The Alleged News®

Now Hiring …

Five Republicans reported to Freedom Partners last week- end to interview for the job of President. Freedom Partners is a $500 million tax-exempt chamber of commerce, a legal construct in other words. It was created by Charles and David Koch so they could literally outspend any other group of the nation’s Human Resources Department.

The brothers managed to ac- complish this feat without sub- mitting to interviews themselves. Was is their collective net worth of $80 billion which exempted them, or their hourly incomes of $3 million each? (According to our Morbid Math Department, that’s 413,000 times the current U.S. minimum wage, which they believe should be abolished.)

George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, it’s been said, was born on third base and thought he’d hit a triple. The Koch Broth- ers were born on home plate, with their names engraved on the deed to a stadium built with taxpayers’ dollars. Ironically, considering their virulent, Ayn Randian hatred of Communism, their father made the fortune they inherited by building oil re- fineries in the Soviet Union, un- der contract for Joe Stalin.

Perhaps what qualifies the Kochs to pick our President is their remarkable ability to trans- cend such petty contradictions.

An Historical Interlude

Fittingly, the Koch Brothers’ pervasive political beauty pageant was held in Orange County, Ca- lif., that hallowed lair of the modern Conservative Movement.

Formerly somnolent and agri- cultural, Orange County literally took off during World War II, employing at least 280,000 work- ers in its aircraft factories. After the war, GI Bill-backed home loans and the federally-funded Interstate program sparked a col- losal building boom. Naturally, all of this Federal interference incensed some of the local Con- servatives who were backed by a certain Walter M. Knott among them.

Knott, born in 1889, had been a successful berry farmer until 1932, when he hit it big with his first crop of boysenberries. He had been introduced to the in- stantly-popular new hybrids by his local U.S. Department of Ag- riculture agent. Profits from the berries funded the construction of Knott’s Berry Farm, which made him a multi-millionaire.

A Star is Born

Thirty-two years later it was Knott — by then a member of Barry Goldwater’s inner circle — who insisted that Ronald Rea- gan deliver a televised campaign speech one week before the Presi- dential election.

“The Speech,” as came to be known in conservative circles, failed to get Goldwater elected. It did for Reagan’s political ca- reer, however, what boysenberries had done for Knott.

Reagan introduced to the American people the then-nov- el concept that government — despite being duly established under the provisions of their beloved Constitution — was actually their mortal enemy. Programs like Social Security and Medicare were not blessings but pernicious drains on people’s initia- tive.

Meanwhile, Back in the Present

Any proper dog-and-pony has to have an audience. This one was no exception. A well-heeled one, too: the annual dues for Free- dom Partners are a whopping $100,000.

Some members of the un- washed public probably would like to know who attended this Presidential tryout. The first rule of Freedom Partners, though, is that you don’t talk about who is in Freedom Partners.

Even the blabbermouth media attended with the understanding that naming names would be bad for their careers.

A Fistful For Dollars

To borrow a trope from ra- dio hater monger Sean Hani- nity, though, enough about these anonymous, unelected elites who presume to make decisions for the rest of us. Who heeded the call of these lucky Libertarians?

Hereditary politician and for- mer Florida Governor J. Edgar “ Jeb!” Bush, grandson of a U.S. Senator who managed the State- side banking needs of the Nazi war machine, Faux-Texas Senator Ted Cruz, the most-hated member of the nation’s most self-regarding liber- dary body, Florida Senator Marco Rubio, who has missed more than one- third of the roll call votes taken since announcing his candidacy, perhaps to spend more time with his $75,000 fishing boat; Union-bashing Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, who proudly campaigns on a union- made Harley-Davidson; and, Carly Fiorina, whose sole qual- ification for office other than her gender is her experience as CEO of Hewlett-Packard, a job from which she was justifiably fired.

Senator Rand Paul, whose term expires next year, was in- vited but begged off. Perhaps he’s back in Kentucky, wheeling the Secretary of State for a way around the law that prohibits running simultaneously for the Senate and the White House.

And The Winner Is …

Freedom Partners will spend $889 million during this election cycle. If anyone is what it takes to pry some of that loose, then Scott Walker is a contender.

“If you … aren’t here because of any interests on behalf of your personal finances or your indus- tries,” he told them, “you’re here because you love America.

A more accurate assessment of the event came from the man who wasn’t there. “I wish good luck to all of the Republican candidates that traveled to Cali- fornia to beg for money etc. from the Koch Brothers,” tweeted Donald Trump. “Puppets?”

Trust Us — We Know What We’re Doing

Republicans would like the rest of us to believe that they are the only ones hard-nosed enough to run this country right. That proposition would be less laughable if they first showed a little proficiency in managing something smaller. They could start with their own party.

Back in the olden days, Re- publicans used to work their way up through the ranks, their progress towards a Presidential nomination being at least some- what dependent on their ability to legislate or govern; for exam- ple, Kansas Senator Robert “Bob” Dole.

Now, however, since the official ideology of the post-Reagan era holds that government is inher- ently evil, the ability to legislate or govern has become irrelevant. In other words, a product is no longer necessary; an empty pack- age will do. Or at least the jack- leg preacher or self-important salesman has the right to pro- mote himself as the next miracle worker.

Another longstanding Re- publican principle has held that all U.S. citizens should have an equal right to spend unlimited amounts of money influencing political campaigns. With its Citizens United decision in 2010, the Supreme Court gave some of unelected elites — reversed the will of Congress expressed in McCain-Feingold, and incor- porated this new article of faith into U.S. law.

As a result, any crackpot with a billionaire pal — or any crack- pot billionaire — can run amok on the political stage. That can be wonderfully entertaining, but it hardly serves to burnish the rep- utation of the Party.

Two years ago, after two suc- cessive Presidential defeats, the Party released a 100-page report entitled “The Growth and Opportunity Project.” Everyone else called it “the autopsy.”

The autopsy identified two major problems. The Party’s base was shrinking because angry old white men are not immortal; and the more exposure their candi- dates got, the less the electorate thought of them. The Party vowed to pander to a broader de- mographic, and to cut way back on debates.

Adhering again to its own ide- ology, the Party outsourced its debates. Where else would the Party of Lincoln turn to man- age that mundane chore but to Fox News, owned by Rupert Murdoch, an Australian-born billionaire, no less. Read run former Nixon crony Roger Ailes.

Fox’s curiously-wrangled de- bate format managed to exclude three former governors, one sitting Governor, two former Senators, and the first woman to serve as CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

It included, however, a re- tired surgeon, a preacher with a sideline of curing diabetes with cinnamon rolls, and a billion- aire who once bashed wrestling mogul Vince McMahon on the head with a folding chair at ring- side.

Joe McQuaid, the publisher of The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™ Editor: Steven Fowle © Founded 1756 by Daniel Fowle

The Alleged News® to page two

Donald Trump, the sine qua non of Republican candidate forums, has a seasoned New Hampshire political operative managing his national campaign. Highly seasoned, you might say.
Corey Lewandowski made his bones as the manager of Senator Bob Smith’s 2002 re-election campaign. Coming as it did in the wake of Smith’s bizarre play for a 2000 Presidential nomination, that gig was doomed from the start. It also left Lewandowski somewhat tainted in the eyes of so-called respectable Republicans of the Sununuesque persuasion.

That did not bother the Koch brothers, though. They put Lewandowski in charge of their local chapters—Americans For Prosperity [AFP], a capacity in which he continued to agitate establishment types. AFP has certainly been good for Lewandowski’s prosperity—he met Trump while on their payroll, and now makes $20,000 a month on his.

Cheer Up!

If you’re feeling a little beat-up by your so-so wages, and your payroll taxes just ate your raise, and your rent is rising, and your car needs tires but you haven’t paid the insurance bill yet, don’t let it get you down, Bunky. Lift your head up high, take a walk in the sun, and tell yourself, “At least I’m not Ed Whitacre.”

Last week former Senator Phil Gramm [R-Tex.], testified before the House Financial Services Committee that, “If there’s ever been an exploited worker,” it was the former head of AT & T. When he retired in 2007, Gramm said, Whitacre had to make do with a lousy $75 million retirement settlement. As The Intercept’s Jon Schwarz pointed out, Gramm under-reported the amount by a little over 100 percent; it was actually $158 million.

Gramm’s always been a little loopy-goopy with numbers, which is kind of a shame, because, as Blumberg’s Barry Ritholtz put it, “If you want to hold a single elected official responsible for the collapse of American International Group — if any one event could have taken down the entire financial system, that was it — it would have to be Gramm.”

The Republican Outrage Cycle:

Hey, kids! Ever wonder how you can draw lots of attention to yourself without going through all the hassle of working hard or doing something that’s actually useful or original? It’s easier than you might think — enter the fun world of politics!

Here’s how to get started: master the four-step Republican Outrage Cycle.

First, select at random almost any statement made by your political opponent.

Next, discard the dictionary definitions of whatever words they used.

Then, paraphrase the statement, substituting your own emotionally-charged, inflammatory language for your opponent’s original words, while making sure to contradict their definitions of whatever words they used.

Finally, cite the transformed message as evidence that the original speaker is inherently evil. Best of all, the evidence suggests that once you get the hang of this trick, you can practically do it in your sleep.

While our Wandering Photographer was hanging around the harbor making desultory efforts to photograph El Galeón Andalucía, a modern reproduction of a type of ship common 500 years ago, he espied this pair of young ladies dressed in a style not commonly seen in this area since the days of City Marshall Thomas Entwistle, some 100 years ago. Friendly to the point of being forward, they were representing a business establishment of some sort, located on State Street, near Water — excuse us — Marcy Street.

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The New Hampshire Gazette, Friday, August 7, 2015

Page 2
This event promises an enriched and theatrical presentation of how life was lived in the later part of the 18th Century. Re-enactors from throughout the region will attend, all wearing period dress and uniforms. An authentic encampment will include period-styled tents and a camp kitchen, where open pit cooking will be demonstrated. Colonial crafting and other early American life skills will be showcased. Children’s games of the period will also be demonstrated, allowing visiting children to learn and play with these toys and games. Souvenirs will be available at a sutler’s tent. Artillery demonstrations, including cannon fire, will be presented throughout each day.

There is no charge for the event, but State Park admission costs will apply: $3 for adults from 12 – 64 ($2 for Maine residents); $1 for children from 5 – 11. Admission is free for those under 5 or over 65. Parking is available at the fort and picnic area.

Reflections on the African Reburial Ceremonies
A gathering will be held tomorrow morning so that participants and observers of the African Reburial Ceremonies of May 23rd may come together again to share their thoughts and express their opinions about the significance of the City’s African Burying Ground Memorial Park on Chestnut Street.

The event will take place at the Levenson Room of the Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Passion Ave on Saturday, August 8th, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. It is being coordinated by JerriAnne Boggis, Director of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, and Valerie Cunningham, Coordinator of PBHT Sankofa Tours.

The Editor of this newspaper was among those taking part in the Reburial Ceremony. No doubt he was invited because the paper owes its existence, in doubt he was invited because the paper owes its existence, in the present, and thrown forward into the past, and thrown into bold relief. Questions of race, economics, educational opportun- opportunity, and justice, though never really absent, are now inescapable.

Looking back, what seems remarkable is how easy it has been to live in this country, and especially this region, blind or half-blind to some terrible truths. The re-emergence of the African Burying Ground should make that far more difficult going forward — which is exactly what we need, all of us.
Dear Mr. Fowle:

Visiting Kittery, I had the good fortune to pick up a copy of The New Hampshire Gazette at a local pizza parlor and would love to ask you a few questions for Par- is Writers News, a blog [www.laurelzuckerman.com/paris-writers-news-interviews-.html] that serves the writer community in Paris.

Are you really the oldest newspaper in the nation? Why a “non-fiction newspaper”? Is Steven Fowle any relation to Kenneth Roy Thompson, son, aka Lord Kenneth of Fleet, away from Kenneth Roy Thompson, who was the world’s ninth richest man, then the world’s richest man, and owner of its largest newspaper chain. Lord Kenneth has admitted to neglecting to maintain registration of the rights to the trade name. As Rick Perry once said, “Oops.”

Upon receipt of the Editor’s personal check for $40, New Hamp- shire’s Secretary of State — apparently for life — William Gardner, assigned those rights to him, suspi- ciously, on the First of May, 1989. He compiles the items on page eight. How? Worry gradually, over many years, incorporating, when possible, items suggested by readers. The Editor —

Sanny, Not Hannity

To the Editor:

How is it possible that the U.S. government was somehow able to negotiate an international agreement to stop Iran from developing even a single nuclear weapon — a deal in which the U.S. gets to keep 100 percent of its stockpile of thousands of nuclear weapons — a deal made just a few short months after a successful vote in Congress to spend billions of dollars to modernize the U.S. nuclear stockpile? In the enduring words of Mays Gilliam (played by Chris Rock in the 2003 comedy movie “Head of State”), “That ain’t right.”

Furthermore, and perhaps more importantly, how is it possible, during the months of highly-touted international talks which were widely covered by all of the major news media outlets, that not even a single high-level U.S. politician or mainstream political commentator had the courage or moral conviction to publicly point out the glaring hypocrisy of such a deal? That ain’t right!

Given that the disarmament of even a single U.S. nuclear weap- on was completely off the radar and totally out of the question, the U.S. clearly did not have the moral high-ground to negotiate a nuclear deal with Iran, yet the U.S. was nonetheless perceived by many around the world — a perception bordering on insanity — as a true leader and shepherd of peace. That ain’t right!

Don’t get me wrong — I’m not in favor of Iran having even a single nuclear weapon, let alone a stockpile. It’s just that the wide- ly respected and sought-after worldly powers—that-be continue to exhibit a dangerously irration- al indifference to the very pres- ent danger from the stockpile of nuclear weapons right under our noses, right here in America — and that ain’t right!

Perhaps the core issue is the age-old enemy “fear itself” — fear that if one speaks truth to worldly power one will then be judged and dismissed by world- ly power as naive, non-sensical, reckless, fearless, radical, extreme, dangerous, or even insane. But what could more be naive, non-sensical, reckless, fearless, radical, extreme, dangerous, or insane than to believe it’s per- fectly normal and acceptable for the U.S. to continue to stockpile thousands of nuclear weapons, especially given its history of twice dropping atomic weapons of mass destruction on densely packed cities of unsuspecting ci- vilians, including innocent chil- dren? No, evil like that ain’t right!

That sure as hell-on-earth ain’t that.
And Other Correspondence

Th e heart of the world.
Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

If only our intramural squabble over the Iranian nuke agreement was about how best to keep America and the world safe from religious fanaticism with nuclear weapons.

Sadly, it’s about whether or not our home-grown religious fanaticism get control of our own nuclear arsenal.

The Editor

Iran Agreement A No-Brainer
To the Editor:

If Congress, led by the Republicans, causes the U.S. to walk away from the Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement, here’s what happens: Iran moves to fabricating nuclear weapons; the sanctions stop and Iran’s economy vastly improves (our five partners in the deal are not obligated to continue sanctions, they thought they had a deal); the opportunity for enhanced relations with the Russians and Chinese in solving world problems is scuttled; and nuclear proliferation in the Middle East goes on a fast track.

What does the U.S. gain out of the Republican scenario? Absolutely nothing, except a nuclear Iran, possibly a nuclear war.

This deal is not founded on trust; it is founded on a lack of confidence. For Republicans, causes the U.S. to get control of our own nuclear arsenal.

O’Malley’s top goals are to convince the Brits, the Germans, the French, the Chinese, and the Russians to reject it.

So what you really need to do is to convince the other countries that negotiated this deal that it is right. 

The Republicans also vow to repeal the Iran nuclear deal, which would force us to bomb the country. If fighting two wars didn’t stimulate the economy under George Bush it won’t do it under them either. I support Hillary Clinton because she is focused on making our economy work for us instead of the billionaires financing her GOP opponents.

Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth, N.H.

He’s Not-Ready …
To the Editor:

For many Democrats, Hillary’s politics are too embedded with Wall Street, while Bernie seems too independent to be electable.

I recently discovered the candidate whose progressive politics are coupled with a proven ability to govern. Maryland’s former Governor Martin O’Malley, also former Mayor of Baltimore, has the managerial experience and technical vision to apply information technology to make governmental decisions based on knowledge. He applied the same mapping technology we use when finding a route through traffic, to identify where Baltimore’s worst crime was, and he allocated increased resources to those neighborhoods to fight the city’s crime problems.

With knowledge-based decision-making and O’Malley’s management savvy, Baltimore’s violent crime was reduced by 41 percent. As governor, he applied the similar methods to reduce Maryland’s unemployment and increase jobs faster than its neighboring states that cut their budgets for necessary services.

He promotes a new way of managing to get things done, moving from innovation-limiting hierarchy to collaborative consensus-building.

O’Malley’s top goals are to reverse the causes of climate change by supporting clean, renewable power sources; to limit the influence of unaccountable big money in our political system; and to reduce the disparity of wealth and opportunity with affordable education, fair tax- ation, big-bank regulation and resistance to trade deals that threaten our environmental, labor, and health protections.

Americans are tired of seeing clowns run around the circus car when a real President who knows how to work effective- ly for the shared concern of our survival on this planet.

Martin O’Malley.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Don’t even think of this point and that, and try to succeed as a technocrat … he might as well show up at a World Wrestling Federation cage match wearing a bow tie and carrying a clipboard. Any attempt- ed debate over minutiae such as his success or failure in Baltimore is going to immediately descend into a pointless brawl in the weeds.

Meanwhile, Sanders electrifies Democrats and, more importantly, disaffected voters.

We’re too old to vote for the can- didate who might not frighten those who won’t vote for him anyway. But, for the first time in our lives, to vote for the candidate who clearly and honestly represents our view of the nation? Will cross ever broken glass.

The Editor

Please Kelly, Take a Trip
To the Editor: an open letter to the Honorable Sen. Kelly Ayotte, I have noted with some inter- est your opposition to the diplo- matic efforts undertaken on our behalf by our State Department.

You do realize that the present sanctions are not imposed by the U.S. alone. If we reject a deal that the others accept the sanctions will go away. Unilateral sanctions by us alone will lower the price of petrol in France and little else besides that.

So what you really need to do is to convince the other countries that negotiated this deal that it is right. 

Hate Mail, Sc.

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Hate Mail, Sc.
University campuses must be the most protective environments in the United States. Amid throngs of students poised at the most sensitive and self-righteous stage of human development, where the principal activity is talking, the greatest fear is saying something that will offend someone. That’s why the concept of politically correct speech originated in the academic world, and why it also reaches its most ridiculous extremes there.

Briefly it seemed that the aforementioned extremity had been attained when different universities began censoring on-campus speech by compiling lists of words and phrases that were deemed offensive by some internal congress of neurotics. Predictably, most of those phrases insinuated some recognition of ethnic differences, because the same sensitivists who are obsessed with race are also the same sensitivists who are politically correct.

Much more recently, our own University of New Hampshire topped them all with a Bias-Free Language Guide that was posted on the university system website late in July, until nationwide ridicule led to its immediate removal. Its demise was undoubtedly due to the assertion that “Ameri- can” was an arrogant term for citizens of the United States, since it usurps a designation rightfully belonging to all those in the Western Hemisphere. That complaint actually has some merit, however. It was the same guide that made no sense, such as the prohibition against the pejorative term “illegal aliens,” for aliens who have come to this country . . . well, illegally. “Mothering” and “fathering” were discontinued because they ininsinuated some parenthood among those who don’t subscribe to the idea of children having a mother and a father. “Obese” did not pass muster, or even “overweight” — nor, apparently, will any other euphemism for fat, unless people can be convinced it’s a good thing — but for the nonce we can get by with “people of size.”

The UNH language police suggested similarly convoluted constructions to avoid calling people poor (“people who lack advantages other people have”), Caucasian (“European-American individuals”), or disabled (“people who are wheelchair mobile”). That last is good news, because if there are no disabled people we can finally repeal the ADA — which, as many will admit, can be a real “discomfort” in the anatomical region used for sitting.

Bad ideas proliferate so quickly. My first experience with politically correct academics came around 1991, when Michael C. Adams, an immigrant Brit who taught at an obscure Ken- tucky college, criticized me in a book review for using the phrase “one gay September afternoon.” In as condescending a tone as a truckling ideologue could manage, he wondered how he had missed the message that “gay” had become the trademark prop- erly of homosexuals (at UNH, the “same-sex loving”). Perhaps he was only trying to prove that he had actually read the book, or one page of it. Still, I looked forward to the day I could greet him in person with the two most unquestionably offensive words English has ever offered since Ang- lo-Saxon days.

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Banksters: A Story of Crime and Punishment

by Jim Hightower

Big story from that razzle-dazzle place called “El Casino Grande” — otherwise known as Wall Street.

Four massive financial conglomerates — JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, Barclays, and the Royal Bank of Scotland — have been caught in a criminal conspiracy to rig the global currency market. Bank regulators have now slapped them with an equally-massive fine, totaling $5.4 billion.

The financial felons cooed that their illegal currency manipulations were through online chat rooms with devil-may-care names like “The Carl” and “The Mafia.” The banks’ culture of greed and no-regret arrogance that one of Barclays’ price-fixers offered this bit of ethical encouragement to his chat room pals: “If you ain’t cheating, you ain’t trying.”

Well, taking a $5 billion hit will put an end to that sort of probate banksterism, won’t it? Mmmm nnno. While this was the first time that banks themselves had to admit that they are corporate criminals, all of them are free to continue doing current and past criminal activity and no top executives were even charged for the crimes they oversaw. And, while $5 billion is a huge, huge number, it’s easily absorbed by these global casin

no operations. In the first three months of this year, for example, JPMorgan Chase raked in $4 billion just from its fixed income and currency trading division — about seven times its share of the “penalty” levied against the four corporate crooks.

Citigroup called the punishment “an embarrassment” to its bank. But banks can’t feel embarrassed, nor can they commit crimes — only bankers can. And, as should be obvious by now, being embarrassed is no deterrent at all to their endless-ly-massive criminal activity. If we actually want to stop their crimes, the bankers themselves — including those at the top — must feel the punishment.

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Admiral Poe’s Piscataqua River Tide Guide (Not for Navigational Purposes)

Page 8 — The New Hampshire Gazette, Friday, August 7, 2015

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