



**The Alleged News®**

from page one

— such as “[Hillary Clinton] should be put in the firing line and shot for treason,” he’s been Googled more than your average former Marine. That apparently convinced Google’s algorithms that AI’s wedding photo would be an appropriate image to use on the search engine’s “knowledge panel” about the town.

Some Londonderry residents were less than pleased to see trash-talking AI and his gun-toting entourage representing their community. They tried to get Google to delete the image, but to no avail.

The *Union Leader* wrote up the story, and the *Times* got it from them. Their query finally triggered something in cyberspace, and Londonderry is breathing easier.

Much easier, now that it’s no longer under water — the *Times* story originally had Londonderry located northeast of Boston.

**G.O.Ooops!**

The Republican Party tried to cash in on St. Patrick’s Day by selling a green “Make America Great Again” hat. Demonstrating

that bunch’s essential cluelessness, the hat featured on the back a gold-embroidered ... four leaf clover, rather than a three-leaved Irish shamrock.

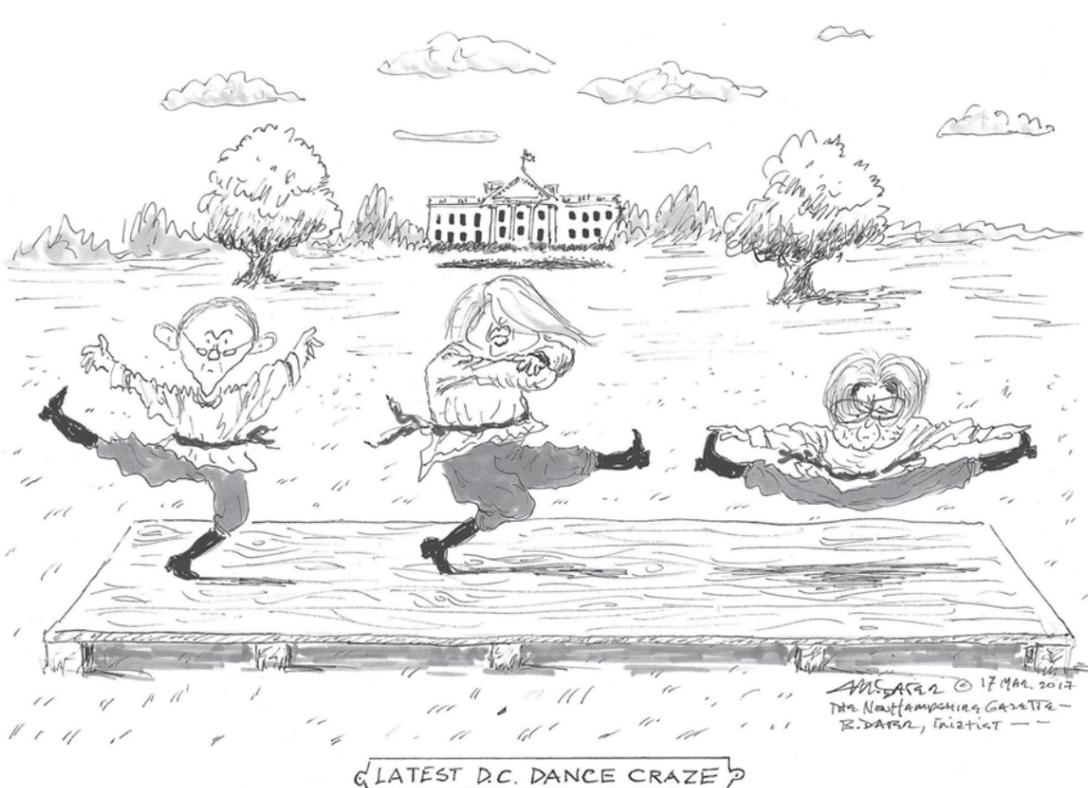
Mockery ensued, of course. One wag who goes by the handle “Fake President” tweeted, “I think St. Patrick’s Day is my favorite tradition brought to America by immigrants that made our country better.”

**That Magnetic Melania**

While we’re on the topic of Trumpazoid tchotchkes, some tasteless hater is now peddling Melania Trump Magnets on *Amazon*, for a demeaning \$4.95. It shows the First Lady in her modeling days, looking nothing like Mamie Eisenhower.



Here’s a five-star *Amazon* review of the *objet d’art*: “If you are a fan of First Ladies, this is something you won’t want to miss. Celebrate the most accomplished First Lady ever, who pulled her-



self up by her bootstraps and went from taking off her clothes to survive to the White House she refuses to live in. Of course when you’ve been using gold toilets for over a decade, you can’t really stoop to using government housing.”

**That Old Time Religion**

A slightly breathless email arrived Tuesday from First Liberty Institute, a self-described “religious liberty law firm,” informing us that it had “sent a letter to the commander of a New Hampshire Air Force base, advising him that federal law, military regulations, and the Constitution all allow prayer and Bible readings by chaplains at military events.”

Our initial response was, “well, duh.” The email went on to explain, thank God.

“On February 6, a special interest group sent a letter to Pease Air National Guard Base, demanding that the base commander forbid military chaplains from performing invocations at military events

held on the base.”

Clearly this was a special interest group with too much time on its hands if it was attempting to forbid chaplains from doing their jobs. Either that, or there was more to the story.

Naturally we suspected the unnamed “special interest group” involved might be the Freedom From Religion Foundation [FFRF]. That, it turns out, was a Bingo.

We soon found FFRF’s letter to Lt. Col. Thaddeus Day, of the Judge Advocate’s Office of the 157th Air Refueling Wing.

“A concerned guardsman contacted us,” it said, “to report that official Air National Guard ceremonies at Pease International Tradeport regularly include invocations led by a chaplain. These prayers regularly include readings from the bible [sic] and references to the Christian god [sic]. We understand that attendance at many of these events is mandatory for guardsmen.”

After citing several legal precedents, the letter goes on to say, “By imposing prayer on its guardsmen at mandatory events, the Air National Guard is violating the constitutional limits on government religious endorsement.”

The letter compared the alleged practices at Pease to “scheduling prayers or other religious exercises at mandatory meetings for government employees,” which the 7th Circuit Court held in 2009, “constitutes illegal government endorsement of religion.”

Claiming that the FFRF was “demanding that the base commander forbid military chaplains from performing invocations at military events held on the base” seems to be overstating the case.

What FFRF did say was, “Chaplain-imposed prayers at mandatory base events go well beyond accommodation by violating the rights of those guardsmen who would rather opt out of exclusively Christian religious rituals.”



Temperatures were well below freezing on Sunday, and wind gusts well above 25 — a formidable combination. It was insufficient, though, to deter locals from protesting the Republican plan to “reform” health care.

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**Frivolous Spending Questioned**

The Chief Executive is famous for doing things in a big way, and that includes racking up travel expenses. So far he is burning up the taxpayers' money at ten times the rate of his predecessor.

"Five Democratic members of the House Armed Services Committee sent a letter to Defense Secretary James Mattis requesting information regarding President Donald Trump's travel expenses and the demands placed upon the military," the *Military Times* reported March 10th. Among them was First District Rep. Carol Shea-Porter [D-Rochester].

**Our Deceptive Climate**

The past couple of weekends and Tuesday's blizzard notwithstanding, this has been a warm winter.

*Scientific American* reports, "Climate Central conducted an analysis of 1,500 weather stations across the U.S. and found that 84 percent had a winter that was warmer than normal, including 47 percent that had a winter among their 10 warmest on record. Not a single station east of the Missis-

sippi was cooler than average."

**What's New With The AWLD?**

For years we have semi-fondly referred to the *Portsmouth Herald* as the Award-Winning Local Daily, or the AWLD for short. The paper earned that sobriquet by its frequent, proud publication of stories about the awards it was winning from trade organizations. Those stories have become less frequent of late, undermining the front half of our snide little acronym. Now another development seems to be undermining the "L" in AWLD. Indulge us, though, dear reader, in a little background first, to put this item in perspective.

The *Herald* was created out of an existing sheet called the *Penny Press* by Fernando Wood Hartford in the late 19th century. F.W. Hartford was a nearly-forgotten protégé of Frank Jones, the nationally-known Beer Baron, Congressman, and railroad man. Obscurity is an odd fate for Hartford, considering that he was Mayor for seven not-always-contiguous terms in the early 20th century. Among his notable achievements was the conversion



of Portsmouth from a six-paper to a two-paper town. Between the turn of the century and 1923, he bought and folded the *Portsmouth Republican*, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *States and Union*, and the *Daily Evening Times*. The last papers standing were the *Portsmouth Herald* and *The New Hampshire Gazette*, both of which he owned. In monopoly there is profit. During his heyday, newspapers often returned 20 percent or more on investment. His name does live on in a stained-glass sign saying "Hartford Building," carefully preserved and thoughtfully backlit, in the facade of the Congress Street building which houses Bull Moose Records.

Hartford's son J.D. [Justin Downing] inherited the two papers on his father's death in 1938. Though initially quite ambitious, he is said by historian Ray Brighton to have become something of a bibulous recluse, who by the 1950s was present in the editorial offices mostly through late-night telephone calls which were generally disregarded.

In the post-Hartford era the paper belonged in succession to Kenneth Roy Thomson, 2nd Baron Thomson of Fleet; the Ottaway newspaper chain; Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, and GateHouse Media, a subsidiary of the Fortress Investment Group.

Last month there was another change in the AWLD's ownership, though seemingly it has gone unmentioned in its own pages. In mid-February, the Fortress Investment Group announced that it was being bought by SoftBank Group Corp., a Japanese company.

As a consequence, if a reader should happen to become incensed when the AWLD plays fast and loose with the facts, and wants to speak to the person in charge, they'll have to make a trans-Pacific call. As an example of factual disregard, on Tuesday the paper published the item

floating elsewhere on this page, reduced here to save space. It professes to be a square, but it is not. Its proportions are off by a full ten percent. It is a rectangle.

Adding insult to deception, it came from the Ad Council — an organization accurately called by historian Robert Griffith, "little more than a domestic propaganda arm of the federal government."

The faux-square directs readers to *BornLearning.org*, a project of the United Way, an organization which no doubt does much good work. It also hoovers up a large share of the nation's philanthropical giving, though, and makes sure those funds go only to organizations which limit their efforts to ameliorating the deprivations of corporate America.

Organizations attempting to prevent those deprivations need not apply.



The Portsmouth Athenæum is celebrating its bicentennial. A non-profit membership library and museum, "The Ath" is located in Market Square, its front door flanked by cannons "taken from the British by Commodore Perry at the Battle of Lake Erie, Sept 10, 1813." An exhibit, "Laying the Foundation of of a Large and Permanent Establishment," is on view now in the Peter Randall Gallery. It will run through April 8th and will be open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 1-4 p.m.

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**"The American Dream"**

To the Editor:

For decades, the Republican party, in the interests of big business, has conned the public by spreading misinformation about "The American Dream."

People receiving government assistance are too lazy to work. In fact most government aid recipients are children or elderly. Of those between the ages of 18 — 64 most work in fast food, child care, home care or other minimum wage jobs. They supplement their income with some form of government assistance like food stamps to make up for low wages offered by employers. Middle class taxpayers thus provide a form of "corporate welfare" while corporations increase their profits.

More environmental regulations mean fewer jobs. Just the opposite is true. A variety of studies since 2001 found that the net impact of environmental regulations relative to jobs is positive. In states that entice industries to relocate there by promising fewer or lax enforcement of regulations, air, water and land quality as well as public health are sacrificed for profits.

Republican policies of cutting taxes and deregulating business benefit the economy. From 1949-2009 unemployment was lower and gross domestic product was higher under Democratic presidents. Republican presidents have also added far more to federal debt levels as a percentage of GDP than Democrats have. Reagan added the most at 60 percent while Truman, Ken-

edy, Johnson, Carter, and Clinton all reduced the debt as a percentage of GDP. Bush handed Obama a country in recession. Obama left office with an economy experiencing steady growth in jobs and incomes.

And then a coalition of billionaires and their victims elected Donald Trump as Conmaster-in-Chief. Oh, the things he is going to do for "the little guy!" Starting with taking away the health insurance he's going to need when his health deteriorates from pollution, but not to worry — tax cuts for the rich will fix everything. It's going to be so terrific, bigly!

Cynthia Muse  
Rye, N.H.

Cynthia:

*Thank you for this concise compilation of a few of the myths the Republican Party has propagated to provide cover for its true agenda: that agenda being the further enrichment of the oligarchy which is its true and only constituency. That so much of the country believes these fictions is a testament to the dark skills of word mongers like Frank Luntz, and the servile duplicity of the corporate media.*

The Editor

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**Washington's Farewell Address**

To the Editor:

I once had a good friend who was a historian with a special interest in George Washington. He was also an adventure companion (hiking and paddling) of mine whom I found to be in the mold of President Teddy Roosevelt as he was rugged and had a love for Mother Nature, just like the man who established America's cherished National Park system a century ago.

My friend, home for a weekend in between a two-week summer workshop for George Washington scholars at Boston University, was eager for a hike up Mount Washington and to tell me all about the greatness of the "Father of Our Country" on the way to the mountain. By the end of the long drive, he had me convinced that Washington was indeed the greatest President, stating

that his greatness had been derived by his having humbly declined the invitation of his fellow countrymen to become a king and for setting a precedent for the peaceful relinquishment of the office to a successor following a limited term in office.

I was reminded of Washington's greatness on Presidents' Day while listening to NHPR's Laura Knoy and a guest discuss Washington's 1796 Farewell Address to the nation in which the outgoing President warned against excessive partisanship and foreign entanglements. Washington cautioned, "It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world ... ." He continued, "Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence (I conjure [i.e., implore] you to believe me, fellow-citizens) the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake, since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government."

I can think of no other time in America's brief history where Washington's warning could have had more relevance than it has today, with ever increasing suspicion surrounding ties between the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government and Russia with its adversarial, aggressive authoritarian leader. Hence, we must insist that our representatives in Congress conduct a thorough and unfettered investigation of all potential Russian ties, with their undue influence, to all members of the current presidential administration, including the President.

Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, N.H.

Wayne:

*"I conjure you to believe me, fellow-citizens" — our apologies, but we had to look that one up. It was hard to believe that our first President once uttered the same plea now made so frequently by his latest successor.*

The Editor

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*Mash Notes,* **HATE MAIL,**

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To the Editor:

If you think Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus (Mercer) is bad, read up on Robert Mercer — super-rich software guru, hedge fund baron, arch conservative, and Donald Trump's single largest campaign donor. A good place to start is with Carole Cadwalladr's article in the *Guardian* entitled "Big Billionaire Waging War on Mainstream Media."

According to Cadwalladr, Mercer is currently applying artificial intelligence to harvest personal data from Facebook, Twitter, and various search-engines to build political dossiers on millions of Americans. These files are then fed into a massive psyops propaganda mill that delivers political messaging customized to fit each person's individual susceptibility to persuasion. Forget the cameras of 1984, just turn on a computer in 2017 and you might as well walk down Main Street naked!

The best vehicle Americans have for ferreting out dark operatives like Robert Mercer is investigative journalism. Wealthy, protected, rarely seen, and mostly unknown, Mercer and many of his super-rich colleagues routinely use their wealth to work behind the scene in Washington to divide and mislead the public while controlling public officials with a steady stream of campaign cash and favors. They do this, even as politicians duck town hall meetings and leave their constituents to air grievances in the street.

So hats off to Carole, the *Guardian*, and all who subject themselves to political harassment and threats in the pursuit of gathering news. Personally, I'm done contributing to political campaigns. It makes far more sense to invest that money in paid subscriptions to those news outlets strongly committed to hard-core journalism. If we band together and put it there, it may actually do some good!

Rick Littlefield  
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

*Another aspect of the current catastrophe which we have as yet failed to cover. Thanks for making us look bad, pal!*

*We fully support your admonition to support the media. We would only add, "think globally, act locally."*

The Editor

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**Anonymous Reporting & Sources**

To the Editor:

There is a great and contagious self delusion in liberal fantasy land that any contact with Russia on a personal basis or in a business relation makes one a puppet of Vladimir Putin, the liberals' new Ming the Merciless: Flash Gordon's nemesis, cruel ruler of the universe and the evil enemy of every political loser on the planet. And Putin is everywhere all powerful. His reach extends to the United Kingdom and caused a Brexit, never mind that those living in poverty in the once-prosperous industrial north are now starving and living in the streets, suffering Thatcherite austerity while the one-percent are living it up in London. And in France Putin is responsible for Francois Hollande's four percent approval rating, which has caused the poor man to remove himself from running for another term. Then of course there is Angela Merkel who is losing support in Germany, again because of Putin's all encompassing influence, not because of her unpopular mishandling of the immigrant crisis.

Back in the United States Trump is causing indigestion and madness within the lying media, Wall Street, the banks, the Military-Industrial-Surveillance complex and the liberals, all of whom think themselves the betters of those who [once] had real jobs. Those who now inhabit the Rust Belt refused to become the useful idiots of the bicoastal liberal establishment that

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**Murph's Fortnightly Quote**

*"... I think there's a lot of shoes to drop from this centipede."*

— Senator John McCain (1936- ) speaking of the executive branch's relationship with Russia

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# And Other Correspondence

uses minorities and the poor as their power base, and the cannon fodder for their wars.

No, those inhabitants of the Rust Belt don't want handouts, nor do they want to live on the liberal plantation, or have their children be the victims of the poverty draft or the Education Establishment. They want their jobs back. They want a real education for their children. They want Wall Street to stop redistributing their pension funds to the one-percent, and they want a fair rate of interest on their savings. In short they want change. They want politicians who do not feel that which gender uses which bathroom is a more pressing problem than job loss and the hollowing out of the Middle Class.

So you can read sites such as *WeAreThisAmericanCarnage*, with the new tradition of using anonymous sources by anonymous writers. But I guess I would remain anonymous if I were peddling fake news that it was not Julian Assange, but Putin who hacked the e-mails of the DNC. I would also not want to reveal my lack of insight in emphasizing the hack and not the damaging information that the documents revealed.

Furthermore, it was not Russia who created the refugee crisis; it was Hillary and Obama who destabilized Libya and created the terrorists who brought their war to Syria, continuing the Clinton/Bush/Obama rampage throughout the Middle East.

And Louise Mensch is a perfect partner by ignoring the espionage of Hillary Clinton and blaming it on the hapless Mr. Comey. No, Louise, it was not Comey, it was Hillary Clinton who committed the crime.

And, by the way, Trump will not be impeached or removed.

And if anyone is surprised that big oil companies have dealings with each other they need a refresher course in what legitimate busi-

nesses do.

But, typical of the hypocrisy those who oppose legitimate and common business dealings with Russia are happy with the dealings Hillary Clinton had with the oil rich Saudis who sent a lot of that wealth to the criminal Clinton Foundation.

But, that's not real business; that's funny business.

Trump is the right man, at the right time. He will make America great again.

John Dente  
Wilmington, Del.

John:

*To dismiss Mensch's reporting on the basis of her relative lack of interest in Hillary Clinton's flaws is akin to throw the baby out with the bathwater. You are apparently accusing Clinton of the crime of destabilizing Libya? How many hearings have we had about Benghazi!!!? How many more do you want? Clinton, there and everywhere, was carrying out the standard neo-liberal agenda of our benevolent corporate overlords. If that's a crime, most of the Government's guilty.*

*You may recall, we were for Bernie until Clinton was nominated, and we only supported her because Trump was an obviously incompetent charlatan.*

*This business between Trump and Russian mobsters is of a different order entirely. Something stinks, and we want it uncovered.*

*Trump, until such time as he is impeached and removed, will do nothing but make America less great.*

The Editor

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### Say No to the Death Penalty

Why? Why do we need an expansion of the Death penalty? (HB 351). There is so much written and discussed that proves, to put it simply, the death penalty does not work! It does not work to deter crimes of the nature which would trigger it. It does not bring closure to victims. It does not keep us safer.

It does, however, make lawyers more wealthy, using more and more

of our tax dollars on mandatory appeals, and it does drag out for years and years causing wounds to constantly reopen and renew the hurt of victims families, and it does guarantee the execution of innocent people.

Please vote "NO" on HB 351.

Tony Coriaty  
Dover, N.H.

Tony:

*You left out another reason the death penalty should not be expanded — and should, instead, be abolished: as long as it remains on the books, it represents a sinister temptation to cynical prosecutors and Attorneys General. What better way to burnish one's law 'n order credentials than to send some mentally-deficient cop-killer to his death?*

*Sound far-fetched? It's been known to happen.*

The Editor

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### Russia & Missiles

To the Editor:

As reported in the *New York Times*, Russia has relocated prohibited land-based nuclear-armed cruise missiles from a test site to an operational site in Russia. This action is in clear violation of the 1987 Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) signed in 1987. What is most interesting about this action is that it took place in December, 2016, soon after the election of Donald Trump.

Placing these missiles in operational status presents a serious threat to the security of Western Europe, and every U.S. military installation in Europe. These missiles are capable of reaching all of Europe, and possibly Asia. The almost complete silence regarding this threat from the Trump Administration has been especially troubling. While Trump is signing unconstitutional executive orders and twittering about President Obama tapping Trump Tower, Russia has been allowed to continue with its aggressive behavior with no retaliation or serious response from Mr. Trump.

Considering the ongoing concern regarding the cyberattack on our

election by the Russians, and the possible collusion in this attack by the Trump campaign, the cozy relationship between Russia and Trump becomes even more serious with this Russian missile deployment. One needs to question what if any compromising information the Russians hold over Mr. Trump, and if this has anything to do with Trump's *laissez faire* approach to the Russian missile deployment.

Over the past month, more and more revelations have come to light about the many contacts members of the Trump campaign and members of his close circle have had with the Russians. More and more members of Congress, even many Republicans, are calling for investigations. Attorney General Sessions was forced to recuse himself because of his contact with the Russian Ambassador prior to the election. However, any investigation led by Republicans will be clouded in suspicion of a cover up. The only way to get to the real truth of the Trump Russia issue is for the appointment of an independent Special Counsel with complete subpoena power, including Mr. Trump's tax returns. This is a matter of grave national security, and Congress must treat it accordingly.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

Amen.

The Editor

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### Help Wanted: Special Prosecutor

To the Editor:

Jeff Sessions, former Senator, former Prosecutor, should also be former Attorney General.

Jeff Sessions lied under oath in his Senate confirmation hearing. Then he lied about lying — turns out he met with the Russian Ambassador not just two times, but three. This is a man who lied about a matter of national security with the United States' most powerful enemy: an enemy that interfered with our national election.

To pay for his "mistake" Sessions



has recused himself from leading the investigation to investigate himself. Wow!

What is needed is a special prosecutor. The Republicans have so far resisted efforts for an outside investigation to get at the truth.

We know that the Russians hacked the American presidential election to help the Republicans. It is possible that the Trump campaign, including Sessions, colluded with the enemy to do this. We also know that numerous members of the Trump campaign and the Trump family had contact with and possibly colluded with the Russians during this time.

Meanwhile, the "Distracter In Chief" was laying down a smoke screen to cover up the Sessions/Russian scandal: he was making up stuff about Obama tapping his phone! And that's what the Republicans want to investigate!

To protect their party, Republican lawmakers are resisting efforts to get at the truth in a matter of vital national security. Americans should demand a real investigation!

Michael Frandzel  
Portsmouth, N.H.

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### Give That Man a Raise An Increase

To the Editor:

As a 5th term [State Representative], after an eight-year hiatus, I still will not accept the check they send me for my Article 15, Part II compensation of \$200. [My] [r]eason [is that] deductions are made for Social Security, Medicare and IRS for mileage reimbursement, with-

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# Mechanical Darwinism

by William Marvel

In a world of more than seven billion people, one might expect it to be difficult for the individual to feel terribly important, but that isn't a problem here in the United States. Our five percent of the world's human population seems to consider itself the most valuable of all the planet's creatures, human or otherwise. More than most countries, ours evinces an epidemic of national, factional, and personal narcissism. From kindergarten to the White House, tantrums are the common response to any parents, peers, public, or politicians who refuse the demands of those who deem themselves deserving by the sheer virtue of their existence.

The relative worth of the individual human life nevertheless strikes me as a matter of legitimate debate — a proposition that horrifies the evangelists of what religious fundamentalists call secular humanism. The notion that humans are capable of moral behavior without the imagined surveillance of a supreme being soon spawned the belief that *Homo*

*sapiens* actually is that supreme being, and merits unquestioning worship. That philosophical distortion generally betrays itself in the "if-it-saves-one-life" argument so popular at the more pedestrian levels of public debate. In hilarious irony, that simplistic appeal to the sanctity of human life is always deployed against any resort to the very capacity for reason that supposedly differentiates humans from what they consider lesser beings.

In light of such self-contradiction even among the more reflexive advocates of human exceptionalism, it hardly seems unreasonable to wonder what, if anything, really does distinguish us. For a species faced with the prescient predictions of Alvin Toffler's *Future Shock* and the realized pipedreams of Samuel Butler's *Erewhon*, the evident answer is that humankind is no longer really so special at all. The heightened human sense of self-importance may, in fact, merely reflect a reaction to the recognition of our declining collective relevance — not to mention the dwindling significance of the individual.

A college professor of mine once remarked that the social urge to be noticed and remembered motivates such endeavors as having children, writing books, and planting trees. I chose writing books, and my attachment to place and time yielded a preoccupation with history, especially in one focused era. After a decade or two I began making connections that produced an occasional stir, at least within my limited field — not because I was endowed with any particular talent or intelligence, but from a simple combination of good memory and obsessive, concentrated research. From a trove of trivia I simply recognized and illuminated characters or concepts common to different episodes.

Such minor research coups were the only achievements by which historians can distinguish themselves, but as history turns more quantitative those discoveries are frequently the products of computer analysis. Teams of practitioners who betray more interest in their tools than in their craft input endless streams of data, regurgitating computations with

lightning speed and formulating conclusions faster than the academy can absorb them. The sources can be mined and sifted before a plodding archive rat can transcribe his research notes, and his interpretations may be superseded before they are fully developed.

This winter I thought I had found another project for which I could claim a useful combination of qualifications. Having learned that a coveted historical journal in a private French manuscript library had been published, I ordered a copy and began translating segments of it. As usual, I sent relevant portions to some friends who are working on similar subjects. Their surprise that I could read it suggested that the traditional expectation of fluency in two foreign languages (customarily French and German) is no longer required for doctoral-level Civil War specialists. Thanks to machine translators, it may never be required again, either. Now anyone, including someone completely unfamiliar with either French or English, could translate that entire 600-page journal by just typing it in. Even the archa-

ic idioms that my 1890-vintage Larousse helps me decipher may soon be available for automatic translation. I might as well have spent those six years of French classes watching television.

Almost no human occupation seems safe from substitution by a machine, including the job of building and programming the machines. With the added ingredient of artificial intelligence, the threat to humanity only escalates. Scientists who see no ethical limits to their ambitions strive to create human life in the laboratory, trying to reduce reproduction to machinelike replication. Meanwhile, engineers work to design machines with ever-more human skills and the ability to reason. Time alone separates the machine from becoming the supreme being, and reproducing its own creator for utilitarian purposes — as it was once used. Skeptics often draw the obvious analogy that those involved in robotics are actually developing their own replacements, but it might be equally apt to suggest that they are forging their own chains.

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

out my filing a [Social Security] number or W-4 Form (which is a contract) that authorizes such deductions.

I am *not* an employee. I am an "Elected Official." As Federal Law codified at 29 USC 630(f) clearly mandates ... this exclusion is further expressed in RSA 282-A: 9, IV, O (1)2).

Further, the U.S. Supreme Court, in 1991, ratified the validity of 29 USC 630(f) in the case of the four judges that [sic] sued Governor Ashcroft of Missouri for abiding by the Missouri Con-

stitution and sending them "out-to-pasture" when they reached the mandatory age of 70 years. At that time, Missouri judges were required to be re-elected by the people every five years. As such they were "Elected Officials," hence could not benefit from "Anti-age discrimination Federal Law" for "employees." Age discrimination was the basis of the suit which the judges brought, but they lost as they were *not* employees having been "elected" as officials.

This needs to be brought to the attention of the people because

we have 235 cities and towns, ten counties, as well as all elected officials in the State, who are now having a minimum of 7.5 percent of their lawful compensation diminished by the unlawful act of "Conversion" taken by corporate employees!

Do the math and you will find that multiple *millions* of [dollars] are leaving our economy and the *cost* to the taxpayers is another 7.5 percent for the "employers" 50 percent share of the [Social Security] deduction. Then there is the contingent *cost* to the Taxpay-

ers having to pay for the salaries, perks such as vacations and retirement benefits for the CPA's and accountants that do the calculations on "how much to unlawfully deduct, from the elected officials "compensation."

All elected Officials do not receive salary, wages, [and/or] payroll. They do not and cannot receive minimum wage benefits, nor do they receive unemployment benefits if they don't get re-elected. Accordingly, they are exempt from the requirements of all employees.

This needs exposure as does my "back-up" Bill, currently in the works as HB 541.

I ask your kind assistance in letting all know that we can give every elected official a 7.5 percent increase in "take-home" compensation at *no cost* to the taxpayer by merely following the dictates of the Federal and State laws now in existence!

Rep. Dick Marple  
[Representing] Merrimack #24  
Hooksett, N.H.

Dick:  
*We've never seen a man work so*

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## What should we do about a mentally ill president?

by Jim Hightower

It's time to state the obvious: The President of the United States is deranged.

I don't mean he's merely idiosyncratic, nor do I say this as a political jab. I mean that Donald J. Trump literally is mentally ill.

Okay, I'm no doctor, but you don't need a doctorate in mental disorders to see that his behavior in public and on Twitter is beyond

abnormal — it's psychotic. As we've seen, he routinely plunges into prolonged fits of petty paranoia; he succumbs to delusions of imperialist grandeur; he spouts ridiculous right-wing rumors as facts and denies that actual facts are true; and he is pathologically addicted to lying, bizarrely repeating his most blatant fabrications even after they've been totally debunked.

A sane, temperamentally-bal-

anced President — possessing all the power and majesty that America's supreme office conveys — doesn't get into demeaning public snits with the likes of Arnold Schwarzenegger; doesn't feel a constant need to puff himself up with ridiculously false claims, such as his frantic insistence that the crowd at his inaugural celebration was the largest ever; doesn't rage rabidly at media outlets that displease him, blasting them as "en-

emies of the people;" and doesn't unleash a furious, all-out attack on Barack Obama just because some radio talk-show screwball made a proof-free claim that the former President had wiretapped Trump's campaign.

These are not mere eccentricities, not just Trump being Trump — it's obvious that the guy is not well and is unable to handle the stress of being president. Indeed, his flaky behavior suggests he's

on the brink of a personal breakdown, and his ever-more-frequent retreats to his posh Florida golf resort tells us he doesn't even want to do the job. His loved ones and his party should intervene — for his sake and for America's. But they won't. So, will we?

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hard for a raise an increase in his compensation!

The Editor

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### It Worked for the Airlines

Dear Federal Representatives of New Hampshire:

Repeal then Reform with Deregulation — it worked before, it can work now.

The airlines were deregulated and they were once heavily controlled by government subsidies, life safety was first and foremost, and they had high capital needs — all just like health care.

Government got out of the airlines and allowed them to be competitive which drove down pricing by unbelievable amounts to where today you spend less than half on a Los Angeles to New York ticket than you did in the 1950s in real dollars. The price is the same today as in 1950, around \$650.

Safety was not compromised and free market competition weeded out the greedy, the weak, and or the protected and we all now can afford to fly. So too can insurance companies compete for your dollars to provide cradle-to-grave insurance without dumping us on the taxpayer when insurance is most needed and used after age 65: Medicare. The insurance providers know exactly what it costs to provide you benefits for life, make them do it with competi-

tion.

The only state assistance would be for those most in need and that price would be much less in a deregulated and repealed Obamacare, a failed government socialist system.

It worked spectacularly with air travel — a very comparable industry where safety and lives are at stake — it can for health care.

First Repeal, then Reform, with deregulation — back to our American enterprise system that always makes for better affordability when Uncle Sam gets out of the way.

It will allow for many more people to get health care because it will drive down pricing while keeping safety intact. But it must be completely free market, like the airlines were allowed to do to serve us all safely and fairly.

Then Americans can afford to help those most in need and know they are getting the best value for their compassion and helping assistance. The assistance for the needy and uninsured should be via local-controlled programs closest to the needs of their neighbors and not filtered by bureaucrats.

Jeff Frost

Alexandria, N.H.

Jeff:

[Sigh.]

We can hardly claim to be experts on air travel. The last time

the alleged Editor went aloft was — perhaps fittingly — in a hot-air balloon. He hasn't been on a jetliner since the Carter Administration. (A gaggle of fifty or sixty ink-stained wretches from podunk towns across the country were summoned in the hopes that we, awed by the majesty of government, would go back home and create a little positive coverage. We believe it's a standard ploy, probably in use since the days of FDR. History shows how effective it was in this case.) But we digress.

A proper study by a qualified social scientist could probably determine whether there's a causative link between airline deregulation and the institutionalization within the stand-up comedy industry of jokes about the existential horrors routinely suffered by airline passengers.

It's fair enough to compare airlines and health care, but only to a point. While some people are frog-marched onto airliners by their corporate overlords, as a condition of their wage servitude, many, like the alleged Editor, are free to say, "To hell with that."

Every human being, however, is condemned to exist within a somewhat leaky sack of skin; what's more, they're doomed, and they know it. Their only chance of staving off the inevitable is to avail themselves of the services of similarly-afflicted bipeds, presumably expert in preserving life and comfort.

Giving corporate bean-counters the power to make health care more like air travel seems unwise to us.

The Editor

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### In Defense of Free Speech

To the Editor:

As a military veteran, I am shaken by the trend on so-called progressive college campuses for students to want to censor free speech. Last month there were violent protests at the University of California at Berkeley resulting in \$100,000 in property damages to stop a controversial conservative guest from speaking, and now [something similar has happened at] Middlebury College. ... another invited controversial conservative speaker was shouted down from speaking and the frenzied student mob even assaulted and injured a Middlebury faculty member who was escorting the speaker.

This is a dangerous and despicable trend that is an assault on the cornerstone of our democracy. Salman Rushdie, who had feared for his life for years after Ayatollah Khomeini issued an execution *fatwa* against him for "blasphemy," for his book *The Satanic Verses*, knows what it is like to be reviled for your tongue and your pen.

In 2015, Rushdie received the *Chicago Tribune's* Literary

Award for lifetime achievement and spoke out against a trend on U.S. college campuses to censor speakers. "The university is the place where young people should be challenged every day, where everything they know should be put into question, so that they can think and learn and grow up," he said. "And the idea that they should be protected from ideas that they might not like is the opposite of what a university should be."

Rushdie implored, "Limiting freedom of expression is not just censorship, it is an assault on human nature. Without freedom of expression, all other freedoms fail."

John Meinhold  
Portsmouth, N.H.

John:

We didn't hear you squawk when the President called the press "the enemy of the people."

The Editor

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### DST & the Electoral College

To the Editor:

Abolish Daylight Savings Time. It's a twice-a-year nuisance to billions of people.

And why not abolish the Electoral College, so everyone's vote counts?

Dick Devens  
Center Sandwich, 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, MARCH 19	MONDAY, MARCH 20	TUESDAY, MARCH 21	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22	THURSDAY, MARCH 23	FRIDAY, MARCH 24	SATURDAY, MARCH 25
<p><b>2011</b>—The U.S. and France attack Libya — for its own good, of course.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—<i>USA Today</i> admits that its Pulitzer-contender Jack Kelly ought to have competed in the fiction category.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—George W.[MD] Bush kicks off his new war by sending 40 Tomahawk missiles into a residential neighborhood in Baghdad killing innocent civilians instead of his nemesis, Saddam Hussein.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Scientists report "alarming" melting of the Larsen Ice Shelf.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—The Pentagon's top Cuba expert admits she spied for Cuba.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—Ed "Meese is a Pig" Meese endorses drug testing for schoolteachers.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—Appearing on "Diff'rent Strokes," Nancy Reagan tells "a true story" about "a boy we'll call Charlie." "Burned out on marijuana" at 14, he "brutally beats" Sis when she won't steal money to feed his weed habit.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—The U.S. government burns books by Wilhelm Reich.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Off Japan, Kamikaze attacks kill 800 sailors on the <i>U.S.S. Franklin</i>.</p> <p><b>1937</b>—Birth of Clarence "Frogman" Henry.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—Over 100 are injured in a riot in Harlem. A study later blames police brutality for causing the riot. Fiorello LaGuardia suppresses the report.</p> <p><b>1916</b>—Eight U.S. Army biplanes go after Pancho Villa.</p> <p><b>1687</b>—French explorer Robert de La Salle is murdered in Texas by mutineers fed up with his haughty ways.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—U.S. ground troops invade Iraq to protect The Homeland from Saddam's innumerable weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p><b>1995</b>—Religious fanatics release nerve gas in Tokyo subway.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—UN weapons inspector Rolf Ekeus says Iraq has agreed to destroy its weapons of mass destruction.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—Press Baron William R. Hearst's granddaughter Patricia is convicted of bank robbery.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—"If the [Vietnamese] Communists continue to suffer the losses they have been taking," says French Chief of Staff Gen. Paul Ely, "I don't know how they can stay in the battle."</p> <p><b>1933</b>—Germany opens its first concentration camp at Dachau.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—"Get to hell out of here, you son of a bitch," would-be FDR assassin Giuseppe Zangara tells the chaplain before his electrocution for killing the mayor of Chicago. "All capitalists lousy bunch of crooks. Goodbye to all poor peoples everywhere! Push the button!"</p> <p><b>1905</b>—An old boiler explodes at the Grover Shoe Factory in Brockton, Mass. and shoots through the roof. The building collapses, trapping hundreds of workers. Several barrels of naphtha catch fire. Fifty-eight die and 150 are injured.</p> <p><b>1899</b>—Martha Place strikes a blow for gender equality by being executed in New York's electric chair, the first woman to do so.</p>	<p><b>2013</b>—Four people perish in a fiery inferno after a Robinson R44 helicopter crashes in New South Wales.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Richard Clarke, senior U.S. counter-intelligence officer since G.H.[H.]W. Bush, says G.W.[MD] Bush ignored al Qaeda until 9/11.</p> <p><b>1995</b>—Mississippi ratifies the 13th amendment outlawing slavery. Failure to register nullifies the action, though.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Pres. Richard Nixon asks John Dean for ideas on who should "handle" a million bucks in hush money.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—"Gents, this is an educational project," says condemned murderer Frederick Wood in New York. "You are about to witness the damaging effect electricity has on Wood."</p> <p><b>1962</b>—At Edwards AFB, a bear named Yogi is the first living thing ejected from a plane at supersonic speed.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—South African police kill 89 unarmed black protesters in the Sharpeville Massacre.</p> <p><b>1952</b>—DJ Alan Freed throws the Moondog Coronation Ball in Cleveland — the first rock concert.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—NYPD cops find compulsive hoarder Homer L. Collyer dead and buried under newspapers in his junk-crammed Harlem townhouse.</p> <p><b>1861</b>—Slavery is the cornerstone of the Confederacy, declares its Vice President, Alexander H. Stephens.</p> <p><b>1844</b>—Millerites are re-disappointed.</p> <p><b>1843</b>—The world fails to end as William Miller had predicted; Millerites are disappointed.</p>	<p><b>2015</b>—A Robinson R44 helicopter crashes in Orlando, Fla., killing three occupants. The house it hits is set ablaze, but fortuitously is unoccupied.</p> <p><b>2006</b>—<i>MV Queen of the North</i>, a Canadian ferry four miles off course, hits an island at 17 knots and sinks with a loss of two lives. Union rep deny crewmembers were having sex at the time.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—The chief officer of <i>RMS Milheim</i>, getting out of his chair while on watch, catches his trousers on a lever, falls and hits his head, losing consciousness. The ship runs aground at Land's End in Cornwall, a total loss.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—A load of 3,168 tons of garbage leaves NYC aboard the barge <i>Mobro 4000</i>. After a futile 162-day, 6,000 mile odyssey it finally returns to the Big Apple for incineration.</p> <p><b>1986</b>—A Robinson R22 helicopter dismantles itself near Memphis, Tenn., killing its experienced pilot and a luckless passenger.</p> <p><b>1986</b>—David Funchess, a black former Marine with a Purple Heart and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, shuffles off this mortal coil in Florida's electric chair, the first Vietnam veteran executed in the U.S.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—A technician looking for air leaks with a lighted candle starts a fire causing \$100 million in damages at the Brown's Ferry nuclear power plant in Alabama.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—An Undersecretary of Defense warns his boss bombing North Vietnam is useless.</p>	<p><b>2004</b>—A bipartisan group of 19 Members of Congress gathers in a Senate office building to watch a golden crown being placed on the head of convicted tax cheat and <i>Washington Times</i> owner Rev. Sun Myung Moon.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—A convoy of the 507th Main Maintenance Co. gets lost, then ambushed near Nasiriyah, Iraq; 11 soldiers are KIA, five are wounded, and six taken prisoner, including Pvt. Jessica Ryan.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—A U.S. missile downs a British fighter jet over Iraq.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—Acting president Ronald Reagan, clearly suffering a flashback, proposes a space-based anti-missile system similar to one portrayed in the 1940 film <i>Murder in the Air</i>, in which he played Lt. "Brass" Bancroft.</p> <p><b>1925</b>—The Tennessee legislature bans the teaching of evolution.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—In London, a bullet-catching trick by American illusionist William Robinson (aka "Chung Ling Soo, the Marvelous Chinese Conjurer") goes fatally awry.</p> <p><b>1901</b>—U.S. troops capture Filipino rebel leader Emilio Aguinaldo, whom the U.S. had earlier backed in his fight against Spanish colonial powers.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—Mormon leader John D. Lee is executed by a firing squad for his role in the Mountain Meadows Massacre. He leaves 19 wives and 56 children.</p> <p><b>1842</b>—The House of Representatives censures Congressman Joshua R. Giddings for introducing a resolution opposing slavery.</p>	<p><b>2004</b>—At a black-tie dinner, President George W.[MD] Bush cracks up A-list broadcast journalists with gags about "his" failed search for WMDs. Less amused: families of dead GI's; of which there are 691 at this point.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Exxon demonstrates its commitment to the environment in Prince William Sound via the <i>Exxon Valdez</i>.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Alex Mitchell, a British bricklayer, dies of laughter while watching BBC's "The Goodies."</p> <p><b>1971</b>—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports, thanks to stolen FBI documents, that letter carriers, a Swarthmore switchboard operator, and a local police chief have been spying on Philadelphia activists.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Operation Lam Son 719, the ARVN invasion of Laos, ends. Huge U.S., VC, and ARVN casualties but no winners.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—At Stalag Luft III, 76 POWs escape through "Tunnel Harry." Three are successful, the rest re-captured, 50 of whom are shot.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—His parachute defunct, RAF tailgunner Nicholas Alkemade jumps from his crippled bomber 18,000 feet over Germany. Pine trees and snow break his fall; he lives until 1987.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—Robert Allison becomes the first American to buy an American-built automobile. It's a Winton.</p> <p><b>1834</b>—The Bank of Maryland collapses, the victim of "stupendous fraud;" depositors lose between \$2 and \$3 million.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—George W.[MD] Bush signs an Executive Order giving Dick "Dick" Cheney unprecedented power to classify information.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Four Air Force generals are sacked over a massive rape scandal.</p> <p><b>1997</b>—Florida's "Old Sparky" acts up again, setting Pedro Medina's head on fire in addition to killing him.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Three dairy coops get \$600 million in milk price supports for a \$427,000 "contribution" towards Dick "Original Dick" Nixon's re-election.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—"Of all the forms of inequality," says MLK Jr., "injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."</p> <p><b>1966</b>—Fifteen WW II and Korean War veterans burn discharge papers in NYC to protest the Vietnam War.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—In Montgomery, Ala., 25,000 civil rights marchers arrive at the state capitol, thanks to the National Guard.</p> <p><b>1955</b>—U.S. Customs seizes Allen Ginsburg's "Howl" as "obscene."</p> <p><b>1931</b>—In Alabama, the Scottsboro Boys are arrested on bogus charges.</p> <p><b>1931</b>—RIP, Ida B. Wells. Born to slaves in Mississippi in 1862, she helped end lynching with her pen.</p> <p><b>1911</b>—The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire kills 146 sweatshop workers in New York City. The factory's fire doors had been locked to enhance productivity.</p> <p><b>1894</b>—"Coxey's Army" of 100 men sets out from Massillon, Ohio, headed for Washington, D.C., protesting for government jobs during the nation's worst depression to date.</p>
4:31      5:07	5:23      6:04	6:20      7:04	7:20      8:03	8:17      8:56	9:10      9:44	9:58      10:28
10:48      11:01	11:43      11:56	12:41	12:55      1:40	1:53      2:35	2:48      3:25	3:39      4:11
SUNDAY, MARCH 26	MONDAY, MARCH 27	TUESDAY, MARCH 28	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29	THURSDAY, MARCH 30	FRIDAY, MARCH 31	SATURDAY, APRIL 1
<p><b>2006</b>—On the steps of a Boston church, Justice Antonin Scalia is photographed making an obscene gesture.</p> <p><b>1993</b>—Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev returns to Earth, where the USSR that sent him into orbit is no more.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—Don Rumsfeld, once and future U.S. Defense Secretary, schmoozes in Baghdad with Iraq's Foreign Minister and gives him Ronald Reagan's best wishes.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Ground is broken for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Gen. John D. Lavelle loses two stars and command of the 7th Air Force for following Nixon's secret orders to bomb North Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—A dozen "Wise Men" tell LBJ it's time to get out of Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Gen. Westmoreland asks for 40,000 more men in Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—After the rope breaks, James Johnson tells his executioners in Poplar Bluff, Mo., "Hurry up, boys, and get me out of my misery." They do.</p> <p><b>1892</b>—Walt Whitman, the great American poet, utters his last words, "Hold me up, I want to s__t."</p> <p><b>1676</b>—Narragansett wipe out a force of 60 Colonial soldiers and 20 Wampanoag allies, nine by torture, in what's now Central Falls, R.I.</p> <p><b>1669</b>—Jane Walford, the Editor's 9x great grandmother, recovers damages for an allegation of witchcraft.</p> <p><b>752</b>—Three days after his election, and before his consecration, Pope-elect Stephen II dies of a stroke.</p>	<p><b>2007</b>—After making a "bang/pop/twang sound," a Robinson R44 augers in at Point Vedra Beach, Fla. An instructor and a student pay the ultimate price for corporate profit: an over-worked mechanic screwed up.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Iraq "can really finance its own reconstruction and relatively soon," U.S. Undersecretary for Defense Paul Wolfowitz tells Congress. "There's a lot of money to pay for this that doesn't have to be U.S. taxpayer money."</p> <p><b>1986</b>—Congress slashes welfare while approving \$100 million for a drug gang called "The Contras."</p> <p><b>1964</b>—History's 2nd largest earthquake hits Anchorage; 115 die.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—So their forged ID's might avoid Nazi detection, openly gay Dutch artist Willem Arondeus and others bomb the Amsterdam Public Records Office. It works.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—RADM John W. Wilcox, Jr., commanding a task force bound for Scapa Flow, is washed off his flagship and lost one day out of Casco Bay.</p> <p><b>1931</b>—Having drunk Parisian tap water three weeks earlier to prove that it was safe, British novelist Arnold Bennett dies of typhoid fever.</p> <p><b>1814</b>—A (severed) nose count shows General Andy Jackson's troops, with a 3-1 advantage, massacred 85 percent of their Creek opponents at Horseshoe Bend on the Tallapoosa.</p> <p><b>1800</b>—Federalist Senators find <i>Aurora</i> editor W. Duane in contempt for publishing the truth about them.</p>	<p><b>2007</b>—Phyllis Schlafly tells Bates students that by getting married a woman "has consented to sex, and I don't think you can call it rape."</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Two U.S. "Warthog" aircraft mistakenly strafe British tanks in Iraq killing one soldier.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—"The enemy we're fighting [in Iraq]," General William S. Wallace admits, "is different from the one we'd war-gamed against."</p> <p><b>1993</b>—A Robinson R22 helicopter proves un-flyable after the main rotor falls off the tail rotor. Two die when it crashes in Wissen, Germany.</p> <p><b>1979</b>—A stuck valve causes a nuclear reactor at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania to melt.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—Disdaining his assigned route, driver William L. Cimillo leaves the Bronx in a nearly-new 44-passenger bus and drives to Hollywood, Fla.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Britain conducts an experiment on the city of Lübeck. Incendiary bombs destroy 80 percent of timber-framed buildings.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Brits disable a Nazi dry dock at St. Nazaire by ramming it with an explosive-laden destroyer.</p> <p><b>1939</b>—The Spanish Civil War ends as Franco takes Madrid.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—On Palm Sunday, 38 tornadoes in 8 states kill 380 people.</p> <p><b>1884</b>—A Cincinnati mob tries to lynch a white murderer. Thwarted, the mob grows to 10,000. Gunbattles rage. Order is restored by the State Militia: 56 dead and 300 wounded.</p>	<p><b>2003</b>—<i>Newsweek</i> publishes a poll saying 74 percent of Americans think the Bush administration has "a well thought-out military plan."</p> <p><b>1995</b>—Rep. Dan Burton [R-Ind.] says the U.S. "should place an aircraft carrier off the coast of [land-locked] Bolivia and crop dust the coca fields."</p> <p><b>1984</b>—Owner Robert Irsay sneaks his Colts out of Baltimore to avoid an eminent domain seizure by the City.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Army Master Sergeant Max Beilke becomes the last U.S. combat soldier to leave Vietnam. He will die at the Pentagon, a civilian, on 9/11/01.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—The EPA lays off enforcement for a lead smelter in Idaho in exchange for a \$100,000 "contribution" to the Nixon re-election campaign.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—A court martial elects Lt. W. Calley No. 1 scapegoat for My Lai. For at least 22 murders, Calley gets life in prison, later reduced to three years confinement to his apartment.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—For reasons unfathomable, France launches a nuclear sub.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are convicted of espionage.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—Abdulaziz ibn Abdul Rahman Al Saud's army defeats Ikhwan rebels at Sabilla, demonstrating the obsolescence of camel-mounted cavalry and the efficacy of machine guns.</p> <p><b>1843</b>—At a Cabinet meeting, Secretary of War John C. Spencer lunges at Secretary of the Navy Abel P. Upshur. The ensuing fistfight is halted by President John Tyler.</p>	<p><b>2008</b>—As he throws out the first pitch at Washington's new National Park, George W.[MD] Bush is met with a resounding chorus of boos.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announces "we know where" Iraq's WMDs are: "the area around Tikrit and Baghdad and east, west, south, and north somewhat."</p> <p><b>2003</b>—During a live Fox News broadcast from Iraq, Geraldo Rivera reveals the 101st Airborne's current location, where they're going to attack next, and when.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—Fred Trump III, whose son is chronically ill and needs special care, learns his family's health care is being terminated by his uncle Donald.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—In D.C., John Hinckley Jr. empties a six-shooter at Pres. Ronald Reagan. One shot ricochets off the armored limo and hits Ronnie. Al Haig announces, "As of now, I'm in control here." Meanwhile, in Denver, John's older brother Scott cancels a scheduled dinner engagement with V.P. George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush's son Neil.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Hanoi's Easter Offensive sends 200,000 PAVN soldiers across the DMZ: the mightiest attack since China crossed the Yalu.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—A Viet Cong car bomb explodes outside the U.S. Embassy in Saigon killing 22 and injuring 183.</p> <p><b>1870</b>—The 15th Amendment passes, giving the right to vote to all, regardless of race. All males, that is.</p>	<p><b>2016</b>—Darcie Rae Hall, 36, of Troy, is arrested in Keene for selling "Donald Trump" brand heroin.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—In Fallujah, four American contractors are ambushed, killed, and their bodies displayed from a bridge.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—Protesting Maggie Thatcher's regressive poll tax, 250,000 gather in London. Mounted cops charge, igniting the Battle of Trafalgar Square.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—The American banking industry is deregulated. What could possibly go wrong?</p> <p><b>1969</b>—As per his instructions, the body of Dwight D. Eisenhower is transported via baggage car, like any other U.S. serviceman, to its final resting place in Abilene, Kan.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Lyndon Johnson announces he won't run for re-election, delighting millions who have no inkling of who will replace him.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—In New York City, 200,000 gather to protest the Vietnam War.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—U.N. troops fight their way back to the 38th parallel in Korea.</p> <p><b>1931</b>—The Motion Picture Production Code starts taking fun out of life.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—PR pioneer Edward Bernays, working for the American Tobacco Co., pays women to publicly smoke Luckies in New York's Easter Parade.</p> <p><b>1880</b>—In Wabash, Ind., the first electric street lighting is turned on.</p> <p><b>1854</b>—Japan's Tokugawa shogunate agrees to open two ports to foreign trade, persuaded by Commodore Perry's cannons.</p>	<p><b>2013</b>—In Portsmouth Harbor, the tanker <i>Harbour Feature</i> allides with the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge.</p> <p><b>2010</b>—Three Somali pirates in a skiff attempt to hijack the 453-foot frigate <i>U.S.S. Nicholas</i>. They fail.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—Britain declassifies "Blue Peacock," a 1957 scheme to bury tactical nukes in Germany with live chickens to keep the electronics warm. The timing leads some to think it's a joke. It's not.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Bush administration propagandists claim Special Forces have "rescued" PFC Jessica Lynch.</p> <p><b>1997</b>—A blizzard dumps 18 inches of snow on Portsmouth.</p> <p><b>1994</b>—Steve Bannon, accompanied by federal marshals, arrives via limo to manage Biosphere 2, an ecological experiment in the Arizona desert. A break-in, lawsuits, and failure ensue.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—U.S. Army begins Operation Pegasus to relieve Marines at Khe Sanh. Two months after the siege is lifted, the base is abandoned.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—RIP Brian O'Nolan, aka Flann O'Brien, aka Myles na gCopalcan.</p> <p><b>1957</b>—The BBC reports that Swiss farmers are struggling to cope with "an exceptionally heavy spaghetti crop."</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Five New York legislators are expelled for being socialists.</p> <p><b>1865</b>—John Milton, Gov. of Fla., descendant of the poet, shoots himself in the head because "Death would be preferable to reunion."</p> <p><b>1671</b>—A blizzard leaves six-foot drifts of snow in Portsmouth.</p>
4:27      4:55	5:12      5:37	5:58      6:20	6:44      7:04	7:31      7:50	8:21      8:38	9:13      9:30

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