

The Fortnightly Rant

A Trumpian Telenovela

During the fortnight just passed, a jury found the President's former campaign manager guilty of eight felonies—enough to put him in prison for the rest of his life. Almost simultaneously, the President's long-time lawyer—now routinely referred to by respectable media as his “fixer,” a more accurate, if less elegant descriptor—pleaded guilty to eight criminal charges under circumstances which suggest that he's passing the time these days singing sordid arias of Trumpian misbehavior to the dour former Marine charged with investigating whether the Oval Office incumbent got there with help from the Kremlin.

That Tuesday would have been unforgettable in an earlier era; the way things are now, it's just a vague recollection.

That double whammy was followed by a lull in news, as one expects in the dog days of summer. This being the Trump Administration, the lull lasted 'til Thursday.

Multiple media outlets then reported that a close friend of the President who sits atop the gigantic dung heap known as the *National Enquirer*,* and whose name—no, we're not making any of this up—is David Pecker, had received an immunity deal from federal prosecutors which, according to all accounts, should literally open the safe in which that rag kept all the stories that it bought and hid to protect the electability of the oaf in the Oval Office.

* We ranted in our paper of April 27th about the *Enquirer's* connection to New Hampshire: Generoso Pope, the father of that paper's founder, is suspected of having ordered, at the behest of Benito Mussolini, the Mafia assassination of Carlo Tresca, a former lover of Concord, N.H.-born Elizabeth Gurley Flynn. She co-founded the International Workers of the World (IWW) and was a primary instigator of both the Paterson, N.J. Silk Strike and the Lawrence, Mass. “Bread and Roses” strike. Also, see Saturday, September 8, 1964, on page eight.

The next day all and sundry reported that Allen Weisselberg, who began working for Trump's father forty years ago, and is now the Chief Financial Officer of the Trump Organization, handling Trump's personal finances as well as his personal charity slush fund, has also been granted immunity from prosecution, and is likely to be testifying before a grand jury.

Whatever sins Trump has committed, financial and otherwise, are known to Weisselberg and Pecker—and they're the subjects of federal inquiries. Perhaps it was that unsettling prospect which caused Trump, sitting with some Ohio children, to color a U.S. flag stripe blue.

By this point in the script of any classic telenovela, we suspect that (knowing nothing of the genre, really), the protagonist, having endured two double whammies in less than a week, would have secured the sympathies of nearly all the audience. In the grotesque *misbegas* that is this buffoon's Presidency, however, the audience remains sharply divided.

Visions of impending impeachment probably danced in many heads. Imagining such an outcome, though, would require forgetting the fecklessness of the party which would somehow have to carry out that process. As if to demonstrate its unlikeliness, on Tuesday, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer [D-N.Y.] rolled over and fast-tracked seven more fascist Federalist Society nominees for district court judgeships.

On the other side of the ideological aisle, among Trump's supporters, none of this will have made the slightest impression. All of them have surely been inoculated against every imaginable aspersion against the Dear Leader by Sean Hannity. In addition to being Minister of Truth, Hannity is one-third of Mi-



chael Cohen's clientele, and the only one not known to have used Cohen to pay off a porn star or cover up an abortion.

Just when it seemed things couldn't get any dicier for the would-be *Duce*, an old nemesis struck at him—from the grave. Well, not technically from the grave, since Senator John McCain won't be buried until Sunday. If Trump hadn't hated McCain already, he surely would now. The nerve of the man, upstaging the President like that!

His Petulance struck back by emulating former New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thomson, Jr., *i.e.*, ordering his staff to randomly run the White House flag up and down. It can't be easy to show contempt for a man who declined an early release from the Hanoi Hilton, thus enduring five years of avoidable torture, and earning a Silver Star, three Bronze Stars, a Legion of Merit, a Distinguished

Flying Cross, a Purple Heart, &c., &c. in the process. Trump, though, drawing on those limitless reserves of self-regard which snagged him five draft deferments, did it anyway.

This is what you get for spending four or five decades abandoning principles in exchange for power: Republican control of 31 state legislatures, as compared to 14 for the Democrats; Republican governors in 33 states, as compared to 16 for the Democrats; majorities in the U.S. House and Senate, despite getting fewer votes overall than Democrats, and, last and most assuredly least, but critically important regardless, occupancy of the seat at the apex of global power by a person whose behavior has been not-unjustifiably compared to that of the victims of tertiary syphilis.

John McCain's death presents the nation with yet another opportunity to consider honestly America's role in killing a million or more Viet-

namese for their own good—but why would we start now?

Instead, we're conducting a bipartisan canonization of a reckless warmonger who made Sarah Palin his running mate, and in the process opened the door through which a dim-witted and charmless con artist named Donald J. Trump—who only escaped the proverbial but no-longer-extant poor house by laundering money for Russian gangsters—would barge just eight years later.

In times like these we always like to look for laughs wherever they can be found. Dry, sardonic laughs, maybe, but if that's all that's offered, we'll take 'em. Although each despised the other, New Hampshire loved them both. What does that say about us?

Perhaps, if we and the world outlive this Presidency, we'll take the time for a national conversation about how to avoid shooting ourselves in the foot so often.

Oh, ... who are we kidding?

The Alleged News®

It's their planet ... we just choke on it

“Do you believe we're going around the sun at 17,000 miles an hour? That makes me nervous. 17,000 miles an hour. There's nothing I can do about it.”

— Harry Dean Stanton, actor and philosopher
—==—

The matter referenced in the Rant above—a misguided remake of *Les Misérables* in which the presumably-honorable Robert Mueller plays the implacable Inspector Javert, relentlessly pursuing President Trump, who interprets the character of Jean Valjean by channeling Danny DeVito's Penguin—may be entertaining, but in the greater scheme of things it properly should be viewed as merely a distraction.

Even the great Harry Dean Stanton was worried about the

wrong thing. Flying around the sun at 17,000 m.p.h. is not the thing which should induce in us an existential dread. Yes, our planet may someday collide with some other celestial body with sufficient mass to extinguish all life on Earth—an interesting proposition, but the odds are remotely slim. A true and serious existential problem faces all 7.6 billion of the allegedly-sentient beings sharing—we use the term with reckless abandon—this 6-sextillion-ton ball of slightly damp rock.

We refer, of course, to the state and condition of the thin skin of air around that rock—and we do mean thin: 90 percent of Earth's atmosphere is within 10 miles of its surface. If the Earth were the size of a billiard ball, its atmosphere would be about as thick as eight sheets of



copy paper.

In retrospect it's clearly a shame that it's not just a question of whether our air is breathable. The hard problem is that this thin film of air has performed temperature-regulating functions which remained essentially the same for hundreds of millions of years.

Then we humans began evolving from some lemur-like critter. From the start, we have treated the unique

gaseous envelope which has protected us as we hurtle through space in a manner reminiscent of a degenerate acquaintance who once said, “My body is a temple, I just treat it like a garage.” We have been hacking away at the paper wrapped around our rock ever since we invented scissors.

Now, while some of the smartest people on Earth are telling us that we are rapidly approaching the point at which the whole shebang may be rendered useless for human purposes, the most powerful people on Earth are telling us, “Nah, don't worry—everything's gonna be just fine.”

The same day one of the President's goons copped a plea and another one was found guilty, the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] issued a set of revised regulations which allow coal-burning

power plants to emit more, not less, pollution—a move in keeping with the agency's recent history.

Scott Pruitt, Trump's first EPA chief, made it a habit as Oklahoma's Attorney General of teaming up with campaign contributors and suing the agency he went on to run: 14 suits, 14 losses. Oklahoma's taxpayers footed the bills.

At the EPA, freed up from those futile lawsuits, Pruitt could apply his skills more directly. Installing an industrial incinerator in his office, he spend most of his term merrily shoveling regulations and bundles of crisp \$100 bills into its flaming maw, singing all the while, “Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to work we go.”

The Alleged News®

from page one

OK, we exaggerate. But not by much.

After becoming such a colossal embarrassment that he actually had to be let go, Pruitt was replaced by acting administrator Andrew R. Wheeler—who is, what else, a former lobbyist for Robert E. Murray—the coal magnate from central casting. Murray, who pressured Trump to pull out of the Paris Climate Agreement, says “so-called global warming is a total hoax.”

By the EPA’s own estimate, which can be counted on to paint the rosiest picture possible, the new regulations will choke to death one American every six hours. A cynic might say they’re working on ways to make sure that it’s Democrats who do all the dying. Realists understand that environmental burdens are unevenly distributed, just like wealth and income. That feature is already baked in.

National Public Radio, in keeping with its standing policy of avoiding reporting anything that might afflict the comfortable or comfort the

afflicted, managed to somehow report on the new, loose rules without bringing up their fatal consequences.

The new rules are carefully designed to achieve two results. First, pander to voters who are too ... ill-informed, shall we say, to understand or care that coal mine jobs are never, ever, coming back. Second, assure that investors in the coal industry reap enough profits to be generous with their contributions when the next election comes around.

Switching from solids to liquids in the effort to make the most profit possible before the changing atmosphere deals a death blow to capitalism, oil companies are now whining in public about being sued for the damage they’ve caused.

Playing the victim while talking to reporters on July 3rd in London, Shell CEO Ben van Beurden said, “It’s sort of bizarre that the users of our products say: ‘Well actually we didn’t want your product. So why did you force it on us? I don’t think also that in the end it will solve anything other than maybe redistributing wealth to a certain class of the economy,” according to *Bloomberg*.



Commodious as it obviously is, perhaps the new garage will tolerably serve as a location for modern humans to temporarily store the mobile mechanical husks to which internalized Fordism and a century of federal subsidy has forced all but the most resolute of us to become accustomed. As a locale for the myriad social functions traditionally performed by a Post Office, though, in our considered opinion it would stink.

Paying no mind to van Buerden, San Francisco and Oakland sued BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil and Royal Dutch Shell anyway. Faced with huge expenses to fend off rising seas, the cities were trying to recover some of their costs by tapping into the oil giants’ enormous profits.

They lost. Throwing out the city’s suits, Judge William Alsup said “The court will stay its hand in favor of solutions by the legislative and executive branches.” Apparently he does not read the papers.

Oil companies generally hate government intervention in their business. There is one exception, of course: when it’s for their benefit. Companies with refineries along the Gulf Coast of Texas want the government to foot the bill for an expensive system of storm barriers.

Both Senators from Texas are Republicans who loathe federal spending. Both generally agree with Robert Murray that climate change

is a hoax. Yet both Ted Cruz and John Cornyn are of the opinion that it’s fair that the taxpayers should cover the cost of protecting the oil companies’ capital investment.

Doing their best to do their part, Democrats recently reversed a ban on accepting donations from oil companies.

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Burned: Are Trees the New Coal?

Considering how high the stakes are—powerful people making vast profits on one side, a survivable future on the other—it should come as no surprise that energy politics are intense. When politics get intense, they get weird. When things get weird, they get interesting.

The legislature will meet in about five days to consider the fate of SB 365. The bill, which had bipartisan support, would have raised New Hampshire electric bills by \$30 million and extend a subsidy for plants that produce electricity by burning trees.

The bill’s appeal was clear enough on the surface: wood is renewable and local. Harvesting it puts people to work.

Governor Chris Sununu vetoed the bill, calling it a hidden tax on the ratepayers. No surprise there—sounds like he’s less interested in the environment than he is in low taxes.

Unsurprisingly, some Democrats are trying to override the veto. Republicans, in the main, seem to be siding with Sununu.

The curious question is this: why are so many environmentalists lobbying to sustain Sununu’s veto? What have they got against the biomass biz? Don’t half of them heat their homes with wood pellet stoves?

As it turns out, there’s biomass, and then there’s biomass. On a small scale such as pellet stoves, the process can be quite efficient and relatively benign.

On the other end of the biomass spectrum—say, the 50-megawatt Schiller plant in Newington, or

*Fate whispers to the warrior,
“You cannot withstand the storm.”*

*And the warrior whisper back,
I am the storm.”*

— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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the 75-megawatt Burgess plant up in Berlin—it's another matter entirely. Consuming an acre of trees every hour, not only is the Burgess plant less efficient than a home pellet stove, it produces more CO2 per megawatt hour than it would if it were burning coal.

A growing chorus of voices is suggesting that the biomass-to-energy economy is not as it's been depicted. Two documentary filmmakers from Vermont explore that question in "Burned: Are Trees the New Coal?" The eye-opening film will be shown at 3S Artspace on Wednesday, September 5th. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., the event starts at 7:00. Tickets are \$8.

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Our Letters Section and the First District
Some time back we decided that this primary season we would not be publishing endorsement letters for First District candidates. Here's why.

On the Democratic side there were too many candidates and too many letters. We didn't have room for them all, and we could not think of a way to be both selective and fair.

On the Republican side there are fewer candidates, but, well ... this is a family newspaper. It's hard enough writing about the President without delving too far into a lot of sordid behavior. The way Andy Sanborn and Eddie Edwards have been go-

ing at each other, well, you know what they say about wrestling with pigs. As this fiasco reaches its finale, though, it deserves at least some mention.

State Senator Andy Sanborn, who's also a sports bar owner and, apparently, a part-time, would-be stand-up comic, saw an advantage in bringing up the fact that his opponent, Eddie Edwards, was forced to leave his job as top cop for the State Liquor Commission, aka northern New England's pre-eminent bootlegger, at a not-inconsiderable expense to the taxpayer. We're not sure to what extent Edwards played up Sanborn's troubles with unseemly behavior in the State House, but, let's face it, he really didn't have to.

We were fortunate enough to be listening to live radio when Jack Heath conducted the now-famous non-debate. Edwards showed up but refused to sign a pledge which the Party required, vowing to support the primary winner. The exercise apparently did what everything else does these days: it drove both factions farther into their corners.

Though the Primary is yet to come, we're ready to make our prediction: the next Congressperson for the First District is going to be a Democrat.

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Have You Been Purged?

While we're on the topic of elec-



tions, the Primary is Tuesday, September 11th—do you know if you've been purged from the voter rolls?

A certain political [Cough: Republican] party has shown considerable interest in expunging from the voter rolls anyone who cannot comply with increasingly stringent requirements. We've been told—but have not verified—that voters must now produce on demand a signed photograph of Grover Norquist.

The prudent thing to do is to check in with the Secretary of State's office, and find out in advance whether you're going to have to recite the Preamble to the Constitution in order to get a ballot. Here's the URL: <https://app.sos.nh.gov/PublicPartyInfo.aspx>.

In other news, the Seacoast Republican Women are holding their annual Chilifest in Kingston a week from tomorrow. Their guest of honor will be Grover Norquist.

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Rep. Shea-Porter Responds to Flag Police
A faithful reader and irregular officer of the Flag Police asked HQ about the absence of a U.S. flag in front of the Dover office of Rep. Carol Shea-Porter.

We left a message with that office. Soon after, the Flag Fone rang. On the other end was the Congresswoman. We posed the question.

The short answer was that the building is comprised of eight condo units; the common area in front is not part of lease.

"You know what, though?" she said. "I'm certainly happy to ask the landlord if he's interested in putting a flag up. That would be fine. It would be up to him, obviously, because it's his exterior. In our office, the space that we control, we have flags. But I'm not averse at all to asking the landlord if they have an interest in putting a flag up."

"We're proud to have flags—we have several in the office. We also have a gay pride flag. Donald Trump said there would not be any flags like that on Federal property. Within two hours we had one up in D.C. Everybody's welcome. We thought that was an important message."

Reflecting on the raucous Republican primary race for the First District nomination, Shea-Porter said she thought it was a reflection of the "complete moral and structural breakdown of that party."

"How they could find such a nasty collection of people in one place, I'll never know, but they did. Unfortunately for the party, new people don't want to step in."

As for the crowded field of Democrats, Shea-Porter laughed and said, "It looks like half the state has

decided they really, really want to run for Congress. I had no idea I've been in everyone's way for so long." Shea-Porter has endorsed her former Chief of Staff Naomi Andrews.

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A Hot Time in the Old Town

Jeez, Louise: gunfire at 3:30 a.m., in a neighborhood which includes three churches and a funeral home. The person pulling the trigger, it is alleged, was the significant other of a former Police Commissioner, for a whole 'nother layer of "didn't see that coming." This all took place less than 24 hours after our last paper hit the streets. We trust that's just a coincidence.

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Adios, Wayne Hooper

GateHouse Media has given the *Portsmouth Herald's* Wayne Hooper the axe, and that's too bad. Hooper wrote about the outdoors for decades, the way it should be done: not a lot of fire and brimstone and bluster—that's our bailiwick—but modestly and unassumingly. The paper will be diminished by his absence ... but, hey—GateHouse's next quarter could conceivably look a tiny, tiny bit better, so, there's that.

A word to the wise: always read Sue Pike's "Nature News"—there's no telling how long we'll have it.

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The weather this summer's been pretty tedious. So, for the most part, has been the assortment of motorcycles on view in Market Square. One notable exception: this BMW. Looking brand new, it's at least half a century old. Our Wandering Photographer was unable to report on what it sounded like. It wasn't running. If it had been, he still might not have heard it. These things are like that.

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Robert Mueller (1944-), American soldier and lawyer, 6th Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
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Community Rights —

A Response to Northern Pass Appeal To the Editor:

Eversource recently appealed to New Hampshire's Supreme Court, contesting the Site Evaluation Committee's (SEC) denial of Northern Pass. This appeal was expected by those in the New Hampshire community rights movement because when corporations don't get the answers they want, they challenge the decision-making system, with only required consideration for the wishes of people affected by a proposed project.

This kind of corporate jockeying is par for the course in a state and federal decision-making system made up of a web of regulatory agencies that operate not to protect people and planet but to facilitate corporate applications like that for Northern Pass. Were the system truly designed to protect rather than to facilitate, local people affected by proposed corporate projects would sit at the decision-making table with real authority, not merely with permission to make token public comments regarding their local needs.

Corporations like Eversource take advantage of this clear imbalance in determining power. In the case of Northern Pass's SEC process, Eversource condescended to communities all along the way. Anyone opposed was disregarded as biased—as anti-progress, anti-“clean energy,” anti-supposedly reduced energy costs, and anti-jobs. Dismissed were the voices of the people on the ground who would feel the real effects of the project where they live—effects including long-term disruption of their human communities and the ecosystems therein.

True, people spoke out against Northern Pass despite their mere advisory capacity, and true, the SEC denied the project application. But the two are not correlated. The SEC did not deny Northern Pass because the people didn't want it. Nor did the SEC deny it because it wasn't good for New Hampshire's people, economy, or environment. Had either been the case, the SEC would have denied Northern Pass long ago, for the people clearly and vocally haven't wanted it

for some eight years.

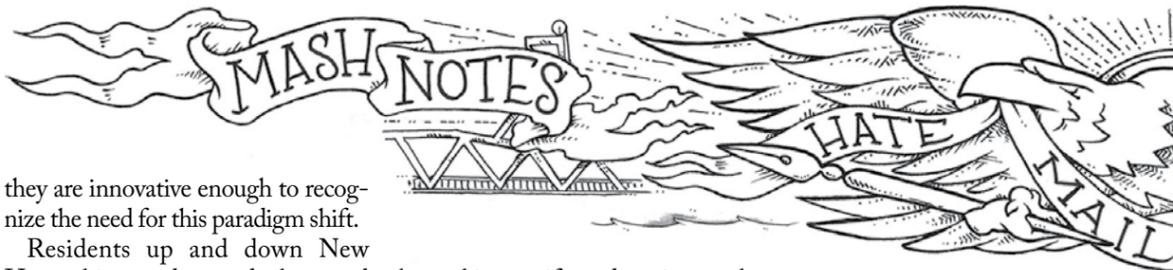
The SEC denied the project because the application didn't meet the required criteria. If the application had met all the criteria, then the SEC would have been legally obligated to approve it because the SEC, like all regulatory agencies, is in place to facilitate the operating of corporate projects. Period.

So, what happens when regulatory bodies like the SEC do, in fact, stall facilitation of a corporate permit? They are often intimidated by corporate developers who turn to bullying tactics, including using the courts in an attempt to overturn permit denials. And history and experience show that these bullying tactics will result in the court ruling in favor of the corporation, thereby legislating from the bench on behalf of Eversource.

By embarking on this path, Eversource has demonstrated its willingness to continue ignoring the wishes of the people, and to dig into its pockets to override the SEC, an agency created by the legislature. Clearly, at every juncture, Eversource has shown it doesn't care about the voices of New Hampshire community members.

What can people do in response? Firstly, we can recognize that we have 1) the inherent and inalienable right to protect our pursuit of life and protect our properties and 2) the moral responsibility to protect both local ecosystems and economies. Secondly, we can exercise this right and responsibility by way of adopting rights-based ordinances (RBOs). Almost a dozen New Hampshire communities have done just this to address proposed corporate harm.

According to New Hampshire Bill of Rights Article 10, these RBOs reform our government, rewriting our social contract with the corporate-state by protecting our human communities and ecosystems when our government is not doing so as New Hampshire Bill of Rights Article 3 says it must. And by elevating rights of people and ecosystems above the “rights” of corporations, these RBOs signal that business and corporations are welcome in New Hampshire communities, but only if



they are innovative enough to recognize the need for this paradigm shift.

Residents up and down New Hampshire understand the need for local governing authority by way of RBOs, and they've given rise to a people's movement calling for a state Constitutional Amendment to more clearly recognize the people's right to self-govern for the protection of our human and natural communities' health, safety, and welfare. The resulting New Hampshire Community Rights Amendment earned one-third of the New Hampshire House's support in 2018 and will be back again. Visit www.nhcommunityrights.org or email info@nhcommunityrights.org to learn more.

Michelle Sanborn, serving president of New Hampshire Community Rights Network (NHCRN), (she, her, hers)

NHCRN President

Alexandria, N.H.

Michelle:

Your description of the power relationship underlying our “regulatory framework” reminds us all too much of the feckless inability of the Pease Development Authority to rein in helicopter tourism.

The Editor

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Sustain the Biomass Veto

To the Editor:

You and your readers who buy electricity from Eversource or Unitil, are in for a big surprise. The \$20 million/year bail-out planned for the corporate-owned biomass wood-chip/trash-burning power plants would have been taken from everyday people through their monthly light bills. Each electricity customer could be assessed from \$60-\$75 extra per year that would go to the wood-chip/trash plant owners. Electricity customers would not obtain more electricity for their extra money, or a share of stock or credit or an I.O.U. Customers would

be making a gift or donation to the wood-chip/trash plant owners.

The governor has vetoed this bailout plan, known as SB365, thus stopping this bailout proposal in its tracks. But now, the wood-chip/trash plant owners have ramped up a loud campaign to force our legislators to override the veto in a Sept. 13th vote. If the SB365 veto is over-ridden, Eversource and Unitil customers will be on the hook for \$20 million/year. I advise everyday people to call and ask their state legislators to support the SB365 veto. Save your money.

William E. Gallagher
Cornish, N.H.

William:

We are shocked to realize that the Governor is doing the right thing, but we cannot deny the evidence.

The Editor

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Two Modes of Leadership

To the Editor:

There have been two types of leaders that have had the greatest impact on history, either for good or evil. These are leaders that have either united a nation, or who have divided nations. Leaders who strove to heal a nation's wounds, or those who worked to open old wounds. Leaders who endeavored to bring out the best in people, or those who sought to encourage the worst in people. America has been blessed and cursed at times to have both types of leaders. When I think of the leader who epitomized the best of humanity, I immediately think of Abraham Lincoln. And now, when I consider the “leader” who represents the worst of our humanity, I immediately think of Donald Trump.

There has not been a “leader” in recent American history that has created more division, sanctioned more hate, discrimination and violence

against various groups than Donald Trump. Trump has used social media to incite like-minded supporters to attack Muslims, Hispanics, Jews and other minority groups. Trump's tweets on Islam-related topics are highly correlated with anti-Muslim hate crimes, according to the Social Science Research Network. Hate crimes increased by 44 percent in 2016 during Trump's campaign and 17 percent more in 2017, according to Amnesty International. We have seen the anger and hate directed at the free press by his supporters at Trump's rallies, encouraged and instigated by Mr. Trump's dangerous rhetoric. We have seen Mr. Trump's racist attacks on various black celebrities such as LeBron James. We heard Mr. Trump say that some of the neo-Nazis marching in Charlottesville VA were “very fine people.” We have also been subjected to the countless claims of sexual harassment and abuse of women by Mr. Trump. These actions and words embody a leadership based on hate, division, anger, misogyny and racism, the leadership of disgrace not greatness.

Some may say that I am afflicted with a type of Trump derangement, but they confuse passion, intensity, patriotism, and courage with derangement. Any rational person who is paying attention to what is going on and is not totally brainwashed by the Trump Propaganda Machine, should be similarly afflicted. Those who silently and complacently stand by and accept what Trump is doing to our nation, and those who actively support his agenda, like the traitors who wear shirts saying “I'd rather be a Russian than a Democrat,” are the people truly suffering from a form of Trump derangement. These are the people history will condemn and vilify, not those

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
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“Our incapacity is the their livelihood.”
— John McCain (1936-2018) speaking to the U.S. Senate on 7/25/17

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who openly resisted this assault on our democracy.

Rich DiPentima, LTC, USAF Ret. Portsmouth, N.H.

====

Where's Our Irresistible Alternative?

To the Editor:

Donald Trump is a skilled messenger with an uncanny gift for spinning alternative realities. Unfortunately, along with his charismatic plasticity comes a shaky relationship with the truth that extends back decades before his entry into politics. Still, despite his unpredictably reckless demeanor, Trump has managed to amass an astonishingly large following as the Democratic Party falters.

By all rights, the Democratic Party should be standing tall as middle-America's best hope to end the political nightmare plaguing Washington. However, the current DNC leadership has failed to stand up to this dangerous threat in multiple ways.

First, by self-admission, they alienated millions of loyal Main Street constituents who were depending on them for protection from private-sector predation. As a result, many former supporters feel alienated, angry, and motivated to get even with their supposed protectors.

Second, over credible objection, the DNC pushed forward Hillary Clinton, a candidate symbolic of the party's betrayal, to run against Donald Trump in 2016.

Third, with mid-terms rapidly approaching, the DNC has once again let the nation down by failing to deliver a coherent platform and by failing to back up younger emerging candidates who have the energy and charisma to sell it.

With or without help from the DNC, concerned Democrats must or-

ganize and act quickly to deliver a solid platform with messaging that speaks directly to the heart of the American people. If Democrats fail to offer an "irresistible alternative" to Trump's vindictive get-even presidency, Republicans could easily prevail and replace democracy with the black hole of private-sector oligarchy. Do more than vote. Please get involved!

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:
Ring that bell!
The Editor

====

Seacoast Media Group Complicity

To the Editor:

A downtown business in my local community has been discriminating against me for almost five years, and with no end in sight. It's depressing and unkind, to say the least.

Yes, I can take my business to a different store in a different city but that doesn't solve the ongoing problem. Aside from being an inconvenience to have to travel farther to shop elsewhere, discrimination is demeaning, it robs me of dignity, and it makes me feel unwelcome in my own community.

Recently, a local news publication gave the business free publicity. In a front page headline story with giant photos, it was reported that the business owner has built a reputation of superior customer service, that he has a fun vibe and great sense of humor, that he wants to help mentor kids, and that his door is open to people in the community.

Contrary to the positive portrayal of him in the local news, the business owner has a documented history of becoming unhinged. In 2013 he emailed me a thinly veiled threat, profanity, rude comments, and per-

sonal put-downs. Despite the various uncalled-for incivility, I was able to remain civil and nonviolent.

I promptly reported the threat to my local police but the investigating officer completely dismissed my concerns. Pointing to a specific paragraph in a large book containing various New Hampshire statutes, the officer told me that the business owner's threat didn't precisely match the strict and narrow legal definition of a criminal threat.

It is noteworthy to point out that the news editor had foreknowledge—prior to publishing the publicity piece—of the business owner's discrimination and incivility towards me. This gives the appearance that my local news media, which is owned by Seacoast Media Group, is complicit by covering up highly unethical business practices.

Furthermore, the business owner flipped out on me only after I disclosed to him my mental illness. That hardly seems a coincidence. For nine years prior to my disclosure, starting when I initially became his customer, I was always in good standing.

As the business owner never explicitly said to me, "You are not welcome in my store because you have a mental illness," and as there was no sign in his store window that explicitly said, "People with mental illness are not welcome," the ongoing discrimination is, therefore, technically legal.

However, just because a particular business practice is legal doesn't necessarily mean it's ethical. Nor does it necessarily mean the business is commendable.

What's the lesson to be learned from this? Are people with mental illness supposed to stay in the closet or else face discrimination, incivility, and corporate news media complicity? If so, we've taken a giant step backwards.

Alex J. Boros
Rochester, N.H.

Alex:

No doubt the proprietor in question would tell a different story. Not being privy to it, we must be cautious. A general knowledge of the social terrain, though, and our familiarity with your invariably lucid and restrained letters, suggests to us that your complaint may very well be justified.

Taking the most objective view we can of American society in general, we are forced to conclude that it is in no position whatsoever to cast aspersions at any individual who acknowledges his or her own mental health challenges.

The Editor

====

Swamp Creatures Unite!

To the Editor:

Must be really hard to drain the old swamp when you're the biggest creature in that swamp!

Not to worry. Trump has drained the swamp ... by giving the swamp creatures positions in the White House.

Michael Cohen, Trump's fixer, pleaded guilty to eight crimes and implicated Trump himself. On the same day, Trump's campaign manager, Paul Manafort, was found guilty on eight counts in the Mueller investigation and had a mistrial on 10 others.

His Cabinet is the most disgraced in history. Trump sure picks great people to help him drain the swamp.

But that's not all. The first two sitting members of congress to support Trump have now both been indicted! Reminds me of the old kids retort: it takes one to know one.

Trump has my vote: "Swamp Creator of the Year"!

Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, N.H.

====

The "Religious Liberty Task Force" is Unconstitutional

To the Editor:

A refrain Americans are constantly being subjected to by the Religious Right, 80 percent of whom are reported to have voted for, and still staunchly support, the 45th POTUS, despite all his moral failings, is that "Our founding fathers started this country and built it on God and His word."

Furthermore, the "word of God" that these individuals are referring to is that contained in the Christian Bible (New Testament), which is reported to talk about concepts like helping the poor; welcoming foreigners; healing the sick; respecting others; and refraining from telling lies, committing adultery and stealing. This of course, should beg the question as to why the Evangelicals and the Republican Party, the self-proclaimed "Party of Family Values," still support #45 and his corrupt administration which rips children from the arms of mothers, attempts to take away Americans' healthcare and incessantly lies to Americans on countless matters.

Returning to the premise that the founders started and built this country as a Christian nation, the founders appeared to have begged to differ as the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, written by them, states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" Additionally, the second President of the United States, John Adams, as a gesture of peace and friendship towards the Muslim world, signed, in 1796, the Treaty of Tripoli for which Article 11 affirmed, "The government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian religion."

So, given what the founding fathers had to say on the matter, I'd be willing to go before the SCOTUS to argue that the Religious Right and the Republicans are dead wrong and the current Administration has just violated the Constitution by using U.S. taxpayer money to establish the "Religious Liberty Task Force" to "combat dangerous secularism" as recently announced by Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Vice President Mike Pence. I'd also argue that the illegal task force was established to serve as a dog-whistle prior to the midterm election.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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The Fechheimer Building, one of the finest examples of a cast-iron facade in Portland, Oregon, was built in 1885. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it was restored in 1981 by Russell Fellows Properties, the principals of which enjoy a subscription to this newspaper.

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The Northcountry Chronicle

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by William Marvel

Bill Gardner has now been Secretary of State in New Hampshire for 42 years. In the interest of full disclosure, I should say that he and I have been friends for nearly 30 of those years, but he has managed his office in so nonpartisan a manner that for at least half that time I didn't know he was a Democrat. Since the Secretary of State is responsible for the oversight of elections, that non-partisanship is crucial to the maintenance of local democracy. That is precisely why legislators have re-elected Gardner 20 times, regardless of which party held a majority.

Now he has a challenger in Colin Van Ostern, alias Kevin Colin O'Loughlin (and assorted combinations of those names). His campaign website no longer explains why he changed his name, if it ever did, but he did not do so until 2012, at the age of 33, just before filing for his first political office. His geographical associations are a little murky, too. Apparently life began for him

when he moved to New Hampshire, and he has embraced our state as the home he never knew. The only problem is that he doesn't really seem to like New Hampshire the way it is. He evidently finds it attractive, but believes everything would be wonderful if he could just force some changes.

Of course, the demand for change may merely reflect the need to provoke an issue in order to have an excuse to run for office, because lately that's what Van Ostern does. He likes to start at the top, too. Right after changing his name he ran for the Executive Council, and won. Then he ran for Governor, and lost. Now he wants to be Secretary of State. He may be the first candidate for that office to wage a public campaign for it, running on a platform of what might best be characterized as promising to fix things that aren't broken.

It's hard to say whether Van Ostern's main interest is promoting the Democratic Party or promoting himself. I would put my money on

the latter, because his political connections were pretty conservative under his other name. His website is mum on this point, as well, but apostates almost always feel compelled to prove their fealty to a new creed through exaggerated displays of devotion. Van Ostern certainly fits the mold in that regard.

Although the Secretary of State is chosen by the legislature, Van Ostern is raising money among Democrats under the presumptuous slogan "Free & Fair New Hampshire"—as though our elections were not. Gardner has never accepted a single contribution in 42 years, yet Van Ostern thinks he can purify our elections by soliciting money to buy his job. That would be hilarious, did it not border on political obscenity for so partisan and ambitious a newcomer to politicize the office as a step to the governor's chair. The very existence of his campaign illustrates how thoroughly out-of-touch he is with the vital, practical reasons behind our political traditions. The same goes for his supporters, who

include the same Jeff Woodburn other Democrats are now shunning.

For a candidate pandering to New Hampshire Young Democrats, nothing old is good enough, and Van Ostern promises to "modernize" our process. How backward can we be, using paper ballots in the 21st century? Perhaps he hopes to target supporters who are too immature to wonder why we have never had a recount that wasn't satisfactorily resolved. Echoing the Democratic Party's appeal to all voters—regardless of age, residency, citizenship, or place of incarceration—Van Ostern opposes the very idea of public officials checking a voter's claimed domicile, lest it lead to voter suppression. Yet on Gardner's watch this state's voter turnout has always ranked among the highest in the country, largely because of a greater degree of confidence in the integrity of our elections.

What really aroused Van Ostern was Gardner's service on Donald Trump's advisory commission on voter fraud. Knowing Bill's passion

for preserving the integrity of our elections, I was not surprised when he agreed to serve. As he explained it himself, the commission offered a chance to examine why so many people believe in extensive voter fraud—which reduces the will to vote and erodes voter turnout, whether fraud exists or not.

Resistance-crazed Democrats nonetheless twisted his service on that commission into a virtual endorsement of Trump's assertion that voter fraud was rampant. To an ambitious young man of confused personal and political identity, such as O'Loughlin-Van Ostern, it represented an opportunity to exploit that false characterization at a time when Trump might spark a Democratic resurgence. He may have the advantage, too, for in hopes of keeping the office nonpartisan Gardner seems hesitant to campaign on his own behalf.

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from page five

Andrew Janz Needed to Replace Nunes

To the Editor:
Our country is under attack. Russia interfered in our 2016 elections and continues interfering with voting software in over 20 states, as we approach mid-term elections this November. All of our national intelligence agencies agree, "red flags" are waving. Nevertheless, the President continues to soft-pedal and minimize this cyber-attack. He has not organized FBI, Homeland Security, and other experts to resist the hacking of county election software. Instead, each county is on its own to come up with a defense against the Russian military. He has even revoked the security clearance of some of our top counterintelligence assets,



most recently ex-CIA Director John Brennan.

Republicans in Congress are unwilling to override Trump and call him to account for his apparent treasonous dereliction of duty. One Congressman in particular, Devin Nunes, has been caught on tape telling supporters that protecting Donald Trump is his first priority.

To defend our democracy, we need Andrew Janz to replace Nunes in Congress (CA-22). Fresno's prosecutor kowtows to no one. Support Andrew at andrewjanzforcongress.com.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

The Dick Act of 1902

To the Editor:
In doing some research for a constituent, who had requested I file a Legislative Service Request to bolster the 2nd Amendment, I found the following; Efficiency of Militia Bill H.R. 11654, of June 28, 1902. It provides that which is necessary for Protection Against Tyrannical Government. If the current education system was teaching a good course in Civics, the American Citizens would know the "Dick Act" and their Rights under the Constitution and their 2nd Amendment.

The Dick Act clearly invalidates

all so-called gun control laws. It also divides the militia into three distinct and separate entities. The three classes are the organized militia, henceforth known as the National Guard of the State, Territory and District of Columbia; the unorganized militia, and the Regular Army. The militia encompasses every able bodied male between the ages of 18 and 45. All members of the unorganized militia have the absolute personal right and 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms of any type, and as many as they can afford to buy.

The Dick Act of 1902 cannot be repealed; to do so would violate bills of attainder and *ex post facto laws*

which would be yet another gross violation of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The President of the United States has zero authority without violating the Constitution to call the National Guard to serve outside of their State borders.

The National Guard Militia can only be required by the National Government for limited purposes specified in the Constitution, ie: to uphold the laws of the Union; to suppress insurrection and repel invasion. These are the only purposes for which the General Government can call upon the National Guard.

The Dick Act can not be repealed, hence *Gun Control Legislation Appears Forbidden*.

Rep. Dick Marple, Merrimack #24, N.H.

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Help save America's public Post Offices

by Jim Hightower

The U.S. postal system has 30,000 outlets serving every part of America, it employs 630,000 people in good middle-class jobs, and it proudly delivers letters and packages clear across the country for a pittance. It's a jewel of public service excellence.

Therefore, it must be destroyed. Such is the fevered logic of laissez-fairlyheaded corporate suprem-

ists like the billionaire Koch brothers and the right-wing politicians who serve them. This malevolent gang of wrecking-ball privatizers includes such prominent Trumpteers as Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin (a former Wall Street huckster from Goldman Sachs), and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney (a former corporate-hugging congress critter from South Carolina). Both were involved in setting up Trump's shiny new task force to remake our US

Postal Service. It's like asking two foxes to remodel the hen house. Trump himself merely wanted to take a slap at his political enemy, Amazon chief Jeff Bezos, by jacking up the prices the postal agency charges to deliver Amazon's packages. The cabal of far-right corporatizers, however, saw Trump's temper tantrum as a golden opportunity to go after the Postal Service itself. So, instead of simply addressing the matter of package pricing—Shaz-

am!—the task force was trumped-up with an open-ended mandate to evaluate, dissect, and "restructure" the people's mail service, including carving it up and selling off the parts. Who'd buy the pieces? For-profit shippers like FedEx, of course, but here's some serious irony for you: The one outfit with the cash and clout to buy our nation's whole postal infrastructure and turn it into a monstrous corporate monopoly is none other than ... Amazon.

To help stop this sellout, become part of the Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service: www.AGrandAlliance.org.

Populist author, public speaker, and radio commentator Jim Hightower writes *The Hightower Lowdown*, a monthly newsletter chronicling the ongoing fights by America's ordinary people against rule by plutocratic elites. Sign up at HightowerLowdown.org.

from page six

Dick:
You can, and no doubt will, do as you like, but we recommend that you, in your official capacity, learn to be more cautious about believing what you read in random emails.

All of the claims you have passed along have been neatly eviscerated here: https://armsandthelaw.com/archives/2013/01/dick_act_mythma.php.

The author of that article has been a lawyer for more than 40 years. Gun laws are his primary area of expertise. He served as an outside counsel for the NRA. He can hardly be counted as anti-gun rights.

The Editor

Who is Pocahontas?

To the Editor:

Donald Trump tells us Massachusetts is represented in the U.S. Senate by a woman named Pocahontas. It turns out Senator Pocahontas is also a highly accomplished Harvard Law School professor and business attorney known for her expertise in bankruptcy and commercial law.

In a way, it's unfortunate the President chose to poke fun at Pocahontas because she possesses all the specialized legal skills Mr. Trump will need when Robert Mueller finishes dismantling his overextended real estate empire. But then, Mr. Trump rarely misses an opportunity to gnaw on his own foot.

Some folks praise the original Pocahontas as a national hero, but in reality she was something of a turncoat. Not long after that untidy encounter between her dad and Captain John Smith, she found

religion, switched teams, changed her name to Rebecca, and married tobacco magnate John Rolfe. She then toddled off to Europe as a lady of means. Unfortunately, her good fortune ended abruptly at age 21 in untimely death. Despite her controversial past, today many people claim to be Pocahontas descendants—including singer Wayne Newton.

All of which makes me wonder who might claim lineage with Donald Trump vs. Elizabeth Warren a few decades from now. I don't know about you, but if intelligence and moral integrity are inherited traits, I'd be quick to choose the latter!

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Wasteful So-Called "Conservatism"

To the Editor:

As reported in the *Portsmouth Herald*, the Trump administration declared that "conserving oil is no longer an economic imperative for the U.S." This, along with the decision to lower automobile fuel economy standards, is another in a long list of wrongheaded, shortsighted and destructive policies put in place by Mr. Trump and his big business pals.

Conserving finite natural resources is always in the best long term economic, environmental, national security and public health interests of a nation. Unfortunately, Trump and people like Energy Secretary Perry, can only think of the wealth that they can hand their pals today. They never consider what impact and implications their policies will

have on future generations, 25, 50, and 100 years from now. Simply because we may have access to more oil and gas through environmentally destructive practices like fracking does not mean that gives us the right to simply waste these non-renewable resources. It also ignores the increasing threat to our climate, which of course Trump and Company considers another hoax.

To compound the problem, the Trump administration has done everything possible to reduce our development and expansion of renewable energy production, such as solar, wind, and geothermal. There will come a time when the oil and natural gas glut will end, leaving behind a destroyed environment, and a nation struggling to catch up to replace them with alternative energy sources. At this point, our economy and our national security will be at risk, as we once again become dependent on other nations to replace what we have wasted and failed to develop.

The short-term, get rich quick mentality of Trump has and will continue to reduce the influence and power of America for decades to come. Future generations will hold in contempt those who destroyed their environment and their futures.

Rich DiPentima, LTC, USAF Ret.
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:
As a former member of the Armed Services, you are no doubt aware that the Pentagon is the world's largest en-

ergy consumer.
For all the howling about "waste, fraud, and abuse," that fact gets surprisingly little attention.

The Editor

Seacoast Businesses Support Bridge Illumination

To the Editor:

In December, 2013, Seacoast residents had one more reason to love the Seacoast. The new Memorial Bridge was illuminated as never before, in changing colors, using new LED lighting technology. With the cooperation of N.H. DOT and numerous donors, both private and businesses, \$250,000 was raised to fund this one-of-a-kind illumination in New Hampshire, without using either state or city tax money. That fund-raising effort also set aside five years' worth of maintenance money. In the meantime, the Town of Kittery and the City of Portsmouth have signed an agreement to split the cost of the regular annual maintenance of the bridge illumination.

Many businesses that supported the original illumination project, and appreciate the attraction and value it brings to both Kittery and Portsmouth, have decided that they would like to help offset the maintenance cost of the illumination by pledging to make an annual donation to their respective municipality to lighten the burden, and because they want to show their continuing support for the Memorial Bridge illumination. In recognition of their

continuing support, each business establishment was given a decal that includes an image of the bridge along with the message "Keeping It Illuminated, Business Supporter." Please show your support for the bridge illumination by supporting the following businesses that contributed to this effort: Charter Oak Capital Management, Anneke Jans, and AutoWorks in Kittery; and The Portsmouth Brewery, Jumpin Jay's Fish Café, Poco's Cantina, and the Library Restaurant in Portsmouth.

I thank all the businesses mentioned, and encourage any business that is interested in participating in this program and receiving a decal for display to contact me.

Peter Somssich (former chair, Memorial Bridge Illumination Committee)

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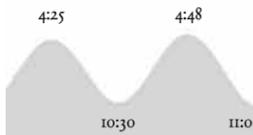
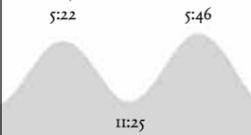
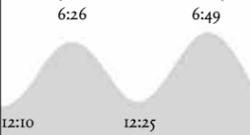
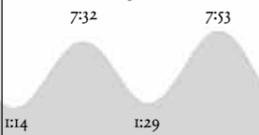
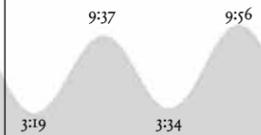
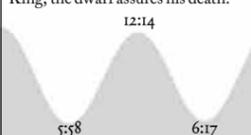
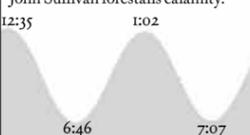
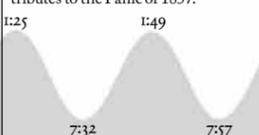
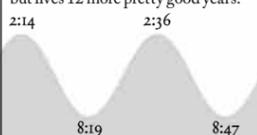
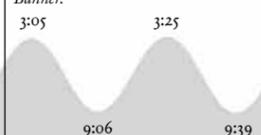
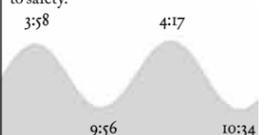
drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.

Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of

Badger's Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats

and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

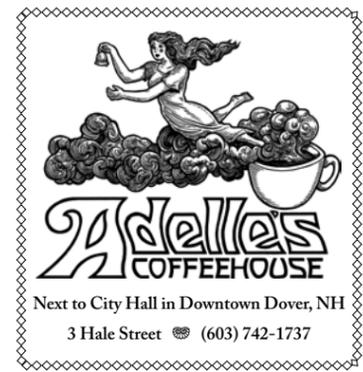
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
<p>1984—Mashantucket Pequots buy 650 acres in eastern Connecticut to resume their old tribal ways.</p> <p>1983—Mississippi's execution of Jimmy Lee Gray goes badly, possibly because executioner T. Berry Bruce is drunk. Eight minutes after the poison gas is released, officials clear the witness room because Gray is still gasping, moaning, and banging his head on a steel pole.</p> <p>1967—Maj. Paddy Roy Bates (Ret.) displaces a rival pirate radio team from an unused military platform off the coast of England and declares Sealand a sovereign nation.</p> <p>1957—Gov. Orval Faubus calls out the National Guard to keep blacks out of Little Rock High.</p> <p>1945—VJ Day—Japan surrenders to Douglas MacArthur aboard a battleship named after Harry Truman's home state.</p> <p>1945—Cribbing freely from the U.S. Declaration of Independence, Ho Chi Minh declares Vietnam to be sovereign and independent.</p> <p>1935—Already routed from Washington, D.C. by Gen. MacArthur, 259 veterans working on the Overseas Highway are among the dead when the Labor Day Hurricane hits the Florida Keys.</p> <p>1921—Two battalions of U.S. troops finally convince miners on Blair Mtn., W.Va. to begin disarming.</p> <p>1841—Cincinnati, Ohio plays host to the nation's first urban race riot.</p>	<p>2003—To uphold the principle that life is sacred, Florida poisons Paul Hill, who shotgunned Dr. John Britton and his bodyguard to uphold the principle that life is sacred.</p> <p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld says the Administration has secret proof Iraq is developing nukes. But it's secret.</p> <p>1971—E. Howard Hunt and G. Gordon Liddy break into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist on behalf of President R. Milhous Nixon.</p> <p>1967—Woody Guthrie dies in New York at 52 of Huntington's chorea.</p> <p>1948—Duval County officials "find" 200 votes, making LBJ a Senator.</p> <p>1925—Ordered on a PR tour of the Midwest by Navy brass, over the objections of its Commander, an Ohio native concerned about summer storms, the airship <i>U.S.S. Shenandoah</i> crashes in Ohio due to a summer storm; 14 officers and men die.</p> <p>1855—The U.S. Army kills 86 Brulé Lakota at Ash Hollow, Neb., many of them women and children.</p> <p>1833—First successful penny paper appears in N.Y.C.: Benj. Day's <i>Sun</i>.</p> <p>1813—"Uncle Sam" makes his first appearance in the <i>Troy, (N.Y.) Post</i>.</p> <p>1783—The Treaty of Paris is signed, ending the Revolutionary War.</p> <p>1777—The U.S. flag sees combat for the first time at Cooch's Bridge in Delaware; the Brits (& Hessians) win.</p> <p>1752—The Gregorian calendar kicks in. Londoners riot and holler, "Give us our 11 days back!"</p>	<p>1981—The Reagan Administration proposes that in school cafeterias, ketchup and pickle relish should be regarded as vegetables.</p> <p>1976—George W. Bush is arrested for DUI in Kennebunk, Maine.</p> <p>1973—R. Nixon's flunkies John Ehrlichman and G. Gordon Liddy are indicted for felonious burglary.</p> <p>1970—Vietnam Veterans Against the War begin Operation RAW (Rapid American Withdrawal), a four-day march to Valley Forge, Pa.</p> <p>1967—"I just had the greatest brainwashing ... [in] Vietnam," says Gov. George Romney (R-Mich.).</p> <p>1957—National Guard troops in Little Rock stand and watch as a white mob threatens to lynch a black girl trying to enter Central High school.</p> <p>1949—After a concert in Peekskill, N.Y. featuring Paul Robeson, a mob, including policemen, beats the audience, including Eugene Bullard, a black WWI aviator.</p> <p>1942—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports that an anti-aircraft gunner has accidentally hit the Lincoln Memorial with three .50 caliber rounds.</p> <p>1918—U.S. troops land at Archangel, Russia, to "protect American interests."</p> <p>1886—It's over: Chiricahua Apache chief Geronimo surrenders at Skeleton Canyon in Arizona Territory.</p> <p>1875—Whites in Clinton, Miss. slaughter 50 blacks at random.</p> <p>1833—The <i>[N.Y.] Sun</i> hires Barney Flaherty, America's first newsboy.</p>	<p>2014—Lucky bystanders are uninjured when a Robinson R44 observing a road rally crashes and burns in Roeselare, Belgium. The pilot and a passenger die in a fiery explosion.</p> <p>2005—Barbara Bush says Hurricane Katrina was "working very well" for thousands of homeless refugees.</p> <p>2002—Portsmouth loses Jay Smith, creator of the Press Room and Patron Saint of The Music Hall.</p> <p>2001—Rep. Joe Scarborough (R-Fla.) resigns 47 days after his aide Lori Klausitis, 28, is found dead in his Ft. Walton office.</p> <p>1993—<i>Birmingham News</i> reveals that, according to the Southern Baptist Convention, 46.1 percent of Alabamians are going to Hell.</p> <p>1990—L.A. Police Chief Darryl Gates tell the Senate Judiciary Committee that "casual drug users should be taken out and shot."</p> <p>1975—Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, dressed as a nun, is busted pointing an unloaded .45 at Gerry Ford.</p> <p>1931—Consolidated Edison worker George Metesky is injured on the job. Denied Workmen's Compensation, "The Mad Bomber" plants 32 bombs over 16 years before he's caught.</p> <p>1930—"Hurry it up you Hoosier bastard," says Carl Panzram to his executioner at Leavenworth. "I could hang a dozen men while you're screwing around."</p> <p>1905—The Treaty of Portsmouth ends the Russo-Japanese War.</p>	<p>2013—Todd, Track, Bristol, and Willow Palin all play prominent roles in a bloody, drunken brawl in Anchorage; but not one is arrested.</p> <p>2010—Alabama prison officials ban the reading of a Pulitzer-winning history of black forced labor.</p> <p>2007—FBI agents arrest Ponzi schemer, fugitive from justice, and major Democratic Party donation-bundler Norman Hsu.</p> <p>2004—"Too many OB-GYNs are not able to practice their love with women all across this country," says George W.[MD] Bush.</p> <p>2003—Lockheed workers drop a \$233 million weather satellite causing \$135 million worth of damage.</p> <p>2002—Explaining the timing of an announcement about attacking Iraq, White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card says, "From a marketing point of view, you don't introduce new products in August."</p> <p>1978—The U.S. House opens hearings on the assassinations of JFK & MLK. On Dec. 30th they conclude that conspiracies were likely.</p> <p>1964—"Thousands of white kids riot in Hampton Beach, N.H., causing extensive property damage. Bill Loeb blames it on the pinks.</p> <p>1959—"Dying is easy," says actor Edmund Gwenn, dying. "Comedy is difficult."</p> <p>1949—World War II vet and devout churchgoer Howard Unruh kills 13 of his N.J. neighbors in 12 minutes.</p>	<p>2003—Warren Zevon, as promised, finally sleeps.</p> <p>2000—"When I am President, we] will not have our veterans standing in line waiting for benefits that they've been promised," George W.[MD] Bush asserts falsely.</p> <p>1996—Two women walk into the Norfolk (Va.) Naval Base with a banner reading "Love Your Enemies." They're promptly arrested.</p> <p>1988—"Today is Pearl Harbor Day," says George H.[H.]W. Bush.</p> <p>1970—"Plant one, plant two [Secret Service agents] on [Ted Kennedy]," Richard Nixon says to aides. "We might just get lucky and catch this son-of-a-bitch—ruin him for '76. It's going to be fun."</p> <p>1964—Lyndon Johnson's infamous "Daisy Ad," airs, once.</p> <p>1960—Norman Vincent Peale, noted hack, opines that any Catholic president would be "under extreme pressure from the hierarchy of his church."</p> <p>1936—Buddy Holly is born.</p> <p>1918—At a country club dance in Alabama, F. Scott Fitzgerald meets Zelda Sayre.</p> <p>1914—French generals send 6,000 infantrymen from Paris to the Battle of the Marne in taxicabs. They hold the line and save the city.</p> <p>1877—Crazy Horse, in detention, is murdered by a U.S. soldier.</p> <p>1737—Thomas Penn's "Walking Purchase" swindles the Leni Lenape out of an area the size of Rhode Island.</p>	<p>2007—A Robinson R22 helicopter severs its own tailboom over Buhl, Germany. It crashes onto the autobahn into mid-day traffic, no one dies, though, but the pilot and a passenger.</p> <p>2002—The <i>N.Y. Times</i> publishes fake news about aluminum tubes based on a White House leak. Later that day the White House cites the story as proof Iraq plans to build nukes.</p> <p>1990—A woman exiting a Robinson R22 helicopter after a sightseeing trip over Long Beach, Calif., dies when she's hit on the head by the tailrotor.</p> <p>1978—The Shah of Iran uses U.S.-made tanks and helicopter gunships to put down the Black Friday riots in Tehran; 89 die. Six months later the Ayatollah's in charge.</p> <p>1972—In exchange for a \$200,000 contribution from Ray A. Kroc to R. Nixon's reelection campaign, the Federal Price Commission gives McDonalds permission, which it had denied on May 21, to raise the price of a quarter pounder.</p> <p>1964—Concord, N.H.-born "Rebel Girl" Elizabeth Gurley Flynn receives a state funeral at the Kremlin.</p> <p>1934—In a nor'easter off New Jersey, its captain dead of a heart attack, the <i>Morro Castle</i> catches fire. The blazing hulk runs aground with 137 passengers and crew dead.</p> <p>1923—A squadron of 14 new Navy destroyers runs aground off California due to incompetence. Seven ships are lost and 23 sailors are killed.</p>
 <p>4:25 4:48 10:30 11:09</p>	 <p>5:22 5:46 11:25</p>	 <p>6:26 6:49 12:10 12:25</p>	 <p>7:32 7:53 1:14 1:29</p>	 <p>8:37 8:56 2:18 2:33</p>	 <p>9:37 9:56 3:19 3:34</p>	 <p>10:33 10:52 4:16 4:32</p>
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
<p>2013—Two out of three lanes to the George Washington Bridge are closed without warning in Fort Lee, N.J., delaying commuters and emergency personnel.</p> <p>2009—As President Obama addresses Congress, Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) yells at him, "You lie."</p> <p>2008—Lehman Bros., the nation's fourth largest investment bank, loses 45 percent of its value.</p> <p>2005—"You know," says Glenn Beck, "it took me about a year to start hating the 9/11 victims families ... When I see a 9/11 victim family on television ... I'm just, like 'Oh, shut up.'"</p> <p>1999—Louis T. "Moondog" Hardin, American composer, street musician, and blind, Viking-helmet-wearing eccentric, dies at 83 in Germany.</p> <p>1988—Dan Quayle says he got into law school "fair and square," despite relying on an "equal opportunity" program for disadvantaged minorities.</p> <p>1971—Rioting prisoners take nine guards hostage at the Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, N.Y.</p> <p>1949—Canadian Albert Guay becomes the first person to destroy an airliner with a bomb. His recently-injured wife was on board, he was not. He's hanged 16 months later.</p> <p>1919—Boston cops go out on strike.</p> <p>1739—In South Carolina, 20 enslaved people kill two storekeepers, steal guns and powder, recruit allies, kill about 20 whites, and march towards Florida.</p>	<p>2008—Lehman Brothers execs say the firm has all the capital it needs, five days before it declares bankruptcy.</p> <p>2001—Donald Rumsfeld says the Defense Department can't account for about \$2.3 trillion dollars.</p> <p>1980—"Approximately eighty percent of our air pollution stems from hydrocarbons released by vegetation," says Candidate Ronald Reagan.</p> <p>1977—One-legged Tunisian pimp Hamida Djandoubi is the last man to die by a French guillotine.</p> <p>1945—In Fruita, Colo., Lloyd Wilson chops the head off "Mike," a young rooster which then goes on to enjoy an 18-month career as "The Headless Wonder Chicken."</p> <p>1939—B&M Railroad Engineer John Beattie and Fireman Charles Towle are killed when the Piscataqua Bridge, damaged during construction of the Mildred Long Bridge, dumps their locomotive into the river.</p> <p>1939—<i>HMS Oxley</i> becomes the first British sub sunk in WW II — by another sub, <i>HMS Triton</i>.</p> <p>1897—A posse massacres 19 strikers and wounds 36 at a Lattimer, Pa., coal mine; most are shot in the back.</p> <p>1739—South Carolina militiamen overpower and kill the participants of the Stono Rebellion.</p> <p>1197—Henry II, King of Jerusalem, falls from a palace window in Acre. His dwarf grabs his sleeve to save him, but falls out too. By landing atop the King, the dwarf assures his death.</p>	<p>2013—Pastor Terry Jones and Marvin Sapp are arrested in Fla. for illegally towing a barbecue grill full of kerosene-soaked Qur'ans.</p> <p>2012—<i>Benghazi!!!</i></p> <p>2007—Russia explodes the "Father of All Bombs," four times as powerful as the U.S.'s "Mother of All Bombs."</p> <p>2001—Four American airliners are hijacked by Saudis and crashed; thousands die. George W.[MD] Bush scurries to safety, Donald Rumsfeld looks for excuses to attack Iraq, and Dick "Dick" Cheney authorizes the shooting down of civilian airliners.</p> <p>1973—Salvador Allende, duly-elected President of Chile, is overthrown by CIA-backed thugs.</p> <p>1973—Development of a Ford Pinto/Cessna Skymaster hybrid ends when it falls apart in mid-air, killing its two designers in a fiery crash.</p> <p>1957—A Denver H-bomb factory burns, releasing a pound of plutonium particles. The AEC says there's only a slight risk of light contamination.</p> <p>1942—Wheeler Lipes, a 22-year old dropout, successfully removes the inflamed appendix of a shipmate aboard the submerged <i>U.S.S. Seadragon</i>. The Navy's Surgeon General rewards him with the threat of a court martial.</p> <p>1857—<i>En route</i> to California at Mountain Meadows, Utah, 120 Arkansans are murdered by Mormons.</p> <p>1777—Gen. G. Washington nearly loses at Brandywine, N.H.'s Gen. John Sullivan forestalls calamity.</p>	<p>2008—Treasury Sec. Hank Paulson, formerly of Goldman Sachs, tells Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers the Fed can't save them.</p> <p>2004—WSCA-LP goes live.</p> <p>1994—After drinking and smoking crack all evening with his brother, Frank E. Corder dies at about 1:49 a.m., crash-landing a stolen Cessna on the South Lawn of the White House.</p> <p>1983—Puerto Rican nationalists <i>Los Macheteros</i> rob a Well Fargo depot in West Hartford, Conn. of \$7 million in cash, some of which they throw from the roof in a display of disdain for capitalism.</p> <p>1977—Steven Biko dies in the custody of South African police.</p> <p>1970—The <i>New York Times Magazine</i> publishes Milton Friedman's article, "The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase its Profits." Big mistake.</p> <p>1970—The Weathermen help Tim Leary bust out of prison.</p> <p>1909—Emiliano Zapata, 30, is elected to head the town council of Anencueneo, Mexico.</p> <p>1880—H.L. Mencken is born.</p> <p>1860—William Walker, the American-born ex-dictator of Nicaragua, deposed by Cornelius Vanderbilt and captured by the British, is executed by a Honduran firing squad.</p> <p>1857—<i>S.S. Central America</i> sinks in a hurricane off the Carolinas, drowning about 420. Ten tons of gold go down with the ship, the loss of which contributes to the Panic of 1857.</p>	<p>2005—Two weeks after the catastrophe, George W.[MD] Bush admits the Federal response to Hurricane Katrina was less than ideal.</p> <p>1985—Star Wars space cowboys, their intended balloon-borne target having failed them, use a fighter-plane launched missile to turn a working science satellite into a cloud of dangerous space junk.</p> <p>1981—William Loeb, alleged newspaperman, goes to his eternal torment at the age of 75.</p> <p>1971—To restore order at New York's Attica state prison, five hundred state troopers fire 2,200 rounds in nine minutes. The dead include 29 prisoners and ten guards.</p> <p>1948—Rollie Free sets a speed record for bikes at Bonneville going 150 mph on a Vincent Black Shadow wearing its just sneakers and a Speedo.</p> <p>1945—<i>U-3008</i>, now <i>U.S.S. U-3008</i>, motors into Portsmouth harbor.</p> <p>1940—A Luftwaffe plane drops six bombs on Buckingham Palace.</p> <p>1913—Mary, an elephant who had killed her cruel, untrained trainer the day before, is hanged from a railroad crane in Erwin, Tenn.</p> <p>1859—Sen. David Broderick (D-Calif.) is shot dead in a duel by California's Chief Justice, David Terry.</p> <p>1848—Lebanon, N.H. native Phineas Gage, working for a Vermont railroad, loses a good chunk of his brain when an iron bar is blasted through it, but lives 12 more pretty good years.</p>	<p>2008—At his gym, Lehman Brothers CEO Richard Fuld gets punched in the face by a complete stranger.</p> <p>2005—At the UN, during the World Summit, the Leader of the Free World passes a note to his Secretary of State saying, "I think I may need a bathroom break. Is that possible?"</p> <p>2001—Standing in rubble created in part by his own failure, George W.[MD] Bush declares that America's "responsibility to history" is to "rid the world of evil."</p> <p>1978—Jimmy Carter endangers the nation by permitting a 28 year-old State of Emergency to expire.</p> <p>1964—At the White House, LBJ pins the Medal of Freedom on notorious crypto-fascist and arch-propagandist Walt Disney.</p> <p>1938—The <i>Graf Zeppelin II</i>, world's largest airship, first flies.</p> <p>1899—New Yorker Henry Bliss becomes the first person in the U.S. to be killed by an automobile.</p> <p>1874—In a bloody coup d'etat, the White Leagues take over Louisiana's state government.</p> <p>1847—Marines under Gen. Winfield "Old Fuss and Feathers" Scott take the Halls of Montezuma.</p> <p>1836—Aaron Burr, the first Vice President to shoot a man, dies in Port Richmond, N.Y.</p> <p>1814—Francis Scott Key cribs from a British drinking song, <i>To Anacreon in Heaven</i>, to write <i>The Star Spangled Banner</i>.</p>	<p>2008—Lehman Brothers stock drops 90 percent in one day; the Dow loses 500 points.</p> <p>2004—D.C. police respond to a 911 call from the bathroom of Rep. Don Sherwood (R-Pa.), 63, whom the caller, Cynthia Ore, 28, accuses of choking her.</p> <p>2001—One person in Congress, Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) votes against granting G.W.[MD] Bush unlimited military power.</p> <p>1982—Israeli Defense Forces surround Sabra and Shatila, Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut, and permit Christian Phalangist militiamen to slaughter perhaps 3,500 civilians.</p> <p>1980—A nuclear-armed B-52 burns for hours at Grand Forks AFB, N.D., but the fire is put out before anything explodes.</p> <p>1963—Two Ku Klux Klan members bomb Birmingham's 16th St. Baptist Church, killing 4 girls and injuring 22. One bomber is convicted 14 years later; the delay is caused by J. Edgar "Mary" Hoover's withholding of evidence.</p> <p>1946—The Dodgers beat the Cubs 2-0 in just 5 innings; game is called on account of gnats.</p> <p>1940—During the Battle of Britain, RAF pilot Ray Holmes sees a Dornier heading for Buckingham Palace. His Hurricane out of ammo, he rams the Dornier, downing it, and parachutes to safety.</p>
 <p>11:25 11:44 5:08 5:25</p>	 <p>12:14 12:25 5:58 6:17</p>	 <p>12:35 1:02 6:46 7:07</p>	 <p>1:25 1:49 7:32 7:57</p>	 <p>2:14 2:36 8:19 8:47</p>	 <p>3:05 3:25 9:06 9:39</p>	 <p>3:58 4:17 9:56 10:34</p>



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