

The Fortnightly Rant

Miracle: Cheney Boards the *U.S.S. Constitution*— But It Does Not Sink!

The beleaguered citizens of these battered United States did what they could last weekend to celebrate the 232nd anniversary of American independence. It wasn't easy. But despite the price of gas, the cost of food, the value of the dollar, and the state of the union, thousands of people flocked to Portsmouth to watch the annual fireworks display.

It was inspiring to see people taking the trouble and making that effort. After what the country has been through—and considering what may be coming—they could have been forgiven if instead of watching fireworks, they had all stayed home and stared, expressionless, off into the distance.

Indestructibility Intact

It certainly did not help that on this Fourth of July, Dick "Dick" Cheney emerged from his secret bunker and appeared in public, in Boston, where he boarded the *U.S.S. Constitution*. Physicists say that if anti-matter comes in contact with ordinary matter, both are annihilated. From this one might surmise that the moment Cheney's feet trod upon the deck of "Old Ironsides," he and a Cheney-sized chunk of the ship might have vanished in a thundering blast.

Not to be outdone by Cheney's glowering in Boston, George W. Bush had the audacity to visit Monticello, the home and the burial place of Thomas Jefferson. In a universe more intelligently designed than this one, as Bush walked the grounds of Monticello, the bony hand of Thomas Jefferson would have broken through the grass, grabbed Bush's ankle, and started pulling.

Strangely, after seven and a half years of living inside a protective bubble, Bush was heckled relentlessly during his Monticello speech by outraged citizens calling for his impeachment—or worse. The sound track of the video on the White House website isn't clear enough to be certain just what the hecklers are saying; the official transcript euphemistically calls the yelling, "Audience interruption."

The LaRouchian conspiracy-spinner Webster G. Tarpley has been writing lately that the lame duck "Bush-Cheney-neocon clique" has been superseded, and national power is now in the hands of the "Brzezinski-Trilateral faction." That theory seems slightly more plausible than Da-

vid Icke's claim that the world is being run by a race of reptilian humanoids whose members include Queen Elizabeth, George W. Bush, and the late Boxcar Willie.

#43 Censors #3

One really has to wonder what's going on when the Secret Service and Bush's Republican Guard can't keep the hooligans quiet at a high-profile event such as this. Bush's speechwriters did manage, however, to clamp a silencing hand over Thomas Jefferson's irreligious mouth.

The scribblers whose thankless job it is to put words into Bush's marble-filled mouth arranged for him to quote—at Monticello—from a letter Jefferson wrote to a friend. The following quote was taken directly from the White House website. The italicized phrase appearing in brackets (with emphasis added) was in Jefferson's original letter. It was omitted from Bush's speech, but without the insertion of an ellipsis, which would have properly signalled the omission.

"May [July 4, 1826] be to the world, what I believe it will be—to some parts sooner, to others later, but finally to all—the Signal of arousing men to burst the chains [*under which monkish ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to bind themselves*], and to assume the blessings and security of self-government."

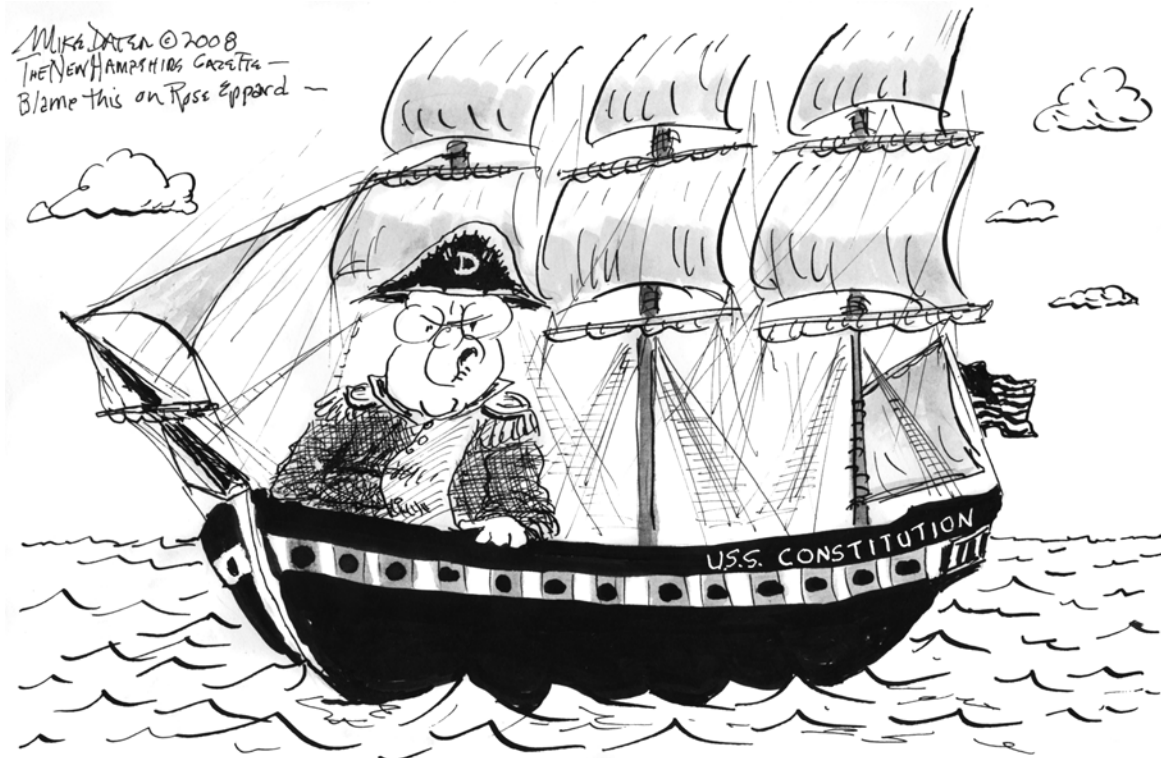
It was tough enough for the White House to honor that proto-commie Jefferson—no way they were going to insult their base in the process!

A Big Apple Fourth

The New York Public Library observed the day by displaying a rare copy of an early draft of the Declaration of Independence, handwritten by Thomas Jefferson, its author. According to an article in *The New York Times*, the displayed copy retained a "lengthy condemnation of slavery," which the Second Continental Congress saw fit to delete from the final, approved version of the Declaration, "to appease the delegates from Georgia and South Carolina."

The Last Confederate

Dick "Dick" Cheney did not vanish in a cataclysmic explosion. George W. Bush was not dragged into the underworld by the dead hand of a former slaveholder. But the day did not pass without a signifying event: Jesse Helms, the direct spiritual de-



DICK "DICK" CHENEY
ABOARD
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JULY 4, 2008
(THE CLOSEST HE'LL EVER GET TO THE REAL CONSTITUTION)

scendant of those Congressmen who would not condemn slavery, died in Raleigh, North Carolina.

It is unseemly to speak ill of the dead. In Helms's case, it would be superfluous, as well; one can achieve the same effect by letting him speak for himself.

"I've been portrayed as a cave-man by some," Helms said in 1985. "That's not true. I'm a conservative progressive, and that means I think all men are equal, be they slants, beaners or niggers."

First among those things for which Helms is now receiving his just reward, was his role in the 1976 Presidential campaign. Ronald Reagan was challenging sitting President Republican Jerry Ford for the Republican nomination. The Gipper looked like a long shot; in those dear departed days, most Americans thought Reagan was a used-up lightweight better suited to selling soap and lightbulbs on television than running the country.

Reagan had lost six primaries in a row to Ford, including New Hampshire. By late March his campaign was nearly broke. Without a victory in North Carolina he was history. Thanks in large part to Jesse Helms, Reagan won.

The win let Reagan keep fighting Ford right up to the 1976 convention. The weakened Ford finally won at the Convention in Kansas City but lost the general election to an obscure peanut farmer with big teeth. Four years later Reagan waltzed the nation right through the looking glass, and we haven't been the same since.

Nice work, Jesse.

Fixing Bush's Wagon

It has been clear for years, to anyone outside the lockstep 19 percent who still support Bush

and Cheney, that this administration lied us into the nation's worst foreign policy disaster ever and made a mockery of the Constitution in the process. What is not clear is whether there will ever be any consequences for those who did the lying.

Unless they slipped one by us, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) both took this oath at the start of the 110th Congress: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

Despite taking this oath, Pelosi and Reid have repeatedly stated that impeaching George W. Bush and Dick "Dick" Cheney would be "too *ha-ard*." Perhaps we need to have witnesses stationed behind Congress members as they take the oath, to watch for crossed fingers. In the absence of any such juvenile duplicity, what we have here is non-feasance, "the intentional failure to perform a required duty or obligation." Future despots are thus encouraged.

We have no idea who will ever prosecute Pelosi and Reid for letting Bush and Cheney off the impeachment hook, or how that might be accomplished. But first things first.

Assuming that World War III has not begun, and martial law is not in effect, and Bush and Cheney's hands can be pried from the levers of Federal power as scheduled, six months from

now, both men will be free to move about the country.

Fortunately, there is a man with a plan to prevent that. And we're not talking about some diminutive Congressman from Ohio. We're talking about former Los Angeles County Prosecutor Vincent Bugliosi. He has prosecuted 21 murder cases and gotten 21 convictions. He wants to make George W. Bush number 22.

"George Bush took this nation to war on a lie, under false pretenses," Bugliosi told Amy Goodman last month, "and therefore, under the law, he's guilty of murder."

At last count (Wednesday) Bush could be charged with 4,115 counts of murder—one for each of the U.S. service members who have died in Iraq. There is no statute of limitation for murder. Charges could be filed by any one of the 50 state Attorneys General, or any one of the hundreds of District Attorneys whose district has lost a service member.

The crux of Bugliosi's case can be summed up with four items, beginning with the National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) the CIA delivered to Bush on October 1, 2002, which said "clearly and unequivocally ... that Hussein was *not* an imminent threat to the security of this country, that he would only be a threat *if he feared that America was about to attack him*." (Emphasis added.)

Three days later, on October 4, Bugliosi says "Bush and his people had the CIA issue an unclassified summary version" of the NIE, scrubbed of the conclusion that Hussein *was not* an imminent threat.

Nevertheless, on October 7,



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from page one

2002, Bush “told the nation that Hussein was a great danger to America either by his attacking us with his weapons of mass destruction or giving those weapons to some terrorist group to attack us. And he said this attack could happen, quote, ‘on any given day,’ meaning the threat was imminent.”

Finally, and most damning of all according to Bugliosi, on January 31st, 2003, “George Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair met in the Oval Office with six of their top aides, including Condoleezza Rice, the National Security Adviser for Bush, and Blair’s chief foreign policy adviser, David Manning ... [A]fter the meeting, Manning prepares a five-page memo stamped ‘ex-

tremely sensitive,’ in which he summarizes what was said at the meeting. And Manning writes that Bush and Blair expressed their doubts that any weapons of mass destruction would ever be found in Iraq, although two months later they went there because they said they had the weapons and we had to disarm them. But it gets much, much, much worse. Manning wrote that Bush was so worried, so upset, over the failure of the UN inspectors to find weapons of mass destruction, that he talked about three ways to, quote, ‘provoke a confrontation with Hussein,’ one of which, Bush said, was to, quote, ‘fly U2 aircraft, reconnaissance aircraft, over Iraq, falsely painted in United Nations colors,’ and Bush said if Hussein fires upon them, this will be a breach of UN resolutions and justify war.”

“So here we have George Bush telling the American people ... that Hussein was an imminent threat ... but behind closed doors, this very small man was talking about how to provoke Hussein into a war. The very last person in the world that someone acting in self-defense would try to provoke is a person who he’s in deathly fear of, the person who’s about to kill him. If George Bush actually believed that Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, which was the main reason he went to war, the very thought of provoking Hussein into a war obviously would never, ever, ever have entered his mind.”

... any one of the 50 state Attorneys General, or any one of the hundreds of District Attorneys whose district has lost a service member ... Calling Kelly Ayotte ... Calling Jim Reams ...



This little tyke was the featured attraction in his or her own tiny parade through Market Square on Independence Day.



The impromptu, al fresco Chautauqua season has begun. This gentleman is back in town for a return engagement.

News Briefs
Congratulations, AWLD (?)

Murdoch Won't Sell

The good news, revealed in the Award-Winning Local Daily on July 2, is that the paper’s parent company, Ottaway Community Newspapers, has been taken off the market. The decision gives employees “some clarity and certainty for the first time in 12 months,” according to Publisher John Tabor.

The bad news, of course, is that the AWLD will, therefore, continue to be the chattel of News Corps *Oberstgruppenfuhrer* Rupert Murdoch. Among his many other affronts to human dignity, this right-wing megalomaniac employed Roger Ailes to create the Fox News Channel, an open sewer of audiovisual pollution which had the audacity to

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begin operations on October 7, 1996—240 years to the day after the sainted Daniel Fowle founded the venerable and spotless national treasure on whose pristine pages you are reading these very words.

Whither USA Springs?

The soggy saga of USA Springs, the mysterious corporate entity whose purpose is to suck the groundwater from beneath homes in Nottingham and Barrington and sell it to Europeans for the private profit of parties unknown, just gets murkier and murkier.

According to a July 2 story by John Quinn in *Foster's Daily Democrat*, the would-be water-bottler posted a legal notice on May 30, announcing that a foreclosure auction of its assets would be held on June 30. On June 27, however, USA Springs filed for bankruptcy in Manchester, and the foreclosure was postponed until September 29. Further complicating the situation is the little matter of USA Springs' already-extended building per-

mit, which turns into a pumpkin on July 26.

An understandable first reaction to all this might be "Hurrah, they're broke—good riddance." But as a *Foster's* editorial astutely pointed out on July 3, it might just mean someone else steps in to take the town's water. Nottingham's new Water Rights & Local Self-Government Ordinance may also be tested, before this is all over.



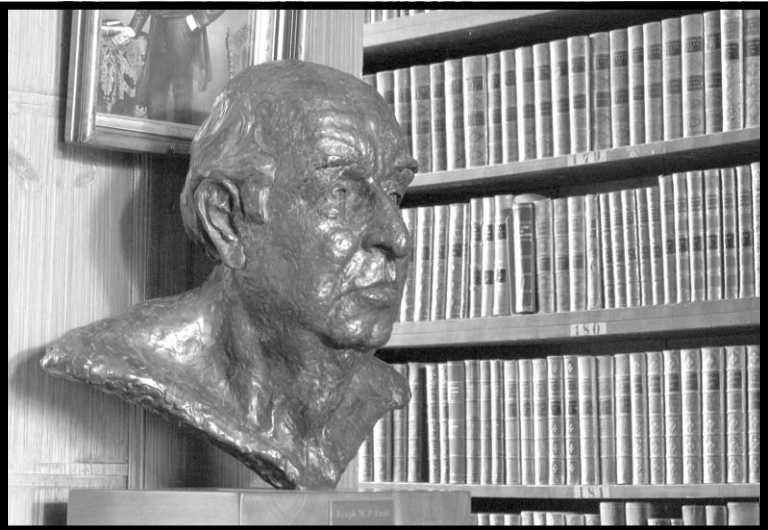
Flag Police Sit-Rep

Jane Porter, faithful proofreader, took time from a sabbatical Down East to alert the Flag Police to the "American Flag Candies" (shown above) which are sold *via* the Vermont Country



Store catalog. Thank you, Jane, they are busted.

Also above: this photo by David L. Ryan in the *Boston Globe* of July 3rd shows the Boston Stock Exchange, demonstrating their ignorance of the Flag Code.



This bronze bust of Joseph W.P. Frost, sculpted by Sumner Weinbaum, is kept in the Old Library Room of the Portsmouth Athenæum. Joe was a past president of the Athenæum.

R.I.P., Joseph W.P. Frost

Joseph W.P. Frost, of Eliot, Maine, a veritable titan among antiquarians and historians of the Piscataqua region, died Saturday, July 6. He was predeceased by his wife Rebecca, and is survived by two daughters. Joe—everyone called him Joe—was descended from many of the area's earliest and most notable settlers but didn't let that prevent him from saying that genealogists are often like potatoes, because "the best part is found underground."

His life-long love of antiquarian books and local history began early—very early. About the time of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first inauguration, New Hampshire author and judge Henry Shute (1856—1943) inscribed a book "To Joseph Frost of Eliot, Maine, the only ten-year old antiquarian and historian in the world." This was no exaggeration: Joe assembled a complete set of Presidential autographs by the time he reached the eighth-grade. Before long he began concentrating almost exclusively on books signed by their authors, or by historically significant people: his first cousin, Robert Frost, for example.

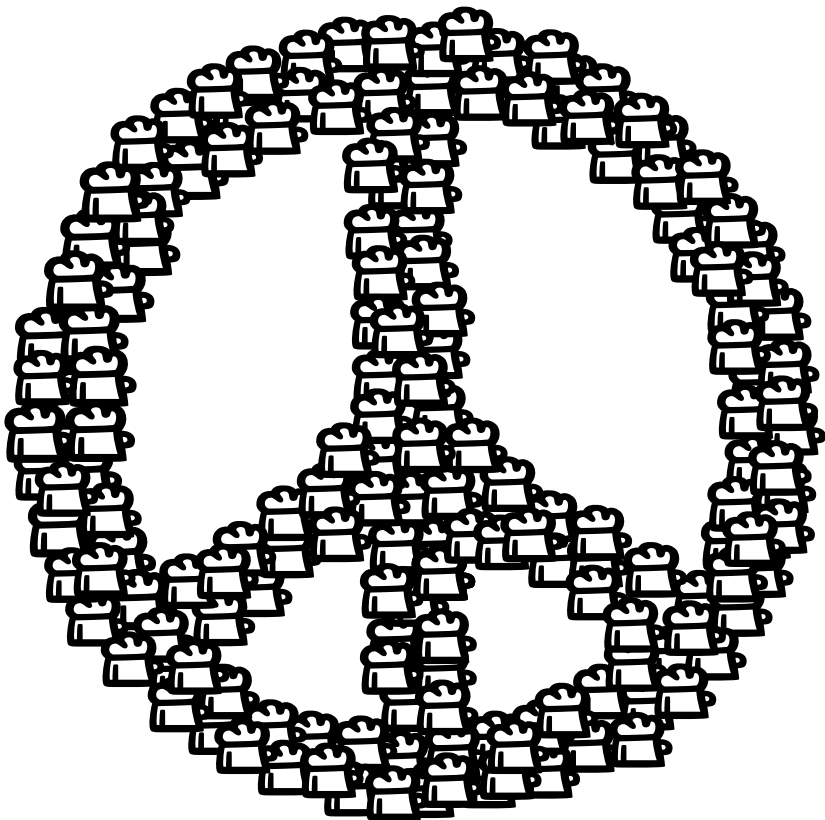
Joe served in England during World War Two, where he was responsible for the operation of an Eighth Air Force mortuary. Returning to the States he began a career that seems an odd fit for such a kindly, bookish gentleman: heavy construction.

Joe once described to us how to build a high-tension power line across the Great Dismal Swamp in Virginia and North Carolina: build the towers on dry land, lift them up with a helicopter, then fly over the swamp and lower them into place.

Another job a lot closer to home always makes us think of Paul Bunyan. Joe—and crew, of course—replaced the big cables that lift the center span of the Memorial Bridge.

In later years Joe saw that bridge every Sunday afternoon, from behind the counter of the Book Guild, on State Street. There he would buy, sell, and appraise books, and talk to the many antiquarians, librarians, and scholars, from all around the country and indeed around the world, who were likely to stop in on any given Sunday to see him.

Rest in peace, Joe.



"WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES THE LOVE OF POWER,
THE WORLD WILL FINALLY KNOW PEACE." -- JIMI HENDRIX



Moving Pictures

WALL-E

by Rodman Philbrick

Stars: The voices of Ben Burtt, Elissa Knight, Jeff Garlin, Sigourney Weaver, and Fred Willard; **Written & Directed by:** Andrew Stanton; **Animation:** Pixar; **Rating:** [G]

A cute little robot who “speaks” in digital baby talk. A desert landscape. Exciting adventures aboard a giant spacecraft. Given the relentless Disney marketing campaign, the summer audience may be forgiven for assuming that *WALL-E* is a variation on R2D2, *Star Wars* meets *Toy Story*. Some of that potential blockbuster audience, those whose Detached Irony Module is fully functional, will find *WALL-E* too simple, too imbued with a Chaplinesque melancholy. Others will recognize a classic, grand-scale creation that may or may not be a signpost to a dystopian future, one in which humankind’s mechanical servants are left to the never-ending task of tidying up a ruined world.

You already know the basic

premise: boy robot meets girl robot, and together they save what’s left of humanity. WALL-E, a dauntless little trash-compact-ing robot (inspired, one assumes, by the Mars rovers) trundles about a ruined world, sweeping up the junk left behind by a race of bloated consumers who left the planet centuries ago. Aside from still-surviving holograms urging humans to try “lunch-in-a-cup!” courtesy of the Buy-N-Large corporation, nothing tangible remains of civilization. The ghost of Ozymandias haunts the empty landscape, as we look on our works, we mighty gobblers of mass production, and despair. Observe how the lone and level sands stretch far away, into a desolate future where irony and cool have long since been trumped by hubris, and trash!

Sorry, but there’s something about this movie that makes your reviewer want to channel Shelley (Percy Bysshe) instead of Sponge Bob (Square Pants).

The little robot’s only connection to the humans who poisoned the planet is a fragile cas-

sette containing a few snippets from the movie version of *Hello Dolly!*, circa 1969. WALL-E, alone for hundreds of years and desperate to make a connection to something, anything, attempts to puzzle out what it means, for instance, to sing joyfully of hope, and to hold hands. If that sounds gay—and it does, just a little—tell it to your trash compactor, or better yet to those nitwit Fox commentators who think there’s some hidden message concerning sexuality. Because despite its unseemly interest in musicals, the little robot seems clunkily, mechanically male, as heterosexual as one can be if one has dozer treads instead of shoes. WALL-E’s interest in EVE, the Extraterrestrial Vegetal Evaluator, is more an inter-species attraction. The sturdy, functional trash compactor has the no-frills feeling of a Microsoft creation, while EVE, who glides through the universe like a white Apple egg-timer, is obviously Mac.

WALL-E, trying to make an impression on EVE, presents her with the equivalent of a bunch

of flowers, in this case a single weed that has somehow bloomed green from the arid soil. EVE, responding to her directive to find evidence of photosynthesis on the supposedly toxic planet, is compelled to return to space with the happy news. WALL-E hitches a ride, and finds himself in what amounts to a low-gravity cruise ship for the pampered (and possibly Pamper-wearing) descendants of the human race, who have devolved into couch potatoes, each with his own personal floating couch, and an always available “cup of lunch!” to suck on as they glide around, chatting endlessly on cell phones. Sort of like your local mall, with less gravity. And for the kids, this may be where the real fun really begins, as WALL-E and EVE and a collection of supposedly “malfunctioning” robots, do battle with an AUTOPILOT system (think Hal in *2001*) reluctant to give up babysitting humanity.

The truly amazing thing is not only the astonishing visual detail—*WALL-E* has the look of

a filmed-live feature, not animation—but the way Andrew Stanton and his team have chosen to communicate the narrative. Rather than relying on dialogue or voice-over to advance the story, they use the familiar symbols of computers at work: glowing green and red symbols, the advancing bars that indicate uploading, and so on.

Certainly *WALL-E* is not typical Disney fare, even given the astonishing learning curve of Pixar. The story isn’t age-dependent—some smaller kids appear to find the groove, others will be restless, reactions pretty much reflected in the mostly-appreciative adult audience. And for those of you who can’t believe that everyone doesn’t get that *WALL-E* is the movie of the year, bear in mind that despite his almost universal genius, not everyone appreciated Charley Chaplin, or “got” his movies, or understood that his iconic Tramp character was not a sad clown, but us, striving to be better. While we suck on our lunch-in-a-cup.

More Hate Mail, &c.

from page seven

Sununu:

The Multi-Millionaire’s Friend

To the Editor

When asked about the fact that he has voted with George Bush 90 percent of the time, Senator John Sununu answered that he has voted with New Hampshire 100 percent of the time. When it comes to taxes, this is simply untrue.

Sununu claims that raising taxes in a recession is a bad policy, yet he still voted against the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act, an act that would con-

tinue tax breaks for 22,221 New Hampshire college students, 20,419 New Hampshire teachers, and thousands of middle class families.

Like Bush, Sununu offers tax giveaways to multi-millionaires while doing nothing for New Hampshire’s middle class. New Hampshire suffers while Sununu votes for tax breaks for big oil companies making record profits. Sununu is not putting New Hampshire first, contrary to his claims.

Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire candidate for U.S. Senate, actually cares about New Hampshire. Shaheen will sup-

port tax cuts for the middle class in order to help working families who need it the most. She will vote against continued runaway spending, and she will make sure that New Hampshire is once again a priority in Washington.

Chris Rossetti
Windham, NH

Democracy is a Verb

To the Editor:

On this July 4th, the celebration of our independence, it is important to reread the 1776 Declaration, and note that many of the listed abuses exist today. We should use July 4th to renew our heritage and declare our inde-

pendence from greed, corruption and deceit of politicians, corporations and financial institutions. These groups have conspired to institute laws and practices that are contrary to our unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Democracy is much more than voting. Democracy requires action. Like our founding fathers, we must actively speak out and defend the rights that have been endowed upon us by our Creator. We are not pawns and slaves. We are a free and independent people and we must work to remain so. To do otherwise is to invite domination and the abuse of

power.

Democracy is a verb.
Arnold Stieber
Grass Lake, MI

How Best to Recycle This Paper

To the Editor:

I have just read William Marvel’s article “Fire Starter” in your June 13 edition.

After reading about how the postal regulators sat up nights to think of ways to further enable this criminal of a president that we have, I thought, “Fine—two can play this game.”

I wish to encourage all of our out-of-state subscribers to

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Northcountry Chronicle

Hostage to the Help?

by William Marvel

Over the years my father mounted a number of cartoons and newspaper clippings around the cellar. Some of them remain there yet, including an old joke about the number of people who were “doing the work.” When he tacked that one up, the population of the United States was 200 million: calculating that 21 million of those people were working for “the government,” the poster offered some mathematical gymnastics to conclude that the only ones left to “do the work” were “you and me.”

Some of the proportions in that facetious hyperbole now seem unfortunately reasonable. The rule of thumb now broadcast in can-you-believe-it fashion at bars and lunch counters holds that one-third of all Americans now derive their living from government sources. That may or may not include those on public assistance and disability, but it actually seems possible. My own social circle includes a host of public school teachers, state-university professors, retired servicemen (and now women), ca-

reer bureaucrats, librarians, and park rangers, not to mention the postal workers, police, and public transportation personnel whose acquaintance my travel engenders.

Davis Hill proper, which borders less than a mile of gravel road, is now home to fifteen families of full-time residents. At least five of those families—exactly one-third—draw paychecks or pensions from some form of employment under municipal, state, or federal authority. Fifty years ago there were only three families here, with two households headed by retired naval officers and the third home owned by a retired judge, but that exaggerated proportion reflected the near-impossibility of surviving in South Conway during the 1950s without an outside source of income.

The difficulty of making a living waxes and wanes in this country, just as it does in this community, but since I graduated from high school the trend in job searches has leaned ever-more steadily toward public employment. The pay

is more certain, the benefits are usually better, and—as some find all too important—the chances of getting fired are slim.

The federal government expands relentlessly. The suburbs that filled the Washington Beltway in 1980 now stretch 70 miles into Maryland, and 50 miles into Virginia. In this decade alone Republicans, the patron saints of small government, created more

“In this decade alone Republicans, the patron saints of small government, created more new federal jobs than any administration in history.”

new federal jobs than any administration in history. The Bush White House and the Bush Congress manned most of an entire cabinet department from a three-generation pool of losers who now force 90-year-old men to take off their shoes and invade our privacy.

A similar local tendency is easier to quantify. In the 30 years ending with 2007, school dis-

trict enrollment here in Conway increased only 10 percent, but classroom staffing increased 77 percent. Widespread new school construction seems to have been necessary less to make room for an expanding student population than to accommodate burgeoning new staff and programs. To care for a physical plant that is growing so much faster than the number of students, maintenance personnel have more than doubled during the same period.

If followed to its logical conclusion (and a substantial faction always advocates that course), perpetual expansion in the proportion of public employees leads to inevitable collapse. At some point, public workers outnumber the taxpayers, who must impoverish themselves to provide for their “servants.”

The ill effects begin long before reaching that extreme, however. One of the adverse effects of such a massive public work force may, in a backhanded way, be the skyrocketing cost of health care. The existence of

so many public employees, who stubbornly resist deductibles and whose premiums are largely paid for from the public trough, only encourages insurance companies to inflate premiums. That in turn abets high prices from the health care industry, which appears to regard insurance as a license for larceny.

With the subject now safely expunged from presidential debate, the dual crisis in health insurance and health care may only come to a head when premiums grow so absurd that no one can, or will, pay them. That would force insurance companies to revert to affordable versions of catastrophic coverage; hospitals, meanwhile, would have to reduce charges for preventive care to levels the average person could afford to pay—as used to be the case before public service became so popular. The only surviving unions of any real power are composed of public employees, who would pose significant resistance to such a market-force solution, thereby accelerating the unavoidable collision between servants and served.

pass on their copies of the *New Hampshire Gazette* to others, rather than pass it into the recycle bin. What better way to recycle this paper than to pass it on to someone else (& theoretically someone else, & someone else)?

Sometimes I pass copies of this paper with pertinent military articles on to my brother, a retired Naval officer (like this one, for instance, about McCain’s voting record against vets). Other times I leave it on the “community table” in the lobby of the gym where I work out.

Pass it on, spread the word, revolutions have been started this way! Who knows, you might even get a few new subscribers.

The people in Washington aren’t so smart—they just want us to think they are.

Thanks ever so for the work you do.

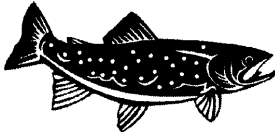
Karen Konicki
New York NY

Karen:
Bless you. Nothing warms the cockles of the editor’s gnarled old ink pump like a reader who understands so well the insidious design

of this seditious little wad of pulp. Can you imagine handing a copy of the typical, advertising-bloated daily paper to a friend and saying “Put this in your pocket and read it later?”

The Editor





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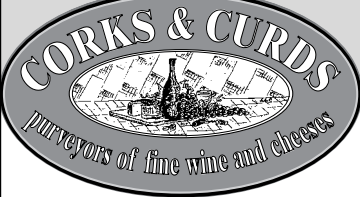
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A Modest Proposal From an American Taxpayer and Voter
To the Editor:

We the people of the United States, in order to get an early start toward reviving the nation after a disastrous seven-and-a-half years of moral and monarchical failures, should buy out the remaining six-plus months of the fraudulent contract held by George W. Bush and Dick Cheney.

The ship of state is rudderless as is, so the early dismissal of a President who can't find New Orleans on a map but is eager to send a couple of million diminished dollars to get a peek at Myanmar, and a Vice President who simply can't be found except when it's time to bang the drums of war with sticks of lies, would not be noticed except by the oil companies, related oil businesses and the wealthy who embrace Bush's tax cuts. Ben Bernanke



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is running the government now anyway, so why not let him continue while the Federal Reserve and others in this government-by-default learn how to spell recession, or worse.

An early retirement would allow Bush to take vacations in Europe, the Middle East and elsewhere more or less on his own 60-cent retirement dollar, instead of vacationing with an entourage whose play time debt-and deficit-burdened Americans are forced to pay for, while they also kick in billions for a war, and the inflation that war inevitably creates, that was and is built on make-believe and don't-tell.

Bush didn't know or understand the world in 2000, and no vacations at this late date will fill that yawning gap. As for Cheney, he would be spared the further ignominy of acting as a bag man in Southwest Asia and the Middle East for his bankrupt government in Washington. Cheney has said he doesn't care what the American people think, so early retirement shouldn't bother him. Besides, it may take six months or so for Cheney to receive the news in his bunker.

From a strictly financial standpoint, early retirement would also be a bonus for Bush and Cheney. They would have six extra months to invest their Social Security retirement dollars in the stock market, where they would do nothing but grow richer in the present financial and economic climate. Heh! Heh! Heh!

An early retirement would also give Bush a leg up on his return

to the links, a sport he has so valiantly bagged to show sympathy and support for the American soldiers whom he and Cheney sent to fight and die on a mission orchestrated and executed by fools and liars.

Louis Salome
Portsmouth, NH
Louis:
Would that it could be done, or would be done. We're going to recommend you for the Gazette Chair in Theoretical Politics.
The Editor

Go, Carol!
To the Editor:
This week our Congresswoman, Carol Shea-Porter, did something that deserves the appreciation of every voter in our district. She fought to help pass a bill to fix the problems with our alternative minimum tax (AMT). This tax was originally designed to make sure that the very wealthy were not able to avoid paying taxes. Unfortunately, it has now become a financial nightmare for many in the middle class. Shea-Porter has fought for this bill in order to avoid an additional 20 million tax payers having their tax bills increase next year by an average of \$2,300.

Shea-Porter's efforts to fix the problems with our AMT also included a provision to close a huge tax loophole for hedge fund managers and to eliminate excess deductions that the oil companies have been taking in order to prevent adding to our national debt. This bill, passed over the objections of many Republicans in the House, still faces tough opposition in the Senate. However, Shea-Porter will continue to work hard on this bill because it will help to support the middle class, which is a basic value of hers.

She has also been working to hold forums focusing on the problems of the middle class so that she can continue to be in

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

touch with the problems that we, her constituents, face. I encourage you to remember in November how Carol Shea-Porter is standing up for us and to tell your friends so that she can continue her outstanding work in Washington.
Elisa Bolton
Rye, NH

Senator Sunu-No
To the Editor:
John Sununu has done it again. This week in Washington, he voted once more to put the special interests ahead of New Hampshire's interests. By voting to cut Medicare reimbursement rates, Sununu guaranteed it will be harder for our seniors to find doctors who will accept Medicare. Where are New Hampshire's seniors supposed to go?
John Sununu's insistence on putting special interests and insurance companies first is just another reason why he's part of the problem. We need a Senator who will put New Hampshire first. John Sununu clearly cares more about supporting the special interests and that's why he won't be getting my vote anytime soon.

Loreen Cornwall
Exeter, NH
Loreen:
For the record, Judd Gregg also voted to protect the poor, pitiful little insurance companies against those evil, rapacious old sick people. And his Senate term ends in January, 2011. So we can look forward to him coming around again soon, looking for votes like a zombie looking for brains to eat.
The Editor

The M&M Show
To the Editor:
In April I wrote you saying that John Morton, a Mainer who urged attacking Iran, could join

with John McCain to push his agenda of more and more war. Soon after, I read about Michael Mullen being made chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to replace one who opposed attacking Iran, making me think that McCain and Mullen could be the stand-ins for Bush and Cheney.

With Mullen dressed to kill in a dazzling white suit decorated with ribbons while McCain sports a gaudy flag on his chest, the team might win hearts and votes by dancing to the same loony tunes that made the wars in Iraq and Vietnam so popular. With two military guys singing loudly about bomb-bomb-bombing Iran, The M&M Show should be a big hit, especially in Israel.

Marjorie Gallace
Camden, ME
Marjorie:
You missed your calling. You could be working for the GOP, instead of writing to this obscure rag. McCain and Mullen doing an elaborate pro-war song and dance routine, à la Busby Berkeley and George M. Cohan ... Brilliant!
The Editor

A Vote for Obama
To the Editor:
I am voting for Barack Obama and so are a lot of progressive Democrats, Independents and Republicans. We have seen what eight years of a rubber stamp Congress has done (and not done) to allow the Bush-Cheney administration to set our country back fifty years, with their menu of impeachable offenses and the disaster of an unending war.

I have no delusions. Obama is no Superman, who will reverse the disastrous direction of our government in the first one hundred days, or the first year. The old "business as usual" corporate multi-billionaire CEO hierar-

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And Other Correspondence

chy will not readily give up their greedy control over a system that has given them astronomical tax-free profits. The unregulated hedge fund operators will fight to their last billion dollars to maintain their questionable, tottering towers of finance. The lobbies of the para-fascist Military-Industrial-Congressional-Complex will prowl the corridors of the Capitol with bigger and better bribes to keep their control of Pentagon excesses and our inflated defense budget.

Barack will need a Congress he can work with. It is up to us to support and vote for progressive candidates to replace the Republican Paarty hacks who have blocked the passage of the bold legislation needed to lead us into the prosperity, justice and fiscal responsibility of the new century.

The work of the millions who donated the twenty-five and fifty-dollar checks, and those who stuffed the envelopes, knocked on doors and made phone calls will not end in November. The change we ask of Obama has to begin with us. We need to maintain grassroots strength and action, to be alert and plan for the 2010 and 2012 elections—the eternal vigilance that is the price of liberty.

We cannot be lax for there will always be more Bushes and Cheneys, waiting to subvert the power and prestige of our great nation for their, and their cronies' profit.

Wilbur N. Rhodes
Kittery, ME

Shaheen and the Future

To the Editor:

Jeanne Shaheen is all about a new energy future. As Governor, Shaheen implemented clean energy initiatives that saved New Hampshire families and busi-

nesses almost \$400 million, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions by millions of tons.

Unlike Shaheen, Republicans like Senator John Sununu care more about the interests of big oil companies than about New Hampshire families. Just recently Sununu voted to give oil companies \$13 billion in subsidies every year. This is \$13 billion that could be put to better use investing in renewable energy. Renewable energy would decrease our dependence on foreign oil, protecting us from the whims of the international oil market. Instead, this money is being given to companies like Exxon, who last year posted \$40.6 billion in profit, the highest profit of any company in history.

There is no quick fix for the problem of high gas prices. Instead of looking for a fast solution, this country needs to look to the future. The sooner this country invests in new energy, the sooner we will see the rewards of our decreased dependence on oil.

Kelly Rincon
Windham, NH

The Gang That Couldn't Think Straight

To the Editor:

Once again in its infinite wisdom, the Supreme Court—the same one that foisted on us the most embarrassingly inept and abominable presidency in our entire history—last week managed to trash the Second Amendment in its District of Columbia v. Heller decision, one of its more memorably opaque and disheartening opinions.

You know how it goes: A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

In a letter written to the *New York Times* (19 Dec. 07), Mr. Regan McCarthy posited that if the Founders “had not meant to establish the militias as the basis ... for the right to bear arms,” they would have have omitted any reference to militias, and most likely would have written that “[T]he right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.” But they did not write that, a point conveniently overlooked by erudite Anthony Scalia and brethren.

Mr. Ian Altman in his *New York Times* letter defending the Court's decision (28 June 08) writes that “... it was a difficult decision based on an archaically written amendment.” In choosing the word “archaically” I assume he meant out of fashion or a bit fuddy-duddy-ish, but archaic or not, the amendment, albeit awkward to our ears, is not unintelligible or ambiguous, contrary to Mr. Jim Grossman's contention on the same page, “that the Second Amendment is not clearly written.” To educated persons of the 18th century it is clearly written, however, as well as it is, I might add, to educated persons of the 21st century. Language and usage change through the years, and had the Founders written that same sentence using today's style for subordinate clauses, they would likely write, “[Since] a well-regulated militia [is] necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.”

But don't leave it to me, a rank amateur, to parse the grammatical nuances of the amendment's wording. In the same December issue of the *New York Times* as Mr. McCarthy's letter appeared, I would like to cite another letter. The *Times* notes that the writer of this letter, Ms. Josephine Donovan, is “emerita professor of English at the University of Maine.” She lists her address as Ports-



mouth, New Hampshire, and I take the liberty of reproducing her letter—a gem—in its entirety. Especially note her clause at the end of her last sentence, a flash of “absolute” wit—wit that apparently went sailing blithely over the head of the learned Mr. Justice Scalia.

“Adam Freedman [cf., “Clause and Effect,” *New York Times*, 16 Dec. 07] is entirely correct that the first 13 words of the Second Amendment form a clause that replicates the Latin ablative absolute, a point that is key to a correct interpretation of the amendment—namely, that it is the militia (or National Guard), not nonmilitary civilians, whose gun ownership is protected.

“Let us hope that the current justices remember enough of their Latin to understand Mr. Freedman's argument. He also makes the inadvertent point of how important knowledge of the classics is for understanding our history, and thus that Latin should be taught in the schools, a well-educated citizenry being essential to a well-functioning democracy.”

Too bad a well-educated citizenry does not include the citizenry currently ensconced on the U.S. Supreme Court, another reason our not-so-well-functioning democracy is in deep doodoo.

Barnabas Umbrage
Portsmouth, NH

More Hate Mail, &c.
to page four

SummerFilm
The Music Hall

REDBELT
JULY 13, 14, 15 @ 7:30
Mike Terry is a martial arts instructor who imparts to his students the importance of skills to survive on the street until he finds himself the victim of a con and is pressed to enter the ring for pride and profit. From writer/director David Mamet. R, 99 min, US, 2008

DarAtt
JULY 16 @ 7:30
Chad, 2006. After a 40 year civil war, the government has just amnestied all war criminals. 16-year-old Atim offers his service as apprentice to the man who killed his father, with the intent to exact revenge. R, 96 min, Chad, 2006
Special Guest: Director **Mahamat-Saleh Haroun**

FLIGHT OF THE RED BALLOON
JULY 17, 18, 19 @ 7:30
Inspired by 1956's *The Red Balloon* by Albert Lamorisse, director Hou Hsiao-Hsien has created a beautiful modern classic in his first French-language film in which a balloon and the city of Paris are indeed characters. Juliette Binoche. PG, 113 min, France, 2007

THEN SHE FOUND ME
JULY 20, 21, 22 @ 7:30
A schoolteacher hits a midlife crisis when her husband leaves, her adoptive mother dies and her birth mother turns up, all while she begins a courtship with the father of one of her students. Helen Hunt, Colin Firth, Bette Midler in Helen Hunt's directorial debut. R, 100 min, US, 2007
Show and Tell Follows July 22 Screening

KING SOLOMON'S MINES
JULY 23 @ 7:30
Based on H. Rider Haggard's 1885 novel. A guide brings a woman on safari in Africa in search of her husband and the legendary diamond mines. Won three Oscars and nominated for Best Picture. Stewart Granger & Deborah Kerr. NR, 103 min, US, 1950

LA VIE EN ROSE
JULY 24 @ 7:30
Biopic focusing on singer Edith Piaf. Best Actress Oscar winner, Marion Cotillard. PG13, 140 min, France, 2007

WAR AND PEACE WEEKEND
JULY 25, 26, 27
Director Sergei Bondarchuk's Best Foreign Language Film Oscar-winner flawlessly re-creates Tolstoy's epic masterpiece. Possibly the greatest cinematic spectacle of all time. NR, Russia, 1968, Russian w/English subtitles
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ADMIRAL FOWLE’S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River. Depending on which tour boat captain you believe, it's the second, the third, or the fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country.

The Piscataqua's remarkable current is caused by the tide which, in turn is caused by the moon. The other major player is a vast sunken valley, about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags roughly seventeen billion gallons of salt water from the ocean, up the river, into Great Bay. (If the moon ever stopped moving that water for us, it could be replaced with 2,125,000 tanker trucks.)

The moon's meddling creates a roving hydraulic conflict as incoming sea and outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on towards Great Bay. This spectacle can best be seen when the chart below shows the tide rising. A good place to watch is the little deck near the sterns of the tugboats, off Ceres Street. Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the salt water that just fought its way upstream goes back to rejoin the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. A good place to observe this is from Bow Street, up by St. John's church. Look up the river, from one of the little parking lots between the buildings. (Don't try to drive or park there, that won't work.) You'll see a red

buoy, at the upstream end of Badger's Island, bobbing around in the current. That buoy weighs several tons, is nine feet wide, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork! The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. Often when the river rests, its tugboats and drawbridges work their hardest. Ships coming in heavily laden with coal, oil, and salt generally do so at high tide, for maximum clearance under their keels. When they leave empty, riding high in the water, they tend to go at low tide, for maximum clearance under Memorial Bridge.

Sunday, July 13	Monday, July 14	Tuesday, July 15	Wednesday, July 16	Thursday, July 17	Friday, July 18	Saturday, July 19
1960—Democrats nominate a prominent former bootlegger's son for president. 1950—A B-50 Superfortress crashes in Lebanon, OH, killing its crew of 16. The fissile core of the nuclear weapon on board not being installed, the crater made by its high explosives was only 25 feet deep. 1943—Alexander Schmorell, a student and veteran, and Professor Kurt Huber, co-conspirators in the anti-Nazi pamphleteering group White Rose, are guillotined in Munich. 1863—A New York mob enraged by draft laws allowing exemptions for money, egged on by Democrats claiming Republicans would bring freed slaves north to replace lazy white workers, go one a three-day rampage, leveling whole blocks and attacking the offices of Horace Greeley's pro-Union <i>New York Tribune</i>. 1793—Charlotte Corday, a young French aristocrat, stabs scrofulous Revolutionary journalist Jean-Paul Marat to death in his bathtub. 1763—General Jeffrey Amherst proposes giving smallpox-infected blankets to Indians to undermine Chief Pontiac's rebellion. 939—Pope Leo VII's reign is cut short when he expires from a heart attack during intercourse.	2004—Senate Republicans try to ban gay marriage via Constitutional amendment, but just can't seem to rise to the occasion. 2003—A syndicated column written by Robert "The Reptile" Novak's reveals the identity of Valerie Plame, a CIA agent. 2000—A Florida jury orders five tobacco companies to pay \$145,000,000,000 in damages. An appeals court later lets them off the hook. 1991—A derailed tanker car full of pesticide spills into the Sacramento River, killing 100,000 rainbow trout. 1989—Alabama tries twice, 19 minutes apart, to electrocute Horace F. Dunkins, a retarded black man. The first try fails because the chair is wired wrong. 1987—Oliver North's testimony before Congress ends; perhaps he's out of lies. 1921—An important show trial ends satisfactorily in Massachusetts: Nicolo Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti are found guilty. 1916—Tristan Tzara delivers the first Manifesto of Dada. 1914—Robert Goddard patents a first liquid-fueled rocket. 1791—In Lausanne, Vevey, and Rolle, Switzerland, citizens celebrate the liberation of the Bastille, shouting, among other things, "Live free or die."	1979—Jimmy Carter delivers his "malaise" speech, in which the word "malaise" does not appear. 1974—In Florida, on live TV, newsreader Christine Chubbuck reaches into a shopping bag, pulls out a loaded pistol, and shoots herself dead. 1964—The Republican Party saddles itself with Barry Goldwater as a presidential candidate. 1919—The then-honestly-named War Department announces that 337,000 Americans are draft dodgers. 1865—Rye Beach-goers see an optical illusion making the Isles of Shoals appear to be only a mile or two offshore. 1779—Troops under General "Mad Anthony" Wayne take Stony Point—and 700 prisoners—with a bayonet charge. 1685—The executioner Jack Ketch, after eight blows of the ax, finally succeeds in beheading the Duke of Monmouth. 1381—Lollard preacher John Ball, for his part in inspiring the Peasants' Revolt, is hanged, drawn, and quartered as Richard II looks on with approval. 1099—Fulfilling the will of God, as it was passed along by Pope Urban II, Christian Crusaders storm the city of Jerusalem and slaughter nearly all its inhabitants.	2004—Martha Stewart gets five months in the can for lying about a shady deal to save \$45,000. 1995—RIP May Sarton. 1994—Fragments of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 begin crashing into Saturn. 1980—In Detroit, Ronald Reagan is nominated for President by what was formerly the party of Lincoln. 1973—Al Butterfield reveals he's been bugging the Oval office at the behest of The Man himself. 1973—Senate begins investigating allegations that the Air Force made 3,500 secret B-52 sorties over Cambodia. 1969—Apollo 11 blasts off, next stop: the Moon. 1951—<i>Catcher in the Rye</i> is published. 1945—World's first A-bomb struts its stuff at Alamogordo. 1877—A railroad strike turns violent in Martinsburg, W. Va. Local militia refuse to fire on strikers, but Federal troops will. 1862—David Farragut becomes U.S.'s first Rear Admiral. 1858—To help himself resist prostitutes, Thomas P. "Boston" Corbett castrates himself with a pair of scissors. Seven years later he will kill John Wilkes Booth. 1860—Emperor Norton I issues a declaration calling for the dissolution of the U.S.A.	2001—The FBI announces that it can't find 449 firearms and 184 laptop computers, including one holding classified data. 1996—TWA Flight 800 spontaneously explodes off Long Island. Right. 1979—Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza flees Nicaragua to escape the Sandinistas. 1965—Art Sylvester, an American official in Saigon, tells Morley Safer "if you think any American official is going to tell you the truth, then you're stupid." 1962—Twenty-six minutes after a small atomic bomb is tested in Nevada, a company of men from the Fourth Infantry Division marches through the blast zone. 1955—Lighting ignites a huge mine placed near Ypres in 1916. A cow is killed. 1944—At Port Chicago, Calif, two munitions ships explode, killing 322, 63 percent of them black bomb handlers. 1928—At a party for veterans of the Mexican Revolution, President Alvaro Obregon says to a strolling caricaturist, "Make sure you make me look good." "I will," says artist Leon Toral, pulling a gun and shooting him dead. 1927—In Nicaragua, a U.S. Marine squadron of seven planes pioneers the art of bombing civilians, killing 300 at Ocatal.	1985—Presumably still doped up after cancer surgery five days earlier, Ronald Reagan OK's a scheme to send arms to Iran. 1984—After telling his wife he's "going to hunt humans," James O. Huberty kills 21 and wounds another 19 in a 77 minute rampage at a San Diego McDonald's before a SWAT team sniper ends it. His widow later sues McDonald's, unsuccessfully, for unhinging his mind with MSG. 1981—Norman Mailer's protegee Jack Abbott, while on work release from a conviction for bank robbery, stabs a man to death in an East Village restaurant. 1969—Senator Ted Kennedy gives Mary Jo Kopechne a ride part of the way home from a party, takes a swim, then a nap. 1964—Riot begins in Harlem after police shoot an unarmed 15-year-old black male. 1939—Hunter S. Thompson is born, Louisville, KY. 1936—The Spanish Civil War begins. 1929—Birth of "Screamin' Jay" Hawkins. 1925—H.L. Mencken is nearly run out of Dayton, Tenn. on a rail by the pious. 1889—Beloved alleged author and certified serial pederast Horatio Alger dies in Natick, Mass.	2001—Deputy Chairman of the British Conservative party Lord Jeffrey Archer is convicted of perjury and sentenced to 4 years. 1991—The South African government admits that it paid Zulus to undermine the African National Congress. 1989—Engine failure on a DC-10 cuts its hydraulics, but most of the 296 people aboard survive its fiery crash in Sioux City. 1985—Concord teacher Christa McAuliffe is chosen to be first "Teacher in Space." 1979—Sandinistas march triumphantly into Managua. 1969—John Fairfax completes the first solo cross-Atlantic row. 1942—German U-boats quit the U.S. Atlantic coast due to effective counter-measures. 1935—Oklahoma City installs the first parking meters. 1848—The first Women's Rights convention is held at Seneca Falls, NY, where "Bloomers" are first introduced. 1814—Birth of Samuel Colt, inventor of the revolver. 1692—Sarah Wildes, Elizabeth Howe, Susannah Martin, Sarah Goode, and Rebecca Nurse are hanged in Salem, Mass. for witchcraft. 1500—In Rome, a hailstorm brings down the roof of the Papal Palace.
8:42 8:54	9:38 9:45	10:28 10:31	11:12 11:13	11:52 11:52	12:29	12:28 1:03
2:24 2:26	3:20 3:19	4:11 4:08	4:56 4:52	5:37 5:33	6:14 6:11	6:48 6:48
Sunday, July 20	Monday, July 21	Tuesday, July 22	Wednesday, July 23	Thursday, July 24	Friday, July 25	Saturday, July 26
2002—A review finds that U.S. air strikes in Afghanistan killed as many as 400 civilians. 2001—Lori Klausutis, 28, a Congressional aide, is found dead in the Fort Walton Beach office of Rep. Joe Scarborough (R-FL). 1989—Pres. George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush calls for a manned mission to Mars. 1985—Mel Fisher begins hauling \$400,000,000 worth of gold off the ocean floor near Key West, FL, where it had lain for 363 years. 1984—Famed runner and fitness guru Jim Fixx, age 52, dies of a heart attack while jogging. 1973—Martial artist and fitness fanatic Bruce Lee, age 32, dies in Hong Kong. 1969—Neil Armstrong walks on the moon. 1956—A scheduled election intended to reunify Vietnam is blocked by the South. The Eisenhower administration concurs. 1948—Harry Truman kicks off the U.S.'s first peacetime draft. 1944—German generals try but fail to kill Hitler with a bomb. 1917—The first numbers are drawn for a U.S. military draft. 1910—Missouri's Christian Endeavor Society starts campaign to ban all movies depicting kissing between non-relatives.	2000—A federal commission concludes that the FBI and ATF did nothing wrong in the 1993 Waco, TX siege which left 80 religious fanatics dead. 1997—In her 200th year, the <i>U.S.S. Constitution</i> sails for forty minutes off Boston. 1971—Faced with huge anti-trust action, AT&T pledges \$400,000 to defray costs of 1972 Republican convention. 1954—Geneva Accords free Vietnam from French colonial rule; naturally, U.S. must step in to preserve disorder. 1951—A Canadian Pacific DC-10 leaves Vancouver for Anchorage with 37 on board and disappears without a trace. 1950—Tuffi, a young elephant, becomes agitated while riding an elevated train, breaks through a window, and falls into a river in Germany. She survives. 1930—The scandal-ridden Veterans Bureau gets a new name: The Veterans Administration. 1919—A burning dirigible crashes through glass skylight of Chicago bank, killing 13. 1918—The German submarine <i>U-156</i>, while shelling and sinking the tug <i>Perth Amboy</i> off Orleans, MA, lands a few shells on the beach. It is the first time the U.S. mainland has been attacked since the war of 1812.	2003—In Mosul, Iraq, U.S. troops kill the Hussein brothers. 1991—Milwaukee police arrest Jeffrey Dahmer, the cannibal. 1974—More than 600 young Moonies begin a three-day fast on the steps of the U.S. Capitol and pray for Richard Nixon. 1934—In Chicago, FBI agents shoot John Dillinger in the back. 1916—An explosion during a Preparedness Day parade in San Francisco, kills ten and wounds forty. Thanks to perjured testimony, two innocent men spend over twenty years in prison. 1915—The excursion steamer <i>Eastland</i> nearly tips over at the dock in Chicago, but it's hushed up to prevent loss of business. 1910—Twenty blacks are lynched in Palestine, Texas. 1905—Henderson's Point vanishes from the Piscataqua, thanks to 60,000 tons of dynamite. 1816—Percy Bysshe Shelley registers at a hotel at Mont Blanc, lists his destination as "L'Enfer." 1620—A small band of religious fanatics leave Holland for the New World on the <i>Mayflower</i>. 1587—On Roanoke Island, 117 people re-establish an earlier colony that disappeared without a trace. They disappear, too. 1376—The children of Hamelin, Germany are last seen heading out of town, led by a piper.	2002—Top intelligence officials in Britain warn Tony Blair that the U.S. is "fixing" intelligence to match policy to justify war against Iraq. 1982—While filming the movie <i>Twilight Zone</i>, Vic Morrow is decapitated by a helicopter blade. 1983—Air Canada Flight 143 runs out of gas halfway from Montreal to Edmonton. The "Gimli Glider" coasts more than 100 miles to a successful landing. 1969—James Brown walks out of LA Mayor Sam Yorty's office when the mayor is late to present him with a proclamation. 1967—Police raid a blind pig in Detroit, interrupting a welcome home celebration for two Vietnam veterans. A five day riot ensues, and 43 die. 1944—International Monetary Fund and World Bank are created in Bretton Woods, NH, whose first tax collector was Daniel Fowle. 1904—At the St. Louis Exposition, Charles E. Menches invents the ice cream cone. 1903—Henry Ford sells his first Model T. 1886—Steve Brodie claims to have survived a dive off the Brooklyn Bridge. 1827—First public swimming pool in U.S. opens, Boston.	2003—A congressional report says the FBI and the CIA disregarded warnings of a possible Al Qaeda attack on the U.S. 2003—In Iraq, the U.S. displays photos of the corpses of Uday and Qusay Hussein. 2002—For accepting bribes and kickbacks, the U.S. House of Representatives gives James Traficant (D-OH) the boot. 1974—The Supreme Court votes 8-0 that Richard Nixon must turn over his Oval Office tapes. 1961—The first hijacking of a U.S. airliner to Cuba. 1959—During the "Kitchen Debate" in Moscow, Nikita Khrushchev mockingly asks Richard Nixon if Americans have machines to push food down their throats. 1951—Hanscomb AFB personnel report a UFO, "grayish with many black spots," over Portsmouth, NH flying at 800 to 1,000 mph. 1950—Cape Canaveral launches its first rocket—a German V-2. 1929—Pres. Herbert Hoover proclaims the Kellogg-Briand Pact, renouncing war as an instrument of foreign policy. 1925—John Scopes is found guilty of teaching evolution. 1915—The steamer <i>Eastland</i> tips over at the dock in Chicago again. This time 812 drown.	2000—In touching display of <i>naiveté</i>, George W. Bush announces that he has picked Dick "Dick" Cheney as running mate. 1990—U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie tells Saddam Hussein that the U.S. won't take sides in an Iraq-Kuwait border dispute. 1972—U.S. health officials admit blacks were used as guinea pigs in a 40 year syphilis experiment. 1969—Ted Kennedy gets two month suspended sentence for leaving the scene of an accident. 1965—Bob Dylan outrages purists at Newport Folk Festival by playing electric guitar. 1946—The first bikini is seen at a Paris fashion show. Same day: the first underwater A-Bomb is exploded, at Bikini Atoll. 1909—Louis Blériot becomes the first man to fly across the English Channel. 1898—The U.S. invades Puerto Rico. 1853—Legendary bandit Joaquin Murietta is killed in California. His head is severed, put in a jar of brandy, and displayed until it is finally lost in the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906. 1826—"Nothing succeeds with me," says Mikhail Bestuzhev-Ryumin after the hangman's first rope breaks. "Even here I meet with disappointment."	1979—Three and a half feet of rain fall on Alvin, Texas. 1968—Nguyen Van Thieu, winner of 1967 Vietnamese presidential election, jails the runner-up. Same day: Mexican troops arrest thousands of students, shoot hundreds, killing dozens. 1967—In Detroit, police and National Guardsmen "investigating reports of a sniper" at the Algier Motel set off a riot leaving 40 dead and 2,000 injured. 1947—The National Security Act corrects some flaws in the Constitution, turning the misnamed War Department into the Defense Department, and creating the CIA and NSA. 1890—A tornado rips through Lawrence, Mass., destroying 35 homes and killing eight people. 1877—In Chicago, at the Battle of the Viaduct, Federal troops kill 30 workers. 1680—RIP John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, fond of running naked in Woodstocke Park. 1758—The French fortress of Louisburg, taken by New Englanders in 1744 and given back by Britain three years later, is retaken by the British. 811—Byzantine Emperor Nicephoros I is killed in battle. His skull is made into a drinking vessel by Krum, King of the Bulgars.
1:03 1:37	1:40 2:11	2:18 2:49	3:01 3:30	3:47 4:16	4:39 5:07	5:37 6:03
7:22 7:26	7:57 8:07	8:34 8:51	9:14 9:38	9:58 10:30	10:46 11:27	11:40

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