

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

TPP — Terrible Public Policy

One of every three Americans spent Sunday evening watching bulky men in satin pants alternately slapping each other's butts and inducing injuries to their brains.

The outcome of the Super Bowl will have no effect on anyone except those on the playing field and, as they slip into their dotage in their forties and fifties, their eventual long-suffering caregivers. Yet almost everyone pays attention.

Meanwhile, somewhere — in a secure, undisclosed location, no doubt — nameless negotiators are hashing out the secret details of a trade deal that, if the past is any measure, will have as large and damaging an impact on the financial well-being of most Americans as getting sacked does on a quarterback.

The average America knows little to nothing about the Trans-Pacific Partnership [TPP], and fewer still probably care. That's how these things work, and that's why they work.

Perhaps we need a Constitutional Amendment: Proposed trade deals must henceforth be negotiated by trash-talking, muscle-bound men wearing odd costumes and engaged in physical combat.

What NAFTA Did

The North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, was supposed to create a rising tide of trade that would lift all boats. At least, so said both the Republican and Democratic candidates for President during the 1992 campaign. Only Ross Perot, of the self-funded Crazy Uncle Party, warned against its "giant sucking sound."

According to the infallible

Wikipedia, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is happy with NAFTA's results, since it boosted U.S. trade with Canada and Mexico "from \$337 billion in 1993 to \$1.2 trillion in 2011." Yes, and things got so much better for the average American during that 18 year period.

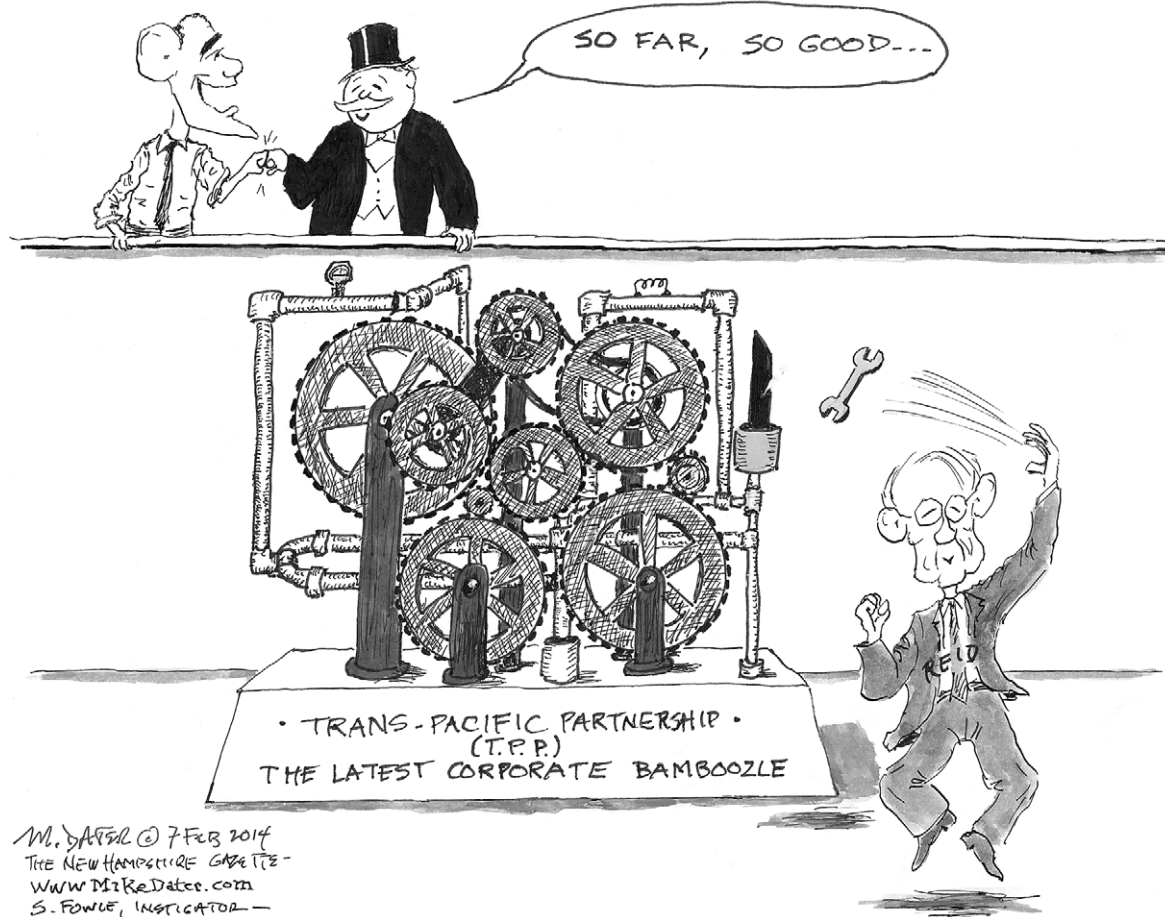
On the other hand the AFL-CIO, according to the same source, "blames the agreement for sending 700,000 American manufacturing jobs to Mexico over that time." The AFL-CIO's position must be viewed skeptically, though, since it's a "special interest" — it only cares what happens to Americans who work for a living, whereas the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is deeply concerned about the economy as a whole.

As for NAFTA's effect on Mexico, let's face it: this being America, we don't care. To indulge the tender-hearted and the morbidly curious, however, we'll note here that American corn sales to Mexico rose sharply, causing corn prices there to drop precipitously. That caused hundreds of thousands of corn farmers south of the border to do one of two things: either flock to *maquiladoras* along said border, to do jobs once done by Americans, or to cross that border, legally or not, in search of work, thereby driving down the wages of Americans who still had jobs.

Don't Ask, Won't Tell

There are two basic reasons why the public knows so little about what's actually in the TPP.

First, discussions about trade agreements have a soporific effect: unless you've got millions of your own dollars at stake or you're being paid handsomely to pay attention, they will put you to sleep



more effectively than any pharmaceutical.

Second, the specific provisions of the TPP are a big fat secret: no one is supposed to know what's in it except the handsomely-paid, anonymous suit-wearers sitting in that undisclosed location.

Who's In the Box?

So who are those people, and who is paying them? Surprise, surprise — many of them are employees of the world's largest corporations. They write the trade agreements, and Congress rubber stamps them.

It's a symbiotic arrangement much like the one Congress has with other corporate lobbyists: the lobbyists selflessly assist busy Congressmembers by writing the laws that they pass, leaving the Congressmembers free to dial up the lobbyists' employers to ask for campaign cash.

The funny thing about TPP, according to Dean Baker (one of the handful of economists who was smart enough to spot the housing bubble in 2002), "the TPP is not really about trade. The tariff barriers and quotas between the TPP countries are already low in most cases."

TPP: NAFTA on Steroids

If it's not about trade, then what is it for? According to Lori Wallach, who's been Director of Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch since 1995, the purpose of TPP is to "undermine financial regulation, increase drug prices, flood [the U.S.] with unsafe imported food and products, ban Buy America policies aimed at recovery and redevelopment, and empower corporations to attack our environmental and health safeguards before tribunals of corporate lawyers."

If that's what TPP is for, who would ever want it? Nebulous "business interests," naturally.

Increasingly, they see any prohibition against businesses walking up to random strangers and demanding their wallets as restraint of trade.

Specific backers include the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Koch brothers-backed American Legislative Exchange Council, and Wall Street — all of whom have done us so many other great favors over the past few decades.

Deus Ex Casino

It's far too early to celebrate, but Sen. Harry Reid's surprising declaration last week — more of a mutterance, really, given his oratorical style — could spell doom for the TPP.

A politician stands up for the people: now, there's a man bites dog story for you.

The Alleged News

Stupor Bowl XVIII

Last Sunday the nation observed Super Bowl XVIII, which is as good a tool as any for diagnosing the nation's mental health.

Is there a doctor in the house? Because, seriously — we must be crazy.

To put everyone in the proper mood further blur the line between team sports and mortal combat, the U.S. Army flew nine helicopters over the stadium in Rutherford, NJ.*

According to CNN, the Pentagon says the operation cost about \$100,000. Figures from the Defense Department are, of course, open to question.

Whatever the true cost, it made no difference to the National Football League [NFL] — the flyover didn't cost it a dime because it pays no taxes.

Despite the NFL's annual revenues of \$9 billion, and CEO Roger Goodell's \$30 million salary, the IRS permits the NFL to register as a tax-exempt nonprofit. Strangely, we do not recall hearing Fox News raising a fuss about that IRS scandal.

So the chumps in the cheap seats are left to pick up the tab for the NFL's "free" flyover. Except, this being the Super Bowl, there is no such thing as a cheap seat. Ticket prices reportedly ranged from about \$500 at face value, in the nosebleed sections, to several

thousand bucks a pop for better seats on the secondary market.

And let us not forget how many of those seats were built with taxpayers' money. *The Atlantic's* Gregg Eastabrook worked up the numbers last October:

"For Veterans Day last year [2012], the NFL announced that it would donate cash to military groups for each point scored in designated games. During NFL telecasts that weekend, the league was praised for its grand generosity. The total donation came to about \$440,000. Annualized, NFL stadium subsidies and tax favors add up to perhaps \$1 billion. So the NFL took \$1 billion from the public, then sought praise for giving back \$440,000 — less than

a tenth of 1 percent."

You're a Great Audience — Not

Many people hold that the best part of the Super Bowl is the ads: an opinion with which we will not argue.

As for what part of the show was the worst, we nominate the reaction of part of the audience, on Twitter, to a certain Coca-Cola ad.

In the ad a diverse array of voices sang "America the Beautiful" in a variety of languages, accompanied by images of faces from all along the human spectrum.

Boy, did that ever p__s some people off. Two favorite Tweets, collected by one @missmuggins: "F u coke the national anthem wasn't made for your gook and

Mexican talking. STFU!!!! Speak English," and "@pepsi as long as you don't sing our national anthem in different languages you have my vote over #CocaCola-Co."

"America the Beautiful" is, of course, *not* the national anthem. It was written by a Massachusetts woman named Katherine Lee Bates. A Republican, she left the Party in 1924 due to its xenophobic opposition to the League of Nations. And, for good measure, she never married but lived for 25 years in a "Boston marriage" with a woman named Katharine Colman.

* We don't care how much you paid to have your name attached to a football stadium. We're not publishing it here.

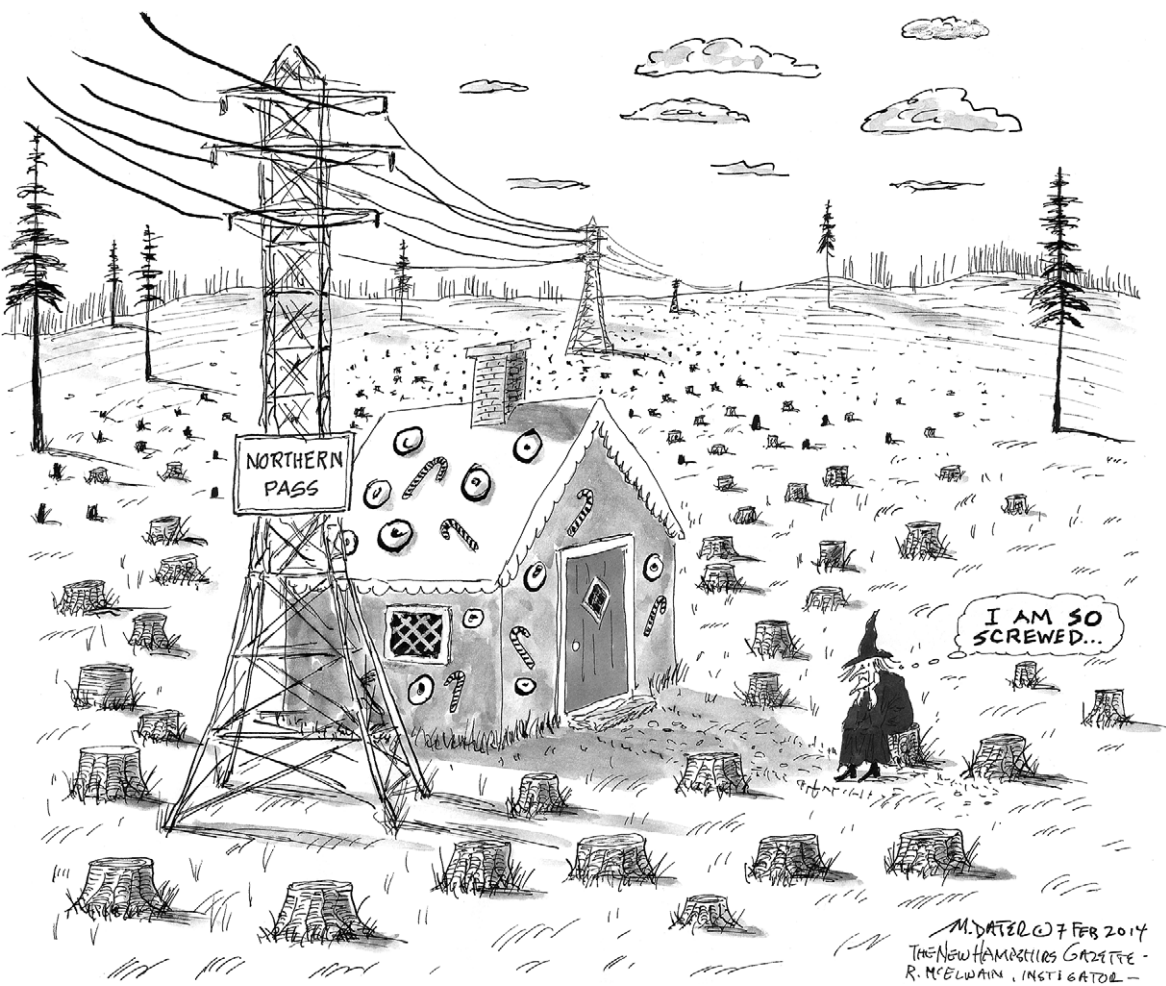
The Alleged News
from page one

Please — You're Killing Me
N.H. Rep. Marilinda Garcia, a Salem Republican, wants to challenge incumbent Rep. Annie Kuster for the state's 2nd District seat. She'll have to beat former State Sen. Gary Lambert in a GOP primary first, of course.
On Monday Garcia tweeted, "Ann Kuster's continued support of ObamaCare costs 2.3 m jobs. It should cost Kuster her own #nhpolitics."
Garcia was referring, no doubt, to the report issued by the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] last week; it set her whole Party jabbering, "People are being fired because of Obamacare!" She and her colleagues are having trouble grasping something the CBO was at pains to make clear: there's a difference between people not

being able to find a job and people not wanting to participate in the labor market.
Older workers with health problems, desperate to keep their health care, are now cutting back on their hours. Apparently Republicans hate that.
Directed to the *Washington Post's* Fact Checker, Garcia stuck to her guns: "ACA encourages 2.3M to leave the workforce. That's a negative consequence no matter how you try to spin it." Actually it's not.
Representative Garcia's website says she voted against a bill that would have established a commission to study Medicaid expansion, and for the 2014-15 Budget that nixed Medicaid expansion.
Health Affairs, the leading peer-reviewed journal of health policy thought and research, published a study last month titled, "Opting Out of Medicaid Expansion: The



The Flag Police, who lack the round-the-clock monitoring powers of certain Federal agencies, cannot say with certainty that this is the same flag which was cited in our paper of December 11th. It is flying from the same pole and appears to have approximately the same pattern of wear. Fortunately, the Flag Police are professionals; otherwise, they might begin to suffer pangs of existential doubt.



Health and Financial Impacts." The study estimates that out of the 41,993 New Hampshire residents who would have been covered if the Legislature had opted in to Medicaid Expansion, somewhere between 38 and 159 will die every year.
So there's your Death Panel: the world's third-largest English-speaking deliberative body — the New Hampshire Legislature.
Alas, Garcia's one of the ones with their thumbs pointing downwards.
Northern Trespass
Thanks to subscriber Bob McElwain, we finally saw the video *Northern Trespass*, about Northern Utilities' plan to bring electricity from HydroQuebec to Southern New Hampshire by way of a 180-mile long, 130-foot high power line. Not being directly in the path of the thing, we had been

able to ignore it. Well, that's over now.
We did expect to be appalled, and we were not disappointed. The one-hour video makes it clear that the project's true function would be to generate profit for the shareholders of HydroQuebec, Northern Utilities, and NSTAR.
HydroQuebec may have ravished an area the size of the State of New York, wrecked the way of life of that area's native inhabitant, and built the world's largest hydroelectric facility, but that's no reason for New Hampshire to let them trash the White Mountains to sell the power it produces.
It's past time to start taking conservation seriously. If conservation is not enough, and the power is needed so badly that it simply must be brought south, let the shareholders put up the money to bury the lines.

It's hard to say which is more insulting: the alleged jobs being dangled before us, or the pious blather about "green energy."
A physician, Dr. Campbell McLaren, cited studies showing alarming risks, particularly of childhood cancers.
He also brought up one other deleterious effect, should the project be allowed to go forward: "One [health effect] not mentioned is psychological or mental. Just the thought of seeing these grossly ugly latticework towers is going to remind every one of us — most of us — of the oppressor in our midst, of our lack of power as a people. Of the collusion between governments and corporations over which we have no power."
Clearly there's only one way to prevent that outcome — don't let the damned thing go through.

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The Athenæum's First Object

Three decades before the American Revolution, Britain bestowed a great gift on the people of Portsmouth — a commission for a Royal Navy ship.

H.M.S. America, built on the North Mill Pond by shipwright Nathaniel Meserve, was a reward for New England's impressive victory in the siege of Louisbourg in Cape Breton in 1745.

"The French were completely defeated. Everyone involved was considered to be a great hero. And it was the first time New Englanders had really shown themselves to the British as being very capable soldiers and sailors," said Elizabeth Aykroyd, who with Joe Mulqueen is co-curating a free exhibit opening Feb. 15 at the Portsmouth Athenæum, "The 1749 Model of the *H.M.S. America*, The Athenæum's First Object — 1820."

The exhibit concentrates on the historical background of the model, Portsmouth shipbuilding, and the industries needed for building and equipping a ship — ropemakers, joiners, cabinet makers, painters, blockmakers, coopers, blacksmiths and merchants of food and drink, among others.

William Pepperrell of Kittery, the Commander of the Louisbourg expedition, assigned the contract to build the 44-gun vessel to his chief of artillery, Lt. Col. Nathaniel Meserve. Meserve's

shipyard stood at the current site of Cindy Ann Cleaners on Maplewood Avenue. He kept the model of the *America* in a glass case in the front room of his home, next to the shipyard.

In 1748, as part of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the British ceded Louisbourg back to the French, which irked the Colonials considerably.

Ten years later the British again laid siege to Louisbourg. Again, they were successful; again, Meserve was there, this time under General Jeffrey Amherst. This time, though, Meserve died of smallpox, along with his firstborn son and namesake.

The model of the *America* was listed in the inventory of Meserve's estate when he died. It was apparently inherited by an heir who was a Tory, and fled to England during the Revolution.

John Langdon may then have purchased the model at the suggestion of John Paul Jones, to aid in the construction of the second *America* in 1777. The model was donated to the Athenæum in 1820 by Elizabeth Langdon Elwyn, the daughter of John Langdon.

The exhibit is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Athenæum's Randall Gallery. An opening reception will be held Feb. 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the gallery, 6-8 Market Square. For more information, go to PortsmouthAthenaeum.org.

I SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH...

I'M TOTALLY LYING, BUT WHY BREAK THE HABIT OF A LIFETIME?



Quasi-Local Boy Makes Bad

Late in January a U.S. Attorney in New York indicted Dinesh D'Souza for directing others to make contributions to a Senate campaign, reimbursing them, and lying to the Federal Election Commission. If convicted he could face seven years in prison. Naturally this has made him into the Right Wing's latest martyr. He claims he's being persecuted

for making a movie called *2016: Obama's America*. If that were so the charge should have been assault with a farcical weapon.

D'Souza, though born in Bombay, achieved early notoriety while attending Dartmouth College — not, however, the drunken, food-flinging Dartmouth that inspired screenwriter Chris Miller's movie *Animal House*. Rather than attending toga parties, D'Souza spent his spare time writing Right Wing screeds for the *Dartmouth Review*, an off-campus, paper-based precursor to Fox News.

D'Souza, the dark-skinned son of a Johnson & Johnson executive, focused much of his writing on the supposed evils of affirmative action: a now-banned practice which once gave preferential treatment on the basis of history and skin color rather than bank balance. After graduation in 1983, D'Souza quickly became one of the GOP's preeminent conveniently-ethnic propagandists, en-

joying a succession of sinecures at such Right Wing propaganda mills as the Heritage Foundation, the American Enterprise Institute, the Hoover Institute, and the Reagan White House.

In 2012, D'Souza had to quit his job as President of King's College, an obscure Manhattan religious institution, after he spent a night at a New York hotel with a woman he characterized as his fiancée. His actual wife protested that a man cannot have simultaneously both a wife and a fiancée.

Opportunity to Work for Free

As noted in our last issue, we have a position open in our Downtown Distribution crew. The task takes about half an hour every other Friday. Compensation: the knowledge that you have materially assisted in the improbable perserverance of the Nation's Oldest Newspaper.™ Anyone who finds that offer enticing is urged to email the alleged Editor at: editors@nhgazette.com.



This original Colonial model of the 44-gun H.M.S. America was crafted in 1749 and is made of walnut. It is the centerpiece of a new exhibit opening Feb. 15 at the Portsmouth Athenæum's Randall Gallery. See story above.

6/29/31

Getting a Leg Up on the Competition

A Great Moment in Gender Equality

There are large glasses and there are small glasses but when the local Moose Lodge held an outing, even the largest glass could not keep local contender Mildred Cuddeback from entering the famed beer drinking contest, where (much to the surprise of onlookers) she took home the blue ribbon.

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The Super Bowl's Message

To the Editor:

As I watched the opening pageantry of the Super Bowl with my grandfatherly eyes I was astonished to see the focus on the military — the reading of the Declaration of Independence with the ever-present visuals of military uniforms and weapons, the flyover, the association of military and patriotism. With all the wonderful people in this country doing great things in education, science, the arts, and many other areas, I began to wonder — what group directed the focus? What was the message? How much time and money did they spend in the development of the message? Who paid for the development and the airtime?

Weapons are the number one export product of the U.S. The U.S. allocates more of our tax dollars to the military solution to conflict than any other area of our national budget. The Senate is now considering SB 1881, which would make us the pawn of Israel and take us to war with Iran. Is war the Super Bowl message?

As a retired businessperson with an MBA and as a military veteran (Army, infantry, Viet Nam). I'm reminded of the words of Martin Luther King — "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

Arnold Stieber
Chicago, IL

Patriots Under Attack

To the Editor:

The Tea Party is viciously attacked by Democrat and Republican politicians, the media, and other special interests who want to continue feeding at the public trough at the expense of other Americans.

The Tea Party challenges and strives to replace politicians who put their personal interests and those of their supporters ahead of the general welfare.

Politicians of both parties have condemned deficit spending, promised responsible spending, promised low taxes, promised to do good for all Americans, and they swear to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States...."

The low approval ratings of Congress and the President show that the American people know that politicians are hypocrites who repeatedly break their promises, disregard their oaths, and put their personal interests ahead of the American people.

The list of actions against the best interests of the American people is nearly endless, e.g., waste of hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars annually, passing laws they exempt themselves from or don't even read, tolerance of government abuse of power (e.g., NSA spying on Americans and government persecution of political opponents), tolerance of failing public schools, and irresponsible management of government programs (e.g., Social Security and Medicare will soon be unable to provide promised benefits).

What explains the continued requirement for ethanol in our gasoline besides political payoffs? Ethanol increases the cost of gasoline and food, lowers gas mileage, damages engines, and doesn't help (and may hurt) the environment.

Other than political payoffs, what explains the crony capital-

ism, subsidies, special advantages, and bailouts (e.g., the big banks, insurance companies, unions, and GE) that help special interests at the expense of everyday Americans?

The taxpayers are even expected to bail out the insurance companies because too few people are buying Obamacare's expensive insurance policies!

The Tea Party is widely attacked for supporting, and demanding remedies for the same problems that Senator Obama spoke eloquently about in 2006 (and 2008) when opposing a debt ceiling increase, calling it a failure of leadership and describing how debt hurts the American people. (<http://www.snopes.com/politics/obama/debtlimit.asp>).

Failure of politicians to govern responsibly hurts most Americans, e.g., by increasing taxes, reducing jobs and opportunities, reducing wages from unfair immigrant labor competition, increasing poverty, abusive public officials, infringing on our constitutional rights, and immorally passing enormous debt to future generations.

The politicians and the special interests that benefit from irresponsible spending and special favors don't want them to end. So they attack the Tea Parties that have sprung up all over the country to hold politicians accountable.

Join the fight for government of the people, for the people, and by the people. Help fix our country, join a Tea Party.

Don Ewing
Meredith, NH

Don:

We wish you and your fellow Tea Partiers all the success in the world the upcoming Republican primaries. Democrats, with some exceptions, appear not to have what it takes to win the fight against Republicans. Tea Partiers, on the other hand, like rats with access to unlimited quan-

Mash Notes, HATE MAIL,

ities of Walter White's famous blue methamphetamine, don't know the meaning of moderation. It's only a matter of time before they submit the Party of Lincoln to a near-death experience.

But hurry it up, would you? If the economy or the environment die first, it won't matter anymore.

The Editor

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Out of Control Drone Culture

To the Editor:

A year ago, 8-year-old Nabeela ventured outside while her 68-year old grandmother picked vegetables in their family garden. Moments later this beloved grandmother was blasted to pieces by not one, but two U.S. drone missiles apparently aimed directly at her. Nabeela and other nearby grandchildren were injured when the exploding missile lodged shrapnel in their bodies.

No one is alleging the grandmother did anything wrong. Her fatal "mistake" was living in North Waziristan, a region in Pakistan pummeled by U.S. drone strikes.

The goal of the highly-financed drone promoters is to have a startling 30,000 of them zipping through the skies by 2020. Our nation's entire fleet of passenger and cargo planes number only about 7,000. As of last June the Pentagon alone already had 64 drone bases throughout our country with more in the works. What are we doing? Much we don't know. But it's time to ask.

Unmanned aerial missiles have been a weapon of choice in Afghanistan where opposition from within a largely tribal society and difficult terrain have made conventional warfare extremely difficult. Secret drone strikes, however, have also been conducted in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia, with limited knowledge as to who is targeted, how many and with

what consequences.

The New York Times reported in May, 2012 a Pentagon-run "kill list" of suspected members of al-Qaeda-affiliated groups. But a New America Foundation report found that just one out of seven drone attacks in Pakistan kills a "militant leader."

A signature strike is one in which targeting occurs without having the precise identity of the individual targeted. Instead, individuals match a pre-identified "signature" of conditions that the U.S. links to militant activity or association. Being male of fighting age and carrying a gun (which is the norm in Pakistan) can make someone a target.

Cheap, small, noiseless and practically invisible, drones take snooping to a new level. Equipped with super-high-powered lenses, infrared and ultraviolet imaging, radar that can see through walls, video analyzers and "swarm" technologies that use a group of drones that operate in concert to allow surveillers to watch an entire city — these devices are made to be intrusive. And, of course, they can be "weaponized" to let military agents advance from intrusion to repression.

No, this is not about a dazzling new technology. We are on a fast track to becoming a society under routine pervasive surveillance. As the ACLU put it, on the UAV threat, such a development "would profoundly change the character of public life in the United States."

The threat of course is a physical one. But it is difficult to understand the real moral implications without focusing on the psychological aspects.

Whenever we consider how "precise" the weapons are, we are asking the wrong question. Taken to an extreme, if we could have ul-

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And Other Correspondence

timate precision, *i.e.*, press a button and have anyone in the world who we perceived as an enemy of the U.S. automatically blown to bits, would we want such a dangerous tool? I think not. The ability to kill a particular human, and only that human, without a fair and public trial is the issue.

For many would-be U.S. critics, drones take on a psychological response of less terror, not more, because they do remove our soldiers from danger. And they are likely intended to be less terrifying to their operators, making them more likely to kill. From so many angles, the existence of drones is about muting a sense of terror — and that is why we should be terrified. We cannot morally accept technological steps that make war easier to wage, and killing easier to conduct.

There is nothing normal about the American people meekly living in a watched society, perpetually monitored by flying cameras that also are weaponized with tasers, tear gas, rubber bullets and what-have-you, including real bullets and explosives.

For the citizens of sovereign countries over which drones fly, they produce a justifiable sense of violation, horror and disgust.

The Division of Peace Psychology of the American Psychological Association has recently created a Drone Task Force. It will delve into legal and moral issues such as deindividuation, anonymity, obedience, &c.

The task force should ask whether “targeted” killing is anything but a euphemism for assassination, whether our use of drones in anything but a form of terrorism, and whether drone warfare will feed anything more than additional retaliatory terrorism. Most of all I would like to hear about the possible influence

of drone warfare on stifling “protest,” and how might that be the most dangerous aspect of all.

Michael Kulla
Pleasant Valley, NY

Michael:
You say that drones “remove our soldiers from danger,” which is true on one level. But we believe you’re leaving something out.

However a young American might find him at the controls of an armed U.S. drone, it’s certain that he did not pick their target’s name out of a phone book. Yet as the instrument of U.S. foreign policy, his is the finger that will smite the living target. That’s a moral burden. Some will never notice it, but others will never forget.

The Editor

§
Don’t Listen to the Parrots
To the Editor:

After the New Jersey Bridge scandal broke I was disgusted with the journalists who said the motive behind the lane closures was retaliation for the Mayor of Fort Lee not endorsing Chris Christie.

Long after the Mayor said he did not think that was the motive the parrots continued to chirp this likely wrong conclusion. How could they be so sure of the motivation? Apparently asking questions has no role in their profession.

Another Mayor, Dawn Zimmer, of Hoboken, was asked if her not endorsing Chris Christie was the reason their city had received so little of the over \$1 billion the Christie Administration controls. Unlike the Mayor of Fort Lee, Zimmer thinks she knows why.

The real explanation cannot be found in a single sensational sentence. The parrots are again fumbling the real story. Listen carefully to the remarks of Mayor Zimmer and the carefully worded

denial by the Lt. Governor.

Rather than listening to the parrots, listen to the Saturday, January 18, 2014 broadcast of UP with Steve Kornaki, available online at msnbc.com, and the remarks of Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno, about high-dollar real estate development and political corruption and a chronology of the events leading up to Mayor Dawn Zimmer’s allegations with which Steve Kornaki preceded his interview with the Mayor. Important emails are revealed and the role of a key planning board decision are also explained.

You will then probably know more than those media parrots reporting what they have heard other parrots saying.

Thomas Laperriere
Rochester, NH

§
Let’s Be Neighborly
To the Editor:

My daily cup of coffee nearly went down the wrong pipe when I read Article 8 of the Iraqi Constitution which states; “Iraq shall observe the principles of good neighborliness, adhere to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, seek to settle disputes by peaceful means, establish relations on the basis of mutual interests and reciprocity, and respect its international obligations.”

I fully concur with all the premises laid out in Article 8, and also believe that the so-called “Leader of the Free World” should lead by example if it wants to give advice like Mr. Rogers. Was it not the U.S. that chose to invade and occupy Iraq based on pretenses that turned out to be either totally incorrect or false?

The U.S., with roughly 5 percent of the world’s population, consumes about 25 percent of the world’s petroleum, which has led us, over the past several decades, to violate every single one of the conditions we have levied on the

Iraqis in Article 8. This lust and dependency on oil from Middle Eastern countries, largely under the control of non-democratic regimes, has driven us to commit countless costly foreign policy blunders.

These numerous misadventures, with their disastrous outcomes and blowback, are bookended by the 1953 overthrow of Iran’s last democratically-elected leader and the invasion of Iraq 11 years ago to oust a monster of our own creation.

The Bush/Cheney regime promised that Iraq would become a model democracy, friendly to America, in the heart of the Middle East. Meanwhile, the bellicose Right Wing incessantly bemoans the end of America’s “exceptionalism” because President Obama was/is reluctant about intervening, on behalf of an al-Qaeda-backed opposition, in Syria’s civil war; or because his administration is attempting to multilaterally negotiate a peaceful solution with Iran over its nuclear ambitions.

It is by no means a stretch to suggest that America’s “neighborliness” and “exceptionalism” are ultimately responsible for: unprecedented levels of sectarian violence in Iraq which killed 6,639 innocent citizens in 2013 alone; and that the Shiite-led Iraqi government has become an ally of Iran, and together are providing support to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad’s genocide efforts.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH

§
What Anti-Development People?
To the Editor:

There has been a recent spate of letters that label any criticism about large-scale building projects as the anti-development “people,” “crowd,” “conspiracy,” whatever. Actually, there are no anti-development people — the objections are by people who oppose foolish development. My rough



definition of foolish development includes buildings that are out of scale with our historic city, buildings that are too tall, monolithic, boring, built right up to the sidewalk; buildings that squeeze every ounce of profit out of a location at the expense of the cityscape, buildings that look like anyplace U.S.A.

A development that consisted of 20 or 30 New England style homes or one that resembled the Athenæum would not stir up any objections whatsoever. In fact, I doubt there was a single objection to the 18 Congress Street development (Popovers to the Odd Fellows Building — thank you McHenry Architecture) right on Market Square. Why? Because it was in scale, interesting, and “fit” with its surroundings.

The term “anti-development” is just not appropriate. So, letter writers, let’s drop the name calling and adopt my term: “anti foolish development.”

Thanks for your cooperation in this charged matter.
Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, NH

§
Many Made It Possible
To the Editor:

Since December 28th the New Memorial Bridge has been bathed in a variety of colors and illumination programs using color changeable LED (Light Emitting

More Hate Mail, &c.
to page six

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Northcountry Chronicle

Birds of a Feather

by William Marvel

Five years ago next spring I began contemplating our impending empty nest, and to my surprise the prospect did not fill me with glee. Like many parents actually facing that watershed, we started to grow a little misty and apprehensive about it, and with my wife's complete concurrence I began to investigate filling the void our high-school senior was about to leave. It had been so much easier and more gratifying raising a girl that I insisted we rule out males for adoption, and to this I also met with unexpected domestic assent. In return, I agreed that we could consider taking in multiple siblings, if the opportunity presented itself. Considering my preference for solitude, I thought that was quite a concession on my part.

Perhaps it was the nesting analogy that guided our choice. We

made the pickup and signed the papers at Paris Farmers' Union, bringing home six fledgling girls. They kept up an incessant chatter, all the way home and all day long, for weeks thereafter, but I enjoyed them best when they were little. Like our departing teenager, they seemed to appreciate me to some extent as a provider, but even more as an occasional playmate, and I also acted the part of teacher, as I had with her. I taught them to fly up and sit on my finger, or my shoulder. The more daring of them would land on top of my head — a trick I learned to regret having taught them, once they grew talons.

According to their paperwork, they were all New Hampshire Reds. As I understood it, that meant they would be just like Rhode Island Reds, except without the obnoxious accents, but they may simply have been passing as products of the Granite

State. It happens all the time, you know.

By the end of June they had moved into their coop with an assortment of perches and nests to satisfy their varying degrees of self-esteem. The accommodations were small but tight, and each night I closed it against the depredations of nocturnal predators. By day they enjoyed a more spacious pen, and once the gardens had been gleaned they had the run of the hill, although they never wandered much over a hundred yards from the roost.

As chickens go, they had it pretty soft. I didn't see the first egg until the winter solstice, by which time I had spent a couple of hundred dollars on layer pellets and various supplements to their diet. They laid straight through the first winter, but early in their second November the eggs began to peter out, and by Thanksgiving they had stopped completely. It

was nearly spring before I found another one, and I suspect it came from one of the replacement birds I introduced.

The next year was even worse: I collected the last egg before Halloween. Last year they stopped producing by the end of September, and this year they laid off the day before school started. That was when I caught on that my tribulations resulted from labor unrest, and I've identified the shop steward, at the top of the pecking order. She has been agitating since that first bountiful winter, convincing her flockmates that all their hard work will only lead me to expect the same from them all the time, while they still get chicken feed year after year. She sits up every night brooding over it, and spends her days preaching the effectiveness of featherbedding. She generates piles of grievances: one of them rolled down my neck the other night, as I reached under

her to lock my pampered workforce in for the night.

I interpret their demands indirectly, by a rise in productivity whenever I inadvertently meet one of them, like giving them more cracked corn or letting them out ever-earlier in the day. Once I deduce what they want, and provide it regularly, the yield soon starts to decline again until I come up with some new treat or concession, which brings another brief flurry of eggs. The overall trend is always to higher cost and lower output. I have begun to understand why chickens that are really brown might be called reds: clearly the ultimate goal of my backyard bargaining unit is to gradually increase compensation and reduce my expectations of production to zero, so as to achieve something like on-the-job retirement with full benefits. At least you can fric-asee a chicken.

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

Diodes) lighting. Our committee was dedicated to producing an illumination that would enhance the beauty and attractiveness of our bridge without being garish or tasteless. I am convinced that we have done that. However, these programs are not permanent and can be changed or added to in the future. We did not know when we started working on this project over two years ago, whether our Seacoast community residents would agree with our vision enough to fund the project. But our committee started out with the advantage of having members on our committee from four area towns. And the community did respond dramatically, by

first pledging and then donating more than \$200,000 to make this project happen. In fact, we were able to collect on 100 percent of all pledges.

As many of you may already have heard, this project set a number of new standards for a federally funded infrastructure project. Both as a model of private/public involvement in such projects, and also blazing a path through the bureaucratic maze that previously did not have a way to accommodate local citizen's input and their privately raised donations. Without the help of some important partners such as NHDOT, City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Historical Society this ef-

fort would have failed.

Our project had a wide range of donors from near and far, and included donations from \$5 up. We received 38 donations from businesses and organizations. This included eight out-of-state-based donors, two New Hampshire-based donors, and 28 Seacoast area donors. Individual donations came from 159 donors, with five coming from out-of-state donors (as far away as Maryland). The remaining donations came from 25 cities and town in New Hampshire and Maine. The top donating cities/towns were: Portsmouth (88), Kittery (32), Rye (9), New Castle, Greenland, Hampton — each with four, and Dover, South

Berwick, York, each with three donors.

Our committee was determined to ensure that ever donor, large and small, would be recognized for their support. If you were a donor to our project but have not received a recognition flyer, please contact me for your copy (603) 436-5221 or Somssich@myfairpoint.net.

In addition to the flyer, a permanent plaque to recognize large donors is scheduled to be installed at the foot of the bridge sometime in early spring 2014 by the Portsmouth Public Works department.

Finally, it is time for everyone, whether you are a local seacoast resident or a visitor, to enjoy a

beautiful night in Portsmouth on the bridge. Our lighting artist, John Powell, has created and installed 16 distinct programs, both dynamic and static solid colors (blue, white and red). The timers have also been set to turn the illumination on shortly before dusk and to turn them off at 2 a.m. The operations and maintenance of the illumination has now been handed over to the Portsmouth Public Works department. You can also view the illumination from your computer by navigating to: PortsmouthWebCam.com.

On behalf of the Memorial Bridge Illumination Committee, Peter Somssich, Chairman Portsmouth, NH

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Wall Street Warns Democrats: Avoid Populism!

by Jim Hightower

Here's a jarring headline: "Economic Populism Is a Dead End for Democrats."

That's the title on a recent op-ed piece written by a couple of longtime political flacks for Wall Street and published, naturally, in the *Wall Street Journal*. When the Barons of Big Money start rolling out such scolding screeds, it's not because they really think Popu-

lism is a loser, but because they're terrified by the fact that it has already gained mass appeal and is on the move all across grassroots America. Indeed, to put a thin veneer of legitimacy on this op-ed, they had to resort to the fiction that it is a political warning written to Democrats by Democrats — specifically by an inside-the-Beltway outfit calling itself Third Way.

But this group is to authentic

Democratic Party principles what near beer is to stout — only, not as close. Third Way is just the same old Wall Street way. While it wears a Democratic mask, it pushes for policies that are Wall Street wet dreams, including gutting and privatizing Social Security.

Why would a group wanting you to believe that it has genuine Democratic genes be an advocate for further enriching Wall Street's

Republican elite at the expense of America's middle class and the poor? To find out, just peek behind Third Way's organizational curtain. You'll see that its funders and governing board include no one from labor, senior citizens, consumers, environmentalists, small farmers, students, African-Americans, Latinos, and other core Democratic constituencies. Instead, of its 29 board members, 20 are Wall Street bankers, hedge

fund hucksters, or venture capital cultures.

Third Way dead ends at Wall Street. So, fronting for the selfish interests of its backers, it doesn't want any party championing economic Populism. But the people do, and that's who Democrats should heed.

§

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Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt To the Editor:

Every American needs to save more money. Millions of Americans are struggling in retirement part-time jobs to keep food on the table. Fast food restaurants are filled with American seniors working for minimum wage in order to survive. Every dollar put toward retirement will eventually be needed for shelter, food and medical expenses. Each year millions of people live longer than the money they had saved for retirement lasts.

President Obama has an idea with a new government backed IRA account called MyRA that will encourage all Americans to contribute up to \$15,000 a year. The contributions would not be tax deductible but like a Roth IRA the interest would be tax-free. Contributions can be as low as \$25 to start and people earning up to \$191,000 a year may contribute through their employers. Savings can last as long as thirty years before being transferred to a private Roth IRA. Earnings on the savings will be the same as the federal employees Thrift Savings Plan — Government Securities Investment Fund. This fund earned 1.74 percent last year. I'm glad for any safe and inexpensive

way for Americans to save money. Some things make me nervous.

Our government handles our Social Security. Aging Americans are now waiting longer and longer to collect earned benefits. The funds really do not even exist. Every month our government robs Peter to pay Paul in order to keep the Social Security checks coming. Our government has mismanaged Social Security. Do we feel secure about this government run supplemental retirement plan?

Our government is handling our medical coverage through Medicare, Medicaid and now the Affordable Care Act. Each year the government will need more and more of your money through taxes to keep all of this solvent. We are in a crisis already.

Our infrastructure is hurting. Funds for American interstates, bridges, our national parks, research to find cures for cancer and other diseases is lean.

Will this new savings plan and other ideas eventually eliminate the current military retirement plan? Is this a slick new way to eventually cut out the Federal retirement plan? Could this idea and other ideas eliminate our current Social Security? We need to at least beware. Our government

is struggling to keep Federal, military and Social Security checks moving. I agree that all Americans need safe and accessible ways to save money. However, don't be blindsided by easy new programs that could eliminate what millions of Americans have already spent twenty to thirty years working toward.

Glenn Mollette
Newburgh, IN

Glenn:

Clearly you're a belt-and-suspenders kind of guy who to be safe drives well below the speed limit — in the left lane. You're for MyRAs in principle but you're afraid of them, too, because the dreaded government has a finger in that pie. Look what the government did to Social Security — Oh, the humanity!

The average schmo can only dream of earning \$117,000 in a year, but plenty of people earn that in a month — and they're done paying their payroll taxes on February 1. The Social Security Trust Fund could be set right permanently by eliminating the taxable income cap.

The Editor

§

There Is Something You Can Do

To the Editor:

A large bipartisan majority of Americans feel there is too much big corporate and labor union

money in politics, and that our elected representatives spend from 30 percent to 70 percent of their time "Dialing for Dollars." That is time they do *not* spend working for us, trying to solve some of our country's most difficult problems. That majority is correct.

The thing is, a large majority of Americans think there is nothing we can do about it. However, that majority is wrong!

Americans have followed a legal process and amended our Constitution 27 times. Today that process starts with a petition warrant article on many New Hampshire town warrants that 1) guarantees the right of our elected representatives and of the American people to safeguard fair elections through authority to regulate political spending, and 2) clarifies that constitutional rights were established for people, not corporations.

As a friend has reminded me, "Here in New Hampshire in the 2012 election, outside groups spent five times what the candidates themselves spent on their contests. Nationally in 2012, total campaign expenditures tripled and Super PAC spending increased five-fold, including over \$300 million in "dark money" from anonymous donors. Some

published estimates say that as few as 132 individual donors may have contributed more than 60 percent of the total PAC money spent last year." Another friend asks, "Will the voices of ordinary citizens be heard when the likes of Sheldon Adelson is willing to spend \$50,000,000 to elect a president?"

Yes, your voices and your votes will be heard and will count, if you support your community's efforts to pass petition warrant articles at your town meeting/election. That is the spark which will ignite the public and political movement to create and pass a Constitutional Amendment that will help get big money out of our elections, and certify that corporations are not people and money is not speech.

Herb Moyer
Exeter, NH

§

Still Going Strong at 102

To the Editor:

My father continues to enjoy the *Gazette* He doesn't walk as fast as he used to but his mind is as sharp as ever — 102 years old.

L.H.S.

Portsmouth, NH

L.

You just made our day. Please give your father our best regards.

The Editor

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Murph's Fortnightly Quote
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Eugene Debs (1855-1926)
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10 **Dave Gerard** 9PM
Jazz/lync HOOT (OPEN MIC) 9PM, NO COVER
Pint Night: 6-9pm
11 **Seasmoke** 9PM
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12 **Soggy Po Boys** 9PM
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13 **Dub Apocalypse w/ Harsh Armadillo** 9PM
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16 **Hot Jamz with Mikey Marchand** 9PM
Jazz/lync
17 **Judith Murray** 8PM
Jazz/lync NO COVER
Larry Garland JAZZ JAM @ 6PM
18 **Chad Verbeck** 9PM
Jazz/lync HOOT (OPEN MIC) 9PM, NO COVER
Pint Night: 6-9pm
19 **Ross Robinson** 9PM
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ADMIRAL FOWLE’S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

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

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

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

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

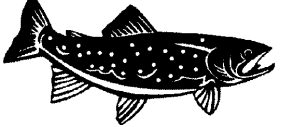
Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream

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

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

Sunday, February 9	Monday, February 10	Tuesday, February 11	Wednesday, February 12	Thursday, February 13	Friday, February 14	Saturday, February 15
2007—A Pentagon report concludes that Douglas Feith's policy office inappropriately manipulated intelligence on Iraq. 2001—The <i>USS Greenville</i> surfaces under the 191-foot Japanese trawler <i>Ebime Maru</i> off Hawaii, while giving thrill-rides to 16 civilians, half with Texas oil and Bush connections. Nine die. 1982—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush denies he ever used the phrase “voodoo economics.” Then NBC plays the tape. 1971—Satchel Paige becomes the first Negro League player inducted into the Hall of Fame. 1964—The Beatles appear on Ed Sullivan's show. 1950—“I have here in my hand,” says Sen. Joe McCarthy, “the names of 205 men that were known to the Secretary of State as being members of the Communist party and who nevertheless are still working and shaping the policy of the state department.” Years later he admits he held a laundry list. 1945—<i>HMS Venturer</i>, while submerged, torpedoes and sinks <i>U-864</i>, also submerged, off the coast of Norway. 1909—First federal legislation prohibiting narcotics (opium). 1909—Birth of Carmen Miranda. 1861—Jefferson Davis is elected President of Confederate States of America.	2007—Senator Barack Hussein Obama announces he's running for President. 2004—<i>The Washington Post</i> reports an apparent six-month gap in George W. Bush's Air National Guard service record. 2003—Federal authorities tout plastic sheeting and duct tape as our first line of defense against the Axis of Evil. 1990—Perrier Water is pulled from shelves due to benzene contamination. 1989—To evade regulation, the World Wrestling Federation admits in court that it's an exhibition, not a sport. 1971—Protests take place across the nation in response to the U.S. invasion of Laos. 1962—Captured U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers is released by the Soviet Union during a spy swap in Berlin. 1910—Five members of the Bloomsbury group, disguised as Abyssinian royalty, trick Royal Navy officers into giving them a tour of <i>HMS Dreadnaught</i>. 1897—<i>The New York Times</i> first proclaims it publishes “All the news that's fit to print.” 1355—In Oxford, England, a dispute over beer between local residents and university students ends with 63 students and about 30 locals dead.	2013—KRTV in Great Falls, MT announces that “the bodies of the dead are rising from their graves and attacking the living.” 2006—Dick “Dick” Cheney becomes the second sitting Vice President to shoot a man when he “peppers” his pal Harry Whittington in the face. 1992—“I'd like to thank my family for loving me and taking care of me,” says mentally handicapped Johnny Frank Garrett as Texas prepares to poison him, “and the rest of the world can kiss my ass.” 1990—Nelson Mandela is released from prison after 27 years. 1981—Eight workers are contaminated when 100,000 gallons of radioactive coolant leak at the Sequoyah 1 nuclear power plant in Tennessee. 1963—The CIA creates a “Domestic Operations Division.” 1937—The Great Flint, MI Sit-Down Strike ends in victory for the workers. 1926—The Mexican government nationalizes all church property. 1919—Emma Goldman is arrested for the crime of telling women about birth control. 1861—The U.S. House of Representatives unanimously resolves not to interfere with slavery. 1812—Massachusetts gets “gerrymandered” by Republican governor Elbridge Gerry.	2004—<i>USA Today</i> reports that former top Texas Air National Guard officers say files were “cleansed” to protect George W. Bush. 2004—In Fallujah, Iraq, a convoy including the U.S. commander Gen. John Abizaid is ambushed. 1999—The Senate fails to convict Bill Clinton. 1955—The U.S. takes over training of the South Vietnamese military. 1947—Sixty protesters burn draft cards in New York City. 1917—A mob of thousands in Bisbee, AZ herds 1,200 members of the IWW into boxcars to be shipped off and dumped in the New Mexico desert. 1839—The boundary dispute between Maine and New Brunswick known as “The Aroostook War” begins. No one is hurt. 1831—A solar eclipse inspires slave Nat Turner's rebellion. 1809—Birth of Abe Lincoln. 1781—<i>The Vermont Gazette</i> or <i>Green Mountain Post-Boy</i> is begun on the Stephen Daye press, brought to America in 1638. 1771—After a meal of lobster, caviar, kippered herring, and sauerkraut, followed by 14 <i>semla</i> pastries, Sweden's King Adolf Frederick dies of indigestion. 1554—Queen “Bloody Mary” Tudor has the cousin whom she succeeded, the sixteen-year-old Lady Jane Grey, decapitated.	2008—The Senate passes legislation telling the CIA to lay off the waterboarding. 2007—An Al-Qaeda tape calls George W. Bush a drunk gambler. 2002—Former Rumsfeld assistant Ken Adelman predicts the Iraq War will be a “cakewalk.” 1991—A U.S. laser-guided bomb kills some 400 Iraqi civilians in a bunker in Baghdad. 1971—After hitting three spectators with his first two shots at the Bob Hope Classic, Veep Spiro “Ted” Agnew throws down his clubs and quits in disgust. 1968—At Ft. Jackson, SC, five Army soldiers are arrested for praying for peace. 1967—The National Student Association reveals it has “secretly and indirectly” received over \$3 million from the CIA over 15 years. 1964—LBJ advisor Walt Rostow says “Bomb Hanoi.” 1950—A B-36 flying over the Pacific near Vancouver Island develops engine trouble. An H-bomb aboard, minus its plutonium core, explodes killing 5 crewmen and scattering 45kg of uranium into the atmosphere. 1946—The day he's honorably discharged, black vet Isaac Woodard is beaten and blinded by white cops in Aiken, SC. 1865—Confederacy OKs slaves as soldiers if their owners approve.	2008—Pentagon generals announce they'll shoot down a failed U.S. spy satellite. 2004—The White House releases some of George W. Bush's military records, but they fail to show he was present for duty. 1989—The Ayatollah Khomeini puts a fatwa on Salman Rushdie. 1973—The first American POWs released from North Vietnam arrive at Travis AFB, CA. 1971—Nixon's secret taping system is installed in the White House. 1945—Fire-bombing of Dresden by British and American warplanes enters its second day. 1929—Al Capone's gang wipes out “Bugsy” Moran's gang in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Asked by a cop who shot him, Frank “Tight Lips” Gusenberg says “nobody,” and then dies. 1913—Happy Birthday, Jimmy Hoffa, wherever you are. 1911—Bernard Harden “Bern” Porter, Manhattan Project scientist and Henry Miller's first U.S. publisher, is born in northern Maine. 1899—Congress OKs voting machines for U.S. elections. 1873—Jack Gaffney is hanged for murder in Buffalo, NY by Eric County Sheriff and future president Grover Cleveland. 1849—James Knox Polk becomes the first U.S. president to have his photograph taken.	2013—A previously unknown meteor explodes over Chelyabinsk, Russia, injuring 1,500 people. 2003—In the largest global protest ever, between 10 and 25 million people around the world denounce the coming war in Iraq. 2000—“We ought to make the pie higher,” says G.W. Bush. 1962—“I support Pres. Kennedy to the hilt [in Vietnam],” says Richard Nixon, “I only hope he will step up the build-up ...” 1944—Mistakenly believing it is full of Nazi troops, Allied bombers destroy the 1,415 year-old monastery at Monte Cassino. Fortunately its historic treasures, previously moved to the Vatican by 100 Nazi trucks, are saved. 1942—Japanese attackers, though outnumbered 2 to 1 by British and Australian defenders, take Singapore. Lt. Gen. Gordon Bennett escapes; his name later becomes synonymous with “running shoes.” 1933—An attempted assassination of FDR results in death of Chicago mayor Anton Cermak. 1910—An International Ladies Garment Workers Union strike ends victoriously. 1898—The battleship <i>U.S.S. Maine</i> explodes in Havana harbor. 1798—On the floor of the House, Rep. Roger Griswold (Fed.-CT) attacks a former newspaper editor, Rep. Matthew Lyon (R-VT).
7:04 7:45 12:33 1:26	8:02 8:41 1:35 2:24	8:55 9:30 2:31 3:14	9:41 10:13 3:20 3:58	10:22 10:51 4:03 4:37	11:00 11:26 4:42 5:11	11:34 11:58 5:18 5:43
Sunday, February 16	Monday, February 17	Tuesday, February 18	Wednesday, February 19	Thursday, February 20	Friday, February 21	Saturday, February 22
2006—The U.S. Army decommissions its last M.A.S.H. unit. 1986—“Baby Doc” Duvalier flees Haiti. 1982—An aide to Nancy Reagan explains that the First Harridan will no longer accept “loaned” threads from big name designers because she “really just got tired of people misinterpreting what she was doing.” 1978—The first computer bulletin board goes on-line, Chicago. 1968—Draft deferments for grad students end. 1964—A week after security in Saigon is “tightened,” a Viet Cong bomb in an American movie theater kills 3 U.S. soldiers and wounds another 50. 1962—A two-day anti-nuclear march on Washington begins. 1959—Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba. 1916—Emma Goldman is busted for lecturing on birth control. 1899—Félix Faure, President of France, dies of apoplexy in his office while receiving oral sex. 1868—“The Jolly Gorks” change their name to “The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.” 1848—Womens' Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, NY. 1804—U.S. Navy Lt. Stephen Decatur climbs aboard the captured <i>Philadelphia</i> and burns it. He's promoted to Captain.	2006—Six days after Cheney shot him in the face, Harry Whittington, 78, apologizes to the Vice President for “all that [Cheney] had to go through.” 2003—Covert CIA agents grab Abu Omar in Milan, ruining an Italian surveillance program and leaving evidence that gets 23 of them convicted of kidnapping. 2000—“I hate the gooks,” Sen. John McCain tells reporters. “I will hate them as long as I live.” 1985—Gen. William Westmoreland abandons his libel suit against CBS, which had reported he had covered up VC troop strength. 1979—China invades Vietnam—again. They never learn. 1974—Disgruntled Army PFC Robert Preston steals a chopper from Ft. Meade, lands without opposition 150 ft. from the White House, flies back to Ft. Meade, then returns to the White House where he lands his chopper after it is shot up by authorities. 1971—The U.S. Army's top enlistment man is indicted for conspiracy to defraud enlisted mens' clubs. 1942—Armed whites in Detroit attack African-Americans moving into public housing. 1933—Prohibition ends. 1864—The <i>U.S.S. Housatonic</i> achieves the distinction of becoming the first ship ever sunk by a submarine.	2010—On Fox TV, Glenn Beck modestly calls Thomas Paine “kind of the [Glenn Beck]” of his generation. 2007—The <i>Washington Post</i> reveals the sordid conditions at Walter Reed Army Hospital. 2001—Ex-FBI Special Agent, devout Catholic, patron of strippers, and exhibitionist Robert Hanssen is arrested for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then to the Russians. 1979—For the first time on record, snow falls on the Sahara. 1970—The Chicago 7 are found innocent of conspiring to incite riots, but guilty of crossing state lines to incite riots. 1962—“We are going to win in Vietnam,” says Bobby Kennedy in Saigon. “We will remain here until we do win.” 1952—Four men in a 36-foot lifeboat brave 70-knot winds to rescue 32 sailors from the sinking <i>Pendleton</i> off Monomoy Island. 1943—Anti-Nazi students of “The White Rose” are caught leafletting the University of Munich. Later they're beheaded. 1930—Elsworth W. Bunce becomes the first man to milk a cow aboard an airplane in flight. 1928—When the cornerstone of the Eastland County (TX) Courthouse is opened, a horned toad, allegedly placed within 31 years earlier, hops out.	2009—CNBC's Rick Santelli pitches an anti-Obama fit on TV. 2007—New Jersey OKs civil unions for homosexual couples. 2003—Turkey demands \$4 billion to let the Pentagon unload heavy equipment for the Iraq war. The Pentagon balks. 2000—“I understand small business growth,” says George W. Bush, “I was one.” 1988—Prosecutors in Passaic County, NJ move to dismiss 1966 murder indictments against Rubin “Hurricane” Carter. 1986—After due deliberation—37 years—Congress ratifies UN treaty outlawing genocide. 1965—Antiwar protests are held in 30 cities across the U.S. 1964—The CIA informs the State and Defense departments that South Vietnam is making little progress against the ‘Cong. 1945—In a Burmese mangrove swamp, several hundred Japanese soldiers are killed by crocodiles. 1942—FDR puts 120K Americans in concentration camps. 1912—In Lawrence, MA, 200 club-wielding police beat 100 women pickets. 1847—Rescuers reach the leftovers of the Donner Party. 1807—Ex-Veep Aaron Burr is arrested in Alabama for treason by plotting to create a new nation out of parts of Mexico and Louisiana.	2007—The BBC reports that U.S. plans for attacking Iran include nuclear sites. 2005—Dr. Hunter S. Thompson takes his leave the way he lived—entirely on his own terms. 2000—The last original <i>Peanuts</i> comic strip is published. 1985—Sot Chitalada defends his WBC flyweight title, then loses his \$104,000 purse to a ringside pickpocket. 1971—A screw-up at the National Emergency Center orders U.S. TV and radio stations off the air. The situation goes uncorrected for 30 minutes. 1943—Hollywood film makers say they'll let the Office of War Information censor their movies. 1939—Fritz Kuhn, a German veteran of WWI and naturalized U.S. citizen, leads 22,000 people in a pro-Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden. 1862—Abe Lincoln's son Willie dies of typhus at the age of 11. 1815—Almost two months after the Treaty of Ghent ends the War of 1812, the <i>U.S.S. Constitution</i> captures two British sloops off the coast of Portugal. 1725—Indian fighters under command of Captain John Lovewell take 10 scalps from sleeping Indians in Wakefield, New Hampshire, which they later redeem in Boston for £100 each.	2012—Caught by the Piscataqua's current during construction of the New Memorial Bridge, the tugboat <i>Miss Stacy</i> nearly sinks. 2001—“You teach a child to read,” says G.W. Bush, “and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test.” 1988—Televangelist Jimmy Swagart interrupts his regular broadcast to confess to an unspecified but heinous sin. 1975—Three of R. Nixon's former henchmen, John Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, and John Erlichman are sentenced to prison. 1965—Malcolm X is assassinated as he begins a speech at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem. 1962—The Freedom Foundation gives its George Washington award for “most outstanding individual contribution to American freedom” to J. Edgar [Mary] Hoover. His boyfriend Clyde gets <i>nada</i>. 1958—Britain's Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War adopts the “peace symbol.” 1940—Germans begin building a concentration camp at Auschwitz. 1934—The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan National Guard assassinates rebel leader Augusto César Sandino. According to legend, his head is then delivered to D.C. 1828—First issue of the newspaper <i>Cherokee Phoenix</i> is printed, in English, using the newly-invented Cherokee alphabet.	2006—The Golden Mosque in Samarra, Iraq is blown up. 2004—A leaked Pentagon document predicts global doom from climate change. 1994—CIA agent Aldrich Ames is arrested for spying. 1987—Andy Warhol, having overcome his fear of doctors to have routine gall bladder surgery, dies by medical misadventure. 1974—Trying to hijack an airliner to crash into the White House, Samuel Byck counterproductively shoots the pilot and co-pilot before he is shot to death by police. 1967—Operation Junction City begins in Vietnam — largest U.S. offensive operation of the War. 1966—In Minnesota, Barry Bondhus dumps two buckets of human digestive byproduct on draft files. 1965—Gen. Westmoreland asks LBJ for Marines to protect the Da-nang airbase. Despite Ambassador Taylor's qualms, LBJ says “OK.” 1965—Sam Lovejoy cuts down a weather tower for a proposed nuke plant in Montague, MA. 1945—In the House, Rep. John Rankin [D-MS] throws punches at Rep. Frank Hook [D-MI]. 1944—His B-24 Liberator shot from the sky and his parachute in tatters, waist-gunner Ray Noury falls 15,000 feet and lands, alive, on a ski slope in Blovice, Czechoslovakia.
12:07 5:52 6:15	12:29 12:40 6:27 6:47	1:01 1:15 7:04 7:22	1:36 1:54 7:44 8:01	2:15 2:38 8:28 8:44	3:00 3:28 9:18 9:33	3:52 4:25 10:13 10:28

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