

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Dismal Science Makes Lives Dismal

Republicans are trying to pass a tax cut.

That is not news, of course. Technically, it's a tautology: a string of words that are redundantly repetitious. René Descartes said, "I think, therefore I am." Republicans say, "I am, therefore taxes must be cut."

These days tax cuts seem to be all Republicans care about. Look past the essential hatefulness of their programs—destroying Obamacare, privatizing education and veterans health care, destroying the environment—and ultimately they're all about cutting taxes. The gratuitous cruelty is just a sweet fringe benefit.

There was a time when Republicans cared, or at least pretended to care, about the budget deficit and the national debt. The danger of deficit spending was the reason we couldn't have nice things: no universal health care, no free college education, no child care for working mothers, no spending on infrastructure—the list of essential services which are provided by the governments of every developed nation but are denied to American citizens was seemingly endless and quite depressing.

Certain critical things have justified deficit spending, or we would not have a national debt. These would be things like protecting Kuwait's oil against Saddam Hussein, for example, or eliminating Saddam Hussein's non-existent weapons of mass destruction. Or, buying weapons because you never know when you might need them, or think you might need them.

Republican occupancy of the White House is apparently another critical thing. Since Ronald Reagan's day, deficits have ballooned under Republicans and shrunk under Democrats. This exception to the rule was codified in 2003. "Reagan proved that deficits don't matter," said Dick "Dick" Cheney, as George W.[MD] Bush went back for a

second helping of tax cuts during his first term. Besides, Republicans have no intention of allowing another Democratic President. Kris Kobach's voter fraud witch hunt is doing its best to see to that.

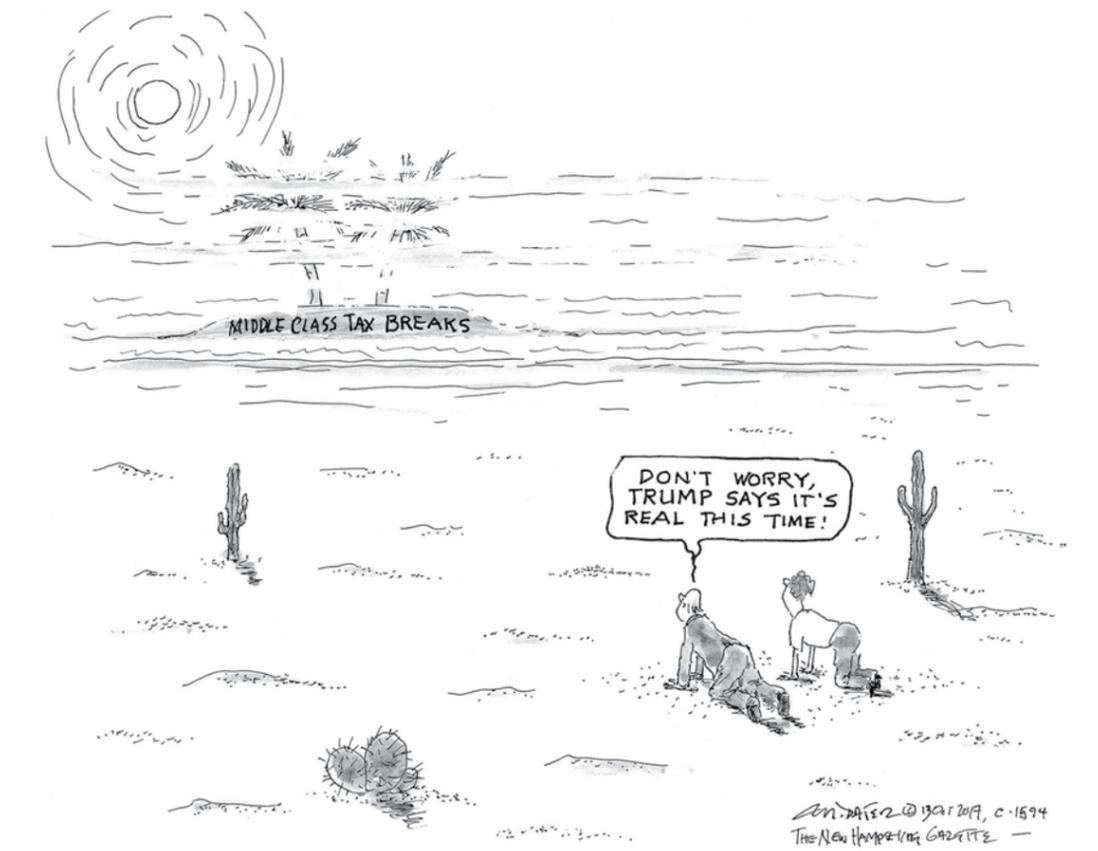
If You're Going to Resist, Resist
Democrats have been quick to point out that cutting taxes now would only add to the deficit—and they wonder why Republicans call them wimps. The only thing more robust and enduring than Republican arrogance appears to be Democratic timidity. By internalizing Republican principles, Democrats have made themselves subservient to their ideology, the essence of which is GREED, an acronym which stands for Get Rich Even if Everyone Dies. It's no wonder Republicans take advantage of them—Democrats make it so easy.

This capitulation has dire consequences across the board, which we generally accept because we're used to them.

If Americanism means equal opportunity for all, then adherence to the Republican definition of fiscal responsibility has given us the most un-American thing imaginable. Our education system is set up to assure above all that the children of the privileged remain privileged. If it also preserves the racism inherent in Jim Crow, restrictive real estate covenants, and redlining, well ... so much the better.

As a certain self-professed Socialist who recently provided the Democratic Party with the most fun it's had in living memory has said, Americans are already paying top dollar for universal health care—they're just not getting it.

What do we get instead of the health care we're paying for? Two things: a huge parasitic industry that pays generous salaries to people who do work that is fundamentally unnecessary, except to preserve



the system; and, a steady stream of contributions to political campaigns. The only health our current system guarantees is its own.

Poisoned at the Source

Everyone knows how Republicans love to yatter on about their religion. If you judge them by their works, though, it seems their true faith lies not in the Bible, but in two other scriptures.

One is the Laffer Curve, which was sketched on a cocktail napkin at a fancy D.C. restaurant in 1974. Ever since, it has been used as an excuse to stick the hungry with the check.

The other is the collected works of Saint Milton Friedman, late of the University of Chicago, where a celebration was held in November of 2012 to honor the centennial of his birth.

Much more usefully, Mark Ames marked that occasion by writing an article titled, "When Congress Bust-

ed Milton Friedman (and Libertarianism Was Created By Big Business Lobbyists)." Ames recounted how a 1950 Congressional investigation into illegal lobbying exposed, among other schemes, how the Foundation for Economic Education [FEE], the original libertarian think tank funded by a rogues gallery of Fortune 500 companies, had arranged for Friedman to write a covert propaganda pamphlet to undermine rent control. The client was Herbert Read, the nation's biggest real estate lobbyist. Read once confessed, "I do not believe in democracy. I think it stinks."

Friedman's subsequent career was merely a continuation of that first betrayal of the many for the benefit of the few. In 1970, he wrote "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase its Profits," the most influential—and pernicious—article ever published. It provided an excuse for the de-coupling of productivity

and wages which soon followed. We have lived in the wreckage ever since.

How About a Fact-Based Economy?

The field of economics was first called "the dismal science" by the Scottish philosopher Thomas Carlyle, in an essay which argued that white planters in the West Indies should be allowed to re-introduce black people to the benefits of slavery.

Republicans, ever currying favor with the oligarchs who run this country, have long maintained an army of economists whose job it is to sell the public on bogus economic theories which are engineered to induce the rest of us to behave as docile wage slaves.

If Democrats were to conquer their thirst for Republican Kool-aid and embrace the Modern Monetary Theory espoused by Sen. Bernie Sanders' chief economist, Stephanie Kelton, they—and the rest of us—might have a fighting chance.

The Alleged News®

Trump Declares War on State Department, NFL Players, & Maybe North Korea

Well, this fortnight got off to a less than auspicious start: First thing Sunday morning, October 1st, President Donald Trump insulted Secretary of State Rex Tillerson for trying to do his job and prevent World War III.

Tillerson was asking for it, of course. He had gone completely off the reservation the day before. In utter disregard for the prevailing narrative of the Trump administration, he had actually given reporters a little tidbit of good news, telling them that "we have lines of communications to Pyongyang. We are not in a dark situation."

Trump was having none of that. "I told Rex Tillerson, our wonderful Secretary of State, that he is wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man ...," he

tweeted, "... Save your energy Rex, we'll do what has to be done!"

"Being nice to Rocket Man hasn't worked in 25 years, why would it work now? Clinton failed, Bush failed, and Obama failed. I won't fail."

In addition to plumbing new lows in diplomatic language and displaying callous disregard for simple arithmetic, Trump revealed his amateurish grasp of the one thing he's reputed to know. He used a string of three periods—at one character each—where he should have used a one-character ellipsis.

Three days later NBC reported that this past summer, Tillerson had been on the verge of resigning. A former National President of the Boy Scouts of America and an Eagle Scout himself, the Secretary was said

to have been furious after President Donald Trump turned this year's Jamboree into a Hitler Youth rally.

Within hours, Tillerson held a press conference. Standing behind a podium adorned with the Department's official seal, exuding a level of dignity that only the best from central casting can, Tillerson denied that he had contemplated resigning, but declined to refute NBC's reporting that he had called President Trump a moron. That's all right, though. It's not as if we need him to tell us.

Tuesday, Trump met with Dr. Strangelove Henry Kissinger. After Trump's inauguration, the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* moved the Doomsday Clock thirty minutes closer to midnight. We're afraid to look and see if it's been moved again.

Patriotism as a Competitive Sport

The President took time out from fomenting nuclear war to express his contempt for athletes, black or white, who have followed Colin



Kaepernick's lead and knelt or otherwise demonstrated during the national anthem to protest racism.

Trump, being either oblivious to that racism or in favor of it, prefers to pretend that such demonstrations are somehow an attack on the flag. A more flagrant case of willful blindness would be hard to conjure up.

The photo at left shows an alleged musical artist who goes by the name of Kid Rock, with his head and neck thrust through a U.S. flag. A Republican, he is currently running for the seat now held by U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, from Michigan, a Democrat. We have yet to hear Trump, or any other Republican, denounce his actual flag desecration.

The Alleged News®

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The Alleged News®

from page one

More Robinson Helicopter Tragedies

It has not been a good fortnight for Robinson helicopters. Three separate crashes killed three people and injured three more, and a bizarre fatal incident took place in Malibu.

An eyewitness described the first crash, in South Africa, as “a gruesome accident.” An R44 hit electrical wires in the town of Strand on Thursday, September 28th. The machine began spinning wildly, then crashed, leaving the pilot’s dismembered remains “scattered everywhere” about the site.

It could have been worse. The helicopter missed the Nomzamo High School by just 10 meters. Fortunately no students were in attendance at the time.

Deaths associated with Robinson helicopters are usually involuntary and unpremeditated—but not always. On September 30th, a 42-year-old man hired an R22 at Hawthorne Airport, just east of LAX, saying he wanted a sightseeing tour. The machine had flown about twenty miles to the northwest when the passenger undid his

seatbelt during the flight. Sensing what was about to happen, the pilot tried to grab his passenger. Having to simultaneously keep the helicopter flying, he was unable to restrain him. He then banked the helicopter, trying to use gravity to keep the man inside. It was no use. The man went out the door about 500 feet above sea level. When rescue workers retrieved his body, he was dead. After landing, the pilot found a suicide note under the passenger’s seat. At press time, police were still withholding the man’s name, pending notification of next of kin.

Weird though it was, the incident was not unique. Another Robinson helicopter-assisted suicide took place nearly four years ago, seventy miles south at Newport Beach. Gregory McFadden, 61, of West Covina, hired an R44 on November 6, 2013, also saying he wanted a scenic tour. After opening the door and leaping out, he fell 750 feet and landed in the water, 15 yards from the sand. Police found a suicide note on his body.

“He was trying to get some kind of medical financial aid to cover for a surgery that would take care of [a medical] problem, but he couldn’t,” said his brother, Bradley McFadden.



On Sunday, October 1st, an R44 crashed on Vancouver Island, BC. The pilot, Karen Coulter, was killed; a passenger survived. Coulter was 46 and leaves a young son, Mason. A GoFundMe page has been set up to raise money for his education.

Rounding out the fortnight’s Robinson helicopter death toll, yet another R44 crash occurred in Latvia on Sunday, October 8th. According to the AP’s Helsinki bureau, a local company was offering charter flights to spectators at an automobile rally when the machine went down for unknown reasons. One person was killed and three more were injured.

Meanwhile, Southern Utah University has just acquired 17 new aircraft. While 10 are undeniably safe, parachute-equipped Cirrus SR20 airplanes, seven are Robinson R-44 helicopters. A report from KUTV in Salt Lake City said “these new aircraft are *safer*, sturdier, [and] will be used for years to come. [Emphasis added.]”

Laws Will Now Be Enforced, Says Chief

There was unexpected good news in the *Portsmouth Herald* on October 1st. Responding to a request from Police Commissioner Joe Onosko, the City’s new Police Chief, Robert Merner, has acquired decibel meters and has made plans to begin enforcing the laws restricting motorcycle noise.

In classically perverse *Herald* style, the story’s lede quoted a local Harley enthusiast extolling the virtues of bikes so loud they set off car alarms. It also allowed him to repeat unchallenged the unproven assertion that “loud pipes save lives.”

As for the underlying existential question—why persons posing as such daring rebels should be afraid to die—it was, of course, never even broached.

Two days later the Award-Winning Local Daily compensated somewhat for its prior inanity by publishing a poll of its readers, asking, “Are you often disturbed by loud motorcycles?” The exact results were

improbably precise, with 73.91 percent saying “Yes, it’s too much,” and 26.09 percent saying, “No it’s not a problem.”

By a margin, then, of 2.83 to one, respondents said yes, loud motorcycles are a problem. According to the story, Chief Merner said that “decibels can not exceed 92 when a motorcycle is idling,” but “[h]igher decibels are allowed, based on revolutions per minute and the number of cylinders on the bike.”

In practice, we suspect that means the police will be unable to make any citations stick. That’s not to say they shouldn’t try. The process of leaning on noisy bikers may have some effect. The real problem is that the law as it exists is nearly unenforceable. A few years ago an attempt was made to re-write the law, but the motorcycle lobby shot that down.

Perhaps a single-issue citizens lobby might have better luck, if it were able to get itself organized. This newspaper stands ready to publicize any such effort.



The quiet little park on State Street, dedicated years ago to the memory of Jay Smith, recently acquired a handsome new feature. Another institution long associated with him has also shown new signs of life. Stay tuned.

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Peace Through Perpetual War

The War on Terror in Afghanistan is now old enough to drive a car. Said car would, of course, be a Hummer.

Rather than winding down, that conflict seems to be accelerating. According to news reports, the number of bombs dropped last month was up 50 percent from August, and the highest it's been in seven years.

Back in April, the Air Force dropped a ten-ton, \$170,000 MOAB, or "Mother Of All Bombs," in Nangarhar Province. In a letter justifying that cost as perfectly reasonable, retired Air Force Lt. Col Dean Sharp wrote that "this is a 'generational war.' Our children and grandchildren may well be facing radical Islamic extremists for decades to come."

Lest anyone be in danger of succumbing to narcolepsy, NBC reported Tuesday morning that President Trump asked last summer for a ten-fold increase in the size of America's nuclear arsenal. Trump responded with a Twitter snit threatening to yank NBC's broadcast license.

The Latest Mass Murder

Speaking of perpetual wars, the *Daily Caller* reported last week, with apparent regret, that the

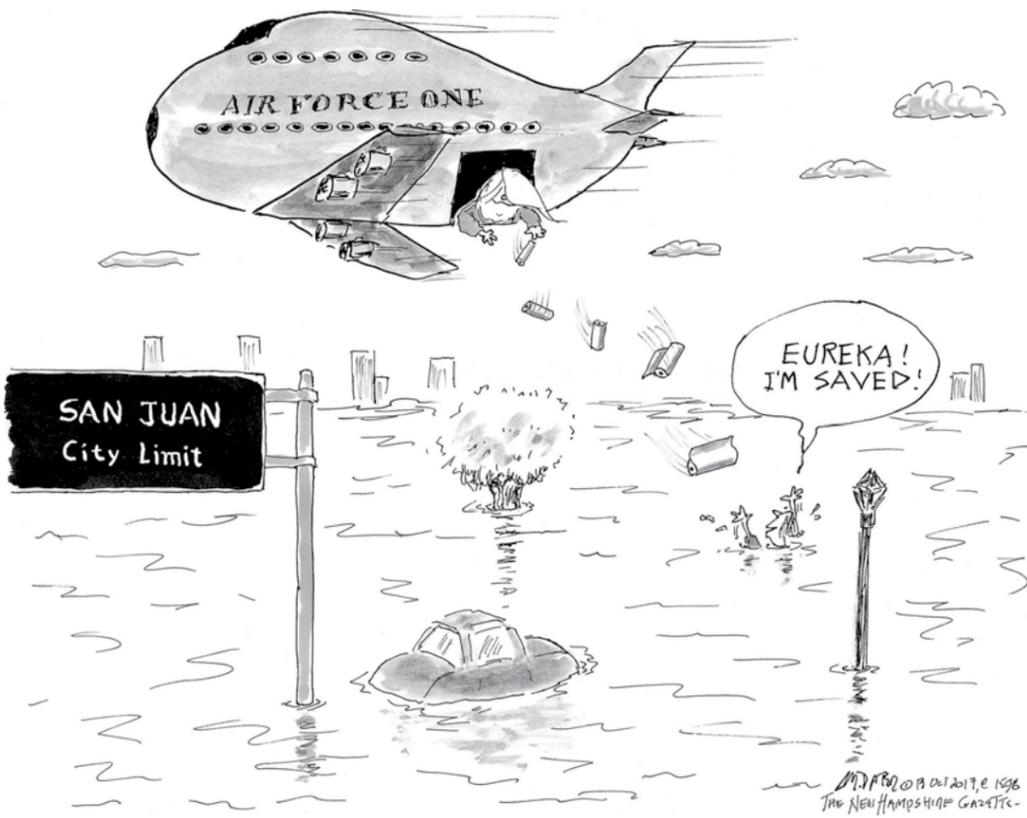
massacre in Las Vegas will likely result in the delay of a bill before Congress which would loosen regulations on noise suppressors for firearms.

The NRA shocked millions when it suggested it would allow the Executive Branch to restrict the sale of bump stocks. Those are the cheap devices that allowed the Las Vegas shooter to kill and wound hundreds of people in ten minutes. By throwing those gizmos under the bus, the NRA hopes to forestall more restrictive legislative action.

A musician named Eric Benét knows how to overcome Congressional reluctance: "If every black adult male in the U.S. bought & registered a semi-automatic rifle tomorrow, Congress would pass gun control laws by Friday," he tweeted.

More News About Menhaden

Somewhat to our surprise, several people thanked us last November for a piece we ran about the unassuming little fish called the menhaden. Though modest in size and rather nasty-tasting, it has been called the most important fish in the sea. Its place at the base of the food chain makes it vitally important for a multitude of flashier species, both fish and fowl.



That little fish has surfaced once again in our news stream. As with so many vital elements of our natural world, its survival may be in the balance, and there's no telling which way things may go.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is considering whether management of the menhaden fishery should shift from a single-species model to one based on the larger ecosystem.

Meanwhile, Omega Protein, the corporation that converts 80 percent of the menhaden catch to fish food and cosmetics, is trying to get its fishery certified as sustainable by the London-based Marine Stewardship Council. Presumably such a certification would have some bearing on the pending half-billion dollar sale of Omega Protein to Cooke, Inc., of New Brunswick.

Mr. Sununu, Meet Mr. Sununu

It was jarring, Tuesday morning, hearing Governor Chris Sununu say on NHPR that "It was a lot easier when my father was Govern-

nor," because "there wasn't all this acrimonious political environment."

Has the Governor never met his father? Or does he have amnesia? Sununu *père* was probably the rudest, most acrimonious Governor ever to throw someone out of the Corner Office.

Weird Weather & Crazy Climate

The geese are in flight. It's good to see that at least for the time being, some part of the natural order still proceeds as it should.

What we find most curious are the record-high lows; that is, days when the lowest temperatures recorded are higher than were previously recorded. Those are really piling up.

In Aroostook County, the potato harvest was held up for weeks due to unusually high temperatures, something that old timers say they've never seen before.

Not surprisingly, record highs have been reported on Mt. Washington. The warm, relatively dry

weather no doubt contributed to the tenacity of the Dilly Cliff fire, a few miles to the southwest of that peak. Still smoldering at last report, that fire began on October 3rd.

According to one theory, that fire was sparked by a meteorite. That is most definitely a little peculiar.

Party Time at Sanders Poynt!

It's now official: to honor the restoration of the rights of the people to there assemble, a celebration will be held at Sanders Poynt in Rye on Saturday, October 21st, 1:00 p.m. For more details, see the Mash Notes & Hate Mail department.

Meet Mike Dater, Starving Artiste

Readers can meet the man behind our cartoons on Thursday, October 19th. Mike Dater will give a talk and sign copies of his new book, *Mr. Obama Goes to Washington; And Then What Happened, Mommy?* at 5:30 p.m. in the Reading Room of the Portsmouth Athenæum, at 9 Market Square.



Strolling down Sheafe Street has always been a visual treat. Now it's even more rewarding. A replica of the shield that hangs on the Liberty Pole, commissioned by Mark Bodi, has now been added.

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Victory Party at Sanders Poynt

To the Editor:

Thank you for your continuing sharp and witty coverage of the Sanders Poynt dispute.

In your latest story, you quoted me saying that the October 21st festivities were tentative. That is no longer the case. We are planning a celebration at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, October 21st, with food and drinks for all. The New Hampshire Coastal Conservation Association will be there collecting tax deductible contributions to help defray my legal expenses.

When Wentworth by the Sea Country Club [WBTSCC] seemingly ran out of options to continue delaying, they finally did restore Sanders Poynt, but not without an unpleasant surprise, noticed when I was there with the *Portsmouth Herald* for a photo shoot. The historic marker erected by Paul Sanders has recently disappeared. We cannot be certain when it had been removed, but it seemed to have been there throughout the construction project.

Paul Sanders, a colorful, wise old man, erected the sign (Sanders Poynt 1623) back in the early 2000's. Anyone can watch the Rye Selectmen stream from July 24, URL http://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=32&id=12327 and hear Paul speaking at 12 minutes 40 seconds into the video. He is a 12th generation, direct descendant of Captain John Sanders, who in addition to probably having shot some Native Americans, established the 9th Plantation at Sanders Poynt where they dried codfish from the Isles of Shoals for shipment back to Britannia.

Paul erected his sign somewhat before the beginning of our present gilded age on the Seacoast. In those days, WBTSCC was owned by a true gentleman, the late Jeff Marple, and the Town of Rye believed it controlled Sanders Poynt. The Town selectmen gave Paul permission to erect his sign without ever consulting WBTSCC.

So, we have most of our land back, but what happened to the historic marker which identified it? I considered writing the Selectmen, but that

would have gone over like a lead balloon. So, I called the town police chief, Kevin Walsh, who said that he would immediately "jump in his car" to see for himself and investigate. A few days later, he called me back and informed me that he had been told that the sign had been removed because it was in the way of the construction project. This seemed strange because it was well to the side.

My wife, Christine Petrucci, volunteered to call Piscataqua Landscaping, the company which had done the construction. They told her that they had never removed the sign, that it had been there the whole time.

When I called Chief Walsh to inform him of our findings, he told me that the sign was in his possession, given back to him by WBTSCC. They said that they had removed it because it had not been specified as one of the signs by the court's final order. Walsh said that he would talk to the Town Manager, [Michael] Magnant, and, if the Selectmen approved, the sign would be restored.

As to the court order, WBTSCC is dissembling. The last WBTSCC plan submitted to the court that I ever saw, Plan B.4, clearly has the Sanders Poynt marker as part of its plan. And when the Town of Rye issued its infamous building permit to close off Sanders Poynt, their only condition was that the historic marker should remain in place.

So, for whatever reason, WBTSCC is still playing games with us. We should probably be thankful that they did not destroy this private and public property or use it as a dart board or as a target in a shooting range.

I hope against hope that the town, this time, can see its way to doing one tiny thing right and that Paul Sander's historic marker will have been restored before our beach party.

Thank you.

Bob Jesurum

Rye, N.H.

Bob:

We can't tell you how delighted we are to be able to publish this letter.

Congratulations: you have been an inspiration in dispiriting times.



We look forward to the 21st, when we hope to see Paul Sanders' sign in place, where it belongs.

The Editor

Our Moral Squalor

To the Editor:

President Trump has an uncanny ability to instinctively know how to divide the American people with unerring precision by exploiting weapons of mass distraction which prevent Americans from noticing how far the Trump Administration has diverged from productive and beneficial policies toward an unparalleled level of what one newspaper described as "moral squalor." In doing so, Trump keeps our collective focus concentrated in areas of relative unimportant sideline emotional and controversial matters diverting our attention from the economy, the burgeoning national debt, education, health care and the myriad of social and economic issues we pay our elected and appointed leaders, dearly, to take care of.

For example, right now we have approximately 800,000 young men and women residing in the United States, who were brought here as children, who have (by all accounts) been raised and have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner throughout their young lives but who now (through absolutely no fault of their own) find themselves at risk of being deported. Commonly referred to as "Dreamers," these young adults are listed under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program which has, thus far, shielded them from deportation.

Congress has found every excuse imaginable not to deal with this dilemma. Obviously the country is severely divided on whether to deport or not deport and Congress plays us *ad nauseam* (we've long ago surpassed queasiness), which is of benefit to no one and detrimental to everyone. Congress needs to get off its duff,

take appropriate steps necessary toward truly legalizing the "Dreamers," including putting them on a fast track to citizenship, fully recognizing their contributions to their communities and to their country (our country) the United States of America. I believe the vast majority of Americans feel as I do, that our leaders need to stop worrying about who kneels and who doesn't kneel at a football game and start paying attention to things that matter. The Dreamers matter a great deal and how we treat them will define us as a nation.

I think I can state with some degree of certainty that Donald Trump represents a grave threat to our nation's future if not to the very survival of world democracy. It is nothing short of unconscionable for any American to remain neutral while our fundamental core values, principles and beliefs are constantly under attack. Neutrality renders us collectively impotent and inescapably complicit in our own destruction. No matter the cost, we must not allow that to happen.

As "Fighting Bob LaFollette" once put it, "Men must be aggressive for what is right if government is to be saved from those who are aggressive for what is wrong."

If there was ever a time for men to be aggressive for what is right and to compel, persuade, or pressure the most unprincipled and undisciplined man ever elected President of the United States to resign, that time is now.

David L. Snell
Franklin, N.C.

David:

We could use a few "Fighting Bobs" today.

If we live to to write the obituary of the Trump Administration, we're cribbing that phrase, "moral squalor."

The Editor

The Benefits of Respectful Communication

To the Editor:

I suspect were I to have coffee or a beer with Mr. Marvel, we would find much about which to disagree. But his point about hypocrisy among liberals is well taken. Perhaps, though, the greater hypocrisy of liberalism, as embraced by the Democratic Party, relates to its agenda. Thanks to the "money is speech" doctrine sanctioned by the U.S. Supreme Court, both the Democratic and ideologically opposed Republican parties pander to the same oligarchs whose malefactions and malfeasances Mr. Hightower fortnightly exposes and excoriates on the page opposite that on which Mr. Marvel reflects on the inconsistencies, idiosyncrasies, and idiocies of Americans, and perhaps, by extension, humankind.

The two political parties that dominate national elections are nowhere that I can find sanctioned in the U.S. Constitution. Elections could well, and perhaps better, occur without them. Were names to appear on ballots *sans* party affiliation, as they do in local elections in New Hampshire, voters might be more inclined to examine the attributes, positions, and qualifications of those for whom they cast their votes.

"Labels that influence" was the subject of a homily delivered recently by, Father Brian Kennedy during the Mass said in Spanish at Portsmouth's Roman Catholic church. I have no Spanish, but the Spanish-speaking congregation accommodates the likes of me with a printed translation of the subject of the celebrant's homily (and does not require that I sit on the other side of a wall during the service). I was aware of the story of Francis of Assisi, who forsook the comforts of a well-to-do birthright to work with

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote

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— Charles Pierce (1953-)
writer, from *Esquire* (10/2/17)

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Substituting symbols for labels is equally unproductive. If Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane's 1914 Flag Day speech is to be credited, in which he said of that banner—"I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself"—the outsized versions flapping behind pickup trucks and motorcycles say less about respect for the nation than about the hubris of the vehicles' occupants: "I'm a better patriot than you because I'm flying a flag, and if you are, too, mine is bigger."

Being acquainted with Mr. Marvel's, and the editor's, thoughts on belief and religion, I would be hard-pressed, a "fallen away Catholic" resurrecting old habits but wanting conviction, to make a case for same convincingly. What I do profess is a belief in science, understanding that what constitutes it is subject to change, and in what scripture designates the second great commandment: Love thy neighbor as thyself. We seem to have this from cats and dogs, well, dogs, anyway. Imagine were we to accord it each other.

John Simon
Portsmouth, N.H.

John:

We cannot speak for Mr. Marvel, but we'd happily pick up the tab for a discussion amongst the three of us.

The Editor

=====
More Gats, Please!

To the Editor:

Some wounded still hover between life and death. The dead are not yet buried. Americans mourn the dead and injured of the Las Vegas shootings. We wonder how such an event could happen.

And Leftists do what they always do; use a crisis to try to take away the rights of the more than 318 million

Americans who didn't harm anyone.

Make no mistake; Leftists want to take away the American peoples' Second Amendment rights. Ignore their denials; occasionally Leftists, like Senator Diane Feinstein, admit their goal. They don't want you to have guns for hunting, for target shooting, for other legal uses, or for self-defense.

According to Leftists only police and rich Leftists' personal security should have guns.

After each tragedy, e.g., Sandy Hook, Orlando, and Las Vegas, Leftists immediately demand restricting the rights of law abiding American people with laws that wouldn't have avoided any of the tragedies.

Leftists make repeated false claims about guns and gun laws, perhaps out of ignorance, perhaps simply to mislead. The fact is that it is costly and almost impossible to get automatic weapons. The fact is that we already have common sense gun laws.

Unfortunately Leftists aren't interested in enforcing our existing laws intended to protect life. While horrors as in Las Vegas are infrequent, the same number of people are shot to death in Chicago every five weeks and in other Democrat-governed major cities every two to four months. But Leftists only care [about] the incidents that can advance their political agenda of infringing the rights of the American people.

Leftists just don't care about human life. They don't care about the carnage in our cities, they don't care about the fully available crimes committed and deaths caused by illegal aliens, and they don't care about the million-plus lives ended each year by abortions.

It's likely that Congress will respond to the Las Vegas shootings by passing some meaningless law that won't prevent a single future crime. Unfortunately as long as criminal gangs are tolerated and our borders are open, guns will be available to people who will use them to hurt people.

I'm open to adding gun laws that would actually prevent murders without infringing the rights of law abiding citizens. But more important would be to enforce all our laws intended to protect people, to care about and condemn all murders not just some, and to disapprove of abortions as an acceptable birth control method; i.e., to ensure that the American people cherish all human life.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.

Don:

You say it is "almost impossible to get automatic weapons," but make no mention of bump stocks. Those cheap gadgets convert standard semi-automatic rifles into a poor man's full-auto, but under the "common sense gun laws" we "already have," they're legal. Should they be? We're asking you.

Your charge that "Leftists only care [about] the incidents that can advance their political agenda of infringing the rights of the American people," and "they don't care about the million-plus lives ended each year by abortions." You really need to bone up on the psychological process known as projection. Have you not noticed that as soon as children are born, Right Wingers wash their hands of them?

The Editor

=====

Massive-Tax-Cutter-in-Chief

To the Editor:

Can a Presidential candidate who promised better and cheaper medical insurance for everyone be believed after he subsequently promoted plans to take health insurance away from more than 20 million people and raise the cost for the rest of us?

Once again, the current President is saying "believe me" as he claims his proposal for massive tax cuts won't personally benefit his own finances. Yet, his only tax return that we have seen, from 2005, would have reduced his taxes by 85 percent if his so-called tax reforms were in place at that time.

His tax scheme helps the richest two percent of the top one percent, by repealing the estate tax and the alternative minimum tax, by keeping the capital gains tax preference, by allowing companies that stashed their

profits overseas to repatriate at a very low tax, by lowering the tax on "pass-through" income.

Ordinary people won't benefit from these loopholes, but they will pay more because the scheme reduces the seven current tax rate categories to three, actually raising the tax rate for the previously lowest category. The scheme also might end the few middle-class tax deductions: mortgage interest and state taxes. He brags that some will get a \$1,000 tax break (woo-woo!), crumbs off the table while he and his swampmates take hundreds of thousands. The reduced government revenue will hurt ordinary people by cutting government services such as disaster response, health inspection, disease control, and pollution enforcement.

Perhaps the clearest "tell" that this scheme is a hoax is Trump's immediate threat to Senator Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.) if he doesn't support this ruse. If his scheme was so good, he wouldn't need to lead with a threat.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:

Sadly, we seem to have come to a point at which all "news" from the White House could be summed up as, "Trump opens mouth, emits noises."

The Editor

=====

Kudos to Senator Shaheen

To the Editor:

The American people, Senate Democrats and a tiny handful of Senate Republicans, including Senators John McCain and Susan Collins, are to be thanked and commended for killing the disastrous Graham-Cassidy Health Care Bill.

I give them a lot of credit for defeating continuous Republican efforts to try and repeal and replace, or simply repeal, the Affordable Care Act. In doing so, they have demonstrated, as Senator Bernie Sanders stated, "that it's just not acceptable in America to kick 20-30 million people off their health insurance, that we make seven-eight

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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The Northcountry Chronicle

Tackling the Football Problem

by William Marvel

The late summer of 1963 turned especially stressful for me. I was still a couple of years too young to drive and I lived miles from town, so I had been unable to find a job. There weren't many chores to do at home, and I think I spent most of July and August reading, with an occasional tramp down the unmaintained portion of Davis Hill Road for a dip in Conway Lake. The eighth grade finally lay behind me, and I fretted endlessly over having to negotiate the teeming halls of Kennett High School, with its 500-or-so students.

I also worried about football. I had played Little League baseball during the summers of 1961 and 1962, and had so enjoyed standing out in left field that I've pretty much stayed there ever since. My father, who had been a football and basketball star at Kennett in the 1920s, made it clear that he hoped I would participate in sports; he wanted to coax me out of the isolation I had come to savor in a decade of rural solitude. He

didn't force me to play football, but his eagerness was so obvious that I couldn't bear to disappoint him, so I signed up when he brought home the application form—just in case I was interested.

Imagine my delight when the physical exam turned up what appeared to be a heart murmur, but parental alarm required a second opinion, which cleared me. My first afternoon at Kennett found me sitting in an obnoxiously pungent locker room, puzzling over how to wear the cumbersome protective equipment.

At 115 pounds I was the skinniest kid on the team. Every afternoon brought me a pounding headache from colliding with beefier boys—and probably also from dehydration, for the water in Conway village tasted awful compared to our spring at home. The drills were unpleasant enough, but “scrimmage” became a word I positively detested. I always had to face a teammate much heavier than I was, whom I was supposed to either stop or evade, and I usually felt too lightheaded to remember which I was supposed to do.

I soon learned that the purpose of football was to give bigger kids an opportunity to beat the hell out of smaller ones without getting in trouble. One varsity lineman always took his stance with his right fist pulled back high above his hip, and at the hike he would swing it stiff-armed at my crotch. He never suffered any rebuke from the coaches, but I sure did when I finally punched him, after the whistle blew. Unsportsmanlike, you know.

The bench became my home during every game. Only once was I sent onto the field that I remember, against Berlin High on their turf. That one play led to my sole accolade from our assistant coach, Jim Fickett, who complimented me on “a very nice cross-body block” as I staggered off the field with a broken rib. I did not mar that momentary glory by admitting that I had merely been diving for cover when the runner tripped over me.

Neither then nor later could I understand why society tolerated such organized violence, much less revered it, but violence itself appears to be our national sport. The appeal

of football lies more in impact than agility, much as people love hockey for the fights. The neurological damage from football is becoming notorious, but the response at Kennett High is to take even more extreme measures to guard against the physical punishment that is really the basic point of the game. Abandoning such gladiatorial contests is not even considered.

It's all the more frustrating that preserving an elevated NHIAA sports classification is often an underlying motive for maintaining a cumbersome and impersonal regional enrollment, as it appears to be at Kennett High School. Sports are widely credited with providing young people with physical, social, and even emotional development. The Duke of Wellington reputedly credited the team sports of his alma mater for his military success when he remarked that “the battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton.” Wellington nearly lost at Waterloo, however. The allies there only prevailed at the last hour with the decisive attack of the Prussian army under Field Marshal Blucher

(sorry if the umlaut is missing). Blucher entered the army in his early teens, and attended neither Eton nor any other aristocratic private school.

The contribution of sports to educational growth is nevertheless undeniable. The problem comes with the assumption that all sports are beneficial, that bigger programs inevitably yield better benefits, and that winning necessarily reflects desirable virtues. These days, victorious school teams are routinely encouraged to display the arrogance of the raised index finger. Small-town football players occasionally earn a reputation for pushing their weight around, and in our community both football players and a football coach have been arrested for assaulting police officers.

Sports may be even more influential in emotional development than athletic proponents believe. It may be no coincidence that a nation so enthralled by a pastime as brutal as football is notorious for the violence of its culture in general.

—==—

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

hundred billion dollar cuts in Medicaid, that we defund Planned Parenthood, or that we raise premiums for older workers. However, beating back disastrous Republican proposals is not enough, the status quo is not good enough, 28 million Americans have no health insurance and many of you have very high deductibles and co-payments. We now must join all other advanced nations in recognizing that health care is a human right.”

In line with his statement, Senator Sanders has introduced a Senate bill, already co-sponsored by 16 Democrat Senators, calling for Medicare-For-All (in which the

government would be the single collector of funds and the single payer for services and materials involved in private healthcare), named after the very popular program, started in 1966, which currently provides quality health care to almost one-fifth of Americans. Americans like Medicare because of its efficiency, simplicity, clarity and trustworthiness.

One of the bill's co-sponsors, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, whom I commend for her obvious willingness to take on the powerful health insurance and pharmaceutical industries, asserted: “I support the Medicare-For-All Act because I believe that healthcare should be a

fundamental right in this country. Too many Granite Staters continue to struggle to access quality affordable healthcare. I know that in a Republican-controlled Congress this legislation will not pass in the near term, but I believe this bill puts pressure on Congress to think big when it comes to providing the healthcare that all Americans need and deserve.”

It's my hope that Senator Maggie Hassan and Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter will follow Senator Shaheen's lead.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.

—==—

Russians and the Election

To the Editor:

According to Reuters story dated September 24th, “U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded the Kremlin orchestrated a wide-ranging influence operation that included email hacking and online propaganda to discredit Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and help Donald Trump, a Republican, win the White House in November.”

As part of the operation, Russian hackers targeted in 2016 the election processes of 21 states in an attempt to disrupt voting and swing the vote to Trump. Donald Trump has de-

nied these Russian cyberattacks took place. His denial is not unexpected, as to admit it would cast doubt on his legitimacy as the President. Thus, Trump has done next to nothing to protect the United States from further Russian intrusions into our elections

Trump's Department of Homeland Security took 10 months even to announce that attempts had been made in 2016 to interfere with voting in these 21 states. During September, former federal prosecutor Paul Bradley appeared on the television program “The Beat.”

When asked why the announcement of Russian cyberattacks on

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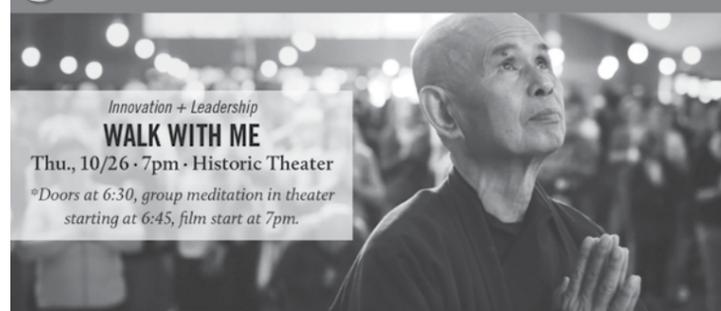
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The Living Wage Preemption Act

by Jim Hightower

The governors of many states are boldly stepping forward these days to stop grassroots democracy.

Yes, noting that local citizens and officials have been passing local laws to govern themselves, a flock of right-wing governors are asserting an autocratic power called “state preemption” to overrule democratic decisions made by locals. Why do

these governors hate democracy? Because their corporate funders don't like some of the laws local people support—so democracy must go! This is not a matter of a rogue governor here or there, but a coordinated effort by corporate interests to get governors to usurp local authority.

The main coordinator of this power grab is ALEC, the American Legislative Exchange Council. For example, in 2014, when Fight for 15, and other activist groups began

winning city campaigns for minimum wage hikes, ALEC responded by holding a corporate forum on how state officials can stop such local actions. ALEC circulated a model bill called the “Living Wage Preemption Act,” and sure enough, it's already been passed by nearly half of our states.

Ohio was the latest. By a large margin, people in the Buckeye State favor raising the wage floor, and Cleveland enacted its own increase

last year. But a small group of corporate profiteers howled in fury. So, last December, the state's Republican leaders rushed to appease them by adopting the ALEC preemption bill and ramming it into law. It was a political mugging of the people's will, retroactively negating Cleveland's increase and outlawing increases by any other locality.

Used sparingly and properly, preemption can be a democracy-enhancing tool to serve the common

good. But when governors pervert this power to use it as a cudgel against the people, We the People must rise up against the governors. To learn more visit MayorsInnovation.org.

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states was delayed 10 months, Bradley replied, “This is the call of the Department of Homeland Security. They have information that certain states have been hacked. We should understand elections are run by the states, not by the Federal Government. But certainly the states depend on the Federal Government for intelligence, including whether the Russians are attempting to take over the election. So it's not hard to think of this as a political decision.”

With the 2018 midterm elections looming ever closer, thanks to inaction by the Trump administration, we remain highly vulnerable to further Russian dirty tricks.

Gary Patton
Hampton, N.H.

====

We Like Younz, Too

To the Editor:

Yahoo (to quote Aristotle and Cleveland “Indian” fans): I received my *New Hampshire Gazette* yesterday, October 2nd—the quickest/fastest ever! It's often five days late, &c. Only missed one day of the listing of weird/strange/odd/real/nostalgic events of the “past.” I especially like how the paper is wrapped for postal delivery: the regulation that requires that process should be listed in the old “Believe It or Not” cartoon. With your permission I would like to say: “Younz (a localism) are the best!”

Dr. J. K. Folmar I

Member, Planet 3 on the Left
California, Pa.

J.K.:

We are, we believe, justifiably proud of the fine work done by our Subscription Fulfillment Team. We're pleased you appreciate their efforts.

The Editor

====

The Cruel Adversity Panel

To the Editor:

While other panels of the mural don't exactly pass the smell test either, the “Cruel Adversity” panel in the Durham Post Office at once provides both a great source of humor as well as an extremely grievous example of warped American history.

To those who favor removing the mural, I would say “Not so fast.”

In view of the current state of affairs in politics in general and, more pertinently, the current occupant of the White House, this panel is not only extremely relevant, but might possess significant historical and monetary value, of which the Durham Town Council and the media should be apprised:

I'll have to check into it further, but the Cruel Adversity section of the mural might well be one of the earliest (and perhaps best) extant examples of “fake news.”

Alan Grossberg
Durham, N.H.

====

Are We Having Fun Yet?

To the Editor:

What kind of a person would say that he was “having fun” when he was playfully tossing out rolls of paper towels to the people who had just experienced a horrible natural disaster and who lost almost everything? What kind of a man would tell the suffering people of Puerto Rico that they really did not experience that big a storm since only a handful of lives were lost compared to what Hurricane Katrina did? What kind of a person would allow the availability of essential supplies such as oil, gasoline, food, &c. to be restricted, and the price of these essentials to skyrocket, because he refuses to extend the suspension of the Jones Act, which allows ships other than a few American flagged ships to deliver supplies to Puerto Rico? What kind of a human being would attack and demean the Mayor of San Juan, Puerto Rico who was begging for assistance for her ravaged city, while he was sitting in his privileged seat watching a golf tournament in New Jersey? What kind of a man blames the victims of a terrible disaster and goes on to berate them for asking for assistance?

Each reader of this letter can decide for themselves what type of person would behave in the manner of Donald Trump in response to the disaster in Puerto Rico. However, I can tell you what type a per-

son Donald Trump is not, based on this pitiful display. He is not a humanitarian, a statesman, a healer, a source of pride, a source of hope, a caring person, a person of integrity, empathetic, trustworthy or honorable. In short, he is not Presidential in any sense of the word. While he may carry the title of President, his behavior is not worthy of such an honor.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

While we have always been skeptical of America's imperial ambition, we never quite saw how the U.S. might go about extricating itself from global dominance. Now it appears that *The Grand Yam* will be the architect of that transition. Hang onto your hat.

The Editor

Department of Corrections



Mike Cercone, of parts unknown, kindly submitted this photo of the machine which we, in our paper of September 15th, erroneously alleged to be a flying motorcycle. He points out that “the prop[eller, which appears to be part of a powered paraglider] is actually just hitching a ride” on a platform mounted to the back bumper. Also, the trike itself appears to be powered by a V-8, not a V-4. “Just the Flaks,” wrote Mike. “And no, I'm not the owner, just took some photos of this interesting piece of work.” We're grateful to Mike for sending this photo and correcting our error.

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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, OCTOBER 15	MONDAY, OCTOBER 16	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
<p>2008—The Dow loses 7.8 percent of its value in its 2nd worst day ever.</p> <p>2004—Jon Stewart appears on CNN's "Crossfire" and begs Tucker Carlson to "stop hurting America." Less than 90 days later CNN announces the show is over.</p> <p>1997—On Nevada's Black Rock Desert, RAF pilot Andy Green breaks the sound barrier in a jet-driven, 110,000 horsepower car.</p> <p>1969—In the U.S., two million march in the first Vietnam Moratorium. The Boston demo draws 100,000.</p> <p>1966—Huey Newton and Bobby Seale form the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense.</p> <p>1965—David Miller becomes the first to publicly burn his draft card in Vietnam War protest.</p> <p>1959—A nuke-laden B-52 and a fuel-laden KC-135 collide over Kentucky, but America's luck holds.</p> <p>1923—The Senate begins investigating Albert Fall, the suddenly-prosperous Interior Secretary. A Republican, Fall leased the Navy's Teapot Dome oilfield to a friend.</p> <p>1917—Exotic dancer Mata Hari, convicted of spying for Germany, is shot by a French firing squad.</p> <p>1910—Melvin Vaniman, aboard the airship <i>America</i>, transmits the first in-flight radio message: "Roy, come and get this goddamn cat."</p> <p>1883—The Supreme Court guts the Civil Rights Act of 1875, ushering in the era of the Jim Crow South.</p>	<p>2000—Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan dies in a plane crash but will go on to defeat John Ashcroft in the November election for Senate.</p> <p>1973—Ironists bestow the Nobel Peace Prize on Henry Kissinger.</p> <p>1972—Majority Leader Hale Boggs [D-La.], Rep. Nick Begich [D-Alaska], and others vanish while flying over Alaska.</p> <p>1968—Tommy Smith and John Carlos raise Black Power salutes at the Mexico Olympics.</p> <p>1962—At breakfast, President John F. Kennedy finds he's got a Cuban Missile Crisis on his plate.</p> <p>1954—Rep. Douglas Stringfellow [R-Utah] douglases that his tales of heroism in WWII are fictitious.</p> <p>1920—In New York, more than 30,000 Great War veterans march to demand a bonus.</p> <p>1869—Well-diggers in Cardiff, N.Y. unearth what seems to be a ten-foot tall petrified man. The "Cardiff Giant" is later found to be a tobaccoconist's hoax.</p> <p>1859—Abolitionist John Brown attacks Harper's Ferry.</p> <p>1814—Ruptured vats in a London brewery release 323,346 gallons of beer, drowning seven.</p> <p>1715—Daniel Fowle is baptized at First Church of Boston.</p> <p>1660—John Cooke, who had prosecuted King Charles I for treason in 1649, is drawn and quartered for the same crime under Charles II.</p>	<p>2003—The day after the Yankees win the pennant, a <i>New York Post</i> editorial congratulates the Red Sox for winning said pennant.</p> <p>1999—Lissa Roche commits suicide after confessing she had a 19-year affair with her father-in-law, George Roche III, the president of Hillsdale College, "the most conservative college in America."</p> <p>1981—"I could see where you could have the exchange of tactical weapons against troops in the field without it bringing either one of the major powers to pushing the button," says President Ronald Reagan.</p> <p>1973—OPEC turns off the oil tap.</p> <p>1967—Lt. Col. Terry Allen Jr. leads two companies of the 28th Infantry, outnumbered 10 to 1, into a VC ambush at Ong Thanh. Casualties exceed 92 percent, 64 are KIA; the U.S. Army declares it a victory.</p> <p>1956—"The only way to win the next World War," says Ike, "is to prevent it."</p> <p>1927—Harry F. Sinclair's trial for conspiracy in the Teapot Dome scandal begins. It ends two weeks later when it's revealed Sinclair has hired detectives to shadow the jury.</p> <p>1888—Thomas Alva Edison files a patent for an "Optical Phonograph" — a movie camera.</p> <p>1871—President Grant suspends the writ of habeas corpus.</p> <p>1777—Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga, inspiring the French to support the Americans.</p>	<p>2014—Thousands of college-age cretins, urged on by social media company Finnarage, set fires, throw billiard balls, and overturn cars to end the Keene Pumpkin Festival.</p> <p>2011—Ohioan Terry Thompson releases his menagerie of 56 exotic animals including lions, leopards, and tigers, then kills himself.</p> <p>2003—The president of Bolivia is driven out of office (and country) by disgruntled peasants tired of his knuckling under to corrupt international energy companies.</p> <p>2004—David Ortiz ends the 12-inning Game 4 of the ALCS with a two-run walk-off in the early morning hours. Later he ends the five-hour-plus Game 5 with an RBI.</p> <p>1929—The Canadian government declares women are "persons."</p> <p>1927—IWW strikers shut down Colorado's coal industry.</p> <p>1898—The U.S. colonizes Puerto Rico — benevolently, of course.</p> <p>1891—On the basis of false rumors and a dubious identification, a mob of 1,000 lynches Joe Coe, a married African-American with two children, as 12 Omaha, Neb. cops observe.</p> <p>1860—British troops burn the Manchu emperor's summer palace towards the end of the 2nd Opium War.</p> <p>1775—Capt. Henry Mowat destroys Falmouth [now Portland, Maine] with an incendiary bombardment. Result: collateral damage to Mowat's career and British hegemony.</p>	<p>2005—Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) wins \$853,492 in the Powerball lottery. A dying woman whose real estate deposit he has refused to return receives exactly none of it.</p> <p>2005—Saddam Hussein goes on trial in Baghdad for crimes against humanity and Bushes.</p> <p>2004—Riot police maintain order long enough for the (bloody) Red Sox to beat the Yankees 4 to 2 in Game 6 of the ALCS.</p> <p>2000—George W.[MD] Bush says at the AI Smith Dinner, "This is an impressive crowd, the haves and the have-mores. Some people call you the elite. I call you my base."</p> <p>1998—Shortly before his likely re-election, Tennessee Senator Tommy Burks [D] is murdered by his middle-name-changing opponent, Byron Low Tax Looper [R].</p> <p>1982—Automaker J. DeLorean is arrested with 59 lbs. of coke.</p> <p>1972—Philippine police shoot and kill Kinshichi Kozuka, Japan's penultimate WWII holdout.</p> <p>1962—Air Force General Curtis LeMay recommends direct military intervention in Cuba.</p> <p>1960—Eisenhower embargoes Cuba.</p> <p>1864—St. Albans, Vt. is attacked by twenty Confederate cavalrymen riding south from Canada. They rob three banks and escape with more than \$200,000.</p> <p>1849—Elizabeth Blackwell becomes America's first female MD.</p>	<p>2011—Brotherly Leader Muammar Ghaddafi is rather unceremoniously dispatched by Libyan rebels.</p> <p>2005—Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) nixes an increase in Federal home heating aid for the poor.</p> <p>2004—The Red Sox come back from a 3 game deficit and become the American League Champions, beating the Yankees 10 to 3 at Yankee Stadium.</p> <p>1990—In 22 cities, Americans protest the impending Gulf War.</p> <p>1983—The Feds recognize the Mashantucket Pequots, paving the way for a gargantuan casino.</p> <p>1973—After A.G. Eliot Richardson and Deputy A.G. William Ruckelshaus refuse on principle to comply with President Nixon's order to fire Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, Solicitor General Robert Bork, who is not so encumbered, complies.</p> <p>1967—Roger Patterson and Robert Gimlin shoot 24 feet of film purporting to show a Sasquatch walking along a streambed in northern California.</p> <p>1947—HUAC opens hearings on commie influence in H'wood.</p> <p>1944—Two natural gas tanks explode in Cleveland with 1/6th of the force of the Hiroshima bomb, killing 130 people.</p> <p>1935—The Red Army's 6,000 mile "Long March" ends.</p> <p>1930—William Kogut, while incarcerated on Death Row at San Quentin, kills himself with a pipe bomb made from playing cards.</p>	<p>1982—Dr. Joseph Porter's flight lesson ends prematurely when the rotor of the Robinson R22 he's flying shears off its tail cone. Gary Porter is at football practice on the athletic field in Indian Hill, Ohio where his father dies.</p> <p>1975—In the 12th inning, New Hampshire's own Carlton Fisk waves the ball fair, and the Red Sox win Game 6 of the World Series.</p> <p>1967—Yippies, Diggers, Hippies, &c., fail to levitate the Pentagon.</p> <p>1966—A mountain of mine waste collapses onto a school in Wales, killing 28 adults and 116 children.</p> <p>1965—Lyndon Johnson flashes his gall bladder scar for photographers.</p> <p>1957—Special Forces Capt. Harry Cramer becomes the first American killed by hostile action in Vietnam. His death is falsely listed as accidental.</p> <p>1954—Indiana's Boxing Commission says boxers and wrestlers must swear an oath they're not Commies before they can fight in the Hoosier State.</p> <p>1874—Birth of Charles Ives.</p> <p>1861—Sen. Edward D. Baker (R-Ore.), in his capacity as a Colonel leading a brigade at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, becomes the first and last U.S. Senator killed in battle.</p> <p>1837—Under a flag of truce, 75 Seminoles are captured and imprisoned by U.S. troops at Ft. Payton, Fla.</p> <p>1835—William Lloyd Garrison is paraded through Boston with a rope around his neck for saying "all men are created equal."</p>
<p>8:17 8:38</p> <p>1:53 2:17</p>	<p>9:15 9:37</p> <p>2:53 3:18</p>	<p>10:07 10:30</p> <p>3:47 4:12</p>	<p>10:54 11:18</p> <p>4:36 5:01</p>	<p>11:37</p> <p>5:20 5:45</p>	<p>12:03 12:17</p> <p>6:01 6:28</p>	<p>12:44 12:56</p> <p>6:40 7:08</p>
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22	MONDAY, OCTOBER 23	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
<p>1985—The last surviving Kickapoo Indians are given the right to live on their ancestral lands after being kicked off 140 years earlier.</p> <p>1968—Richard Nixon tells H.R. Haldeman to "monkey wrench" negotiations to end the Vietnam War.</p> <p>1964—The Atomic Energy Commission explodes a 5-kiloton atomic bomb 2,700 feet underground and ten miles west of Purvis, Miss.</p> <p>1963—After his final request for an injection of LSD is fulfilled, Aldous Huxley dies tripping balls.</p> <p>1962—SAC goes to DEFCON 2 as JFK blockades Cuba.</p> <p>1929—"I know of nothing fundamentally wrong with the stock market," says President of New York's National City Bank.</p> <p>1913—A dynamite blast, detonated in violation of safety rules, kills 265 at a Phelps Dodge mine in Dawson, N.M.</p> <p>1909—A judge tells striking female garment workers in New York, "You are on strike against God."</p> <p>1907—An attempt to corner the copper market sparks the Panic of 1907.</p> <p>1861—The first transcontinental telegraph begins operation.</p> <p>1844—William Miller's third end-of-the-world prophecy proves as inaccurate as the first two.</p> <p>1834—A fire to get rid of a huge mass of ancient wooden tally sticks once used for bookkeeping gets out of hand and burns Britain's Houses of Parliament to the ground.</p>	<p>2015—Sen. Ted Cruz [R-Texas] warns "one more liberal justice and they begin sandblasting and bulldozing veterans memorials."</p> <p>2001—The day Congressman James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisc.) introduces the senseless PATRIOT Act, Justice official James Yoo writes a memo saying the President need not obey existing laws.</p> <p>1999—Asked why he hasn't campaigned more in New Hampshire, George W.[MD] Bush says "The important question is, how many hands have I shaken?"</p> <p>1983—Suicide bombers kill 241 U.S. Marines and sailors in Lebanon, on Ronald Reagan's watch.</p> <p>1975—Workers at the Nevada test site drop a nuclear weapon core 40 feet. It doesn't explode, so only 11 workers are injured.</p> <p>1973—Eight articles of impeachment are introduced in the House against President Nixon.</p> <p>1962—With SAC at DEFCON 2, JFK and aides debate whether to bomb Cuban SAM sites if any U.S. planes are shot down.</p> <p>1955—In a South Vietnamese referendum with 108% participation, Ngo Dinh Diem wins with 98.9%.</p> <p>1954—Pres. Eisenhower authorizes direct U.S. aid to South Vietnam, bypassing the French.</p> <p>1775—The Continental Congress prohibits the enlistment of blacks in the Army.</p>	<p>2012—George W.[MD] Bush speaks at a Houston fundraiser for troops wounded following his orders. His fee: \$100,000.</p> <p>2008—America's markets outperform the rest of the world, having lost only 3.5% of their value in one day.</p> <p>2001—The U.S. House passes the PATRIOT Act without reading it.</p> <p>1983—U.S. military aircraft, using old maps, bomb Richmond Hill In-sane Asylum in Grenada, killing 16.</p> <p>1962—Soviet ships reach the U.S. quarantine line off Cuba. They don't cross it, so we don't nuke the USSR. A Soviet satellite explodes the same day. NORAD suspects an ICBM attack; but, again, nobody pushes The Button.</p> <p>1960—One wrongly-set switch at the Baikonur Cosmodrome prematurely ignites the second stage of a Soviet R-16 ICBM. It explodes killing more than 100.</p> <p>1947—A badly-designed heater sets a DC-6 on fire near Bryce Canyon, Utah. Passengers and crew jettison baggage to no avail; 52 perish.</p> <p>1947—Walt Disney rats out some employees to Congress as commies.</p> <p>1929—The irrational exuberance of the 1920's stock market undergoes a correction on "Black Thursday."</p> <p>1901—Annie Edson Taylor, 63, goes over Niagara Falls in a barrel and lives.</p> <p>1901—General "Hell-Roaring" Jake Smith tells Marines at Samar, "burn and kill; the more you burn and kill, the better it will please me."</p>	<p>1983—U.S. troops protect us (and distract from the loss of 241 Marines in Beirut) by invading Grenada.</p> <p>1973—Henry Kissinger, Alexander Haig, and other unelected officials raise America's military readiness level to DEF CON 3 as Nixon sleeps.</p> <p>1968—Northeast Flight 946 crashes into Moose Mountain, in Hanover, N.H. Ten survive, 32 perish.</p> <p>1962—Nuclear-armed jets scramble from Duluth AFB because a guard, thinking it's an infiltrator, has shot a bear climbing a fence.</p> <p>1960—Martin Luther King, Jr. gets four months at hard labor in Decatur, Ga. on old traffic charges.</p> <p>1944—Adm. Sprague's task force "Taffy 3," surprised by a far-larger group of Japanese ships at Samar Island, attacks ferociously, tipping the strategic balance at Leyte Gulf.</p> <p>1944—U.S.S. <i>Tang</i>, captained by Dover's Richard H. O'Kane, is sunk by its own malfunctioning torpedo; 74 crewmen perish, 9 survive the sinking and a Japanese prison camp.</p> <p>1927—The <i>Principessa Mafalda</i> sinks within sight of rescue vessels off Brazil; 314 of 1,252 passengers drown.</p> <p>1854—Lord James Cardigan leads a brigade of sword-brandishing light cavalrymen across open ground in a doomed attack against Russian artillery. Somehow, half survive.</p> <p>1760—King George II dies on the loo.</p> <p>1669—Virginia legalizes the killing of slaves by their masters.</p>	<p>2003—Iraqi resistance fighters nearly get Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz with a rocket in Baghdad.</p> <p>2001—George W.[MD] Bush eagerly signs the PATRIOT Act.</p> <p>1979—South Korean President Park Chung-hee is shot by the head of the South Korean C.I.A.</p> <p>1972—Henry Kissinger, lying as usual, says "Peace is at hand."</p> <p>1970—"Doonesbury" debuts.</p> <p>1966—Aboard the U.S.S. <i>Oriskany</i> off Vietnam, a sailor throws an accidentally-ignited flare into a locker ... full of rocket warheads. Explosions ensue, 44 die and 156 are injured.</p> <p>1962—As planning for massive air strikes continues, President John F. Kennedy gets a telegram from Nikita Khrushchev offering to swap Soviet missiles in Cuba for U.S. missiles in Turkey.</p> <p>1955—Ngo Dinh Diem proclaims South Vietnam a republic and himself president.</p> <p>1917—At the Second Battle of Passchendaele, at the cost of 12,000 casualties, the Allies gain a few hundred yards of mud.</p> <p>1881—The Clanton brothers shoot it out with the alleged law at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona.</p> <p>1806—Lord Timothy Dexter, seminal American crackpot who made money selling bed warmers in the West Indies and authored <i>A Penny for the Knowing Ones</i>, dies at 59 in Newburyport, Mass.</p>	<p>2004—The Red Sox take their first Series since 1918 from the Cards.</p> <p>1991—After its rotor strikes and severs its tailboom, a Robinson R22 helicopter crashes in Eglsbach, Germany, killing its student pilot.</p> <p>1972—Richard Nixon pocket vetoes a bill to raise the veterans health care budget by \$85 million.</p> <p>1969—To convince the Soviets he's dangerously unstable, Richard Nixon secretly orders eighteen B-52s armed with H-bombs to spend the next three days flying around the North Pole.</p> <p>1967—Rev. Philip Berrigan and three friends pour duck blood on draft records in Baltimore, Md.</p> <p>1965—"We must never forget," says Richard Nixon, "that if the war in Vietnam is lost ... the right of free speech will be extinguished throughout the world."</p> <p>1962—One U.S. U-2 is shot down over Cuba and another strays over the USSR as Bobby Kennedy cuts a deal with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. Meanwhile, aboard Soviet sub <i>B-59</i>, near Cuba, Vice Admiral Vasili Arkhipov single-handedly prevents the launch of a nuclear torpedo.</p> <p>1951—"There is no question," says Gen. J. Lawton Collins, "that the Communist menace in French Indo-China has been stopped."</p> <p>1838—Gov. Lilburn Boggs [D] signs an order saying Mormons will be "treated as enemies," and "exterminated or driven from [Missouri]."</p>	<p>2011—Texas Gov. Rick Perry becomes curiously exuberant over the gift of a bottle of maple syrup.</p> <p>2007—The Red Sox take the World Series in four from the Rockies — second time in three years.</p> <p>2005—Cheney henchman "Scooter" Libby resigns after he's indicted.</p> <p>2003—"[A]s you know," explains George W.[MD] Bush, "these are open forums, you're able to come and listen to what I have to say."</p> <p>1988—In Tacoma, a jury awards \$147,000 to a woman seduced by her minister.</p> <p>1984—OPEC decides to produce less oil and make more money.</p> <p>1970—Sen. William Fulbright charges the Nixon administration with waging illegal war in Laos.</p> <p>1962—Russkie Premier Nikita Khrushchev agrees to dismantle the Soviet missile bases in Cuba and remove the weapons.</p> <p>1929—A child is born in an airplane, over Miami—where else?</p> <p>1922—Benito Mussolini, "sent by divine providence," according to Pope Pius XI, takes over in Rome.</p> <p>1921—Argentine workers revolt under the black flag of anarchism. The army kills 1,500.</p> <p>1919—Congress passes the Volstead Act, enabling prohibition.</p> <p>1906—Ivy Lee issues the world's first press release, deflecting blame from the Pennsylvania Railroad for the deaths of 50 passengers.</p>
<p>7:18 7:48</p>	<p>7:57 8:28</p>	<p>8:38 9:11</p>	<p>9:21 9:57</p>	<p>10:09 10:48</p>	<p>11:02 11:42</p>	<p>12:00</p>

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