

The Fortnightly Rant

Trapped in a Fun House Mirror

At the risk of stating the obvious, the biggest asset Hillary Clinton has going into November's election is not her record as First Lady, Senator, and Secretary of State, or even her hard-wired connection to the bureaucratic apparatus of the Democratic Party. It's that she isn't Donald Trump.

In fact, her résumé is probably more of a liability than an asset. For example, on Tuesday *The Hill* reported that the FBI had recovered 30 deleted Clinton emails involving the *Benghazi!!!* attack. Unless one of those emails is dated September 11, 2012, signed by Clinton, and reads "At last! Here's my chance to murder Ambassador Chris Stevens with plausible deniability," it is highly unlikely that this latest alleged revelation will add much to what is already known.

That, however, is entirely irrelevant; because a large swath of the public firmly believes that if Clinton shot Stevens personally, he'd just be one more victim on a very long list. From Arkansas drug smuggling to Travelgate to Whitewater to Vince Foster to ... hell, smoke some bath salts, record your hallucinations, and make up your own list of Hillary's crimes — it probably will not exceed, in length or in weirdness, what the Republicans have already concocted.

The Republicans' implacable and unreasoned hatred of Clinton would not in itself have been a valid reason to deny her the Democratic nomination. Caving in to bullies is bad practice in

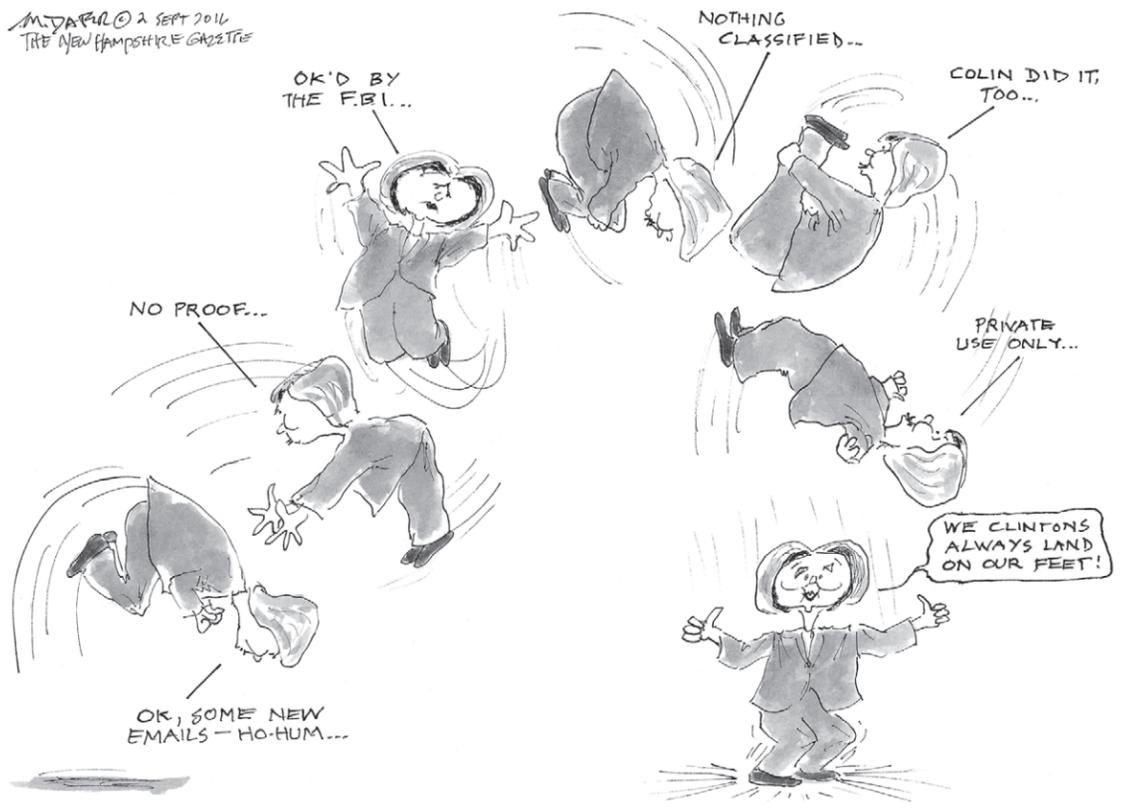
principle, and besides, it doesn't work: if Shirley Temple had been walking in Clinton's shoes for the past thirty years, the Republicans would compare *her* to Lucretia Borgia.

Superannuated Teenage DINO

Still, it is unfortunate that she is the nominee, because she and her husband are either incapable of, or uninterested in, doing anything unless that thing contains within it the potential to create the appearance of a conflict of interest. They're like superannuated teenagers, addicted to looking for trouble. Blaise Pascal said "All of humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone." The Clintons would reply, "where's the fun in that?"

Their frenzied pursuit of power and influence has put them in enough weird situations to keep an infinite number of House Committees busy spending money investigating mirages until the sun turns into a red dwarf. Here's a minor example, plucked at random from recent headlines: for two years in the early 1990s, Hillary was on the board of the French company LaFarge. Over the years LaFarge has made regular donations to the Clinton Foundation. The French newspaper *Le Monde* recently reported that LaFarge had "made arrangements" with ISIS [read: made payments] so that ISIS would allow its cement plant in Syria to keep operating. When the landscape is littered with factoids like that, Trump should stifle his urge to make stuff up — his fantasies

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THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE



HILLARY'S "SIMONE BILES" OLYMPIC EMAIL DEFENSE

only create a distraction.

Besides, she also might as well be a Republican — or *still* be a Republican (she was a Goldwater Girl, after all). She probably has more friends on Wall Street than Donald Trump and Mitt Romney combined, and it shows in her net worth. A large part of the \$153 million the pair have collected in speaking fees has come from the financial sector.

Leading up to the convention and for a while after it, Clinton did her best to coopt Bernie Sanders. Now she's getting her groove back. Recently she appointed Ken Salazar to head her White House transition team. He's on record saying "there's not a single case

where hydraulic fracking has created an environmental problem for anyone," and he's gung-ho for the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Two Tales of One Percent

A *Washington Post* headline on Wednesday did nothing to soothe the fears of Trump-loathers, declaring, "A record number of Americans now dislike Hillary Clinton." The meat of the piece was the presumably important fact that Clinton's unfavorable rating among American adults had hit a record high of 56 percent. The article goes on to note that that's a whopping one percent worse than her rating in June. The poll was done in partnership with *ABC News*, which headlined

its story, "Clinton Unpopularity at New High, on Par With Trump." *ABC* noted that the decline in Clinton's favorability follows "renewed attention" on her email server and the Clinton Foundation. *Quelle surprise.*

It's Not Over After It's Over

Sober assessments of the Electoral College put Trump's chances of winning on the verge of falling into single digits. Barring an indictment, it's Clinton's race to lose. Too bad an indictment can't be ruled out.

Presuming there isn't one, we're sure Donald Trump and his fervent followers will placidly accept whatever result the vote counters may produce.

The Alleged News®

Trapped in a Fun House Mirror, Part D'uh

In a hideous sort of symmetry with the case of his opponent, it is entirely likely that, if Donald Trump — whose die-hard base would never be sufficient to accomplish such a feat on its own — wins the election in November, his margin of victory will have come from votes cast against Hillary Clinton.

Eager though we are to begin ignoring a certain short-fingered vulgarian who currently has the national news media transfixed by his beady, darting eyes and curiously fish-like mouth, and go on to explore other, more enlightening and uplifting current events — NASCAR races, hot dog eating contests, and watching paint dry come to mind — it is our responsibility, as the nation's oldest surviving purveyor of what passes for news these days, to pay attention to what statisticians call "high impact, low probability" events like giant earth-impacting meteors, plagues, and encounters with extraterrestrial life forms. We

are, therefore, resigned to spend another nine weeks and change writing about a person whose name, in a properly-ordered universe, would be Ronald Rump.

It remains to be seen whether or not it will succeed, but Rump must be given credit for inventing an entirely new *modus operandi*. Although his campaign began with an unequivocal condemnation of illegal immigration, more recently his position on the matter has begun to change in mid-sentence. Let us call it quantum politics.

A recent Public Policy poll suggests his supporters may prove less flexible. Indeed, some of them may have passed the point of no return. It found that "31 percent of [Trump voters] support building a wall along the Atlantic Ocean to keep Muslims from entering the country from the Middle East."

Because nothing the candidate says seems to stay in effect from one meal to the next anyway, let us briefly ignore the center ring and

take a look at what's going on in the periphery of his campaign.

On August 23rd Robert Morrow, the Chairman of the Travis County, Texas Republican Party, appeared at a Donald Trump rally in Austin, Texas wearing a multi-colored jester's hat and carrying a large sign reading "Trump is a child rapist." Unusual for such a salacious charge involving high-profile political figures, this one has at least some basis in fact. A woman calling herself Jane Doe filed a civil lawsuit against Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein on June 20th in New York, charging both men with raping her in the summer of 1994, when she was 13 years old. Morrow was escorted out of the area by law enforcement personnel, acting at the behest of on-again, off-again Trump advisor Roger Stone.

Morrow's removal from the rally seems to signal a breach in what had once been a productive partnership: in 2015 Morrow and Stone co-authored a book titled,

The Clintons' War on Women. For an authoritative evaluation of that work, we checked out the one-star reviews on *Amazon*:

"The proof readers had to be in the third grade. He tells the truth about these evil people but some factual mistakes he makes hurt his credibility and bring into question how thorough his research was. For example, he states how the Clintons helped their good friend Terry McAuliffe get elected governor of West Virginia. Hello, he is the governor of Virginia, not West Virginia. It's actually a shame that such a poor job was done on this book because the topic, the Clintons' lying and their blatant hypocrisy, is important." — *Guy, April 25, 2016*

"Dedicated in part to David Koresh? Yep, this is an easy one star. Hillary Clinton is a disgusting person, but to blame her for a tragedy caused by the insanity of David Koresh at Waco is quite a reach if I have ever seen one. Done with this book." — *RYB513, April*

9, 2016

"It's the only book I've seen with footnotes referencing the *National Enquirer*." — *Mamlukman, January 25, 2016*

According to the website *TPM*, Morrow is running a write-in campaign for President, saying "I want to start having bikini contests on the South Lawn of the White House and wet T-shirt contests every Fourth of July."

Closer to home, Jerry DeLemus — the Trump campaign's New Hampshire co-chair for veterans who has *not* called for Hillary Clinton to be executed for treason by a firing squad — has pleaded guilty in Nevada August 25th to two felonies. The plea agreement uses language like "conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States," and "interstate travel with the intent to commit a crime of violence." In lay terms it could be boiled down to "being a

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from page one

doofus in possession of firearms." He will be sentenced on December 1st; he could get six years.

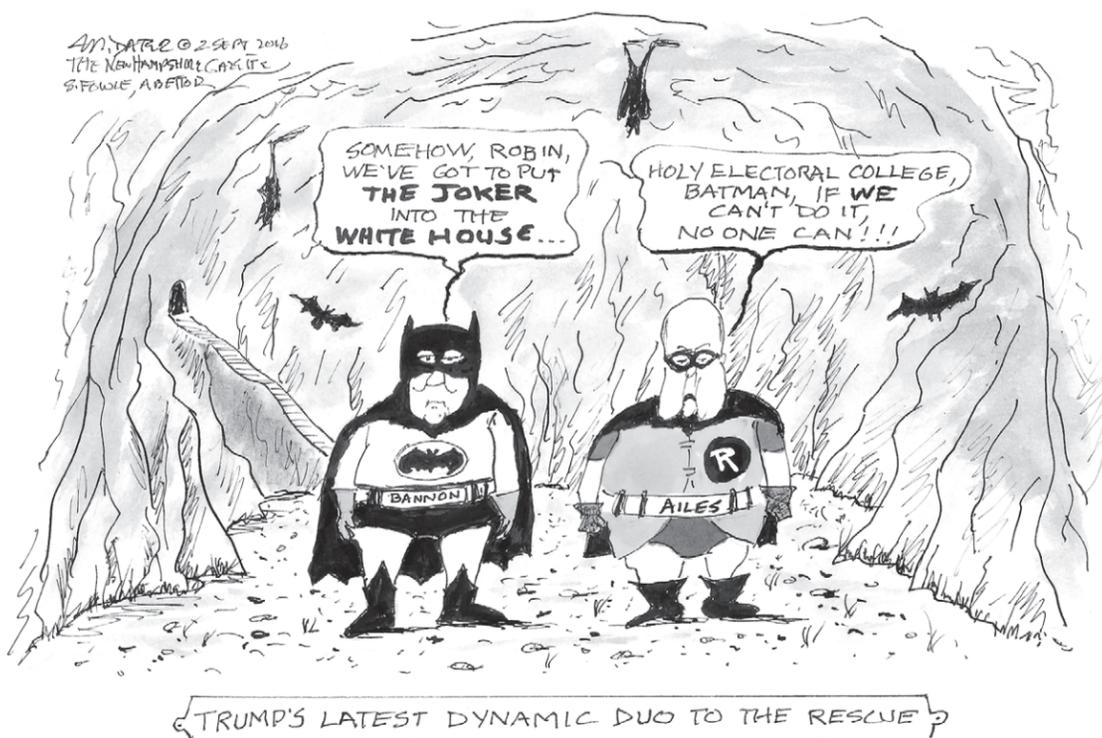
The Right Wing *Unz Review*, ever ready to exercise conservatives' right to psychologically project, posted a piece by Jared Taylor on August 12th headlined, "Atmosphere of Hate — How Come Liberals Get to Call for Trump's Assassination?" The article hardly lived up to its headline, consisting almost entirely of quotes from liberals expressing shock and dismay at vile things said or written by Right Wingers, followed by the citation of a single article at the *Huffington Post*, headlined "Sorry Liberals, A Violent Response To Trump Is As Logical As Any."

We are shocked — shocked — by this clear disregard of journalistic principles.

Language and Catastrophe

It is safe to say that the armed forces of the United States are the mightiest in the world. What good it does us having all that might may be open to question, but surely our nuclear missiles, bomber fleets, aircraft carrier groups, submarines, tanks, &c. &c., &c. — not to mention our outstanding soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guard — can, within the admittedly narrow scope of traditional state versus state warfare, defeat just about any likely opponent. One of the least-known, but equally formidable branches of our military, though, does not receive the recognition which it deserves: the team which edits the reports of the Pentagon's Inspector General.

Historically, the Defense Department has always played an important role in the maintenance and development of the American



This vividly-painted fiberglass eagle currently graces — if that's the proper term — the flowery little park off State Street behind the Piscataqua Savings Bank. A number of similar objects have recently appeared around town. They are all part of a fundraising effort being run by Veterans Count. A project of Easter Seals, Veterans Count professes to provide "critical and timely financial assistance and services to veterans, service members and their families to ensure their dignity, health and overall well-being." A survey of related news reports turned up no explanation for why a shortage of services for veterans exists. The recent revelation that the Pentagon has been fudging its books to cover up its inability to account for approximately \$6.5 trillion serves only to compound the mystery.

variant of the English language. We would provide a few samples here to support this observation, but those which spring to mind are half a century out of date, and, as a family newspaper, we try to avoid publishing obscenities.

Since the fundamental task of all armed forces is mayhem, destruction, and the general wreaking of havoc, military editors must be particularly adept at deploying euphemisms. Somewhere in the bowels of the Pentagon, an anonymous hero deserves a medal for titling an Inspector General's report, "Army General Funds Adjustments Not Adequately Documented or Supported."

How perfectly done: the casual reader might glance at that title and immediately fall into a deep sleep, never knowing that, in those 63 pages, lay an admission that the U.S. Army alone — never mind the Navy, Air Force, &c., &c. — isn't exactly sure what happened to 6.5 trillion dollars.

That amount is 11.34 greater than the Pentagon's annual bud-

get of \$573 billion. As it happens, the Pentagon's annual budget is approximately equal to the annual income of the entire population of New Hampshire.

The IG's report comes twenty years after Congress mandated that all Federal departments submit audits detailing what they've done with the taxpayers' money. The Pentagon has yet to comply.

Justice, Slow Wheels Thereof

The British newspaper *The Mirror* reported on August 17th that the families of Iraq war soldiers were trying to "establish whether a case could be brought against [former Prime Minister Tony] Blair or other senior British officials "who might have acted unlawfully or in excess of their powers." Some 179 British soldiers died in Iraq. The families raised £150,000 by crowd-funding. The money will be used to pay lawyers to scrutinize the 2.6 million-word Iraq Inquiry, more commonly known as the Chilcot Report.

Released on July 6th, the re-

port said that Saddam Hussein had not posed an urgent threat to British interests, that intelligence regarding weapons of mass destruction had been presented with unwarranted certainty, that peaceful alternatives to war had not been exhausted, that the United Kingdom and United States had undermined the authority of the United Nations Security Council, that the process of identifying the legal basis for the war was "far from satisfactory," and that the war had been unnecessary.

Rare Opportunity in Vermont

Astute readers of this newspaper may have discerned that its editor finds the job most enjoyable; inquiries about his relinquishing the reins get only some reference to his cold, dead hands.

Others wishing to experience the thrill of autonomous publication would do well to Google the *Hardwick Gazette*. That moderately-venerable paper, located in the southwestern corner of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, can be had, real estate and all, for a

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mere \$175.00 — though there is, of course, a catch: that sum is just the entry fee to an essay contest.

Provided there are enough entries, the paper will go to the author of the best 400-word essay outlining the entrant's "skills and vision for owning a paid weekly newspaper in the new millennium."

The contest was originally scheduled to end August 11. The rules contained a proviso that, if necessary to meet the required number of entries, the deadline could be extended up to 60 days. Ross Connelly, who bought the paper with his late wife, Susan Jarzyna, in 1986, has announced a 40-day extension, so you slackers have a few more weeks.

The lucky winner might even be so fortunate as to have for a Governor former Red Sox pitcher Bill "Spaceman" Lee. Drafted to run for that office by the Liberty Union Party, his slogan is, "So far left, we're right."

Adventures in Piety

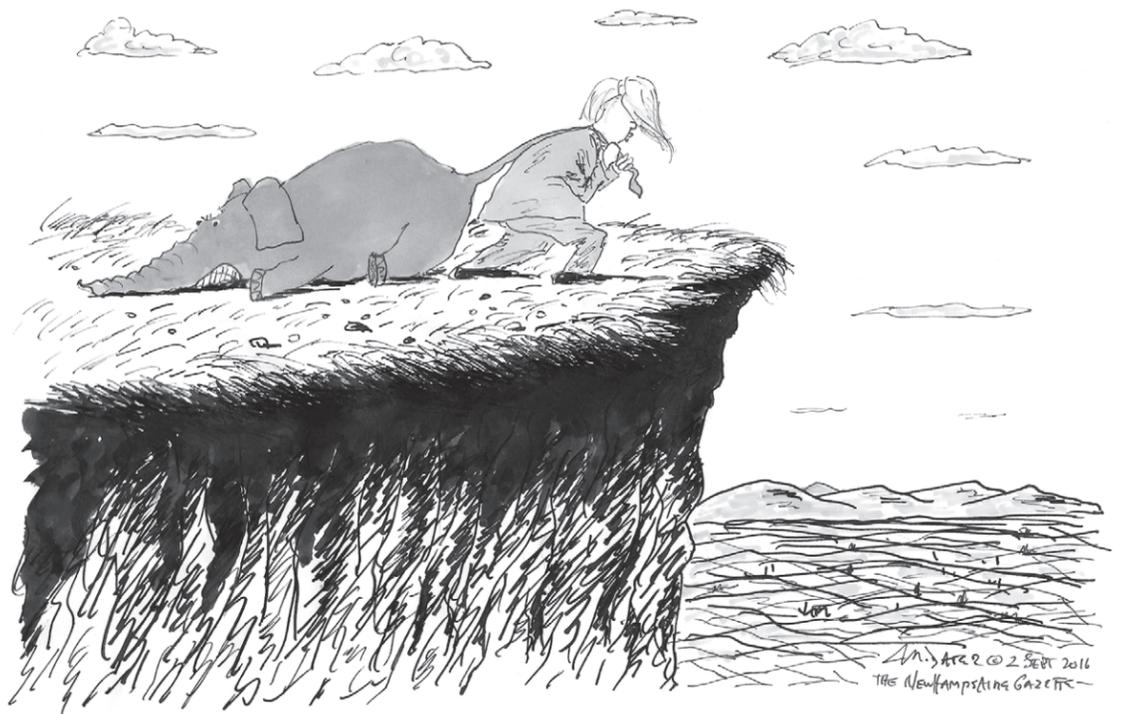
Last October Tony Perkins made the rather extraordinary claim that Hurricane Joaquin, which had just devastated parts of

the Bahamas, was "a sign of God's wrath." Such a claim would presuppose, of course, not only that such a deity existed, but that Perkins can read His mind. We know of no proof of either supposition.

Perkins, the president of the Family Research Council — a \$13 million-a-year business which pays no taxes thanks to the deftness of its tax lawyers — noted at the time that "those on the Left like to mock these things," but he was undeterred; the alleged Deity, he said, was "trying to send us a message" about *Roe v. Wade* and same-sex marriage.

Earlier this month Perkins revealed that his home was among the tens of thousands destroyed by the recent rains in Louisiana, which caused, in Perkins' words, a flood "of near-biblical proportions." He and his family are now living in their RV. No word yet on whether the Family Research Council might interpret the flood as a judgment on Perkins.

On the advice of its tax lawyers, no doubt, the Family Research Council operates a legislative action arm, the better to impose the religious beliefs of Perkins and



his ilk on heathens like us without getting in trouble with the IRS. Until May of 2015, that operation was run by a man named Josh Duggar. He resigned after it was revealed that, as a teenager, he had molested his underage sisters while they slept. More recently his name turned up on the client list of the adultery-facilitating website *Ashley Madison*.

In June, two days after the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Pastor Kenneth Adkins of Brunswick, Ga. — also referred to in media reports as "Bishop Adkins" — tweeted, "Dear Gays, Go sit down somewhere. I know y'all want some special attention; yall [sic] are sinners who need Jesus. This was an attack on America." Adkins was arrested last Friday by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation on one count of aggravated child molestation and one count of child molestation; the alleged victim was a boy under 16.

Libertarian Loses Liberty

In Charlotte, N.C., Uber driver and Tea Party leader Christian Hine will serve two years in prison, followed by eight years of probation, after pleading guilty to ten

felonies relating to the possession of child pornography. According to a sentencing memorandum, Hine was born in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire.

Unconquerable Sun Conquered

A Florida man who changed his name to Augustus Sol Invictus, meaning "Majestic Unconquerable Sun," and claims to be "the most dangerous Libertarian in America," lost his bid for the Libertarian nomination for U.S. Senate on Tuesday. He got just 26 percent of the vote, to Army veteran Paul Stanton's 74 percent. Stanton says he's "pro-peace" and wants to end U.S. involvement in the Middle East. Invictus, according to the *Miami Herald*, "usually speaks to audiences in a voice that sounds like John F. Kennedy but with the delivery of Malcolm X." Local political observers suspect that his boast about sacrificing a live goat and drinking its blood might account for the lopsided loss.

Drugs and the Deep State

Members of Congress, on June 2, 1972, heard Yale scholar and researcher Alfred W. McCoy testify that Nguyen Van Thieu,

Nguyen Cao Ky, and Tran Thien Khiem, the President, Vice President, and Prime Minister of our great anti-communist ally South Vietnam, were conspiring with the Corsican mafia and Florida's Tampa-based Trafficante crime family to import heroin into the U.S. from Southeast Asia's Golden Triangle. McCoy also published a book that year, titled *The Politics of Heroin* in Southeast Asia, documenting his charges.

Neither Congress nor the nation as a whole, it seems, were capable of handling that truth — whatever the extent to which anyone noticed, nobody did much of anything. The uncomfortable facts remain right where everybody left them.

Michael Hasty will host a discussion of these matters on Wednesday, September 7th, at the Portsmouth Public Library. The program, hosted by Seacoast 9/11 Questions, and titled, "Drugs and the U.S. Deep State: An examination of official complicity in the nation's heroin epidemic," will run from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The library is located at 175 Parrott Ave.



In a town with no shortage of land use boards, building codes, and inspectors, one might think that owners of real estate in newly-constructed buildings would be free from worries about mold growth resulting from construction errors. Apparently, though, one would be wrong. Oh, well; according to the economists, the cost of the demolition, the reconstruction — hell, even the lawsuits — will all contribute to a higher GDP.

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Do We Really Care About Vets?

To the Editor:
While recently listening to Ann Jones, the keynote speaker at the annual Veterans for Peace Convention in Berkeley, Calif., I learned how a number of corporations, politicians, and oligarchs falsely depict themselves as “supporting” our troops overseas and then, later, helping our veterans who have come home.

Dr. Ann Jones is the author of *They Were Soldiers: How the Wounded Return from America's Wars — the Untold Story*. One of the issues she addressed dealt with a supposedly pro-veterans group called Concerned Veterans of America [CVA]. A principal goal of this “veterans organization” is to provide veterans more options where they may go to receive medical services other than the Veterans Administration health care system, using a “Choice Card.” On first glance, this sounds good. On the other hand, Ms. Jones says this is a Trojan horse, as this Veterans Choice Card option has another aim in mind.

Who are the Concerned Veterans of America, who is funding them, and what is this other aim? It is none other than the Koch Brothers who seek to privatize not just public schools and Social Security, but the VA itself. No one denies the VA has had its share of problems, but it has worked well in the past and still does for a majority of our vets. What it needs is to be fully funded and supported and strengthened. Ostensibly,

CVA is a veterans organization, but the veterans and others who support privatizing the VA are essentially paid propagandists for oligarchs such as the Koch Brothers.

Another way that our veterans have been used involves the story of how some of the U.S.'s biggest pharmaceutical corporations pushed the use of opioids to “help our combat vets” in pain. This was Big Pharma at work. The drug industry persuaded the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) to support these “pain killers” for our veterans. By 2011, one-third of soldiers were on these “pain killers” (opioids). By 2011, the CDC said there was an opioid epidemic. Where then were all the politicians of today who said they “support our troops” five years ago? Dr. Jones cited as one of the chief culprits Purdue Pharma, which began to sell the opioid painkiller OxyContin in 1996.

In 2001, Purdue Pharma spent a large sum of money as part of a marketing plan that targeted the VA. Prior to 9/11, in 1997, a “front organization” for Big Pharma, the American Pain Association, launched a major advertising (propaganda) campaign for the safe and effective use of OxyContin for our veterans. Following 9/11, and the U.S.'s subsequent attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq, that meant there would be many returning vets with severe injuries. Big Pharma had struck gold, as Dr. Jones attested.

In 2007, Purdue Pharma pled guilty in a federal lawsuit to misbranding OxyContin “in an effort to mislead and defraud physicians and consumers,” and agreed to pay \$600 million in penalties. In reality, the risk of pain addiction from using opioids is very high. Big Pharma must be held accountable.

A lesson to be learned? It would appear that despite their claims of “supporting the troops,” while waving the flag, a significant number of politicians, corporations,

and wealthy individuals such as the Koch Brothers place profits and political power over the lives of our active service members and those veterans here at home.

Will Thomas, Coordinator
N.H. Veterans for Peace
Auburn, N.H.

Will:

A more damning example of hypocrisy than this would be awfully hard to imagine.

The Editor

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**On The Blink**

To the Editor:

“Don't trust the turn signals boys, follow the wheels.” My Driver Ed teacher is long gone, but I still follow Mr. Fehling's advice. It's the kind of advice that fits a lot of situations and it really works for politics. Take, for example, the Trump campaign, which has just signaled a new direction for their candidate. Things were, so to speak, “on the blink.” Corey Lewandowski was “on,” is “off.” Paul Manafort came “on,” is now “off.” Kellyanne Conway is now “on.” Furthermore, as was reported out in Wisconsin, Trump will stay the same — “I am who I am.”

He's right of course. All you have to do to find the real Donald Trump is “follow the wheels.” Donald has been a “rich boy” all his life. He was born a “rich boy” and he flamed out in childhood at “rich boy” private schools. He was a “rich boy” regular at the “very best” NYC clubs while John McCain rotted in Hanoi.

He's a “rich boy” businessman today — easy morals for the money he made off four bankruptcies and “those losers” — easy morals for three marriages and a mistress on the side. Time after time he comes across as a petulant and vindictive schoolyard bully mocking the losers who are in his way. And who are those losers — in addition to John McCain? Senators, Governors, any number of news reporters, Fortune 500 business leaders, Federal judges,

*Mash Notes,* **HATE MAIL**

Gold Star parents, and every dark haired, dark eyed child pulled from the rubble of Aleppo with a shout of joy that it lives.

A turn signal has a 50 percent chance of being wrong. The wheels always go where you point the car. Right now David Duke is sitting in Donald Trump's car and Trump hasn't said “Get out.” If you decide to get in Donald Trump's car just remember — some of the lug nuts are loose.

Larry Brown  
Milton, N.H.

~~~~~

Ayotte's Awkward Position

To the Editor,

U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte manages to come down with her feet planted firmly on both sides of an issue. With one foot, she sides with her party. With the other, she placates voters who hold the opposite view.

Recently, Ayotte caused widespread merriment and chortling throughout the political world when she announced that although she supported Donald Trump, she did not endorse him.

Support Trump, but not endorse him? Why do that? By supporting Trump, Ayotte appeases members of her party who demand her allegiance. In refusing to endorse Trump, Ayotte placates voters who dislike Trump in ever-increasing numbers.

That is a good example of a distinction without a difference. In either case, Ayotte will be voting for Trump, and her vote will work to make him President.

Ayotte also straddled the nomination of Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court. She refused to back a Senate vote on him, saying she is not a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee which decides whether or not to bring his nomination to the floor of the Senate for a vote. So, her views on Garland's nomination are irrelevant.

That way, Ayotte could please fellow Republicans by refusing to endorse Garland, and at the same time, pacify voters (a majority of whom back a Senate vote on his nomination) by claiming that she wasn't responsible for the decision. The fact of the matter is that her opinion on the Garland nomination does matter. If she forthrightly endorsed a vote on Garland, that would put pressure on GOP members of the Senate Judiciary Committee to move Garland's nomination to the floor for a vote.

Finally, Ayotte has also been on both sides of the background checks for gun safety issue. Realizing that 80 to 90 percent of New Hampshire citizens favor background checks, Ayotte came up with a contorted, obscure, and murky explanation claiming that she really has supported background checks. However, the facts clearly contradict that claim. To satisfy the gun lobby, Ayotte voted against the Manchin-Toomey background checks bill in the Senate when it came to a vote soon after the Newtown mass murder of 26 elementary school children and their teachers.

Ayotte would do well to remember that voters prefer clarity, action and progress, not mind-boggling prevarications by their senators.

Gary Patton
Hampton, N.H.

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**What a Pair ...**

To the Editor:

Donald Trump and Frank Guinta are quite the duo. Guinta fully endorsed Trump, because he recognized and admired someone just like him; both have problems telling the truth.

They both lie so profusely it's difficult to know when they are telling the truth. Politifact's research indicates only 4 percent of

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— Joni Mitchell (1943- ) from "Big Yellow Taxi"

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# And Other Correspondence

what Trump says is true.

Guinta lied for five years, claiming the \$355,000 he gave his campaign was his personal money. The FEC ruled 6-0 that it wasn't his personal money, in part, because his mother had written "loan" on the checks, making them illegal campaign contributions. Ironically, Guinta claimed in debates and political ads that it was his opponent, Carol Shea-Porter, who was lying. Trump falsely claimed his failing businesses were "huge" successes, won't pay his campaign debt to Farmington, New Hampshire (for extra security services), and stiffed contractors who labor to construct his buildings.

When Trump lies, Frank hides. When Frank lies, Trump doesn't notice or care. He's too busy doing it himself.

Bob Perry  
Strafford, N.H.

### Ewing Pens an Apologetic

To the Editor:

President Obama and Hillary Clinton founded ISIS in the sense that their policies, neglect, and assistance enabled ISIS to become a well-armed, well-trained, wealthy, and effective fighting force. Without Obama's and Hillary's help ISIS would still be the weak, ineffective terrorist group that President Obama declared to be the "JV" team.

No rational person believes that Trump was saying that Obama and Hillary were in the room when Muslims decided to try to establish the 1400 year Muslim goal of a Caliphate. The people suggesting that this is what Trump meant (the media, other Democrats, and others in the political establishment) are intentionally trying to deceive people.

Despite the advice of American military leaders who knew that Iraq would destabilize without our strong presence and influence,

President Obama pulled American forces out of a stable Iraq. We know Iraq was stable because President Obama, Vice-President Biden, and other leaders told us so.

Unfortunately our military leaders were correct; Iraq quickly destabilized, creating an environment in which ISIS could succeed. Then Obama and Hillary funded, armed and trained Syrian opposition forces most of whom quickly joined ISIS taking their weapons and training with them. With better arms and more trained forces ISIS successfully conquered major areas in Iraq. ISIS's success enabled more successful recruiting efforts, the capture of thousands of major American weapons, and greatly increased ISIS's wealth from looted banks, homes, businesses, etc., and control of the oil fields.

After the world watched ISIS commit many atrocities, President Obama felt compelled to appear to oppose ISIS. But President Obama only allowed token efforts; the relatively few "airstrikes" that were allowed often weren't allowed to attack ISIS forces. The lives of American men and women were put in jeopardy, but they weren't allowed to significantly damage ISIS which continued to grow more powerful.

No, President Obama and Hillary weren't in the room when ISIS's plans were made, but they essentially "founded" the current version of ISIS. Driven by domestic political considerations and a naïve worldview, President Obama and Hillary Clinton helped ISIS become the cruel, powerful killing and enslaving force that threatens the lives of people around the world.

Don Ewing  
Meredith, N.H.

Don:  
*A fortnight ago you attacked Hil-*

*lary Clinton on substantive grounds: her use of allies within the Democratic Party to subvert voters' wishes. You now appear to have recognized the rampant lunacy of a recent pronouncement from your candidate and devised an elaborate narrative to make it slightly more plausible.*

*Your effort is doomed, of course, because it presumes that history began on January 20, 2009. Be careful, though — if you continue to tread the path you are following, you may find yourself face-to-face with reality.*

The Editor

### Isn't It Ironic?

To the Editor:

How ironic it was to hear Donald Trump in New Hampshire on Thursday claim he is not a racist, the day after his good friend and supporter, Maine Gov. Paul LePage, was spouting his racist comments in North Berwick, Maine, about black and Latino drug dealers. Here we have two friends both expressing well documented racist comments for years, and claiming they are not racists. As the saying goes, "show me your friends and I will tell you what you are."

As we know, Donald Trump has been called a racist even by members of his own party, including Paul Ryan, the Speaker of the House. He has been making racist comments about blacks, Hispanics and others throughout his campaign. Also well documented is his racist practice of coding applications for people seeking to rent his apartments, with a C for colored. Those with a C were told there were no openings, even though white people applying at the same time were rented apartments. This is a practice that Trump's father also used; the apple does not fall far from the tree in the Trump family.

Donald Trump's and Paul LePage are birds of a feather who share common behavior patterns and philosophical, political

and social ideologies. Watching them both respond so forcefully to the claims that they are racist, reminds me of the often quoted Shakespeare line, "Methinks thou dost protest too much." They can protest as often and loud as they like, but their words and actions speak even louder than their hollow denials.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.

### Ayotte's Irresponsibility

To the Editor:

Kelly Ayotte cultivates a reputation as a prominent voice on national security issues and a strong supporter of our servicemen and women and veterans. Yet she supports Donald Trump even while implying that she doesn't trust him on national security by saying "I think he'll surround himself, I assume, with people who will help him understand."

Let's examine the implications of those tentative words and hopeful ideas. "I think (though I am not sure) he'll surround himself, I assume, (because that what a normal person would do) with people (would they be capable and knowledgeable?) who will help him understand." Could even the best and the brightest help a man who is proud that he makes decisions without input from others and has the attention span of a nine-year old, understand the complex issues vital to our national security? Remember he said he knows more about ISIS than our generals.

Senator Ayotte doesn't agree with Donald Trump's hateful and divisive remarks or trust him to keep the country safe, yet is terrified of alienating his avid supporters because she needs their votes in this election. Her willingness to let hatred and racism explode in this country and risk destabilizing the Western World for her own immediate gain is not only shortsighted, it is irresponsible. Whether Ayotte and the other



Republican leaders who support him win or lose, their personal integrity and political careers will be forever tainted.

When our leaders fail us, it is up to the intelligent, thinking, conscientious voters to do the right thing, in this case by voting out Republicans who don't understand that there is more at stake here for the country and for the party than this one election. We need some responsible adults in the room.

Cynthia Muse  
Rye, N.H.

### Another Texan Heard From

To the Editor:

The main source of terrorism is the country of Iran, yet Obama acted like a potted plant during the nuclear treaty negotiations in which he gave nearly all advantages to Iran and very little to us. Also, our American schools, hospitals and even prisons are already over-crowded, yet Obama demanded that thousands of unknown foreigners would be sent into this country without compliance to the federal laws that were originally created to protect us. Does anybody have the common sense to believe that Obama is good for this country?

Hillary Clinton did not even try to authorize a rescue mission to save four innocent Americans including U.S. Consulate Chris Stevens. Instead, she preferred

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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*The Northcountry Chronicle*

# Oh, for Teddy Roosevelt

by William Marvel

While the notion of majority rule is purportedly the underlying concept of our political system, it really isn't practiced very often except as a form of oppression. Not that many decades ago a white majority exercised its prejudice on most racial minorities with a maze of confining legal impediments, even while boasting the American ideals of freedom and equality. Today a more heterogeneous majority that pretends to espouse universal tolerance demonstrates the narrow limits of that tolerance with laws specifically designed to punish any who disagree. While unanimity typifies most political bodies on most issues, from local boards to the halls of Congress a tyrannous majority usually decides the matters that mean the most. Might makes right.

Despite official reverence for the sledgehammer of majority rule, majorities are not that common. In our diverse and crowded society, what masquerade as majorities are generally mere coalitions assembled to defeat common rivals. Referenda and elections that are reduced to paired questions or candidates

offer the least opportunity for peaceful resolution, and pose the greatest potential for cyclical conflict and eventual alienation.

The institutionalized sanctity of the majority undermined democracy in 1824, when four major candidates ran for president. Andrew Jackson topped the polls with 41 percent of the popular vote — more than Abraham Lincoln managed in 1860 — but Jackson lacked the disproportionate electoral votes that put Lincoln in the White House. The Twelfth Amendment dictates that if no candidate wins a majority of the electoral college, the election must go to the House of Representatives, and that's what happened in 1824. Henry Clay, the trailing candidate in the presidential race, swung his supporters to John Quincy Adams, who was therefore elected, and in apparent payment Adams appointed Clay secretary of state.

In 1863 more than 49 percent of New Hampshire voters backed Democrat Ira Eastman for governor. Another Democrat who had secretly turned Republican ran as a spoiler, drawing off about seven percent of a party that enjoyed clear statewide dominance, and that kept Eastman a fraction of a

percent below a popular majority. Without a majority the election had to go to the legislature, which still bulged with Republicans who had been elected the previous year. Partisan politicians usually prove more loyal to their party than to the people, and those Republicans installed their man over the more popular Democrat.

A party-line Supreme Court decision prevented a reliable determination of who really won the 2000 election, but Al Gore's partisans have always blamed the third-party candidacy of Ralph Nader for costing Gore an unquestionable majority. The culprit Gore's advocates should have targeted was the Twelfth Amendment, which insists on a majority of the electoral college, even when it conflicts with a popular majority. Instead, those disgruntled Democrats effectively argued that the American voter should only have two choices.

While the Quaker tradition of consensus decision-making is the most satisfying, it is clearly too slow and cumbersome for adoption by large and impatient populations. The next-best solution, however, is not rule by majority but rule by plurality, which increases the odds that less visible

constituencies will have at least some political voice. Third parties were once the means of injecting vitality and relevance into American politics, partly through the influence they wielded among adherents of the major parties and partly through their capacity to recruit disaffected voters from those parties. The Republican Party of today began as such a third party, offering refuge to unhappy Democrats and collecting the more affluent fugitives from the moribund Whig and American organizations.

Now, Democrats and Republicans have crafted a presidential maze that discourages competition. Saddled with two entrenched, self-perpetuating parties, most Americans are doomed to eternal frustration and domination by corporate interests. When the opposing presidential candidates strive to resemble each other, elections leave no choice at all; when the candidates instead gravitate to the extremes, the voters face the disagreeable but increasingly common need to select the lesser of two evils. Either scenario disenfranchises most of the public, and the primaries of 2016 have demonstrated that the frustration has reached epic levels.

No quadrennial in over a century has offered such an open field for third parties. Both major organizations have demonstrated their inability to appeal to a majority of the electorate except by depriving voters of any third choice. Republicans have split into renegades and regulars, and the sans-culottes have taken up their pitchforks and rolled out the tumbrels. The aristocracy prevailed among the Democrats — whose party leaders betrayed their rank and file with crooked intraparty manipulation, just as the Republican National Committee scuttled Teddy Roosevelt's nomination in 1912. Now those Democratic puppeteers expect their victims to reward that treachery by electing the beneficiary of their dishonesty.

Record numbers of voters are seriously searching for another choice, unwilling to waste their presidential votes on the crazy or the corrupt — the reckless or the ruthless. Happily, independent voters and defectors from either party can readily find a credible alternative. The process could actually dismantle the makeshift majorities on either side, offering long-ignored pluralities a rare chance for satisfaction.

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

to abandon them, create new lies and then, hope that the American people had short memories. In addition, she went above the law regarding our national security with no penalty due to our weak FBI justice system. Many misguided individuals plan to vote for Clinton in November for only one purpose: to witness the first female President regardless of her political disabilities and disgrace-

ful character. We are looking forward to see the first respectable female President, but definitely, not Hillary.

Why do many citizens violently protest against policemen and Donald Trump when they are the only hope to save this country and, meanwhile, ignore the radical Islam terrorists that kills us? Why do protestors display large Mexican flags while they trample

and burn our American flags? We definitely need a new and strong Republican President and not another weak, dishonest Democratic President.

Ken Senkow  
San Antonio, Texas

*Ken:*  
*Suddenly we feel bad about democracy, and it's all your fault.*

*The Editor*

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### How Can Ayotte Support Him?

To the editor:

Donald Trump, admirer of dictators and mass-murderers (he has praised Kim Jong Un, Vladimir Putin, Saddam Hussein, Bashar al-Assad, Muammar Gaddafi), has now insinuated that Hillary Clinton should be assassinated! There are enough mental cases and irrational Hillary Haters out there who will take him

at his word, and he knows it. Any private citizen making the statements he made on Aug 9th would have been restrained immediately, questioned by the Secret Service, and possibly landed in jail.

On that same day, Kelly Ayotte reiterated her support of Donald Trump!

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## Fed up with Wall Street? Do something about it!

by Jim Hightower

Instead of griping about the Greedheads of Wall Street and the ripoff financial system they've hung around our necks — why don't we Take On Wall Street?

That's both the name and the feisty attitude of a nationwide campaign that a coalition of grassroots groups has launched to do just that: Take on Wall Street. The coalition, spearheaded by

the Communication Workers of America, points out that there is nothing natural or sacred about today's money-grubbing financial complex. Far from sacrosanct, the system of finance that now rules over us has been designed by and for Wall Street speculators, money managers, and big bank flim flammers. So — Big Surprise — rather than serving our common good, the system is corrupt, routinely serving their uncommon greed at

everyone else's expense.

The "Take On" campaign has the guts and gumption to say: Enough! Instead of you and me continuing to accept Wall Street's plutocratic perversion of our democracy, We The People can rewrite their rules and reorder their structures so the system serves us. For starters, the campaign has laid out a five-point people's reform agenda and are now taking it to the countryside to rally the voice-

less, anger, and grassroots power of workers, consumers, communities of color, Main Street, the poor, people of faith ... and just plain folks. The coalition is holding information and training sessions to spread the word, forge local coalitions, and teach how we can get right in the face of power to create a fair finance system that works for all.

There's an old truism about negotiating that says: "If you're not

at the table, you're on the menu." The "Take On Wall Street" campaign intends to put you and me — the People — at the table for a change. To learn more and join the fight, go to [www.TakeOnWallStreet.org](http://www.TakeOnWallStreet.org).

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have disavowed Trump and his authoritarian views and uninformed positions. Yet, the junior senator from New Hampshire continues to support this erratic and violent candidate.

Voters need to retire Kelly Ayotte.

Michael Frandzel  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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### Republican Hypocrisy and ISIS

To the Editor:

Members of Congress should put the country before their political parties. That has not been the case in the last six years. In 2014 the Islamic State beheaded four Americans. They came out of Syria and invaded vast territories in Iraq. President Obama began acting to reverse their advance and destroy the group. In December 2014 he asked Congress to authorize military actions against the Islamic State. Congress did nothing. They refused to hold a vote.

Under the War Powers Act the President can act militarily for 60 days without Congressional approval. If no approval comes he has 30 days to end hostilities and withdraw our armed forces. Thus legally, President Obama was required to end attacks on the Islamic State in March 2015. After all, Congress, under the control of the Republicans, decided to give the Islamic State a pass by not

voting to allow attacks against them.

Congress was just as feckless when the President asked it to vote to punish Syria over its use of chemical weapons. It is unfortunate that the Republican Party does not want to do anything that might be seen as helping our president even if it endangers our national security or rewards war criminals.

Senator Ayotte now is parading around the state saying the President has not done enough against the Islamic State. She should praise the President for ignoring her inaction. She is a hypocrite whose inaction endangers our country.

Walter Hamilton  
Portsmouth N.H.

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### A Bright Future for the U.S.

To the Editor:

Americans unquestionably cannot allow the scandal-ridden, divisive, Hillary Clinton to become leader of our beloved Country.

So what are the alternatives? Vote for a third-party candidate? Stay home and don't vote at all? No! These alternatives only help hand Clinton the presidency.

Too [sic] Clinton's delight, some Republicans — for not very persuasive reasons — haven't yet supported Donald Trump. Perhaps they are paying attention to

the meaningless liberal-hype that viciously attacks Trump and exaggerates his shortcomings.

Sure, Trump has some shortcomings, as do many prospective candidates ... Clinton for example. The difference is that Trump admits his shortcoming and corrects them. And, Trump's sincere love of America and its citizens far outweigh any shortcomings, and Clinton's mindless rhetoric.

Americans must get solidly behind Trump and ensure that he becomes America's President. Otherwise all hope for a vibrant future for America will be lost ... perhaps forever.

Joe O'Hara  
Ocala, Florida

Joe:  
*Frightening. Just frightening.*  
The Editor

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### Asking for Support

To the Editor:

I am the latest candidate running to represent Ward 3 in Portsmouth as your State Representative. Debbie DiFranco, a good friend, who had decided not to run for reelection, was a very caring and thoughtful person and I am honored to be the candidate running for her seat in the New Hampshire General Court. My wife and I have lived in New Hampshire for over 33 years and in Portsmouth for 15 years. Re-

gardless of where we have lived, we have always been willing to contribute to our community.

I received my education first in Hungary, then in the U.S., and finally I completed a graduate degree in physics at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. A job offer brought us to New Hampshire, and shortly afterwards I began a career as a research scientist with the lighting company Sylvania, which was later acquired by a German company.

After 32 years I am now retiring from that company and wish to use this opportunity to become more involved in community affairs. My previous community involvements have included the role of chairman for the Memorial Bridge Illumination Committee, organizing financial support for the new Portsmouth Public Library and the African Burying Ground project, the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Parade and the End of Iraq War Parade. In addition, I have also been involved with the Portsmouth Democrats and have served as a poll worker both in Ward 4 and Ward 3 elections. We live in a wonderful city and a beautiful state. However, there are many issues that need attention, and I plan to work in a bipartisan manner to put the interests of our state before the interests of any party.

Ward 3 is a large area and has a number of important issues that are in need of attention, and that seem to be the responsibility of the State of New Hampshire. Certainly the traffic issues surrounding the Water Country operations are one significant issue, as is the long-delayed attention to the rightful complaints of the residents living near Route 95 and the Rt. 1 Bypass with respect to noise reduction. I am sure there are many other state-related issues.

Please contact me either by email: [StateRep27@myfairpoint.net](mailto:StateRep27@myfairpoint.net), or by phone at (603) 436-5382. I'll make every effort to return your call as soon as possible.

Please vote in the upcoming important elections: Party Primary on September 13th, and the General Election is on November 8th; Ward 3 Voting is at Lister Academy.

Peter Somssich  
Candidate for State Representative, Ward 3  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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"Thanks! I have been going out of my way to find reasons to travel to Portsmouth over the last 20-some years just so I could pick up a copy of the latest Gazette! This [subscription] is easier but not so much fun! Cheers!"

— J.P.G., Manchester, 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, SEPTEMBER 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    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| <p><b>2006</b>—Diving on the Great Barrier Reef, Steve "Crocodile Hunter" Irwin is stabbed in the heart by a stingray.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—In Kennebunk, Maine, Future President George W.[MD] Bush is arrested for driving drunk.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—President R. Nixon's flunkies John Erlichman and G. Gordon Liddy are indicted for felonious burglary.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Two hundred Vietnam Veterans Against the War begin Operation RAW (Rapid American Withdrawal), a four-day guerrilla theater march to Valley Forge, Pa.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—"I just had the greatest brainwashing ... [in] Vietnam," says Gov. George Romney (R-Mich.).</p> <p><b>1957</b>—National Guard troops in Little Rock stand and watch as a white mob threatens to lynch a black girl trying to enter Central High school.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—<i>The Washington Post</i> reports that an anti-aircraft gunner has accidentally hit the Lincoln Memorial with three .50 caliber rounds.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—U.S. troops land at Archangel, Russia, to "protect American interests."</p> <p><b>1886</b>—Geronimo, chief of the Chiricahua Apache, surrenders at Skeleton Canyon in the Arizona Territory; it's the end of the major resistance.</p> <p><b>1875</b>—In retaliation against blacks who fired back in self-defense at a picnic, whites in Clinton, Miss. slaughter 50 blacks at random.</p> <p><b>1833</b>—<i>The [N.Y.] Sun</i> hires Barney Flaherty, America's first newsboy.</p> | <p><b>2014</b>—Lucky bystanders are uninjured when a Robinson R44 observing a road rally crashes and burns in Roeselare, Belgium. The pilot and a passenger die in a fiery explosion.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Barbara Bush says Hurricane Katrina was "working very well" for thousands of homeless refugees.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Portsmouth loses Jay Smith, creator of the Press Room and Patron Saint of The Music Hall.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Rep. Joe Scarborough (R-Fla.) resigns 47 days after his aide Lori Klausutis, 28, is found dead in his Ft. Walton office.</p> <p><b>1993</b>—<i>Birmingham News</i> reveals that, according to the Southern Baptist Convention, 46.1 percent of Alabamians are going to Hell.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—L.A. Police Chief Darryl Gates tell the Senate Judiciary Committee that "casual drug users should be taken out and shot."</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, dressed as a nun, points an unloaded .45 at Gerry Ford.</p> <p><b>1931</b>—Consolidated Edison worker George Metesky is injured on the job. Denied Workmen's Compensation, "The Mad Bomber" plants 32 bombs over 16 years before he's caught.</p> <p><b>1930</b>—"Hurry it up you Hoosier bastard," says Carl Panzram to his executioner at Leavenworth. "I could hang a dozen men while you're screwing around."</p> <p><b>1905</b>—The Treaty of Portsmouth ends the Russo-Japanese War.</p>  | <p><b>2013</b>—Todd, Track, Bristol, and Willow Palin all play prominent roles in a bloody, drunken brawl in Anchorage; but not one is arrested.</p> <p><b>2010</b>—Alabama prison officials ban the reading of a Pulitzer-winning history of black forced labor.</p> <p><b>2007</b>—FBI agents arrest Ponzi schemer, fugitive from justice, and major Democratic Party donation-bundler Norman Hsu.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—"Too many OB-GYNs are not able to practice their love with women all across this country," says George W.[MD] Bush.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Lockheed workers drop a \$233 million weather satellite causing \$135 million worth of damage.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Explaining the timing of an announcement about attacking Iraq, White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card says, "From a marketing point of view, you don't introduce new products in August."</p> <p><b>1978</b>—The U.S. House opens hearings on the assassinations of JFK &amp; MLK. On Dec. 30th they conclude that conspiracies were likely.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Thousands of white kids riot in Hampton Beach, N.H., causing extensive property damage. Bill Loeb blames it on the pinkos.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—"Dying is easy," says actor Edmund Gwenn, dying. "Comedy is difficult."</p> <p><b>1949</b>—World War II vet and devout churchgoer Howard Unruh kills 13 of his N.J. neighbors in 12 minutes.</p> | <p><b>2000</b>—"["When I am President, we] will not have our veterans standing in line waiting for benefits that they've been promised," George W.[MD] Bush erroneously asserts.</p> <p><b>1996</b>—Two women walk into the Norfolk (Va.) Naval Base with a banner reading "Love Your Enemies." They're promptly arrested.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—"Today is Pearl Harbor Day," says George H.[H.]W. Bush.</p> <p><b>1978</b>—In London, an umbrella-wielding KGB agent gives Bulgarian defector Georgi Markov a fatal jab in the leg.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—"Plant one, plant two [Secret Service agents] on [Ted Kennedy]," Richard Nixon says to aides. "We might just get lucky and catch this son-of-a-bitch—ruin him for '76. It's going to be fun."</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Lyndon Johnson's infamous "Daisy Ad," airs, once.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—Noted pseudoreligious hack Norman Vincent Peale opines that any Catholic president would be "under extreme pressure from the hierarchy of his church."</p> <p><b>1918</b>—At a country club dance in Alabama, F. Scott Fitzgerald meets Zelda Sayre.</p> <p><b>1914</b>—French generals send 6,000 infantrymen from Paris to the Battle of the Marne in taxicabs. They hold the line and save the city.</p> <p><b>1737</b>—Thomas Penn's "Walking Purchase" swindles the Lenni Lenape out of an area the size of Rhode Island.</p>                                             | <p><b>2005</b>—A broadcast tribute to ex-premier Lucien Bouchard is cut short when the station learns he is not dead.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—<i>The N.Y. Times</i> publishes an erroneous story about aluminum tubes based on a false leak from the Bush Administration. Later that day the story is cited by four Administration officials as proof that Iraq has nuclear ambitions.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—A woman exiting a Robinson R22 helicopter after a sightseeing trip over Long Beach, Calif., dies when she's hit on the head by the tail rotor.</p> <p><b>1978</b>—The Shah of Iran uses U.S.-made tanks and helicopter gunships to put down the Black Friday riots in Tehran; 89 die. Six months later the Ayatollah's in charge.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—In exchange for a \$200,000 contribution from Ray A. Kroc to R. Nixon's reelection campaign, the Federal Price Commission gives McDonalds permission, which it had denied on May 21, to raise the price of a quarter pounder.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Farmworkers begin a strike against grape growers.</p> <p><b>1934</b>—The <i>Morro Castle</i>, caught in a nor'easter off the New Jersey coast with its captain dead of a heart attack, catches fire. By the time the blazing hulk runs aground, 137 passengers and crew are dead.</p> <p><b>1923</b>—A squadron of 14 new Navy destroyers runs aground off California due to incompetence. Seven ships are lost, 23 sailors killed.</p> | <p><b>2013</b>—Two of three lanes to the George Washington Bridge are closed without warning in Fort Lee, N.J., delaying commuters and emergency personnel.</p> <p><b>2009</b>—As Barack Obama addresses Congress on health care, Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) yells at the President, "You lie."</p> <p><b>2008</b>—Lehman Bros., the nation's fourth largest investment bank, loses 45 percent of its value.</p> <p><b>2007</b>—Frances Townsend, a Bush Administration advisor, calls Osama bin Laden "impotent."</p> <p><b>2005</b>—"You know," says Glenn Beck, "it took me about a year to start hating the 9/11 victims families ... When I see a 9/11 victim family on television ... I'm just, like 'Oh, shut up.'"</p> <p><b>1999</b>—Louis T. "Moondog" Hardin, American composer, street musician, and blind, Viking-helmet-wearing eccentric, dies at 83 in Germany.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—Dan Quayle says he got into law school "fair and square," despite relying on an "equal opportunity" program for disadvantaged minorities.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—"Cap" Weinberger relies on a cartoon to brief President Reagan on the Pentagon budget.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Rioting prisoners take nine guards hostage at the Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, N.Y.</p> <p><b>1739</b>—In South Carolina, 20 slaves kill two storekeepers, steal guns and powder, recruit allies, kill about 20 whites, and march towards Florida.</p> | <p><b>2008</b>—Lehman Brothers execs say the firm has all the capital it needs.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Donald Rumsfeld says the Defense Department can't account for about \$2.3 trillion dollars.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—"Approximately eighty percent of our air pollution stems from hydrocarbons released by vegetation," says Candidate Ronald Reagan.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—One-legged Tunisian pimp Hamida Djandoubi is the last man to die by a French guillotine.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—In Fruita, Colo., Lloyd Wilson chops the head off "Mike," a young rooster who goes on to have an 18-month career as "The Headless Wonder Chicken."</p> <p><b>1939</b>—B&amp;M Railroad Engineer John Beattie and Fireman Charles Towle are killed when the Piscataqua Bridge, damaged during construction of the Mildred Long Bridge, dumps their locomotive into the river.</p> <p><b>1939</b>—<i>HMS Oxley</i> becomes the first British sub sunk in WW II — by <i>HMS Triton</i>.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—The "Lincoln Highway" — the first paved coast-to-coast road in the U.S. — opens.</p> <p><b>1897</b>—A posse massacres 19 strikers and wounds 36 at a Lattimer, Pa., coal mine; most are shot in the back.</p> <p><b>1857</b>—Mormons murder 120 Arkansans en route to California at Mountain Meadows, Utah.</p> <p><b>1739</b>—South Carolina militiamen overpower and kill the participants of the Stono Rebellion.</p>                   |
| 1:39                      2:00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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| 7:44                      8:03                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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| SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   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| <p><b>2013</b>—Pastor Terry Jones and Marvin Sapp are arrested in Fla. for illegally towing a barbecue grill full of kerosene-soaked Qur'ans.</p> <p><b>2012</b>—<i>Benghazi!!!</i></p> <p><b>2007</b>—Russia explodes the "Father of All Bombs," four times as powerful as the U.S.'s "Mother of All Bombs."</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Four American airliners are hijacked and crashed; thousands die. George Bush scurries to safety, Donald Rumsfeld looks for excuses to attack Iraq, and Dick "Dick" Cheney authorizes the shooting down of civilian airliners.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Duly elected President of Chile, Salvador Allende, is overthrown by CIA-backed thugs.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Development of a Ford Pinto/Cessna Skymaster hybrid ends when two die in a fiery crash after it falls apart in mid-air.</p> <p><b>1941</b>—At "Hell's Bottom," Va., ground is broken for the Pentagon.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—"Free" elections are held in South Vietnam, all but assuring a peaceful future.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Wheeler Lipes, a 22-year old dropout, successfully removes the inflamed appendix of a shipmate aboard the submerged <i>U.S.S. Seadragon</i>. The Navy's Surgeon General rewards him with the threat of a court martial.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—After its pilot parachutes to safety, a burning Curtiss-Wright P-40 fighter crashes into the factory where it was built in Buffalo, N.Y., killing six and injuring 35.</p>                                      | <p><b>2008</b>—Treasury Sec. Hank Paulson, formerly of Goldman Sachs, tells Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers the Fed can't save them.</p> <p><b>1994</b>—After an evening spent drinking alcohol and smoking crack with his brother, Frank E. Corder dies at about 1:49 a.m., crash-landing a stolen Cessna on the South Lawn of the White House.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—Charles Walker's heart beats for five minutes after Illinois begins killing him, because a lethal injection tube is kinked.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—Puerto Rican nationalists <i>Los Macheteros</i> rob a Well Fargo depot in West Hartford, Conn. of \$7 million in cash, some of which they throw from the roof in a display of disdain for capitalism.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—Steven Biko dies in the custody of South African police.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The Weathermen help Tim Leary bust out of prison.</p> <p><b>1909</b>—Emiliano Zapata, 30, is elected to head the town council of Anencueneo, Mexico.</p> <p><b>1880</b>—H.L. Mencken is born.</p> <p><b>1860</b>—American adventurer William Walker, former dictator of Nicaragua deposed by Cornelius Vanderbilt and captured by the British, is executed by a Honduran firing squad.</p> <p><b>1857</b>—<i>S.S. Central America</i> sinks in a hurricane off the Carolinas, drowning about 420. Ten tons of gold sink, too, the loss of which contributes to the Panic of 1857.</p> | <p><b>2005</b>—Two weeks after the catastrophe, George W. Bush admits the Federal response to Hurricane Katrina was less than ideal.</p> <p><b>1985</b>—Star Wars space cowboys, their intended balloon-borne target having failed them, use a fighter-plane launched missile to turn a working science satellite into a cloud of dangerous space junk.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—William Loeb, alleged newspaperman, goes to his eternal torment at the age of 75.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—To restore order at New York's Attica state prison, five hundred state troopers fire 2,200 rounds in nine minutes. The dead include 29 prisoners and ten guards.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—Rollie Free sets a speed record for bikes at Bonneville going 150 mph on a Vincent Black Shadow wearing dry just sneakers and a Speedo.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—A Luftwaffe plane drops six bombs on Buckingham Palace.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—Mary, an elephant who had killed her untrained trainer the day before, is hanged from a railroad crane in Erwin, Tenn.</p> <p><b>1859</b>—Sen. David Broderick (D-Calif.) is shot dead by his duelling opponent, California's Chief Justice David Terry.</p> <p><b>1848</b>—Phineas Gage, a Lebanon, N.H. native working in Vermont for a railroad company, loses a good chunk of his brain when an iron bar is blasted through it, but he lives 12 more pretty good years.</p>       | <p><b>2008</b>—At his gym, Lehman Brothers CEO Richard Fuld gets punched in the face by a complete stranger.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—At the UN, during the World Summit, the Leader of the Free World passes a note to his Secretary of State saying, "I think I may need a bathroom break. Is that possible?"</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Standing in rubble created in part by his own failure, George W.[MD] Bush declares that America's "responsibility to history" is to "rid the world of evil."</p> <p><b>1978</b>—Jimmy Carter endangers the nation by permitting a 28 year-old State of Emergency to expire.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—At the White House, LBJ pins the Medal of Freedom on notorious crypto-fascist and arch-propagandist Walt Disney.</p> <p><b>1938</b>—The <i>Graf Zeppelin II</i>, world's largest airship, first flies.</p> <p><b>1899</b>—New Yorker Henry Bliss becomes the first person in the U.S. to be killed by an automobile.</p> <p><b>1874</b>—In a bloody coup d'etat, the White Leagues take over Louisiana's state government.</p> <p><b>1847</b>—Marines under Gen. Winfield "Old Fuss and Feathers" Scott take the Halls of Montezuma.</p> <p><b>1836</b>—Aaron Burr, the first vice President to shoot a man, dies in Port Richmond, N.Y.</p> <p><b>1814</b>—Francis Scott Key cribs from a British drinking song, <i>To Anacreon in Heaven</i>, to write <i>The Star Spangled Banner</i>.</p> | <p><b>2008</b>—Lehman Brothers stock drops 90 percent in one day; the Dow loses 500 points.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—D.C. police respond to a 911 call from the bathroom of Rep. Don Sherwood (R-Pa.), 63, whom the caller, Cynthia Ore, 28, accuses of choking her.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—One person in Congress, Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) votes against granting G.W.[MD] Bush unlimited military power.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Israeli Defense Forces surround Sabra and Shatila, Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut, and permit Christian Phalangist militiamen to slaughter perhaps 3,500 civilians.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—A nuclear-armed B-52 burns for hours at Grand Forks AFB, N.D., but the fire is put out before anything explodes.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Two Ku Klux Klan members bomb Birmingham's 16th St. Baptist Church, killing 4 girls and injuring 22. One bomber is convicted 14 years later; the delay is caused by J. Edgar "Mary" Hoover's withholding of evidence.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—The Dodgers beat the Cubs 2-0 in just 5 innings; game is called on account of gnats.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—During the Battle of Britain, RAF pilot Ray Holmes sees a Dornier heading for Buckingham Palace. His Hurricane out of ammo, he rams the Dornier, downing it, and parachutes to safety.</p>                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>2008</b>—The Federal government bails out insurance giant AIG with a loan of \$85 billion.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Dick "Dick" Cheney accepts Tim Russert's assertion that he would accept Osama bin Laden's head on a platter and admits that the U.S. has no evidence linking Saddam Hussein or Iraq to 9/11.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—New Hampshire Democrat John Durkin wins a Senate seat after a marathon nine-month battle following the closest Senate election in history.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—President Ford announces a conditional amnesty for Vietnam War deserters and draft dodgers.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Richard M. Nixon appears on "Laugh-In" and says, "Sock it to me." Eventually, they do.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—A remarkably prescient draft goes into effect over a year before Pearl Harbor is attacked.</p> <p><b>1925</b>—Riley B. "B.B." King is born in Itta Bena, Miss.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—A bomb in a horse-drawn wagon explodes in front of the J.P. Morgan building on Wall Street, killing 38 and wounding 400.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—Ten thousand people race for 42,000 parcels of land in the Oklahoma Land Rush.</p> <p><b>1864</b>—Confederate Cavalry chief Wade Hampton and his men steal 2,500 head of Union Army beef.</p> <p><b>1692</b>—Giles Cory, 80, is crushed to death in Salem for refusing to testify in his trial for witchcraft.</p>                                                                  | <p><b>2013</b>—<i>Mother Jones</i> releases a video showing Mitt Romney denigrating 47 percent of Americans as leeches.</p> <p><b>2011</b>—Hundreds of protestors Occupy Wall Street.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—"There's an old saying in Tennessee," says George W.[MD] Bush, "I know it's in Texas, probably in Tennessee—that says, fool me once, shame on you—shame on you. Fool me ... you can't get fooled again."</p> <p><b>1991</b>—Yale Law Dean Guido Calabresi tells the Senate Judiciary Committee that Clarence Thomas, if confirmed for the Supreme Court, might grow intellectually.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—The Mt. Washington cog railway train derails; eight die.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—Count Folke Bernadotte, in Jerusalem to mediate the Arab-Israeli conflict for the UN, is assassinated by the Zionist Stern Gang.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—Len Koenecke, an outfielder just cut from the Dodgers, charts a plane, starts a fight with the pilot, and is killed by a blow to the head with a fire extinguisher.</p> <p><b>1908</b>—Wilbur Wright crashes a Wright Flyer at Ft. Myer, Va., making Signal Corps Lieutenant Thomas Selfridge the first person to be killed by a powered aircraft.</p> <p><b>1862</b>—At Antietam, in Maryland, 113,000 men clash; 3,654 are killed and 17,292 are wounded—bloodiest day in U.S. military history.</p> <p><b>1787</b>—Having OK'd the Constitution, its authors head to a tavern.</p> |
| 12:58                      1:10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        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