

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Getting It Backwards

The Supreme Court issued its *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission* decision on April 2nd. They would have issued it the day before, but they were laughing too hard.

Prior to *McCutcheon*, the jack-booted thugs of the FEC prohibited Americans from contributing more than \$5,200 to any single candidate, or more than a total of \$123,000 in a two-year period.

Now that it's on the books, a time-honored American principle is finally secure: all Americans — from Rush Limbaugh in his palatial Palm Beach estate to the disabled veteran living under a bridge — are free to give politicians all the money they want.

Poor, Poor, Pitiful Perkins

It's about time America's job-creating one-percenters heard a few encouraging words. They've been having a tough time lately — just ask poor Tom Perkins.

How, you may ask, can a tech financier who's worth \$8 billion be poor? Because he's persecuted, of course.

In January, *The Wall Street Journal* took pity on Perkins and published his letter bemoaning the alleged parallels between fascist Nazi Germany's "war on its 'one percent,' namely its Jews, to the progressive war on the American one percent, namely the 'rich.'"

One Man, How Many Votes?

Perkins was roundly mocked for equating his situation with that of the Jews in Nazi Germany; but as befits a Master of the Universe, he was utterly unbowed. The next month he proposed the Tom Per-

kins voting system: our process of selecting representation should be modeled on that of the corporation — "you pay a million dollars in taxes you get a million votes."

Formally adopting such a system, though, would be overkill. An article titled "Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens," to be published this fall in the scholarly journal *Perspectives in Politics*, suggests that it's already in place.

Written by Martin Gilens and Benjamin I. Page, the study tested the outcomes of 1,779 policy decisions over the course of twenty years and concluded that "economic elites and organized groups representing business interests have substantial independent impacts on U.S. government policy."

What about average citizens? "[T]he preferences of the average American appear to have only a minuscule, near-zero, statistically non-significant impact upon public policy."

Crime Without Punishment

If that seems unfair, consider the justice system. It has apparently become a zero-sum game: there's only so much of it to go around.

Last year in Fort Worth Ethan Couch, who was 16 at the time, stole some beer, then drove his daddy's Ford F-350 pickup truck at 70 mph in a 40 mph zone — until he struck a group of pedestrians, killing four and injuring two more.

Couch was spared jail time after his defense lawyer success-



fully pleaded "affluenza." He was remanded to a state-run mental health facility where the daily rate for treatment is \$715.

Couch's millionaire parents, though, will pay Texas only \$1,170 per month to cage their errant spawn. That's about \$38.50 a day. Taxpayers will have to cover the rest.

Then there's the curious case of Jared Remy, the son of a famous local broadcaster, who commits assault more regularly than Jacoby Ellsbury steals second base — or did until his girlfriend died.

Only two things could explain the steroidal hulk's amazing ability to skate away from his hideous rap sheet; we can safely rule out divine intervention, so the answer must be money.

Unfair But Balanced

Meanwhile, down at the other end of the socio-economic spectrum, debtors prisons have made

a comeback in Ohio.

"In the second half of 2012," an ACLU investigation has found, "over 20 percent of all bookings in the Huron County Jail were related to failure to pay fines. In Cuyahoga County, the Parma Municipal Court jailed at least 45 people for failure to pay fines and costs between July 15 and August 31, 2012" — despite a 1983 United States Supreme Court decision declaring this practice to be a violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Constitution.

Gilded Age II — The Sequel

As a direct result of Wall Street shenanigans and slipshod mortgage sales, America's middle class lost five trillion dollars in net worth between 2007 and 2010.

One of the geniuses behind that fiasco — who came out of it richer than ever — has now embarked on a new project: attempting to saddle New Hampshire's

First Congressional District with his very own designer Congressman. Even the Robber Barons of the late 19th century would be impressed with such gall.

Taxation w/o Representation?

The American body politic is suffering from a fever marked by furious complaints about being taxed but not represented.

That definition applies quite clearly to a very large part of the population — anywhere from fifty to ninety-nine percent, depending on how you slice it.

It's ironic that those who yell the loudest about this injustice — though they are clearly among the disenfranchised — are, through their actions, doing nothing except making matters worse.

A greater irony is that those few, those happy few, who actually are being represented, are those who are not, in any way proportionate to their wealth, being taxed at all.

* A warning to readers: don't attempt this sort of self-pity at home. It takes an expert like Perkins. According to a 2007 report in *Gawker*, Perkins was sailing his mega-yacht off the coast of France in 1999 when he ran down a smaller boat, killing a doctor on board. Forced to pay a fine of \$10,000, Perkins whined that he'd been "arrested and tried in a foreign court in a language [he didn't] understand, by judges indifferent — or worse — to justice, [and was] represented by an inappropriate lawyer with the negative outcome preordained."

The Alleged News

Try unplugging it, then plugging it back in again

Time, they say, is nature's way of keeping everything from happening all at once.

Can someone look into that? It doesn't seem to be working.

On April 2nd, the same day the Supreme Court decided that poor people have been beating up on billionaires for long enough and have to quit it, Maryland millionaire Walt Havenstein announced that he would run for governor — in New Hampshire — and Bay Stater Scott Brown announced that he would run for the Senate — from New Hampshire.

Meanwhile, out in Nevada, Cliven Bundy — a rancher whose voice is so squeaky he makes Andy Devine sound like Tony Bennett

— has hijacked Mr. Peabody's WABAK Machine and taken us all with him back to the days of the Sagebrush Rebellion.

Governor Krupp?

Havenstein is a poster boy for the military-industrial complex Ike warned us about in his farewell address — "In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists, and will persist."

Prior to deciding he wanted to run Cow Hampshire, Havenstein rose in the ranks as his employers were swallowed up in merg-

ers. He started with Raytheon, then switched to Sanders Associates. It was bought by Lockheed, which was taken over by BAE. In 2009 he jumped ship to take over SAIC. Apparently he never met a defense contractor he didn't like. If he gets elected, we can just hook up an electrical generator to Ike's grave and decommission Seabrook.

Stockholm, NH

None of this matters, of course, because BAE = jobs. Wave a few of those around and nobody asks any questions.

Textiles, shoes ... in this state, in industry after industry, the bosses have held the whip hand and the workers have held their tongues

— and watched their jobs get sent away anyway. New Hampshire has Stockholm Syndrome.

For example, back in the 1950s, the local woolen mill in the town of Hillsborough was owned by a guy named Woods, whose politics would be familiar to anyone watching Fox News today. His workers began talking about forming a union. Woods said, "You do that and I'll close the mill."

They kept organizing, and Woods closed the mill. We're not sure whether he took his business south, or just retired. Either way, the town was just about broke until Sylvania came in more than a decade later.

Lesson: learned.

Where'd You Say You're From?

A lot of New Hampshire Republicans had a prolonged hissy fit recently when a few young out-of-state Democrats cast votes here while living with local politicians. Few of them seem so troubled about possibly electing a Governor from away.

The New Hampshire Constitution flatly requires that candidates for Executive Council, State Senate, and Governor must have lived in the state for seven years to become eligible.

Even before Havenstein made his candidacy official, the *Nashua*

The Alleged News

from page one

Telegraph reported the inconvenient fact that under penalty of perjury, Havenstein had signed a form declaring his \$1 million condo in Maryland as his "principal residence" — just to shave about \$1,000 a year off his property tax bill.

Most Republicans are also scornful about suspects who are released from custody because of "technicalities" like not being read their Miranda rights. At least one of Havenstein's advisors is immune to squeamishness, and split a few hairs for the *Union Leader's* John DiStaso.

"[U]nder Maryland law," DiStaso dutifully transcribed, "Havenstein can be a 'statutory resident' of that state for tax purposes but is domiciled, for voting purposes, in the Granite State."

The Big Apple Bust

The residency flap is amusing

enough that it's eclipsed a potentially more incendiary subject: SAIC's Big Apple Bust.

While Havenstein was CEO of SAIC, the company "entered into a deferred prosecution agreement" with the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York and paid a half billion dollars to make a bribery and kick-back scheme go away.

Presumably the bulk of the wrongdoing took place prior to Havenstein's ascension in 2009.

Havenstein resigned a few months after the settlement; presumably that was a coincidence.

Mad Leadership Qualities

Our apologies to those who are bored to death with the Internet and "social media," but this is pretty rich.

Walt Havenstein is on Twitter®. His handle is @Walt4NH. Apparently he just signed up, because as of 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, he had not yet tweeted anything and was not following anyone. Yet



Survivors gather in front of Caffè Kilim to swap war stories about the Winter of 13/14.

somehow, despite this utter lack of activity, @Walt4NH had already accrued 2,181 followers.

There are two ways this might have happened: either Havenstein has hitherto-unnoticed leadership qualities that have not been seen on this Earth for millenia, or his campaign bought those followers.

We report, you decide — here are a few of them: Dustin Hester, aka @Paint_Army, who hails from "a community of Oklahoma paintball players;" Søren B. Clemmensen, aka @BangClemme, a "Filmmaker & Budetspringer based in Copenhagen, Denmark," and Andreina, aka @EYLLENANDREINA, self described as "Turistologa, Estudiante, Sin Hijos, chavista..."

We have no idea what a Budetspringer is, but chavistas are followers of Venezuela's late President Hugo Chavez — and

hardly likely to be fans of capitalist arms merchants. A few more of @Walt4NH's followers: У них ключи, Юлия Парака, Регина Мухгасимова, and Максим Ренгевич.

It's a sleazy, low-rent, easily-seen-through ruse, but buying followers can be done and some people do it. Dan Evon, at *Social-NewsDaily.com*, wrote last year about buying 500 Twitter® followers for \$5. At that rate, Havenstein's campaign might have spent the grand sum of \$21.81 to create a false impression. That's not just duplicitous, it's cheap — and completely in keeping with his attempt to shave a bit off his Maryland property taxes.

The Other Hemingway

Who else, besides an out-of-state arms merchant job creator, does the GOP have to pit against Maggie Hassan?

Enter Andrew Hemingway, an insurance salesman-turned entrepreneur and the former chair of the state's Republican Liberty Caucus. He lost the race for NH-GOP Chair to Jennifer Horn in 2013, despite the revelation that she owed \$92,00 to the IRS.

Hemingway said in a recent radio interview, transcribed on William Tucker's always excellent *MiscellanyBlue.com*, "I'm going to be using the word 'nullify' a lot. Once elected, I'm going to be rallying the troops in the legislature and hoping and pushing and doing everything we can to nullify, nullify, nullify. As much of the federal health care mandates that we can, as far as the E.P.A. mandates that we can, everything we can, we're going to push back against Washington using our Constitutional rights."

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hyper-libertarian wing of the party, Hemingway has about as much chance of getting the GOP's gubernatorial nomination as the editor of this paper; at least no one has a video of the editor dressed in an elf suit and break-dancing, while singing "we're with Newt" to the tune of "Tis the Season."

With challengers of this caliber you can call the Governor "Lucky Maggie."

RiverRun Bags Taibbi

RiverRun Bookstore is on a tear — David Sedaris will appear on June 8th. (The event sold out in about four seconds but the doors will open right after his talk for book signing.)

More amazing still, the bookstore has teamed up with Seacoast Local and the Portsmouth Democratic Committee to bring Matt Taibbi to the South Church on Friday, May 2nd to talk about his new book, *The Divide*.

"We have criminalized the poor in our country, and given a get out of jail free card to the rich," writes owner Tom Holbrook. "From 'stop and frisk' policies in New York City and overzealous welfare officers in California, to robo-signing foreclosures and bil-

lion dollar insider trading deals, Taibbi tells real stories about real people that will make you shudder, and make you furious."

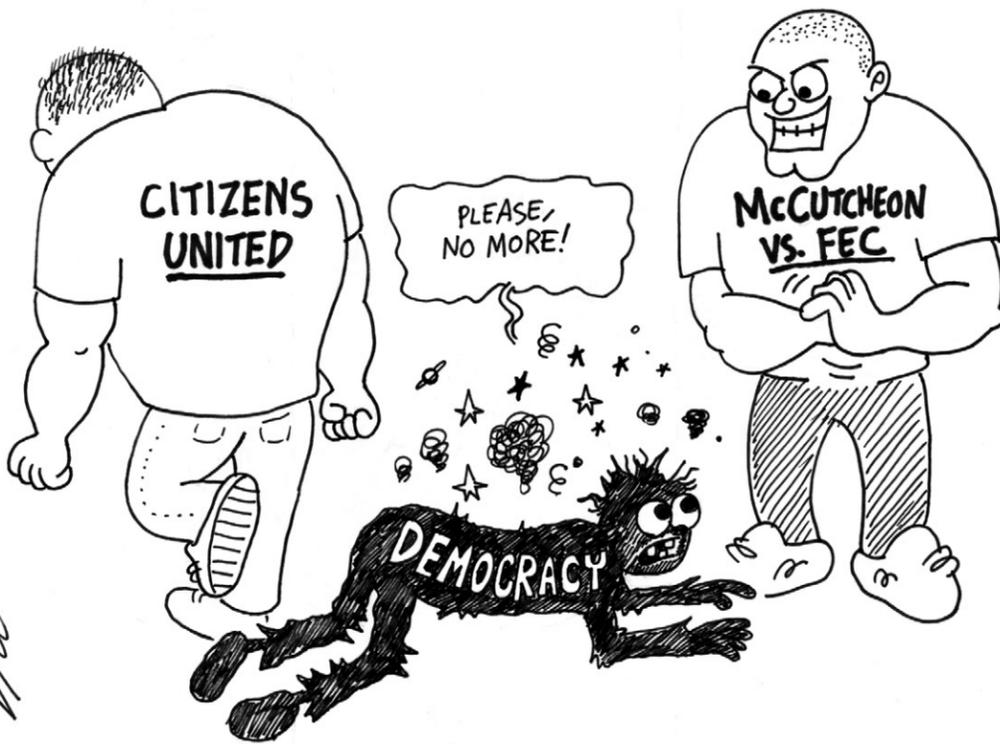
The event begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7 each, which can be used toward the purchase of a copy of *The Divide* (one ticket per book, please) or \$25 each, and include a copy of *The Divide*. Call 431-2100 for tickets.

Defending the Public's Beach Access at Sanders Poynt

[We were happy to receive the following communique from Robert Jeserum, of Rye. It was prepared by his attorney, Paul McEachern. Where the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Rye have failed to act, they have stepped into the breach. The case, Robert Jeserum v WBTSCC Limited Partnership, et al, Case Number 218-2013CV-00134, is slated for July 24, 25 and 31 in Courtroom 6 at the Rockingham County Courthouse. If that court finds for WBTSCC, let's pass the hat and go on to the Supreme Court in Concord. — The Ed.]

A private enterprise intends to terminate the public's centuries-old beach access rights at Sanders Poynt in Rye, New Hampshire. Wentworth by the Sea Country

© 2013 by Dan Woodman



Club ("WBTSCC") barricaded the public from accessing Little Harbor Beach via the parking lot or path at Sanders Poynt, located along Wentworth Road in Rye, New Hampshire. The public's use of Sanders Poynt dates back to at least June 5, 1643, when the Province of New Hampshire's colonial government ordered that a ferry and eating house operate at Sanders Poynt. While the ferry and eating house have since gone, the public has kayaked, fished, clammed and walked at Sanders Poynt for hundreds of years. A 1984 Rockingham Planning Commission/Town of Rye Public Shorefront Access Study noted: "Interviews suggest that the public has acquired a prescriptive use at this site by virtue of uninterrupted use for hundreds of years, primarily in search of shellfish and worms along the sides of Little Harbor."

More than twenty years ago, WBTSCC's predecessor fenced off its golf course from Sanders Poynt and did not regulate

who could access it. WBTSCC followed suit. During a 1995 Rye Planning Board Meeting, WBTSCC even admitted that it did not have any interest in the parking area at Sanders Poynt. From the 1990s until mid-2012, the Town of Rye posted signs to identify Sanders Poynt as a public "Beach Access" point.

After hundreds of years of public use, and despite WBTSCC saying it has no interest in the parking area, on October 30, 2012, WBTSCC placed a fence, boulders, sod and shrubbery across Sanders Poynt, preventing the public from parking or accessing Little Harbor Beach. The Town of Rye issued a building permit, allowing WBTSCC to build the fence. The permit included the caveat "The issuance of this permit does not constitute an admission by the Town that there are no public prescriptive rights to use of the area behind the fence."

Despite the rich history at Sanders Poynt and the scarcity of beach access points in New

Hampshire, The Town of Rye has refused to protect the public's prescriptive rights. Even the State of New Hampshire, which by law is the trustee of public trust lands such as Little Harbor Beach, refuses to protect Sanders Poynt from being privatized. Since the state and local governments refuse to take action, on January 29, 2013, Robert Jeserum, a Rye resident, petitioned the Rockingham Superior Court to protect the public's centuries-old prescriptive rights. The Petition asks the Court to issue orders, recognizing and enforcing the public's right to access Sanders Poynt. While the 'fee' — or title — to the land belongs to WBTSCC, the public's right of access accrued in the form of a public prescriptive easement, meaning the public used Sanders Poynt for more than twenty years regardless of the fee owner(s)' permission. The Rockingham Superior Court has scheduled a trial for July 2014, to determine whether a public prescriptive easement exists.



The Flag Police are indebted to Julie Paulk for this apocalyptic photo, taken on Opening Day, showing our Star-Spangled Banner burning in air o'er the home of the Atlanta Braves. Beyond that, words fail them.

6/29/31

Getting a Leg Up on the Competition

A Great Moment in Gender Equality

There are large glasses and there are small glasses but when the local Moose Lodge held an outing, even the largest glass could not keep local contender Mildred Cuddeback from entering the famed beer drinking contest, where (much to the surprise of onlookers) she took home the blue ribbon.

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The Prince of Unforced Errors

To the Editor:
So, Scott Brown, Prince of Unforced Errors, has decided to run for Senator in New Hampshire. Apparently he has amended his papers to include his party affiliation, required by the FEC; he continues to torture the state motto: Live Free and Die or Live Free and log in, according to Holly Ramer (*Portsmouth Herald*, April 10, 2014). Most telling, he admitted to perhaps not being the best candidate. He probably can't count on all the votes of the 50,000+ who now have health care coverage, despite Brown's claiming the ACA causes a loss of freedom.

Whatever.
We have a person of real substance as Senator in that seat, Scotty, and she is very effective and has a solid reputation for being responsive to constituents. In a recent phone town hall, she spoke with people all over the state and showed her compassion and competence. Some of the callers had personal issues with an agency and Shaheen had her staff get in touch with them. Topics ranged from local issues to national ones and her responses were very informative. I asked about the status of extending unemployment insurance because I knew she had a solution to the Republican objection about paying for it. Shaheen's plan included paying for it by closing tax loopholes overseas. Sadly, the Republicans did not

like that solution.
A local family has needed intervention with the State Department because of serious health issues in their family and report that Sen. Shaheen has been splendid in getting them help.
Why on earth would we give away Jeanne Shaheen's experience and character and skills for a lightweight?

Barbara Broderick
Stratham, NH
Barbara:
The state GOP reminds us more and more of the later stages of the Roman Empire: once mighty but falling to ruin in the hands of a succession of cranks and incompetents. It's no wonder the Republicans are importing "talent" — and they're scraping the bottom of the barrels they're borrowing from.

The Editor §
A Powerful Illusionist
To the Editor:
I recently heard three compelling radio interviews with author Gabriel Sherman regarding his biography on Roger Ailes titled, *The Loudest Voice in the Room: How the Brilliant, Bombastic Roger Ailes Built Fox News — and Divided a Country*.

Sherman cited an instance where President Obama, greeting Ailes in a reception line at the White House said, "I see the most powerful man in the world is here." Ailes reportedly replied, "Don't believe what you read, Mr. President. I started these rumors myself." Both statements can be construed as true if one considers that Ailes is the CEO of the most dominant media organizations in America (and which generates over a billion dollars of profit).

I once believed that the central purpose of journalism is: "to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free democratic society." Well, Fox has somehow passed itself off as a journalistic

organization, when it is actually just the expression of only one man.

Sherman noted that Ailes performs a daily monologue for his staff to give his take on the news and insists that his highly paid talent stick solely to his script, designed to create an illusion to effect a political outcome. The author described how Ailes' exerts totalitarian control over his network via trusted personnel who take dictation from him and who tightly prevent information leaks. Ailes is known to employ the camera techniques used by Leni Reifenststal, Hitler's propaganda film-maker.

Fox achieves its desired effect through the use of: propaganda elements like the hold frame strategy (with unflattering photos) and repetition (see Benghazi, Fast & Furious and Solyndra) to create national issues; the creation of whipping posts such as the EPA or Nancy Pelosi; pretense balancing through use of gimmicks and props; and lots of sex appeal for its largely white, middle-class, male audience.

A daily perusal of the letters to the editor, which incessantly parrot Fox talking points, in this and other local papers will provide testimony to the far reaching influence of Ailes and his Fox mouthpieces: Hannity, O'Reilly, Beck, Rove, Palin, Scott Brown and the buxom blondes.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH
Wayne:
Ailes' responsibility for the sorry state of America today is much deeper than most people realize — and goes well beyond the rampant stupidity being fostered and fomented by Fox News.

Ailes' played a pivotal role in Richard "The Original Dick" Nixon's win during the 1968 Presidential race.
For that, he deserves to be buried in accordance with the same sordid

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

rituals proposed for Nixon by Hunter S. Thompson.
The Editor

§
Watching Our Language

To the Editor:
Though she is surely a [acronym deleted], applying this acronym to Sarah Palin creates a sorry plight for family men asked to explain it to wives or (EEK!) young daughters "Wheel Gun Bob's" rant should have been blue-pencilled. There is no place for this expression in *The New Hampshire Gazette*.

James R. Kilcoyne
James:
You make a good point. We enjoyed "Wheel Gun's" letter so much that our editorial instincts were lulled into complacency. Knowing you to be a man with a robust sense of humor, we're confident you won't mind being the first correspondent to whom we apply the new rule.

The Editor §
Another Fan Heard From

To the Editor:
I'd like to send a big "thank you" to William Marvel for his classic piece of tongue-in-cheek comedy in your April 4th issue. His spot-on mimic of a Fox News "report" on the minimum wage, opinion filled and fact empty, was brilliant. I actually lol'ed. I see him as the new leader to replace Colbert, when Colbert replaces Letterman. Fabulous.

Lew Henry
Gilmanton Iron Works, NH
Lew:
We like having Bill's column in the paper for a number of reasons. It's good to see he's still capable of generating our favorite kind of mail.

The Editor §
Gay Rights An Oxymoron
To the Editor:
What happened to religious

liberty and a church or business reserved right to "refuse service to anyone?" Businesses that refuse service to homoelectives, even on religious grounds, are being sued successfully in some states for door-closing amounts of money by homoelectives that, by definition, do not qualify for minority class protection from discrimination; as homosexual sex is non-compulsory in that one can choose to abstain from sexual relations just as one can choose what kind of sex to engage in and with whom or what within the law (children should never be an option although pedophilia is next on the ACLU list for sexual orientation normalization).

On a recent trip to Houston, my wife used a hotel restaurant women's restroom. She was shocked to see a urinal in there. The way things are going, I imagine a business owner will soon be sued for not plumbing a urinal in the ladies room! The LGBT (Love Gone Bad Today) think Transgenders and Transsexuals are wildcards from Transyltopsy-turvia that legitimize their cause with even more confusion. Transgenders and Transsexuals are just homoelectives that have taken their homosexuality to the next level of perversion (sinful inequality). Legally marrying a pair of homoelectives could never represent nor facilitate a family, which is the foundation of a healthy generating person and society, but only the degenerative corruption of children annexed to the lip-sticked aberration. This is in keeping, however, with the goal of U.S. (Uncle Scrooge) and UN business partner (Uncle Nefarious) to "decrease the surplus population."

"Homosexual Civil Rights" is an oxymoron. It is morally wrong to give legal rights or discrimination protection to those that choose

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And Other Correspondence

to practice homosexual sex for a multitude of reasons that are consistent with the Constitution of the United States of America and the preservation of it, and in turn, our country. Like a driver license, a marriage license is a privilege, not a right under the 14th Amendment. Some restrictions apply in all states such as age, blood health and type compatibility, relative consanguinity, number of spouses and gender of prospective spouses and their mental competency. As recently as 1986 homosexuality was regarded as a mental disorder by the American Psychiatric Association.

A marriage license is a privilege regulated by the individual states, in part, for the protection of children; and they (the born and the unborn) need to be protected from the normalization of homosexuality which will also protect them from the normalization of pedophilia and other taboo sexual practices and marriage relationships the ACLU is ready to champion next. Since marriage licensing is the domain and Tenth Amendment right of individual states, state same-sex marriage bans and Proposition 8 in California should be upheld by federal judges; if only by recusal default because of prejudicial bias that conflicts with their oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution. That's why U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb wants the Wisconsin trial to "proceed to a summary judgment on an expedited schedule" because she already knows what her decision is going to be (March 5, 2014); a decision consistent with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's advice to state AG's that they don't have to defend their state's ban on same-sex marriage (February 27, 2014).

For all are subject to the Law of the Harvest; reaping what is

sewn [sic], and homosexuals sew [sic] their seed in stony ground. California farmers and ranchers know what I'm talking about. Abraham Lincoln warned us that: "As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time, or die by suicide." Before supporting legal rights or discrimination protection for homosexuals, one should ask him or herself two questions: Was I better off before homosexuals became "gay" and prideful?; and: Can I afford another year of gay pride?

The definition of marriage defines a society as dead or alive. Somebody needs to tell President Obama that dead is terminal, not progressive. I think everyone should have an emblazoned "Love Gone Bad Today" t-shirt in their closet where homosexuals should be.

Michael W. Jarvis
PO Box 356
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PH: 801-706-2740
jarviscutics@netzero.com

Michael:

Well, aren't you a pip, whining about the loss of your precious "religious liberty"?

What you call your presumed "right," most people and most courts in the civilized world would call a pathological desire to impose your own antediluvian attitudes on free people who are, quite properly, not subject to your overblown sense of authority.

And here's what happened to that "right" — it went the way of your "right" to own another person. That's what happened to it. Get used to it.

And, — "homoelectives"? Does the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce know that the public library is letting you access its computers? Because, seriously, if it's the Salt Lake City business community you're worried about, your not doing it any favors.

One last thought, as one allegedly-sentient human to another: Google the terms, "latent" and "repressed."

What you'll discover, if you're capable of learning, will probably take some getting used to. But, as the saying goes, "It gets better."

The Editor

§

Back to Vietnam

To the Editor:

The mention of Vietnam (April 4th) summons a vast and complex array of thoughts and memories for those of us who served there and it surprises this writer not at all that former Senator Bob Smith still considers himself in the melee. Senator Smith and I were asked to speak at a political gathering in Concord in 1986. Our paths have, unfortunately, not crossed since but I continue to hold the good Senator in high esteem.

Senator Smith comes by his concern for Vietnam POW's and MIA's justifiably. During the reign of the 103rd Congress, Bob Smith was Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs. John Kerry (D-MA) was Chair and Senators Daschle, Reid, Robb, Bob Kerry, Kohl, McCain, Brown, Grassley, Kassebaum, and Helms made up the bipartisan (six Democrats and six Republicans) 12-person committee.

Their final report (dated 13 January, 1993) is 1,223 pages in length and weighs two pounds, six ounces. Nowhere in those 1,223 pages does it state that all our POW's, believed to have been alive at the end of the war and in the hands of our enemy, were returned to us.

In fact, a year prior to this report (15 January, 1992), Kerry and Smith announced a hearing was to be held on January 22nd, in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at which former U.S. intelligence analysts were to testify about POW's allegedly held af-

ter the wars end. Those witnesses were Jerry Mooney, of Wolf Point, Montana and Terrell Minarcin, of Tacoma, Washington.

Also testifying was a former KGB head of foreign counterespionage, Maj. Gen. Oleg Kalugin, who said that Soviets interrogated American POW's, in Vietnam, as late as 1978, five years after "Homecoming I and II," which we were told accounted for all our POW's. This is all on page 898 of the Select Committee's Report.

United States Presidents from Nixon forward all stated the return of our POW's from Vietnam remains a top priority. To the best of my knowledge and recollection, George H.W. Bush was the last to declare that, in 1989, when he assumed the presidency.

There was sufficient evidence put forward over the years to convince me that our government knowingly abandoned possibly hundreds of American soldiers, sailors and airmen in the hands of our enemies when the war was declared over.

Were they held only in Vietnam or were they taken to the Soviet Union? No one knows for certain. Is it even remotely possible any could still be alive? It seems highly unlikely but ... no one knows that for sure either.

Sylvester Stallone (a.k.a. Rambo) may very well have dodged the draft, of that I have no knowledge. A lot of men did in that era. One thing I think we can safely say, however, Sylvester Stallone did not abandon our troops in Southeast Asia, our government did.

David L. Snell
Dillsboro, NC
David:

During the 1980s a debate was raging over the possible fate of a few hundred men who might or might not have been alive in Vietnam.

At the same time hundreds of thousands of real, live Vietnam veterans were struggling desperately to



figure out a way to live in America.

For a lot of Americans, Bob Smith among them, the theoretical "lost heroes" who might be in Vietnam seemed to be far more important than the real, live, flesh and blood men — and women — who were lost in the Land of the Home, Free of the Brave.

But we ain't bitter.

The Editor

§

Is This a Joke?

To the Editor:

If it had been April 1st, for sure I would have thought it was an April Fool's joke. The U.S. Supreme Court, our highest court whose job it is to uphold the Constitution and in doing so, our democracy, just ruled to eliminate aggregate donation limits for political campaigns. That means that millionaires and billionaires can pour up to \$3.5 million directly into political campaigns, as many as they want, every election cycle. Gone are the days when constituents can chip in 25 or 50 bucks for their favorite local candidate and feel like they are making a meaningful contribution. Our state and national elections will be bought by outsiders. The Koch brothers, for instance, could decide to throw big money at every close election in the country.

This Supreme Court decision was made on April 2. It was no joke and it's no laughing matter.

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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Northcountry Chronicle

The Long Haul

by William Marvel

A few weeks ago conservative commentators across the country ostentatiously lamented the latest new rules on fuel economy mandated by President Obama—four years after George Bush signed the legislation allowing such rules to be imposed. The cabal that is determined to condemn everything Obama does pounced on this as another blunder, but the time is long past when such demands should have been imposed industry-wide. Earlier implementation would have sharply reduced the growing U.S. dependence on foreign oil, which the right wing proposes solving by crowding the oceans with oil rigs.

Barely a dozen years ago, Republicans like Johnny Sununu decided to exempt SUVs from mileage standards on the red-herring argument that people “have a right to keep their families safe” in such suburban armored vehicles. Safety is an important

issue, of course, and those of us who drive smaller cars in order to realize better mileage take a grave risk. Gas-guzzling pickups and SUVs that were exempted from fuel standards represent the preponderance of that risk, especially when they ride our bumpers—as most drivers under the age of forty now seem to do. People whose egos lead them to buy such gargantuan landcraft (as well as many of those who use them for work) seem particularly prone to bullying their way through traffic, as though no one on the road matters but them. I tend to be pretty impatient myself, but it’s still difficult for me to understand how anyone can feel comfortable racing around in something that big. I have a bulky brute for plowing my driveway, and the few times I take it into town each year I feel as though I can hardly move without bumping into something.

The American auto industry has long insisted that no one wants cars or trucks that are stingy on gasoline, and that it would be

prohibitively expensive to make them. Both those claims are demonstrably wrong. Auto-industry marketing campaigns directed at the self-absorbed population described in the preceding paragraph have artificially sustained the popularity of gas hogs, but the abundance of hybrids on our highways suggests how many people strive to conserve fuel. Those hybrids are not cheap, and their storage batteries only last a few years, after which they cost thousands to replace (and, probably, to dispose of), yet one can seldom drive very far without falling in beside or behind a hybrid of some kind.

The excuse that fuel-efficient vehicles are expensive or technologically difficult to manufacture also crumbles under closer scrutiny. Smaller engines and smaller, lighter vehicles should cost less to make, rather than more. The trouble comes when so many potential buyers choose Yukons and Navigators because other trucks and SUVs on the road make it

hazardous to drive compacts. That could easily be remedied if the American public transferred its paranoid obsession with firearms to the highways, and punished tailgating, speeding, and road rage like reckless endangerment and assault with a deadly weapon—which they are. If someone can be sent to prison for years for simply waving a handgun, why not for recklessly wielding an equally deadly motor vehicle against other drivers? That alone would boost the volume of small-car sales to more profitable levels.

A few years ago I picked up a homely but well-preserved 1990 Honda Civic, hoping for 32 or 35 miles to the gallon, but my first few long trips in it yielded a surprising 44 to 46 mpg. That has continued ever since, with a slight drop during the winter, and even my worst in-town winter mileage has been 34. The best all-gasoline modern equivalent I’ve seen is the Smart Car by Mercedes Benz, which offers less than half the seat and storage room of my Honda,

and costs fifteen times as much, new, as I paid for mine used. Its three-cylinder engine mimics a 45-mpg French subcompact that I serviced at Eddie Cravedi’s Texaco station in 1965, but a dealer’s predictably flattering advertisement still only boasts a presumed maximum of 41 miles per gallon for the Smart Car.

Admittedly, I drive with an eye to better mileage, but if Japanese and European automakers could produce such durable and economical cars so many decades ago, why can’t their American counterparts do so today, even before jumping to the complication of auxiliary electric power? Bumper stickers protesting the purchase of foreign cars myopically overlook this failure, and unwittingly promote the purchase of foreign oil.

[Mr. Marvel’s recent diatribes have focused on South Conway, hence this item we couldn’t fit into 2011 — it still makes more sense than today’s Union Leader. We expect a fresh outrage from the Northcountry next fortnight. — The Ed.]

More Mash Notes, HATE MAIL, And Other Correspondence, from Page Five

The discussion in the courtroom centered around upholding freedom of speech. I guess free speech isn’t free anymore. To have your voice heard, you have to have money, lots of it. Another nail was just pounded into the coffin for those of us who believe in equal representation for all, regardless of means.

Beth Olshansky
Durham, NH

Misplaced Philanthropy

To the Editor:

Why do the five conservative justices of the U.S. Supreme

Court appear to hold our system of democracy, with free and fair elections, in such contempt?

In 2010, the Court’s conservative majority delivered a clean right upper cut to the chin of the American citizenry with its ruling in the *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* case that gave corporations the freedom to anonymously spend unlimited money on campaign advocacy. Just last week, with the knees of our democracy still wobbling from 2010, the same court landed a stiff left jab to the nose and a devastating straight right punch to the so-

lar plexus of We, the People with its *McCutcheon v. FEC* ruling, which struck down limits on the overall campaign contributions the biggest individual donors may make to candidates, political parties and political action committees.

The Supreme Court has completely opened up the floodgates for a deluge of money from wealthy outsiders like the Koch Brothers and Sheldon Adelson, *et al* to buy our elections. Former Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown and former New Hampshire First District Congressman

Frank Guinta, the preordained Republican nominees for the U.S. Senate seat from New Hampshire and the First District Congressional Seat, respectively, are no doubt smiling from ear to ear.

Scott Brown, an outsider who cynically refuses to sign his own People’s Pledge, had forecasted the eventual ruling of the Supreme Court when he gloatingly said, “More than you’ve ever seen,” in response to be asked how much the New Hampshire Senate race would cost.

The Republican Party, at its peril, has made the promise of

destroying Obamacare its signature platform; hence, it is a foregone conclusion that the infinite stream of money coming into the state will be used to fund relentless negative attack ads on Senator Jeanne Shaheen and Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter, who are staunch supporters of the popular healthcare law.

If Scott Brown, Frank Guinta and all their deep-pocketed donors want to demonstrate their love for New Hampshire and are feeling philanthropic, I would suggest, instead of blowing their money on fruitless attack ads,

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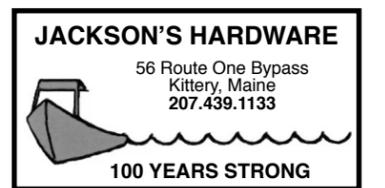
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U.S. Postal Service Selling Out Workers — and America

by Jim Hightower

You know what America needs? More jobs, that's what.

Not Walmart-style "jobettes," but real jobs, stable ones with a good salary and benefits, union jobs so workers have a say in what goes on, jobs that have strong protections against discrimination. A job you could make a career, do useful work, take pride in it, earn

promotions, and be respected for what you do.

Believe it or not, there is at least one place where such jobs still exist. But — and you really aren't going to believe this — those in charge are pushing like hell to eliminate them, turning positions that ought to be a model for American job growth into just another bunch of jobettes. The place? Your local Post Office.

Right-wing government hat-

ers in Congress, along with the corporate executives now sitting atop the U.S. Postal Service, claim that in order to "save" this icon of Americana, they must decimate it. These geniuses are privatizing the workforce, selling off the invaluable community facilities, and shrinking services. Hello — the workers, facilities and services are what make the Post Office iconic and give it such potential for even greater public use.

Their latest ploy is a "partnership" with Staples, the big-box office supply chain. In a pilot program, 82 Staples outlets have opened "postal units" to sell the most popular (and most profitable) mail products. Rather than being staffed by well-trained and knowledgeable postal workers, however, the mini-PO's will have an ever-changing crew of Staples' low-wage, temporary sales clerks with weak performance standards

and no public accountability.

Cheapening postal work might be good for a few profiteers like Staples, but it will diminish postal service — and it's exactly the wrong direction for America to be going. For info and action go to www.apwu.org.

§

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spend the money repairing the state's roads and infrastructure, which sustained major damage from severe winter weather.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH

§

Vulture Capitalism & Other Fowles!

Dear Proprietor:

Your recent meandering in print, was truly beyond the pail, er...spittoon!

I look in vain for a flaw, stylistic or other-wise, but to no avail.

Certain now only, the key-stroke proven once and for all, mightier, than the drone.

Caps are doffed, sir.

Respectfully, a Ceres patron,
Jud Pitman

Portsmouth, NH

§

A Limerick for Scottie

To the Editor:

Most certainly it is not against any law to run for political office in a State wherein a political want-to-be does not really live. But why would the people of that State want that scenario? Is it really the appeal of a plastic fake candidate driving around in an old GMC Canyon truck? Hey, that guy Scott Brown is making fools of the citizens in New

Hampshire.

An engineer named Hunt,
was given an engine to shunt,
saw a run-a-way truck,
by yelling out duck,
saved lives of the fellows in front.

But this guy Scott Brown or any GOP candidate for that matter has no interest in yelling out duck to any American. This is for damn sure.

The GOP would rather wage war on foreign soil and not tell the American society the truth while the GOP simultaneously undermines American society, American elections processes, and the government of the United States. This is the museum of recollection the Republican Party would rather not revisit.

New Hampshire citizens need to give this guy Scott Brown gas money to leave the State of New Hampshire, peacefully.

Gary Witherspoon
Reno, NV

§

Familiar Face Far From Home

To the Editor:

As I strolled through the American Art section of the Dallas Museum of Art, I was taken aback. In front of me here deep in the heart of Texas was a little bit of Portsmouth - portraits of Woodbury Langdon and his wife



Woodbury Langdon, Gary Patton, and Sarah Sherburne Langdon

Sarah.

Langdon was a native of Portsmouth through and through. He attended Latin grammar school in Portsmouth and later went to work in the counting house of Henry Sherburne, a prominent local merchant. (Wikipedia).

In 1765, at the age of 26, Langdon married Sherburne's daughter Sarah who was only 16 at the time. When the portraits were painted, the Langdons had been married two years and Sarah was 18. In the course of their 40 year marriage, Sarah gave birth to 12 children.

Woodbury's younger brother John, another Portsmouth native, is perhaps better known. He

was a Revolutionary War patriot who led the attack on Fort William and Mary to seize British munitions. He was a member of the Continental Congress and one of the first two U.S. Senators from our state. Later, John Langdon became the governor of New Hampshire. His home, a National Historic Landmark, is located on Pleasant Street in Portsmouth.

At the time of the portraits, Woodbury Langdon had become a wealthy man. The label accompanying the portraits in the Dallas Museum of Art reads in part, "When newly rich New Hampshire merchant Woodbury Langdon, wanted to commission portraits of himself and his eigh-

teen-year-old wife, Sarah, two years after their marriage, there was no question of any other artist in Boston, indeed, in the colonies for the job."

Langdon selected John Singleton Copley. According to WebMuseum, Paris, "Copley is considered the finest painter of colonial America. John Singleton Copley painted portraits and historical subjects. His Boston portraits show a thorough knowledge of his New England models, and his talent as a draftsman and colorist produced pictures of artistic elegance and grace."

Well, encountering portraits of New Englanders in a Dallas art museum was a surprise. So, be on your guard. With summer vacation season fast (we hope) approaching, you may find famous Granite Staters popping up in the unlikely places. A statue of Franklin Pierce at an IHOP restaurant in Nebraska. A likeness of Daniel Webster spray painted on a railroad car in the Bronx. A photo of Robert Frost tacked to a bulletin board at a YMCA in Orlando. You never know.

In any case, your readers may be pleased to know that the fame of Portsmouth has spread to Texas.

Gary Patton
Hampton, NH

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
"Money doesn't equal speech; money amplifies speech."
Pam Wilnot, Executive Director, Common Cause Massachusetts (4/8/14)

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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on

whom you choose to believe.

The Piscataqua's ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the

moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.

Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream

end of Badger's Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats

and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

Sunday, April 20	Monday, April 21	Tuesday, April 22	Wednesday, April 23	Thursday, April 24	Friday, April 25	Saturday, April 26
<p>2008—<i>The New York Times</i> reveals that many "independent military analysts" appearing on TV are really Pentagon puppets.</p> <p>2008—Adelir Antonio de Carli, a Brazilian Catholic priest, in a chair suspended from 1,000 party balloons, reaches 19,685 feet before disappearing over the Atlantic.</p> <p>2004—George W. Bush tells a Buffalo audience that the government doesn't wiretap without a court order. It's a lie.</p> <p>2001—The Peruvian Air Force, with some help from CIA "contract workers," fires on a plane they think is full of dope. Nope. It's full of proselytizing American Baptists. Two die.</p> <p>1979—While canoeing near Plains, GA, Pres. Jimmy Carter successfully defends himself from a deranged swamp rabbit.</p> <p>1973—The U.S. Supreme Court rules New Hampshire citizens can cover up the state motto "Live Free or Die" on their license plates.</p> <p>1971—Mistaking the National Mall for their lawn, Supreme Court Justices tell Vietnam Veterans Against the War to get off it.</p> <p>1971—Maryland building contractor Lester Matz pays a \$2,500 bribe to Vice President and freelance media critic Spiro "Ted" Agnew.</p> <p>1970—The <i>New York Times</i> says youth groups have adopted a yellow submarine as a religious symbol.</p>	<p>1999—To honor those killed at Columbine the day before, NRA president Charlton Heston says the gun lobby will cut short its Denver convention by one day.</p> <p>1992—At about 3:00 a.m., Robert Alton Harris is strapped into San Quentin's gas chamber. Twelve minutes later amid legal wrangling, he's taken back out. At 6:00 a.m., he's put back in and gassed.</p> <p>1989—Chinese students demonstrate in Tiananmen Square.</p> <p>1986—On live TV, Geraldo Rivera opens Al Capone's vault and distracts his own credentials.</p> <p>1983—In Alabama, flames and sparks fly from John Evans' leg as "authorities" take 14 minutes and three tries to electrocute him.</p> <p>1980—<i>Newsweek</i> quotes R. Reagan inaccurately saying that Vietnam vets aren't eligible for the GI Bill because their war wasn't declared.</p> <p>1975—Nguyen Van Thieu, last president of South Vietnam, resigns after ten years of misrule and bugs out of Saigon.</p> <p>1972—In El Paso, former commander of U.S. troops in Vietnam General William Westmoreland is pelted with tomatoes.</p> <p>1971—In Washington, D.C., Vietnam Veterans Against the War defy the Supreme Court and stay on the National Mall. Park police decline to arrest. Tomorrow's headline: "Vets Overrule Supreme Court."</p>	<p>2004—In Afghanistan, U.S. soldiers shoot former NFL football player Specialist Pat Tillman.</p> <p>2002—"The Taliban is out of business permanently," says Dick "Dick" Cheney at a GOP fundraiser in Florida.</p> <p>2000—Federal agents snatch political pawn Elian Gonzalez from his colorful Miami relatives.</p> <p>1990—Guilford Co., N.C. postpones Earth Day to April 28th so as not to interfere with the K-Mart Greater Greensboro Open Golf Tournament.</p> <p>1971—Capitol police arrest 110 Vietnam veterans for serenading the Supreme Court with <i>God Bless America</i>.</p> <p>1971—Former Navy Lieutenant John Kerry asks Congress, "How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?"</p> <p>1970—Cops shoot and kill Huey Newton, Black Panther.</p> <p>1963—South Vietnam is "steadily moving toward a constitutional system resting upon popular consent."</p> <p>1962—The USSR announces it's got an H-bomb.</p> <p>1904—In Montana, the Flathead reservation is divided; half ends up in settlers' hands.</p> <p>1868—"I don't have to forgive my enemies," says the dying Duke of Valencia Ramon Maria Narvaez y Campos, "I had them all shot."</p> <p>1860—Birth of Charles H. Kerr, founder of a radical publishing cooperative that's still going.</p> <p>1693—Birth of William Caslon, English typefounder (the <i>Gazette</i> is set in Caslon).</p> <p>1014—Vikings are defeated at the Battle of Clontarf. High King Brian Boru is slain by Brodir, but Brodir is soon disembowelled by Brian's brother Wolf the Quarrelsome.</p>	<p>1993—RIP Cesar Chavez.</p> <p>1971—National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger, speaking by phone with Allen Ginsberg, agrees in principle to a personal meeting, but draws the line at doing so naked on television.</p> <p>1971—In D.C., Vietnam Veterans Against the War return their medals to Congress by heaving them over a fence in front of the Capitol, as Operation Dewey Canyon III concludes.</p> <p>1968—Anti-war students, including 'Nam vets, occupy Columbia.</p> <p>1958—Five paratroopers are killed and 137 injured in a mass jump at Ft. Campbell, KY.</p> <p>1956—The USSR announces it's got an H-bomb.</p> <p>1904—In Montana, the Flathead reservation is divided; half ends up in settlers' hands.</p> <p>1868—"I don't have to forgive my enemies," says the dying Duke of Valencia Ramon Maria Narvaez y Campos, "I had them all shot."</p> <p>1860—Birth of Charles H. Kerr, founder of a radical publishing cooperative that's still going.</p> <p>1693—Birth of William Caslon, English typefounder (the <i>Gazette</i> is set in Caslon).</p> <p>1014—Vikings are defeated at the Battle of Clontarf. High King Brian Boru is slain by Brodir, but Brodir is soon disembowelled by Brian's brother Wolf the Quarrelsome.</p>	<p>1980—Operation Eagle Claw fails: 8 Americans die and 5 are wounded in an attempt to extract American hostages from Teheran.</p> <p>1971—Over a million Americans protest the Vietnam War.</p> <p>1967—"The military situation [in South Vietnam] is favorable," says U.S. Commander Gen. William C. Westmoreland, but protests at home might lose the war.</p> <p>1967—After a troubled 26-hour orbital mission, <i>Soyuz 1</i> crashes into Earth at 200 mph, killing Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov.</p> <p>1962—President Kennedy authorizes high-altitude tests of nuclear weapons.</p> <p>1916—The Military Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood proclaim the Irish Republic, and the Easter Rising begins.</p> <p>1800—The Library of Congress is established.</p> <p>1778—<i>Ranger</i>, under John Paul Jones, captures <i>HMS Drake</i>—the first U.S. naval victory over a British ship in British waters.</p> <p>1704—<i>The Boston News-Letter</i>, the first successful newspaper in the colonies, begins publication under John Campbell who insists on publishing all the old news he had before going on to the more recent. By 1718 his news is a full year behind. The paper eventually adopts Tory politics and perishes during the Revolution.</p>	<p>2005—Charles Duelfer, the CIA's man in charge of finding WMDs in Iraq, says there are none.</p> <p>2003—Secretary of the Army Thomas White gets fired for saying we need more troops in Iraq.</p> <p>2002—At his Texas ranch, George W. Bush plays kissy-face with Saudi Prince Abdullah.</p> <p>1984—Asked if he's ever been to a communist country, James A. Baker III replies, "Well, I've been to Massachusetts."</p> <p>1964—The statue of the "Little Mermaid" in Copenhagen harbor is decapitated.</p> <p>1962—Test-ban negotiations having failed, the U.S. says it will resume atmospheric nuclear tests.</p> <p>1944—RIP George Herriman.</p> <p>1915—Australian and New Zealand troops under British command attack Turks at Gallipoli and die in droves.</p> <p>1898—The U.S. declares war on Spain.</p> <p>1846—Obliging Mexican troops attack a U.S. "scouting party;" Congress has an excuse to declare war.</p> <p>1523—Henry VIII of England forbids private ownership of guns by anyone with an income of less than 100 pounds a year.</p> <p>1507—The German Cartographer Martin Waldseemuller erroneously credits Italian navigator Amerigo Vespucci with the "discovery" of "North America."</p>	<p>1986—A meltdown at Chernobyl renders a bunch of Ukrainian real estate worthless, contaminates a large part of the northern hemisphere to one degree or another, and condemns thousands to death.</p> <p>1970—A dynamite blast damages the State House in Louisiana.</p> <p>1953—Radioactive rain falls in Troy, NY.</p> <p>1946—On her own initiative, Edna Rose Ritchings, 21, a Caucasian-Canadian, marries Father Divine, 65, an African-American religious figure.</p> <p>1944—The U.S. Government takes over the national headquarters of Montgomery-Ward after it defies the National Labor Relations Board.</p> <p>1937—German and Italian planes bomb Guernica, Spain, killing hundreds and destroying most of the town.</p> <p>1931—Lou Gehrig hits a home run but is called out for passing another runner.</p> <p>1901—"I'll be in Hell before you start breakfast!" says train-robbor Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum, seconds before the hangman drops him and his head flies off.</p> <p>1865—Boston Corbett, a hatter-turned-cavalryman who, seven years earlier, castrated himself with a pair of scissors to better withstand the temptation of prostitutes, shoots and kills John Wilkes Booth.</p>
<p>3:17 3:57</p> <p>9:40 9:56</p>	<p>4:13 4:46</p> <p>10:36 10:56</p>	<p>5:14 5:59</p> <p>11:37</p>	<p>6:20 7:04</p> <p>12:00 12:40</p>	<p>7:28 8:07</p> <p>1:07 1:43</p>	<p>8:32 9:06</p> <p>2:13 2:42</p>	<p>9:33 9:59</p> <p>3:14 3:38</p>
Sunday, April 27	Monday, April 28	Tuesday, April 29	Wednesday, April 30	Thursday, May 1	Friday, May 2	Saturday, May 3
<p>1994—In South Africa, ex-prisoner Nelson Mandela is elected President.</p> <p>1986—An HBO transmission is interrupted by a TV pirate calling himself "Captain Midnight."</p> <p>1981—The first computer mouse roars.</p> <p>1978—A scaffold fails inside a nuke plant under construction in West Virginia; 51 workers die.</p> <p>1974—Ten thousand people march in Washington, D.C. for the impeachment of Richard Nixon.</p> <p>1957—The Situationist International meets in Italy.</p> <p>1956—Rocky Marciano retires undefeated.</p> <p>1937—The first Social Security check, for \$22.54, is mailed to Ida May Fuller.</p> <p>1932—While returning by ship from Mexico, Hart Crane leaps overboard and drowns.</p> <p>1865—About 1,450 recently freed Union POWs are among 2,300 who die in the explosion of the steamboat <i>Sultana</i>.</p> <p>1861—Abraham Lincoln suspends the writ of <i>habeas corpus</i>.</p> <p>1825—In Boston, carpenters strike for a 10-hour day.</p> <p>1813—American troops burn Toronto.</p> <p>1791—Birth of Samuel F.B. Morse, inventor of the eponymous code.</p> <p>1773—The British Parliament passes the Tea Act. Oops.</p>	<p>2006—Rush Limbaugh's lawyers announce they've successfully kept their dope-addled client out of prison despite his felonious ways.</p> <p>2004—The Securities and Exchange Commission votes unanimously to let investment banks risk far more money and keep far less in reserve. What could go wrong?</p> <p>2004—On the floor of the U.S. Senate, Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) says "We know who the chickenhawks are. They talk tough on national defense and military issues ... but when it was their turn to serve, they were AWOL."</p> <p>1988—An Aloha Airlines 737 develops a 20 foot hole in the fuselage, sucking stewardess Clarabelle Lansing to her death.</p> <p>1987—Contra rebels in Nicaragua, who have been called the "moral equivalent of our Founding fathers" by President Ronald Reagan, murder American volunteer engineer Ben Lindner.</p> <p>1970—R. Nixon authorizes U.S. troops to fight in Cambodia.</p> <p>1968—In India, a Mr. Thorat wins a lawsuit begun in 1205.</p> <p>1967—Muhammad Ali refuses induction into the armed forces.</p> <p>1965—For vague but pious-sounding reasons, U.S. Marines invade the Dominican Republic.</p> <p>1953—Having successfully overthrown the elected government of Iran, the CIA installs a Shah.</p>	<p>2006—At the White House Correspondents Association Dinner, in front of the alleged president, Stephen Colbert shows how it's done.</p> <p>2004—George W. Bush and Dick "Dick" Cheney "testify" together, without taking an oath, before the 9/11 Commission™.</p> <p>1992—A mostly-white jury in Simi Valley finds LA police not guilty of assaulting Rodney King. Four days later soldiers and Marines quell the rioting.</p> <p>1975—In Vietnam, the last Americans leave.</p> <p>1962—In Mexico, Henry Espinola dies of radiation poisoning caused by seven pellets of radioactive cobalt he found in the streets.</p> <p>1945—American troops liberate Dachau.</p> <p>1945—Italian partisans turn Ezra Pound over to U.S. troops.</p> <p>1916—In Dublin, Irish nationalists surrender.</p> <p>1899—After their demand that only union workers be employed is refused, miners dynamite and destroy the Bunker Hill Company mill at Wardner, ID.</p> <p>1895—U.S. warships are sent to Nicaragua to "protect American interests."</p> <p>1429—Female "cheese-eating surrender monkey" Joan of Arc arrives at the besieged city of Orleans, France. Nine days later the English run away.</p>	<p>1977—The Clamshell Alliance assembles at Seabrook, NH to protest the construction of a nuclear power plant.</p> <p>1975—The North Vietnamese Army enters Saigon. President Duong Van Minh surrenders. The Vietnam War is over.</p> <p>1973—Announcing their resignations, Richard Nixon calls convicted felons John D. Erlichman and H.R. Haldeman "two of the finest public servants I have ever known."</p> <p>1971—In Detroit, Medal of Honor recipient Dwight H. Johnson is shot to death while robbing a grocery store.</p> <p>1966—Rep. Melvin Laird (R-WI) says that the problem with Vietnam is "an administration that fails to inform the people fully and frankly about the objectives and progress of the war."</p> <p>1961—At the Novolazarevskaya Research Station in Antarctica, Leonid Ivanovich Rogozov, the sole doctor, removes his own perforated appendix with local anesthesia in a two-hour operation.</p> <p>1900—The Illinois Central's <i>Cannonball Express</i> slams into a freight train at Vaughan, MS. Engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones is the only fatality.</p> <p>1894—Five hundred unemployed workers led by Jacob Coxey arrive in Washington, D.C. from Massillon, OH, demanding work.</p>	<p>2003—President G.W. Bush and his pneumatic codpiece are delivered to an aircraft carrier to tell his biggest lie to date: "major combat operations in Iraq have ended." U.S. death toll so far: 140.</p> <p>1999—<i>The New Hampshire Gazette</i> resumes regular (fortnightly) publication in Portsmouth.</p> <p>1989—New Hampshire Secretary of State for Life William Gardner assigns legal ownership of <i>The New Hampshire Gazette</i> to the current editor.</p> <p>1978—With only his sled dogs for company, Naomi Uemura reaches the North Pole.</p> <p>1978—An employee of the Digital Equipment Corporation sends the first spam e-mail.</p> <p>1977—The cops arrest 1,414 Clams at Seabrook.</p> <p>1971—Five days of anti-war protest begin in Washington, D.C.; arrests will total over 14,000.</p> <p>1970—U.S. troops join ARVN soldiers in the Cambodian "Incursion."</p> <p>1960—Russians shoot down CIA pilot Gary Powers's U-2.</p> <p>1931—The Empire State Building is dedicated.</p> <p>1894—Jacob Coxey is arrested for walking on the grass of the Capitol; his "Army" is dispersed. A proponent of "greenbacks," he is accompanied by his infant son, Legal Tender Coxey.</p>	<p>2011—Osama bin Laden, having outlived the G.W. Bush Administration, is killed by SEAL Team 6 under orders from his successor.</p> <p>2006—In Lucasville, OH, executioners take 86 minutes and 19 needle punctures to kill Joseph Clark by lethal injection.</p> <p>2003—William J. "Mr. Family Values" Bennett is revealed to have a gambling habit of Broddingnagian proportions.</p> <p>2003—<i>USA Today</i> publishes an op-ed by Richard Perle telling Americans to "Relax and enjoy" what he calls "the most important military victory since World War II."</p> <p>1985—E.F. Hutton, the brokerage company, pleads guilty to 2,000 federal charges; agrees to cough up \$10 million.</p> <p>1974—Ex-veep Spiro "Ted" Agnew is disbarred.</p> <p>1972—J. Edgar "Mary" Hoover croaks, finally, at 77. (See 1957).</p> <p>1964—The <i>U.S.S. Card</i>, a 496-foot escort carrier, is sunk at the dock by a mine in Saigon.</p> <p>1957—Sen. Joe McCarthy croaks at 47. (See 1972).</p> <p>1954—The first commercial jet plane, the Comet, goes into service. Soon comes out of service due to mid-air explosions.</p> <p>1933—Hitler abolishes all German labor unions.</p> <p>1911—The first U.S. workers' comp law is enacted in Wisconsin.</p>	<p>2011—The Disney Corporation attempts to patent the phrase "SEAL Team 6."</p> <p>2003—The Old Man of the Mountain succumbs to gravity.</p> <p>2003—George W. Bush says finding WMDs in Iraq is a matter of when, not if.</p> <p>1987—The same day Sen. Gary Hart's (D-CO) challenge, "Follow me around" appears in print, the <i>Miami Herald</i> reports that a woman not his wife spent the night in his D.C. townhouse.</p> <p>1986—The U. of Maryland announces that hundreds of boxes of papers donated 12 years earlier by Spiro Agnew have not been inspected or cataloged and won't be for another 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>1970—"The North Vietnamese] have been in a war for years and years," says Veep Spiro T. Agnew, "I don't think they are capable ... of continuing this fight."</p> <p>1963—Birmingham, AL Sheriff "Bull" Connors turns firehoses and dogs on civil rights marchers.</p> <p>1946—After Louisiana's electric chair, wired by a drunken trustee, fails to kill him, Willie Francis is escorted back to his cell on Death Row. One year later it works.</p> <p>1945—The RAF bombs the German ship <i>Cap Arcona</i> in the mistaken belief it's carrying SS officers. Of 4,500 concentration camp inmates aboard, only 350 survive.</p>
<p>10:28 10:49</p> <p>4:10 4:29</p>	<p>11:19 11:36</p> <p>5:02 5:17</p>	<p>12:08</p> <p>5:50 6:03</p>	<p>12:20 12:54</p> <p>6:36 6:47</p>	<p>1:04 1:39</p> <p>7:21 7:30</p>	<p>2:24</p> <p>8:05 8:15</p>	<p>3:10</p> <p>8:50 9:00</p>

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