

The Fortnightly Rant

Our Criminal Justice Department

Tuesday, Stewart Rhodes and his Oath Keepers—who millions of Americans saw with their own eyes, on live television, attacking the U.S. Congress on January 6, 2021 intending to prevent the orderly transition of executive power—were handed a “Get Out of Jail Free” card by the Justice Department, currently being run by Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche.

Through sheer force of character, we presume, Judge Mehta declined to mention Melville’s *Bartleby the Scrivener* in his opinion. Nevertheless, he made it clear that he would have preferred not to issue it.

“Before turning to the government’s proffered justifications for dismissal, it is important to note the reasons it has not offered. The government does not say that the charges were legally deficient or that the evidence presented is insufficient to sustain Defendants’ convictions. ... the government does not maintain that dismissal is in the public interest to rectify a fundamental error or a grave injustice.

“Its lead argument is rather that dismissal is appropriate to protect Defendants from harassment. ... That is a strange argument. ... After all, the government has given no indication that it will recharge these Defendants, in the District or elsewhere. To the contrary, it bestows upon them unearned grace by wiping their records clean. The harassment rationale has no place here.”

“Next, the government argues that dismissal ‘effectuates the President’s January 20, 2025, proclamation.’ ... The government’s argument relating to the Proclamation is a head-scratcher. The President’s decree expressly carves these Defendants out from the greater clemencies of pardons and dismissals it affords others. The President could have pardoned them, too, but elected not to. Or he could have directed the dismissal of their cases on appeal, but he did not do that, either. The government nowhere explains what has changed. ... The government’s reliance on the Proclamation to justify dismissal of this case therefore provides no answer at all.”

Says Mehta, the government’s final reason for dropping the case is that “the public’s interest in a trial of these defendants has already fully vested”—whatever the hell that’s supposed to mean—and that “[d]ismissal of these cases with prejudice will not erase this public record.

“That position is surprising. The government is ordinarily of the view that accountability, not mere publicity, is what is in the public interest. That justice is achieved when a group of 12 people, with no interest in the case’s outcome and no perceived notion of the facts, decides whether a defendant is guilty of the charged conduct based on the law and the evidence. The government is right that dismissal will not erase the public record; it will, however,

er, erase the legal judgments that these Defendants broke the criminal law. And not just any criminal law—laws aimed at punishing those who conspire to commit extralegal violence to prevent the execution of the laws or the carrying out of official duties. ... The government thus asks to absolve these Defendants of crimes against the United States itself. In this court’s view, that is not in the public interest.

“Ultimately, though, this judicial officer’s mere difference of opinion is of no moment. [Here Mehta explains, with tidy citations, that unlike Presidents, judges have no power to just make shit up.] And importantly, the court has no evidence before it to question whether prosecutors here have properly discharged their official duties. If it is their view that the public interest is served by surrendering convictions for crimes against the country to the gloss of an enduring public record, then that is an assessment to which this court must yield.

“This is the last of the prosecutions seeking to hold accountable those responsible for the events of January 6. That book is now closed. Today’s epilogue diminishes the gravity of that day, denigrates the work of the prosecutors and law enforcement officers who secured these convictions, and excuses criminal acts that caused a centuries-long pillar of our democracy—the peaceful transfer of presidential power—to buckle. The court cannot write a different ending.”

Also on Tuesday, the Judiciary Committee voted to send Todd Blanche’s nomination as Attorney General to the full Senate. Unless we are somehow mistaken or hallucinating, this would be the same Todd Blanche who was formerly the personal lawyer of our first felonious President, who invited the Oath Keepers and countless other hooligans to come the Capitol on January 6th: “Be there, will be wild.”

Since Blanche is now the Acting Attorney General, we can only assume that he is responsible, if we may use so quaint and ancient a

term, for the legal abomination excoriated above by Judge Mehta.

Finally on Tuesday, in Hell, John Mitchell, who spent 19 months in prison for crimes he committed as Richard Nixon’s Attorney General, gesticulated wildly; his comments were not audible over the shriek of steam blasting out of his ears.

One expects a Brownshirt-adjacent organization to be led by an expert at handling firearms. Not Rhodes. He’s sported an eyepatch since he dropped a .22 and shot an eye out. He is said to stand five foot seven, and weigh 190 pounds.

Stewart Rhodes is no Rooster Cogburn. Sadly, though, we’re probably in for more bold talk from this one-eyed fat man.



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THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE (58)

Unpublished DNC Autopsy Chapter Criticized ‘Self-Enriching’ Party Operatives

by Brad Reed

The New York Times on Monday published what it described as a “missing chapter” of the Democratic National Committee’s widely criticized “autopsy” of the 2024 presidential election.

The chapter, titled “What Happened in 2024” and provided to the Times by Democratic strategist Paul Rivera, offers criticisms of party consultants who are “self-enriching” and out of touch with the concerns of ordinary voters.

Specifically, the chapter questions whether Democratic politicians and operatives have a grasp on the economic realities facing most Americans while calling for “a fundamental re-evaluation” of whether Democrats “really understand the wants and needs of voters.”

“An emerging critique of Democratic decision-making,” the chapter states, “is there are too many people who have become generationally wealthy off politics and drive too much of the decision-making within the ecosystem. This is deeply frustrating to many... who want

to try a different set of politics but keep banging their heads up against a system proven to be inflexible and self-enriching.”

The chapter adds that “many of the people who worked at the highest levels of the party” are “financially secure,” and thus potentially insulated “from the realities many Americans were encountering in their lives.”

In an interview with the Times, Rivera claimed that he personally handed the missing chapter to DNC Chair Ken Martin in a three-ring binder earlier this year.

Rivera said he had no specific insight into why the chapter was not included with the report that the DNC released in May.

“Whether that was a conscious decision on their part to bury the section for the purposes of hiding a paragraph, I don’t know,” the Democratic strategist told the Times. “That’s a them question. What I can tell you is they had it, and they made a decision not to release it.”

Martin, however, flatly denied that Rivera had ever personally handed him the chapter.

“This alleged report section was not in any binder I reviewed,” said Martin in a written statement given to the Times. “If we had this in May, we would have released it with the rest of the report.”

Martin also called it ridiculous to suggest that he would have suppressed a section of the final DNC report to avoid offending the party’s consultant class.

“If I or the DNC had report materials that went after self-enriching consultants, we absolutely would have included them,” Martin insisted, noting his own past promises “to hold the consultant-industrial complex accountable and ensure the party only pays for work that actually helps us win.”

The Times report noted that the DNC’s autopsy featured a section titled “What Happened” that was listed as “pending” on the grounds that it “was not provided by author.”

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BETTER OLD NEWS THAN NEW LIES

- A man named Swindler has been appointed postmaster at Climax, Missouri.
- Numbers of Chinamen are being smuggled across the Mexican border.
- Bernard Grady, a dissipated young man of good family, fatally shot himself in Druid Hill park, Baltimore, Aug. 10th.
- Mrs. Sarah J. Robinson of West Somerville, Mass., a widow aged about fifty years, and Thomas R. Smith, a man fifty-eight years old, married and with a family, have been arrested on a charge of poisoning Mrs. Robinson’s son, William J. Robinson. It is believed that they have caused the deaths of at least five other persons in Mrs. Robinson’s family within four years past,

the object being to get the insurance on their lives. [Sarah was found guilty of fatally poisoning her brother-in-law with arsenic. Sentenced to hang, her sentence was commuted to life in solitary on November 12, 1888, four days before her date with the hangman. – The Ed.]

- It was reported on the 11th inst. that the headless body found in a shoebox near Wallingford, Conn., was supposed to be that of Albert J. Cooley of Yalesville, who drew \$1500 of pension money in New Haven five weeks ago and cannot now be found. [More properly a crate, measuring 30” x 12”, the ‘box’ had been made to hold a half-dozen pairs of shoes. The body was also missing its arms and legs. – The Ed.]
- Hattie P. Stevens, a school teacher

of Lawrence, Mass., drowned herself in a pond on account of disappointment in love.

- The expenses of Jay Gould’s yacht the *Atalanta*, are \$216 a day. [Equivalent to \$7,673.79 today. – The Ed.]
- “Society” at Newport, R.I., is highly indignant at the arrest of Mr. F. Aspenden, a prominent society man, for blowing a horn on top of a coach at midnight in the streets.
- Albert J. Dooley, of Durham, Conn., who was thought to be the victim of the Wallingford shoe-box mystery, has turned up all right. [The crime is unsolved to this day. – The Ed.]
- Miss Alzada Ware of Lewiston, Me., a handsome and highly educated young lady of twenty-one years,

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House Dems: Postmaster Turning U.S.P.S. Into “Instrument of Voter Suppression”

by Stephen Prager

A Democratic congressman is calling for Postmaster General David Steiner to be removed from office for allowing the U.S. Postal Service to turn into what he called “a partisan instrument of voter suppression” for President Donald Trump.

Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (Ill.), a senior Democrat on the House Oversight Committee, sent a letter to Steiner and members of the U.S.P.S. board of governors on Monday criticizing the postmaster general for refusing to clarify if he intends to follow an executive order signed by Trump in March ordering the Postal Service to halt the delivery of mail-in ballots in states that do not turn over lists of voters to be checked against a federal citizenship list.

A federal judge has blocked the administration from implementing the order’s provisions that create federal citizenship lists and allow U.S.P.S. to condition ballot delivery on states submitting voter information, ruling that Trump had usurped powers belonging to the states and Congress.

Last week, the administration and a group of 12 Republican states filed emergency applications asking the U.S. Supreme Court to allow the order to take effect prior to November’s midterms.

Krishnamoorthi said that this

filing contains “a troubling contradiction.” It argues that Trump had merely issued “general policy guidance” to agencies rather than concrete directives, and that it’s therefore premature for courts to rule on its constitutionality.

“U.S.P.S.’s apparent implementation efforts over the past four months tell a different story,” Krishnamoorthi wrote.

He pointed out that U.S.P.S. had sent the rule to the White House Office of Management and Budget for review and had begun to create a federal ballot portal, state voter participation lists, and procedures on accepting ballots.

Steiner, meanwhile, said during a hearing in June—while the order was facing litigation but had not yet been struck down—that he fully intended to block mail-in ballots from states that don’t hand over their voter rolls.

Krishnamoorthi also wrote that the administration’s argument before the Supreme Court that blocking the order would cause “irreparable harm” does not withstand factual scrutiny.

He noted that noncitizen voting, which the administration claims the order is meant to prevent, is not only already a federal crime, but exceedingly rare. One analysis by the Brookings Institution last year found that in general elections between 2016-22, there were approximately four instances of mail-

in voting fraud per 10 million mail ballots cast—about 0.000043 percent of them.

“The administration has not produced evidence of fraud on a scale capable of affecting an election outcome,” Krishnamoorthi wrote. “Disenfranchising millions of eligible voters—including military personnel serving overseas, seniors, rural voters, individuals with disabilities, and working families—is not a proportionate response to fraud rates of this magnitude.”

He also wrote that Steiner had repeatedly refused his requests for information about how U.S.P.S. has implemented the executive order and whether it is still doing so despite the court’s order to stop.

“A postmaster general who will not tell Congress whether his agency is complying with a federal court order, and who will not appear to

answer for that silence, has already forfeited the trust the office requires,” wrote Krishnamoorthi. “I am therefore calling on the Postal Service Board of Governors to remove you as Postmaster General, and I will urge my colleagues on the committee to join that call.”

There is already evidence that a voter citizenship registry run by the Trump administration could disenfranchise lawful voters.

In June, a federal judge found that states using an expanded version of the federal government’s Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements, which is used by the federal government to track immigration status, led local voting officials to wrongly cancel the voter registrations of naturalized citizens.

In Travis County, Texas, an investigation found that 25 percent of the people flagged as “noncitizen

matches” had already proven their U.S. citizenship.

Jasleen Singh, a senior counsel and manager in the Brennan Center’s Democracy Program, wrote in June that the administration “has been engaged in a concerted campaign to undermine elections.”

“Part of that involves collecting state voter files and using federal data sources to lend pseudolegitimacy to false claims of widespread fraud,” she said. “While there may be valid ways to use federal data to support election officials’ efforts to keep voter rolls accurate and up to date, there are notable shortcomings in such data, and it may be misused to spread misinformation.”

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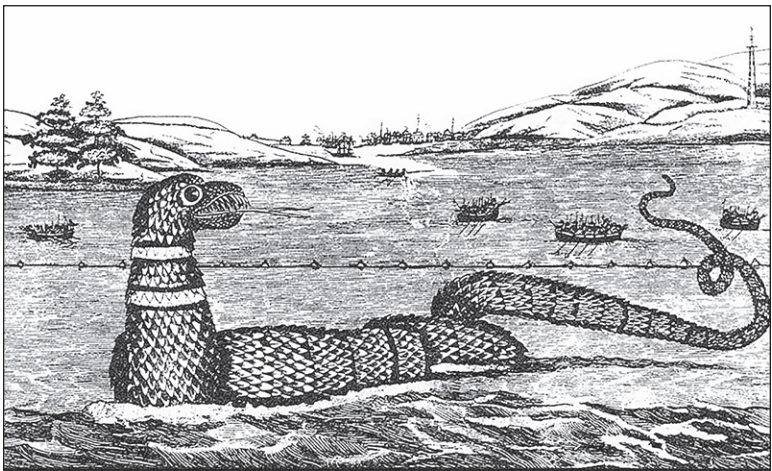
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BETTER OLD NEWS THAN NEW LIES

from page one

drowned herself on the night of Aug. 11th through disappointment in love.

- George Hickson was nearly hanged to death at Chester, Vt., by two drunken friends, one of whom was trying to explain to the other the Irish method of hanging.
- Miss Rose Milmine of New York was on Saturday last presented by O.L. Frisbee, on behalf of the Oceanic, with a very fine pearl and gold opera glass, suitably inscribed, for having caught the largest fish ever taken by any guest at the Isles of Shoals—a halibut weighing 111 1/2 pounds.
- John Scales, editor, and J.T.S. Libbey, publisher of the *Dover Republican*, were on the 10th inst. held in \$300 each for the grand jury on a charge of criminal libel against Arthur Howes.
- Capt. Frank D. Langsford and John Daley of Lanesville, Mass., went out in Ipswich bay on the 9th inst. looking for swordfish. When one was sighted a harpoon was thrown into the fish, but after sinking he came to the surface and drove his sword through the dory and into the abdomen of Langsford, penetrating about five inches. The injured man was immediately taken ashore, and Dr. Saunders summoned. He pronounced him in a dangerous condition, and thought he could not live through the day.
- A sea serpent eighty feet long was seen at Pigeon Cove, Mass., Aug.



An 1817 view of the Gloucester sea serpent.

13th, a quarter of a mile from shore, by G. Putnam, master of the Franklin school, Boston, Samuel Bullock, master of the Bunker Hill school, Prof. Stephen Emery, and thirty or forty other people. There was a calm, smooth sea and a bright sun, and the big snake, which moved quite slowly and was in sight for twenty minutes, was scanned through powerful marine glasses.

- The report of a mutiny on board the fishing schooner *Henry S. Woodruff* on the Grand bank, the shooting of several of the crew by the captain, and the subsequent wrecking of the vessel on Cape Race is wholly false. The *Woodruff* has not been on Grand bank at all; she caught fish on the American bank, and last week arrived at Lamoine all right with 4,500 quintals of codfish, which is said to be the largest load of codfish ever brought into the United States.
- The eighty-foot sea serpent which

has been making a show of itself at Pigeon Cove and other places on Cape Ann, does well to keep clear of the Isles of Shoals; were he to appear at the latter place some of the young lady guests would catch him and put him on exhibition on the wharf.

- Charles O’Neil, a Portland, Me., saloon keeper, on Friday fatally shot his bartender, Timothy Short. O’Neil’s jealousy of his wife caused the crime.
- Annie Bowe and Cora Pinkham, two sixteen-year-old Haverhill girls, were arrested in Boston on Saturday, by request of their parents, who learned that they were about to elope with two dime museum actors.
- An attempt was made early Sunday morning to assassinate J.F. Tufts, assistant attorney general for Atchison county, Kansas. Tufts was recently appointed to the office for the ex-

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Spotted on Monday, this sporty trifle, tied up by Memorial Bridge, goes by the name of Aspen Alternative. Unless the internet is lying to us, she belongs to Mike Maroone, who is apparently a legend in the upper echelons of retail automobile sales. For a mere \$200,000 a week, you can rent this thing and pretend you’re him! Yes, it sounds like a lot of money to blow on a frivolity, but it’s really a bargain—that’s just \$1,333 per foot!

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Don't Want Explosive Diarrhea?
Shop Local — and Regulate Big Food

Will the federal government have the guts to do
what it takes to protect the American people's guts?

By Sonali Kolhatkar

The recent, record-breaking outbreak of Cyclospora infections linked to lettuce consumption has left Americans wondering what food is safe to eat.

What brands of lettuce are safe and which aren't are important questions. But even more important might be why such outbreaks happen in the first place—and how our government has made them increasingly likely.

Nobody wants explosive diarrhea—and yet the way our federal government has left us unprotected is enough to make one sick.

The chief culprit in the cyclosporiasis debacle is our centralized, monopoly-based food system. The outbreak has been linked to Taylor Fresh Foods, which supplies many restaurants. Many brands of bagged lettuce and salad are also Taylor products—whether consumers realize it or not.

In fact, according to Farm Action, “Just four companies—Taylor Fresh Foods, Cultrale-Safra, Itochu, and Bonduelle—control 54 percent of the U.S. fresh-cut salad market.” Similarly, only a handful of corporations control meat, dairy, grains, and beverages. Another handful control food distribution.

This means that the industry practices giving rise to contaminated

foods happen on a very large scale—and those foods are then distributed all over the country. That a single outbreak in one company can potentially impact the entire nation is a grave weakness in the food system.

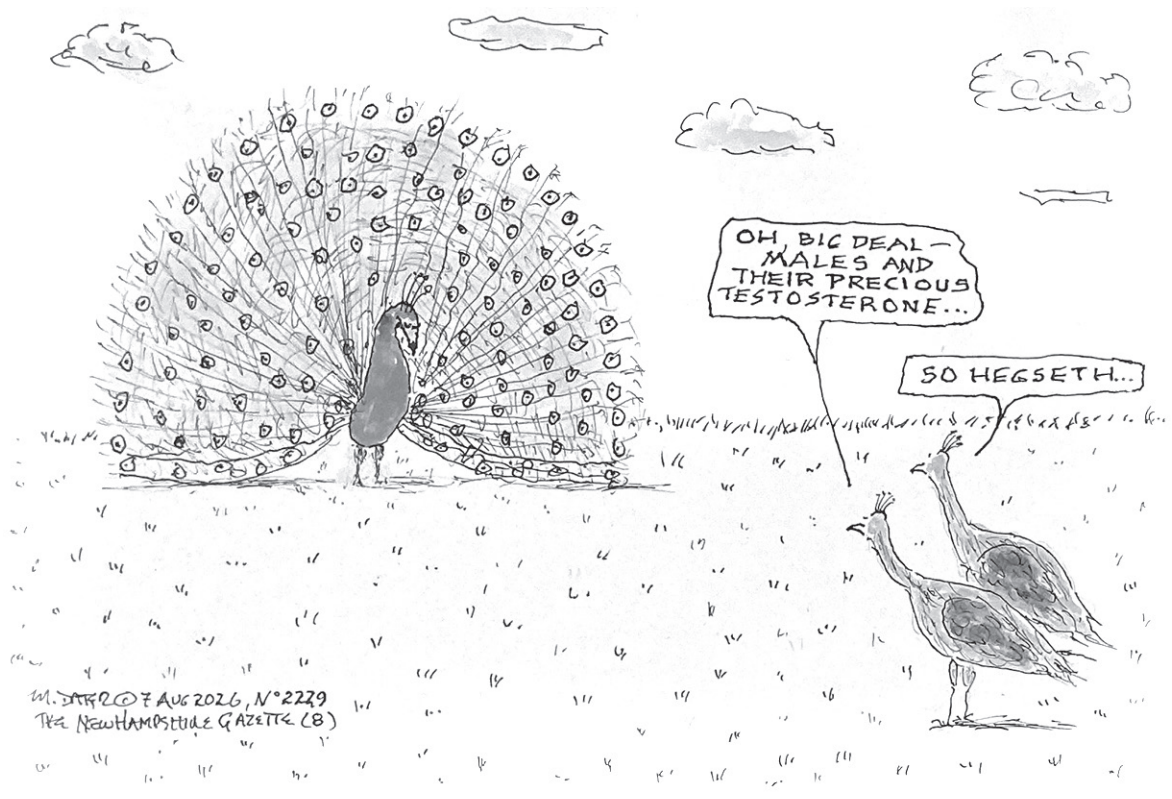
Monopolies like Taylor Farms use the profits they generate from dominating our food supplies to lobby the federal government for weaker oversight. According to *Wired*, the company has contributed millions of dollars to conservative political committees, including a super PAC called MAGA Inc.

It has also spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to directly lobby against food safety regulations. News even emerged recently of representatives from Taylor Farms calling the White House to try to delay a recall of their lettuce.

The Trump administration has been more than happy to comply with Big Food's wishes to reap billions in profits with little oversight.

Last year the administration weakened the nation's already thin food safety monitoring service, FoodNet, by making it optional to track numerous types of infections—including cyclosporiasis. “We're really gutting one of the cornerstones of food safety,” epidemiologist Elaine Scallan Walter warned the *New York Times* last September.

Mega monopolies aren't just bad for our gut. They also contribute to



higher prices and reduced access to fresh foods.

Their sheer size gives them what Civil Eats called “enormous power to make decisions about what food is produced how, where, and by whom, and who gets to eat it.” Big Food companies have repeatedly been found guilty of illegal price fixing. They routinely package the same foods under different labels to give the impression of diversity and competition.

Small farms are one important solution. Their supply chains are localized, making it easier to track and stop infections before they spread on a national scale. Independent farmers are selling out of lettuce at farmers markets as people seek out

clean greens.

Yet instead of promoting and aiding small farmers—as he promised to do when running for president in 2024—President Trump has cut back support for training new farmers, who might be competitors to companies like Taylor Farms.

His administration also cut a program that matched small producers with food banks—feeding hungry people while financially stabilizing independent farmers—along with a disaster aid program for minority farmers. The funding losses have left small farmers reeling.

What will help prevent future outbreaks is restoring and expanding regulatory agencies tracking infectious outbreaks. And breaking up food monopolies while sustaining

and strengthening small farms.

The question is: will the federal government have the guts to do what it takes to protect the American people's guts?

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Sonali Kolhatkar is host and executive producer of “Rising Up With Sonali,” an independent, subscriber-based syndicated TV and radio show. She's an award winning journalist and author of *Talking About Abolition: A Police Free World is Possible, and Rising Up: The Power of Narrative in Pursuing Racial Justice*. This op-ed was distributed by OtherWords.org. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-No Derivative 3.0 License.

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Our Wandering Photographer's grasp of space and time can get fuzzy around the edges. Last week he found himself back in the days when the city had yet to accomplish the vitally-important task of removing all the love locks which had been threatening the integrity of this chain-link fence in Prescott Park.

Murph's Fortnightly Quote

"Communism doesn't work because people like to own stuff."

— Frank Zappa (1940 - 1993)

"The next generation never learns anything from the previous one until it's brought home with a hammer."

— President Harry Truman

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What's Going On

It's time to revisit Marvin Gaye's soulful classic from 1971

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BETTER OLD NEWS THAN NEW LIES

from page two

press purpose of prosecuting saloon keepers under the prohibitory law. Sunday a keg containing twenty-five pounds of powder mixed with nails was exploded on the porch beneath his bedroom. The house was badly shattered, but no one was hurt.

• Paris, Ky., is to have a Confederate monument, 40 feet high and 10 feet square at the base. It will cost \$2,000, and \$1,000 in funds has already been subscribed. On it will be the inscription: "No nation rose so white and fair: none fell so pure of crime." [This abomination was completed and still stands. — The Ed.]

• H. Sullivan, secretary of the board

of trustees of the state university at Oxford, Miss., has been shot fatally by the law professor, J.M. Howrey. The tragedy grew out of recent religious troubles between the professor and the university.

The New Hampshire Gazette
August 19, 1886

• Hon. James G. Blaine [Former Congressman, former Senator, and future Secretary of State. — The Ed.] had a narrow escape at Bar Harbor on the 19th inst., an arch erected in honor of a week's series of sports gotten up by the summer guests falling as he was driving under it, a heavy timber striking the carriage

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Much Worse Than the Vandals
To the Editor:
Trump's right about vandals damaging the reflecting pool; however, the truth is Trump is the vandal. His hire-the-incompetent approach to government is ruining more than the reflecting pond.

He vandalized the Kennedy Center when he defaced it with his name. Millions of taxpayers' dollars brought back the Kennedy (only) Center.

He vandalized the White House by demolishing the East Wing. Like the ignorant Vandals, history means nothing to Trump.

He vandalized the Rose Garden by paving it over. Like ancient Vandals he destroys places of beauty.

He vandalized signage throughout our national parks. Like illiterate Vandals, Trump doesn't read.

He'll vandalize the historic view between the Lincoln Memorial and the Arlington National Cemetery with a gaudy 250-foot arch to himself. Trump thinks everything is about him.

He's vandalizing America's reputation as a leader of world peace, as a reliable trading partner, and as a wealthy nation willing to help countries in need. His savage actions in Iran reveal his barbarism.

When Vandals invaded Rome in 455 A.D., they used the Roman Senate as a toilet. Trump is doing the same thing to America.

J. Michael Atherton

Dover, N.H.

Michael:

We regret to say, we must disagree. Not about the damage being done by the grotesque creature currently squatting in the White House, of course. Your list is but a fraction of the full tally. We'll probably never see a complete inventory, and who would want one anyway? To read it would be too depressing.

But you do a great disservice to the Vandals. Widely perceived as an unruly pack of filthy brutes, they were in fact a well organized people whose behavior during the Sack of Rome was hardly any worse than that of those they overthrew.

Trump and his followers have achieved the lowest form of distinction. As he says, we have never seen anything like it.

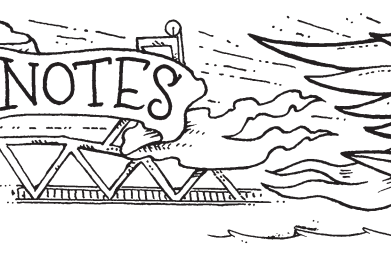
The Editor

Layer Upon Layer of Lies
To the editor;
Donald Trump is desperate to keep the Republican majority in Congress in the upcoming midterm elections despite record-setting levels of disapproval. To this end, Trump and his MAGA minions have intensified efforts to convince voters that the election process is fraudulent. He has used the FBI to conduct contrived investigations of alleged fraud in the 2020 elections and attempted to influence state elections through legislation that would restrict voter registration and prevent the postal service from delivering mail-in ballots. Fortunately, the latter two efforts have been stymied.

Recently, Trump has turned to an equally deceitful tactic that has long been part of the Republican playbook—condemning Democratic opponents as being “Communist” or “Socialist.” It is doubtful that Trump, much less his MAGA toadies, could explain what a Communist or even Socialist is, but the terms have long had a pejorative connotation for many voters. American enmity toward Communism can be traced to the fear instigated by the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution and the global labor unrest and anarchist terrorism that followed as well as the decades-long Cold War with the Soviet Union. Socialism has been inaccurately conflated with Communism by many, and the term was used by conservatives as a *bête noire* during the New Deal era to discredit Progressive legislation such as Social Security. Trump and Republican campaign strategists intend to smear all Democratic candidates with the “Socialist” or “Communist” label as Progressive Democrats such as Bernie Sanders, AOC and New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani rise to positions of influence in the Democratic Party. It is not surprising that Trump would seek to engage the hysteria and paranoia that constituted the McCarthy era. It matches his style of craven governance, but it must not be allowed to gain traction in this election cycle.

Socialism as a theory calls for collective ownership of the means of production, usually controlled by the government. Production and prices

are set by government direction through public planning boards to meet social needs rather than private profit. Communism calls for the abolition of all private property to create a stateless, classless, and moneyless society. All property is owned by the state, and economic benefits are distributed “from each according to their means, to each according to their needs.” Although some American Progressives call themselves Democratic Socialists, no Democrat that I am aware of has called for total government ownership of the means of production nor the abolition of private property. The focus of the Socialist argument for American Progressives has been on government intervention in economic activities by democratic means to ensure the common good. There has been a long-standing debate between Progressives and Conservatives regarding the role of government in regulating economic activity. The result has been a cycle in the intensity of government regulation, depending on the Party in power. For example, the Gilded Age was a period of *laissez faire* where capitalists such as the Robber Barons operated with impunity. The result was an era characterized by extractive monopolies and the exploitation of the working class. The Gilded Age was followed by an era of Progressive reforms in which the government took muscular action to regulate monopolies and enact labor reforms, culminating in FDR's New Deal. We have recently experienced the Neoliberal era, where governments withdrew from active regulation of private corporations, facilitating the globalization of corporations and financial institutions. The Great Recession of 2008, the alarming rise in economic inequality and the immiseration of the working class has likely marked the end of Neoliberalism as a driver of economic policy. Global capital has had a forty-year reign during which the prosperity of the working class was sacrificed to capital gains. Now is not the time for futile debates on economic theory. Rather, Democrats must focus on specific economic issues and policies that will restore working class prosperity. Voters are not



likely to be swayed by abstract labels from a bygone era. They will pay attention to policies that provide affordable access to food, healthcare, education, and housing.

Robert D. Russell, PhD

Harrisburg, Pa.

Robert:

In the 1840's, Karl Marx wrote, in the Communist Manifesto, "The history of all hitherto existing societies is the history of class struggles." Marx was reviled all his life by the haves and the have-mores. Their animosity survived his death at the dawn of the Gilded Age, and continues unabated. Why, if they hate him so much, do they continue proving him so right?

The Editor

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Vote Sullivan for Education

To the Editor:
While it is certainly true that education is best managed locally—SAU's, towns, states—there is clearly a role for a Federal Government as well. A centralized education “think tank” can do things that an SAU or state does not have the resources to do, including research in best practices, “angel funding” for new and innovative techniques, and support for competency-based assessments. It also should have the resources to provide funding, when needed, for districts that are severely under resourced.

We have today, in Washington, a Secretary of Education that has embarked on a campaign to downsize the Department of Education, shift funding to “school choice” (read private, sectarian), and downshifting expenses to the states. While she wrestles with these priorities, she seems more concerned with administration than education.

I am supporting Maura Sullivan to be my representative in the First Congressional District. She is a graduate of the public school system, supports pre-K expansion, and she recognizes that a high school education is no longer enough to either enter the workforce or prepare for a profession. I believe she will stand up to the current administration's efforts to defund

public education and will work to rebuild the Department of Education to be what it was intended to be when founded over 40 years ago. I believe that she will also support putting people in place that have qualifications for the job that go beyond having made campaign contributions.

I urge you to vote for Maura Sullivan in the Primary on September 8, 2026. Register to vote. Find out where your local polling place is. If you are unable to vote due to travel or disability, check with your town or city to get an absentee ballot.

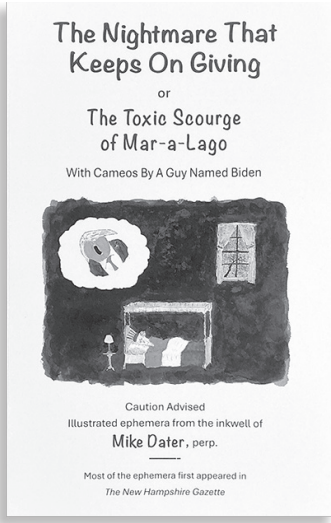
Paul G. Brock, Former School Board member and Chair
Bedford, N.H.

=====
The Election Fraud Fraud

To the Editor:
Recently, the president again served up his stale argument that voter fraud had caused him to lose the 2020 election. Numerous investigations and lawsuits proved otherwise. Voter fraud is rare. The fraud Trump and his enablers engage in is election fraud, the systemic methods of fixing elections. Among these are gerrymandering, elimination of poll locations, limiting voting hours, etc. Trump is fixated on passing his “SAVE Act,” designed to deliver elections to the Republicans well into the future.

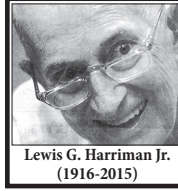
Trump's insistence that millions of non-citizens voted to prevent him from winning in 2020 is misplaced. He'll probably wrongly claim that the 6,600 non-citizens erroneously on the voter rolls of New Jersey strengthen his case. However, only about 400 of them actually voted. To change the outcome of an election, they would have had to disregard their personal opinions and to have all voted as a bloc for a Democrat in an election in which the Republican would have won by fewer than 400 votes. With more than 4.5 million votes cast in the 2020 presidential race in N.J., Biden won over 2.6 million votes and Trump garnered nearly 1.9 million votes, so even all the non-citizens on the voter rolls could

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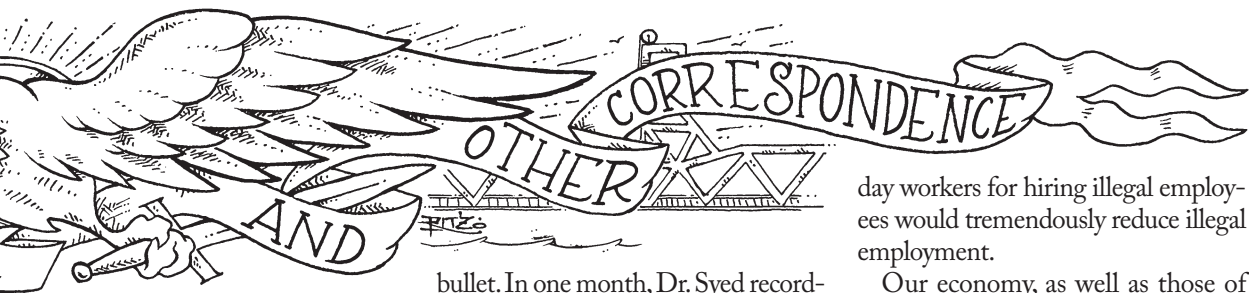
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not have changed the outcome. Trump's speech was purposed to press Congress to pass the SAVE Act and to sow distrust in our voting system. Its time to reject Trump's false claims and to face reality even if he cannot. We must insist Congress vote down the SAVE Act.

Lorraine L. Hansen
Rollinsford, N.H.
Lorraine:

It is quite obvious that the person now occupying the most powerful position in our government is, generally speaking, an extraordinarily lazy person. Hell, whenever you see him seated at a public event he seems to be napping. If we may use a favorite right wing trope, why is he so focused on jamming the SAVE Act down the public's throat? To starve off a Democratic Congress.

As Samuel Johnson said, "Nothing so wonderfully concentrates the mind as knowing you are going to be hanged in the morning." The Laird of Mar-a-Lar-do knows what he's done. He knows if a Democratic Congress gives him what he deserves, he'll end up in an un-gilded cage.

The Editor

Israeli Terrorist Forces Kill Children

To the Editor:
Israeli soldiers systematically target children under 12 to kill or maim them according to a report called "Lethal Precision Without Accountability: Israeli Government Quadcopter Use in Gaza." These are small armed tactical drones. This report was issued by The Costs of War project at Brown University's Watson School of International and Public Affairs on June 17, 2026.

Dr. Mimi Syed, a board-certified emergency physician from the U.S. who made two separate medical missions to Gaza in 2024 but was denied entry into Gaza in 2025, has had interviews with Democracy Now and NPR, among others and stated that she and other doctors have testified they saw many children who had been shot in the head or chest with a single

bullet. In one month, Dr. Syed recorded in her notes that she had treated at least 18 children with gunshots to the head/neck and as was noted above, also to the chest area. She also stated there were other child victims but that she was unable to record all of them due to lack of time as she and other doctors saw multiple victims every single day for four weeks.

The continuing genocidal attacks on Gaza's population, especially its children, can best be described as barbaric and completely inhumane.

This regime in Israel and the U.S. supporters of Israel, especially Presidents Biden and Trump, have blood on their hands as well as those many U.S. Congresspeople who have supported Israel unconditionally, including the late Lindsey Graham and our own Rep. Pappas as well as Senator Hassan.

In closing, let us remember what Israeli politician Moshe Feiglin, had to say about the killing of children: "Every child, every baby in Gaza is an enemy, The enemy is not Hamas. Every child in Gaza is the enemy. We need to conquer Gaza and colonize it, and not leave a single Gazan child there. There is no other victory."

Will Thomas
N.H. Veterans for Peace
Manchester, N.H.
Will,
Our tax dollars at work.
The Editor

Why Not Go After the Bosses?

To the Editor:
If the economy needed illegal immigrants to be deported, business would have pressured politicians to do so. Employers need to file an I-9 for every employee. If the I-9 system were run like the credit card systems, then it would be extremely difficult for employers to legally hire illegals. All credit card systems alert the business when there are any of several irregularities. Updating the I-9 system and employment regulations to identify irregularities and seriously penalizing the employer or those contracting for

day workers for hiring illegal employees would tremendously reduce illegal employment.

Our economy, as well as those of most nations, was built on cheap labor, whether slave, indentured servitude, or immigrant. When the pandemic hit, a sizable percentage of the essential workers in the meat packing business were "illegals." Their 2000 wages were similar to the union members meat packers' wages in 1975 which was more than twice as high as the medium 1976 annual wage. As any smart politician will tell you, "It's the economy stupid!"

Jack Marquess
Haddon Heights, N.J.

Jack:
Why, one might almost think that our political class was more interested in guaranteeing a ready supply of low-wage labor for bosses than fulfilling xenophobic campaign promises to racists.

The Editor

Beriont for Free & Fair Elections

To the editor,
Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of our democracy, and in 2026, that principle matters more than ever.

It's alarming to watch Donald Trump undermine trust in our elections. His rhetoric isn't about protecting democracy; it's about protecting his own power. Losing public confidence on issue after issue, he has turned lies and fear-mongering about election security into a political strategy.

But here's what he can't change: across this country, thousands of election workers showing up on election day to ensure their neighbors can vote freely and fairly.

Carleigh Beriont, Democratic candidate for Representative in the First Congressional District, is among the thousands of election administrators nationwide who follow strict procedures, guide bipartisan checks, and adhere to transparent processes designed to protect the integrity of every vote. These safeguards have been built over decades through cooperation, reform, and a shared belief that democracy only works when the public can trust

it. As our representative in Washington, Carleigh will vote to pass the For the People Act. As she explains on her website, *CarleighBeriont.com*, this bill "includes expanded voter access, real campaign finance reform, independent redistricting commissions, an end to the revolving-door lobbying loopholes."

Fair elections do not happen automatically. They happen because ordinary people show up—at polling places, in town halls, and in conversations with friends and family—to defend the idea that every voice matters. In 2026, let's recommit to that shared purpose. Let's elect leaders like Carleigh Beriont whose words and action are consistent with Democratic principles.

Chuck Rhoades
Dover, N.H.

Urrutia for the First District

To the Editor:
Christian Urrutia, a Democratic candidate for the First Congressional District, is highly qualified. He's an attorney with an MA in International Relations, a former Special Counsel at the Department of Defense, and current N.H. Army National Guard officer. Excellent qualifications are necessary but not sufficient—because we also need the candidate to be a leader.

How do we identify a leader among the several candidates running? We look at their actions, in this time of crisis, more than their words. How do they react to ICE brutality? ICE has been rampaging across the country, acting outside the law, terrorizing our communities, killing legal immigrants and American citizens. This lawless violence has come ever closer to us, with the recent killing of a Biddeford man and the attempt to place an ICE detention center in Merrimack.

Last August the Pease Development Authority allowed people to testify against the use of Pease airport for ICE flights. Other First District candidates from the Seacoast didn't show up, but Christian Urrutia drove from Moultonborough, and along with many community members, spoke

against ICE. Urrutia assailed ICE's violations of our constitutional rights. Then, when Merrimack was fighting against a detention center, Rep. Wendy Thomas said Urrutia was the First District candidate who offered help, asking, "What do you need? How can I help? Put me to work." That's the kind of leadership we need—someone who takes the initiative, who is bold not timid, who will defend us in today's crisis.

I'll be voting for Christian Urrutia on September 8th.

Susan Mayer
Lee N.H.

Collins Fails Again

Dear Editor:
On July 7th, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agent shot and killed Sebastian Duran Guerrero in Biddeford, Maine. Mr. Guerrero was not the target of an ICE operation. He was authorized to work in the U.S., and had a Social Security number. Since the killing, troubling information has come out about the ICE agent involved in the killing. According to NPR and other news sources, the agent's ex-wife stated that he called her and asked her not to report his abuse during their marriage. Both she and another ex-wife had restraining orders against him.

The agent was hired by ICE at the end of 2025. This raises questions about the Department of Homeland Security vetting process. This agent's history of domestic violence should have been a warning. Apparently these warnings were either ignored or never discovered during the hiring process. Now an innocent man is dead and his family destroyed. Why?

We all must remember that Sen. Susan Collins voted to support an additional \$70 billion for ICE, and voted to confirm the current leadership of the Department of Homeland Security of which ICE is a part. Of course, now Sen. Collins is calling for investigations and restraints on ICE, much too little and far too late. Her belated actions remind me of how she told us that Mr. Trump had "learned his les-

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from
previous page

son” after his first impeachment, and how she supported Justice Cavanaugh for the Supreme Court after he stated during his confirmation hearings that *Roe v Wade* was “settled law,” and then proceeded to vote to kill *Roe v Wade*. Sorry, Sen. Collins, your words and belated actions once again ring very hollow and represent nothing more than transparent political cover.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Manzur a Strong Alternative to Pappas
To the Editor:

Chris Pappas, the Democratic perennial, like many DNC plants, has been watered by AIPAC money. Time to pull weeds up by their roots and seed our garden for domestic welfare rather than support of foreign agents and their sycophants. The fruits will be more nourishing.

Karishma Manzur, who refuses PAC bribes, has a good chance of upsetting Chris Pappas in the primary. Many have seen the folly of following those who urge foreign war against our interest and bankroll genocide with our taxes. In this new popular perception, mavericks like Manzur have a better chance against the GOP paladins.

Check out karishmaforsenate.com and consider voting for Karishma in the NH Democratic primary on September 8th.

David Ecklein
Rumney, N.H.

Wildfires Only a Symptom of the Crisis
To the Editor:

As recent summers have made clear, wildland megafires are no longer a regional anomaly, but have become a global hazard. NASA reports that, due to human-induced climate change, “Extreme wildfire activity has more than doubled worldwide.”

Hotter temperatures evaporate soil moisture and dry vegetation,

making it more likely to burn. According to physicist Phillip B. Duffy, “What would have been a fire easily extinguished now just grows very quickly and becomes out of control.”

More intense wildfires are just one symptom of a much larger problem. A study in the journal *Science* concludes that global soil moisture is in “permanent” decline because of our warming climate.

The drying of continents, driven by increased heat and evaporation, has been so pronounced that the transfer of water to the oceans has altered the distribution of our planet’s mass and affected Earth’s rotation on its axis.

As continents dry and water resources are polluted and overused, researchers warn that the world has entered an era of “global water bankruptcy,” in which critical water systems can no longer realistically recover to their former state.

Water bankruptcy is already evident in the United States. America’s largest groundwater reserve, the Ogallala Aquifer, which supports Great Plains agriculture, is being pumped far faster than it can recharge. Water levels have fallen by hundreds of feet in some areas, with portions now effectively nonrenewable under current climate conditions and irrigation practices.

As evidenced by toxic Canadian wildfire smoke drifting across the U.S., deadly European heatwaves, and rapidly expanding “mega-drying” regions in South Asia, the atmosphere has no borders.

As guests of this world, we must insist that our legislators enact policies to cut emissions, conserve water, and protect Earth’s life-support systems on which we all depend.

Terry Hansen
Grafton, Wisc.

Terry:

Given what they’ve done, a few hundred fossil fuel execs, lawyers, bankers and political puppets belong behind bars.

The Editor

Raúl Castro: A Guide to Manufacturing Martyrs

by Richard M. Balzano

There is a certain dark comedy in watching Washington indict former Cuban president Raúl Castro for allegedly killing civilians over Caribbean waters after the United States bombed boats and killed civilians in Caribbean waters. Progressive commentators like Ryan Grim and Julia Conley at *Common Dreams* quickly noted the irony after Miami prosecutors indicted the 94-year-old on one count of conspiracy to kill U.S. nationals, four counts of murder, and two counts of aircraft destruction. The charges stemmed from a February 24, 1996 confrontation in which Cuban fighter jets destroyed two Brothers to the Rescue aircraft as they either approached or had already entered Cuban airspace, a contested distinction central to the controversial indictment’s legitimacy. The White House narrative and long-held mainstream framing present the incident as a cold-blooded attack on humanitarian activists in international airspace, carried out by a ruthless authoritarian dictatorship. The historical record—including declassified U.S. government documents—reveals a much more complicated story.

The Miami-based anti-Castro exile organization Brothers to the Rescue was originally founded to search for and rescue Cuban rafters in the Florida Straits. Cuban diplomatic protests and later statements from Cuban officials reveal that by the mid-1990s, Brothers to the Rescue had repeatedly violated Cuban airspace, dropped anti-government propaganda leaflets over Havana, coordinated with anti-Castro flotillas approaching Cuban waters, and openly sought confrontation with the Cuban government, triggering a prolonged diplomatic and security crisis between Havana and Washington. Declassified Federal Aviation Administration documents published decades later by the National Security Archive revealed that Clinton administration officials, the FAA, and the State Department repeatedly warned that continued incursions would eventually provoke a Cuban military response. One FAA memorandum warned of the “worst case scenario that one of these days the Cubans will shoot down one of these planes.”

The Cuban government insisted for years that the flights were not benign humanitarian operations, but deliberate provocations designed to test Cuban defenses and manufacture an international incident. Cuban officials argued that Havana had exhausted every diplomatic avenue to prevent escalation, delivering more than a dozen formal complaints to U.S. authorities regarding repeated incursions into Cuban airspace. Declassified FAA records support the broader claim that American officials understood the danger perfectly well. Internal memoranda described Brothers to the Rescue founder José Basulto’s flights as “taunting” the Cuban government, acknowledged fears that Cuba would eventually respond militarily, and documented repeated

failed attempts by officials to ground the aircraft before the fatal confrontation occurred. Raúl Castro was not yet president of Cuba at the time of the incident; he was Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and thus oversaw the operation.

Whether the planes were ultimately destroyed inside Cuban territorial airspace or just beyond it remains politically contested, but the simplistic slogan that innocent humanitarian pilots were murdered “in international waters” collapses under even modest scrutiny. The declassified record demonstrates that U.S. officials understood the flights as dangerous provocations long before the incident occurred. FAA officials warned repeatedly about unauthorized incursions into Cuban airspace, false flight plans, and the likelihood of a military interception, while Cuban authorities insisted that civil aviation protections could not apply indefinitely to aircraft repeatedly used for political confrontation and propaganda operations. Even the FAA eventually issued a cease-and-desist order against Brothers to the Rescue operations, though only after the planes had already been shot down. The Brothers volunteered as bait.

The incident became a catalyst in passing the Helms-Burton Act, which dramatically escalated the U.S. embargo against Cuba and effectively codified sanctions into federal law, making them far more difficult for future presidents to reverse unilaterally. Prior to the incident, the bill faced resistance even within the Clinton administration, which feared alienating allies and locking Washington into a rigid Cuba policy. After the planes were destroyed, however, the atmosphere shifted. Havana’s actions were presented in the United States not merely as an airspace dispute or escalating security confrontation, but as proof of Cuban barbarism requiring intensified punishment and international isolation. The incident also hardened Floridian anti-Castro politics, strengthened the influence of exile hardliners in Washington, and provided exactly the kind of emotionally charged narrative capable of transforming nuanced geopolitical disputes into moral absolutes suitable for sanctions, regime-change rhetoric, and Cold War revivalism.

Progressive critics argue the indictment was calibrated less for legal accountability than for political theater, noting the extraordinary irony of the United States prosecuting Cuban officials for extrajudicial killings while simultaneously carrying out deadly maritime bombings and targeted strikes across multiple theaters under vastly expanded interpretations of counterterrorism and national security authority. The timing of the indictment also raises obvious political questions. Filed nearly three decades after the incident, the charges arrived amid renewed regime-change hostility from Washington. The symbolism is difficult to miss: Marco Rubio,

who has spent his political career salivating at the prospect of overturning the Cuban revolution and crushing the Latin American Left, unveiled the indictment in Miami—a fitting backdrop for a case deeply intertwined with Cuban exile politics of South Florida where the Brothers to the Rescue incident has long functioned as both trauma and political mythology. With Republican midterm prospects looking increasingly bleak, resurrecting one

of the Cold War’s most emotionally charged anti-Castro flash-points might be a desperate attempt to rally older Cuban-American constituents in the critical swing state of Florida. It is also possible that the Trump regime is just incompetent enough to start a new disastrous war to distract from the other disastrous war it started quite recently. The timing is opportunistically conspicuous enough on its own to delegitimize the indictment.

Analysts believe Castro’s indictment could do more to strengthen his legacy than diminish it. As Secretary-General of the Non-Aligned Movement from 2006–2009, a coalition that has promoted political and economic solidarity among post-colonial states for over half a century, Raúl Castro repeatedly denounced regime-change operations, unilateral sanctions, neoliberal domination, and foreign interference in the sovereignty of developing nations. Under Raúl’s presidential leadership, Cuba continued its international medical diplomacy programs, sending thousands of doctors abroad during epidemics, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises across the Global South. In addition, Cuba legalized same-sex marriage and expanded broader LGBTQ family protections. Raúl also oversaw the continuation of Cuba’s long transition away from Cold War isolation, expanding diplomatic and commercial relationships across Latin America, Africa, Europe, and Asia while attempting to stabilize the island against decades of sanctions and economic warfare. The indictment has not produced waves of Cubans clamoring for American intervention, but public displays of support for Castro and Cuban sovereignty. Even the *New York Times*, which has not seen a post 9/11 intervention it didn’t like, acknowledged that the charges may ultimately strengthen Castro’s revolutionary narrative, noting that prosecution could provide “a rallying cry” against Yanqui hostility. As one analyst quoted by the *Times* bluntly observed: “They’ll make him a martyr. The more things like that happen, the more they shape the revolutionary narrative of someone fighting and dying in his boots.” Irony abounds.

Richard M. Balzano is an historian and political analyst peddling truths at several institutions of higher learning, quietly devoted to the art of sedition and comfortably resigned to the peripheral left.

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Farewell, Beanie

by W.D. Ehrhart

Last Friday was a very sad day for me, my wife Anne, and my daughter Leela. We had to euthanize our cat Beanie, who had been with us for nearly 22 years. That's almost half of Anne's and my 45 years of marriage. And as anyone who's ever loved a pet knows, Beanie was a member of our family. She wasn't like a family member; she was a family member.

Our daughter Leela and her then-boyfriend found Beanie in the boyfriend's yard one cold November night when Beanie was maybe five weeks old and weighed barely a pound. Beanie had gotten separated from her mother somehow, and probably wouldn't have survived the night. But she ended up surviving longer than any previous cat either my wife or I had ever had, and we both have had cats all of our lives.

I suppose because Beanie was being handled by people so early in her life, she was friendly with everyone, and very tactile. She was completely comfortable being touched. She even seemed to enjoy having her tummy rubbed, which many cats object to and let their humans know it. She often sat with us and on us, and regularly slept under the covers with us. I've known and had some

very affectionate cats, but Beanie was in a class by herself.

We knew, of course, that the end would come eventually. Most cats make it into their mid-teens at best: 15 or 16, maybe 17. So we were surprised and delighted when Beanie made it to 20. And then 21. Our veterinarian said that he didn't know how she'd made it this far, but whatever we were doing, we should just keep doing it.

But at some point after she turned 21, arthritis in her hips began to affect her mobility. Then in April, Beanie started having difficulty with bowel movements. She started getting shots for the arthritis, and we actually were giving her a small amount of a laxative daily, and these measures seemed to help with her bowels. But then she started having difficulty again. Earlier this week, the vet even gave her an enema, but two days later, she was once again struggling.

Indeed, she could no longer control her bodily functions. And she would periodically crawl under my desk where it was hard to reach her. She would occasionally come out for water, and still seemed eager to accept our attention and affection. But she was clearly trying to tell us that she'd had enough. She was ready.

We weren't, but how could we ever

be? And we could not let her go on struggling. Fortunately, our daughter and her fiancée, who live 20 miles away, were able to come within a few hours, and the four of us took Beanie to the veterinary clinic. She passed away peacefully with all of us touching and stroking her.

As I type this, I am sitting here crying again. I expect that will keep happening for a good while. I have to keep making myself see again our dear little Beanie struggling to move her bowels to remember that we did what she was asking us to do. That it really was time. That we had had her in our lives for nearly 22 years. And that they had been years filled with love for Beanie, and—in her little cat way—Beanie's love for us.

But I've had to stop writing already multiple times in the process of trying to write just the paragraph above. My wife tells me I should just go ahead and cry, that tears are how we cope with grief and eventually come to terms with it and learn to live with it, and I am letting myself cry. But also finding myself thinking about other occasions when I've had to cope somehow with grief.

When my father died in 1988, I was sad, but my father and I had had a difficult relationship, and I don't

remember crying at all. A year later, when our cat Miranda died, I cried uncontrollably for a long time. I just sobbed and sobbed and sobbed.

It's true that Miranda had been Anne's cat when we first started dating, and the fact that Miranda approved of me—Miranda didn't usually like men—actually had something to do with Anne deciding I might be okay after all. Still, Miranda was a cat, and Reverend Ehrhart was my father! I've always wondered about that, but maybe it was just plain safer to let the tears flow for Miranda. Maybe if I'd started crying for my father, I might never have stopped. I don't know.

I do know that if I am honest with myself, I have missed Miranda more than I've missed my father. And I will miss Beanie as well. Indeed, losing Beanie at this point in my life, when I am 77 and surely won't be around all that much longer myself, creates a hole in my life that I seriously doubt will ever be filled.

=====

W.D. Ehrhart is a retired Master Teacher of History & English, and author of a Vietnam War memoir trilogy published by McFarland.

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BETTER OLD NEWS THAN NEW LIES

from page three

just in front of Mr. Blaine, between him and the horse.

• A new "elite directory of New York" has been published. A more appropriate name would be, "The Snob's Own Book."

• Everett Bercome, a farmer of Grafton, Mass., was driving into Worcester on the 18th inst. when he overtook a good-looking woman who was walking on the road, and invited her to ride. She accepted the kind offer, but soon dropped her handkerchief, and when Bercome gallantly alighted to pick it up she whipped up the horse, ran the wagon over Bercome, and drove off with the team. The bereaved farmer has no knowledge of who the woman is.

• At Providence, R.I., Aug. 18th, James Crosby, a well known business man of the city, had his throat cut with a razor by a barber named Patrick H. McCarron, while being shaved, and died in a few minutes.

McCarron has always borne an excellent reputation, but has been subject to spells of mental trouble since having his skull fractured by a horse's kick eleven years ago. The brother and business partner of the deceased had just been shaved by McCarron, and noticed nothing particularly strange in his actions.

• It struck Mr. Lewis that he could photograph the house where Mr. [Jay] Gould [the robber baron] was born and sell copies in Wall Street. He journeyed back to town with his trunk full of the pictures. "We don't care a continental for Gould's birthplace," said a broker to Lewis. "What this world wants is a peep at Gould's tombstone!"

The New Hampshire Gazette
August 26, 1886

=====

Our thanks to the Portsmouth Athenaeum, holder of the newspapers from which the items above were excerpted. — The Ed.

=====

"Ice Cream and the Amendments to the Constitution"

Herewith, the latest dispatch from Seacoast Friends Preserving Democracy:

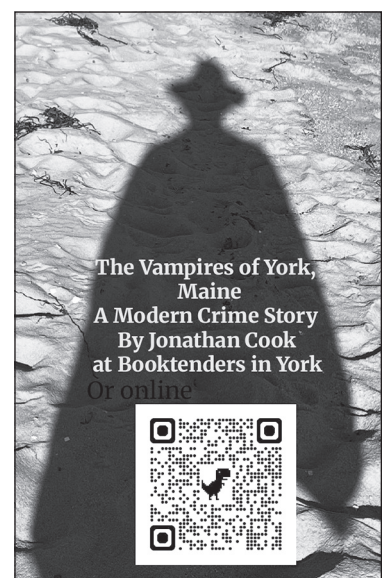
"The Seacoast Friends Preserving Democracy's next event "Ice Cream and the Amendments to the Constitution" is a public outdoor event scheduled for Aug. 18, 2026 at Four Tree Island in Portsmouth from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

When so much political turbulence is occurring nationwide and in our state, focusing on our Constitution and the Amendments that guarantee our rights is more critical than ever. At the same time, we must remember that our Declaration of Independence grants us "certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit Happiness."

Since in this country, nothing says happiness better than ice cream, SFPD is celebrating these rights, by combining an ice cream event with the reading of the Amendments to the Constitution.

We are inviting the public to en-

joy free ice cream, while celebrating and preserving our basic rights. Please bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy a fun summer event. NOTE: We are currently looking for volunteers for two roles—reading one of the amendments aloud and/or volunteering for other event needs. Please contact the individuals mentioned below. While it is not required, an RSVP would be greatly appreciated. To RSVP, or for more information contact either Peter Somssich, tel. (603) 436-5382, peter.somssich@gmail.com or Michael Derhammer, tel. (603) 969-9838, mderrhammernb@gmail.com. Four Tree Island, part of Prescott Park, is publicly accessible from Pierce Island. See <https://www.portsmouthnh.gov/prescottpark/four-tree-island>.



Corporate CEOs Demand Big Bucks — Plus Nickels and Dimes

by Jim Hightower

Until recently, corporate executives were eager to demonstrate how "green" they were. But then came Trump, trashing the very idea of a green economy.

So, to appease the vengeful Republican, obsequious CEOs rushed to dump their green principles. Except for one especially verdant area of the corporate culture: CEO compensation. As widely reported, top executive pay has surged during the Trump regime.

But wait, they want more, so other tendrils of executive pay have sprouted and grown like Jack's beanstalk, further separating those at the top from the rest of us. *Wall Street Journal* reporters have uncovered some \$600 million in executive perks that big corporations shelled out to their honchos last year.

For example, investors in Apollo, the avaricious Wall Street huckster, laid out nearly a million for luxury limo and chauffeur services so their billionaire CEO wouldn't have to open the car door by himself. For tax purposes, Apollo called this a "security measure," rather than the pompous plutocratic perk it is.

Already overpaid, these royals have come to expect all of life's needs and whims to be covered, including:

- \$121,000 in free tickets to ballgames to please the multimillionaire chief of Roto-Rooter, who is said to be "a huge sports fan."
- \$20,000 in booze for the head of a liquor conglomerate, which insists the freebie is awarded to enhance the boss "knowledge of the product."
- And a \$492 payout to cover the maintenance cost on a home generator for the chief of Hewlett Packard — who is paid \$23 million a year.

An old adage claims that it's the little things that matter... and these CEO entitlements show just how little corporate "leaders" have become.

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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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9	MONDAY, AUGUST 10	TUESDAY, AUGUST 11	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12	THURSDAY, AUGUST 13	FRIDAY, AUGUST 14	SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
2016—The GOP presidential candidate suggests saving gun rights may require shooting his opponent. 2014—Ferguson, Mo. cop Darren Wilson shoots unarmed Michael Brown, 18, whose body is then left uncovered on the street for four hours. 1997—New York City cop Justin Volpe sodomizes Haitian immigrant Abner Louima with a broomstick. 1989—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush signs the Savings and Loan bailout. Among the bailees: two of his sons, Neil and Jeb. 1974—Richard Milhous Nixon vacates the White House—finally. 1965—In Searcy, Ark., two men working on a crew upgrading a Titan II missile silo survive a fire; 53 do not. 1954—Eschewing suggested titles “Sweat Sox” and “Jockstrap,” Time-Life launches “Sports Illustrated.” 1945—In Nagasaki, Hiroshima blast survivor Tsutomu Yamaguchi’s boss doubts his account of the devastation—until an A-bomb explodes. 1936—Lincoln Steffens, one of the original muckrakers, dies at 70. 1842—After a month as their captive, Herman Melville makes his escape from cannibals in the Typee Valley. 1842—The Aroostook War is ended by the Webster-Ashburton Treaty. 1610—Under orders from Thomas West, Baron De La Warr, after whom Delaware is named, English settlers in Virginia slaughter the Paspahgeh men, women, and children.	2019—Mysterious sex criminal and pal of bigwigs Jeffrey Epstein is found conveniently but mysteriously dead in his closely unguarded N.Y.C. jail cell. 2000—“I want you to know,” George W.[MD] Bush tells farmers in Salinas, Calif., “that farmers are not going to be secondary thoughts to a Bush administration. They will be in the forethought of our thinking.” 1974—“I take my instructions from General Haig,” says a Colonel overseeing Richard Nixon’s attempt to spirit files out of the White House. White House Counsel Benton Becker calls the Colonel’s bluff, and three full Air Force trucks are unloaded. 1973—Free Marketeer Charles Koch writes Free Marketeer Friedrich von Hayek suggesting he move to the U.S. so he can collect Social[ist] Security. 1968—Eight G.I.’s in Vietnam are killed by “friendly fire.” 1887—A Toledo, Peoria & Western engineer uncouples his engine from the cars behind to safely get across a burning bridge. His 81 passengers die when the bridge collapses under them. 1856—Of 400 people on Last Island, La., half are drowned by a hurricane. 1835—A mob of 300 men wrecks Canaan, N.H.’s racially integrated Noyes Academy, using 100 yokes of oxen to drag it from its foundation. Black students are then chased from town. 1680—Pueblo Indians begin a revolt that will kill 400 Spaniards and drive the survivors from New Mexico.	2023—Police Chief Gideon Cody raids the <i>Marion County</i> (Kan.) <i>Record</i>. In a career full of idiotic and costly mistakes, this is his <i>magnum opus</i>. 2017—A “good person” rallying for White Supremacy in Charlottesville, Va. commits vehicular homicide. 1984—Reagan “outlaws” Russia. 1981—“Airman Fat Albert,” a 180-foot radar blimp gone AWOL, floating at 25,000 feet west of the Florida Keys, is brought down with an air-to-air missile from an an F-4 Phantom. 1980—Ex-Gov. John Connally ends a weeks-long Middle East trip. There, he lobbied Iran, via foreign leaders, not to release its U.S. hostages. 1972—Delta Co., 3/21st Infantry, conduct the last U.S. combat patrol in Vietnam; booby traps wound two. 1966—The first Coast Guardsmen (2) are killed in Vietnam when B-57s and F-4s attack the cutter <i>Point Welcome</i>. 1965—A white L.A. cop pulls over a Black driver in Watts. A five day riot ensues, costing 34 lives, mostly Black, and \$200 million in damage. 1897—Senator-to-be and ex-enslaver Rebecca Ann Latimer Felton tells the Georgia Agricultural Society, “lynch, a thousand times a week if necessary,” to protect “[white] woman’s dearest possession from the ravening human beasts,” <i>i.e.</i>, Black men. 1894—Charles “Hobo” Kelley and his 1,200 man “army” of the unemployed are driven from Washington D.C. by Federal troops.	2004—N.J. Gov. Jim McGreevey resigns after admitting he’s been sleeping with a man who is not his wife. 1985—A 747 with 524 on board, enroute to Osaka, crashes after the tail falls off. Many survive but, due to delays, only four are rescued alive. 1977—CBS reports that since the state won’t replace a washed-out bridge in Vulcan, W. Va., the town has asked the U.S.S.R. for foreign aid. 1958—Art Kane takes the photo known as “A Great Day in Harlem.” 57 jazz greats on a brownstone stoop. 1955—Ike raises the minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1 per hour. 1953—Russia tests its first hydrogen bomb. Uh-oh. It works. 1898—The U.S. annexes Hawaii and makes peace with Spain. 1865—Joseph Lister introduces a novel refinement to the art of surgery. He dubs it “disinfectant.” 1827—William Blake leaves behind his earthly form. 1806—In Haverhill, N.H. 10,000 assemble to see Josiah Burnham hanged on his 63rd birthday. He had stabbed two fellow inmates in debtors prison. 1676—John Alderman, a “Praying Indian,” shoots and kills Metacom, aka King Philip. Alderman is awarded the head and one hand. He sells the head to the town of Plymouth where it’s displayed atop a stake for 25 years. Metacom’s wife and child are sold to West Indian slave traders. 30 BCE—RIP, Cleopatra.	1982—Malcolm MacArthur is arrested at the home of an acquaintance, Ireland’s Attorney General, where he’d been a guest since committing his second murder, nine days earlier. 1981—R. Reagan gives tax cuts to the rich and takes health care from the mentally ill; prisons become asylums. 1971—Criminal Attorney General John Mitchell announces that there will be no grand jury investigation of the May 4th shootings at Kent State. 1966—“In two or three years, or even before” says Premier of South Vietnam Nguyen Cao Ky, “the Communists will accept defeat.” 1957—Daisy and Bill Myers, who are Black, get a “warm welcome” to Levittown, Pa.—burning cross and all. 1955—Lamar Smith, a Black WW I vet and voting activist, is shot dead at 10:00 a.m. on the lawn of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Brookhaven, Miss. Witnesses: 30; Indictments: 0. 1925—Baltimore’s Chamber of Commerce accuses H.L. Mencken of damaging the city’s trade with the South due to his reporting of the Scopes “Monkey Trial.” 1906—African-American soldiers raid Brownsville, Texas to avenge racial insults; one man is killed. 1899—David Terry, former Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, assaults U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Field. Terry is shot dead by Field’s bodyguard; a U.S. Marshal later cleared of wrongdoing.	2023—Georgia DA Fanni Willis indicts ex-Pres. D.J. Trump for asking Secretary of State Raffensperger to help him try to steal the 2020 election. 2005—Steward Andreas Prodrromou, the only person conscious aboard a mistakenly-depressurized 737 circling over Athens and running out of fuel, steers it away to crash elsewhere. 1945—President Truman announces Japan has surrendered. Enlisted sailors in San Francisco celebrate their reprieve with three nights of looting, vandalism, rape, and murder. 1936—In Owensboro, Ky., at 5:30 a.m, 15,000 watch as Rainey Bethea becomes the last person publicly hanged in America. Arthur Hash, the assigned executioner, is so drunk a deputy sheriff has to pull the lever. 1935—FDR signs the Social Security Act, saving seniors from starvation; the GOP begins trying to gut it. 1912—A New Zealand newspaper warns that CO2 from burning coal has a warming effect on the climate which may prove troublesome. 1908—A would-be lynch mob in Springfield, Ill., frustrated that two Black men had been removed from jail for their safety, begins to riot. 1884—The coffin of Lieut. Frederick F. Kislisbury is exhumed and an autopsy performed in Rochester, N.Y., 10 days after the survivors of the Greeley expedition were fêted with a parade in Portsmouth, N.H. The heroes appear to have cannibalized his remains.	1977—Ohio State’s “Big Ear” radio telescope records a 72-second burst suggesting there may be intelligent life...out there, somewhere. 1971—With the U.S. budget busted by the Vietnam War, Richard Nixon reneges on the gold standard. 1969—Half a million half-naked, drugged-up baby boomers begin a three-day mud wallow in Bethel, N.Y. 1966—<i>The New York Herald Tribune</i>, founded as the <i>Tribune</i> by N.H.-born Horace Greeley 125 years earlier, succumbs to a strike called by a labor union also founded by Greeley. 1953—T.R.’s grandson Kermit sends Iran’s Imperial Guard to arrest the Prime Minister, but they’re captured by his guards. The Shah flees to Rome. 1945—It’s V.J. Day. WW II is over: 85 million are dead, 3% of the world’s population—75% of them civilians. 1943—About 35,000 Allied troops land on Kiska, one of the Rat Islands in the Aleutians. Though unopposed—the Japanese had evacuated two weeks earlier—300 end up missing in action or killed by friendly fire. 1935—RIP Will Rogers and Wiley Post, in a plane crash in Alaska. 1921—<i>The Times of London</i> exposes the “Protocol of the Elders of Zion” as an anti-Semitic fraud. Undeterred, Henry Ford continues publishing it. 1908—The Illinois state militia subdues a mob of rioting whites. Seven people are dead; the Black part of Springfield is left a smoking ruin.
8:34 8:51 2:17 2:24	9:38 9:52 3:21 3:27	10:36 10:49 4:19 4:27	11:29 11:43 5:14 5:22	12:19 12:19 6:04 6:15	12:34 1:06 6:50 7:05	1:23 1:52 7:35 7:54
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16	MONDAY, AUGUST 17	TUESDAY, AUGUST 18	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19	THURSDAY, AUGUST 20	FRIDAY, AUGUST 21	SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
2017—Free State reject Chris Cantwell posts a video online which earns him the moniker, “The Crying Nazi.” 2002—<i>Army Times</i> reports that the recent “Millennium Challenge” war games were “almost entirely scripted to ensure a [U.S. military] win.” 1971—John Dean writes his boss, Richard Nixon, a memo on how to “use the available federal machinery to screw our political enemies.” 1968—Armed guards subdue—temporarily—228 rioting Marines in the brig at Danang, wounding seven. 1956—F-89s shoot up a car and two houses, and burn 800 acres of L.A., but fail to down a rogue target drone. 1951—In France, Pont-Saint-Esprit suddenly seems to go mad. Ergot is blamed at first, but later evidence suggests CIA-administered LSD. 1945—Two State Dept. guys in their 30s use a <i>National Geographic</i> map to determine where to divide Korea. 1942—Two Navy officers disappear off San Francisco. Their unoccupied blimp crashes in Daly City. 1938—Hell hounds catch up with Robert Johnson, 27. 1841—Protestors hurl rocks at the White House, fire guns in the air, and burn in effigy “His Accidency,” for vetoing a bill re-establishing a bank. 1819—British authorities respond to 60,000 peaceful protestors at St. Peter’s Field in Manchester with a cavalry charge. At least 500 are injured, but somehow only 15 are killed.	2008—Confederate widow Maudie Hopkins dies in Arkansas at 93. She married William M. Cantrell in 1934, when he was 86 and she was 19. 2002—U.S. Generals admit that the U.S. assisted Iraq during its war against Iran knowing that Saddam Hussein would “use chemical weapons against his own people.” 1998—“It depends,” President Clinton tells a Grand Jury, “on what the meaning of the word ‘is’ is.” 1988—A Pakistani C-130 explodes in mid-air killing President Muhamad Zia-ul-Haq. General Pervez Musharraf, also scheduled to be on board, somehow misses the flight. 1988—J. Danforth Quayle informs the Republican National Convention, “in 1988 the question is whether we’re going forward to tomorrow or whether we’re going to go past to the back!” 1984—Jack Kemp talks the GOP Platform Committee out of using the term “Democrat Party”—for a while. 1965—U.S. Marines begin Operation Starlite, their first major ground offensive in Vietnam. It would have been Satellite, but for a typo. 1959—An earthquake in Montana kills 28 and blocks the Madison River with 80 million tons of rock, forming six-mile long Quake Lake. 1901—As 900 intoxicated anarchists from Paterson, N.J. tour New York Harbor on the <i>General Slocum</i>, some try to seize the ship. The captain docks at the police pier; 17 are arrested.	1996—The U.S. prison population hits 1,600,000, double what it had been just 10 years earlier. 1988—Accepting the GOP nomination, George H.[H.]W. Bush solemnly vows, “Read my lips: no new taxes!” 1980—Ronald Reagan, thanking the FWW for its endorsement, rebbrands a criminal war as a “noble cause.” 1966—China’s Cultural Revolution gets a big boost when a million Red Guards arrive at Beijing to spend the day schmoozing with Chairman Mao. 1960—Ike tells the CIA to assassinate Patrice Lumumba, PM of the Congo. 1959—Sailors aboard the USS <i>Wasp</i> bring a severe fire under control, barely averting the need to flood the ship’s nuclear weapons storage space. 1945—The Japanese government orders its police to set up brothels for the “comfort” of U.S. GIs. Business is brisk until a VD epidemic prompts MacArthur to 86 the enterprise. 1933—Germany introduces the Peoples’ Radio, or <i>Volksempfänger</i>. Designed by Joseph Goebbels, it is only capable of receiving Nazi broadcasts. 1920—Tennessee ratifies the 19th Amendment; after a 42-year struggle, [white] women get the vote. 1590—Virginia Dare, three, becomes America’s first missing white girl, and an inspiration for future “journalists.” 1587—At Roanoke, Virginia Dare becomes the first white child born in the New World, and an inspiration for future neo-Nazis.	1999—The FBI adds the name of James “Whitey” Bulger—its partner in crime—to its “Most-Wanted” list. 1997—Anti-regulation fanatic Carl Drega murders two cops, a selectman, and a judge in Colebrook, N.H. The carnage inspires Vin Suprynowicz, future Signed Member of the Free State Project, to write an essay and a book sympathizing with the killer. 1953—Despite setbacks four days earlier, the CIA’s coup succeeds in Iran. All will be well now, right? 1950—Called “blind,” “stupid,” and “pig-headed,” Rep. Clarence Cannon, [D-Mo.], shouts “I’ve taken all I’m going to” as he rushes Sen. Kenneth McKellar [D-Tenn.]. Senators wrest the gavel from McKellar, 81, before he can apply it to the head of Cannon, 71. 1942—An Allied force of 6,000 lands at Dieppe, France, where 68 percent become casualties. Mountbatten’s counselors spin that into a win, though. 1854—Lt. John L. Grattan, a West Pointer from N.H., leads 29 cavalrymen into a Sioux encampment near Ft. Laramie and gets them all killed. The First Sioux War has begun. 1791—Benjamin Banneker, “the sable genius,” sends his just-published almanac to Thomas Jefferson with an admonition to practice what he preaches about the rights of all men. 1692—George Burroughs, Martha Carrier, George Jacobs, John Proctor, and John Willard are hanged as witches by the pious folks of Salem Village.	2018—Greta Thunberg strikes, demanding action on the climate crisis. 1998—Days after admitting he’d lied about sex with an intern, Bill Clinton throws 13 Tomahawk missiles at Sudan’s only pharmaceutical factory. 1986—Former Marine Patrick Sherrill “goes postal” in Edmonds, Okla.; he kills 14 co-workers and wounds six. 1975—A bomb explodes in front of San Francisco Mayor Joe Alioto’s home. Top suspects? City cops, who are conducting an illegal strike. 1965—Keene, N.H. seminary student & civil rights worker Jonathan Daniels is murdered in Nayneville, Ala. White jurors acquit his killer. 1945—Ex-puppet Emperor Bao Dai warns Charles de Gaulle, if France tries to rule Vietnam, “each village will be a nest of resistance, each former collaborator an enemy...” Does de Gaulle listen? What a silly question. 1907—T.R. lambastes “malefactors of great wealth” for causing “as much financial stress as possible” so as to discredit government regulators. 1794—“Mad Anthony” Wayne’s victory at Fallen Timbers sets off one of history’s greatest land grabs. 1672—Dutch peasants kill head of state Johan de Witt and his brother Cornelis, then eat their roasted livers. 1619—The first 20 enslaved Africans in North America land in Jamestown. 1191—Richard the Lion Hearted’s troops bravely slaughter 3,000 Arabs in the Holy Land, in Jesus’ name.	2017—Taxpayers fund a \$27,000 trip so Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and Sen. Mitch McConnell can visit about sex with and fondle some gold. 1992—Samuel Weaver, 14, and U.S. Marshal W.F. Degan die in a shootout at Ruby Ridge, Idaho. Troubles ensue. 1982—The U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion murders more than 200 Salvadorans at El Calabozo. 1976—A two-day occupation of the Seabrook, N.H. nuke site begins. 1969—Traffic on Boston’s Southeast Expressway is held up: three Penn Central engines cross the roadway. 1963—Ngo Dinh Nhu’s secret police kill hundreds of Buddhist protestors across Vietnam—for democracy. 1939—Five Black men, reading quietly in Alexandria, Va.’s public library, are arrested for disorderly conduct. 1934—After three months a General Strike in Minneapolis ends with victory for workers everywhere. 1927—Justice Louis Brandeis refuses to hear a request for a stay of execution of anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti. 1850—Nearly 50 fugitive slaves convery in Cazenovia, N.Y. Presaging Malcolm X, they call for others to free themselves, no matter what it takes. 1831—Nat Turner begins a slave rebellion in Virginia. About 60 whites are killed in two days; whites kill twice as many Blacks in response. 1791—Haitians rise in revolt; 12 years later, history’s greatest rebellion of enslaved people ends in victory.	2016—The lift span of the Sarah Long Bridge is raised for the last time. 2008—On a tip from an Afghan, a U.S. AC-130 gunship shoots up Azizabad. The Afghan’s rival is among the 91 dead; the rest are mostly civilian women and children. Embedded in this bloody fiasco is Fox’s Ollie North, who calls it a great victory. 2002—The Bush Administration announces trade sanctions on North Korea, with which we do not trade. 1992—An FBI sniper wounds Randy Weaver and kills his wife Vicki at Ruby Ridge in Idaho. 1991—Derick Lynn Peterson’s obstinate heart continues beating for ten minutes after his electrocution, so Virginia officials zap him again. 1976—Police arrest 179 at Seabrook, N.H. anti-nuke rally. 1972—Aided and abetted by an FBI informant, 28 leftists burgle Camden, N.J.’s Draft Board and begin destroying documents before they’re busted. 1953—The last prisoners leave the French prison at Devil’s Island. 1952—The Justice Department sues four big U.S. oil companies for overcharging on oil shipped to Europe under the Marshall Plan. 1914—In the Ardennes, 27,000 soldiers of the French Army are killed. 1900—Rioters in Akron, Ohio push the world’s first police car into a canal. 1893—Birth of Dorothy Parker. At 70, she wrote, “If I had any decency, I’d be dead. Most of my friends are.”
2:11 2:36 8:19 8:43	2:59 3:22 9:03 9:33	3:49 4:10 9:48 10:26	4:42 5:02 10:37 11:23	5:41 6:00 11:31	6:46 7:03 12:25 12:31	7:52 8:05 1:31 1:35

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Portsmouth Democratic Roundtable — Tuesday, August 25th at 6:00 p.m.
Portsmouth Democrats Coffee Meetup — Friday, August 28th at 8:00 a.m.

The monthly *Portsmouth Democrats Coffee Meetup* is held at a local Portsmouth restaurant, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. It’s morning get together where people can drop in to enjoy camaraderie with fellow Dems. New location! There’s plenty of parking. The *Portsmouth Democratic Roundtable* is a monthly opportunity to socialize with Democrats and other friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. without any agenda or rigid structure (always the 4th Tuesday of the month). New residents of Portsmouth are welcome to meet local Democrats and learn of opportunities to get involved, suggest new ideas, or support planned initiatives.

Contact Peter Somssich: (603) 436-5382 (no texts, please) or peter.somssich@gmail.com, or Brian Wazlaw: (603) 988-9998, or briwazlaw@aol.com. Visit seacoastfriends.org.

“WHERE WOULD WE BE
WITHOUT SALT?”

JAMES BEARD (1903-1985)



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