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A Non-Fiction Newspaper
Vol. CCLXI, No. 2
October 14, 2016

The Fortnightly Rant

Something New Under the Sun

Ecclesiastes 1:9 tells us that there is nothing new under the sun. Maybe it's time for a revision. We now have the presidential nominee of a major political party boasting on tape that he habitually commits sexual assault.

Conventional wisdom may need an update along with the Bible. It has long been thought that if a candidate is to suffer the misfortune of being sandbagged by an unpleasant revelation, the best time for that to happen is on a Friday evening before a long weekend. When the "Access Hollywood" tape hit Donald Trump, though — two days before a critical debate — the timing only served to amplify the morbid curiosity of the Never Trump crowd.

While it probably spells doom for his candidacy in the long term — a month being an eternity these days — the lascivious hoopla actually helped Trump in a couple of perverse ways. First, it distracted his critics' attention from the week-old revelation that he'd declared a \$916 million loss on his 1995 taxes and probably has not paid any income taxes since. Also, it further solidified his support among his base — a phenomenon which eventually ought to yield some fascinating (and terrifying) Ph.D theses in political science.

The Springer Plan

Drawing on his instinctive grasp of that latter mystery, Trump and his hand-picked Alt-Right team prepared a remarkably bold two-part plan for Sunday's debate. First, a last-minute "press conference" shortly before the de-

bate at which four women of dubious veracity rehashed old claims about the spouse of his opponent. Second, invite those women to sit onstage with the Trump family during the debate.

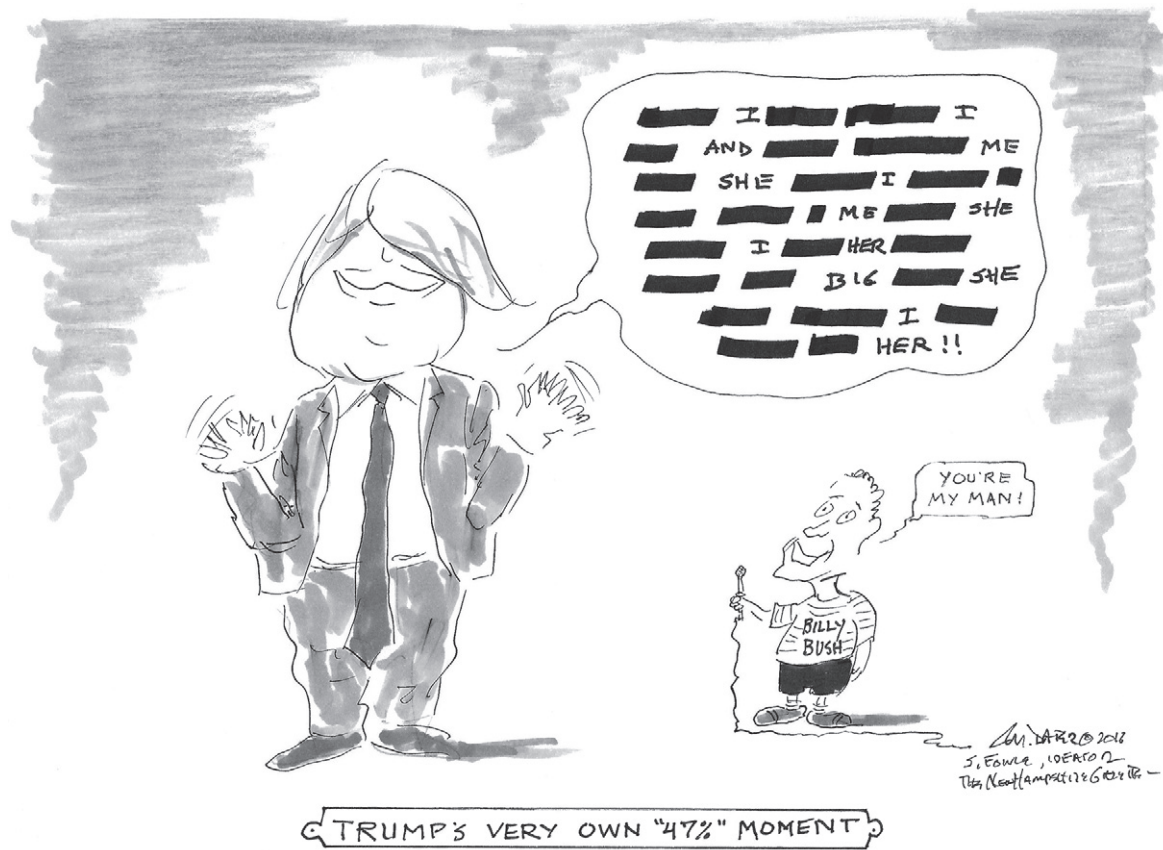
For millions of viewers at home, then, the first few minutes of the debate would consist of four women attacking the Clintons on live TV, à la Jerry Springer. Debate Commissioner Frank Fahrenkopf learned of the plan the night of the debate, and nixed it just minutes before air time by threatening to have the women hauled off by security.

The Banana Republican

Trump's performance during the debate was actually amazing: he managed to satisfy two diametrically-opposed audiences.

Supporters yearning for the raw, unvarnished Trump got, between weird snuffing noises, his apocalyptic description of a broken nation beset on all sides — and from within — by innumerable devious enemies, all of whom he would vanquish by the sheer force of... something vague. He stalked around the stage as Clinton spoke, sometimes standing close behind her, generally projecting an aura of malevolence.

The high point of his performance was his threat that, when he's President, "we're going to get a special prosecutor, and we're going to look into [your emails]." Stating the obvious, Clinton replied, "it's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in our country." Staying



TRUMP'S VERY OWN "47%" MOMENT

in character as a true Banana Republican, Trump shot back, "Because you'd be in jail."

Toddler in Chief

Trump's detractors tuned in expecting to see a 70 year-old man behaving like a much younger person — about 68 years younger. They got what they came for: "So, she's allowed to do that [answer a question], but I'm not allowed to respond?" Trump complained that the debate was "one on three," with the moderators favoring Clinton, giving her more time. In fact, he got a minute more.

Two Great Victories

Surprising no one, Trump declared himself the winner of the debate. Several observers offered a different view: Clinton won

because Trump was not hauled off the stage in a gibbering meltdown and replaced by a viable candidate.

Still saddled with Trump as a candidate, one staffer for the GOP — the party that mocked Bill Clinton for quibbling about the definition of "is" — was asked if grabbing someone's genitals constituted forced sexual contact. He told the *Washington Examiner*, "I don't know, I'm not a lawyer."

Sen. Jefferson Beauregard Sessions [R-Ala.], who is a lawyer, was asked by the *Weekly Standard*, "if you grab a woman by the genitals, that's not sexual assault?" Sessions replied, "I don't know. It's not clear that he — how that would occur."

The prize for best question, though, goes to the *Daily News's* Shaun King: what would have been the reaction if it had been Obama on that infamous tape?

Banana Republicans Split

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan is in an undeclared war with his party's presidential nominee. Shenanigans will ensue. Say what you will about this election, it should definitely answer one pressing health question: it is possible to OD on schadenfreude?

However, such enjoyment should be tempered with this thought: on January 20th, when Clinton is sworn in, Republicans in Congress may have already prepared several articles of impeachment.

The Alleged News®

Meanwhile, back in the real world

Somewhere in America a newspaper more profitable than ours is publishing some version of the following: "The current state of the presidential race would be amusing if it were not so appalling."

We, on the other hand, would reverse the order of those adjectives, and, thanks to the First Amendment and our lack of corporate overlords, we need not pretend otherwise. Watching the Republican Party rip itself apart as it approaches the black hole of Donald Trump's ego is the funniest thing we have ever seen.

That said, we are not completely indifferent to the fate of mankind. We cannot, therefore, emulate the allegedly respectable news media and ignore several critical issues which, amid all the salacious blather swirling around the Republican standard bearer, are being generally ignored.

For one thing, thanks to a newly-weaponized set of digital data management tools, the party that fell for Trump's transparent

schtick has apparently created for itself a majority in the U.S. Congress that threatens to become permanent.

Also, the global economy, like the Trump campaign, is swirling around the drain. Due to factors beyond the control of both politicians and economists, it cannot be, in the future, simultaneously recognizable and salvageable; if it doesn't change dramatically, it will collapse dramatically.

Finally, there is the climate. Unlike the economy, we know the climate is going to change, because it's doing so before our eyes. The relevant questions are, how much damage have we done to it already, how awful will the consequences be, and, is there any hope that, despite our political system, humankind can mobilize to improve our chances of survival?

The smart money, of course, says the intransigence of the aforementioned party will condemn us to a future that is impoverished, weatherbeaten, and short.

We've Been Ratf**ked

Who would have predicted this after the election of 2008? America and the world had turned a corner. People were expecting to see a bright new vista open up ahead. The neocons who had opted to wage a suicidal pre-emptive war were being turned out of the White House; their allies in Congress would no longer be in control; and their daft enablers on Wall Street were chastened by abundant proof that, beyond stuffing their own pockets, they had no idea what they were doing. If we could just get the economy rolling again, all would be sweet — or so it seemed.

How did yesterday's hope and change become today's chaos and despair? What happened?

According to David Daley, author of *Ratf**ked: The True Story Behind the Secret Plan to Steal America's Democracy*, what happened was Chris Jankowski and the REDistricting Majority Project, aka REDMAP.

Interviewed recently by Dave Denison for the estimable quarterly *The Baffler*, Daley explained, "Chris Jankowski is a brilliant strategist and probably the person who is the single most responsible for Republican dominance of the House of Representatives this decade, and he pulled it off at the bargain basement discount price of \$30 million. It's not only the biggest political heist in modern times, it's the biggest political bargain. Jankowski is a state government guy. He's the executive director of something called the Republican State Leadership Conference, he had been active in leading the Republican attorney generals association. And he knew that your money goes a whole lot farther in these state races. It's not very sexy when you call a donor and you tell them you're looking to drop their money into North Carolina's eleventh senate district. That is not something that makes a billionaire pick up the phone and write a check, necessarily. But

it means more. It's more effective and it's a better bargain. Jankowski found what might be the last great political bargain."

Thanks to Jankowski's strategy, the GOP took charge of re-districting most of the country after the pivotal 2010 Tea Party landslide. Then it used powerful new computer programs and unprecedented masses of data to redraw district lines to wring every Republican district possible from the existing socio-political terrain.

This was more than mere gerrymandering — and more than sorting too. Sorting is the phenomenon in which liberal-leaning voters cram themselves into compact, heavily-Democratic districts, leaving huge swaths of the country to rurally-inclined Republicans. Daley explains the latter point using Pennsylvania as an example:

"In 2008, Barack Obama wins

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to page two

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from page one

[Pennsylvania] by about a hundred thousand votes, Democratic Congressional candidates in Pennsylvania top Republican candidates in the aggregate by about a hundred thousand votes, the exact same thing happens in Pennsylvania in 2012. The margins are very similar. In 2008, those margins gave Pennsylvania a twelve-seven Democratic delegation. In 2012, those same margins elected a thirteen-five Republican Congressional delegation. So what happened in the meantime? Well, in 2011 all of the Congressional lines changed. You would have to believe that tens of thousand of Pennsylvanians sorted themselves into these districts, or moved to Philadelphia, in order to think that something different hasn't happened here."

The result was that in 2012, voters cast 1.4 million more votes

for Democratic House candidates than Republicans, but Republicans ended up with a thirty-three-seat advantage. John Boehner became Speaker, and all he said was, "Nope."

Dismal Science, Dismal Forecast

In 2015, *GoBankingRates.com* commissioned a survey which found that 62 percent of Americans had less than \$1,000 in a savings account — hardly a picture of a financially-secure nation. The survey was recently repeated. In just a year that figure has climbed to 69 percent. And we're supposed to be "in a recovery."

Having no training in the subject, we're not qualified to deliver opinions on what's wrong with the economy. Since no one else seems qualified, either, we'll do so anyway.

Corporations are hoarding billions in cash. All they ever seem to do with it is buy back their own stocks, which somehow makes their already-rich CEOs just that



IF TRUMP PROPERTIES COULD TELL IT LIKE IT IS



Katie Mack @AstroKatie · 48m
If this were a movie scene, it would be accompanied by deep rumbling bass & the kids would be hiding their eyes already. (Pic by R Wilking)

Roger Ailes, the former Fox CEO, brought on to assist Donald Trump's team with debate prep, has been rumored to be considering a new joint media venture with the candidate in the event of a much-anticipated loss. Judging from the candidate's behavior during the St. Louis debate, it appears that that venture may not be a news network, but, rather, a movie studio specializing in the psycho-horror genre.

much filthy-rich.

What they ought to do is give everybody raises. If that idle money were put into peoples' pockets, they wouldn't leave it in the bank to languish — the banks aren't paying any interest. They'd put the money into the cash registers of businesses all across the country which would then have to hire people to re-stock the empty shelves. If working people had a little money in their pockets, the economy might start moving again. And if private industry doesn't want to hire anyone, federal and state governments could always fix roads and build bridges. Lord knows they wouldn't have to look very far to find worthy projects.

We tried trickle-down, globalization, and privatization for thirty or forty years, and the only people they helped were the rich. Why not just pay people a living wage for a few years? You never know, it might help.

Here's a sure sign that the situation is dire: even Larry Summers

is now thinking along these lines: "After seven years of consistent over-optimism about economic prospects, there is a growing awareness that growth challenges are not so much a matter of the lingering effects of the crisis as they are of structural changes in the global economy that contributed to the crisis and the problems in its aftermath. There is increasing reason to doubt that the industrial world can simultaneously enjoy interest rates that support savers, financial stability and adequate growth. Saving has become overabundant, new investment insufficient and stagnation secular rather than transient."

In an article published in the *Washington Post* on October 9th, Summers said he now favors "rejecting austerity economics in favor of investment economics. At a time when markets are saying that inadequate rather than excessive inflation will be the problem over the next generation, central bankers need to embrace spurring demand as a primary objective and

to cooperate with governments.

"Enhancing infrastructure investment in the public and private sector should be an immediate priority for fiscal policy. Domestically, this means recognizing that such a course has budget benefits, as the economy expands and deferred maintenance liabilities are reduced, as well as budget costs. Globally, it means recognizing that enhanced tools for infrastructure finance offer the prospect of more investment demand and better returns to middle-class savers.

"And the focus of international economic cooperation more generally needs to shift from opportunities for capital to better outcomes for labor. The achievement of this objective will require substantially enhanced cooperation to address what might be thought of as the dark side of capital mobility — money laundering, regulatory arbitrage and tax avoidance and evasion."

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retary of the Treasury and former Chief Economist of the World Bank starts to sound like the editor of this rag. The trouble is, of course, that before any of his recommendations can come to pass, someone will have to repeal the Golden Rule: those with the gold get to make the rules. It's one thing for one man like Summers to see the light. We're not optimistic about the rest of his ilk.

Whither the Climate?

We heard geese flying south on the morning of October 1st: a sound that has always carried a touch of melancholy. Now it carries questions, too — are they leaving later in the season? Perhaps some local expert could enlighten us.

Here's the new normal: another month, another report from NASA that another temperature

record has been broken. Two records, actually. August was the hottest August on record, and that was the sixteenth month in a row to break the record.

Former NASA climate scientist James Hanson just released a paper saying Earth's temperature is higher now than it has been for 115,000 years.

Although Hurricane Matthew did not cause as much destruction on the U.S. mainland as was feared, it had some rather disturbing characteristics. It was one of only six late-term Category 5 hurricanes on record. It was the southernmost Category 5 hurricane on record. And, it is the longest-lasting Category 4-5 October hurricane on record.

As with the economy, though, before any policy changes take place, someone's got to do some-



Jonathan Recupero, whose cavalier approach to the mailing of campaign literature earned him a few paragraphs in our paper of September 16th, appears to be applying that same attitude to state law regarding the placement and removal of political advertising. RSA 664:17 states, "All political advertising shall be removed by the candidate no later than the second Friday following the election unless the election is a primary and the advertising concerns a candidate who is a winner in the primary." This sign should have been gone on September 23rd. It was photographed by our Hillsborough Correspondent on October 6th, nearly a fortnight after that deadline. Recupero may have been somewhat confused; the statute is rather perplexing in places. It says, "No political advertising shall be placed on or affixed to any public property including highway rights-of-way or private property without the owner's consent." How, one might ask, does one obtain the permission of the owner of public property? Canvass every citizen residing in the state?



thing to dislodge the troglodytic majority in the U.S. Congress.

Here's a place to start:

That Funny First District

Let those who gamble on elections beware: in June we blithely predicted that the First District election this November would boil down to Carol Shea-Porter versus Rich Ashooh. Ashooh, though, failed to overcome Frank Guinta's mysterious charms, losing in the September primary by just 722 votes, or less than 1.3 percent of the total.

That set up the District for a fourth contest between Guinta and Shea-Porter — enough of an anomaly to draw attention from some national observers of politics. It is not, however, a record. In Missouri's Fifth District, former Marine Jacob Turk, a Republican, will make his fifth straight run for the seat Emanuel Cleaver has held since 2006. No Republican has won that seat, which represents Kansas City, Mo., since Albert L. Reeves, Jr., in 1946. Turk may not

be crazy, though. His percentage of the vote has climbed from 32.3 in 2006 to 44.9 in 2014.

During their first contest, in 2010, Guinta slammed Shea-Porter for having spent \$89,212 on franked mail over the course of one year. Last month the *Concord Monitor* reported that Guinta had spent \$66,232 on franked mail in just the ninety days prior to the 2016 primary election. The paper also said that he spent \$135,162 on mass mailings in 2015, which wasn't even an election year. Guinta's lavish spending on franking made him one of the House's top four, prompting *Roll Call* to use a large photo of his cherubic face to illustrate an article on the topic.

State news outlets have been having some sport with Guinta, asking if his endorsement of Donald Trump still holds.

"These comments are entirely unacceptable," he told WMUR, "Granite Staters deserve an honest conversation about the very real problems our state and nation

face. I'm going to continue to have that conversation with them every chance I get." He has not un-endorse.

Back in September the House Majority PAC had set aside \$672,000 to buy TV ads supporting Carol Shea-Porter in this election. In an apparent sign of confidence it has now decided to use those funds elsewhere, according to the *Daily Kos*.

"Given his baggage, his incredibly narrow escape in last month's GOP primary, and his very weak fundraising, it's more plausible that Guinta is a dead man walking as opposed to CSP being hopeless," say the Kossacks.

Thanks to the Ballot Law Commission's determination that ignorance of the law is an excuse after all, Shawn O'Connor will be on the ballot along with Guinta and Shea-Porter. Therein lies the real threat to another Shea-Porter victory. An O'Connor win seems highly unlikely. Just ask Mainers about three-way splits, though.

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O'Connor's Dishonesty

To the Editor:
Shawn O'Connor, independent candidate for the First Congressional District, has said Bernie Sanders inspired him to run for Congress. This is a completely phony claim. Long after he first announced his run for Congress (in February, 2015), Mr. O'Connor was praising all the Democratic Presidential candidates, including conservative anti-Bernie Democrat former Sen. Jim Webb, and hadn't endorsed anyone (see WMUR Close-Up, June 27, 2015, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCXUSkuQg6U>). Apparently he was waiting to see which bandwagon to jump on.
Scenting the air, one month before the primary, he jumped in with Bernie, though Bernie never endorsed him. These days, channeling Bernie, he touts a phony no-PAC-money position on campaign finance reform. At an event with Gov. O'Malley (October 16, 2015), a few months before endorsing Bernie, he said: "Absolutely I will accept PAC money. If you want to change the system, you have to get into the system ... What we can't do is fall on our swords and say we play by a different set of rules from the Republicans, we can't do that, it doesn't work, we can't win. And the way to get change is to win and then when we're in power, we can change the rules." (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMe8W10BUp4&feature=youtu.be&t=1h16m40s>).

This dishonest candidate, initially willing to take any PAC money, from any kind of PAC, has the nerve to slam one opponent, former Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter, for refusing to take corporate PAC or DC lobbyist money. Lying Guinta and O'Connor make quite a pair. Please join me in supporting the honest candidate, Carol Shea-Porter, for Congress!
Herb Moyer
Exeter, N.H.
Herb:
Thanks for sharing these concrete proofs of O'Connor's lack of trustworthiness.
The Editor

If Chosen, Hillary Must Choose

To the Editor:
Hillary Clinton may be running for President, but perhaps she should be running for her life after Donald Trump's bizarre debate performance on October 9th. Sniffing, flapping, strutting, and stocking her around the stage like a 270-pound Tom turkey, Mr. Trump appeared lost in a testosterone-fueled fantasy, possibly envisioning himself dressed in black wrestling tights and snapping a rattlesnake whip. Very presidential! Hopefully by Thanksgiving day, the wisdom of democracy will prevail and voters will stuff, deep-fry, and serve Deplorable Don to the archives of history on a golden platter. I can't envision a better reason for giving thanks!
Of course, even if she wins, Hillary will still be pursued by Julian Assange and his merry band of Russian ankle-biters, not to mention legions of hyper-vigilant Bernie Sanders followers. The only way for Clinton to defuse those two bombs is to stop straddling the great divide between Wall Street and Main Street, resolve her identity crisis, and declare whose team she's really on. Should she elect to put aside her Grinch hat, sign on with Team Main Street, and rein in a few

Oligarchs, it would signal a Merry Christmas to all. Any bets?
Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

The Bully Deflated

To the Editor:
With all his sniffing and huffing and puffing, the Sexual Predator failed to keep his hot air balloon from deflating. He prowled the stage, pointing at Hillary, attacking her with the same old lies that have been debunked scores of times. He even threatened to have her jailed if he were to become President, oblivious to the irony that he himself may be convicted for bribing the Florida Attorney General, for bilking thousands of Trump University students, and for using his so-called charitable foundation for personal gain.

Hillary reminded the audience to look at this man's exaggerated words and deceptions as indicative of his character, and then moved on to the "high road," explaining how her intentions and policies would address the critical problems our country faces. The Blustery Bully could do little more than repeat what is wrong with America, again and again, never saying how he would solve those problems.

Should Hillary have been more combative, and respond to each and every spurious charge that the Donald was spewing? To most of the audience who came to hear what she stands for, that would have wasted their time. To a few, however, her lack of response may be interpreted as acquiescence. People often see what they expected to see. And voters vote for people to represent them who look like themselves.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

Faith, Politics, & Trump

To the Editor:
Charles Krauthammer's critical review in the *Union Leader* of the Presidential election and

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL**

The Best and the Worst

To the Editor:
As a former state senator, I've seen examples of the best and the worst candidates for office. Leaving aside policy positions, the best candidates are honest and motivated by public service, while the worst are corrupt, ambitious, and dishonest.
Former Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter was effective and honest. She takes no money from corporate PACs or D.C. lobbyists. She fought against special breaks for millionaires or unfair corporate subsidies and for raising the minimum wage, equal pay for women, and paid family leave.
Then there's disgraced Congressman Frank Guinta. Last year, the Federal Election Commission found Guinta guilty of breaking the law by accepting \$355,000 in illegal campaign contributions. He lied to us about it for five years, and the *Union Leader* ran a 4-word editorial calling him a "damned liar." He has embraced Trump as "refreshing," and has an extremist Tea Party record.
And for this cycle's carpet-bagger, there's self-funding multi-millionaire candidate Shawn O'Connor, a recent arrival here from NYC. Having complained about NYC taxes on the wealthy, he relocated to no-income-tax New Hampshire and may just want to pay as little tax as possible, while buying himself a seat in Congress. Former Republican, then Democrat, then independent O'Connor threw \$1 million into his Congressional run. Why? He's not going to win: all he can do is give us Guinta again. A vote for O'Connor is a vote for Guinta again.
Please join me in voting to send a hard-working, honest, genuine public servant to Congress: Carol Shea-Porter!
Burt Cohen
New Castle, N.H.

how "facts don't matter, history and logic have disappeared" seems surprising when the exact same argument can be said for any real popular religion in the world.

Religious unanswered questions in this type of narrative claim scientific facts do not matter or many historical religious facts have never been verified. But religion has a life changing force — faith in that it can be better.

This election boils down to facts about choking failed policies by the leaders, faith, and trust. Is there faith the politician you are going to vote for will actually do what they say even if it means they will die a political death, will Clinton or Trump be true?

How has the politician's life or political history been with respect to trust? Have they spoken the equivalent of fork-tong [sic] political correct speech to snake charm your vote out of you?

Many in power are fearful of Trump's enlightening eyes to failed government which politicians so clearly want to protect and centralize further over the people.

Who is most critical of the policies by the powerful, speaks without fork tong [sic], and has not been accused of mistrust?

How many people called Christ a false prophet even as he laid out the truths of the failures of the powerful Romans against their citizens?

Today the Press continue to crucify Trump. Facts of broken leadership, smothering deficits, and death eared [sic] politicians do matter.

Vote Trump.
Jeff Frost
Alexandria, N.H.

Jeff:
Um ... just so we're clear, here: we're Pontius Pilate, and Donald Trump is Jesus? All righty, then ...
The Editor

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And Other Correspondence

It Finally Happened

To the Editor:
Well, it finally happened. Sen. Kelly Ayotte has announced that she will not be voting for Donald Trump. This rejection comes just a week after she said that Trump was “absolutely” a role model for children. Later she said she “misspoke,” belatedly realizing Trump’s ugly nature.
Sen. Ayotte refused to abandon Trump despite watching and listening to all the horrible things Trump has said and done for over a year. After ignoring all of Trump’s racist, homophobic and misogynist previous comments, it took a tape revealing the most vile, and overt verbal assault on women for Sen. Ayotte to finally recognize what many of us have known long before.
Why it took such a blatant and obvious indication of Trump’s total lack of morality, character, integrity and decency for Ayotte to fully appreciate the danger of a Trump Presidency, says a great deal about Sen. Ayotte’s own, character, judgement and moral clarity. The fact that it took Sen. Ayotte so long to see through the Trump fraud, shows a total lack of wisdom and her ability to evaluate human nature.
Her decision to finally abandon Trump is certainly not an act of courage, or integrity. It simply represents a political calculus that was forced upon her by his behavior. If this tape had not come to light before the election, Sen. Ayotte would have continued to support and vote for the same Donald Trump represented by the tape. Sen. Ayotte’s profound lack of judgement and her willingness to put the nation at risk to enhance her own political aspirations makes her totally unqualified to represent New Hampshire in the U.S. Senate.
Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Guinta and Trump

To the Editor:
When we invaded Iraq after 9/11 the British were with us. They took responsibility for occupying southern Iraq with its oil fields. The Kurdish north was our friend. Even so our troops had all they could handle in the Sunni regions and Baghdad. It took years to create a relatively peaceful situation.
Now consider what would have happened if Donald Trump was President then. He said he would have seized Iraq’s oil. Britain would not have been in on the invasion under those circumstances nor would they have occupied the south with its oil fields. Iraq’s Shia would have seen us as plunderers not liberators. They would have joined the Sunnis in fighting us. So would the Kurds to protect their oil fields.
Our casualties in Fallujah and Ramadi were high, but those cities are tiny compared to Baghdad and Mosul. We would have needed to abandon Afghanistan to have any chance of winning a war in Iraq under Donald Trump.
Donald Trump says he is smarter than our generals. He is not. Frank Guinta wants him to be president. Donald Trump is not qualified to be commander in chief. Frank Guinta is not qualified to be your congressman.
Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth, N.H.
~~~~~  
**Guinta the Big Zero**  
To the Editor:  
Those of us fortunate enough to live in New Hampshire know that we are surrounded by wildlife. Whether we hunt, fish, photograph, or simply view our wild neighbors, we count on their continued protection for ourselves and future generations.  
We need strong leaders like Carol Shea-Porter in Congress

to establish and defend policies for the preservation of wildlife. During her three terms in the U. S. House Shea-Porter served on the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs. She was the sponsor or cosponsor of over twenty bills designed to improve the management of the ocean, wilderness and other critical wildlife habitat.  
Carol’s work as a wildlife advocate has earned her a rating of 100 percent from the Defenders of Wildlife Action Fund and endorsement by the Ocean Champions. Her work for the welfare of domestic animals earned her a rating of 100 percent from the Humane Society Legislative Fund in each of her three terms.  
Her opponent, Frank Guinta, on the other hand, has voted to reduce funding for the Endangered Species Act and remove two animals from the list of endangered species. His anti-environmental efforts earned ratings of 0 percent from both the Defenders of Wildlife Action Fund and the Sierra Club-Positions on Clean Water.  
Please join me in voting to return Carol Shea-Porter to Congress where she can resume her work in maintaining and protecting our vital natural resources.  
Ronald Lawler  
Center Sandwich, N.H.  
~~~~~  
Carol Can’t Be Bribed
To the Editor:
My vote for Carol Shea-Porter in 2006, which helped propel her to New Hampshire’s 1st District Congressional seat, ranks second only to my vote for Senator Bernie Sanders in the 2016 New Hampshire Democratic Presidential Primary as the most satisfying vote I have ever cast for a person seeking public office. I have always appreciated Carol’s unwavering commitment to issues of social and economic justice and her desire to improve the lives of

ordinary citizens (aka the 99 percent) in her District.
Carol, without ever realizing it, and before she ever decided to run for Congress, was already speaking out on my behalf, while I was still a member of the U.S. Armed Services and not quite feeling the freedom to exercise my First Amendments rights, with her vocal opposition (via her intelligent and insightful newspaper commentaries) to the Bush/Cheney Administration’s ill-conceived invasion and occupation of Iraq. If one takes an objective look at the current situation in the Middle East, one will easily see that our opposition was completely correct and justifiable.
I furthermore admired the courage Carol displayed when she literally and figuratively turned her back on President George W. Bush as he spoke at a Portsmouth rally regarding his plans to privatize Social Security, which would have been an unmitigated disaster considering that the Bush Administration drove the U.S. economy into the dirt. Carol, as your next House Representative, will continue to work to strengthen Social Security, Medicare, the Affordable Care Act, and will no doubt strive to create universal healthcare.
What perhaps draws me to Carol Shea-Porter the most is her recognition that dark money in politics (tantamount to bribery) is the biggest problem this country faces, since no other vital issue can so much as be addressed as long as the same people who own our economy, can buy our elections and own our government, which is expected to do the problem solving. Carol, herself, refuses to accept corporate PAC funds or money from D.C. lobbyists, much to the chagrin of her own party officials, which tells me she is on the right track to fixing the problem and deserving of our votes.
Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.



O'Connor's Gimmicks

To the Editor:
Multi-millionaire candidate Shawn O'Connor has been able to self-fund his First Congressional District campaign, at one point giving his campaign \$1 million. New to New Hampshire, he moved to Bedford in 2013 (not 4-5 years ago, as he claims).
He has pledged “to only accept the minimum wage salary of \$15,080 per year,” and to give the rest of his salary away. How fortunate he is to be in that financial position. If he actually had to live on a minimum wage, he would not be able to afford renting an apartment in D.C. (over \$20,000/year).
This is not O'Connor’s only political gimmick. O'Connor touts himself as being “a political outsider” — a popular stance in this election cycle. But calling Shea-Porter “a political insider” simply does not compute with the fact that the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee wanted to replace Shea-Porter because she refuses to take corporate PAC money. Clearly she’s not a Washington insider.
Attempting to ride on Bernie Sanders’s coattails, O'Connor claims he is “the progressive choice” for the First Congressional District. Apparently he hasn’t lived in New Hampshire long enough to understand that Carol Shea-Porter has a long history of

Hate Mail, &c.
to page six

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What Does “Trumponomics” Actually Amount To?

by Jim Hightower

Donnie Trump — what a maverick! What a shake-'em-up outsider! What an anti-establishment fighter for working stiffs! Oh, and don't forget this: What a phony!

The Donald sounds like a populist on the stump, bellowing that the system has been jerry-rigged by and for the corporate and political elites, which is killing the

middle class. Well, he's right about that, but what'll he do about it? I'll fix it, he barks, I'll make the system honest again — trust me!

As Groucho Marx said, “To know if a man is honest, ask him — if he says he is, he's a crook.” Or, in the case of this phony populist, you could look at the specific “fixes” he's proposing in his blueprint for the “economic renewal” of America's working class.

Trump's idea of “working class”

turns out to be millionaires and billionaires, for that's who would get the bulk of benefits from his agenda. In his blustery speeches he assails corporations that are offshoring and outsourcing American jobs, charging them with knocking down middle-income families and devastating working-class cities — but he then turns and rewards them! His proposed tax cuts, for example, don't benefit low-wage workers at

all and provide only a pittance of gain for those with middle-class paychecks, but corporations are given a huuuuuuuge windfall with a nearly 60 percent cut in their tax rate. This giveaway will also take \$240 billion a year out of our public treasury — money desperately needed for such basics as expanding educational opportunities and restoring our nation's dilapidated infrastructure.

What we have here is the same-

old failed, elitist hokum that Republicans have been peddling for decades, only his is delivered with more bombast. Rhetoric aside, the reality of Trump's plan is to replace Ronald Reagan's trickle-down theory with his own arrogant, anti-worker scheme of TINKLE-down economics.

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Misleading Guinta
To the Editor:

Congressman Frank Guinta is a master of misleading self-promotion. In his August *Union Leader* op-ed, he portrays himself as caring and dedicated to the public good. Balderdash!, as tightwad Scrooge might say.

Frank “Scrooge” Guinta sits on the House Budget Committee, and people should know that he voted a cruel and stingy budget out of committee, which makes mockery of his honeyed words. The Republican budget would cut \$3.7 trillion over the next decade from programs for low- and middle-income people. By 2026 such programs would be cut by 42 percent, and 62 percent of the cuts would come from low-income programs like Medicaid, Pell grants, Children's Health Insurance Program, the Social Services Block Grant (includes Meals on Wheels, employment services, and substance abuse), and food stamps. But don't look for his wealthy cronies to pay more — not in Guinta's budget. Guinta seems comfortable with the idea that tens of millions of Americans would lose their health care coverage and food support.

Guinta's always crowing about his language to strengthen opioid addiction recovery programs, but he voted against funding them,

opposing both a Budget Committee amendment to increase funding and the Omnibus Appropriations bill. Did you think we wouldn't notice?

Guinta “create[s] opportunities for those less fortunate”? “Always put[s] [our] needs first”? Please. At least Scrooge didn't lie about being mean and miserly.

Juliette Paquin
Tilton, N.H.
Juliette:

We find Guinta's long history of self-serving mendacity so utterly appalling that we tend to overlook his equally-revolting voting record. Thanks for helping fill that gap for us.

The Editor

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**Role Model?**  
To the Editor:

Last night I heard Kelly Ayotte say that she felt that Donald Trump was a good role model for our children. Frankly, I couldn't believe my ears. A man who lies, brags about his sexual exploits, makes fun of people with disabilities, says military veterans suffering from PTSD are weak, and insults women regularly, is no role model for anyone. Senator Ayotte is doing what she has done throughout her time in the Senate. She is giving in to the wishes of the special interests who control her and support Trump, and

not the citizens of New Hampshire who she is supposed to represent.

Vote for a woman of character, one who is not afraid to speak the truth, and one who will work for what is best for New Hampshire and all of its citizens. Join me in voting for Governor Maggie Hassan for United States Senator on November 8th.

Lenore Patton  
Hampton, N.H.

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The Face of the GOP
To the Editor:

If you are a New Hampshire Democrat, chances are you have Republican friends. You've probably struggled with how to talk with them about their party leaders. We seem to be living in an era in which far too many “good men do nothing.” (The full quote, sometimes attributed to Irish statesman Edmund Burke: “All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”)

It's more than time to speak out. That's just what Carol Shea-Porter has done about Trump's latest. And she's called out Frank Guinta for not doing the same. Shea-Porter is “absolutely” the role model I would choose. She stands resolutely for her values and doesn't hesitate to act on them.

Politicians who seek election should look in the mirror and honestly answer the question, “Is this the face of a leader who can take us into the future?” We talk about the aging of New Hampshire. If we wish to attract and keep younger residents and vibrant businesses, we have to walk the walk about issues that matter to them. What are some of those issues?

Equality of rights and opportunities; universal background checks for gun purchases; climate change; freedom of choice; and policies to create debt-free college.

Carol has demonstrated her commitment to those goals. She has earned my confidence as a leader for a New Hampshire of tomorrow. Make your voice heard on November 8. Vote for Shea-Porter.

Robin Mower
Durham, N.H.

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**“Frankly, My Dear ...”**  
To the Editor:

You may know that old joke about liars. “There are three kinds: liars, damned liars, and statisticians.” The *Union Leader* also had a few words about liars. “Frank Guinta is a damned liar.” I disagree.

It's a punchy headline but it doesn't do Frank justice. Remem-

ber, he also prevaricated to the Election Commission, was mendacious in debate, obdurate in dissimulation, failed to tell the voters the truth, and generally smelled of Canard. I say Frank's a statistician. Who else but a statistician could make his numbers work? Who better than a statistician knows what numbers to forget?

Frank Guinta is merely an absentminded statistician. This is something we can all understand. Think about your own life. Sooner or later everybody forgets where they put their car keys. It doesn't matter if it happens every day or just before your colonoscopy appointment, Frank is no different. I can hear him now. “Honey, where did I put my car keys and the \$355,000 I ripped off my mother?”

It's a terrible thing to be that absentminded. So remember: if you don't know the difference between your lost car keys and a colonoscopy, vote for Frank. Just don't tell his mom.

Larry Brown  
Milton, N.H.

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Note attached to a generous subscription renewal check: “Oh oh. Too much? Oh dear. Well, I'm sure you can find some uses to which to put the little extra.”

— J.S., Portsmouth, 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, OCTOBER 16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MONDAY, OCTOBER 17                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 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                                                                                                                                                                                                               | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   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| <p><b>2000</b>—Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan dies in a plane crash but will go on to defeat John Ashcroft in the November election for Senate.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Ironists bestow the Nobel Peace Prize on Henry Kissinger.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Majority Leader Hale Boggs [D-La.], Rep. Nick Begich [D-Alaska], and others vanish while flying over Alaska.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Tommye Smith and John Carlos raise Black Power salutes at the Mexico Olympics.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—At breakfast, President John F. Kennedy finds he’s got a Cuban Missile Crisis on his plate.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Rep. Douglas Stringfellow [R-Utah] confesses that his tales of heroism in WWII are fictitious.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—In New York, more than 30,000 Great War veterans march to demand a bonus.</p> <p><b>1869</b>—Well-diggers in Cardiff, N.Y. unearth what seems to be a ten-foot tall petrified man. The “Cardiff Giant” is later found to be a tobacconist’s hoax.</p> <p><b>1859</b>—Abolitionist John Brown attacks Harper’s Ferry.</p> <p><b>1814</b>—Ruptured vats in a London brewery release 323,346 gallons of beer, drowning seven.</p> <p><b>1715</b>—Daniel Fowle is baptized at First Church of Boston.</p> <p><b>1660</b>—John Cooke, who had prosecuted King Charles I for treason in 1649, is drawn and quartered for the same crime under Charles II.</p> | <p><b>2003</b>—The day after the Yankees win the pennant, a <i>New York Post</i> editorial congratulates the Red Sox for winning said pennant.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—Lissa Roche commits suicide after confessing she had a 19-year affair with her father-in-law, George Roche III, the president of Hillsdale College, “the most conservative college in America.”</p> <p><b>1981</b>—“I could see where you could have the exchange of tactical weapons against troops in the field without it bringing either one of the major powers to pushing the button,” says President Ronald Reagan.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—OPEC turns off the oil tap.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Lt. Col. Terry Allen Jr. leads two companies of the 28th Infantry, outnumbered 10 to 1, into a VC ambush at Ong Thanh. Casualties exceed 92 percent, 64 are KIA; the U.S. Army declares it a victory.</p> <p><b>1956</b>—“The only way to win the next World War,” says Ike, “is to prevent it.”</p> <p><b>1927</b>—Harry F. Sinclair’s trial for conspiracy in the Teapot Dome scandal begins. It ends two weeks later when it’s revealed Sinclair has hired detectives to shadow the jury.</p> <p><b>1888</b>—Thomas Alva Edison files a patent for an “Optical Phonograph” — a movie camera.</p> <p><b>1871</b>—President Grant suspends the writ of habeas corpus.</p> <p><b>1777</b>—Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga, inspiring the French to support the Americans.</p>                                     | <p><b>2014</b>—Thousands of college-age cretins, urged on by social media company Finnarage, set fires, throw billiard balls, and overturn cars to end the Keene Pumpkin Festival.</p> <p><b>2011</b>—Ohioan Terry Thompson releases his menagerie of 56 exotic animals including lions, leopards, and tigers, then kills himself.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—The president of Bolivia is driven out of office (and country) by disgruntled peasants tired of his knuckling under to corrupt international energy companies.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—David Ortiz ends the 12-inning Game 4 of the ALCS with a two-run walk-off in the early morning hours. Later on he ends the five-hour-plus Game 5 with an RBI.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—The Canadian government declares women are “persons.”</p> <p><b>1927</b>—IWW strikers shut down Colorado’s coal industry.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—The U.S. colonizes Puerto Rico — benevolently, of course.</p> <p><b>1891</b>—On the basis of false rumors and a dubious identification, a mob of 1,000 lynches Joe Coe, a married African-American with two children, as 12 Omaha, Neb. cops observe.</p> <p><b>1860</b>—British troops burn the Manchu emperor’s summer palace towards the end of the 2nd Opium War.</p> <p><b>1775</b>—Capt. Henry Mowat destroys Falmouth [now Portland, Maine] with an incendiary bombardment. Result: collateral damage to Mowat’s career and British hegemony.</p>                                                                                   | <p><b>2005</b>—Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) wins \$853,492 in the Powerball lottery. A dying woman whose real estate deposit he has refused to return receives exactly none of it.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Saddam Hussein goes on trial in Baghdad for crimes against humanity and Bushes.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—Riot police maintain order long enough for the (bloody) Red Sox to beat the Yankees 4 to 2 in Game 6 of the ALCS.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—George W.[MD] Bush says at the Al Smith Dinner, “This is an impressive crowd, the haves and the have-mores. Some people call you the elite. I call you my base.”</p> <p><b>1998</b>—Shortly before his likely re-election, Tennessee Senator Tommy Burks [D] is murdered by his middle-name-changing opponent, Byron Low Tax Looper [R].</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Automaker J. DeLorean is arrested with 59 lbs. of coke.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Philippine police shoot and kill Kinshichi Kozuka, Japan’s penultimate WWII holdout.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Air Force General Curtis LeMay recommends direct military intervention in Cuba.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—Eisenhower embargoes Cuba.</p> <p><b>1864</b>—St. Albans, Vt. is attacked by twenty Confederate cavalrymen riding south from Canada. They rob three banks and escape with more than \$200,000.</p> <p><b>1849</b>—Elizabeth Blackwell becomes America’s first female MD.</p>                                        | <p><b>2011</b>—Brotherly Leader Muammar Ghaddafi is rather unceremoniously dispatched by Libyan rebels.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) nixes an increase in Federal home heating aid for the poor.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—The Red Sox come back from a 3 game deficit and become the American League Champions, beating the Yankees 10 to 3 at Yankee Stadium.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—In 22 cities, Americans protest the impending Gulf War.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—The Feds recognize the Mashantucket Pequots, paving the way for a gargantuan casino.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—After A.G. Eliot Richardson and Deputy A.G. William Ruckelshaus refuse on principle to comply with President Nixon’s order to fire Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, Solicitor General Robert Bork, who is not so encumbered, complies.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Roger Patterson and Robert Gimlin shoot 24 feet of film purporting to show a Sasquatch walking along a streambed in northern California.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—HUAC opens hearings on commie influence in H’wood.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Two natural gas tanks explode in Cleveland with 1/6th of the force of the Hiroshima bomb, killing 130 people.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—The Red Army’s 6,000 mile “Long March” ends.</p> <p><b>1930</b>—William Kogut, while incarcerated on Death Row at San Quentin, kills himself with a pipe bomb made from playing cards.</p>                                                       | <p><b>1982</b>—Dr. Joseph Porter’s flight lesson ends prematurely when the rotor of the Robinson R22 he’s flying shears off its tail cone. Gary Porter is at football practice on the athletic field in Indian Hill, Ohio where his father dies.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—In the 12th inning, New Hampshire’s own Carlton Fisk waves the ball fair, and the Red Sox win Game 6 of the World Series.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Yippies, Diggers, Hippies, &amp;c., fail to levitate the Pentagon.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—A mountain of mine waste collapses onto a school in Wales, killing 28 adults and 116 children.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Lyndon Johnson flashes his gall bladder scar for photographers.</p> <p><b>1957</b>—Special Forces Capt. Harry Cramer becomes the first American killed by hostile action in Vietnam. His death is falsely listed as accidental.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Indiana’s Boxing Commission says boxers and wrestlers must swear an oath they’re not Commies before they can fight in the Hoosier State.</p> <p><b>1874</b>—Birth of Charles Ives.</p> <p><b>1861</b>—Sen. Edward D. Baker (R-Ore.), in his capacity as a Colonel leading a brigade at the Battle of Ball’s Bluff, becomes the first and last U.S. Senator killed in battle.</p> <p><b>1837</b>—Under a flag of truce, 75 Seminoles are captured and imprisoned by U.S. troops at Ft. Payton, Fla.</p> <p><b>1835</b>—William Lloyd Garrison is paraded through Boston with a rope around his neck for saying “all men are created equal.”</p> | <p><b>1985</b>—The last surviving Kickapoo Indians are given the right to live on their ancestral lands after being kicked off 140 years earlier.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The Atomic Energy Commission explodes a 5-kiloton atomic bomb 2,700 feet underground and ten miles west of Purvis, Miss.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—After his final request for an injection of LSD is fulfilled, Aldous Huxley dies tripping balls.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—SAC goes to DEFCON 2 as JFK blockades Cuba.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—“I know of nothing fundamentally wrong with the stock market,” says President of New York’s National City Bank.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—A dynamite blast, detonated in violation of safety rules, kills 265 at a Phelps Dodge mine in Dawson, N.M.</p> <p><b>1909</b>—A judge tells striking female garment workers in New York, “You are on strike against God.”</p> <p><b>1907</b>—An attempt to corner the copper market starts a run on the Knickerbocker Trust Company. Its failure sparks the Panic of 1907.</p> <p><b>1861</b>—The first transcontinental telegraph begins operation.</p> <p><b>1844</b>—The third time fails to be a charm as William Miller’s prophecy of the end of the world proves to have been inaccurate.</p> <p><b>1834</b>—A fire to get rid of a huge mass of ancient wooden tally sticks once used for bookkeeping gets out of hand and burns Britain’s Houses of Parliament to the ground.</p> |
| <p><b>11:43</b></p> <p><b>5:26</b></p> <p><b>5:55</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              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<p><b>9:41</b></p> <p><b>4:01</b></p> <p><b>10:23</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                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| SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     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| <p><b>2015</b>—Sen. Ted Cruz [R-Texas] warns “one more liberal justice and they begin sandblasting and bulldozing veterans memorials.”</p> <p><b>2001</b>—The day Congressman James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisc.) introduces the senseless PATRIOT Act, Justice official James Yoo writes a memo saying the President need not obey existing laws.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—Asked why he hasn’t campaigned more in New Hampshire, George W.[MD] Bush says “The important question is, how many hands have I shaken?”</p> <p><b>1983</b>—Suicide bombers kill 241 U.S. Marines and sailors in Lebanon, on Ronald Reagan’s watch.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Workers at the Nevada test site drop a nuclear weapon core 40 feet. It doesn’t explode, so only 11 workers are injured.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Eight articles of impeachment are introduced in the House against President Nixon.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—With SAC at DEFCON 2, JFK and aides debate whether to bomb Cuban SAM sites if any U.S. planes are shot down.</p> <p><b>1955</b>—In a South Vietnamese referendum with 108% participation, Ngo Dinh Diem wins with 98.9%.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Pres. Eisenhower authorizes direct U.S. aid to South Vietnam, by-passing the French.</p> <p><b>1775</b>—The Continental Congress prohibits the enlistment of blacks in the Army.</p>                                                   | <p><b>2012</b>—George W.[MD] Bush speaks at a Houston fundraiser for troops wounded following his orders. His fee: \$100,000.</p> <p><b>2008</b>—America’s markets outperform the rest of the world, having lost only 3.5% of their value in one day.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—The U.S. House passes the PATRIOT Act without reading it.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—U.S. military aircraft, using old maps, bomb Richmond Hill Insane Asylum in Grenada, killing 16.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Soviet ships reach the U.S. quarantine line off Cuba. They don’t cross it, so we don’t nuke the USSR. A Soviet satellite explodes the same day. NORAD suspects an ICBM attack; but, again, nobody pushes The Button.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—One wrongly-set switch at the Baikonur Cosmodrome prematurely ignites the second stage of a Soviet R-16 ICBM. It explodes killing more than 100.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—A badly-designed heater sets a DC-6 on fire near Bryce Canyon, Utah. Passengers and crew jettison baggage to no avail; 52 perish.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—Walt Disney rats out some employees to Congress as commies.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—The irrational exuberance of the 1920’s stock market undergoes a correction on “Black Thursday.”</p> <p><b>1901</b>—Annie Edson Taylor, 63, goes over Niagara Falls in a barrel and lives.</p> <p><b>1901</b>—General “Hell-Roaring Jake” Smith tells Marines at Samar, “burn and kill; the more you burn and kill, the better it will please me.”</p> | <p><b>1983</b>—U.S. troops protect us (and distract from the loss of 241 Marines in Beirut) by invading Grenada.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—Henry Kissinger, Alexander Haig, and other unelected officials raise America’s military readiness level to DEFCON 3 as Nixon sleeps.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Northeast Flight 946 crashes into Moose Mountain, in Hanover, N.H. Ten survive, 32 perish.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Nuclear-armed jets scramble from Duluth AFB because a guard, thinking it’s an infiltrator, has shot a bear climbing a fence.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—Martin Luther King, Jr. gets four months at hard labor in Decatur, Ga. on old traffic charges.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Adm. Sprague’s task force “Taffy 3,” surprised by a far-larger group of Japanese ships at Samar Island, attacks ferociously, tipping the strategic balance at Leyte Gulf.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—U.S.S. <i>Tang</i>, captained by Dover’s Richard H. O’Kane, is sunk by its own malfunctioning torpedo; 74 crewmen perish, 9 survive the sinking and a Japanese prison camp.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—The <i>Principessa Mafalda</i> sinks within sight of rescue vessels off Brazil; 314 of 1,252 passengers drown.</p> <p><b>1854</b>—Lord James Cardigan leads a brigade of sword-brandishing light cavalrymen across open ground in a doomed attack against Russian artillery. Somehow, half survive.</p> <p><b>1760</b>—King George II dies on the loo.</p> <p><b>1669</b>—Virginia legalizes the killing of slaves by their masters.</p> | <p><b>2003</b>—Iraqi resistance fighters nearly get Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Wolfowitz with a rocket in Baghdad.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—George W.[MD] Bush eagerly signs the PATRIOT Act.</p> <p><b>1979</b>—South Korean President Park Chung-hee is shot by the head of the South Korean C.I.A.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Henry Kissinger, lying as usual, says “Peace is at hand.”</p> <p><b>1970</b>—“Doonesbury” debuts.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—Aboard the U.S.S. <i>Oriskany</i> off Vietnam, a sailor throws an accidentally-ignited flare into a locker ... full of rocket warheads. Explosions ensue, 44 die and 156 are injured.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—As planning for massive air strikes continues, President John F. Kennedy gets a telegram from Nikita Khrushchev offering to swap Soviet missiles in Cuba for U.S. missiles in Turkey.</p> <p><b>1955</b>—Ngo Dinh Diem proclaims South Vietnam a republic and himself president.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—At the Second Battle of Passchendaele, at the cost of 12,000 casualties, the Allies gain a few hundred yards of mud.</p> <p><b>1881</b>—The Clanton brothers shoot it out with the alleged law at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona.</p> <p><b>1806</b>—Lord Timothy Dexter, seminal American crackpot who made money selling bed warmers in the West Indies and authored <i>A Penny for the Knowing Ones</i>, dies at 59 in Newburyport, Mass.</p> | <p><b>2004</b>—The Red Sox take their first Series since 1918 from the Cards.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—After its rotor strikes and severs its tailboom, a Robinson R22 helicopter crashes in Egelsbach, Germany, killing its student pilot.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Richard Nixon pocket vetoes a bill to raise the veterans health care budget by \$85 million.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—To convince the Soviets he’s dangerously unstable, Richard Nixon secretly orders eighteen B-52s armed with H-bombs to spend the next three days flying around the North Pole.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Rev. Philip Berrigan and three friends pour duck blood on draft records in Baltimore, Md.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—“We must never forget,” says Richard Nixon, “that if the war in Vietnam is lost ... the right of free speech will be extinguished throughout the world.”</p> <p><b>1962</b>—One U.S. U-2 is shot down over Cuba and another strays over the USSR as Bobby Kennedy cuts a deal with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. Meanwhile, aboard Soviet sub <i>B-59</i>, near Cuba, Vice Admiral Vasili Arkhipov single-handedly prevents the launch of a nuclear torpedo.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—“There is no question,” says Gen. J. Lawton Collins, “that the Communist menace in French Indo-China has been stopped.”</p> <p><b>1838</b>—Gov. Lilburn Boggs [D] signs an order saying Mormons will be “treated as enemies,” and “exterminated or driven from [Missouri].”</p> | <p><b>2011</b>—Texas Gov. Rick Perry becomes curiously exuberant over the gift of a bottle of maple syrup.</p> <p><b>2007</b>—The Red Sox take the World Series in four from the Rockies — second time in three years.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Cheney henchman “Scooter” Libby resigns after he’s indicted.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—“[A]s you know,” explains George W.[MD] Bush, “these are open forums, you’re able to come and listen to what I have to say.”</p> <p><b>1988</b>—In Tacoma, a jury awards \$147,000 to a woman seduced by her minister.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—OPEC decides to produce less oil and make more money.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Sen. William Fulbright charges the Nixon administration with waging illegal war in Laos.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Russkie Premier Nikita Khrushchev agrees to dismantle the Soviet missile bases in Cuba and remove the weapons.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—A child is born in an airplane, over Miami—where else?</p> <p><b>1922</b>—Benito Mussolini, “sent by divine providence,” according to Pope Pius XI, takes over in Rome.</p> <p><b>1921</b>—Argentine workers revolt under the black flag of anarchism. The army kills 1,500.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Congress passes the Volstead Act, enabling prohibition.</p> <p><b>1906</b>—Ivy Lee issues the world’s first press release, deflecting blame from the Pennsylvania Railroad for the deaths of 50 passengers.</p>                                                                                                                 | <p><b>2003</b>—George W.[MD] Bush explains that “The war on terror involves Saddam Hussein because of the nature of Saddam Hussein, the history of Saddam Hussein, and his willingness to terrorize himself.”</p> <p><b>1994</b>—Francisco Martin Duran fires 29 rounds from an SKS rifle at the White House before being subdued by three civilians.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—Ronald Reagan nominates Douglas H. Ginsburg for the Supreme Court, but his pot-smoking past puts the kibosh on that.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—New York City policemen kill Eleanor Bumpurs, African American and 66, with two rounds from a .12 gauge. She was behind in her rent.</p> <p><b>1979</b>—On Wall Street, 1,000 people are arrested for disrupting business on the 50th Anniversary of the Crash.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—The DARPA NET is turned on—two computers communicate for the first time ever.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Jack “Murph the Surf” Murphy lifts the Star of India from the Museum of Natural History.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—A radioactive cloud drifts over Los Angeles after the explosion of an A-bomb in Nevada.</p> <p><b>1935</b>—Driving home in his bonus—a new Rolls—after signing a three-year, \$1 million contract, cartoonist Sidney Smith (The Gumps) dies in a car wreck.</p> <p><b>1929</b>—“Black Tuesday”—16 million shares sell on Wall Street, at ever declining prices; \$26 billion evaporates.</p>                    |
| <p><b>5:52</b></p> <p><b>6:12</b></p> <p><b>11:49</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>6:59</b></p> <p><b>7:20</b></p> <p><b>12:33</b></p> <p><b>12:58</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      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<p><b>10:58</b></p> <p><b>4:16</b></p> <p><b>4:42</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                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