

*The Fortnightly Rant***The Storm's Not Coming—It's Here**

New Englanders are familiar with the scene: video shows rain falling sideways and random objects flying through the air. Crashing waves beat furiously against the shore. Finally the land crumbles. A house falls, beaten to smithereens, and ceases to exist.

Traditionally it's been a hurricane or a bad nor'easter, and the process takes a few hours. Lately, it's politics.

The end hasn't come for America's democracy yet, but things don't look particularly good.

Nobody builds on the edge of a cliff, of course.* Things just creep up on you: the Atlantic Ocean, the Republican Party....

Say what you want about Republicans,[†] they have a plan, and they stick to it.

For at least forty years they've been obsessed with packing the Supreme Court with their kind of judge. They have their own official cabal, just for that purpose. Tens of millions of dollars pour into the Federalist Society every year—in tax-free donations, no less, diverted from the U.S. Treasury. Its apologists will point to its other programs, but its core mission is to control who sits on the Supreme Court.

With six out of the nine sitting Justices being present or former members, the Federalist Society has nearly swept the table.

What sort of Court have those rich white folks bought? Surprise! It favors rich white men.

Citizens United, in 2010, estab-

* Nobody normal, anyway. We have heard some strange tales about people with more money than sense building monuments to their egos on oceanfront property in fashionable locations.

[†] No, on second thought, don't: this is a family paper....

lished that a person's right to influence elections should increase in proportion to their net worth.

Shelby County v. Holder, in 2013, ruled that, since the Republican Party had not been found guilty recently of criminally intimidating poor, non-white voters, the law that had been preventing them from doing so could now be discarded.

Now that they have achieved such dominance, one might think that Republicans could relax a bit. Certainly life in these allegedly United States has been relatively and refreshingly placid since Jack Dorsey threw a certain someone off Twitter and Sleepy Joe moved into the White House. It no longer seems like the daily news has been scripted by Chuck Barris of "Gong Show" fame.

Such thinking, though, is not for Republicans. Eugene V. Debs said, "While there is a lower class, I am in it, while there is a criminal element, I am of it, and while there is a soul in prison, I am not free." Republicans are similarly determined, but with the opposite intent. As long as a poor, non-white person insists on voting for Democrats, that needs to be made a felony.

Last month Jessica Anderson, executive director of Heritage Action—yet another tax-free cabal for free-spending oligarchs—was caught on tape speaking to a group of the usual suspects: people with an odd million or two to spare, which they would hate to see frittered away on infrastructure, or education, or health care, or veterans. Anderson described how Heritage is working hard to ensure that they will continue to have the upper hand: by writing voter suppression laws around the country.



"In some cases, we actually draft [the bills] for them," she said, "or we have a sentinel on our behalf give them the model legislation so it has that grassroots, from-the-bottom-up type of vibe."

Do you want artisanal feudalism? Because this is how you get artisanal feudalism. More than 360 Republican-backed voter suppression bills have been filed in 47 state legislatures. As one might expect, many of these bills are quite outrageous: "You gave a drink of water to a person who stood in line for hours in the hot sun to vote? OK, felon."

To a citizen's way of thinking, most of these laws are probably unconstitutional as well as outrageous. That's why only Federalist Society alumni get to make that determination.

Nobody is all bad, of course. We can credit Republicans with performing at least one important public service: their attack on democracy has been so aggressive that it got the Democrats' attention.

They passed a bill in the House—H.R. 1, the For the People Act—which would defend and expand voting rights, tighten campaign finance laws, limit partisan gerrymandering, and create new ethics rules for federal officeholders.

Sounds good, right? It is good. It's so good that 68 percent of Americans want to see it passed. Partisan hacks working for the Koch political machine were caught on tape admitting as much.

Before it can become law, though, its counterpart, S. 1, must pass in the Senate. There it faces an obstacle that demonstrates its importance. It only takes 41 Senators—who represent, as Ari Berman points out, just 21 percent of the the country—to block this bill or any other with a filibuster. This is the same crew, remember, that turns a blind eye to the January 6th coup attempt.

We're beginning to think that this process of bananafication our government has been going through could eventually have a boomerang

effect. As we become more and more disorganized and discombobulated, the likelihood increases that Grenada or Panama—or a coalition made up of every country south of the border that we've ever invaded—will be tempted to try and take revenge.

Considering the state we're in, they might get it, too. Given how our deranged government has been blocking action on climate change, maybe they should, in self defense.

Perhaps somehow we'll get through this. Stranger things have happened. Earlier this month Shakuntala Gaikwad, a 76-year old woman from Baramati, India, who was thought to have died from Covid, was moments away from being cremated but was taken back to the hospital instead, after she began to cry.

It would be wrong to say we know how she felt, but surely we can empathize.

With a lot of luck, perhaps we, too, might be spared.

The Alleged News®**Who Actually Owns the Formerly-Award-Winning Local Daily?**

[From time to time a farmer feels compelled to waste half a day wrestling a rock out of a location where its continued presence is a constant aggravation which can no longer be borne. Such is the nature of the following patch of text. Readers need not apologize for skipping over it; we apologize for its length. Once we got this rock rolling... In our defense, it could have been even longer. — The Ed.]

Elsewhere in this issue we cite a statement which was recently published in the *Portsmouth Herald*—a newspaper which we used to call "The Award-Winning Local Daily." The moniker had been earned by the frequency with which that newspaper published alleged news stories about its latest slew of awards.

Those stories no longer appear with such frequency. This might be due to increasing modesty, or perhaps to declining quality; it is not for us to say. We continued using

the sobriquet, often acronymized as AWLD, both out of habit and because it seemed to have become part of the local vernacular.

A few years ago an astute member of our team pointed out that the term "local," as we had been using it, was misleading. Though we had initially intended it to refer to the paper's purported news coverage, in this context "local" seemed to suggest that the seat of its controlling powers lay somewhere within this Zip Code. Such, of course, was not the case, nor had it been for many years.

Somehow, the alleged editor decided that the solution was to henceforth refer to the *Herald* as the "Hedge-Fund Owned Local Daily." Once again, the cornucopia of nepotism had yielded its rotten fruits. What was the reader to think—that the hedge fund was local? (It was not.)

Having created this morass of confusion, we resolved to clarify the matter; let us hope that, in doing so, we do not make it worse.

The *Herald* lost its claim to local ownership in the late 1960s, when the heirs of Justin Downing Hartford [1898 – 1963] sold the paper. The purchaser was Roy Thomson, a Canadian barber's son whose success in the newspaper racket was so spectacular that it earned him a British title: 1st Baron Thomson of Fleet.

At some point Thomson sold to Ottaway, which was then absorbed by Dow Jones. In plain English, "Dow Jones" is a legal fiction—a corporation whose function is to divert attention from humans. In this case, they are the Bancrofts whom *Wikipedia* calls "a family of publicly reclusive Boston socialites" who while away their leisure time breeding show horses and sailing yachts.

Alas for the Bancrofts, Rupert

Murdoch—infamous for, among other things, having introduced photos of nude girls on page three of *The Sun*, his London tabloid—began eyeing their asset. Prolonged negotiations were consummated in 2007; Murdoch induced the Bancrofts to overcome their disdain for crude Australians through the clever tactic of offering yet more money. The Dow Jones papers—including the forlorn *Herald*—became part of Murdoch's News Corp.

Five years later News Corp—please pardon the accuracy—sold the Dow papers to GateHouse Media for \$87 million. Perhaps to better align its financial and moral conditions, GateHouse promptly declared bankruptcy. Because it is a corporate person, rather than a lowly human, GateHouse's bankruptcy was no obstacle to an epic spending spree which would have caused Roy Thomson to turn green with envy.

In 2017, Ken Doctor at the Nieman Journalism Lab explained where GateHouse got the money:

"Institutional and mutual fund shareholders... own at least 70 percent of the company. They find its dividend—just increased to 35 cents per quarter—attractive. There's rich irony here: The retirement funds of those in the news industry, among many others, helps fund these New Media takeovers, which in turn result in more job cutbacks and the thinning of journalism in communities from coast to coast. Those nice dividend checks mean fewer journalist paychecks."

Should we then call what's left of the *Herald* the Formerly-Award-Winning, Mysteriously-Owned Local Daily, or FAWMOLD? Seems ungainly....

The Alleged News®
from page one

Golden Boy Found Under Golden Dome
The excitement at GQP HQ—and at Politico—is palpable:

Dateline, May 17: “Republicans have launched an all-out effort to woo Gov. Chris Sununu into a challenge to Democratic Sen. Maggie Hassan next fall.” ...

“He’d be a great candidate,” said Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, who has personally lobbied Sununu to take on Hassan. “We’re hoping he’d make the race.” ...

“Sununu has the potential to be the most important Republican recruit of the cycle. He’s an incumbent three-term governor And he’s political royalty in the Granite State, the son of a former governor and White House chief of staff as well as the brother of a former senator.”

And here we thought monarchy had fallen out of favor.

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Maybe L. Ron Hubbard DID Sink a Sub
Three years ago on May 19th, our Tidal Guide began featuring a particular item; here is the most recent version: “1943—U.S. submarine-chaser PC-815, L. Ron Hubbard, Cmdr., battles non-existent

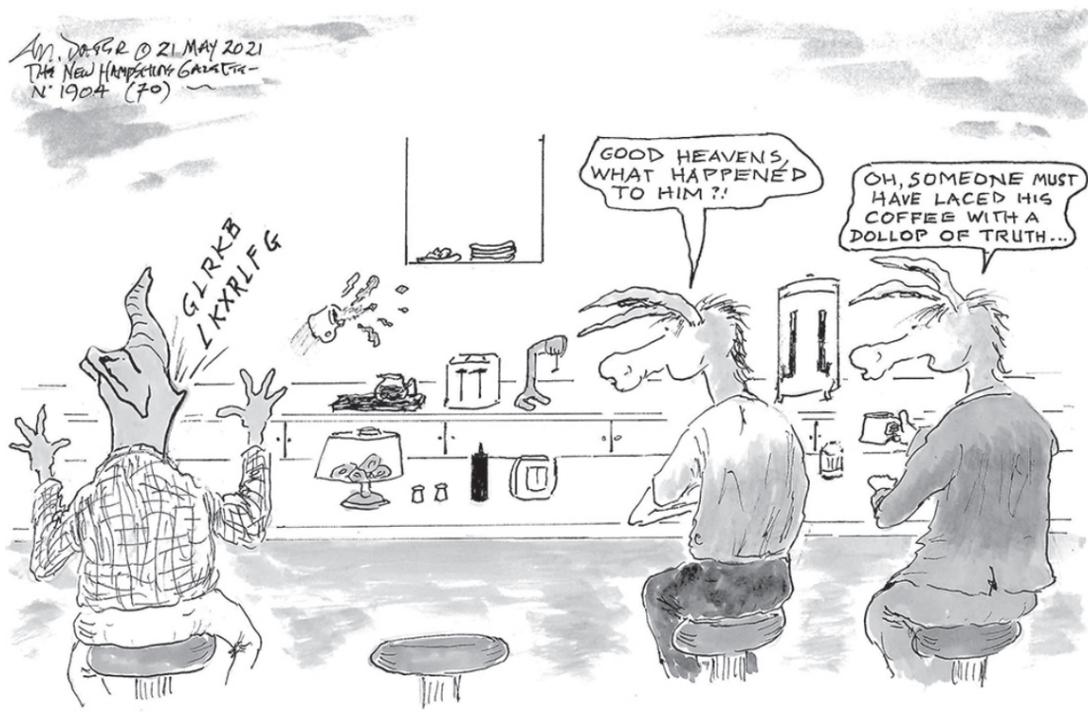
Japanese subs off Ore.”
On Thursday—May 19th—we received a comment and an email contesting the accuracy of that item. We are always, of course, grateful for any assistance in improving the accuracy of that feature. Some such corrections take the fun out of an item. This one had the opposite effect.

Commenter Mana Nui steered us to a YouTube video titled “Oregon Coast Project,” dated July 21, 2014:

Narrator: “In the spring of 1943, Robert Wood was a 19 year old sailor assigned as a signalmen aboard his sub chaser the SC 536, and although Robert will be 96 years old this Christmas Day, he can still recall the details of the events that began on May 19th, 1943....”

Robert Wood: On May the 18th of 1943 the PC 815 was enroute to San Diego, California, and of course they had their sound gear going and they picked up a ping from a submarine....

Narrator: “The soundman alerted the commanding officer of the PC 815, Lieutenant Ron Hubbard, and again confirmed for the lieutenant what he identified as the sound of screws from a submarine. It was wartime so the PC 815 was sail-



ing with a full crew that had been trained for action. After identifying the presence of one submarine that was deemed unfriendly the sound men on duty and the sound technician responsible for the operation of the magnetic recorder soon identified the sound of a second set of screws in the water.

“The PC 815 reported the targets and prepared to engage the submerged enemy. Once in position the range was determined and the first depth charges were dropped in an attempt to damage the submarine and force it to the surface. The lieutenant [Hubbard] contacted the naval authorities in Astoria and requested reinforcements—additional ships and charges to be dispatched to the location.”

Among them was Wood’s ship, the SC 536.

Wood: “So we started dropping dropping charges. We were also operating with two PCs and another sub chaser and ourselves, and then another ship [Coast Guard Cutter Bonham] and two blimps. This was a new experience. We had never operated with blimps before.”

Narrator: “As the additional ships arrived in the area, attack patterns were set up and additional depth charges were deployed. At one point, the sounds of blowing tanks could be heard below the surface; and several crewmen observed large amounts of orange oil, boiling to the ocean surface. The engagement continued.”

“The morning of May twentieth, 1943 began with coordinated attacks on the submarines between the surface vessels and the two U.S. Navy blimps. Magnetic sound contact was confirmed and provided by sound technicians aboard the ships before additional depth charges were dropped. Sound information from one of the blimps indicated that one of the submarines had turned and seemed to be headed for shallower water. Surface vessels again pursued and attacked.”

Wood said that May 19th and 20th were the busiest days of the engagement. The PC 815 dropped 67 charges. On the second day, Woods’ 536 ran out of charges; more were sent down from Astoria.

Narrator: “In the early evening

hours of May twentieth the blimps used signal flares to indicate the location of the enemy submarine that had been detected. Charges were set to the appropriate depth and deployed by the SC 536. Crewmen aboard the blimps reported a direct hit on the target, something Robert Wood clearly recalls.”

Wood: “I communicated with the blimp quite a bit.... One time they sent a message that we, our depth charges had made a direct hit on the submarine, and that we had sunk the sub. So we didn’t forget that message and were very proud of it.”

Narrator: “On the morning of May 21st the surface ships’ crewmen continue to investigate the area that the ships attacked the night before. The soundmen and sound technician on the PC 815 again reported the sounds of air tanks being blown below the surface and just off their port bow. They waited for a submarine to surface.

“Suddenly the man on deck spotted a periscope that had risen up through a boil of orange oil. The barrel of the periscope was clearly identifiable. Gunners immediately



The Party Band—the pride of Lowell, Massachusetts, or so we would imagine—visited Portsmouth on Sunday. The band has been together at least since 2014, we learn from snooping around at partybandlowell.bandcamp.com. Anyone with ears, though, could easily tell: they’ve been playing together for a good long while. The crowd clearly loved the show. Albums are available on their bandcamp page, along with merch including a cloth patch bearing this succinct message: “Mass. Brass Punk Funk.”

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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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swung the deck gun into position and opened fire. As a hail of bullets were fired toward the periscope it disappeared back under the surface of the waves. Since the *PC 815* was stationary in the water at that time additional charges were dropped by the *SC 536*. Sound operators reported that the enemy target was distancing itself from the location of the *815* but was believed to be damaged because it departed at a very slow rate. According to declassified reports the engagement with the submarines lasted for 68 hours. Depth charges were dropped for 55 hours.

“Formal reports to naval authorities in Astoria were submitted by the commanding officer of the *SC 536*, Ed Kroepke, and from Lieutenant Hubbard of the *PC 815*. Those re-

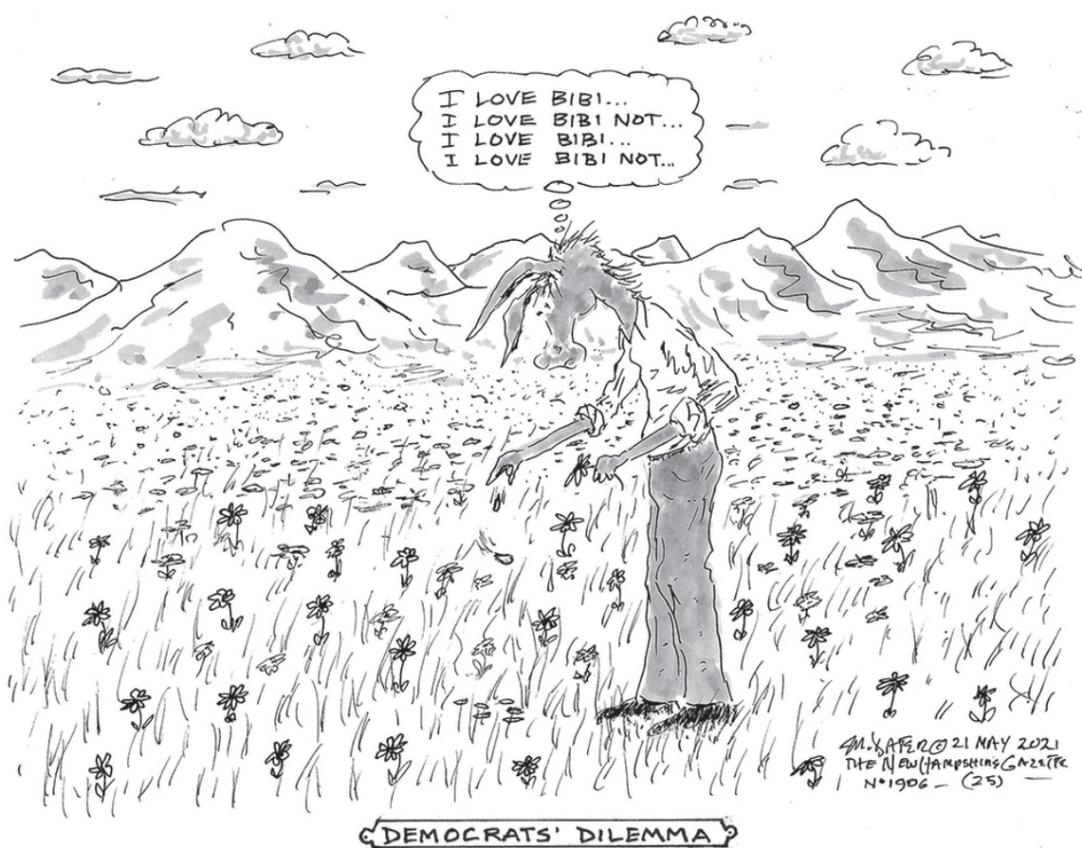
ports were dismissed. The highest ranking officials—those who had allowed the U.S. Navy vessels to engage possible enemy submarines of the Oregon coast—now displayed skepticism.”

Officially, there were no subs. The Oregon Coast Project believed Robert Wood, and spent some years searching the sea floor for wreckage, locating a promising anomaly. After Wood died in 2016 it issued this statement: “While our hope was that we would be able to prove his story before we lost him, we intend to continue the work to prove the events for all of the veterans families who know what happened.”

We’ve asked them to keep us posted—for Wood’s sake, of course, not Hubbard’s.



Work has begun on a Super Flood Basin for Dry Dock No. 1 at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard—which, so far as this newspaper is concerned, is in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. We don’t mean to be cranky about it, but New Hampshire v. Maine, 532 U.S. 742 (2001) be damned. In preparation for that work, a nine-month program of underwater blasting will begin next month. Enthusiasts hoping for a repeat of the 1905 Henderson’s Point blast will, however, be disappointed. According to the Formerly-Award-Winning, Mysteriously-Owned Local Daily (see the Alleged News) Naval Facilities and Engineering Command Structural Engineer Linn Lebel has said that the “visible result topside will be a minor disturbance in the localized water surface area with slight ground vibrations.... It will not be a dramatic gush of water and discharge of rock and sand.... most of our community neighbors will not even be aware of the operations.” Before this work got under way, the Navy had to apply for an “incidental harassment authorization.” It requires that the area around the site be monitored for the presence of marine mammals, that the site itself be cordoned off with an underwater “bubble curtain,” and that blasting be delayed if marine mammals are in the area.



We Return to Newsprint on June 4th
Last year, on Friday, March 13th, when our Origami Gang dispersed and our Downtown Distribution team turned in their bags and slips, we could only guess what the future might hold.

We might have been expected to have had some inkling, having survived the Flu Pandemic of 1918. Staff turnover during the intervening century, however, had wiped out any institutional memory of that tragic event. As for any in-house records detailing how Fernando Wood Hartford, our publisher at that time, surmounted that challenge, well... when one takes over a newspaper with a \$40 check to the Secretary of State, such luxuries are not included.

Through sheer good fortune, when the plague struck, our website had just been rebuilt from the ground up by the fine folks at the Secret Agency. Being online-only in our previous form for 15 months would have been disheartening.

Digital publication is fine for what it is. It’s nice to be able to reach readers all over the world—even, we presume, on the International Space Station, though we have yet to receive any suggestion that that’s ever happened. Besides, before the pandemic, we were already mailing to readers in Europe and the rest of the world was in reach, thanks to International Forever Stamps.

We are online because we must be. Cyberspace, however—the rabbit hole as big as the universe—is paradoxically confined inside an array of gizmos. Our position is that no amount of digitized grandiosity could ever compare with being physically present, however modestly, in the allegedly real world.

We have used this space on a number of occasions to proclaim our eagerness to return to three dimensions; we just could not wait to resume our proper existence—providing every fortnight “the freshest advices, foreign and domestick” in

a svelte, one-ounce packet of unfettered, non-fiction news—so, we’re not waiting any more.

We will see you again, in our old, familiar form, in a fortnight.

At least, so we assume at the moment. We try to always be honest: we have some trepidation. As we might say to anyone else who was attempting this, we’ll believe it when we see it.

We know there will be challenges. Some of those we can plan for, because we know what they are. What changes, though, have been wrought on our environment by the past 31 fortnights?

We have not been this uncertain since May 1, 1999 when we resumed regularly-scheduled publication here in our home town, under our proper name, after being subsumed for four decades into what was then the Award-Winning Local Daily.



Murph’s Fortnightly Quote
“Remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.”
— Franklin Delano Roosevelt

“The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts.”
— Bertrand Russell
john@wordpraxis.com

“Terrorism is what we call the violence of the weak, and we condemn it; war is what we call the violence of the strong, and we glorify it.”
— Sydney J. Harris, *Clearing the Ground*, (1986).
— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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Harassment In Spain Of The Lawyer For Catalan Pro-Independence Politicians
To the Editor:

Gonzalo Boye is the lawyer for the President of Catalonia, Carles Puigdemont, and members of his government, who, in 2017, accompanied him to Belgium after holding a referendum on Catalan independence. They went into exile in Belgium because they saw that the Spanish justice system would condemn them even though organizing referendums is not a crime in the Spanish penal code.

This is exactly how it turned out, because the Spanish justice system sentenced the members of Puigdemont's government who stayed in Catalonia to between nine and 13 years in prison. Thanks to the work of lawyer Gonzalo Boye and the international team of lawyers with whom he collaborates, Puigdemont and the other Catalan exiles remain at liberty, despite the efforts of the Spanish justice system to extradite and imprison them. Since he took over the defence of the Catalan pro-independence supporters, Gonzalo Boye's bank accounts have been closed, he has had four tax inspections and three labour inspections, his office has been broken into twice at night somehow without the security cameras recording anything, and a criminal case has been opened against him for alleged crimes of money laundering and falsification of documents.

The criminal case against Gonzalo Boye is based on two former clients' voluntary statements, both of whom are in prison. Boye claims that the two men are lying and that he has evidence. One of the men, Puentes Saavedra, is convicted of drug trafficking, and there is also strong evidence that he committed a murder in Colombia. Despite the seriousness of the crimes, Puentes Saavedra was released after testifying against his former lawyer. Two months after the drug trafficker and alleged murderer's statement, police searched the lawyer's office and confiscated his mobile phone to make a copy of its contents.

Despite the harassment to which he is subjected, Boye has not given up. He and four Catalan lawyers' associa-

tions have filed a complaint against the judge, the prosecutor and a magistrate for allegedly covering up a murder and prevarication. Boye has challenged the judge and asked the Constitutional Court not to allow anyone to access his phone as it contains confidential information about his work as a defence lawyer. In an interview with the newspaper *Vilaweb* [<https://www.vilaweb.cat/noticies/boye-tinc-compliat/>], Boye explains that he believes that his pro-independence clients will end up winning before Spain, but that his own defence, as a lawyer, will be more difficult. He is convinced that his persecution is the work of powerful groups, operating from within the Spanish state, who want to make him pay for his defence of the Catalan pro-independence supporters.

Maria M. Garayoa
Barcelona, Catalonia
For more information:

<https://english.vilaweb.cat/noticies/international-lawyers-express-concern-over-gonzalo-boyes-prosecution/>

<https://english.vilaweb.cat/noticies/the-spanish-justice-system-against-defence-lawyer-gonzalo-boye/>

<https://www.elnacional.cat/en/politics/complaint-boye-lawyers-spanish-judge-covering-up-murder-599399-102.html>

<https://english.vilaweb.cat/noticies/international-lawyers-express-concern-over-gonzalo-boyes-prosecution/>

<https://openkat.eu/gonzalo-boye-the-lawyer-who-defends-puigdemont-prosecuted-for-drug-trafficking-laundering/>

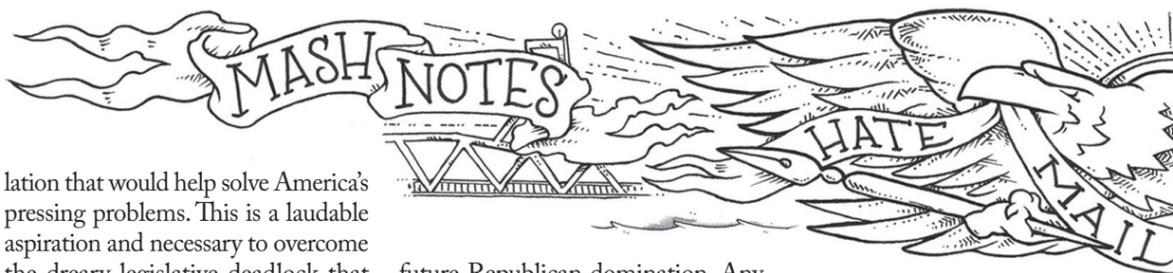
<https://english.vilaweb.cat/noticies/the-spanish-justice-system-against-defence-lawyer-gonzalo-boye/>

Maria:
We thank you for this: another lucid report on the campaign being waged against the people of Catalonia. We look forward to the day when we can publish a report from you in which justice—true justice—triumphs.

The Editor

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A Little Civil Debate

To the Editor:
President Biden has consistently promoted bipartisan support for legis-



lation that would help solve America's pressing problems. This is a laudable aspiration and necessary to overcome the dreary legislative deadlock that has hamstrung public policy. Bipartisan solutions, however, require two parties that share a vision of the common good and participate in reasoned analysis to achieve compromise solutions. It is questionable whether these elements exist in the political discourse of the Trump era.

The greatest impediment to bipartisanship is the Trump-dominated Republican Party. It has degenerated into tribal loyalty to Trump and has become solely focused on the preservation of its power. It seems incapable of developing a shared concept of the common good or engaging in an honest dialogue with Democrats to achieve one. Rather than recognizing Biden's valid election, most Republican legislators and 70 percent of their base voters persist in supporting Trump's Big Lie that the election was lost due to massive voter fraud.

In their attempt to defend the Big Lie, Republicans have cast off from any mooring to truth or rationality. Arizona Republicans have initiated a crackpot "audit" of the state's presidential election long after it had been certified. The audit is being managed by the ludicrously-named firm "Cyber Ninjas." The firm is owned and managed by an avid Trump supporter. At last report, the ninjas were scouring ballots for any trace of bamboo based on a theory that thousands of bogus ballots had been sent to Arizona from the far east. Other Republican legislators are using the Big Lie as justification to pursue voter suppression legislation in several red states. The legislation is designed to limit voting by Democratic voters and to consolidate Republican control over future elections. These Banana Republicans have no qualms in destroying impartial election processes to ensure

future Republican domination. Any doubt that blind loyalty to Trump is the prime requisite for good standing in the Republican Party should have been erased by the recent removal of Liz Cheney from her leadership position by House Republicans for the heinous crime of telling the truth about the 2020 election.

It is hard to conceive that a party fully engaged in the promotion of lies and crackpot conspiracy theories to further their own narrow self-interests is capable of engaging in an honest process of reasoned discourse to achieve compromise with the President's initiatives.

Although the Republican Party is the largest impediment to bipartisan solutions, the radical wing of the Democratic Party also provides roadblocks to compromise. The focus of radical Progressives on identity politics has too often generated ideology rather than enlightenment. "Woke" Progressives have too frequently demanded an uncompromising loyalty to dogma rather than participating in a search for truth. Demands to "defund" or even to eliminate the police are examples. The conservative backlash against the 1619 Project illustrates how a worthy effort to trace the history and consequences of slavery can degenerate into political warfare when both sides retreat into ideological conformity. The damages of slavery have been consequential and long-standing but to make unsupported claims that white Americans are inherently racist and the country's history can only be told through a racist lens (as some proponents of the Project do) is to ignore the complexities of American history.

The demand for blind loyalty to a failed autocrat or deluded conformity to dogma cannot sustain respectful and reasoned discourse. President

Biden's aspiration for bipartisan policies are under threat from uncompromising Republicans and Democrats. Unbending conformity to ideology or narrow self-interest cannot generate the solutions that provide repaired infrastructure, cyber security, effective health care, increased income equality and a fairer educational system.

Robert D. Russell, Ph.D.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Robert:
Thanks for writing. We envy your ability to maintain equanimity while discussing the behavior of reactionaries.

We differ on police funding, though. Our guess is that half of police budgets goes to paying armed people to do work for which they are not trained, and in which firearms do more harm than good. We ought to pay other people to do that work in different ways.

Plenty of Americans are racists, but that's mostly their problem. Our society is structurally racist—that's a problem for all of us.

Just because the Republicans have gone way 'round the bend, does not mean, in our semi-humble opinion, that the left-most end of the Democratic Party is taking things too far.

Democratic moderates are complicit in most of the horrendous damage done by GOP lunatics over the past forty years.

The Editor

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Mother's Day

Dear Editor:
Mother's Day. I read a lot of science fiction. It has come a long way from space monsters to political commentary.

Human beings are diverse. We have an odd sex life, compared to other species of mammals. We can get pregnant any month in the three decades we are fecund. It used to be shameful for a

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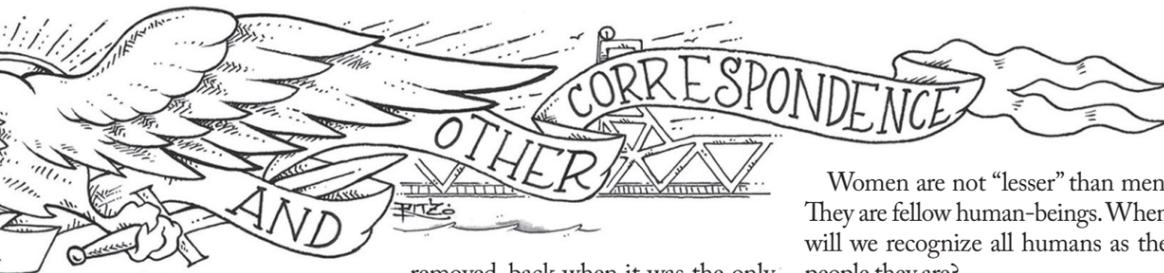
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woman to not be pregnant after her first menses.

That may seem like ancient history, but the nagging from would-be grandparents shows it is not.

When I was raised, and schooled, in the Catholic faith, I remember Pope John XXIII, who was in office when I had First Holy Communion.

In the Army, I met Seventh Day Adventists, and some other faiths. The priests I had were military, but I did not see the point in some Catholic rules.

In the news, a child facing life-threatening surgery was advocated for baptism by her father, a "lapsed" Catholic. The priest in his parish refused, as he was "not likely to raise her in the faith." To me, this was a form of blackmail, and a threat to her soul's fate, her chance at heaven. I could not see Jesus saying such things.

Most faiths, not just Christian, hold that theirs is the only way to heaven. I cannot see that, either. I rather agree with Will Rogers famous quote, "If dogs don't go to heaven, I want to go where they go when I die."

In a logical argument, if God is the all-knowing, eternal Being claimed, He/She/It, being a Great Spirit, would understand my mind. If there is no God, then I cease to exist; my matter, or body, would simply return to the earth. My spiritual essence, fueled by chemical-electrical energy, would dissipate.

I agree with donating body organs. I have lived long enough to see the compassion and humanity of it. I never believed God would deny heaven to those whose body was not complete. That belief is as old as Ancient Egypt.

My grandfather's leg had to be embalmed and held for his own grave. His priest talked him into having it

removed, back when it was the only treatment for a blood clot, by calling his refusal suicide, which would deny him heaven. His personal choice to ignore it, which is now a right to deny medical care, was not an option for a good, practicing Catholic.

I feel that a woman's choice to not become a parent, for any reason, is her right. Her faith is her own business, between her and her God. Government has no right to tell her to take that risk to her life, her sanity—as she will be concerned for her child—or her child's welfare is greater than her own, and her willingness to become a parent.

If the gain to the population is worth the possibilities of a child that is severely handicapped, will die no matter what is done, or is simply disabled, then the government should be willing to pay for the mother's medical care and the child's, for life. The governments of other countries do so. Yet, they have abortion available to women. It remains the choice of the woman and her doctor. These, to me, are true democratic societies. Women are held as responsible for themselves as men are, and respected as such.

The Catholic Church, as many Christian faiths, not all, is still in the feudal age. Women and children are not property of the husband, the Church, or government. We abolished slavery for African Americans, yet they still face persecution, as other former nationalities in our country, and in other parts of the world, because of this attitude. Women are still killed by their lovers because—they—do not want to become parents. Many of the female homicides throughout the world, not just in the U.S.A., are also caused by this—as the "it's just rape," dismissal of the continuing terrorization of women.

Women are not "lesser" than men. They are fellow human-beings. When will we recognize all humans as the people they are?

Diane M. Starkey
Rochester, N.H.

Diane:
It's good to hear from you again. It's funny—although we can easily imagine a priest or a pope arguing with you, we can't imagine you in an argument with Jesus.

The Editor

Free Palestine

Dear Editor,

There is no safe place in Palestine. It has no army and is occupied by Israel, a country with one of the largest militaries in the world with tanks, jets, drones, guided missiles, assorted weaponry, and over 200 nuclear bombs, plus an extensive surveillance system.

Israel's military might is largely funded by the U.S.A. As a result of our largesse, Gaza—all 12 by 7.5 miles of it—is an open-air prison, housing over two million souls. It is one of the densest places on the planet. Is it any wonder they have a very active Resistance movement? Isn't it time to send in UN troops to provide security and keep the peace? Isn't it time to free Palestine?

Genevieve Fraser
Orange, Mass.

Genevieve:
If you ask us, it's past time to free Palestine.

The Editor

"People used to think that learning to read evidenced human progress; they still celebrate the decline of illiteracy as a great victory; they condemn countries with a large proportion of illiterates; they think that reading is a road to freedom. All this is debatable, for the important thing is not to be able to read, but to understand what one reads, to reflect on and judge what one reads. Outside of that, reading has no meaning (and even destroys cer-

tain automatic qualities of memory and observation). But to talk about critical faculties and discernment is to talk about something far above primary education and to consider a very small minority. The vast majority of people, perhaps ninety percent, know how to read, but do not exercise their intelligence beyond this. They attribute authority and eminent value to the printed word, or, conversely, reject it altogether. As these people do not

possess enough knowledge to reflect and discern, they believe—or disbelieve—in toto what they read. And as such people, moreover, will select the easiest, not the hardest, reading matter, they are precisely on the level at which the printed word can seize and convince them without opposition. They are perfectly adapted to propaganda."

—Jaques Ellul, *Propaganda: The Formation of Men's Attitudes* (1962)

Bayonet Etiquette

"You can get a lot done with a bayonet, but sitting on one is uncomfortable"
—from *Secondhand Time*, Svetlana Alexievich

I. Things you can do with a bayonet

Kill people.

Persuade people to do things they don't want to do by threatening to kill them.

Control unruly crowds

by threatening to kill them.

Control peaceful crowds

by threatening to kill them.

Control your wife

by threatening to kill her.

Rob a bank or convenience store

by threatening to kill the clerk.

Wave it in the air on your front porch or in your backyard to demonstrate your manliness.

Eat peas with it (this one's challenging).

Kill snakes (which I did one morning in Vietnam in 1967 for no good reason I can think of).

Bash open your C-ration cans

if your John Wayne can opener is broken

or otherwise unavailable.

II. Things you should not do with a bayonet

Sit on it.

—W. D. Ehrhart is a life member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War and a founding member of Veterans for Peace.

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HOWLER'S PILE AND HUMOR

What do we choose to remember with memorial markers, buildings and community projects?



To learn more about memorials and what else we choose to remember go to PortsmouthGenome.org Join the conversation. A Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum project.

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Youth Protest Bank of America Funding Fossil Fuels

Bedford, N.H.—On Saturday evening a group of high school activists from the 350NH Youth Team and members of Extinction Rebellion met at the Bank of America in Bedford to protest the bank's involvement in funding the fossil fuel industry. Speakers urged for the end to the money pipeline from banks and other firms that keeps the fossil fuel industry afloat even as our society has increasingly recognized the environmental costs of fossil fuels. The event was both virtual with a Zoom call run by youth team members and in-person where participants drew in chalk along the sidewalk near the bank.

Nikhil Chavda, sophomore at Coe Brown Academy and organizer of the event says: "Bank of America lends money to fossil fuel companies that build pipelines such as Line 3 in Minnesota. Between 2016 and

2020, Bank of America lent \$3.16 billion dollars to Enbridge, the company building the pipeline. They lent \$350 Million to the Dakota Access Pipeline, which still operates today! Without money from big banks, fossil fuel companies wouldn't have enough money to support the building of more pipelines. Bank of America could stop this, if they stop lending these companies billions of dollars."

This action, organized by high school-aged activists across New Hampshire, sends a message to the CEOs of Bank of America and other big banks that it is unacceptable to profit off of the destruction of the climate. Individuals in positions of power have failed to protect the climate and it is now up to ordinary people to make the changes necessary in the time we have left. We demand that the people in power

step up, and stop investing money in the fossil fuel industry, funding dangerous projects such as the Line 3 Pipeline, currently being built on indigenous land. "We are calling from all corners of the globe that it is time to Defund Line 3. This is just a start, but it is not the end of our efforts. We will continue to fight until we strip the monetary foundation of the fossil fuel industry away and put out the fire that threatens all of us, once and for all" says Anna Rose Marion, a senior in high school and organizer of the event.

Grassroots resistance to the pipeline is growing across the country, day by day. Actions in opposition will continue to be organized, and the corporations funding such destruction of the planet will be targeted. Bank of America is not innocent, and the youth of New Hampshire will not stand to pretend that they



New Hampshire student activists gather in Bedford to demand that Bank of America stop funding the fossil fuel industry. - Courtesy photo.

are. This action was one of many, and we will continue to fight until big banks stop funding the fossil fuel industry, and the building of Line 3 in Minnesota. This action is a part of a global day of action to call on

banks to Defund Line 3 pipeline. Learn more about the national coalition here: <https://actionnetwork.org/event/campaigns/defundline3-global-day-of-action>.

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Clean energy technologies can benefit us - but we need a strategy!

Jerry Seinfeld once said: "No one likes change except a wet baby." Most of us would just as soon avoid change but, like it or not, the fossil fuels to which we're accustomed are a dying breed. Science says we must cut emissions pollution in half by 2030. Fortunately, we are in the midst of dramatic technological innovations that allow us to use non-polluting renewable energy efficiently at affordable prices. The three main components of this energy transition are efficiency, electricity, and renewable energy sources.

Nationwide renewable electricity generation has nearly doubled over the last decade; close to 90 percent of the expansion has come from wind and solar. The technologies available to New Hampshire a decade ago are nothing like those today. And while emerging technologies like renewables-based hydrogen and long duration energy storage show potential, New Hampshire

already has the technologies it needs to begin. Below we explore beneficial existing technologies available now—provided we have supportive state strategies.

Heating and cooling accounts for half of all residential energy consumption. Less than a generation ago electric heat pumps were a poor alternative for New Hampshire, because heat pump efficiency crashed with colder temperatures. Today's heat pumps can provide heat even when outside temperatures dip as low as -15 Fahrenheit. And this technology offers heating in winter and efficient air conditioning in summer.

Progress in recent years has helped make the case for offshore wind even stronger. The federal commitment to 30,000 MW by 2030 is huge and important for New Hampshire. (At full power, one 13 MW turbine provides a household's daily electricity in under 7 seconds!)

Four hundred thousand Massachusetts homes will get their electricity from an offshore wind project approved just this month.

Roof top, community, or utility scale solar energy is being deployed and demand is growing (prices have fallen 45 percent over the past five years). Trade in your oil-fired hot water heater for an efficient electric one and presto—free hot water powered by panels and no household emissions!

We'll need energy storage to grow renewables in New Hampshire. Advances in technology are bringing battery storage to consumers today: lithium-ion batteries are now 73 percent cheaper than six years ago. Storage facilitates can eventually squeeze out coal and gas fueled power plants. Battery storage is available to homes and businesses and can be developed at "utility scale" too. Storage lowers residential electric bills, strengthens resilience

to power outages and contributes to cleaner air.

The physics behind combustion remains the same regardless of fuel efficiency. For every gallon of gas burned, about 20 pounds of CO2 is released into the air. In addition to reducing vehicle miles traveled, or trading in for a more efficient vehicle, driving an electric car (e.g a new F150-Lightning truck!) is how individuals can make the biggest difference. When more EVs enter the market with attractive incentives, people will want this proven technology.

We must deploy more "Large Clean Energy Technologies." But an equally intensive effort must be made to drive demand down for heating oil, natural gas, gasoline and electricity - by doubling down on energy efficiency and weatherization of homes. Efficiency can emerge from "Smaller Common-Sense Home Improvement Technologies" purchased at local hardware stores. Efficiency measures have resulted in a 43 percent reduction of energy

use during the period 1977-2017, an amount that is 30 times the energy generated by renewable energy sources. Small efficiency technologies are available today.

Cold beverages, hot showers, and reliable transportation must and will still be there in 2030. But supportive state strategies are essential to meeting efficiency, renewable, and emissions targets. Are you interested in cleaner air, new transportation solutions, buttoning up your home or business, and increasing renewable energy options and reliability? Make your comments known. Every three years New Hampshire must update its "10-Year State Energy Strategy." The Governor's Office of Strategic Initiatives is about to begin updating the 2018 strategy and is accepting public comment until June 4. Public comment can be sent to OSI by email: osi.osiinfo@osi.nh.gov.

Roger Stephenson, Northeast Regional Advocacy Director, Union of Concerned Scientists

Rep. Peter Somssich, District 27/Portsmouth

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Change is driven by the young, not us grizzled elders

by Jean Stimmell

Recently I wrote in this space about how humans are born into this world unfinished, requiring a long childhood to learn the norms and practices of their particular community. For the community to thrive, what we pass on to our children must change in step with societal changes.

This unparalleled ability to change, as psychologist Alison Gopnik tells us, “is the most distinctive and unchanging thing about us, allowing us to thrive no matter what challenging circumstances we had to face over our long evolutionary history.”¹

But societal change isn't driven by our grizzled elders but by our children. As sociologists like Tressie Cottom tell us: “Almost all real change that happens is when a new generation comes along.”² They are the ones able to think outside the box of what is.

We see that happening today with young people who are celebrating diversity by embracing previously marginalized folks and expressing their openness to discussing unsavory aspects of our national past in order to find a better way forward.

mind me of Archie Bunker, the star of that seminal TV sitcom “All In The Family,” which ran in the 1970s. Archie attempts to indoctrinate his family into his old-school, patriarchal worldview, but his daughter and her boyfriend are having no part of it. Neither are the young today.

This brings me to House Bill 544, which would prohibit educators from teaching about systemic racism and sexism in public schools. It seeks to limit public schools from discussing topics related to racism and sexism; in particular, it would ban teaching whether we are racist or sexist, either as a state or a country. As the sponsor, Rep. Keith Ammon, who introduced the bill, explained, “If that's the assumption we are going to make as a society, then we are never going to get to unity.”³

That sounds to me like something Archie Bunker would say to his family: If you would just shut up and do things my way, we would have unity. Luckily, his children tuned him out and opted instead for diversity: standing up for feminism, civil rights, and against an unjust war in



Protester at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, during the Women's March, Washington D.C. March 9, 1986. CC Jean Stimmell.



Vietnam. Needless to say, they prevailed. That's a good illustration of how change was brought about by the young during those turbulent times.

In fact, as Michelle Goldberg writes in the *New York Times*, “Many of the intellectual currents that would become critical race theory emerged in the 1970s out of dis-

appointment with the incomplete work of the civil rights movement.” Understanding that racism is structural rather than just a matter of personal bigotry was ahead of its time back then but is now conventional wisdom, except for flame-throwers on the right.⁴

Our children are our designated drivers of change, especially crucial resources today as we face unprecedented upheavals in society, technology, and the environment. For the next generation to safely steer us toward a livable and just future, they must be well versed in critical thinking and relational skills, not indoctrinated into the dysfunctional gruel of the present. The stakes are high if we want to escape the fate of the dodo bird.

1 *The Philosophical Baby* by Alison Gopnik. Farrar, Straus & Giroux: New York: 2009, Page 7
 2 <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/13/podcasts/ezra-klein-podcast-tressie-mcmillan-cottom-transcript.html>
 3 <https://www.concordmonitor.com/Education-bill-would-ban-teaching-racism-sexism-38821767>
 4 <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/26/opinion/speech-racism-academia.html>

The Plutocrats Cry, People Cheer

by Jim Hightower

“Outrageous,” screeched the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. “It doesn't feel fair,” whimpered a top corporate executive.

The wailing by those who run corporate America is not for the plight of the workaday families who've seen their incomes stagnate and even plummet to zero during the past months of the coronavirus pandemic. Rather, this chorus of woe comes from powerful plutocratic interests that have been enjoying windfall profits. Why? Because, they cry, that meanie in the White

House, Joe Biden, intends to jack up their corporate tax rate.

But wait didn't Trump and the GOP Congress slash the corporate share of our nation's upkeep nearly in half just four years ago, shifting the burden to the middle class and poor? Yes. And didn't they promise that those cuts would create millions of new jobs? Yes, again—yet corporations got richer and working stiffs got shafted.

Still, here they come again, howling that raising corporate taxes would crash the stock market. Well, the day Biden announced his plan, stock prices did fall...by less than

one percent. The next day, they bounced right back, and they're still booming.

Moreover, those are crocodile tears the rich are shedding, for they know that—as Biden himself makes clear—his proposed uptick in their tax share “is not going to affect their standard of living at all. Not a little tiny bit.” They'll still have their two or three big houses, private jets, and yachts. But, with them paying just a bit more toward the Common Good, our country will be able to reinvest in society's physical and human infrastructure, making America stronger and fairer for all.

That's why there are broad and deep public majorities—even among Republicans—for Biden's infrastructure plan and the taxes to pay for it. For more information go to AmericansForTaxFairness.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.

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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

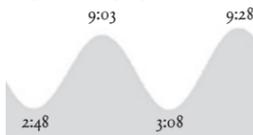
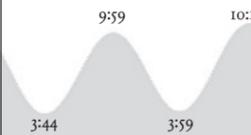
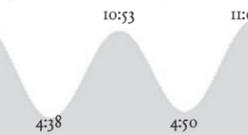
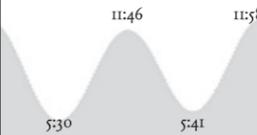
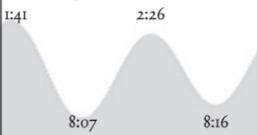
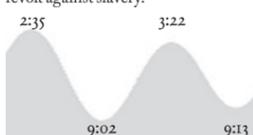
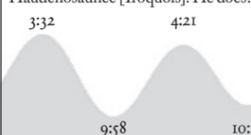
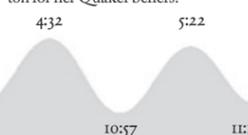
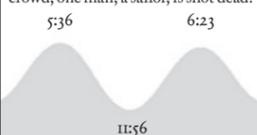
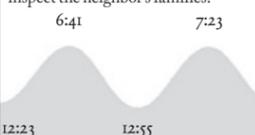
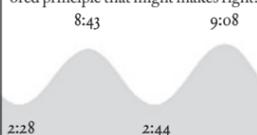
whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua's ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, MAY 23	MONDAY, MAY 24	TUESDAY, MAY 25	WEDNESDAY, MAY 26	THURSDAY, MAY 27	FRIDAY, MAY 28	SATURDAY, MAY 29
<p>2012—A mentally-unstable PNSY employee sets a fire that destroys the billion-dollar U.S.S. <i>Miami</i>.</p> <p>1976—The <i>Washington Post</i> reports that Rep. Wayne L. Hays' (D-Ohio) mistress, on his payroll at \$14,000 a year, admits she "can't type...can't file, [and] can't even answer the phone."</p> <p>1971—President Nixon meets with the milk cartel. For a \$2 million campaign contribution, he OKs a \$100 million increase in the cost of milk.</p> <p>1969—Drunk, homesick U.S.A.F. Sgt. Paul Meyer steals a C-130 from Mildenhall, UK and heads for Langley, Va. He crashes into the English Channel—possibly shot down.</p> <p>1950—The UAW and GM sign the Treaty of Detroit. Workers get better benefits but give up all hope of power over corporate decisions.</p> <p>1939—U.S.S. <i>Squalus</i> sinks off the Isles of Shoals with 59 aboard. Within 40 hours, 33 are rescued, but 26 die.</p> <p>1934—Cops in Louisiana ambush and kill Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. Their bodies are mauled by gawkers as they get hauled through town, dead, in their shot-up Ford V-8.</p> <p>1930—Serial killer Carl Panzram writes to the Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment, "I wish you all had one neck and that I had my hands on it."</p> <p>1908—In Calif., 16 passengers survive a fall from an exploding dirigible.</p> <p>1849—In Haverhill, N.H., thousands watch as Rev. Enos Dudley is hanged for strangling his wife.</p>	<p>2005—"See," mansplains G.W.[MD] Bush, "in my line of work you got to keep repeating things over and over and over again for the truth to sink in, to kind of catapult the propaganda."</p> <p>2000—Linda Tripp beats a wiretap rap; if you're a Right Winger, ignorance of the law is an excuse.</p> <p>1989—Being killed by Texas state employees, Stephen McCoy has a violent drug reaction. A male witness faints, knocking over another witness.</p> <p>1978—Pistol-packin' Barbara Ann Oswald skyjacks Allen Barklage's helicopter to spring airliner skyjacker Garrett B. Trapnell from the Marion, Ill. pen. Bold Barklage grabs Oswald's gun, though, and shoots her dead.</p> <p>1971—After a ski pole punctures his heart in a fall from a ski lift, actor Clint Walker is declared dead. A dissenting M.D. postpones his death to 2018.</p> <p>1964—Barry Goldwater says let's use nukes in South Vietnam.</p> <p>1961—Law-abiding Freedom Riders are arrested in Jackson, Miss. as per agreement between Sen. James Eastland and A.G. Bobby Kennedy.</p> <p>1959—The first home bomb shelter is shown in Pleasant Hills, Pa.</p> <p>1861—Shot while removing a Rebel flag from a hotel roof in Alexandria, Va., Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, friend of Abe Lincoln, becomes the first Union officer to die in the Civil War.</p> <p>1824—More hours for less pay? No—102 women and girls in Pawtucket hold the U.S.'s first industrial strike.</p>	<p>2020—George Perry Floyd, Jr., dead at 46 in Minneapolis. Rest in Power.</p> <p>2007—As U. Mass. hands an honorary degree to Andrew Card, George W.[MD] Bush's ex-Chief of Staff, students and faculty howl and boo.</p> <p>1988—Evicted from his crypt, Peter Lawford's ashes are scattered at sea; the <i>National Enquirer</i> covers the cost of the boat—none of his children will.</p> <p>1986—"Hands Across America" ends hunger and homelessness. Well done!</p> <p>1981—Kennebunkport native Dan Goodwin, 25, scales Chicago's Sears Tower while dressed as Spiderman.</p> <p>1979—Sitting in "Old Sparky," waiting for the juice, John Spenkelink says, "Capital punishment: them without the capital get the punishment."</p> <p>1953—At the Nevada Test Site, the U.S. fires a 15-kt nuclear warhead from a cannon called "Atomic Annie," previously seen at Ike's Inaugural Parade.</p> <p>1950—A speeding Green Hornet streetcar in Chicago collides with a gasoline truck, killing 34.</p> <p>1928—After circling the North Pole, Umberto Nobile's airship <i>Italia</i> crashes northeast of Spitsbergen. Eight crew members survive on the ice; six vanish as the balloon drifts away.</p> <p>1920—At a parochial school in Hampton, Nebraska, Robert T. Meyer is arrested for teaching German.</p> <p>1826—Hooligans in Chepachat, R.I. test Hachaliah Bailey's claim that his elephant, "Old Betty," has bullet-proof hide. He was lying, she does not.</p>	<p>2004—The <i>NY Times</i> admits that its pre-war Iraq coverage was "not as rigorous as it should have been."</p> <p>1989—Future Veep J. Danforth Quayle predicts, "We are on an irreversible trend toward more freedom and democracy, but that could change."</p> <p>1972—Nixon's "Plumbers" first effort to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate fails.</p> <p>1970—The destroyer U.S.S. <i>Richard B. Anderson's</i> departure for Vietnam is delayed due to sabotage by the crew.</p> <p>1947—An FBI memo duly notes that <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> is communistic.</p> <p>1938—The House Un-American Activities Committee begins carrying out its un-American activities.</p> <p>1937—Ford's thugs beat hell out of Walter Reuther and three union colleagues in the "Battle of the Overpass."</p> <p>1934—The Burlington diesel <i>Zephyr's</i> first run spells doom for steam.</p> <p>1924—Congress establishes quotas on immigrants: whites are alright, of course, but "Orientals" are banned.</p> <p>1916—Louis Thomas "Moondog" Hardin, composer, street musician, and Viking-helmet-wearing blind eccentric, is born.</p> <p>1647—In Hartford, Conn., where the State House now stands, Alice "Alse" Young becomes the first American hanged for witchcraft.</p> <p>1637—At Mystic, Conn., Captains John Mason and John Underhill set fire to the Pequots' fort, burning alive about 600 men, women, and children.</p>	<p>2017—It's the last "Last Call" at Portsmouth's Coat of Arms.</p> <p>1994—Charles Rodman Campbell does his best to dodge it, but Washington State's hangman finally manages to get a noose around his neck.</p> <p>1972—Nixon's "Plumbers" fail a second time trying to break into Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.</p> <p>1962—To clear an underground landfill, Centralia, Pa. officials set a fire. It spreads to a coal seam, forcing abandonment of the town 30 years later. The fire still burns.</p> <p>1959—NBC's <i>Today Show</i> reports straight-faced on the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals' campaign to clothe quadrupeds.</p> <p>1944—NBC censors Eddie Cantor: his song, "We're Having a Baby, My Baby and Me" is too lewd for the tube.</p> <p>1941—Biplanes sink the <i>Bismark</i>.</p> <p>1940—As Brits evacuate Dunkirk, Captain Jack Churchill drops a Nazi with an arrow from his longbow.</p> <p>1923—Arch-fiend Heinz Alfred Kissingler is born in Fürth, Bavaria.</p> <p>1902—Luna Park's owners poison then electrocute Topsy the Elephant. Edison's cameras film the event.</p> <p>1702—"I am about to—or I am going to—die," says French grammarian Dominique Bouhours, "either expression is used."</p> <p>1541—Margaret Pole, 67, 8th Countess of Salisbury, tries to dodge the ax in the Tower of London. It only makes things worse; the job takes 12 strokes.</p>	<p>2009—Jonathan Trappe crosses the English Channel suspended from a cluster of 54 multicolored balloons.</p> <p>1987—W. German Mathias Rust, 19, lands a rented Cessna in Red Square.</p> <p>1986—The Energy Dept. calls off a search for a high-level nuclear waste dump which had been considering a site in southwestern New Hampshire.</p> <p>1972—Third time's a charm for Nixon's "Plumbers," finally breaking into DNC HQ in the Watergate Hotel.</p> <p>1962—The stock market plummets 5.7 percent, the worst drop since 1929.</p> <p>1959—The U.S. Army sends Able and Baker, two monkeys, into space.</p> <p>1946—The Pentagon begins working on a long-range bomber to be powered by a nuclear reactor; 15 years and \$8 billion later it's declared impractical.</p> <p>1871—In Père Lachaise cemetery, French soldiers restore proper order by massacring 147 Communards.</p> <p>1868—"I like an Indian better dead than living," Delegate James M. Cavanaugh [D-Mont.] tells Congress, "I have never...seen a good Indian...except...a dead Indian."</p> <p>1830—Andy Jackson says all Indians must move west of the Mississippi.</p> <p>1754—Tanacharison, scout for Lieutenant Colonel George Washington, murders the wounded Joseph Coulon de Jumonville near Fort Necessity. The French and Indian War ensues.</p> <p>1291—The Templars lose Acre; Holy Land Crusades end, a century after Richard I's slaughter of 2,600 captives.</p>	<p>2020—A U.S. President, frightened by a protest against the police killing of George Floyd, hides for an hour in the White House bunker.</p> <p>2017—A U.S. President asks an aide, at a Memorial Day observance, "I don't get it. What was in it for them?"</p> <p>2015—The <i>Washington Post</i> prints ex-Gov. John H. Sununu's confession that in 1988 he bartered state assets—low numbered license plates—to buy support for G.H.[H.]W. Bush.</p> <p>2008—Senator (and candidate) John McCain [R-Ariz.] says "Mosul is quiet" on a day when 30 die there.</p> <p>2002—FBI head Robert Mueller says 9/11 might have been preventable.</p> <p>2001—The Bush twins, charged with underage boozing, plead <i>nolo</i>.</p> <p>1992—In Gibsonton, Fla., "Lobster Boy" Grady Stiles Jr. is murdered by a hit man hired by his family.</p> <p>1987—Michael Jackson attempts to buy the Elephant Man's bones.</p> <p>1968—Charles deGaulle flees the Paris insurgency. In Baden-Baden, French General J. Massu advises him, "You're in the shit and you have to stay in it a bit longer." He returns.</p> <p>1953—Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary top Everest.</p> <p>1941—Disgruntled Disney cartoonists vote to go out on strike.</p> <p>1932—WWI "Bonus Marchers" begin arriving in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1922—The Supreme Court rules that baseball is not a business and is therefore exempt from anti-trust laws.</p>
 <p>2:48 3:08 9:03 9:28</p>	 <p>3:44 3:59 9:59 10:19</p>	 <p>4:38 4:50 10:53 11:08</p>	 <p>5:30 5:41 11:46 11:58</p>	 <p>6:22 6:31 12:39</p>	 <p>7:14 7:23 12:49 1:32</p>	 <p>8:07 8:16 1:41 2:26</p>
SUNDAY, MAY 30	MONDAY, MAY 31	TUESDAY, JUNE 1	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2	THURSDAY, JUNE 3	FRIDAY, JUNE 4	SATURDAY, JUNE 5
<p>2019—The state Senate overrides Gov. Sununu's veto: New Hampshire's out of the killing business—except for that one Black guy on death row.</p> <p>2007—Florida man Dale Rippey, a 'Nam vet, is attacked by a rabid bobcat. He struggles it with bare hands.</p> <p>1962—Missionary Archie E. Mitchell, sole survivor of a Bly, Ore. picnic devastated by a Japanese fire balloon, is captured, along with two others, by the Viet Cong. He's never seen again.</p> <p>1961—Plotters using CIA-supplied weapons assassinate Rafael Trujillo. They fail to neutralize his secret police, though, and will pay with their lives.</p> <p>1937—Police attack strikers at Republic Steel in Chicago: 10 are shot dead, 55 hospitalized, 30 wounded.</p> <p>1927—In Queens, N.Y., Fred Trump, father of The Donald, is arrested for "refusing to disperse" from a KKK parade that devolved into a riot.</p> <p>1922—The Lincoln Memorial is dedicated. The ceremony is segregated.</p> <p>1854—President Franklin Pierce [D-N.H.] signs the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which he also co-wrote. It leads directly to "Bleeding Kansas."</p> <p>1806—Andy Jackson, dueling, takes a bullet near his heart, aims carefully, and shoots Charles Dickinson dead.</p> <p>1783—America's 1st daily, <i>The Pennsylvania Evening Post</i>, begins.</p> <p>1741—N.Y.C. burns 13 Black men at the stake and hangs 21 men and women, Black and white, for planning a revolt against slavery.</p>	<p>2020—Irene Triplett, the last recipient of a Civil War pension (via her pop), dies at 90 in Wilkesboro, N.C.</p> <p>2009—Dr. George Tiller, ushering in a Wichita, Kansas church, is shot dead to uphold the sanctity of life.</p> <p>2007—New Hampshire becomes the first state to honor same-sex unions without court intervention.</p> <p>2005—Ex-FBI official Mark Felt admits he is "Deep Throat."</p> <p>1989—House Speaker Jim Wright, as he is hounded from that office, calls for an end to "mindless cannibalism."</p> <p>1921—A Black WW I veteran in Tulsa refuses a demand to surrender his pistol. During a struggle it fires; a massive "race war" ensues.</p> <p>1921—The mistrial of Sacco and Vanzetti begins under Judge Webster "Did you see what I did with those anarchistic bastards the other day?" Thayer.</p> <p>1916—The Battle of Jutland begins: 151 British ships, including 28 battleships, against 99 Germans (16 battleships). The results are inconclusive, except for the 8,645 dead sailors.</p> <p>1889—A shoddy dam belonging to the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club (Andrew Carnegie, Andrew Mellon, &c.) collapses upstream of Johnstown, Pa. Roughly 2,200 die; unscathed, the owners pay \$0.</p> <p>1779—General George Washington orders New Hampshire's Gen. John Sullivan to bring "destruction...devastation [and] total ruinment" to the Haudenosaunee [Iroquois]. He does.</p>	<p>2005—Having wrecked Iraq, Paul Wolfowitz turns to the World Bank.</p> <p>2002—George W.[MD] Bush announces at West Point that we'll attack pre-emptively if he feels like it.</p> <p>1980—Ted Turner launches CNN—the 24-hour news cycle has begun.</p> <p>1971—The <i>NY Times</i> swallows Chuck Colson's bait: a "vets group" he created says that it backs the war.</p> <p>1967—Disgruntled vets form Vietnam Veterans Against the War.</p> <p>1954—The AEC pulls the security clearance of Manhattan Project boss J. Robert Oppenheimer.</p> <p>1950—Maine's Margaret C. Smith asks fellow Republicans to renounce the "Four Horsemen of Calumny—Fear, Ignorance, Bigotry, and Smear." She is duly punished by them.</p> <p>1923—Maine Gov. Percival P. Baxter orders state flags lowered to half-staff to honor the death of his dog, Garry.</p> <p>1921—Tulsa's whites use planes to firebomb the wealthy Black neighborhood of Greenwood into oblivion, murdering hundreds in the process.</p> <p>1918—Advised by a retreating French officer at Belleau Woods to turn back, U.S.M.C. Capt. Lloyd Williams replies, "Retreat? Hell, we just got here."</p> <p>1857—The American Party sends Baltimore's Plug Uglies to disrupt municipal elections in D.C. To restore order President Buchanan calls out the Marines, who shoot 10 citizens dead.</p> <p>1660—Mary Dyer is hanged in Boston for her Quaker beliefs.</p>	<p>2016—Two sisters at air shows watch as planes crash: Cindy Estevane-Vilavicencio in Colorado and Kristyn Lockwood in Georgia; a Thunderbird pilot lives, a Blue Angel dies.</p> <p>2002—The CIA admits to Congress—in a classified document, to avoid undue alarm—it had tracked one 9/11 hijacker months earlier than it had previously admitted.</p> <p>1999—The <i>Virginian-Pilot</i> reports that evangelist Pat Robertson has had "extensive dealings" with Liberian war criminal Charles Taylor.</p> <p>1976—Don Bolles, investigative reporter for the <i>Arizona Republic</i>, is mortally injured by a bomb under his car. Two guys take falls.</p> <p>1972—Alfred W. McCoy explains to Congress that top South Vietnamese officials, the CIA, and the Mafia are all in the heroin racket together.</p> <p>1971—"Treating [the press] with considerably more contempt," Nixon writes to Haldeman, "is in the long run a more productive policy."</p> <p>1919—Anarchist bombs explode in eight cities. Attorney General Mitchell Palmer's D.C. home is nearly destroyed; the bomber's body parts land across the street on FDR's stoop.</p> <p>1855—Reacting to a newspaper report, a mob breaks into Portland, Maine's City Hall in search of rum bought on orders from Mayor Neal Dow, author of the state's prohibition law. Dow orders militia to fire on the crowd; one man, a sailor, is shot dead.</p>	<p>2009—New Hampshire becomes the first state to legalize same-sex marriage without a court order.</p> <p>2002—Egypt says it warned the U.S., a week before 9/11, that al-Qaeda was about to strike the U.S.</p> <p>1983—In Medina, N.D., "Greatest Generation" veteran, Posse Comitatus co-founder, and anti-tax crank Gordon Kahl dies in a shootout with the FBI, having slain five U.S. Marshals.</p> <p>1980—A failed 46-cent computer chip briefly convinces NORAD that 220 Soviet missiles are incoming.</p> <p>1974—Brown & Williamson tests a cigarette blended to smell like pot.</p> <p>1969—In the South China Sea, a navigational mistake takes the destroyer U.S.S. <i>Evans</i> under the bow of the carrier <i>HMAS Melbourne</i>. The bow of the <i>Evans</i> sinks with 73 of her crew. "The Wall" does not include their names.</p> <p>1961—Henry R. Marshall, investigating LBJ's pal Billy Sol Estes for the Agriculture Department, is found with five .22 slugs in him from a bolt-action rifle. Verdict: "suicide."</p> <p>1947—At West Point, 56 years before #43 preemptively attacks Iraq, #34 tells graduates, "War is mankind's most tragic and stupid folly; to seek or advise its deliberate provocation is a black crime against all men."</p> <p>1924—RIP Franz Kafka; last words: "Kill me, or else you are a murderer!"</p> <p>1678—In Portsmouth, New Hampshire, tything men are appointed "to inspect the neighbor's families."</p>	<p>2017—It's the last "Last Call" at Portsmouth's Press Room.</p> <p>2006—A Ukrainian man enters the lion cage at the Kiev zoo, saying "God will save me, if he exists." He does not.</p> <p>2004—Marvin Heemeyer destroys the Granby, Colo. Town Hall, the mayor's home, and 11 other buildings with his home-made armored bulldozer because "God has asked me to do this." Then he shoots himself.</p> <p>2003—Feds get tough on white collar crime, i.e., Martha Stewart.</p> <p>1989—The Peoples Liberation Army kills thousands at Tiananmen Square.</p> <p>1963—Allen Ginsberg visits Saigon to assess the political situation.</p> <p>1962—A failing Thor rocket is blown up over the South Pacific; the first U.S. high-altitude nuke test flops.</p> <p>1951—The Supreme Court overrules <i>Commies' rights to free speech</i>.</p> <p>1944—For the first time a submarine—<i>U505</i>—is captured and boarded on the high seas.</p> <p>1943—GIs in a fleet of cabs roam downtown L.A. searching for and beating up Mexican Americans.</p> <p>1939—The <i>St. Louis</i>, with 915 Jewish refugees aboard, is turned away from Florida; 254 will be killed by Nazis.</p> <p>1919—U.S. Marines invade Costa Rica "to protect American interests."</p> <p>1917—President Woodrow Wilson—a Democrat—tells the Justice Department to issue badges to 200,000 jingoistic civilians in the American Protective League.</p>	<p>2013—News outlets reveal that the NSA, under a Top Secret court order, has been Hoovering™ up the phone records of millions of Americans.</p> <p>2008—Despite Mayoral objections and a lack of public hearings, Blackwater opens a training facility in San Diego; a judge says Blackwater's person whose rights mustn't be violated.</p> <p>2003—Two top <i>New York Times</i> editors resign in disgrace. Curiously, many more do not.</p> <p>1989—One man, for a while, stops a line of tanks in Tiananmen Square.</p> <p>1976—In Idaho, the \$100 million federal Teton Dam fails, killing 14 and causing \$2 billion in damages.</p> <p>1969—Taken three weeks earlier, at a cost of 72 American lives and 372 Purple Hearts, Ap Bia Mountain, aka Hamburger Hill, is abandoned.</p> <p>1968—RFK is fatally shot in Los Angeles. The LAPD convinces the gullible that Sirhan Sirhan did it.</p> <p>1967—The Supreme Court rules that fire departments cannot randomly inspect business enterprises.</p> <p>1967—Israel attacks Egypt and Syria. The Six Day War begins.</p> <p>1965—The State Department admits that U.S. troops are engaged in combat in Vietnam.</p> <p>1943—GIs and zoot-suited Hispanics rumble all over Los Angeles.</p> <p>1862—France gains sovereignty over three Vietnamese provinces under the Treaty of Saigon and the time-honored principle that might makes right.</p>
 <p>2:35 3:22 9:02 9:13</p>	 <p>3:32 4:21 9:58 10:13</p>	 <p>4:32 5:22 10:57 11:17</p>	 <p>5:36 6:23 11:56</p>	 <p>6:41 7:23 12:23 12:55</p>	 <p>7:44 8:18 1:27 1:52</p>	 <p>8:43 9:08 2:28 2:44</p>

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