

The Fortnightly Rant

Why the Elephant is Obsolete

For a century and a half the Republican Party has been symbolized by the elephant.

"As characters," says Wikipedia, "elephants are most common in children's stories, in which they are generally cast as models of exemplary behaviour. They are typically surrogates for humans with ideal human values."

Two years ago a Republican President whipped up a mob of hooligans and paramilitary fantasists who fought their way into the U.S. Capitol in an attempt to overthrow the government by force—an act of treason, no matter how you slice it.

Ever since, the erstwhile Party of Lincoln has pulled out every rhetorical stop, employing its unequalled powers of baffle-gab, to cast this crime—the result of a conspiracy, let us not forget—as "legitimate political discourse."

Having failed to overthrow the government entirely, the Party now simply squats in Congress like a dog in the manger. If they cannot run the whole show, they will take whatever steps are necessary to make sure that no show goes on.

So much for "exemplary behavior" reflecting "ideal human values." Obviously the time has come for some sort of adjustment, or perhaps a complete reconsideration.

Old traditions should not be overthrown lightly. Is there a way that the elephant could continue to represent the Party, but in a manner more consistent with the times?

There is such a way, but the Party would never accept it. The old, familiar pachyderm actually represents today's Grand Old Party well—with certain stipulations: the elephant in question is presumed to be a male, with an aberrant hormonal condition.

Periodically, even normally-docile

male elephants experience a dramatic increase in certain hormones, giving rise to a condition called musth. At such times formerly placid individual elephants become highly aggressive and violent. They may turn on their keepers, trample villages, or even attack rhinoceri.

However, because this phenomenon is intimately linked with the species' reproductive behavior, musth cannot be studied, spoken of, or even acknowledged by Party members. Not in public, anyway. Who knows what bizarre shenanigans these people might get up to behind closed doors? Judging from their collective rap sheets, we're not ruling out anything.

Thus we are forced, reluctantly, to propose replacement. Our Starving Artiste has proposed the Komodo Dragon. Let us investigate its suitability.

The world's largest lizard, *Varanus komodoensis*, to give its Latin name, is native only to a few islands in Indonesia. Their tongues are long and forked, they have glands in their jaws which secrete toxins, and they have big mouths full of large serrated teeth. Because those teeth are mostly covered in gingival tissue, their saliva, when feeding, is tinged with blood.

Komodo Dragons are decidedly carnivorous. Mostly they eat a Javan deer called the rusa. They are not what you'd call fastidious; they also eat carrion. Also, up to ten percent of their diet consists of their own species—they are cannibals; they eat their young.

Well, then, that's settled. No need to pursue the matter any further.

Still, a problem remains: if we go off on our own, and henceforth represent Republicans as forked-tongued, cannibalistic lizards, new readers of this paper will likely be-

come confused. Thoreau wrote that "any man more right than his neighbor constitutes a majority of one."



Only a fool would presume, though, that the world has been paying attention and will soon fall in line.

In a properly-functioning world this would not be an issue. Republicans could spout whatever nonsense they like, and, come election time, suffer the consequences. Our sainted Founding Fathers, let us recall, bequeathed to us a magical system designed to select the best from among us to gather in Congress, there to convert our hopes and desires into a secular paradise here on Earth. [Here we pause to lock up the office firearms and disconnect the gas stove, lest we give in to despair. — The Ed.]

Last night's State of the Union address—or, rather, the response to it—provides all the evidence one would require to make the case that the danged thing is busted.

"In 2009," the *New York Times* reported, "it was considered a travesty

when Representative Joe Wilson, a South Carolina Republican, shouted 'you lie' at President Barack Obama during a joint address to Congress. Back then, Mr. Wilson was formally rebuked by the whole House.

"Times have changed. Republican lawmakers shouted both 'liar' and 'bullshit' at parts of Mr. Biden's speech, and no one appeared shocked. After the speech, Representative Andy Ogles of Tennessee defended yelling out 'it's your fault' as Mr. Biden described the fentanyl crisis, telling reporters it was a visceral response."

The *Times* is aware of the GOP's decades-long decline in decorum, but it is blind to its own "bothsidism." It persists in treating the Republican Party as if it were actually interested in governance, rather than jeers, catcalls, and trolling.

Jean-Paul Sartre died in April, 1980. Ronald Reagan was running for President, and Newt Gingrich was an obscure first-term Con-

gressman. Sartre wrote the following passage, about anti-Semites, in 1946. Substitute "Republican" for "anti-Semite," and see if he didn't have these people pegged:

"Never believe that anti-Semites are completely unaware of the absurdity of their replies. They know that their remarks are frivolous, open to challenge. But they are amusing themselves, for it is their adversary who is obliged to use words responsibly, since he believes in words. The anti-Semites have the right to play. They even like to play with discourse for, by giving ridiculous reasons, they discredit the seriousness of their interlocutors. They delight in acting in bad faith, since they seek not to persuade by sound argument but to intimidate and disconcert. If you press them too closely, they will abruptly fall silent, loftily indicating by some phrase that the time for argument is past."

The sooner the press stops playing their game, the sooner it will end.

The Alleged News®

Rail Workers Blame Fiery Train Crash in Ohio on Wall Street Profit-Seeking

by Jake Johnson

An inter-union alliance of rail workers argued Tuesday that the massive freight train crash in East Palestine, Ohio late last week was a predictable consequence of Wall Street-backed policy decisions that have hollowed out the industry's workforce, pushed remaining employees to chronic exhaustion, and sacrificed safety for profits.

In an assessment of the Norfolk Southern (NS) train derailment based on currently available information, Railroad Workers United (RWU) wrote that "the root causes of this wreck are the same ones that have been singled out repeatedly, associated with the hedge fund-initiated operating model known as 'Precision Scheduled Railroading' (PSR)."

The group noted that the "imme-

diolate cause" of the wreck "appears to have been a 19th-century-style mechanical failure of the axle on one of the cars—an overheated bearing—leading to derailment and then jackknifing tumbling cars."

"There is no way in the 21st century, save from a combination of incompetence and disregard to public safety, that such a defect should still be threatening our communities," wrote RWU, which supports nationalization of the U.S. rail system.

"Forty percent of the weight of NS 32N was grouped at the rear third of the train, which has always been bad practice and made more dangerous with longer heavier trains," the statement continued. "This fact almost certainly made the wreck dynamically worse. But increasingly the PSR-driven carriers, driven to cut costs and crew time by

any means necessary, cut corners and leave crews and the public at risk."

According to RWU, "The short-term profit imperative, the so-called 'cult of the Operating Ratio'—of NS and the other Class 1 railroads—has made cutting costs, employees, procedures, and resources the top priority. In this case, NS and the other carriers have eliminated many of the critical mechanical positions and locations necessary to guarantee protection against these kinds of failures."

The crash in Ohio "has been years in the making," the group added. "What other such train wrecks await us remains to be seen. But given the modus operandi of the Class One rail carriers, we can no doubt expect future disasters of this nature."

Matthew Jinoo Buck, a senior fellow at the American Economic

Liberties Project, explained in *The American Prospect* last year that "using PSR, railroad management's job is to drive down the 'operating ratio,' or operating expenses as a percentage of revenue."

"In other words, Wall Street judges railroads' success based in part on spending less money running the railroad and more on stock buybacks or dividends," Buck wrote. "Theoretically, focusing on lowering operating ratios pushes railroads to be more efficient, to do more with less. But when railroads have the market power they have today, they can instead 'do less with less,' as shippers and workers put it."

Norfolk Southern, the product of a merger between Norfolk and Western Railway and Southern Railway, appears to have followed that model closely.

The company announced a \$10 billion stock buyback program last March and has consistently raised its dividend, rewarding shareholders while refusing to provide its workers with basic benefits such as paid sick leave.

For the full year of 2022, Norfolk Southern reported record-breaking operating revenues of \$12.7 billion.

As Buck wrote last year, "The driving force behind PSR's widespread adoption was railroad executive E. Hunter Harrison and investor Bill Ackman, a notorious hedge fund manager."

"After the two pushed through PSR at the Canadian Pacific railroad, Ackman's colleague Paul Hilal opened an investment fund called

The Alleged News®
from page one

Mantle Ridge, which invested \$1.2 billion in CSX and successfully pushed CSX to appoint Harrison CEO," he continued. "Under Harrison, and with the backing of CSX's board, who saw larger bottom lines in sight, CSX pushed through PSR despite complaints from shippers who reported long delays or lost shipments. Every other railroad has adopted PSR or PSR equivalents; industry watchers say the one holdout yet to officially adopt PSR, BNSF, has adopted PSR-like measures."

The crash in Ohio late Friday forced many local residents to evacuate to escape a possible explosion and the release of toxic fumes from the train cars, several of which were carrying vinyl chloride.

RWU said Tuesday that while many people in the area "were and remain evacuated, and property damage to both rail and non-railroad property will no doubt soar into the millions, we dodged a bullet as no rail workers and no trackside

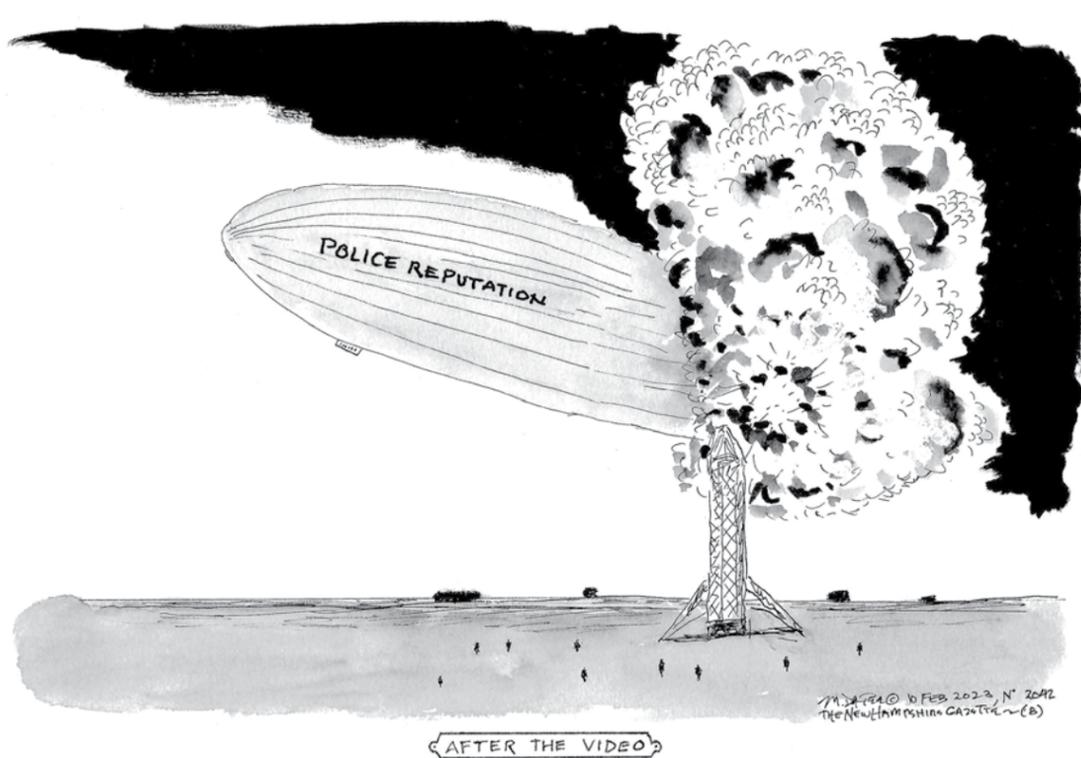
residents were killed."
"This time," the group added.

Jake Johnson writes for Common Dreams. This work licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0).

**Defend the Postal Service,
Defend Good Jobs for Black Workers**
by Sarah Anderson

Postal jobs have long been a road to the middle-class for Black Americans. The Postal Service began employing Black workers shortly after the Civil War and became a major source of good, middle-class jobs for this share of the workforce in the early 20th century.

During the 1940s, civil rights advocacy, combined with wartime needs, created even more opportunities for Black postal workers. By the mid-1960s, their leadership had increased significantly, with the three biggest post offices in the country—New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles—all headed by Black postmasters. By the end of the 20th century, Black employees made up 21 percent of the U.S. postal work-



AFTER THE VIDEO

force.

In 2022, Black workers made up 29.0 percent of the Postal Service workforce—more than double their 12.6 percent share of the total U.S. labor force. According to Institute for Policy Studies analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data, postal workers have by far the highest median annual wage (\$51,730) and the highest median hourly wage (\$24.87) among the 10 occupations with the heaviest representation of Black workers.

Three of these 10 occupations have median hourly wages below \$15 per hour. Of the 10 occupations with the largest shares of Black workers, USPS was the fifth-largest employer, with more than 600,000 employees.

The Center for Economic and Policy Research notes that the wage gap between white and Black workers is narrower among postal workers than among private sector employees. The Economic Policy Institute has found that Black workers' share of USPS jobs is significantly higher than their share of all public sector jobs.

The Postal Service faces constant pressure to make deep spending cuts that would be devastating for customers and employees across the country. Instead of cutbacks that could drive away customers, decisionmakers should explore new revenue sources, particularly those that would help meet important social needs, such as postal banking.

Black families would benefit significantly from expanded postal financial services. According to an FDIC survey, 11.3 percent of all Black households and 9.3 percent of Latino households did not have bank accounts in 2021, compared to just 2.1 percent of white households.

Among households with income between \$15,000 and \$30,000, 29.3 percent of Black households and 26.5 percent of Hispanic households were unbanked, compared with 13.6 percent of White households. Single mothers and adults with disabilities were also more likely than other Americans to be "unbanked."

Families without bank accounts are much more likely to have to use high-cost financial services. For example, 21.8 percent of unbanked

households used check cashing—almost 10 times the share of banked households that use such services. And 15.5 percent used money transfer services, more than double the 6.6 percent share of banked households that use these services.

Among all families without bank accounts, the most-cited reason was that they couldn't afford minimum balance requirements. Other major reasons included distrust of banks, high and unpredictable fees, and inconvenient locations. A 2019 S&P Global report found that majority Black neighborhoods have lost more bank branches than non-majority-Black neighborhoods. JPMorgan, for example, reduced the number of branches in majority-Black areas by 22.8 percent from 2010 to 2018, compared to a decline of 0.2 percent in the rest of the country.

With more than 31,000 post offices across the country and a high level of public trust, USPS is well-positioned to provide dependable, affordable financial services. According to a 2015 USPS Office of Inspector General report, expanding postal financial services



Like Repo Men, the Flag Police have a code: "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." Frequent exposure to shredded national emblems enables them to conduct their duties in a professional manner—even when faced with sights such as this: Old Glory, with her bottom-most stripe nearly torn loose. And, for added irony, a "1776" flag, dangling from a single upper grommet. A shocking display—especially considering that it is in plain sight, on Route 1, just a few hundred feet north of Heritage Avenue. Oh, the shame....

HUMAN speakers
"Music to Your Ears"
Supporting the *New Hampshire Gazette* and the radical notion of freedom of the press
I also build and repair speakers
Huw Powell
7 Kelsey Road, Lee NH - 603 659 5335

International Subscriptions
Now Available
\$40/year
email subs@nhgazette.com for details

20th & 21st Century American, European and Asian Artworks
Signed Oil Paintings, Lithographs, Prints and Old Etchings, most from well-listed local & known artists.
Mid-Century Modern, Abstracts, Surreal, Unique Pieces
Visit us @ www.newenglandfinearts.com

Life on the Piscataqua in the 1630s
Three novellas by Lewis Brackett, Descendant
<https://1630snovellas.com>

The Music Hall
TICKETS & INFO: TheMusicHall.org - 603.436.2400
28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, NH
f/MusicHall @MusicHall /MusicHallNH
LEGENDARY ACTS IN AN INTIMATE THEATER
Concerts, Comics, Cinema, & Celebrated Authors
Photo Credit: Sydney Bilodeau Photography SydneyBPhoto.com

The Supreme Court has decided it's the boss of all wombs.
We've decided the Court is run by political hacks, some of whom aren't even on the bench. That is neither here nor there; no one gives a boot about our opinion, nor should they. But ...
The Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire has decided to keep abortion accessible.
www.reprofund.org
The Reproductive Freedom Fund is in no way responsible for this advertisement. It was created by *The New Hampshire Gazette* and is published *pro bono*.

MIKE DATER'S CARTOON ORIGINALS
AND OTHER DRAWINGS BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE'S VERY OWN
STARVING ARTISTE
WWW.MIKEDATER.COM

such as check-cashing, ATMs, and electronic money orders could generate as much as \$1.1 billion in annual revenue.

Members of Congress have introduced legislation for two approaches to expanded postal financial services. These include a Treasury-backed savings system at the post office similar to what existed in the United States from 1911 to 1967 and individual FedAccounts accessible through local post offices in conjunction with the Federal Reserve.

These proposals would provide reliable, affordable alternatives to predatory financial firms. They could also facilitate distribution of federal stimulus checks. Every community across the United States benefits from a strong USPS.

Rather than weakening this vital public infrastructure, policymakers should focus on strengthening—and expanding—this service to meet 21st century needs.

—==—

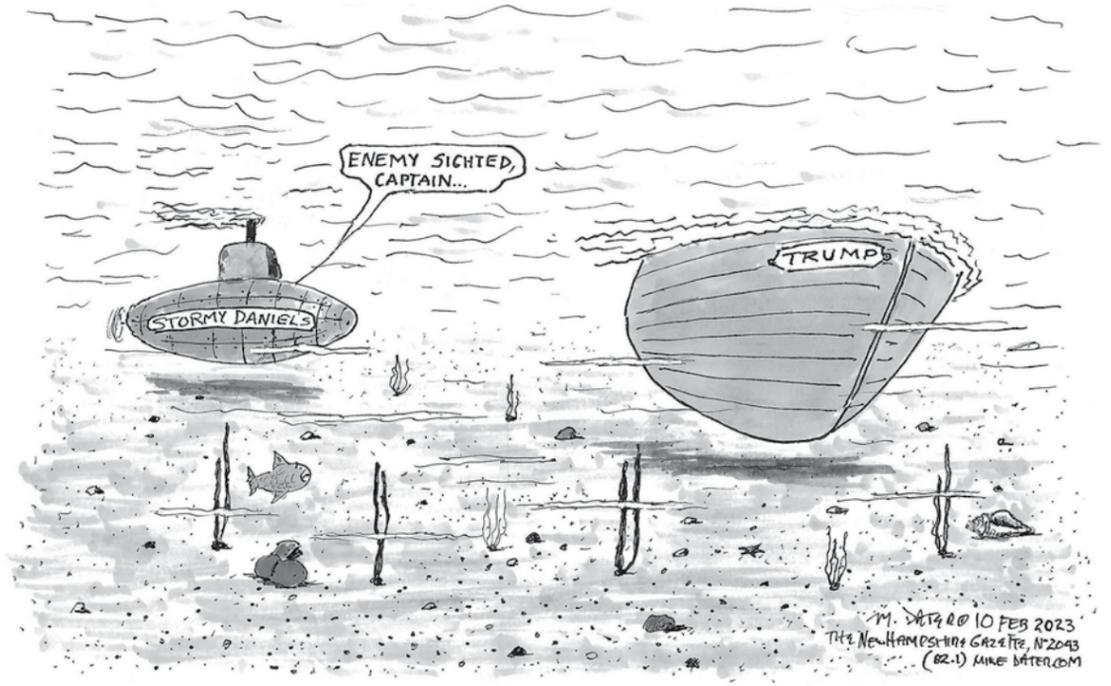
Sarah Anderson [posting at @Sarah-DAnderson1 on Twitter] directs the Global Economy Project and co-edits Inequality.org. This work is licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0). Feel free to republish and share widely.

—==—

Samuel Alito's Mom's Satanic Abortion Clinic Welcomes You
by Abby Zimet

Exquisitely merging their sacrosanct tenets - reproductive rights, church/state separation, the freedom to offend and artful devil's advocacy - The Satanic Temple is opening a "religious abortion clinic" to offer free, virtual, medication abortion to "involuntarily pregnant women" who need it. The "non-theistic" group, with "Satanic good works" from food drives to After-School Satan Clubs, named the clinic for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito's mother.

Based in Salem, Mass., the Satanic Temple is somewhat of a baroque misnomer. Co-founded a decade ago by social activists Lucien Greaves and Malcolm Jarry, TST is a non-theistic group that seeks to "encourage benevolence and empathy, reject tyrannical authority, oppose injustice and undertake noble pursuits" while remaining faith-based enough to qualify for federal protections and benefits afforded religious organizations - just without the deity part. While they "don't have any supernatural beliefs," they argue the Satanic label is more than just a political ploy; it "provides a metaphorical narrative construct by



which we contextualize our values," and renders them "every bit of a religion in that religion and the privileges and exemptions that come with it shouldn't be the exclusive rights of superstition." To date, they've been most visible righteously advocating to enforce the sometimes-waning separation of church and state: In one campaign, they erected a bronze statue of the god Baphomet outside the Arkansas State Capitol after lawmakers put up a Ten Commandments statue there, prompting horrified Christian groups to protest with hymns and signs reading, "Let Them Offend Our Lord No More."

Along with "Satanic Good Works" - diaper drives, clothes pantries, beach clean-ups - they offer several school-based programs focused on science, free inquiry and critical thinking. Their After-School Satan Clubs ("Educatin' With Satan") for elementary kids seek to counter "Good News Clubs" set up by Evangelical Christians at schools that "use threats of eternal damnation to convert children to their belief system." "Proselytization is not our goal, and we're not interested in converting children to Satanism," says Greaves. "We prefer to give children an appreciation of the nat-

ural wonders surrounding them, not a fear of everlasting other-worldly horrors." Citing a 2001 SCOTUS ruling on school club inclusiveness, they've applied to set up Satanic shop in nine schools; despite their dearth of lamb's blood ceremonies, they've only been approved for one in Portland, Ore, but are now suing a Pennsylvania school board that turned them down. They also advocate to protect young mental health patients; they offer Devil's Advocate scholarships - \$666 - to kids who show "how compulsory schooling has dampened their creativity"; they have t-shirts, posters, an annual SatanCom; and they're featured in a well-received documentary, Hail Satan?: "In the battle for justice and equality, The Satanic Temple is putting up a hell of a fight."

Now, after years of supporting bodily autonomy and suing to block anti-abortion laws in Idaho, Indiana, Texas' Heartbeat Act, they're launching the first TST Health online abortion clinic Feb. 14 in New Mexico, where abortion remains largely legal, amidst a surge of anti-abortion laws and rabid rhetoric about "pre-born babies" and a "pro-life war" against "pro-death forces." Battling "reproductive laws that violate our

religious conscience (and) necessary health and safety standards," they claim abortion as an "essential part of a religious practice" protected by the First Amendment and state religious freedom laws. Their clinic will provide free telehealth consultation with licensed medical staff, followed by a scrip for pills "discreetly" sent by mail, to women medically eligible for but lacking access to abortion; in return, the women must perform a "religious abortion ritual" of reciting a modest Satanic affirmation like, "One's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone." TST hopes to launch clinics in several more states. Their first facility really will be named "The Samuel Alito's Mom's Satanic Abortion Clinic," to remind us what's at stake.

"Prior to 1973, doctors who performed abortions could lose their licenses and go to jail," says Jarry. "In 1950, Samuel Alito's mother did not have options, and look what happened."

Holy hell, we wish them well.

—==—

Abby Zimet has written for Common Dreams since 2008. This work is licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0).

—==—



...meanwhile, about one mile north of the obvious travesty seen on the opposite page, this subtler violation of the Flag Code was observed the same day. While this banner may not be as badly damaged, the Flag Police have been obliged to declare a violation—considering that it flies on property owned and managed by the Department of Defense.

Murph's Fortnightly Quote
"Compassion and tolerance are not a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength."
- 14th Dalai Lama (1935-)

"The tragedy of modern man is not that he knows less and less about the meaning of his own life, but that it bothers him less and less."
- Václav Havel
john@wordpraxis.com

North River Woodworks
Portsmouth, NH — (603) 682-4443
Local Craftsmanship

Eat Something You'll Feel Better

Ceres Bakery
CAFE LUNCHES • FINE PASTRIES • DISTINCTIVE BREADS
51 Penhallow Street, Portsmouth, NH 603 436 6518
Check our website for today's specials! www.ceresbakery.com

Death to Rats,

Mice, Roaches, Water-Bugs, Beetles, Ants and all vermin. Hotels, dwellings and granaries cleared in one night. **Safe** to have 'round. No arsenic. **Parson's Exterminator 15c.** Mail 20c. **WEEKS & POTTER, Boston, Mass.** tj23

RiverRun BOOKSTORE
A Constantly-Changing Selection of
New & Used Books
in both
Hard Cover & Paperback
Your Coffee, Ice Cream, Children & Pets Are All Welcome
Store Hours
Mon - Sat: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sun: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
32 Daniel St • (603) 431-2100

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.
The New Hampshire Gazette is the most economical advertising medium on the Seacoast. This space is available for just forty dollars. To learn more, call (603) 433-9898, or email editors@nhgazette.com.

History In Progress

Raising awareness of New Hampshire's Black History to build inclusive communities today
Give the Gift of History - Come Shop with Us!
Visit blackheritagetrailnh.org
Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire
222 Court Street, Portsmouth NH 03801 | 603-570-8469

**Merrimack Station:
A Fifty Year N.H. Disaster Continues**
by Roy Morrison

Merrimack Station, the coal fired power plant on the banks of the Merrimack River in Bow, New Hampshire, has recently passed its fiftieth anniversary. It's New England's last remaining coal plant.

It's also N.H.'s largest point source of carbon pollution. The plant owners, Granite Shore Power, proclaim that they scrupulously comply with EPA and state regulations. The plant uses the Merrimack River water for cooling and dumps heated water into the Merrimack as the plant's carbon dioxide emissions and asthma-causing particulates pour into the air.

I spent a lot of time in the N.H. winter being able to kayak south of the plant even in the coldest weather. To the north, the river was usually almost frozen solid. But south of the plant, down river, the ice had been melted by the hot water. The river is quite attractive if you have your back to the power plant. I could kayak on the coldest days, paddling along with small- to medium-sized ice flows moving down river. I paddled hard and stayed warm and tried to forget about the power plant. Winter kayaking when heavy snow is falling without wind also treated me to a stunning optical illusion. The snow appeared to be rising out of the water and into the sky.

In October 2022, a trial began in Federal Court in Concord N.H. The Conservation Law Foundation and the Sierra Club challenged the ecological consequences of continuing dumping hot water into the Merrimack, calling for installation of cooling towers. Merrimack Station runs now as a peaking plant dispatched by the New England ISO (Independent System Operator) as needed.

Operating the coal plant as a stand-by "peaker" is profitable. The latest deal is for 2025-2026, and Granite Shore Power receives \$785,000 per month for being on-call that amounts to \$9,420,000 a year, the costs being paid by captive ratepayers. There is a wide range of renewable power and energy storage options to meet the needs of

the forward capacity market. California's use of battery systems, as opposed to natural gas peaking plants, has made this abundantly clear. We can use, for example, electronically networked virtual power plants combining solar wind and storage that will include the batteries of EVs.

Carbon Dioxide Emissions Soar

The fifty year life of Merrimack Station also corresponds with the catastrophic global increase since 1970 of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide greenhouse gas pollution. The numbers are astonishing.

Carbon dioxide rose from 280 parts per million (ppm), stable for 10,000 years, to 419 ppm on February 4, 2023. But what is startling is that in 1970 atmospheric carbon dioxide was just 315 ppm. It took 200 years to increase carbon dioxide concentration by 35 parts per million. In the fifty year life of the Bow Plant, global carbon dioxide increased 104 parts per million, as we are rapidly approaching irreversible climate disaster. The last time that carbon dioxide was above 400 ppm was at least 800,000 years ago.

Somehow, a half century of mushrooming global carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas pollution is generally in full compliance with law and regulation. EPA approved. Humanity is now responsible for some 37 billion tons (gigatons) of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions each year.

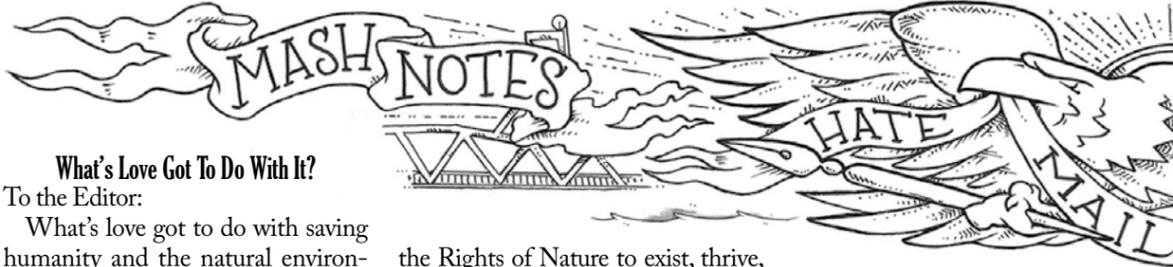
It's certainly time to stop N.H. ratepayers from being forced to pay Granite Shores \$9.4 million a year to pour carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ISO New England shouldn't permit a coal plant, absent 100 percent carbon capture, to bid in the Forward Capacity Market and get paid to continue to pollute. Operation of Merrimack Station means embracing ecological catastrophe.

Roy Morrison builds solar plants; see www.SunPartnersSolar.com. His latest book is *The New Green Republic*.

Roy:

More than a century ago, a railroad baron confessed that the Interstate Commerce Commission would have little effect on profiteering.

The Editor



What's Love Got To Do With It?

To the Editor:

What's love got to do with saving humanity and the natural environment we are part of? Everything! February is recognized for being a month dedicated to and all about love. We focus on romance, expressions of love and acceptance, and dedication to our relationships with one another. What about love, acceptance, and dedication to the natural environments we are a part of?

When was the last time you went outside to simply "be" with your natural surroundings? Not only when the weather is comfortable and pleasant, but also when it is raining, snowing, or gloomy? When we are in relationship with our respective humans, we commit to standing by their side in all the good times and not-so-good times. We support and defend one another in the good, the bad, and ugly times. Why is it that we so easily bail out on our relationship with Nature? The most important sentient entity that demonstrates unconditional giving and resilience.

When our friends, family, and loved ones are harmed, we often feel a deep sense of protection and will speak up and act out quite assertively when necessary. When was the last time you stood up to defend and speak out against the harms inflicted upon Nature? Nature cannot speak for herself in the way humans can and do, but Nature certainly does speak to us. We need to make time and take the time to listen to Nature in the same way we make time for our human relationships. We cannot know one another if we don't spend quality time with each other. The same is true for our relationship with Nature.

The New Hampshire Community Rights Network (NHCRN) is a statewide grassroots non-profit that is eager to have open discussions about what we can do to actively protect our natural environments by recognizing

the Rights of Nature to exist, thrive, and flourish free from human-inflicted irreparable harms. To learn more, visit www.nhcommunityrights.org or email info@nhcommunityrights.org. We look forward to hearing from you and taking action together!

Michelle Sanborn (she), President and Board Member, NHCRN
Belmont, N.H.

Michelle:

What a refreshingly wholesome thought.

The Editor

—==—

Putin Won't Compromise

To the Editor:

In the last issue of the *New Hampshire Gazette*, Mr. Ehrhart suggests that NATO provoked Russian President Putin into attacking Ukraine. He suggests that the attack by Russia on Ukraine was predictable because of this provocation. He also does not agree that the battle being waged by Ukrainians is one about good versus evil or democracy versus dictatorship. Even if accurate, none of these claims would justify the violations of national sovereignty, international laws and previous treaties that Mr. Putin violated when he invaded Ukraine in 2014 and again in 2022. I disagree with all of Mr. Ehrhart's premises, based on personal experience.

It is worth remembering the circumstances at the end of WWII. The war ended without a formal peace treaty to finalize European borders. The nations of Europe were divided among the victors of that war with most Eastern European countries assigned to the authority of the Soviet Union (e.g. Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and East Germany). These countries as well as those under the authority of the French, British and Americans were promised that at a later time they would be able to

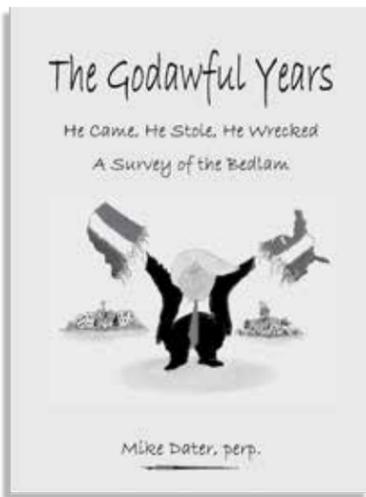
democratically elect their own governments. This did happen in Western Europe, but not in the Eastern European countries controlled by the Soviet Union. Only after the Berlin Wall came down was there an agreement in 1994 to finalize all of the borders. At that time Russia agreed with the U.S., UK and France to finalize Ukraine's borders, but Ukraine was required to remove all nuclear weapons from its territory and agree to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Both of these requirements were met by Ukraine.

My parents and I fled from Hungary, which was under Soviet Union control, during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. We came to the U.S. as refugees. Probably, as the result of that experience, I worked for 30 years as a case worker in various Amnesty International groups helping to secure the release of "Prisoners of Conscience." I understand issues of human rights and dictatorships from a practical point of view.

NATO did not have to attract members, because most European nations felt vulnerable to Russian provocations and/or attacks, especially considering the threat of nuclear weapons. Countries joined for their own self-interest. The Russian invasion was not predictable, but resulted from Mr. Putin's dream of a new Russian empire. Another Russian leader, could have used diplomacy with Russia's neighbors and NATO to strengthen Russian security. Certainly, Russia did not fear being invaded by Ukraine or Finland. The Russian War on Ukraine is in fact a fight between democracy and a dictatorship, because Russia is intimidated by western influences. Russian behavior caused neutral Sweden and Finland to request NATO membership.

You Suffered Through Them...

Now Enjoy Them!



a compendium of drawings by Mike Dater most of which first appeared in *The New Hampshire Gazette*
Now Available at RiverRun Bookstore and at MikeDater.com

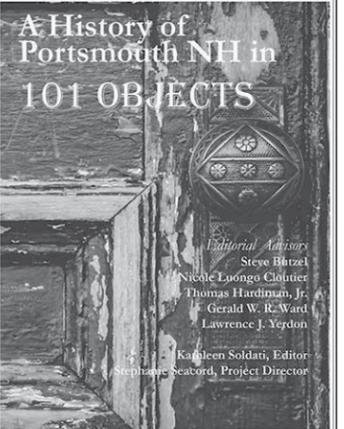
Damn Good Food & Beer Since 1991



THE PORTSMOUTH BREWERY
COMMUNITY PINT DAY EVERY TUESDAY
56 MARKET STREET, PORTSMOUTH, NH
WE LOVE HOSTING GATHERINGS & CELEBRATIONS!

Don't just give a gift. Give a unique newspaper — every other Friday for a year. Gift subscriptions - page 5.

AVAILABLE NOW!
An Official Legacy Project of Portsmouth NH 400



From RiverRun Bookstore
32 Daniel Street, Portsmouth
603.431.2100
RiverRunBookstore.com/101-2
101ObjectsPortsmouthNH.org



Mr. Ehrhart poses the question: how would we feel if Mexico and Canada were to sign security agreements with Russia? The answer is obvious: we would not like it, however, countries have the right to make their own decisions, without fearing that we would otherwise invade them.

How can this war end? Either the oligarchs in Russia decide to isolate and replace Mr. Putin before the Russian economy is significantly impacted and Russia loses all of its markets for fossil fuels, or some international agreement is reached. For example, Russia could request that a UN peace-keeping force be deployed on its border with Ukraine, and that Ukraine provide a special level of autonomy, monitored by the UN, in Ukrainian areas with a high proportion of Russian speaking residents.

Currently, with Mr. Putin in charge, it is hard to imagine that he, like Hitler at the beginning of WW II, will be restrained by appeasement.

Peter Somssich
Portsmouth, N.H.

Peter:

Mr. Ehrhart is more than capable of speaking for himself. We'll take this opportunity to express our own misgivings about the Ukraine/Russia conflict.

Viewed in black and white terms, it's simple enough: Russia committed a brutal act of aggression, and deserves whatever it takes to drive it back within its own borders.

We remember all too well, though, having been coerced into a tragically stupid military misadventure. How can we condemn a powerless Russian conscript, roped into someone else's imperial fantasy? Of course, many of those regular Russian conscripts are dead or maimed now, replaced on the front lines by criminals employed by the Wagner Group.

President Eisenhower warned us

nearly 70 years ago that the Military-Industrial Complex has an agenda of its own. Today our so-called "defense contractors" are vastly more powerful than they were in Ike's day. And they're all too happy to replenish the Defense Department's stockpiles.

In retrospect the Iraq War was an obvious blunder—a war crime, really. To what extent was that war driven by the same motivation?

The Ukrainian peoples' resistance to Russian aggression has been truly awe-inspiring—which makes this situation all the more susceptible to profit-driven manipulation.

The Editor

====

Catalans: A Threatened National Minority

To the Editor:

When the Catalan independence movement, after unsuccessfully trying to reach a consensus with the Spanish state on a referendum on self-determination, organized a unilateral referendum in 2017, the Spanish government remained unwilling to engage in dialogue and to seek a political solution. Spain sent 10,000 police to Catalonia to prevent the referendum by force and then fraudulently used the judiciary to prosecute and convict pro-independence supporters for non-criminal acts in order to make them abandon their pro-independence ideas and their struggle.

That is why it was so important for the pro-independence supporters to defend themselves judicially outside Spain. The President of Catalonia, Carles Puigdemont, who had organized the referendum in 2017, went into exile in Belgium with members of his government, because they were sure that they would not have a fair trial in Spain. The Spanish justice system has tried to get Belgium to hand them over through the almost automatic mechanism of Euro-surrender orders

between EU countries. This has meant that the exiled Catalan politicians have led a very strong fight to prevent the surrender orders and to show that Spain would try them with sentences decided in advance.

For the time being, the struggle of the Catalan pro-independence exiles (who have also been elected members of the European Parliament during this time) has succeeded in having Euro-arrangements for their surrender denied by the Belgian, German, Scottish and Italian courts because of the risk that they would be judged unfairly. Also the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has admonished Spain in a report of June 13, 2019, as well as the Council of Europe has admonished Spain in Resolution 2381 (Cilevics report) of June 21, 2021, and in the report of Marija Pejcinovic of June 10, 2022.

But for the moment, the greatest success that the struggle of the Catalan exile has achieved has been that on 02/31/2022 the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg has responded to some preliminary questions formulated by the Spanish justice, in which it protested the fact that Belgium had denied the European arrest warrant for the surrender of the Catalan politician Lluís Puig exiled in this country. The Luxembourg Court responded that Spain could issue Euro-warrants and that Belgium, in a normal situation, should accept them, but clearly stipulated that, although Spanish justice does not have a generalized systemic failure (as Hungary, Poland or Romania have), it could have a systemic failure due to the fact that Lluís Puig belongs to an Objectively Identifiable Group formed by pro-independence Catalans.

The future sentence of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg could, based on the present sentence, certify that the Catalans are a national minority that does not have fair trials in Spain: with prison sentences

to nine people, with the repression of 4,200 Catalans (700 with open court cases), with the illegal spying through Pegasus, with the infiltration of police within the peaceful Catalan social movements....

At some point, it will have to be contemplated that, in order for the Catalan national minority to be able to guarantee the protection of its identity, its centenary institutions and its linguistic, cultural and social integrity, and to be recognized the full right to govern itself according to its way of conceiving the democratic game (which is different from Spain's way), the solution would be the exercise of the right to self-determination and the creation, within Europe, of a new state of the Catalans.

Jordi Oriola Folch
Barcelona, Catalonia

====

Aren't Palestinians Human?

To the Editor:

Recently, Secretary of State Blinken met with Israeli leader Netanyahu and later, with Mahmoud Abbas, the Palestinian leader. Blinken told Israelis that the U.S. condemns Palestinian "terrorism," wherein seven Israelis were killed by a Palestinian, but he said nothing about the ten Palestinians killed in Jenin's refugee camp, including two children, by an Israeli military force, including some occupation soldiers who wore civilian clothing to enter the refugee camp.

Blinken neglected to mention Israel's 56-year brutal military occupation of not only the West Bank, but of East Jerusalem. Mr. Blinken also failed to comment on Israel's creation of a Jim Crow segregation system (apartheid) that deprives Palestinians of their civil and human rights. (www.time-sofisrael) Michael Lynk, UN Special Rapporteur has stated that Israel in 1967, created "a deeply discriminatory dual legal and political system that privileges the 700,000 Israeli Jewish settlers living in the 300 illegal Israeli settlements in East Jerusalem and the West Bank."

The UN states that apartheid is a "crime against humanity." (<https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/>

[crimes-against-humanity.shtml](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/))

No mention by the Secretary about the ongoing violent settler attacks against Palestinians, 144 over several days, following the Jerusalem murders. These violent attacks often include destroying the economic lifeblood of many Palestinian farmers, their olive trees, as well as their homes and animals.

N.H. Veterans for Peace condemns the oppression of people whether they be in China, Iran, Myanmar, or in the Palestinian Territories, including Gaza. Palestinians have long been dehumanized and seen as the "other" and depicted as "terrorists." Where are the media who would ask what are the historical and political conditions that have created Palestinian resistance?

As human beings living under a cruel occupation, don't Palestinians have a right to live in dignity and with freedom? As Nelson Mandela said: "Freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians." We, Veterans for Peace, agree.

Will Thomas,
N.H. Veterans for Peace
Auburn, N.H.

Will:

Thank you for addressing this issue again. Yes, the Palestinians deserve dignity and freedom. As do the Yemenis, who are currently on the deadly receiving end of our military aid to Saudi Arabia.

The Editor

====

Subsidize Cultivated Meat

To the editor,

Most people aren't aware that animal agriculture is one of the leading causes of global warming. To help address the environmental crisis, our political leaders must support increased government funding for cultivated-meat research. For those who aren't familiar with the term, cultivated meat is grown from animal cells, without slaughter.

This new protein requires a fraction of the greenhouse-gas emissions that raising and killing livestock does. While the Food and Drug Adminis-

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

Davies TIRE COMPANY
Call us for a liberal dose of service
93 Islington Street - 433-1328

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.

HUD-VASH HELPS VETERANS GET AND STAY HOUSED. YOU CAN HELP, TOO.

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.

For more information, contact:
VA Supportive Housing Program Manager
(603) 624-4366 X6883

NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE SUBSCRIPTIONS
26 FORTNIGHTLY ISSUES, NOW MAILED FIRST CLASS

Mail this form with your check for \$25 to:
New Hampshire Gazette, PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802.
Please print clearly. Offer good in U.S. only.

Supporting Subscribers Only: Please Check Box at Right: (Supporting Subscribers pay the standard \$25/yr, but make their money go twice as far for us by picking up their own papers at one of our many convenient locations.)

Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subscriber	<input type="checkbox"/>

FIRST NAME: _____

LAST NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

TOWN, CITY, OR BURG: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____ + 4: _____

GIFT OF: (WHERE APPLICABLE) _____

from page five

tration recently approved the first cultivated-meat product, which should hit the American market soon, more public money is necessary for it to reach price parity with slaughtered meat.

Jon Hochschartner
Granby, Conn.

Jon:

We can hardly wait to hear the howls: "They're going to raise your taxes and take away your 'burgers!'"

The Editor

=====
Pretzel Logic

To the Editor:

If you wanna make your life great again in America why would black voters vote differently than white voters or any other voter—good policies and laws require strong competent leaders.

The Democrats' DNC is stirring division in this country via race bating [sic, *passim*] for votes again!

"The DNC chairman, Jaime Harrison, said that the new calendar reflects the diversity of America and "puts Black voters at the front of the process in South Carolina." (*The N.Y. Sun*)

So the DNC is calling white New Hampshire voters racists by the fact Americans of African descent choose not to live in N.H.?

This follows the same race bating logic used against Georgia voting law changes Biden railed against that actually increased all voter turnout in Georgia this last election.

Ironically, after MLB baseball cancelled the All Star game in Georgia in woke protest this obvious race bating may back fire in both states, N.H. and Georgia.

Americans should vote for leaders that will enforce equality, opportunity, and common sense not divide us in race bating.

Jeff Frost
Alexandria, N.H.

Jeff:

For a guy who professes to abhor racial division, you certainly put a lot of effort into concocting a racially divisive motive for the changes in the Demo-



cratic Party's proposed primary lineup.
The Editor

=====
Can "Advanced Recycling" Be Made Safe?

To the Editor:

What do lead, dioxin, benzene and toluene have in common?

They are all highly toxic, and they are produced in great amounts as the "side products" at "Advanced Recycling" facilities throughout the United States. "Advanced Recycling" is a process that uses extreme heat and chemicals to break down plastics, to produce fuels or new plastic. Last year, the N.H. State House passed a bill permitting Advanced Recycling facilities in our state. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) denied a petition from the N.H. HealthCare Workers for Climate Action—1,000 strong—to create regulations that would give us guardrails assuring such facilities would not be off-gassing these toxic brews, saying lawmakers did not provide them authority to protect our air, water and land from Advanced Recycling. This year, the bill SB 267 will be heard in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday, February 7th to give the DES jurisdiction to regulate this largely untested process. Please join me by contacting your state senator to support SB 267.

Susan Richman
Durham, N.H.

Susan:

This paper comes out too late for the action you propose, but since we found it educational, so might our readers. Thanks.

The Editor

=====
Deplorable, Power-Seeking Incompetents

To the Editor:

When young and naive, I believed that those who achieved positions of power did so because of superior talent, hard work and desire to serve. The subsequent decades, however, have made a cynic of me. Count-

less examples of incompetence and greed by those in power at all levels have demonstrated that competence is loosely correlated with power and the desire to serve the community is often subservient to self-aggrandizement. The drive for power and the ability to network are often the only requirements for success. This situation occurs across occupations, including elites in business, government, education, healthcare and even religion. But it would be difficult to find a more deplorable collection of power-seeking incompetents than the modern-day Republican Party.

At the pinnacle of the Republican Party, ex-president Donald Trump is a blatant example of self-seeking incompetence, but this attribute runs deep within the Republicans. Nowhere was this more evident than in the recent clown show that marked the shaky ascendance of Kevin McCarthy to Speaker of the House. McCarthy is a prime example of self-centered ambition. Lacking any concern for the national interest, he was willing to trade position and power with the ill-named Freedom Caucus to be elected Speaker. As a result, crackpot supporters of silly conspiracy theories such as Marjorie Taylor Green, Andy Biggs and Jim Jordan now occupy significant positions of power in the House. Republican obsession with power has become farce in the case of George Santos. Recently elected to the House, Santos is a grifter who has lied about virtually all aspects of his background including education, employment history, religious affiliation and even his mother's location during 9/11. Rather than jeopardize the slim Republican majority in the House, McCarthy has failed to take action against Santos, sanctimoniously supporting him as the legally elected Representative of voters of his district in N.Y. Apparently, there is no bottom to Republican hypocrisy.

Although the Republican clown show may be scorned as political theater, their actions have real world consequences. For example, as part

of his deal with the Freedom Caucus, McCarthy is threatening to scuttle any effort to raise the U.S. debt ceiling. The debt ceiling is a decades old law that prevents the government from issuing Treasury debt to pay legally budgeted expenses beyond a prescribed limit. The debt ceiling can be raised only through Congressional action. Since the government budget has consistently been in deficit both in Republican and Democratic administrations, raising the debt ceiling has become an unfortunately common occurrence. It was raised three times in the Trump administration.

Failure to raise the debt ceiling to accommodate already approved expenditures will have severe consequences. If interest on outstanding treasury bills is not paid, the U.S. government will be in default for the first time in history. One of the sources of U.S. prosperity has been that U.S. government debt is the most trusted financial investment in the world. Treasuries are considered virtually risk free and foreign investors have helped to finance government expenditures at low interest rates. If that status is threatened, interest on Treasuries will skyrocket. The rates will quickly reverberate throughout the economy. Combined with the Fed's current interest rate tightening, the result will be unpredictable but certainly catastrophic. Spending on Social Security and Medicare will be threatened as well as spending on all social services. The stock market will undoubtedly react negatively. A meltdown comparable to the worst recessions (if not the Great Depression) is likely.

No responsible legislator would vote to deny raising the debt ceiling. Of course, the problem is that too many Republican Representatives are not responsible. Although Republicans have threatened the ceiling in the past, the current unhinged and incompetent legislators may have no qualms to court catastrophe.

Robert D. Russell, PhD
Harrisburg, Pa.

Robert:

Through the earlier shenanigans of its reprobate members, this rogue mob

has already tarnished the nation's credit rating. Just by threatening to do it again, they do more damage. It's despicable behavior, but they have no shame.

The Editor

=====
A Telephonic Remonstrance

The following message was received by telephone:

"Robert Marshall here. Look, you've got to stop telling America that Humphrey Bogart was a guard at the Portsmouth Naval Prison. He was escorting a prisoner to the prison, and the man bolted, and Humphrey shot him in the leg, very much like the novel and movie *The Last Detail*. Ciao for now."

Robert:

Right you are. We are shocked—shocked!—to see that we have allowed that inaccuracy to creep into our files. It has now been expunged.

The Editor

=====
When Harry Met Meghan

Dear Editor,

You know folks, the Harry and Meghan story is just a rerun. Their whole story first played out before World War II back when Elizabeth's uncle broke from the royal lineage and moved to France. People crack under the pressure of being a royal and just want a real life instead.

The royal job description requires one to incessantly duck, dissemble, cover-up, omit, propagandize, fake, pose, dress-up, parade about, wave like a hero...all to convince the rest of the population that God picked their family to live in a castle and rule forever.

It's a hard job. Some people, like Harry, would rather be somewhere else and do something else, like tell the truth occasionally. Harry's Mom, Diana, went through a similar wringer too, so give him credit for learning something from his elders. That is something we don't do very well in America.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah
Kimball:

Thanks for bringing this up. Not because we give a damn about bickering so-called royals, but because it gives us an excuse to run, on the opposite page, a favorite excerpt from Thomas Paine's Common Sense.

The Editor

The New Hampshire Gazette

The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™

Published Fortnightly on Alternate Fridays

Founder: Daniel Fowle (1715 – 1787)
Enslaved Pressman: Primus X (ca. 1700 – 1793)

PO Box 756, Portsmouth, N.H. 03802
www.nhgazette.com • editors@nhgazette.com
(603) 433-9898

Subscriptions:

\$25 per year for 26 issues

Mailed First Class

See Page Five for Subscription Form

Editor: Steven Fowle • Starving Artiste: Michael Dater
Business (Such As It Is) Manager: Rose Eppard

100 Proof Department: Rose Eppard and Allen McGee; Jane Porter and Marcia Jebb, *Emerita* • Distributor: New England Distribution Network • Distribution Volunteers: Megan "Moonbeam" Stelzer, Murph, Jon Wyckoff, David Drymon, Bob Halperin, Peter Somssich, Peter Schmidt, Mark Trafton, and Adam Krauss
Subscription Fulfillment: Barbara Briggs, Sharon Churchill, Mike Dater, Gail Drobnik, Rose Eppard, Allen McGee, Matt Perla, & Jon Wyckoff; Sally Strazdins & Jan Marx, *Emerita*



Snowflake Culture

by W.D. Ehrhart

I have been writing poetry ever since I was 15 years old. My first published work appeared in 1971 when I was 22 years old. Since then, I've published over 400 poems. Along the way, I've probably received as many as 4,000 rejection slips, and it's probably safe to say that every rejection notice I have ever received has come from an editor who didn't think the poems I'd sent were very good.

Recently, however, I have run into a rejection unlike any other I've ever received in 59 years. I recently submitted this poem to an online publication that purports to be left progressive:

The Day I Discovered Racism

— 1965

We were driving an English Vauxhall we'd bought in Santa Rosa, New Mexico, for \$67 and the trade-in for our ancient Chevy that had blown an engine the night before and now sat useless along the Interstate west of town. The Vauxhall didn't have a speedometer or any other gauges, only empty holes in the dashboard where gauges should have been, no gas pedal, just a metal pin through the floor, no gas cap, no oil cap, no windshield wipers, and no headlights until we found the switchbox beneath the back seat and hooked it up with masking tape; the heat kept melting the tape, so we had to retape it every hour or so.

But we'd gotten as far as Louisiana, early morning, a two-lane road through cane fields and cypress trees and bayous when we got a flat. And of course, no spare tire. So we're sitting there by the side of the road scratching our heads and wondering what to do next when a car pulls up and two Black men get out and ask us if we need any help. And we're starting to explain when a pick-up truck comes to a screeching halt and two white men get out and start pushing and threatening the two Black men and chasing them off with a warning to leave the white boys alone.

Then, as nice as can be, they offer to drive us to the nearest town to get our tire fixed, and they treat us to breakfast while we wait for the tire, then drive us back to our car and put the tire back on before wishing the four of us a safe trip home to Pennsylvania.

Here's the editor's reply: "Thanks for sending the poem, Bill. Although I like the poem, I can't publish it because when I've published poems about racist incidents written by white people, I've received over-the-top hate-mail, not from racists,

as you'd expect, but from leftists and progressives who view such poems as naive, self-congratulatory, or condescending."

Naïve? I was 16 years old, it was 1965, I'd never witnessed this sort of racism before in my life. It was a seminal experience, life-changing. But congratulatory? Let alone condescending? Did this editor pay any attention at all to the title of the poem? Anybody besides a white racist who could be offended by this poem is looking for an excuse to be offended.

I then tried another online publication that has used poems of mine as recently as a month ago without hesitation or second opinions. And I got this response from the website manager: "To me it seems perfect, but I should also run it by our poetry editors first since both editors, in addition to being fine poets, are also people of color and one is in fact African American."

So, he doesn't reject the poem outright like the first editor did. But he needs to make sure I pass some kind of politically correct litmus test with his colleagues of color before he'll accept the poem. He, too, doesn't want to offend anyone and wants to be reassured that my poem is not going to get him into hot water like that adjunct professor at Hamline University (<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/hamline-university-professor-fired-showing-184107453.html>).

Nearly thirty years ago, I published a poem called "Mostly Nothing Happens" in the journal *War, Literature & the Arts* (v.6, #2, 1994; you can read it at <https://wdehrhart.com/poem-mostly-nothing.html>). It's about the first Black friend I ever had. I wonder if any editor would be brave enough to publish that poem today.

Over twenty-five years ago, I published a poem called "The Origins of Passion" in the journal *Big Hammer* (#3, April 1997) about dressing up in my mother's undergarments when I was a young boy (you'll have to find that one in my *Collected Poems*; I don't have it electronically). I wonder if any editor would be brave enough to publish that poem today.

As I said I've received thousands of rejections over the course of my writing life, but never for fear that what I've written might offend anyone other than those who deserve to be offended. I've

been a dedicated Left Progressive pretty much ever since I got out of the Vietnam War and the U.S. Marine Corps. I've often been accused by the political right, and even the political center, of being "unpatriotic" or even of "hating America."

But only recently have I found myself accused of being politically incorrect by people who purport to hold the same political beliefs that I do. No wonder people like Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham find it so easy to make progressives look foolish. Too many people on the left are foolish. Too many so-called "progressives" are just looking for reasons to be outraged, to feel persecuted and put upon.

If I don't use the correct pronoun—he? she? it? they?—for whoever I happen to be talking to at any given moment, I am intolerantly refusing to recognize the full spectrum of gender possibilities. If I say something that accidentally hurts someone's—anyone's—feelings, I am inexcusably and unforgivably insensitive.

And now, apparently, half a century after the fact, when I explain that we used to go out on patrols from our battalion command post in Vietnam, I'm no longer allowed to say that we went to the "field," even though that's exactly what we did. I guess I'm supposed to say that we went for a walk in the countryside. Or we strolled around the neighborhood. Or hiked through rice fields and mangrove swamps and abandoned banana plantations with no roads and few trails that weren't mined or booby-trapped.

A lot of people have a lot of reasons to be angry and resentful of the treatment they and their ancestors have received from this country over its long and often sordid history. But we on the progressive left need to be able to discuss important topics and serious issues without having to tiptoe gingerly around the sensibilities of every last person involved in the discussion for fear of hurting someone's feelings. That kind of censorship, self-imposed or otherwise, is simply not productive.

====

W.D. Ehrhart is a retired Master Teacher of History & English, and author of a Vietnam War memoir trilogy published by McFarland & Company, Inc.

====

Who Taught George Santos To Be Such A Self-Serving Fraud?

by Jim Hightower

People are baffled by the surreal saga of George Santos, the bizarre Republican congress critter who is a bottomless sink hole of lies. How could he think that he, a highly visible public figure, could get away with such blatant fabrications?

Perhaps he thought he was a corporation.

After all, these multibillion-dollar brand-name outfits routinely lie about who they really are. Crass polluters shamelessly run PR campaigns claiming to be environmentalists, price gougers pose as consumer champions, and economic downsizers glorify themselves as visionary creators. They gild their resumés for their own profit...and they get away with it. So George might've thought: I'll follow the corporate model—just make stuff up.

Like soulless tobacco executives do. For decades, they killed millions of people for profit, flat-out lying that nicotine was not addictive, that their cancer-sticks were not deadly, and that they did not target their ads to children in order to hook them early. But wait—today's tobacco titans claim to be born-again public health champions! "We have an unprecedented opportunity to move beyond smoking," said the head honcho of the Phillip Morris brand, asserting that Big Tobacco would henceforth back the public push for a "smoke-free future."

Phillip Morris garnered widespread praise for this bold stand. But it was a deliberate lie. Even as the executive's lips moved, the tobacco giants were spending billions on lobbyists and PR campaigns to gut state and national proposals to prevent addiction and actually lead to a smoke-free future.

Yes, we should be outraged that Santos, a flagrant political fake, has swindled his way into Congress, and he should be ousted. But what will Congress do about the far more destructive corporate deceivers who are George Santos' role models? Their lies kill people, yet they're still welcome in the halls of Congress.

====

Copyright 2021 by Jim Hightower & Associates. Contact Laura Ehrlich (Laura@jimhightower.com) for more information.

Thomas Paine on Hereditary Monarchy

an excerpt from *Common Sense*

"...it is more than probable, that, could we take off the dark covering of antiquity and trace them to their first rise, we should find the first of them [kings] nothing better than the principal ruffian of some restless gang, whose savage manners of pre-eminence in subtily obtained him the title of chief among plunderers; and who by increasing in power and extending his depredations, overawed the quiet and defenseless to purchase their safety by frequent contributions. ...

"England since the conquest hath known some few good monarchs, but groaned beneath a much larger number of bad ones: yet no man in his

senses can say that their claim under William the Conqueror is a very honourable one. A French bastard landing with an armed Banditti and establishing himself king of England against the consent of the natives, is in plain terms a very paltry rascally original. It certainly hath no divinity in it. However it is needless to spend much time in exposing the folly of hereditary right; if there are any so weak as to believe it, let them promiscuously worship the Ass and the Lion, and welcome. I shall neither copy their humility, nor disturb their devotion."

====

10% Shift
Build Strong Local Economies by Purchasing with Purpose
Join us in making the 10% Shift } seacoastLOCAL.org

CAFFÈ KILIM
Fresh Roasted Coffees • Espresso Bar
Rug Gallery & Unique Gifts
163 Islington St ≈ 436-7330

Portsmouth Community Radio
WSCA-LP 106.1 FM

Nancy M. Grossman
EDITING & BOOK DESIGN
Need help self publishing that manuscript in your bottom drawer?
USER FRIENDLY!
nancygrossmanbooks.com

This lovely little space could be yours for a mere ten bucks. To learn how, call (603) 433-9898, or e-mail editors@nhgazette.com.

Visit www.jimhightower.com

- ✓ Personally autographed copies of Jim Hightower's best-selling books
- ✓ Subscriptions to the monthly "Hightower Lowdown" newsletter
- ✓ CD's ✓ Tapes
- ✓ Videos ✓ Pamphlets

Put This Distinguished Space to Work for You

The Oldest American Newspaper.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

Call (603) 433-9898 for details

Experience New England Life in the Puddle Dock Neighborhood

Tour historic houses on their original sites, meet engaging costumed roleplayers, watch traditional crafts demonstrations, and explore historical gardens and landscapes.

STRAWBERRY BANKE
14 Hancock Street
Portsmouth, NH
603.433.1100

STRAWBERRYBANKE.ORG



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, FEBRUARY 12	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
<p>2004—USA Today reports that former top Texas Air National Guard officers say files were "cleansed" to protect George W.[MD] Bush.</p> <p>1999—N.H. Senators Gregg and Smith notwithstanding, the Senate finds President Clinton not guilty.</p> <p>1983—SS Marine Electric, a rusted, beat-up hulk whose lying owners faked inspections, sinks off Virginia; three survive from a crew of 34.</p> <p>1976—The New World Liberation Front bombs Hearst Castle.</p> <p>1968—LBJ puts the kibosh on Westy's plan to nuke the NVA.</p> <p>1962—Bill Lancaster is discovered in the Sahara, mummified alongside his biplane, 29 years after disappearing.</p> <p>1947—Sixty antiwar protesters burn draft cards in New York City.</p> <p>1946—Black combat vet Isaac Woodard gets his honorable discharge and boards a bus in Georgia. Before he can get to N.C., he's beaten and blinded by white cops in Aiken, S.C.</p> <p>1917—A huge mob in Bisbee, Ariz. herds 1,200 members of the IWW into boxcars to be shipped off and dumped in the New Mexico desert.</p> <p>1874—Marines and sailors from the U.S.S. Portsmouth quell a riot in Honolulu to assure the election of a pro-American King.</p> <p>1839—The Aroostook War between Maine and New Brunswick begins.</p> <p>1554—Queen "Bloody Mary" Tudor has Lady Jane Grey, her 16-year old cousin and predecessor, decapitated.</p>	<p>2013—Justice Antonin Scalia goes to his final judgment.</p> <p>2008—The Senate tells the CIA to lay off the waterboarding.</p> <p>2007—An Al-Qaeda tape calls George W.[MD] Bush a drunk gambler.</p> <p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld's ex-assistant Ken Adelman predicts the Iraq War will be a "cakewalk."</p> <p>1991—A super-accurate, laser-guided U.S. bomb kills some 400 Iraqi civilians in a bunker in Baghdad.</p> <p>1983—Radicalized by anti-Semite Henry Ford, decorated WW II vet and anti-tax crank Gordon Kahl and his son Yorivon murder two U.S. Marshals and wound three other lawmen in a shootout near Medina, N.D.</p> <p>1981—Hexane gas illegally discharged from a Purina plant fills the Louisville, Ky. sewer system. A spark from a car causes two miles of sewer lines to explode. Purina denies liability.</p> <p>1968—Five soldiers are busted at Ft. Jackson, S.C.; they prayed for peace.</p> <p>1967—The National Student Association admits it's received \$3 million from the CIA over 15 years.</p> <p>1950—The crew of a burning B-36 jettisons its Mark IV A-bomb and bails out. With no plutonium core, it merely scatters 100 lbs. of uranium when it explodes over British Columbia. Five crewmen freeze to death.</p> <p>1837—Foco Loco Democrats protest rapidly rising food prices in New York City. Hundreds of barrels are liberated in the ensuing Flour Riot.</p>	<p>2016—A cargo jet linked to the CIA lands in Harare, Zimbabwe carrying 67 tons of South African currency and the decomposing body of a Black man.</p> <p>2016—With wind blowing 20 m.p.h., and the thermometer at -13°, the wind chill in Portsmouth falls to -38°.</p> <p>2015—Another 18 inches of snow fall on Portsmouth, making nearly eight feet in under three weeks.</p> <p>2004—The White House releases some of George W.[MD] Bush's military records, but they fail to prove he was present for duty.</p> <p>1973—The first American POWs released from North Vietnam arrive at Travis AFB, Calif. [See tomorrow.]</p> <p>1971—Nixon's secret taping system is installed in the White House.</p> <p>1945—Forty U.S. B-17s intending to firebomb Dresden miss by 90 miles and hit Prague instead. Death toll: 701. Bomb weight per death: 433 lbs.</p> <p>1929—On St. Valentine's Day in Chicago, a cop asks Frank "Tight Lips" Gusenberg who shot him. "Nobody," he says, then dies.</p> <p>1879—Born into slavery, later escaping, Blanche K. Bruce [R-Miss.] presides over the U.S. Senate.</p> <p>1873—Eric Co. Sheriff and future President Grover Cleveland picks up a \$10 fee for hanging a man in Buffalo, N.Y. He botches the job, though; it takes John Gaffney 23 minutes to die.</p> <p>1349—A power struggle between gentile factions in Strasbourg results in a pogrom against Jews.</p>	<p>2001—Fox airs "Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land on the Moon?" Great.</p> <p>1989—After just a little over nine years in-country, quick-thinking Soviets pull out of Afghanistan.</p> <p>1988—Environmentalists, supporting striking workers, storm Int'l. Paper's Jay, Maine plant 10 days after scabs create a huge chlorine leak.</p> <p>1978—His first day at the Hillsboro, N.H. Messenger, our current editor is told, "Get over to Henniker; last night the cop shop was fire-bombed."</p> <p>1973—Nixon to Joint Chiefs: POWs' return is "an invaluable opportunity to revise the history of this War."</p> <p>1966—In place of Senate hearings on the Vietnam War, CBS shows reruns of "I Love Lucy." Fred Friendly, President of CBS News, quits in disgust.</p> <p>1962—"I support [JFK] to the hilt [in Vietnam]," says R. Nixon, "I only hope he will step up the build-up...."</p> <p>1944—Allies bomb the 6th c. monastery at Monte Cassino. Nazis had removed its historic treasures to the Vatican in trucks accompanied by monks, but 230 Italian civilians in its cellars are killed by falling rubble.</p> <p>1898—The battleship U.S.S. Maine explodes and sinks in Havana harbor.</p> <p>1798—After Congress fails to reprimand Rep. Matthew Lyon (R-Vt.) for having spit tobacco juice in his eye, Rep. Roger Griswold (Fed.-Conn.) thrashes the ex-newspaper editor with his cane on the floor of the House. Lyon defends himself with fire tongs.</p>	<p>1982—Nancy Reagan says, via an aide, she'll no longer accept "loaned" threads from big name designers because she's "really...tired of people misinterpreting what she was doing."</p> <p>1978—The first computer bulletin board goes online in Chicago.</p> <p>1976—The Village Voice publishes excerpts from the House-suppressed Pike Report; among other sins, the CIA, the FBI, and the NSA have been illegally spying on U.S. citizens.</p> <p>1964—A week after security in Saigon is "tightened," a V.C. bomb in an American movie theater kills three U.S. soldiers and wounds another 50.</p> <p>1962—A two-day anti-nuclear march on Washington begins.</p> <p>1959—Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba.</p> <p>1938—Guy Stewart Callendar publishes a scientific paper (drawing in part on the work of F.E. Fowle) showing that mankind's carbon dioxide emissions are warming the planet.</p> <p>1916—Emma Goldman is busted for lecturing on birth control.</p> <p>1899—French President Félix Faure has a fatal stroke while being felled in his office in the Élysée Palace.</p> <p>1868—"The Jolly Gorks" change their name to "The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks."</p> <p>1848—The Women's Rights Convention is held at Seneca Falls, N.Y.</p> <p>1818—Charles W. Brewster begins his 50-year career as a Portsmouth, N.H. newspaperman.</p>	<p>2021—Eighty-three years after the demise of the original Flaming Nazi Gasbag, Rush Limbaugh follows suit.</p> <p>2017—President Trump declares the press to be the enemy of the people.</p> <p>2015—A study finds that previous tallies of lynchings in the U.S. had under-counted by at least 800.</p> <p>2006—Harry Whittington apologizes to Dick "Dick" Cheney for having absorbed a face full of his birdshot.</p> <p>2003—Covert CIA agents grab Abu Omar in Milan, blowing an Italian surveillance program; 23 agents are later convicted of kidnapping.</p> <p>2000—"I hate the g___ks," Sen. John McCain tells reporters. "I will hate them as long as I live."</p> <p>1985—General William Westmoreland drops his libel suit against CBS. Apparently the network was right: he had covered up VC troop strength.</p> <p>1974—PFC Robert Preston takes a stolen Huey on a tour of D.C., landing in a hail of bullets on the White House Lawn. Superficially wounded, he smiles and laughs on the way to Walter Reed.</p> <p>1971—The U.S. Army's top-ranked enlisted man is indicted for conspiring to defraud enlisted men's clubs.</p> <p>1936—The Supreme Court rules that confessions obtained by police violence, i.e., relentless whipping with buckled leather belts, are inadmissible; the guilty verdict in question had been won by prosecutor and future Senator John Stennis [D-Miss].</p> <p>1862—RIP Henry D. Thoreau.</p>	<p>2012—Rep. Bob Morris [R-Ind.] says Girl Scouts use "feminists, lesbians, and Communists" as role models to promote a "homosexual lifestyle."</p> <p>2001—Robert Hanssen, a devout Catholic, exhibitionist, patron of strippers, and ex-FBI Special Agent, is arrested for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then to the Russians.</p> <p>1976—Jerry Ford accepts the CIA's word: if it breaks the law, it'll confess.</p> <p>1970—All of the Chicago 7 are found innocent of conspiring to incite riots; five are found guilty of crossing state lines to incite riots anyway.</p> <p>1962—"We are going to win in Vietnam," says RFK in Saigon. "We will remain here until we do win."</p> <p>1954—Ike's A.G. OKs a memo saying the CIA need not report criminal activity by its employees.</p> <p>1930—A majority of Congressmen are forced onto the wagon: their boot-logger, George Cassiday, aka "The Man in the Green Hat," is busted in a Prohibition Bureau sting.</p> <p>1916—Oscar Comery, who expected life in prison after confessing he'd poisoned his wife, is hanged in Concord, N.H. The jury changed its mind on learning he'd molested a child, too.</p> <p>1915—Pres. W. Wilson watches his first movie, also the first ever shown in the White House: <i>Birth of a Nation</i>.</p> <p>1820—"If you have a message you want to send to hell," screams Lavinia Fisher from Charleston, S.C.'s gallows, "give it to me, and I'll carry it!"</p>
<p>3:09 3:34</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:25 9:39</p>	<p>3:57 4:29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:19 10:31</p>	<p>4:52 5:32</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:19 11:29</p>	<p>5:53 6:40</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:24 12:33</p>	<p>6:59 7:47</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:30 1:38</p>	<p>8:03 8:50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:33 2:41</p>	<p>9:04 9:47</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:31 3:31</p>
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
<p>2009—Outraged that the government might assist mere homeowners, CNBC's Rick Santelli has a fit on the floor of the Chicago Board of Trade. His convulsions spawn a Tea Party.</p> <p>2000—"I understand small business growth," says George W.[MD] Bush, "I was one." A business? Or a growth?</p> <p>1988—Prosecutors in Passaic County, N.J. drop the bogus case against Rubin "Hurricane" Carter after he'd been imprisoned for decades.</p> <p>1986—After due deliberation—37 years—Congress ratifies a UN treaty outlawing genocide.</p> <p>1975—Watergate burglar James W. McCord, Jr. admits that "basically, Martha [Mitchell]'s story is true"—she was abducted and drugged to cover up the break-in. Her abductor, Steve King, is later made ambassador to the Czech Republic by Donald Trump.</p> <p>1965—Protests against the Vietnam War are held in 30 U.S. cities.</p> <p>1964—The CIA informs the State and Defense departments that South Vietnam is making little progress against the Viet Cong.</p> <p>1948—Sen. Harry Byrd [D-Va.] says Truman is like Hitler and Stalin—because he supports civil rights.</p> <p>1945—In a Burmese mangrove swamp, several hundred Japanese soldiers are killed by crocodiles.</p> <p>1942—FDR puts 120,000 Americans into concentration camps.</p> <p>1847—Rescuers reach the leftovers from the Donner Party.</p>	<p>1950—Joe McCarthy delivers a five-hour, paranoid rant in the U.S. Senate; a four-month inquisition ensues.</p> <p>1945—At Iwo Jima, Jacklyn "Jack" Lucas, 17, dives onto one live grenade and pulls another under him. One goes off, one doesn't. He sets off metal detectors until dying at 80.</p> <p>1943—Hollywood embraces Office of War Information censorship.</p> <p>1939—Fritz Kuhn, a German veteran of WWI and naturalized U.S. citizen, leads 22,000 people in a pro-Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden.</p> <p>1933—At least 20 top German industrialists meet secretly at Reichstag President H. Göring's official residence and—yes, we'll say it—conspire to raise funds to get Nazis elected.</p> <p>1893—After the Reading Railroad fails, the free hand of the self-regulating market reaches for the economy's throat and nearly chokes it to death.</p> <p>1815—Almost two months after the Treaty of Ghent ends the War of 1812, the U.S.S. Constitution captures two British sloops off the coast of Portugal.</p> <p>1792—The United States Post Office Department is established! Yay!</p> <p>1725—Captain John Lovewell's soldiers take 10 Indian scalps in Wakefield, N.H., which they later redeem in Boston for £100 each.</p> <p>1524—In Germany, Count von Iggleheim is stoned to death by a mob angry at his refusal to let them board a three-story ark he had built to escape a predicted apocalyptic flood.</p>	<p>2012—Caught by the Piscataqua's mighty current during construction of the New Memorial Bridge, the tugboat <i>Mis Stacy</i> nearly sinks.</p> <p>1975—"Original Dick" Nixon's top goons, John Mitchell [ex-AG!], Bob Haldeman, and John Ehrlichman, each get 2 1/2 years in the slammer for conspiring—yes, we used that C-word again—to do more than will fit here.</p> <p>1965—A week after his home was firebombed, assassins murder Malcolm X; his last words: "Brothers! Brothers! This is a house of peace." The FBI knew it was coming but didn't tell the NYPD which didn't care anyway. One assailant, not the killer, is jailed, along with two innocent men.</p> <p>1934—The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan National Guard assassinates rebel leader Augusto Sandino. Legend says his head is then delivered to D.C.</p> <p>1931—In Arequipa, Peruvian revolutionaries make Pan Am's Byron Rickards the first pilot ever hijacked; 30 years later he's hijacked a second time.</p> <p>1930—Witnesses faint and Arizona abandons hanging after "Cheerful Eva" Dugan's accidentally-decapitated head rolls across the floor.</p> <p>1922—The U.S. Army airship <i>Roma</i> crashes in Norfolk, Va.; 34 die in the nation's worst air crash to date.</p> <p>1437—King James I of Scotland, fleeing assassins, enters a sewer under his tennis court. Blocked by a grate he had installed days earlier to prevent tennis ball loss, he's stabbed to death.</p>	<p>2018—After jabbing him in the legs and groin for 2.5 hours, Alabama prison officials wheel cancer patient Doyle Hamm out of the death chamber alive.</p> <p>2004—A Pentagon document leaks: climate change may spell doom.</p> <p>1994—The FBI arrests a spy: CIA officer Aldrich Ames.</p> <p>1974—Samuel Byck, planning to crash an airliner into the White House, carelessly shoots the pilot before takeoff. He's then shot dead, too.</p> <p>1965—The <i>New York Times</i> calls the late Malcolm X "an extraordinary and twisted man [who turned] many true gifts to evil purposes."</p> <p>1965—Sam Lovejoy derails a planned nuke plant in Montague, Mass. by downing a tower with a crowbar.</p> <p>1951—The Atomic Energy Commission unveils its latest brilliant plan: airplanes powered by nuclear reactors.</p> <p>1945—On the House floor, Rep. John Rankin [D-Miss.] calls Rep. Frank Hook [D-Mich.] a Communist, whereupon Hook calls Rankin a "God damned liar." Rankin, 63 and 140 lbs., attempts to punch out Hook, 52 and 195 lbs., to little effect.</p> <p>1902—In the Senate Chamber, John McLaurin [D-S.C.] calls Ben Tillman [D-S.C.] a liar, whereupon Tillman belts McLaurin in the jaw.</p> <p>1838—Penn. amends its Constitution to take the vote from free Black men.</p> <p>1837—In the White House, Andy Jackson celebrates Washington's Birthday with a 1,400 pound cheese.</p>	<p>2016—"I love the poorly educated," says Dolt #45 to a mob in Nevada.</p> <p>2016—GOP Senators deny Obama's Supreme Court nominee a hearing.</p> <p>2008—Because one maintenance crew fails to warn another that humid air confuses its sensors, a \$1.4 billion B-2 bomber crashes in Guam.</p> <p>2004—Rod Paige, U.S. Sec. of Education, calls the nation's largest teachers union a "terrorist organization."</p> <p>1974—Days after presiding over his paper's 100th birthday, and deep in debt to mobsters, <i>Oakland Tribune</i> owner and ex-Sen. William Knowland (R-Calif.), shoots himself dead.</p> <p>1971—Lt. William Calley confesses to mass murder, and says his CO, Capt. Ernest Medina, ordered it.</p> <p>1966—Barry Bondhus dumps human digestive byproduct on draft files in Elk River, Minn. He gets 14 months.</p> <p>1942—The huge [356-foot] Japanese submarine <i>I-17</i> fires more than a dozen 5.5 inch rounds at the Richmond oil refinery near Santa Barbara, Calif.</p> <p>1868—In Great Barrington, Mass., W.E.B. Du Bois is born.</p> <p>1775—"Give me liberty, or give me death," says Patrick Henry—or words to that effect. Multiple accounts differ.</p> <p>1669—Diarist Samuel Pepys, visiting Westminster Abbey with his family, kisses and fondles Katherine of Valois, interred more than 200 years earlier.</p> <p>1455—In Mainz, Germany, Johannes Gutenberg gets started on the world's first big print job. It's a Bible.</p>	<p>2001—"My plan reduces the national debt, and fast," says G.W.[MD] Bush, "...economists worry that we're going to run out of debt to retire."</p> <p>1989—Bad door latch design results in nine passengers being sucked out of a Boeing 747 southwest of Hawaii.</p> <p>1988—Larry Flynt's right to depict a drunken Jerry Falwell losing his virginity to his mother in an outhouse is upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.</p> <p>1988—Capitol police carry Senator Robert "The Groper" Packwood (R-Ore.) feet first into the Senate chamber to make up a quorum.</p> <p>1942—Turned away from Istanbul, <i>MY Struma</i>, a decrepit hulk carrying 791 Jewish refugees, is torpedoed by the Soviet sub. The 19-year old sole survivor, David Stolar, lives to be 91.</p> <p>1942—Anti-aircraft guns in Los Angeles fire 1,400 rounds at a weather balloon. Three Angelenos are trampled to death in the resulting panic and dozens more are injured.</p> <p>1922—Lewis Vernon Harcourt, 1st Viscount Harcourt and former British Secretary of State for the Colonies, commits suicide rather than face exposure as a pederast.</p> <p>1912—On orders from mill owners, Lawrence, Mass. cops beat the hell out of women and children for trying to get on a train to Philadelphia.</p> <p>1836—Rep. and N.H. native Jonathan Cilley [D-Maine], is killed in the 3rd volley of a rifle duel by Rep. William Graves [Whig-Ky.].</p>	<p>2020—"We will not see diseases like the coronavirus come here," says Dolt #45's Kayleigh McEnany. "Isn't that refreshing when contrasting it with the awful [Obama] presidency...?"</p> <p>2011—"A]ny future Defense Secretary who advises the President to again send a big American land army into Asia or into the Middle East or Africa should have his head examined," says Defense Sec. Gates.</p> <p>1968—"I do not believe Hanoi can hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.</p> <p>1953—Ike advises vigilance, lest communist teachers sneak propaganda into math problems.</p> <p>1913—The IWW's Paterson, N.J. strike begins; Concord, N.H.'s Elizabeth Gurley Flynn helps organize.</p> <p>1906—Pianist Nikolay Burenin & comrades rob the Russian State Bank in Helsinki to fund the Revolution.</p> <p>1899—Londoner Edwin Sewell, 31, is the first driver to die in a wreck.</p> <p>1870—Hiram R. Revels (R-Miss.) becomes the first Black U.S. Senator.</p> <p>1836—Colt patents the six gun.</p> <p>1836—Joice Heth, formerly exhibited by P.T. Barnum as George Washington's 162 year-old "Mammy," is autopsied in New York City at Barnum's behest before 1,500 paying spectators.</p> <p>1643—Under orders from the Governor of New Netherlands, 120 Wecquaesgeek Indians are murdered in their sleep at Pavonia, near present-day Hackensack.</p>
<p>10:01 10:40</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:40 4:24</p>	<p>10:55 11:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:35 5:14</p>	<p>11:46</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:28 6:02</p>	<p>12:17 12:36</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:19 6:48</p>	<p>1:04 1:26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:10 7:34</p>	<p>1:52 2:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:01 8:20</p>	<p>2:40 3:10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:54 9:09</p>

COLBY'S

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

436-3033

LA MAISON NAVARRE

Macarons Paris ●●●

French Pastry - Bistro - Wine Bar

121 Congress Street, Portsmouth
603.373.8401

Madore Electric

Residential & Commercial
Wiring Service

Serving the Seacoast since 1980

Licensed in Maine, Massachusetts, & New Hampshire

Sid Madore (603) 234-9996

The Red Door Pottery Studio

Buy pottery...
it's good for the soul.

www.reddoorpottery.com

44 Government Street, Kittery, Me.

"SALT IS BORN OF THE PUREST OF PARENTS: THE SUN AND THE SEA."
— PYTHAGORAS (580-500 BC)

SINCE 2011

7 COMMERCIAL ALLEY - 766-1616
WWW.PORTSMOUTHSAITCELLAR.COM