

The Fortnightly Rant

S.S. America: "SOS"

According to the Admiral, there's a reason competent captains insist on always keeping their vessels ship-shape.

It's not some petit bourgeois urge to impress passengers. Nor is it necessarily the reflection of an inner authoritarian need to control the crew's every waking moment.

It's just a fundamental safety principle, put into practice. Because sooner or later, no matter where you are or what you're doing, something is inevitably going to go wrong.

If your systems are all in order, then you fix the problem and move on. If one system is jury-rigged when another goes haywire, you will soon be fully occupied just trying to stay afloat. Let three things go wrong—bilge pump, power, and steering, let's say—and your survival will be more a matter of chance than any supposed skill.

Having no credentials whatsoever ourselves, we can't say this theory applies to public health today. For the sake of argument, though, let's pretend it does.

We are now about thirty months into this coronavirus pandemic, and nearly 500 Americans are dying every day. The death toll as of Tuesday stands at 1,036,549. To fail on this scale takes a considerable degree of incompetence.

The incoming Trump administration inherited from its predecessor a "pandemic playbook" created in 2016, along with a 400-person Obama-era Directorate of Global Health Security and Biodefense.

John Bolton dismantled the Directorate in 2018. As for the playbook, then-Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell simply lied about it in 2020, saying, "clearly, the Obama administration did

not leave any kind of game plan for something like this."

It took more than that, though, to wreak the havoc we have suffered. It took House Speaker Newt Gingrich introducing blood-sport politics, Ronald Reagan deep-sixing the FCC's Fairness Doctrine, and Roger Ailes's creation of Fox News to adequately prepare the ground.

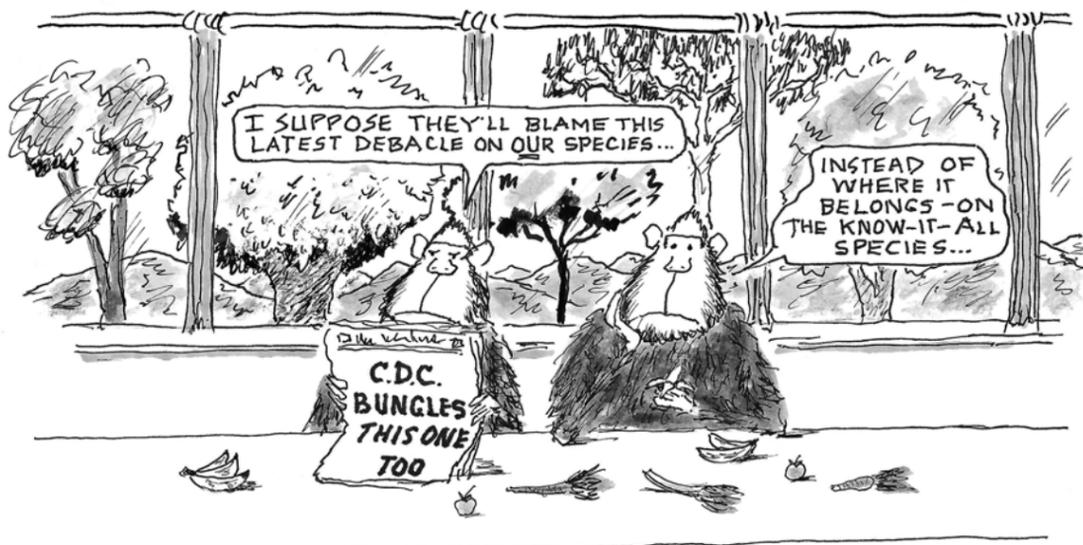
With those elements in place, the novel coronavirus became a cudgel in our atavistic culture war. An unmasked face is the new red MAGA hat. No red-blooded American would willingly give up his Constitutional right to spew virus-laden droplets while chanting, "Let's go, Brandon!"

The Biden administration, in response to this challenge, appears to be following a long-forgotten playbook prepared by Civil War General George B. McClellan.

With much of the public acquiescing to this unacceptable state of affairs, along comes another new virus, threatening to make monkeys of us all.

Elizabeth Jacobs, a PhD epidemiologist who goes by *@TheAngryEpi* on Twitter, and is followed by a number of folks we believe to be sane, wrote on August 6th, "We are potentially in the midst of three concurrent outbreaks in the US: SARS-CoV-2, monkeypox, and polio. Yet instead of funding and promoting public health, the electeds are running around putting band-aids on things and ignoring fundamental protections like masking."

"Masking protections would help with *all three of these outbreaks*. But because science has now been dispensed with in favor of politics, electeds cannot bring themselves to say out loud what we know to be



INC. AREA © 12 Aug 2022, N° 2005(42)
THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE, MIKE PATER.COM

true: mask mandates are necessary right now."

Someone going by *@jimmytcannon* replied, "I regret to inform you that might have to be increased to four," linking to an August 6th tweet from *@CDCFlu*: "CDC has confirmed the 1st human infection of 2022 w/ a flu virus that usually spreads in pigs. The person infected had direct contact w/ pigs at an agricultural fair. Public health risk from these types of infections is low, but CDC recommends precautions..."

The CDC imposed a mask mandate—later rescinded—shortly after the Biden administration took office. According to a Reuters story posted on Monday, "a group of 23 state attorneys general led by Florida" wants to make sure the CDC never tries that stunt again.

The AGs claim the CDC "lacks the legal authority to impose a nationwide transportation mask mandate to address COVID-19." Seventeen Republican lawmakers filed a brief in support of the move.

It's like a perverse reading of Caesar's justification for divorcing Pompeia. Not only must Republicans be willing to let people catch covid, they must take steps to make it more probable that they will.

Two hundred years after Caesar's murder, Rome was at its peak. Then came a terrible wave of smallpox, now known as the Antonine plague. Edward Watts wrote about it for *The Smithsonian* in April, 2020:

"The Antonine Plague was far deadlier than Covid-19, and the society it hit was far less capable of saving the sick than we are now. But Rome survived. Its communities rebuilt. And the survivors even came to look back on the time of plague with an odd nostalgia for what it showed about the strength of their society and its government. May we be so lucky."

Aww, isn't that sweet? In 2020, Watts still had hope. Utter disregard for the lives of citizens is now the norm. It's the culmination of a campaign of reactionary revenge. Half a

century ago, workers had, through collective action, wrung from their bosses a comfortable-enough slice of the fruits-of-their-labor pie—white workers in those states which had not adopted Right to Work [For Less] laws, anyway.

This caused pro-business Republicans to panic. The core of their philosophy seemed to be this: no transfer of money could be considered legitimate unless someone who had money to spare was making a pretty profit.

Now we're being told that anyone who's not independently wealthy should have to work a couple of jobs or be thrown into the street by the owners of the hedge fund that owns the trailer park they live in.

The policies these geniuses impose will inevitably reduce the number of available workers. That doesn't matter to them, though. While they buy and gut companies they're making a profit.

Why shouldn't they do the same with the workers?

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Who Says Mondays Are No Fun?

Monday evening The Former Guy released a statement which began, "These are dark times for our nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before."

This unexpected signal that the Justice Department may eventually bring the law to bear on the individual in question sent a tidal wave of schadenfreude across Blue America.

Coming, as it did, amid what had been an apparent drought of consequences, the wounded, self-pitying tone of the statement—"They even broke into my safe!"—made it all the more exquisite.

So much for conventional wisdom, which generally assumes that the first workday of the week will invariably be tedious.

Textual analysis suggests that The Former Guy [TFG] composed the message himself. No one runs on a sentence like he does: "It is prosecutorial misconduct, the weaponization of the Justice System, and an attack by Radical Left Democrats who desperately don't want me to run for President in 2024, especially based on recent polls, and who will likewise do anything to stop Republicans and Conservatives in the upcoming Midterm Elections."

The person who approved the search warrant was far from being some "Radical Left Democrat." Christopher Wray is a lifelong Republican. When TFG made him the Director of the FBI, he boasted of his nominee's "impeccable credentials."

According to Newton's Third Law of Motion, "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." It's a shame that doesn't apply to poli-

tics. In post-Gingrich America, for every lawful action by law enforcement against a Republican, there is an asymmetrical over-reaction which can best be measured using the Richter earthquake scale.

Given the extent of this entire sprawling enterprise—the Trump Organization, the Trump administration, the co-opted Republican Party, the sold-out, signed-on think tanks, the random loose-cannon political grifters—it would be easy to get lost sifting through details.

One notable reaction, though, is that Fox News, which had been subtly distancing itself from TFG, suddenly reverted to full-on Trumpism. Harris Faulkner gave a particularly fine simulacrum of affronted dignity as she expressed her indignation at the mere thought that the Justice Department would actually have the nerve to enforce the law.

—==—

'Lock and Load': Trump-Loving Extremists React to FBI Search of Mar-a-Lago

by Kenny Stancil

The far-right in the United States responded ominously to the FBI's Monday search of former President Donald Trump's Florida mansion, with Republican lawmakers and television personalities baselessly accusing the Biden administration of weaponizing the Justice Department and popular as well as anonymous social media users beating the drums of a civil war.

"Lock and load," says the top comment related to the Mar-a-Lago search on *patriots.win*—a pro-Trump comment forum that emerged after Reddit banned the *r/The_Donald* group of nearly 800,000 for repeatedly posting racist and misogynistic content in violation of its rules against harassment and targeting.

When one user asks, "Are we not

in a cold civil war at this point?" another suggests that violence is imminent, with "authentic pain" coming soon.

According to NBC News reporter Ben Collins, the content shared on pro-Trump forums Monday night was arguably even more violent than what was posted in the lead-up to the deadly January 6, 2021 attack.

As he did before last year's insurrection at the Capitol, Trump only has "to ask us," notes one commenter. Another writes: "None of this demonstrating in the snow shit. Summertime was made for killing fields."

It wasn't just anonymous posters threatening to mow down their perceived political enemies. For instance, highly influential reactionary

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from page one

Steven Crowder tweeted, "Tomorrow is war," followed less than 12 hours later by, "Today is war." The NRA also leapt at the opportunity to boost gun sales.

Fox News hosts and guests, meanwhile, quickly disparaged the Mar-a-Lago search as a "partisan witch hunt," "dark day for our republic," "preemptive coup," "Third World bullshit," and the work of the "Gestapo" and "Stasi," as documented by Media Matters for America.

The right-wing outrage machine was adopting talking points that Trump laid out in a statement portraying himself as the victim of "prosecutorial misconduct, the weaponization of the justice system, and an attack by radical left Democrats who desperately don't want me to run for president."

"Such an assault could only take place in broken, third world countries. Sadly, America has now become one of those countries, corrupt at a level not seen before," said Trump. "The lawlessness, political persecution, and witch hunt must be

exposed and stopped."

As the *Washington Post* reported Tuesday:

"We don't yet know much about what was in the search warrant used to raid Donald Trump's residence at Mar-a-Lago on Monday. We do know that the raid concerned the removal of classified documents from the White House and that, according to Trump, agents raided his safe."

"But we also quickly found out that a lot of influential people are rather uninterested in any of that, reflexively shouting "witch hunt" and baselessly blaming President [Joe] Biden for the raid in a way that bodes very poorly for whatever comes next in this process. Trump has marshaled his army of supporters to declare, in knee-jerk fashion, any legal scrutiny of him a deep-state operation."

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) endorsed Trump's unsubstantiated claim that the Biden White House is "using government power to persecute political opponents," calling it "something we have seen many times" from authoritarian regimes in impoverished nations "but never before in America." The House Judi-



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THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE (75)
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The Covid virus's stubborn refusal to accommodate the whims of anti-maskers and just fade away has only served to exacerbate our Wandering Photographer's inherent misanthropy. So if you see him lurking on some dark street, like an escapee from a forgotten film noir, don't be surprised. Speaking of surprises, who'd have thought that Gilley's would be closed at 8:30 p.m. on a Sunday evening?

ciary Committee's Republicans, led by Rep. Jim Jordan (Ohio), echoed that message.

During an appearance on Fox News, Jordan demanded that Attorney General Merrick Garland and FBI Director Christopher Wray—a Trump appointee—answer the GOP's questions about Monday night's search at Mar-a-Lago.

As Media Matters senior fellow Matthew Gertz explained, the Justice Department is not yet able to provide details given the ongoing nature of investigations into Trump's attempt to overthrow the U.S. government and other possible crimes, so the ex-president and his allies are "filling that vacuum" with baseless allegations of political malfeasance.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) said in a statement that "when Republicans take back the House, we will conduct immediate oversight of this department, follow the facts, and leave no stone unturned," telling Garland: "Preserve your documents and clear your calendar."

Despite the fact that Garland hasn't yet publicly responded to the

GOP's planned inquiry, McCarthy concluded that "the Department of Justice has reached an intolerable state of weaponized politicization" while Republican National Committee chair Ronna McDaniel declared that "Democrats continually weaponize the bureaucracy against Republicans."

As the *Post* noted: "That's a lot of firm conclusions based on not much at all. But it's the fruit of years of Trump claiming persecution."

The newspaper continued: "This investigation hardly comes out of nowhere: Trump's handling of government documents has long been a focal point. The *Washington Post* reported as far back as February on Trump's 'relentless document destruction habits.' A couple of days later, the National Archives confirmed that it had retrieved 15 boxes of documents from Mar-a-Lago—including records marked as 'classified' and even 'top secret'—that should have been turned over, and then asked the Justice Department to investigate, which it clearly has.

"The question from there is whether this is a matter that merits a

search warrant. That the Justice Department would go this route would seem to suggest it sees something potentially incriminating beyond merely shoddy record-keeping and document retention. The department knows this decision will be harshly scrutinized; going down this path only for its destination to be a minor finding, ending in a slap on the wrist, isn't worth the blowback it'll get from 40 to 45 percent of the country."

Ironically, the *Post* added, Trump's supporters were "once quite consumed with the import of document security by would-be presidential candidates—and quite happy to promote the idea that their preferred candidate ought to 'lock' such an opponent 'up.'"

Trump also tried to use his power as president to harm his political rivals, repeatedly asking Ukraine's president to investigate Hunter Biden. And although Clinton's home wasn't searched, the FBI did conduct a public probe of her use of a private email server in 2016—possibly contributing to her failure to win the White House that year.

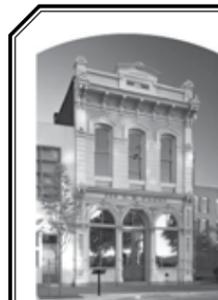
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Pandemic a “Lucrative Smash-and-Grab”
by Brett Wilkins

As Moderna reported higher-than-expected revenue driven entirely by sales of its publicly funded Covid-19 vaccine, health equity campaigners on Wednesday renewed calls for pharmaceutical companies to waive patent protections in order to share their life-saving technology with developing countries.

Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Moderna reported \$4.7 billion in second-quarter sales—a nine percent increase over the same period last year—despite taking a nearly half-billion-dollar hit for write-downs on expired or soon-to-expire vaccine doses. Nearly all of the company’s revenue came from sales of its Covid-19 vaccine, its only product on the market—and one whose

development was funded entirely by U.S. taxpayers and contributions from private donors.

CNBC reports Moderna is also sitting atop an \$18 billion cash pile, and intends to buy back \$3 billion worth of its own stock. Furthermore, the company last week announced a \$1.74 billion agreement with the U.S. government to supply up to 300 million doses of an updated Covid-19 vaccine for use against the omicron BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants.

“Moderna’s Covid-19 vaccine was developed totally by public funding. Yet the company has been allowed to make huge profits while doing next to nothing to ensure equitable access for people in lower-income countries,” Mohga Kamal-Yanni, policy co-lead for the People’s Vaccine Alliance, said Wednesday. “For the company’s newly created billionaires, this pandemic has been a lucrative smash-and-grab operation.”

Among the at least nine new



A hot tip from a plain-clothes officer resulted in the dispatch of a flying squad in an unmarked vehicle to the [redacted] block of Ocean Boulevard in Rye. Upon arrival they found the grandiose banner shown here, in clear violation of Flag Code Chapter 1, §7, (i): “When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag’s own right, that is, to the observer’s left.” Due its blatant nature, i.e., the dimensions of the flag in question, the unofficial policy of leniency towards non-commercial violations was lifted in this case: the perpetrator is busted. The Flag Police motto stands: “Eternal vigilance is the price of upholding the fetishization of material objects which symbolize the values of a purported republic in the absence of any perceptible functionality.”

billionaires created by pandemic-related capitalism are Moderna CEO Stéphane Bancel, Moderna co-founder Noubar Afeyan, and immunologist and Moderna founding investor Timothy Springer.

Moderna has been widely criticized for selling its vaccines mostly to wealthier countries, even as billions of people in the Global South lack access to the lifesaving inoculations over two and a half years into the pandemic. The company has also come under fire for massively overcharging for its vaccine doses.

Like other pharmaceutical companies and almost all wealthy nations, Moderna long opposed a waiver for parts of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), a proposal by India and South Africa—supported by more than 100 nations—that would lift some patent protections to allow developing countries to produce and distribute vaccines. A narrowly crafted World Trade Organization deal ostensibly

meant to address vaccine inequities was condemned as a “sham” by activists earlier this year.

Moderna’s pledge last year to build a Covid-19 manufacturing facility in Africa was dismissed by activists as largely a public relations stunt meant to thwart patent waiver efforts and marginalize a World Health Organization (WHO) messenger RNA (mRNA) technology transfer initiative in South Africa.

“Now Moderna is threatening the world’s response to future pandemics,” Kamal-Yanni said. “Broad patents filed by the company in South Africa could derail a WHO and African Union project aimed at responding to global health crises by rolling out mRNA vaccines made in low- and middle-income countries.”

On Wednesday, the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign noted that more than 100 manufacturers in low- to middle-income countries “have been identified with potential to produce mRNA vaccines,” while urg-

ing Moderna to share its vaccine technology “for Covid and for the future.”

Alain Alsalthani, vaccines pharmacist at MSF’s Access Campaign, tweeted that “mRNA technology has important potential to beat back not just Covid but other epidemics. We should refuse to allow half of the world to get served first while the rest of the world looks on empty-handed.”

Messenger RNA vaccines—which work by instructing cells to produce recognizable copies of viral protein against which the immune system can develop antibodies—are simpler and faster to make than alternatives, and can be adapted to combat not only new Covid-19 variants but also other diseases including HIV, malaria, and tuberculosis. Moderna and others are also exploring potential mRNA monkeypox vaccines.

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Murph’s Fortnightly Quote
“True terror is to wake up one morning and discover that your high school class is running the country.”
— Kurt Vonnegut (1922-2007)

“When Wellington, interviewing a Napoleonic officer after Waterloo, enquired for the whereabouts of the French general staff, the answer was “Ca n’existe pas!” That will do for the integrity of the American press. It doesn’t exist.”
— Lucius Beebe
john@wordpraxis.com

“You have to hand it to America. It has exercised a quite clinical manipulation of power worldwide while masquerading as a force for universal good. It’s a brilliant, even witty, highly successful act of hypnosis.”
— Harold Pinter
— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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The Latest... Whatever From Don Ewing
To the Editor:

[Note: Mr. Ewing writes to us frequently. His letters repeatedly present the same set of editorial problems. Disregarding his letters altogether would be the simplest solution. Doing so, however, would deprive our readers of a view into a pervasive mindset which, if left unchecked, ultimately will reduce mankind's chances of survival. It would also deprive the editor of his fun, and we can't have that. Therefore we advise our readers that by publishing Mr. Ewing's letters, we do not endorse his views. Nor do we accept any assertions he presents as if they were facts. Further, we remind our readers that Mr. Ewing has been known to parrot lines of argument originally spewed by notorious propagandists in service to a depraved political and economic order. — The Ed.]

It's been said that prosecutors can indict a ham sandwich. Soviet Secret Police Chief Beria said, "Show me the man and I'll show you the crime."

For seven years Democrats, and others enriched by big government, alleged that Donald Trump committed many crimes, including treason. Trump's opponents spent over 100 million tax dollars trying to prove those allegations. The media endlessly repeated/repeats those allegations providing Trump's opponents with billions of dollars' worth of free advertising.

Despite all these investigations, not one criminal allegation has been substantiated.

Trump's opponents falsely slandered Trump too many times to just be believed.

The one-sided Trump-hating January 6 Committee (Jan6Com) now makes new allegations; rational people demand proof...none has been provided.

The Jan6Com presented selectively chosen and edited documents and statements, false claims, endlessly repeated slanders, innuendos, and allegations; it excluded all exculpatory evidence. The Jan6Com refuses to allow the scrutiny required of proof: due process, cross examination of witnesses, presentation of additional evidence and interpretations. Why?

Democrats are desperate to prevent Trump's re-election in 2024. Under President Trump most Americans could afford gas, food, electricity, and heat and cooling for their homes; inflation was negligible; peoples' retirement savings were growing in value; our nation was secure and energy independent, our environment was improving; the world was growing more peaceful; our enemies were in check and weren't threatening nuclear annihilation.

Since Democrats took power and resumed Obama's fundamental transformation of America, most Americans, and people around the world, began suffering.

An election is coming in November. The Jan6Com extravaganza is intended to divert voters' attention from how much Democrat control of government has made Americans poorer, and their lives less free and more dangerous.

In November, vote Republican to stop the painful Democrat fundamental transformation of our country.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.

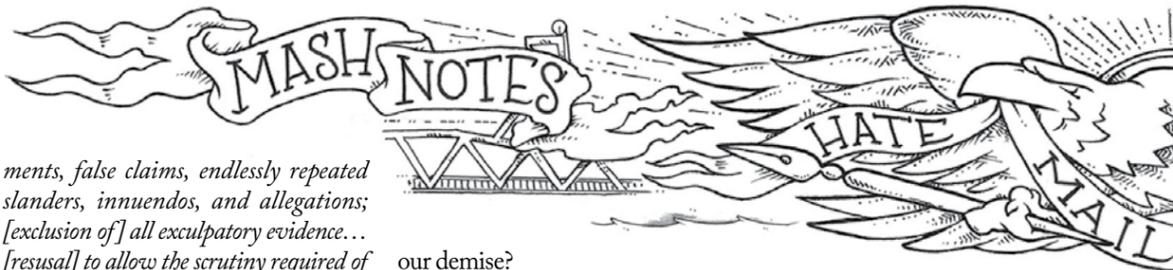
Don:

Thank you for providing such clear proof of the necessity for the disclaimer which precedes the text of your...let's call it "Other Correspondence."

Last November a repentant Michael Cohen—President Trump's own lawyer—said, on the occasion of his completion of a sentence of home confinement, which came subsequent to a one-year stay at the Otisville, N.Y. federal penitentiary, according to CNBC, "My release today in no way negates the actions I took at the direction of and for the benefit of Donald J. Trump." And yet you write, "Despite all these investigations, not one criminal allegation has been substantiated."

What will it take to convince you? Are you waiting for a visit from Dolt #45, encumbered in chains like Scrooge's Marley, confessing to his manifold crimes?

We are also indebted to you for providing us with this handy heuristic, a checklist of skeevey techniques which, though in constant use by the GOP, you attribute to the January 6th Committee: "selectively chosen and edited documents and state-



ments, false claims, endlessly repeated slanders, innuendos, and allegations; [exclusion of] all exculpatory evidence... [refusal] to allow the scrutiny required of proof: due process, cross examination of witnesses, presentation of additional evidence and interpretations."

The limits of space and time prevent us from fully responding to the rest of your blather. We trust our readers will keep their BS detectors fully engaged.

The Editor

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Major Mike Weighs In Again

To the Editor

It's official, our national leaders obviously don't care about this country, our state, the American people, or the Constitution they swore an oath to support and defend.

How could they, if they are willing to idly watch our country be invaded by unvetted foreigners?

How could they, if they are content allowing human beings to be illegally trafficked by criminal cartels into our country?

How could they, as they watch fentanyl and other deadly drugs flow across our border, killing countless innocent Americans?

How could they, as they encourage dishonest judges and district attorneys to unleash violent criminals back into our society, to prey on law abiding Americans?

How could they, as they condone our rogue justice department selectively meting out "justice" while blatantly mocking the judicial tenets lady justice is supposed to represent?

How could they, as they mindlessly vote for spending bills that fund foreign wars, waste taxpayer money and bankrupt our country?

How could they, as they allow big Pharma to test experimental drugs and vaccines on the American people with impunity?

How could they, as they bend a knee to China, allowing them to steal our intellectual property, while plotting

our demise?

How could they, as they compliantly watch corporate media and big tech silence our freedom of speech, and "cancel" those they disagree with?

They are all complicit in allowing these things to happen during their tenure.

They are all accessories, who have condoned all of these actions, with their silence and inaction.

Their failure to act, coupled with their mindless political obedience, have negatively impacted the safety, security and quality of life of the American people.

The failure of our representatives, to protect the Granite Staters who sent them to Washington, will forever be their legacy.

They have failed all of us, and we need to vote them all out.

We need to fill their seats with bold new leaders who are able to act independently.

Leaders who will replace their rhetoric with results, their aloofness with accomplishments, their indifference with industriousness, and their dishonesty with integrity.

I pray that our country still produces such people.

Sincerely,
Michael Petruzzello
Major, USMC (Ret.)
Wolfboro, N.H.

Major Mike:

What a load of pompous hogwash.

As a mid-level career officer you will have had plenty of experience regurgitating such tripe to a captive audience, forbidden by the Uniform Code of Military Justice to follow their natural instinct and laugh in your face.

Your UCMJ has no power here. Your rebash of corporate-approved propaganda deserves the same warning we applied to Don Ewing's latest blarney [see above]. Tossing it in the round file, though, would

deprive us of the opportunity to talk back to an O-4.

The Editor

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Culture at Rockingham County Attorney's Office Must Change

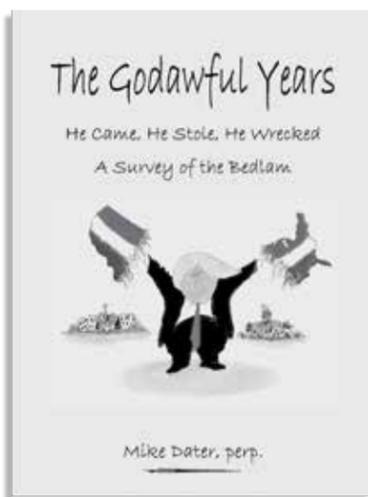
To the Editor:

My name is Rich Clark and I am running for Rockingham County Attorney. I am a Democrat who practices law in Portsmouth where I also live with my two sons and girlfriend. Through my business, Clark & Assoc., LLP, I have effectively litigated criminal cases in 30 towns over the past 15 years within the state's district and superior courts.

I would like to share the personal reason why I was compelled to campaign for this position. In 2019, I was wrongfully indicted under Pat Conway's leadership of the Rockingham County Attorney's Office for allegedly assaulting and sexually abusing my son after accusations were made by my ex-wife during our custody battle. The Portsmouth Police Department filed an arrest warrant for me based on these false accusations. The warrants were denied when the court found probable cause was lacking. Shortly afterward I was indicted on the exact same charges under Pat Conway's control even after a court had already refused to issue an arrest warrant. This is just one of many reasons that I feel Pat Conway should be removed from office.

If people do not have the courage to stand up to corruption, governmental failures, racism, loss of women's rights, and basic gun control—nothing would happen. After what Pat Conway did to my family and I, through her personal handling of my case, I have been determined to enact change to prevent this from happening to other innocent families whatever their party affiliation is.

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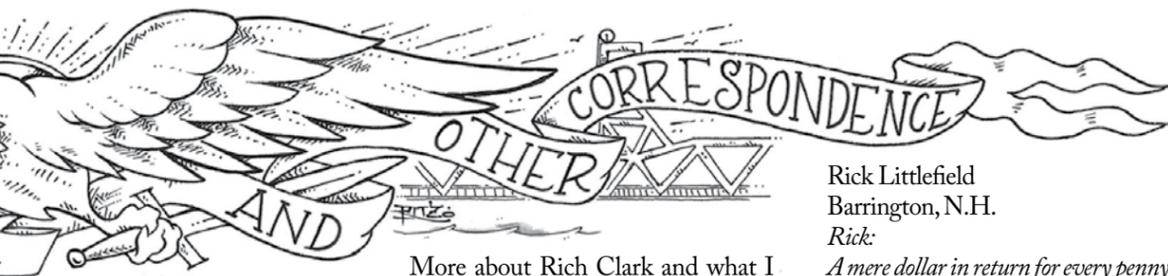
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Conway's continued unethical prosecution kept me from having any contact with my son for a year and 11 months, not even a text message was allowed, even after Conway knew the Division for Children, Youth and Families had closed the case against me finding the allegations were unfounded. Since getting the phone call that my son had said the story was fabricated, the charges were dropped, and he has lived with me exclusively for the past year.

The only person I have to blame for what happened is Pat Conway. Others have contacted me with similar stories related to Conway's conduct. How do we stop this? First, we must remove Conway from power. Then I will work with the state Legislature to enact protection that prevents an indictment from being filed when a court refuses to issue an arrest warrant. I will also work with the N.H. Legislature to mandate that County Attorneys be transparent with a Grand Jury and present known exculpatory facts that way nothing is hidden.

During Pat Conway's first day she fired Rockingham County prosecutor Jerome Blanchard. Blanchard was the whistleblower who had revealed Conway's husband, a police officer, had been removed from the Laurie List—also known as the Bad Cop List—by her former boss who was the Rockingham County Attorney. Some might call this crooked or corrupt, I see it as a call for change—change that I will lead the day I begin managing the Rockingham County Attorney's Office.

I am not part of a corrupt system, nor am I part of the "Good Ol' Boy" network. I am dedicated to enacting change and transparency in the Rockingham County Attorney's Office and I appreciate your vote this November.

More about Rich Clark and what I am about can be found at Clark4Justice.com.

Rich Clark
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:
We asked County Attorney Conway for comment. We do not have the space to print her full 482-word reply, which began, "I disagree with Mr. Clark's characterization of the case. I cannot and will not comment on the specifics of the case as it is sealed by the court and in order to protect the privacy of the juvenile."

The Editor

Great Balls of Fire

To the Editor:

Any time a heavy transport plane like a C17 takes off in a combat zone, you're likely to see a brilliant display of fireworks shoot away from beneath the fuselage. These "decoy flares" burn super-hot to lure hostile heat-seeking surface-to-air missiles away from the aircraft's vulnerable jet engines.

Kind of like the Republican Party's cadre of fireball launchers. To view their pyrotechnic show, simply dial up your favorite media outlet and take in the current episode of Culture-War Madness.

It's no secret that American and foreign oligarchs donate billions annually to bankroll radical politicians, K-street think tankers, right-wing "talkers," and social media "influencers"—human fireballs paid to dominate the news cycle and distract attention from the ongoing financial conveyor belt scooping up wealth from the public domain and depositing it into private coffers.

A penny invested and a dollar returned.

It's always been about money for the so-called "conservative movement." So, when will it become "about the money" for the rest of us? I'm guessing when we no longer have any!

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:
A mere dollar in return for every penny invested? We suspect you are underestimating the financial savvy of our Owning Class.

The Editor

Liberal Media to Blame for Invasion of Ukraine?

Dear Sirs,

I was impressed by a recent musical performance of the Ukrainian National Anthem but meanwhile, the Russian war criminal continuously produced death and destruction in Ukraine in addition to a possible nuclear war. Even though Putin indirectly ordered [the Russian Army] to kill thousands of innocent Ukrainian people including young children, our U.S. President is not willing to face directly to the problem. He claimed that the "escalation risk" would create a World War III if we enter our military forces in the Ukraine area and, thereby, must use sanctions.

During the 1962 Russian [sic]/Cuban Crisis, President John F. Kennedy used military strength instead of sanctions and demanded the removal of all nuclear missiles regardless of escalation risk for WW III. Because of his presidential strength, Kennedy saved the world. By comparison, our current and extremely weak President will probably ignore Putin's evil goals beyond the country of Ukraine while China's goal of invading Taiwan and Iran's goal of achieving the nuclear bomb will eventually generate a global disaster.

The reason of this serious problem was created by various liberal media sources that distributed dishonest information just before the 2020 election. The extreme importance of American voters must start using common sense and stop listening to democratic scare tactics that continually make untrue statements to the

American people. This country deserves a strong President for protecting our Rights, maintaining a steady economy and enforcing our existing laws.

Ken Senkow
San Antonio, Texas

Ken:

Wow—"this serious problem was created by various liberal media sources." If we had known the Kremlin was formulating strategy based on cues from us, we'd have been much more careful.

Your take on the history of the Cuban Missile Crisis seems to us to miss the mark. If you want to learn more about that, turn off NewsMax and read some primary historical documents. They're readily available at <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu>.

"John F. Kennedy used military strength"? Sure, he blockaded Cuba. That was a fairly convincing demonstration of testicular fortitude. His most courageous stance, though, was against his own Generals. Curtis LeMay wanted to bomb the missile sites. Others urged the President to invade. Stanley Kubrick's "Dr. Strangelove" was closer to being a documentary than anyone knew at the time.

PS—If you're worried about an Iranian nuke, drop in at Mar-a-Lago and bring that up with Dolt #45.

The Editor

Inflation and Our Ukrainian Sacrifice

To the Editor:

I recently returned from the wedding of my nephew which took place in Europe. While there I asked a few people about the high inflation in Europe (~9%) and the Russian-Ukrainian war. Everyone was seriously concerned about the impacts of the war, but were less worried about the inflation.

No one was blaming their country's leaders for the inflation.

They seemed to agree with most economists worldwide (including our Federal Reserve Chair Powell) that this worldwide inflation had multiple drivers, but that the economies of both the U.S. and Europe were in strong fiscal shape and should weather this temporary storm. Drivers of the inflation that have been identified include: the pandemic recession and the recovery from that recession,

supply-chain disruptions, gouging by the oil and gas companies, consumers driving up demand without adequate supply available, and, finally, the Russian-Ukrainian war which has disrupted the world economy and resulted in sharp price increase for energy and food.

Most Americans have not experienced such high inflation in their lives and while willing to complain about it, are unsure what can be done. We have also never experienced being invaded by a foreign power or governed by one, as is now occurring in Ukraine. Most of us admire the bravery and determination of the Ukrainian people to defend their country and wonder what we can do to help. Maybe we should see our battle with inflation as our modest contribution to supporting Ukraine (a small sacrifice by comparison).

We need not feel guilty for not donating more for Ukrainian causes, if we can't afford to do that. Our country is already contributing (through our tax dollars) significant defensive weapons and other supplies. But if you can donate to this cause, no need to do much searching: the United Nations Refugee Agency is the largest and most effective organization to consider.

In addition, perhaps we can use the high inflation prices as a learning experience for our families, and especially our children, to develop useful skills. How can we live with this inflation? Here are a few suggestions: 1) Drive fewer miles and drive more slowly (closer to the speed limit), 2) Set your AC for a higher temperature, and your hot water heater at a lower 120° F, 3) Do most wash in cold water, 4) Eat out less, 5) Use home-made meals as a family strengthening tool, 6) Buy less and postpone non-essential purchases for six months until there is more supply, and prices are lower.

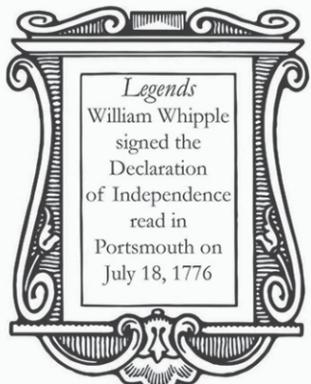
By driving down demand for products and services and adjusting our lives to the current situation, we can contribute to driving down inflation.

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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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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HUD-VASH is a partnership between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the VA's Supportive Housing unit. It helps homeless Veterans with housing, employment, recovery (both mental health and substance abuse) and independent living.

HUD-VASH is no longer accepting donations of used furniture, &c. The Homeland Heroes Foundation in Salem, N.H. does: homelandheroesfoundation.org.

HUD-VASH does have a dedicated fund for purchasing new items veterans may need. Donations to that fund may be sent to The VA Medical Center, 718 Smyth Rd., Manchester, N.H. 03104-7007. HUD-VASH should be included on the subject line. Every penny will go into home goods for veterans.

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from page five



We should see this opportunity as the sacrifice that we can make, which pales in comparison to what the Ukrainian people must endure.

This situation is a global one, and no one political leader is either responsible for it, nor can they solve it by themselves. That is why we should also do our part.

Peter Somssich
N.H. State Representative,
Portsmouth, N.H.

Peter:

Thanks for this extremely cogent assessment of these issues. Let's hope Ken Senkow reads your letter.

The Editor

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Spain Hiding Biggest UE Espionage Case
To the Editor:

Gonzalo Boye is a lawyer specializing in international criminal law who defends the President of Catalonia Carles Puigdemont (who was illegally ousted by the Spanish government in 2017, and is fighting from exile for the liberation of Catalonia).

In his latest book, Boye talks about Catalangate, the espionage case uncovered by *The New Yorker* (1) on April 18th, based on the investigation of the Citizen Lab organization, linked to the University of Toronto. It discovered that 65 Catalan independence supporters had been illegally spied on with the Pegasus and Candirú programs (2).

The Spanish government denied having anything to do with it and tried to discredit Citizen Lab. After a few days, in what seemed to be a smokescreen, it revealed that the Spanish president and several ministers had also been spied on with Pegasus. They tried to diffuse their responsibility, but this does not exonerate them from being the alleged perpetrators of Catalangate, although most of the Spanish press has seized on this to stop talking about the spying on the Catalans.

Finally, the Spanish government has acknowledged that they had

spied with Pegasus on 18 Catalan independentists during 2019 with the endorsement of Judge Pablo Lucas Murillo of the Supreme Court. These are 18 cases of 2019, but they are new cases because the cases discovered by Citizen Lab refer to other dates, they were from 2017 (1 case) and 2020 (64 cases), but not from 2019. Therefore, these should be added to those already discovered: 65 + 18 = 83 cases at least!

The Boye espionage case serves to demonstrate how Justice acts in Spain. Judge Lucas Murillo authorized the eavesdropping on lawyer Boye and, at the same time, he was the judge who was ruling on the lawyer's appeals concerning the immunity of the Catalan MEPs Puigdemont, Comín and Ponsatí. Already at that time, Boye tried to appeal against this judge for lack of impartiality, due to a publication and statements against Catalan independence. But the judge vehemently defended his impartiality, and now we know that in the morning he authorized spying on the lawyer and in the afternoon he resolved his appeals!

Moreover, according to Spanish law, a judge can authorize the interception of communications, but in no case can he authorize what Pegasus makes possible: access to all the contents of the cell phone (communications, documents, videos, photographs...) and also be able to control it (activate cameras and microphones, write or delete emails...). In addition, this information must always be under judicial custody, while with Pegasus the information is controlled by the Israeli company NSO, outside the EU—the same company that, on the instructions of those who its employers, infects the mobiles.

For example, while Boye was being spied on, among other things, he was defending Syrian leaders who were tried and convicted in Germany. What he said to his clients

was in the possession of the Israeli company. Can we be sure that this information was not used?

The serious thing is that the European Parliament committee investigating the abuses committed with Pegasus only wants to investigate Poland and Hungary and not Spain. We know that the EU is a club of which Spain is a member and Catalonia is not, but if the EU does not want to be complicit in abuses of the civil rights of European citizens, it should not give in to Spanish pressure.

(1) *The New Yorker*: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2022/04/25/how-democracies-spy-on-their-citizens>

(2) Amnistia Internacional: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/04/spain-pegasus-spy-ware-catalans-targeted/>

Jordi Oriola Folch
Barcelona, Catalonia
Jordi:

Reading about the Spanish justice system goes a long way towards reconciling with to our own.

Please continue sending these illuminating reports.

The Editor

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The GOP Waging War on Medicare

Dear Editor:

Last Sunday Sen. Rick Scott [R-Fla.] appeared on CBS's "Face the Nation" to discuss the Inflation Reduction Bill that was still being debated in the Senate as the show aired. Noting that the bill expands Medicare access and will reduce the budget deficit, the moderator asked Scott if there was anything he considered good in the legislation. Mr. Scott responded. "Here's the way I look at it. Right now, this bill actually ought to be called the war on seniors act. I mean, this is a war on Medicare."

A very interesting comment, coming from a man whose party never supported Medicare from the very beginning, and has tried to defund it and privatize it for decades. In fact, just recently, Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin suggested that Medicare and Social Security should be

reauthorized every year by Congress. Imagine the stress placed on seniors worrying that Medicare and/or Social Security could be eliminated or drastically changed every year. Talk about a war on seniors.

It was a curious decision by Republicans to have Mr. Scott appear on national television and talk about a war on seniors and Medicare. However, considering Mr. Scott's history with Medicare fraud, who would know more about waging war on Medicare than him?

For those who do not recall, before becoming a politician Mr. Scott was the the head of Columbia/HCA—one of the largest for-profit healthcare companies in the nation. Columbia/HCA was responsible for what the Department of Justice, in June, 2003, called the largest healthcare fraud case in U.S. history.

In its settlement with the government, the company admitted to 14 felonies related to fraudulent billing and practices, most of which took place under Mr. Scott's leadership. Columbia/HCA gave kickbacks to doctors so they would refer patients. Columbia/HCA made patients look sicker than they were, so Medicare would pay more.

The settlement with the government required Columbia/HCA to pay \$1.7 billion in fines, then the largest health care fraud case in the country. As a result of this case Mr. Scott was forced out of his position by the Columbia/HCA Board. Mr. Scott left the company with \$300 million in stock, \$5.1 million severance, and a \$950,000-per-year consulting contract for five years. (Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*, October 2, 2018.)

So now Mr. Scott is claiming that the Democrats passing legislation reducing drug costs for seniors on Medicare is somehow waging war on Medicare and seniors. As a senior, I prefer the type of war the Democrats are waging against Medicare to the war Mr. Scott's company waged, and what Republicans would do to Medicare given the opportunity.

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

Rich:

It's a paradox: self-described "conservatives" claim to be tough on crime, and yet this bullet-headed geek sits in the Senate and gets invited to spew nonsense on the Sunday talk shows.

The Editor

====

Republicans Back Death Panels

To the Editor:

Ever wonder what the Republican Party stands for these days? Well, your wait for an answer is over.

The skyrocketing cost of insulin has made the headlines for months. It was also made clear that there was no reason for the big increases in insulin's cost except price gouging. This is a drug diabetics must have to live! And there are 37 million diabetics in the U.S. Many families have to choose between food or electricity and insulin.

This week the Democrats brought a bill to the floor of the Senate that would cap the monthly cost of insulin at \$35. Big Pharma was against it! Big surprise. But, so were 43 Republican Senators! They were able to block the legislation. Big Pharma is happy.

So, now you know what the Republican Party stands for: Big Pharma! They also stand for Big Oil, Big Coal, Big Guns—but we won't go into that here. And while they scream "socialism" for every piece of legislation Democrats propose and promote to help citizens, they are willing to let people die who can't afford the jacked-up prices of their medicine!

Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, N.H.

Michael:

This infuriating situation finally stirred us to consult Wikipedia—which we like to think of as an ever-present reproach to the neoliberal "if it's not for-profit, it can't be legit" agenda—for a little background on the story of the insulin patent. What we learned—see page seven, opposite—only made us more enraged.

The Editor

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"Be a craftsman in speech that thou mayest be strong, for the strength of one is the tongue, and speech is mightier than all fighting."

— Ptahhotep, Vizier to Pharaoh Djedkare Isezi, circa 2400 BC

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The New Normal

by W.D. Ehrhart

My wife and I recently spent four days in the Adirondack Mountains with old friends of ours. It is a six-hour car trip from our home in Pennsylvania, but thanks to Anne's company, the time passed enjoyably. And it was a great pleasure to spend time with our hosts, the wildlife conservationists Amy Vedder and Bill Weber, whom I've known since our college days over half a century ago.

We hiked in woods up and down hills and around lakes, visited the Adirondack Experience Museum, and reminisced for hours while watching chipmunks, hummingbirds, blue birds, and wild turkeys, and enjoying the view from their hilltop home. Over the entire time, we saw no commercial airplanes and only one single-engine plane far off to the east. The night sky overflowed with stars.

To say the trip was rejuvenating is an understatement. It was the first time Anne and I had gotten away together since the summer before the coronavirus pandemic. I'm told that living with this pandemic is now the New Normal. In fact, over the past few years, I've been hearing that a lot of things in our lives are now the New Normal:

A once Republican party that has morphed into the Retrumplian party. A Supreme Court overwhelmingly dominated by right-wing radical activists. Get-

ting shot to death while shopping at the mall or attending church or dancing at a nightclub or sitting in an elementary school classroom. Hundred-year floods every six months. Hurricane seasons beginning earlier and ending later than ever before. As I type this, there are currently 63 major wildfires burning in the U.S. alone covering 1,640,278 acres of land. Far too many people spend their whole lives inside the Fox News bubble or the MSNBC bubble or the Facebook bubble—I can't even keep up with all these narrow-minded myopic bubbles anymore—and never have to hear a single word that doesn't match their pre-conceived and largely shallow fact-absent beliefs. This is only a partial list.

And all of this, I'm told constantly, is the New Normal. I don't know. Maybe if you were born in 2012, or 2002, or maybe even 1992, all of this might pass as "normal." But it leaves me sad and discouraged as I approach the twilight of my life and try to imagine what things will be like in even twenty years, let alone fifty or sixty years from now.

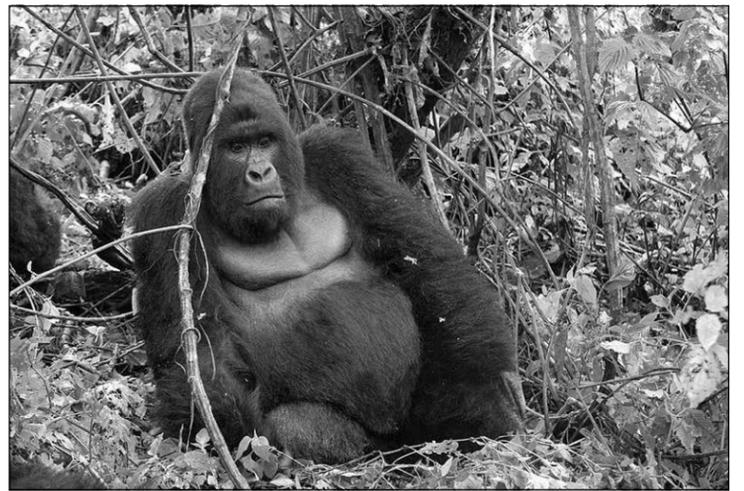
It becomes ever more difficult to hope for a better future, to imagine that a better future is even possible. Fortunately—or maybe unfortunately, it's hard to tell—I can't just crawl under a rock and wait for my inevitable demise. I have to continue to interact with my wife, my daughter, my friends, the world around me without leaving everyone feeling

like they've just had a run-in with Eeyore, the pessimistic, gloomy, depressed, anhedonic, old grey donkey of *Winnie the Pooh* fame.

And that brings me back to the friends Anne and I visited last week. When they first began their work with mountain gorillas in Rwanda in the early 1980s, there were about 250 of them still alive in the Virunga mountain range (including parts of Congo and Uganda as well as Rwanda), and those were rapidly heading toward extinction. Amy and Bill convinced the Rwandan government that saving the gorillas and allowing careful visits by tourists would be far more beneficial to both the local population and the wider Rwandan business community. In effect, these two then-young people invented eco-tourism, and they built a program so solid that it even survived the Rwandan civil war and genocide a decade later. Today, there are over 600 mountain gorillas in the park; and the program is thriving.

Amy and Bill are almost preternaturally low-key about their work, and will tell you—with much truth, no doubt—that they had lots of help along the way. But the mountain gorillas of Rwanda would almost certainly be extinct today if not for these two people.*

I have found myself, especially in recent years, thinking of these two friends and trying hard to keep their example alive in my heart. I think of the remarkable impact of Greta Thunberg, a young schoolgirl



A mountain gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*) just hanging out in Virunga National Park. Photo by Fanny Schertzer; CC license: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/legalcode>.

who decided to stand up and say, "Enough." Or the work that Stacy Abrams did in Georgia to influence (legally) the outcome of the 2020 elections in her state. And only this week, the voters of Kansas—not exactly a left progressive hotbed—resoundingly offered our Supreme Court a clear rebuke over the denial of women's rights to control their own bodies.

I don't like this New Normal. It sucks, frankly. I wish passionately that more of my fellow citizens were as uncomfortable and unhappy with it as I am. But as the saying goes, "Where there's life, there's hope" (a saying variously attributed to Ecclesiastes, the Roman comic playwright Publius Terentius Afer, or J.R.R.

Tolkien, take your pick).

So even if it all ends as badly as I fear it's going to, in the immortal words of Monty Python, "I'm not dead yet." And my wife and I had a really good time in the Adirondacks with Amy and Bill.

* You can read the story of Vedder and Weber in *In the Kingdom of Gorillas: the Quest to Save Rwanda's Mountain Gorillas*, published by Simon & Schuster.

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W.D. Ehrhart, PhD, is a former Marine Corps sergeant and veteran of the American War in Vietnam. He is the author of a memoir trilogy: *Vietnam-Perkasie*, *Passing Time*, and *Busted*.

=====

Should Making a Living Mean Selling Your Life?

by Jim Hightower

"Work your fingers to the bone — whadda ya get? Boney Fingers."

This 1960s song mocking the vaunted virtue of working hard is being sung today with new meaning by all kinds of employees—from factory workers to teachers...and even a few upper-floor executives.

The rebellion here is not merely over low pay, but particularly about the unrelenting nature of work itself—the all-consuming "job imperative," as if that's your life: Go 40 to 60 hours a week 50 to 52 weeks a year for half a century or more... then die. Is that all there is? Is that all we are?

Amazingly, this existential, truly-revolutionary question is one that

millions of hard-working people throughout our top-down corporate system are asking themselves, their families, and friends. Why are we working like this, why does it matter, what else is there?

Airline pilots, for example, have stunned the industry by prioritizing non-monetary demands in their current contract negotiations with the big Four monopolistic airline giants. The bosses have offered 14 percent pay hikes, but pilots are demanding something more meaningful: Structural changes to improve their quality of life. They're routinely frustrated by management's inept scheduling, inadequate staffing, and onerous work rules that leave them stressed out, dangerously fatigued, and often stranded far from home. The bottom line is not to get another

dollar, but being able to plan and enjoy a non-work life. "You absolutely cannot address quality of life with money," says the president of the pilots' union at Southwest Airlines. "You're never going to pay someone enough for a lost piano recital with their daughter or a lost baseball game."

There are many compromises required to make a living these days, but we humans are finally beginning to say: Enough—you can buy my hard work, but not my life.

=====

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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The Insulin Patent
Toward the end of January 1922, tensions mounted between the four "co-discoverers" of insulin. John G. FitzGerald, director of a non-commercial public health institution called Connaught Laboratories, stepped in as peacemaker. Under the resulting January 25, 1922 agreement, they would not take out a patent with a commercial pharmaceutical firm.
Concerns remained that a private third-party would hijack and monopolize the research (as Eli Lilly and Company had hinted it might), and that safe distribution would be difficult to guarantee without capac-

ity for quality control.
A proposal to the University of Toronto, completed on January 15, 1923, assigned a patent to the Board of Governors of the university for the token payment of \$1.00. It emphasized that: "The patent would not be used for any other purpose than to prevent the taking out of a patent by other persons. When the details of the method of preparation are published anyone would be free to prepare the extract, but no one could secure a profitable monopoly."

— Adapted from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insulin>.

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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

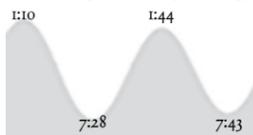
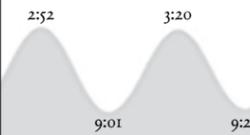
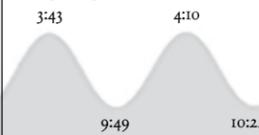
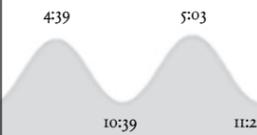
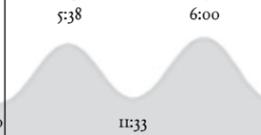
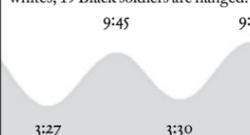
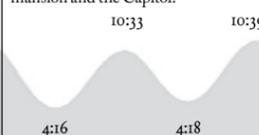
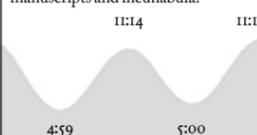
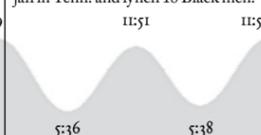
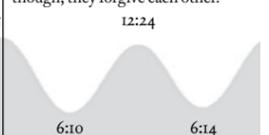
drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

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, AUGUST 14	MONDAY, AUGUST 15	TUESDAY, AUGUST 16	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17	THURSDAY, AUGUST 18	FRIDAY, AUGUST 19	SATURDAY, AUGUST 20
<p>2019—The <i>New York Times</i> publishes "The 1619 Project," arguing chattel slavery was central to the nation's creation. Conservatives freak out.</p> <p>1966—"As long as the United States and our brave allies are in the field," says LBJ, "[a Communist takeover of South Vietnam] is impossible."</p> <p>1945—President Truman announces Japan has surrendered. Enlisted sailors in San Francisco celebrate their reprieve with three nights of looting, vandalism, rape, and murder.</p> <p>1936—In Owensboro, Ky., at 5:30 a.m., 15,000 watch as Rainey Bethea becomes the last person publicly hanged in America. Arthur Hash, the assigned executioner, is so drunk a deputy sheriff has to pull the lever.</p> <p>1935—FDR signs the Social Security Act; the GOP begins trying to gut it.</p> <p>1908—A would-be lynch mob in Springfield, Ill., frustrated that two Black men had been removed from jail for their safety, begins to riot.</p> <p>1884—The coffin of Lieut. Frederick F. Kisingbury is exhumed and an autopsy performed in Rochester, N.Y., 10 days after the survivors of the Greeley expedition were feted with a parade in Portsmouth, N.H. The heroes appear to have cannibalized his remains.</p> <p>1862—Abe Lincoln becomes the 1st President to meet a delegation of African-Americans, whom he offends by recommending they remove to Africa.</p> <p>1765—Boston's Liberty Tree is christened: two figures are hanged in effigy.</p>	<p>1980—The rising popularity of sky-jackings prompts the FAA to put more gun-totin' sky marshals on airplanes.</p> <p>1977—Ohio State's "Big Ear" radio telescope records a 72-second burst suggesting there may be intelligent life...out there, somewhere.</p> <p>1971—With the U.S. budget busted by the Vietnam War, Richard Nixon reneges on the gold standard.</p> <p>1969—Half a million half-naked, drugged-up baby boomers begin a three-day mud wallow in Bethel, N.Y.</p> <p>1966—The <i>New York Herald Tribune</i>, founded as the <i>Tribune</i> by N.H.-born Horace Greeley 125 years earlier, succumbs to a strike called by a labor union also founded by Greeley.</p> <p>1953—TR's grandson Kermit sends Iran's Imperial Guard to arrest the Prime Minister, but they're captured by his guards. The Shah flees to Rome.</p> <p>1943—About 35,000 Allied troops land on Kiska, one of the Rat Islands in the Aleutians. Though unopposed—the Japanese had evacuated two weeks earlier—300 end up missing in action or killed by friendly fire.</p> <p>1935—RIP Will Rogers and Wiley Post, in a plane crash in Alaska.</p> <p>1921—The <i>Times of London</i> exposes the "Protocol of the Elders of Zion" as an anti-Semitic fraud. Undeterred, Henry Ford continues publishing it.</p> <p>1908—The Illinois state militia subduces a mob of rioting whites. Seven people are dead; the Black part of Springfield is left a smoking ruin.</p>	<p>2017—Free State reject Chris Cantwell posts a video online which earns him the moniker, "The Crying Nazi."</p> <p>1977—Elvis allegedly dies.</p> <p>1971—John Dean writes his boss, Richard Nixon, a memo on how to "use the available federal machinery to screw our political enemies."</p> <p>1968—Armed guards subdue—temporarily—228 rioting Marines in the brig at Danang, wounding seven.</p> <p>1966—Chaos erupts as HUAC tries to hold a hearing into anti-war protestors' alleged aid to the Viet Cong.</p> <p>1956—F-89s shoot up a car and two houses, and burn 800 acres of L.A., but can't down a rogue target drone.</p> <p>1951—In France, Pont-Saint-Esprit suddenly seems to go mad. Ergot is blamed at first, but later evidence suggests CIA-administered LSD.</p> <p>1945—Two State Dept. guys in their 30s use a <i>National Geographic</i> map to determine where to split Korea.</p> <p>1942—Two Navy officers disappear off San Francisco. Their unoccupied blimp crashes in Daly City.</p> <p>1938—Hell hounds catch up with Robert Johnson, 27.</p> <p>1841—Protestors hurl rocks at the White House, fire guns in the air, and burn in effigy "His Accidency," for vetoing a bill re-establishing a bank.</p> <p>1819—British authorities respond to 60,000 peaceful protestors at St. Peter's Field in Manchester with a cavalry charge. At least 500 are injured, but somehow only 15 are killed.</p>	<p>2008—Maudie Hopkins dies in Arkansas at 93. She married Confederate States Army vet William M. Cantrell in 1934; he was 86, she was 19.</p> <p>2002—U.S. Generals admit that the U.S. assisted Iraq during its war against Iran knowing that Saddam Hussein would "use chemical weapons against his own people."</p> <p>1998—"It depends," President Clinton tells a Grand Jury, "on what the meaning of the word 'is' is."</p> <p>1988—A Pakistani C-130 explodes in mid-air killing President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq. General Pervez Musharraf, also scheduled to be on board, somehow misses the flight.</p> <p>1988—J. Danforth Quayle informs the Republican National Convention, "in 1988 the question is whether we're going forward to tomorrow or whether we're going to go past the back!"</p> <p>1984—Jack Kemp talks the GOP Platform Committee out of using the term "Democrat Party"—for a while.</p> <p>1965—U.S. Marines begin Operation Starline, their first major ground offensive in Vietnam. It would have been Satellite, but for a typo.</p> <p>1959—An earthquake in Montana kills 28 and blocks the Madison River with 80 million tons of rock, forming six-mile long Quake Lake.</p> <p>1901—As 900 intoxicated anarchists from Paterson, N.J. tour New York Harbor on the <i>General Slocum</i>, some try to seize the ship. The captain docks at the police pier; 17 are arrested.</p>	<p>1996—The U.S. prison population hits 1,600,000, double what it had been just 10 years earlier.</p> <p>1988—Accepting the GOP nomination, George H. [H.] W. Bush solemnly vows, "Read my lips: no new taxes!"</p> <p>1960—Kindly old Ike OKs tells the CIA to assassinate Congolese Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba.</p> <p>1959—Sailors aboard the <i>U.S.S. Wasp</i> bring a severe fire under control, barely averting the need to flood the ship's nuclear weapons storage space.</p> <p>1950—A climbing party at the summit of the Matterhorn (14,692 feet) encounters a ten-month-old black and white kitten from the Hotel Belvedere, situated at 10,820 feet.</p> <p>1933—Germany introduces the <i>Volksempfänger</i>, or Peoples' Radio. Built to Joseph Goebbels' specifications, it receives only local (Nazi-controlled) broadcasts.</p> <p>1920—Tennessee ratifies the 19th Amendment; after a 42-year struggle, [white] women get the vote.</p> <p>1634—Urbain Grandier, a French priest whose sexual prowess earned him accusations from a scorned Mother Superior, is burned at the stake for witchcraft.</p> <p>1590—Virginia Dare, three, becomes America's first missing white girl, and an inspiration for future "journalists."</p> <p>1587—At Roanoke, Virginia Dare becomes the first white child born in the New World, and an inspiration for future neo-Nazis.</p>	<p>1999—The FBI puts the name of James "Whitey" Bulger—its partner in crime—on the Most-Wanted List.</p> <p>1997—Anti-regulation fanatic Carl Drega murders two cops, a selectman, and a judge in Colebrook, N.H. The carnage inspires Vin Suprynowicz, future Signed Member of the Free State Project, to write an essay and a book sympathizing with the killer.</p> <p>1953—Despite setbacks four days earlier, the CIA's coup succeeds in Iran. All will be well now, right?</p> <p>1950—Called "blind," "stupid," and "pig-headed," Rep. Clarence Cannon, [D-Mo.], shouts "I've taken all I'm going to" as he rushes Sen. Kenneth McKellar [D-Tenn.]. Senators wrest the gavel from McKellar, 81, before he can apply it to the head of Cannon, 71.</p> <p>1942—An Allied force of 6,000 lands at Dieppe, France, where 68 percent become casualties. Mountbatten's censors win the PR battle, though.</p> <p>1854—Lt. John L. Grattan, a West Pointer from N.H., leads 29 cavalrymen into a Sioux encampment near Ft. Laramie and gets them all killed. The First Sioux War has begun.</p> <p>1791—Benjamin Banneker, "the sable genius," sends his just-published almanac to Thomas Jefferson with an admonition to practice what he preaches about the rights of all men.</p> <p>1692—George Burroughs, Martha Carrier, George Jacobs, John Proctor, and John Willard are hanged as witches by the pious in Salem Village.</p>	<p>2018—Greta Thunberg strikes, demanding action on the climate crisis.</p> <p>1998—Days after admitting he'd lied about sex with an intern, Bill Clinton throws 13 Tomahawk missiles at Sudan's only pharmaceutical factory.</p> <p>1965—Keene, N.H. seminary student & civil rights worker Jonathan Daniels is murdered in Nayneville, Ala. White jurors acquit his killer.</p> <p>1945—Charles de Gaulle is warned by his ex-puppet Emperor Bao Dai that if France tries to rule Vietnam, "it will no longer be obeyed; each village will be a nest of resistance, each former collaborator an enemy, and your officials and colonists will themselves ask to leave this atmosphere which they will be unable to breathe." Does de Gaulle listen? What a silly question.</p> <p>1907—While laying the cornerstone of the Pilgrim Memorial in Provincetown, President Theodore Roosevelt accuses "malefactors of great wealth" of causing "as much financial stress as possible" in order to discredit the government trying to rein them in.</p> <p>1794—"Mad Anthony" Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers sets off one of history's greatest land grabs.</p> <p>1672—Dutch peasants rip out the hearts of head of state Johan de Witt and his brother Cornelis.</p> <p>1619—The first 20 enslaved Africans in North America land in Jamestown.</p> <p>1191—In Jesus' name, Richard the Lion Hearted's troops bravely slaughter 3,000 Arabs in the Holy Land.</p>
 <p>1:10 1:44 7:28 7:43</p>	 <p>2:01 2:32 8:15 8:35</p>	 <p>2:52 3:20 9:01 9:27</p>	 <p>3:43 4:10 9:49 10:22</p>	 <p>4:39 5:03 10:39 11:20</p>	 <p>5:38 6:00 11:33</p>	 <p>6:43 7:02 12:22 12:32</p>
SUNDAY, AUGUST 21	MONDAY, AUGUST 22	TUESDAY, AUGUST 23	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24	THURSDAY, AUGUST 25	FRIDAY, AUGUST 26	SATURDAY, AUGUST 27
<p>2017—As an aide tells him, "Don't look," President Trump takes off his protective glasses and stares at the sun as it is being eclipsed.</p> <p>2017—The Navy destroyer <i>U.S.S. McCain</i> collides with a freighter in the Gulf of Molucca; ten sailors die. Just 65 days before, the destroyer <i>U.S.S. Fitzgerald</i> hit a freighter off Honshu, killing seven aboard.</p> <p>1992—Samuel Weaver, 14, and U.S. Marshal W.F. Degan die in a shootout at Ruby Ridge, Idaho.</p> <p>1982—The U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion murders more than 200 Salvadorans at El Calabozo.</p> <p>1976—A two-day occupation of the Seabrook, N.H. nuke site begins.</p> <p>1963—Ngo Dinh Nhu's secret police kill hundreds of Buddhist protestors across Vietnam—for democracy.</p> <p>1927—Justice Louis Brandeis refuses to hear a request for a stay of execution of anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti.</p> <p>1911—Vincenzo Peruggia walks out of the Louvre with the Mona Lisa under his arm, wrapped in his coat.</p> <p>1863—William A. Quantrill and several hundred of his Raiders attack Lawrence, Kan. and kill hundreds of men, women, and children.</p> <p>1831—Nat Turner begins a slave rebellion in Virginia. About 60 whites are killed in two days; whites kill twice as many Blacks in response.</p> <p>1791—Haitians rise in revolt; 12 years later, history's greatest rebellion of enslaved people ends in victory.</p>	<p>2016—The lift span of the Sarah Long Bridge is raised for the last time.</p> <p>2008—On a tip from an Afghani, a U.S. AC-130 gunship shoots up Azizabad. The Afghani's rival is among the 91 dead; the rest are mostly civilian women and children. Embedded in this bloody fiasco is Fox's Ollie North, who calls it a great victory.</p> <p>2002—The Bush Administration announces trade sanctions on North Korea, with which we do not trade.</p> <p>1992—An FBI sniper wounds Randy Weaver and kills his wife Vicki at Ruby Ridge in Idaho.</p> <p>1991—Derick Lynn Peterson's obstinate heart continues beating for ten minutes after his electrocution, so Virginia officials zap him again.</p> <p>1976—Police arrest 179 at Seabrook, N.H. anti-nuke rally.</p> <p>1972—Aided and abetted by an FBI informant, 28 leftists burgle Camden, N.J.'s Draft Board and begin destroying documents before they're busted.</p> <p>1953—The last prisoners leave the French prison at Devil's Island.</p> <p>1952—The Justice Department sues four big U.S. oil companies for overcharging on oil shipped to Europe under the Marshall Plan.</p> <p>1914—In the Ardennes, 27,000 soldiers of the French Army are killed.</p> <p>1900—Rioters in Akron, Ohio push the world's first police car into a canal.</p> <p>1893—Birth of Dorothy Parker. At 70, she wrote, "If I had any decency, I'd be dead. Most of my friends are."</p>	<p>2010—Gareth Williams, money-laundering investigator for MI6, is found dead inside a locked gym bag in a London "safe house." Metropolitan Police rule he died alone by accident.</p> <p>2000—The 2nd Circuit Court rules that aspiring cops can be denied a job on grounds that they're too smart.</p> <p>1985—San Francisco cops wince as Mayor Dianne Feinstein reveals their evidence in the "Night Stalker" case.</p> <p>1971—The Powell Memo is published: a future Supreme Court Justice explains that billionaires can use propaganda to nullify the New Deal.</p> <p>1968—Yippies nominate Pigasus J. Pig for President, saying, "if we can't have him in the White House, we can have him for breakfast."</p> <p>1966—Robert Strange McNamara sets new, lower standards for inductees. Among 345,000 "McNamara's Morons," fatalities run 3X higher.</p> <p>1956—The FDA burns six tons of books by Wilhelm Reich at NYC's Gansevoort Destructor Station.</p> <p>1942—An Italian cavalry charge succeeds against Russians at Izbushensky.</p> <p>1927—Boston murders Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti; obscure anarchists become immortal international heroes in the struggle for justice.</p> <p>1917—Two racist cops harass Black soldiers from Camp Logan; 150 of their comrades arm themselves, march on Houston, and fire on cops. Seventeen die in the riot, mostly whites; 19 Black soldiers are hanged.</p>	<p>2020—Rep. Katie Porter [D-Calif.]: "You don't know the cost to mail a postcard?" Postmaster Louis DeJoy, laughing, confesses: "I don't."</p> <p>1970—Graduate student Robert Fasnacht is killed and three others are injured when peaceniks blow up a physics lab at the U. of Wisconsin.</p> <p>1967—Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin scatter 300 one-dollar bills on the floor of the Stock Exchange. Bedlam erupts as greedy capitalists scramble.</p> <p>1964—I.F. Stone reports the U.S. government and press "have kept the full truth about the Tonkin Bay incidents from the American public."</p> <p>1963—The State Department orders Ambassador Lodge to encourage Vietnamese generals to stage a coup.</p> <p>1954—Genial old Ike signs the first U.S. law banning a political party—the Communist Party, of course.</p> <p>1936—After a 12-year hiatus, J. Edgar Hoover gets the OK from FDR to begin the FBI's Golden Age of spying on domestic political groups.</p> <p>1889—On St. Pierre, off Newfoundland, murderer Auguste Neel becomes the only person ever to be guillotined in North America.</p> <p>1827—The first U.S. labor paper, <i>The Mechanic Gazette</i>, is published in Philly. By 1832 there are 67 more.</p> <p>1814—U.S. tactical errors and sheer panic allow British troops to march unopposed into Washington, D.C. where they set fire to the President's mansion and the Capitol.</p>	<p>1999—The FBI admits, six years after the fact, that the tear gas canisters it fired into David Koresh's compound in Waco were incendiary—but still denies they started the fatal fire.</p> <p>1995—Zany Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) announces his innovative new policy, sure to win the drug war: execute "27 or 30 or 35 people at one time."</p> <p>1985—Ronald Reagan admits that, as head of the Screen Actors Guild, he rattled on its members to the FBI.</p> <p>1967—J. Edgar Hoover's FBI sets out to "expose, disrupt, misdirect [and] discredit" the Black Panthers.</p> <p>1967—George Lincoln Rockwell, founder of the American Nazi Party, is shot dead by an ex-aide and former Marine with a broomhandle Mauser.</p> <p>1945—Hotheaded Army Captain John Birch argues with Chinese Communists while snooping in Jiansu Province. They shoot him dead.</p> <p>1945—Bao Dai, puppet Emperor of Vietnam for France, and more recently for Japan, and puppet-to-be for America, surrenders his imperial seal and sword to Ho Chi Minh.</p> <p>1925—The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is founded in Harlem with A. Philip Randolph as President.</p> <p>1923—Largely Catholic Carnegie, Pa. is invaded by 10-30,000 Klansmen, one of whom ends up dead.</p> <p>1914—Germans burn the library at Louven, Belgium, full of medieval manuscripts and incunabula.</p>	<p>2016—Colin Kapernick registers his protest against racial injustice by sitting as the National Anthem plays.</p> <p>2005—The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard gets a stay of execution.</p> <p>1980—Ex-Luftwaffe pilot John Birges, trying to recoup his gambling losses, plants a half-ton bomb at Harvey's Resort Hotel in Stateline, Nev.</p> <p>1969—Five men from New Hampshire's 197th Field Artillery are killed days before leaving Vietnam when their truck detonates a land mine.</p> <p>1968—Mayor Richard Daley welcomes Democrats to the 1968 Democratic National Convention while his cops prepare to bust heads outside.</p> <p>1967—Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze" is released escapes.</p> <p>1967—Burt Munro, a 68-year old Kiwi, hits 183.58 mph on a 1920 Indian at Bonneville. His under-1,000 cc speed record still stands today.</p> <p>1924—Sitting out a storm off Cuttyhunk, <i>Wanderer</i>, New Bedford's last whaler, drags her anchor and is lost.</p> <p>1919—Coal company goons in Brackenridge, Penn. shoot UMW organizer Fannie Sellins dead for interrupting them as they beat striking miner Joseph Starzelski to death.</p> <p>1883—Kratokoa begins a three-day eruption, killing tens of thousands. Sunlight reaching Earth drops by 13 percent during the following year.</p> <p>1874—Hundreds of armed men on horseback open the Gibson County jail in Tenn. and lynch 18 Black men.</p>	<p>2014—Arthur T. Demoulas gets the OK to buy and run Market Basket.</p> <p>2012—New Hampshire "wasn't a battleground state in 2010," says Executive Councilor Chris Sununu on C-SPAN. "We swept the vermin out and it's now a solid Republican state."</p> <p>1991—An ABA panel rates Clarence Thomas. Two members find him "not qualified" for the Supreme Court; none find him "well-qualified."</p> <p>1984—Ronald Reagan announces that he will put a teacher in space.</p> <p>1980—FBI agents use C-4 to disarm a half-ton bomb planted in Harvey's Resort Hotel in Stateline, Nevada. Result: a 50- by 30-foot crater.</p> <p>1979—Admiral of the Fleet Louis Mountbatten is assassinated by an IRA bomb which destroys his 27-foot fishing boat off County Sligo.</p> <p>1960—Whites in Jacksonville, Fla., react to Black lunch counter sit-ins with "Ax Handle Saturday."</p> <p>1949—Three FBI agents observe as a mob attacks the audience at a Paul Robeson concert in Peekskill, N.Y.</p> <p>1938—Becoming increasingly agitated during a poetry reading by Archibald MacLeish, Robert Frost, 64, sets fire to a handful of papers.</p> <p>1831—Maj. Thomas Biddle and Rep. Spencer Darwin Pettis [D-Mo.] meet on Bloody Island, just off St. Louis. Biddle is myopic so they duel with pistols at five feet. Both are mortally wounded; honor being satisfied, though, they forgive each other.</p>
 <p>1:27 1:34 7:48 8:03</p>	 <p>2:30 2:35 8:50 9:01</p>	 <p>3:27 3:30 9:45 9:53</p>	 <p>4:16 4:18 10:33 10:39</p>	 <p>4:59 5:00 11:14 11:19</p>	 <p>5:36 5:38 11:51 11:55</p>	 <p>6:10 6:14 12:24</p>



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