

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Long Time Coming ...

We were warned Death Panels were coming, and now they're here. They're called the House and the Senate, and — surprise, surprise — they're literally manned by rich old white men (who exempted themselves from the rules, by the way).

Now that House Republicans have passed Trumpcare, they're learning what's in the bill. That's making them leery of their constituents, and for good reason. Rep. Rod Blum's staff pre-screened the attendees of a recent town hall, but, according to the *Washington Post*, most of them still screamed at the 62 year-old Iowan.

Among its many unpopular features, the new legislation disadvantages those born with birth defects: women, for example. If that sounds like a sick joke, it's not — it's an actual provision of Trumpcare. *The Independent*, a British paper, reported Saturday that having had a baby constitutes a pre-existing condition, so mothers will pay more for healthcare: "One estimate suggests a past pregnancy would increase a woman's insurance premium by \$17,060 (£13,200) — a 425 per cent rise." If you've got erectile dysfunction, though, don't worry — that's covered.

Sick people, too, may have problems getting health care, which has some people concerned. They're overlooking the long-term beneficial effects. The demise of the weak will teach an important lesson to their survivors: don't get sick.

Don't get wounded, either. Iraq War vet Will Fischer, who does government outreach for VoteVets, has a low opinion of Trumpcare. He says it will "strip tax credits from potentially millions of veterans, and flood the VA with new patients at a time the VA is understaffed to handle a rush, thanks to the Donald Trump hiring freeze. ... We cannot put it more simply than this: Trumpcare will punish veterans. You cannot be pro-veteran and vote for Trumpcare."

Fischer's complaints must be discounted, since, as a veteran, he can't be impartial. Donald Trump had a draft deferment for heel spurs, which is a pre-existing

condition, and you don't hear him complaining.

You Say Potato, ...

Conflicting claims about Trumpcare reflect a broader problem: we seem unable, as a nation, to agree on anything at all.

Take immigration for example. Many think the President is too vehemently opposed to it. That's ridiculous. He just doesn't want the wrong sort of people coming to our great country.

If Trump were anti-immigration, he wouldn't have let his in-laws hand out brochures at the Beijing Ritz-Carlton which read, "Invest \$500,000 and immigrate to the United States." As if further proof were needed, just the day before, Trump signed a bill re-authorizing the EB-5 visa program they were selling.

There are, of course, some misguided individuals who find certain current trends disturbing. That's fine. This is still a free country, and they have every right to be disturbed.

Some go so far as to exercise their First Amendment rights to protest. That's too far. So, during the sparsely-attended inauguration, 214 people were charged with felonies carrying penalties of up to ten years in prison.

That may seem harsh. It's not. Harsh is facing a year in jail for laughing at a top law enforcement officer who was confirmed by U.S. Senators after he lied to them under oath.

When Sen. Richard Shelby [R-Ala.] said Jeff Sessions' record of "treating all Americans equally under the law is clear and well-documented," Desiree Fairouz laughed. It was an involuntary response — Shelby's proposition was literally ludicrous — but nevertheless, it was inappropriate. The proper response was to tremble in fear. Had she done that, she would not be facing jail time.

How Did We Get Here?

Trump and the Republican Congress do what they accuse Democrats of doing — ramming legislation down the public's throat without having read it — and add a wrinkle of their own: their bills do exactly the opposite of what they claim to achieve.

Since it hasn't been prohib-



ited yet, now is a good time to ask how we came to be living in a dystopian screenplay in which a barely-disguised cabal, having attained power by questionable means, is actively destroying everything that's good about this country in the name of making it "great" again.

We would argue that our present state of national derangement is the predictable result of the corporate media's addiction to asymmetrical political standards. Almost across the board — except in relatively obscure operations like this one — whatever comes from a so-called "conservative" is treated as serious discourse, while anything coming from any position left of the Right is regarded as potential lunacy.

On April 12th, NPR proved our theory in under two minutes. The public radio network, putatively established to provide a medium unbiased by commercial motives, is roundly and routinely mocked as leftist propaganda by most members of the political party now running the Federal government and two out of three state governments. In truth, NPR is a timorous little beastie, cowering in fear of providing any evidence that might sustain that canard, and habitually bending over backwards to prove the contrary. Meanwhile Fox News, that blatant shill for the far Right, is treated as if its claim to be "fair and balanced" were anything

but a lie. The moment of truth came during a live call-in program called "Indivisible," created to bring together people from "across every divide" in "inclusive conversation" during the first 100 days of the Trump Administration. They could have called it The Kumbaya Hour.

Charlie Sykes was the host and David French his guest. Sykes was, for 27 years, the host of a Right Wing radio talk show [pardon the redundancy]. French is a staff writer for the *National Review*, house organ for the Right Wing since 1955. He was eyed as a leading alternative Presidential candidate by the Stop Trump movement.

Aaron from Detroit called in with a perfect litmus test for our theory. "Your guest," Aaron said, "wondered what is driving this schism in political thought, and I believe it is the Right Wing Scare Machine/Hate Machine of AM talk radio and cable news. What does he think?"

French thought that "both sides are really good at creating scare machines," he said, citing "scare machines that I have experienced on the other side ... often concentrated in the academy, concentrated in media outlets. ... if you're going to point at one side and say they've creating a scare machine, I could suggest any number of liberal mailing lists [where] you would be bombarded with apocalyptic messaging."

Just so we're clear, this is an alleged source of Leftist propaganda giving a Right Winger the opportunity to claim that 20 years of Fox News, and 30 years of Right Wing talk radio, are the functional equivalent of obscure "liberal mailing lists." Furthermore, he seems to be suggesting that actually taking healthcare away from 20 million people is just good government, but talking about it is "apocalyptic messaging."

Sykes, spooked perhaps by criticism of the racket that had fed, clothed, and housed his family for 27 years, concurred with French, who has long made his living from the print division of the same racket. "[I]t's very easy to say it's all the left looking down on conservatives, or the Right Wing scare machine," he said. "I mean, both of them have an element of truth"

French reiterated for the slow learners, "I'm on all kinds of Left Wing mailing lists, even though I'm conservative, and the language and the messaging is no different."

As the end of the hour approached, Sykes signed off with a self-fulfilling prophecy: "And it's not going to get any better. Hey, we have to leave it there"

Half a century of pondering has brought us to this conclusion. Would that we could offer a better remedy; all we have, though, is a hammer — this hammer. So, hammer on we will, until we're arrested for laughing.

The Alleged News®

"Fasten your seatbelts, it's going to be a bumpy ride."

On Monday, ex-Acting Attorney General Sally Yates, fired by President Trump for not defending an unconstitutional executive order, testified that she warned White House Counsel Donald McGahn in January that National Security Advisor Michael Flynn had lied to Vice President Mike

Pence about his talks with Russian Ambassador Sergei Kislyak. Yates also said she told McGahn that in relying on Flynn's statements, Pence was misleading the American public. McGahn responded by asking Yates why the Justice Department cared if White House officials lied to each other.

On Tuesday, FBI Director James Comey was in Los Angeles addressing a group of subordinates when a TV set behind him announced that he had been fired by President Donald Trump. Comey, not having been otherwise notified, laughed, thinking the announcement was just an elaborate

prank. Comey has been overseeing both criminal and counterespionage investigations into possible collusion between Flynn and other members of the Trump campaign, including campaign manager Paul Manafort, and an assortment of Russian spies and criminals. Comey had been lead-

ing the investigations because Attorney General Jeff Sessions had had to recuse himself, since he had been deeply involved in the Trump campaign and had also met twice with Kislyak —

The Alleged News®

from page one

meetings he initially neglected to disclose during his Senate confirmation hearings. Trump said his firing of Comey was based on the recommendation of the recused Attorney General. The justification he cited for the firing was that Comey had erred nine months ago by treating Hillary Clinton unfairly regarding her use of email — although Trump had praised Comey for that action at the time. Comey is the third law enforcement professional Donald Trump has fired who was investigating Donald Trump at the time

of their firing. Preet Bharara was the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York until March 11th. His bailiwick included Trump Tower, the location of an email server that's had a history of curious communications with a Russian bank. Tuesday evening, Rudy Giuliani was seen in the lobby of Donald Trump's hotel in Washington, D.C. He denied he was under consideration for the position of FBI Director.

On Wednesday, Trump met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. It's only speculation, but our guess is that Lavrov was in Washington, D.C. to conduct Trump's 100-day perform-

The Flag Police Enjoy a Bit of Job Satisfaction



The Flag Police are notoriously resolute in their mission to promote voluntary adherence to the Flag Code, believing that widespread compliance will reduce the pressure to water down the First Amendment with prohibitive legislation barring more combative forms of vexillological speech.

Lacking the statutory power to impose jail sentences or crushing fines, they rely on public shaming to motivate miscreants. Lest anyone doubt the efficacy of that method, the Flag Police have authorized us to publish Exhibit A, above, taken on April 29th. This proud banner now flies in place of the tattered wreck exposed in our newspaper of April 14th.

The Flag Police will, of course, refrain from issuing plaudits to the person or persons responsible

for remediating a situation which should never have developed in the first place. Routine adherence to the Flag Code is expected as the norm. This phlegmatic approach stems from the Sisyphean nature of the work, as evidenced by Exhibit B, below, submitted by Officer Stimmell, of the Northwood Division. The Legal Department is still assessing whether this is merely a Flag Code violation, or full-bore terrorism.



mance review.

Also on Wednesday: CNN reported that associates of Mike Flynn have been subpoenaed to appear before a grand jury. CNN billed its story as a breaking news exclusive. In fact, the story had been broken on April 29th by *PalmerReport.com*.

Late on Tuesday, *PalmerReport.com* posted this: "... there are multiple grand juries underway, not just one. One of them deals with the Foreign Agent Registration Act and appears to be the one CNN is finally acknowledging. The other grand jury deals with RICO and is aimed at Trump and his business associates. ..."

Nuke Dump Redux?

Last month the AP reported that "annual tours of the Hanford [Wash.] portion of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park will start on April 17."

Tuesday, the *Seattle Times* reported that "Thousands of workers at the Hanford nuclear reservation in Richland [Wash.] were forced to take cover indoors after a tunnel containing radioactive waste collapsed ..."

Energy Secretary Rick Perry's tango lessons are now on hold ...

President Trump's 2018 budget included \$120 million for jump-starting the licensing process for the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository in Nevada. Yucca Mountain was intended to be the final resting place for highly-irradiated fuel rods from commercial nuclear power generating plants like Seabrook Station. The rods will be lethally dangerous for hundreds of thousands of years.

Promoters of nuclear power have been assuring the public since the 1950s that the problem of disposing of power plant nuke

waste was just a matter of time. They never said how much time.

The Department of Energy began work at Yucca Mountain in 1978, and has spent in the neighborhood of \$10 billion on the project so far. It was assumed that the mountain, located in the Great Basin desert, was essentially dry and free from earthquake faults. That has proven not to be the case.

Before Yucca Mountain could operate, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would have to issue a permit certifying that it would be safe. Guaranteeing the safety of tens of thousands of tons of the most dangerous substance ever created, for longer than modern humans have existed, may be a tall order.

On May 6th, the Nevada legislature appropriated \$3.8 million to make the case that a permit

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should not be issued. There are no nuclear power plants in Nevada, and the state's inhabitants are of the opinion that there should not be any spent fuel rods there, either.

If Nevada is able to block the certification of Yucca Mountain, the Department of Energy [DOE] will have to look elsewhere.

New Hampshire, for instance.

In 1983, before settling on Yucca Mountain, the DOE proposed a Crystalline Repository Project, publishing a survey recommending the study of crystalline rock formations in 17 states as possible sites for a national nuke dump. One of those sites was what the Department called the Cardigan Pluton, a massive chunk of granite a few kilometers under the surface of Sullivan, Cheshire, and Hillsborough counties.

The Governor at the times was John H. Sununu, a former nuclear engineer and — surprise — a big fan of Seabrook Station. The inhabitants of the targeted area had varying views of Seabrook, but were united in their opposition to the Repository. So fierce was the opposition that after a few

months the DOE announced that due to some vague re-calculation of the need, the project was being suspended.

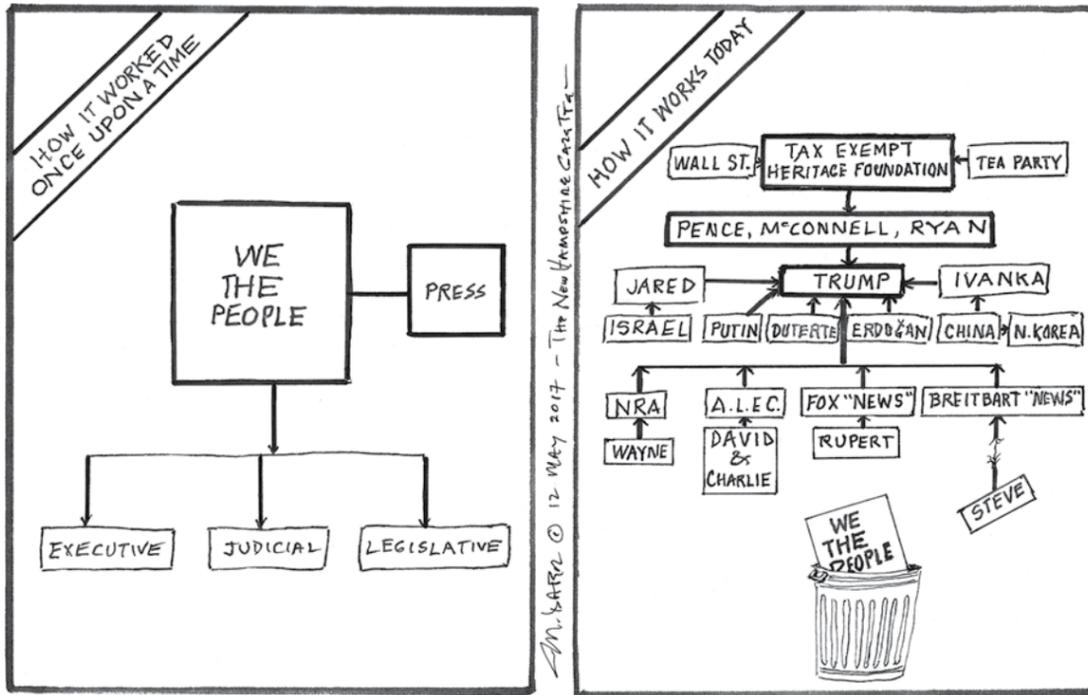
The nuke waste remains, however, and, with it, the potential for a revived Repository.

R.I.P., The Coat of Arms

This time the rumor was true: The Coat of Arms on Fleet Street will close its doors for the last time on May 27th; another authentic local joint, the site of many community events, source of Scotch eggs, and, when appropriate, the finest in acerbic service, is actually biting the proverbial dust, leaving us without a reliable purveyor of Fuller's London Pride. It and its staff will be missed.

Fortunately a purchase-and-sale agreement has reportedly been signed which should keep the Press Room open in more or less its present form. After the last go-round, of course, no one will rest easy until the closing is history, the relevant inspectors have signed off, and the door is opened — under new ownership, but with the same management.

If that fair prospect fails to materialize, and the few remaining



local bars go the way of the State Street Saloon and Coat of Arms (not to mention the Starlight Lounge) we may have no choice but to implement what we're calling the Dial-a-Bar strategy. Someone with a dartboard would pick at random some shiny, soulless, corporate drinking establishment and post it somewhere online. Thirsty local refugees would then know where they might find their friends.

"You Think You Have Problems?"

Under the above heading, the following paragraphs from the *New York Times* were forwarded to us by a friend and subscriber in bucolic Acworth (population 891, and proud home of Alice B. Fogel, this state's Poet Laureate):

"In January, Mr. Trump's lawyers made what previously would have been an unheard-of request: They asked for permission from Palm Beach officials to build a 50-foot concrete helipad outside Mar-a-Lago, to accommodate Marine One, the helicopter that carries the president.

"Neighbors reacted with horror. In a letter to the town, one described helicopters as 'massive beasts, generating enormous wind

speeds and noise,' and warned that approving the helipad would leave the town 'powerless to do anything as our beautiful, peaceful island is ripped apart by the helicopters' noise."

The article also included this paragraph, which further confirms our view of the alleged President:

"When Mr. Trump used a Boeing 727 in the 1990s, it was the loudest plane at the Palm Beach County airport, according to former airport officials. It was once impounded because he failed to pay a noise violation fee. But he would fly into a rage at the sound of other planes passing over Mar-a-Lago, and he often ordered club staff members to call the airport and complain, even late at night, former employees said."

The Rescue of Alpha Foxtrot 586

Speaking of aircraft, imagine that it's late October, and you're in a failing P-3 Orion sub-chaser in a gale-force storm over the far-northern Pacific, halfway between the Alaskan island of Attu, population zero, and the Soviet Union's Kamchatka peninsula. It's 1978, the Cold War is on, and you're about to ditch into thirty-foot waves.

Ed Caylor knows what that's like because he lived through it. He will talk about that experience on May 17th at the Portsmouth Athenæum, as part of the 2017 Secrets & Treasures Program Series, celebrating that venerable institution's bicentennial.

Caylor graduated from the Naval Academy in 1974 and was a Naval Aviator for the next six years, leaving the Navy in 1980 to pursue a career as an airline pilot. An Athenæum Proprietor, Ed retired from flying in 2010 and has resided in the Seacoast area for the last 36 years.

This program begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Research Library of the Portsmouth Athenæum at 9 Market Square. Attendance is free for Athenæum Proprietors, Subscribers and Friends. Guests and members of the public are welcome to attend the entire series by becoming a Friend of the Athenæum for as little as \$25 per year, payable via mail or at the door.

Admission to an individual program is \$10. Reservations are required. Space is limited. Call (603) 431-2538, Ext. 2 for reservations up to 48 hours in advance.



Our Wandering Photographer thought twice before braving Children's Day to visit Moe's. In addition to the usual tasty goodness — and a glimpse of rare sunshine — he got a quick view of this vintage VW bug. Presumably in honor of the day, it had a spiffy pedal-powered airplane with a Red Baron color scheme chained to its roof rack, with an accompanying fuel can. Venetian blinds accented the back window. The rear engine cover was done up woody-style, possibly through the use of patterned contact paper. The back fenders sported flared skirts. Painted on the right-hand door: "Grumpy Rich's Garage — Pay Up and Git Out!"

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Note Bene: We would like to thank local illustrator and graphic designer Andy Ritzo for the spiffy new standing head he created for these pages. More of his work can be found at ac-ritzo.com. — The Editor

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**Helicopter Season is Upon Us Again**

To the Editor:

Anyone who is concerned about the noise and intrusion created by the “scenic” helicopter flights may want to attend the next meeting of the “Noise Compatibility Meeting” at Pease. This is scheduled for next Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m., at 55 International Drive. This meeting is “open to the public.”

I plan on going to this meeting even though I do not expect much help from the Pease Development Authority. (It would be hard to find a more “aviation friendly” group.) But in spite of its limitations, this is the closest thing we have to a public forum in which to object.

Probably for reasons of economics, the owner/operator insists on flying the same route on every “scenic” trip. If you live off to the side of this regular route, you might never hear or see the helicopter, and you might wonder, “What’s all the complaining about?” But if you live under the regular route, the helicopter is a constant companion, especially on weekend days during the warm weather.

I have the misfortune to live in a place where I’m visited by the helicopter twice on every “scenic” flight — once as it leaves Pease and heads out to the river, and again when it circles around Market Square. On the return trip, the helicopter always seems to make a counter-clock-

wise banking turn directly over my house. This means that, in addition to the sound of the engine, I also get the whack-whack-whack sound from the rotors.

I’m very concerned by an article that appeared in the *Portsmouth Herald* on March 16, 2017, titled “Seacoast Helicopters to Build Facility at Pease.” According to the story, Seacoast Helicopters is building a new 9,600 square foot building. The owner said, “Last year we increased our touring by about 30 percent, and plans call for continued growth on the same path.” The story continued, “The company bought two new helicopters — they now have five — and have plans to add at least two more in the next few months. The roughly \$1.7 million project means the company will likely hire 20 more employees ...”

Can you see how this is developing, folks? If the helicopter situation was bad last summer, how much worse will it be with seven helicopters — perhaps three or four in the air at the same time? If this all plays out as advertised, its going to be miserable summer, and we’re all going to see the true dimensions of this problem.

Note — If the transponder in the helicopter is turned on, you can see the flight path and altitude in real time on a web site called “Flightradar 24.” The application is free. The call sign of the most-frequently used R-44 helicopter is “N219CR.”

Apparently the helicopter folks think we’re getting “used to” this situation, and are beginning to “accept” it. The story in the *Herald* said, “The number of people who have complained about the Seacoast Helicopters tours has dropped sub-



stantially since the business opened in 2013 ...” Well, I’m not “used to” this situation, and I don’t “accept it.” I’m going to go out to Pease next Thursday and speak my piece.

John Stephenson  
 Portsmouth, N.H.

John:

*We can confirm that these accursed airborne lawnmowers follow a path so invariable there might as well be rails in the sky. If the same obnoxiously-loud motorcycle went past a person’s house as often as helicopters go over that route, they’d be perfectly justified in calling the cops. Thanks, though, to the incestuous relationship between the Federal Aviation Administration and the racket they allegedly oversee, these noisy death-pods are practically exempt from regulation. As with the demented regime in D.C., our ultimate salvation, if any, is in the hands of an irate citizenry.*

The Editor

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How Unqualified Can You Get?

To the Editor:

Over the past few months, Donald Trump has made comments that have fully reinforced the fact that he is totally unprepared, and lacks the proper temperament, knowledge and skills to hold the office of President.

First he stated that “no one knew that health care was so complicated.” Then he stated that he thought that being President “would be easier.” Anyone who has been conscious for the past fifty years knows that

the subject of health care reform is very complicated, and that being President of the United States is the most difficult job on the planet. I guess Mr. Trump was too busy doing reality TV shows and running beauty contests, to be aware of such basic realities.

Trump has also made a number of foreign policy and domestic policy comments that are not only contrary to American values, but are outright dangerous. He has agreed to meet in the White House with the President Duterte, also known as “the Butcher of Manila.” This is a man who kills people suffering with drug addiction, and has said some nasty things about the United States, and has values contrary to basic human dignity. Trump has also stated that “he would be honored to meet with Kim Jong Un,” the erratic and unstable dictator of North Korea. What could possibly go wrong? Trump has also created a situation in South Korea with his trade threats and his egregious comment that South Korea was “once part of China,” so the anti-American candidate running for President there may actually win the election thanks to Trump. Also, Trump, the man who says he respects women more than anyone, said that FOX TV commentator Bill O’Reilly, who was fired for repeated sexual harassment, “did nothing wrong.” And

just today, Mr. Trump, because of his inability to get his way on the budget stated in one of his Twitter tantrums that the “U.S. needs a good shutdown,” referring to a government shutdown that would disrupt America, and cost taxpayers billions of dollars, just like the last time Republican Ted Cruz led a shutdown of the government.

It is hard to believe that the President of the United States could make any one of these ignorant comments or decisions, let alone all seven of them, within 100 days of becoming President. And in addition to these blunders, there are all the horrible policy issues and appointments he has made to key positions such as energy, EPA, Education, Commerce, HUD and the Supreme Court, &c. If this is any indication of what we can expect over the next four years, America and the world are in very deep trouble. Trouble so deep and pervasive that we may never fully recover.

Rich DiPentima
 Portsmouth, N.H.

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**It’s Back!**

To the Editor:  
 Seems under President Trump, Compassionate Conservatism is back full tilt.

The richest and most profitable industries continue to receive



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**Murph's Fortnightly Quote**

*"I don't think we should pass bills that we haven't read and don't know what they cost."*

— House Speaker Paul Ryan (1970- )  
 on the Affordable Care Act, in 2009

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**“In a Dark Time ...”**

To the Editor:

I have written about Donald Trump’s alleged narcissism and psychopathy. This is about his “malignant normalcy,” not about his policies.

Worse than being a habitual liar, narcissist or psychopath is his delusional and paranoid-like thinking, saying that millions of illegals voted, that he had the largest crowd ever at his inauguration, that Mexico will pay for his wall, and on and on.

Trump’s personality is extreme by any standards. Over-the-top braggadocio coexists with a god-like desire to plaster his name everywhere — on skyscrapers, on casinos, on a so-called “university,” on steaks.

You can’t use knowledge as a persuader. Three million women marching didn’t phase him. It boils down to our President only believing something if it makes him look good. Everything else is “fake news.” He protects himself psychologically lest his wall will come tumbling down; he’s too well defended to let that happen. Rather, he works diligently at building himself up by putting others down.

What’s scary is that this self-absorbed, sky-high extrovert with a combustible mien, who feeds on daring and ruthlessness, and is low on agreeableness, could well take this country with him. He simply

can’t regulate his temperament.

Bottom line — worse than being mentally disabled is whether or not he is dangerous. He publicly boasts of violence, has urged followers to beat up protestors, approves of torture and he harbors an enormity of anger.

A line from poet Theodore Roethke has given me solace: “In a dark time, the eye begins to see.”

Michael Kulla  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.  
Michael:  
*Thanks for the Roethke — works for us, too.*  
The Editor

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**We Pay, He Plays**

To the Editor:

The current occupant of the Oval Office is outrageous in countless ways, not the least of which is the exorbitant price of his getaways to golf — and, by the way, promote his private clubs. Trump’s first month of travel expenses cost taxpayers almost as much as Obama spent in a year.

All Presidents need protection and relaxation, but this is different from past Presidents, not only in terms of quantity and cost but in possible conflicts of interest. In addition to numerous trips to his other more local properties, Trump has made seven trips to Mar-a-Lago at an estimated cost of approximately \$3 million each. This unbelievable expense plus the cost of protection for Melania and Barron at the

Trump Tower in New York City, as well as the security details for travel by his children on Trump family business, is unprecedented.

I know, I know — its a drop in the bucket compared to the \$7 trillion in tax breaks for Trump and his wealthy friends that we will have to pay for if the tax plan goes through, but it’s the principle of the thing! So we can afford these extravagances, but not food stamps for hungry children or money for medical research? “Make America Great” for whom? Which America is “First?”

Cynthia Muse  
Rye, N.H.

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**Health Care Can Be Fixed**

To the Editor:

Let’s get down to business. Last evening I had the good fortune and pleasure of joining a sizable group of area residents (approximately 30) who showed up at the Dover Public Library to attend a free public viewing of a one hour riveting documentary film *Fix It: Healthcare At The Tipping Point*, followed by a highly informative question and answer forum presided over by Portsmouth physician, Dr. Thomas Clairmont, one of around 22,000 members of the Physicians For A National Health Program, and staunch advocate for Single-Payer Healthcare.

I personally found that the film, and ensuing discussion, which cut across political and ideological lines, made a powerful case (explaining how America’s dysfunctional healthcare system is damaging our economy through its stranglehold on business and innovation) for business leaders to support major healthcare reform through a sin-

gle-payer system (*i.e.* Medicare-for-All).

One of my biggest takes from the presentation was that converting to a single-payer system would not only cover all Americans on all health related issues but, at the same time, save our economy (of which somewhere between one-sixth to one-fifth is already dedicated to healthcare) approximately \$504 billion annually (about 25 percent of what we are paying now) based on the elimination of bureaucratic costs alone. This is done by: lowering overhead from the current 12.4 percent to the Medicare level of 2.2 percent; greatly reducing billing and administrative (paperwork) costs for doctors and hospitals; and simplifying billing procedures which would be made uniform, providing huge savings to both money and time.

After having learned what I did last night, I feel compelled to highly recommend that *Fix It: Healthcare At The Tipping Point* be seen by business leaders at all Chambers of Commerce in the local area and across the United States as well as by our representatives on the floors of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives so that we can finally get down to the business of fixing healthcare in America for the sake of innovation, business, our economy and the American people.

Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, N.H.  
Wayne:  
*All we’re going to have to do is pry that money out of the cold, greedy hands of the medico-lobbying complex.*  
The Editor

**Hate Mail, &c.**

to page six



around the country over the past 30 years. It was at U.N.H. from May 4th to the 8th, and will be in Dexter, Maine through May 15th.

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**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE**

The Northcountry Chronicle

# Supply and Demand

by William Marvel

We who came of age half a century ago grew increasingly accustomed to hearing friends curse car payments that never ended, but eventually that additional monthly bill became too common to bear mention. The question when replacing an old car was no longer whether you had the money to pay for a new one, but whether you could afford the payments. Automobile advertising finally caught on, and there was that day I did a double-take at a newish vehicle priced in bold numerals at \$359 — until I noticed “per month” underneath, in tiny print.

Most baby boomers were gradually gulled into eternal indebtedness with payments on items as small as a portable television. Car loans leaped easily from three years to five, and the ten-year mortgage doubled before stretching finally to half a lifetime. Insatiable avarice and the willingness to assume new debt for new possessions kept prices rising in an unsustainable consumer economy, and that inflation encouraged still more borrowing. Given such passive parental examples, and a

culture that reveres formal education while undervaluing economic self-determination, is it any wonder that young adults are now so eager to accrue college debt?

A good portion of the borrowing frenzy is also attributable to the unreality of deep debt for the latest, logical products of a society increasingly dedicated to the cultivation of entitlement. For that ever-heftier proportion of adolescents, collegians, and recent graduates who have been handed everything they ever needed or wanted, massive loans conjure no images of chains and thralldom. They are numbers in cyberspace at best, reflecting little in the way of long years of labor in a field chosen more for its remuneration than its rewards.

There is, too, always that feeling that someone else will ultimately cover the bill. That was one of the implied Obama promises, after all, to millions of voting college students who had knowingly incurred heavy debts. Huge numbers of American college students agree to their loans in the belief that someone else will ultimately pay them. A survey by student-loan marketplace LendEDU revealed that 49.8 percent of stu-

dents expect their federal loans to be forgiven. If the feds don't pick up that tab, the local school district may do so for those willing to teach — wringing it out of local taxpayers on the grounds that new teachers need more money because of all the debt they've accumulated.

The amount borrowed for college depends in large measure on the student's diligence and prudence, as our own grasshopper-and-ant story illustrated. Two children left this house for college in the past decade, taking identical amounts of money with them. One chose a private college in part for social reasons, neglected his studies enough to lose a scholarship, and worked but little. He graduated with the sort of debt that can only be retired by hitting the lottery or marrying well. His sister spent hours running the numbers at the kitchen table before choosing to go to UNH. She worked steadily from her sophomore year, kept up her scholarships, and by the age of 23 had retired all her college debt, half of which covered a summer at the Sorbonne.

While she was at UNH I tended to visit the university library

more often than might have been necessary. As I climbed the steps to the front door one day, I heard a young man explaining over a cell phone that he had encountered another unexpected expense, and that he was “just going to have to take out another loan, I guess.” That cavalier attitude about student debt accounts for a lot of wasted money and wasted students. During the recent spring break, *Forbes* magazine highlighted the LendEDU study and its revelation that nearly a third of surveyed college students admitted financing their spring vacation on student loans. Almost a quarter used their loan money to buy booze. One in 15 bought drugs with it, and one in 18 spent it on gambling. This is what they want someone else to pay for.

Not that long ago, many state colleges and universities still offered free tuition for state residents. Resurrecting that tradition would provide a good incentive for private colleges to keep their costs down, which they could do by refocusing energy on their forgotten, fundamental purpose. Last fall a friend of mine who teaches at a private New Jersey university satirized the post-secondary sys-

tem as providing only three basic functions — sports for the alumni, sex for the students, and parking for the faculty. The soaring cost of education is driven partly by the sheer profligacy of the higher-education racket, with its ludicrous proliferation of “centers” and its insatiable sports mania. It is also driven by an unlimited supply of students who have been frightened into seeking college degrees at any cost. The cost rises to meet the demand.

Last month our town meeting received a petition asking the selectmen to tell our legislators and congresswomen to do something about student debt, pronto. It passed by a margin of nearly five to one. That was to be expected, considering how many teachers and PTA types turned out to vote for the teachers' contract. Most of that demographic probably expects the government to come to the rescue, which would prevent any permanent remedy and prolong the problem. The fastest and most effective solution to an overpriced commodity is a consumer boycott.



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

### Who You Gonna Believe?

To the Editor:  
“Record-breaking weather events, especially heat waves but also downpours and droughts, can be linked to man-made global warming, a new study says.” This was on page B2 of the Tuesday, April 25, 2017 edition of the *New Hampshire Union Leader*. This new study appeared in the peer-reviewed journal, the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*,

this article says.

I don't have to be convinced that man-made activities produce global warming, but for those who believe that scientists say this because they “feed at the trough of government subsidies,” this article isn't convincing. But for those who are undecided, this article is worth considering.

Who is more credible, the vast majority of scientists or Donald Trump?

Dick Devens  
Center Sandwich, N.H.

Dick:  
*Thanks for sending that — from the Union Leader! We can hear the bones of old Bill Loeb rattling right now, as he spins in his grave down in Pride's Crossing.*

The Editor

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### He's Scared of Muslims

To the Editor:  
It's often said, “Islam is a re-

ligion of peace.” However, the relevant question related to American, especially immigration and refugee, policies is: Are Muslim (leaders' and followers') beliefs, values, goals, and behaviors compatible with American society or do they jeopardize the peace, prosperity, freedoms, and even lives of American citizens?

Millions of Muslim refugees in Europe are demanding, threatening, crude, ungrateful, and violent

against people and property. We may not want to believe it, but the evidence is clear. Google “videos of Muslim refugees in Europe.”

Muslim assimilation with their adopted countries and cultures generally isn't their goal; their goal is to transform those countries into Sharia Law-ruled Muslim countries. Muslims pursue that goal by: intimidation, demands, terrorism, and out-breeding (eventually out-voting) the

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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, MAY 14                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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| <p><b>2015</b>—The <i>Union Leader's</i> editorial, in full: "Frank Guinta is a damned liar."<br/> <b>1992</b>—The George H.[H.]W. Bush administration opens up 1,400 acres of spotted owl habitat for logging.<br/> <b>1975</b>—The Khmer Rouge take the captive crew of the <i>Mayaguez</i> to mainland Cambodia.<br/> <b>1969</b>—Two companies of the 101st assault an NVA regiment atop Hamburger Hill. Despite 12 KIA and 80 WIA, they make no progress.<br/> <b>1969</b>—Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas resigns in disgrace.<br/> <b>1961</b>—On Mother's Day, Klansmen in Anniston, Ala., set fire to a bus. Freedom Riders escape the fire but not a savage beating.<br/> <b>1960</b>—A.J. Liebling in <i>The New Yorker</i>: "Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one."<br/> <b>1932</b>—Mayor Jimmy Walker leads 150,000 New Yorkers in a day-long "We Want Beer" parade.<br/> <b>1930</b>—The <i>New York Times</i>, in 157 words about the New Hampshire Historical Society's acquisition of a 18th century pamphlet, <i>The Monster of Monsters</i>, mis-states who was jailed and for how long, cites the wrong printer (Zechariah Fowle, not Daniel), and mistakes this paper's name.<br/> <b>1856</b>—In San Francisco, the editor of the <i>Evening Bulletin</i> is shot dead by the editor of the <i>Times</i>, who is then hanged by vigilantes.<br/> <b>964</b>—John XII's papacy is abruptly ended by a jealous husband.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00                      2:36</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:18                      8:25</p> | <p><b>2002</b>—The White House admits it knew before 9/11 that al Qaeda had plans to hijack U.S. airliners.<br/> <b>1991</b>—The Pentagon releases info confirming that Manuel Noriega used to be on the CIA's payroll.<br/> <b>1975</b>—Marines retake the <i>U.S.S. Mayaguez</i> off Cambodia, finding it abandoned. Other Marines, green, unaware that the ship's crew was being released, chopper to Koh Tang Island. Khmer Rouge, twice their number and dug in, greet them with intense fire. Fifteen are KIA, 50 WIA, and three Marines are left on the beach.<br/> <b>1970</b>—City and State cops shoot 14 protesting black students, killing two, at Jackson State in Mississippi.<br/> <b>1969</b>—The assault on Hamburger Hill resumes. No progress, more casualties, including friendly fire.<br/> <b>1969</b>—Saying, "If there has to be a bloodbath then let's get it over with," Governor Ronald Reagan sends the National Guard to take Peoples' Park from the hippies.<br/> <b>1951</b>—Gen. Bradley calls Gen. MacArthur's Korea plan "[t]he wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy."<br/> <b>1916</b>—In Waco, 10,000 celebrate the lynching of Jesse Washington.<br/> <b>1872</b>—Julia Ward Howe invents Mothers Day—an anti-war holiday.<br/> <b>1525</b>—Though they suffer six casualties, mercenaries serving nobles prevail against German peasants at Frankenhausen, killing 3,000 to 10,000.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:38                      3:16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:58                      9:06</p> | <p><b>2001</b>—Ex-FBI Special Agent, devout Catholic, patron of strippers, and exhibitionist Robert Hanssen is indicted for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then the Russians.<br/> <b>1969</b>—On Hamburger Hill, an AP reporter finds discontent among some U.S. combatants.<br/> <b>1969</b>—The <i>U.S.S. Guitarro</i>, being fitted out at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, sinks in 35 feet of water, causing an estimated \$25 million in damage. Congress blames shipyard workers.<br/> <b>1954</b>—Senator William F. Knowland, (R-Calif.), says "Using U.S. ground forces in the Indo-China jungle would be like trying to cover an elephant with a handkerchief—you just can't do it."<br/> <b>1948</b>—CBS correspondent George Polk, ("the first casualty of the Cold War"—L.F. Stone) turns up murdered in Salonika Harbor. The U.S.-supported Greek government frames a Commie, and U.S. journalists cover up the frame.<br/> <b>1918</b>—Congress passes the Sedition Act, making it illegal to criticize the government.<br/> <b>1916</b>—In the Sykes-Picot Agreement, Britain and France, with Russia's OK, screw the Arabs.<br/> <b>1879</b>—Two men in Raleigh, N.C. are hanged twice: the ropes were too long the first time. In Utah, a firing squad misses the condemned man's heart; it takes him 27 minutes to die.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:18                      3:59</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:41                      9:51</p>                                                                                                                         | <p><b>2010</b>—A Robinson R44 helicopter crashes into a housing subdivision on the Philippine island of Luzon. All four aboard burn to death and take two people on the ground with them.<br/> <b>1995</b>—Army veteran and deranged meth addict Shawn Nelson steals a tank from a San Diego Armory and goes on a vehicle crushing rampage before being shot dead by police.<br/> <b>1976</b>—R. Reagan, in <i>Time</i>: "Fascism was really the basis of the New Deal."<br/> <b>1974</b>—Six members of the Symbionese Liberation Army, holed up in a small house in L.A. and armed with full-auto M-1 carbines, fire 4,000 rounds at the 400 cops surrounding them. Every shot misses, they all die.<br/> <b>1973</b>—Working with Continental Oil to develop new drilling techniques, the AEC explodes three nukes underground in Colorado.<br/> <b>1969</b>—Fighting continues on Hamburger Hill. Other than more casualties, there is no change in status.<br/> <b>1968</b>—Nine people break into Catonsville, Md.'s draft board and burn 600 files with homemade napalm.<br/> <b>1960</b>—TSgt. Harold J. Ripslinger's remains are found 200 miles from his B-24, <i>Lady Be Good</i>, which crashed in the Libyan desert in 1943.<br/> <b>1954</b>—The Supreme Court throws out "separate but equal" education.<br/> <b>1934</b>—At Madison Square Garden, tens of thousands of Friends of the New Germany rally under a swastika in support of A. Hitler.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:04                      4:46</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:26                      10:41</p> | <p><b>1992</b>—The 27th Amendment, prohibiting any Congress from raising its own pay, is ratified 202 years after its submission.<br/> <b>1982</b>—The Rev. Sun Myung Moon is convicted of tax fraud.<br/> <b>1980</b>—Mt. St. Helens cuts loose for the first time in 123 years.<br/> <b>1980</b>—Students protest repression in Gwanju, Korea. Soldiers club bystanders to death.<br/> <b>1974</b>—India successfully tests a nuclear weapon in an operation named Smiling Buddha.<br/> <b>1969</b>—At Hamburger Hill, casualties mount as the fight goes on. The commander orders helicopters out of the area after more friendly fire.<br/> <b>1958</b>—CIA pilot Al Pope is shot down while strafing an Indonesian port. The U.S. Ambassador claims he's a mere "soldier of fortune." Documents found on Pope prove it's a lie.<br/> <b>1935</b>—The propaganda plane <i>Maxim Gorky</i>, equipped with a printing plant and loudspeakers audible from the ground, crashes after it's hit by an escorting fighter plane; 45 die.<br/> <b>1927</b>—Andrew Kehoe, angry at having to pay taxes to support the Bath, Mich. school system, blows up the school killing 43 people including 39 grade-schoolers. He then kills his wife, loads his truck with dynamite and nails, and blows up the school superintendent and himself.<br/> <b>1896</b>—The Supreme Court OKs racial segregation in <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:54                      5:38</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:16                      11:36</p> | <p><b>1964</b>—U.S. diplomats find at least 40 hidden microphones in the U.S. embassy in Moscow.<br/> <b>1962</b>—In Madison Square Garden, Marilyn Monroe, barely wearing a diaphanous gown, sings "Happy Birthday" to President John F. Kennedy.<br/> <b>1956</b>—A 15-megaton bomb test in the South Pacific raises radiation levels in the U.S. to 10 times normal.<br/> <b>1954</b>—U.S. Postmaster General Summerfield OKs a CIA mail-opening project.<br/> <b>1953</b>—A wind shift in Nevada sends fallout from our dirtiest-ever nuke test, Upshot-Knothole Harry, to where Howard Hughes will film <i>The Conqueror</i> one year later.<br/> <b>1950</b>—In South Amboy, N.J., four ammunition barges carrying 467 tons of ammunition explode killing 30 and injuring 350 more.<br/> <b>1932</b>—Rep. C. Fuller (D-Ark.) introduces a bill requiring Civil Service employees be able to "sing, write or recite the words to the Star Spangled Banner" from memory.<br/> <b>1925</b>—Malcolm Little, later "X," is born in Omaha, Neb.<br/> <b>1920</b>—In Matewan, W. Va., seven coal company stooges and four locals die in a main street shootout.<br/> <b>1918</b>—For protesting her husband's lynching the day before, Mary Turner, eight months pregnant, is lynched in Lowndes County, Ga.<br/> <b>1790</b>—In mid-day, skies over New England grow dark as night.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:50                      6:32</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:09                      12:34</p>                                     | <p><b>2009</b>—The FBI entraps four Muslim men in a bogus Bronx bomb plot.<br/> <b>2004</b>—U.S. and Iraqi troops raid the home and offices of Ahmed Chalabi, formerly the neo-cons' most trusted source of Iraqi intelligence.<br/> <b>1978</b>—Mavis Hutchinson, 53, makes New York City after running across America for 69 days.<br/> <b>1969</b>—After 11 bloody assaults in 10 days, American troops take Hamburger Hill at a cost of 70 dead and 372 wounded. It's abandoned 16 days later.<br/> <b>1973</b>—The Camden 28, who broke into a draft board office, are acquitted.<br/> <b>1937</b>—George Orwell takes a bullet in the throat while fighting against Franco's fascists in Spain.<br/> <b>1927</b>—Charles Lindbergh leaves Long Island by air.<br/> <b>1926</b>—Thomas Edison announces that Americans prefer silent films to talkies.<br/> <b>1920</b>—Henry Ford prints the bogus <i>Protocols of the Elders of Zion</i> in his newspaper, the <i>Dearborn Independent</i>.<br/> <b>1918</b>—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.<br/> <b>1917</b>—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.<br/> <b>1916</b>—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.<br/> <b>1899</b>—New Yorker Jacob German gets the first ticket for speeding—he went over 12 mph.<br/> <b>1631</b>—Unpaid soldiers first conquer Magdeburg, then loot it. Disappointed with their booty, they slaughter 20,000 Protestants for the greater glory of the Holy Roman Emperor and the Mother Church.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:48                      7:26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:03                      1:12</p> |
| SUNDAY, MAY 21                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MONDAY, MAY 22                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | TUESDAY, MAY 23                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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                                                                                                                                                                                                          | THURSDAY, MAY 25                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | FRIDAY, MAY 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | SATURDAY, MAY 27                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           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| <p><b>2011</b>—Not having gotten radio evangelist Harold Camping's memo, Judgment Day fails to arrive.<br/> <b>2010</b>—Glenn Beck claims "a good portion" of Americans were glad when FDR died.<br/> <b>2001</b>—The GAO refutes GOP claims that departing Democrats vandalized the White House.<br/> <b>1981</b>—The Senate OKs \$20 billion to resume full-scale production of nerve gas and other chemical weapons.<br/> <b>1980</b>—In Gwangju, Korea, students using weapons looted from armories drive troops from downtown.<br/> <b>1968</b>—Students protest the Vietnam War in West Berlin, Paris, Peking, Berkeley, and New York.<br/> <b>1946</b>—A screwdriver slips; the same plutonium core that killed Harry Daghlian the previous August gives Louis Slotin a lethal burst of radiation.<br/> <b>1945</b>—Bogie, 45, marries Bacall, 20.<br/> <b>1924</b>—Nathan Leopold, 19, and Richard Loeb, 18, murder Robert Franks, 14, for the fun of it.<br/> <b>1894</b>—Shortly before being relieved of the burden of his head by Dr. Guillotin's humane device, Emile Henry says to the assembled throng, "<i>Courage, camarade, vive l'anarchie.</i>"<br/> <b>1823</b>—The 200th anniversary of the settling of Portsmouth is "celebrated with great éclat."<br/> <b>1871</b>—In Paris, "Bloody Week" begins; the errors of the Paris Commune are corrected by the execution of 20-35,000.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:47                      8:19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:33                      1:58</p>                                                              | <p><b>2004</b>—Portsmouth's own Leftist Marching Band makes its debut before a surprised and delighted audience in Market Square.<br/> <b>2002</b>—Bobby Frank Cherry is found guilty of bombing the 16th Street Baptist Church in 1963.<br/> <b>1977</b>—In the wee hours of a convention, hard-liners take over the NRA.<br/> <b>1968</b>—In New York, police arrest nearly 1,000 at occupied Columbia U.<br/> <b>1968</b>—The nuclear sub <i>Scorpion</i>, two nuclear torpedos, and all 99 crew members are lost at sea.<br/> <b>1962</b>—Thomas G. Doty buys dynamite and flight insurance, then boards Flight 11, which explodes. His wife gets a \$12.50 refund, not \$300K.<br/> <b>1957</b>—A 10-megaton H-bomb is accidentally dropped near Albuquerque. Its attached parachutes fail to operate. The non-nuclear explosives leave a crater 12 feet deep and 25 across.<br/> <b>1949</b>—Ex-Defense Secretary James Forrestal ambiguously defenestrates from a 16th floor hospital window.<br/> <b>1944</b>—<i>Life</i> publishes a photo of an American girl at her desk with a souvenir sent by her boyfriend in the Pacific—the skull of Japanese soldier.<br/> <b>1884</b>—Hugh Daily fans 13 for the Chicago Browns pitching with his right hand — the only one he has.<br/> <b>1856</b>—Rep. Preston Brooks (D-S.C.) visits the floor of the Senate, where he beats Sen. Charles Sumner (Opp-Mass.) into unconsciousness with a cane.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:45                      9:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:30                      2:51</p>           | <p><b>2012</b>—At the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, half a billion dollars in damage is done to the <i>U.S.S. Miami</i> by an arson fire set so the culprit could leave work early.<br/> <b>2003</b>—Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney's deciding vote in the Senate gives the rich a huge tax cut.<br/> <b>1996</b>—Göran Kropp, having bicycled from his home in Sweden, summits Everest, solo, without bottled oxygen. He then bikes back to Sweden.<br/> <b>1990</b>—A Robinson R22 loses power over Griffin, Ga. Of the two onboard, though, only one dies.<br/> <b>1976</b>—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports that Rep. Wayne L. Hays (D-Ohio) has a mistress on his payroll at \$14,000 a year, though she admits she "can't type... can't file, [and] can't even answer the phone."<br/> <b>1969</b>—At a protest begun over a high school election in Greensboro, N.C., 600 National Guardsmen, backed by a helicopter and a tank, open fire.<br/> <b>1945</b>—<i>Reichsführer</i> Heinrich Himmler cheats the hangman.<br/> <b>1939</b>—<i>Squalus</i> sinks off the Shoals with 59 aboard. Within 40 hours, 33 are rescued, but 26 die.<br/> <b>1934</b>—Police in Louisiana ambush and kill Bonnie and Clyde.<br/> <b>1930</b>—"I wish you all had one neck and that I had my hands on it," writes serial killer Carl Panzram to the Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment.<br/> <b>1908</b>—In Calif., 16 passengers survive a fall from an exploding dirigible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:40                      10:02</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:25                      3:43</p> | <p><b>2005</b>—"See, in my line of work you got to keep repeating things over and over and over again for the truth to sink in, to kind of catapult the propaganda," mansplains G.W.[MD] Bush.<br/> <b>2001</b>—Senator James Jeffords (R-Vt.) walks out on the GOP, temporarily shifting the balance of power.<br/> <b>2000</b>—Right-wing harridan Linda Tripp beats wiretap charges on a technicality: ignorance of the law.<br/> <b>1989</b>—Stephen McCoy, being killed by Texas state employees, has a violent reaction to the drugs. His heaving and thrashing cause a male witness to faint and fall over, knocking over another witness.<br/> <b>1982</b>—Some poor soul in South Africa gives birth to a 22 lb. baby.<br/> <b>1980</b>—Hundreds of anti-nuke occupiers are arrested at Seabrook.<br/> <b>1978</b>—To spring skyjacker Garrett B. Trapnell, pistol-packing Barbara Ann Oswald orders pilot Allen Barklage to land his charter helicopter in the yard of the federal pen at Marion III. Barklage nixes the plot by grabbing the gat and shooting Oswald dead.<br/> <b>1964</b>—Barry Goldwater says let's use nukes in South Vietnam.<br/> <b>1963</b>—R.I.P. Elmore James.<br/> <b>1962</b>—Scott Carpenter's Mercury capsule <i>Aurora 7</i> overshoots its landing area by 250 miles.<br/> <b>1959</b>—The first home bomb shelter is shown in Pleasant Hills, Pa.<br/> <b>1958</b>—United Press International is formed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:34                      10:52</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:19                      4:34</p>               | <p><b>2009</b>—A Robinson R44 helicopter accidentally lands in Lake Winnepesaukee. Miraculously, all aboard survive.<br/> <b>2007</b>—As U. Mass. hands an honorary degree to Andrew Card, George W.[MD] Bush's ex-Chief of Staff, students and faculty boo and howl.<br/> <b>2003</b>—A Boeing 727 takes off from an Angolan airport without a flight crew or permission to take off. It is never seen again.<br/> <b>1988</b>—Four years after his death, Peter Lawford's ashes are scattered at sea because none of his children will pay for entombment.<br/> <b>1986</b>—Seven million people hold "Hands Across America," thereby eliminating forever the twin problems of hunger and homelessness.<br/> <b>1981</b>—Kennebunkport native Dan Goodwin climbs the Sears Tower dressed as Spiderman.<br/> <b>1979</b>—"Capital punishment," says John Spenkelink, sitting in "Old Sparky," them without the capital get the punishment."<br/> <b>1979</b>—After an engine falls off, American Airlines Flight 191 crashes in Chicago killing 271 on board and 2 on the ground.<br/> <b>1950</b>—A speeding Green Hornet streetcar in Chicago collides with a gasoline truck, killing 34.<br/> <b>1928</b>—After circling the North Pole, Umberto Nobile's airship <i>Italia</i> crashes northeast of Spitsbergen with 16 aboard. Eight survive, six vanish as the envelope drifts away.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:27                      11:42</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:11                      5:24</p>                                  | <p><b>2004</b>—The <i>NY Times</i> admits its pre-war Iraq coverage was "not as rigorous as it should have been."<br/> <b>1989</b>—Future Veep J. Danforth Quayle predicts, "We are on an irreversible trend toward more freedom and democracy, but that could change."<br/> <b>1977</b>—George Willig scales the World Trade Center in NYC.<br/> <b>1972</b>—Nixon's "Plumbers" fail to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.<br/> <b>1970</b>—The destroyer <i>U.S.S. Richard B. Anderson's</i> departure for Vietnam is delayed due to crew sabotage.<br/> <b>1938</b>—The House Committee on Un-American Activities begins carrying out its un-American activities.<br/> <b>1937</b>—Ford's thugs beat hell out of Walter Reuther and three union colleagues in the "Battle of the Overpass."<br/> <b>1934</b>—The Burlington diesel <i>Zephyr's</i> first run spells doom for steam.<br/> <b>1916</b>—Louis Thomas "Moonog" Hardin, composer, street musician, and Viking-helmet-wearing blind eccentric, is born.<br/> <b>1828</b>—The mysterious child called Kaspar Hauser is found wandering the streets of Nuremberg.<br/> <b>1647</b>—In Hartford, Conn., where the State House now stands, Ase Young becomes the first American hanged for witchcraft.<br/> <b>1637</b>—At Mystic, Conn., Captains Mason and Underhill start the Pequot War by burning Pequot forts and killing 600 Indians.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:03                      6:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:55                      7:07</p> | <p><b>1994</b>—Charles Rodman Campbell does his best to dodge it, but Washington State's hangman finally manages to get a noose around his neck.<br/> <b>1980</b>—Korean troops subdue Gwanju, 200 civilians are dead or missing.<br/> <b>1977</b>—New York City fines George Willig one cent per floor for climbing the World Trade Center.<br/> <b>1975</b>—Alaska legalizes pot.<br/> <b>1972</b>—Nixon's "Plumbers" again fail to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.<br/> <b>1959</b>—NBC's <i>Today Show</i> reports straight-faced on the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals' campaign to clothe quadrupeds.<br/> <b>1941</b>—The British sink the <i>Bismark</i> to the bottom of the sea.<br/> <b>1940</b>—British troops begin leaving Dunkirk under difficult conditions.<br/> <b>1937</b>—The Golden Gate Bridge is opened to pedestrians.<br/> <b>1923</b>—Birth of the arch-fiend Henry Kissinger.<br/> <b>1777</b>—Major Samuel Langdon sets out for Cambridge with four teams hauling gunpowder expropriated from the Crown.<br/> <b>1702</b>—"I am about to—or I am going to—die," says French grammarian Dominique Bouhours, "either expression is used."<br/> <b>1541</b>—Margaret Pole, 67, the 8th Countess of Salisbury, attempts to evade her executioner in the Tower of London. After a dozen strokes, he eventually succeeds.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:33                      1:12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:55                      7:07</p>                                                                            |

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