

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Things Finally Get Interesting

Well, so much for any chance that this election might get boring.

Justice Antonin Scalia died unexpectedly on Saturday — as unexpectedly as any drinker and smoker could who was sedentary, overweight, hypertensive, choleric, and 79. Despite the abundance of evidence that his demise was probably natural, members of Scalia's fan base quickly jumped to sinister conclusions.

"I can't be the only one whose first thought was ... I wonder how they killed him," tweeted political analyst "Read My Lips."

She was not. Previously obscure pundit "RoyBoy" tweeted, "I know Scalia was 79 but I hope an autopsy is done to make sure Obama didn't have him killed."

Sadly, we may never know: the *LA Times* reported that the family had "opted against" an autopsy — perhaps they're all part of some vast, Left Wing conspiracy.

Scalia was pronounced dead by Presidio County Judge Cinderela Guevara. Her surname alone would have been enough to trigger heart attacks on the Right, but no — she had to make her declaration over the phone without viewing the body. Thus is born another Right Wing indictment against President Obama.

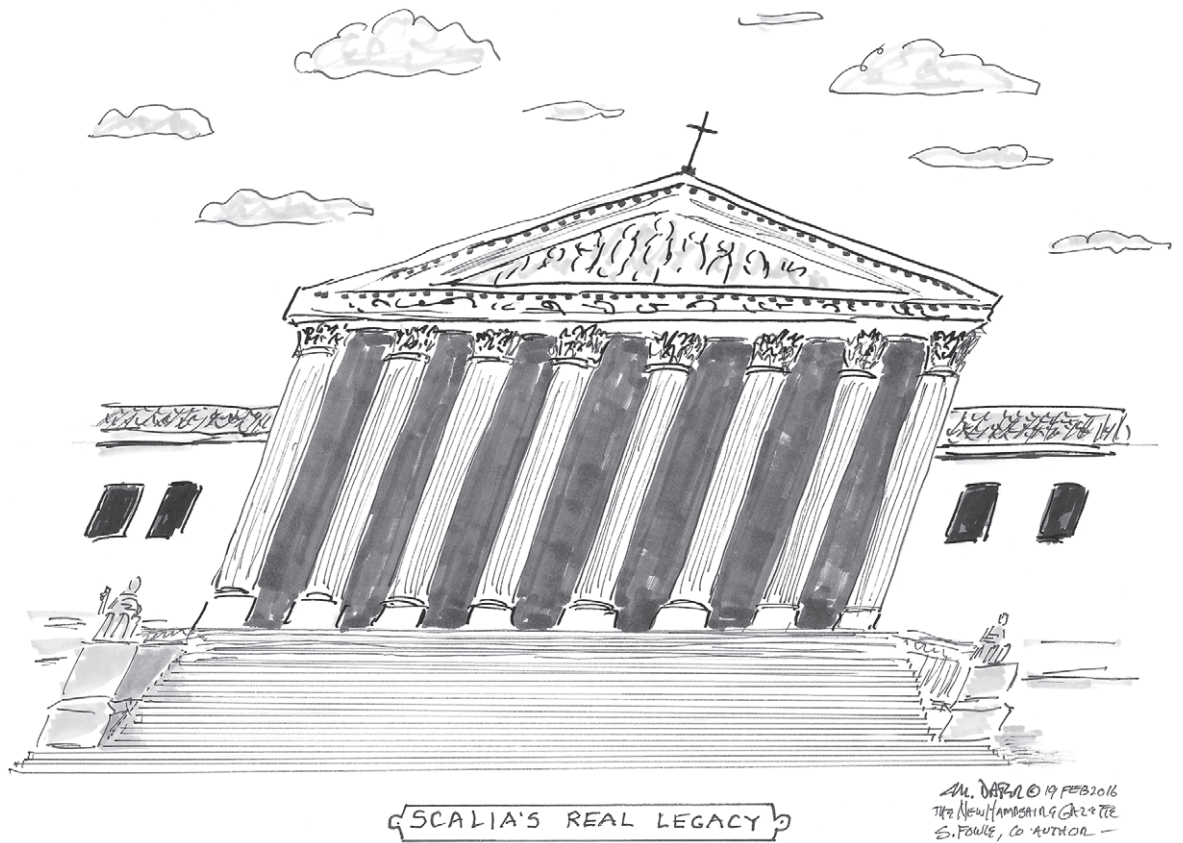
The immediate circumstances — a February hunting trip in south Texas — raised questions on the Left, as well. One question, anyway: "Where is Dick 'Dick' Cheney?" The former Vice President seems to have a pretty good alibi, though. According to

the *Roanoke Times* he was seen in public the night before, 1,600 miles away in Lexington, Virginia.*

Scalia's forceful persona was composed of two primary ingredients, irascibility and erudition, allegedly alloyed with occasional flashes of charm. Appointed for life to a position of great power, he clearly relished wielding it. He was the anti-Souter.

Scalia was a hero to the Right, second only, perhaps, to Ronald Reagan. Both men shared a deep reverence for the U.S. Constitution — as they saw it. That document was clearly intended to be both malleable and extendable, but both men fetishized its "original" form, through which, like Joseph Smith peering through his seer stone to translate the Golden Plates of Mormonism, they claimed to understand how its authors, dead for 200 years,

* Cheney was speaking at the Washington and Lee University Mock Convention, a quadrennial event which attempts to predict the Presidential nominee of the party not in power. It has an enviable reputation for accurately predicting eventual nominees. This year Donald Trump won handily with 1,320 votes to Ted Cruz's 652. Marco Rubio managed 399 to Jeb! Bush's 72. John Kasich got a miserable 19 votes, which shows how much value Republican college students assign to the ability to fake compassion. Cheney is the fifth Vice President to have addressed that event, and the fourth to live through it. Alben Barkley suffered a fatal heart attack during his 1956 address. Cheney turned his death into a punch line, saying, "[s]tatistically, I guess three out of four vice presidents can be expected to survive." Easy for him to mock his predecessor: Cheney is now immune to heart trouble thanks to a rare medico-legal program involving transplants and eminent domain.



thought we ought to live in the era of the internet.

There is an alternate assessment floating about in the intellectual commons (a public sphere which Scalia would, of course, have disdained). In that view the Justice used his overbearing persona strategically, to mask his true role, which was that of a charlatan claiming to channel the spirits of rich, dead, 18th century slaveholders whose hereditary privileges he was committed to protecting and passing on, regardless of the societal cost, to their heirs, today's plutocrats.

While Scalia's presence on the Supreme Court has had a devastating effect on the nation — anyone remember *Bush v. Gore*?

— his sudden exit has already been salutary: the Presidential power to appoint Justices has finally been promoted from the periphery to center stage.

Republican Party apparatchiks are understandably desperate to preserve the manifold benefits which his tenure on the Court has provided to them. Many of them share his brazenness, but few his cunning, so they've made a hash of it already. In marked contrast to Scalia's purported reverence toward the document, they're now attempting to pretend it's just a Chinese menu.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is denying the President's right and duty to appoint Scalia's successor, an extra-Con-

stitutional position which the Republican Primary candidates scrambled to adopt. If they get away with it they'll not only be neutering the Executive Branch, but effectively shutting down the highest Court of the Judicial Branch for about a year.

Like addicts with an unlimited supply of crack, Republicans just can't seem to help themselves. Give them an opportunity to raise the stakes, and they're going to grab it with both hands, even if it's glowing like a red-hot stove poker.

No one can know what the consequences might be of this overweening exercise of raw power. If it actually pays off, there's no justice in this world.

The Alleged News®

RIP, 2016 First in the Nation™ Presidential Primary Election®

There can no longer be any doubt: the Republican Party is straight-up trolling us. Chairman Reince [and repeat] Priebus tweeted the following Valentine's Day message to the nation's long-suffering electorate: "Our well-qualified & experienced candidates continue to put forth serious solutions to restore prosperity & strength to America."

The February 6th GOP debate in Goffstown proved otherwise. Half the candidates failed to meet the challenge of walking unaided from backstage to the podium.

Moderator David Muir's opening question went directly to the surreal heart of the Primary contest. He asked serially-bankrupt businessman and performance artist Donald Trump to respond to Ted Cruz's statement that if Trump were president, "he would nuke Denmark." Let the record show that Trump denied having any intention of nuking that Scandinavian nation.

Trump did say, however, "I would bring back waterboarding and I'd bring back a hell of a lot worse than waterboarding," which is bold talk for an elaborately-coiffed man who blew off a Friday morning event in Londonderry to avoid a little snow and to sleep in his own bed.

During the debate, Canadian-born U.S. Senator Rafael Edward "Ted" Cruz [R-Texas] was called to account for a lie his campaign told in Iowa. Robocalls clearly intended to poach votes falsely stated that retired neurosurgeon and self-help author Benjamin Solomon "Ben" Carson, Sr. had ended his campaign. (Carson later clarified the issue without improving his standing much, explaining that he had flown home to change clothes.)

Cruz attempted to paper over that Iowa lie by telling a fresh one in Goffstown, maintaining that his campaign had only repeated what CNN reported. That statement drew an unusually

fierce reaction from CNN: "At no time did CNN say that Ben Carson was dropping out of this race, not online, not on air, not anywhere, and for Ted Cruz to stand on stage once again tonight and suggest that CNN did is a flat-out lie." In keeping with Roman principles, Cruz's campaign biography is titled, "A Time for Truth."

If nothing else, this campaign has finally answered an ageless question: what the hell does it take to get a major news network to call a lying politician a liar? Answer: he has to tell one that tries to pin something directly on them. Otherwise, pffft.

Florida Senator Marco Rubio brought a memorized briefing book to the debate, but New Jersey Governor and freelance traffic consultant Chris Christie turned it into a knife fight.

Florida Governor Jeb(!) Bush took on Trump *mano a mano* over the issue of eminent domain. Unintimidated, Trump told Bush

to be quiet. When the audience booed him for that, he attacked them.

A snowstorm on the Monday before the election raised the possibility of low voter turnout. Fortunately it was minor and had little effect. Had it been a replay of one of last winter's blizzards, it might have changed the story: crazy weather skews election results, producing a different political landscape, altering the nation's response to ongoing climate change; Reince [sic] and repeat.

Naturally our quadrennial spasm of electoral engagement riveted the attention of the whole world. Even the Democratic Peoples Republic of [North] Korea was paying attention, as evidenced by this official tweet: "Second round of U.S. presidential elections takes place in New Hampshire province, famous for cows, drunkenness, and narcotics addiction."

As if to reinforce Kim Jong Il's somewhat jaded view of the

Granite State, a video appeared on *YouTube* showing police officers in Pelham trying to figure out what to do with a very large pig wandering around the polls. Ultimately, neither snow nor livestock stayed New Hampshire voters from the polls. The results on the Republican side were reminiscent of 1996.

Then, Pat Buchanan's popularity had the nation wondering — will New Hampshire actually vote for this guy who's bragging about leading a horde of peasants with pitchforks? Turns out we would and did. Buchanan came in first out of a field of nine. It was close in 1996, though — he had just a one percent margin over establishment candidate Bob "Bob Dole" Dole.

This time around, the margin of victory was — there's no other way to put it — *yuuuuge*.

Trump took 35 percent of the

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from page one

vote. He was 20 points ahead of Kasich, his nearest rival. That left Cruz, Bush, and Rubio within one point of each other, trying to spin some ersatz victory from the detritus of a New Hampshire snowbank.

The Grand GOP Medicine Show has now moved on, peddling its curious wares. Here, for example, is Ted Cruz on *Meet the Press* last Sunday, painting a vivid picture of America under the jackbooted heel of Democrat [sic] thugs: “By the way, the Senate’s duty is to advise and consent. You know what? The Senate is advising right now. We’re advising that a lame-duck president in an election year is not going to be able to tip the balance of the Supreme Court. That we’re

going to have an election, and if liberals are so confident that the American people want unlimited abortion on demand, want religious liberty torn down, want the Second Amendment taken away, want veterans’ memorials torn down, want the crosses and stars of David sandblasted off of the tombstones of our fallen veterans, then go and make the case to the people.”

We were unable to locate any campaign promises, from Hillary Clinton or Bernie Sanders, regarding the defacement of veterans’ tombstones. Perhaps we just missed them in all the excitement. There was plenty of that on the Democratic side.

Sanders took a commanding lead shortly after the stroke of midnight — Democrats in Dixville Notch, Hart’s Location, and Millsfield gave the Vermont



Eighteen poll workers appear in this image; more were present but out of the frame. Their workday began early on Tuesday, February 9th, and ended late. This is Ward Two. There are four other wards in Portsmouth. At least a hundred people must have worked the polls on February 9th, Election Day, not counting the City Clerk and whatever staff she has. However many hours of labor the election consumed, we’d wager that number is dwarfed by the hours spent complaining by those who did not bother to vote.

Senator 18 votes to Clinton’s 8. That was where things stood for the next 20 hours, until the polls closed at 8:00 p.m.

Then, almost immediately, it was over. The Associated Press called the election for Sanders, fast enough to give a person whiplash. The call came so early because the margin was yuuuge — an unheard-of 22 points.

The CW [conventional wisdom] on Sanders’ candidacy, from the day he announced through January, had always been that he didn’t have a chance. He started out at four percent in the polls, to Clinton’s 60 percent.

Then came Iowa. Still behind in the polls, he came breath-takingly close to winning. Then came New Hampshire. Fourteen points ahead in the polls, he won by 22 points. Clinton is now running scared, with good reason. As Thoreau once said, “Some circumstantial evidence is very strong, as when you find a trout

in the milk.”

The CW has necessarily shifted somewhat, to accommodate the facts. Now it says that if Sanders won the nomination, he’d never win the general election. It still may be wrong, though. Bill Maher explained the Sanders phenomenon this way: “People didn’t know they wanted an iPhone until they put it in the window, and everybody bought it.”

Shortly before the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary, Marquette University polled 800 Wisconsin voters. In head-to-head matchups, Carson and Rubio both beat Clinton by one percentage point, while Clinton beat Trump by one point. Sanders, on the other hand, beat Carson by six points, Rubio by four, and Trump by 19.

The notion that Sanders will face an unprecedented barrage of Republican opposition is unimaginative, cowardly, and probably wrong.

Is there anyone who really believes that Clinton wouldn’t face an apoplectic level of GOP hysteria if she won the nomination?

Have people forgotten the Republican reaction against Bill Clinton’s administration? He was a male draft-dodger. The GOP loves male draft-dodgers. A large proportion of the GOP is made up of male GOP draft-dodgers. Yet they hated him. Hillary Clinton is Bill Clinton — but with ovaries!

Hillary Clinton’s career has largely been engineered to avoid any taint of the dreaded “S” word. Sanders has simply owned it. It doesn’t seem to have done him any harm. Call him a socialist and he’ll say something like, “Your point is what, exactly?”

As for Sanders not being a Democrat, we’re reminded of what Abraham Lincoln once said: “If General McClellan isn’t going to use his army, I’d like to borrow it for a time.”

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The Rest of the Story

Our esteemed colleagues at the Award-Winning Local Daily generated a bit of a stir recently by reporting on a meeting planned for February 6th in Market Square.

The proposed meeting, one of 165 in 43 countries, had been called by Roosh Valizadeh, who apparently makes some sort of a living by touting a flamboyantly vile brand of misogyny.

Like a certain variety of politics, it must be seen to be believed. A sample headline from his website: "How Fast-Approaching Sexbot Technology Is Making Women Fearful — Fat feminists are on the warpath as men are poised to render them obsolete with the production of ultra-realistic sex dolls."

Free speech is essential to a free society, to restrict it is dangerous. Valizadeh, though, crosses the line, saying rape should be decriminalized if it occurs on private property. As we have seen at the Malheur Wildlife Refuge and in the U.S. Congress, spouting crazy

#@&% has consequences.

Within hours of the story's posting *Facebook* and *Twitter* were awash with local alerts and proposals for imaginative responses. Almost as quickly, Valizadeh scrubbed the event. Within 24 hours it was all over.

The AWLD missed the punch line to the story: the *Daily Mail* located and photographed the 36-year old in Silver Springs, Md. He was shown wearing a sweat-stained T-shirt, answering the door to his mother's home where he lives in the basement. He had called the police, saying he had received death threats. We can't imagine why.

The Future of Maple Syrup

We know there are many far more important problems associated with climate change — famine, drought, emergent diseases, &c. The one we worry about every morning, though, is what it's doing to the sugarbush. Without maple syrup, oatmeal just wouldn't be the same; without oatmeal, life as we know it would be untenable.



At the risk of sounding petulant, like that foul-mouthed *South Park* character repeating his tag line about respecting his authority, the Flag Police would like to use this space, graciously provided as a public service by the management of this venerable institution of public aggravation, to reiterate an indisputable fact: the flag now flying its broken heart out over a certain financial institution at the corner of Fleet and State streets has reached retirement age. It's not a Wal-Mart employee to be worked into the ground, it's our national bleeping emblem, for Pete's sake.

In a broader sense, without individuals and families tapping maples and boiling the sap to make their own syrup, life in New England would be sadly diminished.

Sugaring in the spring connects us directly to the past: to abolitionist families shunning southern cane sugar produced by enslaved labor; to Revolutionaries eager to make the nation self-reliant; and, ultimately, to the indigenous peoples from whom we stole this place in the first place. [*Hey — it's history, not a fairy tale. — The Ed.*]

Fortunately a team of people is working on the problem. They are hoping to gather and use the production records of those small producers to keep the tradition alive.

University of Massachusetts at Amherst: plant ecologist Kristina Stinson has recently received a two-year, \$149,800 grant from the Northeast Climate Science

Center to study the impact of climate change on the quantity and quality of sugar maple sap.

The researchers believe this is the first study to look at the effect of climate change on sap quality, that is sugar content and chemistry, as opposed to flow and volume, and the first to investigate how red maple compares to sugar maple as a source for sap. It will cover an area from Virginia to Quebec and from Massachusetts to Indiana.

Stinson and her colleagues hope to predict maple syrup quality under future climate conditions and explore a variety of management strategies.

At present, the researchers have enlisted students and volunteers who sample 15 to 20 trees per site at six locations. They hope the number of sampling sites will eventually reach 30, representing a variety of eco-zones. Each will be managed by scientists at colleges and universities, or by state,

federal and industry technicians, or by citizen scientists in sugaring families. They will also assess overall tree health.

Stinson says, "We hope to be adding sites all the time, especially by recruiting family maple producers. Many of them keep records right in the sugarhouse. We'd love to have them contribute the data from 50 or 100 years of notches on the sugarhouse walls. That would give us really helpful information on the quantity and quality of syrup produced over the years, and would help us predict the effects of climate change going forward."

Stinson and her colleagues have recently formed a maple syrup research network, the Acer Climate and Ecological Research Network (ACERNet), not only for scientists but for producers and others interested in the future of this heritage crop.

Stinson can be reached at kstinson@eco.umass.edu.

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To Tehran, With Love
To the Editor:
As presidential candidates demonize Iran under the guise of national security, Saudi Arabia and their Sunni Gulf State allies are flooding the markets with their light crude oil in an effort to destabilize the Iranian economy to the subsequent benefit of the Saudi Kingdom's Sunni extremist beneficiaries, American defense companies, and American drivers alike. Iraq, Syria, and Yemen today, just like Iraq ten years ago, are proxy wars between Iran and Saudi Arabia that America should not be involved in, but are due to our dependence on oil. America's involvement in these wars is personal, for while I was on leave from Baghdad on November 30, 2006, a likely Iranian roadside bomb destroyed my Humvee and killed my gunner. With a keen understanding of America's history with these two rivals, until we become energy independent, I maintain the hawkish candidates are misguided, and Iran, not Saudi Arabia, should be our closest partner in the region.
The fourteen century-old rift between the now-Sunnis and Shia, over the proper heir to the Prophet Mohammed, is a driving factor in the proxy wars between Saudi Arabia, a holy land because it controls today's Muslim World's epicenters of Mecca and Medina, and Iran, which has the world's largest Shia population. In 1938, several years after Ibn Saud solidified his absolute

ultra-conservative Sunni monarchy, Standard Oil of New York discovered the King controlled now the world's second largest oil reserve. The Kingdom's resulting wealth has led to Saudi Arabia's extreme inequality, financing to export Wahhabism, and strong ties to the American defense industrial complex. Meanwhile, in 1953, the CIA removed the secular, democratically elected, *Time Magazine* Man of the Year, Mohammad Mosaddegh, as Iran's Prime Minister for nationalizing the world's fifth largest oil reserves away from the oil company we now call BP. The blowback from American support of the Shah's subsequent rule came to fruition in 1979 with his overthrow, the hostage crisis, severing of all diplomatic relations, and the embargo.
A quarter century ago, the United States went to war against the secular Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein for threatening the Saudi Monarchy's oil reserves and then ousted him after Saudi extremists attacked us on September 11th. Meanwhile, the United States labeled Iran a member of the Axis of Evil which strengthened the hardliner Revolutionary Guard within Iran, which seeks to strengthen Shia and destabilize Sunni governments in the region through their proxies like Iraq's Mahdi Militia. America's 2003 disbanding of Saddam's Army allowed the Mahdi Militia to conduct reprisal attacks against the recently unemployed and armed Sunni soldiers. Several of these Sunnis would radicalize, join foreign extremists to form Al Qaeda in Iraq, and destroy a Shia holy site in Samara in 2006 which caused Iraq's sectarian civil war to overwhelm the American forces that were being attacked by both the Sunni militants and the Mahdi Militia. The American troop surge began the following year and eventually brought temporary order for a political solu-

tion between the Shia majority and Sunni minority that never was found, resulting in Al Qaeda in Iraq creating the Islamic State, which Iran's Syrian, Iraqi, and Lebanese proxies are on the ground fighting today.
Implementing the orthodox rhetoric of American hardliners such as "undoing" the nuclear deal, more Iranian sanctions, and imposing a no-fly zone in Syria would endanger our national security. First, the nuclear deal between numerous countries cannot be undone by the withdrawing of the United States, a goal American and Iranian hardliners share. Instead, America's goal should be to get all countries in the region to give up their nuclear ambitions and arsenals. Second, dialogue and not more sanctions could strengthen the pragmatic moderates like Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, weaken their hardline Revolutionary Guard rivals, and build better relations with the young Iranians whose secular political activism could bring about eventual change. It was dialogue that allowed for the recent prisoner exchange and release of our ten sailors unharmed with all of their gear and weaponry after just fifteen hours of captivity. Finally, imposing a no-fly zone in Syria to shoot down Russian, Syrian, or Iranian aircraft would risk a larger war that the Islamic State would watch from the sidelines. Instead, the United States should work with Iran towards an acceptable replacement to Syrian President Bashar Al Assad, which is the only way the Islamic State can be defeated.
In 2006, the Shia soldiers of the reconstituted Iraqi Army Battalion we were advising were loyal to the Mahdi Militia and turned a blind eye towards their sectarian violence against Sunnis. Worse, during the troop surge, our Battalion was responsible for manning all checkpoints enter-

ing Sadr City, the Mahdi Militia's stronghold, meaning as Americans we provided protection to some of those killing us. We did not belong in that proxy war between Saudi Arabia and Iran then, just like we do not belong in one between the two nations today. However, until America becomes energy independent, we should vote for presidential candidates willing to challenge orthodox hardline rhetoric, push for diplomatic relations, and work with Iranian moderates towards stabilizing the Middle East.
Josh Denton
Portsmouth, N.H.
Josh:
We are shocked — shocked! — to learn that the actual situation in the Middle East is more complex than we have been led to believe.
Please continue to shock us.
The Editor
~~~  
**Ayotte's Disregard**  
To the Editor:  
Once again, Sen. Kelly Ayotte has demonstrated her total disregard for the will of the New Hampshire electorate. First, she totally disregarded the desire of almost 90 percent of the people when she voted against closing the gaps in the requirement to have a background check before purchasing guns after the Sandy Hook school shooting disaster, and her more recent vote against prohibiting persons on the terrorist watch list from purchasing guns.  
Now Sen. Ayotte is telling the people of New Hampshire that their vote to elect President Obama in 2012 does not really count. In a recent statement regarding President Obama nominating a qualified candidate to replace the recently deceased Justice Scalia, Sen. Ayotte stated, "I believe the Senate should not move forward with the confirma-

*Mash Notes, HATE MAIL*  
tion process until the American people have spoken by electing a new President." As such, Sen. Ayotte is telling the voters of New Hampshire that when they voted for President Obama in 2008 and again in 2012, they were not speaking, at least not to her and her Republican colleagues.  
President Obama was elected by the people of New Hampshire with the full knowledge that he might be called upon to nominate replacements on the Supreme Court. In fact, many people voted for President Obama because they feared the type of justice his opponent might nominate. The people of New Hampshire elected President Obama for a four year term in 2012, not two or three years. As such he is required to fulfill the responsibilities of his office throughout his term. What other duties should the President not be allowed to conduct during his final year in office, Sen. Ayotte? If the Senate establishes an arbitrary cut off time for nominating Justices now, what will that mean for future Presidents? What will future Senates consider an appropriate amount of time remaining in a President's term to accept nominations? The resulting blowback and unexpected consequences could be very damaging to our democracy.  
President Obama has almost 11 months remaining in his term, more than enough time for the Senate to perform their constitutional duty of advice and consent on the President's Supreme Court nominee. In fact, during President Reagan's last year in office every Republican voted to confirm Justice Kennedy to the Supreme Court. The American people deserve to have their will respected by our elected officials. We are very tired of the level of obstruction and gridlock that Republicans have engaged in to

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**Murph's Fortnightly Quote**  
"There is a tendency to judge a race,  
a nation or any distinct group  
by its least worthy members."  
- Eric Hoffer (1898-1983) philosopher, writer  
from "The True Believer" (1951)

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# And Other Correspondence

thwart this president from January 20, 2009.

Should we ask Sen. Ayotte and all those who support her position not to vote on any legislation in the Senate until the people have spoken and we elect a new Senators? Lastly Sen. Ayotte, remember the words of a Republican colleague of yours, "Elections matter." And this includes the election of President Obama.

Rich DiPentima  
Portsmouth, N.H.  
Rich:

*The founding principal of American democracy, we believe, is that bull\_\_\_t will only take you so far. (Yes, we confess — we're starry-eyed optimists.)*

*The competing theory, to which Ayotte clearly clings, is that bull\_\_\_t will take you anywhere you want to go. On November 8th, we'll get the latest reading as to which of those theories is ascendant.*

The Editor

~~~~~

Trump the Sore Loser

To the Editor:
Donald Trump is a sore loser, so he lashes out. Give him a pacifier.

He's crude; he even manages to present reasonable proposals in an offensive way.

He's nasty: consider his vicious comments about Ben Carson, Megan [sic] Kelly, Carli [sic] Fiorina, Jeb [sic] Bush, Ted Cruz, Rand Paul, *et al.*

Perhaps Trump attacks personally because he can't debate policy. Perhaps former President Carter is right that Trump is "completely malleable," without any fixed positions.

We don't know Trump's judicial philosophy. Who will he nominate for the Supreme Court? His sister? His friend, Laurence Tribe? Both are dedicated leftists.

How will he save Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid, or

balance the budget? How will he protect the American people from terrorists, drugs, criminals, and gang violence? How will he fix the Obama caused disaster in the Middle East?

Does he care about the Constitution? Does he believe in Federalism? Will he shrink or grow our big government? Does he support the Patriot Act and/or the incarceration of citizens without due process?

Trump says he loves the military, will fix the VA, and will fix everything. No word on how he'll do any of these things, take it on faith; this is reminiscent of "Hope and Change."

How is he going to make America great again? By making deals like his sellout to the ethanol special interests in Iowa? Deals like that hurt the American people!

Like establishment politicians, Trump believes in subsidies, the various bailouts, crony capitalism, and the use of eminent domain to transfer property to someone who will use it "more productively."

It's great to see someone stand up to the political establishment that governs against the interests of the American people. We like seeing someone unintimidated by the media or political correctness. But these can be done without being crass ... but apparently not by Trump.

Not only that but people say he stiffes his contractors and cheats at golf.

Imagine being faced with choosing between the current front runners in the Presidential Primary, Trump and Hillary. Yuk!

Trump is a crass, nasty narcissist. Hillary is a scandal-ridden big government proponent who is careless with our nation's most sensitive secrets, who helped Obama create the Middle East

disaster, who couldn't handle the 5 p.m. call for help from Benghazi, who, according to her husband's sexual assault victims, threatened them into silence, and who used her government office for personal benefit against the best interests of the American people, &c., &c.

We should say to these two leaders: "You're Fired!" Vote for Bernie or any Republican but Trump. Ted Cruz is the most trustworthy conservative and he gets my vote.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.
Don:

Trump has reasonable proposals? News to us.

You're citing Carter as an authority? Holy cats.

"Vote for Bernie or" Are you OK? Should we call 911?

The Editor

~~~~~

## You Can't Buy a President for \$20

To the Editor:  
You can't buy a president for \$20. But \$20 a pop from millions of regular Americans might buy a president who can't be bought. Bernie — everyone calls him that — lives modestly, flies coach, doesn't cozy up to the rich or have books ghost written for him and worse.

It's great that Bernie is giving Hillary a run for her money. He's pushed her to the left, showing pundits that there is a contingency for progressive politics not before believed.

If Hillary is sworn in she may be another "war president." A proponent of the Iraq war, she is in favor of "regime change" abroad, unlike Bernie.

Ours is the only country where students are saddled with decades of education debt, justified by Hillary. A growing movement is resonating for a \$15 minimum wage; Hillary is just fine with \$12.

Bernie is no Marxist revolutionary. He has spent his life

fighting consistently, and without apology, for social-democratic policies that will improve lives.

He stands for health care for *all* costing far less through a single-payer program — an exciting prospect for most except insurance companies.

Bernie Sanders is bending the arc of history toward justice — an insurgency, a possibility, a dream. He is starting a conversation we have never had in this country.

Another reason to vote for Bernie is that Bill O'Reilly, of Fox News, swears that if he's elected he will move to Ireland.

Michael Kulla  
Pleasant Valley, N.Y.

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Do They Protest Too Much?

To the Editor:

Politicians say they hate raising money and that donations do not influence their policies. Very few people believe political donations have no influence and nearly all of those are self-deluded politicians.

So what about them hating "dialing for dollars," as some call it? Last I checked I rarely do things I hate very often or for very long, yet a big theme in the "I hate fundraising" theme song is all the time spent doing it.

Now we hear about "The Establishment." Somehow people on the Left of the political spectrum don't think they ought to be so labeled. There is a Left Wing to the current political establishment. In the current money-dominated political culture the Left is all about putting bandages on problems a properly functioning government ought to solve. For example, Planned Parenthood, a good organization that provides needed health services at low cost. In a properly functioning democracy those services should be available to all as a right of citizenship. Germany has no need of such an organization. Why on earth should we, since per capita we pay a lot more



than Germany on health care?

The Sanders vs Clinton contest has lately been reduced to accusations that Sanders is a wide-eyed dreamer by people claiming that Clinton can get things done. Most of what she claims to be able to realistically accomplish is increasing the flow of bandages while meekly accepting the status quo (pretending not to, though). Billions of dollars are not collected from multinational corporations while the noble fight for the crumbs and scraps is waged against the meanies on the Right who are always trying to defund the Left.

The current situations is an aberration. The Constitution of the United States sets out a three-branch government where each branch acts as a check on the other two. What the donor class has done is to quietly check our entire democracy by using its influence to veto anything that is contrary to its interests.

Maybe we ought to ask Hillary if these things Bernie is suggesting are not practical because the donor class will never allow them. Put simply, we cannot have single payer because the health insurance companies are too strong for us. We cannot audit the Pentagon and rid ourselves of massive waste because defense contractors have the politicians in their pockets. We cannot have elections uncorrupted by legal-

Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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The Northcountry Chronicle

Nouveau McCarthyism

by William Marvel

Once or twice a year I find myself immersed in a crowd dominated by history professors, a fair number of whom turn a condescending eye on those of us who have invaded their discipline without benefit of university affiliation. We interlopers naturally gravitate toward the more affable and inclusive of the academics. They are the ones who introduce each other as Chris, or Terry, rather than “Dr.” so-and-so, and pretension is not the only tendency they find objectionable within their profession.

Usually the main topic of after-hours discussion is sports, but at a gathering in Little Rock last year it was the uproar on college campuses — and the cowardice of professors and administrators in the face of what are essentially student mobs. One historian likened the fear of race-based student outrage to the McCarthy era, when pandering politicians routinely destroyed the careers and lives of suspected participants in a communist conspiracy that didn’t exist. More than one

full professor remarked ironically on the “re-education camps” they are required to attend, to assure their compliance with every radical new dogma.

When I reached Little Rock, Yale and the University of Missouri had just been embarrassed by swarms of students who assailed the very concept of intellectual freedom those campuses supposedly represent. Having been coddled from pre-school to prom — with the whole world grinding to a halt every time they descended from a school bus, and extra-sensitive principals shielding them from anything unpleasant — in college they still demand protection from disagreeable ideas. Insisting on their own perception of reality even in the face of contradictory evidence, they demonize any who dare to disagree.

At Yale, a ridiculous controversy over Halloween costumes sent outraged students on the warpath against a lecturer who questioned extreme demands for cultural sensitivity. A crowd of students waylaid her husband, who gently suggested that the wider world

might not be so considerate of their sensibilities, so the ambush ended in hysterical shrieking.

Hypocrisy ruled at the University of Missouri. In an outburst ostensibly exercised on behalf of civil rights, suburban sans-culottes betrayed a comic indifference to the civil rights of others; abetted by a faculty advisor, radicals on the Columbia campus vigorously asserted their own First Amendment privileges while steadfastly refusing to recognize those of the press. College athletes who had happily accepted football scholarships held their alma mater hostage by refusing to abide by their end of the bargain.

In the face of widespread student intolerance, the Yale lecturer will not be coming back. Not only has she resigned, but the husband who dared to defend her unforgivably good sense has also deemed it best to take a leave of absence from his own position at the university. With a conspicuous lack of support from his trustees, the president at Missouri also resigned, apologizing with histrionic profusion in an

apparent attempt to salvage some future employability from the wreckage of his career.

When stripped of the rumors and assumptions that helped fuel them, the student tirades at Yale and Missouri are left looking wildly disproportionate to the alleged offenses. The shrillest of the Yalies seemed most offended by the opinion that it was time for them to grow up, and they demanded an abject apology for even entertaining the idea.

The Missouri protest seems to have begun with a more reasonable complaint from the student body president, who claimed he had been subjected to drive-by racial epithets. How he wanted the university president to address discourtesy by unidentified rednecks was never satisfactorily explained, and he worsened tensions with his own Facebook posting of false reports that the Klan had been spotted on campus. The situation was further aggravated by an instance of bathroom vandalism that might as easily have been the work of an agent provocateur as that of a matriculated neo-Nazi. Then one

student decided to undertake a hunger strike until the university president resigned, unilaterally escalating an issue of uncivil behavior into what his supporters imagined was a matter of life or death.

In the end it was the football team’s threat to forfeit a game that sealed the university president’s fate — illustrating with perfect clarity what really matters at American universities. Forget all those romantic ideals about intellectual freedom and reverence for learning. Higher education is now nothing but a business, as the preoccupation with lucrative sports confirms, and in any big racket it’s a threat to the bottom line that gets results. Students are the customers who fill the coffers. If they crave a world with nothing that can possibly make them “uncomfortable,” it is the job of university employees to provide it, at least until graduation. To save their salaries, innumerable professors now pay homage to the new Utopia — and prove their orthodoxy by sacrificing those who don’t.

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

ized bribery because politicians actually like dialing for dollars and would never do anything to hurt the donor class.

Lets face it — the donor class runs the political show (voters are the sideshow) and we need a Constitutional Amendment to end that. Bernie as a Senator has introduced legislation to effect that and as President can be expected to fight harder and better to get that done than anyone else out there. There is an alternative to apathy and his name is Bernie

Sanders.

Tom Laperriere  
Rochester N.H.

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Sanders and Foreign Policy

To the Editor:

In October of 2002, Bernie Sanders strongly opposed the Invasion of Iraq on the floor of the House.

His objections listed almost everything that came to pass as a result of our ill-fated attack! That amazing speech is on YouTube.

You may be stunned by how

eerily his predictions and fears came to pass.

He predicted that an invasion would lead to more terrorists and radicalism in the Middle East. He pointed out that we did not know what would come after we overthrew Saddam to take his place. He suggested that it could destabilize the whole Middle East. Bernie decried the vast expense (now about \$3 trillion) that could be better used on the domestic front. And, American soldiers would be maimed and

killed.

The country failed to take his advice in 2002 and has paid a terrible price. Let’s not make the same mistake again!

Michael Frandzel
Portsmouth, N.H.

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Clinton & the BDS Movement

To the Editor:

Here is the question I would have posed to Secretary Clinton had she called on me at her recent event:

“Madam Secretary, this coun-

try just honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. So, I am going to presume that you would have supported the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott led by Dr. King and Rosa Parks. And I think you would have supported, as did Nelson Mandela and Bishop Tutu, the 1980’s Boycott, Divest, and Sanctions movement (BDS) that targeted the white minority government of South Africa to end its racist Apartheid system of segregation.

“So I am trying to understand

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# Should Big Corporations Have To Pay The Taxes They Owe?

by Jim Hightower

I would trust a pack of coyotes to guard my little herd of lambs before I'd trust a pack of corporate hucksters to "reform" America's tax code.

Yet, Carl Icahn, a noted corporate predator, is fronting for CEOs of a small group of huge multinational conglomerates who're demanding that Congress drastically slash the tax-

es they owe on foreign sales of their products. This "reform" would let them escape paying most of the \$600 billion in taxes that U.S. law assesses on some \$2,600,000,000,000 in profits they've been hiding in foreign bank accounts. Three-fourths of these hidden profits belong to only 50 enormously profitable corporations.

Putting the \$600 billion they owe into America's public trea-

sury would fund a lot of education, infrastructure repair, green energy, social services, &c. that our people desperately need. But Icahn & Co. claim that forgiving this corporate tax debt "would allow companies to reinvest ... in the United States, creating thousands of jobs." Notice that verb, "allow." They could put this tax windfall into job-creating, US investments — but the Icahners do not want Congress to require any

sort of patriotic use of the money.

Haven't we seen this movie before? Ah, yes — it was in the 2008 Wall Street bailout. They said that if Washington rescued them, they would then invest in Main Street and in middle-class jobs. We did, they didn't. Carl even asserts that the corporate elites are "completely justified" in leaving America if they aren't given this tax boondoggle. After all, he says, CEOs "have a fidu-

ciary duty to enhance value for their shareholders."

What a self-serving crock! Shareholders are not more important or more valuable than workers, consumers, and the common good. To help stop this giveaway to corporate elites, go to [www.AmericansForTaxFairness.org](http://www.AmericansForTaxFairness.org).

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why you oppose the Palestinian-led nonviolent boycott of products made or grown in Israeli settlements in occupied Palestine whose aim is to pressure Israel to end its ugly and brutal 50-year military occupation of Palestine and to force Israel to stop the building of Israeli colonial settlements on stolen Palestinian land.

"Both you and Secretary Kerry have said that such settlements are illegal. So, again, why do you strongly oppose the Palestinian BDS movement?"

Will Thomas  
Auburn, N.H.

## Our State's Profound Message

To the Editor:

At the risk of sounding like a big hero of mine (Senator Bernie Sanders, a lifelong freedom fighter and defender of social and economic justice), I will tell you that the people of New Hampshire, for which I'm extremely proud, just delivered a clear and profound message to the establishment of both political parties, New Hampshire and the rest of the nation with its First in the Nation Primary on 2/9/2016: Enough is enough; it is just too late for the status quo and for establishment politics and economics!!

Trust me when I say that I have been in conversation with

tens of thousands of like-minded Bernie supporters from all 50 states (I call them peaceful revolutionaries of "Bernie's People Powered Political Revolution," including those that have made over 3,500,000 small contributions at an average of \$27, which sends another clear message) and speaking for myself and those I've conversed with, over 60 percent of registered Democrats in New Hampshire voted for Bernie because we (of all shapes, sizes, colors and beliefs) desire: to fix a rigged economy that favors a very tiny percentage of Americans; to reform our corrupted democracy (our oligarchy) by standing up to big money and overturning Citizens United to make our government and economy work for all of us; to breathe clean air and drink potable water; for this and future generations to have access to affordable education; to have safe roads and bridges to drive on; living wages for working families; to stop the needless wars and interventions; to wean ourselves from fossil fuel dependency while ceasing to prop up Middle East dictators and monarchs and polluting the earth at the same time; and to treat healthcare as a human right and birthright in this country, like the remainder of the advanced world.

While on the subject, I'd like

to request that Democratic Party establishment politicians and super delegates from New Hampshire and all states wisely respect the democratic process and the will of the smart people who gave Bernie a resounding 20 point victory, for the reasons that I stated, over Hillary.

Wayne H. Merritt  
Dover, N.H.

## Shame, Shame

To the Editor:

In the Durham Democratic debate, Hillary Clinton summarily dismissed the notion that her cozy financial relationship with Wall Street might invite impropriety. But, here's the problem. As a candidate for public office, her primary allegiance is (or should be) to the public sector and not to the private sector barons of the international business community. Those are the people she'll be charged with regulating on our behalf if she's elected. Yet, she meets with them behind closed doors for huge sums of money and refuses to disclose what she's telling them.

Does she feel shame this skullduggery? Hardly! Instead she elected to shame us for questioning her regal integrity. First she trotted out a contingent of feminist cronies chiding young female voters for supporting the "an-

ti-Wall Street" candidate. Then, she played the girl card, charging the Sanders campaign with sexism. And finally, Bill rolled in attacking Sanders, labeling him "dishonest," and wagged a finger at New Hampshire voters for giving preordained Hillary the stink eye.

Alas, from one side of her mouth comes a claim to be the maven of progressive reform for America, but from the other, she's delivering secret speeches for obscene piles of cash and presumably telling the .01 percent crowd exactly what they want to hear. How rude of us to be suspicious! Yet her blatant duplicity does raise a vital question. If Hillary does get elected, will we get an Elizabeth Warren or a revolving-door surrogate from Goldman Sachs appointed to guard the chicken coop? Inquiring minds want to know. Unfortunately, I doubt we will know until it's much too late.

Rick Littlefield  
Barrington, N.H.

## It's Their Own Fault

To the Editor:

Mainstream Republicans have spent the last seven years trashing Obama and predicting doom and gloom for the country. Now they are struggling to cope with Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and the

direction of the party. They have no one but themselves to blame. Anti-Obama and anti-government rhetoric by Republicans has inflamed an extreme populist element in the country that does not compromise with reality.

Obviously, the government is not perfect, but America is not headed for an abyss. The economy is in better shape than any of the other big, rich countries. Unemployment is low, job growth is high, crime is down, and contrary to Republican mythology, President Obama and America are respected throughout the world. America is still great!

Granted, there are areas of concern — low wages, college tuition, health care costs, immigration, the tax code, terrorism, &c. — and they need to be sensibly and thoughtfully addressed. Replacing pessimism and blame with civility, a positive outlook, creative alternatives and a willingness to work across the aisle would go a long way toward developing solutions to these problems.

Is it too late for the Republican party to recover its grip on reality and get to work? Not to predict doom and gloom, but watching the primary process, one wonders.

Cynthia Muse  
Rye, N.H.

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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 21                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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| <p><b>2012</b>—Caught by the Piscataqua's current during construction of the New Memorial Bridge, the tugboat <i>Miss Stacy</i> nearly sinks.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—"You teach a child to read," says G.W.[MD] Bush, "and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."</p> <p><b>1988</b>—Televangelist Jimmy Swagart interrupts his regular broadcast to confess to an unspecified but heinous sin.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—Three of R. Nixon's former henchmen, John Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, and John Erlichman, are sentenced to prison.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Malcolm X is assassinated as he begins a speech at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem.</p> <p><b>1958</b>—Britain's Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War adopts the "peace symbol."</p> <p><b>1940</b>—Germans begin building a concentration camp at Auschwitz.</p> <p><b>1934</b>—The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan National Guard assassinates rebel leader Augusto César Sandino. According to legend, his head is then delivered to D.C.</p> <p><b>1922</b>—The 410-foot airship <i>Roma</i>, Italian-made, hydrogen-filled, and operated by the U.S. Army, crashes during a test flight in Norfolk, Va., killing 34 in the nation's greatest aeronautical disaster to date.</p> <p><b>1828</b>—First issue of the newspaper <i>Cherokee Phoenix</i> is printed, in English, using the newly-invented Cherokee alphabet.</p> <p>10:14 10:46</p> <p>3:53 4:30</p> | <p><b>2004</b>—A leaked Pentagon document predicts global doom from climate change.</p> <p><b>1994</b>—CIA agent Aldrich Ames is arrested for spying.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Trying to hijack an airliner to crash into the White House, Samuel Byck counterproductively shoots the pilot and co-pilot before he's shot dead by police.</p> <p><b>1967</b>—Operation Junction City begins in Vietnam — largest U.S. offensive operation of the War.</p> <p><b>1966</b>—Barry Bondhus dumps human digestive byproduct on draft files in Elk River, Minn.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Gen. Westmoreland asks LBJ for Marines to protect the Danang airbase. Despite Ambassador Taylor's qualms, LBJ says "OK."</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Sam Lovejoy cuts down a weather tower for a proposed nuke plant in Montague, Mass.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Rep. John Rankin [D-Miss.] calls Rep. Frank Hook [D-Mich.] a Communist, whereupon Hook calls Rankin a "God damned liar." Rankin, 63 and 140 lbs., attempts to punch out Hook, 52 and 195 lbs., to little effect.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Ray Noury's parachute fails as he falls 15,000 feet from a shot-up B-24. He lands alive on a ski slope in Blovicze, Czechoslovakia.</p> <p><b>1902</b>—On the Senate floor, "Pitchfork Ben" Tillman, [D-S.C.], punches John L. McLaurin, [D-S.C.], in the face. A bloody brawl ensues.</p> <p>10:58 11:27</p> <p>4:39 5:11</p> | <p><b>2008</b>—Because one maintenance crew fails to warn another that humid air confuses its sensors, a \$1.4 billion B-2 bomber crashes in Guam.</p> <p><b>2004</b>—Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education, calls the nation's largest teachers union a "terrorist organization."</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Two days after presiding over the 100th birthday of his newspaper, the <i>Oakland Tribune</i>, former Sen. William Knowland (R-Calif.) shoots himself dead.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—Lt. Wm. Calley confesses to mass murder, and says his CO, Capt. E. Medina, ordered it.</p> <p><b>1945</b>—Five Marines, including Manchester, N.H.'s René A. Gagnon, plant the U.S. flag atop Mt. Suribachi. "Do not glorify war," he says later. "There's nothing glorious about it."</p> <p><b>1942</b>—The Japanese submarine <i>I-17</i> fires more than a dozen 5.5 inch rounds at the Richmond oil refinery near Santa Barbara, Calif.</p> <p><b>1922</b>—Henri Landru is executed in France for having 11 wives. (Hadh't he suffered enough?)</p> <p><b>1868</b>—In Great Barrington, Mass., W.E.B. Dubois is born.</p> <p><b>1836</b>—The siege of the Alamo begins.</p> <p><b>1775</b>—"Give me liberty, or give me death," says Patrick Henry — maybe.</p> <p><b>1455</b>—In Mainz, Germany, Johannes Gutenberg begins the world's first print job: the Bible.</p> <p>11:40</p> <p>5:22 5:50</p>                                                       | <p><b>2001</b>—"My plan reduces the national debt, and fast," says G.W.[MD] Bush, "...economists worry that we're going to run out of debt to retire."</p> <p><b>1991</b>—Ground war against Iraq begins, amid concerns about anthrax and botulism sold to Iraq by U.S. companies with Commerce Department approval.</p> <p><b>1989</b>—Nine passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 811 from Honolulu to New Zealand are sucked out a hole in the plane.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—Supreme Court upholds Larry Flynt's right to portray Jerry Falwell as a man who lost his virginity to his mother, in an outhouse, while intoxicated.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—At 1:17 a.m., Capitol police carry Sen. Robert Packwood (R-Ore.) into the Senate chamber feet first to make up a quorum.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Turned away from Istanbul, <i>MV Struma</i>, a decrepit hulk carrying 791 Jewish refugees, is torpedoed by a Soviet sub. Sole survivor David Stoliar, 19, lives to be 91.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Anti-aircraft batteries in Los Angeles fire 1,400 rounds at a weather balloon. Three are trampled to death in the resulting panic and dozens more are injured.</p> <p><b>1922</b>—Lewis Vernon Harcourt, 1st Viscount Harcourt and former British Secretary of State for the Colonies, commits suicide rather than face exposure as a pederast.</p> <p>12:05 12:18</p> <p>6:02 6:26</p> | <p><b>2011</b>—"[A]ny future Defense Secretary who advises the President to again send a big American land army into Asia or into the Middle East or Africa should have his head examined," says Defense Sec. Gates.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki warns the Senate that occupying Iraq would require far more troops than Donald Rumsfeld plans to use.</p> <p><b>1988</b>—Sam Donaldson broadcasts excerpts from President Reagan's private schedule for the day, making it clear the Chief Executive is still reading scripts for a living.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—"I do not believe Hanoi can hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—The IWW's Paterson, N.J. strike begins; Concord, N.H.'s Elizabeth Gurley Flynn helps organize.</p> <p><b>1870</b>—Erstwhile minister Hiram Rhodes Revels (R-Miss.) becomes the first black U.S. Senator.</p> <p><b>1862</b>—Congress authorizes the first "greenbacks." In one year, their value is down to 39 cents.</p> <p><b>1837</b>—In Vermont, Thomas Dav-enport is granted the first patent for an electric printing press.</p> <p><b>1836</b>—Colt patents the six gun.</p> <p><b>1836</b>—Joice Heth, formerly exhibited by P.T. Barnum as George Washington's 162 year-old "Mammy," is autopsied before 1,500 paying spectators in New York City, at Barnum's behest.</p> <p>12:42 12:56</p> <p>6:40 7:01</p>           | <p><b>2003</b>—Saddam Hussein tells interviewer Dan Rather he would like to debate George W.[MD] Bush on TV.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—In Afghanistan, the Taliban destroy huge statues of Buddha.</p> <p><b>1993</b>—A truck bomb explodes beneath the World Trade Center in NYC; 6 are dead, 1,000 injured.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush admits the U.S. has been supporting the Khmer Rouge for over a decade.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—Thousands of Iraqi troops fleeing from Kuwait are massacred on the Highway of Death.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—The Tower Commission reports that President Reagan has been confused and uninformed.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—A Senate report details close ties between the Ford Motor Co. and the Nazis.</p> <p><b>1972</b>—Pittston Coal's cheap-jack dam on Buffalo Creek in West Virginia collapses killing 118, injuring 1,121, and leaving 5,000 homeless. The company ends up paying less than \$15,000 per casualty.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—NPR incorporates.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—A C-119 "Flying Boxcar" buzzes the Huntingdon, Tenn., county courthouse then crashes, killing four on board and injuring two on the ground.</p> <p><b>1936</b>—The ceremonial opening of the first Volkswagen plant is conducted by A. Hitler.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—Birth of Johnny Cash.</p> <p><b>1928</b>—Birth of Fats Domino.</p> <p>1:17 1:33</p> <p>7:18 7:37</p>      | <p><b>2014</b>—Senate Republicans block a bill to fund veterans health care because it would cost too much.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Deputy Sec. of Def. Paul Wolfowitz says "the notion that it will take several hundred thousand U.S. troops to provide stability in post-Saddam Iraq, [is] wildly off the mark."</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Rep. David Vitter [R-La.] skips a House vote honoring 28 Desert Storm KIAs to take a call from the D.C. Madam.</p> <p><b>1986</b>—Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos are chased out of the Philippines by their own people.</p> <p><b>1975</b>—The FDA recalls a batch of 1,241 GE pacemakers—after they've all been implanted.</p> <p><b>1973</b>—The American Indian Movement occupies Wounded Knee.</p> <p><b>1970</b>—<i>The New York Times</i> reports that the U.S. Army no longer conducts illegal domestic surveillance; untrue then, and now.</p> <p><b>1968</b>—Walter Cronkite says on the <i>CBS Nightly News</i> that "we are mired in stalemate" in Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1962</b>—Renegade South Vietnamese pilots bomb Saigon's Presidential Palace with U.S. airplanes.</p> <p><b>1938</b>—Britain and France recognize Franco's fascist government.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—Nazis burn the Reichstag and blame the Commies.</p> <p><b>1902</b>—To his firing squad, Lieut. Harry "Breaker" Morant says "Shoot straight, you bastards."</p> <p>1:53 2:12</p> <p>7:58 8:15</p> |
| SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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                                                                                                                   | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  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                                                                                                                                                                                                     | SATURDAY, MARCH 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 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| <p><b>1997</b>—A blue dress becomes soiled.</p> <p><b>1997</b>—Two heavily armed—and armored—men rob a North Hollywood, Calif. bank. Twelve police are wounded, the two robbers die.</p> <p><b>1993</b>—The ATF bungles an assault on a heavily armed colony of religious wackos in Waco.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—"By God," says George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, "we've kicked the Vietnam Syndrome once and for all."</p> <p><b>1986</b>—Ronald Reagan calls reporters "sons-of-bitches" for asking questions during a photo-op; press aide Larry Speakes explains he really said, "It's sunny and you're rich."</p> <p><b>1958</b>—In New York, a first batch of 27 people die after drinking "King Kong" moonshine.</p> <p><b>1947</b>—Taiwanese civilians riot over corruption, Koumintang forces respond by killing thousands.</p> <p><b>1921</b>—The Kronstadt Rebellion against bolshevism begins in Russia. "Shoot them down like partridges," orders Leon Trotsky.</p> <p><b>1893</b>—Birth of Ben Hecht, author of <i>The Front Page</i>.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—The U.S. seizes the Black Hills, in violation of a treaty.</p> <p><b>1854</b>—A group of political activists meet in Ripon, Wisc., and may or may not found the GOP.</p> <p><b>1840</b>—Joshua V. Hines begins publishing <i>Signs of the Times</i>, a newspaper devoted to William Miller's Domsday prophecies.</p> <p>2:31 2:53</p> <p>8:40 8:55</p> | <p><b>1972</b>—Columnist Jack Anderson reports that ITT "donated" \$400,000 to the Republican Party in exchange for a favorable Justice Department ruling.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—JFK announces a non-existent "missile gap" during presidential campaign.</p> <p><b>1952</b>—"Walk" and "Don't Walk" signals for pedestrians are introduced in New York City.</p> <p><b>1940</b>—Hattie McDaniel wins a Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her performance as "Mammy" in <i>Gone With the Wind</i>.</p> <p><b>1924</b>—Charles R. Forbes, head of the Veterans Bureau, is indicted for defrauding the federal government out of \$250 million.</p> <p><b>1916</b>—South Carolina raises the minimum age for employment from 12 to 14.</p> <p><b>1908</b>—Pat Garrett is shot to death by Jesse Wayne Brazel during an argument about goats.</p> <p><b>1840</b>—Birth of John Philip Holland, builder of <i>Turtle</i>, the first practical submarine.</p> <p><b>1736</b>—Birth of Mother Ann Lee, founder of the Shakers.</p> <p><b>1704</b>—French Canadians and Indians, seeking a church bell stolen by a profiteer, massacre 47 settlers in Deerfield, Mass.</p> <p><b>1504</b>—Chris. Columbus uses his knowledge of an impending eclipse to defraud Jamaicans of supplies.</p> <p><b>468</b>—Death of Pope Hilarius.</p> <p>3:13 3:39</p> <p>9:26 9:40</p>                                | <p><b>2002</b>—U.S. forces in Afghanistan begin Operation Anaconda, aimed at capturing or killing Taliban fighters in the Shah-i-kot Valley.</p> <p><b>1971</b>—The Weather Underground bombs the U.S. Capitol.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—After 39 combat missions in Korea, Ted Williams breaks his collarbone at spring training.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Nuke test Castle BRAVO delivers thrice its expected yield at Bikini Atoll. Unanticipated winds spread millions of tons of radioactive debris over occupied islands.</p> <p><b>1954</b>—Four Puerto Rican nationalists fire 30 rounds towards the floor of the U.S. House, wounding five U.S. Congressman.</p> <p><b>1932</b>—Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., aged 20 months, is kidnapped; by whom is still disputed.</p> <p><b>1910</b>—In Wellington, Wash., an avalanche pushes two train 150 feet into the Nye River, killing 96.</p> <p><b>1906</b>—Emma Goldman publishes the first issue of her anarchist newspaper, <i>Mother Earth</i>.</p> <p><b>1872</b>—Yellowstone, the world's first national park, is created.</p> <p><b>1860</b>—Abraham Lincoln speaks at Phenix Hall in Concord, N.H., and again later in Manchester.</p> <p><b>1847</b>—Michigan becomes the first state to stop killing convicts on purpose.</p> <p><b>1562</b>—In Vassy, France, Catholics massacre between 30 and 1,000 Huguenots, kicking off 37 years of religious warfare.</p> <p>3:59 4:31</p> <p>10:17 10:30</p> | <p><b>2004</b>—UN weapons inspectors report that Saddam Hussein had no WMDs. Oops.</p> <p><b>2002</b>—A U.S. gunship mistakenly fires on a U.S./Afghan convoy during Operation Anaconda. Afghan soldiers flee. The remaining U.S. forces are attacked by the Taliban.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Spain executes anarchist Al-vador Puig Antich by garrot.</p> <p><b>1965</b>—Operation Rolling Thunder begins: non-retaliatory U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1946</b>—Ho Chi Minh is elected president of North Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1944</b>—Fumes from locomotive stalled in an Italian tunnel kill 521.</p> <p><b>1942</b>—Lt. Gen. John DeWitt announces all Japanese-Americans will be required to move away from the West Coast and should do so voluntarily for their own good.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—Bribed by Republicans, the Electoral College selects Rutherford B. Hayes over Samuel Tilden.</p> <p><b>1860</b>—Abraham Lincoln visits the Amoskeag mills, then speaks at City Hall in Dover.</p> <p><b>1807</b>—Congress votes to prohibit the importation of slaves; only 250,000 or so are subsequently imported illegally.</p> <p><b>1836</b>—Texas declares independence from Mexico.</p> <p><b>1805</b>—Aaron Burr—the first Vice President to shoot a man—resigns from the Senate for other, unrelated reasons.</p> <p>4:52 5:29</p> <p>11:13 11:26</p>              | <p><b>2014</b>—Scott Brown tells <i>Politico</i> "[h]ad they left me alone," he might not be running for Senate.</p> <p><b>2005</b>—Hauled from the depths off Nantucket, spared from the plate for his size, Bubba the 23 lb. lobster expires on his way to Ripley's.</p> <p><b>1991</b>—A troublemaker videotapes Los Angeles Police officers chastising Rodney King.</p> <p><b>1974</b>—Poor latch design lets a door come off a DC-10 over France. Six passengers whoosh out; an ensuing crash kills 340 more.</p> <p><b>1955</b>—Elvis Presley appears on television for the first time, fatally undermining Western Civilization.</p> <p><b>1949</b>—The Tucker automobile company crashes.</p> <p><b>1934</b>—John Dillinger busts out of the Crown Point, Ind. jail with a fake pistol and drives off in the sheriff's new V-8 Ford.</p> <p><b>1931</b>—"The Star-Spangled Banner" becomes our national anthem.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—Doing 170 mph during a land speed record attempt in Wales, J.G. Parry-Thomas is decapitated by a broken drive chain.</p> <p><b>1913</b>—In Washington, D.C., 8,000 suffragists march down Pennsylvania Avenue. They're met by jeers and jostling; 200 are injured.</p> <p><b>1873</b>—The "Salary Grab Act" raises Congressional pay retroactively.</p> <p><b>1863</b>—The first U.S. draft law passes, exempting men who can pay the government a \$300 bribe.</p> <p>5:49 6:30</p> <p>12:12</p> | <p><b>2014</b>—The <i>NY Times</i> reports that the CIA has been illegally snooping on the computers of Senate staffers investigating the Agency's torture program.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Presidential brother Neil Bush admits under oath that he'd bonked strange women during business trips to Asia.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—Fox broadcasts a "Lone Gunman" show in which U.S. agents remotely hijack an airliner and try to crash it into the WTC.</p> <p><b>1987</b>—Ronald Reagan admits trading arms for hostages.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—<i>La Coubre</i>, a French munitions ship, explodes in Havana harbor. Between 75 and 100 people die. CIA involvement is "suspected."</p> <p><b>1937</b>—The UAW wins a sit-down strike in Flint, Mich.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—"We have nothing to fear," says FDR, "but fear itself."</p> <p><b>1917</b>—During a filibuster, Sen. Harry Lane (D-Ore.) prepares to stab Ollie James (D-Ky.) in the neck if James pulls out his pistol; meanwhile, Democrats prevent Sen. Robert La Follette (Progressive Rep.-Wisc.) from bashing the presiding officer with a spittoon.</p> <p><b>1909</b>—President Taft and First Lady Nellie move into the White House. Under the lawn is a voodoo doll of Mrs. Taft, buried by Teddy Roosevelt's daughter Alice.</p> <p><b>1865</b>—Drunk as hell, Vice President Andrew Johnson is sworn in.</p> <p>6:49 7:29</p> <p>12:24 1:11</p> | <p><b>2014</b>—News reports say former Sen. Bob Smith [R-N.H.] will try to get his seat back.</p> <p><b>2007</b>—In Bloomington, Ill., Dee Riddle is startled by a meteorite crashing through her window.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—Dixie Chick Natalie Maines says she's ashamed that George W. Bush is a Texan.</p> <p><b>2003</b>—In a White House press conference, Helen Thomas tells Ari Fleischer "There is no imminent threat" to the U.S. from Saddam Hussein. Apparently he fails to pass that information along to his boss.</p> <p><b>2001</b>—A Nor'easter begins which will dump 40 inches of snow on Rockingham County.</p> <p><b>1963</b>—Patsy Cline, singer of "I Fall to Pieces," dies in a plane crash.</p> <p><b>1960</b>—Alberto Korda takes a nice photo of Che Guevara.</p> <p><b>1953</b>—Everybody dies; this time for a change it's Stalin.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—In Germany, the Nazi party wins a plurality in the Reichstag.</p> <p><b>1933</b>—On his first full day in office FDR declares a bank holiday.</p> <p><b>1927</b>—One thousand U.S. Marines land in China.</p> <p><b>1877</b>—"Rutherford" B. Hayes is sworn in as President.</p> <p><b>1871</b>—Rosa Luxemburg is born.</p> <p><b>1770</b>—Heinous British troops slaughter innocent Bostonians in the Boston Massacre. (Or, provincial terrorists attack duly constituted authority.)</p> <p>7:46 8:24</p> <p>1:23 2:06</p>   |



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