

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

The State of the *What?*

As the nation and the world tiptoe into the second year of the Trump administration, the omens are not just ominous, they're stupid and third rate as well. The tickets to Tuesday night's orgy of fatuous pomposity, along with two other less-egregious errors, admitted the holder to the "State of the Union." Rep. Raul Grijalva [D-Ariz.] nailed the response: "Looks like Betsy DeVos was in charge of spell checking."

In the spirit of full disclosure, we're writing about President Trump's speech before he delivers it. For one thing, the timing is infelicitous for us to do otherwise. Besides, if the previous 226 State of the Unions have taught us anything, it's not to write while enduring simultaneous bouts of rage and nausea. Former New Hampshire Governor John H. Sununu has lowered the bar to the point of uselessness anyway, telling Fox "News" on Monday, "It's a chance for him to show that he doesn't carry a pitchfork, doesn't have horns or a long red tail."

Hell, if we thought he'd reveal those attributes, we'd watch.

America's State of the Union Address is roughly equivalent to the Opening of Parliament in Britain: the big cheese swans in before a horde of muckety-mucks, while the rubes at home gawk at the telly. It's a grand excuse for peons to gawk at their betters, but rarely produces real news. Once again, though, Trump has trampled on our cherished norms.

On Monday, his campaign sent out a personal text message from the Grand Yam himself, offering to livestream, during the broadcast, the names of those who make a \$35 faith-offering-contribution to his reelection campaign. Trump infamously filed for reelection five hours after he was sworn in—two years

earlier than normal Presidents. Now we know why: he needed a ready receptacle for the anticipated grift. If President Obama ever pulled off a stunt like that, the Seabrook nuke plant could run at full power on the steam from the ears of Rep. Al Baldasaro [R-Londonderry].

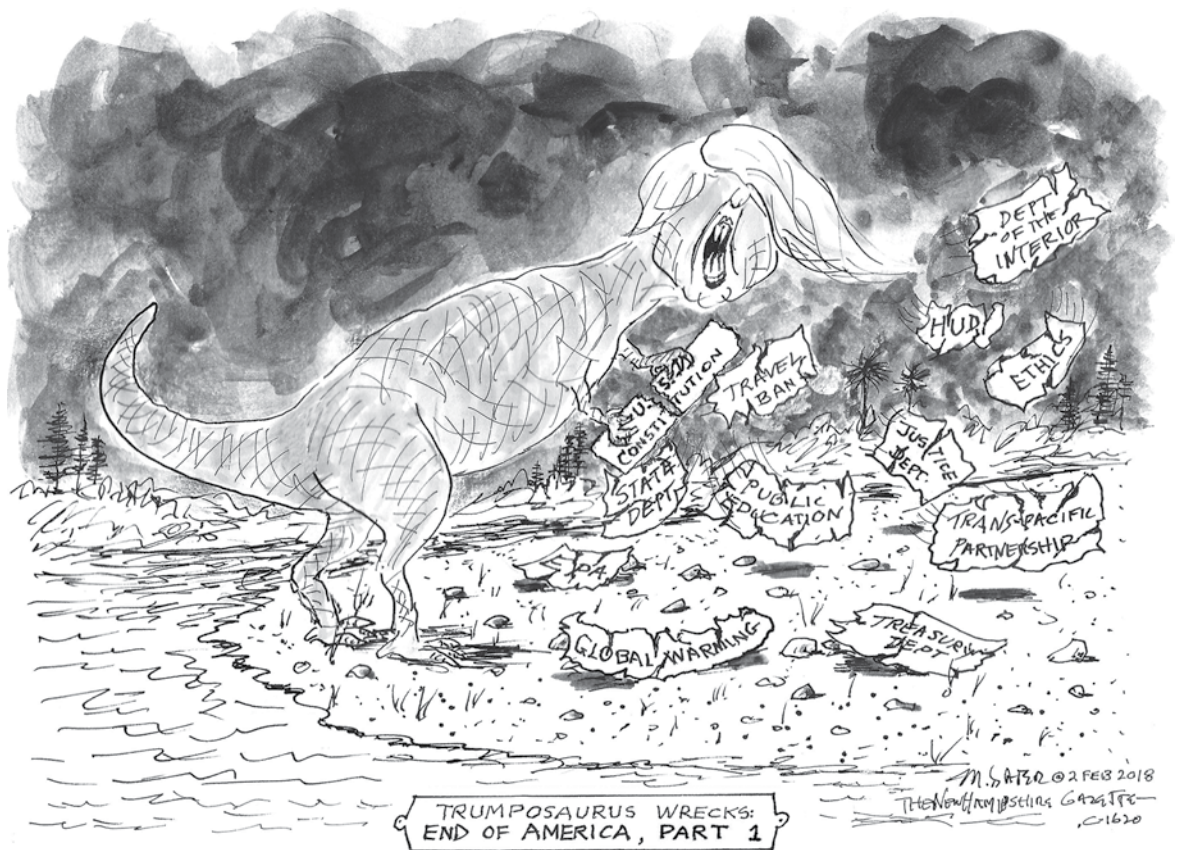
Compared to Trump's Presidential Inaugural Committee fund, though, that cheesy \$35 maneuver is the moral equivalent of a homeless person pulling a nickle from the returned-change slot of a pay phone.

Barack Obama set a record for inaugural fundraising: \$97 million for the pair. Not one to be outdone by a lousy Kenyan, Donald Trump hauled in an unprecedented \$107 million—for the only inauguration he's likely to enjoy. Casino mogul Sheldon Adelson alone disgorged \$5 million; two Russian billionaires kicked in a million bucks each.

CBS reported in September that the inauguration was run through a "chaotic process marked by last-minute decisions, staffing turnover and little financial oversight"—hardly surprising since "its efforts were hobbled by a shortage of staff with relevant experience." It has been widely acknowledged that this B Team spent only a fraction of that amount on the poorly-attended event. So, for more than a year, the question has remained: where's the rest of the loot?

Trump's inaugural committee said at the time that any surplus funds would go to charity. To date, those "charities" have been limited to the White House—the Oval Office now has golden-hued drapes—and the Naval Observatory, where Vice President Mike Pence dines alone with his wife, whom he calls "Mother."

The red-hatted legions no doubt have faith that those funds will eventually be properly disbursed—



probably to their local font of evangelical holiness.

Logic forces the rest of us to conclude that there's a slush fund out there worth tens of millions of dollars, funding who knows what. Eventually it probably will all be revealed.

After all, the word is out that the nation's Chief Executive and the de facto Leader of the Free World™ set up a fake Delaware company to hide the fact that he paid a porn star \$130,000 to keep her mouth shut about the fact that she spanked him, at his request, with a copy of *Forbes Magazine* featuring him and two of his spawn on the cover while his third trophy wife was probably suffering post-partum depression.

The good, funny news is that Trump's two-bit cover-up failed. The bad news is that there's so much other bad news, everyone's pretty much forgotten all about it. Things are terrible in ways that no sane person could have imagined just one

year ago.

And yet, fortunately, there are bright spots on the news landscape. We're thinking, of course of one particularly bright spot, or, more accurately, one bright, shiny object.

It was recently reported that The Donald and The Melania asked the Guggenheim to let them borrow Vincent Van Gogh's "Landscape with Snow." Because, apparently, why the hell not?

While it is, no doubt, an excellent work, the painting has no known connection to the United States of America. Perhaps for that reason, the curator at the Guggenheim made a counteroffer: Maurizio Cattalan's "America."

It was hardly a flippant suggestion. The piece was on display at the Guggenheim for nearly a year, and it proved to be quite popular. Made from a million dollars worth of the

President's favorite substance, artfully fashioned into a perfectly-functioning replica of the household fixture Archie Bunker—Donald Trump, with extra charm added—referred to as a terlet, it was put to use by more than 100,000 museum visitors while it was (discreetly) on display.

Inexplicably, some of the on-air personalities at Fox "News" found this intimately considerate, 18-karat gesture to be offensive.

For our money, what there is of it, what's offensive is the very idea of the Divider in Chief mawkishly plodding his way through something billed as a State of the Union address.

What Union? There is no Union. If any truth in advertising laws had survived Tom Donohue's tenure at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the national motto would now have to be, "In Fraud We Trust."



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They Finally Really Did It

"Oh my God. I'm back. I'm home. All the time, it was . . . We finally really did it. You maniacs! You blew it up! Ah, damn you! God damn you all to hell!"

—Charlton Heston,
as George Taylor,
in *Planet of the Apes*.
—==—

Our paper of January 5th reported that the Commerce Department appeared ready to impose tariffs on imported newsprint, tariffs that would have dire consequences for the newspaper business, and, by extension, on our democracy [such as it is].

On January 9th, the Department of Commerce announced an "affirmative preliminary determination in the countervailing duty (CVD) investigation of imports of uncoated groundwood paper from Canada."

In plain English, that means a coven of hedge fund investors with flexible scruples, who are backed by Mitsubishi, stumbled across a failing paper mill, saw an opportunity to manipulate a branch of government run by a man widely acknowledged to be ethically challenged and not too bright, and ran with it. And, they got lucky. Or something.

Duties ranging from 4.43 to 9.93 percent are now being added to the cost of newsprint imported from Canada.

A PR hack for the Commerce Department put a string of more positive-sounding verbiage in Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross' mouth:

"Today's preliminary decision allows U.S. producers to receive relief from the market-distorting effects of potential government subsidies

while taking into account the need to keep groundwood paper prices affordable for domestic consumers," said Secretary Ross. "The Department of Commerce will continue to evaluate and verify the accuracy of this preliminary determination while standing up for the American business and worker."

The only part of that message that's true is the vague promise to keep the lights on and the phone hooked up.

David Chavern, President of the News Media Alliance, representing more than 1,100 newspapers across the country, lambasted the decision:

"We are stunned that a single U.S. mill in Longview, Wash. (Norpac) has been able to manipulate the trade laws to their gain, while potentially wreaking financial havoc on newspapers and other commer-

cial publishers across the country. . . . This decision and its associated duties likely will lead to job losses in U.S. publishing, commercial printing and paper industries.

"Norpac petitions do not reflect the views of the domestic paper industry and demonstrate a lack of understanding of the market. The well-documented decline in the U.S. newsprint market is not due to unfair trade, but to a decade-long shift from print to digital distribution of news and information. Now, we will all literally pay for one manufacturer's manipulation of our country's trade laws. These tariffs will saddle publishers with additional costs that will hasten the newspaper industry's shift to digital and, consequentially, accelerate the decline in both the printed newspaper and newsprint industries. There will be no winners.

"We oppose the Norpac petitions and these tariffs, and we will take every possible measure to fight this misguided case as it moves through the investigation process at the Department of Commerce and International Trade Commission."

The imaginatively-named *Daily News* is in the unenviable position of being the local paper in Longview, Wash., home of Norpac. It's printed on paper that's made by the mill that's threatening to put it out of business.

Its website, *TDN.com*, headlined its story on this travesty, "Norpac triumphs in trade battle with Canadian papermakers." That sounds a bit boosterish, but the lede was honest: "In a victory for Norpac—and po-

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to page two

The Alleged News®
from page one

tential blow to local newspapers—the U.S. Department of Commerce announced Tuesday ... blah, blah, blah, &c., &c. &c.”

According to the *Daily News*, Norpac’s CEO, Craig Anneberg, “said the company estimates the duties would increase the cost to produce the average printed newspaper by less than five cents per copy.” Anneberg is apparently a graduate of the Marie Antoinette School of Economics.

For all the good it may do, Senator Chuck Schumer [D-N.Y.] has vowed to fight the decision.

“If fully implemented, this damaging decision by the Commerce Department—at the behest of but one company on the West Coast—will cause prices to rise, American paper workers to lose their jobs and some New York papers to even go out of business. It makes no sense and should be altered,” according to

a statement from Schumer’s office. Schumer said that the assessed duties “could have a particularly adverse impact in the Northeast region... due to the predominance of Canadian imports in the Northeast region, the lack of any U.S. ground-wood producer in the region and the lack of production capacity in the U.S., duties could dramatically increase their operating costs.”

Needless to say, this newspaper’s finely-tuned business model is susceptible to damage from this ham-handed maneuver.

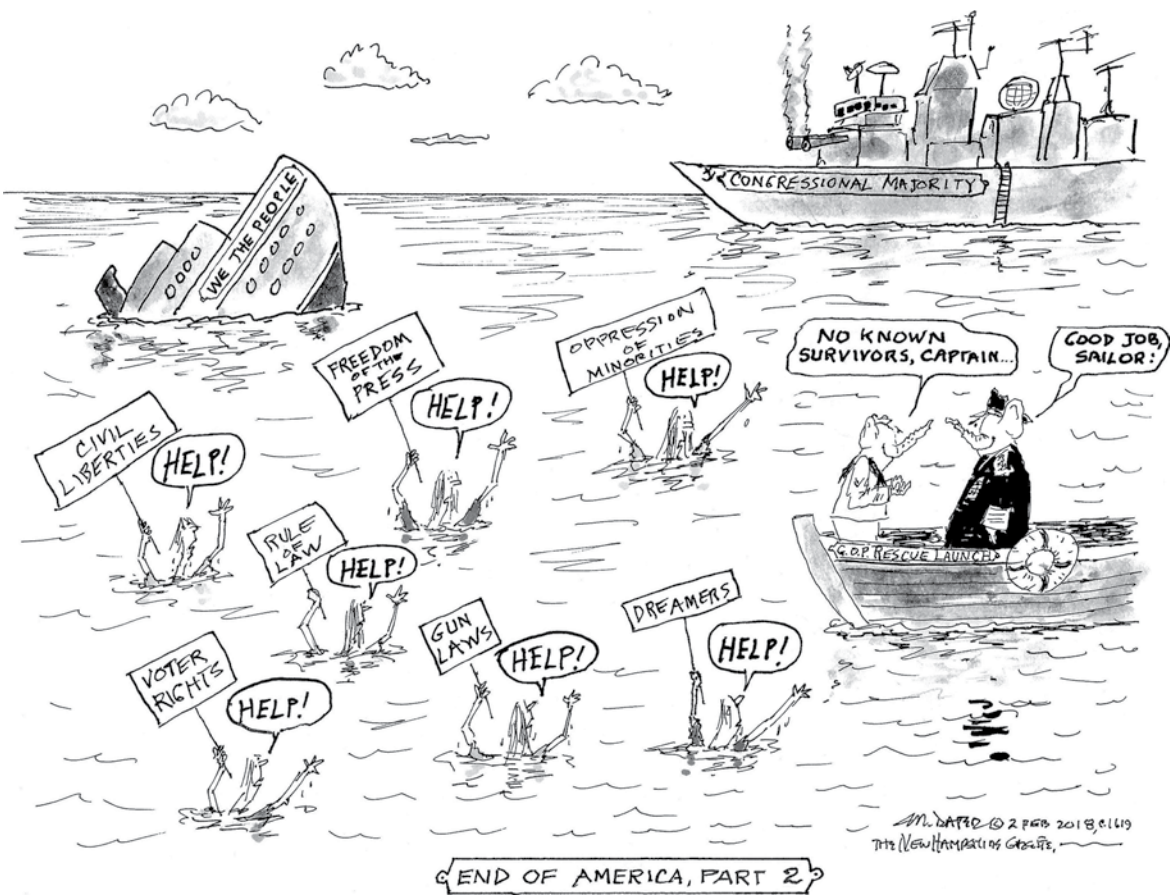
Capitalism

“We live in capitalism, its power seems inescapable—but then, so did the divine right of kings. Any human power can be resisted and changed by human beings. Resistance and change often begin in art.”

—Ursula K. Le Guin, 1929–2018

Unnamed But Famous: Man Bites Dog

A January 21st incident on Corn Hill Road in Boscawen, N.H. was



In our paper of January 5th, we reported that Matt Mayberry, a former N.H. GOP Vice-Chairman, had been kicking up a fuss over the absence of official portraits of the President and Vice President in the lobby of the Portsmouth Post Office. As the photo we published then attested, the portraits were up when we went to press. Mayberry vowed he would somehow rescind Section 124.55 of the U.S. Postal Service Operations Manual, which bans such displays. Since then, the portraits have been removed, and Mayberry, the Hamlet of Dover, who has been hinting for 18 months that he would run for the First District Congressional seat, has been silent.

picked up six days later by the *Daily Excelsior*, the leading newspaper in the Indian Himalayas. News is news, after all, all over the world.

An unnamed human subject bit a police dog named Veda on the head, after she found him hiding in a mobile home, under a pile of laundry. Veda bit back and the subject was arrested. To date, news reports have not indicated whether the man was decapitated to perform a rabies test.

It's Raining Robinsons

Three tourists set out on January 16th, anticipating a thrilling sunset tour of Uluru, the massive sandstone outcropping in the middle of Australia formerly called Ayers Rock by cultural appropriationists.

The tourists and their pilot narrowly escaped with their lives, two of them with serious spinal injuries.

Shortly after taking off from Yulara, their Robinson R44 helicopter malfunctioned. “During climb, the pilot received a low rotor speed

warning, entered an autorotation and conducted a forced landing on a sand dune,” according to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau. “The helicopter subsequently rolled ...”

The company has grounded its fleet of Robinsons while the incident is being investigated. It is still conducting tours, using Bell and Eurocopter machines.

A report in the *NT* [Northern Territories] *News* indicates that the lives of the four injured Aussies were spared by government regulation. Eight people burned to death in three crashes in New South Wales between 2011 and 2013. The fires were caused by leaking aluminum fuel tanks, spurring the Australian government to adopt regulations requiring helicopter owners switch to bladder-type fuel tanks.

“Peddling as fast as I can.”

Back in the free-market U.S.A., a Beechcraft Bonanza attempting to land at the Northern Colorado Airport in Loveland January 26th

found a red Robinson R44 in his flightpath. *The Coloradan* published the following excerpts from flight tower recordings.

Beechcraft pilot: “Are you stopping there, helicopter? Because I’m behind you and above you.”

Robinson pilot: “Nope. ... I’m going to go down here, go down here two more feet, see how this is going to work, and then I’ll be gone on the missed. Peddling as fast as I can.”

Then the two machines collided. Both pilots survived, though one was injured. As fate would have it, it was the pilot of the Robinson.

Late Breaking: California Crash

Three people were killed and two injured Tuesday afternoon when a Robinson R44 helicopter clipped one home then slammed into another in a Newport Beach, Calif. gated community. Four people were in the helicopter, one was on the ground; it was not immediately clear if the latter person was among the dead.

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It's Alive!

A rumor was floating around about a week ago. It said that the Press Room, which closed last June, would probably never open again. The construction challenges involved, and the regulatory hoops, were just too much to overcome.

It sounded uncomfortably plausible. Fortunately, Josh Sheets and Chris Greiner told us late on Tuesday that the rumor is entirely unfounded.

"All is well," Greiner said. "If you had called three weeks ago, you might have heard a little anxiety. That's gone ... aside from the usual anxiety. Things turned around in the last week or two.

"Once we got into exploring and discovering what's in the building, we found more issues than we expected. It took time to diagnose the problems and figure out treatment options. The rear addition handed us some lemons, and we're trying to make lemonade. The good news is that we've turned that corner. Reconstruction began last week."

Sheets expanded on the specifics a little bit.

"The addition in the rear was built in the 1940s or so, and construction practices were a little different. We had to open that up to allow workers to excavate around the old footings by hand, and pour individual piers

that will hold up the new part which we are about to reconstruct.

"If we were in a different place we would probably just tear down those three walls. The problem is that the [old brick Customs House] building next door, Massimo's, may or may not be ... we don't want to find out if it's bearing on the side of the Press Room."

"What could have been a rough procedure turned out to be a surgical one," Greiner added.

Sheets and Greiner say the doors will open some time in late Spring.

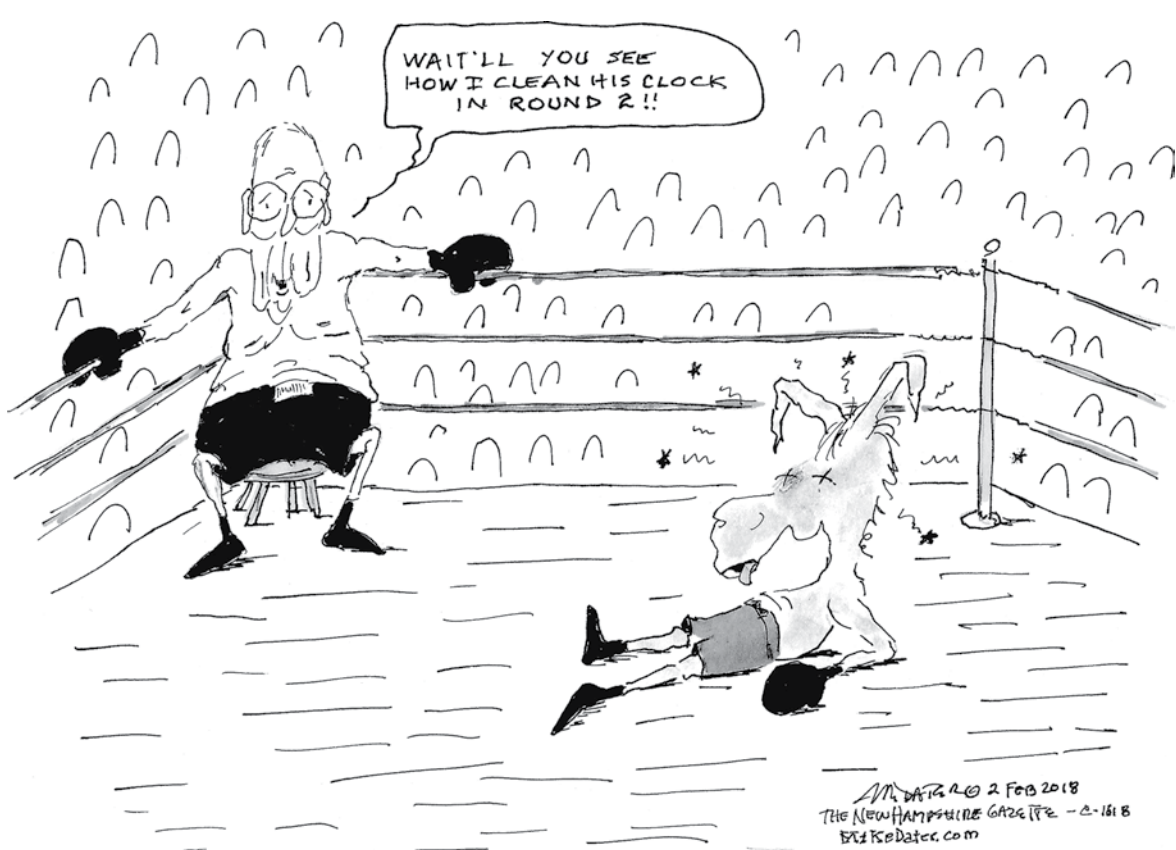
In other Press Room-related news, Bruce Pingree, the manager for many years, had some health troubles last fall. He has since recovered, but financial side-effects still linger. GoFundMe.com/kfiup89-help-a-brother-out has been set up to, well, help a brother out.

The Department of Linguistic Rectitude

The Department of Linguistic Correctness has decreed that, the table having been deemed insufficiently expansive to allow for the accommodation of all available options, allegations that the table has all options upon it are hereby banned until further notice, or the table is enlarged, whichever comes first.

Third Time's a Charm

Early last week, on those drea-



ry wet days when the temperature wouldn't shift more than a degree from freezing, Tom Holbrook and the RiverRun crew moved their bookstore for the third time. It looks like it was worth the trouble. Everyone we've asked agrees: the new space is quite charming.

The store first opened in April of 2002, in the subterranean space on Commercial Alley since transformed into the Salt Cellar.

More recently, RiverRun was on the Fleet Street side of the Franklin Block, a few doors down from Gilley's.

Now they're at 32 Daniel Street, right next to the Clip Joint—widely acknowledged to be the best barber shop in town. That puts the bookstore—and typewriter service shop—approximately 153 feet from its point of origin, as the pigeon flies. (Walking around the block from Market Street it's about 400 feet; it's slightly less via Penhallow.)

It Ain't Over 'Till It's Over

The Seacoast's own version of *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce* proceeds at its

usual pace.

If we understand correctly the latest flurry in this never-ending blizzard of paperwork, Robert Jesurum filed an Objection on January 23rd to the Wentworth By the Sea Country Club's earlier Motion to Reconsider the Superior Court's order to put the damn Sanders Poynt [or Point] sign back up already. That's probably as much detail as anybody really wants at this point.

It's patently obvious what's going on here: Bill "Bill" Binnie's got money to burn, and revels in his ability to demonstrate that fact. He's in the wrong, as demonstrated by the fact that he lost his case in Superior Court, then lost his appeal before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He will never win this case.

But, as long as he can find fresh attorneys unafraid of blotting their escutcheon with what appears to be the purest of pettifoggery, he will, apparently, never give in.

The Attorney General's abdication of his duties has left Robert Jesurum defending the rights of the people of New Hampshire from an

arrogant plutocrat's depredation. He deserves the support of us all. The Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire [CCANH] has been collecting donations to defray Jesurum's legal fees, which are, by now, well north of \$100,000. We last checked in with CCANH's Don Swanson in mid-September. At that time, \$11,830 had been raised.

On Tuesday we learned that that sum has now risen to \$16,015.25. That's an increase of more than one-third, which is nothing at which to convulsively expel air from one's nose. But, obviously, there's still a long way to go. We intend to keep bringing up this point until he is fully reimbursed.

Those wishing to help may do so online at www.ccanh.org/sanders-poynt, or mail their personal check to CCA NH, PO Box 4372, Portsmouth, N.H. 03802-4372. Checks should be payable to the "Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire," with "Sander's Poynt Legal Fund" on the memo line. All funds raised go directly to reimbursing Jesurum.



Judith Andrews and Gwen Gallassio were still stocking shelves when our Wandering Photographer drifted past RiverRun Bookstore's new location at 32 Daniel Street. Though a little smaller than the old Fleet Street spot, through the judicious use of space, it holds just as many books; and, the big, east-facing window in the front floods the place with a welcome light.

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Trump v. Sanity

To the Editor:

There was a time when I did not hesitate to publicly declare that President Trump was insane. Now I hesitate to do so, despite the fact that I, as a liberal Republican, very strongly disagree with him.

There is no doubt in my mind that Trump is a dangerous, reckless, irresponsible politician who should not be President. From my perspective, he seems racist, selfish, and impulsive—just to name a few of my concerns.

However, as a person with a medical diagnosis of a mental illness, I am concerned about the rush to publicly judge him as insane. That's because doing so unwittingly adds to the stigma of mental illness, worsening the stereotype of mental illness.

Contrary to prevailing stereotypes, people with mental illness are no more prone to commit acts of violence, statistically speaking, than people without mental illness. This fact is supported by well-respected organizations like NAMI (the National Alliance on Mental Illness).

President Trump may, in fact, suffer from a medically diagnosable mental illness. But I, for one, hesitate to publicly state for a fact that if he does, in fact, have a mental illness, it is primarily his mental illness that causes him to be a dangerous, reckless, racist, selfish, irresponsible U.S. President.

Furthermore, whether or not Trump has a mental illness should not be the primary, determining factor as to whether or not he's fit to serve as U.S. President. The relevant question should instead be this: is his presumed mental illness the primary factor that is now clouding his perspective and negatively affecting his judgment, causing him to be dangerous?

This would be a more rational, intelligent approach to this very serious issue, I believe. After all, maybe Trump is just a spiritually immature person who is damaging the planet, destroying lives, and endangering us all.

Last but not least, if Trump is, in fact, suffering from a mental illness, then those who voted for him (I voted for myself) would appear to be a mir-

ror of his illness, apparently in denial about his delusions of grandeur and the danger he represents.

Alex J. Boros
Rochester, N.H.

Alex:

Not to make light of these matters, but, if we read you correctly, you're saying that Donald Trump gives insanity a bad name.

We can't argue with that.
The Editor

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Sununu Forgets Granny D

To the Editor:

Granny D, born Doris Rollins in Laconia, N.H., on January 24, 1910, enthralled many across the United States by walking a southern route 3,200 miles across the country at ages 88 to 90, promoting campaign finance reform. She walked 10 miles per day, on cross-country skis as she neared D.C. in February! Early, she recognized what many "see" now—corporate-backed elections cut out the average citizen when campaign donations lead to "service." The big money gets the service.

Today Apple Corporation is large in the news for bringing home stashed billions—because the Trump Tax Bill gives Apple a break. "Apple, which has 94 percent of its total cash of \$269 billion outside the United States, said it would make a one-time tax payment of \$38 billion on the repatriated cash," according to the *New York Times*. It turns out that Apple CEO Tim Cook gave about equally to candidates from both parties last election, with slightly more for Paul Ryan, House Majority Leader and Republican. Granny D would be on top of this news, well aware how the little citizen with little needs is again pushed aside for the big needs of the big guys.

In past years our New Hampshire governors have decreed her birthday, January 24, "Granny D Day." Will Gov. Chris Sununu recognize this strong-voiced woman who started the movement that is so needed today—calling for "dark" money to be out of our elections?

Gov. Sununu, please continue to honor this grand activist who lived to



100, having her 100th birthday celebration in our New Hampshire State House. Decree this January 24th as "Granny D Day."

Lynn Rudmin Chong
Sanbornton, N.H.

Lynn:

A little Googling dredged up a report on N.H. Labor News, thanking the Governor for proclaiming January 24, 2017 Doris Granny D Haddock Day. But, that was last year; this is now.

We found nothing to indicate a repeat performance.
The Editor

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The Termination of Trust

To the Editor:

Eight hundred thousand Americans trusted our government when they registered to become "legal" under the DACA program. They believed that by following the rules, their home country, into which they arrived as children, would accept them as legal residents.

Last September, trump [sic] terminated the DACA program and threatened deportations within six months. The "Dreamers" who trusted are now targeted. Their personal information is in government files, available to ICE whenever it decides to come after these people, our people—our neighbors, our colleagues, our friends, employees, and service providers.

This threat extracts a fearful cost, on Dreamers and on all of us who believe this injustice does not represent who Americans are. Moreover, it destroys the possibility of success for future government programs that ask people to trust a commitment. None will trust our government to do what it promises. Anything can change whenever a self-serving, deceptive huckster rises to power.

I am proud of Democrats who are standing firm for renewing the DACA program, which is supported by 70 percent of the population. Republican

recalcitrance would shut down the government instead of governing for the good of our country.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:

It was a choice. The governing party could do right by the Dreamers, and do good for the country, or it could score some cheap political points from among the bottom-feeders of the electorate by grandstanding and demagoguery.

An easy choice, for them.
The Editor

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An Appalling Party

To the Editor:

Donald Trump gets all the attention, and rightfully so, because he perfectly symbolizes the "new" Republican Party. He did not get elected on his own merits, but by the decades-long efforts of the party (1) to exploit, with their "Southern strategy," the underlying racism which exists in our country; (2) to manipulate the voting process for political advantage; and (3) to wage a vicious campaign against the press.

The Nixon campaign realized they could not appeal directly to voters regarding white supremacy, but that "The key is to devise a system that recognized this while not appearing to," and came up with the appeal to "states rights" and "law and order" now called "dog-whistle politics." Reagan's buzz words included "welfare state," "welfare queens," busing and affirmative action. George H. [H.] W. Bush's Willie Horton attack ads did the job for him. And on and on, culminating in Trump's insistence that Mexicans are criminals and rapists.

That gets white voters to the polls, now how to keep the minorities away? Gerrymandering, purging of voter rolls, making registration more difficult, and fewer days, hours, and places

to vote helps a lot.

Press reports of these strategies result in Republicans declaring disdain for the "mainstream media," which is so ironically labeled "fake news" by an incompetent president who holds the world record as a fabulist.

So who cares about ethics, civil rights, democracy, the rule of law, a free press? What matters to Republicans is getting elected.

My parents, lifelong Republicans, would be appalled at what their "Grand Old Party" has become.

Cynthia Muse
Rye, N.H.

Cynthia:

They would not be alone.
The Editor

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Who's Behind This "Freedom Caucus?"

To the Editor:

Who are the marionettes populating the so called "Freedom Caucus"? Are they the losers not making the cut to join Koch's "Tea Party?"

Freedom. Freedom from what and for who? Freedom from regulations? Regulations protecting us from unfettered capitalism, freedom from regulations protecting the nation's people from predatory lenders, freedom to pollute and putrify our land, air, and water? Freedom to let billionaires stack the deck on our local, state, and federal governments?

The Kochs supported the Tea Party gaggle. Who's behind this "Freedom Caucus?"

Gene Murphy
Melbourne Vlg, Fla.

Gene:

Excellent question. A 2015 article in Rolling Stone, by Tim Dickinson, finds that they "serve blood-red districts—'homogenous echo chambers,' says Norman Ornstein, the American Enterprise In-

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stitute scholar who wrote the book on congressional dysfunction, It's Even Worse Than It Looks.

"Their districts are typically composed of far-flung suburbs . . . Economically, these districts fare slightly better than average: Their voters are hanging on in the middle class but hardly thriving . . .

"The defining characteristic of these districts is race—they are 83 percent white, or nearly 10 percentage points higher than the national average. . . .

"The Freedom Caucus acts like a third party in Washington because the political fates of its members are not yoked to the national GOP. Their districts rate R+13, according to Cook Political Report data crunched by Rolling Stone. This means their districts vote 13 percent more Republican than the nation as a whole — and are nearly a third more partisan than the median GOP seat (R+10)."

Meanwhile, the Pew Research Center analyzed the ideology of their voting records and found that Freedom Caucus members are one-third more conservative than "ordinary" Republicans.

In other words, they're spawn of the dreaded Gerrymander.

The Editor

Norwegian Stampede Deemed Unlikely

To the Editor:

People from Norway? Really?

Norwegian citizens are going to leave a socially progressive, economically healthy, beautiful, environmentally responsible country to go where a greedy elite lives apart and sucks the blood from a dispirited, disheartened, disillusioned, disenfranchised, desperate, with a generous sprinkling of mean-spirited, rabble, increasingly likely as not to be shot at home or work or while attending a concert or church service, whose government is dutifully, at the direction of the oli-

garchs who own it, shredding what's left of a social welfare net, systematically diminishing access to health care, and re-opening to environmental degradation the lands it stole from the native inhabitants?

Wouldn't one expect the exodus to be in the other direction, provided the Norwegians don't build a wall to keep the crass, brash, gun-toting Westerners out?

And as for the "sh_thole" countries, though I doubt the leader of any would refer in such terms to any other country, it hardly surprises me that a president elected by Greed, Racism, Ignorance, and Misogyny would stoop to using such classless, indecorous language among what should have been an assemblage of statesmen. Pretty "G R I M," huh?

Very sincerely,

John Simon

Portsmouth, N.H.

John:

GRIM, indeed.

The Editor

We've Got Ours, Screw Them

To the Editor:

In the past, America has been a magnet to the world. Still is! But that cannot go on forever.

It is time to stop saying, "We are a nation of immigrants," and then using that period of America's history, to justify acceptance of legal and illegal immigration.

As Americans we should always be grateful for the great contributions made by those who already resided in the territories, acquired by purchase, cessation, or by wars. In the 1800's, those acquisitions expanded America's land holdings all the way to the Pacific.

But those who came here illegally have no right to be here. They have been breaking our laws. They should

be told to show respect for our laws and pack their bags and go back home. They can then place their names on the list behind those who have been waiting. Fair is Fair!

Manuel Ybarra, Jr.

Coalgate, Okla.

Manuel:

There's something about your letter that strikes us as just half a bubble out of plumb, but we can't quite put our editorial finger upon it.

The Editor

Another Colossal Blunder

To the Editor:

This week, Donald Trump announced that he will place a 30 percent tariff on imported solar panels. This is the most ignorant, shortsighted and counter productive economic and public health decisions yet made by Trump, and there have been many to choose from.

According to Bloomberg News on January 22nd, as of 2015, the United States was the fourth in installed solar power capacity in the world, behind only China, Germany and Japan. In 2016, 39 percent of all new American electric capacity generation came from solar power. By 2017, 370,00 Americans were employed in the solar industry compared to 160,000 in the coal industry.

By placing these tariffs on solar panels, the cost for installing solar power will increase dramatically, resulting in the loss of many current jobs in the solar industry, and reducing the creation of many new jobs in the future. These lost clean, high paying jobs will not be replaced by jobs in the dirty coal mining industry. America will lose an opportunity to become not only energy independent in the future, but also energy dominant. We will continue to rely on fossil fuels for electricity generation which will continue to destroy our environment and contribute to the deaths of millions worldwide and here

at home.

A Forbes Magazine article that analyzed the mortality rate for every Trillion kW/hrs of electricity generated by coal, oil and natural gas. For coal it was 10,000, oil, 36,000 and natural gas 4,000. In comparison, solar was 440 and wind 150. According to an MIT study, air pollution in America results in 200,000 early deaths each year, and this does not include those who suffer non-fatal respiratory diseases as a result of air pollution each year. As a result, the health care costs, lost productivity costs and other hidden social costs, are paid for by the public and governments at all levels, not by the energy industry responsible for this pollution.

Trump and the Republican Party, like in so many other important issues, are on the wrong side of history, science, economics and public health. They are more concerned with large campaign donations from the fossil fuel industry than they are in the long-term health and security of Americans. As Forest Gump said; "stupid is as stupid does."

Rich DiPentima

Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

In the heyday of Tammany Hall, the watchword was, "What's in it for me?" Now it's "What's in it for me today."

George Washington Plunkitt (1842–1924), Tammany's most forthright proponent of "honest graft," would be appalled.

The Editor

Teaching the Wrong Lesson

To the Editor:

History repeats itself. When I was a professor in Pennsylvania, shortly before an election there, local Republicans suddenly enforced a previously-ignored statute stating that if voters crossed a precinct line in taking up a new residence, they have six weeks to re-register at the new location or they can't vote. Since college students have new addresses virtually every year, many unwittingly and innocently crossed precinct lines and were denied the right to vote. To my disgust, I saw a Republican physics professor at the

polling place telling students that they couldn't vote. What a great role model for democracy—a teacher who tells students they can't vote.

College students in New Hampshire have every right to vote. They live on the average four years in the state. They pay rent in many cases, shop in local stores, and eat at local restaurants. They deserve the right to choose those elected officials who best represent their interests. To inhibit their right to vote is the same as, in the past, denying the vote to women and minorities.

Now, in New Hampshire, we witness history repeating itself. A former UNH academic and current Republican State Senator, Dan Innis (District 24), voted for HB 372 which suppresses the student vote by imposing what is essentially a poll tax.

Along with many good teachers you may have had, a few are like the aforementioned physics professor and Dan Innis.

Gary Patton

Hampton, N.H.

Gary:

Don't forget—it was Innis who engineered the scheme that threw the honorable name of Whittemore into the dustbin, and re-named UNH's business school after a pioneer in the sub-prime mortgage racket.

The Editor

Single-Payer Isn't Government-Run

To the Editor:


Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont recently accompanied a group of U.S. medical professionals on a road trip into Toronto to discuss health care with their Canadian counterparts.

While in town, they talked to Dr. Danielle Martin, a Canadian physician, health care administrator, associate professor at the University of Toronto and a very articulate spokesperson on the very popular and successful Canadian health care system. Dr. Martin, in one fell swoop, debunked the myth that single-payer health care somehow equates to government-run health care, the biggest

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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The Northcountry Chronicle

Route 1

by William Marvel

We seemed to travel all the time when I was a child. My father was still in the Navy, and he changed stations twice before I was five, but that wouldn't account for all my recollections of staring out the back windows of an automobile. I couldn't possibly remember the first transfer, from Norfolk, Va. to Portsmouth, N.H., or even retain much of the trip from there to Key West, where we arrived well before I was three. Either we did a lot of driving after that, or the traveling stuck more tenaciously in my memory.

When my father took leave it was usually for three or four weeks at a time, so we could visit either his folks on Davis Hill or my mother's family in Pennsylvania. Most of our peregrinations followed U.S. Route 1. From our house in Eliot, Me., it was Route 1 that took us back across the state line for the occasional trip to South Conway. On the way south, Route 1 carried us from Portsmouth to within a couple of miles of my grandmother's house, in West Philadelphia, and from there we drove that same road at least as far as Petersburg, Va.

Most of the time we took Route

1 all the way to Florida, depending on the signposts for that highway in lieu of road maps. Through the South the road was lined with diners and ice-cream stands in unique architectural designs, including one somewhere that was shaped like a milk bottle. Around 1997 a friend and I retraced a section of Route 1 from Greystone, N.C., to Alberta, Va.; it was littered with rotting remnants of such abandoned roadside kitsch.

My folks and I must have taken a more inland route at least once, because I specifically remember my mother remarking on mountains in the distance, and saying that people over there were "still fighting the war." From accompanying her on visits to old neighbor ladies in Florida I had learned that "the war" usually meant the Civil War, and I took her comment literally. Somewhere in those mountains, I supposed, stubborn little armies in blue and grey were still shooting at each other. It was years before I shed the impression that by turning that way we might catch sight of marching rebels or Yankees.

Every inch of our route through Florida followed Route 1. Interstate 95 was then just a dream. Hitler's high-speed, limited access autobahn

network had interested Dwight Eisenhower when he was commander of allied forces in Europe, but Ike was just starting to push for our interstate system when we lived in Florida. All the way up or down the coast, we drove about 50 miles an hour until we came to a town or city with its inevitable stoplights. It took more than a day just to get from Key West to the Georgia line, but \$2 motels abounded. We often stopped for entertainment, including one visit to a racetrack, where the program included a memorial to a driver who had recently been killed in a fiery crash there. I recoiled at the noise and the odor, and assumed we had only come to see if another driver would be killed.

Route 1 ended, or began, in Key West. That island had not yet become a haven for drunken college kids, and was trying then to cultivate a snooty air of exclusivity. My mother found wry amusement in the community's proud boast of being the home of Ernest Hemingway, contrasting it with the islanders' ill-disguised mortification over fan dancer Sally Rand's notorious residence there. My own faint memories of the place mainly involve intense heat without air conditioning and an intimidating band of older Cu-



ban kids who occasionally stole my toys. Intense anxiety attended the approach of a hurricane that never landed, for which my mother taped over our seaward windows and then spent days cussing softly as she scraped the tape off.

Late in 1954 my father finally retired from active duty and we started out of Key West in the only new car my parents ever owned—a 1954 Pontiac with a plastic hood ornament of Chief Pontiac that lighted up. My father was anxious to get home, and my mother was sad to leave a warm climate and her

friends, but neither was unhappy to bid goodbye to such a tourist trap. Both of them had already developed an obvious aversion to tourists, against whom my mother muttered frequent imprecations.

We stopped at mile 0 of Route 1 to take farewell pictures and then piled back into the car. I locked my door as instructed, and we pulled back onto the highway, heading north toward what we expected to be the peace and seclusion of my father's boyhood home, ten miles from North Conway. If only we had known.

from page five

lie being told about single-payer health care by Republican politicians such as Speaker of the House Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Right Wing media outlets such as Fox "News" (they are not allowed to be registered as a news agency as they are considered entertainment).

Dr. Martin explained, when asked about this accusation, in very simple and clear terms, "I can't tell you how many times we hear this myth being propagated by the American main-

stream media. It doesn't make any sense to me. I mean, there are health care systems in the world where governments actually run the health care system but just because there's a single insurance plan, a publically-funded insurance plan for health care services doesn't mean that the government actually runs those health care services. If people look north to the Canadian experience,

you'll see that actually it is entirely possible to have a government insurance plan paid for with public dollars that covers everyone and yet still allows doctors, hospitals, health care organizations to have their independence in terms of the way health care services are organized. Single-payer health care isn't government-run health care. That's a myth."

It's a moral and economic imperative that we, much sooner than later, replace, with a single-payer health care system, this insane employer-based health insurance system, which comprises 1/6 of our economy and kills people, jobs and entrepreneurialism. As Senator Sanders has said, "We have a proven and very successful single-payer system in this country, it's called Medicare,

let's make it for everyone." Wayne H. Merritt Dover, N.H. Wayne: An excellent point, which can't be made too often, given the abject failure of our corporate media to make that distinction. Say—you don't suppose that failure has anything to do with those ubiquitous full-page ads in newspapers, extolling the civic virtues of our existing, hideously-expensive, cruelly-rationed health care system, do you? The Editor



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What's killing America's middle class?

by Jim Hightower

As the royal triumvirate of Donald Trump, Paul Ryan, and Mitch McConnell continue their perverse quest to turn our America into a gold-plated Trumplandistan for oligarchs, they keep insisting that their blatantly-elitist schemes will magically elevate the middle class and even the poor, delivering a 7-course-dinner to

everyone!

Yeah, right—as we've now seen from their totally-regressive new tax law, your and my seven-course dinner turns out to be a six-pack and a possum. In fact, as the non-partisan Tax Policy Center reports, 10 years from now, 83 percent of the benefits in the Trump-Ryan-McConnell tax act will be flowing to the wealthiest families, while more than half of America's middle-income and poor

people will actually see their taxes rise during the next decade.

Meanwhile, this egregious giveaway to undeserving corporate elites will add as much as one-and-a-half trillion dollars to the federal deficit. No problem, says the slap-happy triumvirate, for we have a plan to cover the cost of these lavish tax cuts we've given to the royals (including cuts for the gilded Trump family, which just happens to be one of the act's

top beneficiaries). As Trump himself explained the plan: "We're going to go into welfare reform." Yes, the plan is to cut such essential safety net programs as children's health care, food stamps, jobless programs, and—as Ryan now publicly admits, they intend to cut your and my Medicare and Social Security.

What we have here is plutocracy in action—the precious few are intentionally knocking down and

locking down the many to further enrich themselves. This is why the social cancer of inequality is spreading so rampantly in America, devouring the very middle class that Trump & Company are using—ironically and cynically—as an Orwellian rational for passing their plutocratic agenda.

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Profit Over Health? Again? Noooo ...

[Note: The following item was developed from notes taken by a Gazette reader of long standing at a public hearing held at the Legislative Office Building in Concord on January 23rd. The hearing was held HB1515, a bill seeking to expand existing exemptions to New Hampshire's prohibition on the combustion of construction and demolition debris. This expansion of exemptions would allow processed construction and demolition debris [CCD] to be introduced into pyrolysis and gasification units. It would also exempt by-products of that combustion, such as synthetic liquid fuels and gases. The relevant statute is RSA 125-C:10-c.—The Ed.]

In 2007, New Hampshire passed a law prohibiting—with small, incidental exceptions—the combustion of "the wood component of construction and demolition debris ... or any mixture or derivation from said component." Incorporated into the Revised Statutes under Title X, Public Health, Chapter 125-C, Air Pollution Control, its purpose could not have been clearer.

In 2016, New Hampshire Senator Jeb Bradley [R-Wolfeboro], proposed, for reasons not readily apparent to us, an exemption to that law. Starting small, it would have exempted the combustion of up to 10,000 tons of CCD per year.

On January 23rd, the Science, Technology and Energy [ST&E] Committee hearing began consid-



eration of a proposed "bio-refinery" which would be fueled with construction & demolition debris (CDD.) If permitted and built, it would consume about 150,000 'dry tons' annually—15 times the previously-proposed limit.

The "bio-refinery" is projected to produce 20 million gallons of "bio-oil" a year, and a smaller quantity of synthetic gas. The proprietary process used, which involves pyrolysis and/or gasification, is said to convert contaminants into a by-product referred to as "char," the volume of which would be about 15,000 tons-per-year, according to a partner in the proposed project.

Staff from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) attended the public hearing on HB1515 and reported they do not have "good, strong information on the process," and are unable to confirm claims that all contaminants would be captured in the "char."

DES staff testified that the Department takes no position on the legislation, although one of the bill's sponsors told the Science, Technology & Energy Committee that DES had drafted it.

A DES deputy director said the state would be relying on a 2016 change in federal law which charac-

terized some construction and demolition waste as non-hazardous, thus available as a 'non-waste fuel.' [The relevant portion of the Code of Federal Regulations is 40 CFR 241.4]

New Hampshire has not formally adopted rules for regulating this material. Draft rules, written by DES in response to the 2016 law partially lifting a ban on C&D combustion, rely primarily on best management practices and certifications from operators and processors involved in the construction and demolition industry. Where limits on permissible concentrations of contaminants appear in the draft rules, the levels for heavy metals in CDD derived, non-waste fuel are high. Processed C&D wood waste with lead levels as high as 250 mg/kg would be considered acceptable for fuel under the draft C&D rules. The acceptable level for arsenic is proposed at 50 mg/kg. DES has not, to date, provided a determination on what constitutes a safe level for potential exposure to workers in the industry or for the general public, nor a basis for the proposed standards in the draft rules. [The relevant portion of the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules is Env-A 3308.03]

The site proposed for this C&D waste processing and biomass pyrol-

ysis facility is on property owned by ERRCO, a subsidiary of ReEnergy located in Epping, N.H. It is one of three in the running for a large-scale pyrolysis project; the other sites are in Maine and New York. A ReEnergy representative told the committee that the N.H. site is favored for its centralized location and "proximity to feedstocks." ReEnergy owns C&D processing facilities in Roxbury, Mass; Lewiston, Maine; and in Epping and Salem, N.H. ReEnergy and DES agreed that NH's ban on C&D combustion could prevent the project from moving forward, unless HB1515 is passed and "the shackles are taken off."

The same bill was brought forward during the 2017 legislative session as a proposed committee amendment to a non-germane Senate bill. At the time a representative testifying for ReEnergy spoke of a 40 to 60 million dollar project. At this week's hearing on HB1515 the public heard more about the project, though specific details were scant on the production process and its environmental impacts. ReEnergy's representative estimated the cost of the project might now be as much as \$100 million.

ReEnergy wants to partner on the pyrolysis project with a Delaware based corporation, Ensyn, or one of

its subsidiaries—a producer of synthetic fuels near Ottawa, Ontario. Ensyn has no direct experience with processing C&D, according to a representative testifying at the hearing; ten years ago the company conducted tests on CDD material using a different pyrolysis system. The representative expressed concern about whether renewable energy credits would be available for refuse derived fuels. "It's all about the economics," he said.

Representative Michael Vose [R-Epping], the prime sponsor of HB1515 and a Assistant Majority Leader of the House ST&E Committee, said he has already started working on amendments to the proposed bill. The first would correct the bill's original language which implied CDD and its by-products could be managed as incidental. More substantive amendments, which are anticipated, will likely render the bill unrecognizable from the one presented for public hearing on January 23rd, 2018. The N.H. Sierra Club, Toxics Action Center and members of the public in attendance recommended the committee find HB1515 Inexpedient to Legislate.

ReEnergy Holdings is a subsidiary of Riverstone Holdings LLC. Riverstone was busted in 2009 by New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, and agreed to pay \$30 million in restitution for using fixers to persuade pension funds to invest.

—==—

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

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on

whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua’s ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon

drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.

Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of

Badger’s Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats

and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10
<p>2011—After a defective nut causes its hydraulics to fail, a Robinson R44 crashes at the Cessnock Aerodrome in Australia. The pilot escapes with his clothes afire; two passengers don’t.</p> <p>1996—After a sixth sexual encounter, President Clinton and a 22-year-old intern try conversation for a change.</p> <p>1976—Lockheed admits paying \$22 million in bribes to sell aircraft.</p> <p>1974—William Randolph Hearst’s granddaughter Patty, 19, is kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.</p> <p>1968—Cholon, Saigon’s Chinatown, is declared a free-fire zone; South Vietnamese pilots bomb their own capitol.</p> <p>1968—Ur-beat Neal Cassidy dies alongside Mexican railroad tracks.</p> <p>1913—Rosa Louise McCauley Parks is born in Tuskegee, Ala.</p> <p>1912—Franz Reichelt, an Austrian tailor, tests an experimental parachute/overcoat from the Eiffel Tower. His design is fatally flawed.</p> <p>1899—Five months after being liberated from Spaniards by Americans, Filipinos begin fighting the liberators.</p> <p>1887—The ICC is established, “having a good sound,” according to a future Union Pacific president, “but quite harmless, which will impress the popular mind with the idea that a great deal is being done, when, in reality, very little is intended to be done.”</p> <p>1869—“Big Bill” Haywood, legendary Wobbly, is born in Salt Lake City.</p> <p>708—Pope Sixtinus dies after an uneventful 20-day reign.</p>	<p>2012—A Robinson R44 begins shaking violently over Modesto, Calif. To save himself, the pilot makes an emergency landing on the grounds of an elementary school.</p> <p>2007—Astronaut Lisa Marie Nowak is arrested for attempting to kidnap the girlfriend of another astronaut and for suspected misappropriation of NASA diapers.</p> <p>2003—Secretary of State Colin Powell tells the UN that Saddam Hussein’s Iraq is bristling with WMDs.</p> <p>1992—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush encounters a supermarket checkout scanner and confesses he is “amazed.”</p> <p>1981—In preparation for her husband’s 70th birthday, First Lady Nancy Reagan flies her manicurist in from Los Angeles.</p> <p>1958—A B-47 bomber collides with a jet fighter near Tybee Island off the coast of Georgia and jettisons an H-bomb. It’s still lost.</p> <p>1937—Roosevelt attempts to “pack” the Supreme Court.</p> <p>1934—Hank Aaron is born.</p> <p>1918—Stephen W. Thompson becomes the first American pilot to down an enemy aircraft.</p> <p>1897—Marcel Proust meets critic Jean Lorrain for a pistol duel at 3:00 p.m.—the earliest hour decent people are up and about.</p> <p>1637—Tulip prices, up 2,500 percent in 33 days, top out in Holland at \$40,000 a pound.</p>	<p>2013—In Seabrook, N.H., Phantom Fireworks sells Tamerlan Tsarnaev 1.5 lbs. of black powder, and gives him another 1.5 pounds for free.</p> <p>2006—An inebriated flight instructor commits suicide by crashing a Robinson R44 helicopter in Helena, Mont.</p> <p>1994—U.S. Army Golden Knights parachutist Dana Bowman collides with a partner in mid-air and loses both legs. Nine months later he’s back on the team.</p> <p>1978—The northeastern U.S. is clobbared by a huge blizzard; 29 die, 10,000 are homeless.</p> <p>1971—New Hampshire’s own Alan Shepherd uses a nine iron to whack a golf ball on the moon.</p> <p>1968—NVA troops in Soviet tanks overrun Lang Vei; 21 of 24 Green Berets are KIA, WIA, or captured.</p> <p>1919—A telegram telling Seattle shipyard owners not to raise wages goes to union leaders instead; a General Strike results. Workers control the city for a week. Union bureaucrats intervene to end the strike and maintain their own power while strikers are denounced as Bolsheviks.</p> <p>1684—Rev. Joshua Moody, Portsmouth’s first minister, is jailed by Lieut. Gov. Cranfield for refusing to administer the sacraments as per the Church of England.</p> <p>1557—In Cambridge, England, Martin Bucer and Paul Fagius are burned at the stake for heresy; painlessly, since they’ve been dead for years.</p>	<p>1994—British journalist and Conservative member of Parliament Stephen Milligan is found dead of auto-erotic asphyxiation.</p> <p>1991—The IRA attacks 10 Downing St. with mortars.</p> <p>1968—“It became necessary to destroy [the Vietnamese village of Ben Tre] in order to save it,” an American major tells reporter Peter Arnett.</p> <p>1965—VC attack Camp Holloway near Pleiku killing 9 Americans and wounding 137. The U.S. responds by bombing North Vietnam.</p> <p>1950—Ex-Emperor Bao Dai [1926–1945], ineffective serial puppet of the Japanese and then the French, is recognized by the U.S. as ruler of the bogus State of Vietnam.</p> <p>1951—In Korea, Capt. Lewis Millett leads the U.S.’s most recent bayonet charge. This anachronistic victory earns him the Medal of Honor.</p> <p>1926—The First Negro History Week, precursor to Black History Month, is observed.</p> <p>1848—<i>Le Représentant du peuple</i>, the first anarchist paper, is begun by Pierre-Joseph Proudhon.</p> <p>1821—John Davis becomes first person known to set foot on Antarctica.</p> <p>1812—The last, and most destructive, of the three big New Madrid, Mo. earthquakes causes the Mississippi to briefly reverse direction.</p> <p>1497—In Florence, the pious burn “lewd” books and cosmetics in a Bonfire of the Vanities.</p>	<p>2015—Another two feet of snow fall on Portsmouth; that’s a total of nearly six feet in less than a fortnight.</p> <p>2001—An Air Force official rebuts recent news reports: “The public was misinformed” about Democratic looting of Air Force One. “There was no china or anything like that missing.”</p> <p>1971—Operation Lam Son 719, a U.S.-supported ARVN incursion into Laos, begins. It ends three weeks later, a complete disaster.</p> <p>1962—The U.S. Military Assistance Command for Vietnam is formed in Saigon. What could go wrong?</p> <p>1946—For taking down a sign about the Jim Crow laws in a Bessemer, Ala. bus, honorably discharged former Marine Timothy Hood is shot by a streetcar conductor. The Police Chief arrests Hood, then shoots him dead. The Coroner calls it “justifiable homicide.”</p> <p>1942—The House Un-American Activities Committee recommends putting innocent Japanese-Americans in concentration camps.</p> <p>1924—Nevada becomes the first state to kill someone in a gas chamber: Gee Jon, a hit man for the Hop Sing Tong.</p> <p>1923—A coal dust explosion in Dawson, N.M.’s Stag Canyon No. 1 mine kills 123 miners, many of whom had been orphaned in 1913 by a coal dust explosion in the Stag Canyon No. 2 mine that killed 263.</p> <p>1904—The Japanese make a surprise attack on Port Arthur, Manchuria, beginning the Russo-Japanese War.</p>	<p>2007—A Pentagon report concludes that Douglas Feith’s policy office inappropriately manipulated intelligence on Iraq.</p> <p>2004—University of N.H. nursing student Maura Murray vanishes in Haverhill, N.H.</p> <p>2001—The <i>USS Greenville</i>, demonstrating an emergency ballast-blowing maneuver to 16 “Distinguished Visitors,” half with Texas oil and Bush connections, sinks a Japanese high-school fishery training ship off Hawaii, killing five adult crew and four high-school students.</p> <p>1982—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush denies he ever used the phrase “voodoo economics.” Then NBC plays the tape.</p> <p>1971—Satchel Paige becomes the first Negro League player inducted into the Hall of Fame.</p> <p>1967—New York City police arrest Charlotte Moorman for playing the cello while topless.</p> <p>1964—The Beatles appear on Ed Sullivan’s show; Western Civ. crumbles.</p> <p>1950—“I have here in my hand,” says Sen. Joe McCarthy, “the names of 205 men that were known to the Secretary of State as being members of the Communist party and who nevertheless are still working and shaping the policy of the state department.” Years later he admits he held a laundry list.</p> <p>1945—<i>HMS Venturer</i>, submerged, torpedoes and sinks <i>U-864</i>, also submerged, off the coast of Norway.</p>	<p>2014—Donald Trump tells Fox “News,” “... you know what solves it? When the economy crashes, when the country goes to total hell, and everything is a disaster. Then you’ll have riots to go back to where we used to be, when we were great.”</p> <p>2010—Innovative tax protester Joe Stack flies a fuel-laden Piper into the IRS Field Office in Austin, Texas, killing one other, injuring 13, and causing damage in the millions.</p> <p>2009—<i>Iridium 33</i> and <i>Kosmos 2251</i> collide 491 miles above Siberia and turn into two tons of space junk.</p> <p>2003—The G.W.[MD] Bush Administration touts plastic sheeting and duct tape as a first line of defense.</p> <p>1990—Benzene-laden Perrier Water is pulled from the shelves.</p> <p>1989—The WWF evades regulation by admitting that wrassling is an exhibition, not a sport.</p> <p>1962—U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers is released by the Soviet Union during a spy swap in Berlin.</p> <p>1964—<i>HMAS Melbourne</i> hits <i>HMAS Voyager</i>. Cut in half, <i>Voyager</i> sinks and 82 die. It’s the first of two friendly ships <i>Melbourne</i> is destined to sink.</p> <p>1910—Five Bloomsbury Groupers, disguised as Abyssinian royalty, trick Royal Navy officers into giving them a tour of <i>HMS Dreadnaught</i>.</p> <p>1355—Oxford students assault the mayor, leading to two days of riots. About 30 townies are killed, and 63 students.</p>
<p>1:43 2:01</p> <p>7:44 8:13</p>	<p>2:33 2:54</p> <p>8:37 9:03</p>	<p>3:25 3:50</p> <p>9:33 9:54</p>	<p>4:20 4:50</p> <p>10:33 10:50</p>	<p>5:19 5:55</p> <p>11:35 11:49</p>	<p>6:19 6:59</p> <p>12:40</p>	<p>7:19 8:00</p> <p>12:50 1:41</p>
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
<p>2014—An FEC report confirms: Frank Guinta’s mom and sis say he lied about “his” \$355K.</p> <p>2013—KRTV in Great Falls, Mont. announces that “the bodies of the dead are rising from their graves and attacking the living.”</p> <p>2006—Dick “Dick” Cheney becomes the second sitting Vice President to shoot a man when he “peppers” his pal Harry Whittington in the face.</p> <p>1992—“I’d like to thank my family for loving me and taking care of me,” says Johnny Frank Garrett (IQ under 70), as Texas prepares to poison him, “and the rest of the world can kiss my ass.”</p> <p>1990—Nelson Mandela is released from prison after 27 years.</p> <p>1963—RIP Sylvia Plath.</p> <p>1963—The CIA creates a “Domestic Operations Division.” What could possibly go wrong?</p> <p>1937—The Great Flint, Mich. Sit-Down Strike ends in victory for the workers.</p> <p>1926—The Mexican government nationalizes all church property.</p> <p>1919—Emma Goldman is arrested for the crime of telling women how birth control works.</p> <p>1861—The U.S. House of Representatives unanimously resolves not to interfere with slavery.</p> <p>1812—Massachusetts gets “gerry-mandered” by Republican governor Elbridge Gerry.</p> <p>1790—Quakers petition Congress to emancipate the nation’s slaves.</p>	<p>2004—<i>USA Today</i> reports that former top Texas Air National Guard officers say files were “cleansed” to protect George W.[MD] Bush.</p> <p>2004—In Fallujah, Iraq, a convoy including the U.S. commander Gen. John Abizaid is ambushed.</p> <p>2001—NASA lands a satellite on the asteroid Eros.</p> <p>1999—N.H. Senators Gregg and Smith notwithstanding, the Senate finds President Clinton not guilty.</p> <p>1976—The New World Liberation Front bombs Hearst Castle.</p> <p>1962—A French patrol in the Sahara happens upon Bill Lancaster, mummified, alongside his biplane, 29 years after his disappearance.</p> <p>1955—The U.S. takes over training of the South Vietnamese military.</p> <p>1947—Sixty protesters burn draft cards in New York City.</p> <p>1917—A huge mob in Bisbee, Ariz. herds 1,200 members of the IWW into boxcars to be shipped off and dumped in the New Mexico desert.</p> <p>1839—The “Aroostook War” between Maine and New Brunswick begins.</p> <p>1831—A solar eclipse inspires slave Nat Turner’s rebellion.</p> <p>1809—Abe Lincoln is born.</p> <p>1781—<i>The Vermont Gazette</i> or <i>Green Mountain Post-Boy</i> begins, on a press brought to America in 1638.</p> <p>1554—Ex-Queen of England Lady Jane Grey, 16, is decapitated by order of her cousin and successor, Queen “Bloody Mary” Tudor, 17.</p>	<p>2013—Justice Antonin Scalia goes to his final judgment.</p> <p>2008—The Senate tells the CIA to lay off the waterboarding.</p> <p>2007—An Al-Qaeda tape calls George W.[MD] Bush a drunk gambler.</p> <p>2002—Former Rumsfeld assistant Ken Adelman predicts the Iraq War will be a “cakewalk.”</p> <p>1991—A U.S. laser-guided bomb kills some 400 Iraqi civilians in a bunker in Baghdad.</p> <p>1981—Hexane gas illegally discharged from a Purina plant fills the Louisville, Ky. sewer system. A spark from a car causes two miles of sewer lines to explode. Purina denies liability.</p> <p>1971—After hitting three spectators with his first two shots at the Bob Hope Classic, Veep Spiro “Ted” Agnew throws down his clubs and quits.</p> <p>1968—Five soldiers are busted at Ft. Jackson, S.C.; they prayed for peace.</p> <p>1967—The National Student Association reveals it has “secretly and indirectly” received over \$3 million from the CIA over 15 years.</p> <p>1950—After three engines catch fire on their B-36, the crew jettisons its payload: a Mark IV A-bomb. Missing its plutonium core, it merely scatters 100 lbs. of uranium when it explodes over British Columbia. The crewmen bail out, but five freeze to death.</p> <p>1946—The day he’s honorably discharged, black vet Isaac Woodard is beaten and blinded by white cops in Aiken, S.C.</p>	<p>2016—With wind blowing 20 m.p.h., and the thermometer at -13°, the wind chill in Portsmouth falls to -38°.</p> <p>2015—Another 18 inches of snow fall on Portsmouth, making nearly eight feet in under three weeks.</p> <p>2004—The White House releases some of George W.[MD] Bush’s military records, but they fail to prove he was present for duty.</p> <p>1973—The first American POWs released from North Vietnam arrive at Travis AFB, Calif.</p> <p>1971—Nixon’s secret taping system is installed in the White House.</p> <p>1950—A U.S. bomber crew jettisons a Mark IV nuke off British Columbia before bailing out of their burning B-36. A non-nuclear explosion ensues.</p> <p>1945—Forty U.S. B-17s intending to firebomb Dresden miss by 90 miles and hit Prague, instead. Death toll: 701. Bomb weight per death: 433 lbs.</p> <p>1929—On St. Valentine’s Day in Chicago, a cop asks Frank “Tight Lips” Gusenberg who shot him. “Nobody,” he says, then dies.</p> <p>1911—Bernard Harden “Bern” Porter, Manhattan Project scientist and Henry Miller’s first U.S. publisher, is born in northern Maine.</p> <p>1884—Typhoid fever kills Teddy Roosevelt’s mother. Hours later his wife dies, two days after giving birth.</p> <p>1873—Jack Gaffney is hanged for murder in Buffalo, N.Y. by Erie County Sheriff and future president Grover Cleveland.</p>	<p>2013—A previously unknown meteor explodes over Chelyabinsk, Russia, injuring 1,500 people.</p> <p>2003—In the largest global protest ever, between 10 and 25 million people around the world denounce the coming war in Iraq.</p> <p>2000—“We ought to make the pie higher,” says G.W.[MD] Bush.</p> <p>1973—Nixon tells the Joint Chiefs that the return of our POWs presents “an invaluable opportunity to revise the history of this War.”</p> <p>1966—CBS broadcasts reruns of “I Love Lucy” in place of Senate hearings on the conduct of the Vietnam War, prompting news chief Fred Friendly to quit in disgust.</p> <p>1962—“I support Pres. Kennedy to the hilt [in Vietnam],” says Richard Nixon, “I only hope he will step up the build-up....”</p> <p>1944—Mistakenly believing it is full of Nazi troops, Allied bombers destroy the 1,415 year-old monastery at Monte Cassino. Fortunately its historic treasures had previously been moved to the Vatican in 100 trucks, by Nazis, accompanied by monks.</p> <p>1942—Japanese attackers, though outnumbered 2 to 1 by British and Australian defenders, take Singapore. Lt. Gen. Gordon Bennett escapes; his name later becomes synonymous with “running shoes.”</p> <p>1933—An attempted assassination of FDR results in death of Chicago mayor Anton Cermak.</p>	<p>1982—An aide to Nancy Reagan explains that the First Lady will no longer accept “loaned” threads from big name designers because she “really just got tired of people misinterpreting what she was doing.”</p> <p>1978—The first computer bulletin board goes online in Chicago.</p> <p>1964—A week after security in Saigon is “tightened,” a Viet Cong bomb in an American movie theater kills 3 U.S. soldiers and wounds another 50.</p> <p>1962—A two-day anti-nuclear march on Washington begins.</p> <p>1959—Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba.</p> <p>1938—Guy Stewart Callendar publishes a scientific paper (drawing in part on the work of F.E. Fowle) showing that mankind’s carbon dioxide emissions are warming the planet.</p> <p>1916—Emma Goldman is busted for lecturing on birth control.</p> <p>1899—French President Félix Faure has a fatal stroke while being felled in his office in the Élysée Palace.</p> <p>1868—“The Jolly Gorks” change their name to “The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.”</p> <p>1848—Womens’ Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, N.Y.</p> <p>1818—Charles W. Brewster begins his 50-year career as a Portsmouth, N.H. newspaperman.</p> <p>1804—U.S. Navy Lt. Stephen Decatur climbs aboard the captured <i>Philadelphia</i> and burns it. He’s promoted to Captain.</p>	<p>2009—Donald Trump files his fourth petition for bankruptcy.</p> <p>2006—Six days after being shot in the face, Harry Whittington apologizes to the Vice President for “all that [Cheney] had to deal with.”</p> <p>2003—Covert CIA agents grab Abu Omar in Milan, ruining an Italian surveillance program and leaving evidence that gets 23 of them convicted of kidnapping.</p> <p>2000—“I hate the gooks,” Sen. John McCain tells reporters. “I will hate them as long as I live.”</p> <p>1985—Gen. William Westmoreland abandons his libel suit against CBS, which had reported he had covered up VC troop strength.</p> <p>1979—China invades Vietnam—again. Some countries never learn.</p> <p>1974—Disgruntled Army PFC Robert Preston steals a UH-1 Huey helicopter from Ft. Meade and lands it 150 feet from the White House. After a quick trip back to Ft. Meade he returns to the White House and lands in a hail of bullets.</p> <p>1971—The U.S. Army’s top enlisted man is indicted for conspiracy to defraud enlisted mens’ clubs.</p> <p>1942—Armed whites in Detroit attack African-Americans moving into public housing.</p> <p>1933—Prohibition ends.</p> <p>1864—The <i>Housatonic</i> achieves a distinction for the ages: it becomes the first ship ever sunk by a submarine, the Confederate <i>H.L. Hunley</i>.</p>
<p>1:48 2:36</p> <p>8:15 8:54</p>	<p>2:41 3:25</p> <p>9:05 9:41</p>	<p>3:28 4:07</p> <p>10:23</p>	<p>4:10 4:44</p> <p>10:28 11:00</p>	<p>4:47 5:19</p> <p>11:05 11:33</p>	<p>5:23 5:52</p> <p>11:39</p>	<p>5:59 6:25</p> <p>12:06 12:13</p>



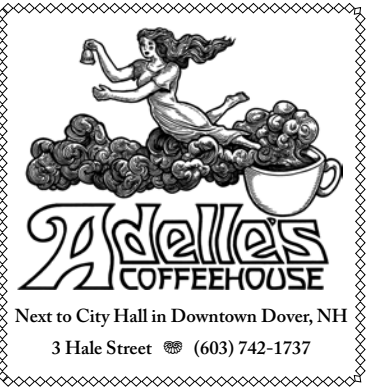
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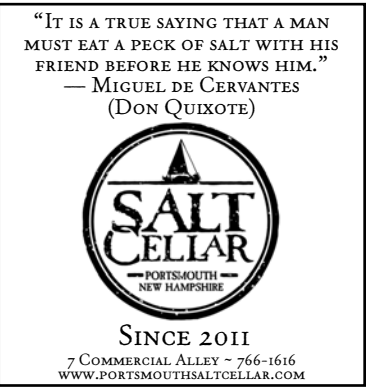
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