The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Duelling Filibusterers

Let us gather such rosebuds of amusement as we may during this, the spring of our primary election season. The odds are that when it's over we'll be stuck with a choice between two warmed-over dynastic retreads disliked by large sectors of their own political parties. An epidemic of death by boredom could well ensue.

The preliminaries promise to be entertaining, though. Only in America could two rivals face off, both proudly claiming as a chief qualification that they have single-handedly brought their own government to a grinding halt.

Senator Rand Paul ostensibly launched his presidential campaign just ten days ago in Louisville, Kentucky. The event commenced — so say news reports; you couldn't pay us enough to watch such tripe — with a series of nonentities introducing each other *ad nauseam* before Paul finally took the stage.

That drawn-out launch party was reminiscent of Paul's filibuster of March, 2013, when he droned on about drones for more than 12 hours. Or was the filibuster his launch party and the Louisville event just a sequel?

Despite all his talk, Paul doesn't always seem concerned about the civil liberty issues raised by the practice of using drones to summarily execute suspects. Six weeks after his famous filibuster, he said on Fox News, "if someone comes out of a liquor store with a weapon and \$50 in cash, I don't care if a drone kills him or a policeman kills him." Nary a mention of arrest, trial by jury, or conviction.

At least Paul's filibuster helped, however belatedly, to put drone assassinations on the national agenda — eleven years after they began.

Six months later, Texas Sen-

ator Ted Cruz faux-filibustered Obamacare, rambling on for nine hours longer than Paul. When he was finally done with his rendition of Green Eggs and Ham, his reading of a screed by Rush Limbaugh's father, and whatever other hogwash he regurgitated, Cruz voted in favor of the amendment that he had supposedly been railing against.

Cruz's only real accomplishment, if you can call it that, came a week later. His meddling in the House of Representatives — where he has no Constitutional authority — resulted in the shutting down of the U.S. Government at a cost to the economy of 24 billion dollars.

Neither Cruz's nor Paul's filibuster advanced the interests of the public. They did result in an ample supply of fodder for future presidential campaign advertisements. But on the day either man is elected on the strength of those ads, the sun will have risen in the West.

The Slacker Twins

Along with their penchant for grandstanding, both candidates share an apparent lack of interest in showing up for work.

Buzzfeed reported on April 8th that Paul has apparently skipped more than 90 percent of 73 Homeland Security Committee hearings held since 2014. Cruz, for his part, has the worst attendance record in the Senate Armed Services Committee, according to *Politico*, appearing at just three out of 16 hearings.

Two Fathers, One Godfather

For their professed love of freedom, neither man seems to have undergone that common rite of passage which usually signals its development: rebellion against paternal authority. Both developed their political beliefs at their daddys' knees, and neither

seems to have evolved beyond them since their adolescence. Their DNA differs, but their economic views spring from a single source: Milton Friedman.

Cruz called it "a providential sign" when he won his nomination for Senate on what would have been Friedman's 100th birthday. "We are walking in Uncle Milton's footsteps," he said.

Paul said in 2013 that Friedman "would probably be [a] pretty good" Chair of the Fed — regardless of the fact he was dead.

Chump Nation

Both men aspire to an economy ruled by Friedman's ideas. Sadly, we're nearly there now. His ideas have been instrumental in building a society, half of whose members live from paycheck to paycheck, while a tiny minority wallows in wealth like Scrooge McDuck and influences elections out of all proportion to their numbers.

Friedman, in the 1940s, was an obscure academic number cruncher. In 1975 — the same year he served as an advisor to Chile's murderous dictator Pinochet — the Nobel committee gave him one of their big gold gongs. How did he come to be so influential? Mark Ames wrote about Friedman's big break for *NSFWcorp* in 2012.

ELIMINATION MATCHES

In 1946 Herbert Nelson was Washington's best-paid real estate lobbyist. At that time, to ease the postwar housing shortage, the Truman Administration was imposing rent controls. Nelson hated that. He hated a lot of things.

"I do not believe in democracy," he once wrote. "I think it stinks. I don't think anybody except direct taxpayers should be allowed to vote. I don't believe women should be allowed to vote at all."

Nelson paid Friedman to write a propaganda pamphlet attack-

ing rent control. He then talked the Foundation for Economic Education [FEE] into buying half a million copies, which were then sold at cost to realty offices nationwide.

FEE was the original Right Wing, pro-business "think tank." It was generously — but secretly — funded by a who's who of the nation's dominant corporations. Board members included such enlightened characters as Robert Welch, future founder of the John Birch Society.

Friedman was the answer to their prayers: a man who could provide what John Kenneth Galbraith called "one of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness."

The wreckage is all around us, yet somehow it's not enough. The beatings will continue until morale improves.

The Alleged News®

A Fortnight They'd Probably Rather Forget

You know your party has had a rough fortnight when the State Director for your highest-ranking elected public official is forced to resign after being arrested in a police sting for solicitation of prostitution and still comes out looking slightly better than some of his compatriots.

Not Senator Kelly Ayotte, of course. Future generations of political science students at St. Anselm's will study her response to the unpleasant situation as a textbook example of how to "get out in front" of a potentially-damaging scandal. She announced that David Wihby had resigned before most New

Hampshire residents had heard of him or his arrest. If anything, her response to the Wihby affair has probably raised her stock in the eyes of national Republicans. Other than that, though, it was mostly downhill.

Wihby has been hospitalized since a suspected suicide attempt on the night of his arrest. Ted Gatsas, his longtime friend and the Mayor of Manchester, visited Wihby's home later that evening and found him "unresponsive and ... having trouble breathing." Gatsas administered CPR until an ambulance arrived.

Disgruntled former Speaker Bill O'Brien, apparently after stewing over the situation over for a few days, did what any internet troll would do when a hated rival found himself in trouble: he went to Facebook and posted something mean and self-centered.

"Perhaps Dave Wihby can persuade Sen. Ayotte and her pals to circulate a letter on his behalf," it began. "Sort of an endorsement / character reference."

Members of O'Brien's ingroup would have readily deciphered the sarcastic jab. According to news reports, it was Wihby who had coordinated the writing of a letter last November, signed by the State's top Repub-

licans, urging the state's Republican caucus to please —please! — elect Rep. Gene Chandler, rather than O'Brien, as Speaker of the House.

O'Brien's post went on to cite their last names "Sununu and Merrill ... Bass ... Scamman and Sytek," and throw in a few inside insults — "characters from the last century ... [who] wouldn't miss the opportunity for relevance ... [who] would be thrilled to remind people that they are still with us."

WMUR quoted State Party Chair Jennifer Horn calling O'Brien's remarks "extremely disappointing and beneath the

dignity of his public office. It is wrong to exploit a serious issue in a petty attempt to settle an old political score."

True to form, O'Brien denied that his Facebook post was unseemly, then counterattacked, charging that Sen. Ayotte had failed to sufficiently condemn Wihby's alleged behavior.

"[W]hen your own state director is someone who has shown a willingness to be supportive of prostitution," WMUR quotes him saying, "and your immediate reaction is not to say, I find

The Alleged News®

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The Alleged News®

from page one

that horrifying,' that shows poor instincts."

Some web-savvy person apparently thinks that O'Brien's instincts are less than stellar. Paste the URL billobrien.org into your browser and you'll find yourself at the Merriam-Webster online dictionary entry for the plural noun "sour grapes" — "unfair criticism that comes from someone who is disappointed about not getting something."

Since the 2009 leg-breaking incident at the East Manchester Fish & Game Club, from which then-Mayor Frank Guinta was said to have fled "like a scalded dog," through the State Committee's savage infighting over its Chairmanship during the Jack Kimball era, to this sad but ludicrous event, the Granite State's GOP has been exceedingly generous to the cynics among us for whom nothing is more delicious

than a smörgåsbord of schadenfreude.

Let's just hope this erratic behavior at the higher levels of the state's GOP does not cause the moguls of either of the nation's apparently celestially-ordained political parties to question the wisdom of allowing us to go on hosting the First in the NationTM Presidential Primary Election®.

Off to a Rocky Start

Speaking of Republican Party Dysfunction, when a photo of Scott Brown, John E. Sununu, and Judd Gregg appeared in our Twitter feed April 8th, with the message, "helping to raise money for Rockingham County Republicans," our first thought was, "Oh, how thoughtful — they must be setting up a legal defense fund for Rockingham County Attorney Patricia Conway."

Conway was elected County Attorney last November. Just hours after being sworn in she fired Assistant County Attorney Jerome Blanchard.



Let the record state that on Sunday, April 12, 2015, Spring finally reported for duty at Latitude 43.077166°, Longitude -70.757637°, after being AWOL for a full three weeks.



<u>Gary Blake</u>

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Blanchard, some time previously, had told investigators that Conway's husband's name had been improperly cleared from a list of police officers effectively barred from testifying in court due to potential credibility prob-

Conway denied having known that it was Blanchard who revealed that error — assuming that the removal was an error, and not an instance of intentional wrongdoing. She has also refused to say why she fired Blanchard.

Blanchard has threatened to sue Conway for wrongful dismissal. His attorney has offered to settle out of court for \$250,000.

Conway asked the County Commissioners, i.e., the taxpayers, to foot the bill for her legal defense. In late March, they declined.

The situation seems to leave Conway in a pickle, which is why we thought the Party might be stepping in to back up one of their own. So far, though, nada.

In other County legal news, Conway recently managed to lose a jury trial against 28-year old defendant Robert Wilson, of Portsmouth, who successfully acted as his own attorney without benefit of a law degree — in a felony criminal threatening case.

Voter Fraud Prevention Fraud

The State's Ballot Law Commission [BLC] met in Dover back in March at the request of former City Councilor David Scott and 250 other Dover citizens from Wards 1 through 4. They had invoked RSA 654:38, which allows citizens to petition the Commission for a "revision and verification" of the checklists in those wards. Had their petition been successful, all voters in those wards would have had to re-register in person or be stricken from the rolls. Assistant Secretary of State Karen Ladd said,

according to Foster's, that this was the first such use of the statute in at least forty years.

Foster's published an op-ed by Scott laying out the group's gripe: "After the November 4, 2014 election a group in Dover mailed first class letters to same day registrants, of which there were about 1,000. Over 70 came back as undeliverable by the USPS for various reasons such as 'no such address or street' or 'unable to forward."

After the March hearing the BLC denied Scott's petition.

Undeterred, Scott delivered 15 of the 70 returned letters to the City of Dover, which obligingly investigated.

"For all 15 there was an explanation," City Attorney Anthony Blenkinsop told Foster's. "Most notably, on 11 of 15, Mr. Scott and his colleagues had essentially addressed them incorrectly."

Strange Bedfellows Martin O'Malley, former Gov-

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ernor of Maryland, ex-Mayor of Baltimore, and "one of several" models for the character Tommy Carcetti in the HBO drama "The Wire," is considering a run for the Democratic nomination for President in 2016. O'Malley made 18 campaign trips between October 2013 and the end of 2014 on a Dassault Falcon 100 jet belonging to John P. Coale. The *Washington Post* reported April 12th that the trips were worth at least \$54,000.

Coale is a highly successful retired trial lawyer "who made millions off the tobacco wars of 1990s," according to the *Post*. He usually accompanies O'Malley on these trips but serves no campaign function beyond providing the jet. He's "just along for the ride." That's slightly unusual but not at all startling.

What *is* startling is that O'Malley's aerial benefactor is also the husband of Fox News personality Greta Van Susteren.

Is Bush #45* a Lamarckian?

Many people were surprised

to learn that when J. Edgar "Jeb" Bush registered to vote in Florida in 2009, he checked the box on the form indicating that he is Hispanic. It seems preposterous because, let's face it, Pappy and Babs really have that WASP thing nailed.

After much consideration, we have come up with a possible explanation for this conundrum. We offer it to the Bush campaign, *gratis*.

Jean-Baptiste Lamarck (1744–1829) was a French scientist who developed a theory that organisms can pass on to their offspring traits acquired during their lifetimes. His theory was discarded by the scientific community by the end of the 19th century.

This, though, is the 21st century, and Bush is a Republican—he can believe or not believe anything he wants.

He has been married for more than forty years to Columba Garnica Gallo, who is of Mexican descent. Perhaps he believes



in a variation of Lamarckism in which organisms can pass on their traits to their spouses.

Why not? Is it any stranger than Scientology?

A Little Economic Perspective

"The \$28.5 billion in bonuses doled out to Wall Street employees [in 2014] is double the annual pay for all 1,007,000 Americans who work full-time at the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour."

— Sarah Anderson, Institute for Policy Studies

Go to School, Go to Jail

If memory serves and things haven't changed, certain students may occasionally compare attendance at public school with time spent in jail.

Nowadays, it seems, that's less of a metaphor and more a description.

The Center for Public Integrity recently released a state-bystate study of how often schools call cops on kids.

New Hampshire came in fifth

in the nation. Of every 1,000 students in our public schools, 11.7 were "referred" to police in 2011-2012 — more than double the national average of 5.8.

Virginia had the highest rate of referrals with 15.8 per thousand. Lawless Nevada had the lowest rate, just 1.3 students per thousand.

Our referral rate far exceeds the rest of New England: Vermont, 6.8; Connecticut, 5.5; Massachusetts 2.4; Maine, 4.5; and Rhode Island, 2.8.

Members of racial minorities are famously rare in this state. Apparently we try to make up for that when it comes to busting our students, by giving them extra attention. Black kids account for just 2.1 percent of our students, but they were involved in 3.5 percent of all "referrals" to police.

Put another way, the referral rate for black kids is 19.3 out of a thousand. For white kids it's 11.2 per thousand.

The Candidates are Coming!

On Saturday, April 18th, the New Hampshire Rebellion will celebrate Patriots' Day with a 15-mile Walk for Democracy from Lowell, MA to the largest gathering of 2016 presidential candidates yet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, NH.

The nonpartisan event will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a ringing of the historic Paul Revere bell at the Pawtucket Congregational Church on Mammoth Road in Lowell. From 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. there will be a rally at Nashua City Hall.

The walk from there to the Crowne Plaza will be led by "Paul Revere" on horseback, on the 240th anniversary of his famous ride. As walkers arrive at the Crowne Plaza around 2:30 p.m., "Revere" will seek to deliver a message to the candidates, demanding that they support campaign finance reform.

For more information visit nhrebellion.org/patriots_day.



"[U]nto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required," sayeth Luke 12:48 [King James Version]. That verse does not appear, of course, in the Flag Code [4 U.S. Code, Chapter 1], what with the separation of church and state and all that. The Flag Police labor under no such constraint, however, and include Luke 12:48 in an appendix to their Manual of Standard Operating Procedures, under the theory that it is altogether fitting and proper for memorials built under the patronage of wealthy defense contractors to be held to the highest of standards.





The Execution of Martha Place To the Editor:

According to *Wikipedia*, Martha Place was executed on March 20, 1899, not on April 8, as you listed it on page 8 of the April 3rd edition of the *New Hampshire Gazette*. Please correct your listing for future use.

A group of us read the daily listings at breakfast. I check names of interest for further information. We appreciate your publication; please file this correspondence under Mash Notes.

Jennifer H. Stiefel Dover, NH

Jennifer:

Online sources differ as to the date of Martha's demise; some say March 20th, others, including Execution of the Day and Murderpedia, say April 8th.

Upon your encouragement we investigated further. The Brookfield [NY] Courier of March 22, 1899, says you and your crew are right — Martha rode the lightning on March 20th.



According to her brother, Martha "Mattie" [Garretson] Place, daughter of Ellen [Wyckoff] and Isaac V.N. Garretson, suffered what we would now call a traumatic brain injury

at the age 23, and never completely recovered. She is said to have married widower William Place in 1893 "to help him raise his daughter, although it was later rumored that Martha was jealous of Ida."

Thank you for your efforts to help make this a better newspaper. The Editor Let the Hyperventilation Begin!

To the Editor:

Why does the Obama administration continue to ignore the American public when it comes to illegal immigration policy? Rasmussen released a survey yesterday showing that 83 percent of Americans believe that everyone should be required to prove that they are "legally allowed" to be in the country before receiving local, state or federal government services, and that 62 percent said that the U.S. is "not aggressive enough" in deporting those illegally in the United States.

To add insult to injury, it was just recently discovered that this year, the U.S. government is paying for (that means you are paying for) unaccompanied alien children to be flown into the U.S., even if they were convicted of a felony or previously deported, and furnish them with federal benefits to boot through a program launched in November 2014 by the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department called the In-Country Refugee/Parole Program for Central American Minors. You can read more about this at http://www.nationalreview.com/article/416545/ previously-deported-immigrants-can-now-enter-us-taxpayers-dime-ryan-lovelace.

Two thirds of the American public disagrees with the Administration's immigration policy and forty-six percent blamed Obama's immigration policies for the surge of "unaccompanied" Central American children coming across our border last year. Guess what? The surge is picking back up again in 2015 with more than 3,000 of them coming across our border last month. Authorities report having captured 15,647 children traveling without parents who tried to jump the border in the first six months of this fiscal year. Also, the Border Patrol has captured 13,911 "family units. You can read more about this at http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/ apr/6/illegal-immigrant-children-surge-across-border-at-/#ixzz3WecBHelI

Is this what President Obama meant by "transforming America?" When will the American public get angry enough to do something about it? When will the states do something about it? When will Congress do something about it?

Arthur Bedford
San Augustine, TX
Arthur:

In regard to your first question, we suspect that ignoring the public is the norm for every Administration—and that may be just as well. Have you ever seen one of Jimmy Kimmel's man-in-the-street interviews? The American public at large displays an alarming degree of cluelessness. Furthermore, the alleged news sources which you cite have both contributed more than their share towards the creation of that problem.

You would, no doubt, like us to envision in horror some sort of Berlin Airlift in reverse: a fleet of 747s bringing in hordes of little brown children from the slums of Guatemala City. We decline.

The Editor

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The Danger of Bombing IranTo the Editor:

Tom Cotton, the newly minted Senator from Arkansas, is now claiming that we could take out Iran's nuclear production facilities in four days, just as President Clinton did Iraq's chemical weapons plants when he was in office.

Let's think about this. Iraq had weakened air defenses as we had been enforcing a no fly zone over the country for years. That isn't the case in Iran. Russia has just announced it will supply Iran with its S-300 air defense system.

Iraq is now allied with Iran with Iranian troops in their country. There is a danger that Iraq's Shia militia or army members could attack our troops and turn some over to Iran in reaction to us bombing or threatening to bomb Iran. We need to withdraw our troops, embassy personnel and American contractors from Iraq before bombing Iran. Try doing that without Iran trying to

Mash Notes, HATE MAIL

obtain our citizens and housing them at their nuclear plants.

If we did bomb Iran what else could it do to retaliate? It could attack our friends. It could attack Kuwait's oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz. Tankers don't travel without insurance. What insurance company would take the risk? Oil prices would shoot up benefitting Iran.

Iran shipped many missiles to Syria. What if those missiles were launched against Israel? Does Israel attack Syria's Assad and see the Islamic State to take over the country? Does it invade Syria and see all sides in Syria's conflict unite against them?

Attacking Iran will not be without consequences for US and Israel. Those politicians and pundits trying to sabotage the peace talks should explain in detail how and why war is a better option. Those who claim they are for increased sanctions should explain what they would do when Iran kicks out the inspectors and races toward a bomb.

Walter Hamilton Portsmouth, NH Walter:

It is all well and good to consider the complexities of diplomacy in the volatile Middle East if your concern is the security of the U.S. and the safety of its armed forces.

All of that is irrelevant, however, when your true objective is gaining the upper hand within the Washington Beltway.

The Editor

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Senator Ayotte is Right On! To the Editor:

In an attempt to bring peace to the Middle East, President Obama has engaged in talks with Iran over its nuclear weapons program.

As part of the deal, the U.S. and its allies will remove economic sanctions against Iran, enriching Iran in money and trade, and promoting its international prestige. Iran's "sphere of influence" in the Middle East will expand dramatically. A potential nuclear

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arms race may engulf the Middle East, leaving Israel, our friend and ally, and the only democratic country in the region, precariously close to imminent attack. Iran is reportedly a state-sponsor of terrorism. Iran's leaders have purportedly declared to " ... wipe Israel off the map."

In return, Iran will supposedly dismantle some of its present nuclear development for 15 years.

Over the course of these talks in Switzerland between the representatives of the U.S. and our allies and the representatives of Iran, a letter was signed by 47 Republicans, and sent to the Iranian leaders reminding them that the people of the U.S. are protected by a Constitution, namely the U.S. Constitution, which designates the Senate to approve (by a 2/3 vote) all treaties made by the President. In light of the preliminary agreement announced today, we, Americans and citizens of the world, need to meticulously scrutinize the "agreement." If, after meticulous scrutiny by our elected representatives in the Senate, and if passage is enacted (a total of 67 votes are needed!), I would feel more secure with the provisions of this "agreement."

We, Americans, should all wish President Obama success with these talks! Under the U.S. Constitution, he has the responsibility to enact treaties " ... by and with the consent of the Senate"

So, too, we Americans, should support Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and the other 46 Republican Senators for reminding the President and the world of how our country works through the duties delegated to each equal branch of U.S. government by the words of our U.S. Constitution.

Senator Ayotte is right-on! Nick De Mayo Sugar Hill, NH *Nick:*

Senator Ayotte is Right in one sense, and, generally, one sense only — namely, in her slavish adher-







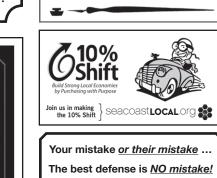
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And Other Correspondence

ence to the dominant political sham which aims above all else to hold onto power no matter the cost in order to continue doing the bidding of our corporate overlords.

The Editor

More Ewing Logic

To the Editor:

On his show last Sunday, George Stephanopoulos tried to deceive the American people into believing that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) supports homophobia, bigotry, and discrimination against gays. If that were true, then obviously only homophobic, bigoted people who support discrimination against gays would vote for such a law.

Apparently President Obama who voted for Illinios's RFRA is a homophobic bigot who believes it's OK to discriminate against gays.

Apparently Senators Schumer (D-NY) and Kennedy (D-MA), 95 other Senators, all the Congressmen in 1993, and President Clinton (advised by George Stephanopoulos) are homophobic bigots who believe it's OK to discriminate against gays.

Apparently Connecticut, Illinois, eighteen other states and our Federal Government are also homophobic, bigoted, and OK discrimination against gays, all have RFRA laws.

The first Religious Freedom Restoration Act was sponsored by Senators Kennedy and (Congressman at the time) Schumer in response to the Supreme Court decision in Employment Division v. Smith (1990) which President Clinton and nearly every Senator and Congressman agreed infringed on Americans' religious rights

Twenty-two years of experience with the Federal and many years of experience with the nineteen State Religious Freedom Restoration Acts show no support for homophobia, bigotry, or support of discrimination against gays. Nevertheless

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Stephanopoulos "discovered" homophobia, bigotry, and approval of discrimination against gays with the passage of the twentieth state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

What was actually on display on Stephanopoulos's fake news show last Sunday was simply a blatant partisan attack on Mike Pence, who is a successful Republican governor considered a possible Presidential candidate.

The Religious Freedom Restoration Acts, which have been upheld in the courts as Constitutional, says nothing about and has nothing to do with gays. As President Clinton said, its purpose is "to protect perhaps the most precious of all American liberties, religious freedom."

Stephanopoulos's partisan attack on Mike Pence was shameful. Unfortunately Stephanopoulos's attack is just one example of the more sinister radical leftists' widespread attacks on the religious freedoms of the American people.

Don Ewing Meredith, NH

You're comparing oranges to hand grenades. The original Religious Freedom Restoration Act was intended to permit Native Americans to conduct religious services involving the use of peyote, which was otherwise prohibited. It worked as intended

The act which you defend was intended to allow intolerant troglodytes to violate the civil rights of just about anybody for just about any reason. It's a travesty.

. The Editor

Do Families Matter?

To the Editor:

As a practicing psychologist in Dutchess County, NY since 1966, my comments address the interplay between the family judicial system, human services and mental health. I have witnessed many cases where parents were accused of abusing their minor offspring. I have no issue

with the efficacy of legitimate complaints. My brief is with cases that are unauthenticated, made up by an ex spouse with a vendetta or a teenager with an ax to grind, &c., resulting in extreme family disruption, and occurring with frequency: a single mother forced to move out of State, a father removed from the family domicile, or a couple unduly threatened of losing their children.

Miscarriages of justice can occur when Child Protection Services (CPS), with no psychologist on staff, I'm told, rushes to judgement or doesn't pursue a case due to "insufficient evidence," which a mental health professional might more skillfully uncover.

The Court typically refers to Astor Home. An incorrigible teenager is "treated," but without involving the parents. When I was in charge of education and training at Astor, the parents were always part of the therapeutic process.

Some family courts ignore psychologists' input. Court appointed attorneys don't return their clients' or psychologists' phone calls, and it is virtually impossible to get information from CPS, Astor and the schools.

A "good old boy" culture seems to pervade the Courts. Human(e) services do not jibe with power politics, mismanagement and a tax payers' debacle. Systemic reform is urgently needed.

Michael Kulla Pleasant Valley, NY Michael:

We doubt that the problems you describe are limited to Dutchess County.

Sadly, our society runs according to the whims of the powerful [read: wealthy]. Spending a few dollars on human services would be frivolous; spending billions on high-tech armaments to defend against non-existent bogeymen is not just prudent, it's mandatory.

The Editor

Imagine Sane Republicans
To the Editor:

As the standard bearer for to-

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day's Republican Party, it was only fitting that Canadian-born Texas Senator Ted Cruz be the first Republican to officially announce a run for the presidency. It was equally appropriate that he did so in front of 10,000 students and faculty members (under the threat of a stiff fine for nonattendance) at the institution of higher learning euphemistically named Liberty University, founded by the late Rev. Jerry Falwell.

Falwell was the Evangelical Southern Baptist minister/televangelist, who once proclaimed, "There is no separation of church and state. Modern U.S. Supreme Courts have raped the Constitution and raped the Christian faith and raped the churches by misinterpreting what the Founders had in mind in the First Amendment to the Constitution."

Although Yoko Ono was nowhere in sight during his speech Senator Cruz, a brilliant orator and the Tea Party favorite, asked that we, "imagine in 2017 a new president signing legislation repealing every word of Obamacare." Please recall that Cruz has been a typical GOP climate change science denier, has stood with social conservatives against women's health, and has insisted that "money can absolutely be speech." He was also, first and foremost, the chief engineer of the 2013 federal government shutdown (costing the economy \$24 billion) over his objections to Obamacare.

I do imagine that if Cruz, whom even Senator John Mc-Cain called a "wacko-bird," or any of the other identical 20-50 potential GOP nominees, were to become President, Americans will find themselves saying goodbye to a good and decent law that has enabled: 16.4 million previously uninsured people to have health insurance; the largest decrease in four decades of the



uninsured rate; individuals with preexisting conditions to have health insurance coverage, and; younger people to stay on their parents' plans until age 26.

I furthermore imagine that Cruz, who shamelessly and hypocritically chose to sign his family up for affordable quality insurance on the Obamacare federal exchange, will have to opt for COBRA next time his wife takes a leave of absence from Goldman Sachs and their Rolls Royce health plan to support his delusional presidential ambitions.

Wayne H. Merritt Dover, NH

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A Theological Question

To the Editor:

If "New Hampshire is the second most-heathen state in the Union" (The Fortnightly Rant, April 3, 2015), what is the most heathen state? Inquiring mind want to know.

Anne Morgan Kittery, ME Anne:

Vermont. While 24 percent of New Hampshirites describe themselves as "very religious," only 22 percent of Vermonters do so.

Also, while 51 percent of Granite Staters call themselves "nonreligious," 56 percent of Vermonters do so.

Thank you for asking — it is always reassuring to learn that inquiring minds are still out there.

The Editor

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Deaf Daughter
Sunday, April 19th
at 4 pm

Lisa Shapter
A Day in the Deep Freeze
Wednesday, April 29th
at 6 pm

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The Northcountry Chronicle

The Age of Inutility

by William Marvel

The other day, while letting ■ my unproductive chickens out, I sliced my finger on a sticky slide bolt, and once those privileged poultry were contentedly pecking at their ration of cracked corn I went in search of a band-aid. I always used to keep a supply in the bathroom closet, but I fell out of the habit while a certain young lady was growing up in this house. The said young lady, then in grammar school, had a fondness for band-aids decorated with cartoon characters or other colorful designs, and I was urged to substitute such frivolities for my drab medical supplies from Johnson & Johnson. I did as requested, but those ever-more-costly items began disappearing with remarkable speed. I found they were being used to prevent blisters on the heel, to cover the most minor scratches, and as simple decorations on the person or possessions, so I bought no more.

Consequently I had to do some looking for something to stanch the blood from my laceration, but finally I turned up an unopened can of band-aids that had come as bizarre party favors in the Alice-in-Wonderland wedding my wife and I attended last September. Once I had found a knife to puncture the stubborn plastic wrapper (meanwhile bleeding all over the kitchen table and floor), I discovered that these were also "theme" band-aids, covered with bucking broncos and galloping cowboys, all depicted in dull brown on a tan background. I can't imagine what would be more unappealing to the children who represent today's target market. Even I recognize that kids have to be lured by characters of more current popularity, like warrior princesses or gay rangers.

When I finally fumbled one of those strips out of its inner packaging, tossing aside the free Abe

Lincoln tattoo, I found another reason why these band-aids had been relegated to the fate of party favors. Although they were labeled "adhesive bandages," they would not stick at all. Holding my blood-encrusted index finger aloft, I rummaged through the cabinet until I found some adhesive tape to wrap around the band-aid and hold its tiny absorbent pad in place. By then the cut had coagulated, and I might have dispensed with all the first-aid festoonery.

Those band-aids are not the only consumer products in my bathroom that don't work. Particularly since the hysteria over sharp objects struck the airline industry, I've noticed that it is almost impossible to buy a pair of manicure scissors that will cut. I used to rely on the curved variety for keeping my moustache out of my soup, but modern versions with the blunted tips that satisfy TSA goons are mostly useless — although more expensive that

their more effective predecessors. Someone misplaced the tweezers my parents used for a generation, and the replacement pair will only grasp the largest splinters, leaving me to gouge long, deep divots in my hand with an old Buck knife — since the new ones don't keep an edge or a sharp point.

Two summers ago I decided to replace the gas furnace that sat alongside my wood furnace. It had been installed in October of 1966, about ten weeks before I left my parents' home, and it had always run reliably except for the winter of 2000, when I had it professionally serviced and the repairman installed a defective new thermocouple. I remember my tightfisted father complaining of how much he had spent on the furnace — \$600, including installation — but the new one cost me nearly eight times that much. When I mentioned that the old one had served well for 46 years, the salesman was honest enough to assure me that the new one would not. He repeated that prediction when he replaced my 20-year-old hot-water heater, a few months later.

The chassis and wheels of my lawn mowers fall apart now even before their fragile engines burn out. The refills for my favorite pens work less than half the time, and neither the manufacturer nor Staples will stand by the stockpile I bought there two years ago. Faucet washers deteriorate annually, and the elbows on my copper water pipes spring leaks with increasing rapidity; I replaced one last month that was less than four years old. The list is long. It is no mystery that the consumer economy recovers so slowly, when "quality" has become a meaningless adjective instead of a desirable noun. The consumer who demands good quality finds nothing worth buying.

More Mash Notes, HATE MAIL, and Other Correspondence, from Page Five

Helicopter Noise

To the Editor:

Helicopter noise is definitely an economic issue. It deserves to be addressed by maybe something equivalent to [a] fine. Maybe an easement requirement. The noise is a taking away from a noise hearer's property. A person is entitled to liberty. The saying goes, liberty (or freedom) requires eternal vigilance.

Well — we can't have to have noise-hearers having to call the cops every time there is noise. Any community has to look after its people. The fuss over the powerline proposed to bring Canadian electricity past New Hampshire is the same sort of thing.

It is a property rights issue, but you don't have to be a property owner to have rights concerning the environment.

Political leadership has to have enough clout to address these sorts of things.

Maybe we are going after the FAA mistakenly. Their responsibility is mostly safety. The 1,000 foot requirement is just about not getting hit by an aircraft. If an engine cuts out on an airplane it can glide to a landing spot. Landing field design probably addresses these things. I don't

think a helicopter can glide as nicely as an airplane.

There are such things as restricted airspaces. Maybe Portsmouth is entitled to this [status].

It is not just responding to terrorist threat that justifies this sort of thing. Property values in Portsmouth are definitely rising - I guess they depend on politics.

Zoning regulations maybe could address the aircraft noise and safety issue. The helicopter service is a business like any other. It is not lookiing after other peoples' rights any more than it has to. With our lawyer-based

U.S. system, conflicts are resolved in courts. It is usually, though, an expensive affair.

That's all I can figger. Richard Cassin Hampton, NH Richard:

We appreciate your thoughts on this. Decades of carefully-aimed bludgeoning have convinced many potential citizens that they have no standing beyond that of consumer.

Portsmouth's City Attorney Bob Sullivan voiced a similar opinion during the PDA's Potemkin permit

We are generally leery of the whole "takings" argument, stemming as it does from the Right Wing "Sagebrush Rebellion," but when it comes to those #\$@&% flying lawnmowers, we side with Shakespeare's Second Murderer in Macbeth: "I am one, my liege / Whom the vile blows and buffets of the world / Have so incensed that I am reckless what / I do to spite the world."

The Editor

Iran's Right to Nuclear Defense

To the Editor:

International law and common sense allows for the right of self-defense by all countries using whatever means they choose, including nuclear weap-

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Wine for the table, not for the cellar.

Democrats, Too, Are Dancing To The Rich Man's Tune

by Jim Hightower

It's futile to hope that the GOP's gaggle of corporate-hugging, Right Wing presidential candidates will seriously address the issue of rising inequality in our land — but where are the Democrats?

Well, Hillary Clinton has warned that, "extreme inequality has corrupted other societies." Uh ... yes, but what about our society? Clinton says: "We have to have a concerted effort to meet a consensus about how to deal with this."

Huh? That's not an answer, much less a solution — it's a political tap dance around a crucial matter facing America. Why would she dodge a chance to swing away at a down-the-middle, working-class issue that's right in the wheelhouse of her party's populist strength? After all, recent polls show huge public support for direct government action to reduce the wealth gap, from raising taxes on the superrich to raising the minimum wage above the poverty level.

But there is one tiny constituency whose opinion outweighs all others on this issue: The 1-Percenters. Clinton and other top Democrats are weaker than Canadian hot sauce when it comes to embracing the unequivocating populism that ordinary voters want, because only 13 percent of the superrich think government should take action to redress inequality. These privileged ones tend to blame America's widening inequities on the very people who're losing jobs, income, and wealth — claiming that such people should simply improve their work ethic and character.

Why would Democrats care what these few supercilious elites think? Well, because meek Democrats like Clinton have become so dependent on rich people's campaign checks that they let them restrict the party's policies and message, thus alienating the workaday majority.

When both parties kow-tow to money, the people's needs are ignored, and politics becomes illegitimate.

"16 Hopefuls And Wealthy Are Aligned On Inequality," The New York Times, March 30, 2015. Copyright 2014 by Jim Hightower & Associates. Contact Laura Ehrlich (laura@jimhightower.com).

ons. No country has the right to insist that another country not be allowed to develop nuclear weapons. In fact many countries currently claim that right, e.g. U.S, Russia, UK and Israel. It is hypocritical to demand that Iran give up such a right (as Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu is demanding). Also, many Iranians have not forgotten that our CIA engineered the overthrow of the last democratically elected Iranian Prime Minister, Mohammad Mossadegh, in 1953 and installed the Shah of Iran.

As a scientist who has studied the issues of nuclear weapons, I am convinced that abolishing nuclear weapons would make the world a safer place. However, until that happens, our best vehicle is the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Signed by many nations, including Iran, this treaty makes the following proposal: If a nation decides not to develop nuclear weapons, the nuclear weapons countries obligate themselves to eliminating their weapons over time, and must allow for and assist the non-weapons nations with the development of civilian use of nuclear energy.

In contrast to Israel, which did

not sign the NPT, Iran is currently obligated to allow regular international inspections. It is actually Israel that has the least oversight of all nuclear weapons countries, not Iran.

One of the worthy goals for the Middle East, supported by countries such as Jordan, would be to create a nuclear-free Middle East. Such an agreement would surely provide more security for both Israel and Iran. But while most nations of that region may agree, Israel would likely reject it.

By attempting to whip up hostility against a possible deal between Iran and the Western powers, and also by dictating foreign policy to the American government while collecting some \$10 million per day from U.S. taxpayers, Prime Minister Netanyahu may in fact be whipping up anti-Semitism among Amer-

Apparently Netanyahu was not content with blocking any path to peace with the Palestinians. Now he is also against any attempt to create a less hostile environment between Iran and the U.S. Does he not known that if Iran decides to withdraw from the NTP, it is no longer obligated to allow any inspections of its

military or civilian activities? Or does he just want an excuse to attack Iran unilaterally? And this is our ally?

Dr. Peter Somssich Portsmouth, NH

Bomb Cuba?

To the Editor:

Are the Republicans thinking, Why don't we bomb Cuba?" It looks like diplomacy might work with them and we can't have that. Taking out Cuba's infrastructure could scratch this itch the Republicans have for a military ac-

Republicans want ground troops in Syria, intervention in Ukraine and a bombing of Iran's nuclear facilities. Rookie Senator Cotton said Thursday that "military strikes on Iran could cripple its nuclear capabilities without leading to a full-scale war." Does he mean that it could cause a half-scale war? Exactly what is that; just fighting in the daytime, only arming bombers with a half a payload, slowing cruise missiles down to a crawl?

Before we get into these larger "engagements," why not do a test run on Havana? Cuba is close, they don't have an air force or sophisticated defense systems. It

wouldn't cost too much, it would once again demonstrate America's exceptionalism and the boys would be home for dinner.

Republicans could then stick their thumbs in their lapels, stick out their chests and strut around Washington D.C. bragging about how tough they are on national defense. They could point out to the world that talking is for sissies and being tough is more fun.

Dave Potter North Hampton, NH

Big Bag Ban Vote

To the Editor:

The City Council will decide on April 20, whether they bring the single-use, carry-out, plastic bag ordinance for a First Reading. Portsmouth would become the first municipality in New Hampshire to join Newburyport, Massachusetts, and Portland, Maine, in enacting ordinances towards a sustainable future of reusable items instead of single-use convenience ones.

The Port City leading the state in this effort will require taking a risk. City Attorney Sullivan does a great job representing Portsmouth and would prefer a specific enabling statute. I agree

with McLane Law's attorney, New Hampshire's solid waste treatment statutes already grant authority to require all stores to issue recycled paper bags, instead of the traditional, two-handled, plastic grocery bags.

Over the past two years alone, the City Council spent more than \$280,000 in lawsuits against the Environmental Protection Agency so the Pierce Island wastewater treatment plant can pump hundreds of tons more pollution than allowed under the Clean Water Act into the Piscataqua River, resulting in unsafe shellfish harvesting from the Great Bay to Odiorne Point.

If we are willing to sue for monetary reasons to pollute our estuary, we should be willing to pass an ordinance to reduce our plastic pollution. Due to their aerodynamics, many of our landfilled plastic grocery bags end up in the ocean, break down into small plastic pieces, are intermittently digested by marine life, and will persist in the environment for hundreds of years.

Leadership requires taking risks, and striving for a sustainable future is a risk worth taking.

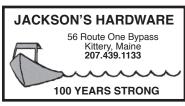
Josh Denton Portsmouth, NH



Murph's Fortnightly Quote

"The modern conservative is engaged in me of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness

- John Kenneth Galbraith (1908-2006)





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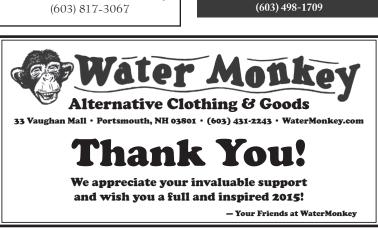




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Admiral Fowle's Piscataqua River Tidal Guide (Not for Navigational Purposes)

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

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

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 mo-

ments, 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, APRIL 19

2004—A government spokesman reveals that NORAD had run a training exercise based on a hijacked airliner crashing into a building. 1995—RIP 168 souls in Oklahoma

1993—For the good of the children, who end up among the 80 dead, the FBI attacks David Koresh's compound at Waco, TX.

1971—Officials at Arlington National Cemetery turn away Gold Star Mothers and Vietnam veterans participating in Operation Dewey Canyon III.

1951—In a grandiose fit of mock humility, Gen. Douglas "Dugout Doug" MacArthur tells Congress, "Old soldiers never die," leaving unspoken the obvious corollary, "that's what the young ones are for."

1948—Costa Rica 86s its army. 1943—The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising begins.

1939—After some study, Connecticut OKs the Bill of Rights. 1877—Birth of Ole Evinrude, inventor of the outboard motor.

1861—The first Federal fatalities of the Civil War: four Union soldiers are stoned to death by a Baltimore

1775—Isaiah Thomas, former apprentice of Daniel Fowle's peculiar brother Zechariah, observes and perhaps participates in the clash between Minutemen and British soldiers in Lexington.

Monday, April 20

2008—The New York Times reveals that many "independent military analysts" appearing on TV are really Pentagon puppets.

2008—Adelir Antonio de Carli, a Brazilian Catholic priest, in a chair suspended from 1,000 party balloons, reaches 19,685 feet before disappearing over the Atlantic.

2004—George W. Bush tells a Buffalo audience that the government doesn't wiretap without a court or-

2001—The Peruvian Air Force, with some help from CIA "contract workers," fires on a plane they think is full of dope. Nope. It's full of proseletyzing American Baptists.

1979—While canoeing near Plains, GA, Pres. Jimmy Carter successfully defends himself from a deranged swamp rabbit.

1973—The U.S. Supreme Court rules New Hampshire citizens can cover up the state motto "Live Free or Die" on their license plates.

1971—Mistaking the National Mall for their lawn, Supreme Court Justices tell Vietnam Veterans Against the War to get off it.

1971—Maryland building contractor Lester Matz pays a \$2,500 bribe to Vice President and freelance me dia critic Spiro "Ted" Agnew.

1970—The New York Times says youth groups have adopted a yellow submarine as a religious symbol. 2:39

Tuesday, April 21

1999—To honor those killed at Columbine the day before, NRA president Charlton Heston says the gun lobby will cut short its Denver convention by one day.

1992-At about 3:00 a.m., Robert Alton Harris is strapped into San Quentin's gas chamber. Twelve minutes later amid legal wrangling, he's taken back out. At 6:00 a.m. he's put back in and gassed.

1989—Chinese students demonstrate in Tiananmen Square.

1986—On live TV, Geraldo Rivera opens Al Capone's vault, discover ing naught but his own credentials. 1983-In Alabama, flames and sparks fly from John Evans' leg as authorities" take 14 minutes and

1980-Newsweek quotes R. Reagan inaccurately saying that Vietnam vets aren't eligible for the GI Bill because their war wasn't declared. 1975-Nguyen Van Thieu, last president of South Vietnam, resigns after ten years of misrule and bugs

three tries to electrocute him.

out of Saigon. 1972—In El Paso, former commander of U.S. troops in Vietnam General William Westmoreland is pelted with tomatoes.

1971—In Washington, D.C., Vietnam Veterans Against the War defy the Supreme Court and stay on the National Mall. Park police decline to arrest. Tomorrow's headline: "Vets Overrule Supreme Court."

7:45

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

2004—In Afghanistan, U.S. soldiers shoot former NFL football player Specialist Pat Tillman. 2002—"The Taliban is out of busi-

ness permanently," says Dick "Dick" Cheney at a GOP fundraiser in

2000-Federal agents snatch political pawn Elian Gonzalez from his colorful Miami relatives.

1990-Guilford Co., N.C. postpones Earth Day to April 28th so as not to interfere with the K-Mart Greater Greensboro Open Golf

1971—Capitol police arrest 110 Vietnam veterans for serenading the Supreme Court with God Bless

1971—Former Navy Lieutenant John Kerry asks Congress, "How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?"

1970-Cops shoot and kill Huey Newton, Black Panther.

1963—South Vietnam is "steadily moving toward a constitutional system resting upon popular consent,' according to Secretary of State

1954—TV coverage of the Army-McCarthy hearings begins; the end of McCarthyism looms

1944—A restaurant sit-in by 400 blacks in Washington, D.C. begins: result: desegregation. 1922—Charles Mingus is born in

of all places, Nogales, AZ. 2:16 2:54

8:35

THURSDAY, APRIL 23 1993—RIP Cesar Chavez.

1971—National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger, speaking by phone with Allen Ginsberg, agrees in principle to a personal meeting, but draws the line at doing so naked

1971-In D.C., Vietnam Veterans Against the War return their medals to Congress by heaving them over a fence in front of the Capitol as Operation Dewey Canyon III

1968—Anti-war students, including 'Nam vets, occupy Columbia. 1958—Five paratroopers are killed and 137 injured in a mass jump at

Ft. Campbell, KY. 1956—The USSR announces it's got an H-bomb.

1904—In Montana, the Flathead reservation is divided; half ends up in settlers' hands.

1868-"I don't have to forgive my enemies," says the dying Duke of Valencia Ramon Maria Narvaez y

Campos, "I had them all shot." 1860-Birth of Charles H. Kerr founder of a radical publishing co-

operative that's still going. 1693—Birth of William Caslon, English typefounder (the Gazette is set in Caslon).

1014-Vikings are defeated at the Battle of Clontarf. High King Brian Boru is slain by Brodir, but Brodir is soon disembowelled by Brian's brother Wolf the Quarrelsome 3:48

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

1980—Operation Eagle Claw fails: 8 Americans die and 5 are wounded in an attempt to extract American hostages from Teheran.

1971—Over a million Americans protest the Vietnam War.

1967—"The military situation [in South Vietnam] is favorable," says U.S. Commander Gen. William C. Westmoreland, but protests at home might lose the war.

1967—After a troubled 26-hour orbital mission, Soyuz 1 crashes into Earth at 200 mph, killing Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov.

1962-President Kennedy authorizes high-altitude tests of nuclear weapons.

1916—The Military Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood proclaim the Irish Republic, and the Easter Rising begins.

1800-The Library of Congress is established.

1778-Ranger, under John Paul Jones, captures HMS Drake—the first U.S. naval victory over a British ship in British waters.

1704-The Boston News-Letter, the first successful newspaper in the colonies, begins publication under John Campbell who insists on publishing all the old news he had before going on to the more recent. By 1718 his news is a full year behind. The paper eventually adopts Tory politics and perishes during the Revolution.

4:01 4:45 SATURDAY, APRIL 25

2005-Charles Duelfer, the CIA's man in charge of finding WMDs in Iraq, says there are none.

2003—Secretary of the Army Thomas White gets fired for saying we need more troops in Iraq. 2002—At his Texas ranch, George

W. Bush plays kissy-face with Saudi Prince Abdullah

1984—Asked if he's ever been to a communist country, James A. Baker III replies, "Well, I've been to Massachusetts."

1964—The statue of the "Little Mermaid" in Copenhagen harbor is decapitated.

1962—Test-ban negotiations having failed, the U.S. says it will resume atmospheric nuke tests.

1944—RIP George Herriman. 1915-Australian and New Zea

land troops under British command attack Turks at Gallipoli and die in

1898-The U.S. declares war on

1846—Obliging Mexican troops attack a U.S. "scouting party;" Con-1523—Henry VIII of England forbids private ownership of guns by anyone with an income of less than

II:20

11:39

6:22 6:05

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 Monday, April 27

6:55

1986-A meltdown at Chernobyl renders a bunch of Ukrainian real estate worthless, contaminates a large part of the northern hemisphere to one degree or another, and condemns thousands to death. 1970—A dynamite blast damages

the State House in Louisiana. 1953-Radioactive rain falls in Trov. NY.

1946—On her own initiative, Edna Rose Ritchings, 21, a Caucasian-Canadian, marries Father Divine, 65, an African-American religious figure.

1944—The U.S. Government takes over the national headquarters of Montgomery-Ward after it defies the National Labor Relations Board.

1937—German and Italian planes bomb Guernica, Spain, killing hundreds and destroying most of the town.

1931—Lou Gehrig hits a home run but is called out for passing another runner. 1901—"I'll be in Hell before you

start breakfast!" says train-robber Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum, seconds before the hangman drops him and his head flies off. 1865-Boston Corbett, a hat-

ter-turned-cavalryman who, seven are earlier castrated himself with a pair of scissors to better withstand the temptation of prostitutes, shoots and kills John Wilkes Booth. 6:02 6:47

12:20

1994—In South Africa, ex-pris-

interrupted by a TV pirate calling himself "Captain Midnight." 1981—The first computer mouse

nuke plant under construction in West Virginia; 51 workers die. 1974—Ten thousand people march

in Washington, D.C. for the impeachment of Richard Nixon. 1957—The Situationist Interna-

tional meets in Italy. 1956—Rocky Marciano retires undefeated.

1937—The first Social Security check, for \$22.54, is mailed to Ida May Fuller. 1932—While returning by ship

from Mexico, Hart Crane leaps overboard and drowns. 1865—About 1.450 recently freed Union POW's are among 2,300

who die in the explosion of the steamboat Sultana 1861—Abraham Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus.

1825-In Boston, carpenters strike for a 10 hour day.

1813—American troops burn Toronto.

1791inventor of the eponymous code. 1773—The British Parliament passes the Tea Act. Oops.

7:06

2006—Rush Limbaugh's lawyers announce that, due to their fine

Tuesday, April 28

7:59

2004—The Securities and Exchange Commission votes to let banks risk more money and keep

2004—Frank Lautenberg [D-NJ] says on the floor of the Senate, "We know who the chickenhawks are. They talk tough on national defense and military issues ... but when it was their turn to serve, they were

1988-Aloha Airlines 737 develops a 20 foot hole in its fuselage; stewardess Clarabelle Lansing falls to her death.

1987—Contra rebels in Nicaragua "moral equivalent of our Founding fathers" according to President Reagan, murder American volun-

teer engineer Ben Lindner. troops to fight in Cambodia. 1967-Muhammad Ali refuses in duction into the armed forces.

ing reasons, U.S. Marines invade the Dominican Republic. 1953—Having successfully overthrown the elected government of

1965—For vague but pious-sound-

1944—German naval forces a by radio traffic attack Operation Tiger, a D-Day rehearsal off Devonshire, and kill 946 GIs.

2:17

8:49

2004—George W. Bush and Dick "Dick" Cheney "testify" together, without taking an oath, before the 9/11 Commission™.

Valley finds LA police not guilty of assaulting Rodney King. Four days later soldiers and Marines quell the

1975-In Vietnam, the last Americans leave.

dies of radiation poisoning caused by seven pellets of radioactive cobalt he found in the streets.

Dachau. 1945-Italian partisans turn Ezra Pound over to U.S. troops.

1916-In Dublin, Irish nationalists surrender. 1899—After their demand that

1895-U.S. warships are sent to Nicaragua to "protect American

interests." render monkey" Ioan of Arc run away.

1977-The Clamshell Alliance assembles at Seabrook, NH to protest the construction of a nuclear power

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

9:41

9:27

1975—The North Vietnamese Army enters Saigon. President Duong Van Minh surrenders. The Vietnam War is over.

1973—Announcing their resignations, Richard Nixon calls convicted felons John D. Erlichman and H.R. Haldeman "two of the finest public servants I have ever known.' 1971—In Detroit, Medal of Honor recipient Dwight H. Johnson is shot to death while robbing a gro-

cerv store. 1966—Rep. Melvin Laird (R-WI) says that the problem with Vietnam is "an administration that fails to inform the people fully and frankly about the objectives and progress of

the war." 1961—At the Novolazarevskava Research Station in Antarctica. Leonid Ivanovich Rogozov, the sole doctor, removes his own perforated appendix with local anesthesia in a two-hour operation.

1900—The Illinois Central's Cannonball Express slams into a freight train at Vaughan, MS. Engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones is the only fatality.

1894-Five h workers led by Jacob Coxey arrive in Washington, D.C. from Massilon, OH, demanding work.

9:51

gress has an excuse to declare war. 100 pounds a year.

1507—The German Cartographer Martin Waldseemuller erroneously credits Italian navigator Amerigo Vespucci with the "discovery" of "North America."

5:00 5:45

SATURDAY, MAY 2

10:38

oner Nelson Mandela is elected work, their dope-addled client need President. 1986-An HBO transmission is not go to prison.

> less in reserve. 1978—A scaffold fails inside a

7:10

AWOL."

1970-R. Nixon authorizes U.S.

Iran, the CIA installs a Shah.

8:07

2006-At the White House Correspondents Association Dinner. in front of the alleged president, Stephen Colbert shows how it's done.

Wednesday, April 29

1992—A mostly-white jury in Simi

rioting.

1962-In Mexico, Henry Espinola

1945—American troops liberate

only union workers be employed is refused miners dynamite and

destroy the Bunker Hill Company mill at Wardner, ID.

1429-Female "cheese-eating surat the beseiged city of Orleans, France. Nine days later the English

9:02

FRIDAY, MAY I

10:22

2003—President G.W. Bush and his pneumatic codpiece are delivered to an aircraft carrier to tell his biggest lie to date: "major combat operations in Iraq have ended." U.S. death toll so far: 140. 1999—The New Hampshire Gazette

resumes regular (fortnightly) publication in Portsmouth. 1989-New Hampshire Secretary of State for Life William Gardner assigns legal ownership of $\mathit{The}\ \mathit{New}$ Hampshire Gazette to the current

editor. 1978—With only his sled dogs for company, Naomi Uemura reaches the North Pole.

1978-An employee of the Digital Equipment Corporation sends the first spam e-mail. 1977—The cops arrest 1,414 Clams

at Seabrook. 1971—Five days of anti-war protest begin in Washington, D.C.; arrests will total over 14,000.

1970—U.S. troops join ARVN

soldiers in the Cambodian "Incursion." 1960-Russians shoot down CIA pilot Gary Powers's U-2.

1931-The Empire State Building is dedicated. 1894—Jacob Coxey is arrested for walking on the grass of the Capitol; his "Army" is dispersed. A proponent of "greenbacks," he is accom-

panied by his infant son, Legal

10:5

Tender Coxey. 10:35 2011-Osama bin Laden, having outlived the G.W. Bush Administration, is killed by SEAL Team 6 under orders from his successor. 2006-In Lucasville, OH, execu-

tioners take 86 minutes and 19 needle punctures to kill Joseph Clark by lethal injection. 2003—William J. "Mr. Family Values" Bennett is revealed to have a

gambling habit of Brobdingnagian proportions. 2003—USA Today publishes an oped by Richard Perle telling Americans to "Relax and enjoy" what he calls "the most important military

1985—E.F. Hutton, the brokerage company, pleads guilty to 2,000 federal charges; agrees to cough up \$10 million.

victory since World War II."

1974—Ex-Veep Spiro "Ted" Agnew is disbarred. 1972—J. Edgar "Mary" Hoover croaks, finally, at 77, (See 1957). 1964—The U.S.S. Card, a 496-foot

escort carrier, is sunk at the dock by a mine in Saigon. 1957—Sen. Joe McCarthy croaks at 47. (See 1972).

1954—The first commercial jet

plane, the Comet, goes into service. Soon comes out of service due to mid-air explosions. 1933-Hitler abolishe

labor unions. 1911—The first U.S. workers' comp law is enacted in Wisconsin.

11:15

436-3033

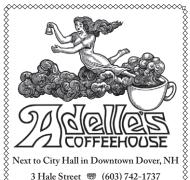
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"Salt is born OF THE PUREST OF PARENTS: THE SUN AND THE SEA. Pythagoras (580-500 BC) SINCE 2011