

*The Fortnightly Rant***To Do, or Not To Do?**

Emboldened by a forty-year string of successes, the Republican Party—the nation's reaction faction—is conducting a mop-up operation. Those vestiges of democracy which remain are being hunted down, boxed in, and neutralized. Barring any unforeseen circumstances—effective action from an opposing party, for example—before too long the GOP will have realized the Founding Fathers' dream: a nation ruled by white men of property.

What a narrative arc: from freeing slaves to disenfranchising their descendants, dooming all humanity in the process. We'll swelter and choke on our own exhaust fumes without regard to skin color. What a shame the irony will be lost on the cockroaches and whatever other species survive us.

**You Can't Print That**

To publish this is heresy, of course, on several levels. For one thing, newspapers are not supposed to impute malign motives to one of our major political parties. Fortunately, we're grandfathered—great-great-grandfathered, for that matter. Our founding pre-dates that prohibition.

The notion of "objective" journalism only began to develop when Associated Press correspondents reported by telegraph during the Civil War. The venter of neutrality permitted the AP to broaden the market for its reports. In other words, the motive was profit.

Objectivity became entrenched further after the war, helped along by an unlikely ally. Technological advances in the graphic arts made it possible for local daily newspapers to print profusely-illustrated advertisements at low cost. This service became available just as local nabobs were filling their grand, new, multi-floored emporiums with a

bewildering array of unfamiliar new products spawned by the Industrial Revolution. People flocked to the stores, making the merchants happy, and the local daily papers banked unheard-of profits—in the range of twenty to thirty percent. It was a fine arrangement for those who had a pecuniary interest in the relevant transactions. The opinions of the clerks and customers were of little or no consequence.

Naturally the publishers of that era had a dictatorial level of control over the content of their papers. Their dependence on advertising revenue from the merchants, though, gave the latter some measure of influence as to how the events of the day were to be characterized. Thus their inherently-conservative opinions helped mold "objective reality" in the newsroom.

This is not to suggest that there was ever much difference of opinion between these two species of stuffed shirt. As for the powerless, working from dawn to dusk in factories, losing limbs in railroad yards, or sweating their lives away on farms...eh. They had their street corners and their soapboxes.

New media appeared, but this method of defining reality never left. As radio and television became ubiquitous, commercial interests retained the power to veto messages which, in their minds, would be bad for business. Nothing in this system, unfortunately, pressures it to tell the truth. To the contrary, it rewards telling lies for money.

**Catastrophe on the Lay-Away Plan**

This was less dangerous when most of the pollution produced by moving humans around came from the back end of a horse. Now 200 years worth of fossil fuel consumption are rapidly catching up with us. As the character playing Valery Legasov said in



HBO's *Chernobyl*, "We're on dangerous ground right now, because of our secrets and our lies. They're practically what define us. When the truth offends we lie and lie until we can no longer remember it is even there. But it is still there. Every lie we tell incurs a debt to the truth. Sooner or later that debt is paid."

Reputable scientists were warning us thirty years ago that we had to change our ways. Doing so, though, would have been bad for business. The usual suspects knew what to do, thanks to years of practice.

Stuffed shirts in key positions cast doubt on the truth,\* and the news industry, well versed in accepting semi-plausible substitutes, passed the resultant product on to its consumers. It might as well have come from the back end of a horse.

\* For the sordid details of John H. Sununu's pivotal role in derailing action on climate change 30 years ago see "Local Governor Wrecks Atmosphere," in our December 7, 2018 issue, available online at [nhgazette.com/?p=6546](http://nhgazette.com/?p=6546).

**Fearful Symmetry**

Last October, the UN's climate panel said we only have twelve years in which to act if we want to keep global warming below 1.5°C and thus avoid the most dire and calamitous results. This is unfortunate because a recent report said it will be at least a decade before—pardon the euphemism—"demographic changes" loosen the Republicans' grip on power. Those last two years we'll have to work like demons.

There is a fearful symmetry at work here. Having made the world safe for an extra thirty years of fossil fuel burning, the Republican Party has now set fire to the Constitution in order to maintain its stranglehold on political power until it's too late to stave off a climatic catastrophe.

The alleged leader of the Democratic Party has been handed a 448-page instruction manual for impeaching the alleged leader of the opposing team of hooligans. Rather than use that document, she is

taking the position that a cautious, measured, moderate response would be more prudent. Doing otherwise would be to risk losing control of the House of Representatives—whose powers she would prefer not to employ in this instance.

Even Meathead can see the folly. @robreiner tweeted, "Trump & Barr have been controlling the false narrative of 'exoneration.' Once the public is made aware of the mountain of criminality clearly laid out in the Mueller report, the calls for Impeachment will hit critical mass."

Reuters reported Sunday that the airline industry's profit forecast is down 21 percent because of our trade war with China. Now the \*resident has declared a trade war with Mexico, our largest trading partner, meaning the car industry may grind to a halt.

How much weirder can things get? Will the \*resident inadvertently save the climate by destroying the economy?

*The Alleged News®***Flag Day Done Right**

Strawbery Banke Museum and Alumni from Haven School are teaming up for a Flag Day Commemoration on Friday, June 14, 2019. Members of the public have been invited to assemble in the former "Puddle Dock" waterfront neighborhood, on the Strawberry Banke side of Marcy Street opposite the Liberty Pole, at 9:00 a.m.

Festivities will include a presentation of the colors by a delegation from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the singing of the National Anthem by Angelynnne Hinson, and remarks by Portsmouth Mayor Jack Blalock. Also on the program, Lawrence J. Yerdon, President and CEO of Strawberry Banke will welcome guests Sherm Pridham, librarian emeritus of Portsmouth Public Library, former resident of Puddle Dock, and alumnus of Haven Elementary School; and his contem-

poraries, Larry Ciotti and Al Neri, from Farragut Elementary School, in the North End, to explain the significance of the event.

Pridham commented, "Flag Day began in public schools to introduce students to the history of the Flag and its significance to citizens and citizenship. Former (long ago) students of Haven Elementary School and Farragut Elementary School will speak about their memories of living in neighborhoods where their elementary schools were at the heart of events in the neighborhood. Everyone is invited to this free event, and students from the eight or nine other elementary schools of the Fifties and before are encouraged to come and show their colors."

"Our Nation's Flag has waved from atop Portsmouth's Liberty Pole through the winds of change that have, at times, been severe. Our

Liberty Pole has served as a rallying point, where citizens have come to commit themselves to the sacrifices of war; to celebrate victories and commemorate historic events. It is appropriate for the Liberty Pole to, once again, be the center of attention on Flag Day."

"The Portsmouth Liberty Pole is visible in the earliest photographs of the Puddle Dock neighborhood that is now Strawberry Banke," said Lawrence J. Yerdon. "The museum has taken part in several efforts to preserve this important, tangible symbol of Portsmouth's 18th century history. We are pleased that the celebration of Flag Day has returned to the neighborhood."

The Liberty Pole in Portsmouth is the oldest in America and is also a symbol of citizen engagement in times of war and peace, of local initiative and of the "grassroots" efforts

for which Portsmouth is famous. Portsmouth's Sons of Liberty placed a flagpole on the spot where the current flagpole stands on January 9, 1766. Nine years before the beginning of the American Revolution, the Liberty Pole was a rallying point for opposition to the Stamp Act. The Sons of Liberty raised a flag on it with the motto, "Liberty, Property, and No Stamp." This was the first flag protesting the Stamp Act in the American Colonies.

Subsequently, the Liberty Pole was the focus of war and peace. On May 22, 1766, the town of Portsmouth celebrated the the British Parliament's repeal of the Stamp Act by placing a battery of twenty-one cannons nearby, dedicated to the King. Thirteen of these guns were fired on April 28, 1783, to celebrate the end of the Revolutionary War. The original Liberty Pole was

replaced on the Fourth of July in 1824 and again on the Fourth of July in 1899.

Coincidentally, on June 14, 1777, the date Congress adopted the flag, Captain John Paul Jones assumed command of the *Ranger*, built in Portsmouth at John Langdon's boatyard. The *Ranger* carried that ensign in harm's way. Jones, his Sea-coast crew and the *Ranger* were the first to receive honors from a foreign nation (a French ship) when they carried the flag into international waters.

Strawbery Banke Museum today indicates which of its historical houses, interpreting life in Portsmouth from 1695 through 1955, are open for touring with a flag appropriate to the era of each house.

**The Alleged News®**

from page one

**Ooops...**

Leading up to Memorial Day, the U.S. Army's Twitter feed posted a video of an active-duty soldier expressing gratitude for the chance to serve. Hundreds responded; their mileage varied. To the Army's credit, the tweets remain online.

@LawyerRyanSweet replied on May 29th, "I loved serving and Army Values & sought hard assignments. I was a 4x deployed officer & paratrooper. After 7 years watching total injustice, inequity, (pay, treatment, awards), no appreciation, & overwhelmingly terrible uncaring leadership, I got out."

@skydovva wrote, "My grandparents were used as pawns serving the US army in aiding them on the Ho Chi Minh trail. They served in The Secret War, and when the US lost

the Vietnam war the Hmong were left to die in genocide. To this day Hmong veterans are not recognized by the US army."

@rebeccamariejo replied, "My best friend from high school came back after a tour in Afghanistan and couldn't talk about the things he had been commanded to do. He joined The Army under the pretense that he'd be fighting monsters and felt tricked once he was made into one."



**Four Die in Two Robinson Crashes**

Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden is usually tranquil, one presumes. What else would one expect of a nature preserve devoted to educational displays, sustainable agriculture, and wildlife rescue facilities, set on the picturesque northern slope of Tai Mo Shan, Hong Kong's highest mountain? Its website describes cobbled paths winding through



From time to time the streets and sidewalks of Portsmouth are co-opted by small, roving bands of people, coerced by their demanding corporate overseers into the performance of meaningless and demeaning rituals. Like North Koreans forced into massive public displays of loyalty, their livelihood and well-being may depend on their compliance. As practiced locally, these performances pit each team against all the others in a grand and cruel competition—a distinctive twist characteristic of a capitalist regime. This group was spotted by our Wandering Photographer on May 30th, as its collective ordeal was being recorded for the permanent record.

extensively-landscaped gardens, its 365 acres dotted with pavilions, bridges, waterfalls and picnic spots. Nary a word about crashing helicopters, fire, and death.

Such was the scene on May 20th, though. Andrew Wong Fai-hung, a married father of three, was alone in a Robinson R44 when it crashed and burned behind the farm's administration building. The 49-year-old lawyer had renewed his pilot's license earlier that day. His body was found more than 60 feet from the flaming wreckage.

"Witnesses earlier reported hearing explosions and seeing the four-seater aircraft breaking apart in mid-air moments before it crashed into a slope," according to the *South China Morning Post*. Eyewitnesses gave conflicting stories, an unnamed police spokesperson told the paper. "Some said the chopper had already disintegrated before the crash, but other witnesses said otherwise."

A pilot and two passengers were killed when another Robinson R44 crashed in Arkansas on Sunday. A

third passenger was airlifted in critical condition to a hospital in Oklahoma. The accident took place just 500 feet from the grounds of the Backwoods at Mulberry Mountain in the Ozarks. The remainder of the music festival was called off. "[The crash] threw off the whole vibe," said one attendee.

**The End is Near!**

Boxholding patrons of the local Post Office got a bit of a start last Saturday morning: a mailer which read, "The Downtown Daniel Street Post Office is CLOSING ON AUGUST 31, 2019!"

The quasi-official-looking mailing piece, clearly identified as coming from Revisit McIntyre, went on to say the facility was "moving to 345 Heritage Ave.—4.3 miles away (15 minute drive from downtown) ... being forced out by the City Council/Kane/Redgate McIntyre Development!" [All caps type in the original has been changed to upper and lower case here for aesthetic purposes.—The Ed.]

"No McIntyre project will be completed for several years," the mailer went on in what seems to us to be an entirely justifiable tone of outrage. "So why is the Post Office moving? The IRS, FBI and SS Administration are staying on." The mailer then proceeded to list the following contact information: Portsmouth Postmaster Don Hildreth: 427-6399 or 427-6274 (leave message); Tom A. Samra, V.P. Facilities, Washington, D.C.; (202) 268-3389; tom.samra@usps.gov; City Council: cityofportsmouth.com/citycouncil/contact-all-city-councilors.

After suggesting that people write to their Congressional representatives, it delivered this bitter parting shot: "ANOTHER BAD DECISION FOR PORTSMOUTH!"

We asked Don Hildreth, the new Postmaster, if the August 31st date was accurate. While he declined to give us an official closing date, he said that the completion date for work on the new Post Office on Heritage Avenue is August 31st. More to the point, he also said the

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lease for the Daniel Street site ends on September 30th.

In 115 days, then, if not sooner, Portsmouth will be without a downtown Post Office.

**GateHouse's Gutting Continues**

Three full days after postal patrons received Revisit McIntyre's provocative mailing, the *Portsmouth Herald* had yet to mention it. The Award-Winning Local Daily's most recent story on the fate of the Post Office was published May 15th, about three weeks ago.\*

Regular readers know that we normally don't shy away from criticizing the AWLD—severely, at times. Our heart's just not in it nowadays.

True, the content is increasingly composed of generic filler. What more, though, can we expect of an organization being eviscerated by its owners? We're lucky we still get the police log. [And, yes, you're damn right we have a subscription.—The Ed.]

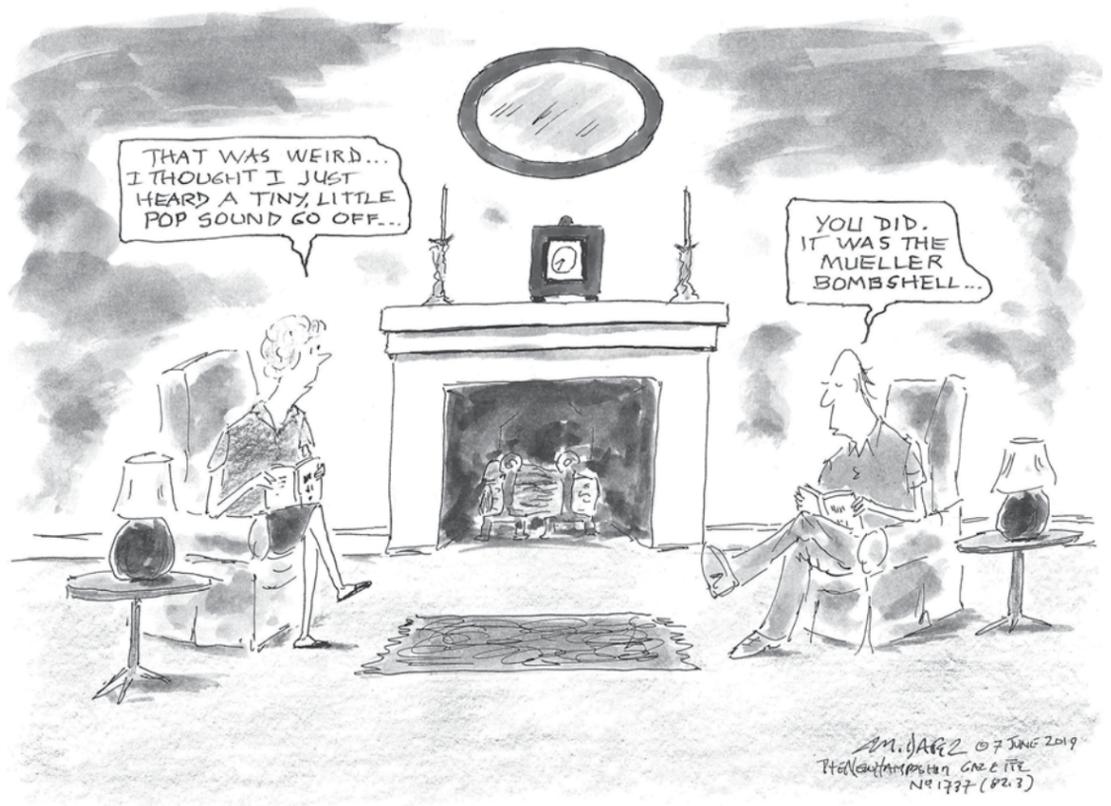
The Executive Editor recently wrote an editorial gamely pledging that despite "budgetary challenges"—or some similar euphemism—the valiant staff of Seacoast Media \*Wednesday's paper dealt with the mailer.

Group's newspapers would continue to deliver blah blah blah, &c., &c. It was all we could do not to weep.

We cannot fault the Editor. God help him if he wrote the truth: "We're going to publish the best paper we can under the circumstances—which is to say, while the upper echelons of management make that impossible because their primary objective is to satisfy the insatiable greed of the owners."

Kirk Davis, the CEO of GateHouse Media and the COO of its parent company, New Media Investment Group—the man wielding the knife, in other words—made \$1.7 million last year. That's as much in a week as most Herald employees make in a year.

Davis was asked last year by *StreetFight*, "How, even as it cuts the size of editorial staffs at its newspapers, is GateHouse succeeding in your public goal of preserving its 'front-line reporting resources'?" His answer was "optimize our cost structure and develop and scale new revenue streams," whatever any of that means. The first concrete thing he mentioned was GateHouse's Center for News & Design in Austin, Texas, which he said "enables local news-



rooms to focus on local reporting."

Here's a little sample of Austin's work product;

**of Benjamin Joslyn, 37, of South Berwick, Maine. Police allege Joslyn had keys to all Portsmouth Housing**



**Joslyn**

**Sankofa Walking Tours**

Though mute, the bronze plaques of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail bear constant witness to an essential but long-suppressed part of our history. The scholarship behind those plaques is given voice by the local experts of Sankofa Tours.

Three tours scheduled for this fortnight tell the story of an enslaved woman successfully defying a President, show colonial life in New England through the eyes of enslaved children, and consider the lives of enslaved women in a bustling sea-

port.

**Lives Bound Together: The Washingtons & Ona Marie Judge in New Hampshire; June 9th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., \$20; Sankofa Scholar & Tour Guide: Tammi Truax.**

During the Spring of 1796, George Washington's final months in office, Ona Judge, an enslaved woman owned by the First Family, escaped the Executive Mansion in Philadelphia with the aid of that city's free Black community and made her way to Portsmouth. On this tour, you will hear the true story of Ona's quest for freedom and the President's relentless efforts to get her back. See the waterfront where she lands and visit the properties of some of America's most famous families; the Langdons, Whipples, and Lears, whose stories were also bound to her.

**Black Children in Colonial Portsmouth: Stories of Everyday Life (Warner House); June 15th 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; \$20; Sankofa Scholar: Tammi Truax.**

Hear the stories of Black chil-

dren's work life and living conditions in town and on the farm, by author and storyteller Patricia Wall. Learn how captive child servants experienced Election Day celebrations, funerals, slave auctions, the Revolutionary War, and more.

This tour is for children 8 & up. *Note:* Tour meets at 11:00 a.m. at the Warner House, 150 Daniel Street, Portsmouth N.H.

**Sankofa Walking Tour: Ain't She A Woman: Let me tell you her story; June 15th, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; \$20; Sankofa Tour Guide: Valerie Fagin**

Can you imagine the hustle and bustle of a prosperous Colonial seaport town? This tour invites you to discover early Portsmouth from the perspective of African American women. In spite of enslavement and hardship, these women fought for freedom, defied a sitting president, and educated generations of children. Hear their stories about love and faith and struggles, as you walk past the homes of the families who enslaved them.



Boxholders at the local Post Office got unwelcome news last Saturday. A mailer [inset] from ReVisitMcIntyre announced that the Daniel Street location would close August 31st. That date may be off by as much as a month. If so, in the long run that would just be a rounding error.

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— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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Gibson's Book Store, 45 S. Main St.  
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Concord Public Library, 45 Green St.  
Franklin Pierce Law School, 2 White St.

**Hanover:**  
Hanover Public Library, 13 South St.

**Keene:**  
Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St.

**Lebanon:**  
Lebanon Public Library, 9 E. Park St.

**Trump Supporters**

To the Editor:

That Donald Trump has been able to retain the mindless support of millions whose deepest interests are daily undermined by his policies and actions, is a source of ongoing wonderment.

Pussy-grabbing, over ten thousand provable lies, gutting of treaties achieved over years of painstaking effort, massive tax cuts for the ultra-wealthy—the list goes on and on, and yet those who support him do not waver. Until fairly recently they occasionally ventured forth with feeble assertions that he has the nation on the right course, but for the most part those claims have ceased, probably because even they have realized the absurdity of their positions.

In these columns people like Don (whose nonsensical issuances you recently observed have been missing of late), Sue, and a few other incorrigible Trumpers have gone to ground. Is it possible that they have been shamed into silence? Unlikely.

In the words of William Allen White, writing of Ku Klux Klanners many years ago, "...it is more likely that they have no capacity for receiving arguments, no minds for retaining and sifting facts, and no mental processes that will hold logic. If they had any of them, they would not be Kluxers." Substitution of "Kluxers" with "Trumpers" would describe such persons perfectly.

Richard Adams  
Portsmouth, N.H.

Richard:

Thank you for introducing the name William Allen White to these pages. It's been some time since we've seen a reference to "the Sage of Emporia" [Kansas], owner and editor of the Emporia Gazette from 1895 until his death in 1944. His great-grandson now runs that paper.

White's life gives the lie to the canard which holds that people inevitably grow more conservative with age. His opinion of the Klan in late-middle age is clear from your letter. A quarter-century earlier he wrote, "Only Anglo-Saxons can govern themselves. The Cubans will need a despotic government for many years to

restrain anarchy until Cuba is filled with Yankees."

Because we cannot resist, we'll close with this 1933 observation regarding the First World War:

"The boys who died just went out and died. To their own souls' glory of course—but what else?... Yet the next war will see the same hurrah and the same bowwow of the big dogs to get the little dogs to go out and follow the blood scent and get their entrails tangled in the barbed wire."

The Editor

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**Governor Must Veto SB 241**

To the Editor:

If Governor Sununu does not want the "boondoggle" (his own words) of extending the MBTA's commuter rail further into New Hampshire as part of his legacy, then he must veto SB 241 if it should pass the House on June 5th.

SB 241 would start the planning phase paid for by the federal government. But the rest of the operating costs and maintenance would be the state's responsibility. New Hampshire does not have the ridership to support this massive endeavor. Ridership is down, even in higher-density areas, causing massive debt in every system in the country. The DOT's own study also suggested that not only would it not alleviate traffic on the ride from New Hampshire to Massachusetts, but it would require additional taxes and fees to maintain. New Hampshire's sparse population would not produce enough riders to sustain it. It would be a perpetual money pit.

The Governor is well aware of the DOT's study that suggests it would be a disaster for New Hampshire and not fulfill any of the promises made by high-priced lobbyists. If he is truly against an income tax he will not allow SB 241 to waste good money on outdated 19th century modes of transportation that will go unused by 99 percent of the public.

Tell the Governor to veto SB 241 or he will have to live with one huge mistake.

Jane Aitken  
Bedford, N.H.

Jane:

How disappointing. For a fleeting mo-



ment we thought your letter was from the Jane Aitken who succeeded her father as a printer in Philadelphia, and had been delayed in the mail for 200 years.

Would that it had been. No, it's just boilerplate anti-public transport boilerplate from the Koch-funded Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Flimflammetry.

If it were possible to recoup the trillions spent to subsidize the auto and oil industries—which are killing us—then we'd be able to have nice things.

The Editor

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**Politics or the Rule of Law?**

Dear Sir:

Last week I submitted a letter that stated Mr. Mueller should come before Congress and answer questions regarding his report. Specifically, did Attorney General Barr's four-page letter fairly and accurately describe his report and its findings? Would he have indicted any other person, other than a sitting President, who committed the 10 episodes of possible obstruction of justice listed in his report? And since he accepted the Department of Justice policy that a sitting president could not be indicted, did he intend for his report to be used by Congress to uphold their Constitutional responsibility to determine if impeachable offenses had been committed?

Today, Mr. Mueller clearly answered those questions in his very dramatic news conference. While he did not come right out and say that Mr. Barr did not accurately describe his report, or that he would have indicted anyone other than a sitting president for obstruction of justice, his words and their meaning were unmistakable. Mr. Mueller made a point to quote language from his report that stated, "If we had confidence after a thorough investigation of the facts that the president clearly did not commit obstruction of justice, we would have so stated. Based on the facts and applicable legal standards we are unable

to reach that conclusion." He also referred to the Justice Department policy memo from 2000 that stated that he could not indict a sitting President. However, what that policy memo suggested and that Mr. Mueller seems to be implying, is that the responsibility of dealing with a President who may have committed crimes does not lie with the criminal court system but, within the powers granted by the constitution to Congress to impeach and, if found guilty, convict and remove a President from office.

Now the ball sits clearly in the court of the House of Representatives. It will be interesting to see if political considerations override the rule of law. It will also be interesting to see how Mr. Trump, Congressional Republicans, and right-wing media spin and distort what Mr. Mueller clearly stated.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

What becomes dimly clear in this national stress test is that neither party is interested in doing its job.

Republicans have abandoned any pretence of governing in favor of consolidating power, the better to carry out their neo-feudalistic strategy.

Democrats don't know what strategy is, and haven't the courage to follow one if they did.

The Editor

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**The Next Full Moon**

To the Editor:

With his back to the wall, some folks believe Donald Trump needs a good old-fashioned war to secure his grip on power. The American people don't need it, our safety and wellbeing would be compromised by it, and the nation can ill-afford to pay for it. But when did logic like that ever stop anyone? Look at it from Trump's perspective.

Is there a better way to dominate the 24/7 news cycle, stonewall impeachment hearings, block federal investigations, and criminalize critical reporting by the press? Is there a bigger cudgel for whipping dissidents back in line than the mantle of "national security"?

The President says he doesn't want war, but how seriously should we take the jabbering of a political parrot who famously tweets from both sides of his beak? Perhaps a more reliable clue to Trump's thinking was presented by Vice-President Pence during this year's commencement address at West Point. In his speech, Pence warned cadets to prepare for deployment on multiple fronts because, with absolute certainty, there will be war. Lots of war all over the place.

Of course, America already has one festering 18-year-old conflict we can't possibly win, not to mention troops deployed in over 100 foreign countries around the globe. We're already stretched a little tight, but Afghanistan is a "forgotten war." This President needs a personal war bearing the Trump brand. And, Trump needs it all to begin before the 2020 election so he can hammer his disloyal Democratic rivals at the same time!

By my count, the moon will be full eighteen more times before November 15, 2020. That's eighteen golden opportunities for America's self-proclaimed "stable genius" to fall under the influence of humanitarian advisors like Bolton, Miller, Pompeo, and Hannity and do something phenomenally stupid. How badly do Democrats want to watch this nightmare play out? Bad enough to buy some popcorn and watch quietly as another geopolitical s---show unfolds before our eyes?

Rick Littlefield  
Barrington, N.H.

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**WOW! PILE AND HUMOR**



*Rick:*  
 Thanks to the persistence of the written word, we know that Homo semi-sapiens have frequently felt that their times are uniquely perilous. It is an unsettling measure of our time that it can slip our editorial mind there's a possibility our Nutjob-in-Chief might start a war to distract us from his high crimes and misdemeanors.  
 Thank you for reminding us, we think.  
 The Editor

Right and Necessary

Dear Editor:  
 To impeach or not to impeach, that is the question on the minds of many Americans and the U.S. Congress. We must consider whether such action is in the vital best interests of the United States despite any political risks of its outcome.  
 Children of my generation were taught, accepted, and held inviolate, the Constitution's basic principles of separation of powers and checks and balances. Every child today, and every adult in America, is learning from Donald Trump, that these tenets, this foundation, our code of ethics, our Constitution, may be nothing more than hogwash.  
 By refusing to respond to any Congressional subpoena, Trump is saying Congress has no Constitutional authority to oversee the Executive Branch. He's stating that Congress is subordinate (not a co-equal) branch of government. Do we just simply forget about separation of powers?  
 By spending money on his ill-conceived wall, that Congress explicitly refused to okay, Trump is saying Congress has no Constitutional authority over spending. Goodbye, checks and balances. Goodbye, Congress.  
 By shutting down government

whenever this man-child doesn't get his way, Trump is saying he has the Constitutional right not to execute laws whenever it suits him. Again, farewell, Congress.  
 By directing the Attorney General, the Justice Department, the FBI, and the Secretary of the Treasury to act in his own personal interest rather than in the interests of the American people, Trump is saying that he (or any President) can run the U.S. government on his own. Adios, Constitution and goodbye, America, *au revoir*, ta-ta, sayonara.  
 By threatening to cut off trade with the second-largest economy in the world, Trump is saying he has sole authority to endanger the entire American economy. Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (President of Mexico) is the most recent leader to try and explain the economic facts of life to Trump before he puts the world's economy in a tailspin.  
 And by doing everything possible to stop an investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, including firing the head of the FBI (interference we all now know was true and clearly took place), Trump told America it's AOK for a President to obstruct justice. Goodbye, law. You comfortable with that? I'm not.  
 The core purpose of the U.S. Constitution is to prevent tyranny. The framers wisely distributed power among the President, Congress, and the judiciary, giving each of the three branches the means to limit the power of the other two. In other words, the framers of the U.S. Constitution anticipated the possibility of a Donald Trump.  
 The framers also put in components to enforce the Constitution against a President who tries to usurp the powers of the other branches (which

Donald Trump clearly has). The last sentence of Article I, Section 2: "The House of Representatives shall have the sole Power of Impeachment." In the next to last paragraph of Article I, Section 3: "The Senate shall have sole Power to try all Impeachments."  
 President Trump (in my opinion) clearly appears to be actively usurping the powers of the other branches. Therefore, the road ahead (though difficult to traverse) seems equally clear. Under our present circumstances, the Constitution mandates, commands, and expressly directs that the House of Representatives undertake an impeachment inquiry and present the resulting evidence to the Senate.  
 This may not be the most popular or the most practical and certainly not the most risk-free political thing to do. But is it the necessary and the right thing to do.  
 David L. Snell  
 Franklin, N.C.  
*David:*  
 You should be working for the House Judiciary Committee.  
 The Editor

Stop VA Privatization

Dear Editor:  
 There are a certain number of critics of the Veterans Administration who refer to it as "Socialistic." Certainly, the VA is one of the best examples of socialism in the U.S., next to every branch of the U.S. military! Let citizens forget other examples of socialism: guaranteed public education; public libraries and transportation; roads and highways; Social Security; Medicare/Medicaid; public universities and parks; public parking; police and fire departments, &c.  
 Philip Longman, author of *Best Care Anywhere: Why VA Health Care Is Better Than Yours*, says: "The enemies of the VA include the Koch brothers who, fearful of the spread of socialized medicine, are funding a well-coordi-

nated campaign (including support for the group, Concerned Veterans for America) to discredit its only true example in the United States, which is the veterans' health care system. And they include giant corporate health care systems that stand to gain billions in taxpayer dollars from the privatization or outsourcing of veterans health care."  
 In 2014, Congress passed the Veterans Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act. What this allowed was the funneling of VA funds to the private, for-profit area. In June of 2018, the current president signed into law the VA Mission Act. This has resulted in VA funding being diverted to for-profit hospitals. More VA hospitals are becoming either severely understaffed or facing closure. One result is that veterans will have to wait longer for necessary care. We will see more veterans being sent to unaccountable, expensive, for-profit hospitals that really are not able to address their specific needs. If one is honest about the Mission Act, its ultimate goal is to have Congress abandon its mission to support veterans and the specialized care they receive from VA hospitals.  
 Why destroy the VA as so many doctors are experts and collaborate on addressing veterans' problems ranging from Agent Orange (AO) concerns, traumatic brain injuries (TBI), to the deleterious effects on our veterans of using high-caliber depleted uranium (DU) bullets and high-powered DU shells. VA doctors and medical technicians have done extensive research and testing on veterans suffering from AO, TBI, DU, and PTSD.  
 The VA does an exceptional job of meeting the unique needs and health conditions of veterans. Let's not abandon it.  
 Will Thomas  
 N.H. Veterans for Peace  
 Auburn, N.H.  
*Will:*  
 One would think that the public would take notice of, and punish a political party for an ongoing effort to enable its filthy-rich patrons to profit from the medical treatment of sick and wounded members

of the U.S. military.  
*We blame the media, whose fetish for "objectivity" has given them an excuse not to call this campaign out for what it is.*  
 The Editor  
 =====  
**Secretive Legislative Tactics to Undermine Powers of Local Governments**  
 To the Editor:  
 SB 306 empowers the State Supreme Court with elective powers to appoint members to a "Housing Appeals Board." In turn, the appointed board is empowered with judicial powers to override any and all collective local decision-making authority around housing developments and carry out the will of corporate actors against those living there. What a deal.  
 The bill passed the New Hampshire Senate, but was then tabled. The Senate then added the bill's language to the Senate budget. Why do this? It's a way to pass legislation through the adoption of a budget, regardless of the outcome of the stand-alone bill.  
 A similar bill, HB 104, has already been killed in the New Hampshire House. Is this the Senate's way of forcing legislation that the House has already rejected? Legislative shenanigans are not uncommon, especially at the end of the legislative season, but this action by the Senate stoops very low by allowing them to bypass additional public hearings and push SB 306 through this year.  
 Senator Guida of Warren, N.H. (District 2) proposed SB 306 and claims in an opinion piece published by the *Concord Monitor* that "Lack of affordable workforce housing is a major crisis in New Hampshire. Senate Bill 306 addresses this issue by establishing a Housing Appeals Board whose sole purpose is to save time and money for all parties when an appeal is filed in relation to a decision rendered by a local land-use board." But contrary to Sen. Guida's claimed concerns about "affordable" housing, the 9-page bill only mentions "affordable" once in the preamble, not in the actual binding language of the law.  
**Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.**  
 to page six

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*"You can safely assume you've created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do."*  
 - Anne Lamott  
 john@wordpraxis.com

**Sometimes Old is Good**

The Fechheimer Building, one of the finest examples of a cast-iron facade in Portland, Oregon, was built in 1885. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it was restored in 1981 by Russell Fellows Properties, the principals of which enjoy a subscription to this newspaper.

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*The Northcountry Chronicle*

# Mentor From Maine

by William Marvel

On the brink of the Civil War centennial, when I was not yet 12 years old, I found a *Reader's Digest* volume of condensed books at my grandmother's house that included John Pullen's *The Twentieth Maine*. A water-color sketch of Colonel Adelbert Ames in a Union Army uniform first caught my attention. I had been interested in the Civil War for years already, but this was the first thing I had seen on common soldiers—and from right next door in Maine, no less—so I begged for the book. Through the remainder of my sixth-grade year and the following summer, I fairly memorized the text, and when I discovered the unabridged version of Pullen's book at the public library I borrowed it repeatedly.

Pullen was originally from Amity, Maine, up in Aroostook County. He was the first person to come up with the idea of depicting the experience of Civil War soldiers through the medium of a single regiment, and he did it so well that his book launched

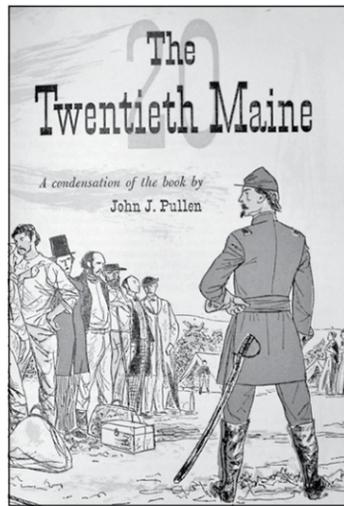
an entire genre. He chose the regiment that Joshua Chamberlain had commanded at Gettysburg, and his book resurrected Chamberlain from obscurity. Michael Shaara depended almost entirely on Pullen for his depiction of the fighting on Little Round Top in *The Killer Angels*, and Shaara's novel provided the basis for Ted Turner's 1993 production of *Gettysburg*.

What made Pullen's book so memorable was the vivid literary style, tempered by an unpretentious country flavor, but it also served as a primer in daily life in and out of the army during the 1860s. Through it, I learned the organizational structure of the Union and Confederate armies, as well as the mechanics of muzzle-loading firearms and the intricacies of maneuvering troops on a 19th-century battlefield. By the end of the Civil War centennial I thought I was pretty well educated in that subject, and most of the education came from that one book.

I began re-reading it again this month. A couple of chapters into it I thought—not for the first time—

that if I could make a deal with the devil I would trade all the books I've written just to have written that one, which said nearly everything I've been trying to say since. It has probably reached more readers since 1957 than all of mine combined.

Pullen's research was admirable for that era, but his book had its flaws, as all do, and his accuracy suffered when he relied on memoirs instead of diaries and letters. One school of thought now suggests that manufactured memory deserves a measure of legitimacy, but I still maintain that determining what happened at a certain place and time requires consulting the earliest sources. A couple of decades ago, for example, I began to doubt the sentimental legend that Union soldiers shared their rations with surrendering Confederates at Appomattox, or that Chamberlain saluted the rebel army as it marched in to lay down its arms. Both stories appeared in *The Twentieth Maine* through Pullen's use of memoirs, but in six years of continuous research on Appomattox I never found a single contemporary



diary or letter that mentioned either incident. Both stories clearly sprang to life during the reconciliation rage of the 1880s, although both are still retailed as gospel at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

In 1991, John Pullen turned up in an audience I was addressing, and we became friends. Our friendship survived my skepticism about Chamberlain's claim to have saluted the Confederates. That story meant a lot to John, but he took a collegial

view and considered my opinion, concluding finally that Chamberlain must have given some command to his troops that he, at least, regarded as a salute. Technically, I concurred, but I'm fairly certain that many years passed between the day he gave the command and the day he finally came to regard it as a salute.

John and I shared a table at a Freeport bookstore one Saturday in 2001, signing our respective books. During a lull he told me about his grandfather, who had been present at Appomattox, and whose stories had fixed his interest in the Civil War. In reply, I produced my *Reader's Digest's* edition of his book for him to sign: I could not say it had inspired my interest in the era, but it had marked a turning point toward something more serious.

I now own two signed first editions of *The Twentieth Maine*, and one paperback copy, but the condensed version remains my favorite. When I start to feel a little too proud of how much I've learned about my favorite subject, I go back to that for a reminder of how little I once knew.

from page five

It would be one thing if SB 306 was being proposed as setting minimum standards of protection for affordable housing so as not to encourage gentrification, but this is all about overriding local voices so that the wealthy propertied of society can protect their privilege. Corporate developers that save a portion of their developments for housing could possibly use the new "Housing Appeals Board" to override local land-use ordinances that, for example, limit certain commercial uses to industrial zones only or maybe local laws that protect sensitive ecosystems and natural environments.

If SB 306 is adopted as part of the State's budget, it becomes law.



Any housing development application could be legitimately denied based on local ordinances but the developer could go to the State-created, New Hampshire Supreme Court-appointed, "Housing Appeals Board" and have the denial heard and overturned. It's as simple as that. And, taxpayers would get to foot the bill at an estimated \$400,000 each year to have their local collective voices silenced—the will of the citizenry be damned.

A growing number of Granite State communities recognize the State's ever-increasing overreach and interference into local matters.

These communities are adopting local rights-based ordinances (not land-use) that recognize the right of local self-government and ecosystem rights—empowering those most affected by governing decisions with authority to make those decisions. Join them and let's work together to secure our right to decide what's best for the human and natural communities in the places where it matters most—right where we live. Learn more by visiting the New Hampshire Community Rights Network (NHCRN) website at [www.nhcommunityrights.org](http://www.nhcommunityrights.org).

Michelle Sanborn (she, her, hers)  
NHCRN President  
[www.nhcommunityrights.org](http://www.nhcommunityrights.org)  
[info@nhcommunityrights.org](mailto:info@nhcommunityrights.org)  
Alexandria, N.H.  
Michelle:  
*Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. You have to give the Republicans credit for creativity.*  
The Editor

Why the Trade War with China Is So Dangerous  
by Mel Gurtov  
The trade war with China that Trump so confidently predicted

would result in a great new deal now threatens to become a permanent feature of U.S.-China relations. Why that is likely may have less to do with the specific trade issues in dispute than with the vastly different negotiating styles and operating principles of the two countries' leaderships.

Let's recall that this dispute has gone through several stages of escalating U.S. demands and Chinese counterattacks. Trump owns this trade war: He has decried China's unfair trade practices and consequent huge trade surplus for many years, and his view of China as the main enemy goes back to 2011 (in an interview with CNN). Trump said long ago that if he were president, he would be able to force Chi-

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## How to arm nature against corporate profiteers

by Jim Hightower

There's a hunter's nightmare in which a group of them flush some rabbits out of the brush. But rather than scampering away, the furry bunnies turn toward their stalkers. "Run," shouts one of the hunters. "Run for your life—the rabbits have guns!"

Arming animals would make the sport of hunting a bit more sporting, wouldn't it? Well, what if we did

give all wildlife a fighting chance against the destructive firepower of profiteers who so carelessly ravage their habitats and kill them off? Of course, we can't arm nature with guns, but we could recognize that other species and ecosystems are living creatures with intrinsic legal rights to exist and flourish, thus giving nature its day in court to defend its well-being.

Like us humans, the lakes, forests, wildlife, etc. could have legal status

to sue and be represented by lawyers to protect themselves from mindless exploitation, injury, and death. This Rights-of-Nature concept is already being applied in such countries as Ecuador and New Zealand—and more than three dozen U.S. cities and towns have passed ordinances acknowledging that various natural resources in their areas have inherent rights to take polluters and other despoilers to court.

Ironically, the corporate pow-

ers—who have perverted law, logic, and nature to have their lifeless, profiteering entities declared "persons"—are aghast that Mother Nature can have rights that can counter the corporate claim that their right to profit is absolute.

At its core, the Rights-of-Nature movement is asserting the obvious: Earth's biosphere is not a free candy store for our taking. We are one with the natural world and must find ways to cooperate fully with it

for our own survival. To learn more and connect to action, go to the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund: [www.celdf.org](http://www.celdf.org).

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*Populist author, public speaker, and radio commentator Jim Hightower writes The Hightower Lowdown, a monthly newsletter chronicling the ongoing fights by America's ordinary people against rule by plutocratic elites. Sign up at [HightowerLowdown.org](http://HightowerLowdown.org).*

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from page six

na to back down because it needs us more than we need it.

Barring some dramatic change in thinking in Washington or Beijing, Trump will carry through on his threat to impose 25-percent tariffs across the board on the remaining \$300 billion of Chinese imports. That move will come on top of blacklisting Huawei, the telecommunications giant, hoping to starve its reliance on U.S.-made components and force European customers to reject Huawei's 5G network. Sanctioning Hikvision, the dominant maker of video surveillance products, may be next—though not because of legitimate human rights concerns.

What Trump is doing is entirely in keeping with his aggressive business style: threaten one's adversary, avoid making concessions, don't back down, and above all win. The substance of the administration's complaints, which previous administrations negotiated, has been overshadowed by Trump's ego. The trouble with that style is that his Chinese opponent has a long history of dealing with threats from a more powerful country, typically denouncing them as "bullying" and "humiliation." Neither Trump nor, it seems, any of his advisers has the slightest notion of the history and power of Chinese nationalism. One of them, Mike Pompeo, thinks the struggle with Huawei is ideological: either "Western values" or communist values will rule the Internet, he says. One wonders what Trump and company think on reading translations from the Chinese press of how



Xi Jinping and the party leadership are responding to this latest foreign assault: the references to a "new Long March," overcoming difficulties, and defending China's economic development path, which it now calls a "core interest."

"What is most important," Xi says, "is still that we do our own things well." In other words, China will not be moved from its present course, which has served it well and may even have given it the moral advantage with some of America's best friends, for example the Japanese and the Koreans who have also felt the heavy hand of Trump's transactional style. He has given the Chinese the gift of being able to play the victim.

Trump evidently is convinced that the Chinese will eventually cave in to U.S. commercial demands. No doubt he's correct that the trade war will hurt China's economy more than it will the U.S. economy, but the Chinese leadership is very unlikely to accede to Trump's demands for that reason. History, face, and public opinion provide considerable backbone for resisting the Americans. Nor will Trump's "great friendship" with Xi make a difference—no more than his love affair with Kim Jong-un has influenced Kim's strategy. Trump may think that smiles and glitzy receptions transcend national interests, but that's certainly not a notion the Chinese share. If anything, Trump has proven to Xi that initial Chinese assessments of compatibility with the new U.S.

president were badly mistaken.

Despite the pessimistic outlook of many observers, mutual pain and political realities may eventually lead to a temporary fix on trade, which will be a boon to U.S. and Chinese firms as well as investors in China and Wall Street stockholders. But this trade deal, like others such as NAFTA.2, will not offer enforceable protections to workers. That's the missing ingredient—missing, as well, in most media accounts that make it seem "trade" is only about shipping and markets, just as the U.S. and Chinese governments would have it.

China's foreign ministry spokesman said on May 23 that if the U.S. attitude is "sincere" and "serious," China will welcome a return to the negotiating table. But the spokesman added that "a good agreement must be founded on mutual respect, equality, and equal benefit." These longstanding Chinese principles can only be understood in an historical context. Does the U.S. side appreciate what lies behind those principles? Does the first-time reference to "core interests," usually reserved for Taiwan and Tibet, suggest a Chinese red line that the Trump administration should take as an indication that "winning" is not a realistic goal?

The trade war is about a lot more than technological competition, soybeans, and even workers' rights. It is the tip of the iceberg, just one reflection of a world order that, to the Chinese, is rapidly changing in

China's favor. The U.S.-China relationship is the world's most important, and one in which "winning" is a loser's game. The current U.S. crackdown on Chinese student and scholar visas, to which Beijing is retaliating, is the kind of shortsighted action that undermines cooperation and goodwill. If the U.S. and China don't get their relationship right, the chances of reaching agreement on a wide range of other critical issues—nuclear weapons, the South China Sea, Taiwan, the climate crisis, Korean peninsula security—are virtually nil. A violent outcome in some disputes, whether by design or miscalculation, increases significantly. Sadly, the key ingredients for getting it right are missing: mutual understanding, a search for common ground, and talks on the basis of equality and global as well as social responsibility.

*Mel Gurtov, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Portland State University.*

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### Department of Corrections, Part 1: The Crypt of Civilization

Hi Editor,

Another date correction for the Almanac: You show the Crypt of Civilization in Atlanta being sealed on May 25, 1940. But, according to the official Oglethorpe University page on the project, the date was actually May 28. As they put it: "The Crypt of Civilization time capsule at Oglethorpe University was sealed on May 28, 1940."

You got the opening date right,

though—8113 A.D. Wikipedia offers this explanation for that date: Jacobs [the Oglethorpe president who came up with the idea] "noted that 6,177 years had passed between when the Egyptian calendar was established in 4241 BC and the present year (AD 1936). This figure served as the rationale for setting the opening of the crypt for 8113, as it was 6,177 years away."

Keep up the good work!

Paul Fischler  
Rochester, N.H.

Paul:

*We checked. You're right—again. Thanks again!*

The Editor

====

### Department of Corrections, Part 2: U.S.S. L.B.J., WW II, &c.

To the Editor:

Tardily, L.B.J. did serve in WW II; it was a continuation of his political career—[his tour in the Pacific] ended on July 17, 1942. Too, Robert Strange McNamara & his "Whiz Kids" were L.B.J.'s non-wonderlings.

J.K. Folmar I  
California, Pa.

PS—Hey, in your fine piece last week "Lest We Remember" you note that "... 450,000 Americans lost their lives in the struggle to defeat fascism." No: 408,316 died "fighting fascism" and in the Pacific theatre (Japan.)

J.K.:

*For the purpose of brevity we were considering Japan a fascist nation, as were its allies, Germany and Italy. Our rounded-off total was incorrect. We regret the error.*

The Editor

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

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

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

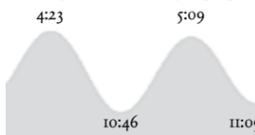
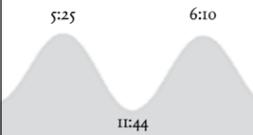
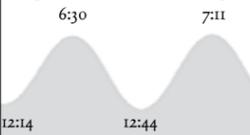
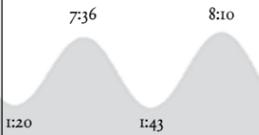
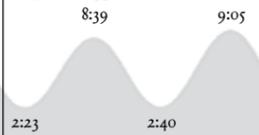
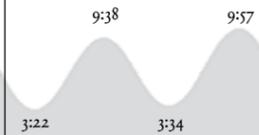
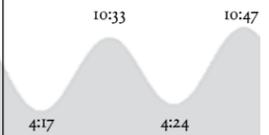
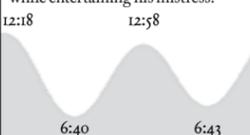
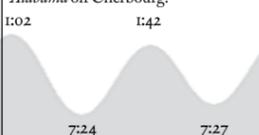
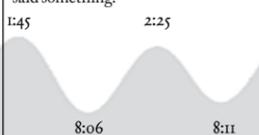
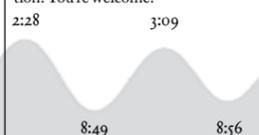
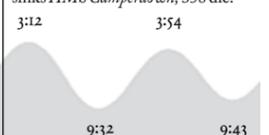
drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 9	MONDAY, JUNE 10	TUESDAY, JUNE 11	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12	THURSDAY, JUNE 13	FRIDAY, JUNE 14	SATURDAY, JUNE 15
<p><b>2016</b>—Donald Trump's son, son-in-law, and campaign manager meet at Trump Tower with a whole slew of Russians with peculiar associations.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—James Watt, Ronald Reagan's Interior Secretary, admits to a House committee that he was paid \$400,000 for making a few phone calls on a topic about which he knew nothing.</p> <p><b>1978</b>—The Mormon Church drops its policy of excluding black men from the priesthood.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Under orders from Winona, Miss. cops, jail inmates beat civil rights pioneer Fannie Lou Hamer, 45, nearly to death.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—Atop an armored car in Cyprus, British writer Auberon Waugh shakes the barrel of a malfunctioning machine gun, accidentally shooting himself in the chest several times.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—Jerry Lee Lewis takes out a full page ad in <i>Billboard</i> to explain his 2nd divorce and 3rd marriage, this one to his 13-year-old-cousin Myra.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Army attorney Joseph Welch asks Sen. Joseph McCarthy, "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"</p> <p><b>1946</b>—Ted Williams hits a ball that lands in the 37th row of Fenway's bleachers, over 500 feet away.</p> <p><b>1909</b>—Alice Huyler Ramsay and friends depart New York for San Francisco in a Maxwell automobile.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—As Edwin Booth, John Wilkes' brother, is being buried in Boston, the floors collapse at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., killing 22 people.</p>	<p><b>1990</b>—British Airways Captain Tim Lancaster is sucked half-way out of Flight 5390 when his windshield blows out over Oxfordshire. The plane lands safely. Lancaster recovers and later resumes flying.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—A bicycle messenger is denied entrance to the Justice Department because he's wearing a T-shirt that says, "Experts agree: Meese is a pig."</p> <p><b>1975</b>—The Rockefeller Commission finds that the CIA's CHAOS operation spied on 300,000 Americans and infiltrated political movements.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Sen. Clair Engle [D-Calif.], 52, silenced by a brain tumor and just seven weeks from death, raises his hand and points to his eye to vote affirmatively and end the filibuster of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Pitching in the ninth for the Cincinnati Reds, Joe Nuxhall gives up five runs. Give him a break—he's 15.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—Black nationalist Marcus Garvey dies of a stroke after reading a mistaken obituary of himself in the <i>Chicago Defender</i>.</p> <p><b>1871</b>—U.S. Marines avenge the 1866 loss of the U.S.S. <i>General Sherman</i> by attacking a number of Korean forts on Gangwha Island, killing 243 Koreans in the process. Three months later the Americans withdraw.</p> <p><b>1772</b>—Rhode Islanders burn the British revenue cutter <i>Gaspé</i>.</p> <p><b>1692</b>—Bridget Bishop, 60, becomes the first person hanged during the Salem, Mass. witch trials.</p>	<p><b>1995</b>—In Claremont, N.H., Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich shake hands and pledge to reform lobbying and campaign financing. Yeah, right.</p> <p><b>1990</b>—The Supreme Court rules flag desecration laws unconstitutional.</p> <p><b>1984</b>—The Supreme Court says illegally obtained evidence is OK if prosecutors can prove that it would have been discovered legally.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Thich Quang Duc immolates himself in front of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—To prevent desegregation in Alabama, George Wallace takes a stand in the schoolhouse door—briefly. Then he scuttles away.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—John and Clarence Anglin, with Frank Morris, escape from Alcatraz. Maybe they drown, maybe not.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Republicans meeting in the original "smoke-filled room" select, to their discredit, Warren G. Harding.</p> <p><b>1914</b>—A bomb explodes under the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey; British suffragettes are thought to be the culprits.</p> <p><b>1851</b>—Having, in four hours, caught, tried, convicted, and sentenced John Jenkins, the First San Francisco Vigilance Committee hangs him.</p> <p><b>1837</b>—Drunken nativist firefighters encounter Irishmen at a funeral: Boston's Broad Street riot ensues.</p> <p><b>1345</b>—The Chief Minister of the Byzantine Empire inspects a new prison without his bodyguards. Political prisoners hoist his head on a pike.</p>	<p><b>2011</b>—Stabbed in a bar fight, Sean "Eddard Stark" Bean declines an ambulance in favor of another drink.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—George W.[MD] Bush finds a way to fall off a Segway.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Energy Department admits that two hard drives holding top-secret data on nuclear weapons have been missing for over a month.</p> <p><b>1999</b>—G.W.[MD] Bush announces.</p> <p><b>1981</b>—President Reagan, failing to recognize the only black person in his Cabinet, calls Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce "Mr. Mayor."</p> <p><b>1970</b>—Pittsburgh Pirate Dock Ellis, tripping balls, pitches a no-hitter.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—The Supreme Court rules interracial marriage is legal.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Medgar Evers is shot and killed in Mississippi; his murderer is convicted 31 years later.</p> <p><b>1957</b>—"We have exactly 342 men," says General Samuel T. Williams, "the number allowed by the Geneva Armistice Conference. It would be a breeze if we had more."</p> <p><b>1956</b>—Under interrogation by the House Un-American Activities Committee, Paul Robeson declares, "You are the Un-Americans."</p> <p><b>1929</b>—First Lady Lou Hoover sparks a national freakout by inviting Jessie DePriest, wife of the only black man in Congress, to the White House.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Serge Voronoff performs the first transplant of simian testicular tissue into a human.</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—Congress apologizes for having failed to pass 200 anti-lynching bills between 1882 and 1968.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—"His [Joe Wilson's] wife is in the [CIA] and is a WMD analyst," Dep. Sec. of State Richard Armitage tells Bob Woodward. "How about that...?"</p> <p><b>1989</b>—President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush vetoes a raise in the minimum wage.</p> <p><b>1985</b>—Thomas L. Slade and son William are among passengers hijacked on a flight from Beirut, their second such experience in three days.</p> <p><b>1983</b>—<i>Pioneer 10</i> exits the solar system.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—<i>Pentagon Papers</i> are published.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—A U.S. helicopter crew blasts a Vietnamese command post, killing Saigon's Police Chief. It's an accident.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—The Supreme Court rules that cops can't make you talk.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—News reports say Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Penn.) gave FDR a letter-opener made from the arm bone of a dead Japanese soldier. Walter becomes chair of HUAC in 1955.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—German V-1 "buzz-bomb" attacks on England start.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The German sub <i>U-202</i> lands eight Nazi saboteurs at Amagansett on Long Island.</p> <p><b>1934</b>—Hollywood producers conspire to enact a code to protect their profits from prudes.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—Fuddy-duddies at the U.S. Post Office rule that children may no longer be shipped by Parcel Post.</p>	<p><b>2016</b>—Lane Graves, 2, is killed by an alligator at Disney World. In response, Disney installs signs warning that alligators are present.</p> <p><b>2008</b>—Two tourists and their pilot are injured when a Robinson R44 helicopter crashes in Topanga Canyon.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Dennis Koslowski throws a \$2.1 million party on Sardinia for his wife Karen's 40th birthday. Half the cost is covered by Tyco International.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a bill adding "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p><b>1951</b>—Sen. Joe McCarthy (R-Bourbon) accuses President Eisenhower and General George Marshall of serving the policies of the Kremlin.</p> <p><b>1949</b>—The U.S. sends Albert II, a rhesus monkey, into space.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—The Supreme Court rules that children cannot be forced to salute the flag if it offends their religious beliefs.</p> <p><b>1928</b>—Ernesto "Che" Guevara is born in Argentina.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—The KKK attacks an IWW labor hall in San Pedro, Calif. Two kids scalded by coffee are left motherless when Lizzie Sunstedt later dies.</p> <p><b>1922</b>—In D.C., 5,000 African Americans march silently for an anti-lynching bill which has passed the House. Democrats filibuster it, though.</p> <p><b>1905</b>—Russian sailors aboard the battleship <i>Potemkin</i> mutiny.</p> <p><b>1662</b>—Henry Vane, former Governor of Massachusetts [1636-37] is beheaded in the Tower of London.</p>	<p><b>2002</b>—Accounting firm Arthur Andersen is convicted of obstructing justice by impeding an investigation into G.W.[MD] Bush's top financial contributor, Enron.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—The main rotor and tailboom fall off a Robinson R22 helicopter over Julia Creek, Australia. The machine crashes and burns, killing the pilot.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Gov. Reagan (R-Calif.) signs a bill liberalizing abortion laws.</p> <p><b>1920</b>—A mob of thousands drags three black circus workers from the Duluth, Minn. jail; arrested for a rape that didn't happen, they're lynched.</p> <p><b>1917</b>—Woodrow Wilson signs the Espionage Act. Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman are promptly arrested for conspiring to "induce persons not to register" for the draft.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—At Bud Bagsak in the Philippines, designer John Browning tests his new .45 pistol on Moro rebels.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—The side-wheeler <i>General Slocum</i> burns during an excursion on New York City's East River. Of the 1,300 aboard, more than 1,000 die.</p> <p><b>1859</b>—Near Vancouver, American Lyman Cutlar shoots a pig belonging to Charles Griffin, an Irishman, causing a U.S./British military stand-off lasting 12 years.</p> <p><b>1648</b>—Margaret Jones of Charleston is hanged for witchcraft.</p> <p><b>1215</b>—English barons force King John to sign the Magna Carta, thus protecting their rights. Peasants are left to fend for themselves.</p>
 <p>4:23      5:09 10:46      11:09</p>	 <p>5:25      6:10 11:44</p>	 <p>6:30      7:11 12:14      12:44</p>	 <p>7:36      8:10 1:20      1:43</p>	 <p>8:39      9:05 2:23      2:40</p>	 <p>9:38      9:57 3:22      3:34</p>	 <p>10:33      10:47 4:17      4:24</p>
SUNDAY, JUNE 16	MONDAY, JUNE 17	TUESDAY, JUNE 18	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19	THURSDAY, JUNE 20	FRIDAY, JUNE 21	SATURDAY, JUNE 22
<p><b>2015</b>—Donald Trump announces his preposterous candidacy for President.</p> <p><b>2000</b>—The Energy Department finds missing top-secret computer hard drives in a location which had already been searched twice.</p> <p><b>1992</b>—Ronald Regan's Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger is indicted for lying to Congress.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—Stokely Carmichael, continuing the March Against Fear as James Meredith recuperates from an assassination attempt, introduces "Black Power" to the nation's lexicon.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—The first Bloomsday goes somewhat awry due to drunkenness.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—South Carolina kills George J. Stinney Jr., convicted in a three-hour trial before an all-white jury. Black, 14, 90 lbs., he is seated on phone books so the electrodes can reach him.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—Charlie Chaplin, 54, marries Oona O'Neill, 18.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—In an early demonstration of its self-destructive tendencies, the GOP nominates Herbert Hoover for a second term as President.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—Eugene V. Debs delivers an anti-draft speech in Canton, Ohio, that is so effective he is later charged with ten counts of sedition.</p> <p><b>1904</b>—James Joyce and Nora Barnacle take a memorable walk.</p> <p><b>1857</b>—A riot erupts between New York City's two police departments. Corrupt Democratic Mayor Fernando Wood's recently-abolished Municipal Police retains its hold on City Hall.</p>	<p><b>2017</b>—By doing everything wrong, officers of the U.S.S. <i>Fitzgerald</i> get a nimble destroyer rammed by a hulking Japanese container ship. Seven enlisted sailors die, three more are injured, repairs will cost \$367 million.</p> <p><b>2015</b>—Nine people are massacred in a Charleston, S.C. church by a white supremacist punk.</p> <p><b>1982</b>—Found hanging under a London bridge: R. Calvi, "God's banker."</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Nixon's spies hit Democratic HQ at the Watergate, but a black Vietnam vet discovers them.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—Sherman Adams, N.H.'s ex-Gov., now Ike's Chief of Staff, admits he accepted a vicuña coat from Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—A false alarm prompts a DC-6 flight crew to activate a fire extinguisher. They leave a relief valve open, though. CO<sub>2</sub> escapes, knocking them out; 43 die as the plane crashes in eastern Pennsylvania.</p> <p><b>1939</b>—In Paris, Eugene Weidmann becomes the last public victim of France's guillotine. Watching from a nearby window is future horror movie star Christopher Lee.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—The Senate votes not to pay bonuses due thousands of Great War vets massed outside the Capitol.</p> <p><b>1775</b>—Armed with powder pilfered from Portsmouth's Fort William and Mary, New Hampshire men under Gen. John Stark—along with a few others—kill one-fourth of the British Army's officers in America.</p>	<p><b>2016</b>—In Las Vegas, Michael Steven Sandford, 20, a mentally-ill British man on an expired visa, attempts to grab a cop's Glock to kill Donald Trump, who's 30 feet away. He fails.</p> <p><b>2009</b>—Manchester Mayor Frank Guinta steps over a man with a leg broken in a brawl to exit the Fish &amp; Game Social Club before EMTs arrive.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—RIP I.F. Stone, legendary journalist who said, "Every government is run by liars and nothing they say should be believed."</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Operation Arc Light begins: 27 B-52s fly from Guam to bomb the 'Nam. Two collide and crash due to navigational errors, a third goes down after in-flight refueling fails.</p> <p><b>1959</b>—Louisiana Gov. Earl Long is committed to a mental hospital. Undeterred, he continues to govern.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Democratic candidate for Alabama State Attorney Alfred Patterson, who had vowed to rid Phenix City of vice, is shot dead by Albert Fuller, former sheriff of Phenix City.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Fred C. Trump is grilled about war profiteering from the FHA.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—A coup against democratically elected President Jacobo Árbenz begins. Thanks to the CIA, Guatemala is soon safe for the United Fruit Co.</p> <p><b>1948</b>—Truman OKs plausibly-deniable propaganda, sabotage, demolition, &amp; economic warfare by the CIA.</p> <p><b>1869</b>—<i>New York Times</i> founder Henry J. Raymond dies of a stroke at 49 while entertaining his mistress.</p>	<p><b>2011</b>—On the HBO show "Game of Thrones," George W.[MD] Bush's decapitated head appears on a pike.</p> <p><b>2006</b>—Publisher and Bush appointee Phillip Merrill is discovered shot and weighted down in Chesapeake Bay, where the CIA's Bill Colby and John Paisley ended up; all suicides, though.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—Tobar, Nev.—named for a sign pointing to a saloon—is dealt a death blow by an exploding railroad car full of bombs en route to Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Thousands of fun-seekers at the Weirs throw rocks at cops, burn overturned cars, and have a good time in general. Party-poopng National Guardsmen pepper them with birdshot as Laconia's Riot Squad arrests 150.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Warned by Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) that his son's homosexuality would be exposed if he did not resign, Sen. Lester C. Hunt (D-Wyo.) shoots himself dead in his Senate office.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Julius and Ethel Rosenberg become the first native-born Americans executed for espionage.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—Lizzie Borden gets off.</p> <p><b>1879</b>—Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, at the Michigan Military Academy, tells his audience, "There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but, boys, it is all hell."</p> <p><b>1865</b>—Slaves in Texas learn they're free, on a date now celebrated as "Juneteenth."</p> <p><b>1864</b>—The Portsmouth-built ship <i>Kearsarge</i> sinks the Confederate raider <i>Alabama</i> off Cherbourg.</p>	<p><b>2005</b>—Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney tells Larry King the insurgency in Iraq is "in the last throes."</p> <p><b>2003</b>—An instructor and student die in New South Wales after the main rotor flies off a Robinson R22.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The Soviet sub <i>K-108</i>, diving off Kamchatka, bashes into the sail of the U.S.S. <i>Tautog</i> giving it a permanent 2-degree bend.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Navy Lt. Clinton B. Johnson and Charles Hartman, flying prop-driven Douglas A-1 Skyraiders, down a MiG jet fighter over Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—The White House-Kremlin "Hot Line" is installed.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—For the second time in less than a fortnight, a Thor rocket malfunctions and drops an A-bomb into the South Pacific.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Lt. Gen. John W. "Iron Mike" O'Daniel arrives in Saigon to confer with French General Henri Navarre on how to bring peace to Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1943</b>—KKK and pals attack striking African-American auto workers in Detroit; 34 die, 1,300 are arrested.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Four prisoners in Nazi uniforms drive out Auschwitz's main gate in the commandant's car.</p> <p><b>1941</b>—The sub U.S.S. <i>O-9</i> sinks east of the Isles of Shoals with 33 aboard.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—NAACP official Elbert Williams becomes the organization's first martyr, in Brownsville, Tenn.</p> <p><b>1923</b>—Pancho Villa dies, saying, "Don't let it end like this. Tell them I said something."</p>	<p><b>2006</b>—Fox News, citing Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.), reports that WMD have been found in Iraq.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Edgar Ray Killen, 80, is found guilty of manslaughter in the case of Schwerner, Goodman, and Chaney.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—Mike Melvill becomes the world's first non-governmental astronaut by piloting <i>SpaceShipOne</i> to an altitude of 100 kilometers.</p> <p><b>1994</b>—As Jose Martin and his wife drive near Madrid, a 3-lb. meteorite crashes through their windshield, bends the steering wheel, and lands in the back seat. She is unscathed, he gets a broken finger.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—The U.S. Supreme Court rules flag-burning is legal.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—Civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and James Chaney are murdered by the KKK in Mississippi.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The Japanese sub <i>I-25</i> fires 17 shells at Fort Stevens, Ore., damaging a phone cable.</p> <p><b>1919</b>—Germans scuttle their captive fleet at Scapa Flow. Brits shoot nine Germans in lifeboats.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—Ten Molly Maguires, miners arrested by private detectives and prosecuted by private attorneys for the coal companies, are hanged by Pennsylvania officials, private executioners apparently being unavailable. Pardons for two arrive minutes too late.</p> <p><b>1788</b>—New Hampshire becomes the 9th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. You're welcome.</p>	<p><b>2009</b>—Republican Governor Mark Sanford's spokesman says South Carolina's Chief Executive is hiking the Appalachian Trail.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—On the floor of the Senate, Veep Dick "Dick" Cheney tells Sen. Pat Leahy, "Go f_ yourself."</p> <p><b>2002</b>—Enron execs admit they hid \$1.5 billion in illegal profits gouged from California ratepayers.</p> <p><b>1977</b>—Nixon's ex-AG John Mitchell begins 19 months in prison.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—The 24th Amendment gives 18-year-olds the vote.</p> <p><b>1969</b>—In Ohio, the Cuyahoga River burns for 20 minutes.</p> <p><b>1964</b>—The U.S. Supreme Court rules the Post Office can't ban Henry Miller's <i>Tropic of Cancer</i>.</p> <p><b>1950</b>—Retired FBI agents help a paranoid fabric importer publish <i>Red Channels</i>, a pamphlet claiming radio and TV are full of Communists.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Congress adopts the Flag Code, replacing the embarrassing Nazi-like "Flag Salute" with FDR's hand-on-heart gesture.</p> <p><b>1918</b>—After 24 hours awake a railroad engineer nods off; his locomotive crushes the wooden cars of a stopped circus train; oil lamps do the rest: 86 die and 200 are injured in Hammond, Ind.</p> <p><b>1898</b>—The U.S. Army's V Corps, commanded by gout-ridden, 300-lb. Major General William Shafter, lands chaotically in Cuba.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—<i>HMS Victoria</i> accidentally sinks <i>HMS Camperdown</i>; 358 die.</p>
 <p>11:25      11:33 5:08      5:13</p>	 <p>12:12      12:58 5:55      5:59</p>	 <p>12:18      12:58 6:40      6:43</p>	 <p>1:02      1:42 7:24      7:27</p>	 <p>2:25      3:09 8:06      8:11</p>	 <p>3:22      3:34 8:49      8:56</p>	 <p>4:17      4:24 9:32      9:43</p>



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