

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

How To Solve a Nonexistent Problem

Republicans in Concord and Washington, D.C. are on a mission — they're trying to preserve the integrity of our elections. Or so they tell us.

In Concord, that translates to passing Senate Bill 3. In Washington, it means establishing an Election Integrity Commission. Both things are required, we're told, to prevent unscrupulous individuals from stealing our votes.

According to supporters of these measures, overzealous hyperpartisans creep from their lairs every Election Day and scurry between polling places, voting twice, or three times, or — who knows? With every spurious ballot they cast, they disenfranchise some righteous, upstanding, taxpaying citizen.

"Are You Feeling Lucky, Kid?"

Senate Bill 3, aka SB3, is designed to make it harder for these surreptitious zealots to ram their candidate of choice down our unwilling throats. It accomplishes this worthy goal by establishing a complicated new procedure. When a would-be registrant cannot provide one of the specified forms of identification, he will now be required to fill out a form which warns him that if he fails to provide the proper verification by a certain deadline, that failure may result in an officer of the law knocking on his door. Plus, there's a possible fine of up to \$5,000.

That ought to make them think twice before they vote three times! In fact, it will make a lot of new would-be voters think three times before they vote once.

That, of course, is the point. New voters are more likely to be students, or other young people, who don't own homes, and — heaven forbid — may be inclined to vote for Democrats!

Pass SB3 and the message is clear: "You can vote if you want to, kid, but first, put your neck in this legal noose!"

Doubling Down

The blatant hypocrisy behind SB3 is exposed by RSA 659:34, which is already on the books. It provides that "knowingly or purposefully providing false information when registering to vote or voting is a class A misdemeanor with a maximum sentence of imprisonment not to exceed one year and a fine not to exceed \$2,000. [and] Fraudulently registering to vote or voting is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000."

The only substantive effect of passing SB3 would be to add another ominous, onerous hoop that certain voters would have to jump through before they can reach the ballot box — certain voters who would be statistically less likely to vote for Republicans.

Integrity? Says Who?

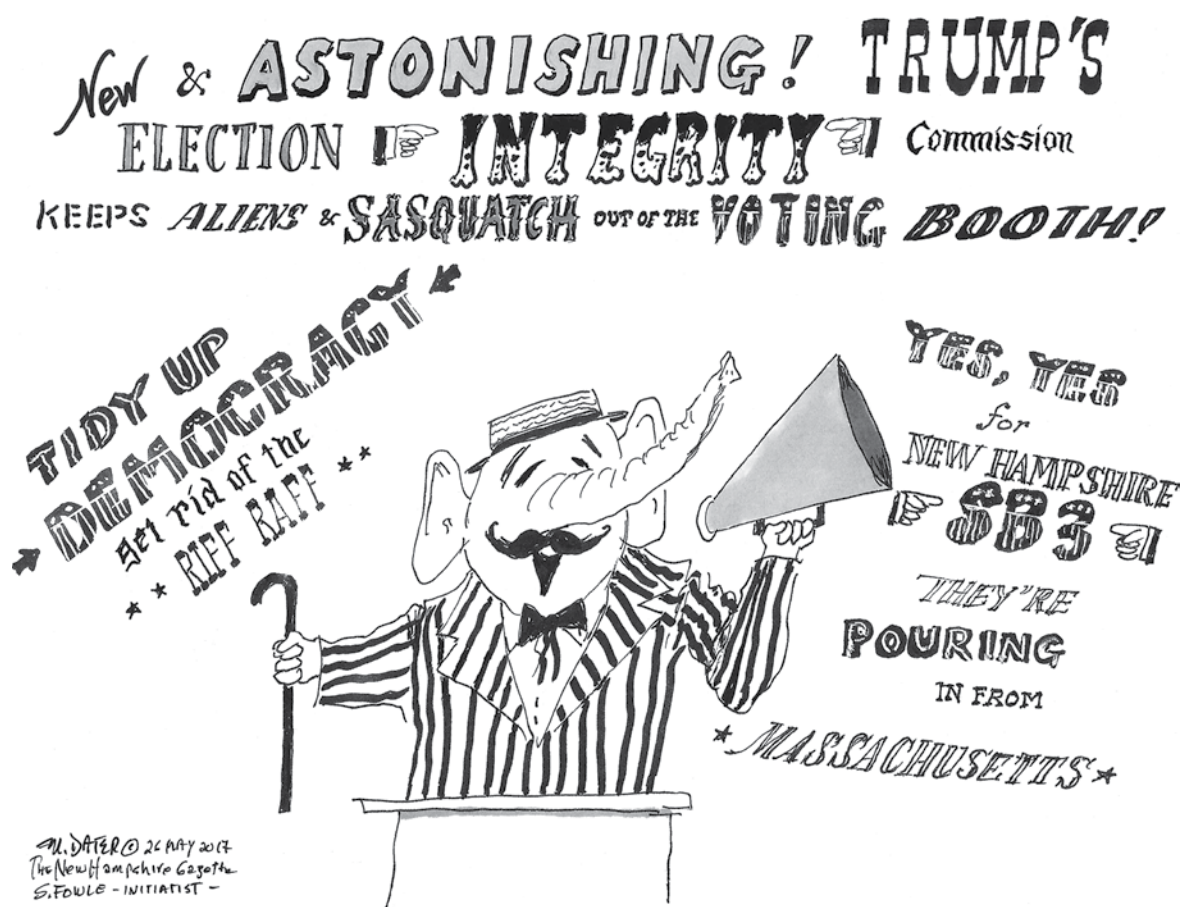
On May 11th, Donald Trump established* a Commission on Election Integrity. [If this were radio, that statement would be followed by a rimshot.]

It had been nearly four months since he broached his theory that he lost the popular vote only because three million "illegal aliens" had risked deportation to vote for Hillary Clinton. Why did he wait so long to form his Commission? Maybe he was waiting for the laughter to die down. The guy from whom he got the idea — via a Tweet, of course — turned out to owe the IRS \$100,000. State investigators in Mississippi said he fudged his resumé and failed to file required reports about his economic interests. After he left his state job he was hired by a company to which he'd just awarded an \$878,00 contract.

No One Expects ...

Vice President Mike Pence will

* He did this by signing an Executive Order. Trump frequently criticized President Obama for creating Executive Orders. In his first 100 days, Trump signed 30 Executive Orders. In his first 100 days, Obama signed 16.



be the titular Chairman of this new Inquisition. That position, though, will be worth no more than the Vice Presidency according to John Nance Garner. Kris Kobach, Kansas's Secretary of State, will run the show because he has the right stuff for the job: a track record of throwing hundreds of thousands of likely Democratic voters off the rolls with a system called Crosscheck.

Greg Palast has been researching Crosscheck for years. It's SB3 on steroids. In the name of eliminating fraudulent voters from the rolls, it compares voter rolls from 28 states, looking for duplications. When possible matches turn up, voters are sent "a postcard that is colorless and covered with minuscule text," Palast wrote in *Rolling Stone*. "The voter must verify his or her address and mail it back to their Secretary of State. Fail to return the postcard and the process of taking your name off the voter rolls begins."

Amateur Hour

A database expert told Palast that because of Crosscheck's "childish methodology" of matching names, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and African-Americans are disproportionately flagged for removal.

On November 11th, Palast compared Trump's victory margins in three states with the number of voters purged by Crosscheck.

State	Margin	Purged
Mich.	13,107	449,922
Ariz.	85,257	270,824
N.C.	177,008	589,393

Those three states cast 42 votes in the Electoral College. Trump won thanks to Crosscheck.

The New Hampshire Connection

When it comes to Presidential politics, there is always a New Hampshire connection. In this case, there are two.

Last Halloween our now-Governor, trolling for votes in Massachusetts, of all places, told radio host

Howie Carr "when Massachusetts elections are not very close, [Democrats are] busing [fraudulent voters] in all over the place."

By February, Sununu was denying his own allegation, and volunteering to get to the bottom of the vile rumor he helped create. "As I've said in the past," he told WMUR, "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 ... look forward to working closely with them to learn of any evidence they may have"

New Hampshire's own Secretary of State for Life Bill Gardner agreed to serve on the Commission. He said he did so in hopes that "Maybe we'll be able to solve that question of why so many people believe there is voter fraud."

May we suggest that a good way to start might be interrogating our own Governor.

The Alleged News®

Riding the Decompensation Express

"I won't call them monsters because they would like that term," someone said on Tuesday. "They would think that's a great name. I will call them from now on 'losers' because that's what they are. They're losers. And we'll have more of them, but they're losers. Just remember that."

Those words would not be surprising had they come from a crying four year-old on a playground. They were said, however, by the President of the United States.

Sad.

We cannot know, of course, if it's the strain of being so far away from his tacky Florida man-cave for a week, or the result of well-documented public rejection and signs of disdain from trophy wife #3.

Either way, though, judging from

the deteriorating level of gibberish that he utters, it appears that the most powerful man on Earth — on paper, if not in practice; clearly a whole host of rogues and charlatans are manipulating him like a puppet with a neurological disorder — is rapidly losing what's left of what has been passing for his mind.

This is probably as good a time as any to read up on existentialism and learn to meditate.

The Watermelon Juggernaut

It's also probably a good time — because it's *always* a good time — for a little comic relief.

This item is a little dated, but according to family tradition, the old gags are the best. The AP reported on March 22nd that a Maine lawmaker, Rep. Larry Lockman, had introduced a bill designed to pre-

vent that state's Attorney General from prosecuting people "based on their political speech, including their views on climate change." The bill would also prohibit discrimination in state contracts "based on a person's climate change policy preferences."

Yes, it was a bill, sponsored by a Republican, to make Maine a Safe Space for those precious snowflakes: climate change deniers.

The bill had been requested by Jonathan Reisman, "an associate professor of economics and public policy at the University of Maine at Machias and a vocal critic of the scientific consensus on climate change," according to the AP.

We can't imagine why Reisman thinks his speech needs protection. In 2000, writing on the internet he

was bemoaning that the Atlantic salmon was being listed as endangered. He was quoted in 2005 by *Fly Rod & Reel Magazine*: "What they're saying to Washington County is, we don't really care about the violent sodomization you're enduring — just turn the other cheek, cooperate with your tormentor, and you'll learn to enjoy it. Personally, I've always thought violent rapists should be executed to protect the community from repetition."

In a screed apparently delivered to a New York State Conference on Private Property Rights, in 2002, entitled, "Rural Cleansing in Maine: Watermelons [a person who is green on the outside, but red on the inside], Wildlands and RINO's," Reisman lamented that "a moderately successful grassroots movement that

had confronted and at least temporarily stopped the watermelon juggernaut [had] disintegrate[d]."

Veterans on the March for Peace

Here's the official word from City Hall: On Memorial Day, a parade will begin at 1 p.m. at the Parrott Avenue Parking Lot, and conclude at South Street Cemetery; if there is rain, a ceremony will be held instead at 1 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on 96 Islington Street.

Traditional Memorial Day parades, like those that this town does so well — marching bands, fire trucks, antique Jeeps, bicycles festooned with flags and bunting — have their place. No city or country which cannot muster a formal show

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from page one

of respect for its fallen deserves any respect for itself, regardless of the merits of the cause for which they fell.

Some, though, are prone to taking the long view, and may find such observances lacking. Veterans for Peace [VFP] has just the thing for them.

On Memorial Day, Doug Rawlings and Vietnam Full Disclosure will, for the third time, respectfully place letters at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial — The Wall. These letters will have been written by ordinary Americans and sent to Rawlings in response to solicitations like the one published in this paper on February 3rd. Placed in open envelopes, they will be available for reading by anyone visiting The Wall. They will then be collected and archived by the National Parks Service.

On Tuesday, May 30th, at 11:00 a.m., VFP will hold a rally at the Lincoln Memorial, then march

to the White House, demanding peace at home, and peace abroad — regardless of the odds that their actions will meet with any success.

For more information, contact Cari Quater: cquater@comcast.net.

Murphy's Law:

The Portsmouth Corollary

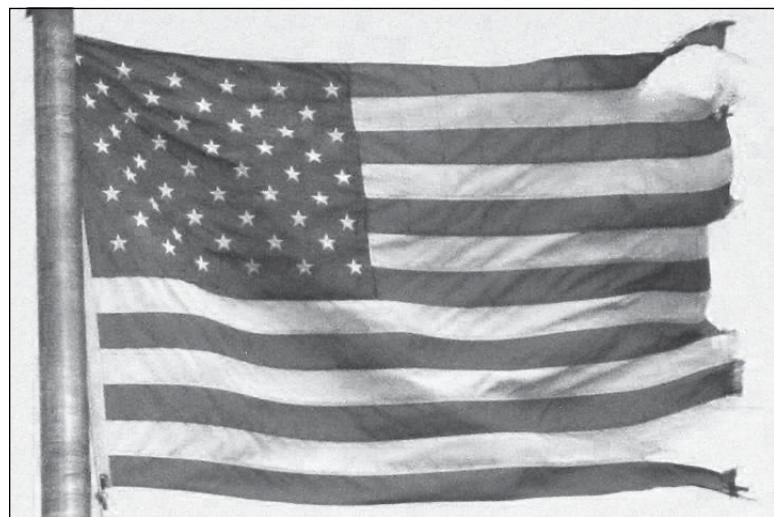
Yogi Berra once said of Rigazzi's restaurant in St. Louis, Mo., "no one goes there anymore — it's too crowded."

The Coat of Arms will be too crowded tonight, and tomorrow night, too. People will go there anyway, though, because Sunday it will be gone.

The Press Room will be too crowded a week from tonight, but people will go there anyway. It isn't going anywhere, but it will be closed all summer.

No one can go to the State Street Saloon, because it went up in flames several weeks ago.

All of which goes to confirm Finagle's Law of Dynamic Negatives: Anything that can go wrong, will



In the heart of the late lamented North End sits that rare thing, a survivor of urban renewal — now, of course, being encroached upon by that creeping disaster, FauxPo. This fortress-like structure is the home of the local chapter of a national non-profit, whose members' patriotic bona fides are above reproach — making them most unlikely suspects for a violation of the Flag Code. And yet, above their front door flies the shattered remnant of a once-proud banner, depicted above. More in bafflement than in sorrow or anger, the Flag Police, bound by rigid adherence to duty, are forced to issue them a citation. What, they ask, could be the cause of this lapse? An ill-timed Fort Sumter re-enactment, perhaps? Alas, no excuse would be sufficient. Only timely replacement will do; that, and repentance.

— at the worst possible moment. (Finagle's Law obviously resembles Murphy's, but includes a temporal element. According to some sources, Finagle's Law pre-dates Murphy's.)

We bring all this up to record one simple observation: with Donald Trump in the White House and Republicans in control of Congress — and the State House — this is no time for Portsmouth to be without three of its most congenial locales for rest, recuperation, and congenial conversation.

The Department of Corrections

From time to time over many years we have made reference (though rarely in print) to "the innate perversity of inanimate objects," believing that the phrase and concept were original. While researching the item above, we learned that we had been wrong.

According to Wikipedia, Earth's second most-infallible source, "The British stage magician Nevil Maskelyne wrote in 1908: It is an experience common to all men to find that, on any special occasion,

such as the production of a magical effect for the first time in public, everything that can go wrong will go wrong. Whether we must attribute this to the malignity of matter or to the *total depravity of inanimate things*, whether the exciting cause is hurry, worry, or what not, the fact remains."

"Forgotten Frontier:

Untold Stories of the Piscataqua"

The Old Berwick Historical Society has issued another invitation to would-be time travelers. Its new exhibit at the Counting House Museum in South Berwick will introduce visitors to eight diverse characters who lived in the Piscataqua region 400 years ago.

"This isn't the expected story of Puritans escaping religious persecution that we mythologize at Thanksgiving dinner," says Emerson Baker, a Professor of History at Salem State University who was deeply involved with the exhibit's development.

"It's a much more complicated story, full of surprising characters including ambitious merchants,

tenacious farmers, disenfranchised Quakers, freed African slaves, Scottish prisoners of war and fierce loyalists to the King of England who struggled to coexist in the Piscataqua region of Maine and New Hampshire. We think people will be surprised to learn that a diverse population existed here nearly 400 years ago, and that their struggle in adversity still impacts us today."

The exhibit includes nearly 200 objects and artifacts from the period, some on display for the first time.

A family-friendly opening celebration will be held June 3rd, from noon to 4:00 p.m., with demonstrations of hand skills and colonial trades. Admission is free.

"Forgotten Frontier: Untold Stories of the Piscataqua" will be on display at the Counting House for 18 months until December 2018. OBHS will be holding other events related to the exhibit through 2017, including a French and Native encampment June 17th.

More information is available at www.oldberwick.org.

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Trying to Make Sense of the U.S.S. Liberty Incident

Take heed, skeptical watchers of the government and media: this fortnight holds the potential to be illuminating. There could, in theory, be some grand revelation; alas, it is far more likely that abiding suspicions will be confirmed. The future will tell — let the countdown begin.

The news hook in question is a Golden Anniversary, the sort of non-event our more profitable colleagues in the news racket typically find irresistible. It's so easy for an editor, especially when the beaches are beckoning, to hand a file to an intern and ask for a rehash of some twice-told tale that was old before they were born. We are 13 days away, though, from one that is different; one that may be ignored completely.

As for the government, our expectations are no higher. If the official 50th Anniversary Commemoration™ of the Vietnam War fails to grapple with the truth of that debacle, we can hardly expect it to plumb the fate of a lone ship on a single day — no matter how bloody and disturbing that day was.

June 8, 1967

The *S.S. Simmons Victory* was launched in April, 1945. A *Liberty* ship, she carried ammunition across the Pacific. A civilian freighter by 1963, she was acquired by the Navy, renamed *U.S.S. Liberty*, and outfitted as an electronic spy ship. Out of her crew of 294, 160 were regular Navy. Another 131 were from the Naval Security Group, working for the NSA [National Security Agency]. Three NSA civilians were also aboard.

On the morning of June 8th, 1967, the *U.S.S. Liberty* was patrolling in international waters, 12 miles off the Gaza Strip. The ship was scrutinized by an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft at about 6:00 a.m. Such curiosity was inevitable under the circumstances: Israel was halfway through its Six Day War against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. Several more overflights followed.

Identifying the *Liberty* was not a problem. The ship was outside normal shipping lanes, and its distinctive profile, bristling with masts and antennae, was listed in readily-available reference books. Its stern was clearly marked with its name, and flew a five by eight foot U.S. flag; its bow was painted with its designation, GTR 5, in large white letters. By 11:00 a.m. the pilot had been debriefed. The ship's identity was then relayed to Israel's Air Command.

The First Attack, By Air

Three hours later, shortly after 2:00 p.m., three Israeli Mirage fighter planes attacked the *Liberty*. First, using rockets and cannon fire, they destroyed the ship's communications equipment. They then attacked the bridge, and the ship's rather pitiful armament: four .50 caliber machine guns intended for repelling boarders. After the first wave of aircraft had expended their munitions, others followed: more rockets, more cannon fire, and now, napalm. Three fires soon covered a large area of the deck. Radio operators tried to contact the Sixth Fleet throughout these attacks, but all frequencies were being jammed. Defying cannon fire, Petty Officer Terry Halbardier strung a makeshift antenna. It, too, was destroyed, but not before an SOS made it through to the Sixth Fleet.

Two men died on the bridge during the 20-minute aerial attacks, three at the machine guns, and three others elsewhere on deck; 75 were wounded. After the Mirages withdrew, the sailors fought the fires as best they could with hoses and equipment shot to pieces. They also replaced the ship's shot-up flag with a larger one, seven by 13 feet.

The Second Attack, by Sea

The crew's respite was brief. Three Israeli boats then appeared and launched five torpedos. Only one hit, but it blew a 39- by 24-foot hole in the starboard side, at the water line, killing another 26 men. The ship began to list immediately. "Abandon

ship" sounded, but all the life rafts were either burned or riddled with holes from machine gun fire. At this point no one could venture on deck: the machine gun fire from the torpedo boats was too intense.



Crewmen of the U.S.S. Liberty aboard their shot-up ship in Malta, a week after the Israeli attack.

That could well have been the end of the *Liberty*, were it not for that one brief distress call to the Sixth Fleet. In response, the carriers *America* and *Saratoga* launched eight attack planes with orders to "use force including destruction as necessary to control the situation." Refueling tankers were dispatched so the planes could stay with the ship.

Those lethal rules of engagement were transmitted "in the clear" — unencrypted, and therefore easily understood by the Israelis. Shortly after that message was sent, the torpedo boats broke off their attack and flashed the signal, "Do you require assistance?"

An Israeli naval officer contacted the U.S. Naval Attache in Tel Aviv, informed him that a U.S. ship had been attacked, and apologized for what he said was a mistake. The eight U.S. attack planes were recalled to their carriers.

The crew of the *Liberty* was still wary. As Israeli helicopters arrived and began circling the ship, the Captain, Commander William L.

McGonagle issued small arms and gave the order, "prepare to repel borders."

The assault was over, though. Thirty-four Americans were dead, and 174 were wounded, for a casualty rate of 70 percent. The 75-minute attack was the worst sustained by any U.S. Naval vessel since WWII.

Relieved of the threat of imminent death, the survivors extinguished the fires, jury-rigged repairs, and steamed towards Malta. Medical personnel were heli-lifted onto the ship to assist its sole doctor and two pharmacist's mates. On Malta, Captain McGonagle ordered a damage survey. It found 861 fist-sized holes from rocket fire, and thousands more from .50 caliber machine guns. *Liberty* was patched up on Malta, and sailed back to the U.S., where it was deemed unsalvageable. It was sold as scrap.

Honors and Orders

The Pentagon issued nine Navy Commendation Medals, 20 Bronze Stars, 13 Silver Stars, two Navy Crosses, a Medal of Honor, and 208 Purple Hearts. The honors came with a curious restriction — a demand of silence. The sailors were warned that discussing the incident with anyone: each other, other sailors, the press — even spouses — would result in court martial, imprisonment or worse. The gag order covered everyone, from the lowliest swabbie to the Captain himself.

Captain McGonagle was awarded the Medal of Honor, typically received from the President at the White House. McGonagle got his from the Secretary of the Navy at the Washington Navy Yard. The citation states *Liberty* was attacked "in international waters," but makes no mention of Israel.

The Navy conducted a Board of Inquiry. It took all of one week to decide that the Israeli Defense Force [IDF] had mistaken the *Liberty* (445 feet, 10,680 tons), for the Egyptian cargo vessel *El Quiser* (275 feet, 2,750 tons).

Lost in the Fog

Against the chaotic backdrop of the Six Day War, the Vietnam War, and a pending Presidential election, the near-loss of the *Liberty* was quickly forgotten by the world at large. The Navy's gag order kept the crew quiet for more than a decade.

In 1980, Random House published *Attack on the Liberty*, by James Ennes, a Naval officer and a survivor of the attack. The book's publication led to a reunion of the crew, and the growing realization among them that the official account — a tragic mistake — was, in fact, a coverup.

The story spread, and as it did, it became increasingly complex.

A Florida bankruptcy judge, A. Jay Cristol, published a book in 2002, *The Liberty Incident*, which purported to thoroughly investigate the matter, and proceeded to exonerate the IDF. Cristol's book infuriated Captain Ward Boston, who had been part of the Board of Inquiry. He signed a sworn affidavit saying the Court of Inquiry had been ordered by the White House to cover up the incident and find that Israel's attack was "a case of mistaken identity."

Admiral Thomas Moorer, a former Chief of Naval Operations and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, formed an independent commission which concluded that: "There is compelling evidence that Israel's attack was a deliberate attempt to destroy an American ship and kill her entire crew."

Given Israel's continued denial, her motives can only be guessed at. The likeliest theory seems to be that the ship was sunk to prevent the U.S. from interfering in Israel's attack the next day on Syria's Golan Heights.

The *U.S.S. Liberty* Veterans Association's "Report of War Crimes Committed Against the U.S. Military, June 8, 1967," published on June 8, 2005 and readily available online, is essential reading on the topic. We'll soon see if the corporate media have anything to add.

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Pro Choice ... on Death

To the Editor:

This will be the hardest letter I have ever written. I recently saw a movie entitled *Me Before You*, which is a movie about a young man living a very charmed life, before becoming a quadriplegic. The character in the movie tells his parents that he will give "life" one year, but if he is unable to make himself happy in that timeframe, he requests his parents support his desire to end his life. *The Bridge* is another film (a documentary) that places cameras on the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco for a period of one year in order to film people in the act of committing suicide.

Our American economy is "shrinking." American manufacturing is headed overseas and corporations are getting tax breaks for the act. People are losing their careers, their homes and families. One in four veterans are homeless and they are actually killing certain veterans, without informing them, in the Phoenix Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital, in effect committing First Degree Murder. Arkansas is trying to execute as many people as possible before the lethal injection chemicals shelf life expires. We have 15 million new adult Americans graduating from high school every year and the baby boomers are retiring.

I admire people who can struggle and succeed, but I also admire those who say, "OK, that's enough for me. I'm checking out." I think some people see this as cowardice or a sin, but in the military we learned about "altruistic" suicide, which usually earns someone a Medal of Honor. I saw another type when I lost a fellow service member, who was abandoned by his wife and children, drive his car off a Japanese cliff. My beliefs of life and death come from my two decades of military service. I think people commit suicide to end some sort of "incurable personal pain." I do not see our society responding with more taxes to properly care for people, so I am writing this letter to ask for us to accept an "alternative reality of compassion," unlike the "death" chant in the recent Republican debates prior to the 2016 election.

Instead of San Francisco authorities engineering nets and barricades to stop people, perhaps we should consider putting in a platform with hand rails and wheel chair access, so people can safely make the jump, understanding there will be no rescue.

I am writing to ask your readers to consider the fact that maybe we should respect these people's desire to die and support them in this choice, to end their pain. I am a 53-year old disabled veteran and I have seen much of this world and understand that for some people, "this old world ain't ever going to be right." I personally have lived a very full life, but I know with 35 injuries, 26 scars and a solitary existence, when my time comes, it may be by my own choosing and I want that choice respected. The VA does as well, pushing its "Prime Directive."

I think the Swiss and Dr. Kevorkian have it right. If someone can draw comfort from a 2,000 year old book, that's great, but if I can't walk, or am losing my mind, I want to know I have choices, like the actor and former Marine Brian Keith, who threw a big party after discovering he had terminal cancer. He rose the next morning, put on his dress blues, then put his pistol in his mouth. I can respect that. I think my fellow Americans should as well, and legalize Assisted-Suicide Clinics.

CTI2 Jacques Porche, USN Ret.
Las Vegas, Nev.

Jacques:

Thanks for your letter. It's bound to set some teeth on edge, death being one of our great taboos — especially death by choice.

We're not supposed to talk about that because it might give people ideas.

Here we are in the greatest nation on Earth, walking on eggshells for fear of setting someone off. What does that say?

The Editor

~

Who Would Jesus Kill?

To the Editor:

The Republican-controlled House of Representatives finally executed their plan to end Obamacare and in so doing initiated a death sentence for thousands of Americans.

Classically, in the guise of "compassionate conservatism," and so often



touting family values and piety, this action paradoxically or hypocritically took place on the National Day of Prayer. The Republican caucus, largely made up of wealthy white men, finally succeeded in their wishes to strip healthcare from poor people, lower middle class people, and people of color across this nation.

Make no doubt about it, people will die due to this action if successful in the Senate. The proposed plan, rushed to passage before the Congressional Budget Office has made its assessment, will most likely result in the premature deaths of tens of thousands of Americans. The previous Republican plan was anticipated to take care away from some 24 million Americans. This plan will take care away from millions more as states and employers will have the ability to determine what coverage will be included or excluded and remove the mandates for coverage. Studies have estimated that for every thousand people not insured, one person will die prematurely. Thus, some 24,000 Americans would be expected to die prematurely due to this legislative action.

In addition, they approved gutting \$880 million from the federal Medicaid program, which affects half of all kids in the United States. They allowed pre-existing conditions to again be considered in pricing and excluding health coverage, leaving that decision up to the states. It is vital to know that 52 million Americans have pre-existing conditions — how many of these people will lose coverage when their states decide to make that ruling? Also removed are the mandates for essential benefit coverage such as hospitalization, emergency room, maternity, preventative care and prescription.

The determination of what will be covered and for whom is ultimately tantamount to the illegal practicing of medicine without a license.

As a practicing family physician for

more than 36 years, I know this action will further complicate my ability to deliver and provide the health care that my patients need and deserve. Throughout my entire practice, I have had to fight, modify, and negotiate as an advocate for my patients while watching them struggle with what they can and cannot afford, resulting in significant impacts on their health outcomes.

A far more equitable and comprehensive plan is possible and the time has come for us as a nation to move in that direction. That sensible, fair, and affordable plan is for us to move to a single payer Medicare for all coverage for every person in this country without regard to age or state of residence. The sole pre-existing condition that must be eliminated is the continued representation of our citizens by these congressional representatives. We can no longer afford self-serving hypocrisy. The health of our nation depends upon this.

Robert F. Dodge, M.D.
Ventura, Calif.

Robert:

The best thing about Republican domination of our political system is that it has finally convinced a large bloc of people that the GOP would rather see poor people lose their lives than rich people lose their money. Clarity — there's something to be said for it.

The Editor

~

Draining the Swamp

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, May 9th, CNN reported that a grand jury had begun issuing subpoenas to associates of Michael Flynn, President Trump's former National Security Advisor. FBI Director Comey also asked the Justice Department for more staff and funds to expand his investigation into

Russia's interference in our election and the possible links of the Trump campaign staff with the Russian government. Mr. Flynn had been fired for lying about his communications with the Russian government. Within days of the request Director Comey was fired.

The *Washington Post* reported that Attorney General Sessions was ordered a week ago to find a reason to fire Director Comey. Mr. Sessions had pledged to recuse himself from the Russia investigation so he needed another reason to justify firing Mr. Comey. The reason cooked up was the Director's statements regarding Hillary Clinton's emails in July and October. If that was a problem why did the President wait seven months to find fault with the Director on this matter?

During the campaign Donald Trump pledged to drain the swamp. What he did not tell the voters was that the drain would empty into the White House.

Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth, N.H.

~

Trump Restores Democracy

To the Editor:

Any person with even half a brain knows that like the recount and the attempt in the Electoral College there is an attempt by the globalist perpetual war advocates of the bicoastal elites to reverse the results of the presidential election. What these elites did not know is that in America is not the bicoastal elites that matter now, for if Trump did anything his candidacy and his win brought democracy back to America as the average working real American who had given up voting was brought back into the process when they were, for the first time, presented with a candidate that was

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote

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It is always possible."*

- Tenzin Gyatso (born Lhamo Dondrub),
14th Dalai Lama (1935-)

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responding to their concerns. And when they did return to the voting booth they learned that not voting just played into the hands of the neoconservative foreign policy, perpetual war agenda, and the neoliberal economic policies that have destroyed the Middle Class. Furthermore, they saw that they can really throw the bums out. The ruling elites and their propaganda apparatus — the corporate media — were shaken, and with the fake news produced by their propaganda agents they began their campaign to destroy Trump and his Presidency. If any relationship needs investigating it is that of the Podesta brothers' lobbying firm and the Clinton Foundation, which have received millions from Saudi Arabia in their pay-for-play schemes that support this brutal dictatorship. Trump restored democracy to America by offering real choice. This witch hunt will only serve to galvanize his base and further discredit the corporate media.

Trump's big mistake was to be influenced by the globalist agenda of perpetual war as he became their hero when he bombed Syria, reversed his stated platform, and appointed their members to offices in his administration. But he still could not be trusted. In fact the very idea of the power of real people is a threat to the establishment. If nothing else Trump still represents idea of a the true voice of the people which the establishment cannot tolerate. The ruling elites cannot survive in a true democracy, as their agenda serves only the one percent.

John Dente
Wilmington, Del.

Times That Try Men's Souls
To the Editor:
I wrote the words in the following

paragraphs on March 9. In light of the events of the past week regarding the firing of FBI Director Comey, and today's comments by former Director of National Intelligence Clapper, they deserve repeating. Mr. Clapper stated that our institutions are under assault by Trump, who is "eroding the system of checks and balances on political power." He called on Congressional Republicans to publicly condemn Trump's recent actions.

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman." These words written by Thomas Paine are as valid today as they were in December, 1776. The crisis now is the frontal assault on our Democratic Republic by Donald Trump and the circle of accomplices around him and in our Congress. These "summer soldiers and sunshine patriots" have no sense of honor, integrity, respect for our institutions, our constitution, or the well being of the average American. Their only allegiance is to their own warped ideology, greed and the force of power they hold over the weak.

In these "times that try men's souls," it will be the foul weather patriot and winter soldiers of freedom who stand up against the Trump tyranny who will be remembered and praised for their courage, wisdom and strength, and honored by a grateful nation. It will be up to those of us who actually have souls that are now being tried, to make sure those soulless "summer soldiers and sunshine patriots," like Trump, Bannon, Ryan, McConnell and the rest of their cabal do not succeed in achieving their victory.

This will be a difficult struggle against a powerful force that controls

most of the means of power. The threat we face is unprecedented in American history. Never have we been confronted with such a well organized and so pervasive a threat to our Republic emanating directly from the Presidency itself, and spilling over into the executive departments, the courts and the legislative branch of our government. If you doubt the threat or consider my opinion hyperbole, just look at what Trump has done to Voice of America, turning it into his own government propaganda machine that can now be aired here at home. And recently, he had CNN, *The New York Times* and the Huffington Post locked out of a White House news briefing. If this does not send a shudder down peoples' spine, then they just do not understand what is happening to our country.

We Americans are not trained or prepared to deal with such a threat, we have always trusted that the checks and balances built into the system would protect us as they have done for over 200 years. Unfortunately, that trust can no longer be counted on to save us, it will be up to us to stand by our nation and not "shrink from the service of their country."

Richard DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

Richard:
Nothing cheers us up like a reference to ol' Tom Paine, without whom we'd be British.

The Editor

Is This the New Normal?

To the Editor:

The President-for-Now gave a speech in Saudi Arabia that was way more moderate than the angry, anti-Islam invective that he has been spewing throughout his campaign and long before as well.

Normalists, who would like to believe that the mendacious narcissist is actually a normal, rational president,

are celebrating his reading all the way through the prepared speech without going all wicky-wacky.

The question remains, however, if he can pivot so completely after years of hateful, divisive statements, can one believe that he won't just pivot again, from this apparently normal speech? At any time, in any moment, he will say whatever he's thinking, with no internal consistency to guide him, except for his narcissistic need for attention and adulation.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:
Before this paper hits the streets, he'll have gone off the rails again.

The Editor

Who Among Us is Sane?

To the Editor:

My neighbor across the street has a bumper sticker on the back of his vehicle which states, "Liberalism is a mental disorder." I find his political viewpoint challenging, as I'm a liberal with a diagnosed mental illness.

It's hard to avoid seeing his bumper sticker every day, as he parks head-in, with the back of his vehicle facing my front windows. I'm treated to seeing it every single day and I'm not getting used to it.

Every morning when I open the blinds I see his deliberately polarizing bumper sticker. Every morning when I walk out my front door I'm confronted with his politically stigmatizing attitude.

I try not to take it personally. But I'm sick and tired of being stigmatized and ostracized by members of my own family, by members of my local community, and by my country.

Having a stigmatizing neighbor only makes the situation worse. It's a daily reminder of just how common it is, and just how socially acceptable it is, to stigmatize.

I tried talking to him about it once. I was calm, polite, and rational. But he stuck to his guns. He was completely unfazed, unmoved, and unrepentant.

Apparently, he's not the kind of fellow who practices the golden rule — at least not when it comes to politics.

Perhaps he's decent otherwise.

Now, I realize his attitude is a reflection of his values, not of mine, but it's still hard. It's hard because it's not exactly neighborly.

It wouldn't surprise me if he thinks people with mental illness are violent sociopaths. Maybe he even voted for Trump.

If that be the case, he should take a look at himself before he accuses others. Trump is a dangerous man.

Trump wants to increase America's stockpile of nuclear weapons. Just how is that not insane?

Deterrence implies potential use. As in, ready to launch — just to be on the safe side.

I, on the other hand, endeavor to practice nonviolence in my daily life. I don't own any guns or weapons. I'm trying to be more vegetarian. Yet I'm largely stigmatized by society as dangerous, while my neighbor largely passes for normal, acceptable, and respectable.

Talk about scapegoating! Talk about hypocrisy! Talk about insanity!

I ask you, dear reader, to please keep my neighbor in your daily prayers, if you're spiritually inclined. May he be restored to sanity, if that be a loving and gentle God's Will.

Alex J. Boros
Rochester, N.H.

Alex:
We're not doctors, but we have to wonder — maybe you're too sane for your own 'hood.

The Editor

A Total Unmitigated Disaster

To the Editor:

It is absolutely obvious beyond any reasonable doubt that Donald Trump and his administration has been a total unmitigated disaster. Trump and his associates have created so many scandals in such a short period of time that it is hard to keep track of them all. These include the various former National Security Advisor Flynn's scandals, the Comey firing, the Comey memos, the nepotism and conflict

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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Homo immutabilis

by William Marvel

Nothing much ever changes. One hundred and fifty years ago, the denizens of the Saco River Valley found the same discouraging menu of tragedies and farce in their newspapers that they might encounter today. Society seemed to be going to hell in a handbasket, with evil and corruption perceptible everywhere.

The citizens of sleepy Stow, Maine, had a suspected murder to gossip about in the spring of 1867, when teenager Abby Johnson died suddenly at the home of a local man with whom she was living. She was the daughter of George and Nancy Johnson, who raised their numerous children on a humble farm along a muddy track near Sucker Brook. She had gone to work as a domestic servant for a man named Bunker, and on May 12th she suddenly fell ill, dying the next day. An inquest concluded that she had ingested poison, and both Bunker and Abby's mother were arrested. Bunker hired David Hastings to defend him in a hearing before James Hobbs in

Lovell a few days later. No murder trial ensued, suggesting a lack of evidence, but neither did any further news coverage clear the names of the apparent suspects. In fact, all the minor Johnson children lived with neighbors thereafter, leaving George and Nancy alone on the farm, as though their parenting had been brought into question.

New Hampshire had its own deplorable domestic tales to tell. Barely a week after Abby Johnson died, James Bean's wife left his house and returned to the home of her father, Joseph Lewis, near Duncan Lake in Ossipee. Bean came to collect her, but when she rebuffed him her brother, Samuel, came out to send the spurned husband packing. Bean pulled a shoemaker's knife with a seven-inch blade and stabbed his brother-in-law in the chest, puncturing a lung, and the sheriff confined Bean in the county jail while they waited to see if Samuel Lewis would die. He declined to do so, and lived for another 33 years, so Bean went free — and presumably single.

There was an opioid crisis, too. Under a heading about "Opium

eaters in the United States," the *Oxford Democrat* of June 21, 1867, republished an article reporting on the growing importation of opium into the country. The per-person intake had jumped threefold between 1840 and 1860, as had the price, which by then had reached \$4.50 a pound. Frequent addiction among Union soldiers who had survived wounds had already increased usage even more, but the importation figures that would reveal that trend were not yet available.

The weather was also causing as much frustration in May of 1867 as it has in May of 2017. So continually had they been inundated with rain through the first half of the month that Fryeburg farmers had not been able to plow their fields, and the planting season was set back a fortnight or more.

In addition to social and meteorological turbulence, the United States was also as deeply torn politically as it had been at the height of the Civil War that had just ended. Abraham Lincoln won less than 40 percent of the popular vote in 1860, although he took nearly 60 percent of the

electoral vote, and Southern refusal to accept a minority President led the slave states to try breaking away from the rest of the Union. Upwards of three-quarters of a million deaths later, the conflict persisted after the guns fell silent. In 1864 Lincoln had chosen Democrat Andrew Johnson as his running mate, to lend his reelection effort a bipartisan flavor, and after Lincoln died Johnson clashed with the powerful radical wing of the Republican Party even more than Lincoln had.

Lincoln himself would have had trouble with the Radicals during Reconstruction, and Johnson was not as smooth as his predecessor. He was stubborn where Lincoln was flexible, and combative where Lincoln was compromising, which aggravated the relatively minor political differences the two entertained. Except for a somewhat harsher attitude toward the Confederate leaders, Johnson's initial policies essentially reflected those Lincoln had espoused just prior to his assassination. The problem came mainly with his delivery.

The Radicals did all they could

to get rid of him. They dug pitfalls in his path, passed laws of dubious constitutionality to tie his hands, and searched frantically for a reason to impeach him. The allegations and insinuation against Johnson ranged from the absurd suspicion that he was behind the murder of Lincoln to the ridiculous contention that he had uttered political opinions repugnant to Radical Republicans "in a loud voice."

By June of 1867, after months of investigation, a congressional impeachment committee could still produce no evidence of wrongdoing. On a party-line vote, the members therefore censured Johnson, declaring that he had "demonstrated that he was unworthy of the confidence and respect of the American people." Eventually they would entrap him and bring him to trial. They couldn't convict him even then, but they succeeded in hamstringing his administration, and in the process set the precedent for partisan manipulation of the impeachment power. Especially in politics, nothing ever changes.

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

of interests of Trump's daughter and son in law, the leaking of classified information to the Russians, and Russian media with cameras allowed in the Oval Office while the American media is barred, to name just a few. And in a record time that may never be beat, it took only four months for the Trump-appointed Deputy Attorney General to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate the Trump "Russian thing."

Of course Donald Trump has said the appointment of a Special Counsel will hurt the nation, that it is Democrats revenge for losing the election, and it is the "greatest witch

hunt in history." None of which are true, except in the mind of Donald Trump. While proclaiming his total innocence with anything regarding the "Russian thing," he has and continues to do everything possible to delay, impede and block any real independent investigation into his connection with the Russians. It has now been reported that after the appointment of Mr. Mueller as Special Counsel, the Trump Administration is looking into ways to limit and interfere with Mr. Mueller. (Huffington Post, May 18th)

While Trump steadfastly proclaims innocence with anything and

everything, his actions and words portray a man who is desperately trying to prevent the truth from ever seeing the light of day. Instead of welcoming a truly independent investigation that would prove his proclaimed innocence, he has behaved in a way that shows that he is a man with some serious issues to keep from being disclosed. These could range from collusion with the Russians to interfere with the election, his involvement with Russian money laundering through his various real estate holdings, or his personal behavior in Russia during the Miss Universe Pageant, among

others.

Whatever Trump's reasons are for not wanting a full independent investigation, it is clear that he is not behaving like an innocent victim. As the saying goes, where there is smoke, there is fire. And with the Trump case, there is a great deal of smoke coming from the Oval Office.

Rich DiPentima
Portsmouth, N.H.

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Stealing a Veteran's Right to Vote
To the Editor:
We could certainly debate all day long about when we should take our

country to war — and you know I haven't been shy about expressing my thoughts on the most recent wars we've been dragged into and are still fighting and paying for in so many ways — but I think we can surely agree that there can be no argument when it comes to fulfilling the promises made to the men and women who have served our country in the Armed Forces.

We unfortunately and all too frequently fall short of our obligation regarding the care of the military personnel who have returned from war physically and/or mentally broken. Now, after closely examining

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What is worse than being poor?

by Jim Hightower

One of the lucky things about being rich is that you automatically become handsome, your jokes are hilarious, and politicians treat you with fawning deference.

On the other hand, the unlucky thing about being poor is that ... well, you're poor. And society generally treats you poorly. Indeed, morally-corrupt Right Wing officials in Washington and across the

country are pushing the idea that poor people must be punished, as if debilitating poverty is not punishment enough. One especially ugly example of this is spreading through hundreds of school districts — an abhorrent practice called “lunch shaming.”

From first-grade through senior class, most schools make families pay for their kids' cafeteria lunch, and a computer program alerts cashiers when a student's lunch ac-

count is unpaid — a shortfall that nearly always involves poverty-level kids. Rather than dealing with this discreetly, school systems have taken to publicly humiliating children whom the computer tags as having a meal debt.

Some schools literally take an indebted student's tray of food away, making a show of dumping the lunch in the trash in front of everyone. Some remove the hot food from the child's tray, replacing it with a

cold sandwich of white bread and a slice of cheese, claiming that this so-called “sandwich” meets federal nutrition standards. Others actually brand the offenders, using markers to write “I need lunch money” on the poor kids' arms! Nearly half of America's school districts use some form of shaming and stigmatizing, embarrassing children to tears.

What educational lesson is this teaching? And what's the matter with school boards and lawmakers

who are either allowing or directly causing this abuse, using lunch to punish the poor?

Being poor means you lack money; being mean to the poor means you lack a soul.

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SB3, which supporters claim will protect the sanctity of New Hampshire voters, I can see that we are preparing, unintended or not, to disenfranchise our homeless veterans, which, to say the least, does them and our nation's honor a great disservice.

Instead of “protecting the sanctity of the vote” — and perhaps the New Hampshire Legislature should concern itself a little more with the state's extremely deadly opiate crisis as opposed to suppressing the vote — it just makes it harder for homeless people to vote, which in turn harms our veteran population.

As of 2016, New Hampshire is home to an estimated 1,300 homeless people with just under half being veterans. These homeless veterans, in need of assistance more than anyone, fought for this nation, but rather than help, they are about to be kicked in the stomach by SB3 which would strip them of their voting rights, the most sacred of rights guaranteed by the Constitution for which they fought, by placing an increased burden on veterans without an address. Adding salt to the wound, those that do not comply could face an investigation and a fine.

SB3 needs to be placed in the paper shredder and we must start putting more money towards helping veterans acclimate to life in New Hampshire and support them in

any way possible, not robbing them of their voter rights because they are down on their luck.

Wayne Merritt
Dover, N.H.

Wayne:

Thanks for calling attention to this point. We failed to include it in this fortnight's Rant. How does America let down its veterans? Let us count the ways. Oops — ran out of fingers and toes.

The Editor

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It's a Masquerade

To the Editor:

The American Health Care Act (AHCA) which passed the House was really a tax cut bill masquerading as a health care bill. The AHCA creates a \$600 to \$800 billion tax cut for the richest 20 percent of families in America over 10 years.

In 2010 the bottom 40 percent of Americans had just 0.3 percent of the nation's wealth while the top 20 percent had 84 percent. Since then the rich have gotten an even greater share of the wealth. The bottom 40 percent have little the rich can take. Thus, those in the 41-79 percent will have to lose a lot to benefit the millionaires and billionaires at the top.

To help the top 20 percent the GOP cut \$880 billion in health insurance subsidies. They cut federal contributions to traditional Medicaid. You have to hurt millions of poor to help a few at the top. They

eliminate expanded Medicaid (attacking those barely above poverty), lower subsidies for those between 50 and 65, federal assistance for those with disabilities at public schools, and allow states to end protection for those with preexisting conditions. Essentially health insurance would become so expensive that 20-24 million people would lose coverage and the rest of us would see our premiums jump as doctors and hospitals again raise their rates to cover the uninsured.

The AHCA is a war on the 80 percent to help the richest families in this country. **But wait — there is more.** The GOP is in a hurry to enact these tax cuts so they can pass even more tax cuts for the rich afterwards. There is a loophole in the rules for the Senate that allow bills to escape the filibuster rules and the GOP needs the AHCA's tax cuts to pass first to get through that loophole. Then they can pass a Bush Tax Cut on Steroids bill that benefits the very rich and creates massive deficits requiring cuts to almost every program helping the middle class and poor in the country.

Donald Trump said the system was rigged during the campaign. He neglected to tell the voters that he did not think it was rigged enough to suit billionaires like him.

Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth, N.H.

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An Insidious Drug Threat

To the Editor:

High Fructose Corn Syrup is a THREAT to the National Security of the United States. High Fructose Corn Syrup will BANKRUPT Medicare/Medicaid and Social Security. Our new immigrants & 60 percent of the American people are suffering from Obesity, Diabetes, and Cardiovascular diseases. Please

go to House.gov and Senate.gov and demand our elected leadership declare High Fructose Corn Syrup a “Schedule 1 Narcotic” and order the DEA to remove this ADDICTIVE DRUG from our food and drinks before it kills more people than alcohol, meth, coke, and marijuana combined.

Jacques Porche,
Las Vegas, Nev.

Epistle, by William Saroyan

To the Editor:

In the event that you're not already familiar with it, I bring to your attention the following:

To the man this humble word:
Great soul, I your voice have heard.
If in fact I stand alone,
My clamor will the wrong atone.

Before your own my voice is small:
You sing, while my poor words must fall
Like so much sodden clay or mud
Into the rush of thought's swift flood.

Yours is the flowing of the ancient soul.
While mine is but the lisp of the mind.
Yet if music the deaf cannot make whole,
The print shall give hearing to those not blind.

William Saroyan, (1908 – 1981) American-Armenian novelist, playwright, and short story writer, awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1940, and in 1943 the Academy Award for Best Story for the film adaptation of his novel *The Human Comedy*.

John Simon
Portsmouth, N.H.

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26 fri Night at the Zoo 10PM, \$5/\$7 Jazz/lunch Larry Garland and Friends@1PM	27 sat Dubbest 10PM, \$5/\$7 Jazz/grill	28 sun Paul Broadnax Trio with Fred Haas 6-9PM, \$10 Jazz/grill	29 mon Matt McCabe 8PM NO COVER Jazz/lunch w/ Larry Garland & Friends SATURDAYS @ 1PM	Lunch with Music FRI-SAT @ 12PM	30 tue Jerry Tillett Hoot Meister HOOT (OPEN MIC) 9PM, NO COVER upstairs GAME NIGHT 9PM Pint Night: 6-9pm	31 wed Chelsea Paolini 9PM NO COVER	1 thu Soggy Po' Boys 9PM NO COVER	2 fri Bella's Bartok 10PM, \$10
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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, MAY 28	MONDAY, MAY 29	TUESDAY, MAY 30	WEDNESDAY, MAY 31	THURSDAY, JUNE 1	FRIDAY, JUNE 2	SATURDAY, JUNE 3
<p>1987—Mathias Rust, 19, lands a rented Cessna in Red Square.</p> <p>1986—The Secretary of Energy announces the decision to postpone indefinitely the search for a second high-level nuclear waste dump, which had included a site in southwestern New Hampshire.</p> <p>1972—Nixon's "Plumbers" finally break into DNC HQ in the Watergate Hotel and get busted.</p> <p>1971—Audie Murphy, most-decorated soldier of World War Two, dies in a plane crash at 45.</p> <p>1962—The stock market plummets 5.7 percent, the worst drop since 1929.</p> <p>1959—The U.S. Army sends Able and Baker, two monkeys, into space.</p> <p>1952—During a ceremony in Saigon, observers see a "white-silver disc-shaped object" flying straight and fast overhead for about two minutes.</p> <p>1946—The Pentagon begins working on a long-range bomber to be powered by a nuclear reactor; 15 years and \$8 billion later it's declared impractical.</p> <p>1871—In Père Lachaise cemetery, French soldiers restore proper order by massacring 147 Communards.</p> <p>1830—Andy Jackson says all Indians must move west of the Mississippi.</p> <p>1754—Tanacharison, scout for Lieutenant Colonel George Washington, murders the wounded Joseph Coulen de Villiers near Fort Necessity. The French and Indian War ensues.</p> <p>1653—Strawbery Banke becomes Portsmouth.</p>	<p>2015—The <i>Washington Post</i> prints ex-Gov. John H. Sununu's confession that in 1988 he bartered state assets—low numbered license plates—to buy support for G.H.[H.]W. Bush.</p> <p>2011—In Orange County, Calif., Paramedic Chris Trokey saves Dr. Michael Shannon from a burning SUV. Shannon, a pediatrician, had saved Trokey's life after his premature birth 26 years earlier.</p> <p>2008—Sen. (and candidate) John McCain [R-Ariz.] says "Mosul is quiet" on a day when 30 die there.</p> <p>2002—FBI head Robert Mueller admits his outfit might have been able to prevent 9/11.</p> <p>2001—The Bush twins, charged with underage boozing, plead <i>nolo</i>.</p> <p>1992—In Gibsonton, Fla., "Lobster Boy" Grady Stiles Jr. is murdered by a hit man hired by his family.</p> <p>1987—Michael Jackson attempts to buy the Elephant Man's bones.</p> <p>1968—Charles deGaulle flees from Paris to Germany, where he consults with French generals about bringing troops back home to restore order.</p> <p>1953—Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary top Everest.</p> <p>1932—WWI "Bonus Marchers" begin arriving in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1922—The Supreme Court rules that baseball is not a business and is therefore exempt from anti-trust laws.</p> <p>1856—Abraham Lincoln delivers his "Lost Speech" — said to be his best ever — in Bloomington, Ind.</p>	<p>2007—Dale Rippey, a 62 year-old Florida resident, is attacked by a rabid 25-pound bobcat. Rippey, a 'Nam vet, strangles the cat with his bare hands.</p> <p>1979—A Downeast Airlines plane with 18 aboard crashes on approach to Rockland, Maine; one survives. A similar crash in '71 killed two.</p> <p>1971—Hundreds of Vietnam veterans are arrested during an anti-war protest on Lexington Green.</p> <p>1962—Missionary Archie E. Mitchell, sole survivor of a Bly, Ore. picnic devastated by a Japanese fire balloon, is captured, along with two others, by the Viet Cong. He's never seen again.</p> <p>1961—Caribbean despot Rafael Trujillo, aka <i>El Jefe</i>, succumbs to a bad case of CIA-supplied M-1 carbines.</p> <p>1937—Police attack striking workers at Republic Steel in Chicago. Ten are shot dead, 55 are hospitalized, and 30 more are wounded.</p> <p>1909—A National Conference on the Negro leads to the NAACP.</p> <p>1883—Six days after the Brooklyn Bridge is opened, a panic leads to 12 people being trampled to death.</p> <p>1806—Future President Andy Jackson kills a man in a duel.</p> <p>1783—America's 1st daily, <i>The Pennsylvania Evening Post</i>, begins; a "sorry-looking, poverty-stricken sheet," it's published by a "catchpenny Tory."</p> <p>1741—New York upholds slavery by burning 13 black men at the stake and hanging 21 men and women, black and white, who planned a slave revolt.</p>	<p>2007—New Hampshire becomes the first state to honor same-sex unions without court intervention.</p> <p>2005—Ex-FBI official Mark Felt admits he is "Deep Throat."</p> <p>1971—For the first time, the U.S. celebrates Memorial Day on a day other than May 30.</p> <p>1958—Number of U.S. military and economic advisors on duty in Vietnam rises to 1,347.</p> <p>1943—In downtown L.A., a fight erupts between a dozen sailors and some young zoot-suited Latinos.</p> <p>1942—The Luftwaffe bombs Coventry, England.</p> <p>1927—The last Model T rolls off the Ford assembly line.</p> <p>1921—In Tulsa, Okla., a black WWI veteran refuses to surrender his pistol. It fires and a massive "race war" begins.</p> <p>1921—The mistrial of Sacco and Vanzetti begins.</p> <p>1916—The Battle of Jutland begins: 151 British ships, including 28 battleships, against 99 Germans (16 battleships). The results are inconclusive, except for the 8,645 dead sailors.</p> <p>1889—A shoddy dam belonging to Andrew Carnegie, Andrew Mellon, and friends at the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club collapses upstream of Johnstown, Pa. The resulting flood kills 2,200, but the owners are never successfully prosecuted.</p> <p>455—Petronius Maximus, Emperor for 78 days, is stoned to death by an angry Roman mob.</p>	<p>2005—Paul Wolfowitz, his incompetence well-proven at the Pentagon, is put in charge of the World Bank.</p> <p>2003—The Bush administration cancels its plans for a large Iraqi assembly in favor of a smaller, easier to manipulate advisory council.</p> <p>2002—George W.[MD] Bush announces at West Point that we'll attack pre-emptively if we get nervous.</p> <p>2001—Members of the Nepalese Royal Family are massacred in their Katmandu palace. Prince Dipendra, the suspected perpetrator, is proclaimed King but dies three days later.</p> <p>1981—In Seattle, two longshoremen are assassinated on orders of the Marcos regime.</p> <p>1967—Disgruntled vets form Vietnam Veterans Against the War.</p> <p>1954—The AEC pulls the security clearance of Manhattan Project boss J. Robert Oppenheimer.</p> <p>1926—Norma Jeane Mortenson, aka Marilyn Monroe, is born in a Los Angeles charity ward.</p> <p>1923—Maine Governor Percival P. Baxter orders state flags lowered to half-staff to honor the death of his dog, Garry.</p> <p>1921—Greenwood, Tulsa, Okla.'s prosperous black neighborhood, is destroyed by arson as hundreds of blacks are murdered.</p> <p>1918—Advised by a retreating French officer at Belleau Woods to turn back, U.S.M.C. Capt. Lloyd Williams replies, "Retreat? Hell, we just got here."</p>	<p>2016—In Colo., Cindy Estevane-Vilavicencio sees an Air Force Thunderbird crash; the pilot lives. In Ga., her sister Kristyn Lockwood sees a Navy Blue Angel crash; the pilot dies.</p> <p>2010—A Robinson R22 helicopter flying over Spokane, Wash. sputters, pops, and throws off pieces before crashing and killing its pilot.</p> <p>2002—The CIA admits to Congress—in a classified document, to avoid undue alarm—it had tracked one 9/11 hijacker months earlier than it had previously admitted.</p> <p>1999—The <i>Virginian-Pilot</i> reports that evangelist Pat Robertson has had "extensive dealings" with Liberian criminal Charles Taylor.</p> <p>1983—As a result of a toilet fire aboard an Air Canada DC-9, 23 people die in Cincinnati, including singer Stan Rogers.</p> <p>1972—Alfred W. McCoy testifies before Congress that top South Vietnamese officials, the CIA, and the Mafia are all in the heroin business.</p> <p>1944—Donald Trump, 15, of Roslindale, Mass., drowns after being stricken with a cramp while swimming.</p> <p>1919—Anarchists set off bombs in eight cities. In Washington, D.C., the home of Attorney General Mitchell Palmer is nearly destroyed; parts of the bomber's body land across the street on FDR's stoop.</p> <p>1863—Black Union soldiers guided by Harriet Tubman raid Combahee Ferry, S.C. and free 750 slaves.</p>	<p>2002—Hosni Mubarak announces that Egypt warned the U.S., a week before 9/11, that al-Qaeda was about to strike the U.S.</p> <p>1987—After a loud "ping," parts fall from a Robinson R22 over South Windsor, Conn. It crashes and burns an instructor and student to death.</p> <p>1980—A failed 46-cent computer chip briefly convinces NORAD that 220 Soviet missiles are incoming.</p> <p>1974—Brown & Williamson Tobacco tests a cigarette blended to smell like pot.</p> <p>1969—In the South China Sea, a navigational mistake takes the destroyer <i>U.S.S. Evans</i> under the bow of the carrier <i>HMAS Melbourne</i>. The forward quarter of the <i>Evans</i> sinks along with 73 of her crew.</p> <p>1968—Radical lesbian Valerie Solanas plugs Andy Warhol.</p> <p>1964—Longtime correspondents Groucho Marx and T.S. Eliot finally meet for dinner.</p> <p>1961—Henry R. Marshall, an Agriculture Department official investigating LBJ's friend Billy Sol Estes, is found dead with five slugs in him from a bolt-action .22-calibre rifle. The death is ruled a suicide.</p> <p>1943—Fighting between sailors and Hispanics escalates in L.A.; the "Zoot Suit Riots" are in full swing.</p> <p>1851—The New York Knickerbockers introduce the first baseball uniforms: white shirts, long blue trousers, and straw hats.</p>
 <p>1:24 2:05 7:47 8:00</p>	 <p>2:18 3:01 8:41 8:55</p>	 <p>3:13 3:59 9:36 9:54</p>	 <p>4:13 4:59 10:34 10:57</p>	 <p>5:15 6:01 11:34</p>	 <p>6:20 7:03 12:02 12:34</p>	 <p>7:25 8:01 1:08 1:34</p>
SUNDAY, JUNE 4	MONDAY, JUNE 5	TUESDAY, JUNE 6	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7	THURSDAY, JUNE 8	FRIDAY, JUNE 9	SATURDAY, JUNE 10
<p>2006—A Ukrainian man enters the lion cage at the Kiev zoo, saying "God will save me, if he exists." He doesn't.</p> <p>2004—In Granby, Colo., Marvin Heemeyer destroys the Town Hall, the mayor's home, and 11 other buildings with his home-made armored bulldozer because "God has asked me to do this." Then he shoots himself.</p> <p>2003—To prove they're not soft on corporate crime, federal prosecutors pick on Martha Stewart.</p> <p>1989—The Chinese Army kills thousands at Tiananmen Square.</p> <p>1974—Cleveland forfeits a home game to the Rangers when ten-cent beer night goes awry.</p> <p>1966—James Meredith takes a bullet for voter registration.</p> <p>1963—Allen Ginsberg visits Saigon to assess the political situation.</p> <p>1962—The first U.S. high altitude nuke test fails when a Thor rocket malfunctions and is blown up minutes after liftoff over the South Pacific.</p> <p>1944—For the first time a submarine—<i>USO5</i>—is captured and boarded on the high seas.</p> <p>1943—GIs in a fleet of cabs roam downtown L.A. searching for and beating up Mexican Americans.</p> <p>1939—The <i>St. Louis</i>, 915 Jewish refugees aboard, is turned away from Florida; 254 later die in Nazi concentration camps.</p> <p>1919—U.S. Marines invade Costa Rica "to protect American interests."</p> <p>1789—The U.S. Constitution kicks in.</p>	<p>2003—Two top <i>New York Times</i> editors resign in disgrace. Oddly, many more do not.</p> <p>2000—A rented Robinson R22 helicopter crashes outside an Indiantown, Fla., treatment center. The occupants, a novice pilot and an escaping sexual offender, survive but are soon caught.</p> <p>1989—A lone Chinese man temporarily stops a line of tanks in Tiananmen Square.</p> <p>1976—In Idaho, the \$100 million federal Teton Dam fails, killing 14 and causing \$2 billion in damages.</p> <p>1969—Taken three weeks earlier, at a cost of 72 American lives and 372 Purple Hearts, Ap Bia Mountain, aka Hamburger Hill, is abandoned.</p> <p>1968—Robert Kennedy is fatally shot in Los Angeles. An LAPD investigation convinces the gullible that Sirhan Sirhan did it.</p> <p>1967—Israel attacks Egypt and Syria. The Six Day War begins.</p> <p>1965—The State Department admits that U.S. troops are engaged in combat in Vietnam.</p> <p>1963—Britain's Sec. of War John Profumo resigns after it's revealed he and a Soviet naval officer had, at different times, shared the favors of the same prostitute.</p> <p>1943—Clashes between GIs and zoot-suited Hispanics continue in L.A.</p> <p>1862—France gains sovereignty over three Vietnamese provinces under the Treaty of Saigon, and the principle that might makes right.</p>	<p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld tells the unknowing that unknown unknowns are "things we do not know we don't know." He should know.</p> <p>2001—Florida man Vance Flossenier drags a seven-foot shark from shallow water; paramedics drag his nephew Jesse Arbogast's arm from its mouth; doctors successfully re-attach the arm.</p> <p>1989—Nuclear weapon manufacturing ends at Rocky Flats, Colo. when FBI and EPA agents raid the joint.</p> <p>1989—Greenpeace reports there are 50 nuclear weapons and nine reactors on the ocean floor.</p> <p>1989—Californians vote to shut down the Rancho Seco nuke plant.</p> <p>1988—At a food irradiation plant in Georgia, "unbreakable" cesium capsules break, nuking ten workers.</p> <p>1980—Nuke-armed B-52s go on alert for the 2nd time in three days after a computer glitch signals a Soviet attack on the U.S.</p> <p>1975—Governor Mel Thomson calls for the N.H. National Guard to be armed with nuclear weapons.</p> <p>1970—Generals gathered at Charleston Air Force Base to observe the first operational C-5A landing see a wheel fall off after a tire blows out.</p> <p>1944—GIs experience an unusually long day in Normandy.</p> <p>1933—The first drive-in movie theatre opens, in Camden, N.J.</p> <p>1930—William Beebe and Otis Barton go 803 feet below the ocean's surface in a bathysphere.</p>	<p>1997—Activists are arrested for passing out the Bill of Rights outside the pro-nuclear Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos.</p> <p>1969—Marine PFC Dan Bullock is killed in 'Nam. He is 15.</p> <p>1960—An A-bomb is incinerated in an anti-aircraft missile fire 20 miles from Trenton, N.J.</p> <p>1943—In L.A., 5,000 soldiers, sailors, and civilians strip and beat zoot-suited Hispanics.</p> <p>1924—George Mallory disappears near the summit of Mt. Everest.</p> <p>1920—K.K.K. Imperial Wizard William J. Simmons hires two PR experts: membership explodes.</p> <p>1917—Messines, Belgium and 10,000 Germans vanish as British engineers detonate 19 huge mines. The explosion is heard in Dublin.</p> <p>1915—Alfred Muhler falls 8,000 feet from a Zeppelin, crashes through the roof of a Belgian convent, and lives.</p> <p>1912—Capt. Charles Chandler, U.S. Army, aboard a Wright Model B Flyer, establishes that it's possible to fire a machine gun from an airplane.</p> <p>1862—Under orders from N.H.-born Gen. Benjamin "The Beast" Butler, disabled Mexican War vet Wm. B. Mumford is hanged in New Orleans for desecrating the U.S. flag.</p> <p>1692—Port Royal, Jamaica—"the wickedest city in the world"—is destroyed by an earthquake and subsequent tsunami. Thousands of whores and pirates perish.</p>	<p>2003—Condoleezza Rice admits Pres. George W.[MD] Bush's State of the Union claim that Saddam tried to buy uranium from Niger was "wrong."</p> <p>1994—The main rotor of a Robinson R22 helicopter detaches over Martin, England, killing a pilot and instructor.</p> <p>1971—Health expert J.L. Rodale tells Dick Cavett "I never felt better in my life!" Minutes later he dies of a heart attack.</p> <p>1967—Israeli planes and boats attack the unarmed U.S. spy ship <i>Liberty</i> with rockets, machine guns, and napalm; 34 sailors are killed, 171 wounded.</p> <p>1966—At NYU, 270 graduates walk out as Robert S. McNamara speaks.</p> <p>1959—John Penton leaves N.Y.C. for L.A. on a BMW R69S motorcycle. He arrives 52 hours later.</p> <p>1956—Technical Sergeant Richard B. Fitzgibbon, Jr. becomes the first American serviceman to die in the Vietnam War. He's murdered by a fellow American airman.</p> <p>1952—"I would never send troops [to Vietnam]," says Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower.</p> <p>1949—The FBI calls Helen Keller a Commie.</p> <p>1944—FDR signs the GI Bill. The president of the U. of Chicago warns that "colleges would become educational hobo jungles."</p> <p>1943—The Zoot Suit Riots end after military brass put L.A. off-limits and civil authorities impose a dress code.</p> <p>793—The Viking Age begins with the destruction of Lindesfarne.</p>	<p>1989—Ronald Reagan's Interior Secretary James Watt admits to a House committee that he was paid \$400,000 for making a few phone calls on a topic about which he knew nothing.</p> <p>1978—The Mormon Church drops its policy of excluding black men from the priesthood.</p> <p>1963—Under orders from Winona, Miss. cops, jail inmates beat civil rights pioneer Fannie Lou Hamer, 45, nearly to death.</p> <p>1958—Atop an armored car in Cyprus, British writer Auberon Waugh shakes the barrel of a malfunctioning machine gun, accidentally shooting himself in the chest several times.</p> <p>1958—Jerry Lee Lewis takes out a full page ad in <i>Billboard</i> to explain his 2nd divorce and 3rd marriage, this one to his 14 year-old-cousin Myra.</p> <p>1954—Joseph Welch asks Joseph McCarthy, "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"</p> <p>1953—In Worcester, Mass., a tornado kills 94 and injures 1,306.</p> <p>1946—Manager Mel Ott is ejected from both games of a double header.</p> <p>1946—Ted Williams hits a ball that lands in the 37th row of Fenway's bleachers, over 500 feet away.</p> <p>1893—As Edwin Booth, John Wilkes' brother, is being buried in Boston, the floors collapse at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., killing 22 people.</p> <p>1909—Alice Huyler Ramsay departs New York for San Francisco in a Maxwell automobile.</p>	<p>1990—British Airways Capt. Tim Lancaster is sucked half-way out of Flight 5390 when his windshield blows out over Oxfordshire. The plane lands safely. Lancaster recovers and later resumes flying.</p> <p>1988—A bicycle messenger is denied entrance to the Justice Department because he's wearing a T-shirt that says, "Experts agree: Meese is a pig."</p> <p>1975—Rockefeller Commission says the CIA's Operation CHAOS spied on 300,000 Americans and infiltrated political movements.</p> <p>1964—The U.S. Senate votes to end the filibuster of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.</p> <p>1958—A House subcommittee hears that Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine gave Ike's Chief of Staff (and ex-N.H. Governor) Sherman Adams a vicuña coat in exchange for favors from the SEC.</p> <p>1944—Pitching in the ninth for the Cincinnati Reds, Joe Nuxhall gives up five runs. He's 15.</p> <p>1940—Black nationalist Marcus Garvey dies of a stroke after reading a mistaken obituary of himself in the <i>Chicago Defender</i>.</p> <p>1871—U.S. Marines avenge the 1866 loss of the <i>U.S.S. General Sherman</i> by taking three Korean forts. Three months later they withdraw.</p> <p>1772—Rhode Islanders burn the British revenue cutter <i>Gaspé</i>.</p> <p>1692—Bridget Bishop is hanged for witchcraft in Salem, Mass.</p>
 <p>8:27 8:55</p>	 <p>9:24 9:44</p>	 <p>10:15 10:30</p>	 <p>11:02 11:49</p>	 <p>11:44 11:49</p>	 <p>12:24</p>	 <p>1:01</p>
 <p>2:11 2:30</p>	 <p>3:08 3:21</p>	 <p>3:59 4:08</p>	 <p>4:46 4:51</p>	 <p>5:28 5:31</p>	 <p>6:07 6:08</p>	 <p>6:43 6:45</p>



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