

The Fortnightly Rant

Spartacus Who?

Ever since the inauguration, much of the public has clung to the hope that the worst impulses of our worst President would, if necessary, be thwarted by the so-called adults in the room. This past fortnight has rewarded that faith ... sort of.

Why are we not reassured?

Bob Woodward's latest doorstep corroborates and adds detail to all the dismaying things we've heard since Trump lifted his little hand off Lincoln's Bible and began lying about the size of the crowd. In a nutshell—a sadly appropriate metaphor—the most powerful office on the planet is occupied by an unstable moron who spends his days watching Fox News and railing against his enemies while his beleaguered staff does what it can to neutralize what he's doing.

So, no real surprises there. Besides, it's just a book. What's that to him?

That anonymous op-ed in the *New York Times* is a different matter entirely. It's short enough to read, which is bad enough. What's really troubling, though, is that it's not from some outsider—that stuff can be dismissed as lies, even if there is videotape.

No, the op-ed was from some disloyal insider, someone he once thought he could trust—and he doesn't know which one it was, which makes it that much worse. He can't trust anyone anymore.

He's been complaining for months and months about deep state insiders trying to thwart his brilliant program. Now they're coming out and saying in public that that's exactly what they're doing!

Yeah, that'll calm him down. Heck of a job, Anonymous.

"[T]he president's leadership style ... is impetuous, adversarial, petty and ineffective," writes Anonymous—not exactly a revelation. And under the circumstances, we'd

say, the more ineffective, the better.

He's "not moored to any discernible first principles that guide his decision making," and he "continues to act in a manner that is detrimental to the health of our republic," but our would-be hero is hanging in there because "[t]here are bright spots that the near- ceaseless negative coverage of the administration fails to capture: effective deregulation, historic tax reform, a more robust military and more."

Pardon us if we fail to hail this person as our savior.

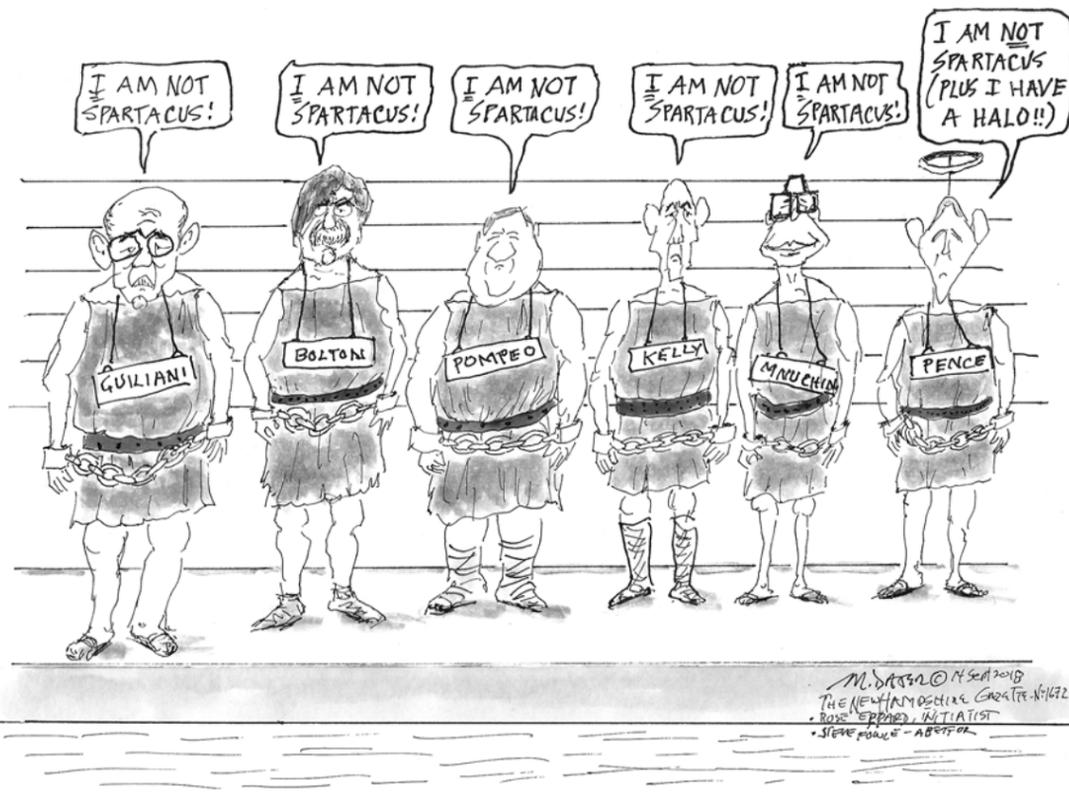
Deregulation that allows loan sharks to continue preying on financially-naïve military personnel is not what we'd call in the nation's best interest. Nor is it in the best interests of the climate to lift the requirement that energy companies find and plug the leaks that are spewing methane into the atmosphere.

Those vaunted tax reforms only benefit the rich and give Paul Ryan another excuse to steal from the poor.

Military spending primarily benefits the stockholders of the big defense contractors. True, there are a few ancillary effects. Its effect on the market is to drive up the cost of home mortgages by tens of thousands of dollars. It also provides our allies with more weapons to drop on poor people elsewhere.

"Given the instability many witnessed," writes this legend in his own mind, "there were early whispers within the cabinet of invoking the 25th Amendment, which would start a complex process for removing the president. But no one wanted to precipitate a constitutional crisis. So we will do what we can to steer the administration in the right direction until—one way or another—it's over."

Guess what, Spanky—making a public announcement that there's



a cabal working behind the scenes in the White House to thwart the intent of a lunatic who was elected by a well-armed minority of the electorate is not exactly a recipe for domestic tranquility. They normally don't pay much attention to the news unless it's fake, but this might actually get their attention.

Our moralizing enabler concludes with a predictable bit of pious hand-wringing. "The bigger concern is not what Mr. Trump has done to the presidency but rather what we as a nation have allowed him to do to us. We have sunk low with him and allowed our discourse to be stripped of civility."

Chair-warmers holding positions of power in the public sector continue to abdicate their responsibilities left and right while the private sector hoovers up every nickel that's not nailed down. It's a plague of locusts in fancy suits.

Individual citizens are stepping up, though, at times and in places

where you might least expect it. For example, three young ladies just figured out how to use the Miss America Pageant to attack the status quo.

Emily Sioma, aka Miss Michigan, introduced herself by saying, "I'm from the state with 84 percent of the U.S.'s fresh water, but none for its residents to drink."

Emili McPhail used her official capacity as Miss Virginia to declare forthrightly, "Kneeling during the national anthem is absolutely a right that you have, to stand up for what you believe in, and to make the right decision that's right for you. It's very important that we also have to take into consideration that it is not about kneeling: It is absolutely about police brutality."

Madeline Collins, Miss West Virginia, was admirably succinct when asked to name the most serious issue facing the country today: "Donald Trump."

The root of the problem goes much deeper than that, of course,

but give her a break—she's young.

Our problem is the process that put a loathsome would-be tyrant in power. Getting him out of there would only be a first step—and maybe a bad one if Saint Pence gets in. Our long national nightmare is anything but over.

Look on the bright side, though—he hasn't blown us all up yet. Brighter still, look at the voter turnout in Tuesday's mid-term primaries.

Secretary of State [For Life] Bill Gardner, who knows this stuff, predicted 180,000 ballots would be cast, split 50/50 between Republicans and Democrats.

Voters outperformed expectations by more than 12 percent overall, but look at the split: 115,000 Democrats cast ballots compared to 87,000 Republicans.

Democrats beat expectations by over 28 percent; Republicans fell short by 3.3 percent.

What could possibly have happened to Republican enthusiasm?

The Alleged News®

Good for the Goose, But Not the Gander?

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

— Frederick Douglass

—=—=—

Reading the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal* is generally rewarding only for those who have already reaped their own fair share and someone else's, too. This Wednesday morning, though, it provided a good laugh for aficionados of punctured pomposity.

Dutiful citizens are all too aware that the Senate has been considering the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to replace Justice Anthony Kennedy on the Supreme Court.

When a seat opened up during the Obama Administration, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell moved at a legislative pace commensurate with the animal he resembles,

justifying his delay by citing grounds which had appeared as spontaneously as a succulent mushroom in Kentucky bluegrass.

Now, in service to a President with ample experience in legal matters (albeit on the defensive side) the erstwhile tortoise has become a hare.

Disregarding, for the moment, the transparent charade of the Judiciary Committee's confirmation process, and all the folderol that goes with it, and relying instead on the free press—that bulwark upon which our sainted Founding Fathers rested their hopes for the nation's future—it seems clear that there was one specific part of Kavanaugh's resumé which made him stand out from the pack of jurists stamped "Approved" by the Federalist Society.

Kavanaugh has written that the President—any President—is far

too busy managing the responsibilities of his office to be distracted by mere trifles like obedience to the law. Therefore, he can't be subpoenaed. Whatever transgressions he might commit must wait for prosecution until after his term is over—by which time he may have pardoned himself.

We do not know if Kavanaugh, when rendering that decision, considered that the incumbent President plays golf, on average, one day out of every four.

We do know that, if he is approved, Kavanaugh will restore the rather peculiar religious makeup which prevailed when Antonin Scalia still lived. With Kavanaugh's confirmation, the Court would be back to having a five-of-nine Catholic majority—a curious anomaly, considering that only one American

in five is Catholic.

Leonard Leo, who runs the Federalist Society, happens to be Catholic, too. What a curious coincidence.

The general public is expected to accept all this on faith. And why the hell not? The public seems to have already accepted that the Federalist Society—though it is not mentioned in the Constitution and was not founded until 1982—has somehow attained the power to determine who the Senate will get to consider for nomination to the Court.

Kavanaugh is ready and eager to do whatever is expected of him by those who are bent on putting him in power. The rest of us have every right to be alarmed, women most of all. He has assured Maine's Senator Susan Collins that he considers *Roe v Wade* to be "settled law," but his

assurance is no more credible than his testimony under oath. Collins appears likely to accept Kavanaugh's word.

With so much at stake, and the Constitutional process so compromised, concerned citizens are getting creative. A crowdfunding website is soliciting donations under these terms: "Your card will only be charged if Senator Susan Collins votes for Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court." It's taken in \$1 million in pledges already.

The Editorial Board of the *Wall Street Journal* is not amused.

Anonymous oil billionaires dictating the terms on which the rest of us live? The *Journal* has no problem with that.

The Alleged News®

from page one

Corporations claiming rights that were originally intended for humans beings just released from bondage? Sure, that's fair. But random individuals ponying up small amounts in a desperate bid to preserve their rights to control their own bodies against the religious beliefs of a bunch of zealots hand-picked by the aforementioned anonymous billionaires?

That's going too far!

Classless Society? No-Class, Maybe ...

Our economy, as it is presently constituted, is nearly indefensible: good people doing good work struggle to survive, while bad people doing terrible things reap obscene rewards. Pick your villain. The ranks of pharmaceutical executives alone offer no end of candidates.

The only good thing that came out of this past decade of financial catastrophe is that it has helped to dispel the old, wrongheaded notion that we live in a classless society.

For those who doubt that this country discriminates by class, we offer the following example from our most socialistic enterprise, our armed forces.

Robert Fletcher, born in Ypsilanti, Mich, in 1932, first saw combat in Korea in July, 1950, according to his obituary. His all-black unit was involved in heavy fighting along the length of the Korean peninsula, taking high casualties. Out

of ammunition and food, he and others were captured on Nov 27, 1950. Fletcher remained a prisoner of war until Aug. 8, 1953. During that time thousands of his comrades died from extreme hunger, cold, and physical and psychological abuse. Though afflicted with PTSD, he returned home and enjoyed 55 years of marriage. For 22 years, he served on the Congressional Advisory Board for Former POWs, a period in which many formerly-unrecognized mental and physical health problems resulting from being held prisoner were reclassified as service-connected disabilities by Congress and the VA. He was National Commander of the American Association of EX-POWs in 2006-07. Fletcher died in February and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Fletcher's family requested that the funeral include full military honors: an escort platoon, a military band, and, if available, a horse-drawn caisson to carry the coffin. Such services are routinely conducted for former Prisoners of War and recipients of the Medal of Honor—for officers, warrant officers, and senior non-commissioned officers.

Fletcher was denied because he had been a mere PFC.

H.R. 6734, the Full Military Honors Act of 2018, was introduced Monday to correct that injustice.

It may pass, it may not. If it does, that's one down—and an infinity to go.



A Marketing Drone Strike on Downtown

On Labor Day Sunday, the airspace over downtown Portsmouth was filled for about an hour with the superfluous droning of a small plane dragging an advertising banner. This auditory annoyance was apparently instigated by whatever set of marketing whizzes were charged with the task of promoting the Hampton Beach Seafood Festival. While we would never hope, of course, that anyone consumed a bad clam that day, if anyone did ...

Four Die in Robinson Helicopter Crash

Four people died on September 5th when a Robinson R44 helicopter experienced mechanical difficulties and crashed in Plzen, in the Czech Republic. It could have been worse. A video taken from an automobile on a busy highway shows the machine operating erratically, just a few yards above the roofs of low buildings. The machine crashed through the roof of a factory which was—fortunately—unoccupied at the time.

Putting the Brakes on Breast Cancer

A joint effort by five independent auto repair shops in Ohio has grown into a unique campaign to raise funds for breast cancer research. From \$10,000 in 2011, to \$114,389

last year from 114 shops in 34 states, the total amount raised to date exceeds \$600,000.

Autoworks in Kittery, a participant since 2014, contributed \$2,245 towards that amount. Throughout October, Autoworks and the other participating auto repair facilities are giving away free, quality brake pads or shoes. The customer simply pays for the labor and any other ancillary parts necessary to complete the brake job and the shop then donates 10 percent of that cost directly to Dr. Vincent Tuohy at the Cleveland Clinic Breast Cancer Vaccine Research Fund. One hundred percent of the donated funds go directly to research.

Dr. Tuohy has created a vaccine that has proven effective in preventing breast cancer in laboratory animals. After 16 years, Dr. Tuohy and his research team are just a year away from their first bedside trial. For more information about the Breast Cancer Vaccine, Dr. Tuohy, and a list of participating shops go to www.brakesforbreasts.org.

Loud and Proud: WSCA

Portsmouth's own low-power FM radio station suffered a setback in early August. Lightning struck the tower, located at that gnarly tangle of roads where Woodbury Avenue

crosses the Spaulding Turnpike, reducing the power of the signal by 75 percent. With a vital assist from Black Dog Crane & Rigging, repairs have now been made and the signal is back up to full strength. The repairs weren't cheap, so, if you've been thinking of making a contribution, now's the perfect time: <http://wscafm.org>.

In another great leap forward, Jason Boucher has developed, and the station is giving away, a neat little WSCA app for Android and iPhone. It offers instant access to the latest station news, upcoming events, schedule &c., &c.—and, of course, it plays the station's current programming live.

A Digression on Race and Racism

We beg the readers' indulgence while we present an extended introduction to a worthy press release. We do have our reasons—or reason—which will eventually become evident to those who are patient. The impatient are welcome to skip the next 18 paragraphs.

Our lives and national discourse are shaped by innumerable invisible or nearly-invisible factors. Take, for example, the undemocratic political advantage a certain political party derives from a single structural problem built into our Constitution.



Tuesday dawned gray and dreary, but improved as it went along. Local turnout, we were told, exceeded Secretary of State [For Life] Bill Gardner's statewide estimate. Hope springs eternal, even at the polling place.

"... I'm here to make the reader think, even if I have to bash his teeth out, break his legs, grind him up, beat him down, and totally chastise him for the terrible and tinsel and almost wholly bad world we allow."
David R. Bunch (1925 - 2000) American writer, poet, essayist, and short story writer
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Thanks to our enormous population growth since its adoption in 1789, Wyoming, population 580,000 or so, and overwhelmingly Republican, has two votes in the Senate, as does California, with nearly 39 million inhabitants, most of whom lean in the other political direction.

When the time comes to confirm Supreme Court nominees, though, both states get the same number of votes. That gives Wyomingites—yes, that's apparently what they're called—67 times the power of Californians at that critical time.

That's crazy, but no one thinks anything about it—because apparently there's nothing anyone can do about it.

Here's another nearly-invisible factor shaping all our lives today: the pernicious societal effects of neoliberal propaganda. Thanks largely to Right Wing think tanks funded by wealthy tax-dodgers, millions of Americans have come to accept the bogus proposition that life is a zero-sum game. Citizens in a democratic republic, we've been badgered into seeing ourselves as multi-tasking consumer/producers, each pitted against the other in a dog-eat-dog "jobs market." Spend your every spare moment tending to your tenuous "personal brand," because it'll be your own damn fault if you die sick and hungry. No wonder so many people have high blood pressure.

But, hey—pharmaceutical sales boost the GDP, so, as the popular catch phrase has it, "it's all good."

True enough, provided that you're one of those persons who happens to be a corporation.

Considering the many national problems driving up our suicide rates, it's fortunate the question of slavery was settled 153 years ago, and racism is fading away . . .

Oops. Sorry. Our bad. There's another one of those invisible factors: viewing the world from the perspective of white privilege, it's easy to ignore certain things, the frequency with which black people get shot by police officers being just one of the more egregious examples.

After 245 years of chattel slavery, a century of Jim Crow in the south and red-lining up north, and another half-century of whatever you want to call the current state of race relations, it's really no wonder that so many of us are confused.

How confused are we? Some white people seem to be arguing that America wouldn't have a racism problem at all, if black people would just stop accusing white people of being racist.

We'd suggest things would go more smoothly if white people would just accept the possibility that they sometimes have trouble seeing racism in action.

One thing is for sure: white people, ourselves most definitely in-



cluded, have a lot to learn—and unlearn—about the history of race in this country. Way up near the top of the list of things that need unlearning: the notion that slavery was primarily a southern phenomenon.

New Hampshire and Maine are two of the whitest states in the union, so there ought to be a full house for the event described below.

Just one more invisible factor before we leave this topic: from its founding to the present day, this newspaper has benefited from the enslaved labor of Primus X.

John Langdon, whose son of the same name signed the U.S. Constitution, imported Primus to New England. Langdon sold Primus to Hugh Hall, one of Boston's wealthier merchants. Hall's daughter Lydia married Daniel Fowle, a printer who later founded this newspaper. Starting then, and for decades after, until his back was so bent he could not stand up straight or work any longer, Primus pulled the bar on Fowle's wooden press.

As the founder's third cousin eight times removed, and a middling student of his career, the present editor cannot condemn Daniel entirely. A man of his time, he had his good qualities. His many achievements speak for themselves.

We will leave Daniel and Primus, for now, merely noting this irony: No one knows where Daniel, the supposed master, rests. Primus, almost without a doubt, is in the now-honored African Burying Ground.

Using Local Archeology to Examine Slavery in the North

Dr. Alexandra Chan will speak in South Berwick on Thursday, September 27th about what it was like to be black and enslaved in colonial New England. Her lecture will be hosted by the Old Berwick Historical Society, in the Arts Center at Berwick Academy, and will begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission will be free and open to the public; donations will be accepted.

Specifically, Chan's lecture, "Archeology and Slavery in the North: Hands-on History Written in Stone and Bone," will present some of the most compelling findings from three years of excavation at the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Medford, Mass., home to the largest slave-holding family in the colony. She will also examine the nature of master-slave relationships at this site. Chan, who holds a Ph.D. in Historical Archaeology from Boston University, is a member of the Academic Advisory Council for the

Royall House. More information is available at www.oldberwick.org.

GateHouse's Fake Math

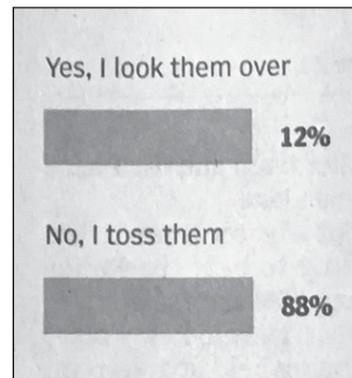
GateHouse Media's Center for News and Design in Austin, Texas—where our Award-Winning Local Daily is largely produced—continues to baffle.

A recent poll asked readers, "Do you read campaign mailers?"

The results don't say much for that form of marketing, but we're more interested in the presentation of the results.

Glance at the graph and the result is a toss-up.

Read the numbers, though, and the answer is a big fat "No."



Hey, AWLD—WTF?



This building on Court Street was once owned by a family which also held two people in bondage. It is now owned by the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, which will move in some time around the first of the year. Who says there's no such thing as progress?

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Our Favorite Hate Mail of the Fortnight

[Note: The following submission is being printed as we received it: without a formal salutation, irregularly punctuated and capitalized, creatively spelled, &c., &c. It has been edited only slightly, in a mostly-vain attempt to make it somewhat readable.]

Ordinarily, we do not print anonymous diatribes. We make an exception in this case because we're amused by the way the author's vitriol overwhelms his power to communicate. Also, we agree with H.L. Mencken, who said that, as an editor, he always printed hate mail because "I think that people like to read abuse." — The Ed.]

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Hi guys, so I picked up volume 262, number 25 from August 31st, 2018. The poorly marketed/hand-written sales pitch on the outside of the adopted magazine rack said "this is what free press looks like". Assuming it wouldn't be as embarrassingly and liberally slanted as the rest of the press in this town I decided to grab a copy.

Naturally, President Trump...as in the president of the United States of America....bashing takes center stage. "Here we go" I thought to myself. I didn't get beyond the first few sentences. Trump supporter or not, which clearly your "free press" writers and editors are no part of the former, I wonder how you could print and distribute something under the guise of free press...assuming you're referring to an environment that's free of influence etc etc. You, conveniently, fail to mention that Paul Manafort was charged with more than the "eight felonies" and that NONE of any of the "charges" have the slightest to do with either President Trump, President Trump's campaign of the "collusion" probe (read: the communicated reason the public has received for mueller's [sic] tax-payer funded expedition).

That's curious...especially for the free-press.

Then your writer proceeds to transition rapidly into headline grabbing reductions of the Cohen situation..."fixer"...and how the man who violated attorney-client privilege (often claimed in the liberal defense of their

party members action) "pleaded guilty to eight criminal charges"...another massive lack of detail here. Shocking.

I don't live here but I visit often. You'll probably brush this off and laugh about it over coffee and [Alexandria] Ocasio-Cortez YouTube videos but you should be ashamed you operate under the mask of "free-press"... but I guess maybe if you're playing by definition then both Manafort and Cohen have admitted guilt and/or been found guilty of things which is proof that we should impeach and tar and feather Donald J Truno [sic] the same way propaganda like yours is "journalism" and an expression of free press.

One question—why leave out the other side of the story and details regarding your "bombshell revelations" to open your 'paper' in the telenovela? Or is that ironic irony since telenovelas are historically over the top and far-fetched?

Thanks.
seniorcreepers@gmail.com
Mister Creepers:

It's traditional—and therefore conservative, or so we're told—for those writing letters to newspapers to state their names and home towns. We would be grateful if you would adhere to that stereotype and let us know who you really are.

Otherwise, we might be tempted to think you're ashamed of yourself. Or perhaps you're simply afraid.

Please—don't let us think that's the reason you hide behind a creepy pseudonym.

The Editor

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More Tourist Helicopters Coming?

To the Editor:

Anyone who is concerned about the noise problem created by the tourist helicopters may want to attend the next meeting of the Pease Development Authority Board. This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 20th, at 8:00 a.m., at 55 International Drive at Pease. (Note the inconvenient 8:00 a.m. meeting time.) The tourist helicopter operator is planning to expand his operation with a large new building at Pease, eventually reaching 16,000 sq. ft. in two construction



phases. We're concerned that this is likely to result in even more frequent tourist helicopter flights over the Seacoast. The PDA Board may try to approve this expansion at the Sept. 20th meeting. This meeting will include a public hearing, and the public is invited to attend and speak. If you're concerned about the continuing helicopter noise problem, this is one of the few chances to speak to the PDA Board—people who may actually be able to improve this situation.

John Stephenson
Portsmouth, N.H.

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A Failed Party, a Failed Witch-Hunt

To the Editor:

Frustrated with the Mueller witch-hunt that has yielded no evidence of Russian interference in the 2016 election that defeated Hillary Clinton, the liberals and their propaganda apparatus in the media and Hollywood have embraced and anointed a new hero—John Brennan—a person intimately involved in torture, killing, and rendition, and who claims that his First Amendment rights have been violated by Mr. Trump's revocation of his security clearance. This, of course, is nonsense. Neither he, nor anyone else, has a Constitutional right to a security clearance.

Mr. Brennan is free to say whatever he wants, but without that security clearance, he is less credible and less useful to the media whose propaganda is sprinkled with lies and innuendos which, however, seem true to the ignorant the uninitiated, and those who want to believe, because Brennan was supposedly an insider who really knows what happened. But, if anything did happen it would have been known long ago by Mr. Mueller whose investigation has turned up nothing. Of course not having a security clearance also reduces the opportunities to make the big bucks the propagandists are paying.

The other anti-Trump tactic of indicting those associated with Trump who have been guilty of crimes not related in any way to this fantasy of Russian collusion in the hope that those indicted would invent a story to implicate Trump—a tactic often used by prosecutors—has failed. It has also failed in its attempt to implicate Trump by association.

The only collusion that occurred was that between the media and such unsavory characters as James Comey, Michael Hayden, Andrew McCabe, Peter Strzok, all intent on denying Trump an election victory, but having failed that, a recount, and an Electoral College manipulation, they now are intent on impeaching and removing the President.

The alliance of these anti-Trump people with the Israel-first, neoconservative warmongers leads them to be silent when it comes to Trump's major blunders in the Middle East—continuing the wars, reneging on a major achievement of President Obama, the Iran deal, and supporting the move of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem, continuing support for the Israeli apartheid state, and for Saudi Arab's genocidal war in Yemen. These policies continue to make a mockery and hypocrisy of America's stated ideals. These policies are supported by Trump and the anti-Trump people with equal vigor.

What the Democrats, liberals, neo-conservatives, and self-seekers like Brennan do not realize is that the Middle Class and those formerly in the Middle Class who have lost their standard of living are not buying into the propaganda. And these are the people who were once represented by the Democratic Party that now has abandoned them, labeled them as deplorable, and are in favor of a globalism

that has sent their industries and their well-paying jobs to other countries.

If the Democrats and liberals want to have a chance in the November elections they should get out of Washington and take a drive through the Rust Belt to observe the crumbling infrastructure of once-dynamic industries paying particular attention to those parking lots where the fading white lines that once partitioned off hundreds of parking spaces which represented not only single workers but their families, are now being reclaimed by nature as foliage breaks through the cracks and spreads into the buildings. This formerly Democratic base is now solidly behind Trump. They have nowhere else to go.

John Dente
Wilmington, Del.

John:

We share your amusement regarding the left's sudden elevation of Brennan—and Comey, and the FBI, &c., &c.—to the status of folk heroes. We continue, though, to be baffled by your apparent deference towards the career criminal in the Oval Office. Rendering final judgment on the Mueller investigation at this point is as premature as the remark by the man falling past the fifth floor window of a skyscraper window who said he's doing just fine—so far.

As for the Democrats, though, you're on the money.

The Editor

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Somewhere Over the Chembo

To the Editor:

There is a new arrow in the Deep State's quiver of dastardly weapons; one so exquisitely evil that it comes cloaked in an unholy beauty. A hot sunny day, a sudden shower of warm silvery rain. We all run outside to see the rainbow. And how wonderful it

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— William E. Vaughan (1915-1977)
columnist, *Kansas City Star* (1946-1977)

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criteria to pass for a patient, but as to the symptoms you report, we have a couple of suggestions. If you're actually experiencing these symptoms, consult a neurologist. There must be dozens of them around here. Perhaps you could raise the requisite fees by setting up a heart-rending GoFundMe page, or pawning a child or two.

Or, you could take a vacation from the news. Spend a few minutes every day imagining a world in which Mr. Rogers is the President. That ought to calm you down.

The Editor

[Note: This newspaper denies all responsibility for any consequences of the above advice, should anyone be foolish enough to follow it. — The Legal Dept.]

Pay Cuts to Pay For Corruption

To the Editor:

Just before Labor Day President Trump declared that he would prevent Federal employees from receiving their cost of living raises next year because of the deficit. The deficit would be much lower if he did not charge Secret Service millions for their agents to guard him at his properties. Or guard his sons as they jet around the world enriching themselves at the country's expense. Or in-laws trying to give green cards to foreign investors who bail out their debt-ridden properties.

It would be lower if he had not appointed such corrupt members of his Cabinet who spent the taxpayer's money on \$43,000 soundproof telephone booths, \$31,000 dining room sets, and first-class airfare when they were supposed to fly coach.

It would be lower if he had not exempted the corrupt multimillionaires he appointed from conflict of interest rules.

It would be lower if he had not pushed through tax cuts for himself

and the richest corporations leading to trillion-dollar deficits for as far as the eye can see.

Today's GOP-controlled Congress has been deaf, dumb, and blind to this President's deliberate flaunting of our laws and ethics. We need to elect members who will stand up to the president and hold his administration accountable. That will not happen if we do not elect a Democrat to Congress this year. That will not happen unless you show up at the polls and vote this November.

Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth, N.H.

A Thought ...

To the Editor:

While watching the very moving and impressive memorials to Senator John McCain, I considered the following:

When Donald Trump passes, the warden will probably provide coffee and donuts for the remaining inmates. Other than his family, almost no one will mourn his passing.

Eugene McManus
Durham, N.H.

Opportunism or Opportunity?

To the Editor:

There are some great people running for Carol Shea Porter's seat, with life-long resident and Governor's Council member Chris Pappas receiving the nod from many party leaders. State legislator Mindi Messmer also appears to be drawing a lot of support among environmentalists and progressive voters. There's no question in-state political experience is an important asset when representing New Hampshire from the swamps of Washington.

By comparison, Maura Sullivan's candidacy looks more like Scott Brown's Senatorial run against Jeanne Shaheen in 2014 with the candidate moving in-state at the last minute. This tactic sounds terribly opportunis-

tic, but in Sullivan's case, it might be okay.

It might be okay because Maura Sullivan is exceptionally bright, very well educated, and highly accomplished. In fact, she has all the earmarks of a rising political star—with experience as a Marine officer and presidential appointee. In other words, she's well prepared to hit the ground running and to conduct business in Washington's contentious testosterone-drenched political environment.

So here's New Hampshire's Democratic dilemma! Someone of Maura Sullivan's caliber could emerge quickly as an influential congressional figure regardless of where she's from. So, even if her decision to run from New Hampshire seems blatantly opportunistic, it still might represent a genuine opportunity to increase New Hampshire's influence in Washington for a long time to come.

This isn't a blanket endorsement by any means, but it might be a mistake to reject Maura Sullivan's candidacy out of hand just because she's "from away."

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

Maura Sullivan served honorably with the U.S. Marines. That is indisputable. She referred to herself as a "combat" veteran who "fought" in Iraq. That distinction makes a difference. Woe betide the candidate making such a claim if it cannot be verified.

Terence O'Rourke, a former Green Beret who earned a Combat Action Badge in Iraq, did the party a favor by asking Sullivan to provide documentary evidence. If she had won the primary, the Republicans would be howling from now until November, claiming she had inflated her resumé.

The Editor

Durocher Was Wrong

To the Editor:

"Nice guys finish last." (Leo Durocher, former Major League manager). Not necessarily, Leo.

Apparently, Durocher never met Chris Pappas, Democratic candidate for Congress. Chris graduated from

Harvard. I'm telling you that because you would never hear it from Chris. In a day, when lying, exaggerating, distorting, name-calling, boasting, and self promotion are common in politics, Chris will have none of that.

Chris Pappas and his brother-in-law run the Puritan Backroom Restaurant, in Manchester. This family-owned business been open for 101 years. An establishment doesn't last that long unless it enjoys a good reputation with the public. And Chris treats his 230 employees fairly. He offers them paid time off and the same health benefits he has.

Congress can be an intimidating place for newly-elected members who have no previous experience holding elective office. Chris Pappas was elected to a variety of public positions so he knows the political landscape well. Chris has served as a State Legislator (2002, 2004), County Treasurer (2006, 2008), and Executive Councilor (2012, 2014, 2016).

Not surprisingly, in these positions, Chris put the well being of the public first. *Wikipedia* notes, "In 2016, Pappas voted in favor of extending substance abuse treatment coverage to 140,000 New Hampshire residents. He also supported increased funding for substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery. To stop over-prescription of pain medications, Pappas fought for the creation of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs, which aim to prevent addiction before it starts."

Sometimes, a single act personifies a person. One day, my wife and I were eating lunch in the Backroom Restaurant. Suddenly, a familiar figure appeared before us. It was Chris Pappas. Not in a suit and tie, but wearing everyday clothes with an apron wrapped around his waist. He was lugging a container of dirty dishes back to the dishwasher in the kitchen. We weren't surprised. That's Chris—doing what has to be done without fanfare and self-pretense.

I urge you to vote for Chris Pappas, Democratic candidate for Congress

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.
to page six

is! But our essence, the microscopic instructions that make us who we are; our very own ancient order of life is being bombarded, altered, changed; transformed into monstrous things that will do the bidding of masters unknown to us when the time comes.

Chem rainbows, or chembos for short, have been reported up and down the seacoast of New Hampshire recently. Rainbows with an eerie and unearthly shimmering quality. Gorgeous but somehow coldly unnatural, accompanied by a curious hum that seems to emanate from the very center of one's brain. And soon afterwards, within minutes, a harsh metallic taste in the mouth that is fleeting but unnerving. A lightheadedness and a vague sense of ill ease and confusion follows. A new presence inside us, foreign to our being is somehow compelling us. We return to our lunches but are no longer hungry. We go home to do something but can't quite seem to remember what. The only thing over these rainbows is a place that no one, for the love of God, should ever go.

Robert "Wheelgun Bob" Ford
Portsmouth, N.H.

Bob:

We can't tell if you're being serious or pulling our editorial leg.

If the alleged phenomenon of which you write is purported to be some mutated extension of the long-standing flap over chemtrails, we're not buying it. It's too far-fetched and apparently not supported by the evidence. The huge increase in jet travel, on the other hand, is truly a cause for concern. The atmosphere's got enough problems already. Why should it bear the burden of pollution from millions of overprivileged nitwits flitting around the globe on a whim.

We have no medical credentials, and, in fact, just barely meet the minimum

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The Fehheimer 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

Killer July

by William Marvel

In the mid-1950s there were only one or two really sweltering days on Davis Hill each summer, with temperatures above 90. Having spent the previous two and a half years on Key West, I found such days a rare but unpleasant reminder of what I liked least about Florida. NOAA data for 2018 shows that central New Hampshire has already had 20 days above 90 degrees by September 5th. Since June 1st there have been 57 days of above-normal temperatures, and only 34 below normal. The below-normal days were not that cool, either, while most of the above-normal days were well above. Only one day fell 10 degrees colder than normal, but 17 days were at least 10 degrees hotter than normal—and several were 14, 15, or 16 degrees hotter.

I have no idea whether 2018 will turn into another year of record heat, but that record is being broken all

the time now. The hottest year since recording began, 150 years ago, was 2016. Of the 16 warmest years ever recorded, 15 were in this new century, but the last record-cold year came over a century ago, in 1911.

That was a year of extremes, as was best illustrated on November 11, 1911. Plains dwellers still talk about the “Great Blue Northern” of 11/11/11, when record heat gave way to record cold within less than a dozen hours. In Osage County, Oklahoma, the temperature reached 85 degrees in the afternoon, and by morning it was nine degrees. Thus began one of the coldest winters in U.S. history, during which Minneapolis endured two consecutive weeks of below-zero weather, day and night, and Niagara Falls froze over completely.

Curiously, 1911 was also the year of the longest and deadliest heat wave in American history. It started by July 1st in the Midwest and spread eastward within a day or two.

On July 3 an Iowa newspaper reported that 200,000 people had fled Chicago in the previous 24 hours to avoid the heat. By the Fourth of July it was 104 in Louisville, 107 in Cincinnati, 108 “in the shade” in Marietta, Ohio, and 102 in Boston, and as a result several people had already died in each city. On July 7th the *Washington Evening Star* reported 125 victims since July 2, including a Boston baker who shot himself while “crazed with the heat.”

What most newspapers called the “torrid wave” was then only half finished. One paper claimed on July 10th that 40 people had died in St. Louis and 28 in Boston—a dozen of them on July 5th alone. Five thousand people a night slept on Boston Common, and numerous people sleeping on ghetto rooftops perished when they rolled off. Drownings ran into the hundreds as nonswimmers tried to cool off in rivers, lakes, and flooded quarries. The *New York Tribune* began running daily front-

page lists of those who died from the heat, identifying 39 in that city just on July 13th. People dropped in the street, succumbing to heat exhaustion or smashing their heads on curbs and doorsteps.

City dwellers may have had the worst of it, but even rural climes such as Conway suffered under the relentless temperatures. The *North Conway Reporter* praised citizens for not allowing the “sweltering heat” to diminish celebration of the Fourth, but right after the parade everyone repaired to the bridge by the peg mill to engage in water sports. Town columnists began their weekly submissions with complaints about the heat and the drought, which combined to destroy all the crops. The editor, a Republican who supported President Taft, predicted that vegetables would be dear come winter, and voters would blame the administration.

Over in Hiram, two brothers nearly lost their horse, which col-

lapsed in the road. In Conway Center, Joel Morrill did lose one of his horses as he was haying in the floodplain near the Saco River. The horse dropped suddenly, dying on the spot, and was buried where he fell. Out in South Conway, Harris Littlefield’s 80-year-old mother Lydia braved the heat to pick so many blackberries that she was regarded as a local heroine for distributing them to her neighbors as a satisfying snack that needed no cooking.

And then, suddenly, it was over. After July 14th, the “torrid wave” was discussed only in the past tense. Aside from those whose loved ones were numbered among the 2,000 or more credited victims, everyone seemed to forget about it. Except perhaps for my wife’s oven-baked home town in central Kansas, where residents ignore 100-degree weather, no spell of such intense heat has lasted so long or been so deadly, but that record will probably not stand much longer.

from page five

from the First Congressional District.

Gary Patton
Hampton, N.H.

Gary:
Ask and you shall receive.
The Editor

House Cleaning Needed—ASAP

To the Editor:

Mr. Trump can not rein in the subversives and Communists embedded within—what is generally referred to as “government!”—without being labeled a tyrant or a dictator. We the American sovereigns must face the fact that we have a bunch of private corporations, formed unlawfully without our knowledge or consent and masquerading as our government. So the way we deal with this apparent

treachery and treason is for the people to step forward, put their fears aside and identify the criminals posing as members of Congress as “impostors.” Then as the people—we need to call for their arrest and prosecution.

For starters we know who they are ... and so do the members of the Congress.

[Note: Here this letter swerves towards incoherence. After years of publishing Mr. Marple’s letters, though, we are able to discern Mr. Marple’s original intent—like Justice Antonin Scalia reading the long-dead mind of Alexander Hamilton.

Marple cites a 2012 article in *Politico*, in which Rep. Allen West is alleged to have “channeled Joe McCarthy in a

town hall event in Florida.” A constituent asked West, “What percentage of the American legislature do you think are card-carrying Marxists?”

West was videotaped replying, “That’s a fair question. I believe there’s about 78 to 81 members of the Democratic Party that are members of the Communist Party.” A West spokesman quoted by *Politico* elaborated: “It’s called the Congressional Progressive Caucus.”

“He stands by his words,” Edson said in statement Wednesday afternoon. “But the words the media needs to pay attention to are the words of the members of the Progressive caucus. They speak for themselves. Call it what you may, but these House members are clearly not proponents of capitalism,

free markets or individual economic freedom.” — The Ed.]

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

As soon as you used the term “sovereign” we had the willies. We never seen that term used except in a context of crackpottery. Sure enough...

The Editor

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Primary Candidates on Local Choice & N.H.’s Civil Rights Problem

To the Editor:

In early August, the New Hampshire Community Rights Network sent surveys to 2018’s state primary candidates running for Governor, Executive Council, and for State Representative or Senator.

The survey asked them for their positions on local choice, including whether or not they will support the people of New Hampshire’s call for the New Hampshire Community Rights Amendment, which in 2018’s legislative season earned support from one-third of New Hampshire’s House.

Of the candidates who responded to the survey on local choice and the amendment, 71 percent said they would support the amendment, 29 percent that they would not.

The New Hampshire Community Rights Amendment seeks to codify in our New Hampshire Constitution’s Bill of Rights the community right to local decision-making authority regarding social and environmental issues that affect the health, safety, and well-being of individuals, communities, and ecosys-



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How many tweety birds does it take to Tweet the truth?

by Jim Hightower

In CorporateWorld, when trouble pops up and things get sticky, CEOs don't wring their hands and try to dodge the issue. No-sir-ee, the chief gets paid the big bucks to step forward confidently and seize control—by ringing up the company's PR consultants and having them try to dodge the issue.

Jeff Bezos, Amazon Inc.'s boss, is

an expert at this. The uber-rich online marketing colossus has been hit with a long string of exposés about the corporation's nasty practices. From profiteering as a flagrant tax dodger and predatory killer of independent, local businesses to running a massive network of publicly-subsidized warehouses with sweatshop labor, Amazon's carefully-crafted image as a "cool" company is... well, getting fried in negative headlines

and online chatter.

Thus, Bezos (known for thinking outside the cage), has hired a flock of tweety birds to counter the negativity. They are former warehouse workers who now tweet full-time about how absolutely wonderful those warehouse jobs are. The tweeters tell us that air circulation in the warehouses is—very good—in a 10-hour shift, they assure us, lucky workers get not one, but two

30-minute breaks; and they're even allowed bathroom breaks (within reason, of course).

Jeff has given his Twitter testifiers the title of Amazon "ambassadors," and each of their Twitter accounts is branded to look alike, topped with the corporation's happy smile logo. It's claimed that the tweeters are not scripted or told what to write... but you can bet every tweet is monitored by corporate supervisors. And note

that Amazon won't let reporters interview any of them.

As Sen. Bernie Sanders said of this PR gimmick: "If Amazon actually paid all its workers a living wage and treated them with dignity, they would not have to pay dozens of people to tweet all day."

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from page six

tems. While this right and authority is already affirmed in Articles 1, 2, 8, 10, and 32 of our New Hampshire State Constitution's Bill of Rights, it is not yet specifically recognized.

Enumerating this right to local self-government in our Bill of Rights would address an underlying civil rights problem in two main ways. Firstly, it would recognize that local self-determination is an inherent and unalienable right. Secondly, it would nullify corporate use of state preemption and permitting bodies to override the collective will of a community to adopt local laws that protect people and ecosystems. Importantly, the amendment could not be used to protect local laws that restrict or weaken existing state and federal rights and protections for people.

This amendment will be introduced again this coming legislative season, and as a non-profit, grassroots organization, part of NHCRN's work will be to educate the people of New Hampshire and their elected officials about our individual and collective right of local self-governance that this amendment would enumerate in our New Hampshire Bill of Rights.

The goal of this education is to help secure and protect the inherent and unalienable rights of all inhabitants of New Hampshire to economic, social, and environmental justice—including securing the rights of nature.

For both summarized and full-text survey responses from the candidates, or to learn more about the community rights movement in the Granite State, please visit NHCRN

at www.nhcommunityrights.org, or email info@nhcommunityrights.org.

Monica Christofili,
NHCRN Coordinator
Newmarket, N.H.

Monica:

Keep us posted. The world can't afford to keep relying for its defense on regulatory bodies which have been captured by corporations.

The Editor

Gazette Postal Delivery

To the Editor:

My copy of Volume 262, No. 25 was delivered to my home outside of Charlottesville, Va. on Tuesday, September 4th. That seems like a prompt delivery, given the Labor Day holiday.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the fourth estate.

Dennis Houle
Earlsville, Va.

Dennis:

Thank you for keeping us posted on the performance of the Postal Service and our new mailing piece design. It's gratifying to hear that it's working.

The Editor

SB365

To the Editor:

SB365 is the controversial wood waste and trash incinerator bill that would make Unitol's customers on New Hampshire's seacoast pay more for electricity, all to save the Capitol Region a little money greening-up a thirty-year old trash bill. Does an \$8.1 million giveaway to the largest waste generator, polluter, and one of the largest taxpayers in Concord

explain why nearly every Democrat and an unbelievable number of Republicans voted AYE on SB365?

Why should a hidden tax imposed by New Hampshire legislators and masquerading as a rate hike, raise an extra \$2.7 million a year for Concord's Wheelabrator incinerator? Wheelabrator's owners, Energy Capital Partners—that's capital with a capital C—don't need the money.

Sold as rate relief, with a \$68 million dollar price tag, SB365 supporters claim "indigenous renewable fuel" promotes "fuel diversity" and "clean, renewable energy" that will save New Hampshire's forests and—who knows where this came from—help get drugs off the street.

There must be a better way, and better investments in jobs and clean energy than increasing electric rates on Unitol and Eversource customers to bail out foreign-owned corporations selling dirty power. There is a reason burners have smokestacks.

The only thing green about this waste combustion bill is the millions and millions of dollars of subsidies for multinationals and the private equity investor-owners of an old fleet of steam boilers in New Hampshire. The SB365 bail-out is about waste and pollution, attracting the strangest bedfellows who threaten to lay off workers, shut down businesses and close public access to their land.

Not all the people paying Unitol's electric bills receive services from Wheelabrator. But everyone around North Concord got a share of the

80-some pounds of lead released out the stack in 2017. It's unpardonable for the legislature to compel ratepayers to fork over money to a company that is paid handsomely to receive fuel. Truck loads of fuel from nobody knows where, containing nobody knows what, but everybody knows; nobody wants. Thank the Governor for vetoing SB365; since when is incinerating toxics "green and sustainable"?

John Tuthill
Acworth, N.H.

Dr. Duane Whittier

"[A note] in memory of Dr. Duane Whittier, U.N.H. Professor of Philosophy, who died today, September 3, 2018. *The New Hampshire Gazette* was his favorite newspaper of all time. Every time I brought it to him, he roared with delight." — Carol Birch, Durham, N.H.

Carol:

Thank you very much for bringing to our attention the late Dr. Whittier, who died in his 89th year. We're just sorry that we never got to meet him. Our greatest ambition has always been to inspire our readers to roar—whether in delight, or for some other reason.

Your note sparked our curiosity, so we rooted around a bit. We learned the basics from a profile published last spring in *Main Street Magazine*. It describes a lifelong scholar. As a child in Lebanon he peddled his bicycle seven miles to Dartmouth College, where his \$2 library card gave him the privilege of bringing home baskets of books. He taught for nearly 60 years.

Main Street quotes him saying,

"Some of my colleagues here who retired at age 65 or 70, they would say to me, 'Whittier, have you retired yet? When are you going to retire and get a life?' I said hold on, hold on, I've been paid a salary for doing what I would do as a hobby. Because I love philosophy and I love being with young people and teaching and all of that. And you want me to retire and get a life? I've got one! I don't want to give the damn thing up until I'm incapacitated and can't cut the mustard anymore!" We feel honored to have been read by such a person.

The Editor

Why Marijuana Should Be Legalized

"I think it's very important that we legalize marijuana here in New York State. Eight other states have done it, plus the District of Columbia. There are a lot of reasons to do it, but first and foremost, because it's a racial justice issue. Because people across all ethnic and racial lines use marijuana at roughly the same rate, but the arrests for marijuana are 80 percent black and latino. We need to not only legalize marijuana here, but, when this multi-billion dollar industry comes to New York, we need to prioritize the individuals and the communities that have been most harmed by the war on drugs, and we need to parole people who are in jail for marijuana arrests, and we need to expunge their records and use some of this tax revenue for them to re-enter. And, what I would say, is that effectively marijuana in New York State has been legal for white people for a long time, and it's time to make it legal for everybody else."

— Cynthia Nixon, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of New York

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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on

whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua's ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
<p>2016—MSNBC, CNN, and Fox let Donald Trump snooker them into giving him a free 1.5 hour infomercial. Much of it consists of a live shot of an empty podium.</p> <p>2008—The Federal government bails out insurance giant AIG with a loan of \$85 billion.</p> <p>2001—Tim Russert says Dick "Dick" Cheney wants Osama bin Laden's head on a platter and that the U.S. has no evidence linking Saddam Hussein or Iraq to 9/11. Cheney denies neither proposition.</p> <p>1975—New Hampshire Democrat John Durkin wins a Senate seat after a nine-month battle following the closest Senate election in history.</p> <p>1974—President Ford announces a conditional amnesty for Vietnam War deserters and draft dodgers.</p> <p>1968—Richard M. Nixon appears on "Laugh-In" and says, "Sock it to me." Eventually, they do.</p> <p>1940—A remarkably prescient draft goes into effect over a year before Pearl Harbor is attacked.</p> <p>1925—Riley B. "B.B." King is born in Itta Bena, Miss.</p> <p>1920—A bomb in a horse-drawn wagon explodes in front of the J.P. Morgan building on Wall Street, killing 38 and wounding 400.</p> <p>1893—In Oklahoma, 10,000 "Sooners" race for 42,000 parcels of land.</p> <p>1692—Giles Cory, 80, is crushed to death in Salem for refusing to testify in his trial for witchcraft.</p>	<p>2013—<i>Mother Jones</i> releases a video showing Mitt Romney denigrating 47 percent of Americans as leeches.</p> <p>2011—Hundreds of fed-up protestors finally Occupy Wall Street.</p> <p>2002—President George W.[MD] Bush says, "... fool me once, shame on—shame on you. Fool me ... you can't get fooled again."</p> <p>1991—Yale Law's Dean tells the Senate Judiciary Committee that Clarence Thomas might grow intellectually if he's confirmed for the Court.</p> <p>1989—Their health benefits cut, Pittston, Pa. coal miners strike. Five months later, they've won.</p> <p>1967—The Mt. Washington cog railway train derails; eight die.</p> <p>1955—A U.S. Air Force B-36 with a live nuclear reactor on board begins test flights. In case of a crash, paratroopers follow in another plane.</p> <p>1948—Count Folke Bernadotte, in Jerusalem to mediate the Arab-Israeli conflict for the UN, is assassinated by the Zionist Stern Gang.</p> <p>1908—Wilbur Wright crashes a Wright Flyer at Ft. Myer, Va.; Lt. Thomas Selfridge becomes the first person killed in a plane crash.</p> <p>1894—An elephant charges and derailed a railroad train in Malaysia.</p> <p>1862—At Antietam, in Maryland, 113,000 men clash; 3,654 are killed and 17,292 are wounded—bloodiest day in U.S. military history.</p> <p>1787—Having OK'd the Constitution, its authors head to a tavern.</p>	<p>2001—Five anthrax-laced letters are mailed to news media by a person or persons still unapprehended. Five people die.</p> <p>2001—EPA Chief Christine Todd Whitman, acceding to a White House request, says the air at "Ground Zero" is safe to breathe.</p> <p>1980—A dropped 30-pound socket wrench hits a Titan II missile fuel tank in Damascus, Ark. The tank springs a leak; the leaking fuel catches fire.</p> <p>1975—The FBI catches "Tanya," a press baron Wm. Randolph Hearst's bank-robbing granddaughter.</p> <p>1961—UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld and 15 others are murdered when their DC-6 is brought down in Northern Rhodesia. Mining interests are the likely suspects.</p> <p>1951—Dalton Trumbo, the future screenwriter of "Spartacus," is denounced as a commie before HUAC by Leo Townsend, the future screenwriter of "Beach Blanket Bingo."</p> <p>1931—Japanese troops blow up their own railroad at Mukden, Manchuria, blaming it on the Chinese to justify an attack on Chinese Nationalists.</p> <p>1873—Railroad baron Jay Cooke goes bust, sparking the Panic of 1873. A five-year depression ensues.</p> <p>1755—Mark and Phillis, enslaved blacks, are executed in Charlestown, Mass. for poisoning Captain John Codman, their "owner." She is burned at the stake; he is hanged. His gibbeted body is displayed for 20 years.</p>	<p>2014—Iraq vet Omar J. Gonzalez jumps the fence and runs into the East Room of the White House.</p> <p>2001—George W.[MD] Bush tells CIA chief George Tenet to look for links between S. Hussein and al Qaeda and recommends Dick "Dick" Cheney as a source.</p> <p>2001—The U.S. goes to war against Afghanistan—what could go wrong?</p> <p>1991—Alpine tourists discover 5,300 year-old Ötzi the Iceman.</p> <p>1980—After eight hours of fire, a missile silo in Arkansas explodes, hurling a nuclear weapon 600 feet. Somehow only one person is killed.</p> <p>1961—Betty and Barney Hill of Portsmouth, N.H. find their trip back home from a vacation takes two hours longer than expected.</p> <p>1959—Nikita Khrushchev is denied admittance to Disneyland.</p> <p>1957—After 25 above-ground blasts in 111 days, the U.S. begins underground nuclear tests.</p> <p>1952—R. Nixon is Veep and Joe McCarthy a Senator, but the U.S. bans Charlie Chaplin unless he proves he's of sound moral character.</p> <p>1945—William "Lord Haw-Haw" Joyce, U.S.-born fascist of Irish descent, is sentenced to death in England for broadcasting German propaganda.</p> <p>1692—After spending two days being crushed by huge rocks, suspected warlock Giles Corey, 80, dies in Salem.</p> <p>1676—Gov. William Berkeley flees Jamestown as rebels burn his capitol.</p>	<p>2009—A Robinson R22 goes "bang" over Forest Grove, Ore. and tumbles to the ground; and two die in an inferno.</p> <p>2001—George W.[MD] Bush declares a War on a noun, <i>viz.</i>, Terror, before a joint session of Congress, which somehow takes him seriously.</p> <p>1968—A U.S. military spokesman in Saigon says Agent Orange has no harmful effects on human health.</p> <p>1958—A deranged woman stabs Martin Luther King while he autographs books in Harlem.</p> <p>1945—Ex-Nazi, former SS member, and rocket scientist Werner von Braun begins working for the U.S.</p> <p>1830—In Philadelphia, 38 free blacks form the National Negro Convention to abolish slavery.</p> <p>1797—The frigate <i>Constitution</i> is launched in Boston.</p> <p>1797—Captain Pigot of <i>HMS Hermione</i> orders that the bodies of three sailors who died trying to fulfill his orders be thrown overboard.</p> <p>1777—British troops conduct a surprise nighttime bayonet attack near present-day Malvern, Pa. The Paoli Massacre leaves 272 dead, wounded, or missing.</p> <p>1565—Spanish forces slaughter 135 Frenchmen in Florida, "for heresy." It's the first clash of European colonialists in the New World.</p> <p>1378—French cardinals elect Robert of Geneva, aka "The Butcher of Cesena," to be Pope Clement VII, bringing the number of sitting Popes to two.</p>	<p>2014—Abu Mohammad al-Adnani al-Shami, spokesman for the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), calls U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry an "uncircumcised old geezer."</p> <p>2008—A Kenosha, Wisc. family of five wakes up when a Robinson R44 helicopter crashes through the roof at 5:38 a.m., exiting out the front door. They all live; the intruders don't.</p> <p>1983—Defending the diversity of his staff, Sec. of the Interior James G. Watt boasts, "I have a black, a woman, two Jews, and a cripple."</p> <p>1976—Ex-Chilean Ambassador to the U.S., Orlando Letelier, and an assistant are assassinated by car bomb in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1957—Hurricane Carrie and a badly-trimmed load of barley sink <i>Pamir</i>, the last cargo-carrying windjammer, off the Azores. Six crewmembers survive, 80 drown.</p> <p>1956—Anastasio Somoza García, Nicaraguan dictator, is assassinated by Roliberto Lopez, a poet.</p> <p>1953—No Kum-Sok, a Lieutenant in the North Korean Air Force, defects to South Korea via MiG-15.</p> <p>1938—New England is clobbered by a nameless 183 m.p.h. hurricane that kills up to 700.</p> <p>1897—A <i>New York Sun</i> editorial lies to a girl named Virginia, telling her a mythical "Santa Claus" is real.</p> <p>1797—The crew of <i>HMS Hermione</i> slaughters eight officers and hands the ship over to the Spanish.</p>	<p>2003—"A year from now," Richard Perle says, "I'll be very surprised if there is not some grand square in Baghdad that is named after President Bush."</p> <p>1992—Rollen Stewart, who held up a "John 3:16" sign at sporting events while wearing a rainbow wig, kidnaps three people to spread the word of God.</p> <p>1987—Navy Reserve Capt. Timothy J. Dorsey shoots down a Navy plane during a training exercise. Its crew survives with injuries. Dorsey's career is unscathed: daddy's an Admiral.</p> <p>1975—Disables 'Nam vet Oliver Sipple deflects Sarah Jane Moore's shot, saving President Gerald Ford.</p> <p>1970—President Nixon requests more FBI spies for college campuses.</p> <p>1959—Fire Commissioner Robert J. Quinn sounds the air-raid sirens to celebrate the White Sox's pennant win. Many Chicagoans assume it's war with the Russkies.</p> <p>1922—Right Wing American capitalists form "Sentinels of the Republic," one of several front groups for the fascist American Liberty Lobby. Eleven years later many of them will plot to overthrow FDR.</p> <p>1906—Following a gubernatorial campaign in which the candidates—both Democratic newspapermen—run on their racism, 10,000 whites use unsubstantiated newspaper stories as an excuse to attack blacks in Atlanta. Death toll: 25 blacks and two whites.</p> <p>1862—Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation.</p>
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10:50 11:34	11:49	12:38 12:53	1:42 1:57	2:41 2:54	3:32 3:44	4:17 4:28
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
<p>1999—The \$328 million Mars Climate Orbiter burns on landing because Lockheed Martin forgot to use the metric system.</p> <p>1998—The New York Fed bails out broke hedge fund LTCM, establishing a suicidal precedent.</p> <p>1974—Fort Knox opens for inspection to quell a tabloid rumor.</p> <p>1960—Alan Ginsberg, Peter Orlovsky, and LeRoi Jones meet in Manhattan with Fidel Castro.</p> <p>1955—A white male jury which believes they're guilty finds Emmett Till's murderers "not guilty."</p> <p>1953—The U.S. Army says its libraries in Europe wouldn't carry Dr. Kinsey's <i>Sexual Behavior in the Human Female</i> since it "was not thought to be of general interest to G.I.s."</p> <p>1952—R. Nixon uses his daughter's pet dog to deflect corruption charges.</p> <p>1945—French forces overthrow the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The U.S. acquiesces.</p> <p>1930—Birth of Ray Charles.</p> <p>1912—Release of Mack Sennett's first "Keystone Comedy."</p> <p>1861—Osceola, Mo., is sacked, looted, and torched by drunken, pro-Union Jayhawkers. Nine men are hanged after a drumhead court-martial.</p> <p>1848—John Curtis, of Bangor, begins making "State of Maine Pure Spruce Gum," the first chewing gum.</p> <p>1779—John Paul Jones takes the British ship <i>Serapis</i> as the <i>Bombonne Richard</i> sinks under him.</p>	<p>2007—A plane previously used for "rendition" flights carrying alleged terrorists to Gitmo crashes in the Yucatan carrying 3.3 tons of cocaine.</p> <p>2006—<i>The New York Times</i> publishes a leaked intelligence document concluding that the Iraq War has increased the threat of radical Islamic terrorism.</p> <p>2006—George W.[MD] Bush says, "When the final history is written on Iraq, it will look just like a comma."</p> <p>2005—Human Rights Watch reports that U.S. troops routinely beat and tortured detained Iraqis.</p> <p>1993—A Robinson R22 partially disassembles over Wildomar, Calif., crashes, and kills its two occupants.</p> <p>1981—CIA Director William Casey is exempted from the Freedom of Information Act.</p> <p>1978—On his yacht in Chesapeake Bay, right-handed CIA spook John Paisley takes a shotgun blast behind his left ear. It's ruled suicide.</p> <p>1968—Protestors destroy 10,000 draft files in Milwaukee, Wis.</p> <p>1957—The Dodgers play their last game at Ebbetts Field.</p> <p>1911—Portsmouth native Ensign Charles Emerson Hovey, 26, is shot and killed by natives on the island of Basilan in the Philippines.</p> <p>1869—Black Friday; Jay Gould and Jim Fisk try to corner the gold market, precipitating national financial collapse.</p>	<p>2008—Somali pirates capture the <i>MV Faina</i>, a 500-foot freighter with a cargo of 33 Soviet tanks.</p> <p>2007—Texas kills Michael Richard on schedule because Judge Sharon Keller refused to work overtime.</p> <p>2003—An early draft of an interim report from weapons inspectors in Iraq says no WMD have been found.</p> <p>2002—George W.[MD] Bush says nonsensically, "You can't distinguish between al Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror."</p> <p>1982—A Robinson R22 partially disassembles over Nashville, crashes, and kills its two occupants.</p> <p>1966—The smallest crowd in the history of Yankee Stadium—413—watches the White Sox beat the Yankees 4-1.</p> <p>1962—While listening to the first Listen/Patterson fight, Vivian Stan-shall and Rodey Slater form the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band.</p> <p>1959—The U.S. Navy loses a nuclear depth charge, minus its fissile core, in Puget Sound.</p> <p>1926—Henry Ford announces the eight-hour, five-day workweek.</p> <p>1915—At Loos, France, British forces release 150 tons of chlorine gas towards German troops. Then, to their chagrin, the wind shifts.</p> <p>1789—Congress passes the Bill of Rights.</p> <p>1662—Portsmouth adopts a bounty: £5 for every wolf killed whose head is "nayle[d] upon the meeting house."</p>	<p>2011—Dick "Dick" Cheney is stuck in a Vancouver building while police clear an angry mob.</p> <p>2002—George W.[MD] Bush claims that "the Iraqi regime possesses biological and chemical weapons."</p> <p>1991—The House bank announces that, after covering 8,331 rubber checks written by Congressmen over the past year, it will stop.</p> <p>1983—Lt. Col. Stanislav Petrov disregards Red Army computers showing attacking American nuclear missiles. Having thus averted World War III, Col. Petrov is reprimanded.</p> <p>1960—Kennedy and Nixon hold the first televised presidential debate.</p> <p>1945—American OSS officer Lt. Col. A. Peter Dewey is killed in Saigon by Viet Minh guerrillas who have mistaken him for a French officer. Before his death, Dewey filed a report saying the U.S. "ought to clear out of Southeast Asia."</p> <p>1933—The same day G-Men arrest Machine Gun Kelly, ten men escape from an Indiana prison using guns smuggled in by John Dillinger.</p> <p>1918—The Battle of the Meuse-Argonne begins, the last great battle of the War to End All Wars.</p> <p>1901—Abraham Lincoln's body is viewed one last time before being covered with two tons of concrete. Among the 23 present is Fleetwood Linley, 13, who lives until 1963.</p> <p>1687—A Venetian shell hits the Parthenon, igniting Turkish gunpowder.</p>	<p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld calls the alleged link between al Qaeda and Iraq "accurate and not debatable."</p> <p>1994—On the Capitol steps, 350 GOP candidates take out a Contract on America.</p> <p>1991—For the first time in decades, the U.S. has no nuclear-armed B-52's on alert.</p> <p>1989—To show kids there are more constructive things to do than take drugs, Jeffrey Petkovitch and Peter DeBernardi climb into a barrel and go over Niagara's Horseshoe Falls.</p> <p>1972—The first stretch of the Trans-Amazonian Highway opens; bye-bye rain forest, hello global warming.</p> <p>1964—The Warren Commission reports that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed President John F. Kennedy.</p> <p>1944—A group of 35 U.S. B-24s, isolated over Germany by a navigational error, are jumped by 100 enemy fighters; four survive.</p> <p>1944—The U.S. government begins large-scale production of plutonium on land taken from the Yakama Indian Nation.</p> <p>1864—William T. "Bloody Bill" Anderson and his 80 guerillas, including Jesse James, massacre 150 Union soldiers in Centralia, Mo.</p> <p>1854—S.S. <i>Arctic</i>, holed in a collision off Newfoundland, sinks. Her lifeboats are commandeered by the crew, who leave 300 passengers to drown.</p>	<p>2014—Future President D.J. Trump tweets, "Every time I speak of the haters and losers I do so with great love and affection. They cannot help the fact that they were born fucked up!"</p> <p>2001—To avoid further scorn in these pages, Fleet Bank removes its 18-foot tall green, illuminated sign from the middle of Pleasant Street's sidewalk.</p> <p>1994—A Robinson R22 spontaneously disassembles over Knightdale, N.C. & crashes; the pilot dies by fire.</p> <p>1964—UC Berkeley students protest free speech restrictions.</p> <p>1960—Ted Williams takes the plate at Fenway for his last at bat and hits his 521st home run.</p> <p>1938—At Munich, British and French diplomats give Hitler the Sudetenland and the GOP a future talking point.</p> <p>1891—In New York a 72 year-old writer named Herman Melville dies in obscurity.</p> <p>1868—Knights of the White Camelia massacre between 25 and a few hundred blacks in Opelousas, Miss.</p> <p>1862—Jefferson C. Davis [the Union general, not the rebel President] shoots Union General William "Bull" Nelson dead. Never charged, Davis goes back to fighting Rebs.</p> <p>1859—Fifty loggers, farmers, and laborers, irate over the damage it causes, try but fail to destroy the dam controlling the outflow of Lake Win-nepesaukee. They're crushed in court by Boston-based capitalists.</p>	<p>2008—The Dow drops 777 points.</p> <p>2006—Anti child-porn crusader Rep. Mark Foley (R-Fla.) resigns after his lurid e-mails to young males leak.</p> <p>2003—The White House denies that Karl Rove had revealed the name of CIA agent Valerie Plame.</p> <p>1988—The Veterans Peace Convoy to Nicaragua wins a lawsuit preventing the Executive branch from regulating or prohibiting foreign aid that is intended to relieve human suffering.</p> <p>1980—<i>The Washington Post</i> publishes Janet Cook's Pulitzer-winning story about a fictional 8 year-old junkie.</p> <p>1972—On Vineyard Sound, a short, bearded man in sneakers fails in his spontaneous attempt to throw former Defense Secretary Robert Strange McNamara off the ferry <i>M.V. Islander</i>.</p> <p>1969—The U.S. Army drops murder charges against Special Forces Col. Robert Rheault—the CIA won't let its agents testify.</p> <p>1959—Maynard G. Krebs is introduced on CBS, insidiously destroying a whole generation.</p> <p>1957—A Soviet nuke fuel plant blows up, kills hundreds, and spews more radiation than anything until Chernobyl. The CIA suppresses the news to protect the U.S. nuke industry.</p> <p>1940—Over Brocklesby, N.S.W., two RAAF Avro Ansons collide and mash together. After the other crewmen bail, the pilot of the lower plane lands them successfully, saying, "she was heavy on the controls."</p>
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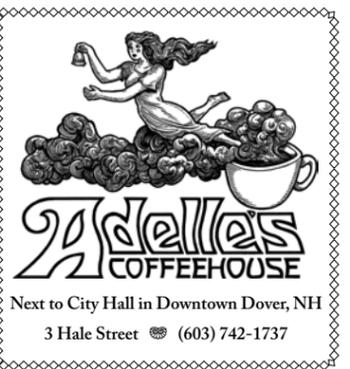
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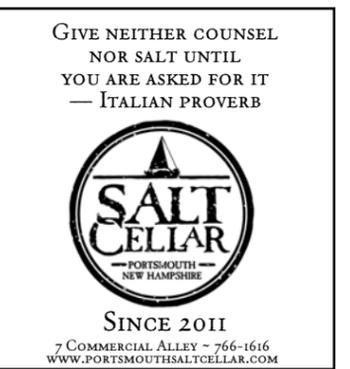
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