

# The New Hampshire Gazette

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## The Fortnightly Rant

### To What End?

Memorial Day has just passed, and Congress is still in an uproar over a scandal at the Veterans Health Administration [VHA]. The timing is perfect — let's go tapdancing through that unmarked minefield.

It is a damning accusation: forty American veterans are said to have died while awaiting VHA appointments. Granted, that charge is now a month old, and no such deaths have been proven, but still ... if ever a story called for the headline, "Important If True," this is it.

#### Just The Facts, Ma'am

So far no one has assigned any names to these forty alleged dead or cited their ages or the causes of their deaths. In the absence of such facts, it might be useful to recall that forty veterans of World War II die every eighty minutes — and that's from natural causes, no secret lists required.

Much as we might love them, and whatever we might owe them, the death rate for veterans must remain the same as it is for the rest of us: one piecemeal.

VHA bureaucrats are also alleged to have falsified records to cover up their poor performance. That will be disappointing, if it proves to be true, but hardly unprecedented. Let's just hope no one starts asking whether the Pentagon or Wall Street have been doing anything similar; Congress's budget for investigations is already stretched thin.

#### Everybody Loves Sgt. Raymond

While the howls of outrage coming from Capitol Hill are slightly less partisan than usual, it's the Republicans who are doing the heavy salivating. And that's perfectly understandable. After all their other scandals

have fizzled — Fast and Furious, the IRS, *Benghazi!!!* — they finally have one that may resonate beyond the ranks of their True Believers. Because if there's one thing all Americans can agree on in these divisive days, it is the unconditional love we all share for our veterans.

#### The Bad Old Days

Readers under a certain age may find it hard to believe, but this love affair is still daisy-fresh in historical terms. Forty years ago our freshest crop of veterans was held by many in rather low regard.

According to legend, veterans returning from the Vietnam War were met at the airport by hippies and draft-dodgers who spit on them and called them names. But as Will Rogers used to say, the problem isn't so much what people don't know, but what they know that isn't so.

Late in the Vietnam War there was antipathy towards the men who bore the brunt of the fighting — coming from their so-called superiors. For example, in 1972 General William Westmoreland, then the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, told trainees at Fort Benning, GA that the Army needed to purge the "scum of the officer corps." In response, his audience booed him off the stage.\*

#### Modern-Day Apocrypha

That incident raises a question: if low-ranking trainees were rambunctious enough then to shout down the Army's top general, how could pot-smoking hippie pacifists and gutless draft-dodgers have spit with impunity on hard-

\* *Small Wars: Low-Intensity Threats and the American Response since Vietnam* (Knoxville: Univ. of Tennessee Press, 2012), page 58, by Michael Gambone.



ened war veterans? Jerry Lembcke, a Vietnam veteran turned professor of sociology, resolves that conundrum in his 1998 book, *The Spitting Image: Myth, Memory, and the Legacy of Vietnam*: it simply didn't happen.

It's impossible to prove a negative, but Lembcke researched hundreds of such stories and could find no corroborating evidence; the earliest references in newspaper archives dated from the early 1980s — about the time of the first *Rambo* movie.

#### You Call That a War?

Only a fraction of returning Vietnam veterans had any desire to join organizations like the American Legion on their return. Of those who did, many received an unpleasant surprise: their applications were rejected by veterans of World War Two.

#### Why News Is Like Milk

Between the hair, the clothes, and the politics, there's little in-

centive to recall the Sixties and the Seventies accurately. As it happens, there's no need, thanks to Hollywood and a small number of very large news organizations.

So as not to upset their audience — or erode their own bottom line — they did to those decades what dairies do to milk: pasteurized it and homogenized it until it was safe for consumption in a capitalist democracy. Thanks to their work, Americans managed to expiate their guilt over one generation of combat veterans by creating another.

#### Oops! ... We Did It Again

No one thought in the wake of Vietnam that we would ever ask another generation to fight a futile war against an enemy we did not understand.

But thanks to an inept and obstinate cadre of neo-con chicken-hawks, who were backed politically by a malleable and unquestioning

multitude of knee-jerk supporters, we didn't just do it again, we did it twice.

A single tour in either war would have been bad enough. In a nightmarish twist, they both became remakes of *Groundhog Day* shot in Hell: short on armor, long on KFC franchises, leaving us with 2.5 million veterans, the cost of whose care we now find inconvenient.

#### Sacrificed To What End?

Memorial Day is for honoring the fallen, not worrying about veterans whose number didn't come up. But how can we honor the fallen without living up to their sacrifice?

Did they give their lives for a country where one percent lives in luxury, pays low taxes, and enjoys political influence while a different one percent fights, bleeds, and in many cases relies on food stamps — which the first group would like to take from them?

## The Alleged News

### Five Feet High and Rising

A few weeks ago NASA scientists announced that the West Antarctic ice sheet is essentially kaput. Higher water temperatures in the Amundsen Sea are causing the ice of six massive glaciers to erode more rapidly than anyone had predicted. "The system is in sort of a chain reaction that is unstoppable," according to the chief author of the study. "Every process in this reaction is feeding the next one."

The new report was based largely on data from Cryosat, a low-orbit satellite launched in 2010. Fossil fuel emissions are the likely cause of the warmer water, scientists said. A reduction in emissions could probably slow the rate of melting but could not stop

it. Melting of the West Antarctic glaciers will cause a sea level rise of about four feet over the next two centuries ...

... which is where we cue the laughter from the Right. The mere suggestion that this inexorable process will take 200 years to play out will be more than enough to render it farcical to members of the Obstruction Faction.

#### Only The Beginning

Now that any Republican readers have abandoned us in favor of the 700 Club, where the science is less amusing but more reliable due to its Divine Source, let's look at the *really* grim news: "Unabated climate warming of several degrees over the next century is likely to speed up the collapse of

West Antarctica," lead scientist Eric Rignot wrote in *The Guardian*, "but it could also trigger irreversible retreat of marine-based sectors of East Antarctica."

Willy Sutton robbed banks because "that's where the money is." East Antarctica is where the ice is. If those glaciers melt, sea levels could rise ten or twelve feet.

"Whether we should do something about it is simply a matter of common sense," Rignot wrote, "and the time to act is now; Antarctica is not waiting for us."

#### Will Granite Heads Prevail?

Worried? Don't be. On May 20th, *GraniteGrok.com's* Steve McDonald quoted from a reassuring article by James Taylor in the *Wall Street Journal*.

"Antarctic polar ice extent has set another new record, defying alarmist global warming claims," Taylor wrote, "Surpassing the greatest month-of-April ice extent in recorded history, the new record throws cold water on alarmist claims that the Antarctic ice cap has crossed a melting point of no return. ... Alarmists try to scare people into believing a 'catastrophic collapse of Antarctic ice sheet [is] now underway' at the very time that the Antarctic ice extent is setting record after record.

"It's not just the Antarctic, either. Precise satellite measurements of both polar ice caps show no decline in polar ice since the satellite instruments were launched

in 1979. Not only is total polar ice extent currently greater than the long-term average; polar ice extent has been greater than the long-term average for nearly all of the past 16 months."

Taylor's bio states that he is "senior fellow for environment policy at the Heartland Institute [and writes] about energy and environment issues, frequently focusing on global warming," which is apparently the only credential one needs to be an expert in the pages of the *Journal*.

Taylor is a proud Dartmouth grad — but then, aren't they all? He claims he "studied atmospher-

## The Alleged News

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**The Alleged News**

from page one

ic science and majored in government," which we must admit is a brilliant educational combo for a future corporate shill. Notice, though, that he doesn't claim a science degree. According to *Sourcewatch.org*, he's just another Florida lawyer.

Taylor brags that he has "presented environmental analysis on CNN, CNN Headline News, CBS Evening News, MSNBC, Fox News Channel, and several national radio programs [and his] environmental analysis has been published in virtually every major newspaper in the United States"

— because what's the point in having corporate-dominated media if you can't use them to hammer disinformation into the heads of a captive audience?

Lest anyone think we're throwing brickbats at random, here's what *Sourcewatch.org* has to say

about the Heartland Institute's funding: "While Heartland once disclosed its major supporters, it now refuses to publicly disclose who its corporate and foundation funders are."

It's no wonder they're reticent. A document leaked in 2012 revealed that "the Institute got \$200,000 in 2011 from the Charles G. Koch Foundation, and nearly a million from an anonymous donor." Heartland is also known to have been a member of the Koch Brothers-funded American Legislative Exchange Council.

Exxon Mobil also threw \$531,500 into Heartland's tin cup before it clammed up about its funders.

**Another Hemisphere Heard From**

Meanwhile, back in the Northern Hemisphere, there's bad news from Greenland.

No, we're not talking about the pleasant little town to our west. We're talking about Leif Erickson's old stomping grounds, which



Once again, as they have for generations past, all of the relevant parties worked in unison on Monday to assure that in the City of Portsmouth, the rituals associated with Memorial Day were properly observed.

is also the home of 684,000 cubic miles of ice.

The journal *Nature Geoscience* reported on May 18th that scientists have discovered something disconcerting about Greenland's glaciers: the floors of the valleys in which they lie are lower than was thought, and extend further inland.

As Climate Central's Andrea Thompson wrote on May 18th, "Scientists had thought that the melt of the Greenland glaciers would continue for a few decades, until the ice melted back to a point where the ground was higher than sea level and then would halt."

Would that we were so lucky. Because the valleys are so low "warm ocean currents that have migrated northward with the changing climate could eat away at the ice for much longer than current climate models suggest."

As a result, the glaciers "will retreat faster and farther inland than anticipated."

**Job Security for Hacks**

As the water rises around our

ankles, Taylor is going to be busy: melting glaciers won't be the only thing he'll have to deny.

The trade winds of the Pacific normally blow from east to west. That piles up warm water in the general vicinity of Indonesia. The surface of the ocean is actually a foot and a half higher there than off the coast of South America.

When the trade winds falter, Kelvin waves form. These carry that warm water eastward and cause the phenomenon known as El Niño, which shifts weather patterns around the globe.

The strongest El Niño on record occurred in 1997-1998. Among its effects were the Great Ice Storm of 1998, which knocked out power for four million people, killed 35, and caused about \$6 billion in damage. It also killed off approximately 16 percent of the world's reef systems.

NASA's Jason-2 satellite recently recorded the warmest, most massive Kelvin wave ever measured.

It's too early to know what's go-

ing to happen, but if the Pacific trade winds weaken over the next few months, Taylor's gonna have a lot of 'splainin' to do.

**Good News, Bad News**

The good news about El Niño is that it usually results in a milder than usual hurricane season in the Atlantic.

The bad news about hurricanes is that a May 15th study in *Nature* shows that the latitude at which hurricanes reach their peak intensity has shifted northward by about 100 miles over the past thirty years. This northern shift could mean more hurricane damage along the Mid-Atlantic coast and in the Northeast.

"The National Hurricane Center upgraded a depression in the eastern Pacific to a Tropical Storm on May 22, but said it didn't pose a threat to land. By May 25, Amanda has strengthened to 'near category 5 intensity,' with maximum sustained winds hitting 155 mph.

"The agency also said May 25th that the storm had become the

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strongest hurricane on record in the eastern Pacific for the month of May.” — Circa News.

**Ending On a Sour Note**

Martha Carlson makes maple syrup at Range View Farm in Center Sandwich. A former journalist, she’s now working on a Ph.D. and studying the effects of climate change on maple trees and the sugar industry. She has analyzed records kept by a dozen New Hampshire families who have been working the same sugar bushes for up to a hundred years.

The average sugar content of maple sap has dropped from about 3.5 percent a century ago to about two percent now.

In the 1970s, it took about 25 or 30 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup; now it takes 45 or 50.

**Old Times**

We once photographed Donny Crane and his team of oxen as they collected sap in Washington, NH.

The two oxen plodded along through the thick woods with no more direction from Donny than a barely-audible click of the tongue.

On an iron-shod skid behind

them, built like a sled for a two-ton child, was a massive, medieval-looking, squat wooden sap barrel. The sides of it tapered; it could have been five feet in diameter at the base, and perhaps four at the top. The top end was covered, but the cover had a square opening in it with a lid you could lift to pour in the sap.

As Donny walked from the ox trail to the trees and back again, hauling bucket after bucket, he talked of the time that he represented New England’s sugar makers at “The Big E” — the Eastern State Exposition, New England’s biggest agricultural event.

“Everybody always asked the same question,” he said. “What does it do to the tree?”

“What nobody ever asked, though, was ‘what does it do to the man?’”

**Don’t Just Do Something — Stand There!**

In response to changes in the climate, NASA, an organization with enough smarts to land men on the Moon, has begun moving many of its facilities away from the shoreline.

Even the Pentagon, an orga-

nization somewhat esteemed for its institutional intelligence, has been taking steps to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and increase its use of renewables. And why not? After all, that stuff does work. At mid-day on May 11th, 75 percent of Germany’s electrical power was coming from renewable sources. Granted, that was a high point. But for the first quarter of this year, renewables provided a solid 27 percent of that nation’s electrical demand.

Then there is the House of Representatives.

On May 22nd, the House passed an amendment offered by Rep. David McKinley [R-WV] which bars the Pentagon from using any funds to address climate change — period. Ignore the National Climate Assessment. Pay no attention to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment. Never mind the UN’s Agenda 21 sustainable development plan.

By a margin of 227 to 3, Republicans voted to stick our military head in the sand; four Democrats helped. Three Republicans had the guts to vote with 189 Democrats against the amendment.

**It’s Now Or (Maybe) Never**

So here we are on a spherical rock that’s whizzing around the sun at 66,000 miles an hour; just one little mote in a galaxy that’s ripping through space at half a million miles an hour.

Our little rock is partially covered with a thin film of water, wrapped in a thin blanket of gases. Over the course of about 4.5 billion years, in between that thin wet film and that gaseous blanket, various molecules bumped into each other and evolved into critters.

One of those critters, a featherless biped partial to dry land, became smart enough to eventually figure out all of the above. During that time it also made a few mistakes, some of which, it now appears, might end up being fatal to the species that made them.

One sizeable patch of dry land, isolated by two oceans, remained sparsely populated until fairly recently. Then a sudden influx of risk-takers pounced on a vast store of raw materials there and built the biggest economy on the spinning rock. A small fraction of the herd, they out-consume all the rest. As a result, their mistakes

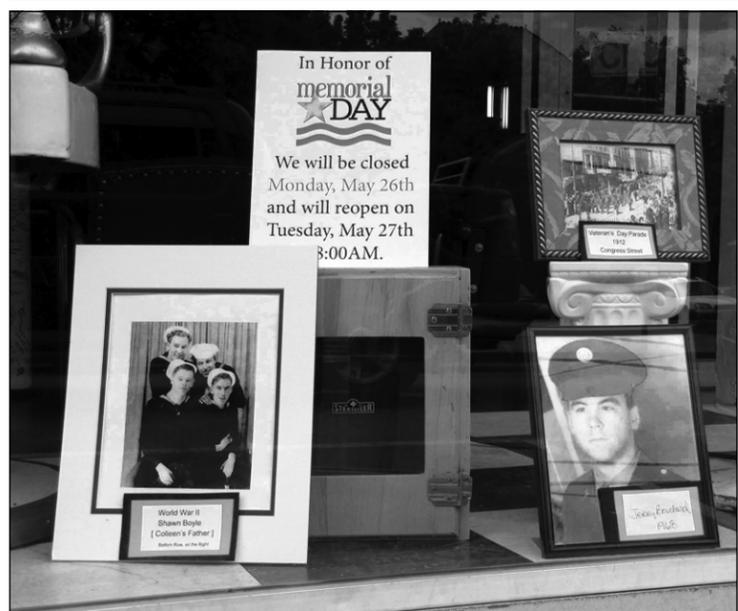
are hazardous out of proportion to their absolute numbers.

These troublesome bipeds rely on a complex bicameral structure to make decisions. As the previous item demonstrates, one-half of that structure, as currently constituted, is hopelessly demented. The other half is up for grabs, and could soon go the way of its counterpart. Whether or not that would be the last straw remains to be seen.

Five months from now, here in our own little bailiwick, one of about two dozen decisions will be made that will either maintain the dicey status quo, or convert the entire decision-making apparatus into an asylum. A former male model from Massachusetts is now vying for the chance to be one of those who achieves the latter outcome.

To that end he opposed a recent bill that would have, perhaps, done something to stave off probable disaster — and given the incumbent in the seat he seeks an accomplishment on which to campaign.

Because what does the fate of humanity matter when a Senate seat is in the balance?



The Clip Joint on Daniel Street was closed in honor of Memorial Day, and its window adorned with old photographs of members of the barbers’ families in their military uniforms.

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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**Citizens to Legislature:  
Do the Right Thing on SB307**  
To the Editor:

The people of New Hampshire and across the nation are outraged at corporate and wealthy interests, including individuals from the left and the right, spending billions of dollars to control the politics of our state and our nation. They are understandably opposed to having no right as a state to prevent this money from flooding our elections.

That's why when polled, they support a Constitutional Amendment to get big money out of politics by a three to one margin across party lines. And that's why 54 New Hampshire towns have called for you, the New Hampshire Legislature, to join 16 other states and call for a Constitutional Amendment.

These individuals did not call for a study committee. They called for action from the Legislature.

SB 307 was written with a clear directive: The New Hampshire Legislature calls for a Constitutional Amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases. It then creates a study committee to review the 16 different Amendments that have been introduced in Congress to decide which ones of those, if any, are the right ones to recommend to the New Hampshire delegation (they can be viewed at *United4thepeople.org*).

SB 307 was not written to do what the Senate amendment

does: simply study the issue. There is no doubt among the people of New Hampshire and our nation that our democracy is severely corrupted by the influence of big money and that the only way to reduce that influence is for a constitutional amendment to allow government regulation. There is no other way to address this problem, as there is no other way to undo what the Supreme Court has done in releasing a flood of money into our elections with *Citizens United v. FEC* and more recently *McCutcheon v. FEC*.

Let's not fool ourselves into thinking that this Amendment would attack or undermine the First Amendment. It would make clear that our founders intended to protect speech, not money that amplifies that speech. Further, even if campaign spending were a form of speech, our nation allows all sorts of regulation of speech. I cannot come into a legislator's office with a megaphone and yell until she or he listen to me. I can't get up and interrupt a Senate session. I cannot yell "fire" in a crowded theater. I am not free to threaten any one. And the ultra-wealthy and mega-corporations should not and cannot spend literally billions of dollars to buy influence and power over our nation. That is not a democracy. In fact, a Princeton study just showed that we are now literally living in an oligarchy.

This week, when SB 307 comes to conference committee, New Hampshire senators should heed the will of the House who voted by a two to one margin, the 12 senators who voted for language calling for a Constitutional Amendment, the hundreds of New Hampshire residents who organized and passed 54 town resolutions, and so many others to be heard. This has not been such a partisan issue in other states, such as Maine, which passed a resolution with overwhelming bipar-

tisan support and was sponsored by a Republican senator who is passionate enough about the issue to have written New Hampshire legislators testimony asking for their support. It is not a partisan issue when New Hampshire residents are polled or when they vote in town meetings. There is no reason this should be a partisan issue in the New Hampshire Senate.

This week's conference committee should vote for language that calls for a Constitutional Amendment to get big money out of politics and restore democracy to the people. There have been hearings, marches, town meeting discussion and overwhelming votes, op-eds and letters to the editor. There has been ample time to study. It is time to act.

Sincerely,  
Representative Bob Perry,  
Strafford

Ellen Read, Newmarket  
Jonah Minkoff-Zern,  
Campaign Director,  
Public Citizen's Democracy  
Is For People Campaign

§  
**Love It Or Leave It**

To the Editor:  
Last weekend I traveled through beautiful parts of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York. These nearby beautiful states do all the things that New Hampshire Progressives/Liberals/Socialists complain that New Hampshire doesn't do. It's a shame that we have so many unhappy citizens when these Progressive paradises are so close.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York have huge governments with many thousands of employees providing almost every imaginable service including helping the truly needy and pretty much anyone else with their hands out.

They spend lots of money on public education and their universities so all their young people must get great jobs after school.

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

Their gas taxes are higher than New Hampshire's so they must have perfect roads and bridges.

These states all jumped on board with Obamacare and Medicaid expansion so all their citizens must get outstanding medical care at no or almost no cost.

These states have strict gun control laws. Recent laws make it even harder for law-abiding citizens to get guns, thus these states are probably crime free.

These states all have income and sales taxes so government revenues are raised fairly, i.e., mostly from other people.

Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York either have or soon will have casinos.

The death penalty has been eliminated for all offenses even for cop-killers and mass murderers (all offenses except for being inconveniently in the womb).

These states are on board with about every Progressive idea, e.g., climate change, Agenda 21, Common Core, affirmative action.

Perhaps most important, there are few Republicans, let alone Conservatives, to quibble about old ideas like freedom, faith, personal responsibility, school choice, self-defense, rule of law, equal treatment by government, small and efficient government, the Constitution, etc.

Paradise for Progressives/Liberals/Socialists does exist on this earth just a few short miles away. There are no barriers to relocation in Massachusetts, Connecticut, or New York where Progressives/Liberals/Socialists can find everything they complain is missing in New Hampshire. Why be unhappy and complain in New Hampshire when paradise is so close?

Don Ewing  
Meredith, NH  
Don:  
*Thank you for writing. We were*

*beginning to worry. Just the other day, while visiting the Post Office — an obligatory ritual for all good Socialists — a comrade asked why you hadn't written lately. We had no ready answer — we never would have guessed you had taken a Grand Tour of the Northeast's most infamous Peoples' Republics. How on Earth did you get a visa?*

*Wait! What are we thinking? Coming back from those collectivist hellholes, how did you make it past the Meredith Checkpoint?*

*To answer your question — as if it were a question, rather than a ham-handed rhetorical device — we are here because we choose to be here. We have as much a right to be here as anyone, yourself included.*

*Your "argument" — to give your diatribe far more credit than it deserves — amounts to nothing more than a logorrheic version of the old bumper sticker, "America: Love It Or Leave It." As such, it represents a position that has long standing in this nation's political dialogue. Yet it is without merit.*

*To say "love it or leave it" is to confess that you have no understanding of what democracy means.*

*We understand Massachusetts is pioneering the field of Massive Open Online Courses [MOOC]. Try Googling MOOC + "political science."*

*Don't be afraid. On the internet, no one knows you're from New Hampshire.*

*The Editor*

§  
**Presidents And Bankers**

To the Editor:  
Since the turn of the 20th century, a small set of the same families has wielded disproportionate influence over our nation's economy, policies and politics. Today's "Big-Six" banks are mostly incarnations of the Big Six banks that existed 100 years ago!

The United States operates on two tracks. One is the ideologi-

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# And Other Correspondence

cal indoctrination that everyone has a shot at being J.P. Morgan or at least Jamie Dimon. The other, cold, hard reality: wealth, power and inequality mean that most of the population won't have a better standard of living than the previous generation, leading George Carlin to quip that you have to be asleep to believe the American Dream.

Then, as now, relations between finance and government were incestuous. The Roosevelts socialized with the Morgans, the Kennedys with the Rockefellers. William Howard Taft, who succeeded Teddy Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson, who succeeded Taft, both had close ties to big banks, as did both Bushes, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton. Barack Obama's first Treasury secretary, Timothy Geitner, lavished trillions of dollars in various forms to aid Big Six banks and their friends.

Last year, Jimmy Carter, whose legacy was tarnished by the maneuvers of David Rockefeller and Chase Bank during the Iran Hostage Crisis, observed "we no longer have a functioning democracy." Have we ever, except for glimpses? Or do we cling to the idea of democracy when the population's power through voting is dwarfed by the real power of heredities and hidden influences?

Michael Kulla  
Pleasant Valley, NH

§

### Subversive Act

To the Editor:

It seemed all but certain that the long overdue bipartisan energy bill, co-authored by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), would pass through the U.S. Senate with flying colors. This vital piece of proposed legislation was drafted in a spirit of cooperation

and had the honorable intent of: "Helping to speed the transition to a more energy efficient economy, increasing both our economic competitiveness and our energy security for the coming decades while driving economic growth and encouraging private sector job creation."

Other than a microscopic percentage of the population that profits from maintaining the status quo, who would argue that it is in our nation's economic or security interests to continue dangerously relying on oil resources from oppressive, non-democratic Middle Eastern and North African regimes? Additionally, don't we all share a vested interest in trying to curb our use of fossil fuels which emit damaging greenhouse gasses into our atmosphere?

Just prior to the vote in the Senate, all indicators suggested that the majority of U.S. Senators supported the bill. Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), to her credit, stood by her Senate colleague from New Hampshire (Senator Shaheen) and New Hampshire citizens with her affirmative vote. She was forced to stand strong in the face of pressure from the presumptive Republican Nominee for the 2014 Senatorial race, former Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown. Brown reportedly had been very busy lobbying his former Republican colleagues, including Ayotte, to kill the bill in order to deny his opponent, Shaheen, a major legislative accomplishment before their November faceoff. Despite the best efforts of Shaheen and Ayotte to do what was in the best interest of New Hampshire, Brown successfully sabotaged the process just enough to fulfill his desire to watch the Shaheen-Portman Energy Bill go down in defeat.

I have already seen and heard

enough of Scott Brown, especially with this most recent subversive act, to convince me that he serves only two masters: himself and his obscenely wealthy donors, such as the energy magnate Koch Brothers, who care neither about people nor our nation's energy security but only care about growing their already astronomical wealth.

Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, NH

§

### Brown the Saboteur

To the Editor:

Anyone who has been paying attention to the floundering campaign of former Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown is acutely aware of his numerous blunders in the past few weeks. Recently, Brown made a clumsily botched attempt to avoid taking a position on Medicaid Expansion by telling a reporter, "I'm already on record. I'll have my office give you the information on that."

Brown has refused to participate in candidate debates, but did show up briefly at one of these events, skulking in the back of the room and then slipping out the door before the debate began, much to the amazement of the assembled voters.

Last week, Brown urged GOP Senators to kill a popular bi-partisan energy bill, so that Senator Jeanne Shaheen, the bill's Democratic sponsor and his opponent, would not be able to get credit. According to Chris Hays of MSNBC, "...It looks really, really bad — he got caught red-handed blowing up an utterly uncontroversial, sensible, bipartisan compromise piece of legislation for the petty political reason — he did not want his political opponent to get any credit that she could tout during the campaign."

To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln, "You can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool most New Hampshire voters for long." They are too smart



to be taken in by Scott Brown's slick and self-serving campaign.

Lenore Patton  
Hampton, NH

§

### Attention Congresspersons

To the Editor:

I am very concerned about the situation created by a 2006 law that requires the United States Postal Service to prefund retiree benefits.

Since the laws enactment the USPS has paid over \$40 billion in compliance with the law. As I understand it these funds are not held in a dedicated pension fund. They are in fact simply added to the general fund which is used to pay all sorts of present obligations.

If a corporation were to deduct funds from employees paychecks and then spend those funds on its own operations this would be illegal.

I won't address the legal and Constitutional aspects of this law here, but I will make a few common sense arguments against it.

As it stands, the law creates a tax on USPS services. Every stamp we buy and every package we send has to be paid for by us. Since very large sums of that money are being diverted from USPS operation into the U.S. General Fund, we are silently and stealthily being taxed whenever we pay for USPS Services.

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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*Northcountry Chronicle*

# One-Way Equality

by William Marvel

Last week I had to make a Lgrueling Sunday drive to Stoughton, Mass., and back, during which I picked up a story on "This American Life" about Americans who live in France. I'm a longtime Francophile with fond memories of Paris and the North — an attachment I'm pleased to have passed along to the next generation — so each time NPR faded out I looked for another station that was broadcasting the same episode. That persistence provided me with an unexpected but rather glaring example of the double standards we apply to racial attitudes in this country.

One of the people who contributed to the story was a young black woman who moved to Paris. I missed her name, and don't remember if she mentioned where she came from in the States, but a friend from home came to visit her and they decided to go to

the theater. There was a long line waiting for tickets, and the woman said she proposed to her friend that they "jump the line." Her friend was evidently game, but some women at the front of the line challenged them vigorously enough that they were positively shocked.

"Those bitches were ready to kick our asses," said the recent expatriate. Good for those "bitches," I thought: such selfish arrogance deserves to be chastised. It was the next comment that took me aback, however, when the young woman expressed her utter shock that "those people were white, but they were not afraid of us." In the United States, as she unabashedly admitted, that trick should have worked because no white people would have dared to confront any black person who pulled such a stunt. It seemed clear that she meant American whites would have been too fearful of a violent reaction to interfere.

I'm quoting from memory, but accurately I think. I was only a little surprised at the woman's haughty attitude, and at the aggravating trick she and her friend so reflexively attempted. I saw more than one brawl erupt in army chow lines when squads of black soldiers tried to saunter into the mess hall past the waiting line of their white comrades, but I thought such class struggles had dissipated in our age of mandated racial equality. Nowadays, that sort of behavior is generally confined to suburban commuters at tollbooth lines and lane reductions.

What floored me more than the woman's remarks was how the racial condescension she so blatantly betrayed was allowed to air without a hint of editorial comment from NPR, the presumed paragon of political propriety. The slightest suggestion of racist sentiment, after all, now seems to be grist for endless condemnation,

but apparently only so long as the suspected bigot is white. It's easy to understand the furor over racial slurs uttered by a geriatric minor official in a small New England town, although the extent of news coverage seemed vastly disproportionate to the importance of the officeholder. It is downright disturbing, however, that the lingering racial discomfort of another old man seems to be fair game for the public pillory — even when backhandedly exposed in the privacy of the home at the goading of a gold-digging girlfriend.

The patronizing views evident in a conversation apparently taped illegally by Donald Sterling's mistress should not be terribly shocking. It would be more surprising, in fact, if an 80-year-old man rich enough to own a basketball team did not harbor such vestiges of presumably moribund ideology. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver responded with such ridiculous severity that he raises the

question of whether he was over-reacting merely to demonstrate his own orthodoxy, and perhaps disguise whatever remnants of prejudicial reasoning he might involuntarily retain. The exquisite self-righteousness of the denunciation, nationally and locally, invites similar suspicions. The media frenzy completely buried the crucial point that Sterling's assumed prejudice was neither publicly stated nor actively exercised, and that the campaign against him amounted to a covert operation by the thought police.

The cause of equality is not served by public legislation or private expectations that apply only to one faction in a mixed society. Anti-hate laws that yield only white defendants perpetuate racial animosity just as effectively as the vagrancy laws of the Reconstruction era, and blindness to subtle evidence of black prejudice only promises to reverse the injustices of the past.

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

This tax creates a distortion in the market for delivery services. Absent the kneecapping, USPS Services would cost less and perhaps be more diverse and effective.

I humbly request that you propose a bill to *repeal this tax and remove this distortion from the delivery services market!*

Thomas J. Laperriere  
Rochester, NH

*Thomas*

*Thank you for this brilliant analysis, which provides more evidence — as if it were needed — of the stunning ability of today's "conservatives" to selectively focus their outrage.*

*The Editor*

### **Rubio the Thoughtful!**

To the Editor:

The best I can say about the current crop of GOP presidential candidates is that they are an entertaining group. What are they going to say next?

Does the GOP really consider them serious candidates? Are we to believe that they are even serious people?

Serious can mean humorless, dangerous, important, sincere or thought-provoking. Such a broad array of synonyms makes it difficult to answer the seriousness question definitively.

Let's apply thought-provoking to Marco Rubio. Senator Rubio

believes in climate change but that mankind plays no role. He has given this problem much thought and believes that he has sniffed out the cause. As a result he will soon ask the agriculture committee to chew their cud on the deleterious effects, to the atmosphere, of cow flatulence. This is sure to cause a flap in the dairy industry!

Having found the cause, Rubio thinks that the ruminant's methane is just another form of natural gas, and while possibly harmful to the ozone layer, has no connection to man's demand for meat, milk and leather.

Rubio has had many thoughts

in the past. First he thought that lying about his family's political refugee status and "escape" from Cuba would get him Hispanic votes, but that backfired, and he backed off. Then he thought that championing immigration was good for his aspirations, but that backfired and he backed off.

Now Rubio's thoughts on global warming are that he can simply "blame it on the bovines." He dismisses the consensus of climate scientists, the UN's report on climate change and NASA's National Climate Assessment, all of which state that humans are the primary cause of global warming. I guess the poor maligned cows

need a lobbyist to steer the public clear of Rubio's bull.

Nobody ever said that thoughtfulness had to have an element of good timing. Otherwise Rubio may have waited for the dust to settle on the recent revelation that the West Antarctica Ice Sheet is damaged beyond recovery. I think Rubio's reputation may soon suffer the same fate. His seriousness seems to be dissipating into the ozone layer.

Dave Potter  
North Hampton, NH

*Dave:*

*The GOP has to put the blame for this gaseous problem somewhere.*

*The Editor*

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# Bernanke's Cut Of Bankers Bailout Loot

by Jim Hightower

Perhaps you've been wondering: How's Ben doing?

Extremely well — thank you, now that he has stepped down as head of the Fed. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke presided over most of the 2008 financial crash, the Wall Street bailout, the Great Recession, and today's so-called "recovery-that-isn't," since 90 percent of Americans still have

not recovered.

So what's Ben been doing now that he's no longer saving bankers with US taxpayers' dollars? Going to banker gatherings to bask in their glowing gratitude — and collecting his cut of the bailout loot.

In one week in May, Bernanke was in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday, Johannesburg on Wednesday, and Houston on Friday, speechifying to global bankers and hobnob-

bing with hedge fund billionaires and economic titans. Each of these private chats put \$200,000 or more into Ben's pockets. He's doing beaucoup of these cash-on-the-barrelhead BenFests for the likes of JPMorgan Chase, Blackstone Group, and Morgan Stanley. In conferences and in small dinners at four-star restaurants, Bernanke is offering "words of wisdom" to barons of high finance he bailed out, in exchange for a ri-

diculous fee that most could not have paid without those rescue funds that the Fed chief extracted from you and me.

But here's an irony that's gotta be chapping Ben's butt — some of the bankers he saved are refusing to play the payback game. Not because they're bothered by the totally corrupt ethics involved, but because they're balking at his high fees. Goldman Sachs, for example, which got a \$10 billion

bailout and whose CEO took \$23 million in personal pay last year, says Bernanke's \$200,000 tab is too steep.

Is there no honor among thieves? What's this world coming to when the robber barons won't toss a couple of hundred thousand bailout crumbs to Ben, their loyal servant?

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## Benghazi!!!

To the Editor:

President Obama's response to each scandal is shock, denial, lies and/or distractions. The protective walls around his failure in Benghazi are crumbling. So the administration is searching for something to divert people's attention from all the unanswered, at least not honestly answered, questions about Benghazi.

They tried to distract us with "income inequality" but dropped it when people discovered that Obama and Democrat Senators pay women significantly less than men.

Now Obama is trying to distract us by claiming that there is a current man-made global warming (MMGW) crisis (even worse than the UN claims). And he wants to spend billions more of your money, your children's money, your grandchildren's money, etc.; to do what? (Besides buy votes, enrich supporters, and impoverish the middle class?)

Despite anything we might do, global warming can only be briefly delayed. But why delay something that saves human lives? Cold kills many more people than warming. If the earth warms as predicted, by 2050 about 1.4 million more people will survive annually.

Most Americans appropri-

ately are skeptical and consider MMGW a minor concern. The many disasters that the MMGW alarmists promised didn't happen. Human civilization didn't end by 2005 as they promised in 1985. The oceans didn't die by 1998 as promised in 1988. There are many times more polar bears today than 50 years ago. The North Pole ice pack didn't vanish last summer, it was bigger than ever. Despite the alarmist media, Antarctic ice is growing not declining. And despite the alarmists' predictions there hasn't been global warming over the last 17 years.

With the global warming distraction failing, expect Obama to try something else. Just remember that these distractions are simply intended to hide the truth about Benghazi. E.g.: Why were our people in this hotbed of terrorist activity? Why weren't they adequately protected? Who stopped the rescue attempts? Despite the promises, why haven't the killers been brought to justice? Why did President Obama and Secretary Clinton blame a video when they knew it was a lie?

Don Ewing  
Meredith, NH

Don:

At long last, sir, have you no respect for facts?

Earlier this month Eric Rignot, a glaciologist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory reported that "the retreat of ice in the Amundsen sea sector of West Antarctica [is] unstoppable [which] will mean that sea levels will rise one metre worldwide. What's more, its disappearance will likely trigger the collapse of the rest of the West Antarctic ice sheet, which comes with a sea level rise of between three and five metres. Such an event will displace millions of people worldwide."

The West Antarctic Ice Sheet is doomed, and yet you write that, "despite the alarmist media, Antarctic ice is growing not declining." Who or what is your source for that startling assertion? Nancy Grace? Geraldo Rivera? The Weekly World News?

You also write that "[c]old kills many more people than warming." In Chicago in 1995, between July 11th and July 17th, an average of 107 people died every day during a heat wave. But that's nothing — in 2003, a European heat wave killed 70,000. The worst death toll we could find for a cold snap was in Europe in 2012, when 300 souls perished — probably as a consequence of the destabilization of weather patterns due to anthropogenic climate change. But what the hell do you care? You've got your little ax to grind.

The Editor

## Portsmouth's Memorial Day Parade, 2014



Above: Two small girls (one mostly obscured) help maintain homeland security with an M2 .50 caliber "Ma Deuce." We presume those are blank rounds. Left: a Colonial-era soldier with what looks to be a Brown Bess. Below: the Flag Police just don't know what to think.



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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

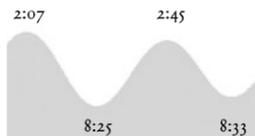
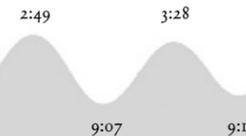
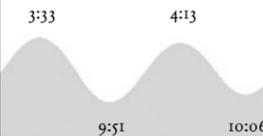
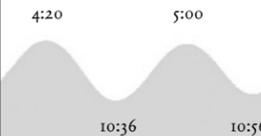
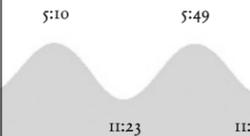
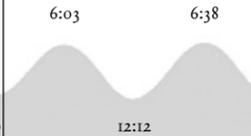
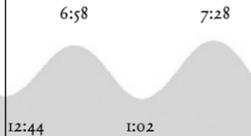
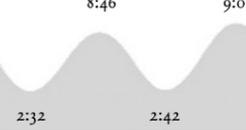
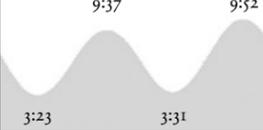
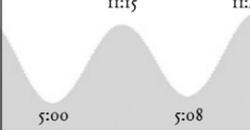
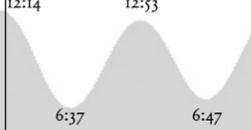
moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

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, June 1	Monday, June 2	Tuesday, June 3	Wednesday, June 4	Thursday, June 5	Friday, June 6	Saturday, June 7
<p><b>2005</b>—Having proven his incompetence at the Pentagon, Paul Wolfowitz takes over the World Bank.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—The Bush administration announces that it's canning its plans for a large Iraqi assembly in favor of a smaller, easier to manipulate advisory council.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—G.W. Bush announces at West Point that we'll attack preemptively if we get nervous.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Eight members of the Nepalese Royal Family are massacred in their Katmandu palace. Prince Dipendra, the suspected perpetrator, is proclaimed King but dies three days later.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—In Seattle, two longshoremen are assassinated on orders of the Marcos regime.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—CNN debuts.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Vietnam Veterans Against the War is founded.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—The AEC pulls the security clearance of Manhattan Project boss J. Robert Oppenheimer.</p> <p><b>1926</b>—Norma Jeane Mortenson, aka Marilyn Monroe, is born in a Los Angeles charity ward.</p> <p><b>1921</b>—A Tulsa "race war" ends with 250 blacks and 50 whites dead.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—Advised to turn back by a retreating French officer at Belleau Woods, U.S.M.C. Capt. Lloyd Williams replies, "Retreat? Hell, we just got here."</p> <p><b>193</b>—Emperor Didius Julianus is murdered after a nine-week reign.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—The FCC further eases the rules against media monopoly, just to be fair to huge corporations.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—The CIA admits to Congress—in a classified document, so citizens won't be duly alarmed—that it had been tracking one of the 9/11 hijackers months earlier than it had previously admitted.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—The <i>Virginian-Pilot</i> reports that evangelist Pat Robertson has had "extensive dealings" with Liberian war criminal Charles Taylor.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Stones guitarist Bill Wyman, 52, marries Mandy Smith, 19.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—As a result of a toilet fire aboard an Air Canada DC-9, 23 people die in Cincinnati, including singer Stan Rogers.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The Rolling Stones begin their first U.S. tour with a gig in Lynn, MA. On the same bill: Bobby Goldsboro &amp; Bobby Vee.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—The U.S. Navy determines that John Lewis "Jack" Kerouac, 21, is too "schizoid" to serve.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Anarchists set off bombs in eight cities. In Washington, D.C., the home of Attorney General Mitchell Palmer is nearly destroyed; parts of the bomber's body land across the street on FDR's stoop.</p> <p><b>1886</b>—President Grover Cleveland, 47 and a bachelor, marries Frances Folsom, 21, at the White House.</p> <p><b>1863</b>—Black Union soldiers guided by Harriet Tubman raid Combahee Ferry, SC and free 750 slaves.</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—Hosni Mubarak announces that Egypt warned the U.S., on or about 9/4/01, that al-Qaeda was ready to unleash something against the U.S.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—A failed 46-cent computer chip convinces the Pentagon that a Soviet attack on the U.S. is about to begin.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Brown &amp; Williamson Tobacco tests a cigarette blended to smell like pot.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Radical lesbian Valerie Solanas plugs Andy Warhol.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Longtime correspondents Groucho Marx and T.S. Eliot finally meet for dinner.</p> <p><b>1961</b>—Henry R. Marshall, an Agriculture Department official, is found dead with five slugs in him from a bolt-action rifle. The death is listed as a suicide.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—Fifty sailors sneak weapons out of the L.A. armory, escalating the "Zoot Suit Riots."</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Battle of Midway starts.</p> <p><b>1851</b>—The New York Knickerbockers introduce the first baseball uniforms: white shirts, long blue trousers, and straw hats.</p> <p><b>1793</b>—Charles Pierce establishes the <i>Oracle of the Day</i>, later the <i>Portsmouth Journal</i>.</p> <p><b>1761</b>—Birth of Henry Shrapnel, inventor of the shrapnel shell.</p> <p><b>1678</b>—In Portsmouth, tything men are appointed "to inspect the neighbor's families."</p>	<p><b>2006</b>—A Ukrainian man enters the lion cage at the Kiev zoo, saying "God will save me, if he exists." He does not, judging by the outcome.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—In Granby, CO, Marvin Heemeyer destroys the Town Hall, the mayor's home, and 11 other buildings with his home-made armored bulldozer because "God ... asked [him] to do it."</p> <p><b>2003</b>—To prove they're not soft on corporate crime, federal prosecutors pick on Martha Stewart.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—George W. Bush says he's "the master of low expectations."</p> <p><b>1989</b>—The Chinese Army kills thousands at Sirhan Sirhan did it.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Cleveland forfeits a home game to the Rangers when ten-cent beer night goes awry.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—James Meredith takes a bullet for voter registration.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—The first U.S. attempt to test a nuke at high altitude fails when a Thor rocket malfunctions and is blown up minutes after liftoff over the South Pacific.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—For the first time a submarine—<i>USS-505</i>—is captured and boarded on the high seas.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—The last of 338,000 Allied troops are evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk.</p> <p><b>1939</b>—The <i>St. Louis</i>, carrying 915 Jewish refugees, is turned away from Florida. Approximately 254 of them later die in Hitler's concentration camps.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—Two top <i>New York Times</i> editors resign in disgrace. Oddly, many more do not.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—A lone Chinese man temporarily stops a line of tanks in Tiananmen Square.</p> <p><b>1986</b>—Bruce Nickell, of Auburn, WA, takes an Excedrin and dies of cyanide poisoning. His wife did it.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—In Idaho, the federal Teton Dam fails, killing 11 and costing nearly \$1B.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Robert Kennedy is fatally shot in Los Angeles. The subsequent investigation by the Police Department leaves no doubt among the gullible that Sirhan Sirhan did it.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Israel attacks Egypt and Syria, starting the Six Day War.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—The State Department admits that U.S. troops are engaged in combat in Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Britain's Sec. of War John Profumo resigns after it's revealed he and a Soviet naval officer had, at different times, shared the favors of the same prostitute.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—Draft registration begins in the U.S.</p> <p><b>1885</b>—The Know-Nothing Party holds its first convention.</p> <p><b>1878</b>—Birth of Doroteo Arango Arámbula, better known as "Pancho Villa."</p> <p><b>1862</b>—Following the principal that might is right, France gains sovereignty over three Vietnamese provinces under the Treaty of Saigon.</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—Donald Rumsfeld tells the unknowing that unknown unknowns are "things we do not know we don't know" — he should know.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—The manufacture of nuclear weapon components at Rocky Flats, CO ends when FBI and EPA agents raid the joint.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Greenpeace reports there are 50 nuclear weapons and nine reactors on the ocean floor.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—California citizens vote to shut down the Rancho Seco nuclear power plant.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—At a food irradiation plant in Georgia, "unbreakable" cesium capsules break, nuking ten workers.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—Nuke-armed B-52s go on alert for the 2nd time in three days after a computer glitch signals a Soviet attack on the U.S.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Governor Mel Thomsen calls for the NH National Guard to be armed with nuclear weapons.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Generals gathered at Charleston Air Force Base to observe the first operational C-5A landing see a wheel fall off after a tire blows out.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—GIs experience an unusually long day in Normandy.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—The first drive-in movie theatre opens, in Camden, NJ.</p> <p><b>1930</b>—William Beebe and Otis Barton go 803 feet below the ocean's surface in a bathysphere.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—Marines suffer their bloodiest day in history at Belleau Woods.</p>	<p><b>1997</b>—Activists are arrested for passing out the Bill of Rights outside the pro-nuclear Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—In Vietnam, Marine PFC Dan Bullock, 15, becomes the youngest American soldier to die in combat since the First World War.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—An A-bomb is incinerated in an anti-aircraft missile fire 20 miles from Trenton, NJ.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—George Mallory disappears near the summit of Mt. Everest.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—Ten thousand Germans and the town of Messines are destroyed as British engineers detonate 19 huge mines whose explosion can be heard in Dublin.</p> <p><b>1915</b>—Alfred Muhler falls 8,000 feet from a damaged Zeppelin, crashes through the roof of a Belgian convent, and lives.</p> <p><b>1899</b>—A future Prime Minister of England writes Cornish, NH novelist Winston Churchill that he'll sign future books with the middle initial S, to avoid confusion.</p> <p><b>1862</b>—Disabled Mexican War vet William B. Mumford is hanged in New Orleans for treason, to wit: desecration of the U.S. flag, under orders from Deerfield, NH-born Gen. Benjamin "The Beast" Butler.</p> <p><b>1692</b>—Port Royal, Jamaica—"the wickedest city in the world"—is destroyed by an earthquake and subsequent tsunami. Thousands of whores and pirates perish.</p>
<p>2:07                      2:45</p>  <p>8:25                      8:33</p>	<p>2:49                      3:28</p>  <p>9:07                      9:18</p>	<p>3:33                      4:13</p>  <p>9:51                      10:06</p>	<p>4:20                      5:00</p>  <p>10:36                      10:56</p>	<p>5:10                      5:49</p>  <p>11:23                      11:50</p>	<p>6:03                      6:38</p>  <p>12:12</p>	<p>6:58                      7:28</p>  <p>12:44                      1:02</p>
Sunday, June 8	Monday, June 9	Tuesday, June 10	Wednesday, June 11	Thursday, June 12	Friday, June 13	Saturday, June 14
<p><b>2003</b>—Condi Rice admits G.W. Bush's State of the Union claim that Saddam tried to buy uranium from Niger was "wrong."</p> <p><b>1998</b>—General Sani Abacha, <i>de facto</i> President of Nigeria, dies in the company of two prostitutes, of a heart attack allegedly caused by an overdose of Viagra.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Being interviewed on tape for "The Dick Cavett Show," health expert J.I. Rodale says "I never felt better in my life!" Minutes later he's dead of a heart attack.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Israeli aircraft and boats attack the unarmed spy ship <i>U.S.S. Liberty</i> with rockets, machine guns, and napalm, killing 34 sailors and wounding 171.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—At NYU, 270 walk out on Robert Strange McNamara's commencement speech.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—John Penton leaves New York City for Los Angeles on a BMW R69S motorcycle. He arrives there 52 hours later.</p> <p><b>1956</b>—Technical Sergeant Richard B. Fitzgibbon, Jr. becomes the first American serviceman to die in the Vietnam War. He's murdered by a fellow American airman.</p> <p><b>1952</b>—"I would never send troops [to Vietnam]," says Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—FDR signs the GI Bill. The president of the U. of Chicago, warns that "colleges would become educational hobo jungles."</p>	<p><b>1989</b>—James Watt, Ronald Reagan's Secretary of the Interior, admits to a House investigating committee that he was paid \$400,000 for making a few phone calls on a topic he knew nothing about.</p> <p><b>1978</b>—The Mormon Church drops its policy of excluding black men from the priesthood.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—British writer Auberon Waugh, aboard an armored car in Cyprus, shakes the barrel of a malfunctioning machine gun, accidentally shooting himself in the chest several times.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—Jerry Lee Lewis takes out a full page ad in <i>Billboard</i> to explain his 2nd divorce and 3rd marriage, to his 14 year-old-cousin Myra.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Joseph Welch asks Joseph McCarthy, "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"</p> <p><b>1953</b>—In Worcester, MA, a tornado kills 94 and injures 1,306.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—Ted Williams hits a ball that lands in the 37th row of Fenway's bleachers, over 500 feet away.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—Mel Ott becomes the first baseball manager to be ejected from both games of a double header.</p> <p><b>1909</b>—Alice Huyler Ramsay departs New York for San Francisco in a Maxwell automobile.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—As Edwin Booth, John Wilkes' brother, is being buried in Boston, the floors collapse at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., killing 22 people.</p>	<p><b>1990</b>—British Airways Capt. Tim Lancaster is sucked half-way out of Flight 5390 when his windshield blows out over Oxfordshire. The plane lands safely. Lancaster recovers and later resumes flying.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—A bicycle messenger is denied entrance to the Justice Department because he's wearing a T-shirt that says, "Experts agree: Meese is a pig."</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Rockefeller Commission says the CIA's Operation CHAOS spied on 300,000 Americans and infiltrated political movements.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The U.S. Senate votes to end the filibuster of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—A House subcommittee hears that Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine gave Ike's Chief of Staff (and ex-NH Governor) Sherman Adams a vicuña coat in exchange for favors from the SEC.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Pitching in the ninth for the Cincinnati Reds, Joe Nuxhall gives up five runs. He's 15.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—Black nationalist Marcus Garvey dies of a stroke after reading a mistaken obituary of himself in the <i>Chicago Defender</i>.</p> <p><b>1871</b>—U.S. Marines avenge the loss of the <i>U.S.S. General Sherman</i> five years earlier by taking three Korean forts. Three months later they withdraw.</p> <p><b>1772</b>—Rhode Islanders burn the British revenue cutter <i>Gaspé</i>.</p>	<p><b>1995</b>—In Claremont, NH, Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich shake hands and pledge to reform lobbying and campaign financing.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—Mount Pinatubo erupts, becoming the first act of nature to close a U.S. military base.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—The Supreme Court says illegally obtained evidence is OK if prosecutors can prove that it would have been discovered legally.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—Major League Baseball™ players go on strike.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—Issei Sagawa, a Japanese student at the Sorbonne, kills fellow student Renée Hartevelt and eats parts of her body. Found too insane for trial by French authorities, he is deported to Japan for institutionalization. Fifteen months later he is allowed to go free.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—The nineteen-month Native American occupation of Alcatraz Island ends.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Thich Quang Duc immolates himself in front of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—George Wallace stands in the schoolhouse door to prevent desegregation in Alabama.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Frank Morris, John Anglin, and John's brother Clarence escape from Alcatraz but are presumed drowned.</p> <p><b>1854</b>—The First San Francisco Vigilance Committee tries, convicts, and hangs John Jenks; elapsed time, four hours.</p>	<p><b>2010</b>—In his first Major League at-bat, Daniel Nava hits a grand slam home run for the Red Sox.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—George W. Bush finds a way to fall off a Segway.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Energy Department admits that two hard drives holding top-secret data on disarming and dismantling nuclear weapons have been missing for over a month.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—George W. Bush announces.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Radical labor organizer Saul Alinsky dies in California.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Pittsburgh Pirate Dock Ellis, tripping, pitches a no-hitter.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Interracial marriage becomes legal in the U.S., thanks to the Supreme Court.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Medgar Evers is shot and killed in Mississippi; his murderer is convicted 31 years later.</p> <p><b>1961</b>—U.S. Army Major Gen. Edwin Walker is disciplined for indoctrinating his troops with John Birch Society propaganda.</p> <p><b>1957</b>—"We have exactly 342 men," says General Samuel T. Williams, head of the U.S. MAAG, Vietnam, "the number allowed by the Geneva Armistice Conference. It would be a breeze if we had more."</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Serge Voronoff performs the first transplant of simian testicular tissue into a human.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Kirke Simpson of the Associated Press becomes the first to use the phrase "smoke-filled room" in a news story about politics.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—"His [Joe Wilson's] wife is in the [CIA] and is a WMD analyst," Dep. Sec. of State Richard Armitage tells Bob Woodward. "How about that s__t?"</p> <p><b>1989</b>—President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush vetoes a raise in the minimum wage.</p> <p><b>1985</b>—Thomas L. Slade and son William are among passengers hijacked on a flight from Beirut, their second such experience in three days.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—<i>Pioneer 10</i> leaves the solar system.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—<i>Pentagon Papers</i> published.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—In a misunderstanding, a U.S. helicopter crew blasts a Vietnamese command post, killing Saigon's Police Chief.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—The Supreme Court issues its <i>Miranda</i> decision.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—As SDS meets in Port Huron and the civil rights movement heats up, <i>Newsweek</i> reports that students are "apathetic."</p> <p><b>1944</b>—News reports say Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-PA) gave FDR a letter-opener made from the arm bone of a dead Japanese soldier.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—German V-1 "buzz-bomb" attacks on England start.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The German sub <i>U-202</i> lands eight Nazi saboteurs at Amagansett on Long Island.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—The U.S. Post Office rules children may no longer be shipped by Parcel Post.</p>	<p><b>2001</b>—Dennis Koslowski throws his missus Karen a 40th birthday party on Sardinia, to the tune of \$2.1 million — half of it covered by Tyco International.</p> <p><b>1996</b>—The FBI reveals that the Clinton White House has obtained files on 408 people without proper justification.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Argentina surrenders the Falklands to Britain.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—D. Eisenhower signs a bill adding "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Senator Joe McCarthy (R-Bourbon) accuses Pres. Eisenhower and Gen. George Marshall of serving the policies of the Kremlin.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—UNIVAC, the first commercial computer, is unveiled.</p> <p><b>1949</b>—The U.S. sends Albert II, a rhesus monkey, into space.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—The Supreme Court rules that children cannot be forced to salute the flag if it offends their religious beliefs.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The bazooka goes into production in Bridgeport, CT.</p> <p><b>1928</b>—Ernesto "Che" Guevara is born in Argentina.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—In San Pedro, CA, the IWW labor hall is raided; children are scalded and the hall demolished.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Alcock and Brown leave Newfoundland for the first successful flight across the Atlantic.</p> <p><b>1905</b>—Russian sailors aboard the battleship <i>Potemkin</i> mutiny.</p>
<p>7:53                      8:17</p>  <p>1:39                      1:52</p>	<p>8:46                      9:05</p>  <p>2:32                      2:42</p>	<p>9:37                      9:52</p>  <p>3:23                      3:31</p>	<p>10:27                      10:39</p>  <p>4:12                      4:19</p>	<p>11:15                      11:26</p>  <p>5:00                      5:08</p>	<p>12:04</p>  <p>5:48                      5:57</p>	<p>12:14                      12:53</p>  <p>6:37                      6:47</p>



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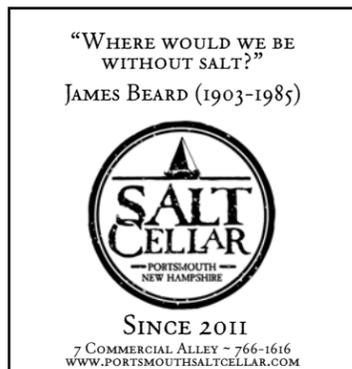
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