

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

A Crash Course in Civics

It's been said that war is God's way of teaching Americans geography.* Our new President may be His way of teaching Americans civics. A crash course, so to speak.

Even our Chief Executive himself — despite the expensive education of which he boasts — does not seem to understand how our government is designed to work. Is his ignorance a plausible excuse? Or does he understand, but have another, more devious, extra-Constitutional agenda?

The former answer seems more likely. The chaos his lies are causing in the public sphere may seem to be working to his advantage in the [very] short term, by keeping Democrats and the press off-balance. The chaos within his own administration, though, containing as it does the potential seeds of his destruction, argues for good old all-American ineptitude.

Where do we, the hapless people, fit into this equation? After a century of cerebral manipulation administered by Ivy Lee, Edward Bernays, and their successors,† it's a wonder that any of us even bother to vote. Now we're in a race against time, facing a double-barreled existential question: can we cram hard enough, and learn quickly enough, to simultaneously stave off not just nuclear Armageddon, but catastrophic climate change, too?

Hyperbole, you say?

No, hyperbole died, last month.

* This line has been attributed to Mark Twain and to Ambrose Bierce, but according to the rigorous *QuoteInvestigator.com*, neither one said or wrote it. A variant first appeared in a Canadian magazine in 1879. Comedian Paul Rodriguez was quoted saying it — using “us” rather than “Americans” — in 1987.

† Lee (1877-1934) and Bernays (1891-1995) were America's foremost pioneers in the art of propaganda. Considering their massive impact on the shape of the nation, it's a tribute to their skills that they remain so obscure.

The First Family of Grifters

For a person who is not supposed to profit from his position, the Current Occupant at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is making out pretty well from his government job. With the Secret Service occupying two floors of his building in New York, and a similar space in his tacky Florida clubhouse, the rent he collects probably amounts to more than the take-home from his paycheck. Have no fear, though. Between Mitch McConnell, the Republican National Committee, and Fox News, someone will be able to explain why that's not a violation of the Constitution's emoluments clause.

Besides, some of that expense is clearly unavoidable. The First Lady has decided to stay in New York so as not to disrupt her ten-year-old son's schooling. She can't be faulted for that: any kid growing up with a father like his deserves all the consideration he can get. After all, it takes a village.

She can, on the other hand, be faulted for planning to use her unique status as a marketing gimmick to make millions peddling “apparel, accessories, shoes, jewelry, cosmetics, hair care, skin care, and fragrance.” We know this thanks to a lawsuit she filed February 6th, charging that she'd been libelled by a newspaper story which claimed that she once worked as an escort.

The First Lady's ethical lapse might seem less egregious if Kellyanne Conway had only refrained from interrupting an on-air interview to offer a “free advertisement” for the First Daughter's line of trinkets.

The Second Son, meanwhile, flew down to Uruguay for two days in January, to look after the family's business interests. The cost to taxpayers for Secret Ser-



vice protection was \$100,000. Again, there are mitigating factors. Through no fault of his own, he requires special protection. He suffers from a condition the Germans call *backpfeifengesicht*. [Translation: “a face that cries out for a fist.”]

Open-Space Situation Room

These peccadillos paled, though, over the weekend. North Korea unexpectedly launched an ICBM on Saturday. That triggered a Presidential briefing, which was conducted in a restaurant full of gawkers. One of them snagged a souvenir for the ages: a selfie with a smiling guy named Rick, who carries the nuclear football.

National Security Advisor Michael Flynn seemed unconcerned about this apparent lapse in security. He seemed equally unconcerned about the growing clamor for his dismissal.

Several weeks ago, Acting Attorney General Sally Yates told the Administration that Flynn

had lied about his phone calls to the Russian Ambassador during the election campaign. Yates was fired for telling the truth; Flynn kept his job until Monday night. (The President appointed Lt. Gen. Keith Kellogg as Flynn's interim replacement. Kellogg was the Chief Operating Officer of the Coalition Provisional Authority, which literally lost billions in its failed attempt to rebuild Iraq.)

Flynn is now the third member of the White House team forced to resign for excessive coziness with Russia, joining former campaign advisor Paul Manafort and former foreign policy advisor Carter Page.

If the President himself were to resign, they'd have a foursome for bridge. What, though, would induce him to do that?

What if, say, his tax returns showed that he owes massive amounts of money to Russian banks with ties to mobsters? Rep. Bill Pascrell, a New Jersey Dem-

ocrat on the Ways and Means Committee, has asked its chair, Rep. Kevin Brady [R-Texas], to examine the President's returns. The Committee has that power, and used it in 1974, in the waning days of the Nixon Administration. Brady would naturally be disinclined to do so — but a few million phone calls to his office might change his mind.

The Real Problem

The Comb-over-in-Chief is just a symptom. Political sclerosis is the problem. It's a disease we've had since the Gilded Age. Like malaria, it has acute and dormant phases.

The world is heating up in response to carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Our political climate is heating up in response to That Guy.

If enough people take action, our disease will go into remission. If they do it in time, they might prevent the planet from becoming uninhabitable.

The Alleged News®

Massive Voter Fraud in New Hampshire, Say Hallucinating Officials

Holy moly, dear reader! Massive voter fraud is taking place right here in New Hampshire! Apparently it's visible only to certain Republicans, though.

On February 9th, ten U.S. Senators took a break from soliciting campaign donations from oligarchs to meet with Donald Trump. The solons expected him to try to sell them on his Supreme Court nominee, Neil Gorsuch. Instead they got an earful about Massachusetts voters being bused *en masse* into New Hampshire to commit voter fraud and steal this state's four electoral votes for Hillary Clinton. According to *Politico*, “an uncomfortable silence” settled over the room after the leader of the free world gave

voice to this paranoid delusion.

Senior Policy Advisor Stephen Miller, whom the Administration had previously kept under wraps to spare children nightmares, said on Sunday, “I can tell you that this issue of busing voters in to New Hampshire is widely known by anyone who's worked in New Hampshire politics. It's very real, it's very serious. This morning on this show is not the venue for me lay out all the evidence.” He's right on that last point; the proper venue would be a séance.

Lest anyone harbor the hope that the Senior Policy Advisor might have some tenuous grasp of reality, he also said Sunday, “We have a president who has done more in three weeks than most

presidents have done in an entire administration.”

Former New Hampshire Republican Party Chair Fergus Cullen explained to *USAToday* that this urban legend “likely gains traction due to the state's same-day registration policy,” but it's “preposterous” to suggest that policy is being exploited by busloads of Bay Staters.

The ubiquitous and quotable Cullen delved into the irony of the situation in another interview, with *FactCheck.org*.

“... Republicans who say they don't like same-day registration have only themselves to blame, Cullen said. The same-day registration law, he said, was passed in 1996 by a Republican majority to

get around the federal motor voter law, which requires states to offer voter registration at the DMV when people get their driver's licenses or at state agencies that provide public assistance. Cullen said Republicans feared that would be a boon to Democratic Party registration.”

Someone on Chris Sununu's staff ought to forward that story to the Governor. Several news outlets have identified him as Patient Zero, the source of the voter fraud delusion which has infected the Trump administration.

According to the *Concord Monitor's* Ella Nilsen, shortly before last year's election Sununu narrated several scary stories about voter fraud to Howie Carr — a *Massa-*

chusetts talk show host. Appropriately enough, the conversation took place on Halloween.

“We have same day voter registration,” Sununu said, “and to be honest [which would be refreshing], when Massachusetts elections are not very close, [Democrats are] busing [fraudulent voters] in all over the place.”

Nilsen adds that Sununu also “alleged that Democrats were responsible for changing the state's voting laws to same-day registration in late 1990s and early 2000s. Same-day registration voting went into effect under Republican Gov. Steve Merrill in 1994.

The Alleged News®

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The Alleged News®

from page one

“New Hampshire Secretary of State Bill Gardner said Republicans were actually far more supportive of the 1994 law, which they saw as a preferable local alternative to the federal Motor Voter law.”

In a related *Politifact* Truth-o-Meter piece, Nilsen quoted the Governor making this collegial remark: “The Democrats are very sly.” That item characterized Sununu’s alarmist tale as “ridiculous,” and rated it “Pants On Fire.”

The following day Sununu re-framed his “honest” statement about buses “all over the place.”

“No,” he said, “I don’t want to imply I see buses coming over. It’s more a figure of speech that people are coming over, they’re temporarily here, they vote and then they leave.”

That vague assertion seems to be trying to imply that non-residents are abusing same-day voter registration in numbers sufficient to cause alarm. That is also untrue, as Secretary of State [for Life]

William “Bill” Gardner has said on many occasions.

Sununu’s fanciful approach to the facts, and the adamant refusal of Bill Gardner, Fergus Cullen, and other, shall we say, honest Republicans to back him up, have made him into a modern version of the old Norse creature, the Worm Ouroboros, which swallowed its own tail.

Having launched this anti-democratic hoax last November, Sununu released a statement to WMUR on Monday saying, “As I’ve said in the past, I’m not aware of any widespread voter fraud in New Hampshire. However, the (Trump) administration has made some strong assertions to the contrary. I take their concerns seriously and look forward to working closely with them to learn of any evidence they may have and help address any concerns that may develop from there.”

The history of this controversy makes it clear that if the Governor truly wants to be helpful, the best thing he can do is go interrogate himself.



© THE PRESIDENT HARD AT WORK



The insanely cool new Lego™ bridge appears to be stacking up nicely. If all goes according to schedule we'll be driving across it in approximately seven months. We don't know what they're paying those boys, working in the wind out in the middle of the river in the middle of the winter, but we're pretty sure they're earning it.

Trump Disses Vets

The *Military Times* reported February 7th, “White House officials held their first listening session on problems with the Department of Veterans Affairs on Tuesday, but without inviting prominent members of the veterans community to the event.”

“Officials from the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars said they were not invited to the morning event and did not know about it until it was announced late Monday night ...”

Sanders Poynt Saga Continues

As we noted in our paper of February 3rd, Robert “Bob” Jesurum, a private citizen living in Rye, has been doing the job of New Hampshire’s lethargic Attorney General, attempting to induce William “Bill” Binnie, proprietor of the pretentious adult amusement park Wentworth Buys

by the Sea, to restore the public’s ancient right to frolic at Sanders Poynt in Rye.

So far it hasn’t happened. We know that money is not the problem: Binnie just shelled out \$11.2 million for three buildings in the Manchester Millyards. On February 2nd, after we had gone to press, Binnie’s attorney Benjamin King sent Paul McEachern, Jesurum’s attorney, an email claiming that “The Wentworth has already begun working diligently to comply with the Court Order and will continue to do so.”

To the best of our knowledge there is no visible evidence of any such work at the site.

The email goes on to offer this excuse for Binnie’s failure to comply with the Superior Court’s order: “The Wentworth cannot commit to the April 1 completion date that Mr. Jesurum seems to have arbitrarily selected howev-

er, because setting this date does not take into account the fact that the work the Wentworth must perform requires approvals from the State and the Town of Rye, including the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the Rye Planning Board.”

This suggests a sudden and debilitating lack of vigor in the Binnie organization. The destruction of the public parking space at Sanders Poynt, the placing of a row of boulders, the planting of a dense row of full-grown bushes, and the erection of some sixty feet of fence is thought to have been accomplished in just two days.

Finally, though, King begrudgingly acknowledged that his client is legally obliged to act: “The Wentworth will achieve compliance with the Court’s Order as soon as practicable, but given factors beyond the Wentworth’s con-

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trol, it is not clear that an April 1 completion date is reasonably attainable.”

Jesurum intends to invite the public to a celebration of the restoration of their rights on April 1st, with a joyful noise to be supplied by the Leftist Marching Band.

This effort to defend the rights of the citizen against the Laird of Blunts Island has so far cost Jesurum in the neighborhood of \$100,000. The Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire has been serving as a vehicle to collect donations to repay him.

A fortnight ago, CCANH had raised \$4,825. We spoke to President Don Swanson Tuesday, and he informed us that some progress had been made. The amount raised has now risen to \$7,345. Donations can be made online at www.ccanh.org/sanders-poynt. Swanson emphasizes that none of the money raised stays with CCANH — 100 percent of it goes to Jesurum.

It's New: The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire

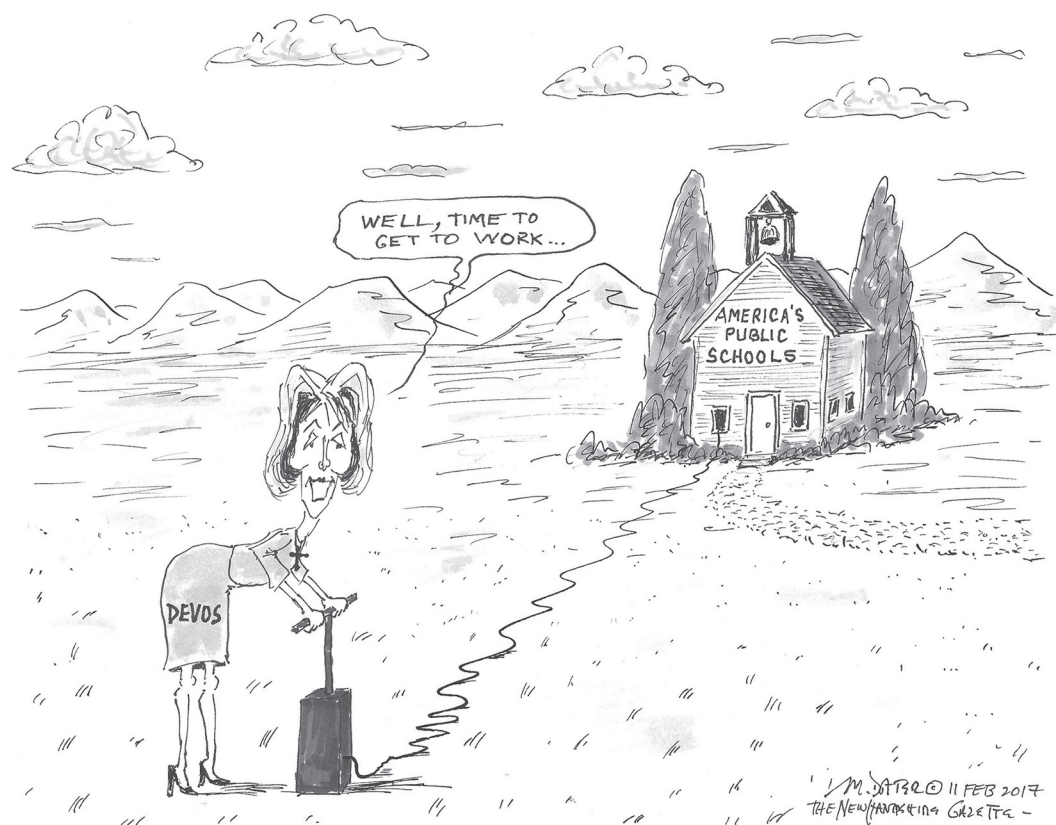
Modeled after the highly successful Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, established in 1995, the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire has been created to promote awareness and appreciation of African American history

and culture in New Hampshire through education and public programs including creating appropriate memorials at significant locations in the State.

The inaugural meeting of the board was held on January 30, 2017. Board president Rev. Robert Thompson of Exeter announced that JerriAnne Boggis will be its first executive director.

“I am honored and excited to be a part of this new venture,” said Ms. Boggis. “We will identify and research the stories of African people who were brought to New Hampshire, sold into enslavement, and then by the time of abolition were part of the fabric of early communities all over New Hampshire. African Americans established businesses, churches, schools, charitable societies, and fraternal organizations. We want to tell those stories and make visible the important role that Black people have played in New Hampshire’s history, including military service in the colonial wars.”

The Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail is based on research conducted by Valerie Cunningham and presented in collaboration with Mark Sammons in their book *Black Portsmouth: Three Centuries of African-American Heritage*. “We took stories from the



book and created a trail around Portsmouth with more than 20 bronze markers to commemorate life events of the children and adults who created community with their resilience, self-determination, philanthropy, and leadership,” said Ms. Cunningham. “And we have similar stories of people like the Cheswells of Newmarket, Amos and Violet Fortune of Jaffrey, and Harriet E. Wilson of Milford. We will put their stories on the BHT-NH map and make their achievements visible.”

Money for Medics

Sam Yarnold was born in New Hampshire around 1908. His parents were poor immigrants, and he assumed financial responsibilities at a young age. He went on to spend most of his working life in the blueberry fields and cranberry bogs of New Jersey. According to his nephew, Stephen H. Roberts, he and his wife Alice (*nee* Pinkham) were “quiet, sincere, and kept pretty much to themselves. Sam was very frugal and would only read a newspaper left

over from a neighbor.”

The Yarnolds retired to Rollinsford in 1958. Their marriage of 52 years ended when Alice died in 1991; Sam survived her by three years. As a tribute to their doctors, the Yarnolds left a legacy of \$800,000 to fund scholarships in the range of \$1,000 - \$5,000 for New Hampshire residents already in the process of post-secondary education, pursuing careers in nursing, medicine, or social work.

This year’s applications are due by May 19, 2017; scholarships will be awarded this fall. Applications may be requested from the Alice M. Yarnold and Samuel Yarnold Scholarship Trust, 127 Parrott Ave., Portsmouth, N.H., 03801.

Sunday Mornings at RiverRun

RiverRun Bookstore has found yet another way to contribute to the community. It has been holding a series of Sunday Morning Civics events, focusing on how citizens can take action.

These events are free, they are open to all members of the public, and always include lots of time

for questions. Also, there will be coffee.

They begin at 9:00 a.m. Attendees are requested to RSVP to riverrunbookstore@gmail.com.

Topics covered so far have been state politics and environmental damage to our water quality.

This Sunday, the 19th, the topic is Hyper-local: town politics. Guests will be Laurie McCray, Vice President of Portsmouth Democrats, and Eric Spear, City Councilor and former Mayor.

McCray will talk about what the Portsmouth Democrats do, and ways to be involved in party politics here on the Seacoast. Spear will talk about how to plug in to our city government, how to best reach your councilor, and how to join a commission or sit on a board.

On Sunday, February 26th, Sunday Morning Civics will have a special Guest: First District Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter. She will talk about representing New Hampshire issues in Washington.



After a mild early winter it's beginning to look a little like 2015.

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Ever Hopeful

To the Editor:

I didn't expect to write again so soon, but conversations with a couple of young women and a talk by a local poet have prompted further thought about present circumstances.

A young friend recently counseled me that anti-abortion does not equate with pro-life unless the espouser of the former cares, really cares, as much as for unborn life in a womb, for the born children who are suffering and dying in Aleppo and hundreds of other places in the world including the late, great United States of America. Discussion of "choice" in this matter is moot; women who want abortions will obtain them, in the manner in which they did before "Roe vs. Wade," with the attendant risk and danger. So, too, bringing "god" into the equation as judge; many who do so, I suspect, only believe in god insofar as doing so justifies other of their beliefs, and those who profess absolute belief should consider to what judgments they might be subject were their behavior generally to be assessed in the light of "what Jesus would have done."

"Sounded like the truth,
"Seemed the better way.
"Sounded like the truth,
"But it's not the truth today."

So laments Leonard Cohen in "You Want It Darker." Most women who give thought to having a child likely have serious reservations about doing so given an administration that seems bent on having us, like the unfortunate victims of

"progress" in Beijing and other rapidly industrializing cities, wear face masks when we go out of doors, and giving us a Boston Harbor we can walk on again. Meanwhile, the agency that does the most to prevent unwanted pregnancies is subject to attacks on its integrity and funding.

Regarding the merits of having a "businessman" for president, have we forgotten that it was "businessmen" who gave us "Silent Spring" and "businessmen" who are giving us global warming? On the subject of which my daughter recently posted: "You don't seem to complain when science saves a life, provides your food, powers your car, or allows you to exist for that matter. Science does not have a political affiliation; it does not selectively promote itself when convenient, it is not racist, sexist, homophobic, or derisive in any manner; it just is You live it and you die in it; each day when you open your eyes you are in the thick of a science-based existence. But science is not presumptuous; it sets out to ask questions and provide answers, to shed light on the most confounding of complexities in our universe.

"Denying that climate change is factual is absurd and irreconcilably damaging. What reason could you alternative-fact-ers possibly have to disparage people who strive to seek clean and sustainable resources that afford our planet longevity and good health You have a brain and you have infinite and factual information at your disposal: **use them**, combine them, and find reason."

A local poet, a keynote speaker at a recent youth poetry reading at 3S Artspace, delivered an eloquent talk in which he urged "listening" on all sides. Someone isn't listening at the moment, worse, is doing all in his power to stifle communication between government and the governed.

The boor (one cannot reasonably or rightly assign the sobriquet of "gentleman" to one who not only approves of, but actively engages

in, disparagement and denigration of women, minorities, the handicapped, military veterans, and immigrants, among others, whereas synonyms for my word choice — lout, oaf, ruffian, thug, barbarian, Neanderthal, brute — appropriately attribute such attitudes and behaviors) who has assumed the presidency would dismantle government in order to give us the rule of capitalism, whose only "god" is mammon.

What's wanted now is a judicious study of French history circa World War II and "la Resistance." Pitchforks can be had at the local hardware stores. Torches you'll have to fashion yourselves.

Ever hopeful, because I have children, and children who have children.

John Simon
Portsmouth, N.H.

Cher John:

Je vous remercie de votre brillante suggestion que nous étudions la Résistance française. En dépit de toute attente ils ont persévéré, et à la fin, ils ont triomphé. (Please pardon our French if it's a little outré, our Google is a little rusty.)

Your letter also reminds us of the normally-unaccounted costs which come with buying into the corporate line that everything in life must be viewed as a business.

While we're discussing things worthy of study, allow us to suggest Peter Linebaugh's Stop, Thief!: the Commons, Enclosures, and Resistance (PM Press, 2014), and Kirkpatrick Sale's Rebels against the future: the Luddites and their War on the Industrial Revolution (Addison-Wesley, 1995). Each provides that rare thing: an account of how we got into this fix, but from the perspective of living, breathing humans, rather than spokespersons of the global octopus.

L'éditeur

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Hollywood Hypocrites

To the Editor:

The liberal elites in Hollywood and the media are in overdrive with their condemnation of Donald Trump and his supporters. But,

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

more and more their blatant hypocrisy is recognized and their whining ignored except by those useful idiots from the ninety-nine percent they recruit and send into the streets.

Yes, Hollywood and other liberal elites condemn the Wall, but they do so from behind their own well-guarded borders of gated communities, private beaches, and elite private schools.

Then there is the environment, with the carbon footprint of the low gasoline mileage of their limos or SUV's that are often kept running by their chauffeurs to maintain the heat or air conditioning as they wait the return of the owner from some business meeting, a luncheon, a shopping spree, or a lecture on the environment. And what is the gasoline mileage that a private plane or a yacht gets? These are just some of many examples. The carbon footprint of one member of that elite must be larger in one week than the footprint of the average person in one year.

And how the liberal elites fight vouchers and schools choice when it is they who have the school choice. Here they are supported by the education lobby that has so many of its members in the ranks of tenured teachers who cannot motivate or teach being assigned and hidden away the public schools that minorities cannot escape, while the teachers and administrators send their own children off to private schools. It might just be that those liberals support public education because they do not want those minorities sitting next to their children.

The liberals also preach being inclusive and tolerant, except, of course, if you disagree with them or you are a white, Christian, heterosexual male.

Having the central government assume more and more power has historically been the way that liberals have forced their bizarre and minority views on the larger populace.

But now, when the old observation that any government that is powerful enough to give you something is powerful enough to take it away becomes manifest, the liberals stop believing in big government.

The latest is the lamenting and street demonstrations over Donald Trump's banning of travel from some selected countries to the United States. However, there were no marches by the liberals and their useful idiots when Obama established the framework for such an action when, in 2013, Obama banned all refugees from Iraq for six months and two years later when Obama signed the Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Prevention Act that restricted travel visas from select Islamic states.

John Dente
Wilmington, Del.

John:

It's always a pleasure to hear from you, especially since Don Ewing's output has become as sporadic and unreliable as it is inscrutable and eccentric. Since our own bêtes noires are 100 percent justified, we find those of other people to be quite curious.

You clearly find the liberal elites of whom you speak to be infernally irritating. We suspect they're less common than you think among the high carbon-footprint set. Since they're essentially powerless, it's probably safe to ignore them. War-mongering clods like our current Cabinet, though — now there's a dangerous bunch.

The Editor

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Four Steps to Dictatorship

To the Editor:

Attack the Press: It lies, it makes stuff up, it doesn't cover real events. When there are truthful but unflattering stories, go after individual reporters, intimidate, belittle, threaten lawsuits. Go after any media that dares to question the official line or dares to report illegal or even controversial laws or pronouncements.

Attack the Judiciary: Denigrate

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote

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— George Orwell (1903-1950)
from "1984"

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And Other Correspondence

decisions that go against the would-be autocrat. Go after individual judges: intimidate, belittle, call their credentials and authority into question.

Find a Scapegoat: Blame all society's ills, like murder, rape terrorism, and loss of jobs on the scapegoat. In this case it's immigrants, but we can all think of other cases.

Start a War: The Trump administration has threatened, so far, to attack two (three?) countries. Then the administration can claim special dictatorial powers.

Three out of four isn't a bad start. Our republic is under attack!

Letters, posts, and articles that tell demonstrators (or Democrats) to clam up or "get over it" are missing the point entirely. Americans' freedoms are under attack! These admonishments often end with "there will be another election in four years." We need to guarantee that there is an election in four years!

That is why people are demonstrating, that is why people should demonstrate and resist. And, if you value American freedoms, (either as a conservative or liberal) you should too!

Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, N.H.

Our Psycho President

To the Editor:

The tradition of psychoanalyzing public figures dates back almost as far as psychoanalysis itself. Freud based some of his important theories on Moses and Leonardo da Vinci. Then there was the gem *Bush on the Couch*, written by a respected psychotherapist.

Our new President is often described as a narcissist. The American Psychiatric Association agrees.

Hallmarks of narcissism involve love of self, requiring admiration, sense of entitlement, bigotry, creating spectacles and independence. In maladapted cases there's grandiosity, smugness, marked selfishness, exploitiveness and lack of empathy.

Actually they're afraid of dependence, vulnerability and tenderness, and almost never seek out psychotherapy because they're too strongly armored.

Further, they're hypersensitive to slights and criticism, foster the cult of strong man which appeals to fear and anger, reinvent history, and aren't one to apologize or show remorse.

Examples abound:

- Oscar winner Meryl Streep's ability, the stunning musical "Hamilton," and the media are rudely slammed.
- Bragging about grabbing women's private parts.
- Four years spent lying about Obama's birth certificate.
- Business entanglements posing a threat to national security.
- Appointment of a cabinet of disrupters who despise the agencies for which they were tapped.
- Hillary's 3,000,000 vote edge crushed his ego. Patently false response: up to 5,000,000 immigrants voted illegally.
- His "diplomacy" alienated Mexico, China, Iran and Iraq ... so far.
- A million women marching was met with a yawn.

If Mr. Trump continues to believe his "reality," he'll have major difficulty governing.

Michael Kulla
[Licensed Psychologist]
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Michael:

We may not have degrees in psychology — or journalism either, for that matter — but we know a lunatic when we see one!

The Editor

Is He Lying or Crazy?

To the Editor:

So let's talk about the weather on January 20th. Who really cares if it was sunny or raining during the inaugural address? It was not a trivial

matter to Donald Trump. The fact that he said the sun shone on his words when we all saw it was cloudy and rainy raises some troubling questions: When Trump repeatedly makes false statements is he trying to gaslight us or does he really believe them? Is the most powerful man in the world a pathological liar? Or is he completely detached from reality?

His behavioral style is revealing and worrisome. His grandiose view of his own talents and craving for admiration are characteristics of an insecure, vulnerable person susceptible to manipulation through flattery and groveling. At the same time, criticism or negative feedback (even cloudy weather!) threatens his identity, which he must preserve at all costs. The combination makes him a dangerous man.

The whole Western world knows that Vladimir Putin has an agenda that is inconsistent with American values, democracy and the world order. What is important to Trump? "He likes me!"

Now he has Steve Bannon whispering sweet-nothings in his ear. Trump's Chief Strategist is a promoter of the the alt-right, a white nationalist, far right wing fringe which rejects mainstream conservatism. Clearly Bannon's tone, conspiracy theories and policy are being channeled through Trump.

To avert possible catastrophe, it is time for responsible members of both parties in Congress to provide some checks and balances.

Cynthia Muse
Rye, N.H.

Step-by-Step to Oblivion

To the Editor:

Democrats condemn the immigration ban on seven countries as being anti-Muslim and antithetical to our American values. Republicans defend it saying it only bans immigrants from seven of 19 Muslim-majority countries. Democrats point out that nobody from those seven countries has ever caused a terror incident in our country, and

that many countries of terrorists' origin just happen to be places where the President has private business dealings. Republicans answer that the list came from the Obama administration.

Nevertheless, Republicans and Democrats do agree that the immigration ban was poorly planned, insufficiently vetted, and incompetently managed. Green card holders, valid visa recipients, and people with dual citizenship should not have been banned. Given then-candidate-Trump's many statements about excluding Muslims, and the public admission that he commissioned Rudy Giuliani to find a "legal way" to make such a restriction, the appearance of immoral discrimination overwhelms whatever words are on the executive order.

Huge damage is being done, according to hundreds of military and State Department professionals who know what they are talking about. Trump's blunder is weakening the resolve of our allies in the fight against ISIS, and strengthening the veracity of terrorists among their adherents.

Seeking and taking advice from knowledgeable professionals is something the arrogant blowhard bullies in the White House are incapable of, to the detriment of our national security and our moral reputation. How much more danger must we be put in before the Republicans in Congress realize that impeachment is necessary?

Impeachdonaldtrumpnow.org!

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:

Thanks, Bruce — 863,317 supporters of the campaign to Impeach Trump Now can't be wrong!

The Editor

The Only Sensible Solution

To the Editor:

America has not had a serious conversation on health care reform for a long time, which is absolutely outrageous if one considers that health care expenditures account



for about 17 percent of the world's largest GDP, more spent than most advanced nations that deliver far better outcomes for their citizens. Don't fool yourself, we are not a healthy nation and there are too many of our fellow citizens who have no access to affordable health care.

The only solution to health care the Republicans seem to have is to repeal the Affordable Care Act (Aka Obamacare), even if it means doing so without a plan of their own to replace it. The attitude of the Republicans is that if you don't have the financial means to purchase medical insurance, then you'll just have to pull yourself up by your bootstraps or die.

The Democrats talk a good game but their only real answer seems to be to meekly say don't kill Obamacare because it would be bad for Americans and insurance companies.

Please allow me to facilitate the discussion: Two major things that we do very wrong and differently from all other advanced nations is to NOT treat health care as a human right and to put profits over people by insanely allowing our health care to be administered by a deliberately confusing web of thousands of private health insurers, whose primary concern is shareholder profits.

I recently read from a report composed by numerous medical doctors from the Physicians for a National

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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My Boston

by William Marvel

I can't say that I like Boston, but it's the only city I can visit without overwhelming claustrophobia. I rode there with my father a couple of times before my teens, and I still remember the thrill of cresting that hill on Route 1 where the spire of the old John Hancock building first loomed up in a blue haze. Our Little League team went to see the Red Sox play at Fenway Park twice, and I think my early, unfulfilled intention of joining the Navy had less to do with my father's own naval career than it did with my glimpse of Scollay Square in the early 1960s. I came away from there with an appreciation for sailors' uniforms, which I assumed must pose an irresistible attraction for girls of a conspicuously friendly disposition.

In the early '70s I lived in the Back Bay for nearly two years, working at a bookbindery by day and haunting the Boston Public Library by night. Since then I've returned infrequently, and the week before last I had an appointment at the Jamaica Plain

VA hospital. I left at 2:30 a.m. to beat the traffic, and that brought me to the Alewife parking garage before dawn. The MBTA fare is \$2.25 now, and with several hours to spare I decided to walk.

Even at that hour I met a score or more of joggers, pedestrians, and dogwalkers on Rindge, Sherman, and Garden Streets in Cambridge. Most of us passed within three or four feet of each other, but not one of them spoke. I looked directly at each of them, expecting the old camaraderie of the early-morning riser to elicit a word or a nod of greeting, but the only one who met my glance was a tall Indian who instantly averted his gaze — and nervously, I thought. I had forgotten how frightened city dwellers are of other people.

On Cambridge Common I noticed, for the first time, a bronze statue to the Irish famine that brought my mother's ancestors to this country. It depicted two emaciated and ragged parents with their children. Unable to let subtlety stand in the way of blunt political commentary, the sculptor had emblazoned the base with

the phrase "Never again should a people starve in a world of plenty." Whenever anyone says something should "never again" happen you can be pretty sure that it's already happening again, and indeed a begrimed derelict of lean and hungry look had camped by the brick wall of the old cemetery across the street. Another sat on a bench near the Lamont Library, completely covered in filthy cast-off comforters as young folks in plush-looking jogging apparel pranced by.

Farther down Massachusetts Avenue a hirsute, 40-ish-looking fellow sat on the stone doorstep of what looked like a bank, holding an unfiltered cigarette in one hand and a large paper coffee cup in the other, with some change in the bottom of it. He wore relatively new work boots with the laces untied, faded jeans, and a grey sweatshirt, all of which had little white chunks of drywall mud on them. As I approached he started vigorously shaking the cup, looking at me with a smile that seemed to ask if I was a sucker, but I was walking seven miles to save \$2.25 and I was damned if I was going

to give any of it to him.

The bums and beggars who used to inhabit Boston appear to have moved up Massachusetts Avenue to Cambridge. Perhaps they find the liberal attitudes emanating from Harvard and Radcliffe more welcoming. During the migration, their station has at least nominally improved, too. Now they are no longer bums and beggars, but homeless people and panhandlers, and I'm sure the evolution has been wonderful for their self-esteem.

Beyond the Charles, the neighborhoods have exchanged populations. I passed my old block, consisting of three apartment houses that didn't have a single black tenant during my time there, and the front steps of the middle building were occupied by several black men in their 20s; one of them handed a cigarette to a passerby ahead of me and lighted it, evidently in exchange for a dollar. The opposite ethnic transformation seemed evident across Huntington Avenue, on Parker Street, where the projects that had been home to one of my particular friends have all been leveled

and replaced by the Wentworth Institute.

Farther up Mission Hill, what had been a thoroughly Irish working-class neighborhood has become almost gentrified. The streets, meanwhile, were filled with a plurality of young Asians on their way to or from the ever-expanding medical centers and colleges on either side of the E Train tracks. There were still some seedy-looking buildings where Huntington bends to the south, but 40-odd years later it no longer seems crucial to pack heat when headed to the VA on foot; they've come to frown on that, anyway.

It took two hours and a half to cover the distance. My four-mile-an-hour pace has evidently slackened since 1974. Along with the demographic shifts within the city, that was about all that seemed different. It was only when I came home that I encountered truly drastic change. The city where I lived from the Watergate break-in to Richard Nixon's resignation seems as familiar as ever, while Conway is nearly unrecognizable as the town where I grew up.

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

Health Program (PNHP), and endorsed by thousands of physicians, which emphatically stated, "a movement to a single payer system would trim administration, reduce incentives to over-treat, lower drug prices, minimize wasteful investments in redundant facilities, and eliminate almost all marketing and investor profits. These measures would yield the substantial savings needed to fund universal care and new investments in currently under-funded services and public health activities-without any net increase in

national health spending."

It is clear that the only sensible solution to the issue is single-payer Medicare for all, as proposed by Senator Bernie Sanders.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.

~*~

Trust? Busted!

To the Editor:

President Trump is a trust buster. Not a trust buster in the mold of Teddy Roosevelt who fought the robber barons, but a trust buster in the mold of a promise breaker.

In his campaign rhetoric Trump promised to "look out for the common man" and bragged "I have your back." But actions speak louder than words and bring truth to Trump's real beliefs and intentions.

His intentions to weaken the Consumer Protection Agency and delay the implementation of the "Fiduciary Rule" are completely contrary to his promises to "the common man."

Who wants less consumer protection? Republican politicians and big business have been op-

posing the agency since its inception. Should we really trust both groups to do the right thing by the consumer without any oversight? "Let the buyer beware" is license to put shoddy, toxic and dangerous products into the marketplace.

The more egregious action is the proposed delay of the "Fiduciary Rule" which would protect retirement investors. The rule covers the behavior of financial advisors who help individuals with their IRA and 401K investments.

More specifically the rule requires advisors to put the interests

of the investor before their own or those of their employer. Most investors probably do not know that commission based advisors are not obligated to put the investor first and often recommend products that pay them the highest commission or have high fees that benefit their employer. In most cases these products are not the best choice for the investors.

Now Trump wants to repeal the Dodd-Frank legislation the aim of which is to protect workers and consumers against Wall Street's reckless speculation. Remember

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Is Trump's America Our America?

by Jim Hightower

Who are we? Are we the America of courage, openness, inclusion, opportunity, and democratic promise — as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Roosevelt's Four Freedoms, and on the Statue of Liberty?

Or are we the America of fear,

bigotry, xenophobia, intolerance, and autocracy — negative traits now emanating from the darkness of Donald Trump's dystopian view of our society? It's his mix of fearful nativism and imperiousness that's behind his edict imposing a contemptible and chaotic ban on immigrants from seven Muslim nations.

The Donald and his regime of demagogic autocrats from the far-right fringe are hoping we're

the timorous America. They shout that the people voted for the fair-haired strongman and now expect him to save them from blood-thirsty terrorists sneaking into America from Muslim nations. But wait — first of all, 72 percent of us did not vote for him, with 27 percent preferring Hillary and 45 percent not voting at all. So spare us the lie that you have a "mandate" to discriminate.

Second, if your aim really was

to save us from Islamic terrorists, you missed by miles. Exactly zero Americans have been killed in terrorists attacks here by any immigrants from those seven countries. So why them, and not Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan, and Afghanistan — Muslim nations with citizens who have attacked Americans on our soil? And, by the way, isn't it curious that Trump's ban doesn't include Muslim countries where he has

major corporate investments?

This disgraceful, self-aggrandizing political play is just one more Trump fraud. But the good news is that the American people are rallying in mass opposition to his autocratic arrogance, revealing that his America is not our America — and vice versa.

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that their past behavior caused the 2008 financial crash and recession.

To those of you who voted for Trump because you thought he meant it when he railed against "the establishment" and the "Wall Street elite" how do you reconcile those statements to these above actions? And how about that wall Mexico was going to pay for and the immediate repeal of Obamacare — both looking less likely each day.

How long before Trump fully busts your trust? He is off to a fast start as a promise breaker. The only remaining question is how long will it take for you to realize he duped you into voting against your own financial self-interest?

Dave Potter
North Hampton, N.H.

Trump's Wall

To the Editor:

Donald Trump loves to build walls, both physical and virtual. His presidential campaign was highlighted by his promise to build an amazing wall between the United States and Mexico. While this proposed wall is costly, repulsive and unworkable, it represents one of the least dangerous walls that Trump is already building.

Mr. Trump is building a virtual wall that would separate Ameri-

cans from the truth and reality. With his lies and the "alternative facts" presented by his administration, he is creating his own alternative reality and working to convince the public that they should not believe the "opposition party" represented by a free press.

Trump is building walls between the United States and its traditional allies, and others we need to protect our national security, while appeasing Mr. Putin. Trump has insulted the Prime Minister of Australia, the President of Mexico, the German Prime Minister, and the NATO Alliance. He has also dangerously built a wall that alienated the entire Muslim World. By the time he is done building his real and virtual walls, he will make the former Berlin Wall look like a picket fence.

At the moment, the only checks on uncontrolled executive power are the courts and a free press. The courts have responded to Trump's immigration executive order with clear and unified opposition. As a result, Mr. Trump has attacked the courts and the judges ruling against his unconstitutional actions. In his mind, the courts and the press are the enemy, and he is working to convince the public that he is the victim. Unfortunately, Trump is also trying to damage the reputation of judg-

es and destroy trust in the courts with the American people. The courts are our last remaining wall of government checks and balances, and are in serious jeopardy of being destroyed, and with them our last hope of maintenance of the rule of law. The Republican Congress, co-conspirators in the Trump coup, is willing, ready, and able to appoint judges at all levels of the Federal judiciary who will support Trump and his executive orders. Once this happens, there may be no means remaining to prevent the loss of our democracy as we have known it for the past 240 years.

At no time in our history, with the possible exception of the Civil War, has the United States faced such a threat to the core foundations of our Democratic Republic. While Watergate saw the abuse of power and firing of the Attorney General like Trump has done, it does not compare to the present situation, since back then we had judges like John Sirica, and Republican members of Congress like Howard Baker and Lowell Weicker, who were willing to stand up to Nixon. But in this era of Trumpgate, there are no Bakers or Wickers to save the nation. Instead we now get the likes of Paul Ryan and Mitch McConnell. During Watergate we also had an aggressive free

press, and reporters like Woodward and Bernstein, who had courage and the trust and respect of the people. Now however, we have FOX "News" and talk right-wing radio trying to convince a gullible public that the liberal press and the courts are the enemy. If Trump and his accomplices succeed, and judiciary and the press become a rubber stamp for Trump's actions; game over. Democracy is like a glass boat, easy to break and hard to recover.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:
It's a very real problem: the substance of Congress has been hollowed out by morally-bankrupt con artists like Newt Gingrich, Lee Atwater, Grover Norquist, and Frank Luntz. When it comes to this off-the-rails Executive Branch, we may have to use the SwingLeft approach.

SwingLeft is an effort to mobilize people in deep-blue districts to help flip Congressional swing districts (It's at SwingLeft.org, of course).

As we noted towards the end of this fortnight's Rant, in regard to Donald Trump's taxes, we might have to try to mobilize thousands of people from across the country to apply irresistible pressure on strategic Members to create cracks in this GOP monolith.

Sure, it will be a lot of work. What better way, though, to pass the time,

while we wait for the ice caps to melt?

The Editor

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No Laughing Matter

To the Editor:

A casual remark by Sen. Al Franken on TV caught my attention. He said that he had never seen Donald Trump laugh. This was early in Trump's candidacy, and since then, despite his many hours of TV exposure, I have not seen Donald Trump laugh either. I have even asked Trump supporters in my acquaintance to cite a single image of our new president laughing. I'm not settling for a smirk, or a smile, or a giggle; I want to see a full-throated, open-mouthed belly laugh, like Hillary's. There seems to be no such image or video clip of Donald Trump — isn't that amazing?

This president seems to be a man lacking in what the French call *joie de vivre* (enjoyment of life). Let's face it, Trump will be misunderstood (as are all Presidents), he will be criticized (both fairly and unfairly), and he will be faced with intractable, damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't problems. Without a sense of humor, serious over-reactions could occur, and for a President, that's no laughing matter.

Joseph E. Robillard
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
<p>2009—A Robinson R44 helicopter explodes over the Tocumen, Panama airport; the pilot and two others die.</p> <p>2009—CNBC's Rick Santelli pitches an anti-Obama fit from the floor of the Chicago Board of Trade. His convulsions spawn a Tea Party.</p> <p>2000—"I understand small business growth," says George W.[MD] Bush, "I was one."</p> <p>1993—The pilot of a Robinson R22 helicopter ignores proper procedure and flies into a Cessna; both aircraft crash at an Atlanta airport, four die.</p> <p>1988—Prosecutors in Passaic County, N.J., move to dismiss 1966 murder indictments against Rubin "Hurricane" Carter.</p> <p>1986—After due deliberation—37 years—Congress ratifies a UN treaty outlawing genocide.</p> <p>1965—Protests against the Vietnam War are held in 30 U.S. cities.</p> <p>1964—The CIA informs the State and Defense departments that South Vietnam is making little progress against the Viet Cong.</p> <p>1945—In a Burmese mangrove swamp, several hundred Japanese soldiers are killed by crocodiles.</p> <p>1942—FDR puts 120,000 Americans into concentration camps.</p> <p>1847—Rescuers reach the leftovers of the Donner Party.</p> <p>1807—Ex-Vep Aaron Burr is arrested in Alabama for treason by plotting to create a new nation out of parts of Mexico and Louisiana.</p>	<p>2016—In Michigan, an Über driver between fares allegedly kills six people in two separate shootings.</p> <p>2005—Dr. Hunter S. Thompson takes his leave the way he lived—entirely on his own terms.</p> <p>1985—After defending his WBC flyweight title in London, Sot Chitalada discovers he's lost his \$104,000 purse to a ringside pickpocket.</p> <p>1945—At Iwo Jima, Jacklyn "Jack" Lucas, 17, dives on one live grenade and pulls another under him. One goes off, one doesn't. He sets off metal detectors until dying at 80.</p> <p>1943—Hollywood film makers say they'll let the Office of War Information censor their movies.</p> <p>1939—Fritz Kuhn, a German veteran of WWI and naturalized U.S. citizen, leads 22,000 people in a pro-Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden.</p> <p>1862—Abe Lincoln's son Willie dies of typhus at the age of 11.</p> <p>1815—Almost two months after the Treaty of Ghent ends the War of 1812, the U.S.S. <i>Constitution</i> captures two British sloops off the coast of Portugal.</p> <p>1725—Indian fighters under Captain John Lovewell take 10 scalps from Indians killed in Wakefield, New Hampshire, which they later redeem in Boston for £100 each.</p> <p>1524—In Germany, Count von Iggleheim is stoned to death by a mob, angry at his refusal to let them board a three-story ark he had built to escape a predicted apocalyptic flood.</p>	<p>2012—Caught by the Piscataqua's current during construction of the New Memorial Bridge, the tugboat <i>Miss Stacy</i> nearly sinks.</p> <p>2001—"You teach a child to read," says G.W.[MD] Bush, "and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."</p> <p>1988—Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart interrupts his usual broadcast to confess to an unspecified but heinous sin.</p> <p>1975—Three of R. Nixon's former henchmen, John Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, and John Erlichman, are sentenced to prison.</p> <p>1965—Malcolm X is assassinated in the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem.</p> <p>1958—British anti-nukers adopt the now-iconic "peace symbol."</p> <p>1940—Germans begin building a concentration camp at Auschwitz.</p> <p>1934—The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan National Guard assassinates rebel leader Augusto Sandino. Legend says his head is then delivered to D.C.</p> <p>1931—In Arequipa, Peruvian revolutionaries make Pan Am's Byron Rickards the first pilot ever hijacked; 30 years later he's hijacked again.</p> <p>1930—Witnesses faint and Arizona abandons hanging after "Cheerful Eva" Dugan's accidentally-decapitated head rolls across the floor.</p> <p>1922—The 410-foot airship <i>Roma</i>, Italian-made, hydrogen-filled, and operated by the U.S. Army, crashes during a test flight in Norfolk, Va., killing 34 in the nation's greatest aeronautical disaster to date.</p>	<p>2006—A Robinson R22 makes a series of "popping sounds" over residential Scottsdale, Ariz., before crashing between two houses. A flight instructor and a prospective student using a gift certificate die.</p> <p>2006—Justice Clarence Thomas asks a question from the bench. A decade passes before he asks another.</p> <p>2004—A leaked Pentagon document predicts global doom from climate change.</p> <p>1994—CIA agent Aldrich Ames is arrested for spying.</p> <p>1974—Trying to hijack an airliner to crash into the White House, Samuel Byck counterproductively shoots the pilot and co-pilot before he's shot dead himself.</p> <p>1967—Operation Junction City begins in Vietnam — largest U.S. offensive operation of the War.</p> <p>1966—Barry Bondhus dumps human digestive byproduct on draft files in Elk River, Minn.</p> <p>1965—Gen. Westmoreland asks LBJ for Marines to protect the Danang airbase. Despite Ambassador Taylor's qualms, LBJ says "OK."</p> <p>1965—Sam Lovejoy cuts down a weather tower for a proposed nuke plant in Montague, Mass.</p> <p>1945—Rep. John Rankin [D-Miss.] calls Rep. Frank Hook [D-Mich.] a Communist, whereupon Hook calls Rankin a "God damned liar." Rankin, 63 and 140 lbs., attempts to punch out Hook, 52 and 195 lbs., to little effect.</p>	<p>2016—GOP Senators brazenly conspire to deny a hearing to Pres. Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court.</p> <p>2008—Because one maintenance crew fails to warn another that humid air confuses its sensors, a \$1.4 billion B-2 bomber crashes in Guam.</p> <p>2004—Rod Paige, U.S. Sec. of Education, calls the nation's largest teachers union a "terrorist organization."</p> <p>1974—Days after presiding over his paper's 100th birthday, and owing mobsters thousands, <i>Oakland Tribune</i> owner and ex-Sen. William Knowland (R-Calif.) shoots himself dead.</p> <p>1971—Lt. Wm. Calley confesses to mass murder, and says his CO, Capt. E. Medina, ordered it.</p> <p>1945—Five Marines, including Manchester, N.H.'s René A. Gagnon, plant the U.S. flag atop Mt. Suribachi. "Do not glorify war," he says later. "There's nothing glorious about it."</p> <p>1942—The Japanese submarine <i>I-17</i> fires more than a dozen 5.5 inch rounds at the Richmond oil refinery near Santa Barbara, Calif.</p> <p>1922—Henri Landru is executed in France for having 11 wives. (Hadn't he suffered enough?)</p> <p>1868—In Great Barrington, Mass., W.E.B. Dubois is born.</p> <p>1836—The siege of the Alamo begins.</p> <p>1775—"Give me liberty, or give me death," says Patrick Henry — maybe.</p> <p>1455—In Mainz, Germany, Johannes Gutenberg begins the world's first print job: the Bible.</p>	<p>2001—"My plan reduces the national debt, and fast," says G.W.[MD] Bush, "...economists worry that we're going to run out of debt to retire."</p> <p>1991—Ground war against Iraq begins, amid concerns about anthrax and botulism sold to Iraq by U.S. companies with the Commerce Dept.'s OK.</p> <p>1989—On United Airlines Flight 811 from Honolulu to New Zealand, nine are sucked out a hole in the plane.</p> <p>1988—Larry Flynt's right to portray Jerry Falwell losing his virginity to his mother in an outhouse while intoxicated is upheld by SCOTUS.</p> <p>1988—At 1:17 a.m., Capitol police carry Sen. Robert Packwood (R-Ore.) into the Senate chamber feet first to make up a quorum.</p> <p>1942—Turned away from Istanbul, <i>MV Struma</i>, a decrepit hulk carrying 791 Jewish refugees, is torpedoed by a Soviet sub. Sole survivor David Stoliar, 19, lives to be 91.</p> <p>1942—Anti-aircraft batteries in Los Angeles fire 1,400 rounds at a weather balloon. Three are trampled to death in the resulting panic and dozens more are injured.</p> <p>1922—Lewis Vernon Harcourt, 1st Viscount Harcourt and former British Secretary of State for the Colonies, commits suicide rather than face exposure as a pederast.</p> <p>1836—Rep. and N.H. native Jonathan Cilley [D-Maine], is killed in the 3rd volley of a rifle duel by Rep. William Graves [Whig-Ky.].</p>	<p>2011—"[A]ny future Defense Secretary who advises the President to again send a big American land army into Asia or into the Middle East or Africa should have his head examined," says Defense Sec. Gates.</p> <p>2003—Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki warns Senators that Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's plan to occupy Iraq dramatically underestimates troop requirements.</p> <p>1991—Mechanized units of "The Big Red One" complete their breakthrough of Iraq's defensive line, having buried hundreds, if not thousands, of Iraqi troops alive.</p> <p>1988—Sam Donaldson broadcasts excerpts from President Reagan's schedule, making it clear he still reads scripts for a living.</p> <p>1968—"I do not believe Hanoi can hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.</p> <p>1913—The IWW's Paterson, N.J. strike begins; Concord, N.H.'s Elizabeth Gurley Flynn helps organize.</p> <p>1870—Erstwhile minister Hiram Rhodes Revels (R-Miss.) becomes the first black U.S. Senator.</p> <p>1862—Congress authorizes the first "greenbacks." In one year, their value is down to 39 cents.</p> <p>1836—Colt patents the six gun.</p> <p>1836—Joice Heth, formerly exhibited by P.T. Barnum as George Washington's 162-year-old "Mammy," is autopsied before 1,500 paying spectators in New York City, at Barnum's behest.</p>
<p>5:14 5:51</p> <p>11:31 11:43</p>	<p>6:12 6:53</p> <p>12:32</p>	<p>7:10 7:51</p> <p>12:41 1:30</p>	<p>8:03 8:42</p> <p>1:37 2:23</p>	<p>8:51 9:27</p> <p>2:28 3:09</p>	<p>9:35 10:07</p> <p>3:15 3:51</p>	<p>10:16 10:46</p> <p>3:58 4:31</p>
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1	THURSDAY, MARCH 2	FRIDAY, MARCH 3	SATURDAY, MARCH 4
<p>2003—Saddam Hussein tells interviewer Dan Rather he would like to debate George W.[MD] Bush on TV.</p> <p>2001—In Afghanistan, the Taliban destroy huge statues of Buddha.</p> <p>1998—After a Robinson R22 helicopter makes a loud "schwapp-like noise," it plummets to earth near Littleton, Calif., killing its pilot.</p> <p>1993—A truck bomb explodes beneath the World Trade Center in NYC; 6 are dead, 1,000 injured.</p> <p>1991—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush admits the U.S. has been supporting the Khmer Rouge for over a decade.</p> <p>1987—The Tower Commission reports that President Reagan has been confused and uninformed.</p> <p>1982—The tail rotor of a Robinson R22 helicopter disintegrates while flying over San Marcos, Texas. It spins, then crashes, killing the pilot.</p> <p>1974—A Senate report details close ties between the Ford Motor Co. and the Nazis.</p> <p>1972—Pittston Coal's cheap-jack dam on Buffalo Creek in West Virginia collapses killing 118, injuring 1,121, and leaving 5,000 homeless. The company ends up paying less than \$15,000 per casualty.</p> <p>1970—NPR incorporates.</p> <p>1954—A C-119 "Flying Boxcar" buzzes the Huntingdon, Tenn., county courthouse then crashes, killing four on board and injuring two on the ground.</p>	<p>2014—Senate Republicans block a bill to fund veterans health care because it would cost too much.</p> <p>2003—Deputy Sec. of Def. Paul Wolfowitz says "the notion that it will take several hundred thousand U.S. troops to provide stability in post-Saddam Iraq, [is] wildly off the mark."</p> <p>2001—Rep. David Vitter [R-La.] skips a House vote honoring 28 Desert Storm KIAs to take a call from the D.C. Madam.</p> <p>1986—Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos are chased out of the Philippines by their own people.</p> <p>1975—The FDA recalls a batch of 1,241 GE pacemakers—after they've all been implanted.</p> <p>1973—The American Indian Movement occupies Wounded Knee.</p> <p>1970—The <i>New York Times</i> reports that the U.S. Army no longer conducts illegal domestic surveillance; untrue then, and now.</p> <p>1968—Walter Cronkite says on the <i>CBS Nightly News</i> that "we are mired in stalemate" in Vietnam.</p> <p>1962—Renegade South Vietnamese pilots bomb Saigon's Presidential Palace with U.S. airplanes.</p> <p>1938—Britain and France recognize Franco's fascist government.</p> <p>1933—Nazis burn the Reichstag and blame the Communies.</p> <p>1902—To his firing squad, Lieut. Harry "Breaker" Morant says "Shoot straight, you bastards."</p>	<p>1997—A blue dress becomes soiled.</p> <p>1997—Two heavily armed—and armored—men rob a North Hollywood, Calif. bank. Twelve police are wounded, the two robbers die.</p> <p>1993—The ATF bungles an assault on a heavily armed colony of religious wackos in Waco.</p> <p>1991—"By God," says George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, "we've kicked the Vietnam Syndrome once and for all."</p> <p>1986—Ronald Reagan asks reporters "sons-of-bitches" for asking questions during a photo-op; press aide Larry Speakes explains he really said, "It's sunny and you're rich."</p> <p>1958—In New York, a first batch of 27 people die after drinking "King Kong" moonshine.</p> <p>1947—Taiwanese civilians riot over corruption, Koumintang forces respond by killing thousands.</p> <p>1921—The Kronstadt Rebellion against bolshevism begins in Russia. "Shoot them down like partridges," orders Leon Trotsky.</p> <p>1893—Birth of Ben Hecht, author of <i>The Front Page</i>.</p> <p>1877—The U.S. seizes the Black Hills, in violation of a treaty.</p> <p>1854—A group of political activists meet in Ripon, Wisc., and may or may not found the GOP.</p> <p>1840—Joshua V. Hines begins publishing <i>Signs of the Times</i>, a newspaper devoted to William Miller's Doomsday prophecies.</p>	<p>2002—U.S. forces in Afghanistan begin Operation Anaconda, aimed at capturing or killing Taliban fighters in the Shah-i-kot Valley.</p> <p>1985—President Reagan calls the Nicaraguan Contras "the moral equivalent of our Founding Fathers."</p> <p>1978—Charlie Chaplin's corpse is stolen and held for ransom. It's retrieved two months later.</p> <p>1971—The Weather Underground bombs the U.S. Capitol.</p> <p>1954—After 39 combat missions in Korea, Ted Williams breaks his collarbone at spring training.</p> <p>1954—H-bomb test Castle Bravo delivers thrice its expected yield at Bikini Atoll. Unanticipated winds spread millions of tons of radioactive debris over occupied islands.</p> <p>1954—Four Puerto Rican nationalists in the Gallery fire 30 rounds towards the floor of the U.S. House, wounding five U.S. Congressmen.</p> <p>1932—Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., aged 20 months, is kidnapped; by whom is still disputed.</p> <p>1910—In Wellington, Wash., an avalanche pushes two trains 150 feet into the Nye River, killing 96.</p> <p>1906—Emma Goldman publishes the first issue of her anarchist newspaper, <i>Mother Earth</i>.</p> <p>1872—Yellowstone, the world's first national park, is created.</p> <p>1860—Abraham Lincoln speaks at Phenix Hall in Concord, N.H., and again later in Manchester.</p>	<p>2004—Oops—UN weapons inspectors report that Saddam Hussein didn't have WMDs after all.</p> <p>2002—A U.S. gunship mistakenly fires on a U.S./Afghan convoy during Operation Anaconda. Afghan soldiers flee. The remaining U.S. forces are attacked by the Taliban.</p> <p>2002—Acting on their religious principles, the Taliban begin destroying statues of Buddha at Bamiyan.</p> <p>1974—Spain executes anarchist Alvarado Puig Antich by garrot.</p> <p>1965—Operation Rolling Thunder begins: U.S. planes bomb North Vietnam.</p> <p>1946—Ho Chi Minh is elected president of North Vietnam.</p> <p>1944—Fumes from a locomotive stalled in an Italian tunnel kill 521.</p> <p>1942—Lt. Gen. John DeWitt announces all Japanese-Americans will be required to move away from the West Coast and should do so voluntarily for their own good.</p> <p>1877—Bribed by Republicans, the Electoral College selects Rutherford B. Hayes over Samuel Tilden.</p> <p>1860—Abraham Lincoln visits the Amoskeag mills, then speaks at City Hall in Dover.</p> <p>1807—Congress votes to prohibit the importation of slaves; only 250,000 or so are subsequently imported illegally.</p> <p>1805—Aaron Burr—the first Vice President to shoot a man—resigns from the Senate for other, unrelated reasons.</p>	<p>2016—Donald Trump asserts on live television that his genitalia are of adequate proportions.</p> <p>1991—A troublemaker videotapes Los Angeles Police officers chastising motorist Rodney King.</p> <p>1974—Poor latch design causes a door to fall off a DC-10 over France. Six passengers whoosh out; an ensuing crash kills 340 more.</p> <p>1969—An under-manned company of the 4th Division is sent after a crack NVA battalion west of Kontum; result: 47 percent are KIA or MIA.</p> <p>1955—Elvis Presley appears on the Ed Sullivan Show, setting in motion the inevitable collapse of Western Civilization.</p> <p>1949—The Tucker automobile company crashes.</p> <p>1934—John Dillinger busts out of the Crown Point, Ind. jail with a hand-carved wooden pistol and drives off in the sheriff's new V-8 Ford.</p> <p>1931—"The Star-Spangled Banner" becomes our national anthem.</p> <p>1927—In Wales, J.G. Parry-Thomas, while attempting to set a land speed record, is decapitated by a broken drive chain while going 170 mph.</p> <p>1913—Eight thousand Suffragists march down Pennsylvania Avenue; 200 are injured by misogynists.</p> <p>1873—The "Salary Grab Act" raises Congressional pay retroactively.</p> <p>1863—The first U.S. draft law passes, exempting men who can pay the government a \$300 bribe.</p>	<p>2014—The <i>NY Times</i> reports that the CIA has been illegally snooping on the computers of Senate staffers investigating the Agency's torture program.</p> <p>2001—Fox broadcasts a "Lone Gunman" show in which U.S. agents remotely hijack an airliner and try to crash it into the WTC.</p> <p>1992—Despite extensive experience with the model, and awareness of its vulnerabilities, a Robinson R22 helicopter pilot over Maricopa, Ariz. allows its main rotor to destroy its tail cone, with fatal results.</p> <p>1987—Ronald Reagan admits trading arms for hostages.</p> <p>1960—<i>La Coubre</i>, a French munitions ship, explodes in Havana harbor. Between 75 and 100 people die. CIA involvement is "suspected."</p> <p>1937—The UAW wins a sit-down strike in Flint, Mich.</p> <p>1933—"We have nothing to fear," says FDR, "but fear itself."</p> <p>1917—During a filibuster, Sen. Harry Lane (D-Ore.) prepares to stab Ollie James (D-Ky.) in the neck if James pulls out his pistol; meanwhile, Democrats prevent Sen. Robert La Follette (Progressive Rep.-Wis.) from bashing the presiding officer with a spittoon.</p> <p>1909—President Taft and First Lady Nellie move into the White House. Under the lawn is a voodoo doll of Mrs. Taft, buried by Teddy Roosevelt's daughter Alice.</p>
<p>10:57 11:24</p> <p>4:40 5:10</p>	<p>11:37</p> <p>5:22 5:50</p>	<p>12:03 12:20</p> <p>6:05 6:30</p>	<p>12:45 1:04</p> <p>6:51 7:13</p>	<p>1:29 1:52</p> <p>7:38 7:59</p>	<p>2:16 2:43</p> <p>8:30 8:49</p>	<p>3:08 3:40</p> <p>9:25 9:43</p>

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