

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Paint It Black

Every year produces its own justifications for consignment to the dustbin of history. This one has been an overachiever. Be of good cheer, though — just six more days and, like a certain Norwegian Blue parrot, this bleak, black year will be no more.

Blam! Blam! Blam! Blam! Blam! Blam!

From January 7th, when two deranged brothers upset over a bunch of cartoons murdered 12 and wounded 11 more at the offices of *Charlie Hebdo* in Paris, to December 2nd, when a deranged married couple murdered 14 and wounded 17 more in San Bernadino, this year was like *Groundhog Day* with guns.

At the time of the San Bernadino incident there had been more mass shootings in the U.S. than elapsed days of the year according to CBS. For its information on mass shootings, the network referred to the most authoritative source it could find: the website, reddit.com/r/GunsAreCool.

Some have argued that an entity of the Federal Government, such as the Centers for Disease Control [CDC], would be a more appropriate steward of the statistics on gun violence in America. In fact, the CDC tried that in 1995. The next year Congress specifically prohibited the use of taxpayers' money to pay for research that might be used to argue in favor of gun control. Better the public be unsafe than a Congressman be sorry that he crossed the NRA.

The House Appropriations Committee considered lifting that gun-study ban in June. An amendment to that effect was shot down shortly after teenage white supremacist Dylan Roof shot nine black people dead at the Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, S.C.

What statistics we do have show that black Americans are almost eight times as likely as whites to be homicide victims, according to *Five Thirty Eight's* Nate Silver. They are also six times more likely to be incarcerated.

"You Are Under ..." Blam! Blam! Blam!

Police in the U.S. shot 761 people between January 1st and September 1st, 20 percent of whom were unarmed, according to data compiled by *The Guardian*. A person's odds of being shot to death by a

police officer seem to depend on race. If you're white or Hispanic, your odds are two in a million. If you're black, your odds are 2.5 times higher — five in a million. For many people, black or white, these odds will come as no surprise.

Jamar Clark became a statistic on November 15th when he was shot dead by a white Minneapolis police officer. Clark was unarmed, possibly handcuffed, and black. Members of Black Lives Matter [BLM] responded by creating an encampment near the city's Fourth Precinct and demanding the release of police videos showing the shooting.

Counter-protestors began appearing most nights — "white supremacists," according to one BLM member. Nine days later three masked white men shot and wounded five black protestors. An apparently related online video shows two masked white men in a car saying they were on their way to the encampment to do "a little reverse cultural enriching." After proudly flashing for the camera what appears to be a 1911 Colt .45 pistol, the driver signs off by saying, "Stay white."

You, Too, Can Be Among The Oppressed

What, a person might reasonably wonder, was driving that masked, gun-toting driver? The answer may lie in poll results released last month. Forty-three percent of Americans say "discrimination against whites has become as large a problem as discrimination against blacks and other minority groups," according to the Public Religion Research Institute. Among those who identify with the Tea Party, that number rose to 68 percent. Among Republicans in general, it was 64 percent.

History as Bunk

American children used to be taught a fairly well-whitewashed version of our nation's history: a little *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, a little John Brown, a lot of the Great Emancipator. Anything more intense than that might have upset the delicate feelings of the members of school boards. And of course most of what they did learn they promptly forgot. Now we probably don't teach history at all — employers want trained workers, not educated ones.

Despite the general lack of societal



interest, scholars — bless their perverse little hearts — have produced some ground-breaking works of history over the past few decades that provide a far more comprehensive picture of how we really made this Land of the Free. Two works in particular, Sven Beckert's *The Empire of Cotton* and Edward Baptist's *The Half Has Never Been Told*, show why black Americans could justifiably tell white Americans "You didn't build that alone" — because enslaved blacks did such a huge propor-

tion of the heavy lifting. Imagine, though, the furor that would cause, considering the white backlash to the modest statement, "Black Lives Matter."

Black or white, it's hard to learn history if you don't see any future. As long as the disadvantaged can be kept fighting among themselves, the status quo will remain. The corrupt 19th-century railroad financier Jay Gould explained the basic principle: "I can hire one-half of the working class to kill the other half."

The Alleged News®

A Perfect One-Night Stand

It would have been a perfect marriage: Donald Trump — fresh from advocating a ban on Muslims entering the U.S. — and the New England Police Benevolent Association [NEPBA], the union representing the Portsmouth Police Department [PPD] — which, one would have thought, had already suffered enough bad press.*

Donald Trump, though, disdainful of the New Hampshire tradition of retail politics, blew through town in a couple of hours

on December 10th, well-shielded from the *hoi polloi* by the taxpayer-funded Secret Service. So, call it a one-night stand.

The NEPBA, either indifferent or oblivious to being treated like a floozy, fawningly billed Trump as its Guest of Honor.

That honor was to a large extent bestowed by default. Of the seven Presidential candidates who were invited to attend, four Republicans and all three Democrats, Trump was the only one who bothered to show up.

Much Ado About Nothing

Jerry Flynn, the Executive Director of the NEPBA, did what he could to maintain suspense over the question of an endorsement. It wasn't easy, since he had previously said his union would endorse only candidates who attended their event.

On Tuesday, December 8th, he was still being coy. "It remains to be seen," he reportedly told the Award-Winning Local Daily.

By the time of Trump's visit, the question of an endorsement had become binary: the "NEPBA's nine-member executive board [would] vote to either endorse Trump, or no one," the AWLD's cop-shop reporter

Elizabeth Dinan wrote.

Flynn had already undermined his own stagecraft, though, with a December 1st posting on Facebook. Under a photo showing himself and Trump, he wrote, "The NEXT president of the United States of America."

Now, That's an Incentive

No one seemed surprised when the endorsement came through, though some were shocked by the *quid pro quo*. Judging from the *Washington Post's* coverage, the union endorsed Trump after he vowed to kill for them.

Trump said, "one of the first things I'd do in terms of executive order if I win will be to sign a strong, strong statement that

will go out to the country, out to the world, that anybody killing policemen, police woman, police officer, anybody killing a police officer, death penalty is going to happen, OK?"

The *Post* reported that the idea "came from the New England Police Benevolent Association ... that met with the Republican frontrunner on Thursday evening and then endorsed him. During a private meeting with union leaders, Trump answered questions and agreed to push for the death penalty and to find more funding for training, according to several

* For the benefit of readers in the hinterlands, Portsmouth cop Aaron Goodwin was recently fired after he helped a wealthy, elderly woman change her will so that he might inherit her estate. The ensuing reverberations rattled the top ranks of the Police Department, caused a complete turnover in the Police Commission, kept the courts busy for a couple of years, and burned up a good part of the estate. Trump, memorably characterized in the 1980s by the much-missed magazine *Spy* as a "short-fingered vulgarian," needs no introduction.

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from page one

people at the meeting.”

Trump did not specify exactly how he could order executions in states without the death penalty. That conundrum was apparently filed in the same bin with members of the U.S. military who are Muslims deployed overseas. Don't worry about a homecoming parade — you get no homecoming at all!

Local Override Activated

By endorsing a loose-cannon performance artist for the Presidency, the leadership of the NEPBA has put local police departments in something of a bind.

The Portsmouth Police Department [PPD] issued a press release on December 11th, headed, “Media correction,” signed by Acting Deputy Chief Frank Warchol.

“It has come to our attention that some media outlets are incorrectly reporting that the Portsmouth Police Department has endorsed Donald Trump for presidency. The police department or its unions do not endorse any candidates from the local to the national level.

“Donald Trump was invited to speak in Portsmouth by the New England Police Benevolent Association (NEPBA) and was subsequently endorsed by that association and not by the Portsmouth Police Department or its unions.”

We have so far been unable to find any instance of any publication reporting that the PPD had endorsed Trump. Also, we're a little unclear on how local police departments get to receive the benefits of belonging to a union while disavowing its official policies, positions, and endorsements.



M. J. APPEL © 25 Dec 2015 THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE



A phalanx of dramatically-backlit Americans doing their part to keep the nation's economy strong on the last Saturday before Christmas.

On December 15th, *Foster's* reported that the Durham Police Department had similarly tried to distance itself from the union which represents its members.

The paper quoted Durham Police Officers' Union Local 21 President Kathryn Mone saying the local “does not involve itself in political issues and never endorses any political candidate for any office at any level,” and “will not endorse Trump or any other candidate, as it has a long-standing policy of non-involvement in the political arena.”

As yet, neither local has announced it will leave the NEPBA. Nor has the leadership of the NEPBA expelled any locals, to our knowledge.

The Wingnut Faction

Boston.com's Allison Pohle interviewed Tom Nolan, a former Lieutenant in the Boston Police Department with 27 years of ser-

vice, about the NEPBA in a piece published on December 11th.

“Up until a few months ago, no one had ever heard of them,” Nolan told Pohle. “This is some wingnut faction of cops who came together and made up some club, and then try to get on the national stage by doing these grandstanding political things.”

Nolan added that the NEPBA was not a labor union that actually negotiates contracts. “This organization is largely constituted by small departments in New Hampshire that are attempting to get a big splash.”

Flynn got one such splash when his organization boycotted President Obama's Labor Day speech in Boston — Megyn Kelly interviewed him for four minutes on Fox News.

Protect and Serve Whom?

The primary service NEPBA provides to local police depart-

ments appears to be legal defense. For example, NEPBA represented Mark Richardson, the six-foot, six-inches tall, 270-pound Seabrook officer who was videotaped slamming 160-pound Michael Bergeron, Jr., head-first into a cinder-block wall. Richardson eventually pleaded guilty.

The Laurie List of Liars

State law requires prosecutors to give defendants any evidence they have that might exonerate them. Carl Laurie had his murder conviction overturned in 1995 because prosecutors had withheld the fact that a detective in the case was a documented liar. In order to prevent further such reversals, State law requires prosecutors to maintain a Laurie list of police officers who have been disciplined for things like lying or filing false reports.

NEPBA is waging a campaign to do away with the Laurie List.

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Portsmouth's UnWelcome

Morbid curiosity brought us to the corner of Russell and Deer streets the evening of December 10th. Two or three hundred people were there. About a dozen were obviously Trump supporters, holding signs saying: "The Silent Majority Stands with Trump."

They appeared to be outnumbered about twenty to one by people holding signs saying things like "Take Trump to the Dump," "Deport Fascism," and "Shame on Trump and Whoever Invited Him."



Nuke Dump Ban Reversed

InDepthNH.org has reported that it's once again legal to site a high-level nuclear waste dump in New Hampshire. That news would probably elicit a baffled shrug from most people. For anyone who was living in southwestern New Hampshire in 1986, though, that sounds more than a little ominous.

A little background may help: in the early 1950s, in part to improve the negative image many

people had of nuclear fission, the Atomic Energy Commission [AEC] began working on ways to generate electricity by busting uranium atoms. Americans were told electricity would be "too cheap to meter." Naysayers had objections, of course, chief among them being that there was no disposal plan for the resulting tons of highly-radioactive nuclear waste. "Don't worry," the naysayers were told, "we'll think of something." Over the next three decades about a hundred nuclear power plants were built, including Seabrook Station. Most of them were in the East; each was generating waste by the ton.

The Department of Energy [DOE], successor to the AEC, had for many years considered Yucca Mountain, adjacent to the Nevada Test site, as the most likely place for a nuke dump. Western Senators were loathe to sign off on that, though, since most nuclear power plants were in the east. Finally, in 1982, Congress had a breakthrough with the Nuclear Policy Act. It called for two nuke dumps, one at Yucca Mountain or some other



western site, and one in the East.

In January of 1986, the DOE announced the Crystalline Repository Project [CRP], to select the Eastern dump site. It would study the geology of 20 sites in seven states east of the Mississippi. The final selection would be made on the basis of geological stability — politics and local opposition would not be considered. At least, so said the law.

One site was a 78-square mile region of New Hampshire the DOE called the Cardigan Pluton, the geological name for a mile-thick slab of granite running from Groton to Dublin. The DOE never drew hard boundaries, but the approximate center of the site was the barely visible hamlet of Windsor, whose population was about 200. Another potential site was in Sebago Lake, Maine.

This proposal caused a certain amount of consternation, perhaps best characterized by one gray-haired old granny from

Henniker who stood in a packed hall, shook her finger at a panel of Federal officials, and said, "You better watch it — I keep a shotgun by my doah."

A hundred New Hampshire towns passed non-binding warrant articles that spring, prohibiting the burial of nuclear waste. With the people leading, the Legislature had to follow. It passed a High-Level Radioactive Waste Act, which became RSA 125-G. As part of that act, a Nuclear Waste Policy Committee was established.

On April 22, 1986, Vice President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, of the Kennebunkport Bushes, while on a fundraising trip to the state of Maine, was buttonholed by a feisty group of unhappy Sebago Lake residents organized under the rubric, Citizens Against Nuclear Trash [CANT]. Bush invited CANT and its attorney, Cooper Brown, to visit with his staff in Washington, D.C.

In Washington, in May, Brown made two points to a Bush aide: the nuke dump would be a tough issue for a Republican candidate to handle in the upcoming Presidential primaries, and it would be easier politically to call off the whole program than try to exempt New Hampshire and Maine. Two weeks later Secretary of Energy John Herrington announced that the CRP was "indefinitely postponed." Bush won the nomination, and the rest is history.

In 2009 or 2010, New Hampshire's nuke waste committee quietly vanished. In 2011, the State's nuke waste act itself was repealed. Rep. Renny Cushing [D-Hampton] learned of the repeal only because he was working on a bill to assess Seabrook Station with a \$500,000 annual nuclear waste storage fee.

Now that Yucca Mountain has been nixed as a nuke dump site, the DOE is going to have to start looking ... somewhere.



Oh, the perils of nepotism. Our Wandering Photographer, being a distant relative of the founder, has, perhaps, just a little too much job security. Here it is, our Christmas issue, and what do we get but a photo of a bunch of trash. We'd ask him what it all means, but then we'd feel obliged to listen to his explanation.

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Regarding That Muslim Ban
To the Editor:

I am deeply disappointed in the Republicans and Democrats alike that are weakening our national security while inciting Americans to fear Muslims. I spoke broken Arabic at best as a combat advisor to an Iraqi Army battalion in Baghdad from 2006 - 2007, and were it not for the actions of Arab Muslims, I probably would not be alive today to write this letter. I vividly recall at least one instance when I was alone and outnumbered by a group of armed Iraqis that spoke no English. Thankfully, an Iraqi soldier who came upon us chose to help deescalate the situation.

Governors and Members of Congress are strengthening the Islamic State with propaganda victories when they say vetted Iraqi and Syrian refugees would not be welcome in their home states or vote to link refugee entry to personal agency head approval. Members of Congress should be denying the Islamic State it's most successful propaganda by voting to increase the number of vetted refugees allowed to enter the U.S., close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, and provide better oversight of the counter-productive signature drone strikes that create fear throughout the region by not targeting specific high level leaders. Furthermore, if Congress were serious about the Islamic State, it should demonstrate their resolve and vote on either a Declaration

of War or an updated Authorization to Use Military Force.

The rise of the Islamic State ultimately stems from the Allied Powers of the First World War imposing the 1916 Sykes-Picot Accord on the Middle East, creating today's illogical nation state boundaries, and from the Western World's subsequent century of policies solely focused on protecting cheap Middle Eastern oil. These heterogeneous countries consequently developed economies solely based on this commodity leading to dictatorships, extreme inequality, and radicalization. The advent of social media then gave rise to the Arab Spring, Winter, and ultimately the Islamic State with our leaders now demonizing in the name of terrorism the affluent families able to seek refuge. Unfortunately, the current crisis is just a preview of things to come over the coming decades when access to water for crops, livestock, and subsistence itself becomes even more scarce if the West does not change its reliance on oil.

Climate change will become the most serious threat to our national security and a contributing factor to terrorism. A recent study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences demonstrates how unprecedented droughts and scarce resources in the Fertile Crescent drove 1.5 million rural residents into Syria's already overcrowded and volatile cities compounding the country's woes. Recent predictions have Saudi Arabia, the epicenter of Sunni radicalism, becoming uninhabitable for parts of the year by 2050. If we do not change our approach to climate change, more nation states will fail, terrorism will spread, and millions of people will spill over international borders. Changing our approach will require the West to lessen its reliance on oil and thankfully America's need to send our servicemen and women

to protect Middle Eastern oil reserves.

Upon returning from Iraq, I helped obtain a visa for our most relied upon translator, an Arab Muslim who could never return home due to death threats. He subsequently became one of the 3,500 Muslims currently serving in our armed forces, earned his U.S. citizenship, and relocated his immediate family to America. Not only does his family pose no threat to us, my friend has deployed back to Iraq to assist the operations against the Islamic State. It is time for our Governors and Members of Congress to stop inciting our fears and take real actions to strengthen our national security for today and tomorrow.

Josh Denton
Portsmouth, N.H.

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**Bovine Bluster**

To the Editor:

On they went, like mead-hall braggarts, swinging their broad axes and braying bloody proclamations of they'll do to "keep America safe." But inquiring minds might wisely wonder — safe from what?

Were there plans to make Americans safer from drug misuse and suicide, two merciless killers that lay tens of thousands low every year? Or plans to make us safer from the illnesses that kill thousands more annually for lack of affordable health care and medication? How about making us safer from getting shot up by drug gangs or blown away by "domestic" terrorists? Will we be safer from crashing our vehicles on deteriorating roadways and bridges? Safer from environmental hazards and pollution? Safer from being thrown into prison should we become mentally ill? Will we be any safer from being murdered by one of our own family members? How about safer from isolation, mistreatment, and neglect when returning from

*Mash Notes,* **HATE MAIL**

Did it fix our poor education system and provide guards to protect our children? No. But it funded the failing education establishment.

Did it end Corporate Welfare? No, It subsidizes or gives special breaks to just about everything from abortions to zoos, including ethanol, solar energy, oil, wind energy, tobacco farmers, government bureaucracies, unions, hedge fund managers, bankers, and hundreds of other special interests.

Did it fix America's excessive tax laws and regulations that drive so many American jobs overseas? No. Almost 3,000 new regulations were added this year. The cost of regulations (embedded in the things we buy) is over \$14,000 for each American household.

Did it fix the pending bankruptcy of Social Security and Medicare? No.

Did it fix America's failing roads and bridges? No?

Did it provide tax relief to stressed American taxpayers? No.

Did it repeal Obamacare? No, it funded it, providing relief for many businesses and unions.

Did it balance the budget? No. What did the American people get? The bill; the cost will be paid by current and future, even unborn, Americans.

[Bitter denunciation of the very existence of a Federal government.]

The Senators and Representatives who voted for the Omnibus bill betrayed the American people and need to be replaced. From New Hampshire only Congressman Guinta put the interests of the American people above the wants of the special interests.

Don Ewing  
Meredith, NH

Don:  
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- Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) poet

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# And Other Correspondence

Frank Guinta.

Why are we not surprised it's you?

The Editor

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## Vote Bernie for the Climate

To the Editor:

For the last two weeks, nearly 200 countries have met in Paris to hammer out a new plan to fight climate change. If we are to preserve our beautiful natural environment here in New Hampshire, as well as leave our children and grandchildren a healthy planet on which to live, the United States must do its part.

Bernie Sanders has the most ambitious plan of any candidate to stop climate change. His plan will cut carbon pollution by 40 percent by 2030 and by over 80 percent by 2050 by repealing subsidies for dirty fossil fuels, and making massive investments in clean and renewable energy efficiency and infrastructure.

To accomplish these goals, we need a president who is willing to stand up to the big polluters and fossil fuel lobby. Bernie Sanders has been fighting big money in politics his entire career, and he doesn't accept money from the fossil fuel industry. He is the candidate I trust to have the courage and independence to fight for a clean energy future.

Dudley Dudley  
Durham, N.H.

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## Livable Wage Not Welfare

To the Editor:

For more than 40 years American middle-class household incomes (inflation adjusted) have barely risen, approx. 0.4 percent per year. This happened while that income was increasingly being earned not by one breadwinner but two. This development had a serious negative impact on families, especially on childcare. At the same time the upper 5

percent income group saw their incomes rise by approx. 3.6 percent each year. This has put a high level of stress on families struggling to earn enough to pay their bills, take care of health needs and educate their children in college or with technical training. The truth is that most families are not looking for welfare from the government, but just want a job that pays a livable wage with benefits, so they can take care of their family, e.g. elderly parents.

These stressful situations have created anger and frustration in America about a government that does not serve the needs of most people, and an economy that does not work for Americans the way it used to. Senator Bernie Sanders believes that this anger is justified and understandable, because he too feels that the system is rigged against the middle class and the poor and that our economic system seems to only benefit the rich and super-rich. Many Americans have just given up on our country and are in despair. That is why he is leading a political revolution to make dramatic changes in our economy, in the way that our government functions and the way the politicians are being paid off and bribed by lobbyists and campaign donations. He wants people to use their anger to change the way our government operates and use the tax structure to make the wealthy pay their fair share.

That is why he supports increasing incomes across the board for everyone and raising the minimum wage to at least \$15 an hour. (\$30,000/yr. is not much). In addition he wants to make higher education at public colleges and universities tuition free, for all qualifying students.

He also wants to invest \$1 trillion in infrastructure projects, which create millions of good

paying jobs nationwide. But instead of just charging the costs, Senator Sanders plans to pay for these investments by changing the tax code and asking Wall Street to repay some of the bailout money. Join the political revolution.

Peter Somssich  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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## Cruz the Faux-Outsider

To the Editor:

Republican presidential hopefuls like Ted Cruz oppose gun registration, regulation, and restriction because they don't want "the government" to have more intrusive powers. What other institution do Americans have to protect them from no-fly-list terrorists, mentally unstable people and criminals acquiring guns? Our government agencies require people to pass a test before they are licensed to drive a car, practice law, or even cut hair. Surely the purchase of killing machines and ammunition should require passing a background check, a safety test, registering in a national database, and screening for subsequent infractions that would disqualify gun ownership.

Candidates like Cruz want to limit the ability of our government to prevent mass shootings, which now account for three times more deaths than we suffered on 9/11. They pose as "outsiders" when actually are completely embedded in corporation-sponsored corruption of our government. It is time to vote against Republicans like Cruz, and turn them into the outsiders they pretend to be.

Bruce Joffe  
Piedmont, CA

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## Two Parties, Same Puppeteers

To the Editor:

Typical: An independent candidate and potential independent third party leader offers real change, and with the help of the

court reporters in the corporate media, the traditional parties gang up to discredit him.

And so it is with Donald Trump who might at times be over the top with his views, but it is not these views they disagree with; it is where these views lead that troubles them.

With the statement on Syrians celebrating 9/11 in Liberty Park, New Jersey while the towers were burning he was wrong; it was the Israelis who had a spy ring whose leader fled to Israel in the face of being caught, that were rejoicing and exchanging high-fives. And why were they setting up cameras to record an event before the event occurred? That's a place that neither the President, the Congress, nor the news media want to go. They don't want to re-open this can of worms. So by bringing them back to a place they do not want to be, he is viewed as dangerous. So, even when Trump's facts are wrong he is dangerous to those in power.

Now Mr. Trump calls for extra scrutiny of refugees coming to America and the government and their propaganda apparatus sees itself threatened because it still wants us to believe America is attacked because of its freedoms (freedoms which are being taken away by that government) when in fact that is the big lie. America is being attacked because of its foreign policy blunders in Iraq, Libya, and the coup in Ukraine. In Syria, where the government armed ISIS in an attempt to remove Assad, it has given cover to Turkey which helps ISIS sell its oil. And why Syria? As a proxy war against Russia, Iran, and Hezbollah, and to continue the encirclement of Russia to maintain Israeli/American hegemony in the region. Not only did they destabilize the region and create the vacuum into which ISIS rushed, they continue to support not only ISIS but brutal dictator-



ships in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, making an hypocrisy of American ideals. The false outrage of the traditional candidates is just to redirect the argument away from their own incompetence and blundering

Furthermore, how many Muslims has Donald Trump murdered? Answer: none. How many the Democratic/Republican parties? Answer: hundreds of thousands. And how many refugees has Donald Trump created? Answer: none. And how many the Democrat/Republican parties. Hundreds of thousands. Yet, those very folks who created fear and hatred of Muslims in order to justify their illegal wars that killed so many and set so many others to flight, now want to condemn Trump for seeking to re-evaluate the process of accepting refugees.

In reality both parties have failed miserably, and except for Trump these professional politicians serve only Wall Street and the bankers. Their candidates, except for Trump, look to becoming the Israeli Viceroy. What else would you call this behavior, when Hillary's biggest contributor is Haim Saban and the Republicans come begging funds from Sheldon Adelson, two individuals with dual citizenship who, by their own admissions, put Israel first and have the funds to buy themselves a president.

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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*The Northcountry Chronicle*

# From Conway to the Cumberland

by William Marvel

As Kennett High School let out one day nearly 90 years ago, when the Conway railroad station sat in the middle of what is now Route 16, Heloise Cloutman made the mistake of taking a ride on the back of my father's Henderson motorcycle. She apparently considered it better not to hold on by wrapping her arms around him, and she fell off on Depot Street, in front of the station; he wasn't aware of it until he rounded that U-shaped drive and saw her running toward him across the median.

Heloise was directly descended from a line of Conway Village blacksmiths. The dynasty began with her great-grandfather, Eliphalet Cloutman, who established his shop along the outlet of Pequawket Pond two centuries ago. He bought a house on Main Street, near the intersection that gave Conway Corner its name, and there his first son, Charles Chase Cloutman, was born in June of 1824. Eliphalet took an active role in the community, serving many terms as selectman and rising to command of

the local militia regiment. Colonel Cloutman, as he was known thereafter, let one of his sons take over the shop as he approached his allotted threescore and ten, and in 1861 Abraham Lincoln appointed him postmaster of Conway.

Charles Cloutman mastered the trade under his father's eye, but in 1848 he headed west. He opened his own shop along the Mississippi River in Burlington, Iowa, where he married and started a family. A few years later he moved to Ottumwa, on the Des Moines River, and the residents there came to regard him as highly as his father was viewed in Conway. At the outbreak of the Civil War Charles raised a company of recruits for the 2nd Iowa Infantry, and the men chose him as their captain.

For nine months the 2nd Iowa guarded railroads in Missouri, but early in February, 1862, the regiment joined Ulysses Grant on an expedition up the Tennessee River to pierce the Confederate defensive line that roughly paralleled the border between Kentucky and Tennessee. Grant quickly captured Fort

Henry, on the Tennessee River, and then marched overland a few miles to invest Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River. The 2nd Iowa encamped within striking distance of Donelson on Valentine's Day, finding the ground covered in snow and the mercury plummeting.

The Confederates had fortified a series of ridges overlooking steep ravines in that erosional landscape, but before Grant surrounded them completely they tried to escape, massing most of their forces for an attack on the Union right flank on the morning of the 15th. They had driven the Yankees back about a mile, and their escape route was nearly clear, when Grant ordered a counterattack on the weakened end of the rebel line. The 2nd Iowa spearheaded that assault, scrambling up the side of a steep, slippery ridge with fixed bayonets; climbing that same ridge two weeks ago, I estimated the worst of the incline at 45 or 50 degrees, and found it difficult going even without someone shooting at me. Only 130 Tennessee riflemen manned the earthworks at the top, but the

precipitous terrain so slowed the Iowans that the Confederates had time to inflict serious casualties. One of them put a bullet through Captain Cloutman's chest just before blue overcoats swarmed over the crest, chasing the Tennesseans back to the next ridge. The fighting ended at dusk, and would have resumed at dawn had the Confederate commander not surrendered.

Cloutman, the highest-ranking Civil War soldier born in Conway, was also the senior officer killed in that charge. Henry Lovie, an artist for *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, accompanied Grant's army and sketched the attack — probably from descriptions the soldiers gave him, rather than from direct observation. He failed to depict the steepness of the ground, but he did include the requisite romantic feature of soldiers tenderly carrying away a mortally wounded officer. If that figure represented a specific officer, rather than a generic artistic feature, it was almost certainly Charles Cloutman.

Cloutman left a widow and four children, including one born



the day after his funeral. Exactly 24 days after the captain was killed, and probably only a week or two after the news reached Conway, Eliphalet Cloutman died amid a local epidemic. His other sons and his grandsons made anvils ring near the Pequawket dam well into the 1930s, when their smithy turned to the repair of automobiles, and the site is still devoted to that same function. Wanting the land so he could build a stable for the Conway House, Hiram Abbott bought the home where Cloutman's children were born and moved it to Pleasant Street, where it stands today beside St. Margaret's. Hundreds of people pass it every day, unawares.

## More Mash Notes, HATE MAIL, and Other Correspondence, from Page Five

These are the facts that you say smack of something sinister, but are just the facts. As an American I will always be an America first advocate. This country that has been very good to me and so many others is being threatened more by the foreign entanglements the founders warned against, than by any so-called terrorists as its freedoms are lost and its ideals become just hypocrisies.

But Trump doesn't need mon-

ey from the Sabans and the Adelsons, or the financial oligarchs, so is free to forge his own policies, not those dictated by the self-serving donors that own the other candidates. It is time for America to rid itself of these professional politicians and quislings who brought America into a state of financial collapse and to the brink of nuclear war. It couldn't get any worse than that and Trump might make it better. If any of the two parties

get control there will be nothing to worry about, simply because there will be nothing left to worry about.

John Dente  
Wilmington, DE

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"It's All About the Blue?"

To the Editor:

Most of us are sick of hearing about Trump. Most of us like to think his supporters live in huts with outhouses in some remote county. But last night he was

the guest of "honor" in my city, invited by the Northeast Police Benevolent Association.

Kudos to the Portsmouth Police Department for issuing a timely statement that they are NOT endorsing Trump. It means a lot to me and my sense of security.

The Grand Poobah of the NEPBA, interviewed on TV, said that he declined to comment on the "Muslim" issue, but that the important thing was

that Donald was all "about the blue." Apparently the police have not had enough bad PR lately. Some, and some very close to home, are now unabashedly aligning themselves with the hardest, toughest-talking, no-time-for-thinking, out-in-the-lead Republican Candidate. I'm hoping at least a good number of the guys I saw backslapping and posing for photos with Trump were there to see a celebrity, or at the very least, to please a boss or

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The Fountain-Pen Economy

by Jim Hightower

Even the word “greed” is not negative enough to characterize the all-out assault on workers by today’s corporate elite.

From offshoring jobs to busting unions, from slashing wages to looting pensions, corporate take-aways from America’s used-to-be middle-class workforce certainly are driven by the avarice

of top executives and wealthy investors. Plainly put, the more they can take from workers, the more they can put in their own pockets (or, most likely, in their offshore bank accounts). It adds up to a massive redistribution of wealth from the many to the few.

In addition to greedy, though, these people are rank thieves. As Woody Guthrie succinctly put it: “Some’ll rob you with a six-gun, some with a fountain pen.” We’re

now in a rapacious fountain-pen economy. Since the Wall Street crash of 2008 (itself a product of grand theft by financial elites), the productivity and creativity of all Americans have regenerated every bit of the wealth that was frittered away by bankers, and we created trillions of dollars in new income. What a phenomenal national achievement that is, produced in an astonishingly short time by the shared effort of our people!

But strenuous effort is all we shared. The richest one-percent of Americans have grabbed 91 percent of the gains in income, and the even-richer one-tenth-of-one-percent sucked up 22 percent of the new wealth. Thus, the vast majority of us have still not recovered the wealth we lost (homes, cars, savings, etc.) and 99 percent of us are getting less income today than we were before Wall Street crashed our economy

seven years ago.

It’s time we robes started talking plainly about what’s going on. The rich are not getting richer because they’re more enterprising than everyone else, harder-working, or of strong moral character. They’re thieves. They’re getting richer by stealing from you.

Copyright 2015 by Jim Hightower & Associates. Contact Laura Ehrlich (laura@jimhightower.com).

higher-up.

Do you care nothing for your children’s education? For your parents’ social security? For the longevity of the planet? For human rights and general security for all?

It’s all about The Blue. I see. This is disgusting coming from a supposed public servant. Hopefully all your bravado disappears when you enter the voting booth and realize that Trump has no qualifications to be President, no plan for our faltering country, and no human decency. Put on a tough guy front if you must, but use your head and your heart when you vote.

Cynthia Mulcahy
Portsmouth, N.H.

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### A Message to Ayotte

To the Editor:

Today, my wife and I joined a large group of concerned people, young and old, male and female, mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers to show our concern for the growing level of gun violence in America, and to demand action. The event, sponsored by the South Church Social Justice Associates and Moms Demand Action, was held to commemorate the third anniversary of the brutal murder of 20 children and

six school staff at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. We marched from South Church to Prescott Park, led by the Leftist Marching Band, to pray, reflect on the huge toll of gun violence on our society, and to demand action from our political leaders.

I clearly remember that day three years ago when the news of Sandy Hook broke. Surely I thought, this would be a tragedy of such magnitude that no politician could ignore it. Certainly I thought, the slaughter of 20 beautiful children and their teachers, by a madman possessing a semi-automatic rifle with expanded magazines, designed for only one purpose, to kill people, could not be ignored by our representatives in Congress. Certainly, I thought, the modest proposal to expand background checks for gun purchases, introduced in Congress shortly after Sandy Hook, could not be defeated. After all, 90 percent of the public, and even a large majority of gun owners supported this legislation. Unfortunately, my misplaced confidence in many of our elected officials was soon to be shattered. In the Senate, the expanded background check bill was defeated. Most discouraging was the vote by our own Senator

Kelly Ayotte, who voted against this legislation. In fact nothing has changed since Sandy Hook.

Fast forward to 2015, and the mass shootings in Charleston, Chattanooga, Colorado Springs, San Bernadino, Roseburg, Oregon and the other 341 communities experiencing mass shootings across America, surely, I thought, enough was enough, something would happen this time. In response to these events, politicians were quick to offer their typical hollow thoughts and prayers to the victims and their families. These expressions of concern however, did not extend to a bill that was introduced in Congress to prevent individuals, who the government considers such a risk of terrorism that they are prevented from flying on commercial airlines, from being able to purchase guns. Once again, my misplaced optimism and faith in our elected representatives was shattered. This bill was defeated in the Senate, where once again our own Sen. Kelly Ayotte voted with the NRA and against the interests of most New Hampshire residents.

This coming November, we will have an opportunity to send a clear and direct message to Sen. Ayotte. That message is that we remember your votes against

preventing gun violence. We remember your votes to support the NRA and oppose any form of common sense gun safety legislation. We remember that you ignored the wishes of 90 percent of New Hampshire residents. And we will remember that your attempt to use mental health treatment as an excuse to oppose sensible gun safety legislation is simply a clever NRA ploy and distraction from the real issue. And we will remember to vote against you in your bid to be re-elected to the Senate.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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Ayotte the Enabler

To the Editor:

An open letter to Kelly Ayotte: When are the rights of our citizens to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the freedom of assembly guaranteed by our constitution going to be considered as important as the rights to runaway gun ownership? The Constitution even says the militia should be well regulated. Shouldn’t we be able to go to work, to the mall, to a theater, to a health care center, to a holiday party, or send out children to school without fear of being shot? I am frankly fearful for my life and the lives of my loved

ones.

And the Republican remedies? Number one: arm more citizens who can defend against the attack. Really? Has there been one single instance of a killer being subdued by a private citizen with a gun and thereby saving lives? A citizen would be more likely to get caught in the crossfire.

Number two remedy: Better mental health services. Who can argue with that? Our mental health system certainly needs fixing. But using that as a dodge to avoid the firearm regulation we need is unconscionable. Rates of mental illness are consistent all over the world. Our high rate of gun violence is unique among developed countries. The difference? Availability of guns.

Fourteen people died in San Bernardino by legally purchased assault rifles, pistols, and thousands of rounds of ammo. Two days after the carnage in California you voted against legislation to prevent people on the FBI’s terrorist list from purchasing guns and against expanding background checks for commercial gun sales to gun shows and online purchases of guns.

Senator Ayotte, what are you thinking?

Cynthia Muse
Rye, N.H.

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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, DECEMBER 27	MONDAY, DECEMBER 28	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31	FRIDAY, JANUARY 1	SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
<p>1986—In San Diego, on-duty Highway Patrolman Craig Alan Peyer strangles Cara Evelyn Knott.</p> <p>1981—Justice William H. Rehnquist checks into a hospital to kick his Placidyl jones and the consequent "distorted perceptions."</p> <p>1978—After 40 years of dictatorship, Spain becomes a democracy.</p> <p>1929—Leon Trotsky goes into exile from the USSR.</p> <p>1908—Twenty followers of grocer and revelator Lee Spangler wait on South Mountain in Nyack, N.Y., for the world to end. It doesn't.</p> <p>1900—Carrie Nation hatchets-up her first saloon, at the Carey Hotel, in Wichita, Kan.</p> <p>1895—In Bill Curtis's St. Louis saloon, William "Billy" Lyons foolishly — and fatally — grabs "Stagger Lee" Shelton's Stetson hat.</p> <p>1827—Georgia passes a law proclaiming "the lands of Georgia belong to her absolutely. The Indians are tenants at her will." Indulgent legislators wait three whole years before requiring Indians to relocate west of the Mississippi.</p> <p>1763—Fifty armed men enter the Lancaster, Pa. workhouse, hack the last 14 living Conestoga Indians to death, and ride into the sunset.</p> <p>1739—A large crowd gathers to witness New Hampshire's first executions: Sarah Simpson and Penelope Kenny are hanged in Portsmouth for infanticide.</p>	<p>2013—Congress ends long-term unemployment benefits to 1.3 million Americans, damaging the economy to the tune of an estimated 240,000 jobs.</p> <p>1986—Terry Dolan, Republican critic of gay rights, dies of AIDS.</p> <p>1984—A Soviet missile accidentally launched towards Germany is destroyed in flight.</p> <p>1973—The Akron, Ohio Chamber of Commerce denounces the Soap Box Derby as a cheat and a fraud.</p> <p>1971—At the White House, 88 Vietnam veterans are arrested for protesting the war.</p> <p>1948—A DC-3 with 32 on board disappears en route from Puerto Rico to Florida.</p> <p>1945—Congress recognizes the "Pledge of Allegiance," authored by Christian Socialist Francis Bellamy.</p> <p>1936—Sit-down strikers close Cleveland's General Motors plant.</p> <p>1917—H.L. Mencken publishes a phony history of the bathtub, now widely accepted as gospel.</p> <p>1895—The Lumiere brothers screen the first commercial film.</p> <p>1879—As stagecoach driver "One-Eyed Charlie" Parkhurst, 67, is prepared for burial in Watsonville, Calif., it becomes clear that he was a she — namely, Charlotte Parkhurst, born in Lebanon, N.H. in 1812.</p> <p>1832—Vice President John C. Calhoun resigns to fight for "a perfect good" — slavery.</p>	<p>2006—The UK pays the last \$100,000,000 of its WW II debt to the U.S.</p> <p>1989—Vaclav Havel becomes President of Czechoslovakia.</p> <p>1975—Eleven people are killed and 74 wounded when a bomb explodes in a storage locker at LaGuardia Airport. The crime remains unsolved.</p> <p>1972—Operation Linebacker II, which R. Nixon will call "my terrible personal ordeal," ends. U.S. losses: 15 downed B-52s, 12 other aircraft, 43 KIA, & 49 POWs.</p> <p>1930—Fred Newton arrives at New Orleans after swimming 1,826 miles down the Mississippi.</p> <p>1916—After being poisoned, stabbed, beaten, shot three times, and thrown unconscious into the freezing Neva River, the Russian Tsarina Alexandra's favorite faith-healer Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin dies by drowning.</p> <p>1890—At Wounded Knee, the Seventh Cavalry use artillery on the Oglala Sioux, kill 300, and win 18 Medals of Honor.</p> <p>1876—A poorly-designed, uninspected railroad bridge collapses in Ashtabula, Ohio, killing 92.</p> <p>1837—In Buffalo, N.Y., Canadian militiamen burn the U.S.S. <i>Carolina</i>, which has been caught running guns to revolutionaries.</p> <p>1835—Cherokees ink the Treaty of New Echota, to their chagrin.</p> <p>1813—The Brits burn Buffalo, N.Y.</p>	<p>2009—A Jordanian MD turns suicide bomber, killing 7 CIA officers and two others at FOB Chapman, named for the first American to die in the Afghan war.</p> <p>2006—Saddam Hussein's inelegant demise is captured by cellphone.</p> <p>1995—In Brookline, Mass., John Salvi lives out his "pro-life" creed by killing two health care workers.</p> <p>1978—The House Select Committee on Assassinations concludes that conspirators "probably" helped kill JFK and MLK.</p> <p>1971—Dan Ellsberg is indicted for releasing the truth.</p> <p>1952—The Tuskegee Institute reports the end of the first lynching-free year since 1881.</p> <p>1947—Irgun fighters kill six Arabs and wound 42 in a grenade attack at a Haifa oil refinery. Arabs retaliate by beating 39 Jews to death.</p> <p>1936—The GM sit-down strike spreads from Cleveland to Flint.</p> <p>1935—Italian bombers, two piloted by sons of Il Duce, drop mustard gas on a Red Cross unit in Ethiopia.</p> <p>1924—Edwin Hubble announces that there are other galaxies.</p> <p>1922—The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is established.</p> <p>1912—Lee Humiston, riding an Excelsior, becomes the first man to achieve 100 mph on a motorcycle.</p> <p>1905—Idaho's former Governor Frank Steunenberg is assassinated with a bomb.</p>	<p>1997—Quaker Oats pays \$1.8 million to settle a lawsuit over their secret feeding of radioactive oatmeal to developmentally-disabled kids.</p> <p>1995—Bill and Monica enjoy a third tryst in a White House study.</p> <p>1970—Congress repeals the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.</p> <p>1970—Associated Milk Producers, Inc. gets lower milk import quotas in exchange for a promised \$2 million bribe to the Nixon reelection campaign.</p> <p>1969—Brothers Dwight and Karl Armstrong steal a twin-engine Cessna in a failed attempt to bomb the Badger Army ammunition plant in Wisconsin.</p> <p>1947—The Israeli paramilitary Haganah kills 20 to 70 Arabs in retaliation for the previous days' Arab retaliation against the Irgun attack against Arabs at a Haifa refinery.</p> <p>1929—"I see nothing in the present situation that is either menacing or warrants pessimism," says Treasury Secretary Andrew W. Mellon.</p> <p>1904—For the first time, a ball drops at midnight in Times Square to mark the New Year.</p> <p>1901—End of the worst year for lynching in the 20th century; score: 105 blacks, 25 whites.</p> <p>1879—Edison demonstrates the electric light bulb.</p> <p>1761—Lydia (Hall) Fowle, wife of Daniel Fowle, dies in Portsmouth, aged 36.</p>	<p>2006—Speaking to amputee veterans of his Iraq War, George W.[MD] Bush says "I have an injury myself [from] combat with a cedar. I eventually won. The cedar gave me a little scratch."</p> <p>1996—An undertaker in the mortuary of the Hinchingbroke Hospital in Cambridgeshire, England is surprised to hear Daphne Banks snoring—ten hours after she had been declared dead.</p> <p>1995—A laser sensor on an oil platform in the North Sea proves the existence of rogue waves over eighty feet high.</p> <p>1984—Ma Bell is broken up into 22 smaller units. It seemed like a good idea at the time.</p> <p>1975—Nixon cronies H.R. Halderman, John D. Ehrlichman, John N. Mitchell, and Robert C. Mardian are convicted in the Watergate cover-up trial.</p> <p>1971—From a makeshift broadcast studio in a Saigon brothel, Dave Rabbit's pirate station Radio First Termer goes on the air.</p> <p>1959—Batista flees, and Fidel Castro takes over in Cuba.</p> <p>1781—Mutinous Pennsylvania troops at Morristown, N.J., seeking back pay, seize artillery and march off to confront Congress.</p> <p>1300—Pope Boniface VIII's Jubilee is such a popular success that dozens must be executed to bring the mob under control.</p>	<p>2008—For the first time, the price of oil hits \$100 a barrel.</p> <p>1996—At Bill Clinton's invitation, Monica Lewinsky drops by the Oval Office. They violate his marriage vows in the bathroom.</p> <p>1970—The Supreme Court nixes Gen. Hershey's effort to reclassify draft protestors 1-A.</p> <p>1967—In Florida, 72 men are arrested, thwarting an invasion of Haiti which had been financed by CBS in exchange for exclusive rights to film the landing.</p> <p>1962—Outnumbered 4 to 1, vastly outgunned, with no helicopters or armor, 350 Viet Cong defeat U.S.-advised ARVN at Ap Bac.</p> <p>1946—King Zog of Albania, the only head of state to have fired back at a would-be assassin, abdicates.</p> <p>1923—Interior Sec. Albert Fall resigns as evidence of his corruption mounts. President Harding offers him a spot on the Supreme Court.</p> <p>1920—U.S. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer has thousands of alleged subversives arrested.</p> <p>1905—The International Workers of the World, a.k.a. IWW or Wobblies, "organize" in Chicago.</p> <p>1882—The Standard Oil Co. is reorganized as a trust, allowing John D. Rockefeller to keep control of 90 percent of the nation's oil supply despite laws to the contrary.</p> <p>1872—Brigham Young is arrested for having 24 wives too many.</p>
<p>12:03 12:12</p> <p>5:54 6:31</p>	<p>12:49 12:58</p> <p>6:40 7:16</p>	<p>1:35 1:44</p> <p>7:28 8:01</p>	<p>2:21 2:32</p> <p>8:16 8:46</p>	<p>3:09 3:21</p> <p>9:06 9:35</p>	<p>4:01 4:17</p> <p>10:01 10:25</p>	<p>4:54 5:14</p> <p>10:59 11:17</p>
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3	MONDAY, JANUARY 4	TUESDAY, JANUARY 5	Wednesday, JANUARY 6	THURSDAY, JANUARY 7	FRIDAY, JANUARY 8	SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
<p>2006—Hotshot Republican lobbyist Jack Abramoff pleads guilty to 3 felony counts for defrauding Indian tribes and bribing officials.</p> <p>1990—Manuel "The Pineapple" Noriega, formerly The Panamanian Strongman™, surrenders to the forces of <i>El Jefe</i>, George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush.</p> <p>1967—Jack Ruby dies in prison while awaiting retrial.</p> <p>1966—Announcing his candidacy for the Governorship of California, Ronald Reagan erroneously asserts unemployment there is 40% higher than the national average.</p> <p>1961—In Idaho, three military technicians are killed in a steam explosion of a nuclear reactor.</p> <p>1955—The U.S. government announces that over 3,000 federal employees have been sacked to quell Joe McCarthy's fears.</p> <p>1943—Ball turret gunner Alan Magee escapes from a doomed B-17 without a parachute, falls 22,000 feet, and crashes through the roof of a St. Nazaire railroad station. He lives to be 84.</p> <p>1924—Grave robber/archaeologist Howard Carter glooms onto Tutankhamen's gold coffin.</p> <p>1892—J.R.R. Tolkien is born in Orange Free State, Africa.</p> <p>1891—L. Frank Baum, writing in the Aberdeen (S.D.) <i>Saturday Pioneer</i>, calls for the "total extermination" of Native Americans.</p>	<p>2008—Five Iranian small boats approach three Navy warships in the Gulf of Hormuz. The Navy mistakes a crazed ham radio operator's "You will explode" for a real threat.</p> <p>1987—Tom Stevens becomes the 1st man to bike 'round the world.</p> <p>1971—In Vietnam, soldier George Mellendorf mails a letter to the White House complaining of slow mail delivery. It arrives in 1978.</p> <p>1965—The Free Speech Movement holds its first legal rally.</p> <p>1960—An automobile provides an answer of sorts to Albert Camus's big question.</p> <p>1958—Ex-Commie, former McCarthy aide, and ex-editor of <i>Confidential</i>, Howard Rushmore shoots his wife and then himself in a New York City cab.</p> <p>1958—Sputnik burns on re-entry.</p> <p>1955—The U.S. agrees to pay Japan for nuking the Marshall Islands.</p> <p>1945—An anti-draft revolt begins in Raguse, Italy.</p> <p>1933—Farmers in Primghar, Iowa, throw a rope around a banker's neck and threaten to lynch him unless he promises to end foreclosures.</p> <p>1903—Looking to fraudulently undercut his competitor Westinghouse, Thomas Edison films the public electrocution of Topsy the elephant at Coney Island.</p> <p>41 BC—The Roman Emperor Caligula is murdered by his own troops, angry over unpaid wages.</p>	<p>2011—Shortly after Rep. Frank Guinta [R-N.H.] is sworn in, David Koch "asks" him to confirm that he will be attending a party that Koch is hosting for Republicans ... Guinta said he would...."</p> <p>1987—President Reagan produces the first trillion dollar budget. It includes a \$147 billion deficit.</p> <p>1970—Mine Workers Union presidential candidate Joe Yablonski is killed on orders of incumbent president "Tough" Tony Boyle.</p> <p>1968—Feds indict Dr. Spock for expressing concern about the health of his ex-patients now in uniform.</p> <p>1942—Mutual Broadcasting's John B. Hughes begins an anti-Japanese-American radio campaign that results in the establishment of U.S. concentration camps.</p> <p>1937—The Abraham Lincoln Brigade is formed to fight fascism — "prematurely," some say.</p> <p>1914—Henry Ford establishes the 8 hour day and \$5/day pay.</p> <p>1895—Stepping onstage in response to cries of "Author, author," after the first performance of his play <i>Guy Rornville</i>, Henry James finds himself jeered off.</p> <p>1825—Young Alexander Dumas, père, fights his first duel during which his pants fall down.</p> <p>1781—Former American General Benedict Arnold assists the British in the burning and plundering of Richmond, Va.</p>	<p>2006—George W.[MD] Bush signs a DoD appropriations bill including \$20 million for a celebration of "success" in Iraq and Afghanistan.</p> <p>1986—One dies, 100 are injured in an accident at Kerr-McGee's nuclear fuel plant in Oklahoma.</p> <p>1970—The Supreme Court upholds the suppression of an anti-war underground newspaper at Fort Bragg, N.C.</p> <p>1946—Thousands of active-duty GIs in the Philippines attempt to storm Headquarters in protest of slow re-deployment back to the U.S.</p> <p>1944—RIP Ida Tarbell, muckraker, in Bridgeport, Conn.</p> <p>1927—Freelance executioner R. Elliot electrocutes three convicts in Charlestown, Mass., then three more in Sing Sing, N.Y.</p> <p>1927—U.S. Marines invade Nicaragua. Again.</p> <p>1920—Birth of future Man-O-God Rev. Sun Myung Moon.</p> <p>1919—Appointed Britain's Foreign Secretary, George Curzon complains bitterly that the supplied inkpots are made of glass and brass rather than crystal and silver.</p> <p>1895—Former Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii is arrested following a failed coup against the government of Sanford Dole.</p> <p>1864—U.S. Army captures 11,000 Navajos, later force-marching them to Ft. Sumner, killing hundreds.</p>	<p>2015—Two brothers, Wahhabi extremists, kill 12 and wound 11 at <i>Charlie Hebdo's</i> offices in Paris.</p> <p>1999—Congress begins the impeachment trial of Bill Clinton for threatening the Constitution with a cigar.</p> <p>1998—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports that George H.[H.]W. Bush's repeated denials notwithstanding, the Veep was in fact present at meetings about arms sales to Iran.</p> <p>1980—San Francisco honors the 100th anniversary of the death of Emperor Norton I with a party.</p> <p>1970—Woodstock, N.Y. farmer Max Yasgur is sued by his neighbors for damages resulting from his entertaining over 500,000 guests.</p> <p>1969—<i>Look</i> magazine calls Jimi Hendrix a "menace to public health."</p> <p>1943—Nicola Tesla dies in obscurity in New York City.</p> <p>1929—The comic strip "Buck Rogers" makes its debut.</p> <p>1927—The Harlem Globetrotters play their first game.</p> <p>1920—Five socialists are expelled from the New York Assembly.</p> <p>1903—Birth of Zora Neale Hurston, famous black female writer during Harlem Renaissance, maid in the 1950s.</p> <p>1806—Cherokees in Tennessee and Alabama cede 7,000 square miles of land to whites, in return for which they are not killed.</p>	<p>2008—Hillary Clinton wins the New Hampshire primary.</p> <p>2007—The sub <i>U.S.S. Newport News</i> collides with an oil tanker in the straits of Hormuz.</p> <p>2003—"The war on terror involves Saddam Hussein," explains George W. Bush, "because of the nature of Saddam Hussein, the history of Saddam Hussein, and his willingness to terrorize himself."</p> <p>1992—At a formal dinner in Japan, Bush #41 turns his head to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and vomits in his lap.</p> <p>1982—The Reagan White House announces a new policy: granting tax-exempt status to racially-segregated colleges. (It lasts 4 days.)</p> <p>1973—The Watergate Burglar trial begins.</p> <p>1966—In the largest single operation of the Vietnam War, 8,000 U.S. troops seek VC HQ in the Ho Bo Woods. They don't find it.</p> <p>1965—Sen. Everett Dirksen proposes adoption of the marigold as America's national flower.</p> <p>1958—An accident at Chelyabinsk plutonium plant in U.S.S.R. kills hundreds.</p> <p>1956—Hoarooni Indians in the Ecuadoran rainforest register their annoyance with missionaries by spearing five to death.</p> <p>1946—Over 10,000 GIs in Saipan, Guam, and France protest slow re-deployment back to the U.S.</p>	<p>2002—Future Attorney General Alberto Gonzales writes that parts of the Geneva Conventions are "obsolete" and "quaint."</p> <p>1980—On orders from King Saud, 63 participants in the 1979 seizure of the Grand Mosque at Mecca are beheaded with swords in the public squares of eight Saudi cities.</p> <p>1964—Panama suspends relations with U.S. after U.S. troops kill 21 anti-American protesters.</p> <p>1956—"Dear Abby" begins dispensing advice in newspapers.</p> <p>1952—In Phenix City, Ala., anti-vice crusader Hugh Bently's house is destroyed by a bomb.</p> <p>1939—In Missouri, 1,700 tenant farmers and their families stage a sit-down strike in the middle of Highway 60.</p> <p>1913—Richard Milhous Nixon is born in Yorba Linda, Calif.</p> <p>1805—Ohio passes "Black laws" prohibiting blacks from giving testimony in court.</p> <p>1793—In Philadelphia, President Washington observes the first hot-air balloon ascension in the U.S.</p> <p>1776—In Philadelphia, <i>Common Sense</i> is published, by Thomas Paine, who eschews all royalties.</p> <p>1766—In Portsmouth, N.H., stamp master George Meserve is forced to surrender his commission by "a grand mob," which then raises the first "No Stamp" flag in the colonies.</p>
<p>5:48 6:13</p> <p>11:57</p>	<p>6:41 7:11</p> <p>12:11 12:55</p>	<p>7:32 8:05</p> <p>1:03 1:48</p>	<p>8:19 8:54</p> <p>1:53 2:37</p>	<p>9:03 9:38</p> <p>2:40 3:22</p>	<p>9:45 10:21</p> <p>3:25 4:05</p>	<p>10:26 11:01</p> <p>4:08 4:46</p>

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