

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

How Can Fifty Years Be Too Soon?

Our belatedly-grateful nation set out, on January 28, 2008, to “thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War ... for their service and sacrifice” during that prolonged calamity with a 50th Anniversary Commemoration.

The plan was set into motion officially with the signing of a law by a President whose own time in uniform was spent 9,000 miles from the fighting — when he wasn't actually AWOL.

Curiously, although the Commemoration is ostensibly directed at veterans, its organization and its \$5 million annual budget were relegated to the Pentagon rather than the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We first Ranted about the Commemoration and its accompanying website in February of 2011. Three years and eight months later, enough subsequent developments have accrued to warrant another look at the topic.

A Curious Résumé

On July 7, 2011, the Pentagon finally named a Director for the Commemoration: Lt. General Claude “Mick” Kicklighter [U.S. Army, Ret'd.] Naturally he is a Vietnam veteran — imagine the howls if he were not. Unlike current Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, he's neither a combat vet nor former enlisted man; his specialty was logistics.

A lot of 'Nam vets have grappled with underemployment. Kicklighter hasn't got that problem. He's knocking down \$180,000 a year at his new Pentagon gig, on top of \$232,000 he gets from the State of Virginia for directing George Mason University's Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security.

That's a pretty sweet deal for a guy whose résumé reads like

failure's very own Zelig: Assistant Chief of Staff for the 101st Airborne Division in 1970 when hundreds of GIs died at Firebase Ripcord, which subsequently had to be evacuated and carpet-bombed; provider of logistical support to the Shah of Iran while his dreaded Savak was murdering his own people (but gone before the 1979 hostage crisis); Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning for the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2001, but, again, gone before the consequences became clear; the Pentagon's representative, from 2003 through 2005, on a series of teams charged with helping Iraq and Afghanistan transition smoothly into peaceful and democratic societies; Inspector General of the DoD in 2008, when Halliburton employee Jamie Leigh Jones was told that DoD wouldn't investigate her gang-rape by co-workers, and three IG managers got fat bonuses for running dysfunctional departments.

Perhaps the Pentagon reasoned that the Commemoration is as doomed as the war proved to be, and decided to put in an expert at failure.

Selective Collective Memory

A central element of the Commemoration's \$1.4 million website is its “interactive timeline” of notable war-related events. As the derogatory quotation marks suggest, its interactivity is marginal at best: click your way through a virtual book, click on an item to read a canned *precis*. Big cyber-whoop.

What does this timeline tell us about, say, October 17, 1967? It provides the Medal of Honor citation for 2nd Lt. Harold Bascomb Durham, Jr., in all its impeccable Pentagonese boilerplate. That is all, nothing more: “[Durham] distinguished himself by



conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the cost of his life above and beyond the call of duty ... gallant actions in close combat with an enemy force ... in keeping with the highest traditions ... reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.”

As a cynic might say at this point, cue the trumpets and nudge the recruiter, because testosterone-filled 17 year-olds will be breaking down the door. But isn't it more cynical still to act as if providing context would denigrate Durham's sacrifice?

Context is available, and in great abundance, in David Maraniss's Pulitzer-nominated book *They Marched Into Sunlight*.

On October 17th, at Ong Thanh, Lt. Col. Terry Allen dismissed the advice of 1st Lt. Clark Welch and marched 155 men of the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division into an ambush set by 1,400 NVA. Sixty-four men, including Col. Allen and Lt. Durham, were killed in about two hours.

Seventy-five were wounded. Two men were missing in action. Put another way, of the 155 men in the fight that day, only fourteen did *not* qualify for a Purple Heart — and what brave soul would volunteer to dream one of their dreams?

Major General John H. Hay, the First Division's Commanding Officer, arrived from Saigon in his command chopper as the battle ended. He declared Ong Thanh a victory and awarded himself a Silver Star.

Lieutenant Welch,* who survived, viewed the battle differently. A month later, in Japan, recovering from numerous gunshot and shrapnel wounds and still partially sedated, Welch told General William Westmoreland, who was

* Welch graduated from Oyster River High School with a full scholarship to UNH but instead joined the Army at 17. A mustang, he rose through the ranks and served in Special Forces before being commissioned as an officer. At last report he lived in Colorado. Brigadier General James Shelton, U.S. Army (Ret.), who was at Ong Thanh, has recommended Welch for a Medal of Honor.

pinning a Purple Heart on his chest at the time, “The [expletive] damned Army is [expletive] up from the President of the United States on down to my boss the Colonel, and I'm glad he's dead.”

Full Disclosure

That was 50 years ago — is it still too soon for the truth?

It would be hypocritical to suggest, in a diatribe bemoaning convenient but false accounts, that there is any way the Pentagon could ever be completely honest about Vietnam. All we can realistically hope for is a counterbalance.

Fortunately that is being provided. Veterans for Peace has mounted a “Full Disclosure” campaign to “keep alive the anti-war perspective on the American war in Vietnam.” It “represents a clear alternative to the Department of Defense's current efforts to sanitize and mythologize the Vietnam war and to thereby legitimize further unnecessary and destructive wars.” It is at Vietnam-FullDisclosure.org.

Now Comes the Moment of ~~Truth~~ WTF?

Just four days from now the citizens of America's most politically-connected state will choose which one of the proffered candidates will bear the burden of determining the future of the most powerful nation on Earth.

The thought is staggering, but control of The World's Greatest Deliberative Body®* could hinge on just a handful of votes in Portsmouth's Ward Two.

In fact, when you get right down to it, the future of mankind and all its dreams could, in theory, rest in the hands of the residents of the Brewster Street rooming house. Good thing the City

backed off from its threat to shut the place down. Who knows what vengeful votes its evicted tenants might have cast?

With so much at stake, it is no wonder that \$10 million has been spent *invested* contributed in order to *purchase influence* exercise the donors' First Amendment right to speak freely about the impending Senatorial election without anyone knowing exactly who has been doing all the talking.

Most of that cash has gone for TV ads: 7,653 have been aired for incumbent Democrat Jeanne Shaheen, and 7,375 for Republican challenger Scott Brown. At first glance this might appear to give Shaheen a 278-ad advantage, but such a simple analysis would

be misleading.

In fact, some portion of Shaheen's ads should probably be seen as working in Brown's favor; the cumulative effect of such a massive onslaught of tedium, in which even the positive is unavoidably tainted by association with the tawdry, will probably cause some portion of faint-hearted Democrats to renounce modern life altogether and retire to the hills to breed goats.

Because of those ads or not, the latest polls say Brown, the former male model who just blew in from south of the border — without undergoing a period of quarantine, we might add — has about a fifty-fifty chance of serving with potential Senate Majority Leader

Mitch “Turtlehead” McConnell.

Such a result would in all probability push the Senate from its current state of near-torpor into a two-year period of clinical hibernation, in which to await heir apparent Jeb Bush's assumption of his rightful mantle, after which it will be ship ahoy, bombs away, and back to business as usual.

As if this prospect were not excruciating enough, thanks to the rules of Louisiana's bizarre and anarchic “jungle primary” we may have to wait until January — on tenterhooks, if such things can still be acquired now that Peavey's hardware has closed — before we learn our fate. It's completely farcical, but what else could we expect from a state whose flag

features a pelican?

Meanwhile, in the fight for the First Congressional District seat, the Republican challenger appears to be making a long shot pitch for a place in history. If Dutton Penguin ever does publish a second edition of Al Franken's 2003 *Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them*, Frank Guinta will be in it.

In a last-minute ad, Guinta says flat-out that incumbent Carol Shea-Porter is a liar. Then he tells a few additional lies for good measure.

Winston Churchill famously said that democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried. Are we absolutely sure that we've haven't missed any alternatives?

* Or The Most Depressing Sinkhole for Hope the World has Ever Seen, depending on your viewpoint.

SeacoastHelicopters

@SeacoastHelos

He Said It, We Didn't

A thoughtful reader suggested we look up the Twitter™ account of Seacoast Helicopters which can be found at @SeacoastHelos. We were not disappointed.

The little rectangular graphic just above this text, cunningly and silently floating above this page thanks to an old graphic arts trick, is exactly as we found it — idiosyncratic yet strangely appropriate spelling included.

Since finding it, we have been racking our editorial brain. We're pretty sure there's a term for the psychological phenomenon which can cause a person to blurt out (or mis-type) that one thing they desperately want not to say. But we can't think of what it is. Feedback welcome.

At any rate, doubters are encouraged to check out @SeacoastHelos soon. That truth-telling typo is bound to be fixed by Saturday.

Another Round of Free Publicity

According to an October 24th article in the ever-accommodating *Portsmouth Herald*, "[v]isitors to Marshwood High School early Friday got to take in the unusual sight of a bright red helicopter flying low over the football field."

Two or three inches of rain had fallen during the preceding several days, and a big game against York High School was scheduled for Friday night.

Although Marshwood Athletic Director Rich Buzzell "believes they probably could have played the game without [Bruce] Cul-



At left: Robinson R-44 II Helicopter N814SC, registered to Seacoast Helicopters, thrashing the air into submission at 2:34 p.m. on Saturday, October 25th. At right: the steeple of Portsmouth's North Church, which, last time we checked, was still in Market Square.

trera's help," according to the *Herald's* Jeff McMenemy, the Coach reached out to Seacoast Helicopters' Cultrera, whose brother Dave is Assistant Coach.

Et voila! — for "about an hour and a half" on Friday morning, Cultrera's Robinson R 44 II hovered "six, seven, eight feet above the field," burning, we estimate, about 20 gallons of avgas, which may or may not contain tetraethyl lead.

We saw nothing in the AWLD's reportage on how the immediate neighbors felt about this operation. There are four or five homes within 500 feet south and west of the field, and another half-dozen within a 1,000 foot radius.

A person calling himself John Smith left this comment on the *Herald's* website: "Foolish waste of fuel, it's football not an Easter egg hunt, you can play in mud. AND, those damned helicopters are too damned loud over the beaches!"

Cultrera timed his altruistic gesture perfectly. The free, positive publicity that it gained him bal-

anced out — to whatever extent it could — the negative publicity he got from the AWLD's coverage of the Pease Development Authority's Noise Compatibility Meeting the night before.

How High the Moon Clouds?

In his coverage of that noise meeting, the *Herald's* McMenemy noted that "Cultrera has repeatedly told the *Portsmouth Herald* that he is already flying his tours at 1,000 feet or more, higher than he is required to by the FAA."

On Sunday morning we received a dispatch from our Aeronautical Advisor.

He reported that "the very noisy little red heli_____r just made three victory laps over our house at 12:50 p.m., local time — low!"

"The scattered layer of clouds are officially at 700 feet [confirmed by the attached official Pease weather report]. Even though scattered clouds do not constitute a ceiling, the heli_____er was definitely lower to stay beneath them.

"Unless they are operating under Instrument Flight Rules

— which local helicopters flying short hops most definitely are not — FAA regulations require *all* aircraft, little red _____ no exception this time — must stay clear even of scattered clouds.

"I defy the bastard to say he was any higher, let alone 1000 feet."

"I.M. Irate"

Calling All Realtors

Another thoughtful reader offered us some headlines to put by for future use. Realtors may want to take note.

Local Helicopter Service Depresses Real Estate Values

Quiet Bedroom Community Becomes as Noisy as Boston

Fun Helicopter Rides for Some Knock City Off Top Ten Livable City List

Land-based Tourists Shun Portsmouth After Introduction of Helicopter Rides for Sky-based Tourists

Town Founders Rise From Grave Demanding Explanation About Helicopter

Tourist Helicopter Crash in Downtown Portsmouth Surprises No One

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Silence Scenic Helicopters!

The *Herald* reported on August 22nd that Bruce Cultrera “believes the opposition is organized.” File that under “self-fulfilling prophecies” — they weren’t organized then, but they are now. SSH!!! Silence Scenic Helicopters! has gone live with a Facebook page. “Residents of Seacoast NH resent being buzzed all day by helicopters carrying only a couple of tourists each trip,” the page says. Alternative URL: <https://tinyurl.com/kuzcqtj>.



SSH!!! has also produced spiffy red, white, and black stickers [see above] which may be had from Robin Normandeu at the Chandler’s Loft, 7 Pickering Street, on the waterfront, across from the Tobias Lear house.

Umpteenth Cousin Freed

Now that Jeffrey Fowle has been released from prison in North Korea and reunited with his family in Ohio, we may finally provide answers to a few lingering questions without fear that they might jeopardize his freedom.

First, Jeffrey Fowle and the Editor of this paper are almost certainly related. There are only about 1,250 people named Fowle in this country, and nearly all are descended from the fecund George Fowle (ca. 1610 - 1682), of Watertown, MA. Ergo they are cousins, though to what degree we cannot say.

While they are not by any means estranged, neither are they what anyone might call close. The distance is well illustrated by the nature of Jeffrey’s arrest. It’s easy enough to imagine the Editor being arrested in a bar in North Korea, but proselytizing? That’s unimaginable.

Second, this newspaper had nothing to do with the release. Distant as they are, the Editor is significantly closer to Jeffrey Fowle than he is to Supreme Leader Kim Jong-Un, and fervently hopes to remain so.



Daniel, the Lion, & the Unicorn

Jeffrey Fowle’s imprisonment and release are not the only recent reminder of the Fowles’ penchant for getting themselves incarcerated; sometimes for good reason, other times less so.

The Bostonian Society, which looks after that city’s Old State House, recently removed for refurbishment the carved wooden Lion and Unicorn which have graced that magnificent building since 1908. They were replacements of earlier figures which dated back to 1754, when Daniel Fowle was detained and interrogated in that building in a manner inconsistent with the law. Legislators of the province were not amused by a satirical pamphlet produced by Daniel’s rather odd brother Zechariah, with assistance from Daniel’s enslaved pressman, Primus.



amused when Daniel stood up and talked back to them; they sent him to the Stone Gaol for about five days. The experience led him to establish New Hampshire’s first press and found this newspaper.

A few years later Robert Luist Fowle, Daniel’s nephew, erstwhile apprentice, and former partner, was jailed in Exeter for counterfeiting. Robert, a Tory, regained his freedom first by ratting out his co-conspirators, then by taking “leg bail.”

Look for The Sound

We’re pleased to announce that soon there will be more competition in the local media racket. A new weekly paper called *The Sound* will be appearing some Wednesday in the middle of November.

The publishing team will consist of Matt Kanner and his wife Chloe Johnson, with Larry Clow as Editor. All three worked for *The Wire*, the late lamented paper which, after a fine decade, closed down last April.

Matt and Chloe left Portsmouth in 2012 and moved up to

Vermont where they worked for a couple of weeklies for almost two years.

“By the time we came back,” Matt said, “*The Wire* was no more. We heard from people all the time how sorely it’s missed and how much the community needs something like it. So in certain respects we’ll be carrying that torch. We’ll have a similar kind of editorial mission and philosophy, but we’ll look different, feel different, and do certain things differently.”

The more the merrier. Now, if only we could get the Portsmouth Taxpayers Association to start up a rag.

Guilty!

Dennis Robinson has been ticked off for years about the creeping tendency of those who know no better to give Louis Wagner, the convicted and hanged Isles of Shoals Axe Murderer, the benefit of a bogus doubt. He expects his new book, *Mystery on the Isles of Shoals*, out any day now, to settle Wagner’s hash once and for all.

We’ve seen a slew of blurbs from local historians and they are absolutely glowing.



Officer Earl of the Flag Police, who says he’s “always on the look see for them that disses Old Glory,” recently spotted this example of a retirement-ready flag while on duty at Hilton Park in Dover.

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Clean House in Rock. County

To the Editor:
In political science class I learned that one-party rule leads to mismanagement and corruption. We have seen the truth of that adage here in Rockingham County where the GOP has been in control of county government for many decades. Predictably, a series of political scandals and controversies involving Republicans has surfaced.

In 2009, the *Portsmouth Herald* reported, "(Republican) Rockingham County High Sheriff James 'Dan' Linehan has resigned in the wake of an Attorney General's investigation which found that Linehan broke state law by leaking a political opponent's annulled arrest record to the media."

In 2014, the *Portsmouth Herald* reported, "Embattled (Republican) Rockingham County Attorney James Reams has agreed to resign his position ... Reams has been the target of an investigation by the state Attorney General's Office into complaints of ethics violations, fiscal mismanagement and gender discrimination in the County Attorney's Office."

In 2013, two Republican Rockingham County Commissioners, Kevin Coyle and Kate Pratt, voted to close the County Adult Medical Day Care Program on Dec. 31. The *Union-Leader* reported December 15, 2013, "The program provides social support, recreational activities, exercise, nursing supervision, therapy and

other services for those who still live at home, but spend part of their days in the program held at the nursing home."

State Reps. Schlachman and Abrami wrote in the *Portsmouth Herald*, January 5, 2014, "It is important for the public to know that when the county delegation (all the state representatives representing Rockingham County) approved money in this year's budget for this program it was with the understanding that the program would continue."

One of the two Republican Commissioners involved in the decision, Kate Pratt, was defeated in the September primary, but Commissioner Kevin Coyle remains in office and is running for re-election in the Nov. 4 General Election. The controversy between the County Delegation and the County Commissioners over the closing of the Day Care Program continues unabated to this day.

Certainly, at this point, there is abundant evidence of Republican mismanagement of Rockingham County government. The remedy, of course, is the election of Democratic County candidates in the November 4th General Election.

Joan Jacobs
Portsmouth, NH

§
Carpetbagger?

To the Editor:
Let me see if I have this straight. Jeanne Shaheen, born in Missouri, raised in Pennsylvania, is trying to paint Scott Brown, born in Portsmouth, as a carpetbagger? And to make her point, she is bringing a cavalcade of carpetbaggers to New Hampshire to vouch for her? First, Michelle Obama, married to Barack Obama of Hawaii, who moved to Illinois to become a Senator and pursue his presidential ambitions. Then there's Hillary Clinton, who spent her entire adult life in Arkansas, then moved to New York to run for Senator to pursue her presidential ambitions

for 2016. And finally Elizabeth Warren, who moved to Massachusetts from Nebraska, used falsified Native American heritage to secure a \$350,000 teaching job at Harvard, and then ran for Senate to pursue her own forming presidential ambitions. And Scott Brown is a carpetbagger?

That seems a little silly, even for silly season.

Nick McNulty
Windham NH

Nick:
The problem with Brown is that he's an empty carpet bag. And your charges against Warren are false.

The Editor

§
Republican Health Remedies?

To the Editor:
Some Republican Senators seeking reelection have been criticizing the President's response to the threat of Ebola. They criticize his appointment of an "Ebola Czar," hoping voters will forget that last March, those Republican Senators refused to confirm his nominee for Surgeon General. They criticize the CDC's response to the disease, hoping voters will forget that Republicans in Congress cut the CDC's budget by 40 percent.

They block modest improvements to our health insurance system while refusing to propose better remedies. They want us to believe that they have the solutions while being the ones who bring us the problems.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

§
Why Should I Vote?

To the Editor:
An open letter to Democrats and Independents.

There are two ways to win an election. First, get good candidates who inspire supporters to come out in large numbers to vote for them. Second, so discourage opponents' supporters that they stay home and don't bother voting.

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

How can voters be made to be so discouraged that they won't bother to cast a ballot? Run negative campaigns filled with endless, nasty television commercials that make elections seem grubby and dirty. Certainly, we see that at play in this election, where massive funding from special interests and out-of-state sources such as the billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch have turned television into a nightmare well before Halloween.

Next, make it seem that it is pointless to vote. Republicans are masters of this technique. For six years, GOP members of Congress have blocked virtually any and all legislation proposed by Democrats for fear that passage would give President Obama a political victory. That even included blocking bills that were originally Republican ideas, such as the Affordable Care Act. The end result is apparently hopeless gridlock.

So what do Democratic voters conclude? "Why should I vote? Politics is nasty and dirty and my vote won't make any difference anyway."

Wrong! Nothing stays the same in politics. Either things get better or they get worse. If you don't vote in this election, things will get worse — much worse. For example, State Rep. Bill O'Brien has declared that he will again run for Speaker of the State House if Republicans gain a majority there. What happened when O'Brien served as the Speaker from 2010 to 2012?

He gutted funding for the state's public college educational system which is the foundation for future economic growth in New Hampshire. O'Brien tried to repeal public kindergarten, lower the dropout age and eliminate compulsory education. He helped pass legislation diverting taxpayer

money to private religious institutions. O'Brien completely eliminated the state's minimum wage law and tried to pass Right To Work (for Less) legislation. He helped legalize excessive interest rates (up to 300 percent annual percentage rate) for title (payday) loans. O'Brien cut transportation funding and refused to develop commuter and passenger rail transportations services.

O'Brien was a train wreck and that train is again headed straight toward us. Don't vote, and we'll be run over by it.

Gary Patton
Hampton, NH

§
She's Puzzled

To the Editor:
It is puzzling to me that the wealthiest Americans have managed to persuade nearly half of all voters that the Republican Party supports the interests of middle and working class families.

The reality is that whether you are young or old, an infant, a preschooler or school age, in college, working, or retired, it is our Democratic leaders who remain committed to providing a safety net for those in need — throughout their lives. Ironically, our Republican politicians are adamant about protecting an unborn fetus, but once that baby is born, they want nothing to do with providing services to mothers and babies in need, nor children as they grow.

For college students, it is the Democrats who are working to make education more affordable. It is Democrats who support the Affordable Care Act, which allows young people to stay on their parent's health insurance until the age of 26. It is the Democrats who support allowing young women determine when they are ready to have children.

For parents, it is the Democrats

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And Other Correspondence

who believe in providing families with affordable health insurance, protecting our public school system from being dismantled (a pet promise of our Republican Tea Party candidates), and earning a living wage. Should children need services in school, it is the Democrats who support early intervention programs like Head Start and Title I.

For women, our Democratic leaders remain committed to protecting a woman's right to take charge of her own reproductive health. Democrats also support equal pay for equal work.

For seniors, Democrats work tirelessly to insure that there are safety nets such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. It is because of the Democrats that insurance companies can no longer refuse to provide health insurance to those with a pre-existing medical condition.

Don't be fooled by the millions of dollars pouring into New Hampshire to produce dark television ads ridden with half-truths. On November 4, join me in protecting the interests of middle-class and working class families. Vote for our hardworking, dedicated team of Democratic leaders. After all, they have our best interests at heart.

Beth Olshansky
Durham, NH

§

Havenstein for Governor

To the Editor:

I hear a lot from the incumbent Governor how, should Walt get elected, he will enact "slash and burn" cuts. That simply is not the case, and anyone who has an opportunity to speak with Walt will understand that immediately. Over his impressive business career, he managed a budget that was over three times the size of our state's. He also grew BAE

Systems by 1,500 jobs in four years, while delivering a balanced and responsible budget.

Walt will promote an open door policy in the corner office and re-focus on spending on priorities, not the indiscriminate spending that characterizes the current Governor's tenure. Though she claims to be responsible, she just received a "D" rating in Fiscal Policy from the CATO Institute. The budget proposed by state agencies also included a \$1.9 billion increase.

The choice becomes clearer every day. Walt is right for our future.

Disclaimer: This letter to the editor was submitted through the New Hampshire Republican State Committee website. No portion of this letter was altered or changed at any time. All comments are original thoughts from the author not an automatically generated message.

Mike Mattozzi
Newmarket, NH

Mike:

We don't know about job growth at BAE. Did the GOP supply that figure? If so, we'd be skeptical of it. We know jobs plummeted at SAIC under Havenstein, and the stock price tanked, too — but he made sure he was well paid, regardless.

And as for the CATO Institute — Hab! We'd sooner take advice on fiscal matters from any random person waiting for a bus in Market Square.

The Editor

§

Turnout is Vital!

To The Editor:

During midterm elections, when the presidency is not at stake, voter turnout always drops off — in 2010 it was a miserable 39.9 percent.

The Republican party is no longer the sensible and moderate

party that challenged, but worked with the Democrats to move the country forward. It has moved further and further to the right. Its far right members, because of the intensity of their fears and hostility, are the most likely to vote in the midterm election, while voters with more moderate attitudes are less politically engaged and tend to stay home. The election results are then not representative of the majority of people, but reflect the views of a small, vocal minority.

Democrats and independent-minded voters, if you care about support of the middle class, jobs that pay enough to keep people out of poverty, exorbitant college tuitions and student debt, a responsible immigration policy, women's health and reproductive rights, don't let your guard down because it is only a midterm election — get out and vote.

Perhaps most importantly of all — if you believe that government has a role in the health, safety and well being of its citizens, and are concerned about the obstructionism and unwillingness to compromise which has brought Congress to a standstill, don't take a pass midterm — get out and vote.

It's more than the presidency — our democracy is at stake — please, its so important — get out and vote!

Cynthia Muse
Rye, NH

§

Ebola Hypocrisy

To the Editor:

The hysteria over ebola in the U.S., fanned by many politicians, is an excellent example of the hypocrisy coming from our friends on the right. They champion cutting services and government programs (including the National Institutes for Health and the Center for Disease Control) but then bluster that they want these same agencies to do more when a small yet serious crisis arises.

The National Institute for

Health is a leading medical research institute not only for the U.S. but for the world. We need representation in our government that comprehends the necessity of funding research and respect the science behind it. This is why we should re-elect Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter and Senator Jeanne Shaheen. They will consistently direct government activities to reduce major risks we all face not only in a crisis, but every day.

Juliette Paquin
Stratham, NH

§

Guinta's Dubious Claims

To the Editor:

Surprisingly, former Congressman Frank Guinta says he regards providing more money to fund a higher level of mental health services in New Hampshire as an important responsibility for a member of Congress.

I say surprisingly because Guinta is a Tea Partier who was adamantly opposed to federal funding for state and local programs and projects. He voted to terminate the TIGER grant program used to replace the Memorial Bridge between Portsmouth and Maine. So how would Guinta add funding to increase services? Maybe, as he said about autism research, towns could hold fundraisers?

Fortunately we already have an able and caring U.S. Representative, Carol Shea-Porter, who has consistently supported improved mental health services. Congresswoman Shea-Porter voted for the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (now law), mandating insurers cover mental health services as they cover physical health services. Recently, she also got research funded for a promising therapeutic service-dog training program to address PTSD.

Wondering what Frank Guinta did to improve mental health care while in Congress? Not a thing.

Guinta's words don't match his



dismal record. I'll be voting for Carol Shea-Porter on November 4th because we need an honest, caring representative.

Gail Morrison
Sanbornton, NH

§

Facts Matter

To the Editor:

Some say we should consider this election to be a vote on President Obama's policies. When President Obama took office in January, 2009, facing imminent depression and a Republican opposition that was more interested in seeing him fail than in saving the economy, he managed to implement policies that saved the American economy.

Consider the facts: 63 straight months of economic expansion; 54 straight months of private sector job growth; decreasing unemployment, from 10.1 percent in October 2009 down to 5.9 percent now; doubled stock market value, with the Dow up from 7,949 to 17,038, and the S&P 500 up from 805 to 1992; Federal deficit reduced by two thirds, from \$1.3 trillion down to \$500 billion (the smallest since 2007); rising consumer confidence, from 37.7 up to 92.4!

Let the facts speak for themselves. They say vote for Democrats.

Ken Perry
Rollinsford

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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

Curious About the Agnomen

To the Editor:
A former artilleryman, I thought I knew ordnance ... but perhaps you would identify the weapon cited in the agnomen of your frequent (crank) correspondent Robert "Wheel Gun" Ford. Thanks.

Red Leg

PS — Since there is room left on this card, do you know what became of Portsmouth's old steam tugboat *Wrestler*?

[Received via Postal Card, said card bearing the photographic image of a black bear saying, in a word balloon, "Send more Tourists to New Hampshire — the last ones were delicious!!!"]

Whereabouts Unknown

Red:

We don't usually print messages from pseudonymous weirdos, but in your case we'll make an exception.

Your first question is easy: a "wheel gun" is a revolver.

*Your second is not so easy. We've never heard of *Wrestler*. We hope to find time to look in the archives; in the meantime, readers are encouraged to volunteer answers.*

The Editor

§

Preposterous Scott Brown

To the Editor:

With election day closing fast, and the polling surprisingly (astonishingly!) close in the race for U.S. Senate, I'd like to make three observations:

1) As long as Scott Brown is willing to use fear-mongering, over-the-top false rhetoric to scare New Hampshire voters about Ebola, immigration, etc., I'd love to see the opposition run ads with an equally preposterous tag line:

"Why are voters supporting someone who crashed the New Hampshire border with a truck, a dog, and a suede jacket ... a man who looks more like he belongs in

an Eddie Bauer catalog than the U.S. Senate?"

2) There's a TV ad airing up here, where Mitt Romney's endorsement ends with this lie: "In the Senate, I have no doubt, Scott will take on the big fights, and only listen to you."

Of course he and Scott Brown are counting on the probability that you don't know that, when a reporter asked him questions at a diner in July about his vote on women's issues, he ducked out and hid in the bathroom. Yeah, a real stand-up guy!

3) New Hampshire residents recently spent six weeks demonstrating remarkable loyalty to a man whose behavior illustrates to a tee the contrast between corporate greed and the values and aspirations of the middle class. Now, if current polls are accurate, they're willing to vote for a man whose votes and views personify this contrast far more than that of the Demoulas cousins. Sadly, if Scott Brown prevails, his actions will have much greater effect — and for far longer — on our personal lives and well-being.

Alan Grossberg
Durham, NH

§

Reject Low Standards

To the Editor:

For anyone who cares about public education in New Hampshire and educating our children for a future in New Hampshire's community and economy, the race for Governor offers a clear choice — Maggie Hassan.

Walt Havenstein has been out campaigning on his vision for education: low standards for public schools and taxpayer subsidies for private schools. First, he says, he opposes the Common Core standards, the new education standards that New Hampshire teachers agree are a big step for-

ward for our schools, but the Tea Party opposes. I wonder if Walt knows why he opposes the Common Core standards and what he would replace them with.

Then he goes on to support the state's "education tax credit" program that offers taxpayer subsidies to induce families to take their children out of public schools and put them in private schools.

He's silent on state support for our university and community colleges.

Some vision.

Maggie Hassan supports high education standards in our schools, opposes vouchers and has restored funding to higher education in New Hampshire, holding tuition down at UNH and actually reducing tuition at our community colleges.

As an educator, I'm voting for Governor Hassan because she supports our schools.

Misa Pignataro
Stratham, NH

§

No Vegging Out on Nov. 4

To the Editor:

Oy vey, voting ... again? It always seems such a futile waste of time: schlep down the local school gym, shuffle around, wonder who half the names are and what difference does it make, anyway.

Maybe plenty. 2010 was the year the far right took over New Hampshire. Had all the stay-at-homes (some 50 percent of the eligible voters — how embarrassing is that?!) bothered to vote instead of vegging out at home the Tea Party takeover might not have created such unnecessary havoc as the odious voter ID law, for instance, as well as the dopey law they passed permitting firearms in the State House in Concord. Smart, huh? And guess what? They're very close to sneaking in again — if we let them.

Here's an option: don't let them.

The Democratic ticket won't bring anyone eternal happiness or heaven on earth, but at least Joe and Jane Six-pack won't have to put up with the troglodyte reactionaries who will do all they can to (a) gut the Affordable Care Act, (b) cut taxes for billionaires (but not for you or me), (c) ax health care for women, (d) trash what they can of old age benefits and Medicaid, (e) slash education, and (f) cook up other regressive shenanigans guaranteed to hurt the less fortunate while abetting the fat cats to get even fatter. Fine, if you're a fat cat, in which case stop here. Don't read on.

But if you'd rather have New Hampshire embrace progressive, enlightened legislation which helps all of us, not simply the billionaires and corporations, then mosey on down to that polling place on the first Tuesday in November and blacken in those little bubbles on the ballot for the Democrats.

If you don't, who will?

Barnabas Umbrage
Portsmouth, NH

§

No Guilt Trip

To the Editor:

I have a very simple but effective formula for determining how I will vote on the upcoming Mid-term Election Day, November 4th: I will vote strictly according to my own self-interests. I have a strong belief that if every eligible citizen does indeed vote, and uses my prescribed method, the right people will prevail, making New Hampshire a better place.

As a hardworking, taxpaying, mainstream middle class American in Dover, the following are just some of the things that matter to me most: an empathetic government that protects and empowers

all citizens equally; Social Security; Medicare (and Medicaid for those less fortunate than me); access to quality education; public safety; repairing or replacing eroding infrastructure; environmental programs that protect our natural beauty, land, air and water; access for all citizens to affordable healthcare and nutrition; a strong national defense with the operative word being defense; looking after the Veterans who provide the defense; development of sustainable renewable energy sources to safely wean ourselves of Middle East petroleum with its associated incoherent, hypocritical, instigating, dangerous foreign policy; an inclusive economy built around a strong middle class; promoting small business; reducing income inequality including raising of the federal minimum wage to a livable wage; defending all U.S. citizens' right to vote and eliminating voter suppression; and eradicating the scourge of dark money from politics and our electoral process.

Quite the wish list, I do agree, but the good news is that, thanks to us, America is a very prosperous nation and the resources to make America "kinder and gentler" are already available. It will just require us to keep the right people in office to carry out our will by voting for the re-allocation of those resources.

If any or all of the items I listed above are important to you as well, I urge you to feel guilt free — as the other side representing the status quo certainly does not feel guilty — and vote "selfishly" for those that best represent your interests: Governor Maggie Hassan, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter and a straight Democratic ticket while you're at it.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH

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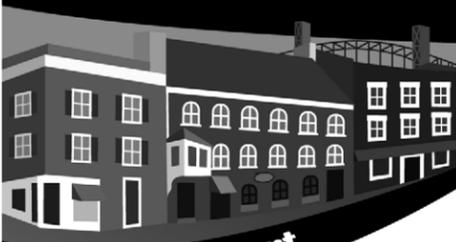
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Where the Dangers Lie *by W.D. Ehrhart*

The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria is violent, fanatical, barbaric, brutal, intolerant, and ... add whatever other adjectives you'd like to throw in. I won't argue that these characterizations are not true. But over the summer and into the fall, I have watched and listened with increasing dismay to the shifting sands of the U.S. approach to the situation.

Not so many months ago, we were assured that the U.S. would not get drawn into another war in the Middle East. But all through the summer and into the fall came an endless barrage of stories about Yazidis being raped and buried alive by ISIS, and the horrifying videos of Americans and other Europeans being savagely beheaded by ISIS, and the failures of the Iraqi and Kurdish militaries to stem the advance of ISIS.

The drumbeat for U.S. intervention among U.S. policymakers, lawmakers, and pundits began to grow louder and more insistent, and now the U.S. is regularly sending airstrikes and drone attacks against the ISIS forces. Airstrikes, but no more, we were assured. This minimal military involvement, however, does not seem to be working, says counter-insurgency expert John Nagl, who argues that we should put "boots on the ground" by embedding "teams of combat advisers with" Iraqi and Kurdish forces fighting ISIS.

A year ago most Americans had never even heard of ISIS, yet now the U.S. is once again militarily embroiled in a war in the Middle East. What if we send U.S. advisors and they prove to be ineffective, as they have proved to be over and over again ever since 1961 — including in Iraq in the past decade? Will we then have no choice but to send in the Ma-

rines? Of course, we're not doing this alone. Secretary of State John Kerry says that 40 nations have offered to join our coalition, though he adds, "It's not appropriate to start announcing" which nations will participate and what each will do. One remembers G. W. Bush's "Coalition of the Willing" that included such nations as Albania, Latvia, the Fiji Islands, and the Dominican Republic, and can only wonder which nations belong to our coalition this time.

Back in 1990, when Saddam Hussein accused the Kuwaitis of slant-drilling and stealing his oil, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq told Saddam that the U.S. "does not take sides in Arab-Arab disputes." What would you make of that if you were Saddam? Only after he acted on what appeared to any reasonable person to be a Green Light from the U.S. did the U.S. decide that putting the Emir of Kuwait back on his gold-plated toilet was a moral imperative.

We were told by a tearful young girl that Iraqi soldiers tore Kuwaiti babies from their incubators and threw the babies to the floor. Only much later did we learn that the "eyewitness" turns out to have been the Kuwaiti ambassador's daughter, who was coached in her testimony before Congress by the same public relations firm that had handled George H.W. Bush's 1988 election campaign. Her testimony could not be and has never been corroborated.

Meanwhile, the vaunted Iraqi Republican Guard turned out to be a bunch of rag-tag peasant draftees who were far more eager to run away than to fight Americans. American audiences were never shown The Highway of Death by the American media, but the rest of the world saw it. You want to talk bloodthirsty

savagery? Google "Highway of Death" and see what you get.

And a year later, no less a person than George Will — no bleeding-heart liberal — admitted that the Kuwaitis had been doing exactly what Saddam had said they were doing: stealing Iraqi oil.

Before the U.S. started putting boots on the ground in the Middle East in August 1990, Iraq was a stable country. Syria was a stable country. Libya was a stable country. Not happy places, to be sure. But stable. And secular. Al Qaida didn't exist. ISIS didn't exist.

Almost a quarter of a century later, with the U.S. 5th Fleet headquartered in Bahrain, U.S. air bases in Saudi Arabia, and U.S. army bases in Kuwait, how is the Middle East doing? After eight years of U.S. boots on the ground in Iraq, how is Iraq doing? After thirteen years of U.S. boots on the ground in Afghanistan, how is Afghanistan doing? How is Libya doing after being liberated from Muammar Gaddafi with significant help from the U.S.? Have we neutralized al-Qaida? How can ISIS be so effective a fighting force with no air force, no navy, no Pentagon, and no assistance from any major world power while those on whose behalf we want to expend American treasure and American blood can't defend themselves without our help?

For that matter, where did al-Qaida come from? Isn't al-Qaida the direct descendant of those Afghan mujahadeen the U.S. so gleefully armed and funded against the Soviet Union back in the 1980s? Isn't ISIS a direct outgrowth of al-Qaida?

Do we never seem to notice the Iron Law of Unintended Consequences playing itself out over and over again? Do we not notice that the United States of America cannot make the world behave as

we would wish?

I am not arguing that what is happening in the Middle East is anything other than a disaster for those who are living in the midst of it. I am not arguing that ISIS deserves a seat in the United Nations. But I am asking: how much more damage are we going to do in the process of trying to fix the damage we have already done? How many more enemies will we make trying to kill the ones we've already made? Will the Middle East be better off after we have intervened once again?

Finally, which is the greater threat to our national security? Al-Qaida or a crumbling infrastructure of highways, bridges, and tunnels, leaking municipal water systems, and an ancient electrical grid. ISIS or failing public schools, understaffed hospitals, and overcrowded prisons? Afghan Taliban or a national debt of nearly \$18,000,000,000,000 and rising every day by \$2,450,000,000? Islamist jihadis or a dysfunctional Congress gerrymandered beyond any possibility of compromise?

We cannot bend the world into the shape we desire through military might, or by any other means for that matter, and our attempts to do so have failed time and time again. Yet we seem to remain, as a people, as gullible as ever, once again stampeded into winless war by leaders so besotted by the hammer of American military might that they persist in seeing every problem in the world as a nail.

§

W. D. Ehrhart, a Marine combat veteran of the Vietnam War, holds a PhD from the University of Wales in Swansea, UK, and is author or editor of 21 books, most recently Dead on a High Hill: Essays on War, Literature & Living (McFarland, 2012).

§

The Real Halloween Scaries of 2014

by Jim Hightower

If you want a real Halloween fright, don't look for it among the trick-or-treaters coming to your door — just check out the Republican spooks trying to peddle panic in this political year.

Early in the summer, their big scary was a few thousand Central American children crossing into the U.S. This sent such excitable as Gov. Rick "Oops" Perry skittering from one Fox news show to another, warning darkly that the children were agents of death who should be packed on buses pronto and shipped back to the rapes, gang warfare, and intractable poverty they were fleeing.

But the kids turned out to be ... well, kids. No threat at all. So the 'fraidy cats found a new fear to stoke: Terrorists! Yes, squealed panicky GOP congress critter Duncan Hunter in early October, no less than 10 of the murderous Islamic terrorists from Syria and Iraq have been caught sneaking into the U.S. across our Mexican border. Duncan was implying that Islamic devils were coming to behead your entire family — only it wasn't true, no terrorists were crossing.

Next came Rep. Joe Wilson, trying to score a trifecta by warning that (1) foreign terrorists who're (2) infected with Ebola are (3) likely to sneak across the Mexican border to spread Ebola across America. "I'm very concerned," 'Fraidy Cat Joe recently said about "the creed of Hamas." The wide-eyed Tea Partier told his audience that Hamas terrorists "value death more than you value your life." Then he hit the Code Red Panic Button, offering this conclusion from the depths of his ignorance: "Part of their creed would be to bring persons who have Ebola into our country."

What's truly scary is that these screwballs actually hold positions of public authority in America.

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
"Do I have the best credentials? Probably not.
"Cause, you know, whatever.
But I do have strong ties to this state."
- U.S. Senate candidate Scott Brown (1959-)
as quoted by the Associated Press

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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

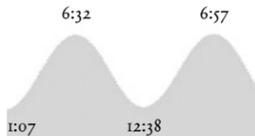
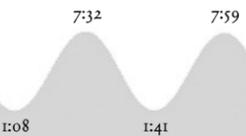
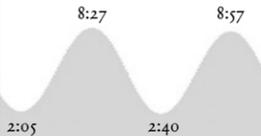
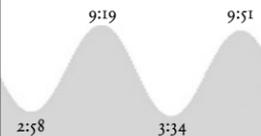
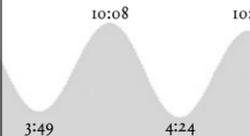
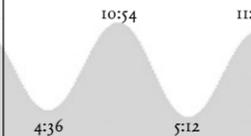
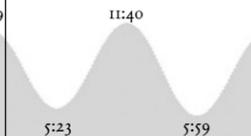
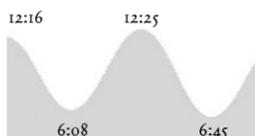
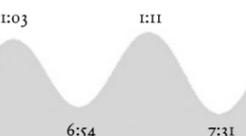
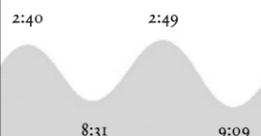
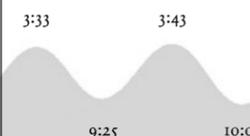
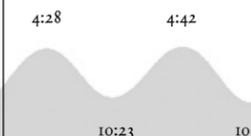
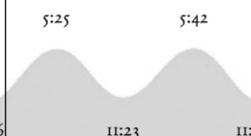
moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

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, November 2	Monday, November 3	Tuesday, November 4	Wednesday, November 5	Thursday, November 6	Friday, November 7	Saturday, November 8
<p>2004—Warren Co. (OH) officials explain they're counting votes behind locked doors because of an alleged "terrorist threat."</p> <p>2002—"We know he [Saddam Hussein] has chemical weapons," says George W. Bush.</p> <p>2000—A Portland, ME TV station reports that George W. Bush got busted for drunk driving in 1976.</p> <p>1972—In exchange for the Justice Department dropping an indictment for making illegal campaign contributions, the Seafarer's International Union contributes \$100,000 to the Nixon campaign.</p> <p>1965—At the Pentagon, below Robert McNamara's office window, Norman Morrison, a 31 year-old Quaker, immolates himself.</p> <p>1963—With a White House OK, South Vietnamese generals overthrow President Ngo Dinh Diem and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu.</p> <p>1947—Howard Hughes takes the "Spruce Goose"—the world's largest airplane—out for a test flight. It never flies again.</p> <p>1929—"The Wall Street crash," says <i>Business Week</i>, "doesn't mean that there will be any general or serious business depression."</p> <p>1920—Socialist Eugene V. Debs gets 913,693 votes for president. Though women may now vote, Charlotte Woodward Pierce, last survivor of the 1848 Seneca Convention, is not well enough.</p>	<p>1969—Richard Nixon announces "Vietnamization" of Vietnam War.</p> <p>1964—Lyndon Johnson is elected as the peace candidate.</p> <p>1957—A female dog named Laika, aboard <i>Sputnik 2</i>, becomes the first living thing to orbit Earth.</p> <p>1948—The <i>Chicago Daily Tribune</i> mistakenly declares Dewey the winner over Truman in the presidential election.</p> <p>1917—Bolsheviks take power during the Russian Revolution.</p> <p>1913—The Income Tax is born.</p> <p>1903—The Colombian province of Panama secedes with quiet backing from Teddy Roosevelt whose Republican party recently received \$60,000 from the New Panama Canal Company.</p> <p>1874—The White League kills 7 black Republicans, wounds 70 more, and declares Democrats the winners in a Eufala, AL election.</p> <p>1868—In a special election, Louisiana's John W. Menard becomes the first black man elected to Congress; his opponent challenges the win, though, and Congress won't seat him.</p> <p>1789—George Washington visits Madam Lear, his secretary's mother, on Hunking Street and attends a ball at the Assembly.</p> <p>1755—Massachusetts establishes bounties for Indian scalps, ranging from £50 for male Penobscots over 12 years old, to £20 for female Indians under 12.</p>	<p>2008—Americans elect Barack Obama President, and Californians restrict the civil rights of gay Californians.</p> <p>1979—Militant Shi'ite Muslims take 66 Americans hostage in Teheran, spelling the end of the Carter administration.</p> <p>1964—Lenny Bruce is found guilty of using obscenity during appearances in New York City.</p> <p>1958—U.S. B-47 bomber carrying nukes crashes near Abilene, TX. High explosives detonate. Nuclear materials are recovered later.</p> <p>1956—Soviet troops put down Hungarian revolt.</p> <p>1928—Asked who shot him, the dying gangster Arnold Rothstein tells police, "My mudder did it."</p> <p>1924—Nellie Rayloe Ross becomes first female governor of a U.S. state, Wyoming.</p> <p>1922—Howard Carter discovers King Tutankhamen's tomb.</p> <p>1918—Disgruntled German sailors take over the port at Kiel, starting the German Revolution.</p> <p>1879—James Ritty gets a patent for the first cash register, invented to outfox thieving bartenders.</p> <p>1879—Will Rogers is born.</p> <p>1798—Vermont elects Matthew Lyon, in jail for sedition, to Congress.</p> <p>1791—An Indian force of nearly 2,000 attacks about 1,500 U.S. soldiers and camp followers in the Battle of the Wabash, killing 832.</p>	<p>2007—Television writers go on strike. Subsequent programming is lousy in slightly different ways.</p> <p>2004—A Franklin Co. (OH) official reports that Pres. Bush's 3,893 vote total in one district is erroneous—only 638 ballots were cast.</p> <p>1994—File under "Non-News:" Ronald Reagan announces he has Alzheimer's.</p> <p>1975—Dick "Dick" Cheney becomes White House Chief of Staff, Donald Rumsfeld becomes Secretary of Defense, and George H.[H.]W. Bush becomes Director of the CIA. Gerry Ford is allowed to stay on as President.</p> <p>1949—Deranged WWII veteran and daily churchgoer Howard Unruh (1921—2009) shoots 16 people, killing 13, in Camden, NJ.</p> <p>1935—Parker Brothers introduces the game "Monopoly."</p> <p>1930—Told over the phone by a Swedish newspaper reporter that he's won the Nobel Prize, Sinclair Lewis, thinking it's a hoax, imitates the man's accent.</p> <p>1872—In Rochester, NY, Susan B. Anthony is arrested for voting.</p> <p>1765—Two Boston gangs, instead of indulging in their usual Guy Fawkes Day dust-up, join to demonstrate against the Stamp Act.</p> <p>1605—Had Guy Fawkes not been betrayed and apprehended, Parliament would have been rubble on this day.</p>	<p>1984—It's mourning in America—Reagan defeats Mondale.</p> <p>1977—A dam owned and modified by the Toccoa Falls Bible Institute in Georgia fails, killing 39 people.</p> <p>1975—The Sex Pistols perform in public for the first time.</p> <p>1971—The Atomic Energy Commission explodes a 5-megaton nuke—the largest ever exploded in the U.S.—one mile below Amchitka Island in Alaska, about 87 miles from a Soviet naval base in Siberia.</p> <p>1965—In Times Square, five men burn their draft cards, the first such protest of the Vietnam War.</p> <p>1963—Laura Welch—later Bush—runs a stop sign in Midland, TX, with fatal results.</p> <p>1961—A three day fire begins in Bel Air, CA, destroying 447 homes, including those of Zsa Zsa Gabor and Dick Nixon.</p> <p>1944—The Zionist Stern Gang assassinates Britain's Lord Moyne in Cairo. Israel honors the assassins with a stamp in 1982.</p> <p>1928—Herbert Hoover beats Alfred E. Smith for president.</p> <p>1922—An explosion kills 77 coal miners in Spangler, PA.</p> <p>1918—Shipyard workers revolt in Kiel and Hamburg.</p> <p>1917—After three months of fighting in mud, Canadians take Passchendaele, ending the Third Battle of Ypres; Allies gain five miles at a cost of 250,000 casualties.</p>	<p>2007—Private Jessica Lynch accuses the Pentagon of using her for propaganda purposes.</p> <p>2000—The American people vote for a president. Instead, they end up with George W. Bush.</p> <p>1962—Richard Nixon tells the press they won't have him to kick around any more. (It's a lie.)</p> <p>1940—The mile-long Tacoma Narrows bridge wiggles, wobbles, and then falls down. Washington State is unable to collect on its insurance because their agent fraudulently pocketed the premiums.</p> <p>1919—3,000 anarchists are held without bail on Ellis Island as the Palmer Raids begin.</p> <p>1917—Twelve IWW members are convicted in Tulsa of not owning war bonds. Police turn them over, along with five defense witnesses, to a Klan-affiliated mob. They're then whipped, tarred, and feathered.</p> <p>1917—Revolutionary peasants lost in the Winter Palace stumble upon the remnants of Kerensky's government. Being illiterate, they force the officials to write their own arrest warrants.</p> <p>1903—The U.S. denies Colombia's request to place Colombian troops in Panama, a Colombian province.</p> <p>1837—Maine-born Elijah P. Lovejoy, an abolitionist editor whose printing press has been thrown in the river twice, is murdered by a mob in Alton, IL.</p>	<p>2010—George W. Bush reveals on TV that his mother once showed him a jar containing the fetus of a miscarried sibling and asked him to drive her to the hospital.</p> <p>2000—At 2:16 a.m., Fox News "reporter" John Ellis calls Florida in favor of his cousin, George W. Bush.</p> <p>1994—Serial philanderer Newt Gingrich and the Republican Party gain control of Congress.</p> <p>1983—Moscow puts its nuclear forces on high alert and sends flash telegrams to its embassies warning that a nuclear strike on the USSR may come at any time.</p> <p>1970—Singer Michelle Phillips divorces Dennis Hopper — eight days of marriage was enough.</p> <p>1932—Socialist Norman Thomas gets 884,885 votes for President.</p> <p>1923—Disgruntled corporal A. Hitler, with help from disgruntled general E. von Ludendorff, stages the "Beer Hall Putsch" in Munich.</p> <p>1897—Birth of Dorothy Day, anarchist founder of <i>Catholic Worker</i>.</p> <p>1876—The editor of <i>The New York Times</i> and the chairman of the Republican National Committee conspire to bribe election officials in Florida, South Carolina, and Louisiana to "elect" Hayes president.</p> <p>1800—A mysterious fire in the War Office destroys many records after (then-liberal) Republicans demanded an accounting of (conservative) Federalist expenditures.</p>
 <p>6:32 6:57 1:07 12:38</p>	 <p>7:32 7:59 1:08 1:41</p>	 <p>8:27 8:57 2:05 2:40</p>	 <p>9:19 9:51 2:58 3:34</p>	 <p>10:08 10:41 3:49 4:24</p>	 <p>10:54 11:29 4:36 5:12</p>	 <p>11:40 5:23 5:59</p>
Sunday, November 9	Monday, November 10	Tuesday, November 11	Wednesday, November 12	Thursday, November 13	Friday, November 14	Saturday, November 15
<p>1998—NASDAQ brokers are made to pay bilked customers \$1 billion for rigging the game.</p> <p>1989—The Berlin Wall becomes porous.</p> <p>1979—Due to a computer error, for six minutes the U.S. Air Defense Command mistakenly believes that the U.S.S.R. is attacking the U.S.</p> <p>1969—78 Indians occupy Alcatraz.</p> <p>1967—<i>Rolling Stone</i> begins publication.</p> <p>1965—Due to a failure at a single power plant in Ontario, the entire northeast is left in the dark.</p> <p>1953—Dylan Thomas dies in New York at 39.</p> <p>1942—The first "Liberty Ship," the <i>Robert E. Peary</i>, is launched.</p> <p>1938—German Nazis demonstrate their racial superiority during Kristallnacht by killing 91 Jews.</p> <p>1932—In Switzerland, the Army fires on a demonstration against fascism, killing 13.</p> <p>1911—Charles Justice is executed in Ohio's electric chair—which he had built himself while an inmate 14 years earlier.</p> <p>1874—<i>The New York Herald</i> reports that wild animals, escaped from the Central Park Zoo, have killed 27 people. It's a hoax.</p> <p>1872—600 buildings burn in Boston. The Fire Department is hampered by a lack of horsepower due to an equine virus, aka "the Great Epizootic," and by looters.</p>	<p>2004—George W. Bush nominates as his new Attorney General, Alberto Gonzales—who goes on to make his predecessor, John Ashcroft, look good.</p> <p>1982—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a gift to the nation from those it had shunned, opens in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1975—The <i>Edmund Fitzgerald</i> sinks on Lake Superior, taking with her a crew of 29.</p> <p>1973—In Drake, ND the school board fires a teacher and burns the book he assigned, <i>Slaughterhouse Five</i>.</p> <p>1969—"Sesame Street" debuts.</p> <p>1964—In Australia, the draft is re-introduced, apparently to protect that part of the British Empire from invasion by Ho's forces.</p> <p>1950—Flying over Canada, a U.S. Air Force crew in a B-50 experiences engine trouble. They chuck the bomb (minus its plutonium core) which then explodes in Riviere du Loup, Quebec.</p> <p>1898—400 Democratic Party activists in Wilmington, NC murder 40 to 100 blacks, depose the mayor, and establish a new government by force.</p> <p>1871—Newspaperman Henry Morton Stanley, meeting a white man near Lake Tanganyika, says "Dr. Livingstone, I presume!"</p> <p>1775—The Continental Congress creates the Marine Corps.</p>	<p>2000—Republicans go to court to stop manual recounts in Florida.</p> <p>1969—The <i>U.S.S. Sand Lance</i> is launched, the final sub built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.</p> <p>1959—"Rocky and His Friends" debut.</p> <p>1956—Soviet forces crush the Hungarian resistance.</p> <p>1933—"The Great Black Blizzard," the first of the great dust storms, hits the Great Plains.</p> <p>1921—President Warren G. Harding dedicates the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.</p> <p>1919—In Centralia, WA, American Legionnaires kidnap, torture, and castrate fellow WW I vet Wesley Everest, who had been thoughtless enough to join the IWW.</p> <p>1918—At 11:11 a.m., the War to End All Wars ends — too late for the 2,738 who die on this day.</p> <p>1911—"The Great Blue Norther" strikes the Midwest. In Springfield, MO the temperatures drops from 80 degrees at mid-afternoon to 13 at midnight.</p> <p>1889—Marcel Proust, 18, enlists in the French Army.</p> <p>1887—The anarchist Haymarket Martyrs are hanged in Chicago.</p> <p>1880—Rebellious Australian bushranger Ned Kelly is hanged.</p> <p>1831—Nat Turner, slave, is hanged for rebellion in Virginia.</p> <p>1647—Massachusetts passes the first compulsory education law.</p>	<p>2001—Flight 587 falls apart and crashes in NYC, killing 261.</p> <p>1980—New York City Mayor Ed Koch admits he tried marijuana.</p> <p>1971—The Berkeley City Council votes symbolically to provide sanctuary for draft resistors.</p> <p>1970—The Oregon Highway Dept. discovers that half a ton of explosives isn't enough to dispose of a dead eight ton whale.</p> <p>1941—Abe "Kid Twist" Reles earns the posthumous sobriquet "the canary who sang but couldn't fly" when he autodefenerates (or is defenestrated) from the sixth floor of a Coney Island hotel while under the protection of six cops.</p> <p>1933—The first photo is taken of the Loch Ness Monster.</p> <p>1927—Stalin reigns alone after Trotsky is expelled from the Communist Party.</p> <p>1926—A feud between rival beer and rum factions in Illinois results in the aerial bombing of a farmhouse by a civilian plane.</p> <p>1865—Former Senator Preston King (R-NY) ties a bag of bullets around his neck and leaps to his death from a ferryboat.</p> <p>1815—Birth of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, suffragette.</p> <p>1779—Twenty slaves petition the New Hampshire legislature to abolish slavery to no avail. Primus Fowle, Daniel Fowle's enslaved pressman, is not among them.</p>	<p>2003—Because he would not remove a monument to the Ten Commandments from his courthouse, Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore is himself removed.</p> <p>2002—Iraq agrees to submit to UN Resolution 1441 and allow weapons inspectors into the country. Fat lot of good it did.</p> <p>1982—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger, and Robert McNamara are no-shows.</p> <p>1974—Disgruntled Kerr-McGee worker Karen Silkwood conveniently turns up dead.</p> <p>1970—Up to half a million die as a cyclone hits Bangladesh.</p> <p>1942—During the Battle of Guadalcanal the <i>U.S.S. Juneau</i> is lost, taking with it all five sons of Thomas and Alleta Sullivan of Waterloo, IA.</p> <p>1933—Hormel workers in Austin, MN invent the sit-down strike.</p> <p>1922—The Supreme Court rules that Japanese persons cannot become naturalized citizens because they are "not Caucasian."</p> <p>1887—British police charge a demonstration by the unemployed in Trafalgar Square, killing 3 and arresting 300.</p> <p>1877—A locomotive and three freight cars plunge from an open drawbridge into the Piscataqua, just missing three ships; no injuries.</p>	<p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld predicts the Iraq War will last "five days or five weeks or five months, but [no] longer than that."</p> <p>2000—Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certifies George W. Bush's dubious electoral lead.</p> <p>1957—In Apalachin, NY, a meeting of important businessmen is interrupted by cops.</p> <p>1954—A campaign to collect 10 million signatures petitioning the Senate not to censure Joe McCarthy begins. It fails by 9 million.</p> <p>1927—Workmen in Pittsburgh's industrial center, using an open flame blowlamp to fix a leak in the world's largest gasometer, ignite 5 million cubic feet of natural gas, effectively clearing a one square mile area killing 28 people.</p> <p>1916—"Put out the bloody cigarette!" says H.H. "Saki" Munro to another soldier in a trench. Seconds later a sniper's bullet extinguishes him.</p> <p>1909—Birth of Joseph R. McCarthy, "... a great American [whose] stature will grow with the passage of time," according to NH Sen. Styles Bridges.</p> <p>1909—Joshua Slocum, first man to sail around the world alone, disappears near the Orinoco.</p> <p>1831—"Only one man ever understood me," says Hegel on his deathbed, "and even he didn't understand me."</p>	<p>2006—Jack Abramoff, former Washington lobbyist, arrives at his new digs in a federal prison near Cumberland, MD.</p> <p>1996—British officials return the Stone of Scone to the Scots, from whom they had stolen it 700 years earlier.</p> <p>1995—In the Oval Office, Monica Lewinski flashes her thigh at Bill Clinton. Later, in the private study of the Oval Office, they fool around.</p> <p>1967—"I have never," declares Gen. Wm. Westmoreland, "been more encouraged in my four years in Vietnam," eleven weeks before Gen. Giap springs the Tet Offensive on him.</p> <p>1929—Bernard Baruch cables Winston Churchill, "Financial storm definitely passed."</p> <p>1917—Bolsheviks take Moscow, ending Russian Revolution.</p> <p>1908—Teddy Roosevelt becomes the first sitting President to travel abroad, visiting Panama.</p> <p>1887—F(ranklin) P(ierce) Adams, a namesake of New Hampshire's only president and the godfather of the newspaper column, is born in Chicago.</p> <p>1864—General William T. Sherman burns Atlanta, inspiring well-known movie.</p> <p>1805—Lewis, Clark, Sacajawea, and the rest of the mob reach the mouth of the Columbia.</p>
 <p>12:16 12:25 6:08 6:45</p>	 <p>1:03 1:11 6:54 7:31</p>	 <p>1:51 1:59 7:41 8:19</p>	 <p>2:40 2:49 8:31 9:09</p>	 <p>3:33 3:43 9:25 10:01</p>	 <p>4:28 4:42 10:23 10:56</p>	 <p>5:25 5:42 11:23 11:51</p>



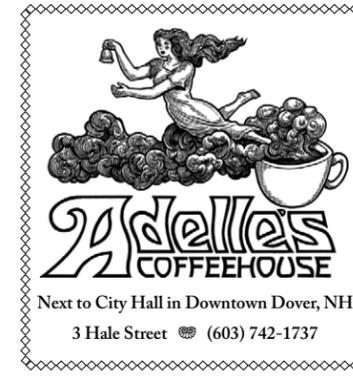
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105 Daniel St



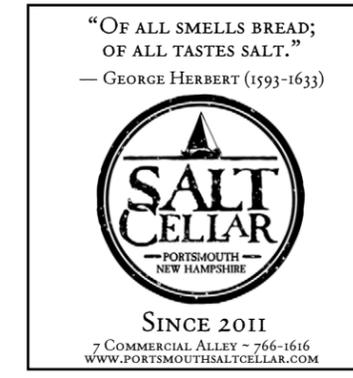
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