

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Trans-Pacific Plutocracy

A large percentage of Americans, if we may judge from their habits of media consumption, are fascinated by groups of famous millionaires handling fetish objects. Each of these differently-styled objects is associated with its own set of rituals: an inflated prolate spheroid is carried or thrown; a small, solid ball is thrown and struck with a stick; a large inflated ball is thrown through an elevated metal ring.

At any given time, ninety-two teams are paying 3,600 men to conduct these exercises. They are paid an average of \$3 million a year and the total payroll adds up to about \$11.2 billion. Though each team is distinguished by its arbitrary association with a certain geographical area, it is free to draw team members from anywhere on Earth. Nearly 4,000 times a year, these teams meet before large crowds of spectators in vast, purpose-built structures, some built at public expense, and compete to determine which team is most adept. Each of these elaborately produced spectacles is but a part of a prolonged campaign, the ultimate result of which will have no discernible impact upon the lives of the observers.

Meanwhile, Back at ... Where?

Meanwhile, 600 anonymous global corporate advisors have been conducting secret meetings and making private plans. Their goal is to create what they call a Trans-Pacific Partnership [TPP]. If they succeed, TPP will surely affect us all — whether we've been paying attention or not.

TPP, according to its propo-

nents — all of whom have their own big dogs in the fight — will bring a broad array of vague benefits, someday, to everyone involved: more global trade, more exports, more jobs, higher wages, &c.

Critics point out that NAFTA was supposed to bring about those same benefits in 1994. Since humanity has but one global economy on which to perform these grand experiments, we will never know what might have happened had NAFTA not been approved. It was, though, and we do know what has happened.

Manufacturing jobs have not increased — they've become America's primary export. The only category of workers who are better off now are those lucky few at the very top of the food chain.

Some of those jobs went to Mexico, but they brought little benefit to the people. As *émigré* Mexican playwright Malú Huacuja del Toro told *In These Times*, "We fought NAFTA and we lost. Our lives changed completely; millions of Mexicans were forced to sell their lands and escape to urban places controlled by organized crime or to cross the border and become cheap labor in the U.S."

NAFTA only affected three countries comprising 472 million people. TPP would affect 12 countries comprising 805 million people — and that's just for starters. China and India may add another 2.5 billion to this Hobbesian global struggle.

A Grand Non-Solution

According to Rep. Sander



Levin [D-MI], currency manipulation by foreign nations has cost between one and five million Americans jobs and is responsible for about half our excess unemployment. One might think that a grand trade pact such as TPP would be the perfect place to address this problem — but apparently one would be wrong. The pact may be secret, but according to all reports, it contains no provisions to stop the practice.

Welcome to Non-Sovereignty

Perhaps the most bizarre, curious, and troubling element is the provision for Investor-State Dispute Settlement.

Americans with even the haziest recollections of civics class know that the country is governed according to laws made in Congress. Should TPP be approved, that will end. Think we're

kidding? We're not.

As things now stand, if Congress passes a law — use your imagination — or a federal or state agency issues a regulation that disturbs some corporation's delicate feelings — they are people, you know — that corporation can go to court and fight for what it believes to be its rights.

TPP would relieve all those poor, oppressed corporations of that awful, unjust burden. Future aggrieved industrial giants could instead just file their complaint with a panel of international arbiters. If the arbiters should find for the corporation, they could slap the U.S. government, and by extension the U.S. taxpayer, with whatever fines they found appropriate. And to whom would these arbiters answer? Certainly not to American voters.

Game[s] On

Media Matters, a left-leaning watchdog organization, searched through transcripts of the evening news shows of the three broadcast networks, ABC, CBS, and NBC, over an 18-month period, from August 2013 through January 2015, looking for coverage of the TPP. There was none.

Perhaps it's only a coincidence that these news organizations, which are huge corporations, have chosen not to report on a huge trade deal benefitting huge corporations.

Perhaps the American people, encouraged by their recent wins on net neutrality and the now-defunct merger between TimeWarner and Comcast, will oppose TPP and end it. Or perhaps not. Perhaps they're too busy watching the game[s].

The Alleged News®

Looting 101

We'll say this for today's Republicans — when they make up their minds they want to loot the till, they're not afraid to stick their hands right into the IRS's cash drawer.

Oh, they'll lie, deny, dissemble, and prevaricate, and claim they're doing something else entirely — but look, there it is: a well-manicured hand, reaching out of a shirt cuff secured with those telltale golden elephant cufflinks.

For example, just as we were going to press two weeks ago, Republicans in the House voted to repeal what they insist on calling the Death Tax. (If anyone thought we'd let a vote like that pass without comment just because the timing was bad, well, they just don't know us at all.)

This brilliant maneuver would cost the Treasury about \$270 bil-

lion over the next ten years. That money would not cease to exist, of course, but would instead be inherited by the deserving heirs of the deceased.

Rep. Louie Gohmert [R-TX], in a speech on the House floor, characterized those future decedents as thousands of hard-working farmers with dirt under their fingernails — much like his late Aunt Lilly — who are apparently fated to keel over in their faded overalls while driving a battered Ford F-150 pickup truck. (Note to acting students: this speech is well worth Googling; it's a brilliant example of unbridled bathos.)

In the real world, the beneficiaries of this idiotic policy resemble Paris Hilton and the Kardashians far more than Gohmert's Aunt Lilly. Also, the odds of it getting past the Senate

and the Oval Office appear to be nil, thus making the whole exercise just another example of GOP theatrics.

Speaking of Entitled ...

In 1921, an obscure reporter in Omaha sold his soul to the power company. Local progressives wanted to build a municipal power plant — a not-uncommon thing to do in those days. Nebraska Power didn't want to give up its monopoly. So it hired Leo Bozell to run an ad campaign to convince Omahans to vote against their own interests. The campaign was a success, and Bozell's career was launched.

Leo's son, L. Brent Bozell, Jr., followed in his father's footsteps. He teamed up with William F. Buckley, Jr., an oil man's son, and founded the crypto-fascist *National Review*.

Just this month, Leo's grand-

son Leo Brent Bozell III, tried selling tickets at \$50,000 a pop to people who wanted to visit Jackson Hole and shoot machine guns with Robert O'Neill, the SEAL who shot Osama bin Laden.

That turned out to be a scam too far — O'Neill objected, and Bozell had to retract the offer.

Springtime in Ghostville

Finally, spring is here. Snow tires are coming off, daffodils are up, the decks are open — and marketing campaigns have begun in earnest for the latest crop of luxury condominiums. Look out: their phasers are set to stun.

Rising from the ruins of the old Connie Bean gym on Daniel Street — which was apparently a poor use of limited geographic resources — comes the grandly named "Piscataqua Landing," soon to shed its plastic cocoon,

we presume.

Its most desirable unit sets "the new standard of excellence for living in Portsmouth," according to the Realtor®. It boasts a "Direct Water View" — across a parking lot, four lanes of asphalt, and bridge on and off ramps. Perhaps most alluring to those used to Portsmouth living, it also features "secured parking." These 3,300 square feet of customized living will set the discerning purchaser back some \$2,389,000.

But wait — don't settle for second best!

A condo in the new building on Vaughan Street — let's call it the Lah-De-Dah Arms — is selling for \$3,125,000. We have no doubt they'll get it, too. According to Zillow, estimated

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to page two

The Alleged News®
from page one

monthly mortgage payments on this *pied-à-terre* will be about \$11,345, or about what a less-pretentious person might pay for a year's rent.

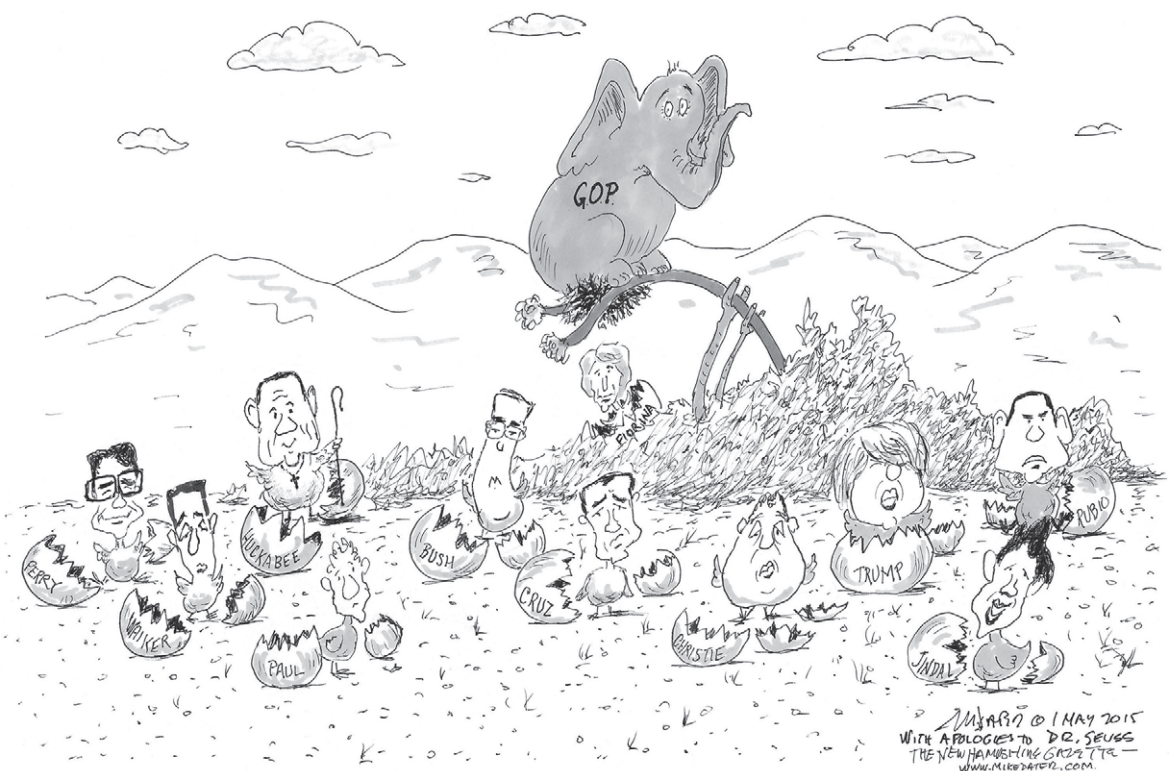
We ought to get to the point here, before offended members of the job-creating class accuse us of publishing real estate porn solely as a flimsy excuse to mock our betters. We do have a point to make.

For fifteen or twenty years now, two themes have dominated the discussion of our local residential real estate market: the accelerating trend towards more and more luxury, and the shrinking supply of housing that is affordable for people of modest means.

David Cay Johnston neatly tied those two trends together in

an article published April 14th in *Newsweek*. Headlined "The Hidden Costs of the World's Ghost Apartments," its thesis is that "the growing demand for luxury housing illustrates some of the adverse effects of the concentration of wealth at a time when worldwide wages are mostly stagnant. Because these palatial apartments and homes are rarely occupied, they impose a host of hidden costs on locals, including higher rents, longer commutes and fewer retail shopping choices."

Johnston makes the point that there is so much cash sitting around in huge piles in this curiously-organized global economy that banks have begun charging fees just to store the stuff. That makes it difficult for people burdened with an excess of cash to



HORTON HATCHES A GAGGLE OF WINGNUTS



One of Market Square's many automatic universal carcinogenic stench emitters inexplicably caught fire late on the afternoon of April 16th. The Fire Department quelled the blaze quickly.

find ways to achieve their heart's desire — which generally translates to making yet more excess cash.

If that's your problem you might just as well invest those millions in fancy digs here and there — even if you never open the door. As long as the game of musical chairs continues, there will always be someone waiting out there in the bright shiny future, willing to buy your empty premises and hand you a nice profit in the bargain.

The problem is particularly acute in New York City, where property tax laws give the owners of new apartments a special low rate. Taxes on a \$6 million apartment are just \$1,200 a year. New Hampshire, of course, relies heavily on property taxes to fund local services, so owners of luxury condos will pay plenty.

We suspect that the state's lack of an income tax might possibly provide an offsetting benefit. Such matters are well beyond our

ken, though.

Town vs. Helicopters

The town of East Hampton, NY has much in common with Portsmouth. It is nearly as old, the size of its population is almost identical, the number of helicopter flight operations within its boundaries rose dramatically in 2014 — and most of the residents wish they'd go the hell away.

There are differences, of course. One big one — lucky for us — is that we're a lot further away from New York City, where most flights to East Hampton originate. Bloomberg reported on April 22nd that helicopter flight operations in East Hampton increased 46 percent in 2014 from the year before. During that town's busy summer season, according to a recent news report, "there were 5,855 helicopter operations, including 5,384 or 92 percent by aircraft defined as noisy."

Another is that they've taken

action. The East Hampton Town Board passed a pair of ordinances on April 16th limiting the local airport's hours of operation.

The first imposes a curfew from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. The second extends that curfew an hour earlier and later for aircraft "with published Effective Perceived Noise in Decibel (EPNdB) ratings of 91 or higher," according to the *Sag Harbor Express*. "76.4 percent of all noisy operations at the East Hampton Airport are helicopter flights," the paper added.

The new rules were passed by unanimous votes, which led to a standing ovation. A proposal to simply ban all helicopters was dropped early in April.

As might be expected, the companies that are making money by making a racket are suing on the grounds that their right to operate overgrown unmuffled lawnmowers over the heads of their neighbors in the dead of night — as guaranteed by God

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and the Constitution — are being cruelly and unjustly trampled by a bunch of wusses.

Old Adage Gets Tested Again

A Portsmouth firm recently received extensive coverage in Maine's largest newspaper, thereby providing a fresh case study of an old adage long attributed to P.T. Barnum: "There is no such thing as bad publicity."

Cate Street Capital, a private equity company with offices in the old Eldredge Brewery building, invested \$8 million in a Maine paper plant, according to the *Maine Sunday Telegram*, and doubled its money.

At first blush that sounds like success. There are a few problems, though.

When structuring its deal with the Financial Authority of Maine, Cate Street claimed it would be investing \$40 million, not \$8 million. According to the *Telegram*, the \$8 million effectively became \$40 million through a complex set of transactions on a single day, in which the same \$31.8 million changed hands seven times.

By putting up that "\$40 million," Cate Street became eligible

for \$16 million in "redeemable tax credits" — money the State was bound to pay out, no matter what eventually happened at the paper plant in East Millinocket.

What happened was the plant closed after one pretty good year. (Random House used the mill's paper to print the fabulously successful *Fifty Shades of Gray* series.) Hundreds of paper plant workers lost their jobs, as did hundreds more whose work supported the mill.

The mill, under the once-proud name Great Northern Paper, declared bankruptcy and washed its hands of \$20 million owed to local businesses.

Maine taxpayers found themselves on the hook for \$16 million, which is now being paid off from the General Fund at about \$3 million a year.

Cate Street's website offers more than two dozen news articles about Great Northern, dating back to August, 2011. The most recent article is dated October, 2013.

We offered Cate Street an opportunity to comment on this matter. The company has not responded.



On April 3rd we reported on a strange change in the appearance of Baska Paeff's monumental bronze bas relief sculpture, "Sacrifices of War," the dramatic centerpiece of the Maine Sailors and Soldiers Memorial in Kittery. New facts have come out, but mysteries remain.



Kittery Memorial "Disfigured"

A conservator's report has confirmed that a selective treatment has been intentionally applied to Baska Paeff's sculpture, "Sacrifices of War," the centerpiece of the Maine Sailors and Soldiers Memorial in Kittery. The treatment has created a sort of two-tone effect which "is disfiguring" the work, according to the report.

According to Town Manager Nancy Colbert Puff, "when we asked the State about this conclusion, they informed us that they had, in fact, performed a limited waxing. We are following up with them to learn more about this, and intend to also talk about how to move forward from this point."

The State and the Town have been holding discussions which are expected to result in the town's taking ownership of the monument.

Barbara Mangum, President and Lead Conservator of Sculpture and Decorative Arts Con-

servation Services in Somerville, MA, inspected the work on March 30th. Her report to the town arrived on Monday.

"[I]t appears," Mangum wrote, "that someone has selectively applied wax or a hydrophobic substance to the major motifs of the sculpture: the main figures, the figures marching in the background and the lettering below. This has saturated the metal and wax from the earlier treatment and now appears dark in relation to the remainder of the sculpture. This is disfiguring the sculpture and is not part of the artist's intent as shown by comparison with other sculptures by the same artist. In addition, images of the sculpture taken prior to December 2014 do not show this selective darkening of the sculpture."

Sanders Poynt Hearing

In 2012, country club proprietor, race car driver, and local media mogul Bill Binnie celebrated Hallowe'en by destroying

a small town-built parking lot, erecting a fence, installing a line of boulders, and planting a row of impenetrable shrubs at Sanders Poynt in Rye. In doing so he blocked free public access to a small beach at Little Harbor, a tradition which presumably dated back to the end of the last ice age.

He was sued by Robert Jesurum, who on November 26, 2014 won a summary judgment in the court of Judge Marguerite L. Wageling.

Now a "hearing to address what should be the scope of the prescriptive easements" has been set for June 25th and 26th at Superior Court in Brentwood, i.e., the parties involved will get together with the Judge and talk about how this situation might be remedied — thirty months after the original usurpation.

Provided, of course, that Binnie's lawyers don't pull yet another delay out of their extensive, expensive sleeves.

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Are They All Chickenhawks?

To the Editor:
Bush (J), Carson, Christie, Cruz, Huckabee, Kasich, Paul, Pence, Rubio, Trump, Walker ... any veterans in this line-up, or all they all chickenhawks?

Army Vet
Undisclosed Insecure &c.
Dear Army:
We do not normally publish correspondence from authors who fail to provide us with a plausible name. We'll make an exception in your case because we recognize your scrawl.

The candidates you cite are, so far as we know, chickenhawks to a man, though perhaps to slightly varying degrees.

As to belligerency, Rand Paul seems least interested in invading the rest of the world.

In terms of experience, Ben Carson is said to have been offered a scholarship to West Point, which he apparently spurned. Scott Walker was an Eagle Scout. That seems to encompass their collective combat experience.

Good hearing from you — we sleep better knowing our north-western ramparts are secure.

The Editor

Climate Change

To the Editor:
Florida Governor Rick "Skin Tag" Scott has banned the use of the words "Global Warming" and "Climate Change" — in Florida. I am so inspired by this fascist behavior, I am writing to all newspaper editors around the world to ask you to ban the words "Florida Vacations" and "Florida products" from your vocabulary.

Jacques Porsche
Albuquerque, NM

Jacques:
By "Florida Governor Rick 'Skin Tag' Scott," we presume you refer to "Florida Governor Rick 'Largest Fraud Settlement in U.S. History' Scott," with whom we are all far too familiar.

We will happily comply with your request. We only regret that we have never found, and probably never would find, any reason to use the phrases in question.

The Editor

Call for Israeli Recognition

To the Editor:
World War II is a tragic and an unforgettable event in world history. The extermination of six million Jews as well as the deaths of millions more around the world can be laid at the doorstep of Hitler's aggression and European leaders' appeasement of his land grabs.

The contemporary political make-up of the Middle East is a direct result of the aftermath of WWII Europe. Israel was created in 1947-1948 out of the British Palestinian Mandate.

The United Nations with Allied support enabled the creation of the Israeli state.

Over the following decades, the U.S. has re-affirmed its support of the existence of Israel in the unstable, yet strategically important, part of the world known as the Middle East. Concurrently, Israel has been vigilant and militarily prepared.

In 1967, Egypt attacked Israel. Israel responded in a conflict lasting only six days, hence the name "The Six-Day War." The Israeli air force decimated the air and ground forces of Egypt, and Israel overtook control of the Sinai Peninsula. Loss of control of the Sinai Peninsula by Egypt meant that Israel would now control the all-important Suez Canal, a strategic passageway between the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea, and Israel would stand to collect millions of dollars in tolls from the ships traversing this strategic waterway. This loss of currency would have been staggering to the Egyptian economy.

Egypt sued for peace with Is-

rael, demanding the return of the Sinai to Egyptian hands. Israel agreed ... with Egyptian recognition of the existence of the country of Israel. Egypt agreed! Egypt and Israel haven't fought a war since 1967!

Iran should be held to similar high standards of conduct and diplomacy.

Any "deal" with Iran over its nuclear program and the lifting of economic sanctions should, first and foremost, require Iran's recognition of Israel as a state entity!

Nick DeMayo
Sugar Hill, NH

A Hate Mail Magnet

To the Editor:

All politics are local. The environment, climate change, and America's energy independence are not just big intangible ideas for only state, federal, and foreign governments to address. Portsmouth's City Council can contribute by enacting the single-use, carry-out, plastic bag ordinance.

Harm to marine life, or the greenhouse gas emitted for a plastic shopping bags' single use, is why many support the ordinance. I advocate for it because our reliance on the fossil fuels that these convenience items derive from continually sends our service members into combat. An Iraqi infantry battalion combat advisor teammate of mine eight years ago, is back at the same Iraqi base today, doing almost the same exact thing. Part of breaking this cycle of oil dependence and war is Americans consciously and collectively using less single-use plastics.

A cradle-to-grave analysis of the roughly 500 single-use polyethylene plastic shopping bags the average person uses every year is eye-opening. Petroleum and natural gas are extracted, shipped, and converted into plastic pellets. Next, the pellets are shipped to a film extrusion line, converted into thin-film, and blown into plastic bags. Then the bags are shipped to retail stores, used by consumers, and disposed.

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL**

According to a 2011 California State University study, annually producing 10 weekly bags expends 254 gigajoules of non-renewable energy, emits 0.01333 [of] greenhouse gasses, produces 2.35 kg of solid waste, and consumes 19.333 gallons of fresh water. Furthermore, the United States' landfills 94.5 percent, recycles 5 percent, and discards 0.5 percent of the bags as litter, which, due to their aerodynamics, end up in the ocean, break down into small pieces, and persist for hundreds of years.

Everyone shops, and passing this ordinance will do more to collectively educate the public on the issue of single-use plastics than simply encouraging reusable bag use ever will. I strongly urge the City Council to enact the ordinance and make a more sustainable future a reality.

Josh Denton
Portsmouth, NH

No "Fast Track"

To the Editor:

The 1993 NAFTA trade agreement promised to boost our economy. It did, for the very rich, but it took millions of middle class jobs offshore where labor is cheap and pollution is rampant. The Trans-Pacific Pact (TPP) promises to be NAFTA on steroids. If TPP passes, our nation's financial regulations would be "harmonized" to comply with international de-regulation. The costs of a too-big-to-fail bank's collapse would be have to be borne by taxpayers.

Our government's environmental standards, wage and labor laws, prohibition of the sale of goods made in sweatshops, and safety inspections of imported food, would all be illegal (as "restraints on international trade"). Multi-national corporations would overrule local sovereignty. TPP is worse than a terrible idea, it is a betrayal of the Democratic principles that got Obama elected.

"Fast Track" would make it way

more easy for this catastrophic pact to pass and would seal our oppression.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

Hayden to Speak About Cuba

To the Editor:

These are important and historic times for Cuba and for the many New England residents who have been involved in the Cuba solidarity movement for decades.

Many of us celebrated on December 17th when the momentous announcement was made that the U.S. would finally seek to normalize relations with our neighbors in Cuba.

The meeting between Presidents Raul Castro and Barack Obama on April 11th at the Summit of the Americas in Panama was long overdue. It was followed by President Obama's announcement that Cuba would be removed from the U.S. State Sponsors of Terrorism list.

Just today Congress said they would not try to block the removal.

We still have much work to do in ending the economic blockade and travel ban but for the first time in a long time, the wind is at our backs. For decades, the State Department, through the corporate media, has kept us in the dark and fed us a constant diet of misinformation — distortions, rumors, stereotypes, horror stories, half-truths and just plain lies. It's time to let the light shine.

Tom Hayden, one of North America's best-known voices of political and social activism, has just released his latest book, *Listen Yankee! Why Cuba Matters*. His was one of the few voices that predicted the release of the Cuban 5 and the move to reestablish diplomatic relations based on the fact that he had unprecedented access to both Cuban and American officials. It is exciting that Tom will be speaking at a Jamaica Plain Forum on Friday night May 29th at First Church

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And Other Correspondence

at 6 Eliot Street.

As a founder and early leader of Students for a Democratic Society, Tom introduced many of us to the sad reality of U.S. imperialism and described the achievements and struggles of the Cuban Revolution. Tom puts the present moment into historical context, and shows how we're finally finding common ground to the advantage of Cubans and North Americans alike.

The May 29th meeting begins at 7:00 followed by a reception and book signing. If you miss Tom at the JP Forum, you can hear him at the Community Church of Boston at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning, May 31st. That address is 565 Boylston St, 2nd floor, in Copley Square.

Nancy Kohn
International Committee for a Just Policy towards Cuba
Boston, MA

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**Apply Reagan's Iran Policy?**  
To the Editor:

Former Congressman Ron Paul, an outspoken critic of interventionist foreign policy, had to be shaking his head in bewilderment when he heard his son, Senator Rand Paul, state during his recent presidential campaign kickoff, "I believe in applying Reagan's approach to foreign policy to the Iran issue."

Not long ago, the younger Paul, sounding like dad, claimed that Iran did not represent a threat to the U.S. Therefore, his abrupt change of heart was puzzling. I suspect he had been advised that his campaign would go nowhere fast if he did not get onboard with the other 20-50 establishment Republican defense hawks (as in the raptor that "grasps its innocent victims with its talons and then uses its razor-sharp beak to rip them to shreds, to basically tear them apart limb by limb") vying for the presidency. However, Republicans must have found Paul's recommendation to adopt Reagan's Iran policy quite peculiar.

Rand Paul, born in 1963, must surely recall President Reagan telling the nation on March 4, 1987: "A few months ago I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that's true, but the facts and the evidence tell me it is not. As the Tower Board reported, what began as a strategic opening to Iran deteriorated, in its implementation, into trading arms for hostages."

The arms deal with Iran that Reagan referred to included hundreds of advanced anti-tank weapons. One can only surmise that Reagan must have harbored guilty feelings and wanted to level the playing field for Iran since he had sided with Iraq and Saddam Hussein (fighting our proxy war against Iran), when he indirectly supplied them with cluster bombs (see Chile) and prohibited chemicals (see Germany) and directly supplied them with battlefield intelligence to more effectively gas and kill Iranians by the thousands.

Given a choice between Reagan's Iran policy and the current six-party agreement with Iran on its nuclear program, I believe Paul and the Party of Perpetual War (aka GOP) should consider applying the latter approach.

Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, NH

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American Exceptionalism
To the Editor:

Yes, the United States is exceptional in many ways.

We have the highest rate of civilian gun ownership in the world and the highest rate of death by firearms (10.30 per 100,000) of any of the developed nations of the world. For example, in Britain and Spain which have strict gun controls, the rates are .25 and .62 per 100,000 respectively.

In 1957 the motto of the NRA read, "Firearms Safety Education, Marksmanship Training, Shooting for Recreation." It did not say anything about freedom,

or self-defense, or rights. The NRA supported the 1968 Gun Control Act.

In the 1970's, under David Keene, the NRA began advancing the argument that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual's right to carry a gun, rather than the people's right to form armed militias to provide for the common defense. The motto became "The Right of the People to Keep and Bear Arms Shall Not Be Infringed." This interpretation of the Second Amendment was supported by a growing body of scholarship, much of it funded by the NRA, and was swallowed whole by people who were naturally fearful for their personal safety. Former Chief Justice Warren Burger said that the new interpretation of the Second Amendment was "one of the greatest pieces of fraud, I repeat the word 'fraud,' on the American public by special-interest groups that I have ever seen in my lifetime."

The campaign was a remarkable success. Between 1968 and 2012 gun-control legislation was diluted, defeated, overturned or allowed to expire causing David Keene to remark, "If you had asked, in 1968, will we have the right to do with guns in 2012 what we can do now, no one, on either side, would have believed you."

We have sacrificed personal safety for a fraudulent claim of freedom which benefits gun manufacturers and merchants. On May 6th, SB116 allowing concealed carry of guns without a permit will be voted on by the full New Hampshire house. Please ask your representative to vote no on this bill. Let's reverse this disturbing trend and begin working for a safer America where guns are about recreation, not violence against people.

Cynthia Muse
Rye, NH

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**Convention of States**  
To the Editor:

Our Federal government is out of control. Recently state legislators from around the nation

attended the Mount Vernon Assembly, realizing Washington's abuse of power that must come to an end before it's too late.

The abrogation of Congress's authority by "Fast tracking" a trade agreement, is just the most recent example. The Trans-Pacific Partnership in particular, would remove all authority of Congress to pass any laws restricting immigration and subverting the Constitution. Such power cannot and must not be concentrated in the "pen" of one single individual. TPP provides a "free flow of workers" disregarding immigration law, between 12 countries like the EU. We simply cannot continue to allow this process to make an end run around our laws or the Constitution.

The time to take back the power from the Federal government, such as "Fast Tracking," is now. The way to do that is with an Article V Convention of States. Our founding fathers had the foresight to know one day we might again have an oppressive government that would not willingly relinquish its power and would take more than was granted in the Constitution. Thankfully they gave us a clear path to preserving our freedom when that occurs.

Article V was written to give "the people" through their states, the power to propose amendments to the Constitution to rein in the government.

Fortunately, Citizens for Self-Governance, launched the Convention of States Project for this purpose, which I believe gives us the only way out of the mess D.C. has created.

Information on this project and on how to become involved can be found at the website, [conventionofstates.com](http://conventionofstates.com) or our Facebook page [Facebook.com/conventionofstates](https://www.facebook.com/conventionofstates).

Cindy Nation  
Arlington [sic], TX



Cindy:  
*We can think of nothing more foolish than the notion that some assemblage of self-appointed geniuses could get together and re-write the Constitution, without said assemblage being controlled by the same bunch of SOBs who already control the government we have under the existing Constitution.*  
The Editor

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Tax Deform
To the Editor:

Everyone seems to be talking about tax reform again. We are going to need statesmen to get it done. With our debt of over \$18 trillion and unfunded liabilities of over \$60 trillion we are in a grave situation. We are going to need leaders who speak about the fact that the income tax was designed to eliminate capitalism, also known as the free market. And, it's working.

[Eighty-six words of utter hogwash deleted. — The Ed.]

What is mysterious is why citizens might support an income tax. Do they really believe they gain something by adding to the costs of goods and services? The FairTax eliminates 90 percent of tax returns. It also eliminates Congress from the bidding war for tax favors.

Al Ose
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Al:
The "everyone" of whom you speak consists almost entirely of those being paid to do so by those

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The Northcountry Chronicle

Groupthink Academy

by William Marvel

When news of Fryeburg Academy's outrageous treatment of its lacrosse coach emerged, I was too preoccupied with a lengthy trip to do it full justice in a column. Besides, I had already written a couple of columns for use during my absence, and when I have the luxury I often like to let an issue sit for a while, to see if my indignation abates. In this case, time only seemed to aggravate it.

For those who have forgotten or never knew, Scott Lees resigned as the lacrosse coach after he was told he would be fired for posting an open letter from the internet on his Facebook page. The letter challenged President Obama's statement about the importance of Muslim culture in American history. Many of the writer's assertions and implications were accurate, despite the tone of sharp irony in which he wrote it; he did imply a causal connection between Islam and terrorism, and made some other invalid generalizations, but he never lapsed into hate speech.

Basically, the Facebook post reflected a conservative Republican perspective on affairs in the Middle East and the President's attitude toward the warring factions. That isn't my view, but a significant portion of a mainstream American political party subscribes to it, and I was under the impression that employees of a school were not stripped of their political rights as though they were convicted felons.

The academy dean nevertheless complained that the Facebook post "upset" him, apparently because of the public nature of that medium. I presume this means that Lees and all other Fryeburg Academy employees — teachers, coaches, custodians, and cooks — were (and are) also barred from writing letters to the editor. Or maybe they are only prohibited from writing letters that would "upset" the dean, or potentially any of the students.

No one accused Lees of peddling his politics on the playing field, and he appears to have been anything but discriminatory toward Muslim students at Fryeburg. He would probably never

have faced a cautionary word, let alone the threat of dismissal, if his post had instead praised Obama's remark, or if he had expressed any sentiment that enjoyed broader popularity. He was clearly pressured into resigning only because the document he chose to display implied a political opinion held by a minority.

The only fault I can find with him, other than apparent political differences, is that he failed to challenge the threatened dismissal. I understand his apprehension about being fired from a job working with children, but the precedent will make resistance more difficult for the next employee who is forced out for political opinion. Fryeburg Academy should have been required to defend so objectionable a decision.

Perhaps the academy's administrators should establish a review process for the approval or denial of employee requests to make political statements. It might be a little cumbersome, because the reviewing panel would have to include someone representing every possible example or admixture of ethnicity,

religion, gender, sexual orientation, political persuasion, economic stratum, physical ability, and body-mass index. That could require the Leura Hill Eastman Center as a venue to consider applications for voicing political opinion. Mere majority votes or even a supermajority would not likely suffice for approval, either. Any single member of the panel would have to hold the power to veto an application — because, Lord knows, we can't allow anyone to be offended or "upset."

The fundamental role of schools is no longer to educate students and allow them to mature gradually, so they can face the vicissitudes of the real world. Aside from offering employment to as many adults as possible, schools exist now mainly to protect children; principals and superintendents readily admit that their foremost responsibility is to keep kids "safe." In addition to running lockdown drills and canceling school at the first trace of snow, that means shielding students from the slightest physical or psychological discomfort — including the terrible trauma

caused by exposure to divergent opinions.

Political factions now enforce their intolerance of differing viewpoints with viral electronic protests and destructive economic boycotts. That has bred political cowardice in the American business community, which now panders shamelessly to the dominant constituencies, and no business is bigger than the education racket. The paranoia of the politically correct therefore permeates the academic environment at all levels. Nothing illustrated that better than the timid equivocation of the Kennett High School principal and the Conway School Board last month, when a couple of kids objected to the tradition of gender-assigned gown colors at graduation.

With their campuses cordoned off from society at large, our schools and colleges prescribe a sterile intellectual environment in which debate can only be conducted with intense vigilance against even an implied affront. Any digression from the norm-of-the-moment must be swiftly and severely punished.

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

who would benefit financially.
The Editor

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**More Plutocratic Bushwa**  
To the Editor  
April 18, 2015

The Koch brothers are at it again, pulling strings, setting agendas, overseeing our local politicians. Our Republican legislators are doing the expected job of kowtowing to the Kochs.

The proof is in the details of the New Hampshire House Republicans' proposed budget. The Kochs hate the Affordable

Care Act so their puppets in Concord attack Medicaid expansion. The Kochs oppose the minimum wage so their minions in Concord do their bidding and opposed it. The Kochs want to sabotage renewable energy initiatives and the Republican reps comply.

Why are the New Hampshire House Republicans listening to the Kochs from Kansas and not their constituents from New Hampshire? It brings new meaning to the old adage — money talks.

It is never good when legislators make a habit of being addicted to Koch-influenced ideas.

Will our Republican Senators have the character to resist the temptation?

Dave Potter  
North Hampton, NH

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The Alleged Energy Crisis
To the Editor:

The manufacturing sector of the New Hampshire economy is facing a crisis because of several out-of-control costs that no one in our government appears inter-

ested in reversing.

If these crises are not reversed and brought under control, the manufacturing sector of the New Hampshire economy will gradually fade away as companies shrink or totally relocate to other places where they can economically compete, especially with the foreign "copy cat" competition.

As we know, energy in New Hampshire is the highest-cost energy in the United States! Workmen's Compensation expenses are amongst the highest in the country, and we also have

many other out-of-control agencies with regulations that place a huge burden on manufacturers (especially small manufacturers). New Hampshire, by and large, is made up of small manufacturers that will find it extremely difficult to continue in business.

Energy cost increases alone this year will drastically reduce the tax income to support the government, because the increase in energy costs and other costs will be deducted from the profits made by companies, thereby reducing their tax liability.

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Exposing the Corporate Funders of "Dr. Evil's" Attack Ads

by Jim Hightower

A longtime Washington PR flack for tobacco giants, labor exploiters, frackers, and other corporate profiteers celebrates himself "Dr. Evil" — the scourge of all progressive groups!

But Rick Berman is not a doctor, not evil, and not a scourge. While he is a wholly-unprincipled little man, he's just a self-serving huckster who grubs for corporate dollars by offering

to do their dirty PR work.

Berman's modus operandi is not exactly sophisticated: Taking money from the likes of Philip-Morris, Monsanto, and Tyson Foods, he sets up tax-exempt front groups (with non-descript names like Center for Consumer Freedom, Employment Policies Institute, and Environmental Policy Alliance) posing them as independent research outfits; each one is an empty shell, run by his small staff out of his

Washington, DC office; using the names of the front groups, Berman and Co. buy full-page newspaper ads and write opinion pieces that amount to raw hatchet attacks on whatever progressive groups or public policies the corporate funders want to kill.

His mad dog style is hardly worrisome to those targeted, for rather than drawing converts to the corporate funder's cause, it merely rallies the usual anti-labor, anti-enviro, anti—"fill in the

blank" crowd. But it still appeals to brand-name corporate clients, for Berman promises to spew their message into the media without having any of the nastiness stick to them. "We run all this stuff through nonprofit organizations that are insulated from having to disclose donors," he assured energy executives last year. "There is total anonymity," he bragged. "People don't know who supports us."

But, oops, not only is he inef-

fectual, but big holes in his curtain of anonymity are now revealing some of the corporations hiding behind it. To take a peek, go to www.BermanExposed.org.

"Rick Berman Strikes Again With Environmental Policy Alliance," www.foodandwater-watch.org, March 6, 2014.

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New Hampshire will be faced with a sales tax and/or income tax to maintain the bureaucracy that they chose to maintain. The lack of energy alone could be solved by our government saying, "put in power lines and put in gas lines ... period." Canada has all of the green power that New England needs, at good prices. Manufacturers pay the best wages and benefits; and, if we let them leave the state, we will all be working in restaurants, hotels and on farms.

Just remember, manufacturing, along with mining and agriculture, provide the only jobs that create new money in circulating existing dollars.

Our government should represent the vast majority of the people who need these facilities in order to have a job. These politicians/agencies should stop listening to those people who do not work for a living, for whatever reason, and who have all their time to lobby for some of their beliefs, many of which are not supported by facts.

We need more politicians who will stand up for the working person and not worry so much about their re-elections, but what is good for the state of New Hampshire and the long-term viability of these needs and reg-

ulations.

John F. Olson
President, Whelen Engineering
Charlestown, NH

John:
How very interesting, to receive a lecture on the responsible use of energy from the owner of a company whose Internet presence glorifies in the frivolous consumption of fossil fuels through NASCAR racing, off-road racing, and airplane racing.

The solution you propose for the alleged problem to which you point is that consumers prostrate themselves before the capitalists behind our utility companies, who are telling us that we need to cough up in advance so that they may more easily finance whatever pipelines and high-tension corridors they feel like building — in order to head off the threat posed by renewable energy development.

Here's a suggestion: instead of standing in the way of progress, why don't you start manufacturing photovoltaics, and help bring the price down?

The Editor

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Large Corporate Government
To the Editor:

Senator Rand Paul, while becoming the second member of the anticipated Tea Party trium-

virate (behind Canadian born Sen. Ted Cruz and ahead of Sen. Marco Rubio) to officially declare his candidacy for POTUS, announced, "I have a message, a message that is loud and clear and does not mince words. We have come to take our country back." Hearing this soaring Tea Party Republican mantra always has me wanting to ask Tea Partiers from whom and to what presumed golden age in our short history would they like to take our country back?

Do they plan on taking the country back from all non-Tea Party Americans, like me, and return to the age of: Puritanism and witch trials; taxes without representation; genocide; slavery; civil war; no child labor laws; no vaccines and modern medicine; women and minorities without the right to vote; Jim Crow; lynching; the Great Depression; World Wars and numerous interventions and misadventures; internment; McCarthyism; Watergate or the recent major economic crisis?

Answering my burning question and sounding exactly like Sen. Elizabeth Warren (who needs to run for POTUS), Paul continued, "We have come to take our country back from the special interests that use Wash-

ington as their personal piggy bank, the special interests that are more concerned with their personal welfare than the general welfare." I'm all for Paul's idea of eradicating special interests from our democracy; however, I won't hold my breath waiting for him, Cruz or Rubio to break the bad news to the Koch Brothers or Sheldon Adelson as all three members of the triumvirate, acting like any establishment Republican, recently attended a Koch Brothers fundraising event so they could pander to rich, powerful donors. These donors anonymously buy elections and are then empowered by the politicians they pay for to call all the shots on domestic and foreign policy.

When Tea Party Republicans talk about small, limited federal government, please know they are actually referring to large, obtrusive, unelected corporate government that runs many aspects of American life for profit and without much consideration for the public good.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH

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Dover Bureau Reports

To the Editor:

I have attached two photos showing a U.S. Flag and a Gads-



den Flag, both in a tattered state, being publicly displayed on a flagpole in front of a private residence (the home of a Tea Partier and/or Free Stater I would presume) on the west side of Glenwood Avenue (a main thoroughfare) in Dover. I personally found the scene far too precious not to stop on my bicycle today — at my risk as there was a pickup truck in the drive way with a Gadsden Flag on the bumper sticker — and grab a couple of photos with my I-Phone.

Duty Officer
Dover Bureau, Flag Police

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

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua’s ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.

Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of Badger’s Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

SUNDAY, MAY 3	MONDAY, MAY 4	TUESDAY, MAY 5	WEDNESDAY, MAY 6	THURSDAY, MAY 7	FRIDAY, MAY 8	SATURDAY, MAY 9
2011—The Disney Corporation attempts to patent the phrase “SEAL Team 6.” 2003—The Old Man of the Mountain succumbs to gravity. 2003—George W. Bush says finding WMDs in Iraq is a matter of when, not if. 1987—The same day Sen. Gary Hart’s (D-CO) challenge, “Follow me around” appears in print, the <i>Miami Herald</i> reports that a woman not his wife spent the night in his D.C. townhouse. 1986—The U. of Maryland announces that hundreds of boxes of papers donated 12 years earlier by Spiro Agnew have not been inspected or cataloged and won’t be for another 3 to 5 years. 1970— “[The North Vietnamese] have been in a war for years and years,” says Veep Spiro T. Agnew, “I don’t think they are capable ... of continuing this fight.” 1963—Birmingham, AL Sheriff “Bull” Connors turns firehoses and dogs on civil rights marchers. 1946—After Louisiana’s electric chair, wired by a drunken trustee, fails to kill him, Willie Francis is escorted back to his cell on Death Row. One year later it works. 1945—The RAF bombs the German ship <i>Cap Arcona</i> in the mistaken belief it’s carrying SS officers. Of 4,500 concentration camp inmates aboard, only 350 survive.	2004—The U.S. Army reveals that 10 prisoner deaths and 10 abuse cases in Iraq and Afghanistan are under criminal investigation. 1989—Col. Oliver North of the U.S.M.C. is convicted of four felonies in the Iran-Contra scandal. He later escapes punishment due to Congressional ineptitude. 1970—Ohio National Guard troops shoot 13 unarmed students, killing four, at Kent State. 1961—The Freedom Rides begin throughout the south. 1948—Norman Mailer’s <i>The Naked and the Dead</i> is published. 1942—The Battle of the Coral Sea begins. It lasts four days; 14 ships are sunk or damaged, 159 planes destroyed, and 1,565 men are killed. It was a great victory. 1940—Nora Joyce says to James, “Well, Jim, I haven’t read any of your books but I’ll have to someday because they must be good considering how well they sell.” 1926—A national General Strike begins in England. 1896—In Cripple Creek, CO, a grease fire ignites a ton of dynamite. 1886—In Chicago’s Haymarket Square, demonstrators against May 3rd police brutality at the McCormick Reaper plant are attacked by more police. A bomb kills seven cops; a dubious trial later convicts eight anarchists. A labor holiday is born, everywhere but in the U.S.	1994—Screaming Lord Sutch, the 3rd Earl of Harrow and head of the Official Monster Raving Loony Party, achieves his highest percentage of the vote ever—4.2 pct.—in British Parliamentary elections. 1985—President Reagan lays a wreath at a cemetery full of Nazi soldiers at Bitburg, Germany. 1981—In Ireland’s Maze Prison, Bobby Sands dies of starvation. 1970—To the chagrin of Bill Loeb, Jerry Rubin speaks at UNH. 1961—New Hampshire’s own Alan Shepard recites a prayer, “Please, dear God, don’t let me f__k up,” moments before becoming America’s first man in space. His prayer is answered. 1960—U.S. announces that Gary Powers’s U-2 was a “weather research plane” and its pilot a “civilian employed by Lockheed.” 1945—The collier <i>Black Point</i> is torpedoed by <i>U-853</i> within sight of the Point Judith, RI lighthouse. 1945—At a picnic in Bly, OR, Elsie Mitchell, a minister’s wife, and five children are killed by a Japanese balloon bomb. 1902—Death of Bret Harte, called by Mark Twain, “an invertebrate without a country.” 1886—In the Bay View neighborhood of Milwaukee, Gov. Jeremiah Rusk orders 250 National Guard soldiers to fire on a crowd of strikers. They comply; seven die.	2010—An imaginary bus bomb causes a panic in Portsmouth, NH. 2010—A Londoner scamming from his parents’ basement causes The Invisible Hand of the Market™ to get the jitters: the Dow drops nine percent in five minutes. 1982—Explaining why so many blacks have died in LAPD choke holds, Chief Darryl Gates explains it’s because “in some blacks ... the veins or arteries do not open up as fast as they do in normal people.” 1981—Maya Ying Lin’s controversial design is chosen for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. 1978—In Chicago, First Lady Rosalynn Carter is photographed shaking hands with Polish Constitution Day Parade chairman & serial killer John Wayne Gacy. 1973—FBI besieges Native Americans at Wounded Knee. 1970—At Jackson State University in Mississippi, two black students are killed by soldiers. 1967—Top ranking U.S. Marine Gen. Wallace Greene, Jr. announces in Manchester, NH that America is winning the war in Vietnam, “and I say that without any doubt whatsoever.” 1864—During the second day of the Battle of the Wilderness, five generals are killed in action. 1862—RIP Henry D. Thoreau. 1856—Birth of Sigmund Freud; thinker, shrinker, coke sniffer.	1999—A U.S. B-2 bombs the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, leaving 3 dead and 27 wounded. 1998—Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan successfully quash an effort to regulate credit default swaps. 1992—Pesky reporters reveal that Ross Perot’s fervor to aid U.S. POWs in Vietnam was motivated largely by a desire to bolster Richard Nixon’s presidency. 1985—New York throws a ticker tape parade for 25,000 Vietnam veterans. Better late than never. 1984—Vietnam veterans’ suit for damages from chemical companies which sold Agent Orange to the U.S. is settled for chump change. 1964—Francisco Gonzales, a former Olympic yachtsman, shoots the pilot and co-pilot of Pacific Air flight 773 which then crashes killing the other 41 people on board. 1960—After lying for a week, and only after Khrushchev reveals the Soviets have its pilot, the U.S. admits that the U-2 is a spy plane. 1954—The Viet Minh overrun the French garrison at Dien Bien Phu. 1942—More than 100,000 Japanese-Americans are sent to concentration camps. 1896—Gilman-ton-born Herman W. Mudgett, aka “Dr. H.H. Holmes,” is hanged in Chicago for murdering 100 women.	2007—GOP lawmakers, worried about re-election, get all up in George W. Bush’s grill about Iraq. 2006—CNN’s Headline News commits moral suicide by adding Glenn Beck to the lineup. 2004—Dick “Dick” Cheney tells prosecutor Patrick J. Fitzgerald he knows nothing about Valerie Plame. 2003—A cargo door on a Russian built plane flown by a Ukrainian crew pops open over the Congo. Three-fourths of the 200 aboard are sucked from the plane. 1979—Salvadoran police maintain order by killing 23 and wounding 70 at a cathedral. 1972—Nixon bombs Haiphong Harbor. 1970—In New York, “hardhats” beat up antiwar demonstrators. 1970—Eleven students at the University of New Mexico, while protesting the Vietnam War, are met by National Guardsmen and stabbed with bayonets. 1967—Muhammed Ali is indicted for refusing to be inducted. 1963—In Hue, Ngo Dinh Diem’s goons kill nine Buddhists for flying their flag, then blame the ‘Cong. 1958—In Lima, Richard Nixon is stoned and spat on by Peruvians. 1951—British hargman Albert Pierrepont sets a record. James Inglis is dead 7.5 seconds after leaving his cell.	1989—“What a waste it is to lose one’s mind,” Veep Candidate Dan Quayle informs the Negro College Fund, “or not to have a mind is being very wasteful, how true that is.” 1980—A Liberian-flagged freighter, Summit Venture slams into the Sunshine Skyway Bridge near St. Petersburg, FL. A chunk of bridge and a Greyhound Bus plunge into Tampa Bay, killing 35. 1974—Congressional hearings on the impeachment of Richard Nixon begin. Finally. 1970—Richard Nixon holds a weird 4 a.m. conversation with antiwar students on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. 1963—The U.S. orbits 480 million bits of wire .7 inches long in a failed communications experiment. 1961—FCC chair Newton Minow calls American television “a vast wasteland.” 1969—<i>The New York Times</i> reports the U.S. is bombing Cambodia. 1967—Muhammad Ali is stripped of his heavyweight boxing title for refusing induction. 1960—“The” pill is approved. 1947—Louisiana successfully electrocutes seventeen year old Willie Francis. A year and six days earlier, it tried and failed. 1926—Admiral Byrd flies over the North Pole, he says. Maybe. 1879—Wilbur Trafton wires up Portsmouth’s first telephone.
11:52 11:59 5:36 5:44	12:27 6:12 6:19	12:33 1:03 6:48 6:55	1:09 1:41 7:27 7:34	1:47 2:22 8:08 8:17	2:30 3:08 8:52 9:05	3:18 3:58 9:41 9:57
SUNDAY, MAY 10	MONDAY, MAY 11	TUESDAY, MAY 12	Wednesday, MAY 13	THURSDAY, MAY 14	FRIDAY, MAY 15	SATURDAY, MAY 16
2005—In Tbilisi, Georgia, a hand grenade is thrown at George W. Bush. Like its target, it is a dud. 2001—To solve the budget surplus problem, Congress passes G.W. Bush’s biggest tax cut yet. 2000—“I think we agree,” George W. Bush says to John McCain, “the past is over.” 1973—Nixon cronies John Mitchell and Maurice Stans are indicted, along with Robert Vesco, for Vesco’s illegal \$200,000 campaign contribution. 1969—U.S. troops attack Hamburger Hill. 1967—Capt. Howard Levy is jailed for 3 years for refusing to train U.S. soldiers for Vietnam. 1945—New Hampshire adopts the motto, “Live Free or Die.” 1933—Germans backing Hitler’s plan to limit freedom of the press and individual thought burn books in public squares. 1924—J. Edgar “Mary” Hoover is appointed head of the FBI. 1908—The first Mother’s Day Service is held in WV at the instigation of Anna Jarvis who is arrested on Mother’s Day 40 years later for protesting its commercialization. 1869—Leland Stanford fails to drive the Transcontinental Railway’s “Golden Spike,” because he’s drunk. “Every step of that mighty enterprise,” says one Senator, was “taken in fraud.”	2009—Jesse Ventura says, “You give me a water board, Dick Cheney and one hour, and I’ll have him confess to the Sharon Tate murders.” 2006—<i>USA Today</i> reports that the NSA is tapping U.S. phones. 2003—In a rare display of candor, <i>The New York Times</i> publishes a four page confession that one of its reporters had been writing fiction. 1997—IBM’s capitalistic computer “Big Blue” defeats Soviet chess champion Gary Kasparov. 1975—In New York, 80,000 celebrate the end of the Vietnam War. 1969—A fire nearly destroys the Rocky Flats nuke factory 15 miles upwind of Denver; fortunately the dispersal of plutonium falls somewhat short of catastrophic. 1968—In France, the three largest labor federations turn out in support of student protests. 1966—“It appears,” says Sec. of Defense Robert Strange McNamara, “that the Viet Cong is [sic] losing what support it had from the rural population.” 1933—Dust storms begin ravaging the central U.S. 1894—The Pullman Railroad Strike begins. 1886—The <i>Milwaukee Daily Sentinel</i> publishes an article headlined “No Poles Need Apply,” praising the railroads for firing immigrants. 1854—Birth of Ottmar Mergenthaler, inventor of the Linotype.	2003—Paul Bremmer, Bush’s new administrator, arrives in Iraq. Everything’s gonna be OK now. 1996—On “60 Minutes,” Secretary of State Madeleine Albright tells Lesley Stahl that the deaths of 500,000 children in Iraq due to sanctions is “a very hard choice, but ... we think the price is worth it.” 1984—The No. 2 man at HUD says Hispanics live in crowded homes, not because of poverty, but out of “cultural preference.” 1975—Khmer Rouge naval forces using ex-U.S. Swift Boats seize the U.S. container ship <i>Mayaguez</i> and 39 crewmen off Cambodia. 1968—VC and NVA troops overrun a U.S. Special Forces camp at Kham Duc. 1963—Bob Dylan walks out on labor federations turn out in support of student protests. 1963—The Ed Sullivan Show.” Ed won’t let Bob sing the “Talking John Birch Society Blues.” 1958—Future Defense Secretary Robert Strange McNamara says cabbage and broccoli will protect Americans from atomic fallout. 1947—Trunk murderess Winnie Ruth Judd escapes from the Arizona State Insane Hospital for the 3rd time. 1916—Too weak to stand, James Connolly is shot sitting down for his part in the Easter Uprising. 1854—The steeple of the old North Church is pulled down in Market Square, Portsmouth.	2005—The Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) commission recommends closing the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. 1985—To end a stand-off, a Philadelphia police helicopter bombs MOVE headquarters, killing 11 and leaving 250 homeless. 1971—Richard Nixon tells his flunkies to get him a new IRS head: “a ruthless son of a bitch ... who will go after our enemies and not go after our friends.” 1968—In Paris, alleged Peace Talks begin between U.S. and Uncle Ho. 1958—Richard Nixon gets stoned in Caracas—literally. 1930—The New Hampshire Historical Society announces the acquisition of one of three known copies of <i>The Monster of Monsters</i>, the pamphlet that got Daniel Fowle thrown in prison in 1754. 1862—Robert Smalls, enslaved helmsman of the Confederate military transport <i>Planter</i>, commandeers the vessel, pilots it out of Charleston harbor, and turns it over to the U.S. Navy. 1846—Congress declares war on Mexico. 1842—Dorr’s “Peoples’ Government” fails in an attempt to seize an arsenal in Rhode Island. 1828—The Tariff of Abominations, begun as a ruse by Jackson supporters, is passed by Congress and proceeds to wreck the economy.	2005—D. Delsalle lands a French helicopter atop Mt. Everest. 1992—The Bush I administration opens up 1,400 acres of spotted owl habitat for logging. 1980—Jimmy Carter changes his policy on the Mariel, Cuba boatlift in mid-stream. 1975—The Khmer Rouge take the captive crew of the <i>Mayaguez</i> to mainland Cambodia. 1970—The Red Army Faction is formed in Germany. 1969—Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas resigns in disgrace, a promising precedent which, sadly, has not been followed. 1960—A.J. Liebling writes in <i>The New Yorker</i>, “Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one.” 1948—Israel declares its independence. 1939—In Lima, Peru, Lina Medina gives birth to a son. She is five years and seven months old. 1930—In a 157 word news story about the New Hampshire Historical Society’s acquisition of <i>The Monster of Monsters</i>, a 18th century pamphlet, <i>The New York Times</i> incorrectly states that its pseudonymous author was jailed, calls Daniel Fowle the printer (his brother Zechariah was), mistakes the time Daniel spent in jail by a factor of 146, and mistakes the name of the newspaper he founded.	2010—To clarify the caliber of its scholarship, Liberty University bestows a Doctorate on Glenn Beck. 2002—The White House admits it knew before 9/11 that al Qaeda had plans to hijack U.S. airliners. 1991—The Pentagon releases info confirming that Manuel Noriega used to be on the CIA’s payroll. 1975—U.S. Marines board the <i>Mayaguez</i> off Cambodia (their first hostile ship-to-ship boarding in 150 years), and attack Koh Tang Island, attempting to rescue U.S. hostages removed the day before. Casualties: 18 KIA, 3 MIA, 41 wounded. The <i>Mayaguez</i>’s crew, meanwhile, is released unharmed. 1970—City and State cops shoot 14 protesting black students, killing two, at Jackson State in Mississippi. 1969—Saying, “If there has to be a bloodbath then let’s get it over with,” Governor Ronald Reagan sends the National Guard to take Peoples’ Park from the hippies. 1964—U.S. begins bombing Laos. 1951—Gen. Omar Bradley tells Congress that Gen. MacArthur’s plan to take the Korean War into China would be “[t]he wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy.” 1948—Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Transjordan attack Israel. 1872—Julia Ward Howe declares the first Mothers Day—as an anti-war holiday.	2001—Ex-FBI Special Agent, devout Catholic, patron of strippers, and exhibitionist Robert Hanssen is indicted for selling U.S. secrets to the U.S.S.R., then the Russians. 1969—The <i>U.S.S. Guitarra</i>, being fitted out at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, sinks in 35 feet of water, causing an estimated \$25 million in damage. Congress blames shipyard workers. 1954—“Using U.S. ground forces in the Indo-China jungle,” says Sen. Wm. F. Knowland, (R-CA), “would be like trying to cover an elephant with a handkerchief—you just can’t do it.” 1948—CBS correspondent George Polk, (“the first casualty of the Cold War”—I.F. Stone) turns up murdered in Salonika Harbor. The U.S.-supported Greek government frames a Commie, and U.S. journalists cover up the frame. 1918—Congress passes the Sedition Act, making it illegal to criticize the government. 1916—In the Sykes-Picot Agreement, Britain and France, with Russia’s OK, screw the Arabs. 1879—Wallace Wilkerson, not strapped to the chair, rises up as a Utah firing squad shoots. They miss his heart, and it takes him 27 minutes to die. 1866—In a fit of productivity, Congress eliminates the half-dime and replaces it with the nickel.
4:11 4:54 10:35 10:55	5:10 5:54 11:32 11:57	6:14 6:56 12:32	7:19 7:56 1:02 1:32	8:23 8:54 2:06 2:31	9:23 9:49 3:06 3:27	10:21 10:40 4:04 4:20

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