

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Run Over by a Trumpcycle

Tuesday, May 3rd, was a date which would live in comedic history — if only it were a little less terrifying.

On that day, the Party which once brought us the Great Emancipator fell into the manicured little hands of the nation's most obnoxious and persistent goon.

As if that were not awful enough, on that same day the Party of Jefferson and Jackson fecklessly continued on the path which leads toward the nomination of the candidate most likely to lose the general election, while perversely disregarding a five-point victory by her opponent.

As noted, though, there were laughs to be had as the world's greatest democracy continued disgracing itself.

Donald Trump jump-started the day's news trumpcycle by suggesting — using the *National Enquirer*, newspaper of record for the nation's supermarkets, as his source — that Cruz's father may have consorted with Lee Harvey Oswald and played a part in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He told Fox "News" that a picture exists showing Cruz's father Rafael "with Lee Harvey Oswald prior to Oswald's being — you know, shot. I mean, the whole thing is ridiculous." The last five words, at least, were indisputably true.

Ted Cruz — does anyone remember Ted Cruz now, eleven whole days after the Indiana Pri-

mary? — was already at a disadvantage. He was born in Canada, he had lost 14 of the last 16 primaries, and he couldn't seem to shake the widespread rumor that he is the Zodiac Killer. It could not have helped when former House Speaker John Boehner dubbed him "Lucifer in the flesh," and said he was "the most miserable son of a bitch I have ever had to work with."

Still game, though, Cruz retaliated by bringing up certain indecible remarks once made by his rival. "Donald Trump is a serial philanderer and he boasts about it. ... [He] describes his battle with venereal disease as his own personal Vietnam."*

Any ordinary candidate making such an odious comparison would be sealing his own doom. Trump, though — a known draft-dodger whose military experience ended with his graduation from the New York Military Academy — got away with it. The confluence of several factors allows Trump to transcend such trifles.

He has an exceptional talent for something called the Gish Gallop. Named after Duane Gish, a promoter of Creationism, it is the practice of relentlessly spewing such a profusion of lies that no one can hope to counter them all effectively.

* Unlike Trump's charge, Cruz's stands up to scrutiny. The video is easy to find on YouTube.



Trump's patented brand of verbal bomb-throwing has won him the equivalent of \$1.8 billion in campaign advertising. He has received more than twice Clinton's coverage on CNN, according to *Politico*. The *Nation* has calculated that he has gotten 23 times as much coverage as Bernie Sanders.

This generosity from the networks has not been entirely altruistic. In fact, it's almost as if Trump and the broadcasters were conspiring to take the U.S. for a ride. Ratings are through the roof, and advertising rates have followed. CNN reportedly charged \$200,000 for ads during the Republican debate last September. That's 40 times the usual rate. Les Moonves, CEO of CBS, said, "It may not be good for America, but

it's damn good for CBS."

Cruz gave Indiana everything he had — almost literally. What votes he got cost him about \$10 each. Trump beat him by more than 16 points, though. The billionaire did it while staying in touch with his inner Scrooge McDuck. His cost per vote was about \$1.50.

Reince Priebus swallowed his pride, and perhaps a fistful of Xanax, and anointed Trump as the "presumptive nominee." According to a poll released Tuesday, that nominee is viewed less favorably than used car salesmen, root canals, and lice.

The Electoral College map says it's pretty unlikely that Trump can get to 270. A year ago, though, no one thought that Trump could

become the nominee.

The nation hasn't seen a Presidential election this sordid since 1800, when the President of Yale said Thomas Jefferson "would see our wives and daughters the victims of legal prostitution." Jefferson, no slouch at calumny himself, called Adams "a blind, bald, crippled, toothless man who is a hideous hermaphroditic character."

It ain't pretty, but apparently this is how the world's mightiest alleged democracy selects one of its citizens to lead it — and, if need be, push The Button.

On Tuesday, a headline in *Politico* read, "Trump nomination sparks more fear than hope." That's encouraging, given what's at stake. At this point, all we have to fear is a shortage of fear itself.

The Alleged News®

Talk about a deadline

It's time for some remedial reporting on the ongoing climate debacle. We would be remiss in our duties if we let the world come to an end without leaving behind a record of its demise.¹

Harvard scientists reported in March that satellite monitoring shows U.S. emissions of methane have increased by thirty percent over the past ten years. The scientists say they don't know for sure where all that methane is coming from, but they did point to a likely source: fracking.

Natural gas production has increased dramatically over the past decade, thanks almost entirely to hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. This had widely been thought to be a good thing, since natural gas only generates half as much carbon dioxide as coal when it's burned.

In the year 2000, just a very small percentage of gas came from

fracked wells. Such wells now account for more than two-thirds of the nation's gas production.

Opponents of fracking have warned that the practice may cause widespread leakage of methane — a gas which is 86 times more powerful than carbon dioxide when it comes to warming the atmosphere. The Harvard study suggests they may have been right — we might have been better off burning coal to light up the nation's used car lots and maintain the sub-arctic temperatures of our office buildings.

NOAA reported in March that February had set a new global temperature record for the highest monthly departure from average. Also, the global temperature from December through February set a record for the highest departure from average for any 3-month period on record. February also marked the 10th consecutive month a monthly global temperature record had been broken.

These high temperatures have had an entirely predictable effect: the average extent of Arctic sea ice in February was 7.5 percent below

the 1981–2010 average. That was the smallest extent of sea ice in February since record keeping began in 1979. It was 77,000 square miles smaller than the previous record in 2005, and the second consecutive record low month.

The news from the other end of the Earth is no more encouraging. Antarctic sea ice during February was 9.54 percent below the 1981–2010 average. Antarctic sea ice was at its sixth-smallest extent for the month in the 38-year period of record, and the smallest since 2011.²

In April, NOAA essentially re-issued the same report, except that all the numbers were considerably worse.

There is one spot on Earth where the temperature anomalies have gone in the other direction. Ocean temperatures off south-eastern Greenland have been cooler — a lot cooler. Unfor-

2 - We've had our own ice anomaly here in the Granite State. Ice-out on Lake Winnepesaukee was declared on March 18th. It was the earliest ice-out ever. The previous record, set in 2012, had been March 23rd. It made for a short ice season on the big lake: it didn't freeze over until February 15th.

tunately, that, too, is bad news.

A Brief Digression

Since our Constitution prohibits the establishment of an official religion, we make do with an unofficial one, namely, the free market. Its chief rival is the environment, proponents of which are generally known as tree-hugging dirt-worshippers. The balance of power between the two could not be more asymmetrical.

The market, presented with a sudden abundance of low-priced natural gas, promptly switched the fuel it uses to generate electricity from coal to natural gas.

Tree-hugging dirt-worshippers would have preferred that federal subsidies go into research and development of solar, wind, wave, and tidal power; to the development of new conservation strategies, &c., &c.

In the jargon of talk radio, however, that would have constituted "picking winners and losers." Therefore that approach was *verboten*.

As a result, the *status quo ante* has been preserved. The cost per kilowatt-hour remains compa-

table. The flow of profits to the private shareholders of legacy industries can continue without interruption; and our office buildings, commercial venues, and entertainment palaces can still be kept at sub-arctic temperatures.

The massive, recently-discovered increase in atmospheric methane suggests that the true cost of preserving our obsolete electrical infrastructure has been socialized. Sooner or later the environment will take its revenge. No one knows how much, or when, but everyone will pay.

Our Narrative, Resumed

Now back to the bad news. On April 8th, Kimberly Arsenault reported in the *Emergency Management News* that, according to a recent American Meteorological Society study, "the continued decrease in Arctic sea ice is a contributing factor in the melting of the Greenland ice sheet."

"As sea ice in the Arctic continues to decline in summer months, the impact is ultimately felt as an

1 - Here we are speaking metaphorically, of course. While continuing to pollute the atmosphere may well cause the climate to become so unstable that human life on Earth becomes unsustainable, actually destroying the planet appears to be beyond our capacity — so far.

The Alleged News®
from page one

overall warming trend. A decrease in Arctic sea ice increases the occurrences of blocking high-pressure events, which is responsible for enhancing the movement of warm, moist air over Greenland. The introduction of warm, moist air then causes an increased downwelling of infrared radiation and plays a part in increased extreme heat events. The end result: an overall warming trend involving Greenland.”

Lo and behold, Ruth Mottram, writing for the Danish Meteorological Institute [DMI], reported on April 12th that an “early melt event over the Greenland ice sheet occurred this week, smashing by a month the previous records of more than 10 percent of the ice sheet melting.

“Based on observation-initial-ized weather model runs by DMI, almost 12 percent of the Greenland ice sheet had more than 1 mm of melt on Monday, April 11th, following an early start to melting the previous day. Scien-

tists at DMI were at first incredulous due to the early date. ‘We had to check that our models were still working properly’ said Peter Langen, a climate scientist at DMI.”

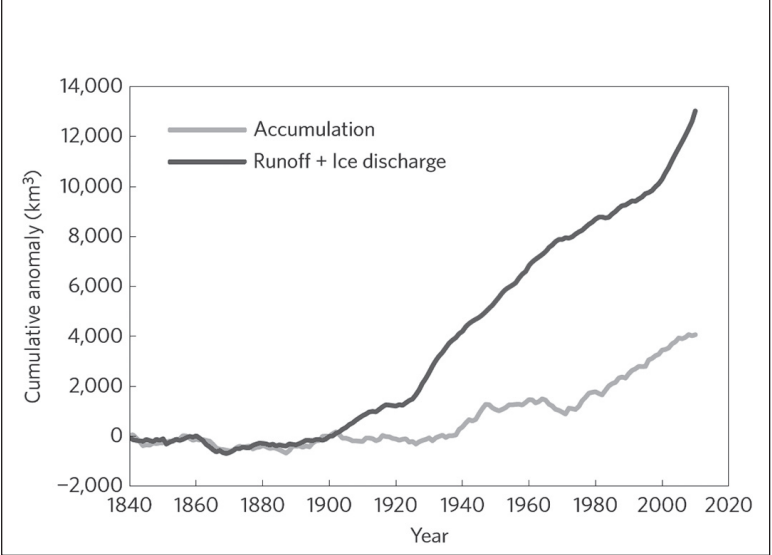
All that melting results in a huge increase in the volume of fresh water streaming from the ice sheet.

It pours into the sub-polar Atlantic in the general vicinity of that weird, persistent cold spot southeast of Greenland.

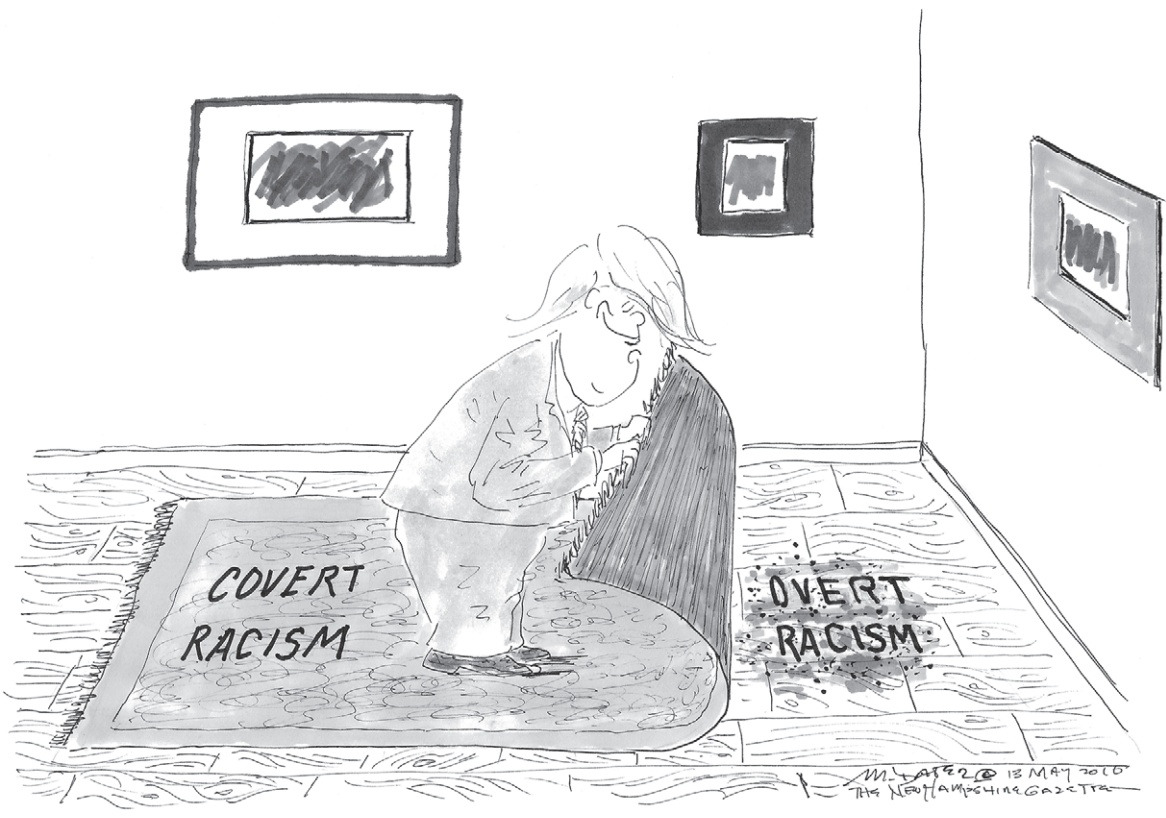
Unfortunately, that is a strategic location. It’s where some of the warm water brought north from the Caribbean by the Gulf Stream cools and sinks and begins flowing back down south along the sea floor. The rest of it goes on to Europe as the North Atlantic Drift, where it moderates what would otherwise be a much harsher climate — or it did.

The cold water coming off Greenland is the likely cause behind recent observations showing about a 30 percent reduction in the flow of the Gulf Stream.

In a remarkable coincidence, that is, more or less, what triggered the end of the world in Ro-



A balance between ice accumulation and meltwater runoff appears to have kept the mass of the Greenland Ice Sheet stable during the 19th century. Note the dramatic acceleration of runoff beginning at about the turn of the 21st century. From: *Exceptional twentieth-century slowdown in Atlantic Ocean overturning circulation*, © 2015 by Nature Climate Change.



land Emmerich’s *The Day After Tomorrow*.

If a warming Arctic actually is causing Greenland to melt, and a melting Greenland is slowing the Atlantic current, the consequences will probably not be quite so drastic as the script of a Roland Emmerich catastrophe film. Even so, they may be a drag.

Dire Consequences

Jacqueline Ronson, writing for *Inverse.com*, reported in March on several troubling consequences of climate change. Brewers on the West Coast are worried that they might have to switch from surface water to well water. It would be “like brewing with Alka-Seltzer,” according to one head brewer. In Belgium brewers used to make some types of beer outdoors in open vats between mid-October through May. Warmer winters are making that difficult, and it may become impossible. A 2006 heat wave in Europe led to severe barley shortages. Hops are even more vulnerable, particularly in the strategic Yakima Valley.

Vietnam War Drags On

Rep. Barbara Lee [D-Calif.] has introduced a House Resolution which would recognize the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

This might, on the surface, seem redundant, since the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate that war. Lee’s resolution, however, corrects a notable oversight.

Noting that “the movement to end the Vietnam War was one of the largest and most prolonged efforts to achieve peace and justice in recent generations and was critical to bringing an end to the war;” and that “the movement to end the Vietnam War was broad and included students, professors, workers, draft resisters, **United States servicemembers and veterans**, musicians and artists, candidates for Congress and the Presidency, **and mobilized a majority in opposition to the Vietnam War ...**,” House Resolution 695 “recognizes that the movement

to end the Vietnam War was one of the largest and most prolonged efforts to achieve peace and justice in recent generations and was critical to bringing an end to the war;” and “acknowledges the role of those who participated in public protests, teach-ins, and opposition to the war, and the many people who supported political candidates of both parties who sought to end the war.”

Lee introduced House Resolution 695 on April 20th — yes, on 4/20. So far she has enlisted a grand total of one co-sponsor, Rep. John Conyers [D-Mich.] In reference to the Lee resolution, noted pinko Tom Hayden recently said, “the Vietnam peace movement is the only Sixties movement that has been marginalized instead of memorialized.”


We assessed the bill’s chances of passage by querying our Magic 8-Ball. It replied: “Outlook not so good.” Our Legislation Analysis Desk, undaunted, ruled the bill “Ought to Pass.”

Lee is the embodiment of Tho-



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reau's dictum, "Any man more right than his neighbors constitutes a majority of one." On September 14, 2001, she was the only Member of Congress to vote "No" on the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Terrorists (AUMF). While not opposed to kicking butt in response to the 9/11 attacks, she did object to the AUMF's vague language and poorly-defined objectives, warning other Members "not to embark on an open-ended war with neither an exit strategy nor a focused target."

Such displays of statesmanship and good sense inevitably raise the question of how such a Member retains her seat. Lee, a Democrat (big surprise there) has represented California's 13th District since 2013. It has been ranked as the 4th most partisan District in Congress.

When she cast her vote against the AUMF, Lee represented California's 9th District. Her predecessor there was Rep. Ron Dellums, who once described the U.S. government as being "of the people, by the powerful, for the rich."

Liar Vouches for Crackpot

Have we noted lately that it's a weird world?

First District Rep. Frank Guinta, a Republican, has written a letter in support of Jerry DeLemus' request to be released from custody. Republicans used to claim the mantle of the party of law, order, and rectitude. If Members of Congress were ranked by their reputation as liars, though, Guinta would be No. 1. Just ask his hometown paper, Manchester's *Union Leader*.

DeLemus is in jail in Nevada, where he's awaiting trial for, among other things, lugging a .50 caliber Barrett semi-automatic rifle out to Nevada to defend a welfare rancher against the Federal Bureau of Land Management. For those who are unfamiliar with it, that gun is four feet long, weighs thirty pounds, and can accurately throw an armor-piercing slug weighing 1.6 ounces a mile and a half.

DeLemus' trial was to have begun May 2nd. Both parties, however, say they need more time to prepare. The Judge rescheduled the trial for February, 2017.



New Hampshire's Black History Highlighted in New Film Featuring Two Local Historians & Social Activists

Portsmouth, N.H. — The efforts of two dedicated historians and activists, Valerie Cunningham of Portsmouth and JerriAnne Boggis of Milford, to make New Hampshire's Black history visible is the focus of *Shadows Fall North*, a new documentary that premieres at the Music Hall Thursday, May 26th at 7:00 p.m.

How does New Hampshire, a state with the motto "Live Free or Die," confront and understand its participation in slavery, segregation, and the neglect of African-American history? What happens to our identity as residents of this state and as New Englanders when we begin to acknowledge all of our past?

Shadows Fall North, produced by the University of New Hampshire's Center for the Humanities in collaboration with Atlantic Media Productions of Portsmouth, will try to answer those questions and more.

A panel discussion and Q&A will follow with Producer Nancy Vawter; Director/Editor Brian Vawter; Consulting Producer and Director for the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail JerriAnne Boggis; Consulting Producer and historic preservationist Valerie Cunningham; and David Watters, Professor of English at UNH; with moderator Jason Sokol, Associate Professor of History at UNH.

Portsmouth, Milford, Canaan, and many other towns in New Hampshire have been home to natives of Africa and to African-Americans for centuries, but their stories have often been left out of official histories. *Shadows Fall North* focuses on the recovery of Black history in New Hampshire by two extraordinary women: Valerie Cunningham and JerriAnne Boggis.

Part of the history it covers is that of the African Burying

Ground in Portsmouth. In use during the 18th Century, the burying ground was later paved and built over. Coffins were exposed in 2003 during a construction project, and a memorial park opened at the site in 2015.

Through on-site footage and interviews, *Shadows Fall North* reveals how the work of dedicated citizens has been central in the push to make Black history part of New Hampshire's history. It asks Cunningham and Boggis what it is like to live in the state now, long after the era of Northern slavery, long after the local fight for Civil Rights, but as issues of race, identity, and belonging continue to arise in the region — and in the country.

Read more and see the preview at blackhistorynh.com.

Tickets for the May 26th premiere are available at www.themusichall.org.

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Invigorated by a jolt of Vitamin D, courtesy of a sun not seen since late April, the Flag Police shook off their torpor and rolled on Monday. Operating on well-honed instincts, they soon spotted a violation of Section 7, paragraph (i) of the Flag Code: "When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street."

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**The Reality Presidency**  
To the Editor:  
Yes, once again the legions of the gullible gather in the belief we have a stake in molding our nation's future. I don't mean to disappoint, but be prepared for mysterious forces to once again intercede and derail the process. This time, when the smoke clears and the voting machines mysteriously switch back to default mode, we'll enter the media-embellished era of America's first Reality Presidency.  
No more endearing fart jokes or secret cigarette breaks emanating from this White House. Our new-age populist leader will greet the nation weekly from a balcony high above the Rose Garden — standing tall in his gold-lame speedo and monogrammed snow-white robe. Below, heavily armed guards will ensure no errant camera ventures close enough to capture images of his pasty muffin-top or tiny hands.  
In the backdrop, we'll view a newly renovated First Residence — resplendent with opulent statues, pillars, reflection pools, colored lighting, and other Vegas-style trappings to mirror a familiar and unmistakable personal brand. And, his innermost circle will flank him, a stunning bevy of statuesque Slavic assistants — all female, blonde and surgically reconstructed to portray the finest trappings of American exceptionality.  
Meanwhile, in a darker place, America's exiled matron-in-wait-

ing may be found pacing like a caged cat, slapping her palm with the steely shank of a tire iron, and lamenting that her opportunity to apply it may have forever slipped away. This, because post 2016, the epoch battle between liberals and conservatives is no longer a relevant issue. America has moved on.  
Indeed, under the watchful eye of America's dearest leader, there can be no future role for those of us who would act disagreeably or promote disharmony among the masses. Instead, former political adversaries are expected to camp out at the same pub, bond as brothers and sisters, and share together rather than blame one another for the substance of our collective misfortune. The innocent victims of transnational circumstance, America will finally unite as one.  
Am I delusional? Possibly, but already my phone rings every day with bold pre-recorded messages from the Chosen One meant to soothe my fears and instill newfound visions of American greatness. And, frankly I can't wait until "American President" hits the airwaves in 2017. How healing it will be to sit down with Ted Cruz, bury the hatchet, and share that beer!  
Rick Littlefield  
Barrington, N.H.  
Rick:  
*Just promise us that, should your vision of our future come to pass, you'll keep sending us dispatches. We'll need them to balance out the screeds from people like John, here.*  
The Editor  
~~~~~  
News Flash
To the Editor:
Pundits and "experts" say Trump must do this and Trump must do that to unify the Republican party. I have a news flash for them. The Donald won. He beat the best we have while running an anti-establishment campaign. It is they, the entrenched career politicians, that need to change their

stripes and get with the program of the people. We learned this time around for the first time, at least for me, the voters don't pick our nominee. The delegates pick the delegates and they pick the nominee. What a sweet deal. The power brokers pick our candidate and we have nothing to say about it. It is time to clear out the cesspool in Washington and replace it with patriots who put our country first.
John Sangenario
Hampton, N.H.
~~~~~  
**Truthiness**  
To the Editor:  
"Truthiness," that delightful word coined by Stephen Colbert, is very important to America's voters. Most of us have been guilty of being ignorant of facts, taking them out of context, exaggerating or massaging them, or only telling part of the truth to enhance our image, but politicians have elevated misstatement, spin and prevarication to a new level. So who can we trust to run our government? Some more than others!  
The Pulitzer prize winning Politifact regularly fact-checks the statements made by presidential candidates for truth and accuracy. In this campaign season Hillary Clinton had more True or Mostly True statements than *any* of the original or present Republican candidates, tying Bernie Sanders for that honor. There were three people who had slightly better records — Barack Obama, Martin O'Malley, and best of all, Bill Clinton, whose public statements Politifact has monitored since 2007.  
At the other end of the scale, it is perhaps not surprising that three quarters of Donald Trumps statements were Mostly False, False, or Pants on Fire, which makes him probably the most dishonest person to run for president in our lifetime. This alone, even if he weren't emotionally unstable, a narcissist, inexperienced and in-

*Mash Notes,* **HATE MAIL**  
tellectually lazy, would disqualify him for the presidency of the most powerful nation in the world.  
Cynthia Muse  
Rye, N.H.  
~~~~~  
Self-Government a Failure
To the Editor:
The American Revolution wasn't fought for plunder or conquest, but for the ideas that people can govern themselves and have inherent (by birth) rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. For these ideas wealthy, prominent Americans, prospering under British rule, pledged/risked their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor ... and many endured hardships during the revolution they began.
The U.S. Constitution defined a government that implemented those ideas, enabling self-government (through elected representatives) and protecting peoples' inherent rights.
Some people have various criticisms of the Constitution, e.g., it allowed slavery, although it authorized Congress to abolish it after 1808, and it didn't enable women to vote; but the Constitution provided an amendment process for providing fixes and addressing future needs.
In our first century Americans became the wealthiest and freest people in the world; millions immigrated to pursue their American dreams.
Then things changed. Professional politicians, who saw government as their path to wealth and power, replaced citizen legislators who served briefly then returned home.
Professional politicians gain power and wealth by dispensing money and privileges to supporters, so government size exploded from typically 3 percent to over 20 percent of GDP now. Now government controls most aspects
of our lives, what we can buy, what things cost, what we can do with our property, and often even what we can do with our lives.
Most Americans know that our government is too big, too intrusive, too wasteful, too expensive, too guided by what helps politicians; and it does nothing well. It destroys American jobs, depresses wages, destroys American families, stifles initiative, placed an enormous national debt burden on unborn Americans, and rewards takers and special interests rather than most contributors to our society.
The Tea Party fights to put control back in the hands of citizens. The Tea Party opposes subsidies, bailouts, deficit spending, selective law enforcement, and any special privileges for the rich and/or politically connected. The Tea Party fights for a smaller Constitutionally limited government providing opportunities and equal treatment for all.
Those who richly benefit from big government, e.g., professional politicians, the Democrat and Republican establishments, government employees, and other special interests, don't want to give up their wealth and power. So they hate and smear the Tea Party, e.g., calling it "Fascist", and unite to destroy Tea Party.
If Americans keep electing political establishment candidates, then our big corrupt government will continue to grow and the opportunities and prosperity for most American will continue to decline. Only by turning towards a smaller Constitutionally limited government can Americans rationally expect to improve their opportunities, prosperity, and freedoms. Join a Tea Party, help return to government of, by, and for the people.
Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
"Great Depression, national humiliation—
put them together, like in the 1920s and '30s
in Germany, and you end up with
the serpent's egg hatching."
— Yanis Varoufakis, Finance Minister of Greece,
describing the current Greek economic situation

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And Other Correspondence

Don:
The Tea Party is the saddest example of delusional thinking since the Peoples' Temple.
The Editor

~~~~~  
**Let's Publically Fund Elections**  
To the Editor:  
Running for president (and Congress) is by no means inexpensive and the price tag seems to be growing exponentially with every election. I have paid much attention to how the candidates are financing their respective campaigns in 2016, having learned to tell what kind of president to expect based on how a given candidate goes about funding his/her campaign.

With the two non-establishment candidates still very much in the race to receive the nomination of their respective party, we have three very distinct methods for funding a presidential campaign on full display.  
Each of the establishment candidates to date have employed the conventional method of funding, which is to receive their finances (obscene amounts of money) from corporate and billionaire oligarchs, via SuperPACs, which indicates to me that these candidates, as president, would maintain the status quo and do the bidding of their campaign contributors for whom: democracy; social and economic justice; world peace; affordable healthcare; infrastructure repair; climate change reversal; clean air and water; and lower priced, quality education are not profitable.  
The Republican front-runner is reportedly a wealthy man, who has been self-funding his campaign. If a candidate's intentions were honorable and he/she was sincere about carrying out the business of the American people, then this particular financing method would be more desirable

than the aforementioned type, as the candidate would presumably be beholden to no special interests. However, this GOP candidate, the owner of a large ego, has been extremely divisive, his rhetoric has been hateful, and he has offered no substance to suggest that he would be a good president, who wishes to solve problems.  
Senator Bernie Sanders has been calling for publically funded elections for a long time and has made history with his own presidential campaign having received over 7,000,000 individual contributions at an average of \$27. Bernie has done so by speaking the truth and offering real solutions to problems, which demonstrates that one can feasibly become a transformative president through public funding and, in the process, create a massive people-powered-political revolution, welcomed by millions of Americans and the world at-large.  
Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, N.H.

~~~~~  
Donald Trump's Judgment
To the Editor:
Donald Trump said he would use water boarding which he did not consider torture as well as "real torture." He said he would bomb families of fighters. He would be ordering our military and CIA to commit war crimes. If they set foot in Europe or any of the 139 countries which signed the International Criminal Court Statute they could be arrested and tried as war criminals.
He said he thinks Japan and Saudi Arabia should get nuclear weapons. It was Saudi citizens who carried out the 9/11 attacks. Saudi citizens finance the various branches of Al Qaeda. The Saudi government's bombing campaign in Yemen freed hundreds of Al Qaeda prisoners in that country. That branch of Al Qaeda tried

twice to blow up US passenger planes, yet Mr. Trump wants their ally, Saudi Arabia, to have nuclear weapons.
This is not someone who should be our Commander in Chief. Nor should he be trusted with appointing our next Supreme Court justice. Unfortunately Senator Kelly Ayotte is working to make sure he will have a chance to appoint the next justice. She supports him for president. I question Senator Ayotte's judgment and so should you.
Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth N.H.
Walter:
Us? Question Ayotte's judgment? You need not worry on that count.
The Editor

~~~~~  
**The Supremes & Gay Marriage**  
To the Editor:  
A few months ago a sharply divided (5-4) Supreme Court concocted a Constitutional "right" to homosexual "marriage." That won't be the last word on the subject. The ideologically based, politically biased decision, which basically puts heterophobic homosexuals on the same level as normal heterosexuals, so flies in the face of reason that it will eventually be overturned by more intelligent, less biased judges.  
As female minds in male bodies and male minds in female bodies are sure signs that something went wrong somewhere (in nature and/or nurture), so homosexual minds in heterosexual bodies are also sure signs of mind/body mismatches, are sure signs of disorders. To put obvious disorders like homosexuality on a par with normal heterosexuality is clearly absurd. To equate homosexual "marriage" with heterosexual marriage is nonsensical.  
Thinking people have known for centuries that homosexual activity is immoral and a bad legal precedent. The ancient and primitive Greek and Roman societies once valued homosexual activity,

but people ultimately wised up and deprecated it. Plato, for example, perceptively and logically opposed it as unethical. Some Supreme Court Justices should be as wise as Plato and many other intellectuals on this subject.  
Someday in the future people will look back at this regressive, crass, and inane decision and wonder "What were they thinking?" (or *if* they were thinking). In the meantime, it's up to decent ethical people to work to overturn it.  
Wayne Lela  
Downers Grove, Ill.  
Wayne:  
*Thank you for providing this vivid example of deranged thinking.*  
The Editor

~~~~~  
Dear Friend
To the Editor:
Compliments of the day and [blah blah]. I am Bernard Madoff, an American convicts [sic], stockbroker, investment adviser, and financier. I was arrested in December 11, 2008, but before the arrest, I was the founder of Wall Street firm, Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities
On March 12, 2009, I pleaded guilty [blah blah] sentenced to 150 years in prison [blah blah] my life is worthless and nothing matters to me again
I have accepted Jesus Christ as my lord and personal savior [blah blah] I still have in my possession a total sum of €100,000.000.00 (One Hundred Million Euro), which the U.S. Government is not aware of because the fund is hidden far away from American continent [blah blah blah].
Bernard Madoff
FCI Butner, N.C.
Bernard:
We're a little dubious ... but you do seem more trustworthy than Ted Cruz.
The Editor

~~~~~  
**The April 15th Rant**  
To the Editor:



Can't argue with your description of how the Democrats cravenly surrendered (or bought in) after Carter's loss. However, the rot started much earlier with McGovern's defeat. The DNC quickly made changes to the rules so that, as the execrable Cokie Roberts put it recently "the kids can't take over." Robert Strauss of Texas, last seen as a Bush family retainer, was put in charge of the party. He and the higher echelons were saying that they must become more like Republicans, firm up their Defense bona fides, make themselves business friendly, and go for the money. The post-Nixon 1974 election brought in huge majorities for the Democrats, but an article in the *New York Times* at the end of their first session trenchantly reported how all the lobbyists were smiling. Purportedly elected to end the campaign financing that created Watergate, they had passed legislation making it easier for outside interests to bribe them.  
With Carter, a Democratic Congress made the largest tax cut in history, cutting the marginal rate from 73 percent to 50 percent. Of course all this cash did not go into the stagnant economy, but into hedge funds and mergers and acquisitions, the latter allowed by a benign Anti-Trust bureau. Downsizing and out-sourcing became the norm under them. They eliminated the

**Hate Mail, &c.**  
to page six

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The Northcountry Chronicle

“The Old Homestead”

by William Marvel

Every summer the town of Swanzey is the scene of an outdoor presentation of Denman Thompson’s nostalgic comedy, “The Old Homestead,” about a country boy who goes to the city. I saw it once, around 1976, and once was enough — although I understand the rural sentimentality that made it popular in the 19th century, when young people were abandoning the countryside in droves. Family homesteads decayed, farms returned to forest, and whole towns sometimes withered as the rising generation departed. Thus the mass migration often destroyed the very communities for which the migrants themselves became so homesick, and those who eventually accumulated enough money to return usually came as strangers to a place they no longer recognized.

Here in Conway, and just about anywhere else that used to be nice, the problem today is precisely the opposite. Now there are too many people swarming in from the cities — and worse yet, from

the endless suburbs that surround cities and make them so abhorrent. The only locations that retain their character are those that keep a low profile, flying under the radar of suburban refugees on the lookout for a nice, unique place in the country that they can turn into just another suburb.

Our Homestead, so much in the news last month,<sup>1</sup> is merely another victim of that trend. I’ve driven past that building thousands of times over the past half-century, but I’ve never been in it. I wanted to go once, decades ago, when the owners announced that they were making their dining area smoke-free, but the cost of a restaurant dinner in North Conway dissuaded me. Despite my familiarity with local history, it was only during the recent controversy over demolition of the building that I learned for certain that it was Amos Barnes’s home. Historic maps are not too precise about the location of houses.

The sudden rage to save this

house puzzled even me, with my mania for historic preservation. It’s undeniably old — allegedly built the same year as my grandparents’ farmhouse, just down the road from me — but it looks pretty rickety. Amos Barnes was indeed a Revolutionary veteran, with muster rolls from the 1st New Hampshire Regiment to confirm his pension claims, but that doesn’t make his house historic. I couldn’t help but wonder why it’s so crucial to save the place from the wrecking ball now, when for years it didn’t seem to be worth saving from dry rot. The pressure to save historic buildings usually only peaks after a structure is so far gone that the cost of preservation skyrockets. Even if restoration funds are obtained privately, they then consume such disproportionate charitable resources that more affordable projects suffer, and the overall potential for preservation is diminished.

Predictably, the intended demo-

lition of the Homestead resurrected an old appeal for government prohibition through historic-district zoning. Thirty years ago, as a member of the planning board, I sat on a committee charged with developing an ordinance for such a district in Redstone, which was trembling under the threat of extensive development in the Green Hills. If I remember correctly, I chaired that committee. We spent a lot of time on it, but to be at all effective such an ordinance has to be very restrictive. At a public hearing the residents saw just how restrictive it would be, and the same people who had asked us to draft the ordinance in the first place damned us high and low for trying to impose it on them. I made a motion to dump it then and there, and that was the end of it.

The Homestead’s appeal may emanate from its location, because the closer you get to North Conway the more important things seem to be. No protest preceded demolition of the 1840-vintage Uppercrest restaurant in Conway Village, where all Conway’s Civil

War recruiting rallies were held, and where the local post of the G.A.R. met. Not a peep was heard when the owner of the 180-year-old former Goshen Seminary in Center Conway faced such daunting regulatory hurdles that economics forced him to dismantle it. No one made any attempt to save Conway’s oldest surviving schoolhouse before the Conway Village Precinct decided to burn it down. Forty years of watching the town’s most traditionally rural districts diced into house lots has moved no one within rifle range of Kearsarge Street to activism. Approach North Conway, however, and suddenly people begin to care in a big way.

The real irony may be what Amos Barnes would say if he came back to earth and saw the house where he spent more than half his life sitting amid the retail hell of North Conway’s infamous Strip. He might ask outright for it to be torn down, just to end the indignity.

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

usury laws opening the gates for the credit card and loan industries. They bailed out Chrysler and blew off Youngstown Steel. They deregulated transportation and communications. Further, they began to increase military spending, making perhaps the largest increases in military pay in history, which went mainly to the top echelons of the officer and non-commissioned officer cadres. The military still hated Carter.

Finally, the biggest poison pill was appointing Paul Volcker as Chairman of the Fed. He ran the

economy from stagflation into recession, further weakening a decrepit labor movement. This made it easy for Reagan and his gang of criminals to slither into the White House. And the Democrats turned into hand-wringers, crying how hard they tried, but “Reagan was just too popular” to fight (Robert Byrd). Now we have the Corporate Clintons leading the wishy-washy liberals by the nose. One expects it of the Republicans, but since Carter’s move to the center the Democrats have become the enablers.

Jim Tartari  
Wellesley, Mass.  
Jim:  
*Thanks for helping to flesh out what was admittedly a superficial attempt to call the Democratic Party to account. Let’s hope Bernie’s campaign has a lasting effect, one way or the other.*

The Editor  
≈≈≈  
**Lead By Example Not Dictate**  
To the Editor:  
“Apparently, there are still those within government who didn’t get the memo?” And the last time that

I looked, this was still “A Government of The People, By The People, and For The People,” or has something been lost in the translation during the last 240 years?  
Now I don’t know how it was away back in 1776, a time when real men and real women inhabited this fledgling nation of ours, but I can tell you this: I take great exception to those “Pre-Mesolithic-Thinking Politicians” who feel that it is their right to rule and not govern, to dictate and not to listen, and to demand and not to adhere to the will of the majority,

regardless of their political affiliations!  
Once upon a time, in a land that now seems to be far, far away, a group of devout patriots risked everything that they had (including their very lives) to create something that, before that time, had only been an impossible dream! They rolled up their sleeves, wiped away the sweat, the tears and the blood from their brows, and defied the entire world to challenge their per-ordained right to be free and independent!  
“The price of this new-found

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## How Do Coal Barons Get Away With Murder?

by Jim Hightower

Coal mining is a filthy business. Literally. Miners not only get covered in the soot of their trade, but also suffer the suffocating death called “black lung.” The industry explodes mountaintops, contaminates mountain streams and drinking water, and causes both acid rain and climate change. Then there are the murders. Oh, they’re not called mur-

ders, but, intentionally sending workers 1,000 feet underground into poorly-ventilated tunnels filled with explosive methane gas and coal dust — without providing proven safety equipment — amounts to signing a murder contract with the Lord of the Underground. That’s what Don Blankenship did as CEO of Massey Energy. Recklessly pushing profits over safety, he oversaw the corporate murder of 29 West

Virginia miners in the predictable horror of an enormously violent detonation deep inside Massey’s Upper Big Branch mine in 2010. Now, at long last, Boss Blankenship has been convicted and sentenced in federal court. Not for murder, though. Under our nations’ feeble Mine Safety Act, killing 29 workers is a misdemeanor, and the “punishment” handed down to this multimillionaire corporate crime boss was merely one

year in jail and a \$250,000 fine! Such soft-on-crime leniency is not the fault of the jury or judge — they did the most with what the law allows for punishing industrial criminals. In fact, Blankenship is the first mining CEO ever convicted of conspiring to violate safety protections for miners. Rather, our corrupt, corporate-serving Congress critters are to blame. Key lawmakers have taken millions of dollars in

campaign donations from barons like Blankenship in exchange for reducing corporate murder to a misdemeanor.

The filthiest thing about Big Coal is its immoral use of filthy political money to let its bosses literally get away with murder.

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## New Law Shields People from Arrest for Protesting Project

Pennsylvania Township Legalizes Civil Disobedience

Ready to Stop Company from Injecting Frack Wastewater into their Community

**Grant Township, Indiana County, Pa., May 3rd**—Tonight, Grant Township Supervisors passed a first-in-the-nation law that legalizes direct action to stop frack wastewater injection wells within the Township. Pennsylvania General Energy Company (PGE) has sued the Township to overturn a local democratically-enacted law that prohibits injection wells.

If a court does not uphold the people’s right to stop corporate activities threatening the well-being of the community, the ordinance codifies that, “any natural person may then enforce the rights and prohibitions of the charter through direct action.” Further, the ordinance states that any nonviolent direct action to enforce their Charter is protected, “prohibit[ing] any private or public actor from bringing criminal charges or filing any civil or other criminal action against those participating in nonviolent direct action.”

Grant Township Supervisor

Stacy Long explained, “We’re tired of being told by corporations and our so-called environmental regulatory agencies that we can’t stop this injection well! This isn’t a game. We’re being threatened by a corporation with a history of permit violations, and that corporation wants to dump toxic frack wastewater into our Township.”

Long continued, “I live here, and I was also elected to protect the health and safety of this Township. I will do whatever it takes to provide our residents with the tools and protections they need to nonviolently resist aggressions like those being proposed by PGE.”

In 2013, residents in Grant Township learned that PGE was applying for permits that would legalize the injection well. Despite hearings, public comments, and permit appeals demonstrating the residents’ opposition to the project, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency issued a permit to PGE.

Finding themselves with no other options, residents requested the help of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF). Grant Township Supervisors, with broad community support, passed a CELDF-drafted Community Bill of Rights ordinance in June 2014. The ordinance established rights to clean air and water, the right to local community self-government, and the rights of nature. The proposed injection well is prohibited as a violation of those rights.

PGE promptly sued the Township, claiming that it had a “right” to inject within the Township.

The case is ongoing. Last year, in October 2015, the judge invalidated parts of the ordinance, stating that the Township lacked authority to ban injection wells. Three weeks later, in November 2015, residents voted in a new Home Rule Charter. The rights-based Charter reinstated the ban on injection wells by a 2-to-1 vote, overriding the judge’s decision.

CELDF assisted the community with the drafting of the Charter and is representing the Township in the ongoing litigation with PGE.

Grant Township Supervisor and Chairman Jon Perry summed up the situation by saying, “Sides need to be picked. Should a polluting corporation have the right to inject toxic waste, or should a community have the right to protect itself?”

Perry continued, “I was elected to serve this community, and to protect the rights in our Charter voted in by the people I represent. If we have to physically and nonviolently stop the trucks from coming in because the courts fail us, we will do so. And we invite others to stand with us.”

Those others are showing up. Tim DeChristopher, co-founder of the Climate Disobedience Center, stated, “I’m encouraged to see an entire community and its elected officials asserting their rights to defend their communi-

ty from the assaults of the fossil fuel industry, and I know there are plenty of folks in the climate movement ready to stand with Grant Township.”

CELDF community organizer Chad Nicholson has been working with the community since 2014. He added, “In our country’s history, we celebrate people standing up to challenge unjust laws. The American Revolution, abolition, women’s suffrage, the labor and civil rights movements, marriage equality — all required people to take action resisting illegitimate laws. All required creating new and more just laws in their place. We applaud the people of Grant Township for taking action as their community is threatened, and asserting their rights. It is an honor to stand with them.”

If you are interested in supporting the efforts in Grant Township, please contact Stacy Long, lemonphone28@gmail.com or 724.840.7214.

freedom has never been cheap however!” And as a matter of fact, hundreds of thousands have perished in the quest, but the true patriot would not be denied! Unfortunately however, and as it is in any society, there have always been those who came to pillage — be it under the guise of politics or even friendship, as to people like

these, image has always meant far more than substance! Besides, it has always been far easier to point a finger, rather than lend a hand, or to destroy and belittle, rather than to assist and to build!

As such, I ask you this: “If some of those who are currently running for high public office are as wanting and lackluster as their

political opposition is now painting them out to be, then why (and how) can we entirely trust any one of them with the destiny and the survival of generations of Americans who are yet to be born, or haven’t you thought of that?”

“Our Founding Fathers” truly believed that they owed all future generations a great debt of hon-

or and responsibility! They also believed that this was a debt that could never be fully repaid! They were not however, solely in business for themselves, nor were they congenital liars, flaming elitists, or even the heirs apparent to some kingdom of never-ending political entitlement, as only blood, sweat, tears, ingenuity and toil can

continue to lubricate the gears of democracy — and of this, never have any doubt — “Lest Freedom and Liberty Someday Cease To Exist!”

H. Rick Tavares  
Campo, California  
H.  
Wow. Just wow.  
The Editor

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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, MAY 15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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| <p><b>2010</b>—To clarify the caliber of its scholarship, Liberty University bestows a Doctorate on Glenn Beck.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—The White House admits it knew before 9/11 that al Qaeda had plans to hijack U.S. airliners.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—The Pentagon releases info confirming that Manuel Noriega used to be on the CIA's payroll.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Off Cambodia, the Marine Corps conducts its first hostile ship-to-ship boarding in 150 years, against the empty <i>Mayaguez</i>. Eighteen Marines are KIA, a chopper crash kills another 23, and 50 are wounded. The ship's crew is released unharmed.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—City and State cops shoot 14 protesting black students, killing two, at Jackson State in Mississippi.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—Saying, “If there has to be a bloodbath then let’s get it over with,” Governor Ronald Reagan sends the National Guard to take Peoples’ Park from the hippies.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The U.S. secretly begins bombing Laos.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Gen. Bradley calls Gen. MacArthur’s Korea plan “[t]he wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy.”</p> <p><b>1916</b>—In Waco, 10,000 celebrate the lynching of Jesse Washington.</p> <p><b>1872</b>—Julia Ward Howe invents first Mothers Day — an anti-war holiday.</p> <p><b>1525</b>—Though they suffer six casualties, mercenaries serving nobles prevail against German peasants at Frankenhause, killing 3,000 to 10,000.</p> | <p><b>2001</b>—Ex-FBI Special Agent, devout Catholic, patron of strippers, and exhibitionist Robert Hanssen is indicted for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then the Russians.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—The <i>U.S.S. Guitarro</i>, being fitted out at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, sinks in 35 feet of water, causing an estimated \$25 million in damage. Congress blames shipyard workers.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Senator William F. Knowland, (R-Calif.), says “Using U.S. ground forces in the Indo-China jungle would be like trying to cover an elephant with a handkerchief—you just can’t do it.”</p> <p><b>1948</b>—CBS correspondent George Polk, (“the first casualty of the Cold War”—I.F. Stone) turns up murdered in Salonika Harbor. The U.S.-supported Greek government frames a Commie, and U.S. journalists cover up the frame.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—Congress passes the Sediton Act, making it illegal to criticize the government.</p> <p><b>1916</b>—In the Sykes-Picot Agreement, Britain and France, with Russia’s OK, screw the Arabs.</p> <p><b>1879</b>—Two men in Raleigh, N.C. are hanged twice: the ropes were too long the first time. In Utah, a firing squad misses the condemned man’s heart; it takes him 27 minutes to die.</p> <p><b>1866</b>—In a fit of productivity, Congress eliminates the half-dime and replaces it with the nickel.</p> | <p><b>2004</b>—Same-sex marriage is legalized in Massachusetts, to the delight of Karl Rove.</p> <p><b>1996</b>—The House Ethics Committee says serial groper Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) fails to meet its standards.</p> <p><b>1995</b>—Army veteran and deranged meth addict Shawn Nelson steals a tank from a San Diego Armory and goes on a vehicle crushing rampage before being shot by police.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—The <i>U.S.S. Stark</i> is hit by an Iraqi Exocet missile; 37 sailors die.</p> <p><b>1976</b>—<i>Time</i> quotes Ronald Reagan: “Fascism was really the basis of the New Deal.”</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Nine people break into Catonsville, Md.’s draft board and burn 600 files with homemade napalm.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—TSgt. Harold J. Ripslinger’s remains are found 200 miles from his B-24, <i>Lady Be Good</i>, which crashed in the Libyan desert in 1943.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—The Supreme Court, getting one right, rules that “separate but equal” education won’t do.</p> <p><b>1934</b>—At Madison Square Garden, tens of thousands of Friends of the New Germany rally under a swastika in support of A. Hitler.</p> <p><b>1905</b>—Hiram Cronk, 105, the last veteran of the War of 1812, is buried in Brooklyn, N.Y.</p> <p><b>1872</b>—Five <i>San Francisco Examiner</i> reporters form the Bohemian Club to “elevate journalism to that place in the popular estimation to which it is entitled.” Now reporters are barred.</p> | <p><b>1992</b>—The 27th Amendment, prohibiting any Congress from raising its own pay, is ratified 202 years after its submission.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—The Rev. Sun Myung Moon is convicted of tax fraud.</p> <p><b>1980</b>—Mt. St. Helens cuts loose for the first time in 123 years.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—India successfully tests a nuclear weapon in an operation named Smiling Buddha.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—The pilot of an American B-26 shot down over Indonesia is initially dismissed as a “soldier of fortune,” but it’s later admitted he was a CIA employee.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—The propaganda plane <i>Maxim Gorky</i>, equipped with a printing plant and loudspeakers audible from the ground, crashes after it’s is hit by an escorting fighter plane; 45 die.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—Andrew Kehoe, angry at having to pay taxes to support the Bath, Mich. school system, blows up the school killing 43 people including 39 grade-schoolers. He then kills his wife, loads his truck with dynamite and nails, and blows up the school superintendent and himself.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—The draft law is enacted.</p> <p><b>1897</b>—Frank Capra is born in Palermo, Italy.</p> <p><b>1896</b>—The U.S. Supreme Court rules, in <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i>, that racial segregation is legal.</p> <p><b>1842</b>—In Rhode Island, populist Dorrites try unsuccessfully to take the state arsenal.</p> | <p><b>1997</b>—NBC sportscaster Marv Albert is indicted for forcible sodomy and biting a prostitute.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—Veep Dan Quayle attempts to pin recent L.A. riots on TV character “Murphy Brown.”</p> <p><b>1964</b>—U.S. diplomats find at least 40 hidden microphones in the U.S. embassy in Moscow.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—In Madison Square Garden, Marilyn Monroe, barely wearing a diaphanous gown, sings “Happy Birthday” to President John F. Kennedy.</p> <p><b>1956</b>—A 15-megaton bomb test in the South Pacific raises radiation levels in the U.S. to 10 times normal.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—U.S. Postmaster General Summerfield OKs a CIA mail-opening project.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—An unexpected wind shift in Nevada sends fallout from our dirtiest nuke test ever, code-named Upshot-Knothole Harry, to the location where Howard Hughes will film <i>The Conqueror</i> one year later.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—In South Amboy, N.J., four ammunition barges carrying 467 tons of ammunition explode killing 30 and injuring 350 more.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—Rep. C. Fuller (D-Ark.) introduces a bill requiring Civil Service employees be able to “sing, write or recite the words to the Star Spangled Banner” from memory.</p> <p><b>1925</b>—Malcolm Little, later “X,” is born in Omaha, Neb.</p> <p><b>1790</b>—In mid-day, skies over New England grow dark as night.</p> | <p><b>2009</b>—The FBI entraps four Muslim men in a bogus Bronx bomb plot.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—U.S. and Iraqi troops raid the home and offices of Ahmed Chalabi, formerly the neo-cons’ most trusted source of Iraqi intelligence.</p> <p><b>1978</b>—Mavis Hutchinson, 53, makes New York City after running across America for 69 days.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—After 11 bloody assaults in 10 days, American troops take Dong Ap Bia at a cost of 70 dead and 372 wounded. Also known as “Hamburger Hill,” the objective is abandoned sixteen days later.</p> <p><b>1937</b>—George Orwell takes a bullet in the throat while fighting against Franco’s fascists in Spain.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—Charles Lindbergh leaves Long Island by air.</p> <p><b>1926</b>—Thomas Edison announces that Americans prefer silent films to talkies.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Henry Ford prints the bogus <i>Protocols of the Elders of Zion</i> in his newspaper, the <i>Dearborn Independent</i>.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—The town of Codell, Kan. is hit by a tornado.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—The town of Codell, Kan. is hit by a tornado.</p> <p><b>1916</b>—The town of Codell, Kan. is hit by a tornado.</p> <p><b>1899</b>—New Yorker Jacob German gets the first ticket for speeding—he went over 12 mph.</p> <p><b>1631</b>—Forces loyal to the Holy Roman Emperor sack Magdeburg and slaughter about 20,000 Protestants.</p> | <p><b>2011</b>—Not having gotten radio evangelist Harold Camping’s memo, Judgment Day fails to arrive.</p> <p><b>2010</b>—Glenn Beck claims “a good portion” of Americans were glad when FDR died.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—The GAO refutes GOP claims that departing Democrats vandalized the White House.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—The Senate OKs \$20 billion to resume full-scale production of nerve gas and other chemical weapons.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Students protest the Vietnam War in West Berlin, Paris, Peking, Berkeley, and New York.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—A screwdriver slips; the same plutonium core that killed Harry Daghlilian the previous August gives Louis Slotin a lethal burst of radiation.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Humphrey Bogart, 45, marries Lauren Bacall, 20.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—Nathan Leopold, 19, and Richard Loeb, 18, murder Robert Franks, 14, for the fun of it.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—Fats Waller comes wailing into this world.</p> <p><b>1894</b>—Shortly before being relieved of the burden of his head by Dr. Guillotin’s humane device, Emile Henry says to the assembled throng, “<i>Courage, comrade, vive l’anarchie.</i>”</p> <p><b>1823</b>—The 200th anniversary of the settling of Portsmouth is “celebrated with great éclat.”</p> <p><b>1871</b>—In Paris, “Bloody Week” begins; the errors of the Paris Commune are corrected by the execution of 20-35,000.</p> |
| <p>7:31 8:10</p> <p>1:18 1:47</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      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| SUNDAY, MAY 22                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | SATURDAY, MAY 28                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            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**2004**—Portsmouth’s own Leftist Marching Band makes its debut before a surprised and delighted audience in Market Square.

**2002**—Bobby Frank Cherry is found guilty of bombing the 16th Street Baptist Church in 1963.

**1981**—Director Boris Sagal is struck and killed by a helicopter rotor blade while making a film. Sagal had filmed the pilot episode of *Combat!*, whose star, Vic Morrow, will die the same way in 1982.

**1968**—In New York, police arrest nearly 1,000 at occupied Columbia U.

**1968**—The nuclear sub *Scorpion*, two nuclear torpedos, and all 99 crew members are lost at sea.

**1957**—A 10-megaton H-bomb is accidentally dropped near Albuquerque. Its attached parachutes fail to operate. The non-nuclear explosives leave a crater 12 feet deep and 25 across.

**1949**—Ex-Defense Secretary James Forrestal ambiguously defenestrates from a 16th floor hospital window.

**1944**—*Life* publishes a photo of an American girl at her desk with a souvenir sent by her boyfriend in the Pacific—the skull of Japanese soldier.

**1884**—Hugh Daily fans 13 for the Chicago Browns pitching with his right hand — the only one he has.

**1856**—Rep. Preston Brooks (D-S.C.) visits the floor of the Senate, where he beats Sen. Charles Sumner (Opp-Mass.) into unconsciousness with a cane.



**2012**—At the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, half a billion dollars in damage is done to the *U.S.S. Miami* by an arson fire set so the culprit could leave work early.

**2003**—Veep Dick “Dick” Cheney’s deciding vote in the Senate gives the rich a huge tax cut.

**1996**—Göran Kropp, having bicycled from his home in Sweden, submits Everest, solo, without bottled oxygen. He then bikes back to Sweden.

**1976**—The *Washington Post* reports that Rep. Wayne L. Hays (D-Ohio) has a mistress on his payroll at \$14,000 a year, though she admits she “can’t type ... can’t file, [and] can’t even answer the phone.”

**1969**—At a protest begun over a high school election in Greensboro, N.C., 600 National Guardsmen, backed by a helicopter and a tank, open fire.

**1945**—*Reichsführer* Heinrich Himmler cheats the hangman.

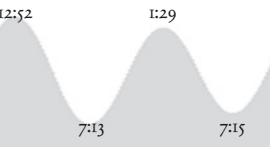
**1939**—*Squalus* sinks off the Shoals with 59 aboard. Twenty-six die, but, within 40 hours, 33 are rescued.

**1934**—Police in Louisiana ambush and kill Bonnie and Clyde.

**1930**—“I wish you all had one neck and that I had my hands on it,” writes serial killer Carl Panzram to the Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment.

**1908**—In Calif., 16 passengers survive a fall from an exploding dirigible.

**1832**—Samuel Sharpe is hanged for leading a slave rebellion. He now adorns Jamaica’s \$50.



**2005**—“See, in my line of work you got to keep repeating things over and over and over again for the truth to sink in, to kind of catapult the propaganda,” mansplains G.W.[MD] Bush.

**2001**—Senator James Jeffords (R-Vt.) walks out on the GOP, temporarily shifting the balance of power.

**2000**—Right-wing harridan Linda Tripp beats wiretap charges on a technicality: ignorance of the law.

**1989**—Stephen McCoy, being killed by Texas state employees, has a violent reaction to the drugs. His heaving and thrashing cause a male witness to faint and fall over, knocking over another witness.

**1982**—Some poor soul in South Africa gives birth to a 22 lb. baby.

**1980**—Hundreds of anti-nuke occupiers are arrested at Seabrook.

**1978**—To spring skyjacker Garrett B. Trapnell, pistol-packing Barbara Ann Oswald orders pilot Allen Barklage to land his charter helicopter in the yard of the federal pen at Marion Ill.. Barklage nixes the plot by grabbing the gat and shooting Oswald dead.

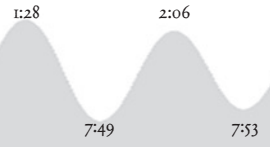
**1964**—Barry Goldwater says let’s use nukes in South Vietnam.

**1963**—R.I.P. Elmore James.

**1962**—Scott Carpenter’s Mercury capsule *Aurora 7* overshoots its landing area by 250 miles.

**1959**—The first home bomb shelter is shown in Pleasant Hills, Pa.

**1958**—United Press International is formed.



**2007**—As U. Mass. hands an honorary degree to Andrew Card, George W.[MD] Bush’s ex-Chief of Staff, students and faculty boo and howl.

**2003**—A Boeing 727 takes off from an Angolan airport without a flight crew or permission to take off. It is never seen again.

**1988**—Four years after his death, Peter Lawford’s ashes are scattered at sea because none of his children will pay for entombment.

**1986**—Seven million people hold “Hands Across America,” thereby eliminating the twin problems of hunger and homelessness.

**1981**—Kennebunkport native Dan Goodwin climbs the Sears Tower dressed as Spiderman.

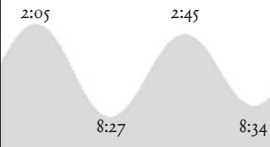
**1979**—“Capital punishment,” says John Spenkelink, sitting in “Old Sparky,” “them without the capital get the punishment.”

**1979**—After an engine falls off, American Airlines Flight 191 crashes in Chicago killing 271 on board and 2 on the ground.

**1950**—A speeding Green Hornet streetcar in Chicago collides with a gasoline truck, killing 34.

**1928**—After circling the North Pole, Umberto Nobile’s airship *Italia* crashes northeast of Spitsbergen with 16 aboard. Eight survive, six vanish as the envelope drifts away.

**1787**—In Philadelphia, the Constitutional Convention convenes and proceeds to exceed its charter.



**2004**—*The NY Times* admits its pre-war Iraq coverage was “not as rigorous as it should have been.”

**1989**—In *The Wall Street Journal*, future Veep J. Danforth Quayle predicts, “We are on an irreversible trend toward more freedom and democracy, but that could change.”

**1977**—George Willig scales the World Trade Center in NYC.

**1972**—Nixon’s “Plumbers” fail to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.

**1970**—The destroyer *U.S.S. Richard B. Anderson*’s departure for Vietnam is delayed due to crew sabotage.

**1938**—The House Committee on Un-American Activities begins carrying out its un-American activities.

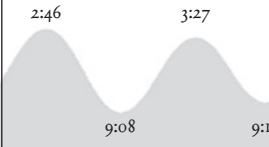
**1937**—Forty Ford thugs beat the living hell out of Walter Reuther and three union colleagues in the “Battle of the Overpass.”

**1916**—Louis Thomas “Moon dog” Hardin, composer, street musician, and Viking-helmet-wearing blind eccentric, is born.

**1828**—The mysterious child called Kaspar Hauser is found wandering the streets of Nuremberg.

**1647**—In Hartford, Conn., where the State House now stands, Alse Young becomes the first American hanged for witchcraft.

**1637**—At Mystic, Conn., Captains Mason and Underhill start the Pequot War by burning Pequot forts and killing 600 Indians.



**1994**—Charles Rodman Campbell does his best to dodge it, but Washington State’s hangman finally manages to get a noose around his neck.

**1977**—New York City fines George Willig one cent per floor for climbing the World Trade Center.

**1975**—Alaska legalizes pot.

**1972**—Nixon’s “Plumbers” again fail to gain entry to Democratic National HQ at the Watergate.

**1959**—NBC’s *Today Show* reports straight-faced on the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals’ campaign to clothe quadrupeds.

**1941**—The British sink the *Bismark* to the bottom of the sea.

**1940**—British troops begin leaving Dunkirk under difficult conditions.

**1937**—The Golden Gate Bridge is opened to pedestrians.

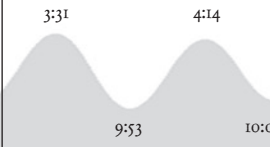
**1923**—Birth of the arch-fiend Henry Kissinger.

**1907**—A plague outbreak hits San Francisco.

**1777**—Major Samuel Langdon sets out for Cambridge with four teams hauling gunpowder expropriated from the Crown.

**1702**—“I am about to—or I am going to—die,” says French grammarian Dominique Bouhours, “either expression is used.”

**1541**—Margaret Pole, 67, the 8th Countess of Salisbury, attempts to evade her executioner in the Tower of London. After a dozen strokes, he eventually succeeds.



**2009**—Jonathan Trappe crosses the English Channel suspended from a cluster of 54 multicolored balloons.

**1998**—Pakistan successfully tests five nuclear weapons.

**1987**—Mathias Rust, 19, lands a rented Cessna in Red Square.

**1972**—Nixon’s “Plumbers” finally gain entry to Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate Hotel, but they get busted.

**1971**—Audie Murphy, most-decorated soldier of World War Two, dies in a plane crash at 45.

**1962**—The stock market plummets 5.7 percent, the worst drop since 1929.

**1959**—Able and Baker, two monkeys, are launched into space by the U.S. Army.

**1955**—“The Ballad of Davy Crockett” is America’s #1 song.

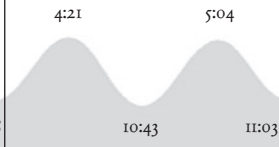
**1952**—During a ceremony in Saigon, observers see a “white-silver disc-shaped object” flying straight and fast overhead for about two minutes.

**1871**—In Père Lachaise cemetery, French soldiers restore proper order by massacring 147 Communards.

**1830**—Pres. Andy Jackson decrees all Indians must move west of the Mississippi.

**1754**—Tanacharison, scout for Lieutenant Colonel George Washington, murders the wounded Joseph Coulén de Villiers near Fort Necessity. The French and Indian War ensues.

**1653**—Strawbery Banke becomes Portsmouth.



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