

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Troubles of the Geek-in-Chief

History will show—provided mankind has enough time left for current events to congeal into history, a proposition which seems more dubious with each passing day—that the most successful geek who ever lived is the specimen of *Homo sapiens* (oh, the irony, there) who currently occupies the nation's most prestigious unit of public housing.

Cue the violent objections from people who have forgotten, or perhaps never knew, the original definition of that term.

We suspect that for most people these days, the term “geek” brings to mind a character from “The Big Bang Theory.” This inexplicably-persistent television show, like virtually all its competition on the broadcast networks, is built around a stereotype; in this case, that of a person who is capable of displaying vast intelligence when dealing with certain arcane, difficult topics, but otherwise acts like a blithering idiot.

The show is just another manifestation of a phenomenon dating back half a century: for-profit mass media reassuring their audiences—in the service of the corporate marketing departments which subsidize their enterprises—that it's not just permissible to be intellectually average, it's way bettah than bein' smaht.

No, when we apply the term “geek” to the person to whom the Electoral College most recently entrusted the famous nuclear football, we make reference to a class of performers who, in that supposedly less-enlightened age of 80 to 100 years ago, worked on the midway: that part of the carnival where the bearded lady, the fat man, the midget, and other miscellaneous examples of God's sense of humor earned their daily bread by being put on display.

In that seedy realm the geek was the guy who specialized in separating the chumps from their change by performing some act of such surpassing weirdness that it made the audience's eyes bug out. The more grotesque, the better. The classic: biting the head off a live chicken.

In those long-lost days the carnival was about at the bottom of society's heirarchy—and the geek was the dregs of the carnival.

Over the course of time, through the myriad machinations of our political institutions, we have somehow managed to put a genuine, old-school geek on top.

On top right now, anyway. Would anyone in this country trade places with the guy except somebody on Death Row?

How much trouble is the reality show buffoon formerly known as The Donald actually in? Well, he hired Rudi Giuliani as his lawyer—



his co-star in a 2000 video which shows Trump sexually molesting Giuliani while the latter is in drag.

Trump is not just desperate, he's decompensating—and who can blame him? It's not as if he wanted the job.

All the available evidence suggests that Trump didn't run for President so he could be President. He ran for President to promote his business. His business appears to be laundering money for Russians oligarchs through gaudy, high-priced real estate. His “candidacy” was just an Andy Kaufman-style gag he was pulling for commercial purposes that got way, way out of hand.



THE MUELLER TEAM - EVER CIRCLING, CIRCLING...

It's difficult humanly impossible to work up an iota of sympathy for the individual in question here. If there is a single redeeming quality in that overbearing mass of suet, we can't imagine what it might be. His every waking moment seems to have been devoted to self-aggrandizement. It leads one to suspect that at his core is a kind of black hole—an utter, devastating lack of self-esteem which he's attempting to overcome. We can only imagine that his life must be a living hell. But, screw him.

At this point all the accumulated entanglements surrounding Trump seem to have taken on the characteristics of one of those amusing Rube Goldbergian videos which can be found on *YouTube* showing an elaborate series of objects that, set in motion, range across some warehouse space: balls rolling, teeters tottering, springs going “boi-oi-oing,” this bumping into that, until, in the end, everything goes ka-flooy.

Lord only knows what may yet happen as this stately and sedate newspaper wends its way from our newsroom to the printer and onto the streets. Perhaps aliens will have landed to take back their court jester. It will be hard to top Tuesday night, though.

A century and a half ago, the nation was scandalized by *Crédit Mobilier*. A slew of politicians—mostly Republicans—accepted what today would be \$174 million in bribes.

Ho. Hum.

Fifty years later Interior Secretary Albert Fall—a Republican—sold off the nation's Teapot Dome oil reserve for a bribe worth \$5 million today.

Zzzzzzz.

This week we're told that the President's lawyer, Michael Cohen, whose primary area of expertise has something to do with taxicabs, is alleged to have accepted vast sums of money from a range of legiti-

mate companies as well as a Russian oligarch with close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. These funds were “funneled”—an arcane legal term of art introduced into the narrative by the President's more recent legal hire, previously noted—through a legal fiction which had been established to pay \$130,000 to a woman who makes her living being filmed while engaging in sexual intercourse, for the purposes of inducing her not to speak publicly about having banged the President shortly after the now-First Lady gave birth to their child.

Now, that's entertainment.

If there's still any justice in this country under Attorney General Jefferson [Davis] Beauregard Sessions III, we might have a *dénouement* worthy of this elaborate and prolonged farce: a shackled ex-President being frog-marched from the White House to a newly-built Trump Wing at Leavenworth.

The Alleged News®

Koch Brothers Open Local Branch of National Fast Buck Franchise

Americans for Prosperity [AFP], Charles and David Koch's national fast buck franchise, held an allegedly Grand Opening of its latest propaganda outlet on April 24th. The kicker: it's located at 767 Islington Street, across from the Pic 'n Pay, in the up-and-coming West End of the Peoples Republic of Po'Town.

“AFP has long had its state headquarters in Manchester,” Paul Steinhauer wrote in the Award-Winning Local Daily. “Two years ago it opened a second office in Dover. Moore said moving the Seacoast office from Dover to Portsmouth at 767 Islington St. Unit 2B was all about logistics.” The article did not specify if there was a Grand Closing in Dover.

“We're a volunteer-driven organization and our volunteers have made

it loud and clear that this would be a great location for them,” Moore told the AWLD's dutiful stenographer. The new office will serve “as a ‘community center’ [which] will be used for ‘anything from meetings with groups who are interested in advancing free-market policies to having phone banks to having our grassroots leadership academy training.’”

Of course—what fun! Who among us doesn't enjoy gathering with other like-minded people in a sterile sheetrock box and spending our precious free time drinking bad coffee and sharing lively conversations about the wonderfulness of Ayn Rand, Friedrich Hayek, Milton Friedman, and Ludwig von Mises. Better get there early—seating may be limited! How kind of the Koch brothers, out of the goodness of their

hearts, to provide these folks with clubhouse.

Let us grope our way out of this fog of fantasy for a moment and discuss what's really going on here. Any reasonable reader might want to know: why are the Koch Brothers the subject of such consistent vitriol from fleabag outfits like *This Olde Rag*?

The answer is simple: they richly deserve it. Through inherited wealth, and their own unflagging efforts to get even richer, mostly by destroying the atmosphere, they have accumulated a fortune of about \$70 billion. In a properly-run world, they'd have to pay steep taxes—which would cover their fair share of the cost of maintaining the nation that provided the infrastructure and educated the workers that allowed them to get so filthy rich.

Through investment in the Republican Party, though, they've kept their tax burden proportionally lower than most readers of this free newspaper. The money they save is invested in schemes to further reduce their taxes.

Even that is all pretty standard tightwad, rich-person stuff. What makes the Kochs worthy of special condemnation is their leadership position. They created and lead organizations that gather large contributions from other like-minded, crazy-rich cheapskates—anonymous cheapskates, at that.

Technically, that means these organizations could fairly be called conspiratorial cabals. The result is a veritable torrent of cash—hundreds of millions every year—which none of them even miss. It's couch change to them.

Greg Moore: Community Organizer #499
Those organizations then use that money to pay the salaries of ... wait for it ... community organizers!

Seriously. What is Greg Moore, if not a community organizer? He, and 499 other people just like him in 37 other states, all on the AFP payroll, spend their time coordinating the efforts of local people. Organizing the community, in other words.

If these 500 community organizers were helping these people to better their own lot, they would be mocked and vilified by Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh, Ann Coulter, Tucker Carlson, all the rest of the Right Wing radio shouters, and half the Members of Congress.

The Alleged News®

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The Alleged News®

from page one

Moore and his counterparts, though, are organizing local communities—including this one—to work against their own self-interest, and lobby their government to lower the taxes on the members of the conspiratorial cabal that raised the money to hire Greg Moore.

Back in paragraph three of this screed, Moore casually dropped the term “grassroots leadership academy.” Here’s a style tip for the folks down in Austin, Texas, who cobble the AWLD together: those three words should have been capitalized, as in: Grassroots Leadership Academy [GLA]. Mary Bottari, writing for the Center for Media and Democracy in 2016, explained the strategic importance of the GLA.

“The Republican Party has long been disadvantaged in the electoral ground game. It does not have as many community-based institutions to knock on doors and pass out literature as the Democratic Party, which enjoys broad backing from unions and other community-based organizations.”

The poor, oppressed billionaires had to do something to counter that unfair advantage.

“The Grassroots Leadership Academy (GLA) is the new boot camp for the AFP ground game. Its mission, as stated on its website, is to

develop the leadership skills needed ‘to fight for freedom and against the progressive policies and false narratives of the left’ through its three-step educational program.

“Most of the training sessions are held at local AFP offices, which it has opened in [what were then] 35 states. Participants can get a certificate for becoming a Koch community organizer.

“The first two programs, which can earn one a ‘grassroots activist’ or a ‘community mobilizer’ certificate, conduct classes one night a week for six weeks.

“Course titles include ‘Making the Case for Economic Freedom,’ ‘Sharing Freedom by Telling Your Story,’ and ‘Narratives & Framing—the Key to Connecting,’ among others.

“The final step of the program is an ‘intensive bootcamp’ on what it takes to become a right-wing grassroots leader. The bootcamps are held in Washington, D.C., Dallas, Texas, or Las Vegas, Nev.”

Perhaps the best-behaved lackey gets to kiss Sheldon Adelson’s ring.

[Random thought: Since this office is so conveniently located, *The Leftist Marching Band* ought to assemble and serenade the place twice a year—on the birthdays of David (May 3) and Charles (Nov. 1) Koch.—The Ed.]

Remember the Tax Cut!

Last July, at *The Intercept*, Lee Fang and Nick Surgey provided more detail about how this vast, intricate,



and expensive scam works.

“The billionaire Koch brothers are well-prepared for the upcoming debate over tax reform,” Fang and Surgey wrote, “with allies arranging to plant questions at town hall meetings and efforts to orchestrate a grassroots army to demand lower corporate taxes.”

“A detailed timeline for the Koch strategy was laid out in a recent document prepared by a public relations firm that services the broad network of conservative advocacy groups controlled by the billionaire brothers’ political network.”

An excerpt from the document: *When members of Congress are in their home states for August Recess, Network grassroots activists in 36 states will engage in their communities to drive the Network’s policy priorities.*

• Grassroots and In-District Outreach

Create opportunities for members of Congress to hear about the need for tax reform directly from their constituents. These opportunities will be designed to drive the narrative and to leave constituents motivated to do more. Where possible, the events will highlight the positive effects of tax reform at the state level. For example, in Indiana, we would highlight Gov. Mike Pence’s state tax cuts and the economic and private-sector job growth that soon followed.

• State-Based Grassroots Events

Grassroots organizations will hold in-district events to: (a) generate earned media to drive the Network narrative on tax reform, (b) equip attendees to articulate tax policy positions, and (c) encourage attendees to do more—like engage in door knocking and phone banking, and/or direct contact with members of Congress, including requesting meetings asking them to support our agenda.

• In-District Office Visits

State chapter leadership and volunteers will meet with members of their Congressional delegation at district offices in the states to ask questions and further drive information exchange.

Fang and Surgey wrote, “The tax reform memo was distributed around the time of a Koch network retreat, held to collaborate with like-minded conservative business leaders and investors, last month in Colorado Springs, Colorado. At the event, the brothers pledged to raise \$300 million for their network over the next year.”

Why wouldn’t the Kochs and their coterie of like-minded billionaires continue throwing money at this enterprise? It worked. They got tax breaks worth \$1 trillion. That’s how billionaires play the lottery—at the expense of the rest of us, of course.

That was then, this is now—and

AFP is going to focus on the mid-terms. According to a January, 2018 piece by CBS, “[t]he network backed by Charles and David Koch realizes 2018 will be a challenging environment—and they’re going ‘all in’ to defend their policy priorities and candidates who support them, to the likely tune of roughly \$400 million. That would be likely the largest investment the Koch network—the affiliated groups backed by the brothers and donors—has ever had in a midterm election, and significantly more than the roughly \$250 million they spent during the 2016 presidential cycle.” No wonder Greg Moore could afford to move the satellite office from Dover to Portsmouth.

AFP’s Grand Opening was covered for the AWLD by Paul Steinhauer, who used to be top dog for William Harrison “Bill” Binnie’s media empire, before Binnie sold most of it for parts.

State Primary Election Deadline Looms

The State Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 11th. With an open seat in the First Congressional District, this is no time to discover you’re disenfranchised because you missed a deadline.

The last day voters can change their party affiliation prior to the



Finally, after the coldest April we can recall, there are flowers again in Market Square. There may also be music, depending on the date, the time of day, and your definition of music. If the latter includes the droning of an electronic device whose keys are held down by the fingers of a person who’s napping, there was music at about 2:30 p.m. on Monday afternoon.

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Primary will be Tuesday, June 5th. The Board of Registrars will be in session that day from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Room 211 of City Hall on Junkins Avenue.

The Board of Registrars will also be in session on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to accept new voter registrations and changes to address or name. However, no changes to party affiliation will be taken after Tuesday, June 5, 2018.

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The Flag Police



Although they have been unable to locate any specific provision in the Flag Code regarding either the size of a flag in relation to objects on which they are mounted, or dictating the specific manner in which flags may be mounted on motorcycles, nevertheless the Flag Police—taking a cue from the cre-



Our Wandering Photographer had wondered why a series of big steel I-beams have been jutting out of the Fleet Street façade of the Franklin Block. Monday afternoon it all became clear: they're holding up the wall while workers remove its facing bricks—presuming at the behest of the owner. An exemplary steward of the iconic building, it's a pity Michael de la Cruz doesn't also own the Times Building on State Street, the present owner of which is apparently still bent on reducing it to rubble.

ative manner in which Attorney General Jefferson [Davis] Beauregard Sessions III runs the alleged Justice Department—are issuing a citation to the rider of this [Japanese-made] motorcycle, seen in Market Square on Tuesday.

Those not adept at reading type backwards may find it helpful to hold the photograph up to a mirror.

It's Raining Robinsons

It had been a quiet couple of months on the plummeting helicopter front. Then three Robinsons crashed in the U.S. in just three days. All were associated with flight schools. A few days later, another Robinson went down in New Zealand. No wonder another Kiwi bureaucracy has nixed the use of the machines.

The hat trick began with a Robinson R44 which crash-landed in California. The accident happened Monday, April 30th, near the Borrego Valley Airport in San Diego County. Three of the four people aboard were injured badly enough to require transportation to the hospital by air ambulance. The machine was owned by Big Blue Air Corporation, a company specializing in "scenic tours and flight training."

Tuesday, May 1st, a second Robinson R22 crashed on Sauvie Island, Ore. The pilot suffered serious injuries and was taken to the hospital.



The machine was registered with the Hillsboro Aero Academy.

The third, an R22 equipped with floats, crashed in the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, May 2nd, near Panama City Beach, Fla.

"At first I thought, "This is really cool, a landing right in front of us," Shauna Rutt told the Panama City *News Herald*. "[T]hen it fell over and I could hear it go kerplunk." According to the *News Herald*, the helicopter then "took a nose dive into the Gulf and for several heart-stopping moments was submerged." The pilot was taken to a hospital for evaluation. The machine was registered to a local Helicopter Academy.

The New Zealand crash, on May 6th, involved a Robinson R22 which went down near Alpururulam in the Northern Territories. The pilot, suffering a broken hip and numerous cuts to the face and back, was taken to a hospital for emergency surgery. Photographs of the machine show a twisted heap of rubble.

Radio New Zealand reported on April 27th that a second government department in that island nation has banned the use of Robinson helicopters by its workers. Fire and Emergency service joins the Department of Conservation in eschewing use of the inexpensive machines. The R22, R44, and R66 models were already on the Transport Accident Investigation Commission's watchlist.

More Perfectly Normal Weather

On Monday morning, April 30th, the temperature at the Pease Homeport for Annoying and Quite Possibly Dangerous Helicopters was just one degree above freezing. Fifty-four hours later, on Wednesday afternoon, the temperature had risen to just one degree shy of 90.

On the storm front—we refer here to significant weather events, not to the white nationalist, white supremacist, antisemitic neo-Nazi Internet forum which was the first major racial hate site on the interwebz—we see that recent storms in New York City and Gallop's Island in Boston Harbor have washed away land from low-lying cemeteries, exposing many ancient skeletons.

This week was fine, though.

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The Return of The Tug

Aficionados of hard-hitting, rigorously-reported alleged news had been holding their breath since some time in December, awaiting the next dispatch from *TheTug-Portsmouth.com*.

It therefore came as a great relief when, on May 3rd, the site's anonymous writers re-appeared with a harrowing and completely believable tale about being held hostage in a tunnel beneath the city by a *restaurateur* with a vaguely familiar name, and they could finally breathe again.

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The Bruce Squad Presents: Bruce Pingree Appreciation Night

For the past four decades, Bruce Pingree, everybody's favorite curmudgeon, has been a driving force behind many local cultural institutions: WUNH, WSCA, Beat Night, Jazzmouth, Seven Stages Shakespeare Company, the Halloween Parade, and, of course, the Press Room. It's no surprise that a necessarily-small



sub-set of his enormous circle of friends are organizing an evening designed to help Bruce recover financially from a recent medically-induced hardship. Obviously, the thing to do is round up some of his friends from the local music scene and throw a big ol' party.

The lineup is hand-picked by Bruce: Wheel of Awesome featuring Jon McCormick and Tim McCoy, Bob Halperin, Dan Blakeslee, Matt Langley and the New Orleans stylings of The Mike Effenberger Band.

The date is set for Tuesday, June 5th, at 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan Street in Portsmouth. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the show will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10, and are available at <https://www.facebook.com/events/2072714343007616/>.

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Abnormal Presidential Behavior

To the Editor:

Trump has repeatedly said and tweeted that he didn't know about the hush money to Stormy Daniels, and he didn't know where the money came from. Now, May 3rd, he finally admits to reimbursing his lawyer for the \$130,000 payment made on the eve of the 2016 election. It's good that he finally came clean on his lie, but does that absolve him from consequences of lying previously?

This is only one of nearly 3,000 lies Trump has spoken or tweeted since becoming President. Clearly, such a liar can not be trusted. How can public policy be based on such slippery slobber? This isn't acceptable behavior for the leader representing our country. How can Republicans and Trump supporters continue to tolerate such dishonesty as normal?

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:

You ask how public policy can be based on blatant lies. Let's reframe that question: how can the passengers of a rickety bus being driven recklessly at high speeds along a winding road cut into a steep mountainside relax and enjoy the scenery? The answer: first, denial, then disaster.

How can Trump supporters tolerate the dishonesty? It's a skill they have been working on since the Presidency of Saint Ronald.

The Editor

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End the Death Penalty

To the Editor:

The best argument I've ever heard against the Death Penalty was offered by the Rev. Jim Forest of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Alkmaar, Holland, when he spoke at the College of Wooster (Ohio) in the 1980s. Having been subjected to a smear by a Reagan-funded Young Republican in the student paper, claiming Forest was a communist and should not be allowed to speak, Jim invited the young man for coffee and told him about his father, a wonderful man who cared about the plight of unemployed and mistreated workers in the 1930s

and joined the communist movement of the time. Jim Forest, Sr. had been interrogated by the House Un-American Activities Committee under Joseph McCarthy and jailed. I do not recall whether the young journalist knew that chapter of our history, but that evening, Jim Forest, Jr. began his lecture by expressing gratitude for the fact that the young writer, by mistaking Jim for his father, had unwittingly provided the community with a far better argument against the Death Penalty than he could have come up with: "You can just never be sure you've got the right person."

On April 26, the New Hampshire House voted 223 - 115, and last month the Senate 14 - 10, to repeal the state's Death Penalty law. Every aspect of this difficult issue has been considered, thanks to countless witnesses and the Coalition to Abolish. The people have spoken. Governor Sununu, it is incumbent on you to get out your pen and make it law.

Nancy Lukens
Dover, N.H.

Nancy:

The Governor has the perfect opportunity—and ample political cover—to do the right thing and sign the bill.

He ought to go further, commute Michael Addison's death sentence, and get the State of New Hampshire out of the homicide business once and for all.

Doing so would require him, though, to stand up to his Trumpian base.

Sadly, he'll pander, instead.

The Editor

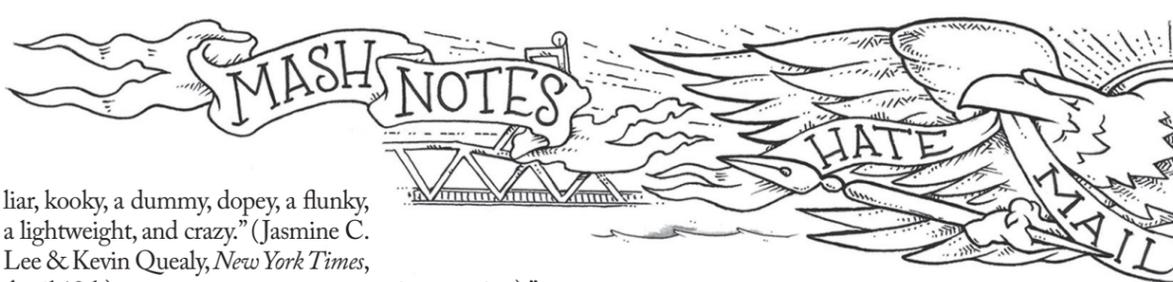
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The CW

To the Editor:

The common wisdom was that Donald Trump would drop his belligerent campaign tactics and become presidential in behavior once he was sworn in as president. We were wrong. Donald Trump didn't change his ways. We changed ours to accommodate him.

We accepted that we have a President who has been married three times and engaged in extramarital affairs. We accepted that we had a President who insulted opponents by calling them "sweaty, little, a slimeball, low energy, crooked, a clown, third rate, a



liar, kooky, a dummy, dopey, a flunky, a lightweight, and crazy." (Jasmine C. Lee & Kevin Quealy, *New York Times*, April 13th).

We accepted that most of what Trump said was either an exaggeration, a distortion, or an outright lie. The media was complicit in spreading Trump's propaganda. Feeling that both sides of an issue must be presented to readers and viewers, television and the print media uncritically presented Trump's words in news articles as if they were accurate and truthful.

Trump often lambastes the media, but never mentions that it was also his greatest friend. The extraordinary amount of free television time Trump's events were given during the 2016 presidential campaign was, in part, responsible for his election. That sorry state continues even today as Trump's face continually appears on television screens, his extensive coverage including campaign rallies which are essentially propaganda and not newsworthy. Why is Trump given so much free television time? He generates, for better or for worse, viewers and viewers create ad revenue. The almighty dollar, once again.

Gone are the days when a president was presented to school children as a model of dignity, compassion, politeness, and reasoned thinking. Who is to blame? Ultimately, we are. The Republican Party has largely accepted Trump's outrageous actions because he holds the presidential pen which can sign into law legislation to its liking. The ends justify the means.

Many voters overlooked Trump's personality flaws because they felt Trump would "shake up the system," falsely equating change with progress. When asked why his football teams (at that time) didn't pass more often, former Ohio State coach Woody Hayes said, "When you pass the ball, three things can happen and two of them are bad (an incomplection or an

interception)."

Similarly, when you elect a president simply to produce change, three things can happen, and two are bad—no change or, in this case, things get worse.

Voters can start to correct their mistake in the upcoming November General Election by electing a Democratic Congress which will restrain Trump's erratic behavior. And maybe, as a bonus, we'll see less of Trump on our television screens.

Gary Patton
Hampton, N.H.

Gary:

It's bad enough having to look at the Republican Party allowing itself to be nominally led by an amoral ignoramus so that the rest of its fools, tools, and schemers can proceed with the looting of our collective future.

What's terrifying is looking at our only defense. We're not actually licensed to practice psephology, but it seems to us that the calculus the Democrats tend to use which casts themselves as somewhat less awful hardly seems like a strategy that's going to drive up turnout.

The Editor

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Israel's Blockade is Killing Kids in Gaza

To the Editor:

The children of Gaza are dying according to the World Health Organization (WHO). It estimates that contaminated water is responsible for almost 30 percent of all disease in Gaza and reports that 50 percent of children suffer from water-related parasitic infections. According to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the leading causes of death for children in Gaza are caused by diarrhea, acute bloody diarrhea, and viral hepatitis which are all waterborne.

Middle Eastern scholar Norman Finkelstein says the children of Gaza

are being poisoned by Israel due to its siege and blockade of Gaza. Of the nearly two million inhabitants of Gaza which some observers have called the world's largest open-air prison, 51 percent are children under the age of 18. Under international law, the Israel blockade of Gaza is illegal as it constitutes "collective punishment."

Peter Maurer, the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross visited Gaza after Israel's last major military assault (2014) and commented: "I've never seen such utter destruction as I saw in Gaza." Maurer visits the worst of the worst nations who have experienced destruction. In 2012, the UN asked if Gaza would be able to survive as a "livable place." In 2017, the UN emphatically said that the "unlivable" threshold had been passed. The Israeli chief of military operations admitted that Gaza is a "nightmare." Ninety-seven percent of Gaza's drinking water is unfit for human consumption. Think of Flint, Michigan. Harvard professor, Sara Roy, writes in her book, *Gaza Economy*, that that the young in Gaza are being poisoned, as has Finkelstein.

A Hebrew University professor called Gaza the world's largest concentration camp while the Israeli newspaper, *Haaretz*, referred to Gaza as a "ghetto." The current on-going "Great March of Return" by unarmed residents of Gaza has resulted in over 40 Palestinians killed and some 5,500 wounded, injured, and maimed. Academy Award-winner, Natalie Portman, has called the Israel sniper fire an "atrocious" while Amnesty International terms it a "murderous assault" on innocent civilians. Some of those killed have been children. They march to try and touch the hearts and the consciences of people around the world

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to help free them from this “ghetto,”—from this “concentration camp.”

The children of Gaza are dying. Is anybody listening?

Will Thomas

N.H. Veterans for Peace; N.H. Palestinian Education Network
Auburn, N.H.

Will:

Thank you for breaking the news blockade. Please, do continue.

The Editor

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\$7,000,000,000,000

To the Editor

The 45th POTUS recently asserted (via Twitter), “After having foolishly spent \$7 trillion in the Middle East, it is time to start rebuilding our country!” He continued “Seven trillion dollars in the Middle East over the last 17 years, we get nothing out of it ... except death and destruction. It’s a horrible thing.”

Of course, no sooner did #45 finish criticizing America for having wasted \$7,000,000,000,000 (more than 1/3 of our National Debt) in the Middle East, he, with a little nudge from the Republican-led Congress, quickly contradicted himself, as he so often does, by signing a military budget that will cost taxpayers \$2 billion a day in 2018, ensuring that we will become further entangled, with nothing to show for it, in the Middle East and Africa, including Syria, Yemen and Afghanistan, while America’s infrastructure and democracy continue to rot away.

It is obvious that the Administration has no strategy for Syria as it has become next to impossible, due to Russian interference (which #45 either can’t or refuses to address), to stay clear of the Syrian civil war while attempting to fight ISIS (our creation

resulting from America’s reckless invasion of Iraq). Meanwhile, the human suffering of the Syrian people, trapped in the middle, is intolerable.

America is currently ensnared in Yemen’s civil war as a result of our direct support for Saudi Arabia which is using the country to fight a disastrous proxy war with Iran, while subjecting the Yemeni’s to a major humanitarian disaster.

The Afghanistan War, which was lost the day America pulled its resources away to invade Iraq, is now going on 17 years. Not only are we locked in an endless stalemate with the Taliban, al Qaeda continues to thrive and we are also being challenged by ISIS, the Russians (providing material support to the Taliban with no push-back from #45) and 85 percent of the world’s Opium supply (which funds the Taliban).

With #45, who ran on a non-interventionist, “America First” platform, refitting his cabinet with Bush/Cheney era Neocons, you can trust that we won’t be spending the next \$7 trillion on “rebuilding our country.”

Wayne H. Merritt

Dover, N.H.

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Burn, Baby, Burn

To the Editor:

The New Hampshire Senate passed HB1515 Thursday, May 3rd, with an amendment from Senator Woodburn. HB1515 has not lacked for amendments, indeed it started its life as a non-germane amendment proposed by Representative [Michael] Vose from Epping in 2017.

Officially, the Department of Environmental Services [DES] did not take a position on the bill, though it was largely drafted, (and re-drafted) by staff. I expect in conversation with individual members of the Gener-

al Court, to the extent there were members with an interest, DES cast HB1515 in a good light. And why not? Permit application fees help fund the operation and permitted facilities generate revenue for the Department.

Today’s DES-sponsored amendment specifically excludes biodiesel from the bill. ReEnergy had testified last week that Ensyn would be manufacturing biodiesel along with other fuels from C&D wood waste mixed with wood chips. Two and a half years into the debate on lifting the ban on C&D combustion, the company’s credibility seems tattered, or at least that of its spokesperson. Lobbyists did not play a public role this year, although ReEnergy retained representation from a leading Concord firm.

I had raised the issue of C&D waste and biodiesel earlier. Using waste-derived fuels in the transportation sector has the potential to create innumerable mobile sources for distribution of the toxic constituents of C&D debris: low dose, high volume exposure problem applied to a large population through dispersion. Ensyn testified that they had the technological ability to scrub contaminants from the fuels they would manufacture as a way to meet standards, though the company’s representative was unsure whether this would be cost effective.

Currently the only facility I am aware of using Ensyn biofuels in New Hampshire is Memorial Hospital in North Conway. This imported heating fuel is manufactured with forest products and does not, as far as we know, and according to Ensyn’s own testimony, involve C&D waste. It would be ironic, though not a complete surprise, were a hospital to use heating fuel derived from relatively toxic materials. At a hearing last January a representative from Ensyn mentioned that Valley Regional Hospital in Claremont had expressed interest in the company’s wood derived “biofuel.”

Historical Note: When Dartmouth Hitchcock opened in Lebanon there was a large onsite incinerator in operation. Epidemiologists and other researchers at the college put a quick end to that.

Senator Woodburn told the Senate today that HB1515 would be good for the North Country. Will have to check in with him to see if I can discover how that works. That said, ReEnergy and Ensyn are exploring a collaboration at a financially troubled biomass facility in New York State, and looking at introducing a pyrolysis operation there for “biofuels.” As you may have heard in testimony before the SciTech&Energy Committee, that project was in competition with the proposed facility in Epping, N.H. I expect the perception will be that Epping moved ahead today.

I wasn’t expecting a better outcome, but I was hoping.

John Tuthill

Acworth, N.H.

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Paul’s Latest Project

To the Editor:

This is not really “to the editor,” but a “to the human.”

I’ve started a new project—developing a new sort of flashlight, called the FlashBall. With the ability to light up an entire room before entering it, the FlashBall will be particularly useful to policemen, firemen and other kinds of rescue workers. To fund its development, I’ve started an IndieGoGo campaign. But, to crowdfund successfully, drawing a crowd is necessary—so I hope you’ll send this link to everyone you know...and especially to members of the groups the FlashBall might help most! URL: <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/flashball-security/x/18585022#/>

Paul Fischler

Rochester, N.H.

PS: Unfortunately, the FlashBall won’t help with the helicopter problem. Nevertheless, I hope you’ll support it.

Paul:

We wish you’d get to work on that—the season is about to get underway!

The Editor

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A Rights-Based Ordinance for Great Bay

To the Editor:

If you want something done, do it with your community. Forty-four years ago, this sentiment rallied Durham residents who protected the Great Bay estuary system from oil refinery development. It’s also one of the sentiments that brought together Alliance for Newmarket Citizen & Ecosystem Rights. ANCER is an ad hoc community group founded in 2017 to empower Newmarket’s residents to protect their water and the Great Bay estuary from future chemical trespass.

But the estuary has already been contaminated by toxic Naval firefighting foam from Portsmouth’s former Pease Airforce Base and by chemicals traveling down tributaries affected by Greenland’s Coakley Landfill. So why try preventing what’s already happened? Because new threats loom over the estuary and Newmarket’s Lamprey River watershed.

Firstly, word is that Pinard Waste Management hopes to transition its Raymond, New Hampshire recycling transfer station—approved on the Lamprey near a flood zone—into a solid waste transfer station. Secondly, Liberty Utility has planned its Granite Bridge Pipeline project to twice cross the Lamprey in Raymond. Finally, Eversource’s Seacoast Reliability Project will drill through Little Bay to create a power passage with towering transmission poles alongside the estuary.

Eversource’s project troubles ANCER members and Durham and Newington residents for a number of reasons. For one, its drilling would cause irreparable harm to the estuary’s fragile, recovering oyster bed ecosystem by stirring up 100s of years of toxic industry run-off that has settled and been contained in the bay’s sediment. The documentary *Great Bay: Estuary in Peril* details this damage Eversource’s “reliability” project would cause. [URL: <https://vimeo.com/214956623>]

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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The Northcountry Chronicle

Pediapolitics

by William Marvel

A couple of weeks ago I was in Washington, where I read that a city councilman had proposed granting 16-year-old residents of the District of Columbia the right to vote. Unlike nearby Takoma Park, which already allows 16-year-olds to vote in local elections, the D.C. proposal would give such children the right to vote in national races. A high school sophomore who has never taken a civics class could help choose the next president. I'll admit that the candidates chosen by the major parties in 2016 suggest that presidential decision-making couldn't get much worse, but it's still a little disturbing to see how far activists will go to find voting blocs gullible enough to support their agendas.

The councilman in question, Charles Allen of Washington's Ward 6, said he was inspired by teenaged activists who are demonstrating for gun control. He was impressed with their "maturity," he said. I suspect

that would not be the case if their cause did not happen to coincide with his political viewpoint, but the anti-gun crusade is something he holds dear. The D.C. council, after all, enacted an outright ban on all handgun ownership—anywhere, anytime—and even Anthony Kennedy deemed it unconstitutional.

It's no surprise that a young federal employee who can afford a home on Capitol Hill would be willing to give his children the power to select national leaders as soon as they turn 16. From what I've observed in and around Washington over the past couple of decades, children are pretty much in charge of their entire families by the time they enter their teens—if not from the moment they learn the effectiveness of temper tantrums. That seems to be the urban and suburban standard, and not just in privileged neighborhoods such as Capitol Hill. It's only natural for such trends to migrate from the family to the public arena.

We live now in a society that seems bent on demolishing every

tradition of the old school, and over the last couple of generations the concept of balancing rights with responsibilities has evaporated. Only half a century ago an American teenager was faced with more responsibilities than rights. In 1968 a boy of 19 could not vote, and in most states could not order a beer, but if he was not in college he was likely to be drafted into the Army. Middle-class parents generally ceased supporting their children after high school, except perhaps in the summers if they went to college, and most 18-year-olds were on their own financially. Many were still 17 when they first faced the alarming specter of self-support.

Those responsibilities have largely disappeared. After the draft ended, the burden of military service fell only on those poor enough or adventurous enough to find its benefits and challenges appealing. In middle- and upper-class America the scope and image of childhood began to change, as many parents paid an increasing percentage of college

costs or funded more of their adult children's living expenses—if they didn't house them outright. Adult responsibilities were perceived to begin only with college graduation, or even later, and Obamacare officially extended childhood to 26. I'm only familiar with a handful of people in their mid-20s, and maybe half of them impress me as having really grown up.

Meanwhile, rights have expanded for teenagers. The voting age dropped to 18 in 1971, and some of our most regrettable presidents have been elected (or reelected) since 1972. That was also the year that voter participation in national elections dropped below 60 percent—and it has never reached that level again. Perhaps many wonder what's so special about the right to vote, if kids can do it, too.

The minimum drinking age also fell to 18 in the early 1970s, but Congress restored it to 21 in the mid-'80s by withholding highway funds from states that failed to raise it back. There seemed to be good

reason for doing that, too, because people with underdeveloped frontal lobes usually show worse judgment than the average adult, who is often bad enough. Highway fatalities, which had just dropped dramatically after seatbelts became standard equipment, began spiking again soon after the drinking age dropped to 18, and teenaged drinking figured largely in that mortality—just as teenaged texting contributes heavily to highway deaths today.

Charles Allen's partisan motivation notwithstanding, the kids militating for more gun control are themselves making the best argument against his proposal for dropping the voting age. While Allen wants 16-year-olds to be able to choose world leaders, the kids he finds so mature want to prohibit anyone under 21 from buying a gun. If people are not developmentally capable of making that decision at 20, shouldn't they also be prevented from voting—never mind giving the same right to 16-year-olds?

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from page five

Nonetheless, this February, the New Hampshire Dept. of Environmental Services recommended Eversource's project to the Site Evaluation Committee in a "lesser evil" buried version to be worked on with "safer" drills than originally proposed—yet still chemically trespassing into the estuary. [URL: https://www.nhsec.nh.gov/projects/2015-04/letters-memos-correspondance/2015-04_2018-02-28_des_final_rec.pdf]

NHDES scientists may mean well, but they work in a system designed as a one-stop shop for corporate project applications; in other words, state permitting agencies find ways to at best limit rather than block harm so that applications



move forward—they permit harmful projects.

In response, and with assistance from Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF), ANCER is organizing a community citizens' effort to bring forth a rights-based ordinance (RBO) to protect Newmarket's residents, watershed, and waterways by banning future chemical trespass as a matter of inherent and inalienable rights of people and ecosystems to exist without being poisoned, thereby protecting the Great Bay and surrounding water. [URL: <https://celdf.org/rights/>]

Newmarket would not be the first

New Hampshire town to adopt an RBO—some 11 New Hampshire towns adopted RBOs after recognizing that the current structure of law and government is set up to protect neither them nor the environment and that the only remedy left is to protect themselves locally. Consequently, RBOs are based on the collective power of community members exercising their individual right to democratically manifest the social and environmental health and viability they envision for their human residents and surrounding ecosystems.

ANCER encourages other towns on and near the estuary and its tributaries to adopt RBOs of their own, creating a powerful ring of democratic, common sense, and constitutional community ordinances that corporations will have to face if their projects threaten Seacoast water and the human and natural communities depending on it.

In fact, ANCER is part of a statewide local democracy movement working to amend New Hampshire's Bill of Rights to recognize the right of local self-government in order to empower New Hampshire communities to make local govern-

ing decisions that elevate the rights of people and ecosystems above the right that corporations have to harm them.

This 2018, New Hampshire Community Rights Network (NHCRN) worked with bi-partisan legislative support to propose such a state constitutional amendment. One third of the New Hampshire House supported the amendment and the right of New Hampshire residents to protect people and ecosystems in the face of corporate harm. To learn more, visit www.nhcommunityrights.org, or email info@nhcommunityrights.org.

Monica Christofili, ANCER
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The Great ScAmazon of 2017

by Jim Hightower

In September, the giant retail monopolist, Amazon, announced its intention to build a second corporate headquarters in Someplace, North America.

Where's that? Aha, that's the trick in a corporate game called "Fleece the Taxpayer." CEO Jeff Bezos demanded that everyplace submit a list of bribes (excuse me, "incentives")

they would pay to get Amazon to put what he calls HQ2 in their place. Yes, the haughty Amazonian royals actually commanded our public officials to bring all the jewels, gold, and other taxpayer booty they have and kiss Bezos' ring just to be considered for HQ2. In one stroke, taxpayers all across America were pitted against each other in a bidding war.

Amazon even listed specific incentives that each applicant should

offer. First was a "business-friendly environment." Then, urging hopefuls to "think big" when offering freebies, the directive demanded contributions of "land, site preparation, tax exemptions, relocation grants, workforce grants, utility grants, and fee reductions."

Surely no self-respecting civic official would willingly play the sucker in such a demeaning, sell-out-the-public scam.

Ha! Officials from 238 cities, regions, and states have so far rushed to Bezos' corporate castle to woo & grovel in the perverse hope that Amazon might choose their taxpayers to rip off.

Amazon announced that it has narrowed the actual contenders down to 20 cities—so they will now be compelled to jack up their bribe offers. That's the whole purpose of the HQ2 game that this corpo-

rate huckster has been running on us. In fact, Amazon's site-location team had decided from the start which half-dozen or so cities would be most profitable for the giant. The whole search is a "scAmazon," snookering cities into spending millions on a rigged game only Amazon will win.

Copyright 2017 by Jim Hightower & Associates. Contact Laura Ehrlich (laura@jimhightower.com).

The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire Announces the 2018 Guided Tour Schedule

Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Starting in May, the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire (BHTNH) will present a series of guided tours that explore the forgotten history of African Americans in the Granite State.

New for 2018 are trolley tours, and Living History Tours in Portsmouth, as well as expansions to tours in Hancock and Milford and beyond.

The tour season began May 5 with a walking tour of Portsmouth, exploring the myths and stories of the Underground Railroad. The tour was part of the annual BHTNH Spring Symposium, which this year explored mapping the Underground Railroad in New England.

Held every Saturday from May through October, Black Heritage guided tours explore the history and cultural roots of the early African Community in Portsmouth dating from the early 1600s. Several new themes are planned for 2018 that will highlight, exploring slavery, the experience of African American women, and share the story of Ona Judge, Washington's escaped enslaved woman. They trace the journey of African Americans in history, passing by the elegant and stately homes of some of New Hampshire's most prominent families. On the tours participants will hear their stories from our knowledgeable and experienced tour guides, who interpret history in an engaging and enlightening way.

Special tours for 2018 include



During the Living History presentations, where our guides will bring you back in time as they take on the roles of historical figures, visitors will learn about Ona Judge Staines and her efforts to evade capture by the President, where interpretative guides bring you back in time as they take on the roles of historical figures. Learn about Ona Judge Staines, the President and Martha Washington's escaped enslaved woman, and her efforts to evade capture, and experience Portsmouth through the life of one of its Black seamen, meet "Black Jack" Staines, husband to Ona, and experience Portsmouth through the life of one of its Black seamen.

New for 2018 are historical trolley tours in Portsmouth, held on one Sunday each month from May through September. These tours are perfect for a first visit to the city or for those who prefer an alternative to a walking tour. The well-trained and experienced Sankofa Scholars narrate an hour and a half tour of sites that tell the stories of Black people from the time they arrived on the colonial-era wharves lining the waterfront, to laboring in the local maritime-related industries, until New Hampshire joined the Union by adopting the MLK Holiday in 2000.

Walking tours, as well as the new monthly trolley tours, follow along the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail. With its distinctive bronze plaques that identify this community, from its colonial-era African Burying Ground to the modern

Civil Rights Movement, the Trail serves as a model across the country on what it means to raise public awareness and appreciation for a region not known for its Black history.

JerriAnne Boggis, Executive Director of the BHTNH, is excited about the expansion of the tours to include Milford and Hancock this year. "We are so excited to be extending the tour series to include new towns as we extend the Black Heritage Trail throughout New Hampshire. There is so much unknown history in our state and this gives an opportunity to bring the stories out of the shadows for everyone to hear and learn."

On September 9, Eric Aldrich will lead "Asserting Freedom: A Tour of Cellar Holes & Sites" in Hancock, New Hampshire. Buried just beneath the Colonial veneer of this seemingly all white town is a vibrant history of early Black settlers who worked, bought land, built homes, challenged the church and struggled for freedom. Today, all that is left are the abandoned artifacts of that early life: their roads, their walls, their cellar holes and their scant records.

In Milford, newly trained volunteers will lead a tour of 17 sites, many relating to Harriet Wilson, the first African American woman to publish a book in North America, and the Anti-Slavery Movement.

The BHTNH's tours received *Yankee Magazine's* Best of New Hampshire Editors' Choice award

in the Best of New England 2018 Summer Travel Guide. *Yankee Magazine* said "While New England's long African-American history is too often overlooked, Portsmouth has seized a unique opportunity to spotlight it."

The stories told in the Black Heritage tours shatter the false impression that New Hampshire has no Black history, that slavery was only in the South, that there was no Civil Rights Movement here, among others.

Valerie Cunningham, Director of Tours, is thrilled that the BHTNH is expanding its series to explore even more aspects of seldom heard African American stories. "I love watching faces light up as they learn about some fascinating people that history had forgotten!"

Cunningham encourages everyone, however long they've lived in Portsmouth, to experience the Sankofa tours and to look at history from a new perspective. A local resident who participated last year commented, "I have lived here for years but it's like I'm seeing things for the first time—it means so much more now."

[Note: Among the locations along the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail is the Pleasant Street site where this newspaper was founded in 1756. The press was then operated by an enslaved African man who was called Primus. His forced labor was the foundation of this newspaper's longevity. He is remembered today for the force of his personhood, — The Ed.]

Walking tours are \$20 per person and trolley tours are \$25 per person. While there are frequent tours scheduled throughout the season, private group tours are also available. For more information visit: <http://blackheritagetrailnh.org/guided-tours/>.

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About the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire

The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire works to open hearts and minds for a deeper understanding of who we are as a collective and to recognize that we share a uniquely American heritage. Building on the success of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail that started more than two decades ago, the new statewide Black Heritage Trail connects the stories of New Hampshire's African heritage by documenting and marking visible many of the historic sites that testify to this rich history.

Guided tours and public programs, along with educational materials and teacher workshops, will continue to be developed by the Black Heritage Trail to promote awareness of African-American culture and to honor all the people of African descent whose names may not have been included in previous town histories. The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire provides a variety of learning experiences for adults and children. Offerings include school programs, guided tours, traveling programs, lectures, and workshops.

The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire is an independent, non-profit organization. The organization is a registered 501c 3 nonprofit.

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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

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 13	MONDAY, MAY 14	TUESDAY, MAY 15	WEDNESDAY, MAY 16	THURSDAY, MAY 17	FRIDAY, MAY 18	SATURDAY, MAY 19
<p>2015—The day after 8 die in a Philadelphia derailment, Congress votes to slash Amtrak's budget.</p> <p>2005—The Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) commission recommends closing the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.</p> <p>1985—A Philadelphia police helicopter bombs MOVE headquarters, killing 11 and leaving 250 homeless.</p> <p>1971—R. Nixon tells his flunkies to get a new IRS head: "a ruthless son of a bitch ... who will go after our enemies and not go after our friends."</p> <p>1957—Ngo Dinh Diem is treated to a ticker tape parade in New York City.</p> <p>1945—After a brief court martial in Amsterdam—and Germany's surrender—Bruno Dorfer and Rainer Beck, deserters from the Wehrmacht's Kriegsmarine, are executed by German soldiers using German rifles provided by the Seaforth Highlanders.</p> <p>1930—The New Hampshire Historical Society announces it's acquired one of three known copies of <i>The Monster of Monsters</i>, the pamphlet that got Daniel Fowle thrown in prison in 1754.</p> <p>1864—The <i>U.S.S. New Hampshire</i>, whose keel was laid 45 years earlier, and had been intended to be a ship of the line, is launched as a storeship at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.</p> <p>1862—Robert Smalls, enslaved helmsman of the Confederate military transport <i>Planter</i>, commandeers the vessel, pilots it out of Charleston harbor, and turns it over to the U.S. Navy.</p>	<p>2015—The <i>Union Leader's</i> editorial, in full: "Frank Guinta is a damned liar."</p> <p>1992—The George H.[H.]W. Bush administration opens up 1,400 acres of spotted owl habitat for logging.</p> <p>1987—Robert "Bud" McFarlane tells Congress that if he'd objected to arming Central American terrorists, "Bill Casey, Jeane Kirkpatrick, and Cap Weinberger would have said I was some kind of commie."</p> <p>1975—The Khmer Rouge take the captive crew of the <i>Mayaguez</i> to mainland Cambodia.</p> <p>1969—Two companies of the 101st assault an NVA regiment atop Hamburger Hill. Despite 12 KIA and 80 WIA, they make no progress.</p> <p>1961—On Mother's Day, Klansmen in Anniston, Ala., set fire to a bus. Freedom Riders escape the fire but not a savage beating.</p> <p>1960—A.J. Liebling in <i>The New Yorker</i>: "Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one."</p> <p>1932—Mayor Jimmy Walker leads 150,000 New Yorkers in a day-long "We Want Beer" parade.</p> <p>1930—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 (Zachariah Fowle, not Daniel), and misstates this paper's name.</p> <p>964—John XII's papacy is abruptly ended by a jealous husband.</p>	<p>2003—In Strong, Maine—"Toothpick Capitol of the World"—the last manufacturer of proper, <i>i.e.</i>, birch, toothpicks closes.</p> <p>2002—The White House admits it knew before 9/11 that al Qaeda had plans to hijack U.S. airliners.</p> <p>2001—Two engineers in a locomotive chase and stop an unmammated 47-car CSX train loaded with hazardous chemicals after it rolled at high speeds for 66 miles across Ohio.</p> <p>1991—The Pentagon releases info confirming that Manuel Noriega used to be on the CIA's payroll.</p> <p>1975—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.</p> <p>1970—City and State cops shoot 14 protesting black students, killing two, at Jackson State in Mississippi.</p> <p>1969—The assault on Hamburger Hill resumes. No progress, more casualties, including friendly fire.</p> <p>1969—"If there has to be a bloodbath then let's get it over with," says Gov. R. Reagan, sending the National Guard to take Peoples' Park from the hippies.</p> <p>1951—Gen. Omar Bradley calls Gen. MacArthur's Korea plan "[t]he wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy."</p>	<p>2016—Two dozen goons attack peaceful protesters outside the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C. as President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan looks on approvingly. Four are arrested, but all charges are dropped.</p> <p>2001—Ex-FBI Special Agent, devout Catholic, patron of strippers, and amateur exhibitionist Robert Hanssen is indicted for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then the Russians.</p> <p>1969—The <i>U.S.S. Guitarro</i>, sinks in 35 feet of water at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, causing \$25 million in damage. Congress blames workers.</p> <p>1969—AP discovers that some grunts on Hamburger Hill are disoriented.</p> <p>1954—Sen. Bill 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."</p> <p>1948—CBS correspondent George Polk turns up murdered in Salonika Harbor. The U.S.-supported Greek government frames a Commie, and U.S. journalists cover up the frame.</p> <p>1918—Congress passes the Sedition Act, making it a crime to criticize the government.</p> <p>1916—In the Sykes-Picot Agreement, Britain and France, with Russia's OK, screw the Arabs.</p> <p>1879—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>2010—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.</p> <p>1995—Army veteran and deranged meth addict Shawn Nelson steals a tank from a San Diego Army and goes on a vehicle crushing rampage before being shot dead by police.</p> <p>1976—R. Reagan, in <i>Time</i>: "Fascism was really the basis of the New Deal."</p> <p>1974—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.</p> <p>1973—To help Continental Oil develop new drilling techniques, the AEC explodes three nukes underground in Colorado.</p> <p>1968—Nine people break into Catonsville, Md.'s draft board and burn 600 files with homemade napalm.</p> <p>1960—TSgt. Harold J. Ripplinger's remains are found 200 miles from his B-24, <i>Lady Be Good</i>, which crashed in the Libyan desert in 1943.</p> <p>1954—Border Patrol agents begin deporting 1 million people from five states in "Operation Wetback."</p> <p>1954—The Supreme Court throws out "separate but equal" education.</p> <p>1934—At Madison Square Garden, tens of thousands of Friends of the New Germany rally under a swastika in support of A. Hitler.</p>	<p>1992—The 27th Amendment, prohibiting any Congress from raising its own pay, is ratified 202 years after its submission.</p> <p>1982—The Rev. Sun Myung Moon is convicted of tax fraud.</p> <p>1980—Mt. St. Helens cuts loose for the first time in 123 years.</p> <p>1980—As students protest repression in Gwangju, Korea, soldiers club bystanders, killing some.</p> <p>1974—India successfully tests a nuclear weapon in an operation named Smiling Buddha.</p> <p>1969—At Hamburger Hill, casualties mount as the fight goes on. The commander orders helicopters out of the area after more friendly fire.</p> <p>1958—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.</p> <p>1935—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.</p> <p>1927—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.</p> <p>1896—The Supreme Court OKs racial segregation in <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i>.</p>	<p>1964—U.S. diplomats find 40 hidden microwaves in the U.S. embassy in Moscow.</p> <p>1962—In Madison Square Garden, Marilyn Monroe sings "Happy Birthday" to President John F. Kennedy.</p> <p>1956—A 15-megaton bomb test in the South Pacific raises radiation levels in the U.S. to 10 times normal.</p> <p>1954—The U.S.P.O. OKs a CIA mail-opening project.</p> <p>1953—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.</p> <p>1950—In South Amboy, N.J., four ammunition barges carrying 467 tons of ammunition explode killing 30 and injuring 350 more.</p> <p>1943—The U.S. sub-chaser <i>PC-815</i> wages a furious battle against a pair of non-existent Japanese subs ten miles off the Oregon coast, while under the command of L. Ron. Hubbard.</p> <p>1932—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.</p> <p>1925—Malcolm Little, later "X," is born in Omaha, Neb.</p> <p>1920—In Matoon, W. Va., seven coal company stooges and four locals die in a main street shootout.</p> <p>1918—For protesting her husband's lynching the day before, Mary Turner, eight months pregnant, is lynched in Lowndes County, Ga.</p>
<p>10:23 10:40 4:08 4:23</p>	<p>11:09 11:22 4:54 5:06</p>	<p>11:54 5:39 5:51</p>	<p>12:06 12:41 6:26 6:37</p>	<p>12:52 1:30 7:14 7:25</p>	<p>1:41 2:21 8:04 8:16</p>	<p>2:32 3:15 8:56 9:10</p>
SUNDAY, MAY 20	MONDAY, MAY 21	TUESDAY, MAY 22	WEDNESDAY, MAY 23	THURSDAY, MAY 24	FRIDAY, MAY 25	SATURDAY, MAY 26
<p>2009—The FBI entraps four Muslim men in a bogus Bronx bomb plot.</p> <p>2004—U.S. and Iraqi troops raid the home and offices of Ahmed Chalabi, formerly the neo-cons' most trusted source of Iraqi intelligence.</p> <p>1978—Mavis Hutchinson, 53, makes <i>New York City</i> after running across America for 69 days.</p> <p>1969—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.</p> <p>1973—The Camden 28, who broke into a draft board office, are acquitted.</p> <p>1937—George Orwell takes a bullet in the throat while fighting against Franco's fascists in Spain.</p> <p>1927—Charles Lindbergh leaves Long Island by air, heading east.</p> <p>1926—Thomas Edison announces that Americans prefer silent films to those newfangled talkies.</p> <p>1920—Henry Ford prints the bogus <i>Protocols of the Elders of Zion</i> in his newspaper, the <i>Dearborn Independent</i>.</p> <p>1918—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.</p> <p>1917—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.</p> <p>1916—A tornado hits Codell, Kan.</p> <p>1899—New Yorker Jacob German gets the first ticket for speeding—he went over 12 mph.</p> <p>1631—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>2016—Hundreds gather in Houston. Some come to rally in support of Islam. Some, armed, come to oppose. Both sides are responding to online posts from a Russian troll farm.</p> <p>2010—Glenn Beck claims "a good portion" of Americans were glad when FDR died.</p> <p>2001—The GAO refutes Republican claims that departing Democrats vandalized the White House.</p> <p>1981—The Senate OKs \$20 billion to resume full-scale production of nerve gas and other chemical weapons.</p> <p>1980—In Gwangju, Korea, students using weapons looted from armories drive troops from downtown.</p> <p>1968—Students protest the Vietnam War in West Berlin, Paris, Peking, Berkeley, and New York.</p> <p>1946—A screwdriver slips; the same plutonium core that killed Harry Daghlian the previous August gives Louis Slotin a lethal burst of radiation.</p> <p>1945—Bogie, 45, marries Bacall, 20.</p> <p>1924—Nathan Leopold, 19, and Richard Loeb, 18, murder Robert Franks, 14, for the fun of it.</p> <p>1894—Dr. Guillotin's device about to humanely remove his head, Emile Henry tells the assembled throng, "<i>Courage, camarade, vive l'anarchie.</i>"</p> <p>1871—To correct the alleged errors of the Paris Commune, the 20-35,000 executions of "Bloody Week" begin.</p> <p>1823—The 200th anniversary of the settling of Portsmouth is "celebrated with great éclat."</p>	<p>2004—Portsmouth's Leftist Marching Band debuts before a surprised and delighted audience in Market Square.</p> <p>2002—Bobby Frank Cherry is found guilty of bombing the 16th Street Baptist Church in 1963.</p> <p>1977—In the wee hours of a convention, hard-liners take over the NRA.</p> <p>1968—In New York, police arrest nearly 1,000 at occupied Columbia U.</p> <p>1968—A Sikorsky helicopter leaves Disneyland heliport and falls apart in mid-flight; all on board [23] die.</p> <p>1968—The nuclear sub <i>Scorpion</i>, two nuclear torpedoes, and all 99 crew members are lost at sea.</p> <p>1962—Thomas G. Doty buys dynamite and flight insurance, then boards Flight 11, which explodes. Instead of \$300K, his wife gets a \$3.00 refund.</p> <p>1957—A 10-megaton H-bomb is accidentally dropped near Albuquerque. Its non-nuclear explosives leave a crater 12 feet deep and 25 across.</p> <p>1949—Ex-Defense Secretary James Forrestal ambiguously defenestrates from a 16th floor hospital window.</p> <p>1944—<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.</p> <p>1884—Hugh Daily fans 13 for the Chicago Browns pitching with his right hand—the only one he has.</p> <p>1856—Rep. Preston Brooks (D-S.C.) visits the floor of the Senate and beats Sen. Charles Sumner (R-Mass.) nearly to death with a cane.</p>	<p>2012—A mentally-unstable PNSY employee sets a fire that destroys the billion-dollar <i>U.S.S. Miami</i>.</p> <p>2003—Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney casts a deciding vote in the Senate: the ever-deserving rich get a huge tax cut.</p> <p>1996—Göran Kropp summits Everest, solo, without oxygen, then bicycles back to Sweden, as he had arrived.</p> <p>1990—A Robinson R22 helicopter with two aboard loses power over Griffin, Ga. Somehow only one dies.</p> <p>1976—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports that Rep. Wayne L. Hays' (D-Ohio) mistress, on his payroll at \$14,000 a year, admits she "can't type...can't file, [and] can't even answer the phone."</p> <p>1969—The N.C. National Guard, 600 strong, assault N.C. Ag. & Tech. with a helicopter and a tank, to restore order.</p> <p>1939—<i>Squalus</i> sinks off the Shoals with 59 aboard. Within 40 hours, 33 are rescued, but 26 die.</p> <p>1934—Cops in Louisiana ambush and kill Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow.</p> <p>1930—"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.</p> <p>1908—In Calif., 16 passengers survive a fall from an exploding dirigible.</p> <p>1849—In Haverhill, N.H., thousands watch as Rev. Enos Dudley is hanged for strangling his wife.</p> <p>1618—Religious differences spark the Second Defenestration of Prague, in turn precipitating the Thirty Years War. The result: eight million dead.</p>	<p>2005—"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.</p> <p>2001—Senator James Jeffords (R-Vt.) walks out on the GOP, temporarily shifting the balance of power.</p> <p>2000—Right-wing harridan Linda Tripp beats wiretap charges on a technicality: ignorance of the law.</p> <p>1989—Stephen McCoy, being killed by Texas state employees, has a violent reaction to the drugs. His thrashing cause a male witness to faint and fall over, knocking over another witness.</p> <p>1982—Some poor soul in South Africa gives birth to a 22 lb. baby.</p> <p>1980—Hundreds of anti-nuke occupiers are arrested at Seabrook.</p> <p>1978—To spray 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 Ill. Barklage nixes the plot by grabbing Oswald's gun and shooting her dead.</p> <p>1971—After a ski pole punctures his heart in a fall from a ski lift, actor Clint Walker is declared dead. An alert, disvising M.D. revives him. He's 90.</p> <p>1964—Barry Goldwater says let's use nukes in South Vietnam.</p> <p>1962—Scott Carpenter's Mercury capsule <i>Aurora 7</i> overshoots its landing area by 250 miles.</p> <p>1959—The first home bomb shelter is shown in Pleasant Hills, Pa.</p>	<p>2009—A Robinson R44 helicopter accidentally lands in Lake Winnepesaukee. Miraculously, all aboard survive.</p> <p>2007—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.</p> <p>1986—Seven million people hold "Hands Across America," thereby eliminating forever the twin problems of hunger and homelessness.</p> <p>1981—Kennebunkport native Dan Goodwin scales the Sears Tower dressed as Spiderman.</p> <p>1979—"Capital punishment," says John Spenkelink, sitting in "Old Sparky," "them without the capital get the punishment."</p> <p>1979—After an engine falls off, American Airlines Flight 191 crashes in Chicago killing 271 on board and two more on the ground.</p> <p>1953—At the Nevada Test Site, the U.S. fires a 15-kt nuclear warhead from a cannon called "Atomic Annie," previously seen at Ike's Inaugural Parade.</p> <p>1950—A speeding Green Hornet streetcar in Chicago collides with a gasoline truck, killing 34.</p> <p>1928—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>1826—Hooligans in Chepachet, R.I. test Hachaliah Bailey's claim that his elephant, "Old Betty," has bullet-proof hide. She does not.</p>	<p>2004—The <i>NY Times</i> admits its pre-war Iraq coverage was "not as rigorous as it should have been."</p> <p>1989—Future Veep J. Danforth Quayle predicts, "We are on an irreversible trend toward more freedom and democracy, but that could change."</p> <p>1977—George Willig scales the World Trade Center in NYC.</p> <p>1972—Nixon's "Plumbers" fail to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.</p> <p>1970—The destroyer <i>U.S.S. Richard B. Anderson's</i> departure for Vietnam is delayed due to crew sabotage.</p> <p>1941—The <i>Bismark</i> is disabled by a torpedo from a British "stringbag" bi-plane. The next day she sinks.</p> <p>1938—The House Un-American Activities Committee begins carrying out its un-American activities.</p> <p>1937—Ford's thugs beat hell out of Walter Reuther and three union colleagues in the "Battle of the Overpass."</p> <p>1934—The Burlington diesel <i>Zephyr's</i> first run spells doom for steam.</p> <p>1916—Louis Thomas "Moondog" Hardin, composer, street musician, and Viking-helmet-wearing blind eccentric, is born.</p> <p>1647—In Hartford, Conn., where the State House now stands, Alice Young becomes the first American hanged for witchcraft.</p> <p>1637—At Mystic, Conn., Captains Mason and Underhill start the Pequot War by burning Pequot forts and killing 600 Indians.</p>
<p>3:27 4:13 9:52 10:09</p>	<p>4:27 5:15 10:51 11:13</p>	<p>5:32 6:19 11:53</p>	<p>6:39 7:23 12:20 12:55</p>	<p>7:45 8:22 1:27 1:56</p>	<p>8:48 9:17 2:31 2:53</p>	<p>9:46 10:07 3:29 3:45</p>

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