

# The New Hampshire Gazette

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## The Fortnightly Rant

### The Perpetual Emotion Machine

On June 1st, President Barack Obama called out one of the nation's most intractable problems: the stuff that's being "broadcast every day on some cable news stations, on rightwing radio [and] pumped into cars and bars and VFW halls all across America."

That was a pretty bold move: he was making a frontal assault on Fox News, and he is just a lowly President.

The object of Obama's disaffection responded with a counterattack on its website. The lead sentence read, "[t]he nation's largest veterans group hit back at President Obama on Thursday."

True to form for Fox, those first five words were either a lie or a mistake; we cannot know which, and Fox may not care.

The group to which Fox was referring is the Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW]. With under 1.7 million members, it is the nation's second largest veterans organization. The largest is the American Legion, which has 2.4 million members. The network, which relentlessly reminds us that it holds veterans in the highest possible regard, was off by 700,000, or about 40 infantry divisions. For Fox, though, mere facts are irrelevant.

Fifty years ago a certain corporate pitchman used to say, "Progress is our most important product." That pitchman, of course, was Ronald Reagan. Fox's most important product is a narrative capable of sustaining its audience's hatred of Democrats,

liberals, and the government in general.

It may seem odd that an alleged news network — especially one so ostentatiously patriotic — should be constantly attacking a government organized under the Constitution it claims to revere. It comes naturally to the network, though. It's just parroting the line first promulgated by that corporate pitchman on his elevation to the Presidency: "government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem."

We have come full circle, then; we're back to Ronald Reagan. Is that just a coincidence? The universe is rarely so lazy.

Who gets to broadcast what? Although the question sounds simple, it takes an exceedingly complex process to arrive at an answer. The right answer is worth billions to the winners, but money may not even be the greatest reward.

Throughout most of the 1920s, civic-minded do-gooders battled with the pro-commerce National Association of Broadcasters [NAB] over how the airwaves would be used. In 1928 the Federal Radio Commission, predecessor of the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] sided with the NAB — a classic example of regulatory capture.

In 1941 the FCC, under FDR, boldly established the Mayflower Doctrine, which prohibited editorializing by broadcasters. The NAB howled "censorship," which



was rich coming from them. Two years earlier the NAB had crafted regulations of its own to silence Father Coughlin, the radio priest.

Censorship during WW II necessitated a truce, but after VJ Day the battle resumed. In 1949 the Mayflower Doctrine's ban on editorializing was eliminated in favor of the Fairness Doctrine, which merely required that both sides of controversial issues be fairly represented. To the NAB, though, it was just a new target.

For about thirty years, a stalemate ensued. Then came Morning in America. A fellow named Mark S. Fowler, who had worked on the 1980 Reagan campaign, was rewarded with the chairmanship of the FCC. His deep understanding

of communication policy is best illustrated by a remark he made in November of 1981: a television, he said is "just another appliance — it's a toaster with pictures."

In 1983, Reagan met in the Oval Office with Rupert Murdoch. Reagan wanted positive coverage for his foreign policies regarding Central America. Murdoch wanted Reagan to loosen regulations limiting the number of television stations a corporation could own. The meeting, arranged by Roy Cohn, was a success.

By 1985, the FCC was saying outright that the Fairness Doctrine's days were numbered. Congress, with both houses in Democratic hands, passed legislation in 1987 codifying the Doc-

trine into law. Reagan vetoed it. The Doctrine was dead.

The *Los Angeles Times* summed up the position of the broadcasters, and, by extension, Reagan: "the scarcity of broadcast outlets, which initially prompted creation of the Fairness Doctrine, no longer exists. ... advances in technology and the expanding number of broadcast stations provide many more opportunities for the presentation of diverse viewpoints." At the time, the nation's media landscape was made up of some fifty different corporations.

Now that number is six. Murdoch's News Corp is the third-largest. Its Fox News division was founded on October 7, 1996.

## The Alleged News®

### Scenes from the Decline ... and Fall?

The apparent impending collapse of our formerly (allegedly) democratic republic — the finest flowering of the Age of Enlightenment and the last, best hope of mankind — is regrettable, of course; however, its atavistic descent into savagery continues to be wildly entertaining.\*

Case in point: Bill Kristol's brief recent campaign to name the next President of the United States.

Anyone, of course, has the right to suggest a President. Most people don't have an audience, though. Kristol does. He's frequently asked to appear on television, and apparently never declines. When on the air he delivers opinions on a broad range of topics, none of which appear to be within his area of expertise. The primary purpose his appearances

seem to serve is to warn viewers that those opinions are almost certainly wrong. Over the years, his pronouncements have been so reliably wrong that collections of them are now their own mini-genre of journalism. Sample characterizations include "the wrongest man in politics," "the wrongest person in the world," and "a cult figure of wrong."

Kristol's apparent ineradicability is one of the petty mysteries of the age. His origin story is simple, though.

He acquired his audience the same way the contestants in Monty Python's Upper Class Twit of the Year competition gained their positions: heredity and patronage. Kristol inherited his trade, his neoconservative politics, and his leadership position in that movement from his father, Irving Kristol, a magazine editor widely known as the unindicted "godfather of neoconservatism."

Kristol the Younger first came to national attention by serving as

Chief of Staff to George Herbert [Hoover] Walker's Vice President. The nickname he was given, "Dan Quayle's Brain," held more than a little irony. His continued prominence stems from a sinecure he holds: editor of the *Weekly Standard*. That magazine, never profitable, has been subsidized since its founding by its publisher, Right Wing media baron Rupert Murdoch. It began publishing in 1995, one year before Murdoch's Fox News began broadcasting.†

Kristol's apotheosis came in the summer of 2008 when Sarah Palin, on his recommendation, became the Republican Vice Presidential nominee. While many might question the wisdom of letting such an error-prone per-

† To be clear, while this newspaper's editor shares a last name with its founder, he inherited only a vague story: "There was a printer in the family, way back in the olden days, and he printed something that the authorities didn't like. So they threw him in jail." His acquisition of this newspaper can be attributed to low cunning and an adamant refusal to consider honest work. For a fuller account, see: [nhgazette.com/about/](http://nhgazette.com/about/).

son lead a movement, for a party as reactionary as the Republicans, it makes sense: in the drive to return to feudalism, you need people who understand hereditary rights and subsidization by oligarchs.

It took the improbable candidacy of a certain New York blowhard for Kristol to finally get something right: the GOP's presumptive nominee must never be elected. Consequently, all this year, as would befit such a benevolent grandee, Kristol has been promising to provide us mere mortals with a suitable alternative candidate.

Finally, on May 29th, he tweeted — with a coy certitude suggesting that the nation should keep holding its collective breath for a few more days — "Just a heads up over this holiday weekend: There will be an independent candidate—an impressive one, with a strong team and a real chance."

Some alleged thinkers may have wondered what brilliant politician Kristol might have flushed out of

the bushes. Seasoned gag-writers, though, expected a comical let-down. Only the latter were satisfied when the somewhat-anticipated June 6th [D-Day!] issue of *The Weekly Standard* was published.

In an editorial headlined "The United States of Argentina?" Kristol fainted with a suggestion that "a respected former Senator like Judd Gregg" might serve as a good third-party candidate, thus demonstrating that his error-generating powers remain undiminished. Then, boldly averring that "the leader of the resistance could turn out to be someone who hasn't yet held elective office," Kristol proposed David French, an obscure scribbler for the *National Review*, another money-losing Right Wing rag.‡

‡ Witness the pot calling the kettle black: this newspaper makes no profit. We operate on subscription fees and advertising revenue, though, not the largesse of oligarchs.

The Alleged News®

to page two

\* Full enjoyment does require, however, as prerequisite for full enjoyment, the sort of mindset which finds comfort in such things as this tweet from @WernerTwertzog on May 23rd: "The earth will crash into the sun. The universe will die. Nothing matters. #mondaysmotivation."

**The Alleged News®**

from page one

Kristol referred to the “forty-something French [as] a best-selling author, an attorney, and a **combat veteran** of Iraq. [Emphasis added.]” French was 38 when he joined the Army. He held the rank of Major and served as a Squadron Judge Advocate. Kristol’s characterization of him as a combat veteran is, shall we say, unsubstantiated.

Journalists, who of course had nothing else to do in this slow news season, promptly began scanning *Home and Away: A Story of Family in a Time of War*, written in 2011 by French and his wife Nancy. (She, an author in her own right whose maiden name has apparently disappeared down the Memory Hole, is also the author of *Not Afraid of Life: My Journey So Far*, Bristol Palin’s memoir.) In *Home and Away*, they learned that by mutual agreement, while David was away, Nancy would refrain from using the internet or emailing other men.

In short order, a mob of scurrilous jackanapes on Twitter began to mock the Frenches. Appalled, David withdrew his candidacy.

Ken Rudin, the walking compendium of political trivia known to NPR listeners as “the Political Junkie,” said, “The shocking news that David French has decided *not* to run for president stuns all of us who have never heard of him in the first place.”

French never had a chance, but what about some other dark horse? Half the people likely to vote for Clinton in November will be holding their noses, and the same is true for Trump. Never have so many voters held so much distaste for their candidates.

If some other, more plausible candidate were able to draw enough Electoral College votes in November to prevent either major party candidate from getting 270, the election would be thrown to the House of Representatives. Each state would then get one vote. With 33 states in the hands of Republicans, the GOP would have the Presidency, and Trump would be out in the cold.

**Congress Proposes GI Bill Cuts**

Members of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America [IAVA] are — let’s just say they’re not very happy, this being a family newspaper and all. It seems that some Members of Congress may



have been less than forthright when they pledged to support the troops forever.

We can see how that might have come as a shock. All serving members of the military are volunteers, and the vast majority will have enlisted following Ronald Reagan’s campaign to exalt military service. Being treated as disposable cogs must hurt.

Here is IAVA’s account of Congress’ efforts to cut the GI Bill:

“The Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee (SVAC) on May 12th introduced a package of veterans legislation (S. 2921) that includes the first cut to the Post-9/11 GI Bill. In an unusual move they then hastily gathered a small group together in the back of the Senate chamber the same day to pass the measure by an unrecorded voice vote. Normally Committee approval of a bill is public and announced days and sometimes weeks in advance. This one was only minutes in the making and

conducted out of reach of IAVA and others who strongly oppose the GI Bill cuts. A final Senate floor vote can occur any day.

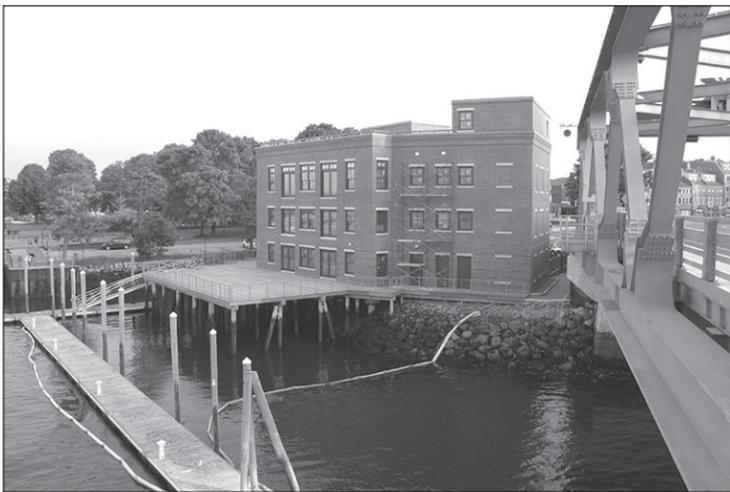
“These types of shenanigans are not new to the bill. The measure itself was announced on April 28 in a private event with only media in attendance. The public was promised — when a journalist asked — that it contained no cuts to the GI Bill, which have been strongly opposed by IAVA. That was not true.

“After reviewing the 391-page bill, it is clear that the measure still breaks Congress’ commitment to military and veteran families as it includes \$3.4 billion in cuts to Post-9/11 GI Bill housing allowances over the next five years. IAVA vigorously opposes the bill and will call on the president to veto it if it is passed.

“The Senate developments follow House passage by an anonymous voice vote on Feb. 9th of a similar measure, which included

a 50 percent cut to the housing allowance provided to children who will have their parent’s Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits transferred to them. Following the House vote, IAVA embarked on a campaign to protect the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Over the past several weeks, IAVA has held over 100 meetings with Members of Congress, while IAVA members have sent over 30,000 messages to Capitol Hill, via social media, and in the press. Progress was made: before the Senate Committee acted, it withdrew additional major cuts to the GI Bill as well as a proposal to require additional years of service before a service member can transfer the benefit to a family member.

“Time is of the essence — as Congress seeks to pass the veterans omnibus before the end of the summer — and we are fighting on two fronts. We must oppose: The 50 percent cut to veteran children’s housing in the House



Since pyramids are now viewed as somewhat passé, many architects are exploring the use of other geometric solids — cubes and rectangular prisms, primarily — as the basis for monumental sepulchres. Unchanged over the millennia, however, are the interminable construction timelines.

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bill, and the \$3.4 billion cut to all Post-9/11 GI Bill users in the Senate bill.”

Imagine our surprise when we learned that while Republican Senator Kelly Ayotte has committed to oppose the GI Bill cuts, Democratic Senator Jeanne Shaheen has not.

Shaheen may be reached at: DC 506 Hart SOB, Washington, D.C. 20510. The phone number is (202) 224-2841.

First District Representative Frank Guinta has also failed to oppose the GI Bill cuts. He may be reached at: 326 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. The phone number is (202) 225-5456.

For the latest information on this issue see: [iava.org/post-911-gi-bill-pledge/](http://iava.org/post-911-gi-bill-pledge/).

**Juneteenth in Portsmouth**

On Saturday, June 18th, from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m., the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail will present a series of free events, open to the public, for its annual Juneteenth Celebration.

The observance of June 19th as African American Emancipation Day is the oldest known nationally celebrated event commemorating the ending of slavery

in the United States. Although President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, in the fall of 1862, declared that as of January 1, 1863, all slaves in states in rebellion against the Union “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever be free,” it was not until two years later, June 19th, 1865, that the enslaved people in Galveston, Texas got the news that the war had ended and they were free.

Portsmouth’s Juneteenth Celebration is being titled, “Coming to the Table: A Journey of Discovery Between Descendants of Slaves and Slave Owners.” It will feature a dialogue between Langdon Marsh, a descendant of slave owner John Langdon, and Sheila Reed Findley, who is a Portsmouth native and descendant of slaves from Portsmouth and Berwick, Maine. Through honest and open sharing of personal stories and family histories, presenters will explore the legacy of racism that is rooted in the history of slavery and ways in which we can heal the racial divide through dialogue.

“Coming to the Table” will also include a visit to the Langdon Slaves Burying Ground, guided by Valerie Cunningham. It will be followed by a pot luck lunch



at South Church, a documentary film by Portsmouth native Kalim Armstrong, and a remembrance celebration with special music at the African Burying Ground Memorial.

The Schedule of Events:

11:00 a.m. — Remembrance Gathering at Langdon Slaves Cemetery, 1035 Lafayette Road.

12:00 noon — Pot Luck Lunch at South Church, 292 State Street.

12:30 p.m. — Documentary film, *Telling the Story of Slavery*, with film Producer Kalim Armstrong, at South Church.

1:00 p.m. — Dialogue with descendants of colonial Portsmouth families, South Church.

3:00 p.m. — Music Jamboree and Remembrance Celebration, African Burying Ground Memorial Park.

Armstrong’s film, *Telling the Story of Slavery*, is about a place that attempts to tackle the legacy of slavery: The Whitney Plantation in Louisiana. His film is featured in *The New Yorker* at [www.newyorker.com/contributors/ka-lim-armstrong/all](http://www.newyorker.com/contributors/ka-lim-armstrong/all).

All Juneteenth events are free and open to the public.

The Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, founded in 1995, works to preserve, celebrate and honor the history and culture of the African-American community in Portsmouth and the New Hampshire region. With distinctive bronze plaques that identify the community from its colonial-era African Burying Ground to the modern Civil Rights Movement, the Trail is proud to have served as a model across the country, on what it means to raise public awareness and appreciation for a region not known for its Black history.

The Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail merged with the Portsmouth Historical Society in the summer of 2012 and now partners with the Society to present programs to the public.

Visit [www.portsmouthhistory.org](http://www.portsmouthhistory.org) for more information, or call Discover Portsmouth at (603) 436-8433.

**A Note About Primus Fowle**

For about the first thirty years of its existence, this newspaper benefited from the unpaid labor, as pressman, of an enslaved African man. History being what it is, we do not know his true name. We have only his slave name: Primus Fowle, that being derived from his owner, Daniel Fowle. We believe that Daniel received Primus as a dowry from his father-in-law, Hugh Hall, about the time of his wedding to Lydia Hall, in 1751. Hall had owned Primus since about 1730.

Had Primus remained with the Langdons, he would likely have been buried at the Langdon Slaves Cemetery. Having lived out his days in the household of John Melcher, Daniel Fowle’s successor and heir, it is probably safe to assume that Primus is buried in the African Burying Ground. In death, then, Primus finally achieved something denied to his former master: the location of Daniel Fowle’s grave is apparently lost to history.



Summer’s here and the time is right for lining up Harleys in Market Square. And faux-Harleys, and the occasional off-brand like Suzuki or Ducati, of course. What our Wandering Photographer wants to know is, where are the rat bikes of yesteryear?

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**A Thank You Note**

To the Editor:

"The night is beautiful,  
So the faces of my people."

Artist/writer Ashley Bryan, at The Music Hall along with almost 700 friends and supporters from as far away as Georgia and Alabama, reminded us last Thursday evening of those words by Langston Hughes, simply stated yet lovingly nuanced.

Indeed, the community's enthusiastic response to *Shadows Fall North* has been far greater than we could have hoped for or expected. This film, produced by UNH's Center for the Humanities in collaboration with Atlantic Media Productions, now joins the African Burying Ground Memorial and the Harriet Wilson statue in Milford, as visual affirmations of New Hampshire's Black history. We couldn't have asked for more.

Our hearts are indeed warmed and energized. We'll keep you updated on what's next but couldn't wait to say how deeply grateful we are to know that this work is appreciated so much by so many.

Thank you.

JerriAnne Boggis, Director, Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail  
Valerie Cunningham, Coordinator, Sankofa Tours  
Portsmouth, N.H.

JerriAnne and Valerie:

*We've never seen a packed house give a more-deserved standing ovation. A great foundation now exists upon which to build a fuller understanding of our shared heritage.*

The Editor

**The Forecast Calls for Pain**

To the Editor:

"Coffee for my breakfast, shot of whiskey on the side" wails Robert Cray from my XM radio speaker. Ominous as it sounds, New Hampshire Democrats may wish for a stiff belt of something if the party continues on its current trajectory. To make my point, here's a tactical question:

When preparing for a tough battle, one should always:

A. Attack prematurely with only half of your army behind you.

B. Ostracize rather than inspire your most energetic warriors.

C. Promise that victory will ensure more of the same old crap.

D. None of the above.

Questions sometimes tell us more than we want to know. For example, we might wonder if the Democratic National Committee [DNC]'s PR woes are really being caused by feckless criticism from the Sanders camp or are a result of the party's stale Democratic Leadership Council [DLC]-era policies?

Or, we could ask if it's wise for the presumptive nominee to cuddle up in bed with Wall Street at a time when most voters want change so desperately they'll support a "raging jackass" to get it.

We could even speculate why it took an obscure seventy-four year old Senator from Vermont to energize the troops and connect with younger voters while party leaders were fast asleep at the switch?

Win or lose, Bernie Sanders and his followers have done a masterful job of sounding the klaxon, but some hard liners are still refusing to listen. If the party leadership wants to avoid a circus at the convention, now is the time to start proposing some of the policy concessions it will take to bring Sanders supporters on board.

One thing is clear, should the DNC leadership fail to shed their dowdy DLC plumage by the end

of the convention, it's guaranteed to alienate the party's brightest and best high-energy campaign workers and supporters, making November an easy call. With the GOP's red-headed stepchild firmly ensconced in the White House, the forecast will indeed call for pain aplenty!

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (who I've always doggedly supported) and Super-Delegate husband Bill both appear firmly in the tank for the status quo this time around. If it bothers you as much as it bothers me, please contact them and let them know what you think.

Rick Littlefield  
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

*We fear the aforementioned Democrats may be as impervious to suasion as the person Shaheen aims to topple, but that's a lousy reason not to try.*

The Editor

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**Rearming For the Apocalypse**

To the Editor:

On Sunday, January 16th, the *Boston Globe* published an alarming article, "Rearming for the apocalypse," by Stephen Kinzer, that tells of President Obama's proposing "a frighteningly wrong-headed plan to 'modernize' our nuclear arsenal at the unfathomable cost of about \$1 trillion."

Alex Kingsbury added an opinion piece, "Kim Jong Un has no monopoly on nuclear crazy."

This insane plan is opposed by former Defense Secretary William Perry, among others.

As well as spurring another crazy nuclear arms race, it would be terrible for our economy. Think of all the good that trillion dollars could do.

I have seen very little mention of this since, by either newspaper or television.

Please help call people's attention to this awful proposal. Thank you.

Neal W. Ferris  
Durham, N.H.

*Mash Notes,* **HATE MAIL**

Neal:

*Thank you for helping us draw attention to yet another deranged proposal which we would otherwise have failed to mention.*

The Editor

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**Three Slaps & a Burlap 'Chute**

On Thursday, July 2, 2015, the small town of Hanover, Ill., (population 800) was enjoying a typical summer day, the tall grass beside the placid Apple River that courses through the town waved ever so slightly in the breeze.

Overlooking this is a four-story brick-and-concrete building of approximately 89,226 square feet. It has been a site for manufacturing water valves since 1965.

A semi pulls away from the building onto Route 84, headed south. The trailer is not packed with products headed for market — no, this is one of countless loads of machinery taken from this building, disassembled and loaded by a crew of workers, many with 25 to 35 years of faithful employment at this factory.

This semi is headed for Matamoros, Mexico. This is where, under the auspices of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the machinery will be reconstructed for production in Mexico. The product produced, under the ownership of Robertshaw Controls Co., will then be shipped back to the U.S. either duty-free or with tariffs reduced.

These free trade agreements are not made with the underlying idea of protecting American jobs. These deals are made for multinational corporations' profits.

NAFTA demands that Mexico treat factories (called "Foreign Direct Investment") relocated or built there, better than its own manufacturers. Should Mexico do anything that stifles production or limit profits, the corporation can appeal to an independent tribunal

of judges. Should Mexico decide to nationalize the factory, the corporation is fully indemnified by the American taxpayer either by the requirements in NAFTA or by Bilateral Investment Treaties.

In other words, in the final analysis, the workers who lost their jobs because of corporation greed are the ones expected to insure that same corporation against any loss.

This is the second slap in the face to the worker. The first slap in the face is the theft of the factory to near-shore or off-shore cheaper labor. The third slap is that workers who lost jobs must now buy that same product in the marketplace.

We will never get these factories back until our average wage falls to third-world levels. We must have a manufacturing base, that is one of our primary ways to create wealth. If the people who have been injured by this theft can't reach into the boardroom of Robertshaw Controls, there is one civilized option left: Send a message to those that pulled this dirty trick. Boycott Robertshaw's products.

We know Robertshaw is sensitive about its public image since it put out a gag order telling workers not to talk to the press about the closing. And if you do talk, you will not get your burlap parachute (severance pay) that Robertshaw is so generously giving.

Actually, with social media, a national awareness can be made about Robertshaw and its products. Enough negative PR and product identification for boycotting may change the minds of others thinking about leaving the U.S. They steal the jobs away from Hanover yet they want us to buy their product.

If I have a chance to buy a product either with a Robertshaw component or without, guess

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**Murph's Fortnightly Quote**

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— Muhammad Ali (1942-2016)

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# And Other Correspondence

which product I'm going to pick. Well, there we have it, three slaps to the face and a burlap parachute for the unlucky ones and more of the same coming down the pike.

Charles Fach  
Galena, Ill.  
Charles:

Thank you for this carefully-delineated and well-justified condemnation of odious corporate business-as-usual. As it happens, we're in the market for some faucets. Whatever we buy, it won't be Robertshaw — and they'll be made in the U.S.A., if we can find any such things.

The Editor

≈≈≈

## Hitler's Hat Unearthed?

To the Alleged Editor:

Is there any truth to the rumor that historians have unearthed Hitler's hat that said: "Make Germany Great Again!"?

As you were,  
Frank G. Crotty  
Portsmouth, N.H.

Frank:

We have no reason to doubt the veracity of that rumor.

The Editor

≈≈≈

## Memorial Day, 2016

To the Editor:

I just read your excellent, spot on (as are all your Fortnightly Rants) remarks at the Portsmouth Memorial Day ceremony. Ever on the side of wanting to decrease our budget for military spending and worrying about the word "increasing" in paragraph 16; on a second reading I got it. One one-hundredth of one percent of our total military budget amounts to \$84 million dollars a year, the amount needed for food stamps for some of our military personnel. You have taught me much in these short remarks. Thank you!

Inge Ackermann  
Amherst, MA

## Ayotte: NRA Skill

To the Editor:

Sen. Kelly Ayotte must think the people of New Hampshire are not very smart and that our memories are very short. In a recent campaign ad, Sen. Ayotte, with the complicity of a few loyal police chiefs, is now claiming that she actually supported expanded background checks for gun purchases. This is a total distortion of the truth.

We all remember that after the massacre of 20 children and 6 staff at the Sandy Hook Elementary School Sen. Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Sen. Toomey (R-Pa.) sponsored legislation in 2013 to expand background checks. The bill died after falling six votes short of the 60 votes necessary to advance it. Sen. Kelly Ayotte, to maintain her support of the NRA, voted against this bill. Not only that, she opposed the Manchin-Toomey bill again when Democrats brought it up again last December.

What Sen. Ayotte voted for later in 2013, in an effort to cover her tracks, was an NRA supported bill, the Protecting Communities and Preserving the Second Amendment Act of 2013. This bill did nothing to expand background checks in any way. Her claim of supporting background checks, as reported in the Huffington Post is "misleading at best and straight-up false at worst."

Why is it that Sen. Ayotte wants us to now think that she supported expanding background checks when she did not? Is she admitting that her opposition to these bills in 2013 and 2015 was a mistake, but she had to vote that way to keep her NRA support. I am sorry Senator, you own your votes in the Senate and you should have the courage to stand by them or come out honestly and admit that you made a mistake. It

appears that you either lack the courage of your convictions, or your votes are simply the will of special interests and you lack convictions.

It is now time for you to be held accountable for ignoring the will of 90 percent of New Hampshire residents who supported expanded background checks. Your attempt to mislead New Hampshire voters is very shameful and transparent. You should pull this deceptive ad and apologize to the people of New Hampshire.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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## You Call That a Correction?

To the Editor:

Nice words, that "In Memoriam, By The Numbers," but they are only that — nice words that, like the well-manicured lawns that hide the dust and bones of the fallen, are just a hypocritical veneer. So let there be some additions: "we gather to remember those men and women [except for those who died in the attack on the U.S.S. Liberty] who, while in military service, gave their lives to our country,"

"... as a nation we mourn our losses [but not the loss of those who were aboard the Liberty on June 8th, 1967 when Israeli air and sea forces attacked it.]

"We [say] we make no distinctions between deaths which were heroic and those which were more prosaic." [But we did make a distinction that day because the country that attacked them, killing 34 and wounding 174, was Israel, and twice it happened that U.S. aircraft were launched and called back.]

These are just some well-needed corrections to the Portsmouth's Central Veterans Council's address. But they are not enough to give justice to that heroic crew whose story has never been written into the school curriculum, who Hollywood, along with the press, has turned their backs on,

and who the politicians and high command of the Navy, along with some veterans organizations (thankfully, not all) ignore.

June 8th is never far removed from Memorial Day on the calendar, but it is far removed from the celebrations, and phony tributes from lesser men and women in the Congress, the executive branch, the media and Hollywood.

John Dente  
Wilmington, Del.

John:

Just so we're clear, you're calling the editor a hypocrite? Duly noted.

Perhaps you missed it but our issue of May 27th included the following item on page eight, under the date of June 8th: "1967—Israeli planes and boats attack the unarmed spy ship U.S.S. Liberty with rockets, machine guns, and napalm. Thirty-four sailors are killed and 171 wounded." We have run that item every year since 2006, and probably earlier.

If, on Memorial Day, the Editor had attempted to catalog every travesty of justice related to military service, he'd die of old age before he was done.

The Editor

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## More Memorial Day Thoughts

To the Editor:

Like most Americans, I look forward to spending Memorial Day weekend barbecuing with friends and relaxing at the beach. However, I almost daily think about my teammate, just one of the 6,867 service members killed overseas since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and reflect on what we fought for, the actual existential threat we face as a nation, and the convergence between the two.

America consumes a quarter of the world's oil produced, the equivalent of 19 million barrels a day, in the form of petroleum products like gasoline, heating oil, and plastics. Every major conflict the United States military has been engaged in for the past twenty-five years, with the excep-



tions of Bosnia and Kosovo, has protected this oil-dependent lifestyle. The 1991 Persian Gulf War to protect then the world's largest oil reserves located in Saudi Arabia was followed by the 1995 reactivation of the Navy's Fifth Fleet to protect the flow of light crude oil through the Persian Gulf's, Red Sea's, and Arabian Sea's choke points. Our service members remaining in Saudi Arabia after the First Gulf War was a reason Osama Bin Laden gave for the September 11th attacks which resulted in the past fifteen years of war in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, speculation remains that Vice President Dick Cheney's Energy Task Force's ten meetings with energy representatives during the Bush Administration's opening months fueled the 2003 Iraq invasion which was the catalyst for today's Islamic State.

America's oil dependence has contributed to Saudi Arabia's wealth and extreme inequality which has led to the rise and Saudi financing of Wahhabism from Kosovo to India. Twenty-eight pages of the joint congressional inquiry possibly linking the Saudi government to the 9/11 attacks remain classified, but the Senate recently unanimously passed a bill exposing Saudi Arabia to lawsuits by the families of those killed. Saudi Arabia's upcoming Initial Public Offering of less than five percent of Aramco, their \$2 tril-

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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*The Northcountry Chronicle*

# Undemocratic Democrats

by William Marvel

For those of us who are disgusted with politics as usual, 2016 is threatening to become another of those frustrating election years that are all too common in history. Both the major political parties have adopted rules that are specifically designed to slant the process in favor of establishment candidates, and one of those parties has succeeded remarkably in that respect. Unfortunately, it's the party we thought might relieve us from the curse of establishment politicians.

Republicans operate under a mixed primary system of winner-take-all states and states where delegates are distributed proportionally. Their process usually favors big-name candidates from larger, winner-take-all states. That helps explain the persistence this year among Republican candidates from Ohio and Florida, which are the most populous of the winner-take-all states.

We are accustomed to Republicans favoring the bigwigs, however. Democrats are supposed to be more ... well ... democratic. They do apply what party officials proudly proclaim to be a proportional primary formula, but it re-

ally isn't quite that way.

One of the manipulative aspects of the presumed proportionality of Democratic primaries is the 15-percent threshold for winning any delegates at all. That automatically weeds out anyone beyond the first six candidates, and favors big winners. If there are already fewer than seven candidates, and some of them poll less than 15 percent, their portions of the delegate pool go to the top vote-getters. That may be how Hillary Clinton won Nevada with less than 53 percent of the county-wide votes but took more than 57 percent of the pledged, regular delegates, while Sanders saw his 47-percent showing translate into 43 percent of those delegates.

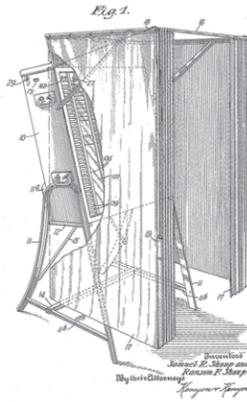
The phony proportionality of the Democratic primaries is aggravated by superdelegates. At last month's Nevada convention, superdelegates widened the appearance of Clinton's relatively narrow margin in that state even further, to 58 percent over 37 percent for Sanders. The remaining 5 percent, although technically uncommitted, are usually counted to Clinton's credit in media reports, making her slim victory seem overwhelming. That distortion is crucial to winning future prima-

ries.

In 1984 — a great year for political hypocrisy — the Democrats invented superdelegates to increase party control over the common voters. This year, in New Hampshire, Sanders trounced Clinton 60 percent to 37 percent among primary voters, but superdelegates still gave Clinton a majority of the state's overall delegates. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the Florida congresswoman who chairs the Democratic National Committee, admitted in the wake of our primary that her party created superdelegates "really to make sure that party officials and elected officials don't have to be in a position where they are running against grassroots activists."

I suppose she referred to grassroots activists like Barack Obama, whose new party ethics rules Schultz has quietly expunged from the DNC, allowing lobbyists to once again buy party influence. Schultz is herself well compensated by such lobbyists for her de-

fense of payday-loan Shylocks, in opposition to Obama's efforts to curb predatory lending practices; she is fighting a primary battle right now against one of those grassroots activists, whom she scorns as "an outsider." Despite her pretensions to neutrality, a politician of Schultz's stripe naturally supports the ultimate insider, Clinton, and Schultz's decisions on information access and debate schedules have reflected her bias.



A pervasive devotion to simplistic sensationalism in corporate media also slants the news toward establishment candidates, as the very first primary-season outcome of 2016 illustrated.

Clinton entered the Iowa caucuses amid predictions that she was the lopsided favorite, but even in that environment, where it's so difficult for individual votes to count, Sanders came within a hair's breadth of beating her. Not a peep was heard in the mainstream media about that near-upset; instead, it was all about Hillary's "victory."

The gnomes of the Democratic Party revel in the news outlets' deceptive graphs of the race for the nomination, which always superimpose Clinton's overwhelming majority of superdelegates over the results of each state primary. That creates the illusion that Sanders was defeated even when he beat Clinton soundly, and that helps her immensely. Too many Americans cast their votes for stupid reasons, and few are more foolish — or more common — than the simple desire to support a winner. It's an inclination our species acquired in the Stone Age, refined in feudal times, and sanctified through sports-team loyalty. That atavistic impulse lends superdelegates their real power.

Schultz is correct when she claims that superdelegates have only a slim chance of deciding a nomination at the convention. What she does not admit is that their real purpose is to create an atmosphere of inevitability for machine candidates like Clinton from the very beginning of the primary cycle. That will help nominate the Democrat who most closely resembles a Republican, increasing the odds of party victory but depriving Americans of any hope for systemic change.

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

lion state-owned oil company, will only further the cycle of our service members protecting our oil dependent lifestyle from the non-existential threats oil revenue helps spawn like Al Qaeda and the Islamic State. Oil is an internationally traded commodity and therefore the technological innovations that allowed us to surpass Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil producer will not change these

dynamics. Furthermore, Exxon Mobile, the world's largest publicly traded energy-company, projects global oil demand will grow by over 13 percent to 109 barrels a day by 2040.

Paradoxically, our oil consumption is making climate change — the only existential threat with the ability to change our physical borders — fiercer. As a harbinger of things to come, a \$48 million

federal grant has been allocated to resettle residents of Isle de Jean Charles in southeastern Louisiana due to rising tides. While New England's regional power grid remains the nation's most oil reliant, the New Hampshire Coastal Risk and Hazards Commission's recent draft report summarizes our coastal vulnerabilities from an expected sea level rise between 0.6 and 2.0 feet by 2050 and be-

tween 1.6 to 6.6 feet by 2100. Meanwhile, the National Renewable Energy Lab recently found rooftop solar alone could support more than 40 percent of New Hampshire's electricity needs and it is well established that energy efficiency improvements are the cheapest energy source. The International Energy Agency projects global oil demand could drop by 22 percent to 74 barrels a day by

2040 if sustainable alternatives are pursued to avoid the most devastating climate change impacts.

I wear a KIA memorial bracelet to never forget my teammate's sacrifice. I have come to terms with me being alive and him not by trying to prevent other service members from dying for the same cause. As a City Councilor, I will continue to advocate for sustainable initiatives like rooftop solar

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## How Much Does It Cost To Buy A Public University's Integrity?

by Jim Hightower

First came withering hoots of laughter when the honchos of George Mason University named their law school the "Antonin Scalia School Of Law." Yes, the acronym for that spelled ASSOL — an honor Scalia might've merited, but very embarrassing for the university.

Even though administrators quickly changed the name to the Scalia Law School, their embarrassment turned into shame, for it turns out they had sold the nam-

ing rights — to none other than multibillionaire right-wing extremist, Charles Koch!

For years, Koch and other moneyed corporatists have quietly pumped millions into a couple of pseudo-academic centers on campus to promote their laissez-faire ideology. But here was Virginia's largest public university letting the infamous Koch brother and one other un-named right-winger give \$30 million in exchange for branding George Mason's law school — one of the university's core academic components —

with Scalia's name.

Students and faculty rebelled at the idea that the integrity of their university, supposedly a center of enlightenment and erudition, was to be identified with a judge notorious for veering into racist and homophobic rants, and for being the Supreme Court's most obsequious servant of plutocratic corporate rule. Rebellion turned to fury when it was learned that the right-wingers' "donation" also required school officials to commit taxpayer money to finance 12 new professorships and two

new centers to promote the Koch brothers' fantasies of free-market plutocracy.

The university's president calls this perfidious transaction a simple "naming gift." But who is he to put the name of the people's law school up for sale? And why was it sold in a secret, no-bid process? Koch was not making a gift, he was buying a public asset, including the university's integrity.

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[Note: Readers may recall that under then-Dean Dan Innis — who, having failed to gain the

Republican nomination for Congressman from the First District now aspires to serve the public in the State Senate — the University of New Hampshire's Whittemore School of Business sold its very identity to a man who helped engineer the financial catastrophe from which we all still suffer. In comparison, we'd say George Mason came out less-sullied. — The Ed.]

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arrays downtown, building energy efficiency improvement programs, and even banning plastic grocery bags to raise awareness that most single-use plastics are petroleum based. As a veteran who proudly served alongside less than 1 percent of Americans, I will continue to offer my perspective on the ongoing fifteen years of our military being at war.

Josh Denton  
Portsmouth, N.H.

Josh:

Military service is no prerequisite to the voicing of opinions on foreign policy. That said, it does often offer a much-needed perspective, as you so often demonstrate. Please continue.

The Editor

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### The Long Lines at the Airport

To the Editor:

When you buy an airplane ticket part of the price is a tax Congress imposed to pay for the security checks by the Transportation Security Agency or TSA. Since 2013, Congress has diverted part of those taxes for deficit reduction and the highway trust fund. This has led to the loss of 4,000 TSA jobs and the long lines getting through security this summer.

Since the 2010 election the Republican House of Representatives has cared more about preserving tax cuts for the rich than roads, bridges, the zika virus, ebola or the security of airline passengers. They do not have to worry

about long lines because they get treated differently than you or I. Until you vote these bums out of office, demand they and their staff get in the slow line with the coach passengers. If they had to wait in line for two hours every weekend they fly home maybe they would return those tax dollars they stole from the TSA budget and make us all a little safer.

Walter Hamilton  
Portsmouth N.H.

Walter:

Frankly, we've ignored this issue because the alleged editor rarely leaves town, much less the Earth's surface. Thanks for clarifying the cause of all these airport horror stories.

The Editor

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### Victory or Trickery?

To the Editor:

There is enormous relief for the people of New Hampshire and the communities that were facing the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline: Kinder Morgan's subsidiary, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, has withdrawn its Certificate of Application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC]. These communities were threatened by decreased property values, risk of explosions, and gas leaks polluting air, water, and soil, to name a few. Opposition has been almost unanimous for all of the Towns in the pipeline's proposed path. Today, there is a collective sigh

of relief. The threat seems to have evaporated.

But the win achieved with Kinder Morgan's withdrawal is temporary and partial. Temporary because it lasts only until the next threat — and there will be other threats: Nestle taking our water, the spreading of sludge causing cancer clusters and contaminated drinking water, Kinder Morgan or some other pipeline company submitting a new application to transport fracked gas through our communities, industrial-scale wind and solar projects covering every ridgeline and farm across our pristine state.

And it's partial, because we're no better off than we were before the proposed pipeline. Communities of the Granite State are still resource colonies to be profited from against our will, whenever a corporation sets its sights on us. That has not changed.

Regulatory strategies do not actually stop our communities from being resource colonies to be profited from against our will. Rather than gaining victory, regulations are a kind of trickery. It's trickery because we're often deceived into thinking we the people have gained any meaningful control over our own communities.

Regulatory efforts do not assert the right of local people to decide what happens within our local communities. These efforts do not address the fact that corporations like Kinder Morgan do what they

do because they have the privilege of claimed "rights" to profit, which are elevated above our inherent and unalienable rights to the peaceful enjoyment of our homes, to access uncontaminated water, air and soil, and to protect our health, safety and welfare. In other words, our right to self-govern.

The regulations we think are protecting us continue, instead, to permit and legalize harmful activities against humans and the ecosystems of which we are a part. These regulations continue to deny people the authority to make local governing decisions that prohibit harmful activities altogether. When we participate in that regulatory scheme, we legitimize it. We lose precious time with our families, time from work to attend meetings and hearings, we lose income from that time off, and endure extreme stress while our most sacred place — our homes and communities — are threatened. All the while developers hire lobbyists, lawyers, and offers bribes of jobs and revenue — simply a tax write-off for them.

We are unable to create the kind of communities we want to live in because "our" state governing agencies still wield preemptive power over our communities, preventing us from adopting local laws that provide greater protections than state law.

Let's not mistake trickery for victory. If the withdrawal of the NED application to FERC had

really been in response to local governing authority, the application would have been withdrawn immediately after Town Meetings.

Until we assert our right of local community self-government, and protect our communities from corporate harms by exercising that right, the best we will get are respites between assaults. Let's keep our sleeves rolled up. Let's move forward in solidarity to fight for our community rights: our right to collectively decide what happens where we live. Did we experience relief with the NED withdrawal? Yes. Victory? No.

Learn more about how we can advocate for our right to decide what happens in the places where we live by attending a free New Hampshire Community Rights Network (NHCRN) Community Rights Awareness Workshop. You can visit NHCRN on their website at [www.nhcommunityrights.org](http://www.nhcommunityrights.org), or contact them by email at [info@nhcommunityrights.org](mailto:info@nhcommunityrights.org).

Michelle Sanborn  
Alexandria, N.H.

Michelle:

Thank you for this update from NHCRN, and for the vital work it does.

Greed never sleeps.

The Editor

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"We appreciate the more timely receipt of the paper! Please renew our subscription."

C.Z., Galena, Ill.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 12	MONDAY, JUNE 13	TUESDAY, JUNE 14	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15	THURSDAY, JUNE 16	FRIDAY, JUNE 17	SATURDAY, JUNE 18
<p><b>2011</b>—Stabbed in the arm in a bar fight, Sean "Eddard Stark" Bean declines hospitalization and orders another drink.</p> <p><b>2010</b>—In his first Major League at-bat, Daniel Nava hits a grand slam home run for the Red Sox.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—George W.[MD] Bush finds a way to fall off of a Segway.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Energy Department admits that two hard drives holding top-secret data on disarming and dismantling nuclear weapons have been missing for over a month.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—G.W.[MD] Bush announces.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—President Reagan, failing to recognize the only black person in his Cabinet, calls Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce "Mr. Mayor."</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Radical labor organizer Saul Alinsky dies in California.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Pittsburgh Pirate Dock Ellis, tripping balls, pitches a no-hitter.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Interracial marriage becomes legal in the U.S., thanks to the Supreme Court.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Medgar Evers is shot and killed in Mississippi; his murderer is convicted 31 years later.</p> <p><b>1957</b>—"We have exactly 342 men," says General Samuel T. Williams, head of the U.S. MAAG, Vietnam, "the number allowed by the Geneva Armistice Conference. It would be a breeze if we had more."</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Serge Voronoff performs the first transplant of simian testicular tissue into a human.</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—Congress apologizes for having failed to pass 200 anti-lynching bills between 1882 and 1968.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—"His [Joe Wilson's] wife is in the [CIA] and is a WMD analyst," Dep. Sec. of State Richard Armitage tells Bob Woodward. "How about that_s_t?"</p> <p><b>1989</b>—President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush vetoes a raise in the minimum wage.</p> <p><b>1985</b>—Thomas L. Slade and son William are among passengers hijacked on a flight from Beirut, their second such experience in three days.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—<i>Pioneer 10</i> exits the solar system.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—<i>Pentagon Papers</i> are published.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—A U.S. helicopter crew blasts a Vietnamese command post, killing Saigon's Police Chief. It's an accident.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—The Supreme Court issues its <i>Miranda</i> decision.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—As SDS meets in Port Huron and the civil rights movement heats up, <i>Newsweek</i> reports that students are "apathetic."</p> <p><b>1944</b>—News reports say Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Penn.) gave FDR a letter-opener made from the arm bone of a dead Japanese soldier.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—German V-1 "buzz-bomb" attacks on England start.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The German sub <i>U-202</i> lands eight Nazi saboteurs at Amagansett on Long Island.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—The U.S. Post Office rules children may no longer be shipped by Parcel Post.</p>	<p><b>2001</b>—Dennis Koslowski throws his wife Karen a \$2.1 million 40th birthday party on Sardinia, half of it covered by Tyco International.</p> <p><b>1996</b>—The FBI says the Clinton White House has unjustifiably obtained files on 408 people.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Argentina surrenders the Falklands to Britain.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a bill adding "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Sen. Joe McCarthy (R-Bourbon) accuses Pres. Eisenhower and Gen. George Marshall of serving the policies of the Kremlin.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—UNIVAC, the first commercial computer, is unveiled.</p> <p><b>1949</b>—The U.S. sends Albert II, a rhesus monkey, into space.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—The Supreme Court rules that children cannot be forced to salute the flag if it offends their religious beliefs.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The bazooka goes into production in Bridgeport, Conn.</p> <p><b>1928</b>—Ernesto "Che" Guevara is born in Argentina.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—In San Pedro, Calif., the IWW labor hall is raided; children are scalded and the hall demolished.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Alcock and Brown leave Newfoundland for the first successful flight across the Atlantic.</p> <p><b>1905</b>—Russian sailors aboard the battleship <i>Potemkin</i> mutiny.</p> <p><b>1662</b>—Former Mass. Governor Henry Vane [1636-37] is beheaded in the Tower of London.</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—Accounting firm Arthur Anderson is convicted of obstructing justice by impeding an investigation into G.W.[MD] Bush's top financial contributor, Enron.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—Vice President Dan Quayle ensures his rightful place in history by advising a spelling bee contestant to add an extra 'e' to 'potato.'</p> <p><b>1972</b>—A Cathay Pacific plane breaks up over Pleiku, Vietnam. Probable cause: a bomb placed by a Thai cop.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Gov. Reagan (R-Calif.) signs a bill liberalizing abortion laws.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—A mob of thousands drags three black circus workers from the Duluth, Minn. jail; arrested for a rape that didn't happen, they're lynched.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman are charged with conspiring to "induce persons not to register" for the draft.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—At Bud Bagsak in the Philippines, designer John Browning tests his new .45 pistol on Moro rebels.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—The side-wheeler <i>General Slocum</i> burns during an excursion on New York City's East River. Of the 1,300 aboard, more than 1,000 die.</p> <p><b>1859</b>—Near Vancouver, American Lyman Cutlar shoots a pig belonging to Charles Griffin, an Irishman, causing a U.S./British military stand-off lasting 12 years.</p> <p><b>1648</b>—Found guilty by John Winthrop and other Boston worthies, Margaret Jones of Charlestown is hanged for witchcraft.</p>	<p><b>2015</b>—Donald Trump announces his preposterous candidacy for President.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Bill Maher's TV show "Politically Incorrect" is cancelled for truth in advertising.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Energy Department finds missing top-secret computer hard drives in a location which had already been searched twice.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—Ronald Regan's Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger is indicted for lying to Congress.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—Atlanta's Otis Nixon steals six bases in one day.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Peace activists encircle the Pentagon.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—George "Superman" Reeves dies of a gunshot to the head.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—The first Bloomsday goes somewhat awry due to drunkenness.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—South Carolina electrocutes George J. Stinney Jr. for a double murder. He is 14 and weighs 90 lbs.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—Charlie Chaplin, 54, marries Oona O'Neill, 18.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—In an early demonstration of its self-destructive tendencies, the GOP nominates Herbert Hoover for a second term as President.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—In Canton, Ohio, Eugene V. Debs delivers an anti-draft speech so effective he is later charged with ten counts of sedition.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—In Dublin, James Joyce and Nora Barnack go for a walk which he finds particularly memorable.</p> <p><b>1745</b>—Forced led by Sir William Pepperrell of Kittery take Louisburg.</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—Dennis Koslowski is convicted of looting N.H.-based Tyco.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—Texas Democrats hold a party at a Texas hotel suite listed by Veep "Poppy" Bush as his residence.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Found hanging under a London bridge: R. Calvi, "God's banker."</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Nixon goes on hit Democrat-HQ at the Watergate, but a black Vietnam vet discovers them.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—N.H.'s Sherman Adams, Ike's Chief of Staff, admits he accepted a vicuña coat from Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—A false fire alarm prompts a DC-6 flight crew to activate a fire extinguisher, but they leave a relief valve open. CO, knocks out the flight crew; 43 die as the plane crashes in eastern Pennsylvania.</p> <p><b>1939</b>—In Paris, Eugene Weidmann becomes the last public victim of France's guillotine. Watching from a nearby window is future horror movie star Christopher Lee.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—Four G-men and one hood die in the Kansas City Massacre, three of shotgun wounds; lawmen carried the only shotguns present.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—Thousands of disgruntled Great War vets mass in front of the U.S. Capitol as the Senate votes not to pay their bonuses.</p> <p><b>1775</b>—The Battle of Bunker Hill is fought on Breed's Hill with New Hampshire men under Gen. John Stark using powder pilfered from Portsmouth's Fort William and Mary.</p>	<p><b>2009</b>—After a brawl at the Fish &amp; Game Social Club in Manchester, Mayor Frank Guinta steps over a broken-legged victim and leaves before the EMTs arrive.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—RIP I.F. Stone, who said "Every government is run by liars and nothing they say should be believed."</p> <p><b>1967</b>—On stage at Monterey, Calif., Jimi Hendrix sets his guitar afire.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Operation Arc Light begins: 27 B-5s fly from Guam to bomb the 'Nam. Two collide and crash due to navigational errors.</p> <p><b>1961</b>—Eddie Gaedel, only dwarf to get a base on balls in major league play, dies at 36 of a heart attack after a mugging.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—Louisiana Gov. Earl Long, though committed to a mental hospital, continues to govern.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—In Alabama, Albert Fuller murders Alfred Patterson. Patterson, Democratic candidate for State Attorney, had vowed to rid Phoenix City of vice, apparently alarming Fuller, a former sheriff.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—Truman OKs plausibly-deniable propaganda, sabotage, demolition, &amp; economic warfare by the CIA.</p> <p><b>1916</b>—In Australia, 6,000 rally against conscription.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—A <i>New York Times</i> critic says George Bernard Shaw's career has no promise.</p> <p><b>1869</b>—<i>New York Times</i> founder Henry J. Raymond, entertaining his mistress, dies of a stroke at 49.</p>
<p>5:40                      6:20</p> <p>11:52</p>	<p>6:40                      7:17</p> <p>12:23                      12:47</p>	<p>7:41                      8:10</p> <p>1:24                      1:42</p>	<p>8:38                      9:00</p> <p>2:22                      2:33</p>	<p>9:30                      9:46</p> <p>3:14                      3:21</p>	<p>10:18                      10:28</p> <p>4:01                      4:06</p>	<p>11:01                      11:07</p> <p>4:45                      4:47</p>
SUNDAY, JUNE 19	MONDAY, JUNE 20	TUESDAY, JUNE 21	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22	THURSDAY, JUNE 23	FRIDAY, JUNE 24	SATURDAY, JUNE 25
<p><b>2006</b>—Publisher and Bush appointee Phillip Merrill is discovered shot and weighted down in Chesapeake Bay, where the CIA's Bill Colby and John Paisley ended up; all suicides, though.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) leaks classified NSA intercepts to CNN and Fox News.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—Tobar, Nev.—named for a sign pointing to a saloon—is dealt a death blow by an exploding railroad car full of bombs en route to Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Muhammad Ali is convicted of refusing to be drafted.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Warned by Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) that his son's homosexuality would be exposed if he did not resign, Sen. Lester C. Hunt (D-Wyo.) shoots himself dead in his Senate office.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Julius and Ethel Rosenberg become the first native-born Americans executed for espionage.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—The U.S.S. <i>Charleston</i> shells Guam. The Spanish governor, unaware there's a war, apologizes for not having powder to return the salute.</p> <p><b>1879</b>—Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, at the Michigan Military Academy, tells his audience, "There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but, boys, it is all hell."</p> <p><b>1864</b>—The Portsmouth-built ship <i>Kearsarge</i> sinks the Confederate raider <i>Alabama</i> off Cherbourg.</p> <p><b>1865</b>—Two years and five months after the Emancipation Proclamation, slaves in Texas are freed. The date is now observed as "Juneteenth."</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney tells Larry King the insurgency in Iraq is "in the last throes."</p> <p><b>1973</b>—An American F-14 Tomcat shoots itself down with a Sparrow.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The sub <i>U.S.S. Tautog</i> acquires a permanent 2-degree bend in its sail and a big chunk of Soviet propeller during a "Crazy Ivan" by <i>K-108</i>.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Navy Lts. Clinton B. Johnson and Charles Hartman, flying prop-driven Douglas A-1 Skyraiders, down a MiG jet fighter over Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—The White House-Kremlin "Hot Line" is installed.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—For the second time in less than a fortnight, a Thor rocket malfunctions and drops an A-bomb into the South Pacific.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Lt. Gen. John W. "Iron Mike" O'Daniel arrives in Saigon to confer with French General Henri Navarre on how to bring peace to Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—KKK and pals attack striking African-American auto workers in Detroit; 34 die, 1,300 are arrested.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Four prisoners wearing Nazi uniforms drive out the main gate of Auschwitz in a stolen car belonging to the commandant.</p> <p><b>1941</b>—The sub <i>U.S.S. O-9</i> sinks east of the Isles of Shoals with 33 aboard.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—NAACP official Elbert Williams becomes the organization's first martyr, in Brownsville, Tenn.</p> <p><b>1923</b>—Pancho Villa dies, saying, "Don't let it end like this. Tell them I said something."</p>	<p><b>2006</b>—Fox News, citing Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.), reports that WMD have been found in Iraq.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Edgar Ray Killen, 80, is found guilty of manslaughter in the case of Schwerner, Goodman, and Chaney.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—Mike Melvill becomes the world's first non-governmental astronaut by piloting <i>SpaceShipOne</i> to an altitude of 100 kilometers.</p> <p><b>1994</b>—As Jose Martin and his wife drive near Madrid, a 3-lb. meteorite crashes through their windshield, bends the steering wheel, and lands in the back seat. She is unscathed, he gets a broken finger.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—The U.S. Supreme Court rules flag-burning is legal.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and James Chaney are murdered by the KKK in Mississippi.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The Japanese sub <i>I-25</i> fires 17 shells at Fort Stevens, Ore., damaging a phone cable.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—The Molly Maguires, 14 miners arrested by private detectives and prosecuted by private attorneys for the coal companies, are hanged by Pennsylvania officials, private executioners apparently being unavailable. Pardons for two arrive minutes too late.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Germans scuttle their captive fleet at Scapa Flow. Brits shoot nine Germans in lifeboats.</p> <p><b>1788</b>—New Hampshire becomes the 9th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. You're welcome.</p>	<p><b>2009</b>—Republican Governor Mark Sanford's spokesman says South Carolina's Chief Executive is hiking the Appalachian Trail.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—On the floor of the Senate, Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney tells Sen. Pat Leahy, "Go f_ k yourself."</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Enron execs admit they hid \$1.5 billion in illegal profits gouged from California ratepayers.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—John Mitchell, once the U.S.'s No. 1 lawman, begins serving 19 months in an Alabama prison.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The 24th Amendment gives 18-year-olds the vote.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—In Ohio, the Cuyahoga River burns for 20 minutes.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The U.S. Supreme Court rules the Post Office can't ban Henry Miller's <i>Tropic of Cancer</i>.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—The U.S. launches its tenth Vanguard missile. It is the eighth failure for the rocket.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—A paranoid fabric importer, aided by retired FBI agents, publishes <i>Red Channels</i>, a pamphlet alleging the radio and television racket is full of Communies.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Congress adopts the Flag Code,® thus replacing the embarrassingly Nazi-like "Flag Salute" with FDR's hand-on-heart gesture.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—The U.S. Army's V Corps, commanded by gout-ridden, 300-lb. Major General William Shafter, lands chaotically in Cuba.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—<i>HMS Victoria</i> accidentally sinks <i>HMS Camperdown</i>; 358 die.</p>	<p><b>2014</b>—The Market Basket board fires CEO Arthur T. Demoulas and brings in two new hires to take his place. They can't do his job, though.</p> <p><b>2008</b>—NASA's James Hansen nags Congress about the threat of global warming — again.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Roller coaster safety expert Richard H. Brown, 64, dies of injuries received in a fall in his own driveway.</p> <p><b>1995</b>—During a soundcheck, Dan Rather joins R.E.M. in "What's the Frequency, Ken?"</p> <p><b>1988</b>—NASA's James Hansen warns Congress of the seriousness of the threat of global warming.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—Edwin Walker, former Army General and Lee Harvey Oswald target, is arrested for fondling an undercover cop in a Dallas men's room.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Nixon's own tape recorder catches him telling H.R. Haldeman to order the CIA to block an FBI investigation of Watergate.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—A Douglas DC-4 and all 58 aboard disappear without a trace over Lake Michigan.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—The U.S. Senate overrides Truman's veto of the anti-labor Taft-Hartley Act.</p> <p><b>1937</b>—Having been shot in the jaw and seen the Communists suppress anarchists, George Orwell and his wife flee Spain.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—After Babe Ruth is thrown out for punching an umpire, Ernie Shore takes his place and shuts out 26 batters; Red Sox win, 4-0.</p>	<p><b>1994</b>—Air Force Lt. Col Arthur Holland, hot-dogging during air-show practice maneuvers, crashes a B-52 at Fairchild AFB in Washington State.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—All four engines fail on a British Airways 747 en route to Australia after flying through a cloud of volcanic ash. Fourteen minutes later, pilots are able to re-start the engines and land successfully.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Nixon's Special Counsel Charles Colson circulates the first White House "Enemies List."</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The Senate repeals the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Staging fails on the Kittery side of the Piscataqua River Bridge project. Four men fall 75 feet to their deaths, seven others are injured.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, tells a Long Island audience, "The enemy has lost whatever chance he had of taking South Vietnam by military force."</p> <p><b>1968</b>—The National Guard is called out to defend the nation's capitol from the people.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—Private pilot Kenneth Arnold reports "flying saucers" over Washington state.</p> <p><b>1902</b>—Deadline looming, Joseph Conrad upsets an oil lamp and accidentally burns the second installment of <i>The End of the Tether</i>.</p> <p><b>1524</b>—Countess Helena von Lupfen orders Stühlingen peasants to collect snail shells for her maids, triggering the German Peasants War.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—Lester G. Maddox, high-school dropout, bigot, proprietor of the Pickrick Cafeteria, and Democratic Governor of Georgia (1967-1971) succumbs to his own inherent loathsomeness.</p> <p><b>1998</b>—The Federal Reserve approves a merger between Travelers Group and Citicorp, melding investment banking, insurance, and FDIC-insured deposits, and violating Glass-Steagall. Similar mergers follow in self defense; ten years later: the Great Recession.</p> <p><b>1996</b>—A bomb kills 19 U.S. servicemen in Saudi Arabia.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—John Dean spills the Watergate beans to the Senate.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—God is expelled from school by the Supreme Court.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—The Korean War begins.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—France, under Marshall Pétain, surrenders to Germany.</p> <p><b>1906</b>—At Madison Square Garden, designed by Architect Stanford White, White is shot dead by Harry Thaw, with whose wife White had been taking liberties.</p> <p><b>1876</b>—Lakota, Arapahoe, and Cheyenne warriors wipe out General George Armstrong Custer, his brothers Thomas and Boston, the rest of the Seventh Cavalry, and AP reporter Mark Kellogg at Little Big Horn.</p> <p><b>1798</b>—Congress passes the second of the Alien and Sedition Acts, authorizing deportation of potentially dangerous aliens.</p>
<p>11:41                      11:43</p> <p>5:24                      5:25</p>	<p>12:18</p> <p>6:02                      6:03</p>	<p>12:20                      12:55</p> <p>6:39                      6:42</p>	<p>12:57                      1:32</p> <p>7:17                      7:22</p>	<p>1:36                      2:12</p> <p>7:57                      8:05</p>	<p>2:18                      2:55</p> <p>8:39                      8:52</p>	<p>3:04                      3:42</p> <p>9:24                      9:43</p>

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