

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Now Hiring ...

Five Republicans reported to Freedom Partners last weekend to interview for the job of President. Freedom Partners is a 501(c)(6) tax-exempt chamber of commerce, a legal construct in other words. It was created by Charles and David Koch so that they might act as the nation's Human Resources Department.

The brothers managed to accomplish this feat without submitting to interviews themselves. Was is their collective net worth of \$80 billion which exempted them, or their hourly incomes of \$3 million each? (According to our Morbid Math Department, that's 413,000 times the current U.S. minimum wage, which they believe should be abolished.)

George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, it's been said, was born on third base and thought he'd hit a triple. The Koch Brothers were born on home plate, with their names engraved on the deed to a stadium built with taxpayers' dollars. Ironically, considering their virulent, Ayn Randian hatred of Communism, their father made the fortune they inherited by building oil refineries in the Soviet Union, under contract for Joe Stalin.

Perhaps what qualifies the Kochs to pick our President is their remarkable ability to transcend such petty contradictions.

An Historical Interlude

Fittingly, the Koch Brothers' perverse political beauty pageant was held in Orange County, Calif., the birthplace of the modern Conservative Movement.

Formerly somnolent and agricultural, Orange County literally took off during World War II,

employing at least 280,000 workers in its aircraft factories. After the war, GI Bill-backed home loans and the federally-funded Interstate program sparked a colossal building boom. Naturally, all of this Federal interference incensed some of the local Conservatives who were being enriched by it, a certain Walter M. Knott among them.

Knott, born in 1889, had been a hard-luck day laborer and unsuccessful berry farmer until 1932, when he hit it big with his first crop of boysenberries. He had been introduced to the instantly-popular new hybrids by his local U.S. Department of Agriculture agent. Profits from the berries funded the construction of Knott's Berry Farm, which made him a multi-millionaire.

A Star is Born

Thirty-two years later it was Knott — by then a member of Barry Goldwater's inner circle — who insisted that Ronald Reagan deliver a televised campaign speech one week before the Presidential election.

"The Speech," as came to be known in conservative circles, failed to get Goldwater elected. It did for Reagan's political career, however, what boysenberries had done for Knott.

Reagan introduced to the American people the then-novel concept that their government — despite being duly established under the provisions of their beloved Constitution — was actually their mortal enemy. Programs like Social Security and Medicare were not blessings but pernicious drains on people's initiative.



Meanwhile, Back in the Present

Any proper dog-and-pony has to have an audience. This one was no exception. A well-heeled one, too: the annual dues for Freedom Partners are a whopping \$100,000.

Some members of the unwashed public would probably like to know who attended this Presidential tryout. The first rule of Freedom Partners, though, is that you don't talk about who is in Freedom Partners.

Even the blabbermouth media attended with the understanding that naming names would be bad for their careers.

A Fistful For Dollars

To borrow a trope from radio hater Sean Hannity, though, enough about these anonymous, unelected elites who presume to make decisions for the rest of us. Who heeded the call of these lucky Libertarians?

Hereditary politician and former Florida Governor J. Edgar "Jeb!" Bush, grandson of a U.S. Senator who managed the State-side banking needs of the Nazi war machine;

Faux-Texas Senator Ted Cruz, the most-hated member of the nation's most self-regarding deliberative body;

Florida Senator Marco Rubio, who has missed more than one-third of the roll call votes taken since announcing his candidacy, perhaps to spend more time with his \$75,000 fishing boat;

Union-bashing Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, who proudly campaigns on a union-made Harley-Davidson; and,

Carly Fiorina, whose sole qualification for office other than her gender is her experience as CEO of Hewlett-Packard, a job from which she was justifiably fired.

Senator Rand Paul, whose

term expires next year, was invited but begged off. Perhaps he's back in Kentucky, wheedling the Secretary of State for a way around the law that prohibits running simultaneously for the Senate and the White House.

And The Winner Is ...

Freedom Partners will spend \$889 million during this election cycle. If smarm is what it takes to pry some of that loose, then Scott Walker is a contender.

"[Y]ou ... aren't here because of any interests on behalf of your personal finances or your industries," he told them, "you're here because you love America."

A more accurate assessment of the event came from the man who wasn't there. "I wish good luck to all of the Republican candidates that traveled to California to beg for money etc. from the Koch Brothers," tweeted Donald Trump. "Puppets?"

The Alleged News®

Trust Us — We Know What We're Doing

Republicans would like the rest of us to believe that they are the only ones hard-nosed enough to run this country right. That proposition would be less laughable if they could first show a little proficiency in managing something smaller. They could start with their own party.

Back in the olden days, Republicans used to work their way up through the ranks, their progress towards a Presidential nomination being at least somewhat dependent on their ability to legislate or govern; for example, Kansas Senator Robert "Bob Dole" Dole.

Now, however, since the official ideology of the post-Reagan era holds that government is inherently evil, the ability to legislate or govern has become irrelevant. In other words, a product is no

longer necessary; an empty package will do. That means any jack-leg preacher or self-important salesman has the right to promote himself as the next miracle worker.

Another longstanding Republican principle has held that all U.S. citizens should have an equal right to spend unlimited amounts of money influencing political campaigns. With its *Citizens United* decision in 2010, the Supreme Court — a cabal of unelected elites — reversed the will of Congress expressed in McCain/Feingold, and incorporated this new article of faith into U.S. law.

As a result, any crackpot with a billionaire pal — or any crackpot billionaire — can run amok on the political stage. That can be wonderfully entertaining, but it

hardly serves to burnish the reputation of the Party.

Two years ago, after two successive Presidential defeats, the Party released a 100-page report which it called the "Growth and Opportunity Project." Everyone else called it "the autopsy."

The autopsy identified two major problems. The Party's base was shrinking because angry old white men are not immortal; and the more exposure their candidates got, the less the electorate thought of them. The Party vowed to pander to a broader demographic, and to cut way back on debates.

Adhering again to its own ideology, the Party outsourced its debates. Where else would the Party of Lincoln turn to manage that mundane chore but to Fox News, owned by Rupert

Murdoch, an Australian-born billionaire, and run by former Nixon crony Roger Ailes?

Fox's curiously-wrought debate format managed to exclude three former Governors, one sitting Governor, two former Senators, and the first woman to serve as CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

It included, however, a retired surgeon, a preacher with a sideline of curing diabetes with cinnamon rolls, and a billionaire who once bashed wrestling mogul Vince McMahon on the head with a folding chair at ring-side.

Joe McQuaid, the publisher of the *Union Leader* — and a man who has, heretofore, shown a pretty high tolerance for Right Wing craziness — found the Fox News debate format so distasteful

that he cooked up a rival event, which aired on Monday night. Since it lacked the presence of a certain orangutan-haired chair-wielder, the event was — at least in the context of this election cycle — a snooze.

It seems that Republicans, in order to save their Party, are bent on doing to it what their last President did to the Middle East.

The election is still fifteen months away. We can't wait to see if they make it that far.

That Figures

Donald Trump, the *sine qua non* of Republican candidate forums, has a seasoned New Hampshire political operative managing his national campaign. Highly seasoned, you might say.

The Alleged News®

to page two

The Alleged News®
from page one

Politico published a profile of him last month.

Corey Lewandowski made his bones as the manager of Senator Bob Smith's 2002 re-election campaign. Coming as it did in the wake of Smith's bizarre play for a 2000 Presidential nomination, that gig was doomed from the start. It also left Lewandowski somewhat tainted in the eyes of so-called respectable Republicans of the Sununuesque persuasion.

That did not bother the Koch brothers, though. They put Lewandowski in charge of their local fiefdom, Americans For Prosperity [AFP], a capacity in which he continued to aggravate establishment types.

AFP has certainly been good for Lewandowski's prosperity

— he met Trump while on their payroll, and now makes \$20,000 a month on his.

Cheer Up!

If you're feeling a little beat-up by your so-so wages, and your payroll taxes just ate your raise, and your rent is rising, and your car needs tires but you haven't paid the insurance bill yet, don't let it get you down, Bunky. Lift your head up high, take a walk in the sun, and tell yourself, "At least I'm not Ed Whitacre."

Last week former Senator Phil Gramm [R-Texas], testified before the House Financial Services Committee that, "If there's ever been an exploited worker," it was the former head of AT & T. When he retired in 2007, Gramm said, Whitacre had to make do with a lousy \$75 million retirement settlement.

As *The Intercept's* Jon Schwarz pointed out, Gramm under-re-



While our Wandering Photographer was hanging around the harbor making desultory efforts to photograph El Galeón Andalusia, a modern reproduction of a type of ship common 500 years ago, he espied this pair of young ladies dressed in a style not commonly seen in this area since the days of City Marshall Thomas Entwistle, some 100 years ago. Friendly to the point of being forward, they were representing a business establishment of some sort, located on State Street, near Water — excuse us — Marcy Street.

ported the amount by a little over 100 percent; it was actually \$158 million.

Gramm's always been a little loosey-goosey with numbers, which is kind of a shame, because, as Blomberg's Barry Ritholtz put it, "if you want to hold a single elected official responsible for the collapse of American International Group — if any one event could have taken down the entire financial system, that was it — it would have to be Gramm."

The Republican Outrage Cycle:

Hey, kids! Ever wonder how you can draw lots of attention to yourself without going through all the hassle of working hard or doing something that's actually useful or original? It's easier than you might think — enter the fun world of politics!

Here's how to get started: master the four-step Republican Outrage Cycle.

First, select at random almost any statement made by your political opponent.

Next, discard the dictionary definitions of whatever words they used.

Then, paraphrase the statement, substituting your own emotionally-charged, inflammatory language for your opponent's original words, while making sure to contradict their original meaning.

Finally, cite the transformed message as evidence that the original speaker is inherently evil.

Best of all, the evidence suggests that once you get the hang of this trick, you can practically do it in your sleep.

Whither the Weather

Locally, this has been a mighty pleasant summer, so far. Our temperatures have been moderate; much like 2014 — and nothing like 2013, when we had four heat waves.

Buffalo, N.Y., has apparently been spared the heat waves. Just last week City workers were using heavy equipment to break up a pile of snow.

Speaking of snow, several inches fell in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho on July 27th. That prompted a National Weather Service forecaster in Billings, Mont., to say, "This pattern should not happen in July."

Out in the notoriously cool, wet Pacific Northwest, it's another story entirely, with a record-breaking, ten- or 11-day

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stretch of temperatures over 90°, coupled with the driest-ever period from May 1st to July 31st — just 0.9 inches of rain. It's been so dry that the Olympic Peninsula rain forest is burning.

Last month NOAA released its annual State of the Climate report. It said “four independent global datasets [confirm] that 2014 was the hottest year on record.”

Just ask the residents of Bandar Mahshahr, Iran. There, the temperatures have been approaching 114 while the humidity flirted with 90 percent, resulting in a heat index of 165°.

In Memoriam

Phyllis Bennett, of Durham, died July 21st at the age of 74.

In 1973, Bennett, Editor of the tiny, Pulitzer-nominated newspaper *Publick Occurrences*, along with State Rep. Dudley Dudley

and community organizer Nancy Sandberg, prevented Aristotle Onassis and his allies, Governor Meldrim Thompson and *Manchester Union Leader* publisher William Loeb, from building an oil refinery in Durham, on Great Bay.

Flotsam & Jetsam

Huckleberry Finn, of Keene, age 36, has been charged with sexual assault, according to the July 29th *Union Leader*.

Earlier this week the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints released photographs of a small, brown, egg-shaped stone which it believes Joseph Smith used to translate ancient Egyptian symbols found on golden plates he found buried in upstate New York. So that's settled.

A Revolutionary Encampment

The Friends of Fort McClary are sponsoring a Revolutionary



Due to a personnel shortage in Rochester, a Duty Officer from the Dover Bureau was dispatched to Pickering Road on Friday, July 24, 2015. There he observed a U.S. Flag embroidered or imprinted with the acronym “POW-MIA,” more conventionally found on a separate flag. Having consulted U.S. Code Title 36, Chapter 10, Paragraph 176: “The flag should never have placed upon it, nor any part of it, nor attached to it any marks, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature,” said Officer submits this citation. Also observed at the scene was a Confederate flag draped over the back of a nearby vehicle. Duty Officer requests a day of personal time to contemplate the irony of a homeowner openly displaying the “Stars and Bars” — a symbol of hate, intolerance and violent insurrection against the United States of America — alongside a U.S. Flag which, defaced or not, symbolizes his or her First Amendment right to do so. — Duty Officer, Dover Bureau, Flag Police

War Encampment this weekend, August 8th and 9th. Gates will be opened at 9:00 a.m. both days. Fort McClary, on Route 103/Pepperrell Road, is a beautifully preserved historic site overlooking a breathtaking panoramic view of Kittery Point's harbor.

This event promises an enriched and theatrical presentation of how life was lived in the later part of the 18th Century. Re-enactors from throughout the region will attend, all wearing period dress and uniforms. An authentic encampment will include period-styled tents and a camp kitchen, where open pit cooking will be demonstrated. Colonial crafting and other early American life skills will be showcased. Children's games of the period will also be demonstrated, allowing visiting children to learn and play with these toys and games. Souvenirs will be available at a sutler's tent. Artillery demonstrations, including cannon fire, will be presented throughout each day.

There is no charge for the

event, but State Park admission costs will apply: \$3 for adults from 12 – 64 (\$2 for Maine residents); \$1 for children from 5 – 11. Admission is free for those under 5 or over 65. Parking is available at the fort and picnic area.

Reflections on the African Reburial Ceremonies

A gathering will be held tomorrow morning so that participants and observers of the African Reburial Ceremonies of May 23rd may come together again to share their thoughts and express their opinions about the significance of the City's African Burying Ground Memorial Park on Chestnut Street.

The event will take place at the Levenson Room of the Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Parrott Avenue on Saturday, August 8th, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. It is being coordinated by JerriAnne Boggis, Director of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, and Valerie Cunningham, Coordinator of PBHT Sankofa Tours.

The Editor of this newspaper

was among those taking part in the Reburial Ceremony. No doubt he was invited because the paper owes its existence, in large part, to the unpaid labor of an enslaved African man named Primus.

As a person who came of age during the Civil Rights era, and who tries, at least, to be conscious of matters of social justice, he found the experience surprising, even startling.

The transformation of that ordinary street seems to have brought the past forward into the present, and thrown it into bold relief. Questions of race, economics, educational opportunity, and justice, though never really absent, are now inescapable.

Looking back, what seems remarkable is how easy it has been to live in this country, and especially this region, blind or half-blind to some terrible truths. The re-emergence of the African Burying Ground should make that far more difficult going forward — which is exactly what we need, all of us.

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Dear Mr. Fowle:
Visiting Kittery, I had the good fortune to pick up a copy of *The New Hampshire Gazette* at a local pizza parlor and would love to ask you a few questions for Paris Writers News, a blog [www.laurelzuckerman.com/paris-writers-news-interviews-.html] that serves the writer community in Paris.

Are you really the oldest newspaper in the nation?

Why a “non-fiction newspaper”? (Is that even possible?)

Who compiles the delightful selection of historical events on the back page, and how?

Is Steven Fowle any relation to Daniel Fowle, or is the similarity of names just a coincidence?

What, if anything, would you like writers in Paris to know about you and/or your publication?

Best wishes and bravo,
Laurel Zuckerman
Paris, France
Dear Laurel:

We are quite pleased you found our paper, and thought it worth your while.

We call ourselves a non-fiction newspaper because, due to our small format, which requires little in the way of funding, we are able to flout many of the conventions which apparently bind more profitable members of the Fourth Estate. These conventions are currently being exploited, by unscrupulous politicians and oligarchs, to pervert our democracy.

It is, in fact, possible, but only

just barely.

We are indeed The Nation's Oldest Newspaper™, having been founded in 1756 by Daniel Fowle, who was a third cousin, five times removed, of our current Editor.

Many assume, due to their shared name, that the Editor inherited the paper; in fact, he did not. He managed to wrinkle its ownership away from Kenneth Roy Thompson, aka Lord Kenneth of Fleet, then the world's ninth richest man, and owner of its largest newspaper chain. Lord Kenneth's minions had neglected to maintain registration of the rights to the trade name. As Rick Perry once said, “Oops.”

Upon receipt of the Editor's personal check for \$40, New Hampshire's Secretary of State — apparently for life — William Gardner, assigned those rights to him, auspiciously, on the First of May, 1989.

He compiles the items on page eight. How? Veery gradually, over many years, incorporating, when possible, items suggested by readers.

The Editor

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### Sanity, Not Hannity

To the Editor:

How is it possible that the U.S. government was somehow able to negotiate an internationally scrutinized nuclear deal with Iran recently — a deal designed to prevent Iran from building even a single nuclear weapon — a deal in which the U.S. gets to keep 100 percent of its stockpile of thousands of nuclear weapons — a deal made just a few short months after a successful vote in U.S. Congress to spend billions of dollars to modernize the U.S. nuclear stockpile? In the enduring words of Mays Gilliam (played by Chris Rock in the 2003 comedy movie “Head of State”), “That ain't right!”

Furthermore, and perhaps more importantly, how is it possible, during the months of highly-touted international talks which were widely covered by all the major news media outlets,

that not even a single high-level U.S. politician or mainstream political commentator had the courage or moral conviction to publicly point out the glaring hypocrisy of such a deal? That ain't right!

Given that the disarmament of even a single U.S. nuclear weapon was completely off the radar and totally out of the question, the U.S. clearly did not have the moral high-ground to negotiate a nuclear deal with Iran, yet the U.S. was nonetheless perceived by many around the world — a perception bordering on insanity — as a true leader and shepherd of peace. That ain't right!

Don't get me wrong — I'm not in favor of Iran having even a single nuclear weapon, let alone a stockpile. It's just that the widely respected and sought-after worldly powers-that-be continue to exhibit a dangerously irrational indifference to the very present danger from the stockpile of nuclear weapons right under our noses, right here in America — and that ain't right!

Perhaps the core issue is the age-old enemy “fear itself” — fear that if one speaks truth to worldly power one will then be judged and dismissed by worldly power as naive, non-sensical, reckless, feckless, radical, extreme, dangerous, or even insane. But what could be more naive, non-sensical, reckless, feckless, radical, extreme, dangerous, or insane than to believe it's perfectly normal and acceptable for the U.S. to continue to stockpile thousands of nuclear weapons, especially given its history of twice dropping atomic weapons of mass destruction on densely packed cities of unsuspecting civilians, including innocent children?

No, evil like that ain't right! That sure as hell-on-earth ain't right!

In previous letters published in *The New Hampshire Gazette*

## Mash Notes, HATE MAIL

I have publicly declared that I'm the reincarnation of Jesus the Christ, and that I was also Gandhi in my past life. In this letter I now publicly declare that I'm running as a write-in candidate for U.S. president.

A vote for me is a vote for “sanity, not Hannity.” God Bless America — and everybody else — the whole world — all peoples — all nations — no exceptions, period.

Alex J. Boros

Rochester, N.H.

Alex:

*We would vote for you in an instant, if our only other choice were Sean Hannity. In the allegedly-real world scenario we're faced with, we'll vote for whatever Democrat gets the nod against whatever lunatic the GOP picks.*

*The Editor*

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The Munich Comparison

To the Editor:

There has been a great deal of discussion and comparison of the recent nuclear arms agreement with the P5+1 and Iran to the agreement made by Neville Chamberlain with Hitler at the Munich Pact in 1938. This is a false equivalency, and in many ways the situations are not comparable.

First of all, the Munich Pact was negotiated between only Chamberlain and Hitler, while the Iran nuclear agreement involved, the United States, France, Germany, Britain, Russia, China and Iran. Secondly, in 1938 Chamberlain knew very well that Britain was not prepared militarily to counter the might of Germany in a conflict. Unfortunately, Hitler also knew that Britain was not prepared to counter any of his military ambitions. This in effect left Chamberlain very little room to negotiate any type of deal with Hitler that would pre-

vent the inevitable, he was trying to buy some time. We must also remember that the United States in 1938 was very much in an isolationist mode and Chamberlain could not count on us for any military support against Hitler. Unlike Britain in 1938, the United States and our allies enjoy great military superiority over Iran both conventional and nuclear, and Iran is quite well aware of this.

However there is another historical event that I believe offers a much better comparison with the current Iran nuclear agreement that has not received any attention or discussion. I am referring to the debate after World War I regarding the decision of the United States to join the new League of Nations.

The failure of the United States to join the League of Nations, in my opinion, was much more responsible for WW II than any deal made by Chamberlain in 1938, which by then was much too late to stop Hitler's ambitions.

In many respects, President Obama is facing a similar situation today with Congress as did Wilson in 1920. President Obama and the other five nations have crafted an agreement that will prevent, or at a minimum, postpone the ability of Iran to secure nuclear weapons. This agreement is the best alternative to prevent a war with Iran, which could have catastrophic consequences in the entire Middle East and the world.

As in 1920, the fate of this agreement, and the preventing of a war rests with the United States Congress. As the saying goes, those who do not learn from the mistakes of history are doomed to repeat them. I pray that history does not repeat itself, and we do not once again break

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
“We're never mean to each other, if we disagree, we pout.
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— Geddy Lee (1953-) bass player, vocalist, explaining the longevity of the band, Rush

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And Other Correspondence

the heart of the world.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.
Rich:

If only our intramural squabble over the Iranian nuke agreement was about how best to keep America and the world safe from religious fanatics with nuclear weapons.

Sadly, it's about whether or not our home-grown religious fanatics get control of our own nuclear arsenal.

The Editor

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## Iran Agreement A No-Brainer

To the Editor:  
If Congress, led by the Republicans, causes the U.S. to walk away from the Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement, here's what happens: Iran moves from the nuclear threshold to fabricating nuclear weapons; the sanctions stop and Iran's economy vastly improves (our five partners in the deal are not obligated to continue sanctions, they thought they had a deal); the opportunity for enhanced inspections goes down the drain; the prospect of future cooperation with the Russians and Chinese in solving world problems is scuttled; and nuclear proliferation in the Middle East goes on a fast track.

What does the U.S. gain out of the Republican scenario? Absolutely nothing, except a nuclear Iran and possibly a major war.

This deal is not founded on trust; it is founded on a lack of trust of Iran and inspections at an unprecedented level. For Republicans who call the Obama administration naive, I ask, is that how they view the Chinese? Russians? They along with Britain, France and Germany all signed the agreement.

It is not realistic to expect another nation to roll over and accede to all our demands—that is

not the basis of negotiation. If Iran had its way, there would be no inspections, economic sanctions would be lifted immediately, they could keep all their centrifuges, enrich uranium to a high degree, and continue with plutonium production. Under the agreement, they can do none of these.

Michael Frandzel  
Portsmouth, N.H.  
Michael:  
*Please see reply above.*  
The Editor

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He's Ready ...

To the Editor:
While the GOP candidates for President are bragging about kicking people off their health insurance plans they secured through the Affordable Care Act and sending thousands of troops into Iraq and Syria to fight ISIS, Hilary Clinton is campaigning to make our economy better for the middle class.

The Republicans also vow to repeal the Iran nuclear deal, which would force us to bomb the country. If fighting two wars didn't stimulate the economy under George Bush it won't do it under them either. I support Hilary Clinton because she is focused on making our economy work for us instead of the billionaires financing her GOP opponents.

Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth N.H.

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## He's Not Ready ...

To the Editor:  
For many Democrats, Hillary's politics are too embedded with Wall Street, while Bernie seems too independent to be electable. I recently discovered the candidate whose progressive politics are coupled with a proven ability to govern. Maryland's former Governor Martin O'Malley, also

former Mayor of Baltimore, has the managerial experience and technical vision to apply information technology to make governmental decisions based on knowledge. He applied the same mapping technology we use when finding a route through traffic, to identify where Baltimore's worst crime was, and he allocated increased resources to those neighborhoods to fight the city's crime problems.

With knowledge-based decision-making and O'Malley's managerial savvy, Baltimore's violent crime was reduced by 41 percent. As governor, he applied the similar methods to reduce Maryland's unemployment and increase jobs faster than its neighboring states that had cut their budgets for necessary services. He promotes a new way of managing to get things done, moving from innovation-limiting hierarchy to collaborative consensus-building.

O'Malley's top goals are to reverse the causes of climate change by supporting clean, renewable power sources; to limit the influence of unaccountable big money in our political system; and to reduce the disparity of wealth and opportunity with affordable education, fair taxation, big-bank regulation and resistance to trade deals that threaten our environmental, labor, and health protections.

Americans are tired of seeing clowns run around the circus car when we need a President who knows how to work effectively for the shared concern of our survival on this planet. Details at [MartinOMalley.com](http://MartinOMalley.com).

Bruce Joffe  
Piedmont, Calif.  
Bruce:

*O'Malley can point to this and point to that, and try to succeed as a technocrat ... he might as well show up at a World Wrestling Federation cage match wearing a bow tie and carrying a clipboard. Any attempt-*

*ed debate over minutiae such as his success or failure in Baltimore is going to immediately descend into a pointless brawl in the weeds.*

*Meanwhile, Sanders electrifies Democrats and, more importantly, disaffected voters.*

*We're too old to vote for the candidate who might not frighten those who won't vote for him anyway.*

*But, for the first time in our lives, to vote for the candidate who clearly and honestly represents our view of the nation? We'd crawl over broken glass.*

The Editor

~~~~~

Please Kelly, Take a Trip

To the Editor: an open letter to the Honorable Sen. Kelly Ayotte, I have noted with some interest your opposition to the diplomatic efforts undertaken on our behalf by our State Department.

You do realize that the present sanctions are not imposed by the U.S. alone. If we reject a deal that the others accept the sanctions will go away. Unilateral sanctions by us alone will lower the price of petrol in France and little else besides that.

So what you really need to do is to convince the other countries that negotiated this deal that it is indeed horrible. Members of U.S. Congress often travel and perhaps you ought to take a trip. Since this deal is obviously horrible it should be very easy to convince the Brits, the Germans, the French, the Chinese, and the Russians to reject it too.

Perhaps you could persuade former Vice President Cheney to accompany you. There are many outside of our country that would like to question him not only about this matter but about the Iraq war also.

Tom Laperriere
Rochester, N.H.

Tom:
We see what you're trying to do, you devil, you. Furthermore, we hope you succeed.

The Editor



Making the Perfect Case

To the Editor:
Donald Trump's brashness and his outrageous "tell it the way it is" commentary don't seem to be losing their appeal among the Republican Party voting base, as Trump continues to rank as high as first or second among the 16 declared Republican presidential candidates in national polls, causing tremendous consternation within the Republican establishment. Trump's high poll rankings also tell a lot about the frustration Americans of both parties feel toward the status quo, where America's wealthiest one percent can easily obtain and maintain power at the expense of the rest of us.

I don't completely disagree with everything that Trump has to say. Although he will never earn my vote for President over Vermont's Independent Senator, Bernie Sanders, I do appreciate that Trump has been extremely honest and revealing about dark money's takeover of our political process. In a recent speech, he boasted about his enormous wealth, history of political contributions, and influence-buying. Trump told the audience, "I give to everybody and they do whatever I say. Those people [referring to establishment politicians from both parties] are controlled by whoever gave them their money, and I will tell you they are totally

Hate Mail, &c.
to page six


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The Northcountry Chronicle

Language Nazis

by William Marvel

University campuses must be the most paranoid environments in the United States. Amid throngs of students poised at the most sensitive and self-righteous stage of human development, where the principal activity is talking, the greatest fear is saying something that will offend someone. That's why the concept of politically correct speech originated in the academic world, and why it also reaches its most ridiculous extremes there.

Briefly it seemed that the aforementioned extreme had been attained when different universities began censoring on-campus speech by compiling lists of words and phrases that were deemed offensive by some internal congress of neurotics. Predictably, most of those phrases insinuated some recognition of ethnic differences, because the same sensitivists who are obsessed with race are also obsessed with pretending to ignore it. Not long ago, for instance, one branch of the University of Wis-

consin decided to familiarize its faculty and staff with the pejorative interpretations that might arise from such innocent acts as asking people where they were from. After all, such an impertinent question might imply that they appear to have come here from another country.

At the University of California, where the most absurd ideas always have the best chance of finding academic approval, the faculty has been discouraged from using the term "melting pot" to describe the results of immigration in the United States. The fear this time (and fear always drives censorship) was that the phrase might suggest that the dominant culture arising from serial waves of immigration is somehow superior to other cultures.

Much more recently, our own University of New Hampshire topped them all with a Bias-Free Language Guide that was posted on the university system website late in July, until nationwide ridicule led to its immediate removal. Its demise was undoubtedly

due to the assertion that "American" was an arrogant term for citizens of the United States, since it usurps a designation rightfully belonging to all those in the Western Hemisphere. That complaint actually has some merit, however. It was the rest of the guide that made no sense, such as the prohibition against the pejorative term "illegal alien," for aliens who have come to this country ... well, illegally. "Mothering" and "fathering" were discontinued because they insinuate parental inadequacy among those who don't subscribe to the ideal of children having a mother and a father. "Obese" did not pass muster, or even "overweight" — nor, apparently, will any other euphemism for fat, unless people can be convinced it's a good thing — but for the nonce we can get by with "people of size."

The UNH language police suggested similarly convoluted constructions to avoid calling people poor ("people who lack advantages other people have"), Caucasian ("European-American individuals"), or disabled

("people who are wheelchair mobile"). That last is good news, because if there are no disabled people we can finally repeal the ADA — which, as many will admit, can be a real "discomfort in the anatomical region used for sitting."

Bad ideas proliferate so quickly. My first experience with politically correct academics came around 1991, when Michael C. C. Adams, an immigrant Brit who taught at an obscure Kentucky college, criticized me in a book review for using the phrase "one gay September afternoon." In as condescending a tone as a truckling ideologue could manage, he wondered how I had missed the message that "gay" had become the trademark property of homosexuals (at UNH, the "same-sex loving"). Perhaps he was only trying to prove that he had actually read the book, or one page of it. Still, I looked forward to the day I could greet him in person with the two most unquestionably offensive words English has offered since Anglo-Saxon days.

You can probably guess what those two words are, too, but when I finally did encounter him I didn't have to speak. It was at Gettysburg on the Fourth of July, last year, and we were seated at adjoining tables in the National Park visitor center, signing books as purchasers brought them over from the bookstore. At least I was signing books; every time I looked up from inscribing a few, Adams would be reading the event program, fiddling with his pen, inspecting his fingernails, or looking around at the crowd. I never had time to speak to him, but I sort of said hello when, to make room for all the books, I slid my nameplate to the edge of my table, turning it so he could not miss it. Thus passed one of the most pleasant hours of my life that did not involve a distaff companion.

The opportunities for such mute rejoinders are rare. For the rest of those who would tell us what we should or should not say, I still have those two words saved up.

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

controlled."

That statement alone makes a brilliant case for a Bernie Sanders Presidency. Bernie, who acknowledges the need for drastic campaign finance reform — the single most important issue — before any of our nation's many pressing issues can even be addressed, has pledged to restore our nation's democracy and middle class by doing whatever he can to eradicate the scourge of dark money from American politics.

Trump's compelling revelation also provides the perfect argu-

ment as to why we all need to follow the lead of the N.H. Rebellion and directly ask all 2016 presidential candidates we meet, "What specific reforms will you advance to end the corrupting influence of money in our political system?" Together, we as New Hampshire citizens can hold the presidential candidates accountable for ending dark money.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.

Save the Zygotes!

To the Editor:
We regret the killing of Cecil,

a majestic lion. The law-breakers should be prosecuted. But the outrage and viciousness of the attacks on those involved is puzzling.

Some of the outrage is simply because the pictures show Cecil as a benign and magnificent animal, not as the bully and killer that he was. But mostly we react because, as civilized humans, we believe in the rule of law, have a sense of morality, and respect for majestic animals.

Seeing the outrage over a lion's killing, one has to wonder, where is the outrage at much worse of-

fenses against American citizens?

Americans should be outraged at Republican and Democrat politicians who, for their own benefit, allow and even encourage the illegal alien invasion which harms (including over 25,000 killings) millions of Americans. We should be outraged at the officials of over 250 "sanctuary" cities that refuse to cooperate with Federal officials attempting to enforce our immigration laws. We should be outraged at President Obama who promises to veto any law that tries to make sanctuary cities cooperate with

Federal officials enforcing our immigration laws.

We should be outraged at the irresponsible behavior that results in over one million abortions a year. The Clintons said, "Abortions should be safe, legal, and rare." The current rate of abortions makes them common, not rare, and unacceptable.

Have we become so callous that we ignore harm to humans? Or have we become so cowed by political correctness that we are afraid to complain about the millions of crimes done by illegal aliens against American citizens,

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Banksters: A Story of Crime and Punishment

by Jim Hightower

Big story from that raz-
zle-dazzle place called “El
Casino Grande” — otherwise
known as Wall Street.
Four massive financial con-
glomerates — JPMorgan Chase,
Citigroup, Barclays, and the
Royal Bank of Scotland — have
been caught in a criminal con-
spiracy to rig the global curren-
cy market. Bank regulators have
now slapped them with an equal-

ly-massive fine, totaling \$5.4 bil-
lion.
The financial felons coordi-
nated their illegal currency
manipulation scheme through
online chat rooms with devil-
may-care names like “The Car-
tel” and The Mafia.” The banks’
culture of greed led to such a
reckless arrogance that one of
Barclays price-fixers offered this
bit of ethical encouragement to
his chat room pals: “If you ain’t
cheating, you ain’t trying.”

Well, taking a \$5 billion hit
will put an end to that sort of
reprobate banksterism, won’t it?
Mmmmm ... no. While this was
the first time that banks them-
selves had to admit that they are
corporate criminals, all of them
are free to continue doing curren-
cy trading, and no top execu-
tives were even charged for the
crimes they oversaw. And, while
\$5 billion is a huge, record-lev-
el criminal penalty, it’s easily
absorbed by these global cas-

no operations. In the first three
months of this year, for example,
JPMorgan Chase raked in \$4
billion just from its fixed income
and currency trading division —
about seven times its share of the
“penalty” levied against the four
corporate crooks.
Citigroup’s CEO called the
punishment “an embarrassment”
to his bank. But banks can’t feel
embarrassed, nor can they com-
mit crimes — only bankers can.
And, as should be obvious by

now, being embarrassed is no
deterrent at all to their endless-
ly-creative criminality. If we ac-
tually want to stop their crimes,
the banksters themselves — in-
cluding those at the top — must
feel the punishment.
~~~~~  
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Ehrlich (laura@jimhightower.com)  
for more information.  
~~~~~

the annual slaughter of over one
million American babies, and the
butchering of babies to sell baby
parts?
Perhaps protesting the killing
of a lion is the only way people
have to express their outrage at
the callous, irresponsible, and
immoral things they see every
day without being ridiculed and
criticized by the politically cor-
rect crowd which tries to control
our thoughts and speech.
It’s time for Americans to ig-
nore political correctness and de-
mand protection for what really
matters, human life.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.
Don:
You really ought to have a doc-
tor take a look at your xenophobia.
While you’re at it, perhaps a math-
ematician could help you with your
innumeracy.
The Editor

~~~~~  
**The Fuss About the Budget**  
To the Editor,  
Only slightly slower than the  
speed of light, Republicans re-  
jected a compromise effort by  
Gov. Maggie Hassan to resolve  
the current state budget impasse.  
Hassan noted, “This is a com-  
promise and compromise re-  
quires people to actually do  
things that people may not want

to do but that are the nature of  
this. The people of New Hamp-  
shire elected a Republican legis-  
lative majority and a Democratic  
governor. That means both Dem-  
ocrats and Republicans need to  
have a voice in whatever budget  
is passed, and that is what this is  
about.” (NHPR, 7/23/2015)  
The plan Hassan outlined gen-  
erates \$114 million to offset the  
loss of funds due to a business  
profits tax reduction backed by  
Republicans. Republican House  
speaker Shawn Jasper said, “I  
do not believe that cutting (cor-  
porate taxes) will bring in more  
revenue, nor do I believe that by  
themselves they will make New  
Hampshire a more attractive  
state for businesses to locate to  
or to expand.” Despite Jasper’s  
statement, state Republicans  
continue to pursue the corporate  
tax cut.  
The added money proposed by  
Hassan provides an additional  
\$5.7 million to fight the heroin  
crisis. The funds would pay for  
winter maintenance of our roads  
and highways, restore travel and  
tourism budgets, and support a  
modest 2 percent cost-of-living  
pay increase for state employees  
that was negotiated and accepted  
in good faith.  
How would the \$114 million  
be generated? Hassan’s proposal

increases the cigarette tax by 21  
cents and raises the car registra-  
tion fee by \$5.00. Sounds like a  
more than fair compromise to  
me. How did Republicans re-  
spond to Hassan’s proposal?  
At 9:26 a.m., Hassan an-  
nounced her plan for a compro-  
mise budget. “But by 11:06 a.m.,  
it was clear Hassan’s attempt at  
compromise would do little to  
break the budget stalemate in  
Concord and was likely dead on  
arrival.” (NHPR, 7/24/2015),  
In less than two hours, state  
Republicans had rejected Has-  
san’s compromise. Why did they  
act with such haste? Why didn’t  
they pause and carefully deliber-  
ate the proposal?  
Because the budget crisis is  
not about the budget at all; it is  
about protecting Kelly Ayotte’s  
run for the U.S. Senate. The lon-  
ger Republicans drag out budget  
negotiations, the less time Gov.  
Hassan will have to campaign  
should she decide to oppose  
Ayotte. And the longer the state  
Republicans delay, the more time  
the GOP will have to attack  
Hassan on an important issue in  
an effort to lower her approval  
ratings. You will not see a resolu-  
tion to this crisis any time soon.  
In short, state Republicans are  
putting the re-election of Kelly  
Ayotte ahead of the well being of

New Hampshire.  
Gary Patton  
Hampton, N.H.  
~~~~~  
Ayotte’s Failures
To the Editor:
The newest ad for Senator
Ayotte claims that she never
backs down. I’m not so sure
about that but I do know that she
seldom steps up.
Closing the gun show loophole
and tightening the background
check process got 80+ percent
support when New Hampshire
voters were polled. Did she step
up to the gun lobby? Did she say
this is common sense and my
constituents want it? Did she say
this does not violate the Second
Amendment? No! Did she back
down from the wishes of her
constituents? Yes!
Raising the national minimum
wage would help thousands of
New Hampshire workers. Has
Ayotte stepped up to the busi-
ness lobby and supported this
legislation? No! Did she back
down from her responsibility of
what she could do to benefit her
constituents? Yes!
Our senator has been bragging
about how she fought to include
funding in the federal budget
for certain healthcare programs
such as anti-drug abuse. But!,
when her local colleagues were

stripping similar programs from
the New Hampshire budget did
she step up and say — you are
wrong and New Hampshire will
lose millions in federal matching
funds. No! She backed down for
purely political reasons.
Like most politicians Ayotte
does a great campaigner’s tap
dance, but she hasn’t mastered
the timing of when to step for-
ward and when to step back.
Dave Potter
N. Hampton
~~~~~  
**Religious Message from Hotels**  
To the Editor:  
At the cost of admitting that  
I went for a ride in one of those  
pesky red helicopters I submit  
a photo of a (creepy) religious  
message from the rooftops of the  
lovely new hotel district in your  
downtown district.  
Walt Ginalski  
Auburn, N.H.



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ADMIRAL FOWLE’S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua’s ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.


Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of Badger’s Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

| SUNDAY, AUGUST 9                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | MONDAY, AUGUST 10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | TUESDAY, AUGUST 11                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | THURSDAY, AUGUST 13                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    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| <p><b>2014</b>—Ferguson, Mo. cop Darren Wilson shoots Michael Brown, whose body is then left uncovered on the street for four hours.</p> <p><b>1997</b>—New York cop Justin Volpe sodomizes Haitian immigrant Abner Louima with a broomstick.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Pres. George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush signs the multi-billion dollar Savings and Loan bailout. Among those bailed out at the expense of the taxpayer: his own sons Neil and Jeb.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Nixon vacates the White House.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Sayonara, Nagasaki.</p> <p><b>1936</b>—Death of muckraker Lincoln Steffens.</p> <p><b>1892</b>—Reacting to the previous day’s unpleasantness, a group of Hatfields tie three McCoys to a tree and shoot them.</p> <p><b>1874</b>—Charles Fort, chronicler of the paranormal, materializes in Albany, New York.</p> <p><b>1872</b>—Fire destroys 547 buildings in Boston, killing 14.</p> <p><b>1848</b>—The Barnburners and Free Soilers merge into the Scorched Earth party and nominate Martin Van Buren for President.</p> <p><b>1842</b>—Herman Melville escapes from the Typee Valley in the Marquesas where he has been held captive by cannibals for a month.</p> <p><b>1842</b>—The Webster-Ashburton Treaty resolves the issues that led to the Aroostook War.</p>                                                                        | <p><b>2005</b>—After playing online games fifty hours straight, Lee Seung Seop, 28, drops dead.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—“I want you to know,” George W. Bush tells farmers in Salinas, Calif., “that farmers are not going to be secondary thoughts to a Bush administration. They will be in the forethought of our thinking.”</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Rabid Free Marketeer Charles Koch writes rabid Free Marketeer Friedrich von Hayek suggesting he move to the U.S. so he can collect Social[ist] Security.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Eight G.I.’s in Vietnam are killed by “friendly fire.”</p> <p><b>1961</b>—The U.S. Army begins using Agent Orange in Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—The first shipload of American military aid to the French in Vietnam arrives.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—The Japanese announce their intention to surrender.</p> <p><b>1896</b>—“Small sacrifices must be made,” says glider pioneer Otto Lilienthal, as he dies a day after his last crash.</p> <p><b>1887</b>—A Toledo, Peoria &amp; Western engineer, seeing a burning bridge ahead, uncouples his engine and makes it across; 81 passengers die when it collapses.</p> <p><b>1856</b>—A ball on Last Island, La. is interrupted by huge wind-driven waves; 400 drown.</p> <p><b>1835</b>—Citizens of Canaan, N.H. burn Noyes Academy because it enrolled blacks.</p>                 | <p><b>2009</b>—President Obama speaks inside Portsmouth High School. Outside, a Libertarian packing a 9-mm pistol carries a sign suggesting that it’s time to start shedding the “blood of patriots and tyrants.”</p> <p><b>1999</b>—The Kansas Board of Education throws evolution over the edge of the earth.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—On an open mike, Ronald Reagan announces, “I have signed legislation that would outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes.”</p> <p><b>1972</b>—The 3rd Battalion of the 21st Infantry Reg’t, the last U.S. ground combat unit in Vietnam, takes the Freedom Bird home.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Pitcher Satchel Paige signs with the Braves. He’s 62.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—Canadian engineer Joseph Papp is fished out of the ocean near Brest, France, claiming his jet-powered, 300 mph submarine had sunk after crossing the ocean in 13 hours.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—A white cop pulls over a black motorist in L.A. triggering five days of riots costing 34 lives, mostly black, and destroying \$200 million in property.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Patent No. 2,292,387, using modified piano rolls to protect torpedoes from radio-jamming, goes to actress Hedy Lamarr.</p> <p><b>1894</b>—Charles “Hobo” Kelley and his 1,200 man “army” of unemployed are driven from Washington D.C. by Federal troops.</p> | <p><b>2004</b>—New Jersey’s Democratic Gov. Tom McGreevy admits he’s been sleeping with a man who is not his wife, then resigns.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Russian submarine <i>Kursk</i> is sunk in the Barents Sea, probably by its own torpedo; 112 crew members perish.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—The U.S., Canada, and Mexico announce that NAFTA has been finalized.</p> <p><b>1985</b>—The tail falls off a JAL 747 slightly damaged seven years earlier but badly repaired. Many of the 524 aboard survive the crash, but only four are rescued due to delays.</p> <p><b>1955</b>—Ike raises the minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1 per hour.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Russia tests an H-bomb.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—Babe Ruth plays his last game at Fenway.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—The U.S. annexes Hawaii and makes peace with Spain.</p> <p><b>1865</b>—Joseph Lister introduces a new refinement to the art of surgery—disinfectant.</p> <p><b>1827</b>—William Blake is released from his earthly form.</p> <p><b>1676</b>—John Alderman, a Christ-ianized “Praying Indian,” shoots and kills Metacomet, aka King Philip. Alderman is awarded Metacomet’s head and one hand. He later sells the head for 30 shillings to the town of Plymouth where it’s kept atop a stake for 25 years. Metacom’s wife and child are sold to West Indian slave traders.</p> | <p><b>2007</b>—George W. Bush’s brain announces its resignation.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—“I promise you I will listen to what has been said here,” says George W. Bush at the President’s Economic Forum in Waco, Texas, “even though I wasn’t here.”</p> <p><b>1980</b>—Cuban refugees hijack an Air Florida jetliner to Cuba.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Attorney General John Mitchell announces that there will be no grand jury investigation of the May 4 shootings at Kent State.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—“In two or three years, or even before” says S. Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky, “the Communists will accept defeat.”</p> <p><b>1961</b>—Construction of the Berlin Wall begins.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—Satchel Paige throws his first complete game for the Cleveland Indians. The 42 year old gets a 5-0 shutout.</p> <p><b>1925</b>—Baltimore’s Chamber of Commerce accuses H.L. Mencken of damaging the city’s trade with the south due to his reporting of the Scopes “monkey” trial.</p> <p><b>1906</b>—African-American soldiers raid Brownsville, Texas to avenge racial insults. One white man is killed, two are wounded.</p> <p><b>1899</b>—David Terry, former Chief Justice of the Calif. Supreme Court, assaults U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Field. Terry is shot dead by Field’s bodyguard, a U.S. Marshal later cleared of wrongdoing.</p> | <p><b>2003</b>—Untrimmed trees and a software bug in Ohio knock out power to 55 million people from Hudson’s Bay to New Jersey.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—George W. Bush wins an Iowa presidential straw poll where, in traditional Republican fashion, you could vote as many times as you want for \$25 a pop.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—“As long as the United States and our brave allies are in the field,” says Lyndon B. Johnson, “[a Communist takeover of South Vietnam] is impossible.”</p> <p><b>1966</b>—One day after Texas radio station KLUE-AM holds a public bonfire to burn Beatle records, its broadcast tower is hit by lightning.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Japan surrenders, ending World War II.</p> <p><b>1936</b>—In Owensboro, Ky., at 5:30 a.m, 15,000 watch as Rainey Bethea becomes the last person publicly hanged in America. Arthur Hash, the assigned executioner, is so drunk a deputy sheriff has to pull the lever.</p> <p><b>1923</b>—“Felix the Cat” debuts.</p> <p><b>1912</b>—U.S. Marines invade Nicaragua to “protect American interests.”</p> <p><b>1901</b>—In Fairfield, Conn., Gustave Whitehead pilots an acetylene-powered aircraft about half a mile.</p> <p><b>1862</b>—Abe Lincoln becomes the 1st President to meet a delegation of African-Americans, whom he offends by recommending they remove to Africa.</p>                     | <p><b>1980</b>—The FAA announces an increase in sky marshals on commercial flights to stem the rising tide of hijackings.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—Ohio State’s Dr. Jerry R. Ehman records a 72-second burst representing the best evidence yet of intelligent life in the universe. It’s gotta be somewhere.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Richard Nixon reneges on the U.S.’s promise to redeem dollars with gold.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—Half a million half-naked, drugged-up baby boomers begin a three-day mud wallow in Bethel, N.Y.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—<i>The New York Herald Tribune</i>, founded as the <i>Tribune</i> by N.H.-born Horace Greeley 125 years earlier, succumbs to a strike called by a labor union also founded by Greeley.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—To celebrate the end of WW II, San Franciscans riot.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—About 35,000 Allied forces land on Kiska, one of the Rat Islands in the Aleutians. Though unopposed—the Japanese had evacuated two weeks earlier—300 end up missing in action or killed by friendly fire.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—Wiley Post and Will Rogers perish in a plane crash at Point Barrow, Alaska.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—Thomas Edison records “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” For a brief period, his hit song doesn’t just top the chart, it <i>is</i> the chart.</p>                                                                                              |
| <p>7:30 7:51</p> <p>1:16 1:25</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      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| SUNDAY, AUGUST 16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      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| <p><b>2002</b>—In an <i>Army Times</i> article, the commander of “Red” forces in the recent “Millennium Challenge” war games charges they were “almost entirely scripted to ensure a [U.S. military] win.”</p> <p><b>1980</b>—Refugees hijack three jetliners to get back to Cuba.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—Elvis allegedly dies.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Cuba outlaws anarchy.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—USAF Colonel Joseph Kittinger exits a balloon-lofted gondola 19.4 miles over New Mexico, falls for 4.5 minutes, reaches 714 m.p.h., and lands safely.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Hundreds in Pont-Saint-Esprit, France suddenly seem to go mad. Ergot is blamed at first. Later evidence points to LSD administered by the CIA.</p> <p><b>1938</b>—Hell hounds catch up to Robert Johnson.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Poet Charles Bukowski is born in Andernach, Germany.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Cleveland Indians shortstop Ray Chapman fails to see a pitch from the Yankees’ Carl Mays. Hit in the head, he dies the next day.</p> <p><b>1890</b>—Myron “Grim” Natwick, creator of “Betty Boop,” is born.</p> <p><b>1819</b>—British cavalry and Hussars attack a political meeting at St. Peter’s Field in Manchester, England killing fifteen people.</p> <p><b>1777</b>—General John Stark and 2,000 mostly New Hampshire militia defeat the “British” (mostly Germans, really) at Bennington.</p> | <p><b>2008</b>—Maudie Hopkins, widow of Confederate Civil War veteran William M. Cantrell, dies. They married in 1934. He was 86, she 19.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—U.S. Generals admit that the U.S. assisted Iraq during its war against Iran knowing that Saddam Hussein would “use chemical weapons against his own people.”</p> <p><b>1988</b>—A Pakistani C-130 explodes in mid-air killing President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq. General Pervez Musharraf, scheduled to be on-board, misses the flight.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—J. Danforth Quayle informs the Republican National Convention, “in 1988 the question is whether we’re going forward to tomorrow or whether we’re going to go past to the back!”</p> <p><b>1965</b>—South of Chu Lai, U.S. Marines begin Operation Starlite, the first major U.S. ground offensive of the Vietnam war.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—L.A. County Coroner declares Marilyn Monroe a suicide.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—In Chicago, IWW members go on trial; 95 will be imprisoned for up to 20 years.</p> <p><b>1910</b>—A New York City sweatshop opens despite a strike. Women strikers demolish the factory.</p> <p><b>1901</b>—During an excursion around New York on the side-wheeler <i>General Slocum</i>, some of a party of 900 intoxicated anarchists from Paterson, N.J. attempt unsuccessfully to take control of the ship.</p> | <p><b>1996</b>—The U.S. prison population hits 1,600,000, twice what it was 10 years earlier.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Malcolm Forbes throws himself a \$2 million birthday party, flying 800 guests to his castle in Tangiers.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—Sailors aboard the <i>U.S.S. Wasp</i> bring a severe fire under control, barely averting the need to flood the ship’s nuclear weapons storage space.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—Germany introduces the <i>Volksempfänger</i>, or Peoples’ Radio.</p> <p><b>1812</b>—To Joseph Goebbels’ specifications, it receives only local (Nazi-controlled) broadcasts.</p> <p><b>1782</b>—William Blake, poet and self-publisher, marries Catherine Sophia Boucher. He later teaches her to read.</p> <p><b>1634</b>—Urbain Grandier, a French priest whose sexual prowess earned him accusations from a scorned Mother Superior, is “waterboarded,” then burned at the stake for witchcraft.</p> <p><b>1590</b>—Virginia Dare becomes the first missing white girl in the New World.</p> <p><b>1587</b>—Virginia Dare becomes the first white child born in the New World.</p> <p><b>1503</b>—Death of Pope Alexander VI, host of the infamous Ballet of the Chestnuts, whose entertainments included fifty naked prostitutes writhing on the floor.</p>                                                                    | <p><b>1999</b>—The FBI puts James “Whitey” Bulger, its partner in crime, on the Most-Wanted List.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—CIA-backed royalists in Iran overthrow Premier Mossadegh.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck sends Eddie Gaedel in to pinch-hit for Frank Saucier. Gaedel is 43 inches tall.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—An Allied force of 6,000 lands at Dieppe, France. Sixty percent are killed, wounded, or captured, but planner Lord Mountbatten’s sensors win the PR battle.</p> <p><b>1812</b>—“<i>Old Ironsides</i>” defeats the <i>Guerriere</i>.</p> <p><b>1791</b>—Benjamin Banneker, “the sable genius,” sends a copy of his just-published almanac to Thomas Jefferson with an admonition to practice what he preaches about the rights of all men.</p> <p><b>1692</b>—“Witches” George Burroughs, Martha Carrier, George Jacobs, John Proctor, and John Willard are hanged in Salem Village.</p> <p><b>1599</b>—The Chief of the Acoma pueblo, asked why he will not accept baptism before he is burned to death by Spanish Conquistadors, says it is because “I would go to the Christian heaven and meet even more of you people.”</p> <p><b>1503</b>—The body of Pope Alexander VI, dead but one day, is displayed to the public: swollen, putrescent, and “without any form or likeness of humanity.”</p>        | <p><b>2013</b>—RIP Elmore Leonard.</p> <p><b>1986</b>—Drug addict Randy Woolls helps Texas kill him by finding a good vein.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—Returning to the Philippines under assurances there will be no reprisals for his dissidence, Benigno Aquino is shot dead as soon as he leaves his plane.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—The House of Representatives votes 412-3 to recommend Articles of Impeachment against Richard Nixon.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—“Tired of playing for people who clap for all the wrong reasons,” Frank Zappa disbands the Mothers of Invention.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Keene, N.H. seminary student &amp; civil rights worker Jonathan Daniels is murdered in Nayneville, Ala. White jurors acquit his killer.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—In Mexico, Stalinist agent Ramon Mercader attacks Leon Trotsky with an ice ax. Trotsky tells his guards, “Do not kill him. This man has a story to tell.”</p> <p><b>1910</b>—Above the Sheepshead Bay racetrack in New York, Lt. Jacob E. Fickel pulls the trigger on the first gun shot from an airplane.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—Miners seize the town of Cripple Creek, Colo., and deport town officials.</p> <p><b>1619</b>—Jamestown, Va. gets its first group of 20 African slaves.</p> <p><b>1191</b>—Richard the Lion Hearted’s troops slaughter 3,000 Arabs in the Holy Land.</p>                          | <p><b>1992</b>—Vicki and Sammy Weaver, and U.S. Marshal W.F. Degan, die in a shootout at Ruby Ridge, Idaho.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—Two day occupation of Seabrook, N.H. nuke site begins.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Ngô Đình Nhu’s secret police kill hundreds of Buddhist protestors across Vietnam — in defense of democracy, to be sure.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—CBS’s “Evening News” reports on the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals, Alan Abel’s most successful hoax.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—At Los Alamos, N.M., Physicist Harry K. Daghlian accidentally drops a tungsten carbide brick causing a plutonium core to give him a lethal burst of radiation.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—Supreme Court “Justice” Louis Brandeis refuses to hear a request for a stay of execution of anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Birth of Christopher Robin Milne, who later said, “[I]t seemed to me, almost, that my father had got to where he was by climbing upon my infant shoulders.”</p> <p><b>1863</b>—William A. Quantrill and several hundred of his Raiders attack Lawrence, Kan., and kill hundreds of men, women, and children.</p> <p><b>1831</b>—Nat Turner leads a slave rebellion in Virginia.</p> <p><b>1791</b>—Slaves revolt in Santo Domingo.</p> <p><b>1621</b>—A widow and eleven girls in Virginia are ordered sold for 120 pounds of tobacco each.</p> | <p><b>2002</b>—A Bush Administration spokesperson announces that as punishment for selling SCUD missiles, North Korea, with which we do not trade anyway, will suffer trade sanctions.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—The Bush Administration, having jacked up expenses and slashed taxes, announces a baffling decrease in the federal surplus.</p> <p>1992—An FBI sniper kills Vicki Weaver at Ruby Ridge in Idaho.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—When Derick Lynn Peterson’s heart continues to beat for ten minutes after his electrocution, Virginia officials zap him again.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—Police arrest 179 at Seabrook, N.H. anti-nuke rally.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Almost 900 protesters are arrested in Miami during the Republican National Convention.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—The last prisoners leave Devil’s Island.</p> <p><b>1952</b>—The Justice Department sues four big U.S. oil companies for overcharging for oil shipped to Europe under the Marshall Plan.</p> <p><b>1900</b>—Akron rioters push the world’s first police car into a canal.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—Birth of Dorothy Parker. At 70, she wrote, “If I had any decency, I’d be dead. Most of my friends are.”</p> <p><b>1787</b>—John Fitch tests a steamboat on the Delaware River.</p> <p><b>1791</b>—Slave revolt begins in Haiti, which becomes a free black country in 1804. U.S. recognizes its sovereignty 61 years later.</p> |
| <p>12:50 1:23</p> <p>7:07 7:23</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     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