Security and Medicare changed that, reducing poverty and making today's seniors the healthiest ever.

We Americans did the right thing for seniors, and in the end

**The New Hampshire Gazette**

The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™  
 Founder: Daniel Fowle (1715—1787)

Published Fortnightly on Alternate Fridays

PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802  
 www.nhgazette.com • (603) 433-9898 • editors@nhgazette.com

**Subscriptions:**  
 \$25 per year for 26 issues  
 See Page Five for Subscription Form  
*Now Mailed First Class*

Editor: Steven Fowle • Starving Artist: Michael Dater  
 Business (Such as it Is) Manager: Rose Eppard  
 Columnist: William Marvel • Moving Picture Reviewer:  
 Rodman Philbrick • 100 Proof Department: Rose Eppard, Jane Porter, Pat Day, Marcia Jebb, and Joyce Fitzpatrick • Freelance Instigator & Unindicted Co-conspirators: Win Rhoades and Jack Cleary • Distributor: New England Distribution Network  
 Downtown Distributors: Adam Williams, Megan "Moonbeam" Stelzer, Shawn White, Murph, and Jon Wyckoff  
 Subscription Fulfillment: Sally Strazdins, Gail Drobynyk, Rose Eppard, Jane Hoffman, and Joan Jacobs  
 Postal Hauler: Sally Strazdins

*The New Hampshire Gazette* is the most economical advertising medium on the Seacoast. This space is available for just sixteen dollars. To learn more, call (603) 433-9898, or e-mail editors@nhgazette.com.

Fine Custom Framing  
 Gilding & Restoration  
 Antique Maps & Nautical Charts  
 Mirrors

**D. PRATT FRAMER LLC**  
 15 Wallingford Square, Kittery  
 207-439-1192  
 www.dprattframer.com

**Touch My Soul Pet Care & Therapy**  
*Animal Massage, Dog Walking & Pet Sitting*

(603) 828-7815  
 www.touchmysoulnh.com

*"A place where pets always are taken care of."*

**The Sun Also Sets**  
*Vol. 2, The Last Gasp Years*

written by *The Gazette's* very own Starving Artist

**Mike Dater**

Now available in Portsmouth for a mere \$11.95 at:  
 RiverRun Books  
 South Street & Vine  
 The Levy Art Gallery  
*and via the Intertubes at:*

www.MikeDater.com & Amazon.com

**Water Monkey**.com

Cool & Unusual Arrivals Daily

Choice New T-shirts and Hoodies

100's of Tapestries • Posters • Satori Movement

Bajas • Hats • Shades

Alternative Clothing & Goods  
 33 Vaughan Mall • Portsmouth, NH 03801 • 603-431-2243

# And Other Correspondence

we will provide a public health insurance option for the millions who cannot afford medical care. Right now, the (unacceptable) option is "Just don't get sick."

The plight of millions of our fellow Americans is not just appalling but shameful. It is our national tragedy.

In John Donne's words: "No man is an island, entire of itself ... any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." Every time one of the tens of millions of Americans without health insurance dies needlessly due to lack of medical care, the bell tolls for us all.

Jane Hoffman  
Rye NH

Jane:

*That's the most un-American letter we've seen in weeks. Don't you know Darwin is our friend? Where's your righteous willingness to watch your neighbor drop dead if he gets in a bind?*

The Editor

## Another Republic Heard From

To the Editor:

It is extremely revealing, when understanding history, that verse nine of Ecclesiastes confirms that there is "nothing new under the sun."

History does repeat itself. In 1874 the United States Supreme Court recorded in its report the following:

"The foundation of a republic is the virtue of its citizens. They are at once sovereigns and subjects. As the foundation is undermined, the structure is weakened. When it is destroyed, the fabric must fall. Such is the voice of universal history." *Trist v. Child*, 88 U.S. 441 (1874), quoting from 1 Montesquieu, *Spirit of Laws*.

The Republic, to which we pledge our Allegiance, has been destroyed and replaced by *Mob Rule*, masquerading as a Democracy. When will the people heed the lessons of history?

Dick Marple  
Hooskett, New Hampshire Republic

Dick:

*We have no idea what you're getting at, but we'll defend to the death your right to say it.*

The Editor

## Honoring the Sockalexis Cousins

To the Editor:

Finally, after more than a century, two Native American athletes were recognized for their achievements. The state of Maine legislature recently approved a resolution honoring Louis Sockalexis and his cousin Andrew Sockalexis. Louis was the first Native American major league ballplayer and Andrew was a star marathon runner. Historical accounts claim the Cleveland Indians "honored" Louis Sockalexis by changing the name of their team from the Cleveland Spiders to the Cleveland Indians. However, the legacy of Louis Sockalexis is marred by the disgusting Chief Wahoo mascot of the Cleveland Indians. Chief Wahoo is a caricature displaying a buck-toothed, large nosed, red faced Indian.

The Penobscot tribe from Maine, of which Sockalexis was a member, has sent several pleas to the Cleveland Indians to end the use of the Chief Wahoo mascot. The Cleveland team has shamefully refused to even return a reply letter to the Penobscots. Why doesn't Major League Baseball step in and stop the Cleveland Indians from using the Chief Wahoo mascot? The mascot is clearly disrespectful and even

blatantly racist against Native Americans.

John Meinhold  
Portsmouth, NH

John:

*Professional football can get all worked up about dog fighting, but Major League Baseball lets the Indians perpetuate this insult to Native Americans. It really is a disgrace.*

The Editor

## Good Work, Carol

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter for the help she has provided for families struggling with autism. I am someone who knows these difficulties first hand. Both of my sisters' girls are autistic. One of her daughters sees a doctor in Massachusetts who is tops in his field and has treated her since she was 18 months old.

Even though this doctor is a provider for her insurance company, it did not want to pay for her next visit because the physician is out of state in Massachusetts. Carol was able to resolve the problem by acting as an intermediary between the insurance company and my sister.

Shea-Porter has helped those experiencing autism disorders in other ways, too. She was able to secure \$700,000 for the Institute of Disability at UNH as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009. This money will help develop a National Center on Inclusive Education and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders and related disabilities.

Shea-Porter was later able to obtain an additional \$450,000 for the Center through the Labor, Health, Human Services, and Education Bill. Partly as a result of the good work done by the Institute, New Hampshire is ranked No. 1 nationally in the percentage of time students with autism spend in general educa-



tion classrooms.

This capacity to mainstream students with autism is not only good for the kids, but also for the rest of us who want to see all Americans become independent and productive citizens.

Vickey Russo  
Manchester, NH

Vickey:

*It's pitiful that it takes the intervention of a Member of Congress to get a health insurance company to do the right thing. But it's great that the First District has a Member willing and able to help.*

The Editor

## Good For The Goose, Good For The Gander?

To the Editor:

The liberal progressive Democrats tell us they want health care coverage for all Americans. They have run three bills through the U.S. House committees and one-plus through the Senate committees. In the Senate, amendments have been proposed that would require all Senators who vote for the ultimate bill that may come to the floor be covered under that bill rather than the great program they are currently in. Since both the House and Senate bills are requiring a "public option" (government takeover) nobody in the Senate has signed on to be covered with those bills.

Isn't that curious? If the bills were written with all us citizens

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page four

**Summer Hours**  
The Music Hall

AUGUST 16 @ 4:7:30, 17,18 @ 7:30

French director Olivier Assayas' thoughtful and touching drama about siblings coming to terms with the history of their home and their mother's estate. Juliette Binoche, Jeremie Renier and Charles Berling star. Subtitled. OR, 103 mins, F, 2008  
Show and Tell Follows AUGUST 16 Screening

---

**"THE GOOD, THE BADS, THE UGLY"**

AUGUST 19 @ 7

Sergio Leone's epic "Spaghetti Western" stars Clint Eastwood, Eli Wallach and Lee Van Cleef as gunners in the Old West, each who knows a different part of a puzzle which leads to a fortune.  
R, 161 mins, B, 1966

---

**STAR TREK**

AUGUST 20,21,22 @ 7:30

The adventure begins with a young crew's maiden voyage on board the most advanced starship ever created: the U.S.S. Enterprise. The fate of the galaxy rests in the hands of better odds — the Iowa farm boy and the ultralogical Vulcan.  
PG13, 126 mins, US, 2009

---

**O' HORTEN**

AUGUST 23 @ 4:7:30, 24,25 @ 7:30

The charming and quirky tale of Odd Horten. When he retires from train conducting after 40 years, O'Horten realizes that the path ahead is a journey without printed timetables and well-known stations.  
Subtitled. PG13, 90 mins, B, 2008  
Show and Tell Follows AUGUST 25 Screening

---

**METROPOLIS**

AUGUST 26 @ 7

Director Fritz Lang's brilliantly epic vision of a futuristic dystopia, considered the most influential sci-fi film ever, featuring a sinister overcast, de-humanized laborers, the elite who frolic above the clouds and an orbiting robot.  
R, 153 mins, G, 1927

---

**AMERICAN BEAUTY**

AUGUST 27,28,29 @ 7:30

Sam Mendes (American Beauty) goes comedic with a tale of 30-somethings (The Office's John Krasinski, SNL's Maya Rudolph) facing a new era of their life together and a chance to make a new start.  
R, 98 mins, R, 2009

themusicHall.org 23 Chestnut Street, Portsmouth  
Box Office: 603.433.9901

**OPIUM** and **Liquor Habit** cured in 10 to 20 days. No pay till cured. Dr. J. L. Stephens, Dept. M, Lebanon, Ohio.

**Launching Autumn 2009**  
Aiming to connect ALL the creative NH communities

**ArtSpider**  
Now accepting charter members!

**ArtSpider.net**

**SEACOAST GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

*Farmers' Markets, Rain or Shine*

**Mondays, 2:15—5:30, Durham**  
**Tuesdays, 2:15—5:30, Kingston**  
**Tuesdays, 3:00—6:00, Hampton**  
**Wednesdays, 2:15—6:00, Dover**  
**Thursdays, 2:15—6:00, Exeter**  
**Saturdays, 8:00—1:00, Portsmouth**

**www.seacoastgrowers.org**

I spread out  
near a sleeping homeless man  
sunny Piscataqua

Tom D'Evelyn

haikumuse.com

**RiverRun BOOKSTORE**

20 Congress St Portsmouth NH  
603-431-2100  
www.riverrunbookstore.com

**Ceres Bakery**

**Fine Pastries • Distinctive Breads**

Monday-Friday 7 am to 5 pm  
Saturday 7-4 • Sandwiches 11 am to 3 pm

51 Penhallow Street • Portsmouth • 436-6518

---

now offering short run  
**digital color printing** (& color copies)

436.4402  
108 Penhallow  
downtown Portsmouth since 1979  
info@phineasgraphics.com

**PHINEAS**  
graphic design/printing solutions

*The Press Room*

*home of Beat Night*  
*with Larry Simon & Groove Bacteria*  
*third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.*

## 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, August 16	Monday, August 17	Tuesday, August 18	Wednesday, August 19	Thursday, August 20	Friday, August 21	Saturday, August 22
<p><b>2002</b>—In an <i>Army Times</i> article, the commander of "Red" forces in the recent "Millennium Challenge" war games charges they were "almost entirely scripted to ensure a [U.S. military] win."  <b>1980</b>—Refugees hijack three jetliners to get back to Cuba.  <b>1977</b>—Elvis dies... we think.  <b>1976</b>—Two college dropouts named Steve form the Apple Computer company in a garage.  <b>1962</b>—Cuban commies outlaw anarchy.  <b>1960</b>—USAF Col. Joseph Kittinger exits a balloon-lofted gondola 19.4 miles over New Mexico, falls for 4.5 minutes, reaches 714 m.p.h., and lands safely.  <b>1938</b>—Hell hounds catch up to Robert Johnson.  <b>1920</b>—Charles Bukowski is born in Andernach, Germany.  <b>1920</b>—Cleveland Indians shortstop Ray Chapman fails to see a pitch from the Yankees' Carl Mays. Hit in the head, he dies the next day.  <b>1890</b>—Myron "Grim" Natwick, creator of Betty Boop, is born.  <b>1819</b>—British cavalry and Husars attack a political meeting at St. Peter's Field in Manchester, killing fifteen people.  <b>1812</b>—U.S. Gen. William Hull, in "a state of near-incoherence," surrenders Detroit to a lesser force of British and Indians.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:45      8:05</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:39</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—Pentagon officials admit that the U.S. was assisting Iraq during its war against Iran, knowing that Saddam Hussein intended to "use chemical weapons against his own people."  <b>1994</b>—Baseball players go on strike; end of season.  <b>1988</b>—A Pakistani C-130 explodes in mid-air killing President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq. General Pervez Musharraf is scheduled to be on-board, but misses the flight.  <b>1973</b>—Half of CBS's affiliate stations refuse to air David Rabe's play, <i>Sticks &amp; Bones</i>, about a blind, embittered Vietnam vet's homecoming. The play is aired in many cities without commercials—advertisers aren't buying.  <b>1965</b>—South of Chu Lai, U.S. Marines begin Operation Starlite, the first major U.S. ground offensive of the Vietnam war.  <b>1962</b>—LA County Coroner declares Marilyn Monroe a suicide.  <b>1918</b>—In Chicago, IWW members go on trial; 95 will be imprisoned for up to 20 years.  <b>1910</b>—A New York sweatshop opens despite a strike. Women strikers demolish the factory.  <b>1901</b>—During an excursion around New York on the side-wheeler <i>General Slocum</i>, some of a party of 900 intoxicated anarchists from Paterson, NJ attempt unsuccessfully to take control of the ship.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:51      9:08</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:43</p>	<p><b>1996</b>—The U.S. prison population hits 1,600,000, twice what it was 10 years earlier.  <b>1989</b>—Malcolm Forbes throws himself a \$2 million birthday party, flying 800 guests to his castle in Tangiers.  <b>1959</b>—Sailors aboard the <i>U.S.S. Wasp</i> bring a severe fire under control, barely averting the need to flood the ship's nuclear weapons storage space.  <b>1933</b>—Germany introduces the <i>Volksempfänger</i>, or Peoples' Radio. Built to Joseph Goebbels' specifications, it receives only local (Nazi-controlled) broadcasts.  <b>1782</b>—William Blake, poet and self-publisher, marries Catherine Sophia Boucher. He later teaches her to read.  <b>1634</b>—Urbain Grandier, a French priest whose sexual prowess earned him accusations from a scorned Mother Superior, is "waterboarded," then burned at the stake for witchcraft.  <b>1590</b>—Virginia Dare becomes the first missing white girl in the New World.  <b>1587</b>—Virginia Dare becomes the first white child born in the New World.  <b>1503</b>—Death of Pope Alexander VI, host of the infamous Ballet of the Chestnuts, whose entertainments included fifty naked prostitutes writhing on the floor.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:52      10:08</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:45</p>	<p><b>1999</b>—The FBI puts "Whitey" Bulger on its Most-Wanted List.  <b>1953</b>—CIA-backed royalists in Iran overthrow Premier Mossadegh in Iran.  <b>1951</b>—St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck sends Eddie Gaedel in to pinch-hit for Frank Saucier. Gaedel is 43 inches tall.  <b>1812</b>—"Old Ironsides" defeats the <i>Guerriere</i>.  <b>1791</b>—Benjamin Banneker, "the sable genius," sends a copy of his just-published almanac to Thomas Jefferson with an admonition to practice what he preaches about the rights of all men.  <b>1692</b>—"Witches" George Burroughs, Martha Carrier, George Jacobs, John Proctor, and John Willard are hanged in Salem.  <b>1599</b>—The Chief of the Acoma pueblo, asked why he will not accept baptism before he is burned to death by Spanish Conquistadors, says it is because "I would go to the Christian heaven and meet even more of you people."  <b>1503</b>—The body of Pope Alexander VI, dead but one day, is displayed to the public: swollen, putrescent, and "without any form or likeness of humanity."  <b>1391</b>—Johanna de Brugue and Macette de Ruilly, Europe's first witches convicted in a secular trial, are burned as witches in the pig market in Paris.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:47      11:04</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:43</p>	<p><b>1986</b>—Drug addict Randy Woolls helps Texas kill him by finding a good vein.  <b>1983</b>—Returning to the Philippines under assurances there will be no reprisals for his dissidence, Benigno Aquino is shot dead as soon as he leaves his plane.  <b>1974</b>—The House of Representatives votes 412-3 to recommend Articles of Impeachment against Richard Nixon.  <b>1969</b>—"Tired of playing for people who clap for all the wrong reasons," Frank Zappa disbands the Mothers of Invention.  <b>1965</b>—Keene, NH seminary student and civil rights worker Jonathan Daniels is murdered in Naynville, Alabama. An all-white jury acquits his killer.  <b>1940</b>—In Mexico, Stalinist agent Ramon Mercader attacks Leon Trotsky with an ice ax. Trotsky tells his guards, "Do not kill him. This man has a story to tell."  <b>1910</b>—Above the Sheephead Bay racetrack in New York, Lt. Jacob E. Fickel pulls the trigger on the first gunshot from an airplane.  <b>1904</b>—Miners seize the town of Cripple Creek, Colo., and deport town officials.  <b>1619</b>—Jamestown, Virginia gets its first group of 20 African slaves.  <b>1191</b>—Richard the Lion Hearted's troops slaughter 3,000 Arabs in the Holy Land.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:39      11:57</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:38</p>	<p><b>1976</b>—Two day occupation of Seabrook, NH nuke site begins.  <b>1962</b>—CBS's "Evening News" reports on the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals, Alan Abel's most successful hoax.  <b>1946</b>—At Los Alamos, Physicist Harry K. Daghlian accidentally drops a tungsten carbide brick, causing a plutonium core to give him a lethal burst of radiation.  <b>1927</b>—Supreme Court "Justice" Louis Brandeis refuses to hear a request for a stay of execution of anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti.  <b>1920</b>—Birth of Christopher Robin Milne, who later said, "[I]t seemed to me, almost, that my father had got to where he was by climbing upon my infant shoulders."  <b>1911</b>—Vincenzo Peruggia, an employee at the Louvre, steals the Mona Lisa.  <b>1863</b>—William A. Quantrill and several hundred of his Raiders attack Lawrence, Kansas and kill hundreds of men, women, and children.  <b>1831</b>—Nat Turner leads a slave rebellion in Virginia.  <b>1791</b>—Slaves revolt in Santo Domingo.  <b>1762</b>—Lady Mary Wortley Montagu utters her last words, "It has all been very interesting."  <b>1621</b>—A widow and eleven girls in Virginia are ordered sold for 120 pounds of tobacco each.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—A Bush administration spokesperson announces that as punishment for selling SCUD missiles, North Korea, with which we do not trade anyway, will suffer trade sanctions.  <b>2001</b>—The Bush administration, having jacked up expenses and slashed taxes, announces a baffling decrease in the federal surplus.  <b>1991</b>—When Derick Lynn Peterson's heart continues to beat for ten minutes after his electrocution, Virginia officials repeat the process.  <b>1976</b>—Police arrest 179 at Seabrook, NH anti-nuke rally.  <b>1972</b>—Almost 900 protesters are arrested in Miami during the Republican National Convention.  <b>1953</b>—The last prisoners leave Devil's Island.  <b>1952</b>—The Justice Department sues four big U.S. oil companies for overcharging for oil shipped to Europe under the Marshall Plan.  <b>1893</b>—Birth of Dorothy Parker. At 70, she wrote, "If I had any decency, I'd be dead. Most of my friends are."  <b>1787</b>—John Fitch tests a steamboat on the Delaware River.  <b>1791</b>—Slave revolt begins in Haiti, which becomes a free black country in 1804. U.S. recognizes its sovereignty 61 years later.  <b>565</b>—St. Columba spots a monster in Scotland's Loch Ness.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:47      1:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:59      7:21</p>
Sunday, August 23	Monday, August 24	Tuesday, August 25	Wednesday, August 26	Thursday, August 27	Friday, August 28	Saturday, August 29
<p><b>2001</b>—French stuntman Terry Do snags a parasail on the Statue of Liberty, and dangles from it for 45 minutes before being rescued.  <b>1994</b>—British musicians Bill Drummond and Jimmy Cauty, aka "KLF" burn a million British pounds worth of currency.  <b>1971</b>—Future Associate Justice Lewis Powell writes to his pal, the Director of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, arguing that the right wing needs to fund its own think tanks. Before long, they do.  <b>1968</b>—In Chicago, the Youth International Party nominates a pig for president.  <b>1944</b>—An American B-24 Liberator crashes into an English school and explodes, liberating 71 people from this mortal coil.  <b>1927</b>—Bostonsians electrocute Italian anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti.  <b>1784</b>—Settlers gather at Jonesboro, in what is now Tennessee, to establish the state of Franklin.  <b>1724</b>—Jeremiah Moulton, who saw his parents scalped 32 years earlier, leads a raid on Norridgewock, killing seven Abenaki chiefs and the French priest, Sebastian Rasle.  <b>1305</b>—For rebelling against His Majesty, King Edward, William Wallace is hanged, cut down while alive, disembowelled, then killed by beheading. His corpse is quartered and his head displayed on a pike.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:45      8:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:03</p>	<p><b>2001</b>—Due to a fuel leak, Air Transat Flight 236, with 306 souls aboard, runs out of fuel over the Atlantic, 90 miles from the Azores. Pilots glide the plane to safety.  <b>1980</b>—Solidarity is founded in Gdansk.  <b>1970</b>—Grad student Robert Fassnacht is killed and three others are injured when peaceniks blow up a physics lab at the U. of Wisconsin.  <b>1967</b>—The floor of the NY Stock Exchange erupts into bedlam as capitalists scramble for 300 one-dollar bills dropped by Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin.  <b>1960</b>—Temperature drops to minus 126.9 at Vostok Station; lowest ever recorded on Earth.  <b>1853</b>—In Saratoga Springs, NY., George Crum prepares the first batch of potato chips.  <b>1827</b>—<i>The Mechanics Gazette</i>, first U.S. labor paper, is published in Philadelphia. By 1832 there are 68 labor newspapers.  <b>1814</b>—The British march unopposed into Washington, and set fire to the White House and the Library of Congress.  <b>1572</b>—French Catholic mobs massacre thousands of Huguenots. Learning of the slaughter Pope Gregory is so pleased he orders a day of thanksgiving.  <b>1456</b>—In Mainz, Germany, Gutenberg finishes printing the Bible.  <b>410</b>—Visigoths sack Rome.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:31      9:02</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:19</p>	<p><b>1999</b>—After six years of denial, the FBI admits tear gas canisters it fired into David Koresh's compound in Waco, Texas, were incendiary, but maintains this didn't start the fatal fire.  <b>1985</b>—The White House confirms that President Reagan was an FBI informant during the late 1940's, while he was head of the Screen Actors Guild.  <b>1967</b>—American Nazi Party founder George Lincoln Rockwell is shot dead at an Arlington, Va. shopping mall by a former aide.  <b>1950</b>—Harry S Truman orders the U.S. Army to take over the nation's railroads to prevent a strike.  <b>1945</b>—Ho Chi Minh proclaims the Republic of Vietnam.  <b>1945</b>—Baptist missionary and U.S. spy John Birch is shot by Chinese Communists.  <b>1925</b>—Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is founded by A. Philip Randolph.  <b>1893</b>—"Colored Peoples' Day" at the Columbian Exposition.  <b>1875</b>—Matthew Webb completes the first swim across the English Channel.  <b>1835</b>—<i>The New York Sun</i> reports that life—bison, goats, unicorns, and winged humanoids—has been discovered on the Moon.  <b>1814</b>—A huge storm hits Washington, D.C., putting out fires set by the British the day before.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:19      9:56</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:13</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard gets a reprieve.  <b>1980</b>—Ex-Luftwaffe pilot John Birges, attempting to recoup his gambling losses, plants a half-ton bomb at Harvey's Resort Hotel in Steline, Nevada.  <b>1969</b>—Canada decriminalizes sodomy.  <b>1969</b>—With just weeks left to go in Vietnam, the NHNG's 197th Field Artillery loses five men in a single incident.  <b>1968</b>—Mayor Richard Daley formally opens the 1968 Democratic National Convention as his cops bust heads outside.  <b>1967</b>—Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze" is released escapes.  <b>1965</b>—Last day getting married could improve your draft status.  <b>1935</b>—The United Auto Workers union is founded.  <b>1920</b>—Nineteenth Amendment is ratified; women can vote now.  <b>1919</b>—Company goons shoot United Mine Workers' Fannie Sellins in Brackenridge, Pa.  <b>1883</b>—Karakatoa begins a three-day eruption; tens of thousands die, 13 percent less sunlight reaches the earth during the following year.  <b>1858</b>—The first news dispatch is sent by telegraph.  <b>1838</b>—John Wilkes Booth is born.  <b>1765</b>—The Sons of Liberty raise hob in Boston, ransacking the homes of officials.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:09      10:53</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:12</p>	<p><b>1991</b>—A fifteen-member committee of the American Bar Association rates Clarence Thomas as a candidate for U.S. Supreme Court: none rate him "well-qualified," two rate him "not qualified."  <b>1984</b>—Ronald Reagan announces that he will put a teacher in space.  <b>1980</b>—FBI agents, attempting to defuse a half-ton bomb at Harvey's Resort Hotel in Nevada, cause it to explode. No one is injured.  <b>1979</b>—The IRA uses a radio-controlled bomb to assassinate Earl Mountbatten, British Admiral of the Fleet, and kill three others aboard his yacht off Ireland.  <b>1975</b>—Veronica and Colin Scargill complete a tandem bicycle ride around the world.  <b>1972</b>—U.S. planes bomb Haiphong harbor.  <b>1968</b>—Democrats nominate Hubert Humphrey for President as cops and protesters do battle.  <b>1949</b>—As an anti-Communist mob attacks the audience at a Paul Robeson concert in Peekskill, N.Y., 3 FBI agents passively look on.  <b>1938</b>—Becoming increasingly restive at a poetry reading by Archibald MacLeish, Robert Frost sets fire to a handful of papers.  <b>1928</b>—In Paris, sixty nations sign the Kellogg-Briand Pact and outlaw war forever.  <b>1903</b>—U.S. troops are ordered to Beirut to "protect U.S. interests."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:03      11:56</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:16</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—After he robs a Pennsylvania bank, longtime pizza deliveryman Brian Wells is killed by a time bomb fastened to his neck.  <b>1963</b>—At the Lincoln Memorial, half a million people hear Martin Luther King call for "freedom [to] ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire..."  <b>1961</b>—The 5th Conference of the Situationist International convenes in Göteborg, Sweden.  <b>1955</b>—During a visit to his family in Money, Mississippi, fourteen year-old Chicagoan Emmett Till is murdered by whites for speaking inappropriately to a white woman.  <b>1947</b>—A bull in Linares, Spain helps even the score by fatally goring Manolete.  <b>1922</b>—WEAF in New York earns \$100 for airing the first paid radio commercial: a ten minute plug for the Queensboro Realty Company.  <b>1919</b>—The mayor of Seattle demands, "hang or incarcerate all anarchists for life."  <b>1918</b>—Big Bill Haywood and 14 other Wobblies get 20 years for draft obstruction.  <b>1884</b>—The first known photograph of a tornado is taken in Howard, South Dakota.  <b>1833</b>—Britain abolishes slavery throughout the Empire.  <b>1565</b>—St. Augustine, the oldest surviving town in the U.S., is established in Florida.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:05</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:24</p>	<p><b>2007</b>—Due to sloppy procedures, an Air Force B-52 takes off from Minot AFB in North Dakota with some extra cargo on board: six loose nukes.  <b>2006</b>—George W. Bush tells NBC interviewer Brian Williams, "I've got an ek-a-lec-tic reading list."  <b>2005</b>—Katrina slams New Orleans as FEMA dozes.  <b>1996</b>—The day Bill Clinton accepts the Democratic nomination for a second term, his political advisor Dick Morris resigns because it's been revealed he paid a whore \$200/hr. to let him suck her toes.  <b>1977</b>—Three people are arrested in Memphis for trying to steal Elvis Presley's alleged corpse.  <b>1957</b>—Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-SC) ends a record-setting 24 hour and 18 minute filibuster. The Civil Rights Act passes despite him.  <b>1956</b>—Jesus Christ "GG" Allin, the most depraved punk rocker in history, is born in Lancaster, NH.  <b>1956</b>—The Republican Party announces it will henceforth refer to the Democratic Party as the Democrat Party.  <b>1949</b>—Soviets detonate their first A-Bomb.  <b>1885</b>—In Germany, Gottlieb Daimler is awarded a patent for a wooden-framed motorcycle with iron-shod wooden wheels.  <b>1842</b>—First Anglo-Chinese Opium War ends; Britain wins.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:24      7:41</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:10</p>

**Colby's**  
Breakfast & Lunch  
Eat In - Take Out  
436-3033  
105 Daniel St.

**Tibetan Buddhist Study**  
Portsmouth and Barrington NH  
Newcomers Welcome  
www.nhkagyuu.org  
(603) 664-9586  
(207) 438-9338

**MIDHEAVEN**  
Therapeutic Massage,  
Aromatherapy & Bodywork  
Jill Vranicar • Kate Leigh • Lucy Bloomfield  
16 Market Square, Portsmouth, NH  
(603) 436-6006

Everything for the traveler  
... except the tickets!

**GULLIVER'S**  
TRAVEL BOOKS, MAPS & ACCESSORIES  
7 Commercial Alley  
(1/2 block from Market Square)  
Historic Downtown Portsmouth  
Phone: (603) 431-5556

**Soul Oyster**  
Web Studios  
(603) 502-7102  
info@souloyster.com  
www.souloyster.com  
**web & design**