Vol. CCLXVIII, No. 12

# The New Hampshire Gazette

Friday, February 23, 2024 The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™ • Editor: Steven Fowle • Founded 1756 by Daniel Fowle PO Box 756, Portsmouth, NH 03802 • editors@nhgazette.com • www.nhgazette.com

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The Fortnightly Rant

# Hate Means Never Having to Admit You're Wrong

Tt was a stunningly predictable **⊥** revelation: those \$5 million bribes we've been hearing about for years? The bribes from Burisma that went to the "Biden crime family"? The bribes Republicans say are the reason why Biden needs to be impeached? Yeah, those bribes were just a fantasy, cooked up by a guy with a wardrobe full of flammable trousers, who has just been arrested by the FBI.

In a more perfect world, one might think that the indictment of star informant Alexander "Hot Pants" Smirnov might cause Republicans, and their cheerleaders at Fox, One America News, and, on the radio, Rush Limbaugh's pale replacements Clay Travis and Buck Sexton, and so forth and so on, ad infinitum and ad nauseam, to reconsider, and perhaps temper their rabidity by just a notch. If that more perfect world in fact exists, it must be in some other galaxy far, far away.

Smirnov—a "globe-trotting businessman who speaks Russian,' according to the New York Times became an FBI informant in 2010. His take for this service has reportedly run into six figures. As recently as last July, he was, though anonymous, a hero to the GOP.

One Senator in particular harangued and browbeat the FBI for months, demanding that it release its FD-1023\* on Smirnov.

"Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) today [July 20, 2023] released

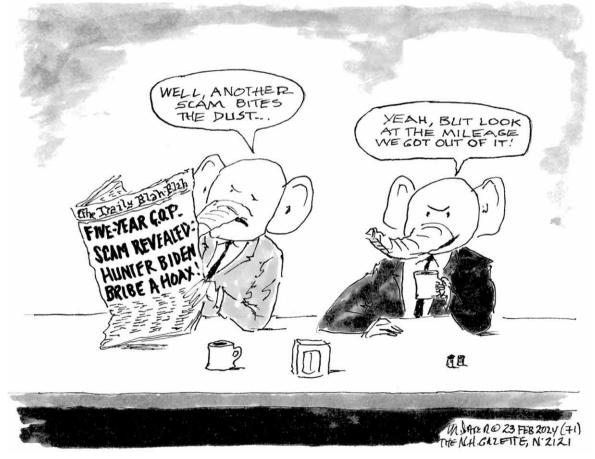
\* "[A] form our special agents use to record raw, unverified reporting from confidential human sources (CHSs). FD-1023s merely document that information; they do not reflect the conclusions of investigators based on a fuller context or understanding. Recording this information does not validate it, establish its credibility, or weigh it against other information known or developed by the FBI in our investigations."-FBI

an unclassified FBI-generated record describing an alleged criminal scheme involving then-Vice President Joe Biden and a Ukrainian business executive....

"For the better part of a year, I've been pushing the Justice Department and FBI to provide details on its handling of very significant allegations from a trusted FBI informant implicating then-Vice President Biden in a criminal bribery scheme. While the FBI sought to obfuscate and redact, the American people can now read this document for themselves, without the filter of politicians or bureaucrats, thanks to brave and heroic whistleblowers. What did the Justice Department and FBI do with the detailed information in the document? And why have they tried to conceal it from Congress and the American people for so long? The Justice Department and FBI have failed to come clean, but Chairman [U.S. Rep. James R.] Comer and I intend to find out," Grassley said. [Emphasis added.]

It now appears that the FBI sat on Smirnov's allegation because they did not believe it. Lack of credibility, however, has not shaken Senator Grassley's faith. In a statement provided to the blog Bleeding Heartland, Grassley's staff claimed the indictment 'confirms several points Senator Grassley has made repeatedly."

Fox News' Chad Pergram reported—which is to say, stenographed further comments from Grassley the next day: "Today's indictment makes clear that, without Senator Grassley's oversight and exposure of the FD-1023, the agency would have continued neglecting its duties and failing to provide... transparency...."



Similarly, Fox's Sean Hannity dismissed Smirnov's lies as "a very, very small part of what is the large body of evidence in the Biden impeachment inquiry," according to Media Matters' Matt Gertz, whose ability to transcribe portions of Hannity's diatribes reveals a superhuman tolerance for boring tripe. Once in a while, though, he is rewarded.

First, Gertz demonstrates how Hannity tortures the English language: "I'm mad that the FBI informant, the 1023 form in this case, that now this guy has been charged. It appears that Alexander Smirnov was not to be trusted."

Then, in a brief, uncharacteristic flash of clarity, Hannity speaks the truth: "I guess I was stupid."

It is vitally important, when trying to find one's way through the muck and mire of modern Republicanism, to a) wear sturdy hip-boots, or perhaps one of those old hard-hat diving rigs, and b) remember that every accusation is a confession.

If Republicans are claiming that the FBI has been covering up for the "Biden Crime Family"... do we really have to spell it out?

On January 6, 2021, with the last days of his presidency trickling away, Donald Trump exhorted a mob that had assembled at his invitation—"It will be wild"-to march on the Capitol and stop Congress from naming his successor.

As offenses against domestic tranquility go, it was right up there with shooting a man on Fifth Avenue. A reasonable person might fairly have expected that, shortly after noon on January 20th, 2021, a phalanx of federal law enforcement officers would ascend the steps of the Capitol and begin a perp walk.

And yet, as the Washington Post reported last June, "more than a year would pass before prosecutors and FBI agents jointly embarked on a formal probe of actions direct-

ed from the White House to try to steal the election. Even then, the FBI stopped short of identifying the former president as a focus of that investigation."

This curious inaction would be less troubling in isolation. Alas, it appears to be part of a pattern: Rudy Giuliani's prescient "We got a couple of surprises left," days before James Comey's gratuitous revival of the investigation into Hillary Clinton's emails; Bill Barr's whitewashing of the Mueller report; the FBI's resistance to searching Mar-a-Lago....

More recently, there's Charles McGonigal, former head of counterintelligence for the FBI's New York office—Ground Zero for any investigation into Trump shenanigans. McGonigal pled guilty to taking bribes from Oleg Deripaska, a Russian oligarch with ties to Vladimir Putin, and is now doing time.

But so what? Who cares? That's all old news, anyway.

The Alleged News®

# 'Cliff-Like' Collapse of Critical Current System More Likely Than Thought: Study

by Brett Wilkins

A study published February 9th the Atlantic Ocean currents driving warm water from the tropics toward Europe could be more likely than researchers previously estimated an event that would send temperatures plummeting in much of the continent.

The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC), which includes the Gulf Stream, could be headed for a relatively sudden shutdown that René Van Western, who led the Dutch study published in *Science Advances*, called "cliff-like."

For many millennia, the Gulf Stream has carried warm waters from the Gulf of Mexico northward along the eastern North American seaboard and across the Atlantic to

Europe. As human-caused global heating melts the Greenland ice warned that a systemic collapse of sheet, massive quantities of fresh water are released into the North Atlantic, cooling the AMOC which delivers the bulk of the Gulf Stream's heat—toward a "tipping point" that could stop the current in its tracks.

An AMOC shutdown would cause temperatures to rise in the Southern Hemisphere but plunge dramatically in Europe. In the study's model, London cools by an average of 18°F and Bergen, Norway by 27°F. An AMOC failure would also cause sea levels to rise along North America's east coast.

"We are moving closer [to the collapse], but we we're not sure how much closer," van Westen told the Associated Press. "We are heading towards a tipping point."

According to the study:

"Although AMOC collapses have been induced in complex global climate models by strong freshwater forcing, the processes of an AMOC tipping event have so far not been investigated. Here, we show results of the first tipping event in the Community Earth System Model, including the large climate impacts of the collapse. Using these results, we develop a physics-based and observable early warning signal of AMOC tipping: the minimum of the AMOC-induced freshwater transport at the southern boundary of the Atlantic. Reanalysis products indicate that the present-day AMOC is on route to tipping. The early warning signal is a useful alternative to classical statistical ones, which, when applied to our simulated tipping event, turn out to be sen-

sitive to the analyzed time interval before tipping."

case that the AMOC is approaching a tipping point based on a robust, physically based early warning indicator," said Tim Lenton, director of the University of Exeter's Global Systems Institute. "What it cannot and does not say is how close the tipping point [is], because... there is insufficient data to make a statistically reliable estimate of that.

"We have to plan for the worst," added Lenton, who was not involved in the Dutch study. "We should invest in collecting relevant data and improving estimation of how close a tipping point is, improving assessment of what its impacts would be, and getting pre-prepared for how we could best manage and adapt to those impacts if they start to unfold."

Stefan Rahmstorf—who leads "The research makes a convincing the Earth Systems Analysis department at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Research in Germany and was not part of the new studycalled the research "a major advance in AMOC stability science."

> "The new study adds significantly to the rising concern about an AMOC collapse in the not-toodistant future," Rahmstorf told the Associated Press. "We will ignore this at our peril."

Brett Wilkins is a staff writer for Common Dreams. This work is licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0). Feel free to republish and share widely.

The Alleged News®

to page two

# Local Gunmaker Aiming For Insurrectionist Market?

NEWINGTON, N.H.—Gun manufacturer Sig Sauer, one of the area's largest employers, recently launched a new advertising campaign for a five-year old product. The ominous tone of the ad suggests that, for the company's marketing team, civil discord equals profit.

Dubbed the "M400 TREAD," the semi-automatic firearm is yet another knockoff of the Colt AR-15—dubbed "America's Rifle" by the NRA. TREAD is shorthand, of course, for "Don't Tread on Me." About 20 million of these generic murdersticks are already in circulation. Adding a few tens of thousands more with Sig Sauer's logo probably won't matter much—except, of course, to any individuals who might be "directly impacted" by them.

What's new—and, frankly, startling—about Sig Sauer's advertising campaign is how directly it states its premise: someday, destiny may call upon you—presuming you're a brave and stalwart patriot—to shoot and kill any number of U.S. soldiers, sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen,

NEWINGTON, N.H.—Gun manufacturer Sig Sauer, one of the area's largest employers, recently association. state or local cops, or, for all we know, members of your local homeowners association.

The world may be going to hell—*i.e.*, your neighbors may not look exactly like you—but not to worry. For under \$900, you, too, can strut around wielding seven pounds of black rifle badassery. And if some blue-helmeted UN punk gives you any guff, your magazine holds 30 rounds of the same 5.56 mm NATO ammunition he's got. Now it's just a question of who's got better body armor.

The ad was apparently posted to Sig Sauer's official YouTube channel in late January. Titled "The New Face of Freedom," it was viewed more than half a million times in its first three weeks. And no wonder: the ad's production values are first-rate. Its various elements work together in harmony. The concept is so fully realized we nearly saluted.

**Scene:** A dark night, a full moon partially obscured by cloud. In the background, a sailing ship docked in a harbor, evoking the Boston Tea



Party. Foreground: Deadly serious looking man with a beard. In his left hand he holds a lantern aloft. In his right is a flintlock rifle. Soundtrack: a muffled drumbeat like a rapidly beating heart. Voiceover, [deep baritone throughout]: "As Americans, we have always despised tyranny."

Scene: A dimly-lit yellow "Don't Tread On Me" flag, with coiled rattlesnake, fading to a stubble-bearded man wearing a tricorn hat. A torch is in his right hand, a musket in his left. Fade to another snake flag, this time depicting Benjamin Franklin's "Unite or Die" propaganda cartoon. Voiceover: "Our freedoms, cast on altar of sacrifice, were born from a desire to unite."

**Scene:** Parade ground at night, lit by bonfire. A standing soldier in redtrimmed uniform holds a flintlock at port arms. *Soundtrack:* Dramatic rising tone. *Voiceover:* "Those freedoms have been challenged before, yet they have stood the test of time."

Scene: A man clad in jeans, flannel shirt, and ball cap, in front of a ranch-style porch, holding an M400 TREAD. *Voiceover:* "Today, our freedom is once again in question, and its future is not promised. To those who would restrict our free-

dom, we say only this... SHALL. NOT.BE.INFRINGED."

During each of the last four words of this grand finale, an ominous bass drum beats once, as the previously-seen faces flash by.

YouTube gives out Works Awards to the "most effective and creative advertising campaigns" on the site. If this ad doesn't win one, we'll know the game was rigged. Should that happen, will Sig Sauer sue? Or just hand out M400s to the workforce and march on... wherever?

Unsurprisingly, many viewers have been inspired to comment:

@austinellis7465 wrote, "Bald eagles driving nascars while drinking budweiser just flew out of my goosebumps."

@HyperboreanJihad was less enthusiastic, writing, "Now how quickly is this gonna explode or some other catastrophic malfunction like your pistols[?]"

@dakotawindom: "While you're supplying the military with the .308s they'll use to kill us. Nice."

@Shannonmm: "This is a Swiss company advertising a weapon using staples of American history. This is the most American thing I've seen today[.]"

Veterans Walk for Peace Starts April 24 This just in from New Hampshire Peace Action:

"In the tradition and spirit of the many wonderful long-distance walks for peace, Veterans For Peace has initiated a National Project to begin April 27, 2024 and walk from Augusta, Maine, to arrive in Washington, D.C. in July.

"This walk is dedicated to the memory of Daniel Ellsberg, the man who released the Pentagon Papers and exposed the lies that Americans were being told about the Vietnam War. Dan spent nearly every waking hour of the next five decades working for peace and trying to prevent nuclear war.

"Walkers, donations, and partners are all needed! Please visit https://peacewalk2024.org/ for more information."

We understand the walkers are expected to cross over the Memorial Bridge into Portsmouth on May 7th.

To the Reader Who Left

a Phone Message on Feb. 14th

We inadvertently erased your mes-

sage and phone number. Sorry for

the ineptitude. Please call again.



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# Distribution Help Wanted in Exeter

Our volunteer distributor in Exeter will soon be facing higher than normal demands on his time. It's just a seasonal thing. He'll be back.

We are looking for someone who could fill in for a while, beginning on March 8th.

Could you spare us an hour, once a fortnight?

If so, please drop us a line at editors@nhgazette.com



In a screenshot from a new ad from local manufacturer Sig Sauer, a pa-

triotic homeowner stands ready and able to defeat the tyranny of the Fed-

eral Government—or, we presume, the Historical District Commission—

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thanks to his ownership of a SIG M400 TREAD.

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### The Alleged News®

from page one

### Big Oil, Plastics Industry Led 'Campaign of Deception' to Push Recycling Fraud by Olivia Rosane

The petrochemical industry including major oil companies like ExxonMobil—knew for decades that recycling was not a sustainable solution to the problem of plastic waste, yet continued to promote it in order to avoid regulation and deceive consumers into continuing to buy and use their products, a report released February 15th by the Center for Climate Integrity reveals.

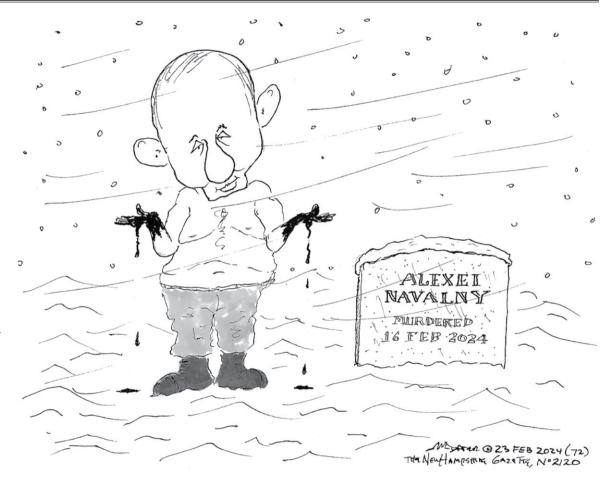
The report, titled "The Fraud of Plastic Recycling: How Big Oil and the Plastics Industry Deceived the Public for Decades and Caused the Plastic Waste Crisis,"includes newly disclosed industry documents proving that companies and trade groups knew that plastics could not be recycled indefinitely in the 1980s and 90s even as they launched a massive public relations campaign to sell voters and policymakers on the process.

"This evidence shows that many of the same fossil fuel companies that knew and lied for decades about how their products cause climate change have also known and lied to the public about plastic recycling,"

Center for Climate Integrity (CCI) president Richard Wiles said in a statement. "The oil industry's lies are at the heart of the two most catastrophic pollution crises in human history."

Plastic pollution is a major environmental and public health crisis. If current trends continue, plastics are expected to outweigh fish in the ocean by 2050, and the toxic fumes from plastic production facilities and incineration are a major environmental justice hazard for frontline communities. Humans in general also ingest an estimated credit-card's worth of plastic each week, with unknown but potentially serious health impacts.

Recycling is often touted as a solution for keeping plastic out of the environment, but this has proven to be ineffective and insufficient: More than 90 percent of the plastics disposed of between 1950 and 2015 were either burnt, sent to landfills, or dumped into the environment. There are several technical and economic reasons why plastic recycling doesn't work at scale. Plastics lose quality as they are recycled and can only really be reused once or potentially twice. The decline in quality also means that recycled plastics are more likely to leach toxins add-



ed during production or picked up from other waste items. Economically, it is cheaper to produce new plastics than recycle older ones, and only two types of plastic—PET and HDPE—actually attract markets that will recycle them.

The industry has long been aware of these limitations. In 1969, the American Chemical Society declared, "It is always possible that scientists and engineers will learn to recycle or dispose of wastes at a profit, but that does not seem likely to happen soon on a broad basis."

Despite this, petrochemical companies and their trade groups began to push plastic recycling in the 1980s and 90s as a response to growing public concern over plastic waste, and the threat that this would lead to bans on plastic products.

"No doubt about it, legislation is the single most important reason why we are looking at recycling," Wayne Pearson, the executive director of industry front group the Plastics Recycling Foundation and a DuPont marketing director, said in 1988.

The plastics industry used various strategies to sell the public on recycling, according to the report. These included: funding front groups to promote recycling; running ad and PR campaigns; investing in recycling research to convince the public that it was taking action; setting unrealistic internal recycling goals; writing educational material promoting recycling to school children; advocating for "advanced recycling," a term for breaking plastics down to chemical components that can theoretically be reused but are not in practice; and claiming, against evidence, that recycling can be part of a "circular economy."

CCI provides new evidence that, while the industry was employing these strategies, it was simultaneously aware of recycling's limitations.

For example, a report from the Vinyl Institute trade group concluded in 1986 that "recycling cannot be considered a permanent solid waste solution, as it merely prolongs the time until an item is disposed of."

In 1994, Exxon Chemical Vice President Irwin Levowitz told employees of the American Plastics Council that "we are committed to the activities, but not committed to the results."

CCI argued that the petrochemical industry should face legal consequences for its "campaign of deception" similar to suits brought against tobacco and opioid compa-

"When corporations and trade groups know that their products pose grave risks to society, and then lie to the public and policymakers about it, they must be held accountable," Wiles said. "Accountability means stopping the lying, telling the truth, and paying for the damage

The Alleged News®

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On an unnaturally balmy Saturday before Valentine's Day, random passersby and mission-oriented shoppers alike took a moment to check out, or sit next to, the City's heart-decorated Holiday Tree.

### **Murph's Fortnightly Quote**

"People ask me sometimes... 'When will there be enough women on the court?' And my answer is: 'When there are nine." Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933-2020) Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

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# **Anonymous Chastisement**

[To the Editor:]

I am a longtime subscriber to the Gazette, living in the Boston area. It's been disappointing to me that the Gazette has ignored the gravity of the violent atrocities committed by Hamas on October 7th, but now that you're giving a platform for and even cheering on alternative facts, it's time for me to say goodbye to the *Gazette*.

In your January 12th edition, you published Will Thomas's letter. Thomas criticized the *Union Leader* for publishing a letter which mentioned various references to the violent Hamas attacks without requiring the letter writer to list their sources. Thomas engaged in verbal gymnastics to somehow try to convey that the attacks were not as serious as stated (see Washington Post January 21, 2024 about the growing "birther" movement of October 7th deniers). Thomas closed with "Perhaps, in the future, the Leader may wish to require letter-writers to list sources where they obtained their sources and not print hearsay." Your only reply: "Perhaps pigs will fly."

Sir, you know that Hamas slaughtered, raped, and beheaded on that day. It has been reported by countless reliable sources, and there is video. When you print misleading letters from Trumpers you set them straight. You could have asked Mr. Thomas why he was employing six paragraphs disingenuously to assert that Hamas did not slaughter, rape, and butcher on October 7th. No—you gave him space and endorsed his letter.

Apparently, you decry alternative facts, as I do, when they are used regarding January 6th election interference, and other facts meant to uplift Donald Trump by his cult, but you promote them when offered in support of your worldview about Israel.

I won't renew my subscription, and I'm sending this letter to some of your top advertisers to urge them to consider withdrawing their support in the future because your standards of fair Journalism are eroding in favor of your perspective.

Signed,

a former reader and supporter

[Postmarked Boston, Mass.]

cc: Will Thomas, N.H. Veterans for Peace; The Portsmouth Brewery; Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire; The Music Hall; Strawberry

Former Reader, aka Anonymous: Thank you for writing.

Without wishing to suggest that we endorse the common but idiotic stance that a given position has inherent merit because it falls in between two conflicting points of view, we'll note that we have now achieved symmetry on this issue.

Our previous paper, published Febru-

We criticise Israel for committing atrocities because the U.S. is complicit in its actions, footing a goodly part of the bill.

You write, "Sir, you know that Hamas slaughtered, raped, and beheaded on that day." Please don't try to put words in our mouth. We know no such thing. Less than a week after Hamas' attack, the Israeli government began walking back the beheaded baby allegation. Did you learn nothing from the first Gulf War?

You seem upset by our admittedly offhand comment about airborne pigs. We were not mocking the dead. That wisecrack was directed at the letters page of the Union Leader.

tempt to alienate our advertisers, a reflecthe Israeli response to Hamas' attack.

We have no expectation that any of this will change your mind. You probably won't even read it. We merely state these facts for the record.

[sic] Banke

the comments by a politician as I was today reading Donald Trump's comments at a rally in South Carolina yesterday. Trump related a tale about a NATO ally asking him if he would defend them if attacked by Russia. He responded by saying no because they

are delinquent on their payments to

NATO. Then he unbelievably went on

to say, "In fact I would encourage them

This is the most dangerous, anti-de-

mocracy, pro-totalitarian comment

ever uttered by a former President and

now candidate for President. How

dare he announce to Putin that he en-

courages him to attack our allies while

he would stand by and do nothing?

How dare he put all of our long stand-

ing allies at great risk, who came to our

aid after 9/11 by invoking for the first

time in history Article 5 of the NATO

This comment alone, even above

all of Trump's other legal problems,

should disqualify him from ever hold-

ing any public office. This comment is

an insult to all military members past

and present who have served to pro-

tect our nation and our allies from the

threat posed by men like Putin and his

Soviet predecessors. Trump's words

clearly demonstrate how existential

a threat he is to our nation and the

Rich DiPentima, LTC, USAF, Ret.

That certainly was an eye-popping

remark from a former Command-

er-in-Chief. We expect it will live in in-

famy—or until he tops it with something

is that his party now seems to be fully em-

bracing treason. As the kids say, it's a bold

What seems most bizarre to us, though,

Portsmouth, N.H.

even more unhinged.

strategy.

The Editor

Charter?

to do whatever the hell they want."

ary 9th, included a letter from a reader one who was kind and brave enough to sign his name—saying he was "very disappointed in the New Hampshire Gazette for not taking the genocide being perpetrated against Palestinians as seriously as is warranted."

Between that prior letter and this one, it might appear that this newspaper treats with insufficient gravity both the atrocities committed, and the sufferings borne, by both sides of this conflict. Please be aware that we hold ourselves under no obligation to report or comment on every atrocity committed on this planet. If we tried, we'd never have time to do any-

Pardon us, too, for seeing in your attion of the disproportionate lethality of

The Editor



**Trump Shows His True Colors** 

To the Editor: Once again, D.J. Trump shows his true colors.

The Republicans and Dems came together in the Senate to craft a bill providing comprehensive border security that would have solved the disarray at our southern border. It contained almost everything Republicans wanted. It was paired with aid to Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan.

Then, Trump stepped in. He told Republican senators not to vote for their bill because it would look like a victory for Biden and would take away a Republican issue.

To heck with our allies and resolving the Southern Border. They did as he said for fear of retribution for daring to put country above Trump!

But the Maga crowd won't see itthey can only see red.

Michael Frandzel

Portsmouth, N.H.

Michael:

They're all hoping that if they show him sufficient loyalty, they'll be issued their very own jackboots. Or gold-colored, Trump-labeled sneakers.

The Editor

# Give 'Em Hell, Joe!

Dear Editor,

On March 7th, President Biden will deliver this year's State of the Union address to Congress. On the chance this might be the last one, given that Congress and the court system as we know it would most likely be dissolved a year from now—assuming a certain Slouching Beast "wins" again in November, of course—it would behoove the president to cut to the chase. Forget the usual uplifting economic statistics, the feel-good introductions of heroes and patriots in the gallery, the chest-thumping over America's

"greatness" and "the strength of our democracy" and just tell it like it is.

In a word or three, it ain't good. Not by a long shot. But that won't happen. The Democratic Party, bless its little soul, refuses to accept that the rules of the game have changed, and continues to operate as if it's 1954, not 2024, which means we'll get the usual blather associated with every other SOTU. And that's a terrible disservice to the majority of the country that instinctively knows we're in deep doo-doo.

If there's one jaw-dropping fact about America in the past 10 years, it's the speed with which fascism and its acceptance by one of our two major political parties, now nothing more than a pathetic motley cult, has moved into the mainstream of our politics. And that one guy, a bloviating, inherently stupid, lying, criminal sociopath, with the help of this cult, has managed to find and take advantage of each and every loophole in our legal system to advance his personal ambition, while wrecking a 240-year-old democracy, is nothing short of stunning. Were my parents, both World War II veterans, alive to see this, they wouldn't believe it. Most days I still can't, even as I've lived it for the past nine years.

So Joe, er, Mr. President, save us all the nonsense. On March 7th, let 'em have it. In the end, it may not make any difference. If there are enough stupid idiots out there willing to bring the whole thing down on November 5th, at least you can say you went down with your middle finger held high.

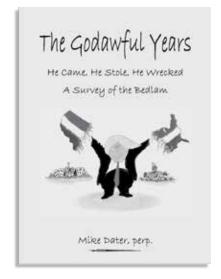
John C. Ficor

Richmond, Va.

Few things we'd rather see than Joe getting in touch with his inner Harry Truman and "giving'em hell."

The Editor

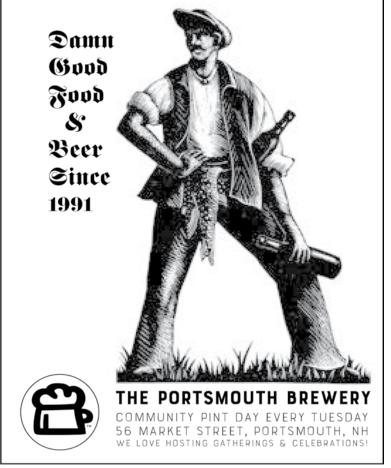
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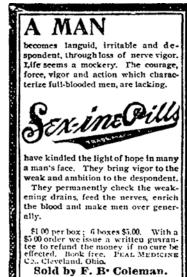


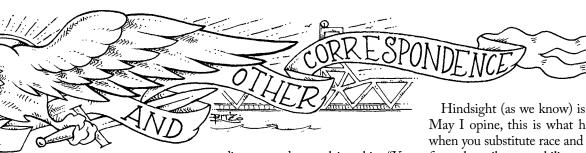
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# **Legally Overturning an Election?**

To the Editor:

We know many Republican lawmakers fear and loathe Donald Trump even as they publicly "support" him. Why? Because his endorsement could make or break their grip on power in the general election.

*But*, once the election is over, the President Elect loses that cudgel. In fact, from November to January, his power becomes limited—making him vulnerable.

How vulnerable?

Donald Trump's court calendar could hold the key. Suppose SCO-TUS chooses this transition period to rule PEOTUS ineligible to serve? Or suppose he is convicted of multiple felonies and sentenced to serious hard time prior to taking the oath in

The result? All those disgruntled Republicans who rode Trump's coat tails to reelection are in—and the man who would be King is out.

Pretty sneaky, you sly Republican devils!

Rick Littlefield

Barrington, N.H.

That scenario is so bent it seems almost inevitable.

The Editor

# A Lathered-Up Horsey Metaphor

Dear Editor,

Paul Revere comes riding up to a newspaper storefront, jumps off his sweaty steed, bounds into the editorial office and screams, "The British are coming, the British are coming."

A newspaper employee politely notifies him, "We must decline to publish your message." "Why, pray tell?", Revere asks. Overhearing the conversation, the opinion department

editor proceeds to explain to him, "You reside outside our readership area, for one thing. For another, your opinion piece must be exclusive to our paper, and I see from your horse's condition you have been spreading this exact same message far and wide before you arrived here.'

Mr. Revere looks in astonishment at the editor and several thoughts cross his mind. "Either the editor himself has a redcoat mentality and doesn't mind that the British are coming; or the editor is a Pharisee journalist who believes it is more important to check off the proper boxes than it is to inform and educate the public; or, perhaps, the editor secretly hates freedom of speech and press."

"I wonder which it is," he muses, as he grabs the saddle pommel with his left hand, throws himself up onto his horse and gallops off. "Maybe all

Kimball Shinkoskey Woods Cross, Utah

Kimball:

We'd offer a sage comment, but we're too bewildered.

The Editor

# Is the Party in a Pickle?

Dear Editor:

The Democratic Party is in a pickle. Concocted by Democrats long departed, their present dilemma has been 60 years in the making and it is this: many rank and file Democrats today are uncertain that Joe Biden (because of his age and perhaps other factors) can weather the taxing responsibilities of the presidency for another full term. Adding to their anxiety is the prospect of a Kamala Harris administration. I recall the doubts and misgivings when Biden (fulfilling his promise to choose a woman as his running mate), chose Harris.

Hindsight (as we know) is 20/20. May I opine, this is what happens when you substitute race and gender for such attributes as ability, qualifications, competence, aptitude, etc., ("the right stuff").

Six decades ago (I was active duty Navy then) Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity were introduced across the land. Liberal thinkers of the time believed that discriminatory practices could be corrected, and the playing fields levelled, by providing special conditions (advantages) for women and minorities.

In the process of "opening doors of opportunity" for some but not all people, one important factor got overlooked. "You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong," at least not without paying a heavy price.

We have witnessed, over decades and several generations, the dumbing down of America, the loss of expertise, the lowering of standards throughout our institutions; education, parenting, production, things that were once considered the backbone of America no longer work, due in part to advancing less qualified men and women and passing over more qualified men and women, in the pursuit of the elusive precept, "equality."

To the Democratic Party I must submit, you are reaping only what you have sown. As expressed so well in an old Portuguese Proverb; "the fruit of the tree of errors."The chickens of inclusion and diversity, I am afraid, are coming home to roost.

However, all is not lost. The Republican Party (a.k.a. the "Trump Cult") has made its choice, raw power over governing, and at any cost, and nothing shy of an Act of God can deter

That leaves the fate of our country in the hands of the only real political party left, the Democratic Party. You must make a better choice.

It's time for a leap of faith. I well

recall John F. Kennedy's well-chosen words in 1961—"The torch has been passed to a new generation of Amer-

Mr. President, it's time to pass the torch again. Please consider choosing a different running mate for your second term, someone from a generation younger than ours, someone with a fresh, lively vision for the future but capable of tackling the agonizing problems of the present. We must not surrender this beautiful land our fathers bequeathed us, or our nation's future, or the fate of democracy itself, to men who lie, threaten and defraud.

Were it my choice to make (given our present circumstances), I would name Hakeem Jeffries (six-term Congressman from New York) as my running mate. He has shown an extraordinary ability to think on his feet, he is especially well-spoken, articulates complicated matters in simple, understandable terms, and he projects the characteristics of a true statesman.

We have arrived at a fork in the road, Mr. President, and as Yogi Berra was wont to say, we should "take it."

David L. Snell Franklin, N.C.

David:

Yes, there's a risk in sticking with Harris—as there is with Biden, for that matter. Not as great though, we suspect, as the risk of jettisoning her at this juncture.

The Editor

# Responsible Republicans: an Oxymoron

To the Editor:

This January, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mike Johnson, led 60 members of his party to the border with Mexico. They clamored that immigration was out of control and something had to be done. Meanwhile a bipartisan group in the Senate crafted legislation to address the problem. Legislation that gave the GOP 90 percent of what they demanded. Then Donald Trump told his party don't pass anything so nothing passed. Apparently, immigration is not a problem the GOP wants to fix.

Neither is aid to Israel, Ukraine or Taiwan as far as the GOP House is concerned. They want to cut off arms

to Ukraine and let Russia take over all of Ukraine. Donald Trump is now inviting Russia to attack NATO after

You may not care about Ukraine or NATO countries, but China is watching and sees America will not stand by its allies if Trump becomes president or the GOP follows his orders. Taiwan makes chips for almost every phone, computer, car and anything electronic you own. If China takes over Taiwan, they will have a triangle hold on this country and Europe. You witnessed what the chip shortage did to the auto industry when the country came out of Covid. That was temporary, China could make that permanent.

This November vote to prevent that from happening.

Walter Hamilton

Portsmouth, N.H. Walter:

One Republican administration after another greased the skids for U.S. corporations so they could ship manufacturing jobs overseas.

Those knuckleheads can't see beyond their noses, which are buried in quarterly earnings reports.

The Editor

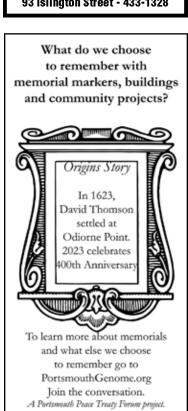
# Surely They Can't Be Serious

To the Editor:

If additional evidence is needed that the Republicans are no longer a serious political party, their torpedoing of the compromise immigration/ Ukraine/Israel aid bill provides it. The bill represented a several weeks long bipartisan effort to negotiate a compromise between Republicans who demanded a strong border control bill and Democrats who sought aid to the Ukraine and Israel. According to most accounts, the bill was heavily weighted toward Republican priorities for border security. Despite the bipartisan agreement, Trump announced his opposition to the bill and Republican support evaporated. Trump and MAGA Republicans preferred to preserve immigration as a campaign weapon rather than solving an ongoing, festering problem.

MAGA Republicans have either to next page





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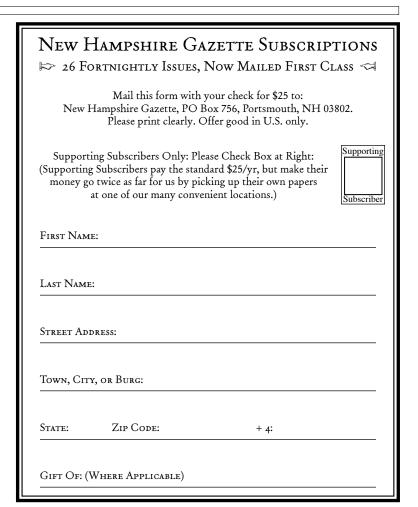
HUD-VASH is a partnership between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the VA's Supportive Housing unit. It helps homeless Veterans with housing, employment, recovery (both mental health and substance abuse) and independent living.

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.

For more information, contact:

VA Supportive Housing Program Manager (603) 624-4366 X6883



### Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

from page five

forgotten or never realized that the major purpose of political parties in a democracy is to engage in governance intended to improve the welfare of citizens. Effective governance always involves bargaining and compromise with opposing views. Compromise has always been anathema to Trump who seems to view it as weakness. The would-be dictator has consolidated control over the Republican Party so that there are no longer Republican values or policies, only the incoherent fever dreams of an egotistical ex-president. Trump and MAGA Republicans have replaced rational, democratic governance with a relentless quest for self-seeking power based on lies and supported by absurd and harebrained conspiracy theories. The degeneration of the MAGA Republican Party has left them bereft of strategic or moral vision that would benefit public welfare.

Republican rejection of the bipartisan border control bill is cynical hypocrisy. Alleviation of chaos and suffering at the border was sacrificed in exchange for political expediency. The failure to continue aid to the Ukraine is a moral and strategic failure. The immediate approval of Ukrainian aid is imperative. Without it, Ukrainian lives and the destruction of Ukrainian cities will continue as Putin's aggression persists. The lessons of history from Hitler's takeover of the Sudetenland to Putin's aggression in Georgia and the Crimea teach that mollification of belligerent authoritarians only serves to whet their appetite for further expansion. Furthermore, the denial of aid will tarnish the reputation of the U.S. as a loyal and trusted ally and weaken support of critical European allies for U.S. policies.

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

Not to get all cynical or anything, but what shocks us most these days is the number of people who say they're

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shocked when members of a party that's been lying for years turn out to be liars. They want power and money, not necessarily in that order, and they'll say

or do damn near anything to get their

hands on either. The Editor

# The View From Cologne

To the Editor:

Many of my European friends view, both with anxiety and in total disbelief, that Donald Trump will most likely be the Republican presidential candidate and even perhaps become president again. They ask how is it possible that such a person, who probably belongs more in a psychiatric hospital or perhaps even in prison, may actually return to the White House? They say this is the same person who nearly destroyed a proud and long-standing democracy and its institutions, and yet, many decent Americans seem not to care so much about his incompetence and his numerous criminal activities.

Now Trump states that he will not protect some of the NATO countries (those he says that are unwilling to pay), and will allow Putin to do whatever he wants with them. How can one be so ignorant? In a recent propaganda interview with the naïve American journalist Tucker Carlson, Putin made it clear who he regards as his real enemy, namely the U.S.A.! In that interview Putin clearly stated not only that the CIA and the U.S. are behind Ukraine's aggression towards Russia, but also that it is the "U.S. and its satellites" that are responsible for most of the conflicts around the globe. Such claims make it evidently clear that it is the U.S.A. who is the prime and ultimate target of Russia. Any sensible politician should then realize that it would be absolutely stupid to forfeit European allies who can help in containing Putin's imperialistic dreams.

My friends find it totally incomprehensible that, at a time of numerous international conflicts, so many

Americans are willing to vote for a person who lacks the ability to think and act rationally. They sincerely hope that a sufficient number of sensible U.S. citizens will turn out on election day to guarantee that neither Trump, nor the Trumpist radicals, succeed in winning, which would only endanger peace and democracy, not only in Europe, but also in America itself. I can only strongly agree with their assessment.

Dr. Imre Somssich Cologne, Germany

We long ago lost the capability to imagine the U.S. as an unalloyed force for good in the world. Our foreign policy, like our domestic policy, seem determined to serve the status quo—which is what got us to our present state of inequality and discontent.

That said, Putin's a vicious criminal, and a whole lotta elected Republicans probably belong in jail.

The Editor

### **GOP Up To Their Old Tricks** Dear Editor:

From the White House Historical Association: "The Iranian hostage crisis contributed greatly to Jimmy Carter's loss of the presidency in the 1980 election. Americans had lost confidence in their leader." Isn't this what the Republican House, under Majority Leader Mike Johnson, wants to pull off now, going into recess early without funding the Ukrainian fight against Putin? The dastardly Republicans, at candidate Trump's order, weaken President Biden's hand.

In Carter's reelection campaign-time, Republican manipulation wasn't revealed until after the fact (hostages released post-election, helping Reagan win, as calculated). Now the hamstringing is overt. The Republicans have no shame, also are a most manipulatable lot of meek mice. What a disgusting and democracy-attacking combination.

Lynn Rudmin Chong Sanbornton, N.H.

Having watched Democrats get punched in the face for the past half cen-

tury, we're beginning to wonder if the time might be near when they might consider responding in kind.

The Editor

# Sununu Joins Border War

Dear Sir:

Republicans in the New Hampshire Legislature have approved Governor Sununu's request for \$850,000 to support sending members of the N.H. National Guard to the southern border. This is nothing more than a political stunt by Sununu to strengthen his status with MAGA Republicans, and will do nothing to address the border situation.

It is interesting that N.H. Republicans are willing to waste almost a million dollars on a political boondoggle while they refuse to support funding for public education, environmental protection, health care and other needed services right here at home. This money, which is being sold as border protection, comes after the Republicans in the House of Representative refused to take up the border security bill passed by the Senate in a strong bipartisan vote.

If Sununu is so concerned about border security he might better pressure his Republicans in Congress to pass the comprehensive border security bill rather than waste N.H. taxpayer money and play into Trump's destructive agenda.

Rich DiPentima Portsmouth, N.H.

That's an excellent suggestion, and one we're sure the Governor would follow, if the state's well being was his top priority. Sadly, it looks like New Hampshire will be playing second fiddle to his run for President in 2028.

The Editor

# In Support of Mamadou Dembele

To the editor of the Portsmouth [sic] Gazette,

I was never a cigar smoker till I wandered into Federal Cigar on Market Street a few years ago.

An eclectic crew; from the knowledgable staff, the part owner Jeremy, a smart character from Dorchester and the people that frequent the establishment keep me coming back.

My friends Murat, a neighbor on Sagamore; Jimmy, a restaurateur from York, Joe, a Manhattan transplant, Mike and his beautiful wife Kelly, Ray, a bridge operator, and Tony, a thoughtful parking attendant, all have life stories that make smoking a cigar in the basement watching Boston sports a lot fun.

If there was one man that represented the pulse of this establishment and this great seacoast town, it's Mamadou Dembele, aka Moose. Moose was one of the first guys that welcomed me to Portsmouth. His smile and energy were infectious. I'll never forget walking into the back room and being a little nervous. Moose got up and came over and introduced himself. He made me feel welcome.

Fast forward to last night. I watched a YouTube video about Moose and his attack next to Gilley's, my favorite hamburger joint in town. I'm heart broken. Moose was beat up. I wasn't there that day after Thanksgiving when it took place.

All I can say is I stand by this man. Yes he is Black. I didn't think this happened in New Hampshire. I know that sounds naive. I'm ashamed that this goes on in my backyard.

Moose is a gentle man. He is also a gentleman. If you ask anyone who knows him, they would tell you Moose is the polite guy that gets up to give his seat to a woman. It's obvious he was raised by good and educated parents. Moose is genuine. His actions speak loudly. He's conscientious and aware. He has those traits that you want in a friend. He's also smart and impeccably dressed. He's a banker downtown.

They say when you see something say something. Generally that's when you see a wrong. But not today. I see a right. I want to say Moose is the guy we need to stand up for today. Not because he's Black but because he's the guy that does right by everyone around him.

I want this town to know about

Thanksgiving 2023 he was attacked and beaten to the ground in front of Gilley's. He had two fractured bones. All violence has to stop!

Dave Hindle Portsmouth, N.H.

This lovely little space could be yours for a mere ten





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# Smart Fish Don't Bite

For John Prados

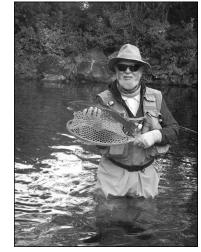
Only the stupid ones who get caught, gutted, beheaded, filleted, and eaten fried or poached or boiled or broiled, pickled in brine, fed to porpoises raw at Sea World, canned for family pets.

The smart ones just keep swimming. You'll never meet an intelligent fish because they don't take the bait, though they never seem to go hungry.

The title of this poem is a sentence found on p.193 of The Ghosts of Langley: Into the CIA's Heart of Darkness by the late historian John Prados.

My friend Gary Metras loves to fish; ties his own flies, pulls on his waders and heads for his local river several times a week, rain or shine, year-round. Strictly catch-&-release. Lucky fish, but not very bright. He tells me he often catches the same fish multiple times. One of these days, the guy with the rod won't be so kind.

This is why we hear about the liars, hypocrites and crooks like Spiro Agnew, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Swaggart, Bernie Madoff, Sam Bankman-Fried, and all those other stupid fish who can't resist the bait. Ever wonder what the smart fish are up to, the ones you never hear about?



Gary Metras (pictured above) has poetry publisher for over three decades.

# long been active with Pioneer Valley Chapter 276 of Trout Unlimited; as both a poet and founder/ editor/publisher of Adastra Press in Easthampton, Massachusetts, he is a fixture of New England literature, and was Ehrhart's primary

# The Alleged News®

from page three

they've caused."

CCI vice president of legal and general counsel Alyssa Johl added: "Big Oil and the plastics industry's decades-long campaign to deceive the public about plastic recycling has likely violated laws designed to protect consumers and the public from corporate misconduct and pollution."

"Attorneys general and other officials should carefully consider the evidence that these companies defrauded the public and take appropriate action to hold them accountable," Johl said.

Olivia Rosane is a staff writer for Common Dreams. This work is licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0). Feel free to republish and share widely.

# Waking the Sleeping Giant of the Low-Income Voting Bloc

by Sarah Anderson

Amidst all the nail-biting uncertainty over the 2024 election, one thing's for sure: turnout will be key.

This week, the Poor People's Campaign announced plans to mobilize a potentially powerful yet often overlooked voting bloc: the 85 million eligible voters who are poor or low-income.

numbers and determined that if this 15 million "infrequent" poor and

bloc voted at the same rate as higher-income voters, they could sway elections in every state. But most voting drives and political candidates still ignore this segment of our society.

"The conventional wisdom which isn't very wise—is that the poor don't care about voting," said Poor People's Campaign Policy Director Shailly Gupta Barnes at a February 5th press conference. "But that's just not true."

What's the biggest factor discouraging poor and low-wage people from exercising this basic right?

"Political campaigns do not talk to them or speak to their issues," explained campaign co-chair Bishop William J. Barber, II. "In our election cycles sometimes we have 15, 20 debates for president. In 2020, not one of those—not 15 minutes was given to raising questions about how the policies of that particular party or politician would impact poor and low-income people."

The Poor People's Campaign is planning 42 weeks of action aimed at pushing the concerns of poor and low-income people into the center of the 2024 political debate. The kick-off will be on March 2nd, with marches to state legislatures in 32-plus states. A June 15th convergence at the U.S. Capitol will launch a wave of actions leading up to the party conventions and the Novem-The campaign has crunched the ber election. Their goal: to mobilize low-income voters.

Will politicians be listening? At the press conference, pollster Celinda Lake ticked off one battleground state after another where even a small increase in poor and low-income voter participation could determine the election outcome. As one example, she pointed out that in Arizona, 40 percent of voters are low-wage and in 2020 the margin of victory was just 0.03 percent.

"You'd have to be a moron to not get this and most elected officials are not complete morons," Lake said.

What are some of the most pressing issues on the Poor People's Campaign agenda? The Institute for Policy Studies has just co-published campaign fact sheets for the nation and all 50 states with data on the interlocking problems that hit the poor hardest: poverty and inequality, systemic racism, ecological devastation, and militarism. Several speakers at the recent press conference spoke about these problems from their own personal experiences.

"I'm tired of companies and billionaires buying politicians who are pushing people deeper into poverty and debt," said Matthew Rosing, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. "I've put up with the thankless toll of minimum wage retail jobs and back-breaking construction jobs in a state that has 19 billionaires. And because of our flat tax, they pay the same state income tax rate as I do."

Linda Burns, a former Amazon

worker, has struggled for basic labor rights and decent health care benefits. She was a supporter of the valiant union drive at the Bessemer, Alabama facility that Amazon eventually crushed through harsh intimidation tactics. Burns says she was fired for her union activity, which led to the loss of her health benefits right before a needed surgery related to a workplace injury. Today she works 16 hours a day as a caregiver.

"I've worked too hard to have nothing," said Burns. "We have to stand up for our rights."

Veronica Burton spoke about the economic gulf in her community of Beloit, Wisconsin. A woman who lives "around the corner" from her is a billionaire while Burton is struggling to pay bills in the face of multiple rent increases and the low wages she earns at an understaffed child care center.

"If you want to know what's wrong with our society, listen to the babies," Burton said. While dealing with her own problems, she often finds herself trying to help parents of the children under her care. "We've had mothers unenroll their children because they can't afford their asthma medicine," she said.

Sarah Anderson co-edits Inequality.org at the Institute for Policy Studies. This article is licensed under a Creative Commons 3.0 Li-

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# Where Did Our Local Papers Go?

by Jim Hightower

no longer receive my local news-**■** paper, the *Austin-American States*-

Oh, the paper still comes, but it's just paper, minus the news part news that our community once counted on to keep up with local government doings, corporate shenanigans, citizen actions, and other critical features of our city's democratic life. What happened? Wall Street profiteers swept in a few years ago to conglomeratize, homogenize, and financialize, the Statesman.

It's now a money cog in the Gannett/USA Today chain of some 200 major dailies that the syndicate seized. Indeed, Gannett itself is wholly owned by SoftBank, a Japanese hedge fund. Those distant bankers are not interested in local news, but in slashing news staffs to fatten their profits. In Austin alone, Softbank has cut two-thirds of the paper's journalists since taking over—and coverage of local stories has also plunged by two-thirds.

Interestingly, the Statesman recently ran a front-page piece about a local union protest by flight attendants demanding fair wages. On that same day, the paper also reported that Uber and Lyft drivers were striking in Austin. But wait—at the same time, the Statesman journalists were picketing right in front of the paper's office, protesting the greed of SoftBank/Gannett and the demise of local news. Curiously Statesman editors did not consider this local news about our newspaper to be news, so they cravenly kept this important information from the people.

Austin was not alone in this news blackout by the chain's managers. Journalists at a dozen other Gannett papers—from Akron to South Bend—were picketing, yet, none of those papers ran a peep about their journalists' defense of local news. Nor did Gannett's flagship paper, USA Today, mention this nationwide union rebellion by its own journal-

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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, FEBRUARY 25

2020—"We will not see diseases like #45's Kayleigh McEnany. "Isn't tha refreshing when contrasting it with the awful [Obama] presidency...?" 2011-"[A]ny future Defense Secretary who advises the President to

into Asia or into the Middle East or Africa should have his head examined," says Defense Sec. Gates. 1968—"I do not believe Hanoi can

again send a big American land army

hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.

1953—Ike advises vigilance, les communist teachers sneak propaganda into math problems

1913—The IWW's Paterson, N.J. strike begins; Concord, N.H.'s Elizabeth Gurley Flynn helps organize. 1906-Pianist Nikolay Burenin & comrades rob the Russian State Bank in Helsinki to fund the Revolution. 1899-Londoner Edwin Sewell, 31,

is the first driver to die in a wreck. 1870—Hiram R. Revels (R-Miss.) becomes the first Black U.S. Senator 1836—Colt patents the six gun.

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. 1643-Under orders from the Governor of New Netherlands, 120 Wecquaesgeek Indians are murdered in their sleep at Pavonia, near pres ent-day Hackensack.

11:54

### Monday, February 26 Tuesday, February 27

2020—"Within a couple of days, [Covid will be] close to zero. That's a pretty good job we've done." –#45 2015—Sen. James Inhofe [R-Okla.] conclusively proves that global warming is a hoax—or that he's an idiot—by orandishing a snowball in the Senate. 2003—Saddam Hussein tells interriewer Dan Rather he would like to debate George W.[MD] Bush on TV. 1993—A truck bomb explodes be neath the World Trade Center in NYC; six are dead, 1,000 injured.

1991—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush admits the U.S. has beer supporting the Khmer Rouge.

1979-A 328-year old faith which holds that God pays no attention to Earth, and won't until He ends it, dies out along with Philip Noakes, of Kent, England: the last Muggletonian.

1974—A Senate report says Ford Moor Co. had close ties with the Nazis. 1972—Pittston Coal's cheap-jack dam on Buffalo Creek in West Virginia collapses killing 118, injuring 1,121, and leaving 5,000 homeless. The company ends up paying less than

\$15,000 per casualty 1954—Buzzing the courthouse in Huntingdon, Tenn., U.S.A.F. Lieut. Jack Jenkins pulls up too hard. The wings of his C-119 fall off; four on ooard die, two on the ground are hurt. 1860—Egged on by the local newspaper, whites massacre about 150 Wiyot Indians, mostly old men, women, and children, in Humboldt County, Calif.

2019—"I fear that if [Trump] loses the election in 2020," says his ex-lawyer Michael Cohen, "there will neve be a peaceful transition of power.

2014—Senate Republicans block : bill to fund veterans health care be cause it would cost too much.

2001-Rep. David B. Vitter [R-La.] skips a House vote honoring 28 Deser Storm KIAs to take a call from Deborah Jeane Palfrey, the D.C. Madam. 1975—The FDA recalls a batch of 1,241 GE pacemakers—after they've all been implanted.

1973—The American Indian Move ment occupies Wounded Knee.

1970—The New York Times reports that the U.S. Army no longer conducts illegal domestic surveillance; untrue then, and now.

1968—Walter Cronkite says on the CBS Nightly News that "we are mired in stalemate" in Vietnam

1962—Renegade South Vietnames pilots use U.S. planes to bomb Saigon's Presidential Palace.

1938—Britain and France grant diplomatic recognition to General Fran cisco Franco's fascist government. 1933—Nazis burn the Reichstag and

blame the fire on Commies. 1902—Australian Lieutenant Harry Breaker" Morant says to his firing squad, "Shoot straight, you bastards." 1859-Rep. Dan Sickles [D-N.Y.] shoots D.C. District Attorney Philip Barton Key II—the son of Francis Scott Key, and his wife's lover. 2:48

2003—A former gay male escort begins attending White House press briefings with his official pass issued under the pseudonym "Jeff Gannon." 1997—That blue dress gets soiled.

Wednesday, February 28

1993-The ATF tries to serve a warrant on a religious community in Waco. It does not go well. 1947-Hooligans in Taiwan riot over

routine government corruption. Koumintang troops-brave anti-Communists-justly massacre thousands. 1921—The Kronstadt Rebellion against bolshevism begins in Russia. "Shoot them down like partridges," orders Leon Trotsky.

1913-Denied information and cooperation, Congress' Pujo Commission nevertheless finds that a Money Trust runs Wall Street. N.Y. Times: "Move along, nothing to see here." 1893—Birth of Ben Hecht, newspaperman and author of The Front Page.

1877-The U.S. seizes the Black Hills, in violation of a treaty. 1854—A group of political activists meet in Ripon, Wisc.; they may or

may not found the GOP. 1844-On the Potomac, during a VIP cruise aboard U.S.S. Princeton, Secretary of the Navy T.W. Gilmer pulls the lanyard to fire a huge untested gun. It explodes, killing him, the Secretary of State, and four others. 1840-Joshua V. Hines begins publishing Signs of the Times, a newspaper devoted to William Miller's Doomsday prophecies.

1:19 1:35

7:23

### Thursday, February 29 Friday, March 1

2016—Trump's candidacy "may not be good for America," admits CBS boss Les Moonves, and the race is a "circus;" but, "it's damn good for CBS...money's rolling in, this is fun." 2000-New Hampshire's own Doris "Granny D" Haddock ends a 14-month, 3,200 mile walk across America at the U.S. Capitol, where

1972—Columnist Jack Anderson reports that ITT "donated" \$400,000 to the Republican Party in exchange for a favorable Justice Department ruling. 1968—The National Advisory [Kerner] Commission on Civil Disorders says the U.S. is "moving toward two societies, one black, one white-sep-

arate and unequal." 1960-JFK proclaims a fake "missile gap" during his presidential campaign. 1940—Hattie McDaniel is awarded an Oscar for playing "Mammy" in Gone With the Wind, but is asked to sit in the back of the room.

1924—Veterans Bureau chief [& Phillips Exeter grad] Charles R. Forbes is indicted for defrauding the government of \$250 million.

1704—French and Indians, seeking a church bell stolen by a profiteer, mas sacre 47 settlers in Deerfield, Mass. 1692—The first accusations of witch

craft are lodged in Salem, Mass. 1504—Chris Columbus uses his knowledge of an impending eclipse to defraud Jamaicans of supplies.

468—Death of Pope Hilarius.

1:51

7:38

## 1991—"By God," President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush tells

Koch-heads, "we've kicked the Viet nam Syndrome once and for all." 1985—President Reagan insults the Founding Fathers, saying the Contras are their "moral equivalent."

1978—The late Charlie Chaplin' tomb is raided by corpse-nappers. 1973-Kissinger tells Nixon, "...if they put Jews into gas chambers in the Soviet Union, it is not an Americar

concern." Nixon replies, "I know." 1971—The Weather Underground ombs the U.S. Capitol.

1954—The "Justice" Departmen agrees to let the CIA decide which of its crimes should be prosecuted.

1954—H-bomb test Castle Bravo de livers thrice its expected yield at Bikini Atoll. Unanticipated winds spread millions of tons of radioactive debris over inhabited islands

1954—Four Puerto Rican nation alists in the Gallery fire 30 rounds towards the floor of the U.S. House, wounding five U.S. Congressmen. 1953-Joe Stalin spends the day on the floor in a puddle of urine becaus

his aides don't dare open his door. 1910-In Wellington, Wash., an ava lanche pushes two trains 150 feet into the Nye River, killing 96.

1906-Emma Goldman publishe the first issue of her anarchist newspa per, Mother Earth.

1872—Yellowstone, the world's first national park, is created.

2:53

2:27

8:13

### SATURDAY, MARCH 2

2004—UN weapons inspectors report that Saddam Hussein didn't have any WMD after all. Oops.

1991—At Ramaila, Iraq, under future-MSNBC military analyst Barry McCaffrey, the U.S. 24th Infantry Division kills about ten percent of the 7,000-man 1st Hammurabi Armored Division, two days after the Gulf War cease-fire.

1965—The U.S. begins a bombing campaign over North Vietnam, under the brand name Rolling Thunder.™ 1955—The Screen Actors Guild votes to expel any member who takes the Fifth to avoid self-incrimination.

1942—U.S. Army Lieut. Gen. John DeWitt tells all Japanese-Americans to move away from the West Coast, voluntarily, for their own good.

1877—The Electoral Commission, to which Congress had passed the buck, adopts a plan concocted by newspaper editors and railroad barons: Republicans gets the Presidency, Southern Democrats get white supremacy.

1860—Abraham Lincoln visits the Amoskeag mills in Manchester, then speaks at City Hall in Dover.

1859—Pierce M. Butler, profligate grandson of a signer of the Constitution, holds a two-day auction in Savannah, Ga. to settle gambling debts. On the block: 439 human beings.

1808—At Bladensburg, Md., Rep. Barent Gardenier [F-N.Y.] and Rep. George Washington Campbell [DR-Tenn.] meet to shoot at each other.

3:09 3:41

9:31

# SUNDAY, MARCH 3

6:04

5:39

2016—Dolt #45 asserts on live TV that his genitalia are adequate.

1991—LAPD cops savagely beat Rodney King—on tape, it turns out. 1981—Burlington, Vt. elects a new mayor: Socialist Bernie Sanders

1969—An under-manned company of the 4th Division is sent after a crack NVA battalion west of Kontum; result: 47 percent end up KIA or MIA. 1934—John Dillinger busts out of the Crown Point, Ind. jail with a handcarved wooden pistol and drives off in

the sheriff's new V-8 Ford 1931-In Laredo, Texas, 17-year old Harlon Carter murders Ramón Casiano, 15, with a shotgun. Sentenced to three years, Carter does two; 46

years later he takes over the NRA. 1903—Congress bars entry to whoremongers, epileptics, and anarchists; its own members are not sanctioned.

1873—Congress passes the Comstock Act, banning obscenity, contraceptives, abortifacients, and sex tovs from the U.S. Mail, and the "Salary Grab Act," giving itself a 50 percent raise, retroactive for two years.

1871—Congress passes an act effectively denying that Indian tribes exist: they're all individuals from now on. 1863—Congress passes the first U.S. draft law, exempting men who can pay the government a \$300 bribe.

1791—Congress passes Ha whiskey tax. It pays tax-free interest to rich bond holders and puts small distillers out of business.

3:58

10:26

# Monday, March 4

6:35

6:13

2001—Fox broadcasts a "Lone Gunman" show in which U.S. agents remotely hijack an airliner and try to crash it into the World Trade Center. 1987—Ronald Reagan admits trad

ng arms to Iran for hostages 1960-La Coubre, a French munitions ship, explodes in Havana harbor. Between 75 and 100 people die. CIA

involvement is "suspected." 1937—The UAW wins a sit-down strike in Flint, Mich.

1933—"We have nothing to fear," ays FDR, "but fear itself." 1929-Oscar Stanton de Priest

[R-III.] becomes the first Afri-

can-American to take a seat in Con gress since Reconstruction. 1917—In Congress, Sen. Harry Lane (D-Ore.) prepares to stab Ollie James (D-Ky.) in the neck if James pulls out

his pistol; meanwhile, Democrats prevent Sen. Robert La Follette (Progressive Rep.-Wisc.) from bashing the presiding officer with a spittoon. 1909—President Taft and First Lady

Nellie move into the White House. Under the lawn is a voodoo doll of Mrs. Taft, buried by Teddy Roosevelt's daughter Alice. 1849-From noon today until noon

on the following day, the U.S. is without a president because Zachary Taylor will not profane the Sabbath. 1831—Daring to eschew the C tian Bible, John Quincy Adams takes the Presidential Oath with his hand

on a book of Constitutional law.

# Tuesday, March 5

7:06

6:48

2007—In Bloomington, Ill., Dee Riddle is startled by a meteorite crashing through her bedroom window. 2003—Dixie Chick Natalie Maines says she's ashamed that George

W.[MD] Bush is a Texan. 2001-A Nor'easter begins which will dump 40 inches of snow on New Hampshire's Rockingham County. 1963—Patsy Cline, singer of "I Fall to Pieces," dies when her plane crashes.

1960—Alberto Korda takes "tha photo" of Che Guevara. 1953—Car thief and armed robber Pearlie Miller, on the lam since an escape in 1948, on the FBI's most wanted list for one day, is arrested at a dine

in Somersworth, N.H. 1953—Everybody dies; this time, to

the relief of many, it's Joe Stalin. 1933-In Germany, the Nazi part wins a plurality in the Reichstag. 1933—On his first full day in offic

FDR declares a bank holiday 1927—One thousand U.S. Marines land in China.

1877—"Rutherfraud" B. Hayes is sworn in as President. 1871—Rosa Luxemburg is born. 1854—"Know-Nothings" heave a stone the Pope sent for use in the Washington

Monument into the Potomac. 1770—Evil British troops slaughter innocent Bostonians in the Boston Massacre. (Or. provincial terrorist attack duly constituted authority.)

1740—The boundary is set between Massachusetts and New Hampshire. 6:00

12:33

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

2011—The Hooksett water treatment plant disgorges two million two-inch plastic discs into the Merrimack after heavy rains. By August they're at Campobello Island and Rhode Island Sound, in 2014, the English Channel. 2007-Dick "Dick" Cheney's Chief of Staff "Scooter" is found guilty of

perjury and obstruction of justice. 2003—President George W.[MD] Bush claims Saddam Hussein has "biological and chemical agents" that move "every 12 to 24 hours...in vehicles...in residential neighborhoods." 1991-President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush claims that his defeat of Saddam Hussein has ushered

in a "new world order." 1981—President Reagan determines who to call upon at a press conference

by drawing jelly beans from a jar. 1974—Ayn Rand addresses West Point cadets on the topic, "Philosophy -Who Needs It?"

1971—Lawrence Welk's singers perform "One Toke Over the Line;" the FCC bans songs that "promote or glorify the use of illegal drugs."

1944—The U.S. Army uses napalm for the first time, in Berlin.

1918-U.S. Army intelligence officers break into the New York office of the National Civil Liberties Bureau and steal documents.

1857—The Supreme Dred Scott: "the unhappy [B]lack race [never possessed] rights which the white man was bound to respect."

7:06

1:37

### Thursday, March 7

8:01

1981—Stabbed at Disneyland, Mel C. Yorba becomes the Magic Kingdom's first murder victim, because Disney employees feared the consequences if they called an ambulance.

to Montgomery try to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. They're mercilessly beaten by law enforcemen officers and deputized goons 1960-In front of the Union Leader

1965—Civil rights marchers en route

building, IFK deftly paints the paper as irresponsible and its publisher as a liar. Next day he wins the primary. 1953—Newark, N.J. officials publicly

burn allegedly lewd photos, movies, and books valued at \$100,000. 1932—Dearborn, Mich. cops fire or

Ford hunger marchers; five die. 1908-In Cincinnati, Mayor Mark Breith announces that "women are not physically fit to operate automobiles." 1906-Finland's Senate OKs universal suffrage—except for the poor.

1905—NYC subway workers strike. The City hires James Farley, the notorious strikebreaker. In a week, his thugs beat workers into submission. 1876—Alexander Graham Bell gets a patent for the telephone without having submitted a working model. It is remarkably similar to Elisha Gray's previously-submitted design.

1850-New Hampshire native Danel Webster, representing Massach setts in the U.S. Senate, argues that slaveholders are entitled to be secure in their ownership of the enslaved.

8:09

1:45

# FRIDAY, MARCH 8

8:54

8:43

1985—A joint U.S./U.K./Saudi operation detonates a 440 lb. car bomb in Beirut; 83 innocent civilians die. The target—also innocent—is unscathed. 1983—Ronald Reagan runs the phrase "evil empire" up the flagpole. 1973—President Nixon gripes to Al Haig, "What the hell's Agnew doing? He's never spoken up once on this

Goddamn [Watergate] thing." 1971-The Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI breaks into the Bureau's Media, Pa. office, obtaining 1,000+ documents revealing COINTELPRO. The Bureau fails to

find the perps. [See 1956.] 1965—The first U.S. combat troops U.S. Marines-hit the beach at Danang ready to fight. Vietnamese girl

greet them with flowers. 1956—At a meeting of the National Security Council, J. Edgar Hoover proposes a measure to include warrantless wiretapping and break-ins: COINTELPRO. Despite the illegal ties, Ike and his A.G. say, "OK."

1906—Winchester, N.H. native Maj Gen. Leonard Wood proudly surveys the results of his illegal order: 900 Filipinos of all ages and genders, massacred in a volcanic crater. TR later calls it "a brilliant feat of arms [upholding] the honor of the American flag."

1782—After granting them a night of sacre and scalp 96 captive Christian Lenape Indians, men, women, and children, at Gnaddenhutten, Ohio.

# SATURDAY, MARCH 9

9:40

2007—Presidential candidate Newt Gingrich admits he committed adultery while impeaching Bill Clinton. 1992-Donald Trump files his second bankruptcy in eight months.

1986-Divers locate the crew compartment of the Shuttle Challenger. 1982-It's revealed that the Contras have gotten \$19 million in covert aid. 1969-Terrified CBS execs nix the Vietnam drama "Sticks and Bones."

1969—Terrified CBS execs cancel "The Smothers Brothers." 1965—Activists march again in Ala-

bama; racist goons severely beat Boston minister James Reeb.

1954—WMUR-TV does it live. 1954-Ed Murrow dismantles Joe McCarthy on CBS. The network assures nothing like it happens again. 1941-Writer Sherwood Anderson

dies of peritonitis after swallowing a

toothpick at a party in Panama. 1920-Favorite Son and war hero Gen. Leonard Wood [See 3/8/1906.] wins the N.H. Presidential Primary. 1916—Pancho Villa leads nearly 500 guerrillas in a raid on Columbus, N.M. It does not go well: 190 are

killed, wounded, or captured; but, a six-month "Punitive Expedition" fails to capture El Centauro del Norte. 1841-Black mutineers who took the Amistad from enslavers are declared ree men by the U.S. Supreme Cou 1776—Adam Smith publishes The

Wealth of Nations, once a treatise on

economics, now a license to steal.

3:42

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